Racers in the 2019 Firecracker 5k For the Troops presented by Leidos in Reston.

Firecracker 5k Held in Reston

Creative Conversations Begin at Reston Sunrise

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PET Connection

Publishes: July 31, 2019 - Ads close: July 25, 2019
Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake
edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more
about beloved family pets.

The Pet Connection will publish on July 31, 2019, and
photos and stories of your pets with you and your
family, along with any advertisements, should be
submitted by July 25.

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

Find more information about submissions online at
www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

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www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Firecracker 5k Run in Reston

By Mercia Hobson
The Connection

Potomac River Running Store partnered with Presenting Sponsor Leidos for its 10th annual Firecracker 5k For the Troops in Reston Town Center on Thursday morning July 4. The race offered three categories, 5k Military, 5k 14 and Under and 5k Adult.

“This is your firecracker for the troops,” announced emcee Kelly Kavanough of Potomac River Running to the crowd poised at the start line.

Roger Krone, Chairman and CEO of Leidos, welcomed the runners. “We are proud to call Reston Town Center home. We’re headquartered here for many reasons, including what brings us together today, that spirit of community that unites us for an important cause – USO-Metro,” said Krone. Krone said each year, USO-Metro provides services to nearly 300,000 military members and their families who call the region home as well as another 150,000 traveling through local airports.

“The store’s location changed on the Plaza in late 1981, co-owned by New York transplant Susann Gerstein, Kathy Paolini and Margaret Johnson. According to Gerstein, at that time the shop occupied a smaller unit on the Plaza where Dogma Bakery is now. Since there was nothing like it, Gerstein said, the trio was unsure how the business would fare.

Time passed. Paolini and Johnson retired. The store’s location changed on the Plaza close to the Children’s Fountain and babies grew to adulthood. Now they became the second generation of customers and sellers, bringing their children to the little shop on the Plaza, a place Gerstein described as “warm and inviting.” However, all good things come to an end.

NEARLY 38 YEARS LATER, 13,734 calendar days, on Saturday, June 29, surrounded by loved ones, Gerstein, the sole remaining owner of Small Change Consignment locked the door, closing the shop that made a “big change” in the community of women; their life stories and gifts to be shared with us.”

The day after the panel, Gerstein posted to her Facebook page: “We’ll be spending the next 3 1/2 months doing what we love! Things come to an end.

See Small Change, Page 5
Special Session on Gun Violence

Eight proposed bills would make the commonwealth safer.

Members of the Virginia General Assembly were scheduled on July 9 to convene in a special session intended to address gun violence. After the May 31 mass shooting in Virginia Beach, Gov. Ralph Northam called for a special session of the General Assembly to address gun violence. Last week, he announced a package of eight bills for consideration during the special session.

- Legislation requiring background checks on all firearms sales and transactions. The bill mandates that any person selling, renting, trading, or transferring a firearm must first obtain the results of a background check before completing the transaction.
- Legislation banning dangerous weapons, assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, bump stocks and silencers.
- Legislation to reinstate Virginia’s successful law allowing only one handgun purchase within a 30-day period.
- Legislation requiring that lost and stolen firearms be reported to law enforcement within 24 hours.
- Legislation creating an Extreme Risk Protective Order (Red Flag Law), allowing law enforcement and the courts to temporarily seize firearms if the person exhibits dangerous behavior that presents an immediate threat to self or others. This would prevent suicides.
- Legislation prohibiting all individuals subject to final protective orders from possessing firearms. The bill expands Virginia law which currently prohibits individuals subject to final protective orders of family abuse from possessing firearms, keeping guns out of the hands of domestic abusers.
- Legislation enhancing the punishment for allowing access to loaded, unsecured firearm by a child from a Class 3 Misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony. The bill also raises the age of the child from 14 to 18.
- Legislation allowing localities to enact any firearms ordinances that are stricter than state law. This includes regulating firearms in municipal buildings, libraries and at permitted events. These are in fact common sense proposals, and each one should get consideration and a vote. There’s a good chance that won’t be the outcome because Republicans narrowly control both the House of Delegates and the Virginia Senate.

But the special session will focus legislators and voters on the importance of these issues, and that focus will serve the effort well, whether or not any of the bills pass into law this month.

Pet Connection, Send Photos

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of July, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Thursday, July 25. We invite you to send stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, horses, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you. Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans. Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description of what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

Email editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

For advertising information, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

— Mary Kimm

Good for the Gander

By Kenneth R. “Ken” Plum
State Delegate (D-36)

The General Assembly went into Special Session July 9 at the call of Gov. Ralph Northam to address gun violence after a shooter with a silencer on his pistol murdered a dozen persons in a municipal building in Virginia Beach. The outcome of the session in which legislators introduced eight different bills at the request of the Governor is unknown as I write this column. I introduced the bill that I have introduced at other sessions to expand criminal background checks for all firearm transactions or universal background checks. Virginia has had a criminal background check for gun purchases for 30 years. The system was put in place after a bill that was heavily debated and that seemed certain to be defeated was passed with the support of a senior delegate, Vic Thomas, who was an avid NRA supporter. He concluded that it was the public clearly needed more support but it did not oppose the bill’s passage. Governor Gerald Baliles signed the bill into law even though he had earlier opposed any gun control legislation.

The resulting instant background check system that was put into place continues operating today. It was the promise of an instant background check without the need to wait for days for approval that was the feature that led to the bill’s passage.

See Plum, Page 6

In the Summertime

By John Lovaas
Reston Impact Producer/Host

Is it hot enough for you? There is no doubt that it is July in Washington with air temperatures climbing into the 90s most days with the humidity not far behind. Fortunately, we’ve also benefited from frequent, heavy rains providing breaks between scorcher so that Reston looks as green as Ireland.

Our 4th of July Independence Day celebrations around Lake Anne were the best we’ve seen. While there were no officially sanctioned or funded fireworks displays (because, sadly, we are not officially sanctioned — incorporated — as a city or town) to mark the occasion, several good-hearted residents generously put on impressive displays for all to see! Especially impressive were skyrockets fired from one raft towed by a boat in the center of the lake, maybe 75 yards from my patio. They were fired over a couple of hours — all colors, patterns and time sequences. There were oohs, ahs, and many rounds of applause from those of us watching from the shore. The displays looked quite professional and more memorable than some public shows. Our unseen benefactors must have paid several thousand dollars for the scores of rockets launched.

In addition, there were two pontoon boats one could barely distinguish in the dark of night firing rockets for shorter periods. I did see enough of the outline of one craft as it began its firing run crossing the lake to recognize it. That display too was impressive, but brief. I bumped into the owner the next morning and he told me he’d spent more than $1300 on his fireworks. A couple of other active rocketeers — one firing from another boat, another from a nearby parking lot — also contributed to the spectacular display.

See Lovaas, Page 6
Creative Conversations Begin at Reston Sunrise

Anyone can join multigenerational dialogue

By Christina Tyler Wenks

A new speakers series and writers workshop is creating more than chatter among Reston residents. It’s cultivating skills and relationships.

Reston’s Sunrise Senior Living launched a speakers series program for residents and the public.

On Tuesday, June 25, the program and the public called “Creative Conversations,” kicked off with USA Today editorial-page editor Bill Sternberg discussing how the national publication chooses topics for daily editorials, which letters to the editor get published, and why.

Such discussions engage thought among attendees, such as those residents who call themselves the Scribes of Sunrise and recently started meeting weekly to write.

“As we grow older, it is important to take steps to maintain our physical health as well as our mental alertness. The Scribes of Sunrise writers workshop is an example of how reading and writing can help keep seniors’ minds sharp as well as improve their quality of life,” said participant John Beach, who worked in the Pentagon for 51 years and now lives at Sunrise Senior Living. “Residents who share their stories — pen souls — feel better and are more connected to each other with a new social activity.”

The speakers series and weekly writing group was started by Reston resident Kristin Clark Taylor, who several years ago started and still facilitates the Great Falls Writers Group.

Beach admires the first few weeks of Scribes seemed prescribed, but writing no longer feels like an assignment as residents gain confidence and trust in their skills and each other.

“We are creating a comfortable, creative environment where we can all share our work,” Taylor said.

Scribes of Sunrise and its Creative Conversations counterpart amplify the social lives of residents, but also encourage and provide opportunity for those living nearby who wish to participate to cultivate friendships and mentorships among Sunrise residents, too.

“We need the outside community to build and provide diversity of thought,” said Pat O’Dwyer, Sunrise resident who years ago worked in the Philippines as an educator for children with learning challenges.

“We have something precious here. We have a robin’s egg in the nest and I want to make sure it hatches,” said Beach. “I welcome outside help because we need to add more knowledge to genres and courage to write for people you don’t know.”

GFWG member Lydia Baidoe is originally from Ghana but now lives in Reston. She attends Sunrise Senior Living’s writing groups to meet other writers, who nurture and inspire her own writing. “I need a group to hold me accountable,” said Baidoe.

Every participant focuses on his own topic or genre, but many wish to complete memoirs. On July 20, a panel discussion about writing memoirs will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. at Sunrise Senior Living, and the public is encouraged to participate in multi-generational dialogue, gain poise with a pen, and possibly friendship. A panel of book publishing experts will gather at Sunrise Senior Living in Reston on Saturday, July 20, 2-3:30 p.m., to share some of their trade secrets and discuss how to navigate the tricky publishing process.

Small Change Consignment Closes

From Page 3

ways do, taking in & selling everything your children need & outgrow, hosting indoor playtime, having crazy sales on clothes & toys & books & baby gear.

As the clock ticked down and closing neared, Gerstein remained true to her word, and ever optimistic someone would take over the business that crossed generations and meant so much to the community.

Even at the Women’s International Day Conference Gerstein had said, “The key about women on the Plaza to me is...there something about us rolling up our sleeves and saying we can do this...there a sense of women coming together and just making it happen.” In the store’s final days, Gerstein crossed off the “lasts” on Small Change’s Facebook page. “The last day of first grade for a beloved granddaughter, the last ceremonial check to Cornerstones (but not the last check!), the legacy of a Small Change outfit, the smiles of friends finding each other and of kids hard at work playing in our shop...Four more days, people, on magical Lake Anne Plaza,” Gerstein posted.

The friendly neighborhood shop, known to make it easy to recycle children’s items, a gathering place for mothers and grandmothers looking for clothes, shoes and toys, shuttered its doors.

In her final acts of kindness as the owner of Small Change Consignment, Gerstein said she would donate all clothing that remained to either “Cornerstones or The Closet in Herndon,” and the shop’s iconic and beloved big train set, school bus, dollhouse and grocery stand with cart would go to Play 4 All Ages by Mary Marchetti.

We are in the process of exploring locations for a toy library and play space for All Ages,” said Marchetti. “Susann will continue to be an integral part of our mission, and we are so appreciative of all her efforts throughout our activities.”

Liz Kamp, Owner of New Trail Cycling Studio on the Plaza, said, “Susann’s positive energy and guidance as a female entrepreneur will be greatly missed. I hope that we can all continue her mission to give back to the community in which we live, work, play and serve.”

Remembrances and Best Wishes

“Kids were always in the fountain, getting wet and going right to her shop.” Vincent Brown, Lake Anne Community Center

“We moved here in 1996, and the second day I was here...I came over with my daughter and bought several things. Since then we’ve been friends forever.” Lynda Hullkower

“Best wishes in your future business endeavors.” Seth Flynn, Manager Lake Anne Coffee House and Wine Bar

“Susans, to me, is a hero. She’s been a plaza stalwart and she just always has the energy to contribute to whatever project that is going on. That’s who she is to me.” - Bud Burwell, Reston’s Used Book Shop

“I always thought that the shop would be there. Now, where do I go?” - Missy Bidwell, Chesapeake Chocolates
Lake Anne, Lake Anne Plaza, and Reston Community Brewing Company. Performances begin at 1 p.m. Roots Music Festival is sponsored by Friends of Lake Anne, Lake Anne Plaza, and Reston Community Center.

Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival

The Woodshedders, and Two Ton Twig. Come to the lakeside for a full day of music by some of the region's best contemporary bluegrass performers and food. The Woodshedders, and Two Ton Twig. Come to the lakeside for a full day of music by some of the region's best contemporary bluegrass performers and food.

Virginia elections are only a few weeks away. As the results come in, you may find yourself wondering how you can be part of the democratic process. Here are some ways to get involved.

1. Vote: Check the closing date for your area.
2. Register to vote: You must be registered to vote in order to cast your ballot.
3. Volunteer: Many organizations are seeking volunteers to help with campaigns.
4. Donate: Consider making a donation to a candidate or political party.
5. Attend rallies and events: These are great opportunities to meet candidates and learn more about the issues.

There are many ways to get involved in the political process. Choose the one that works best for you and make a difference in your community.

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Meet the Author at Scrawl Books

Author Jennifer Ryan visits Scrawl Books to discuss and sign her latest “potboiler,” “The Spies of Shilling Lane,” about female spies in World War II London. Called a “delightful mystery” by the NY Times, Spies is Ryan's second novel. She also wrote “The Chilbury Ladies Choir.”

Lovaas: a delightful evening for appreciative neighbors and spectators. Happily there were no tanks on display nor were there any corrupt, self-promoting politicians to tarnish a delightful celebration of our Independence. July also marks sort of a mid-year point in our Reston Farmers Market season at Lake Anne. It is that especially bountiful time of year when the Market is filled with sweet corn, veggies and an amazing assortment of fruits: watermelons, cantaloupes, musk melons, peaches, nectarines, plums of all kinds, goosberries, currants, blackberries, cherries (sweet and sour), blueberries, red and black raspberries to name most, but not all I fear. And, each year we see new and different varieties that I’d not previously seen or imagined. This Saturday, I saw and tasted my first silver cucumbers. They have a thin skin and you can actually eat the whole thing without peeling! They are a no-chemical producer in their own garden and they taste delicious! Try it today.

Roots Music Festival at Lake Anne Plaza

The third annual Roots Music Festival will be held at Lake Anne Plaza on Saturday, July 13, 2019 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. with performances from seven folk, bluegrass, and blues groups: Katie & Kelly, Annie Stokes, Minks Medicine, The High & Wides, The Woodshedders, and Two Ton Twig. Come to the lakeside for a full day of music by some of the region's best contemporary bluegrass performers and food.

Meet the Author at Scrawl Books

Author Jennifer Ryan visits Scrawl Books to discuss and sign her latest “potboiler,” “The Spies of Shilling Lane,” about female spies in World War II London. Called a “delightful mystery” by the NY Times, Spies is Ryan's second novel. She also wrote “The Chilbury Ladies Choir.”

Plum FROM PAGE 4

There was then that continues today a major flaw in the law as originally passed that supported had hoped to correct but have not been successful in amending. The law only applies to purchases made with federally licensed gun dealers. That's about half the gun sales in the state each year, although exact statistics are un-
known because of statutory limitations on gathering information about gun sales put in place with NRA advocacy. This flaw in the law created what is referred to as the “gun show loophole.” At any of the numerous gun shows that are held throughout the Commonwealth one can purchase a gun from a federally licensed gun dealer with an instant background check; at the next table the show a person can purchase a gun from an unlicensed dealer with no identifi-
cation needed and no questions asked.

The astonishing statistic is that in 2018 the Virginia State Police conducted 446,333 firearm transactions involving licensed dealers with 3,457 of the transactions denied because of previous criminal behavior. Had the loophole in the law been closed there may have been as many as a half million more checks with a proportionally high number of persons with criminal records being denied another weapon.

What is good for the goose is good for the gander, as I have always been told. With a successful system for background checks in place for thirty years without opposition or kick-ups, all gun sales should go through the system with few minor exceptions related to family members. According to many polls, the public supports universal background checks at levels around 90 percent. It is time for the legislature to act or be able to explain to the public in the coming political campaign why this old adage is not being followed.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703.917.6444.

By e-mail: north@connectionnewspapers.com

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Front Page

Week in Reston
SUNDAYS IN JULY
Volunteers Needed. Sign up to volunteer at the Sunday Art in the Park series with GRACE, in partnership with the Reston Arts Center and Reston Town Center Association. Volunteers will assist visitors in free, drop-in art-making activities 5:30-7:30 p.m. Volunteers are eligible for community service credit hours. Middle school volunteers are welcome with a guardian. Questions or ready to sign up? Contact Sarah Berenz at 703-265-9204 or sberenz@restonarts.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 11
Car Seat Safety Check. 5-8 p.m. at the Reston district police station, 3801 Cameron Glen Drive. Fairfax County Police Department offers free safety check and install events throughout the year to ensure children travel safely. By appointment only; call 703-471-9094 to schedule. In preparation for appointment, install the seat using the instructions that came with the car seat. Trained officers will review the car seat instructions and car owner’s manual to be certain that they are being followed as they should.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 17
Fairfax Commission on Aging Meets. 1-3 p.m. at McLean Governmental Center, Rooms A & B, 1347 Falls Hill Road, McLean. The public is welcome to attend and join in the comment period that begins each session. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/family/services/older-adults/fairfax-area-commission-on-aging. Call 703-334-5403, TTY 711 for meeting access needs.

MONDAY/JULY 22
DMV2Go at the Pavilion. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 11900 Market St., Reston Town Center. The wireless office on wheels offers all DMV services: driver’s license and ID card applications and renewals, driving records, vehicle titles, license plates, decals, order disabled plates, and more. Information on all services available at dmv.virginia.gov/general/DMV2Go.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 24
Fairfax County Park Authority Board Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 941, Fairfax. The Park Authority Board’s 12 appointed members establish strategic policy and direction for the Park Authority. Open to the public. For agenda and more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/boardagenda.htm or call 703-324-8662.

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 or www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html.

ONGOING
STEM Professionals Needed. Volunteers are needed to assist K-12 STEM teachers in northern Virginia as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s STEM Volunteer Program, stemvolunteers.org. During the 2019-2020 school year, beginning in September. Please contact Don Rea at 571-551-2488 or donaldrea@aol.com.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia. A volunteer nonprofit, invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Bots program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade students during the school year. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Groshlund at mgroshlund@aol.com or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at LynneB17@reston.net.
Ongoing

Readings with the Reston Community Orchestra. July 22, July 29, Aug. 5 and Aug. 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Sunset Hills Montessori School, 11180 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. Music and stands provided. $20 per session, $75 for all for four when registered by July 22. Additional string session Aug. 19 (202). Scholarships are available. Contact Linda Ackerman at rcomanager.la@gmail.com or 571-271-9189 or visit www.restoncommunityorchestra.org to register.

Thursday/July 11

Toddler Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join us for fun stories, songs and finger plays. Age 2 with adult. Please register. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Take a Break Dance Night: Mambo Combo. 7-9 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Enjoy music under the stars each Thursday through Aug. 29. Dance instruction at several concerts. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/TAB.

Grandpa’s Farm Show. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join us for an imaginary journey with music and puppets as Goodlife Theatre takes us to Grandpa’s Farm. All ages, no registration required. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Hunter Mill Nights: The Reunion Jazz. Take a Break Dance Night: Mambo Combo. 7-9 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Enjoy music under the stars each Thursday through Aug. 29. Dance instruction at several concerts. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/TAB.

WEDNESDAY/July 17

Hunter Mill Melodies: Blue Sky Puppet Theatre (puppets). 10-10:45 a.m. at Frying Pan Park Visitor Center, 2779 West Ox Road, Herndon. Free series of children’s shows Wednesdays through Aug. 21.

Dog Days of Summer. 5-7:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center. Every Wednesday through Sept. 4, dogs and owners can frolic in the Pavilion when it is transformed into an off-leash play area each week. Treats, toys, areas to cool off, pet friendly giveaways, and more. Free. Operated by Healthy Hound Playground and Ivy’s Ways. Visit restontowncenter.com for more.

Thursday/July 18

Free Tea Day. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. at McAlister’s Deli, 13007 Worldgate Drive, Herndon. McAlister’s annual Free Tea Day. Free 32-ounce fresh-brewed iced tea, no purchase necessary. Visit www.mcalistersdeli.com or call 703-278-8117.

Tai Chi Fitness. 6:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Calendar

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

JULY 11-28

SUN. July 14

Obliged to Cook-The Legacy of Enslaved Cooks.” Noon-2 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. The voices and stories of the enslaved men and women who labored in Virginia’s 18th century kitchens are often hidden in their recipes and oral history. Sully will examine the legacy of enslaved cooks that can be found in the lasting presence of African-American foodways in American cuisine. For age 5-adult. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

SAT. July 13- AUG. 31

Art Exhibit: Overlooked. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Greater Reston Art Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. Greater Reston Art Center (GRACE) presents Overlooked, a group exhibition featuring nine artists who are seeking to bring awareness to issues that are often unnoticed, ignored, or otherwise not part of “polite conversation.” An artist talk (4 p.m.) and opening reception (5-7 p.m.) on Saturday, July 13 are free and open to the public. Visit restonarts.org for more.

SUNDAY/July 14

Red Cross Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Give blood with the American Red Cross. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.


Author Event: Jennifer Ryan. 2 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. From the NY Times Book Review Summer Reading List, bestselling author Jennifer Ryan visits Scrawl to discuss and sign her latest “potboiler,” The Spies of Shilling Lane about female spies in World War II London. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

Sundays in the Park with Shenandoah Conservatory: Divergent Duos. 7-8 p.m. at Reston Town Square Park. Professor of Bass Donovan Stokes and guest Vassil Popov perform works by Rossini, Barriere, Stokes and Handel. Free. Visit restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.

SUNDAY/JULY 14

Brewpub Brunch: Motown/Rock. 7:30-10 p.m. at the Pavilion at Reston Town Center. Afro-pop, West African rhythms performed with the high energy of Elikah at the weekly summer concert series. Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy live outdoor music at the Pavilion on Saturdays, June through August. Free. Rain or shine. Visit restontowncenter.com/concerts.

SATURDAY/July 13- AUG. 31

Art Exhibit: Overlooked. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Greater Reston Art Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. Greater Reston Art Center (GRACE) presents Overlooked, a group exhibition featuring nine artists who are seeking to bring awareness to issues that are often unnoticed, ignored, or otherwise not part of “polite conversation.” An artist talk (4 p.m.) and opening reception (5-7 p.m.) on Saturday, July 13 are free and open to the public. Visit restonarts.org for more.

SUNDAY/July 14

Family Fun: Guava Jelly. 10-10:45 a.m. at Frying Pan Park. Enjoy music under the stars each Thursday through Aug. 29. Dance instruction at several concerts. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/summerbration.

Live Music: Sista Pat’s One Vibe. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Kayaptop’s Sports Tavern on historic Lake Anne in Reston. Bands play inside the sports bar on a dedicated stage. No cover. Visit www.kayaptopssportstavern.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 13

Family Fun: Guava Jelly. 10-10:45 a.m. at Frying Pan Park. Children and adults will be dancing and singing along to the music infused with lively island feel that is hard to resist. Free. Visit restoncommunitycenter.com for more.

The Bookworms Club. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Young readers are invited to join Scrawl’s all-new and completely free Bookworms Club. Explore a new theme each week with picture books, special guests and most often, authors. Readers are welcome to join or participate any time. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.


“Obliged to Cook-The Legacy of Enslaved Cooks.” Noon-2 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. The voices and stories of the enslaved men and women who labored in Virginia’s 18th century kitchens are often hidden in their recipes and oral history. Sully will examine the legacy of enslaved cooks that can be found in the lasting presence of African-American foodways in American cuisine. For age 5-adult. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.


Author Event: Jennifer Ryan. 2 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. From the NY Times Book Review Summer Reading List, bestselling author Jennifer Ryan visits Scrawl to discuss and sign her latest “potboiler,” The Spies of Shilling Lane about female spies in World War II London. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

Sundays in the Park with Shenandoah Conservatory: Divergent Duos. 7-8 p.m. at Reston Town Square Park. Professor of Bass Donovan Stokes and guest Vassil Popov perform works by Rossini, Barriere, Stokes and Handel. Free. Visit restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 17

Hunt Mill Melodies: Blue Sky Puppet Theatre (puppets). 10-10:45 a.m. at Frying Pan Park visitor center, 2779 West Ox Road, Herndon. Free series of children’s shows and family performances Wednesdays through Aug. 21.

Dog Days of Summer. 5-7:30 p.m. at the Pavilion at Reston Town Center. Every Wednesday through Sept. 4, dogs and owners can frolic in the Pavilion when it is transformed into an off-leash play area each week. Treats, toys, areas to cool off, pet friendly giveaways, and more. Free. Operated by Healthy Hound Playground and Ivy’s Ways. Visit restontowncenter.com for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 18

Free Tea Day. 10 a.m. -8 p.m. at McAlister’s Deli, 13007 Worldgate Drive, Herndon. McAlister’s annual Free Tea Day. Free 32-ounce fresh-brewed iced tea, no purchase necessary. Visit www.mcalistersdeli.com or call 703-278-8117.

Tai Chi Fitness. 6:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

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