

# Oak Hill Herndon CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

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With caps in hand, Oakton High School Class of 2019 graduation candidates walk toward the entrance of George Mason University EagleBank Arena for their commencement exercises.

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JUNE 12-18, 2019

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**Yena Han, 5, from Fairfax loves jumping high on the Spiderman ride.**

# Celebrating Fairfax

Fairfax County Government Center hosted the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Celebrate Fairfax festival from June 7-9. The event was filled with a wide range of activities for the whole family including carnival rides and games, local vendors, and performances from rock bands Better Than Ezra and Smash Mouth.



**Mali, 7, from Vienna shows off her face paint.**



**Arthur Yang, 7, and his sister Arlene, 5, of Fairfax smile between rides on Sunday afternoon.**



**Cousins Joy Mtila, 4, and Kas Kachale Banda, 5, from Fairfax, have fun riding the Frog Hopper up and down.**

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



**Guest Speaker Sandy Reynolds** said the world needs strong young adults who own up when they mess up.



**Gabriella Shapo** prepares to deliver the Student Address to the Oakton High School Class of 2019 at Commencement Exercises held June 6.



**Oakton High School Principal Jamie S. Lane** prepares to confirm that the Seniors of the Class of 2019 whose names were given to her are graduates of Oakton High School.

## Goodbye Alma Mater

### Oakton High School holds Fifty-first Commencement Exercises.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

For the Oakton High School community, June 6 proved to be a special day. Surrounded by family, friends, teachers, administrators and distinguished guests at the school's Fifty-first Commencement Exercises, a reported 670 young adults sat in their burgundy caps and gowns at George Mason University EagleBank Arena ready to begin their next great adventure.

Before the Commencement Exercises started though, graduate candidate Gabriella Shapo — chosen to present the Student Address during the ceremony — shared what she considered the most important lesson she learned at Oakton High School and the theme of her Address: “Individual responsibility for the collective good,” Shapo said.

Before remarks by guest speaker, Sandy Reynolds, graduate candidate David Park stepped to the podium and recognized two faculty members retiring at the end of the school year, David Foley and Fred Priester. “We appreciate you and wish you all the best,” he said.

Next, Devin Martin announced that the Class of 2019 began a new tradition at Oakton High School, the Class Teacher Award. Martin explained that graduating class nominated one teacher who it believed made the most significant impact on them over the last four years. Before announcing the name, Martin read some of the many comments students submitted: “I have never met a teacher who wants to teach and see her students succeed as much as she does. ... She’s a teacher you can come to for anything, and she will be completely honest. ... Simply put, she’s the best.” The winner of the Class of 2019 Teacher Award went to Kelly Butterfield.

**PRINCIPAL** Jamie S. Lane announced the recipient of the highest and most prestigious award bestowed upon a graduating senior, the 2019 Faculty Award given to a student who selflessly and generously contributed to the Oakton High School community throughout his or her tenure. Lane said, “She has grown from a shy, nervous freshman into an independent, thoughtful graduate... positive and uplifting to her classmates and teammates and pushes herself and others to achieve that which seems be-

yond reach. I am honored to present the 2019 Faculty Award to Carolyn Qu.”

Kelsey Brooks introduced guest speaker, Sandy Reynolds, a longtime member of the Fairfax County Public Schools and Oakton High School community who, Brooks described, worked “tirelessly through her career to create and grow a culture of equality.” In her remarks, Reynolds said, “My ultimate goal was to make Oakton High School the best in the county with the happiest and most productive students. Happy kids; happy classroom.”

Graduate candidate Gabriella Shapo provided the student address. In it, she spoke about the overwhelming pride the Class of 2019 will have 20 years from now, when “we see the people from our high school, leaving a real, and lasting legacy.” Shapo cautioned her classmates not to focus their energy on “making an impact, let’s consider how we’re making (it).” Shapo told the story of a man who tried to change the world and he couldn’t, so he decided to change his country, then his community and finally his family, failing miserably at all. Instead, Shapo told the Class of 2019 that the man changed himself. He dedicated much of his time to personal development, to be kinder, to give for the sake of giving, to learn about the world around him and to laugh. She said that the man’s family saw the difference and modeled his actions, as did individuals in the community, his country and the world. “Our collective ripple effect of friends, family, and Class of 2019 is nearly infinite. With that kind of power, it’ll take a lot less than 20 years to see how we changed the world,” Shapo said.

Oakton High School Singers presented the Senior Tribute to the graduating class and all who supported them on their journey. Tiffany Powell directed the Singers with Ester Rivera performing a solo.

Afterward, Jennifer Hogan, Director of Student Services, thanked all for joining to honor the Oakton High School Class of 2019 and addressed Principal Lane for the words all awaited. “I certify that the members of the Senior Class of 2019 have met the requirements established by the Commonwealth of Virginia and Fairfax County School Board. I declare them eligible for graduation from Oakton High School.”

**ONE BY ONE**, the Class of 2019 lined up, and Lane presented diplomas to the 670 candidates. After the final candidate received her diploma Lane asked the Oakton High School Class of 2019 to stand. She announced, “By virtue of the authority vested in me as principal of Oakton High School...I hereby confirm that the Seniors of the Class of 2019, whose names have been presented to me are now graduates of Oakton High School. Congratulations.”

### VIEWPOINTS

## Oakton High Graduates: What I Learned in High School



**Michelle Liang** of Fairfax, 17, heading to Penn State University: “My advice is from experience, spend more time with friends and family.”



**Joshua Myers** of Herndon, 18, heading to Gettysburg College: “To my parents, I’d like to thank you for getting me through this chapter of my life and supporting me.”



**Jacob Staley** of Fairfax, 18, heading to Virginia Commonwealth University: “Describing high school in two words, an experience.”



**Abel Berrocal**, heading to Northern Virginia Community College: “Advice to freshmen, use deodorant; you smell a lot at 14.”



**Seungbin Lee**, 18, heading to Virginia Commonwealth University: “The greatest experience that made me think was, learning about ‘The Allegory of the Cave’.”



**Ye Joon “David” Park** of Herndon, 19, heading to University of Southern California: “Great students and teachers, reject conventionality.”

**Hyeonseung “Thomas” Bae** of Oakton, 19, heading to University of Illinois: “The funniest thing was I made it through high school. It was really hard.”



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/  
THE CONNECTION

# OPINION

## Constitutional Amendment to End Gerrymandering—Not Quite

BY JOHN LOVAAS  
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST



Virginia is on the verge of reforming its legislative redistricting process (for VA Senate, House of Delegates and US House of Representatives) following the national census every ten years. The antiquated process encourages rampant gerrymandering, i.e., deliberate manipulation of district lines to the advantage of the party in power and incumbents. Incumbents are protected; communities are carved up; elections are less competitive; partisan gridlock is the norm and compromise impossible. Legislators select their voters instead of vice versa. Thanks to the work of the non-profit One Virginia 2021 and other reform advocates, the Virginia General Assembly (Senate and House of Delegates) passed a bipartisan constitutional amendment in 2019 to reform the process for redistricting. If enacted, it could reduce abuses with a more transparent and balanced process. To be enacted, it must be passed again, by the newly elected legislature in 2020, and then be approved by Virginia voters in a statewide referendum in Nov. 2021. The amendment came out of a legislative conference. It was a compromise with provisions from several proposals. The amendment creates a redistricting commission composed of 8

### INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

legislators and 8 citizens (the first citizen involvement ever). Citizens will be bipartisan, with their final selection made by a panel of 5 retired circuit court judges from a large pool put forth by the legislature. To pass any new district maps, a supermajority of 6 legislators and 6 citizens is required. The Supreme Court of VA. will decide if they cannot agree. All commission meetings and records are open to the public. The legislature will vote to approve or not any new maps, but it cannot amend them. One Virginia 2021 says categorically that although the amendment does not include all they proposed, "This will end partisan gerrymandering in Virginia." Del. Ken Plum sees it as a "great improvement," but acknowledges that it is "not perfect." Nevertheless, he says it "need[s] to get on the ballot for voter approval in time for the 2020...redistricting."

Others, like Reston's Bill Penniman, a public policy specialist, and myself believe there are serious shortcomings. For example, we think there is a distinct possibility that the legislature will largely still control the process. The legislators on the commission will have an interest in protecting their seats and, while dividing them up may reduce potential for abuses, the temptation for trading among them is a real possibility. Some partisan gerrymandering abuses may be tamped down, but stop-

ping incumbent protection will be tougher to achieve. The citizen commissioners will be at a disadvantage. Lacking technical support and time for meaningful deliberation may weaken their potential for fair drawing of districts. The citizen members will be on a tight time schedule to hold public hearings around the state and draw maps for 140 General Assembly districts and 11 congressional districts. This could result in citizen commissioners ending up voting on districts as proposed to them by the legislative contingent.

Fixing glitches in the operation of the commission will be limited to things that can be done without having to amend the constitutional amendment. For example, the legislature, if there is the will, can level the playing field for citizen commissioners by providing for technical support and providing tools for greater scrutiny and reporting to the public of what goes on in the commission.

Perhaps we critics overestimate the flaws. I hope so, because gerrymandering is a major tear in the fabric of our democratic form of government. In any case, we agree that the proposed amendment may lead to significant improvement in drawing fairer federal and state legislative districts, certainly enough to justify proceeding. I suggest you let your legislators know you want them to vote for the amendment in the 2020 session. Reform is difficult work, made more so when it depends on some who perceive it as not in their interest to succeed.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Helping Shape the Community

To the Editor:  
It is with great pride, along with a tear in my eye, that I send this Letter to the Editor of The Connection Newspapers.

First because of the wonderful article in the June 5-11 Oak Hill/Herndon Connection on Page 9 by Mercia Hobson titled "Memorial Day, Jimmy's Way." Mercia hit the nail on the head in her first sentence when she stated that Jimmy Cirrito is a "living legend." A true Patriot, Jimmy has done more for

the betterment of the Town of Herndon over the last 20 years than just about any other business there. I'm proud to have purchased the very first beer at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern and while I retired some 14 years ago, I continue to make a yearly voyage from the Florida Panhandle to toast Jimmy for what he has become and for the good works he does for the community. I'm also very proud that while living in the Herndon/Oak Hill area for over 35 years, I

helped shape the area as a commercial real estate sales professional for 25+ years. There were many early morning breakfast meetings at Hazel's in Herndon, which is now Jimmy's storage building, back in the early '80s. When Herndon Parkway was just a dotted-line on the map, I was involved in selling all the land from Elden Street to the hike-and-bike path and then did the first 12 deals in the first office park when it was built. As part of the many trans-

actions over my real estate career, I also represented the start-up Reston Connection Newspaper in their many office transactions in both Reston and then in their expansion into several other communities in the Northern Virginia area. It's nice to see that the Connection Newspapers are doing so well after all these years. Wishing you continued success from those humble beginnings oh so many years ago!

**Jerry Foster**  
Navarre, Fla.

### BULLETIN BOARD

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

#### FRIDAY/JUNE 14

##### Application Deadline: Fire

**Academy.** The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is now accepting applications for its Girls Fire and Rescue Academy summer camp, which will take place July 11-13, 2019. The Academy is open to female students who will be in grades 7-12 in the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. Participants must be a

Fairfax County resident. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems).

##### Artist and Vendor Application

**Deadline.** RCC seeks entertainers for 2019 Reston Multicultural Festival. Opportunities also available for art and food vendors, civic organizations and artists. The Reston Multicultural Festival is a family-oriented event and material performed shall be suitable for all ages and free of any content that would be inappropriate for a diverse, multicultural and multigenerational audience. All forms and guidelines may be found at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf).

#### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Parent Support Partners,** a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualified to offer education, support and assistance at no cost to families or caregivers. They provide reliable information that families can use in decision-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax) or [www.nam-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html](http://www.nam-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html).

#### ONGOING

**Assistance League of Northern Virginia,** a volunteer nonprofit, invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Express program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade students during the school year. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at [gronbiz@aol.com](mailto:gronbiz@aol.com) or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at [lynnieb517@verizon.net](mailto:lynnieb517@verizon.net).

**Volunteer Adult Mentors Needed.** Help assist the Department of Family Services' BeFriendA-Child mentoring

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

## Oak Hill & Herndon CONNECTION

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# Brains Cannot Be Replaced

## Hutchison ES hosts Traumatic Brain Injury Prevention Program and Bike Helmet Giveaway Program.

By MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

Attorney and avid cyclist Doug Landau of the Herndon law firm Abrams Landau, Ltd. wants to save as many children as possible from traumatic brain injury due to cycling and skateboarding accidents. On May 22, he took his “Lids on Kids,” program designed to put bicycle helmets on children who don’t have them, back to Hutchison Elementary School in Herndon. He did so this year but with a twist. For fifth and sixth-grade students to receive one of the free helmets, a parent or adult guardian had to sign a pledge. “So we know the family will be invested in bicycle safety,” said Landau.

Held after school in the Hutchison cafeteria, children and parents learned basic safety rules, the importance of wearing a bicycle helmet every time they ride whether on a bike or skateboard and what could happen to their brains if they were in an accident without one. “Your brain cannot be replaced,” said Landau. He explained that when a rider is in an accident and treated for bleeding inside the skull, the brain swells and pushes against it with nowhere to go.

Wearing a properly fitted and non-damaged helmet cuts the risk of severe traumatic brain injury by 90 percent, according to Landau. He told the students and parents that if one of his helmets, each with a special sticker inside, is ever damaged due to an accident, bring it to the law office for a free replacement helmet.

Attorney Landau gifted the bicycle helmets, compliments of the Herndon law firm and Virginia Trial Lawyers Foundation, to the children with the help of his team, school staff and Fairfax County Police officers from the Reston District Station, MPO B.T. McMahon and PFC D. Rocco.

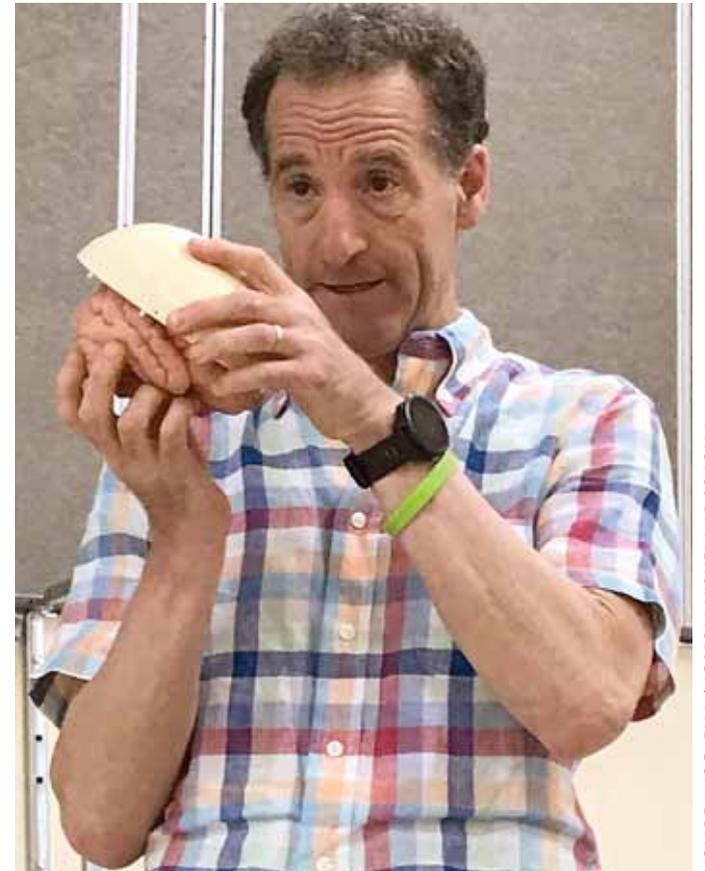
“I fell off my bike,” said PFC D. Rocco. “A



Two officers from the Fairfax County Police Reston District Station, MPO B.T. McMahon and PFC D. Rocco help properly size helmets to fifth and sixth-grade students at Hutchinson Elementary School in Herndon.

helmet is very important.” Afterward, Landau held a drawing for a new bike, won by Jorge Arce, 12. “I like it,” said Arce excitedly. “It has lights, and I’ll be safe at night.” Asked if he’d wear his new helmet, Arce quickly responded, “Oh, yes.”

According to the “Lids on Kids” Team, for children who did not have a signed bike pledge and did not receive a helmet that day, any parent/guardian and child could stop at the law office, 797 Center Street in Herndon and the “Lids on Kids” team would provide one.



Attorney Doug Landau demonstrates how the skull confines brain swelling after an injury resulting in trauma.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



FCPD officers of Reston District station MPO B.T. McMahon and PFC D. Rocco along with Raymond Lonnett, Principal, Hutchison ES and Attorney Doug Landau present Jorge Arce, 12, student at Hutchison Elementary School with the bicycle he won during Landau Law firm’s, Lids on Kids program held May 22.

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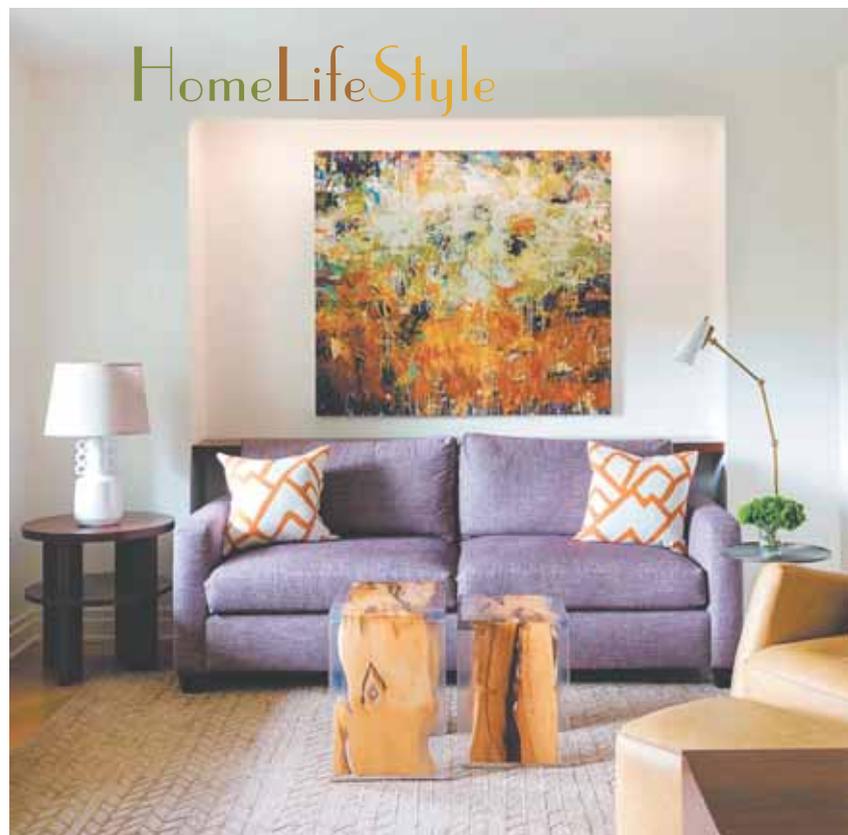
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**Designer Annie Elliott designed this room adding an abstract painting by artist Karen Silve.**

PHOTO BY  
ANGIE SECKINGER

## Versatility of Abstract Art

Ideas for decorating with this adaptable art form.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

From adding a burst of boldly colored angular shapes to a sterile, white wall to using spheres in muted tones to create serenity in a bedroom, abstract art has the ability to set the tone or change the mood of a space. In spite of its versatility, melding it tastefully into a home's décor can be daunting. Local designers share their strategies for aesthetically appealing placement of this adaptable art form.

Abstract art can become the center of attention in a space, notes Pamela Harvey of Pamela Harvey Interiors of Herndon, Va. "One of my favorite ways to transform the look of a room is to add an over-sized piece of abstract art to create a dramatic focal point," she said. "My go-to frame is a simple floater frame to give the art a clean finished look."

Abstract art works well in pairs allowing the use of smaller scale pieces, advises Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria.

"Don't be afraid to hang abstract art in gallery style. Be mindful to use like frames and materials," she said. "The use of complementary colors to your space is a safe way to incorporate abstract art into your décor without allowing it to grab all the attention."

One of Mertins' favorite uses of abstract art is pairing it with what she describes as its decorative opposite: traditional décor. "Beautiful wood furniture, silver, crystal lighting and porcelain accessories are perfect as a backdrop for bold prints and abstract paintings," she said. "Mirrors are wonderful to use as abstract décor, but always pay attention to what will be reflected in the mirror."

Abstract art work is a versatile accessory and works well in modern as well as traditional room settings, suggests Harvey. "When choosing a piece I look for something that has some of the room's existing colors in it with an opportunity to introduce new colors into the space."

Harvey implemented this technique in the recent

re-design of a client's living room. "We added a piece that had blue and white, but introduced a bold pink to create a dramatic focal point on the back wall."

Abstract art shouldn't be limited to neutral spaces, says Annie Elliott of Bossy Color, Interior Design by Annie Elliott. "If your walls are white and your furniture is gray, the effect will be pretty, but cold and museum-like, not homey," she said. "You should complement a painting's colors [and] the room should feel harmonious. If you put a red sofa under a red and blue painting, the effect may [appear similar too] a hotel lobby."

From a practical standpoint, Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design believes in mixing media to avoid creating a space that has an overly uniform aesthetic. "Oil paintings, both abstract and traditional, framed photography, sculpture, textiles, antique botanicals, framed mirrors, antique porcelain china – all of these art forms can co-exist happily in a single home," she said.

Versatility is one of the traits of abstract art that Mertins appreciates. "This style of art can be very bold and take charge of a room or be soft and fade into the background," she said. "If your room needs a focal point, then abstract art is the way to go."

"The use of black and white art will make a bold statement without adding color to a space," continued Mertins. "Monolithic art produces a solid look, splatter art is happy and upbeat while graceful line drawings impart a feeling romance and intrigue. Photographic art can be personal, bold and sometimes more affordable than painted pieces."

Works of art that one purchases spontaneously, such as during travels, is often both more meaningful and more likely to enhance a home's décor, says Walker. "When art is purchased for the entire home all at once, the result can often feel contrived," she said.

"Surround yourself with art, furnishings and objects that make you feel joyful, and consult a design professional if you need help editing or arranging your collection," continued Walker. "I've often helped clients sort through their existing art collections and place them in just the right spot," she said. "Moving a piece of art from the wrong location to the right location can not only transform a room, it can transform the work of art itself."

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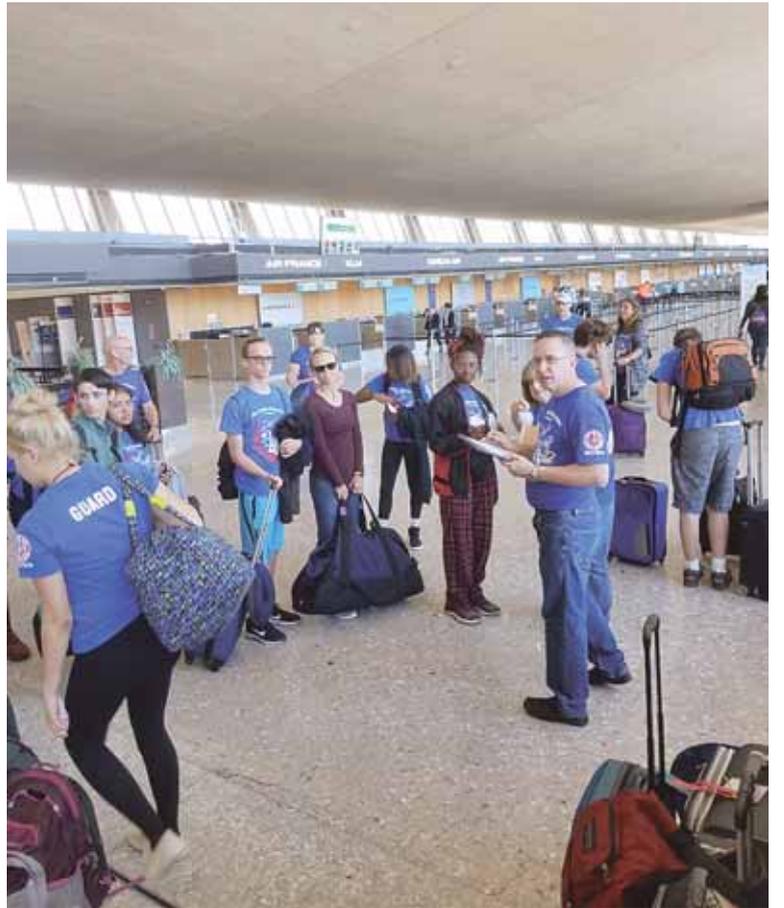
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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY MARY BROWN



**In photos: The first group of Herndon High School band members from the Pride of Herndon Marching Band led by Director of Bands Kathleen Jacoby prepares to depart Dulles International Airport, shortly after noon on Tuesday, June 4, destination Normandy, France and the 75th Anniversary of D-Day.**

# Pride of Herndon Honors D-Day in Normandy

## Represents the United States at the 75th Anniversary of D-Day.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The first group of Herndon High School students, members of Pride of Herndon Marching Band, and support staff departed for their long-awaited trip to Normandy, France, Tuesday, June 4 taking off early

in the afternoon. The Pride of Herndon represented the United States in a parade marking the 75th anniversary of D-Day invasion on the coast of France known as the “liberation of Europe.” June 6 is the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings. According to Herndon High School Band, the Pride will honor the World War II servicemen and women, veterans, active duty military, and their families and pay a special tribute to the men of the U.S.S. Herndon, the destroyer that led the Allied naval armada in the assault on France. The marching banner will have a photograph of the ship, and each student will carry a picture of one of the veterans as they march.

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## ONGOING

### Art Exhibit: Things That Don't Have Names.

Through June 22, gallery hours at Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) presents a site-specific sculptural installation by DC-based artist Stephanie J. Williams, whose work explores themes of identity through omission and inclusion. Visit [restonarts.org](http://restonarts.org) or call 703-471-9242.

**Golden Age Musical.** Through June 23, at NextStop Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. From Artistic Director Evan Hoffmann comes a wildly inventive re-imagining of an American mega-musical as no one has seen it before. Singin' in the Rain has all the magic and glamour of the greatest movie musical ever made. So, when the projector at a super-fan screening of the film goes up in smoke, the hosts save the day... after all, in theatre, the show must always go on. \$40-55. Visit [www.nextstoptheatre.org/shows/singin-in-the-rain](http://www.nextstoptheatre.org/shows/singin-in-the-rain).

### Art Exhibit: A Purposeful Manner Towards a Vague Destination.

Through Aug. 27, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at The Signature at Reston Town Center, 11850 Freedom Drive, Reston. Gallery hours at Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) presents A Purposeful Manner Towards a Vague Destination, a solo exhibition featuring work by painter Douglas Moulden. Maryland based painter Moulden exhibits a series of large-scale acrylic on panel paintings developed from photographs and memory inspired by exploration of the woods near his home. Visit [restonarts.org](http://restonarts.org) for more.

**Herndon Farmers Market.** Thursdays, through mid-November, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Historic Downtown Herndon, Lynn Street. Vendors will offer seasonal plants, produce, baked goods, meats and more; all sold by local growers and producers. Additional enhancements to the market include seasonal events and entertainment, including "Farmers' Market Fun Days," free performances for the whole family. Visit [www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket](http://www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket) for more.

## FRIDAY/JUNE 14

**Outdoor Movie Night: Holes.** 7:30 p.m. at United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Enjoy a free family friendly outdoor movie night. All are welcome to watch the film Holes outdoors on the patio. Popcorn provided. Bring a lawn chair or something comfortable to sit on. If it rains, movies are moved indoors. Free. Call 703-620-3065 or visit [www.ucpreston.org/outdoor-movie-nights](http://www.ucpreston.org/outdoor-movie-nights).

**Live Music: The Vandelay.** 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Kalypso's Sports Tavern on historic Lake Anne in Reston. Bands play inside the sports bar on a dedicated stage. No cover. Visit [www.kalypsosportstavern.com](http://www.kalypsosportstavern.com).

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 14-15

**Taste of Reston.** Friday, 4-11 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. at Reston Town Center. Taste of Reston features the region's best cuisine, family activities, live entertainment and a Wine 'n Dine section with cooking demonstrations from local chefs, a Family Fun Zone and free garage parking. Live music will fill the air both days with favorites such as Cherry Crush Band, New Blue Soul, Delta Spur, and Vinyl Rhino. Taste of Reston event admission and parking are free. Food tickets are \$1 per ticket or \$20 for 24 tickets. Advance tickets are on sale online, at [www.RestonTaste.com](http://www.RestonTaste.com).

## SATURDAY/JUNE 15

**Go Wild for Photography.** 1-2:30 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Join a nature photographer and learn the basics of capturing images in the wild with the "Wild for Photography" class. Bring a smartphone, Polaroid camera, SLR to shoot photos. Experiment with landscapes, critter close-ups, and aquatic abstracts. For participants age 8-adult. \$9 per person. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

**Grand Re-Opening.** 5-8 p.m. at White H.A.R.T. Massage, 491 Carlisle Drive, Herndon. White H.A.R.T. Massage celebrates five years and a move to a new, larger location. Refreshments



## Herndon Farmers Market

Vendors will offer seasonal plants, produce, baked goods, meats and more; all sold by local growers and producers. Additional enhancements to the market include seasonal events and entertainment, including "Farmers' Market Fun Days," free performances for the whole family. Thursdays, through mid-November, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Historic Downtown Herndon, Lynn Street. Visit [www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket](http://www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket) for more.

served. Call 703-869-9601 or visit [www.whitehartmassage.com](http://www.whitehartmassage.com).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 15-16

**Father's Day Park Programs.** This Father's Day weekend spend time with fathers and grandfathers in a program just for them at a county park.

- ❖ **Golf Tournament.** Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon at Burke Lake Golf Course. Kick off the weekend with the "Father's Day Golf Tournament." Two-player teams compete in an 18-hole scramble format in three divisions: Father/Jr. 7-12; Father/Jr. 13-17; Father/Adult partner with closest-to-the-pin contests and prizes for the top three places in all three divisions. \$75 per team includes lunch. Call 703-323-1641 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake).
- ❖ **Wood Carving.** Sunday, noon-4 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill. Celebrate by treating Dad to a free wood carving lesson with the Northern Virginia Carvers. There is a nominal charge for wood blanks. While visiting the mill, take a tour. Dads and granddads tour for free on Father's Day when accompanied by a paying child. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).
- ❖ **"Animal Dads."** Sunday, 1-1:45 at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Annandale. Children age 2-6 can pretend to be a penguin, wolf and beaver dad as they learn about these dotting fathers. Participants will meet live animals and make a craft for their favorite father/grandfather. The program at Hidden Oaks Nature Center runs from 1 to 1:45 p.m. \$8 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-941-1065 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks).
- ❖ **Family Fishing.** Sunday, 2-3:30 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m. at Riverbend Park, Great Falls. If Dad likes to fish, register for the "Father's Day Family Fishing" program at Riverbend Park. Supplies and equipment will be provided, or bring a rod and reel. Pick up some fishing tips. All fish caught will be released. Designed for participants age 4-adult. \$12 per person. Call 703-759-9018 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend).
- ❖ **Father's Day Campfire.** Sunday, 6-7 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Chantilly. Wrap up the day with the "Father's Day Campfire." Learn about some of nature's best fathers, take a hike near a stream and eat s'mores. Of course, moms are invited, too. \$8 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

## SUNDAY/JUNE 16

**Sully Antique Car Show.** 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way,

Chantilly. Take Dad for a stroll down memory lane this Father's Day with a visit to the Antique Car Show at Sully Historic Site. Relive a time when chrome was king and V-8 engines ruled the land. Car show tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$6 for children, and will be sold at the gates. Call 703-437-1794.

## MONDAY/JUNE 17

**Summer Field Hockey.** Times vary, Learn to play, skill development, and scrimmage open to all ages, to include boys and girls. Seven sessions for grades 7 and above at Lake Fairfax and South Lakes HS. Three sessions for grades 6 and below. Free. Call 703-787-6674 or visit [www.hryfl.org](http://www.hryfl.org) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/JUNE 19

**Author Event: Tracey Garvis Graves.** 7 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston Town Center Tracey Garvis Graves is the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and USA Today bestselling author of contemporary fiction. Her debut novel, *On the Island*, spent nine weeks on the New York Times bestseller list, has been translated into 31 languages, and is in development with MGM and Temple Hill Productions for a feature film. She is coming to Scrawl to discuss her latest novel, *The Girl He Used to Know*. Free. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com).

## THURSDAY/JUNE 20

**Girl Power! Book Club.** 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. The Girl Power! Book Club will discuss the novel *Lemons* by Melissa Savage. Readers of all ages are welcome to join us at this meeting to hear sisters Ceci and Lucy Sturman present and discuss their novel. Enabled, a 19-year story of inseparable sisterhood. A vulnerable exposition of the sisters' lives illustrates how Lucy, radiant, theatrical and diagnosed with Down Syndrome, has been able to reclaim her ability with the help of her older sister, Ceci, who finds her own gifts illuminated through their relationship. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

## SATURDAY/JUNE 22

**Summer Vibes: Tie-Dye.** 9-10:30 a.m. at Herndon Town Hall Green, 730 Elden St., Herndon. Celebrate the start of Summer. Bring the good vibes and Herndon will supply the shirts (while supplies last) along with all other materials needed to create awesome tie-dye. All ages welcome. Pay on-site day of event, cash or check only. \$5. Call 703-787-7300, ext. 2115 or visit [www.herndon-va.gov/about-us/recreation/](http://www.herndon-va.gov/about-us/recreation/)

special-events.

**Author Event: Terry Catusus Jennings.** 11 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Award-winning author of children's non-fiction and fact-based fiction, Terry Catusus Jennings will read to the Bookworms Club at the Reston Regional Library and help us with a science-based activity.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 23

**Author Event: Julie Langsdorf and Angie Kim.** 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Authors Julie Langsdorf (*The White Elephant*) and Angie Kim (*Miracle Creek*) had to reschedule their May appearance. Meet them and hear them discuss their debut novels. Register through Eventbrite. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

## FRIDAY/JUNE 28

**Live Music: Holly Montgomery Band.** 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Kalypso's Sports Tavern on historic Lake Anne in Reston. Bands play inside the sports bar on a dedicated stage. No cover. Visit [www.kalypsosportstavern.com](http://www.kalypsosportstavern.com).

## SATURDAY/JUNE 29

**July 4th in June.** All day at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Get the nation's birthday party started early. The park opens at dawn and the fun continues until the last fireworks disappear from the sky after dark. The water park is open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. There will be live music with Modern Vintage and the U.S. Navy Band Commodores from 3:30-9 p.m. Food vendors will be on hand throughout the day. Fireworks begin at 9:15 p.m.. The park generally closes to new arrivals around 8:45 p.m. Walk or bike to the park and admission is free. There is a parking fee of \$10 per vehicle. The rain date Sunday/June30. Call 703-471-5414 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax).

## MONDAY/JULY 1

**Registration Deadline.** Lake Anne Cardboard Boat Regatta. Over 50 participating teams of all ages will construct and decorate their own life-size cardboard boats and then race them on Lake Anne. Register at [www.restonmuseum.org/cardboard](http://www.restonmuseum.org/cardboard).

## FRIDAY/JULY 5

**Live Music: Chris Timbers Band.** 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Kalypso's Sports Tavern on historic Lake Anne in Reston. Bands play inside the sports bar on a dedicated stage. No cover. Visit [www.kalypsosportstavern.com](http://www.kalypsosportstavern.com).

## FRIDAY/JULY 12

**Live Music: Sista Pat's One Vibe.** 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Kalypso's Sports Tavern on historic Lake Anne in Reston. Bands play inside the sports bar on a dedicated stage. No cover. Visit [www.kalypsosportstavern.com](http://www.kalypsosportstavern.com).

## FRIDAY/JULY 19

**Live Music: Free Soul.** 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Kalypso's Sports Tavern on historic Lake Anne in Reston. Bands play inside the sports bar on a dedicated stage. No cover. Visit [www.kalypsosportstavern.com](http://www.kalypsosportstavern.com).

## FRIDAY/JULY 28

**Live Music: Run For Cover.** 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Kalypso's Sports Tavern on historic Lake Anne in Reston. Bands play inside the sports bar on a dedicated stage. No cover. Visit [www.kalypsosportstavern.com](http://www.kalypsosportstavern.com).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 8

**Curator's Talk: A Purposeful Manner Towards a Vague Destination.** Noon-1 p.m. at The Signature at Reston Town Center, 11850 Freedom Drive, Reston. Gallery hours at Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) presents A Purposeful Manner Towards a Vague Destination, a solo exhibition featuring work by painter Douglas Moulden. Maryland based painter Moulden exhibits a series of large-scale acrylic on panel paintings developed from photographs and memory inspired by exploration of the woods near his home. Visit [restonarts.org](http://restonarts.org) for more.



Members of the South Lakes High School Class of 2019 hurry down the steps toward EagleBank Arena at George Mason University for their Commencement Ceremony on June 5.

# Once a Seahawk, Always a Seahawk

## South Lakes High School graduates Class of 2019.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

Like most high school graduates, the South Lakes Class of 2019 studied, learned and played together for 13+ years. On the evening of June 5, the class gathered not as students, but graduate candidates for their Commencement Ceremony at George Mason University EagleBank Arena. But before the addresses, remarks, and presentation of diplomas, the class took a moment and recognized individuals closest to them who played a role in their success.

“Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, and friends, you have all played an enormous role in our time at South Lakes. None of us would be sitting here today, without your love and support,” said graduate candidate Kate Kaufman in her Welcoming Remarks. The Senior Class Song, “Remember Me” performed by Chorus Members and directed by Rita



Caroline Weis adjusts Kate Kaufman's cap for the South Lakes High School Commencement Ceremony.

Gigliotti followed.

Jimmy Flood affirmed to his fellow graduates that they would be remembered having left their

mark on South Lakes while learning much. “We have learned the virtues of honor, courage, compas-  
SEE SOUTH LAKES, PAGE 10



Student Speaker Caroline Weis addresses fellow graduates.



Tiffany Welborn, teacher at South Lakes High School gives the Keynote Address.



Jimmy Flood introduces distinguished guests.

VIEWPOINTS

## South Lakes High Graduates: A Look Back, a Look Ahead

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



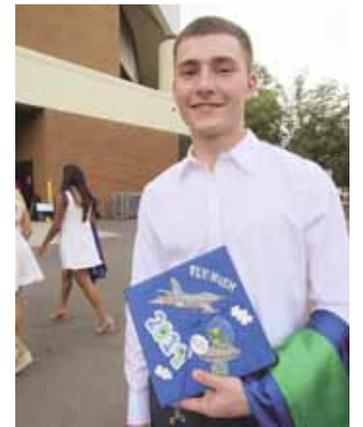
Emily Lazun, 18, of Reston heading to James Madison University: “Tomorrow I will be sleeping in then helping my mom clean her classroom.”



Ryan Ferzoco, 18, of Reston heading to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: “High school was a blast, filled with laughs and good times. Happy memories.”



Emily Fritz, 18, of Reston heading to Randolph-Macon College: “Enjoy your high school years. Don't wish them away.”



Kyker Silata, 18, of Reston, heading to boot camp in Texas: “My favorite memory is moving to Reston and graduating from South Lakes High School.”



Alex Storrel, 18, of Reston, heading to Virginia Commonwealth University: “The most challenging part of high school was waking up on time for class.”



Ryan Silata, 18, of Reston, heading to the United States Air Force: “South Lakes High School, crowded but worth the wait.”

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

**CALENDAR**

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**NEWS**

**South Lakes High Graduates Class of 2019**

FROM PAGE 9  
sion, and acceptance. I could not be prouder to call myself a member of the Class of 2019," Flood said.

In her Assistant Principal's Address, Colleen Robson "bragged about" the accomplishment of the 552 graduates, and how "they persevered through odds that at times felt suffocating." Robson said, "Three hundred thirty-two of these talented young men and women will attend a 4-year college...139 will attend a 2-year college and 12 will participate in a career or apprenticeship program... Your children have collectively been awarded scholarships close to \$6.5 million...volunteered over 24,000 hours of community service...Every time someone said, 'You can't,' or 'You won't,' you did. Celebrate your struggles, for, without them, you would never know your strengths. The multiple languages you speak, give multiple lenses through which to see the world."

Class Speaker Carolyn Weis acknowledged the day was a time for the graduates to reminisce, and in the future, new victories would be made. However, the Class of 2019 should not think in terms of wins and losses and successes and failures. Weis said, "That's too black and white. And it ignores what we are really here to celebrate tonight the glorious gray areas...The much more ordinary, day-to-day life that most of it was made of."

Weis spoke about the future and how a lot of adulthood "is just showing up" and "taking tomorrow as it comes." She reminded the graduates to yes, go in pursuit of their most significant dreams and wildest passions but also "lasting contentment that may fulfill us and be shared with the people we love." Weis bid her classmates goodbye. "Go forth kindly, confi-



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

**One moment a South Lakes High School graduate candidate, the next, a graduate of the Class of 2019.**

dently and bravely...I hope you have plans that are bigger than just tomorrow...I hope you don't live your life searching for black and white answers to things, but that you find that you are comfortable in the gray areas, the wonderful in between that life is made of."

Principal Kimberly Retzer named five nominees for the Bruce Butler Leadership Award, Christopher "Bear" Ford, Jessica Gibson, Javairia Khan, Sophia Liao, and Bryan Viera Gomez. "The faculty nominates students who best exemplify the characteristics and attributes of scholarship, leadership and service," she said. Retzer announced Bryan Viera Gomez winner. "Bryan arrived at South Lakes in January of 2016 as a level 2 ESOL student," she said. Retzer said Gomez immersed him-

self in his studies and quickly became recognized for his work ethic, graduating with a 3.9 GPA. She said Gomez was an active member of the AVID class, Advancement Via Individual Determination and how he was the "first one to help struggling peers both in AVID and other classes."

Tiffany Welborn, a teacher at South Lakes High School presented the Keynote Address. Welborn advised the graduates to believe in themselves and to be the best they could be. "When you believe in yourself and chose to be a better person than you were yesterday, you will find yourself being successful in life," she said. Welborn closed with a quote she attributed to Les Brown. "Shoot for the moon, even if you miss, you'll land among the stars," she said.



**Saying Good-bye to Lake Anne Elementary**

**On Monday, June 3, the former students from Lake Anne Elementary School who are now graduating from South Lakes High School stopped by to walk the school's halls one last time. All elementary students were invited to the hallways to clap for the Seniors and their accomplishments.**

# BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 3

program. The mentors provide opportunities for companionship, guidance and support to children who have been abused and neglected, or who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Contact Ibrahim Khalil at [Ibrahim.khalil@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Ibrahim.khalil@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-324-4547.

**Herndon High School Library** needs volunteers. Training available to help with re-shelving books, pulling books for teacher use, helping to check passes, or other special projects. To learn more, email [hhs\\_library@fcps.edu](mailto:hhs_library@fcps.edu).

**RSVP**, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at [chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org) or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit [www.rsvpnova.org](http://www.rsvpnova.org).

**Sunrise at Reston Town Center** offers a monthly Caregiver Support Group on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m. Monthly support group offers a safe place for family caregivers, to meet and develop a mutual support system and to exchange practical information and possible solutions. Learn about resources available in the community and how to manage caregiver related stress. Call 703-956-8930 or email [Reston.ED@sunriseseniorliving.com](mailto:Reston.ED@sunriseseniorliving.com) to RSVP.

**Exercise for Parkinson's**. Every Monday, 1:15-2:15 p.m. Reston Sport&Health, 11445 Isaac Newton Square, Reston. This program brings together people impacted by Parkinson's Disease to participate in various physical exercises aimed at improving posture, balance and circulation and increasing strength, muscle control and mobility. Free. [parkinsonfoundation.org](http://parkinsonfoundation.org). Call Natalie McCall [nmccall@onelifefitness.com](mailto:nmccall@onelifefitness.com) 703-904-7600 for more.

**Master Gardener Training**. The Fairfax County Master Gardener Association offers plant clinics, home turf training or speakers for homeowner's meetings. Fees vary. Visit [fairfaxgardening.org](http://fairfaxgardening.org) or call MG Help Desk at 703-324-8556 for more.

**Over-40 Softball League**. A Fairfax-based league is looking for enough players to form another team. Players must be at least 40 years of age to be eligible. All games are doubleheaders - played on Sundays at Bready Park in Herndon between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Email [skeduman@aol.com](mailto:skeduman@aol.com) for more.

**Passages DivorceCare**. For those experiencing the pain of separation or divorce, the caring community at Vienna Presbyterian Church offers Passages DivorceCare. This 15-week program offers a path toward healing. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna. Cost to cover materials is \$20, scholarships available. For more information or to register call 703-938-9050, go to [www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org), or send an email to [Passages@ViennaPres.org](mailto:Passages@ViennaPres.org).

The **Herndon Adult Day Health Care Center** needs volunteers to assist with fitness activities, arts and crafts, mealtime, entertainment and much more. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email [Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov). Also visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/litombudsman/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/litombudsman/).

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

**Respite Care** volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or [Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov).

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## What A Week!



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The least of it was my pre-immunotherapy lab work on Wednesday and then my actual immunotherapy infusion on Friday. The most of it was my navigating websites and trying to properly complete applications/enrollment forms for the Virginia Unemployment Commission and the Maryland Health Connection.

For a man (me) who fancies himself your go-to-guy for sports and chocolate, getting immersed in policies and procedures for government agencies providing unemployment benefits and health care - with our (my wife, Dina and I) respective lives somewhat dependent on the time-sensitive completion of said documents, was akin to sending yours truly out to sing the National Anthem at the next Nationals' game. It would be a disaster of titanic proportions (fortunately without the loss of life).

As it has been my entire life, I can't sing any more than I can now compute.

As I sit and write this week's column, having barely survived the excruciating ordeal of this past week - with only an in-office visit left to go on Monday - I now have next week to look forward to. And what garden path am I leading you down?

Another week of time-sensitive/computer-centric tasks, of course. Once again I will be sitting at my computer attempting to navigate through another government web site and this time a private sector website, as I try to sign up for Medicare effective Sept. 1, as well as the associated but independent supplemental medical insurance necessary to fill in the coverage gaps that I, as a former insurance broker, know exist.

Granted, with these two tasks I do have some time. I just hope I have the wherewithal.

This past week took a toll emotionally. And I'm not sure if I really want to climb that emotional mountain yet again.

This week's tasks are not any easier. Shooting fish in a barrel they're not. They're more like having to make the barrel and then catch the fish. Not easier said than impossibly done. For a man who knows his limitations, the week ahead will likely test those limitations.

But if not me, then who? Unfortunately, it has to be me. The other party with whom I share a long-standing arrangement has a skill set unsuited to and incompatible with, computers, and the kind of searching/deciphering/hunting and pecking on web sites required for completion of this week's tasks.

Moreover, if I enlist her support or insist on her participation, my present and future will not be enhanced by the experience. She may be a resource in many other respects, but in this respect, she's not.

And I can respect that. Give me a little credit, I've learned something in our 40 years together.

That being said - and understood, I think I'll take the weekend off from such endeavors and prepare myself for next week as I consider the challenges which lie ahead.

I'd like to think I've gained some confidence in the progress I made this past week. I've nearly completed both tasks, tasks which initially seemed almost insurmountable. However, if it were not for the amazingly patient, courteous and knowledgeable assistance I received from the call centers associated with these sites, I'd still be stumbling and stammering (literally) into oblivion.

But as of this past Friday, I've nearly reached the promised land. ("I can see Russia from my house.")

I can only imagine the satisfaction I'll feel next Friday when I anticipate I will have completed two more of these tedious tasks and secured yet another part of our financial and emotional future.

Four huge hurdles overcome, but still with a few more yet to go: probably applying for a reverse mortgage and possibly researching a kitchen renovation.

Wait a second. Don't I have lung cancer? Jeez, I almost forgot.

With all this other stuff going on, the cancer compartment stayed closed. Now it's open again. Damn, now I really have problems.

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



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Luis Lim, co-owner of Town Barber at 704 A Elden Street, Herndon gives Alberto Diaz a haircut.

## Hot Towels, Shave and Cut Services

**Town Barber opens for men and women in new downtown development.**

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

With a classic, old-fashioned barbershop experience in mind, hot towels, neck massage and all, Luis and Sun Lim opened their dream business last week. Called simply, “Town Barber,” the shop is located in the historic downtown district, steps from the Old Town Hall on Elden Street yet in the new mixed-use retail development Junction Square.

The Lim family decided to offer a line-up of affordable services for



**Town Barber is a locally owned family business; (from left) Luis Lim, daughter Joyce, wife Sun and a son stationed overseas at Osan Air Base, United States Air Force.**

both men and women. Sun Lim said she and her husband Luis picked downtown Herndon as the site for their new barbershop, “be-

cause we lived here,” she said.

The sign on the wall stated: Men’s cut \$17- discount to military, police, fire, and seniors; Woman’s cut \$20. Alberto Diaz of Herndon sat in the Luis’ chair. He admired his cut and tipped Luis. “I know what it’s like to open a small business. It can be tough,” Diaz said.

Sun Lim said that the family used to live in the town, but sold their single-family home to afford the purchase of the two retail spaces in the new mixed-use development, one of which they are renting out. Lim said that their son is serving at Osan Air Base, a United States Air Force base in Pyeongtaek, South Korea. Daughter Joyce just completed her degree in social services and is searching for a job. “The Town of Herndon is very stable and peaceful,” Lim said as she stepped outside the new business to admire the door signage, Town Barber 704 A Elden Street.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE STASSINOS

**The South Lakes’ team celebrates their victory at the VHSL 6A State Championships on June 8.**

## Seahawks Win State Soccer Championships

**Tight game for Madison High.**

BY JULIA ZHOU  
THE CONNECTION

The South Lakes High School soccer team made history last week, winning their first ever state title.

Brennan Kenny, a player on the opposing team, Madison High School, stated, “It was a great experience for me ... knowing that our team grew as a family made the experience even better. Reflecting on how far we have come—last year we lost in the second round of Regionals and this year finishing the season second in the state is unbelievable.”

Saturday, June 8, marked the final game of the VHSL State Championships in Richmond. The finals pitted rivals Madison and South Lakes high schools against each other. Ultimately, the South Lakes Seahawks

soared to victory, edging out the Madison Warhawks by one goal.

Advancing to the championship game is no small feat. Madison Soccer Coach, Randy Wood reflected, “This team has been hard working and driven. They were dedicated to success and determined to finish strong. I am really proud of these guys.”

Coaches saw determination throughout the game. The first half ended in a stalemate, neither team able to weave past the defenses of the opposing team to score a goal. It was only in the second half that South Lakes’ sophomore Merrick Edgerton, #44 on the field, found an opening and headed a well-aimed throw-in by #15 Michael Bush squarely into the net. Merrick scored the only goal of the game, leading the Seahawks to victory.

## Closet Awards Scholarships to 20 High School Graduates

The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, Inc. recently awarded \$30,000 in college scholarships to 20 deserving high school graduates in ceremonies at five local high schools. Closet Board President Gene Wiley stated, “We are so proud of these youth and their families and are happy to continue supporting this important educational need in our community.” The 2019 scholarship recipients are:

❖ Herndon High School:

Dolly Berens, Christina George, Peyton Martin, Carla Nicolini, Abla Samrhouni

❖ Mountain View High School: Hawa Camara, Katy Beltran, Jieun Jeo

❖ Oakton High School: Seonuk Kim, Gabrielle Shapo, Irmhild Ayompe-Mody

❖ Park View High School: Angie Guzman Sorto, Christopher Hernandez Herrera, Casey House, Karla Miranda Otero, Michelle Negrete, Jacqueline Villanueva

Arevalo

❖ South Lakes High School: Bryan Viera, Tina Habibi, Yumna Iqbal

Since 1974, The Closet has awarded nearly \$500,000 in college scholarships to 478 students. In this same 45 year period, The Closet has distributed nearly \$3 million in direct cash grants to local service groups, of which the scholarship program is an important part. The Closet is a non-profit thrift shop founded and operated

by a multiplicity of faith-based congregations. With a small dedicated staff and a very active volunteer cadre, The Closet provides shoppers low-cost, high quality used clothing, shoes, books and other household items. Donations of clothing and small household items are always needed, graciously accepted, and may be dropped off at the store Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Retail store hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through

Saturday with evening hours on Monday and Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. The Closet welcomes new volunteers at any time Monday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. See the store manager, Patricia Rhoads. The Closet also welcomes student volunteers fulfilling their community service requirements for school or who just want to serve their community.

For further information [www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org](http://www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org) about The Closet. The Closet is located at 845 Station Street in Herndon.