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# RESTON

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LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

IT'S A WINTER  
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AT RESTON TOWN CENTER

HOLIDAY  
EVENT GUIDE

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BALDACCI'S  
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HOME DESIGN  
TRENDS FOR 2019





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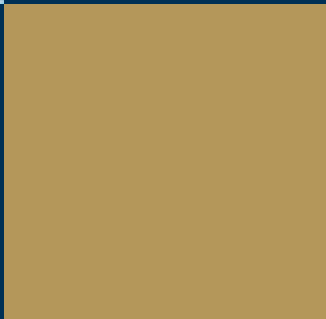
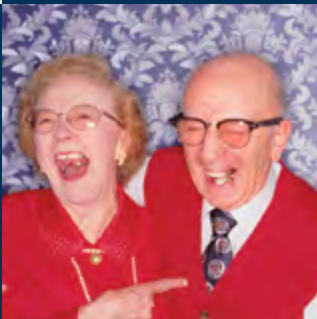
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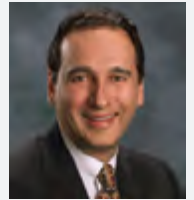




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# FEATURES



## RESTON HOLIDAY PARADE >

*By Kathleen McDonough*

Strike up the bands and break out the jingle bells because it's time again to welcome the return of the holiday season at the Reston Holiday Parade! Voted one of the "10 Best" holiday parades in 2016 and 2017 by USA Today Travel, the Reston Holiday Parade attracts thousands of spectators from near and far.

## < 2018 HOLIDAY EVENT GUIDE

There are plenty of activities and outings this year to get you in the holiday spirit! Be sure to check this event guide each week to find the craft shows, concerts or 5k events that put the "ho-ho-ho" in the holidays.



## < WHAT'S NEW IN KITCHEN AND BATHROOM DESIGN FOR 2019

*By Analiese Kreutzer*

If you're planning a kitchen or bathroom remodel next year, consider some of these emerging trends in color, materials, technology and design to create your dream space.



## DAVID BALDACCI'S NEIGHBORHOOD >

*By Kathleen McDonough*

You know him as a best-selling author of page-turning thrillers, with over 130 million books in print. But it might surprise you to learn that David Baldacci lives, works and plays in in our community.







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LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

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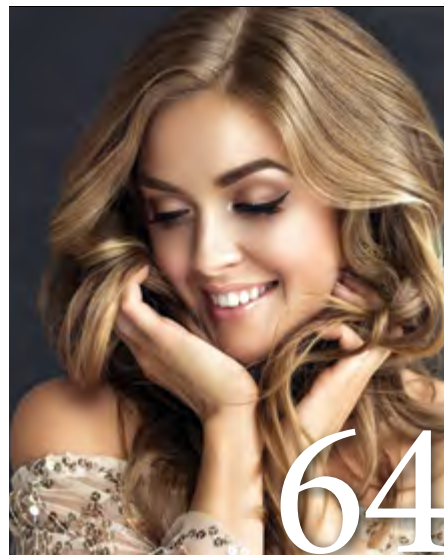
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THE MAGAZINE FOR RESTON  
HERNDON • CHANTILLY • STERLING  
LEESBURG • ASHBURN  
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

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Subscriptions for Viva Reston Lifestyle Magazine are available for \$12 per year or \$20 for two years. Please address requests to Camlarity Media, 7921 Jones Branch Drive, Ste 311, Tysons, VA 22102, or call us at 703.448.7323, or you can subscribe online at [www.VivaReston.com/Subscribe.html](http://www.VivaReston.com/Subscribe.html).

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Although hard to believe it's time again to welcome another holiday season, I'm pleased to note what a "banner" year it's been for Reston and the surrounding area.

The expansion of our community continues, with big changes—and major players—all around us, including Bechtel (now one of the DC Metro's biggest private companies) making Reston its global headquarters; Walmart massively expanding its tech operation, Walmart Labs, in Reston; and as the latest indication of our growing reputation in the tech world, word that Google may be about to establish a big footprint at Reston Station, with Reston/Herndon still reportedly high on the short list for Amazon's massive second headquarters.

Can't help but to be thrilled with 2018's many successes and we're keeping our fingers crossed for great news from these industry giants by year's end.

But never fear, Reston's still a great place to live, too, as it was recently named one of the DC Area's "hottest neighborhoods" in a Washington Business Journal report. And another study by the financial planning website, SmartAssets, reports that Fairfax County's many economic benefits and plentiful things to do make it a "Best Place To Retire" In Virginia.

Makes us glad to live, work and play here!

Speaking of "play", we're ready to enjoy a winter wonderland's worth of fun seasonal activities at Reston Town Center, starting with the 28th Annual Reston Holiday Parade on Friday November 23rd. Check out our feature on this beloved holiday tradition and the many other festivities at RTC throughout December that are sure to put a little mischief in your merry!

And if you're going to the parade, or just want to be in-the-know, you must check out Kathleen McDonough's "Personalities" profile of Reston's talented young stage, screen and TV actress, Sissy Sheridan. She'll be taking on the Grand Marshall duties for this year's Holiday Parade as well as singing, dancing and acting her heart out at the Tony-award winning Signature Theatre in Arlington's production of "Billy Elliot." This kid has it all and we're thrilled to be able to call her a hometown girl!

Kathleen also had a chance to sit down with our friend, neighbor and best selling author, David Baldacci, to talk about his newest, Long Road to Mercy. It's sure to be another blockbuster and, with a November release, it's available just in time for gift giving!

For this holiday edition, our editorial staff has also compiled a thorough list of special holiday events, activities and celebrations sure to elevate your season!

Michael Evans of Helga's Caters asks us What's Your Party Style? and shares some great ideas for holiday entertaining. And you'll want to Light up the Holidays with Linda Barrett as she offers some thoughts on using professionals for your outdoor decorating projects.

Look's like Linda's been a busy little elf, because she also brings us A Toast to Cider, with some tasty selections from Virginia's best cideries for our seasonal consideration and takes a trip to Leesburg's chocolate-themed restaurant, Conche, to find out if chocolate really is the perfect food.

What's new in your kitchen? We sent Analiese Kreutzer to find out what new trends we can expect in 2019 for kitchen and bath design.

And if that's not enough, our Allison Chase Sutherland was back on the hunt for a special getaway spot close by. She's found one in Virginia's Hunt Country—The Black Horse Inn.

Not forgetting the family, we take a look at the acclaimed Nysmith School for the Gifted in Herndon and how they are offering their students a curriculum and academic environment that keeps them passionate about learning.

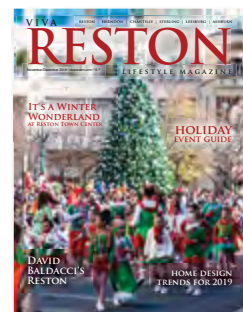
Dr. Rashita Jaju, DDS, is back to remind us that before year's end we need to Use It or Lose It, when it comes to our children's dental benefits, while Financial Advisor Dan Lash shares thoughts on Special Needs Planning, helpful for families thinking ahead for their special needs children.

As we do every year, we ask that you please consider our local merchants and service providers when making your holiday gift selections this year. Those dollars spent locally go a long way in supporting our local economy and the tax base that provides so many of the important services we receive and rely on. Our local merchants need our support today more than ever—let's be there for them this year!

Finally, as we close out another year, please know how much all of us at Viva! appreciate your readership and support. From all of us here, please accept our warmest wishes for a safe and wonderful holiday season and best wishes for good health and prosperity in for the coming year!

Cheers!

**Johnny Hanna**  
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#### ON THE COVER:

*Reston Holiday Parade. Photo credit: Mary Jeanne Cincotta*



**DECEMBER 1**  
**RED BARAAT**  
The Barns at Wolf Trap

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## MONDAYS-FRIDAYS

### MORNING STROLLER STRIDES

*(Through December 26th), Tysons Corner Center, 9:30-10:30am*

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and the environment. Taught by certified fitness instructors with specialty training in the pre and post natal woman, it is a great workout for ANY level of exerciser. Songs and activities are woven into the routine designed to engage and entertain baby, while moms are led through a series of exercises specific to her role as Mom. First class free. For more information visit: [www.tysonscornercenter.com/Events](http://www.tysonscornercenter.com/Events).

## WEDNESDAYS

### TYSONS FIT CLUB POWERED BY CRUNCH FITNESS : POWERWAVE

*Tysons Corner Center, 5:30-6:30pm, Free*

Wednesday's weekly Before shopping, after work or during your travels, burn off those holiday calories with Tyson Fit Club, powered by Crunch Fitness. Each Wednesday join a series of classes, demonstrations and

events that work your body and mind. Powerwave class is taught using Battle Ropes and body weight exercises that combine strength and explosiveness to activate and integrate all the major muscle groups for a complete and total body workout with an emphasis on core stability. Classes are free, appropriate for all ages and fitness levels, and all equipment is provided, but please do not forget your water! Note: there will be no Fit Club on Nov. 21st, Dec. 19th and Dec. 26th due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Held on level 2 between American Girl and Bloomingdales.

## NOVEMBER 3

### TCHAIKOVSKY & BEETHOVEN

**Christopher Zimmerman, conductor**

*GMU Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 8pm, student ticket \$15*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



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Starbucks  
Box at the Green Garage

#### North Point Village Center

Giant  
Starbucks

#### South Lakes Village Center

CVS Pharmacy  
Safeway  
Starbucks  
7 Eleven Soapstone

#### Plaza America

Whole Foods Market  
(cafeteria counter)  
Starbucks  
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Gold's Gym  
CVS

#### Spectrum Village Center

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#### Hunters Woods

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### HERNDON

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Giant  
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Herndon Library

#### Worldgate Center

Starbucks  
Mom's Organic

#### Elden Plaza

Panera

#### Woodland Crossing

Harris Teeter  
Starbucks  
Panera

### OAK HILL

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Starbucks  
Giant

#### Dulles Park

Shopping Center  
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Plaza  
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Station  
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**NOVEMBER 16**  
The Barns at Wolf Trap

Photo courtesy of Wolf Trap

# MAGGIE ROSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Voted by Musical America as one of the most influential musicians today, renowned cellist Amit Peled returns to share his artistry with the historic 1733 Gofriller Pablo Casals cello. He has been described as having "the flair of a young Rostropovich."

## NOVEMBER 4

### TOM GREEN

*The State Theatre, 8pm, \$25-28*  
Tom Green exploded on MTV with the groundbreaking comedy show "The Tom Green Show." Before reality TV, YouTube and social media existed, Tom Green's man-on-the-street pranks changed television forever. Don't miss

this insanely hilarious evening of stand up.

## NOVEMBER 6-7

### THE LONE BELLOW

**Triio Acoustic Tour**

**Special Guest Naia Izumi**

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$25-35*  
Known for transcendent harmonies, serious musicianship, and raucous live performances, this Americana trio makes "earnest and magnetic folk-pop... built to shake the rafters" (NPR).

## NOVEMBER 7

### WASHINGTON DC CAREER FAIR

*DoubleTree Crystal City, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, 11am-2pm, Free*  
Live recruiting/hiring event!

Ready for a new career? Meet future employers and find your dream job! Register at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

## NOVEMBER 7

### KOO KOO KANGA ROO

**Really Really Sweaty Tour**

*Jammin Java, 7pm, \$15-25*

Koo Koo Kanga Roo is the dance-a-long comedy show from Bryan and Neil, two friends who set out to experiment with live music and make it more fun. Armed with nothing more than an iPod, two mics, one giant rainbow and some gold sneakers, Koo Koo Kanga Roo puts on an all-ages dance party that invites everyone to join in.

## NOVEMBER 8

### JOHN LLOYD YOUNG

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$35-45*

Earning a Tony Award for originating the role of iconic singer Frankie Valli in *Jersey Boys* on Broadway, John Lloyd Young is a master of singing the classics with a "disciplined one-in-a-million high tenor shading into falsetto that he can direct through the stratosphere" (*The New York Times*).

## NOVEMBER 9

### A NIGHT OF GRANDER MUSIC

**Featuring Molly Nuss, Audrey Mormann, Michelle Ann, Nick Cirillo**

*The State Theatre, 7:30pm, \$27-30*

A Night of Grander Music represents the premiere of Grander Music LLC featuring four amazing artists making their debut. The songs will be presented with unique multimedia and other visual accompaniments to provide an unforgettable musical journey. Follow Grander Music on Facebook - [/grand4him](https://www.facebook.com/grand4him), Twitter - [@GranderMusic](https://twitter.com/GranderMusic), and Instagram - [grandermusic](https://www.instagram.com/grandermusic)

## NOVEMBER 9

### INTRO TO DJEMBE DRUMMING AND DRUM CIRCLE

*The Old Firehouse 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean VA 22101, 7-8:30pm, \$12/\$8 for MCC tax district residents*

Back by popular demand! Join in a creative (and de-stressing) Friday evening master class for families. Participants will learn the elements of Djembe Drumming from artist Kofi Dennis and then use those skills in a group drum circle. This class is designed for those eight and up, and it is recommended that families participate together. Children under 14 must have a parent register with them. Fee includes admission and drum rental.

## NOVEMBER 9-10

### RONNIE SPECTOR & THE RONETTES

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$50-55*

Few groups in history are capable of defining an entire era in pop music. With hits like "Be My Baby" and "Baby, I Love You," Rock & Roll Hall of Famers Ronnie Spector & The Ronettes are one of those groups: the embodiment of the heart, soul, and passion of '60s female rock and roll.

## NOVEMBER 10

### CARGO AND THE HEAVY LIFTERS

*Jammin Java, 8pm, \$15-25*

"With groovy guitar licks and bursting soulful lyrics, Cargo & The Heavy Lifters provide an exemplary look at what American music sounds like. With covers and originals, the group focuses on the old school aspects of blues, rock and even country." -*On Tap Magazine*

## NOVEMBER 11

### TYLER RAMSEY

*Jammin Java, 8pm, \$13-15*

Praised by NPR, Stereogum, WNYC, and *The Huffington*



Post, Tyler Ramsey is a multi-instrumentalist equally at home playing guitar, piano, keyboards, bass, and percussion, but is best known as a talented fingerstyle guitarist and singer-songwriter in the burgeoning western North Carolina music scene.

## NOVEMBER 11

### 2018 TASTE OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD

Waterford Receptions, 6715 Commerce Street, Springfield, VA 22150, 3pm-6pm, \$10-30

Now in its sixth year, Taste of Greater Springfield features local restaurants providing samples of their favorite dishes. Several Virginia breweries and wineries will showcase their finest offerings.

## NOVEMBER 13

### ADRIAN LEGG

Jammin Java, 7:30pm, \$20-25

Globally acclaimed by critics and fans alike for his unique acoustic and electric fingerstyle guitar playing, Adrian Legg masterfully blends diverse musical styles, influences and inspirations to create a distinctive sound all his own. With multiple awards and accolades spanning four decades, Legg has been heralded as a "guitarist of astonishing virtuosity, (whose) imagination and melodic invention seem unbounded," (*Q magazine*)

## NOVEMBER 14

### NICOLE ATKINS

The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$22-27  
After making her Wolf Trap debut opening for The Avett Brothers this summer, Nicole Atkins returns for a more intimate performance at The Barns. "When Nicole Atkins sings, she sounds like Roy Orbison, Patsy Cline and Janis Joplin all rolled into one voice." (*NPR*)

## NOVEMBER 15

### THE SCENE AESTHETIC

Jammin Java, 8pm, \$15-25



Photo courtesy of Wolf Trap

The elusive duo of Andrew de Torres and Eric Kimberlin are returning to the stage to reconnect with those who've followed them through multiple projects and paths. This tour celebrates over 10 years since The Scene Aesthetic's release of their landmark, self-titled album.

## NOVEMBER 15

### ALAN DOYLE WHITNEY ROSE

The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$25-30

Alan Doyle chalks up a lot of where he is right now—with both his third solo album and his second book released in October 2017—to luck. And yet, one listen to *A Week at The Warehouse* makes it plainly clear that there's a lot more than luck at play in this decades-long, awards-studded career. Don't miss this chance to see one of Canada's greatest (and luckiest!) artists rock The Barns at Wolf Trap stage with country-tinged, radio-ready tunes.

## NOVEMBER 16

### MAGGIE ROSE

The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$22-27

Blurring the lines between country, pop, and rock with

shades of Aretha Franklin, Grace Potter, and Janis Joplin, musical star on the rise Maggie Rose blows audiences away with super-sized vocals and award-winning songwriting.

## NOVEMBER 16

### BLUE WATER HIGHWAY

Jammin Java, 8pm, \$15-25

Blue Water Highway comes from

the working class, coastal town background that has informed the work of so many of rock's greatest writers and artists. They take their name from the roadway that links their hometown of Lake Jackson, Texas to Galveston, where folks work hard and play hard. Blue Water Highway's music is the soundtrack for their lives.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

**8 PM**

**HOT RIZE  
40TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR**

The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$45-60  
"One of modern bluegrass music's most accomplished and influential acts" (*Rolling Stone*) returns to The Barns to celebrate their 40th Anniversary Tour.

Photo courtesy of Wolf Trap



**NOVEMBER 9-10**  
**The Barns at Wolf**  
**Trap**

SELECTED EVENTS



# RONNIE SPECTOR

NOVEMBER 17

## FAMILY FUN WITH FOLEY

Led by Recent Cutbacks

*The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean VA 22101, 2-3:30pm, \$12/\$8 for MCC tax district residents*

Foley (or the creation of sound in film and on stage) is one of the most creative and fun ways to play with storytelling. In this workshop, families will explore the sounds we can make with our voices and with everyday objects to imitate sounds of the world. With a mix of demonstration, trial and error, and games, this hands-on workshop explores the ways sound is made. This class is designed for those 8 and up, and it is recommended that families participate together. Children under 14 must have a parent register with them.

NOVEMBER 17

## "HOLD ON TO YOUR BUTTS"

A Recent Cutbacks production

*The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean VA 22101, 6pm, \$19/\$14 MCC tax district residents*

Sixty-five million years ago, dinosaurs ruled the earth... Twenty years ago, Jurassic Park, a movie about dinosaurs came out that ruled the box office. Now, two actors and two Foley sound effects artists perform a live, "shot-for-shot" remake that was named a Critic's Pick and Top 10 Comedy Show of 2014 by TimeOut NY. Running time: 60 minutes.

NOVEMBER 17

## ANTI-SOCIAL CLUB ALBUM RELEASE PARTY

Derd Berner + Spectrums

*Jammin Java, 10pm, \$12-20*

The DC-area alternative rock band, Anti-Social Club, features a sometimes brooding, sometimes soaring, and often infectious blend of compelling melodies and hooks, all swirling rhythmically around a core of poignant lyrics and heartfelt vocals.

NOVEMBER 18

## MC LARS

*Jammin Java, 7:30pm, \$15-25*

MC Lars is the creator of post punk laptop rap and lit hop, which he has extended and powered into a fusion of rap, punk, rock, ska, pop, and other genres. He speaks to and for people of all ages, lifestyles, and perspectives, and is a storyteller, covering love, life, loss, confusion, and hope.

NOVEMBER 21

## HOT DUB TIME MACHINE

*The State Theatre, 9pm, \$10-13*

Since first launching his time-travelling, 'dance-through-the-decades' audio-visual party concept in 2011, Sydney's Tom Loud has grown his project into an absolute monster. Hot Dub showcases songs from every decade and genre of music—60s rock, 70s disco, 80s cheese, 90s house, noughties electro, 2018's radio hits—and winds and weaves it into one expansive, electrifying, music history lesson. Each song is played in chronological order—mixed live on turntables—and complemented with archival concert footage/music videos on massive screens (narrated by a virtual spaceship air hostess), led by Hot Dub's own rapturous MCing and hugely animated antics.

NOVEMBER 23

## THE NIGHTHAWKS WITH BILLY PRICE

*The State Theatre, 9pm, \$20*

Washington's favorite bad boys, the Nighthawks, are masters of electric Chicago Blues and the kings of sh\*t kicking roadhouse rock. They're not called America's Best Bar Band for nothing!

NOVEMBER 24

## JANIS JOPLIN & JIMI HENDRIX TRIBUTE

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$25-29*

DC's finest musicians come together for one evening honoring two of rock's most legendary immortals with renditions of their smash hits, career bests, and much more. Featuring performances by Patty Reese, Kelly Bell, Jonathan Sloane, Tommy Lepson, Mama Moon, Deletta Gillespie, Mary Shaver, Jeff Hall, Kristie Dilascio, Scott Ambush, Chuck Underwood, Michael Andre Aubin, Deren Blessman, Robbie Cooper, Andy Hamburger, Sonny Petrosky, Bill Starks, Vince McCool, and Wayne Sulc.

NOVEMBER 25

## JOHN EATON

George Gershwin & Friends

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 2pm, \$25-27*

Wolf Trap favorite and "Washington legend" (The Washington Post) John Eaton returns to The Barns for an afternoon filled with piano renditions of the best of George Gershwin, Harold Arlen, Leonard Bernstein, Ann Ronell, Jerome Kern, and practically everyone else!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18





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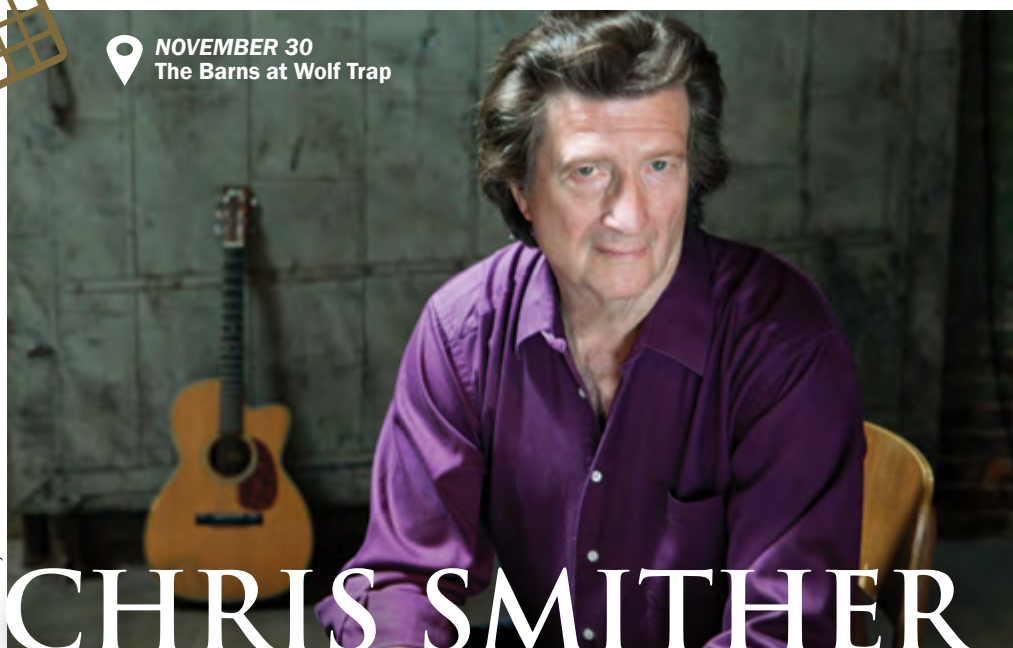
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**NOVEMBER 30**  
The Barns at Wolf Trap

SELECTED EVENTS

Photo credit: Jeff Fasano



# CHRIS SMITHER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

**NOVEMBER 29-23**

## A CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS

1st Stage Tysons, \$15-39

It's 1864 and Washington, D.C. is settling down to the coldest Christmas Eve in years.

"History lessons and holiday warmth sit cozily alongside each other" (*The New York Times*) in this pageant of carols by Paula Vogel, the Pulitzer Prize-winning writer of "Indecent." Stories of many intertwining lives—spanning from the

battlefields of Northern Virginia to the halls of the White House—demonstrate that the gladness of one's heart is the best gift of all. This "rich and moving play with music" (*Variety*) is a treat the whole family will enjoy.

**NOVEMBER 30**

## CHRIS SMITHER

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$25-30*

A profound songwriter, Chris Smither draws deeply from the blues, American folk music, modern poets, and philosophers. Reviewers continue to praise his dazzling guitar work and gravelly voice.

**NOVEMBER 30**

Hordestock Presents

## HORDE TIMES AND WEIRDNESS

Featuring Big O and Dukes & HTAW Live

*Jammin Java, 8pm, \$20-25*

In the early 2000s the Big O and Dukes show was forged in the fires of 99.1WHFS and continued to grow in popularity as they took on other radio markets from Baltimore, MD to Phoenix, AZ. In 2007, the boys found themselves back at the one station that they both had always dreamt being on, the talk superstation

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106.7 WJFK in Washington, DC. Unfortunately, the ever changing world of radio found the once beloved talk radio station flip to sports in 2009 and the Big O and Dukes show seemed lost in the ether forever. A Big O and Dukes live show at Jammin Java is an event not to be missed. Chad and Oscar will bring their unique comedic style to the stage for a recording of their podcast, only with hundreds of your soon to be closest friends in attendance.

## DECEMBER 1

### RED BARAAT

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 8pm, \$30-35*

"Imagine a New Orleans street band playing Indian Bollywood tunes with a go-go beat — you can't? Then just listen, because your day is about to get better. It's a crazy blast of fun" (NPR). If you missed Red Baraat last year, this is the one show to make this season.

## DECEMBER 2

### EILEEN IVERS

#### A Joyful Christmas

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 3pm and 8pm, \$27-32*

Recalling the roaring hearths and roars of laughter that make up Christmas in Irish families, virtuoso fiddler Eileen Ivers interweaves age-old Wren Day songs, beloved American carols, and even a jigging Bach in An Nollaig: An Irish Christmas. With her signature warmth, Ivers invites listeners in for a tuneful, soulful celebration capturing the true spirit of the season and telling the story of Christmas through music and dance.

## DECEMBER 9

### JENNY & TYLER

#### There Will Be A Song Album Release Tour with Special Guest Taylor Leonhardt

*Jammin Java, 2:30pm, \$12-35*

Jenny & Tyler is a folk/pop act hailing from Nashville, Tennessee. Drawing influence

from Simon & Garfunkel, Glen Hansard, & Alison Krauss, Jenny & Tyler have found their place in today's landscape of singer/songwriter folk/pop.

## DECEMBER 9

### DOE PAORO: SOFT POWER TOUR

*Jammin Java, 8pm, \$15*

Transforming pain into transcendence is the genius of many pop artists, but Doe Paoro brings an entirely new depth to that process.

## DECEMBER 14-15

### DRINK THE DISTRICT: WINE WINTER EDITION

*La Maison Française at The French Embassy, 4101 Reservoir Rd NW, Washington, DC 20007, Friday 6-9pm, Saturday 1-4pm and 6-9pm, \$59-99*

The winter edition of the Drink the District Wine Festival is "holiday themed", with a wide variety of wines to choose from.

While you're tasting your way through the festival or nibbling on cheese, you can get some shopping done, too. Why not travel to France in the Winter? General Admission ticket includes: unlimited sampling of more than 50+ wines, access to the culinary demonstrations where you can learn how to sip and cook like a pro, Etsy "In Real Life" artisan market featuring local small businesses, and a commemorative festival cup. Live music and entertainment all day, specialty cheese and charcuterie packages available!

## DECEMBER 15

### ROCKAPELLA

*The State Theatre, 9pm, \$30-35*

Since the early '90s when they first achieved national television fame on PBS's "Where In The World Is Carmen Sandiego?", they've toured the globe and provided a funky powerful soundtrack to several generations of vocal music fans, while keeping it

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



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Photo credit: Mel DiGiacomo

 **DECEMBER 2**  
The Barns at Wolf Trap



# EILEEN IVERS

There'll be polka, folk, rock  
and the heaviest metal  
So get tickets now or you'll be  
out of luck  
And you won't get to say that  
you got "Clauster..."

**DECEMBER 28**

**A ROYAL HOLIDAY:  
BROKE ROYALS  
+ LUKE JAMES  
SHAFFER + REED  
APPLESEED**

*Jammin Java, 8pm, \$15-25*

Over the last four years, Basnight and Cross honed a singular sound and toured the country. Joined by live members Taimir Gore and Ben Wilson, Broke Royals always deliver premium rock & roll. True to the roots of their earliest moments in the studio, Basnight and Cross continue to find new ways to meld the genres and inspiration that define their exciting new sound, which Billboard called "arena-ready" and earned them the title as "one of the best live bands in DC" by CBS.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

all fresh along the way. With buckets of catchy original pop songs, and complete contemporary revisions of sparkling Motown, pop, and soul classics, this group has always been the one to watch. No instruments, no tracks, no mirrors...but never lame.

**DECEMBER 22-23**

**Jammin Java Presents  
Todd Wright's Sixteenth  
Annual**

**SANTA  
CLAUSTER-F@%!  
CHRISTMAS  
SPECTACULAR**

*Jammin Java, 8pm, \$15-30  
(Saturday show is seated, Sunday  
show is standing.)*

Tis the third and the second  
nights before Christmas  
When Santa Claus gathers  
some sixty musicians  
To play holiday songs  
without ever rehearsing  
Making music and magic  
with minimal cursing  
And before all this holiday  
dust starts to settle

**JANUARY 2**

**DOYLE (OF THE  
MISFITS)**

*Jammin Java, 7pm, \$16-25*

Legendary Ex-Misfits guitarist Doyle Wolfgang Von Frankenstein has broken new ground with his solo project, "DOYLE", a horror based hardrock/metal band of epic proportions that captures the beauty of the dark side. DOYLE cranks out music as scary as the Misfits, as doom laden as Black Sabbath, and has the same hard-hitting in your face style of metal as Motorhead or Slayer. ❖

8 PM

**DEC  
3**

## ARLINGTON JOB FAIR

*DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Washington DC - Crystal City, 300  
Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, 11am-2pm, Free*

Open the doors of opportunity when you meet and interview with hiring managers at companies ranging from small local businesses clear on up to Fortune 500 corporations This career fair will allow you to learn about the businesses that are hiring and what their hiring needs are. Tired of sending your resume over the web to get no responses back? By attending this event, you will be able to meet directly with the hiring managers and get instant feedback on your resume and possibly even GET HIRED ON THE SPOT!



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2018

# *Holiday* EVENT GUIDE

There are plenty of activities and outings this year to get you in the holiday spirit! Be sure to check this event guide to find the craft shows, concerts or 5k events that put the “ho-ho-ho” in the holidays.





NOVEMBER 10-  
DECEMBER 24

## SANTA HQ OPENS AT TYSONS CORNER CENTER

*Tysons Corner Center*

Starting on November 11th, Tysons Corner Center and HGTV's Santa HQ are open for the season: Guests are invited to make a reservation to explore the immersive, engaging Santa HQ, the digitally enhanced visit with Santa presented by HGTV.

Reservations to visit the experience can be made in advance at [www.santa-hq.com](http://www.santa-hq.com).

NOVEMBER 14-17

## OAKTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW

*Oakton Church, 10025 Courthouse Rd, Vienna, Thurs-Fri 10am-7pm, Sat 10am-4pm, FREE*

Come browse and find unique presents and stocking stuffers; cards and gift bags; seasonal decor; kitchen accessories; baby and children's items; scarves, hats, and other attire; jewelry; pillows and linens, ceramics; fresh baked pies and cakes; and much more. This three-day event features a wide variety of handmade items and craft supplies for purchase, plus a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. The church is located where Courthouse Rd. intersects Rt. 123 near Oakton.

For more information, see [www.oaktonbrethren.org](http://www.oaktonbrethren.org), or call 703-281-4411. The event is a fundraiser for church projects.

NOVEMBER 15

## TYSONS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

*Tysons Corner Center Plaza, 6:15pm*

Join Tysons Corner Center on Thursday, November 15th at 6pm for the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony emceed by Lance Bass from "NSYNC," located on The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center.

NOVEMBER 17

## HOLIDAY BAZAAR BY LIVING SAVIOR WOMEN'S MINISTRY

*Living Savior Lutheran Church, 5500 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039, 10am-5pm, Free*

A variety of vendors and home crafters will be selling their wares along with baked goods and a Silent Auction occurring during the event. Admission is free.

NOVEMBER 17-18

## FAIRFAX HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW

*Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run Fairfax, VA 22030, Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday 10am-3pm, \$5, \$8 for 2-day pass, children under 18 are free*

The 33rd annual Holiday Craft Show will be held on November 17-18 at Fairfax High School. There will be artisans from all over the United States displaying their wares. Come explore many wonderful holiday gift choices. Take a break from shopping and enjoy a hot lunch.

NOVEMBER 17-JANUARY 6



## MEADOWLARK'S WINTER WALK OF LIGHTS

*Meadowlark Botanical Gardens*

*9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA, 5:30pm-10pm, timed tickets required (online purchase at [winterwalkoflights.eventbrite.com](http://winterwalkoflights.eventbrite.com).) \$14 adults, \$8 children ages 3-12, Children under 2 are free*

Bring your family and friends to be dazzled by the magical Winter Walk of Lights at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna, Virginia. Every year from mid-November until just after New Year's Day, the garden is transformed into a half-mile, walk of lights. Revisit perennial favorites

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

NOVEMBER 9-11

## NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS MARKET

*Dulles Expo Center, South Hall, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly, VA 20153 Friday & Saturday 10:00 - 6:00, Sunday 10:00-5:00, \$8 for adults (children under 12 free) Receive \$.50 off admission by bringing a canned food donation for the Capital Area Food Bank*

It's Northern Virginia's grand opening celebration of the holiday season! This spectacular, award-winning holiday show features more than 250 fine artisans from more than 20 states. Artisans offer a diverse selection of fine arts, pottery, jewelry, stained glass, wood, photography, fiber arts, vintage re-creations as well as thousands of one-of-kind Christmas collectibles. Taste of the Holidays specialty food vendors will offer gift-packaged gourmet fare. These tasty homemade goodies are ideal for creating wonderful gift baskets, loading up Santa's stockings, and gathering those hard-to-find executive gifts.

A major food drive benefiting the Capital Area Food Bank is held during this event each year by offering 50 cents off admission to attendees donating cans of non-perishable food.

NOVEMBER 23-DECEMBER 16

## MOUNT VERNON BY CANDLELIGHT

3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy

Mount Vernon, VA 22121, Fridays and Saturdays, 5pm-8pm, \$25 adult (12 and up); \$17 youth (ages 6-11); Kids 5 and under are free

Come join the estate for the candlelit, character-guided tour and learn more about holiday traditions in 18th-century Virginia. Guests will see the Washingtons as they prepare for a festive celebration with friends and family, a favorite holiday activity at Mount Vernon.

In the Mansion, Washy Custis has just arrived home from school, and Martha Washington is admiring an impressive array of desserts in the New Room, including a reproduction of her Great Cake. Some of the hired and enslaved servants are busy inspecting bills in the study, discussing the family's culinary preferences in the kitchen, and moving furniture in the New Room and hanging greens over doorways. Guests will also stop at the Slave Quarters, the Blacksmith Shop, and the Greenhouse where they will be able to participate in 18th-century dancing.

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

such as the animated Lakeside Lights, the Fountain of Lights, and the Holiday Nature Walk, and look for new displays each year. Put on your walking shoes and bring the family to experience a Northern Virginia festive tradition. Round out your visit by roasting marshmallows and sipping on hot beverages by the fire. (Available for purchase at Light Refreshments concessions).

NOVEMBER 17

## HERNDON TURKEY TROT

Herndon Community Center

814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon, VA 20170  
4pm \$20-35 + donation can of food  
Runners and walkers, take your mark and get ready to conquer a fun 5K trail course, which winds around the Herndon Centennial Golf Course. Refreshments, entertainment and door prizes available to all runners after the race. All ages & genders welcome to compete, with prizes awarded in

a variety of categories. Sport Tek T-shirts to first 900 pre-registered runners! Nov. 16 Pre-registration/packet pickup: 5-8pm; Nov. 17 Race Day Registration/packet pickup: 1:30-3:30pm. For more info and to register online: [www.herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/turkey-trot-5k-race](http://www.herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/turkey-trot-5k-race)

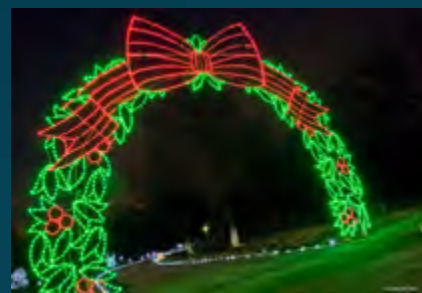
NOVEMBER 18

## VIENNA TURKEY TROT

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department  
400 Center Street South, Vienna, VA  
7am Registration, 8am Kids Fun Run,  
8:30am 5K/10K, \$20-45

The James Madison High School Band will be hosting the 16th Annual Vienna Turkey Trot 5K/10K and Fun Run. All proceeds benefit the JMHS "Pride of Vienna" Band and the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Join us for a great run, super music, fun prizes, refreshments after the race and the Finish Line Festival! Visit [www.viennaturkeytrot.org](http://www.viennaturkeytrot.org) for more information.

NOVEMBER 21-JANUARY 6



## THE BULL RUN FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville, VA  
20121, Monday - Thursday 5:30- 9:30 pm,  
Friday - Sunday and Holidays 5:30-10:00 pm  
(Holidays include November 22, December 24, 25, 31, and January 1), \$20-25/vehicle  
Every year from Thanksgiving until just after New Year's Day, you can experience the Bull Run Festival of Lights, 2.5 miles illuminated by holiday light displays. Drive the festival route from the comfort of your car; turn out your headlights and just follow the magical glow. After viewing the lights, bring your family and friends to the holiday village to enjoy rides, refreshments, and of course, photos with Santa Claus (holiday village open select nights). The festival happens annually at Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville, Virginia. Want to avoid the crowds? Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays are our busiest nights. Please take advantage of the Monday through Thursday discounted price and avoid a long wait. Bull Run Festival of Lights is located just off of Interstate 66 in Centreville, on Rt. 29 (Lee Highway), just 3 miles from historic Manassas Battlefield Park. Visit [www.novaparks.com/events/bull-run-festival-of-lights](http://www.novaparks.com/events/bull-run-festival-of-lights) for more information.



NOVEMBER 23



## HOLIDAY PARADE, TREE LIGHTING AND SING ALONG

Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston, VA 20190, 11am-10pm  
Reston Town Center launches the festive season at the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade at 11:00 a.m. with Macy's-style balloons, musicians, dancers, antique cars, characters, community groups, dignitaries, special guest emcees, and much more. Voted as #4 in the nation's top 10 holiday parades by USA Today readers, the one-of-a-kind, one-hour, half-mile parade along Market Street also welcomes the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus in a horse-drawn carriage. Since 1991, rain or shine, the parade has been an annual tradition on the day after Thanksgiving. Before the parade begins, thousands of jingle bells are handed out to spectators along the route. After the parade, enjoy visits and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, plus Mini-Train rides until 4:30 pm and street entertainment. The Clauses will return for the Fountain Square Tree Lighting and Sing Along at 6

pm. Afterwards, on Market Street, horse-drawn carriage rides continue from 6:30 until 10 pm. Proceeds for the photos and rides benefit local charities. The acclaimed Ice Skating Pavilion is open all day and every day from November until March.

NOVEMBER 23-25

## THANKSGIVING ART AND CRAFT SHOW

Vienna Community, Center 120 Cherry St SE, Vienna VA, Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-4pm \$5, Return Free, Parking Free

This terrific show features some 80 juried artisans offering original, handmade arts and crafts, including decorative painting; fused, etched, painted and stained glass; ceramics and pottery; hand-painted silk; woodworking; handweaving; photography; paintings and drawings; clothing and functional textiles; jewelry; and much more. All of the artists and artisans will be on hand to answer questions and talk about their work.

NOVEMBER 24

## A CHANTICLEER CHRISTMAS

George Mason University  
Center for the Arts, 8pm, \$33-55  
Begin your holiday season with a gorgeous concert of seasonal favorites and classical standards performed by "the world's reigning male chorus" (The New Yorker), Chanticleer. This award-winning male vocal ensemble is often called "an orchestra of voices," because of its seamless blend of 12 singers ranging from soprano to bass. Chanticleer's impressive repertoire includes Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony, and Romantic art songs as well as popular music, jazz, spirituals, and world music. The group has sold over one million albums and has received two Grammy Awards®. "Precise, pure and deeply felt singing," The New York Times raves, and The Los Angeles Times gushes, "Chanticleer fascinates and enthralls for much the same reason a fine chocolate or a Rolls Royce does: through luxurious perfection."

NOVEMBER  
30-DECEMBER 2

## FREDERICKSBURG HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW

2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway  
Fredericksburg, VA 22401 Friday and Saturday 10am-6pm,  
Sunday 11am-4pm

Tired of the same old... same old holiday shopping? Then get on over to the Fredericksburg Holiday Craft Show at the Fredericksburg Expo Center. The annual Holiday Craft Show is your one-stop shopping destination where you can find memorable and unique gifts for your family, friends and of course for your pet too. Come join the fun festive mood at one of the area's best Holiday Craft Shows at the Fredericksburg Expo Center that will host almost 300 vendors. There will be lots of handcrafted items including holiday ornaments and wreaths, jewelry, soaps and lotions, gourmet foods, glassware, artwork, organic dog treats, clothing, candles and much much more. Not only that, but on Saturday, you can walk out with your items gift wrapped For FREE. The Fredericksburg Expo Center is off I-95, exit 130b.

NOVEMBER 26

## CHURCH STREET HOLIDAY STROLL

Historic Freeman Store and Museum  
131 Church Street Northeast, Vienna 6pm-  
9pm Free

Ring in the holiday season at this fun  
annual event along Church Street.  
Following his arrival at 6:15 p.m. on a fire  
truck, Santa will greet children at the  
historic Freeman Store and Museum and  
help the mayor light the holiday tree at  
6:20 p.m.

Various local musical groups perform  
throughout the evening.  
Marshmallow-roasting stations and hot  
chocolate add to the festive atmosphere.  
Historic structures that will remain  
open include the Freeman Store and  
Museum, Little Library, Caboose, Train  
Station, Knights of Columbus (formerly  
First Baptist Church), and Vienna  
Presbyterian's Old Chapel. Merchants  
along Church Street will remain open for  
holiday shoppers.

NOVEMBER 30

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE ON THE LAWN

Historic Manassas, 5-8pm; all ages; free  
Enjoy music, entertainment, the glow  
of holiday lights, the arrival of Santa by  
VRE train, the City Tree Lighting at 6:15  
p.m., and cookies in the courtyard. Get a  
start on holiday shopping at Echoes, the  
Museum Store, and enjoy a 10% discount.

Don't miss the 73rd Annual Greater  
Manassas Christmas Parade on December  
1 at 10am.

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 16  
(Fridays through Sundays)

## HOLIDAY MARKET

3999 University Drive, Fairfax, Fridays  
5-8pm, Saturdays 12pm-6pm, and Sundays  
12pm-4pm

Attend the 2nd Annual City of Fairfax  
Holiday Market in Old Town Square.  
Come and shop at the market of craft  
vendors as you enjoy Old Town Square,  
in the heart of Historic Downtown  
Fairfax, covered in holiday lights. The  
festival will include live holiday music,  
hot drinks, gourmet treats, and more!

The Holiday Market will be open the  
first 3 weekends of December  
on Friday, Saturday and  
Sunday. Craft vendors  
will vary each  
weekend.

DECEMBER 1

## GREATER MANASSAS CHRISTMAS PARADE

Downtown Manassas, 10am  
Kick-off the holiday season with the  
Prince William SPCA at 10:00am on  
Saturday, December 2, 2017 as the  
P.A.W. Express rolls through Old Town  
Manassas!

DECEMBER 1

## FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AND CAROLS

Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive,  
Fairfax, 2-7pm

Come listen to live holiday music and  
caroling and enjoy s'mores and hot cider  
at Old Town Square. The tree lighting  
ceremony begins at 5:30pm.

DECEMBER 1

## THE ENCHANTED FOREST MERRY AND BRIGHT BASH

Sheraton Tysons Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike,  
Tysons, VA 22182, 8pm-11pm, \$90

This 21+ only event includes a silent  
auction of beautifully decorated  
trees and wreaths, open bar and  
hors d'oeuvres, live DJ and dancing,  
and an exclusive auction and raffle  
featuring: a Taylor Swift autographed  
record album, a Star Wars Episode IV  
movie poster signed by the original  
cast, and a NHL hockey puck signed  
by Washington Capital captain Alex  
Ovechkin. Dress is black tie optional.  
Proceeds support the Junior League  
of Northern Virginia's community and  
leadership development programs.

DECEMBER 1-2

## THE ENCHANTED FOREST

Sheraton Tysons Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike,  
Tysons, VA 22182, Sat 9am-5pm,  
Sun 9am-1pm, Tickets \$10+

The weekend-long festivities at The  
Enchanted Forest featuring The  
Junior League of Northern Virginia's

DECEMBER 1-2

## CITY OF FALLS CHURCH HOLIDAY GIFT AND CRAFT SHOW

Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St. Sat 9am-4pm;  
Sun 11am-4pm \$1 All-Weekend Shopping Pass. Children under 12 receive  
free admission.

Deck the halls during the holiday season with special gifts from  
the annual Holiday Gift and Craft Show. More than 50 crafters  
and merchants show their wares, selling unique handmade  
items, baked goods, and more. Various holiday-themed  
children's activities are offered, attracting many young  
shoppers and their parents.





Kids in the Holiday Kitchen, visits with Santa, crafts for children, and live entertainment from The Great Zucchini, Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids, and more! General admission tickets valid both days; some special activities require additional ticketing. Children's General Admission tickets includes a holiday craft ticket. Children under 2 years do not require a ticket.

For more information  
visit: [www.jlnv.org/tef](http://www.jlnv.org/tef).

## DECEMBER 2-17

### GINGERBREAD DECORATING CLASS

*The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd, McLean, VA 22102, 10am-1pm*

After exploring their life-size gingerbread house, learn to make your own at the Ritz-Carlton's Gingerbread House Decorating Class, taught by their Pastry Team.

## DECEMBER 2

### "A CHRISTMAS CAROL"

*Ford's Theatre, 2pm (performance is 2 hours with a 15 minute intermission)  
\$175/\$135*

Join your friends and neighbors for a special outing to experience a DC holiday tradition: "A Christmas Carol" at Ford's Theatre. McLean Community Center will provide transportation and parking, theatre tickets, and Alden staff members to act as your personal concierges; you just show up and enjoy. Limited to 20 participants.

Transportation departs from and returns to Dolley Madison Library. As per Ford's Theatre's regulations "No one under the age of 5 will be admitted to mainstage performances.

All patrons regardless of age must have a ticket." Leave from and return to Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean VA 22101.

## DECEMBER 15

Quantico Single Marine  
Program Volunteer Event

### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

*The Old Post Chapel on Ft Myer, 204 Lee Ave, #335, Fort Myer, VA 22211, 8:30am-12:30pm, Free*

Join us on National Wreaths Across America Day. Help place Veterans' Remembrance Wreaths on the graves of our American heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday, December 15, 2018. The mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,200 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad. Register at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

## DECEMBER 2

### HOLIDAY ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

*Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon, VA, 10am-4pm, Free admission and parking. Additional parking at the Herndon Centennial Golf Course.*

Over 80 artisans and craftspeople will exhibit and sell their work at this annual arts and crafts show sponsored by the Town of Herndon Department of Parks and Recreation. A variety of handcrafted items and fine art will be on sale including wreaths, jewelry, Christmas ornaments, decorations, original artwork, photography, stained glass, and more.

## DECEMBER 2

### BRUNCH WITH SANTA

*The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd, McLean, VA 22102, 10am*  
Rejoice in the holiday season with an

early visit from Santa Claus and an extensive breakfast buffet for you and your loved ones to enjoy. Capture a cherished moment when you take a photo with Santa for display at home during the holiday season.

## DECEMBER 2

### EILEEN IVERS

*A Joyful Christmas*

*The Barns at Wolf Trap, 3pm and 8pm,  
\$27-32*

Recalling the roaring hearths and roars of laughter that make up Christmas in Irish families, virtuoso fiddler Eileen Ivers interweaves age-old Wren Day songs, beloved American carols, and even a jigging Bach in An Nollaig: An Irish Christmas. With her signature warmth, Ivers invites listeners in for a tuneful, soulful celebration capturing the true spirit of the season and telling the story of Christmas through music and dance.

DECEMBER 22

## CHRISTMAS IN FAIRFAX

**The City of Fairfax Band, The Fairfax Choral Society**

Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, 7pm-9pm, Tickets are free, but reserve yours early for this annual capacity-crowd event. We once again join with the City of Fairfax Band, under the direction of Robert Pouliot, to present an annual tradition and one of the area's most popular concerts. We'll take you on a musicological journey through the Twelve Days of Christmas. Bring the kids and enjoy the free concert—our gift to the people of Fairfax. Be sure to arrive early to visit with Santa!

DECEMBER 2



### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

*Tyson's Corner Center, 8am*

Come enjoy breakfast with Santa at Tyson's Corner Center on Sunday. Stay for the holiday performance by Those Funny Little People as well as holiday festivities and crafts. Guests are encouraged to participate in Help Through Holiday Giving by bringing an unwrapped toy to Santa Breakfast or at the Santa HQ Set from Thursday November 9th until Christmas Eve, Sunday December 24th to be donated to Second Story (formerly Alternative House) (501-c3)

DECEMBER 2

### CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

*Great Falls Village Centre Hill, 4pm to 6:30 pm*

Celebrate the beginning of the season with our Great Falls Village Centre's annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Drink hot cider or cocoa next to the fire as you listen to our local children's choral groups sing seasonal music. The petting zoo and pony rides will keep your kids busy until Mr. and Mrs. Claus arrive by antique fire truck. Event held rain or shine. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org/celebration-of-lights](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/celebration-of-lights) for more information.

DECEMBER 7



### VIENNA BOYS CHOIR

*George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 8pm, \$33-55*

One of the most revered boy choirs in the world returns to the Center with their popular holiday concert.

They capture the joy and wonder of the holiday season with their exquisite performances of classical masterpieces and contemporary favorites. This choir, composed of talented boy sopranos and altos between 9 and 14 and representing 31 countries, is lauded for its heavenly voices, harmonic purity, and endearing charm. Performing for well over 500 years, the choir's membership has included some of history's most distinguished composers, including Haydn and Schubert who were themselves choristers. Today, the Vienna Boys Choir regularly tours Europe, Asia, Australia, and the Americas performing for almost a half million people each year, affirming its reputation as a leading international choral ensemble. "The angelic voices of this most famous vocal group are ageless" (The Salt Lake Tribune). Gather the whole family for this delightful holiday treat.

DECEMBER 7

### SANTA, STARS, & S'MORES

*Runnymede Park in Herndon, 6-7:30pm*

Santa comes to Runnymede Park! Follow the luminaries to the campfire and Santa. He'll be here to chat with each child, plus we'll have storytelling and holiday music. Dress for the outdoors. S'more kits available for sale. In case of inclement weather, event will be held Sunday, December 10 at same time. Inclement weather line 703-435-6866. Register at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

DECEMBER 8

*Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy*

### A CELTIC FAMILY CHRISTMAS

*Concert Hall at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 8pm, \$33-55*

Two of Canada's brightest stars, Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy, marry their exceptional talents in this festive evening of lightning-fast fiddling and lively step-dancing. This husband-and-



wife duo captivates the audience with their unmistakable chemistry as they perform foot-tapping rave-ups, heartfelt ballads, and remarkable step dancing. In their newest program, A Celtic Family Christmas, they are joined onstage by talented musicians and their whole family to recreate all of the warmth and joys of a typical Christmas in their home on Cape Breton Island. "Dual fiddle wizardry...amazing synergy," raves the *Intelligencer Journal*. Celebrate the holidays as they share their traditions in song, dance, and stories by the fire.

## DECEMBER 8

### AMERICAN FESTIVAL POPS ORCHESTRA HOLIDAY POPS: SONGS OF THE SEASON

*George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 8pm, \$33-55*  
Deck the halls with boughs of holly! It's time to celebrate with the American Festival Pops Orchestra at their annual holiday concert, a cherished tradition at the Center. This uplifting evening includes favorite classics like Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" and "A Christmas Festival," the ever-popular carol sing-a-long, and fun musical surprises. Special guest artists join conductor Anthony Maiello as he leads Northern Virginia's very own pops orchestra in a treasured holiday celebration. It is a surefire way to put everyone in your family—even a scrooge—into the holiday spirit.

## DECEMBER 9-17

### THE NUTCRACKER TEA

*The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd, McLean, VA 22102, 10am-1pm*  
Delight in a contemporary twist on the beloved holiday classic while you enjoy afternoon tea with festive winter petite sandwiches and pastries. All children will go home with a nutcracker doll and pictures to remember their day.

## DECEMBER 9

### MASON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & JAZZ HOLIDAY CONCERT

*George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 7pm, \$5-20*  
Celebrate the holidays with the Mason School of Music in a concert sure to make the season bright. The Mason Symphony Orchestra is comprised of outstanding string, wind, and percussion players from throughout the School of Music.

## DECEMBER 16

### THE NUTCRACKER, THE FAIRFAX BALLET

*GMU Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4pm*  
Experience this timeless holiday classic with the FSO and the Fairfax Ballet – a holiday tradition your family will always cherish. Enjoy a winter wonderland of dancing snowflakes, sugar plum fairies and epic battles between heroic toy soldiers and mischievous mice. It's the perfect holiday treat for the entire family!

## DECEMBER 23

### THE WASHINGTON CHORUS FAMILY CHRISTMAS

*George Mason University Center for the Arts deLaski Performing Arts Building A101, 2pm, \$33-66*  
Celebrate Christmas with The Washington Chorus! Bring the whole family and enjoy your favorite holiday tunes, a fun sing-along, and a visit from Santa! ♦



## DECEMBER 21

### MOSCOW BALLET'S GREAT RUSSIAN NUTCRACKER

*George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4pm and 8pm, \$28-175*

Celebrate this Christmas with the experience taking North America by storm! Marking the 25th Anniversary Tour, Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker features over-the-top production and world class Russian artists. Larger than life puppets, nesting dolls and gloriously hand-crafted costumes bring the Christmas spirit to life. Gather the family and see why the press is raving "Knock Out!" – New York Times "Christmas Cheer!" – LA Times. Get the best seats today and memories for a lifetime at Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker!.

Groups get the best seats at the best prices! Call Bobbie at 1-800-320-1733 to reserve your seats today.



# HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

## What's Your Party Style?

BY MICHAEL EVANS

It's the most wonderful time of the year. But, we know that, sometimes, entertaining for the holidays can be stressful! If you're hosting family and/or friends for a get together this year, continue reading for some tips and tricks for how to pull off a memorable holiday celebration with minimal stress, regardless of if you're a DIY fan or if you've called in the professionals for some back-up!

### *Do-It-Yourself*

If you're going the do-it-yourself route and have a group coming over to celebrate the holidays, there are several different ways to approach the food, depending on the nature of your event. If you're hosting a traditional Thanksgiving, Christmas or Hanukkah meal, a **family style dinner** might be the way to go for you! Family style dinners are a cozy, intimate way to serve your guests. With platters served on each table, your family and friends have the ability to select their portions through self-service. In order to successfully carry out a family style meal, a key factor is ensuring there is enough space at the tables to comfortably fit your guests, as well as the food and drinks.

Alternatively, maybe you're hosting a New Year's Eve pre-party before heading out into the city to ring in the New Year... This could be a great time to try **heavy hors d'oeuvres**. With heavy hors d'oeuvres, you can tailor your selections to provide a mix of stationary portions for all to share (think: baked brie & crackers or fruit, or spinach artichoke dip with fresh crudité), as well as bite-sized individual servings of your favorite appetizers, such as pear and prosciutto crostinis, grilled beef hibachi skewers, or shrimp cocktail martini glasses.

### *Drop Off Service*

Another alternative for hosting the holidays is to hire a caterer for drop-off service. This is a great option for those who want help with preparing the food, but want

to tackle the set-up and hosting themselves (and it's also a great cost savings alternative!). You can still serve up heavy hors d'oeuvres or a lovely family style meal this way, or you might choose to serve your meal **buffet style**. Buffets are always an excellent option, particularly for those who want to serve a wide variety of food choices to their guests. Buffets provide greater flexibility, allowing guests to pick the items that most satisfy their palates, as well as controlling how much or little of each item is served. They also serve as a great way to provide a dramatic focal point for your event due to the endless display possibilities.

### *Full-Service*

If you've called in for some back up and have a full-service caterer helping to make



your holidays memorable (and alleviating some of the pressure on you!), you have a few additional options for service styles. First, you could plan to do *food stations*. Food stations are a fun, interactive alternative to buffets that allow for increased flexibility and menu options, but provide your guests with even more opportunity to customize their meals and to promote mingling. Multiple stations are set up, usually with a common theme at each station. For example, you may find a DIY potato bar with all the fixings at one station, whereas at the next station you would find a variety of sushi and sashimi, and other asian favorites. Food stations are also a great way to provide an additional dimension to your reception. Depending on how elaborate you want to get, food stations can give chefs a great opportunity to have more facetime with guests while providing interactive food displays as they prepare some of their signature dishes made-to-order!

Finally, a tried and true option for an elegant holiday celebration is the *sit down dinner*. Sit down dinners typically consists of a multi-course meal in which each course is often plated and served individually to guests. This option allows your guests to feel pampered, and is traditionally used for more formal affairs. Drawbacks to the sit down dinner include a more focused menu, as well as greater expense due to the increased staffing requirements to adequately serve your guests. However, formal sit down dinners can be quite regal and beautiful!

Remember that there is no one 'right way' to host a gathering, and what works for one family may not be the best for the next. When choosing a service style, keep in mind the size of your party, family traditions, and the formality of the event and go with the route that works best for you. No matter which service style you choose, your loved ones will be thankful for your hard work and planning. And you all can celebrate together with good food and good company. Happy Holidays! ♦



**Michael Evans is chef-owner of Helga's Caterers, a family-owned, full-service catering company with over 35 years of experience in providing fine food and excellent service for all of your catering needs throughout the D.C. Metro Area.**



# RESTON TOWN CENTER

*Friday, November 23*

**28th Annual Reston Holiday Parade**

**Tree Lighting and Sing Along Extravaganza**

**Gingerbread Man Mile for Kids**

**Holiday Performances**

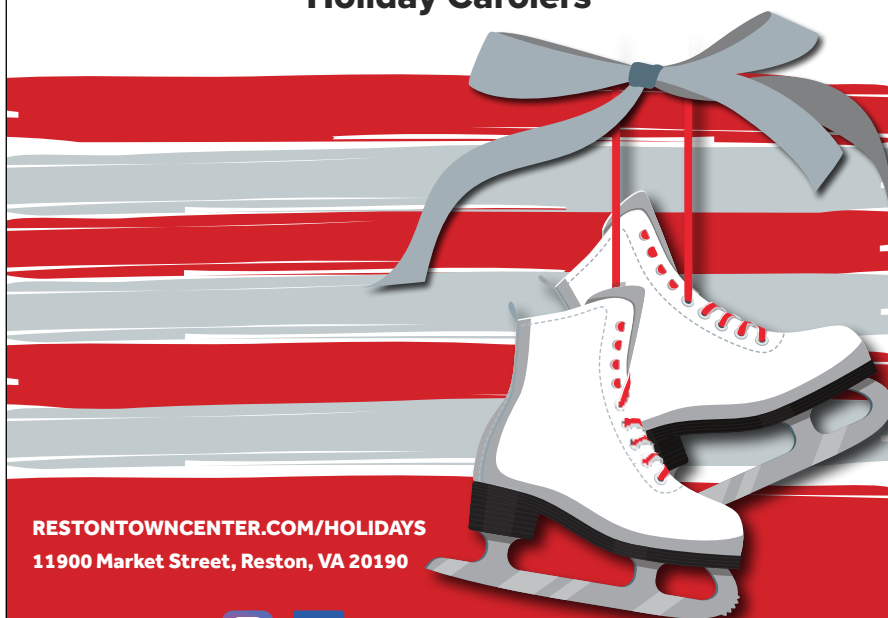
*All Holiday Season*

**Ice Skating Pavilion**

**Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides**

**Mini-Train Rides**

**Holiday Carolers**



**RESTONTOWNCENTER.COM/HOLIDAYS**  
**11900 Market Street, Reston, VA 20190**

Connect with Us!



SAVE THE DATE! FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018



Photos credit: Mary Jeanne Cincotta



# *A Winter Wonderland of Holiday Festivities*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018

**28th Annual Reston Holiday Parade, Tree Lighting, Sing Along, and so much more!**

**S**trike up the bands and break out the jingle bells because it's time again to welcome the return of the holiday season at the Reston Holiday Parade! Voted one of the "10 Best" holiday parades in 2016 and 2017 by USA Today Travel, the Reston Holiday Parade attracts thousands of spectators from near and far. The season of celebrations begins at Reston Town Center with a one-hour procession of Macy's-style balloons, marching bands, dancers, antique cars, characters, community groups, dignitaries, and the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus in a horse-drawn carriage. A cast of more than 1,400 performers and groups from around the region will play, sing, dance, and drive in this half-mile, one-of-a-kind parade. In keeping with this year's "Winter Wonderland" theme, the stilt-walking Snow King and Queen will be at the front of the procession leading 2018's Grand Marshal, 14-year old stage, movie and TV actress, Sissy Sheridan of Reston. At the two grandstand

locations on Market Street, other local celebrities will be on hand as special guest-MCs Angie Goff and Doug Kammerer of NBC News4 will announce the parade proceedings.

Before the parade's 11am start, 10,000 commemorative jingle bells will be handed out to children lined up along the route. Earlier in the morning, another favorite parade-day tradition returns when hundreds of tots and teens participate in the Gingerbread Man Mile Races, presented by Potomac River Running and benefitting children's charity. After the parade, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on hand for visits and photos in their pop-up workshop next to the Skate Shop, and mini-train rides will be offered throughout the afternoon on Market Street (12:30-4:30pm). Angie Goff will return to the Fountain Square podium to "officially" introduce the Clauses at the Tree Lighting at 6pm and start the half-hour Sing Along of traditional Christmas carols and songs, led by The Reston Chorale

and a brass quintet. But the day's not over yet, as horse-drawn carriage rides will be available from 6:30 until 10m.

The Reston Holiday Parade is presented with major support from the Reston Community Center with balloon sponsor, Reston Town Center Association, providing additional support. Hundreds of volunteers from in and around Reston donate their time each year to make this community event a success, serving as line marshals, costumed characters, assistants, and more. Teams from a variety of organizations take on the balloon-handling jobs that require strong arms and a minimum weight of 120 lbs!

## **Keeping the Merry Going in December**

The fun doesn't end yet, as festivities at Reston Town Center will continue on weekends through December 23. Horse-drawn carriage rides on Saturday evenings and mini-





train rides on Sunday afternoons—to benefit local charities—keep the holiday spirit building, and just off Market Street on The Promenade a variety of free music performances will be presented by the Reston Community Center every Saturday and Sunday in December. And it wouldn't be the holidays without the renowned Ice Skating Pavilion adding more sparkle to the season, open for public skating every day until March.

Reston Town Center has the celebrations that will elevate your season!

For all the details, visit [restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.com). ❖



On the day after Thanksgiving, the holiday season begins at Reston Town Center, with a full day of cheer and charity including:

#### 8:00 am

##### **Gingerbread Man Mile Races**

Fun-run and races for tots and teen 14 and under to benefit Children's National Medical Center. Registration and information: [www.prraces.com/gingerbread](http://www.prraces.com/gingerbread)

##### **Reston Town Center Ice Rink**

Skating Pavilion opens early on Friday, November 23 until 11:00pm, then open every day through March 10th, 2019.

#### 11:00 am

##### **28th Annual Reston Holiday Parade**

A festive, 1-hour procession of Macy's-style balloons, bands, characters, community groups, VIPs, and more on Market Street.

#### 12:30–4:30 pm

##### **Santa Claus is Comin' to Town!**

Let the merriment begin as Santa and Mrs. Claus head to their workshop next

to the Skate Shop, where they will be available for visits and photo ops. All voluntary donations benefit local charity.

#### 6:00 pm

##### **Tree Lighting and SingAlong** (arrive early!)


Count down to the moment when everyone closes their eyes and says 1...2...3...WISH! to help Santa magically light up the tree and Reston Town Center for the first time in the 2108 holiday season. With the lights twinkling, Santa & Mrs. Claus will help the Reston Chorale and a brass quintet lead the singing. Song books are provided at the holiday tree in Fountain Square prior to the tree lighting.

#### 6:30–10:00 pm

##### **Horse-drawn Carriage Rides**

Take a romantic ride around the Center, with all proceeds benefitting local charity.

28TH ANNUAL



**Reston**

**HOLIDAY  
PARADE**

AT THE

**RESTON TOWN CENTER**

11900 Market Street, Reston, VA  
[restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.com)



*Sissy Sheridan, age 14*

**What she does:** Entertainment “Triple Threat”: Actor, Singer, and Dancer

**Instagram Followers:** 15,600+

hitters, Emma Stone and Jonah Hill.

Add to this her hosting of the Nickelodeon web series, *DIY with Me!*, as well as a notable number of TV, film and stage credits—including Amazon’s Golden Globe winning *Mozart in the Jungle* and Netflix’ critically acclaimed *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*—and you can see why her star is undeniably on the rise.

### In love with the “job”— not the celebrity

Since first falling in love with acting as a 6-year old attending theater camp, and with the support of her family, this hardworking actress juggles a hectic schedule of auditions, rehearsals, schoolwork, performances, social life, photo shoots and volunteering that can take her from Reston to New York or Los Angeles in any given week; a demanding routine that sometimes belies the seeming glamor of the entertainment scene. But Sissy thrives on the challenge, bringing an energy and unvarnished delight in her work that is beguiling. She’s still a typical teen girl, however, who loves dressing up (although for her, it’s probably for an acting role or a photo shoot) and adores hanging out with friends and family, binge watching TV and eating favorite foods.

Although Sissy seems to be popping up everywhere, it’s her talent, professional attitude and hard work that are landing her the jobs. But experience has also made her savvy to the modern demands of the business and the peculiarities of being a bi-coastal actress, noting that in DC or NYC producers and directors tend to be more focused on “talent” vs. an interest, when working in LA, on how much “celebrity” an actor can bring to a role.

### A public persona

Already part of the world of social media with hundreds of thousands of views from her *DIY with Me* and *Chicken Girls* online series and other YouTube appearances, along with the usual teen Instagram feed for family and friends, Sissy has recently taken a more significant plunge with the addition of a public Instagram account. This is no ploy on Sissy’s part to become “Instafamous”, but this extroverted teen, who is a natural connector, recognizes the unique opportunities that can come from online exposure and social media relevance.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 75

BY KATHLEEN MCDONOUGH

## Reston’s Sissy Sheridan Chases Her Star

In case you haven’t noticed, there are a few exceptional teens who are taking the world of entertainment—and the internet—by storm. One of them is a 14-year old, hometown Reston girl, Sissy Sheridan. Not content to just work on further expanding her impressive resume of stage and screen credits, Sissy is also cultivating an active following on Instagram, thanks to her legit talent and unpretentious, girl-next-door appeal.

And somehow, she has also found time to take on Grand Marshal duties for this year’s Reston Holiday Parade—a real honor, as this annual event is part of the Sheridan Family’s favorite Christmas traditions.

### Why you should be following her

It might surprise you to discover that this talented stage and screen actress calls Reston home.

Currently appearing at the Tony-award winning Signature Theatre in Arlington in the musical *Billy Elliot* (through January 6th), hers is a career getting hotter by the minute, with a juicy role in Season 3 of the hit ‘tween *Brat/YouTube* series *Chicken Girls* as well as a recent co-starring appearance in the Netflix series, *Maniac*, starring Hollywood heavy-





# 2019 WHAT'S NEW IN KITCHEN & BATHROOM DESIGN

By Analiese Kreutzer

If you're planning a kitchen or bathroom remodel next year, consider some of these rising trends in color, materials, technology and design to create your dream space.

## Technology SMART APPLIANCES

Technology in the kitchen, such as smart appliances, has been around for a number of years, but appliance apps still get mixed reviews. You might want to rely on a smart speaker like Alexa or Google Assistant to help out in the kitchen. These devices can look up recipes, set cooking timers, order groceries and more.



## Cabinets < INJECTING VIBRANT COLOR

One of the biggest trends in kitchen design is color. All-white kitchens have dominated for quite a while, but now cabinets in blue, green and gray are increasing in popularity. If you opt for white cabinets or open grain wood, you can inject vibrant color through your appliances. Bosch refrigerators are available in bold colors and Viking offers its ranges and refrigerators in a variety of exciting colors.



## Tile < TERRAZZO

Terrazzo—a composite of marble, quartz, glass and other materials—isn't new. In fact, it has been around since ancient times, but it has been making a comeback this year, a trend you can expect to continue into 2019. In the bathroom, use it for decorative accents or on walls, shower floors or countertops. In the kitchen, terrazzo spices up a backsplash, counters, walls or floors. It comes in an array of colors, and the new porcelain terrazzo is available in polished or matte finishes.

## High Tech BATHROOM

Interesting and helpful high-tech for the bathroom includes motion-detecting faucets, automatic temperature regulators and mirrors with built-in LED lighting or integrated touch screens that control lighting or let you check the day's weather forecast or your schedule as you get ready for the day.



## Vintage OR CONTEMPORARY

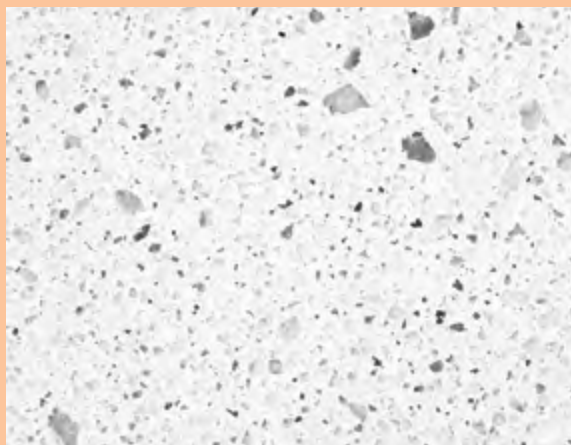
Although classic designs never go out of style, the main trends in bathroom design now lean toward either vintage or contemporary. To get the vintage look, use antique mirrors and light fixtures and repurpose an old dresser or other piece of furniture as a vanity.

If contemporary is more your style, go for clean lines and warm tones like grays, whites and earth tones as well as seamless shower doors and large tiles for a sleek look.



## Aging IN PLACE

According to Katie Peters, project designer with Bowers Design Build, another trend is toward timeless materials combined with practical elements that allow homeowners to age in place. Peters says the plumbing industry has begun to respond. One manufacturer has come out with a line of hand-held shower assemblies that double as grab bars.



## Counters < QUARTZ

Quartz countertops have been trending for a while and don't seem to be waning in their popularity. According to the 2018 U.S. Houzz Kitchen Trends Study, "Engineered quartz overall beat out granite 43 to 34 percent among homeowners updating countertops." Especially popular are quartz countertops that look like marble. Quartz is durable and requires less maintenance than granite.



## Fixtures

Homeowners have a variety of metal finishes to choose from for cabinet hardware, faucets, light fixtures and more. Matte sheens remain popular, according to Peters. Brass has been trending for more than a year. If you're looking for a newer trend, go with golden brass, darker bronzes and matte black finishes. Mixing metals also is popular. To mix metals, consider choosing an element such as a pendant light or faucet as an accent in a different metal such as rose gold.





## Water Spaces

### < OPEN SHOWER

Open shower spaces have expanded to incorporate both a bathtub and a shower, often with a simple glass barrier separating the water space from the rest of the bathroom.



## Cool Kitchen APPLIANCES

If you've ever been frustrated by limited space in the refrigerator or freezer compartment of your fridge, you'll be happy to hear that more brands are offering the flexibility of column units. These stand-alone appliances mean you don't even have to place your refrigerator and freezer next to each other. Refrigerators come in 24, 30 and 36-inch models and freezers are available in 18, 24, 30 or 36-inch options.

The concept of cooking directly on your countertop may be hard to imagine, but that's just what hidden induction units allow you to do. Induction cooking uses electromagnetism to heat pots and pans very efficiently while remaining cool to the touch. The units can be mounted beneath your counter, and when you're not using the area for cooking, you can use it as you would any other area of your countertop.



## Open STORAGE

In both kitchens and bathrooms, open shelving is replacing some of the cabinetry. This can be tricky to keep neat and aesthetically pleasing, but it has the advantage of keeping essentials accessible and is perfect for dishes or towels that are uniform in shape and color, which helps keep the look neat and organized.

**Analiese Kreutzer is a contributing writer to Viva-Tyson's and VivaReston. As a long-time resident of the area, she is passionate about the communities, people and businesses our publications cover. She can be reached at [AnalieseKreutzer@gmail.com](mailto:AnalieseKreutzer@gmail.com).**



BY LINDA BARRETT

# Light Up the Holidays

*Brighten your home for the holidays with professional outdoor decorating.*

It's holiday time again. And time to think about how you're going to decorate the outside of your home this holiday season.

Drive through any neighborhood and you'll delight in the festive holiday décor on a number of homes—houses are that are tastefully outlined in lights and glow with holiday enthusiasm. And although you could decorate your home yourself, creating one of those enviable homes is easy with the help of a professional holiday decorating company.

Homeowners love the turnkey service of a design professional that includes design, installation, maintenance and service, post-season removal, packing, and offsite storage of holiday decorations. They no longer have to get on a ladder or find room to store all those lights.

"Our aim is to make decorating as stress-free and easy as possible, year after year," said Dave Dolak, owner of Christmas Décor of NoVa, Inc., serving Tysons, McLean and nearby neighborhoods.

"The core things we recommend to enhance a home's exterior include LED lighting and decorations," Dolak explained. "For lighting, outline the roof and windows, trees and shrubbery, and

provide ground lighting for beds and walkways. These different levels of lighting give homes a symmetrical look. Place custom-designed wreaths on doors and/or windows and decorations like tin soldiers near the front door."

Using a professional decorator enables coordination of décor elements and colors for a cohesive look—even with white lighting. Who knew there was a difference between warm white and cool white lights!

## Tips on Hiring a Holiday Decorator

- ✓ Look for someone knowledgeable in the industry who will be around year after year.
- ✓ Ask whether they are bonded and insured.
- ✓ Request to see a portfolio of work.

A professional's knowledge can also protect your home. "Our installation practices do not damage the house: we use plastic brackets on gutter lines, specific magnets on metal roofs, and removable adhesive stickers on windows. There are no nail holes, staples, or drilling needed," added Victor Tirondola, CEO of Holiday Decorating by Manor Works Painting, serving homeowners from Reston to Leesburg and beyond.

Both companies are affiliated with Christmas Décor, and utilize their design tool, professional-quality lighting and decorations not available in stores, and warranties for all products.

Homeowners submit a photograph of their home, which is loaded





into the custom design application where the elements of an outdoor holiday design can be applied and reviewed. They can see exactly how the finished décor will look on their home. Design professionals can also visit the home to provide an estimate, if needed.

"An average-sized home (2,000-3,500 sf) can take up to 14 hours to install and seven hours to remove decorations," Tirondola said. Do you really want to spend all that time yourself? A professional's fees are all-inclusive and payment can often be done in installments or on a monthly basis.

Creative. Beautiful. Spectacular. That's what your friends and neighbors will say when they see your home shining through winter's darkness. Whether you decorate your own home or hire a professional holiday decorator, celebrate the season in lights. ♦

### Newest Trends in Holiday Lighting

- Colored lights—and team colors
- RGB lighting—lights programmable to change colors
- Lighting for other seasonal holidays



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BY LINDA BARRETT

# A Toast To Cider

## Virginia Cider is an Ideal Complement to Any Holiday Celebration

During the holiday season, many people begin to contemplate which wine or champagne they are going to serve for holiday meals and celebrations. As an alternative, why not consider one of Virginia's fine ciders? It can be as dry as wine, slightly bubbly like champagne and as refreshing as beer. Virginia cider offers a charming way to celebrate with style. Like wine, cider styles range from dry to sweet, still to sparkling, simple to complex. It pairs well with foods or can be enjoyed simply by itself.

"Cider is equally as food friendly and beautiful as wine when paired with the right food, and can make the whole experience better," said Sarah Showalter, co-owner of Old Hill Cider. "And there are so many options for cider, depending on what you're serving."

She recommends her Farmhand cider with its full body and tannins to pair with poultry, and her Yesteryear cider, a bright and sharp cider, with maple-glazed ham or salmon. End the meal with their Season's Finish, an ice-style dessert cider that pairs ideally with desserts, cheeses and dried fruits.

Showalter's is one of the few cideries with its own orchards and farmstand market where people can purchase apples. Some apples are specific to cider making,

while others, like the heritage apples Old Virginia Winesap, Jonathan, Stayman, Albemarle Pippin and Black Twig serve as dual purpose: eating or cider. A new variety of dessert apple is GoldRush.

### FUN CIDER FACTS

- ❁ Cider is fermented like wine
- ❁ Apples must be ground before pressing prior to fermentation
- ❁ Artisan ciders are created by blending different apples
- ❁ Many cider apples are not ideal for eating
- ❁ In Virginia, hard apple cider can contain up to 10% alcohol by volume without capitalizing (adding sugar). Above 10%, it must be labeled as "apple wine."
- ❁ Hard apple cider making is the fastest growing segment in the alcohol business

### *Cider's History in Virginia*

Once the daily drink in early Colonial America, cider was popular with people like George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson created a champagne-like cider made with Hewe's Crab apples that was his "table drink," and throughout the 19th century, cidermaking took place in every community.

"Cider was the beverage of choice in Virginia for many years before wine or beer, during a time when water was considered unhealthy. And since the first Thanksgiving celebration was held here in Virginia, why not bring the cider back to Thanksgiving as an alternative to wine?" said Courtney Mailer, owner of Blue Bee Cider, Virginia's first urban cidery.

Sadly, throughout our history, with the Industrial Revolution and the changing tastes of the growing immigrant population, cider fell out of favor and beer became a more popular drink of choice. Prohibition dealt another blow to the cidermaking industry.



Cider is making a comeback here in the United States, however. Today, Virginia is the 6th largest apple-producing state by acreage and is enjoying a renaissance of artisanal hard ciders as evidenced by the growing number of cideries and the availability of ciders in restaurants and bottle shops.

Blue Bee Cider has been planting its own orchard to help bring back from extinction the prized Colonial-era heritage apple varieties used for their own ciders. They have the largest orchard producing Harrison apples in the world.

“Cider apples are different from table apples, just as wine grapes are different from table grapes,” so you can select a cider to match any cuisine, Mailer explained. For traditional Virginia fare and salty hams, she recommends her Charred Ordinary cider, and for poultry, the Mill Race Bramble, with its berry notes. For December holidays, enjoy the Firecracker, a dessert cider made with apple brandy from Catoctin Creek Distillery that is rather like an apple Port-style wine. And for a nice (and less expensive) alternative to champagne, try the Aragon 1904.

### *What is Cider?*

The Virginia Tourism Corporation describes cider as “fermented apple juice just as wine is fermented grape juice. The best cider, like the best wine, is carefully crafted from fruit chosen for cider making.”

Cider involves no grain and it is not cooked; it is pressed from apples specifically selected for their tannin, acid and sugar levels.

The term “cider” is considered “hard cider.” However, it has a lower alcohol content than wine due to the lower sugar level in apples as compared to grapes. You may see cider in the refrigerated section at your grocery store, but that is merely unfiltered apple juice with no alcohol content. Outside the United States, the word “cider” refers exclusively to alcoholic drinks.

Cider pairs particularly well with many foods, often better than wine. A dry cider with heavier tannins can substitute for a red wine and pair with meat dishes. A crisp cider with a higher acid level works well with rich, buttery dishes. Off-dry cider goes with smoke and spices, and works well with grilled vegetables. Sweet cider pairs brilliantly with vinegary or spicy foods like barbeque or Thai. Dessert ciders go with anything.

This holiday season, why not include several of Virginia's fine ciders with your celebrations? You just might make a new tradition of your own. ❖



### **CIDER WEEK VIRGINIA: NOVEMBER 9-18, 2018**

In September 2012, Virginia's Governor Bob McDonnell established a week dedicated to hard cider in order to both celebrate the tradition of crafting hard cider in Virginia and raising awareness about its popularity throughout the Commonwealth. Virginia was the first state to do so. The week-long celebration, November 9-18, 2018, features special tastings, pairings, dinners, events and workshops, including the Alexandria Cider Festival held at the Lloyd House in Old Town on Saturday, November 17th. Learn more at [www.ciderweekva.com](http://www.ciderweekva.com).

### **VIRGINIA CIDERIES**

- ❖ Albemarle Ciderworks, North Garden
- ❖ Big Fish Cider, Monterey
- ❖ Blue Bee Cider, Richmond
- ❖ Blue Toad Hard Cider, Roseland
- ❖ Bold Rock Hard Cider, Nellysford, Charlottesville, Crozet
- ❖ Bryant's Cider, Roseland
- ❖ Buskey Cider, Richmond
- ❖ Castle Hill Cider, Keswick
- ❖ Chateau Morrisette, Floyd
- ❖ Cobbler Mountain Cellars, Delaplane
- ❖ Corcoran Vineyards and Cider, Waterford
- ❖ Courthouse Creek Cider, Maidens
- ❖ Coyote Hole Ciderworks, Mineral
- ❖ Fabboli Cellars, Leesburg
- ❖ Foggy Ridge Cider, Floyd
- ❖ Halcyon Days Cider, Natural Bridge
- ❖ Hilltop Berry Farm and Winery, Nellysford
- ❖ Hinson Ford Cider & Mead, Amissville
- ❖ Life is Hard Cider, Mt. Jackson
- ❖ Lost Boy Cider, Alexandria
- ❖ Mt. Defiance Cider & Distillery, Middleburg
- ❖ Mountain Cove Vineyard, Lovingson
- ❖ MountainRose Vineyard, Wise
- ❖ Old Hill Cider, Timberville
- ❖ Potter's Craft Cider, Free Union
- ❖ Scott County Cider Co., Dungannon
- ❖ Sly Clyde Ciderworks, Hampton
- ❖ Tomahawk Mill Vineyard, Chatham
- ❖ Wild Hare Cider, Leesburg
- ❖ Winchester Ciderworks, Winchester
- ❖ The Winery at Kindred Point, Mt. Jackson



BY KATHLEEN MCDONOUGH

## *Keeping the Love Alive*

### How The Nysmith School Keeps Students Passionate About Learning

Most children can't wait to start school and approach the beginning of their academic careers with breathless anticipation. Kindergartners and first- and second-graders in particular are known for their giddy excitement about what they learn and do in school. Alarming, recent studies have shown that from third grade on a child's enjoyment of learning drops continuously. This distressing fact has been attributed by some to the current emphasis on standardized testing and rote learning, which seems for many students to curtail their natural joy. Whatever the reason, the potential life-long impacts of a child's diminished interest in learning should be a cause for concern.

Taking up the challenge of keeping children's enjoyment of learning alive has been the mission of the award winning Nysmith School for the Gifted since it opened its doors in 1983. For more than 35 years Founder Carole Nysmith and her son and current Head of School, Ken Nysmith, have been guiding curriculums and classes that keep preschool through eighth grade students engaged and stimulated and strive to make school—dare we say—“fun?”

At their Herndon campus, small class sizes allow Nysmith's team of passionate and knowledgeable teachers to effectively engage students with hands-on activities and challenging content that teach the value of learning and nurture the kind of kids who will find algebra and biology an exciting challenge rather than a chore.

Nysmith turns the tables on the current epidemic of classroom boredom—nurtured in mainstream education with its emphasis on standardized tests and regimented, repetitious

learning—with child-centered activities that are tactile and creative. Because engagement is a precondition, no learning happens until the curriculum becomes more personalized and meaningful for every student, with Nysmith teachers working hard to build environments that sustain engagement and nurture potential.

Recognizing that children start out with an instinct to explore and discover, the Nysmith team taps into the unique fascinations that keep the spark for learning alive, which in turn sends a powerful message that learning doesn't end with childhood.

At Nysmith, the “gifted” child is defined as one who loves learning and who has the capacity, inquisitiveness and interest to learn. The curriculum is therefore designed to nurture the gifted student's innate joy in discovery and to fuel natural enthusiasm. By being entertaining and interactive, but educational as well, and encouraging and building academic skills and analytical problem solving, each child's creative potential is drawn out. Further, by being introduced to—and learning to overcome—challenges within an encouraging environment, students gain a sense of competence, something that all enthusiastic learners share.

Of course, as the old proverb says, 'the proof of the pudding is in the eating', so to fully judge the effectiveness of Nysmith's combination of nurturing environment and rigorous curriculum it is important to note that its students regularly place in the top 1 percent nationwide in national tests for math, reading and language. The school has also been nationally recognized for its achievements in fostering children's interest in science and math, winning a 2014 “Tommy Award” from Thomas Jefferson High School (the #1 High School for STEM and #2 Public High School in the U.S.\*) as well as being named a “Top 10 School in the World” for Academic Excellence in 2015 by Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth. For the chance at the kind of academic advantage that can be acquired at Nysmith, parents have even been known to quit jobs and sell homes just to move to the area and enroll their children in the school.

High test scores and awards aside, Nysmith's stated goal remains the creation of an educational experience that is truly enjoyable. Every day at the school offers students the opportunity to find their own creativity and become the best version of themselves. Providing exceptional academics and captivating young minds with serious fun is Nysmith's continuing commitment to every student's success. ♦

\* Niche's 2019 Best Schools in America; [www.niche.com](http://www.niche.com)



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BY ALLISON CHASE SUTHERLAND

# *The Black Horse Inn*

## *The Ultimate Hunt Country Getaway*



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- \* Horseback Trail Riding for Two at Marriott Ranch in Hume
- \* \$50 Gift Certificate for Dinner at a local upscale restaurant

The Black Horse Inn is—in a word—exquisite. A mere 40 miles from Tysons, The Black Horse Inn rests comfortably in the rolling, bucolic Virginia Hunt Country near Old Town Warrenton—a mecca for horse lovers—where the Warrenton Hunt was established in 1883 and the first running of the Gold Cup took place in 1922.

Dating from 1850, the historic main house served as a hospital during the Civil War. The inn houses 10 elegantly appointed rooms and suites, meticulously decorated with an artistic and whimsical flair, many with four-poster canopy beds, Jacuzzi tubs, and fireplaces.

The fabled *Fox and the Grapes* exudes character, with its own private entrance down the stairs at the back of the house, reminiscent of a charming Hobbit dwelling. You will be welcomed at the entrance by white roses and baby's breath. A fox statue sitting atop an authentic Bordeaux wine barrel surveys the realm—a hunting horn, equestrian boots. Golden grapes hang from the ceiling. Let's heed Aesop's cautionary tale and not touch them. Just head up to the main house for a glass of wine if fancy strikes. The fieldstone walls with recessed wooden windows filtering the light through lattice-climbing English Ivy, hand-hewn wooden beams, and a wrought-iron bed are straight out of a fairy tale.

Another remarkable design, the *Room with a View* has a unique attic architecture with Palladian windows overlooking the countryside. The handsome *Jeffersonian Room* displays many a fine touch. And the spacious *Hunt Box Suite* adjoining the barn is where you will encounter, among other fine horses, the sleek black stallion Dante, mascot of the Black Horse Inn.

Awaken to a gourmet country breakfast in your fanciest pajamas, including the signature scones. Partake in Hunt Country Tea in the afternoon with sherry or port in the library or back sun porch. Sip wine and nibble on a cheese platter on the patio by the footbridge over the pond fountain. Roam the 20-acre estate and revel in being one with nature.





An equestrian center, the Inn also accommodates horses in their hunt stables for overnight visits, providing the ultimate convenience for owners of equine guests. “We’re equestrians and we want our guests to enjoy the horses.”

Great Falls readers may wish to take their horses on a little getaway. Fortunately for those of us who can’t actually bring our own horse, the Inn kindly offers several enticing equestrian packages for fall.

### *Hunt Country Fox Hunting*

The Inn also offers opportunities for experienced riders interested in participating in an authentic day of fox hunting. They will coordinate hirelings and transport you to hunts.

Owner/Expert Equestrian Lynn Pirozzoli and her fiancé Peter are up at the crack of dawn for fox hunting with the Loudoun Fairfax Hunt near the little hamlet of Hamilton. Their fine steeds are a Gypsy Vanner/Thoroughbred cross and a Clydesdale/Cleveland Bay, like the Queen’s horses. The horses clip-clop down the lane and then they’re off into the fields of singing grasshoppers, tail-wagging beagles howling in delight.

“On early fall mornings, the mist comes off the field and steam comes off the horses. It’s just very magical to me,” describes Lynn.

“I’ve been riding since I was knee-high to a grasshopper – jumping, 3-day eventing. When I came to Virginia, I went fox hunting and fell in love with it—the camaraderie with the people and the genuine good fun. What could be better than letting the horses do what they do naturally—run in a herd.”

Linda Devan, Joint Master of Fox Hounds, notes, with up to three hunts per week, “this is the heart of hunt country in the United States.” The fox hunters follow a strict protocol and are “very respectful of the property of the friendly landowners.”

Lynn recounts unforgettable equestrian adventures while on riding holiday, galloping on the beach bareback and swimming on horseback in Ireland with Willie Leahy, Master of the Galway Blazers, one of the most renowned fox hunting groups in Ireland.

“Unlike in Ireland and England, in Virginia we just enjoy the fox chase and the countryside—time and time again. It’s just such a natural thing to do in Virginia.”

Hunt member Christine Vitkus points out, “There are places and vantage points you can’t get to any other way.”

Mimosas and Gin Richardson’s Maple Bacon Bites are always a hit at the tailgate, a hunting tradition.

The Inn is also a much-acclaimed wedding destination, with its opulent formal ballroom The Gilded Fox. Just outside, flagstone terraces back to the tranquil countryside and mountains beyond. The dashing Peter in his scarlet coat and top hat escorts the bride who rides side-saddle on horseback. Very regal.

### *The Finest Train Station Fare*

Atmosphere abounds at Claire’s at the Depot, [www.claresrestaurant.com](http://www.claresrestaurant.com). Enjoy contemporary American cuisine in a charmingly restored 100-year-old historic railroad depot. The Beet and Goat Cheese Organic Baby Greens features goat cheese, croutons, yellow and red beets, dried cherries, and poppy seed dressing. Veal Scaloppine with porcini and shiitake mushroom madeira sauce, pappardelle, shaved parmesan, arugula,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 47



BY DAN LASH CFP® AIF®

## ASK AN ADVISOR: SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING

All parents worry about their children's futures – it's part of the job. Parents of children with special needs may face more uncertainty. Some of the biggest concerns special needs parents have are financial. Mapping out your child's financial future can seem like a daunting task, but having a plan in place can help ease your fears.

There are complex legal and governmental issues surrounding disability so planning for the long term can be tricky. The wrong decision might create a tax burden or render a child with special needs ineligible for government benefits. Having a strategic plan that maps out your vision for your child's future can lessen some of the uncertainty. Below are three things I recommend parents of children with special needs do to secure their future:

- **Create a letter of intent**—No one knows your child better than you do. If something were to happen to you, how can you express your wishes for your child's future and share all the facts about your child's wants, needs, and care? While not a legally binding document, a Letter of Intent will serve as a guide for future caregivers and cover topics such as: daily schedule, medical history, education, benefits received, and your vision for your child's future.
- **Create a special needs trust**—Work with an attorney to create a special needs trust. Such trusts are an important part of your child's long-term financial plan. The trust will serve to benefit your child in two ways: A trustee that you identify in the trust document will manage the assets inside the trust for the best interest of the beneficiary and limit the beneficiary's access based on the trust document's stipulations (i.e., The funds can't be used to buy a sports car, but can be used for food and lodging). The second benefit of having the assets in a trust will preserve the beneficiary's eligibility for public benefits, such as Medicaid and public housing. You should work with an experienced Financial Advisor and a Trust Lawyer to establish and fund the trust.

■ **Name a trustee**—The trustee is the individual or institution that is responsible for administering the trust in accordance to your trust document. A trustee is usually not the same person that is named as a guardian. A trustee can be a close friend or family member or an institution, such as a bank or trust company. The trustee controls the money and is responsible for investing the assets and dispersing them as necessary. They should also serve as a partner to a future caretaker to help make and be the voice of reason when tough financial decisions need to be made.

A great place to start planning for the financial future of your child is with your Financial Advisor. You are planning for two generations—yourself and your child. Your Advisor will help you organize and prioritize your personal financial goals and wishes and help you create a long term financial plan for your child. They will also be able to refer you to the appropriate attorneys, accountants, and other service organizations that would be of help. Having a team by your side is easier than going at it alone. ♦



**Daniel P. Lash, CFP®, AIF®** is a Financial Advisor and Partner at VLP Financial Advisors. Dan works with his clients to help them plan for their family's financial future. He believes that strategic planning is the key to creating, protecting, and growing wealth. Visit VLP Financial Advisors online at: [www.vlpfa.com](http://www.vlpfa.com).

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Have a question for an Advisor?

Email [info@vlpfa.com](mailto:info@vlpfa.com)

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 45

and grilled zucchini is succulent. Voted Top 100 Most Romantic Restaurants in America, Claire's at the Depot is sure to please.

### *The Front Porch, The Plains*

For an elegant yet casual dinner in another historic railroad house, continue

your countryside meanderings 15 miles to the Front Porch, [www.frontporchtheplains.com](http://www.frontporchtheplains.com). Their authentic Portuguese Kale Soup transported me straight back to Lisbon. Truffle mushroom ravioli was a flavorful spot-hitter. Locally sourced seared pork tenderloin was expertly infused with a hint of apple bourbon sage butter. Reserve an upstairs table and step into another era as depicted in the vintage movie poster of Anita



Ekberg and Marcello Mastroianni. Park out back and be welcomed through the back door by the effervescent Christophe Michaux and friendly, knowledgeable servers. As they say in Virginia, "Slow down and set a spell." And of course, savor the flavor.

Better yet, savor the whole experience. It might just be impossible not to. ♦

[www.blackhorseinn.com](http://www.blackhorseinn.com)



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VLP Financial Advisors was founded on the belief that making informed decisions is the key to wealth accumulation and preservation. Our Advisors offer sound financial solutions for individuals, families, and business owners to properly position, help protect, and transfer wealth. We will work with you to help you navigate your financial future and achieve your goals.

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# AROUND TOWN



LOCAL EVENTS › FUNDRAISERS › CHARITIES › AND MORE ACROSS THE AREA



## FLAVORS WERE SAVORED AT RESTON TOWN CENTER

Autumn brews and delicious eats were front and center when Flavors of Fall returned to the Reston Town Center on Saturday, October 6th.

Presented by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, an estimated 40,000 attendees turned out for this annual event, one of Northern Virginia's largest outdoor festivals.

With offerings that included 16 regional craft beers and hard ciders, this was the place for seasonal sipping and samplings of some of the best bites from 13 favorite local restaurants. A variety of entertainments and family activities, along with live music on the Pavilion Stage and "The Cornhole Experience!" charity tournament, guaranteed fun for everyone.

And to round out the weekend, 300 runners made sure that the Reston Pumpkin 5K on Sunday, October 7th was a success, with Jessica Ingham, of Herndon, winning the Women's Division with a finish time of 21:49 and Caleb Hess of Reston placing first in the Men's Division, with a time of 18:18.

Mark Ingrao, President and CEO of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce commented, "We're proud that the Chamber can be part of such a great event and view it as a way to give back to the community and highlight the businesses in and around Reston."

Partial proceeds from Flavors of Fall and Reston Pumpkin 5K & Kids' Pumpkin Dash will help fund the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce 501(c)(3) education foundation that provides mentorship

and education for emerging and start-up companies from all over the region.

To learn more about the event or the Chamber, connect on Facebook and Twitter @RestonChamber or visit [www.RestonChamber.org](http://www.RestonChamber.org) or.







## PUBLIC ART FOR THE COLTS NECK ROAD UNDERPASS

### *Call to Artists*

Public Art Reston is currently seeking artists to create a site-specific artwork in a permanent medium to enhance the exterior and interior walls of the Colts Neck Road underpass in Reston.

The artist or artist-led team will be asked to address the spirit of the Hunters Woods Neighborhood, respond to the cultural diversity of the community, and develop an artwork that identifies the underpass as a civic facility within the fabric of the surrounding neighborhood.

The project will promote active use of the underpass that links residential areas, Hunters Woods Village Center, two schools, two senior facilities, and two community centers. At the Colts Neck Road underpass, public art will have the opportunity to enhance the community's relationship to their infrastructure and encourage active transportation options such as walking and cycling. The artist will actively engage with community stakeholders to develop the concept of the artwork and will give workshops to students. This project is an opportunity for infrastructure beautification, education, engagement, and inspiration.

The public art project is developed in collaboration with Reston Association and Atlantic Realty Companies.

For more information visit: [www.callforentry.org/festivals\\_unique\\_info.php?ID=5583](http://www.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=5583)



### GLADE DRIVE UNDERPASS BY VALERIE THEBERGE

Valerie Theberge designed this artwork to be uplifting, whimsical, and optimistic. Multiple shades of greens were chosen to reflect the rich vegetation in Reston. Fluid lines speak to the stream that flows near the underpass. Each motif in the mosaic was carefully created to echo the organic nature of the surroundings. The design transforms into a show of light and color upon closer inspection, with her

inclusion of mirrored tiles and stained glass. The stars were realized by students from Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences under the inspiration and instruction of Valerie Theberge. ❖



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BY LINDA BARRETT



Chef Tiptur

# Chocolate: THE PERFECT FOOD

The Conche restaurant delights chocolate lovers with both savory and sweet masterpieces.

When I learned about a chocolate-themed boutique restaurant in Leesburg, I was all in, and scheduled a visit to The Conche. After all, who doesn't love chocolate? I had no idea, however, the intricacies of cooking with chocolate and was quite pleasantly surprised to both learn about it and taste the sumptuous creations of celebrity chef/owner Santosh Tiptur.

Entering the restaurant, you first notice the glass-front case displaying handcrafted chocolates and the working conche machine. Then you are met with a sensual, but delicate, aroma of chocolate that foretells good things to come and a peek into the bustling Chocolate Lab.

Knowing that The Conche was all about chocolate, my dinner companion and I wondered if each dish would either be smothered in chocolate or taste like chocolate. That was not the case. As we learned from Chef Tiptur, chocolate beans are similar to wine grapes and coffee, and take on the essences and flavors provided by the local terroir in their growing region. Chocolate beans from Africa can be slightly bitter, while beans from South America can display a tropical-fruity character. The chef expertly incorporates subtle notes into each dish.

Our meal began with a set of incredible cocktails. The Allure was a fruity concoction served in a tall glass shrouded in pink cotton candy. The Soot & Rye combined rye, sweet vermouth, and spiced cinnamon syrup in a glass with a hand-cut block of ice to which the smoke from Applewood chips soaked in Grand Marnier was infused tableside.

The Sweet & Sour Cauliflower appetizer arrived served on a delicious bed of crispy greens. It had an Asian influence and a perfectly-crisp coating, not unlike General Tso's chicken. The Tempura Fried Brussel Sprouts were lightly battered and tender, and won over my companion





who claimed he “didn’t like Brussel sprouts... until now.”

For our beef entrée, we chose the Cocoa Rubbed NY Strip Steak in a chocolate burgundy reduction served with sautéed broccoli and roasted garlic and goat cheese potato puree. The reduction perfectly complemented the tender beef with both a hint of chocolate and heat on the finish.

Our seafood entrée, the Shrimp Tagliatelle, combined large, tender bourbon garlic shrimp with a tornado of tagliatelle pasta coated with a Tomato Brava sauce. We also got to sample the Spiced Crispy Pork Belly wrapped in soft, steamed cacao nibs buns and served on a white balsamic and cherry thyme compote.

What was amazing were the complexities of flavors and textures within each dish. This was not your average meal. It was true artistry.

### *Save Room for Dessert!*

The Sweet Finale menu features a number of chocolate-themed desserts each named after a type of chocolate, and we ooh and aahed our way through our selections.

The Opalys featured portions of warm Medjool date & toffee pudding, ginger salted caramel ice cream, and a sable Breton in a bourbon butterscotch sauce, served with a white chocolate vanilla bean foam to use like whipped cream. Handmade chocolate flourishes adorned each item.

With the Jivara, we were instructed to make sure every forkful included each element of this multi-layered dessert, which resulted in an explosion of flavors in the mouth. Layers of chocolate cake and milk chocolate ganache, accented by passion fruit sorbet and gelée in a

pool of passion fruit caramel left us wanting more.

To go all out, order The Conche Entremet. At \$48 it is one of the most expensive desserts on the menu, but also one of the most intriguing, and large enough to be shared with the table. Layer after layer of chocolate, cake, ice creams and accents are carefully placed into a dark chocolate sphere. Rolled to your table on a golden cart, it is doused with flaming liquor which melts the outer shell to reveal the delights hidden inside and create a pool of molten chocolate. It is then drizzled with caramel and chocolate sauces.

Guests can watch the pastry chef’s chocolate-making and dessert processes in the 300-foot glass-fronted Chocolate Lab, where chocolate-making classes for adults and children are also held.

### *About Chef Tiptur*

Growing up in India, Chef Santosh Tiptur can well recall his first experience with chocolate, “I remember placing a Cadbury Éclair into my mouth and began to wonder how delicious candies like this were made. I dreamed that one day I would learn how to make them myself.”

Following culinary school, Tiptur followed that dream and became one of the world’s noted pastry chefs, known for his whimsical sweet and savory culinary creations and over-the-top sugar and chocolate sculptures—several of which are on display at The Conche. His career took him around the world, with positions at luxury cruise lines including Cunard and Seabourn and hotels like the Ritz-Carlton encouraging his creativity. Most recently, he was the executive chef/pastry







## *The Name:* THE CONCHE

The restaurant is named The Conche after one of the processes chocolate must go through to improve its quality. As you enter the restaurant, notice the case displaying a Longitudinal Agitator, known today as a Conche, or Longitudinal Conche, in action. Custom made for Tiptur in Switzerland, it demonstrates the prolonged churning and stirring process, otherwise known as conching, that disperses unwanted substances from the cocoa mass and ensures the homogenous distribution of cocoa butter. Without conching, we would not be tasting the high-quality chocolate we enjoy and embrace today.



chef at Co Co. Sala in Washington, D.C., where he created eclectic and extravagant menus revolving around chocolate.

Tiptur's talents in pastry artistry secured him a place on the 2009 National Pastry Team Championship and in the 2010 New York Chocolate Show. He has appeared on the CBS Early Show, NBC Today and in culinary competitions The Food Network. He was the winner of Halloween Wars 2016.

## *About The Conche*

Chef Tiptur's dream always included owning his own restaurant, and he fulfilled that vision by opening the 76-seat, 2,880-square-foot The Conche in May 2017 in The Village at Leesburg. Chocolate resonates even in the décor, with cream-colored tufted banquettes, milk chocolate-colored walls, chocolate-cage lighting fixtures, and confection-themed posters. A beautiful lighted bar invites casual dining or relaxation with a signature cocktail. Seasonally, menus change and special items like European-style hot chocolate are added for the cooler months.

If you are looking for a memorable experience, you must try some of Chef Tiptur's creations. If nothing else, stop by for an unforgettable dessert. The Conche is sure to delight. ❖



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# SELECTED AREA RESTAURANTS

## RESTON

### ARIAKE

**Reston | Japanese | \$\$**

Arguably one of the best Japanese restaurants in NoVa, Chef Aoki brings 35 years of experience straight from Tokyo, and it shows. Serving the best sushi rolls around, Ariake is a great place for large parties, kids, and families with seasonal outdoor seating.

12184 Glade Dr. Reston, VA | 703-391-9006

[www.ariakerestaurant.com](http://www.ariakerestaurant.com)

### BARCELONA RESTON

**Reston | Mediterranean | \$\$**

Enjoy trendy Mediterranean-inspired tapas, cocktails, and an extensive wine list in their energetic, modern, spacious and airy dining room or on their delightful patio. The weathered wooden textures and modern elements make for a sophisticated and welcoming dining experience.

12023 Town Sq. Reston, VA | 703-689-0700

[www.barcelonawinebar.com](http://www.barcelonawinebar.com)

### BARTACO RESTON

**Reston | Mexican | \$**

Inspired by the beach culture of coastal California, Mexico, Uruguay and Brazil, Bartaco combines healthy upscale street food with a coastal vibe in a relaxed rustic environment. Rooted in Mexican tradition, the menu also pulls bold, spicy flavors from the Mediterranean, Asia and beyond. Whether dining with family, kids, or friends, all will enjoy the friendly service and atmosphere.

12021 Town Sq. Reston, VA | 703-787-8226

[www.bartaco.com](http://www.bartaco.com)

### CAFESANO

**Reston | Mediterranean | \$**

Created with the idea of offering healthy, flavorful food you can enjoy every day, Cafesano's menu is not too rich or too spicy, but is full of freshness and flavor from Italy and the Mediterranean.

11130 South Lakes Dr. Reston, VA | 703-391-2100

[www.cafesano.com](http://www.cafesano.com)

### CLYDE'S RESTON

**Reston | American | \$\$**

Considered a D.C. area "institution," each Clyde's location is its own neighborhood gathering place. The friendly staff makes everyone feel welcome and where wide-ranging American menus meet with reasonable prices.

11905 Market St. Reston, VA | 703-787-6601

[www.clydes.com/reston](http://www.clydes.com/reston)

### JACKSON'S MIGHTY FINE FOOD

**Reston | American | \$\$**

Offering American comfort food in a comfortable and upbeat environment, at Jackson's you can enjoy classics with a creative twist, including their deviled eggs with sugared bacon and lobster mac and cheese.

11927 Democracy Dr., Reston, VA | 703-437-0800

[www.greatamericanrestaurants.com/jacksons](http://www.greatamericanrestaurants.com/jacksons)

### KALYPSO'S SPORTS TAVERN

**Reston | Mediterranean | \$\$**

Whether you're with the family, on a date, or watching the game with friends, Kalypso's Sports Tavern has something for everyone. Enjoy an extensive menu featuring authentic Greek cuisine with a lake front patio and lounge located on Lake Anne of Reston, Kalypso's is a fully stocked sports bar with 30+ HDTVs, gorgeous lounge with separate bar, and a full service indoor dining room. A weekend brunch menu is offered every Saturday and Sunday until 2pm.

617 Washington Plaza N. Reston, VA | 703-707-0660

[www.kalypsosportstavern.com](http://www.kalypsosportstavern.com)

### NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE'S

**Reston | American | \$\$**

Enjoy fun and eclectic cuisine from every corner of the globe. Not Your Average Joe's began with the goal to create a unique neighborhood place where people know your name, where the food and prices are great, and where you feel special without dressing up. The large restaurant features a full bar, two seasonal outdoor patios, an open kitchen, and a wood-burning oven, all in a bright and polished atmosphere.

1845 Fountain Dr. Reston, VA | 571-234-8200

[www.notyouraveragejoes.com/reston/](http://www.notyouraveragejoes.com/reston/)

### PASSIONFISH

**Reston | American | \$\$**

Offering fresh sustainable fish and seafood (with raw bar!) in an upscale casual fine dining atmosphere, Passionfish is a great spot for a date or the whole family. Fine dining with kids has never been so easy. Their kid-tested, mother-approved "Beach Bucket" menu arrives in a jaunty nautical blue & white tin bucket, bargain entrees are just \$6 [including a drink].

11960 Democracy Dr. Reston, VA | 703-230-3474

[www.passionfishreston.com](http://www.passionfishreston.com)



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[www.zeffirelliva.com](http://www.zeffirelliva.com)

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## SWEETHEAT BBQ

Reston | American | \$\$

Expect Carolina-style, as well as Kansas City-, Caribbean- and Korean-style barbecue with menu highlights such as pulled pork sliders, BBQ ribs, low country red rice, and if you have friends who are hungry, try "The Tailgater," a \$78 platter for eight that features pulled pork, half bird, brisket, one turkey breast, a slab of ribs, and three sides. With Chef Kermit Griffin's 15 years of experience, it's no surprise locals love this hotspot. The former chef of South Carolina's Beaufort Inn honed his craft there and at several other southern restaurants.

1810 Michael Faraday Dr. Reston, VA | 703-689-0060  
www.sweetheatbbq.net

## ASHBURN

## FORD'S FISH SHACK

Ashburn | American | \$

This popular New England maritime-themed seafood spot is a real catch! There is something for everyone, even kids, with a menu of fresh lobster and shrimp rolls, fish tacos, crabs, oysters, scallops, and shrimp, alongside classic American favorites. Enjoy their outdoor patio year-round. Saturday and Sunday brunch available until 3pm. Always busy—reservations are recommended.

44260 Ice Rink Plaza #101, Ashburn, VA  
571-918-4092 | www.fordsfishshack.com

## SENSE OF THAI ST.

Ashburn | Thai | \$\$

A popular spot for locals, enjoy traditional Thai curries and noodle dishes with a stylish backdrop, and a buzzy cocktail scene. Here, you'll discover rustic, vibrant, tasty, and fun food that reflects the Thai culture in every bite. Allow your senses to guide you through the dining experience and you will see why they are so passionate about Thai street food.

20413 Exchange St, Ashburn, VA  
703-858-1980 | www.senseofthai.com

## CLYDE'S WILLOW CREEK FARM

Ashburn | American | \$\$

Named one of the Top 10 heart-healthy restaurants in America, Clyde's Willow Creek Farm is just that, yet offers a historic setting that reconstructs an earlier era of landed gentry and rural splendor. Enjoy an all-American contemporary menu, featuring locally grown produce, hormone-free beef and house-made desserts. Enjoy live entertainment nightly with karaoke on Wednesdays and live music every Friday and Saturday.

42920 Broadlands Blvd. Ashburn, VA  
571-209-1200 | www.clydes.com/willow

## HERNDON

## ANGEETHI AUTHENTIC INDIAN CUISINE

Herndon | Indian | \$

With two Northern Virginia locations, Angeethi offers some of the best authentic Indian cuisine in the area with fine dining service. A popular lunch buffet is offered daily, with brunch on Saturday and Sunday.

645 Elden St. Herndon, VA | 703-796-1527

www.angeethiindian.com

## GRANADA

Herndon | Mediterranean | \$

Popular with the locals, Granada offers an innovative menu inspired by Syrian, Iraqi, Turkish, Greek and Lebanese cuisines, with authentic and delightful dishes. Granada offers a full daily lunch buffet from 11:30am until 2:30pm Monday through Friday for only \$8.99, and an Arab brunch buffet every Saturday and Sunday from 10:30am to 1:30pm.

368 Elden St. Herndon, VA | 703-955-7009

www.granada-cafe.com

## PIERO'S CORNER RISTORANTE ITALIANO

Herndon | Italian | \$\$

Owner/chef Gian Piero Mazzi's parents wanted him to be a doctor or a lawyer, but they made one major mistake—they let Mazzi grow up eating the rich food of the Liguria region in Italy. Now as the executive chef of Piero's Corner, Chef Mazzi's palate makes the most of his career choices. At his restaurant he welcomes guests to feast on the authentic cuisine of his childhood, from al dente pasta dishes tossed with robust meat sauces to carbonara-style scallops and chicken marsala.

13340 Franklin Farm Rd. Herndon, VA | 703-707-6400  
www.pieroscorner.com

## MINERVA INDIAN CUISINE

Herndon | Indian | \$

With two outposts in the area (Fairfax and Chantilly), Minerva offers authentically spiced regional cuisine and the area's most expansive lunch buffet. The butter chicken, with its creamy, tomato-based sauce, is one of their best dishes and could make an India native homesick, which is why you will find predominantly Indian clientele at many tables.

2443-G1 Centreville Rd. Herndon, VA | 1-877-2MINERVA  
www.minervacuisine.com

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## RUSSIA HOUSE

Herndon | Russian | \$\$\$

The Darugars, the owners, say that the Russia House aims to cultivate “the warm feeling that you are dining at your aristocratic grandmother’s table.” Since 1992, they have combined fine dining with a homey attention to detail and a commitment to addressing every guest as “Czar.” Guests may also witness Russia House’s flair for culinary drama; many entrees are prepared tableside.

724 Pine St. Herndon, VA | 703-787-8880

[www.russiahouserestaurant.com](http://www.russiahouserestaurant.com)

## TURCUISINE

Herndon | Turkish | \$

Located in the Worldgate shopping center, TurCuisine is a standout in the area, offering authentic Turkish and Mediterranean fare in a modern atmosphere. Start with the meze tabagi – a mixed mezze platter. Then try the doner kebab, their house specialty,

prepared fresh daily with a mixture of thinly sliced marinated lamb and beef, grilled in front of a spitfire. They also offer kebabs and pides (Turkish pizzas).

13029 Worldgate Dr, Herndon, VA | 571-323-3330

[www.turcuisine.com](http://www.turcuisine.com)

## ZEFFIRELLI RISTORANTE

ITALIANO

Herndon | Italian | \$\$

This upscale, white-tablecloth Tuscan-Italian restaurant serves pasta, seafood and popular veal chops. If you are looking for a quiet Italian dinner in Herndon, this is the place. They have great food, amazing service and make a wonderful cappuccino.

728 Pine St, Herndon, VA | 703-318-7000

[zeffirelliristorante.com](http://zeffirelliristorante.com)

## LEESBURG

## AIYARA THAI

Leesburg | Thai | \$

A favorite with the locals, this family-owned and operated, full-service Thai restaurant with a friendly staff offers fantastic food at a great price. It’s very kid-friendly, so bring the whole family. Enjoy patio seating, a full bar, and of course, authentic Thai cuisine.

5 Catoctin Circle, SE | 703-771-1131

[www.aiyarathairestaurant.com](http://www.aiyarathairestaurant.com)

## TUSCARORA MILL

Leesburg | American | \$\$

Housed in a 19th century rustic grain mill and known as “Tuskies” to locals, Tuscarora Mill has earned the reputation as one of the best restaurants in the county, with its authentically seasonal and local menu and ambiance. They have an impressive wine list and have been a recipient of the Wine Spectacular Award of Excellence for the past 10 years. Whether it is a romantic dinner, a casual lunch or a corporate function, Tuscarora Mill will surely exceed your expectations. Reservations recommended.

203 E Harrison St., Leesburg, VA | 703-771-9300

[www.tuskies.com](http://www.tuskies.com)

## THE WINE KITCHEN

Leesburg | American | \$\$\$

Enriched by the bounty of nearby Virginia and Maryland farms, The Wine Kitchen combines hyperlocal agriculture with culinary artistry to offer extraordinary wines paired with seasonally inspired menus. Enjoy 40 wines by the glass and tasting flights, all in a rustic, intimate setting. The Wine Kitchen has quickly gained a following with its wine bar concept and “Eat, Drink, Simply” motto. Enjoy brunch and live music on Sundays.

7 South King St., Leesburg, VA | 703-777-9463

[www.thewinekitchen.com](http://www.thewinekitchen.com)

## GREAT FALLS

## BOLLYWOOD BISTRO

Great Falls | Indian | \$

After finding success in Fairfax, Bollywood Bistro opened its second restaurant in Great Falls. A modern and fresh take on Indian cuisine, this restaurant offers selections such as tomato-cheese naan, tender chicken korma, and decadent Bombay shrimp. With reasonable pricing for both catering and in-house dining, Bollywood Bistro is perfect for any occasion.

9853 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA | 703.865.0450

[www.bollywoodbistrofairfax.com](http://www.bollywoodbistrofairfax.com)


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**DANTE RISTORANTE****Great Falls | Italian | \$\$\$**

Chef Giuseppe Di Benigno serves comfort food from his hometown in Italy. The menu includes Italian favorites like pastas, osso buco alla Milanese, and Giuseppe's signature seafood soup. Dante offers an extensive wine list with plenty of reds and whites to choose from.

1148 Walker Rd, Great Falls, VA | 703.759.3131  
[www.danterestaurant.com](http://www.danterestaurant.com) Italian born

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332 Springvale Rd, Great Falls, VA | 703.759.3800  
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**THE OLD BROGUE****Great Falls | Irish | \$\$**

In keeping with the family tradition, The Old Brogue has served the community for more than 30 years. Enjoy beverages from all over the world and fresh made-to-order specialties as well as traditional Irish fare. Breakfast is served daily next door in Katie's Coffee House. This Great Falls institution has outside seating and enclosed patio.

760 Walker Rd, Great Falls, VA | 703.759.3309  
[www.oldbrogue.com](http://www.oldbrogue.com)

**STERLING****MOKOMANDY****Sterling | Korean-American | \$\$**

A casual yet modern fine-dining restaurant, Mokomandy offers an eclectic menu of American, Korean, and Cajun dishes that complement one another, resulting in an unprecedented dining experience. Born from a Korean-American father and a Cajun mother, president Thaddeus Kim offers fare that isn't available anywhere else.

20789 Great Falls Plaza #176 Sterling, VA  
 571-313-0505 | [www.mokomandy.com](http://www.mokomandy.com)

**THE BUNGALOW LAKEHOUSE****Sterling | American | \$\$**

Enjoy traditional American-style menu options and a great selection of beer at this casual restaurant fit for any occasion. With beautiful dining rooms and the best in terrace dining, enjoy billiards, darts, and great food. Here, you might even be able to catch your favorite local band.

46116 Lake Center Plaza Sterling, VA | 703-430-7625  
[www.bungalowlakehouse.com](http://www.bungalowlakehouse.com)

**THAI BY THAI****Sterling | Thai | \$**

Vibrant chain offering hard-to-find Thai street fare plus classic curries, noodle soups, and more in a casual, quick-service style at four locations in Northern Virginia, seven days a week. Fresh ingredients are the focal point of their menu in addition to their "secret menu."

46930 Cedar Lake Plaza #180, Sterling, VA  
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BY RENEE SKLAREW

# Bellafill: The Smile Enhancer



Dr. Ravi Dahiya has a passion for the creative challenges posed by both cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. By focusing this interest and energy into the area of facial and neck procedures exclusively, Dr. Dahiya can bring that focus to your chosen procedure.

With the rise of the Kardashians's fascination with plastic surgery, now older and younger patients are considering medical options for enhancing their appearance. Magdalena Gwiazda is only 35, but she's a huge fan of Bellafill. Four years ago, after her destination wedding in Poland, she was looking through her wedding pictures. She was disturbed by the wrinkles around her mouth. "I noticed deep lines in those pictures. After I got my album all finished up, I thought, 'I should do some kind of filler,'" says Gwiazda, adding, "I don't expect perfection. But my face could be a little bit softer."

## Prevention and Enhancement

Gwiazda says that millennials like her believe in prevention rather than attending to skin care problems after they've been around for a while, "People would say that I looked so young, but those lines bothered me, and that's what matters." A few months passed, and Gwiazda asked plastic surgeon, Dr. Ravi Dahiya, "Should I get more?" Dr. Dahiya explained to her that the Bellafill process is unique. After a month, your body breaks down Bellafill, but then it starts making its own collagen in the same area. Over time, your body uses the microspheres in Bellafill to create a "scaffold" onto which a person's own natural collagen develops. This collagen forms a foundation that adds volume to creases, acne scars, jowls and marionette lines, reducing their impact.

People who wish to avoid the expense and discomfort of regular visits to their doctor, should definitely consider Bellafill. It's a cosmetic

procedure that's designed to last—FDA studies indicate that it can smooth lines around the mouth for up to five years.

With most fillers, the body breaks the material down, and in about six months, patients will likely see a return of their deeper wrinkle lines and want another injection. "Bellafill is not the technology you find in other fillers," says Gwiazda. "For people who hate injections, they won't have to worry about getting them over and over again."

Gwiazda's Bellafill treatment was in 2014, and four years later, she's not added any extra syringes. "I like that I look natural. When you touch the areas, they're soft, like my tissue. My smile is simply softer and looks more natural," says Gwiazda. "My face looked a little overfilled in the beginning, but the swelling goes down in three days."

## Where to Find Bellafill

It's important to verify that your surgeon is well-trained, since this is a long-term commitment. Dahiya is an international trainer in the use of Bellafill and was recognized by Bellafill's manufacturer Suneva as one of the top 1% of injectors in the country. He is board certified with the American Academy and American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, the International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery, and principle physician at Dahiya Facial Plastic Surgery & Laser Center in Rockville, Maryland. Dahiya serves as medical director at Sechoir Beauty Bar in the Mosaic District in Fairfax where



he offers facial consultations, injectables and follow ups.

When considering Bellafill you should include preparation and post-procedural planning. It may not be best to have big plans the evening and day after. Gwiazda said she only dealt with mild redness after her procedure, but some patients experience bruising and swelling.

Dahiya's team takes before and after pictures to show their patients the changes over time.

They strongly recommend patients stay away from blood thinners like ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) and avoid drinking alcohol for a few days before. The doctor will usually give you a skin test before injecting Bellafill to check for allergies or reactions.

Post procedure, you'll want to ice the treatment areas. Homeopathies like Bromoline, which can diminish the appearance of swelling, and Arnica, which can reduce bruising, are healing options for patients too. Since you can't predict how you're going to react, it's a good idea to discuss these issues with your medical team in advance. Dahiya has his patients return six weeks after the procedure to check their results.

Dahiya has administered the product, which is made in San Diego, for nine years, and has seen it improved and reformulated. The experienced provider personalizes his treatment for each patient, but his general philosophy is, "To achieve that subtle look. I'm conservative with volume, because I want it to look very natural."

People who seek a fresher, younger look should not wait until the aging process is difficult to reverse. The best approach to maintain a youthful look is to have procedures like botox and fillers before the aging process is too far along. "When someone comes in at age 65, and says they want to look like their friend Jenny, and Jenny has been my patient for the last ten years, it's a lot harder to achieve those same results," says Dahiya. ♦

### Dahiya Facial Plastic Surgery & Laser Center

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# *Lady in Red*

*(and Metallic, Animal Print, Leather)*

BY JULIE HOLLAND

***Yesss! Hello yummy months!  
The season of feasts, bubbly,  
glitz and glam.***

A red dress is an obvious choice during the holiday season, but which red dress is the question. Of course, if you want to veer away from this classic color and branch out a bit, there's never been a better time to slip into leather, animal print and metallics (and all things shiny and ornate). Maybe even all of the above worn at once. Or maybe you're not quite that adventurous, but could be convinced to work these elements in with a coat, shoe or accessory.



Forever21 Flounce Trim  
Maxi dress by Xtaren \$42



*If you're looking for that wow factor red dress, give these a try:*



▲ SimplyDresses.com Maxi bow back dress; \$149



▲ Nordstrom Lace Sheath Dress; \$129



▲ Revolve ruffle Marisa Maxi Dress; \$299



▲ Ted Baker Ruffle pocket detail; \$245



▲ ShowPo Off the shoulder high-low dress; \$77

*Happy holidays and glamifying with these animal prints:*



▲ ASOS black and white leopard print dress, \$72



▲ ASOS animal print cape coat by Lavish Alice, \$118



▲ ASOS animal print dress, \$92



◀ J.Crew leopard print pumps, \$198



▲ Anthropologie Leopard Trench Coat, \$218



*And if you're feeling bold, with a hint of sass, have a strut in items like these:*



◀ ASOS metallic high neck long sleeved bodycon; \$60



◀ Evesaddiction.com Black leather choker necklace, \$28



▲ Lulus Leather Studded dress, \$54



▲ Talbots Leather skirt, \$249



▶ Lulus Gold beaded clutch; \$37



▲ Revolve Sequin long sleeved dress; \$258



▲ Macy's Betsy & Adam bronze sequined sheath dress; \$259



▲ BCBG Leather (pleather) asymmetrical dress, \$268



▲ Revolve Silver Metallic twist front dress; \$89





# Jen du Plessis

## **Name and occupation.**

Jen Du Plessis

Author of LAUNCH! How to Take your Business to New Heights. International Speaker. Podcast Host. Acceleration Coach. GLAM-MA to 3 grandchildren!

## **What is your biggest beauty splurge ?**

Eye cream. I see so many younger women with "crow's feet." Start early, day and night.

## **What is the beauty product will you would not leave the house without?**

Mac Powder foundation

## **What did you formerly do that you realized wasn't was worth it?**

Eyelash extensions. I'm allergic to all of the types of glue.

## **What is your workout pick?**

Dancing of course! I'm a competitive Ballroom, Swing and Latin dancer. I'm at the studio 4-5 times a week. For strength training I use Kettlebells with a personal trainer for maximum results.

## **What is your view on diet?**

I don't diet. I eat well from the start. My father used to say "Eat like a King in the morning, a Prince in the afternoon, and a Baron in the evening." Most people starve themselves throughout the day and when they get home eat way too much, way to late. I also hydrate well. No caffeine.

## **What's your spa fix?**

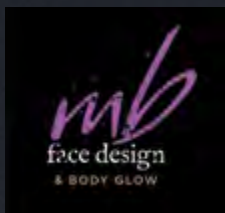
Facials and Massages. With all my traveling, this provides me the best down-time while keeping my face fresh and my body healthy.

## **Salon O Tony**

**Hair** by Vidal at Salon o Tony

**Makeup** by Mona Amirian at Rodi Salon





# Anti-Aging Beauty Secrets

By Marta Bota

[www.mbfacedesign.com](http://www.mbfacedesign.com)

We're all bombarded with images of beautiful women in magazines, on the runway, and in social media. It can make even the most secure female feel a little rattled. In our obsession with youth culture anyone over the age of 35 can end up feeling like a "has been". But that is so far from the truth!

We, as women, need to embrace all that comes with maturing. Life experience, depth, maturity, wisdom, independence, and the feeling of empowerment in our choices! Age doesn't mean that we have to give up looking beautiful. Age shouldn't define or limit you. A woman who has "come into her own" is the most beautiful creature of all and, with some simple anti aging routines, you can slow down Father Time and maintain your youthful glow!

Here are some of my own personal anti aging tips!

## Hydration

Drinking water throughout the day not only flushes out toxins, keeping you healthy, but it hydrates the skin from the inside out. H2O is one of the best beauty treatments on the planet!!! Use the 8 x 8 rule by drinking 8-eight ounce glasses of water to stay hydrated!

## Sun Protection

We all love the sun! It's rays provide Vitamin D and being outdoors promotes a healthy lifestyle! Sun exposure without adequate skin protection, however, causes premature aging. Be sure to use a sunscreen with a high SPF to protect your skin from the sun's harmful rays. Sunscreens have chemicals that can cause irritation, allergic reactions, and cancer. I recommend using organic sun-care products. My favorite product line is Limelife by Alcone. I love their products because of the natural ingredients. Limelife by Alcone Perfect Sunscreen has an SPF 30 and will protect without any harmful ingredients! It doesn't get any better!

## Beauty Sleep

There is no truer statement than this! Getting proper rest with a good night's sleep not only feels great but this is the time that the skin repairs itself. Sleep is necessary to maintain your beauty.

## Exercise

Staying fit is truly the fountain of youth! As we age we lose muscle and our body fat redistributes itself. Working out with weights helps keep our muscles tone and body fat down. Remember to check with your doctor before starting any exercise routine and modify it according to your age and health issues.





## Healthy Diet

A well balanced, healthy diet keeps our mind and body working efficiently, lowers our risk of getting diseases, and keeps us looking great! It's the best defense when it comes to anti aging! Each of us has different health concerns, different needs, different metabolism, therefore it's best to check with a nutritionist for your ideal dietary plan!

## Get Social

As humans we are social creatures. As we age our social circle gets smaller as we experience more losses in our lives. We may be retiring, experiencing the empty nest, as well as other life changes. It's vital for our mental health, well-being, and our overall health to stay connected to others. Being connected on social media outlets is a great way to reconnect with old friends and family members who may live far away. Joining social groups and/or staying active in church or other religious gatherings helps us stay connected to our faith as well as community! This has proven to keep you mentally healthy and even extend your life!





# ASK AN EXPERT

By Olga Solovienko  
Medical Laser Technician at  
Astoria Laser Clinic & Med Spa



## Banish Acne Scarring With Fractional Laser Or Microneedling!

If you're disappointed with your skin and feeling like you could never be as confident as you'd like putting your best face forward, then rest assured that there are treatments available that address many mild to severe skin concerns.

Your face is the first thing you put forward, and acne scars can leave you feeling insecure and less confident. Years of mild to severe acne can take a toll on your skin, and over time you may see subtle or more obvious scarring leaving your skin looking uneven and pigmented. In recent decades, Laser technology and Microneedling has advanced incredibly far to be able to provide safe treatments that effectively address textural skin concerns. Regarding acne scarring, Fractional laser technology or Microneedling with product infusion has proven itself the optimal choices in lessening obvious signs of scarring, fine lines and enlarged pores for skin that's brighter, smoother and naturally younger looking.

Fractional Laser is a very versatile system that works safely by puncturing the skin with tiny microscopic holes, leaving patches of skin between these holes untouched. The intact skin then works quickly and efficiently to rebuild the skin affected by

the laser and encourages it to resurface smoother than before. Depending on the skin's type, condition and concerns, each treatment is customized in strength and severity. Those with more apparent or deeper scarring may need more aggressive sessions which in turn require more downtime.

The Microneedling technology with product infusion uses multiple needles that vertically pierce the skin with an automatic vibrating function. When moved across the skin's surface it stimulates natural collagen reproduction, while allowing fine channels to be created in the skin. The channels can carry up to 80% more topical nutrients, allowing for treatment delivery deep into the skin's fibroblasts to feed the underlying cells found in the dermis and basal layer. This increased absorption of active ingredients into the skin creates stimulated repair and faster resurfacing results.

Which is the best choice for a person will be determined when seeing the clinician and talking about all concerns. The clinician begins preparing her patients by covering the treated area with a numbing cream for approximately one hour to make the procedure more comfortable. Although these treatments are tolerable, some patients may feel mildly uncomfortable. With the Microneedling there will be downtime of 3 to 4 days, with the Fractional laser depending on the intensity of the settings, any swelling or redness of the skin will last between 2 to 7 days with the skin feeling mildly rough and flaky. This is all a normal part of the healing process which should not be interfered with. We live in a time where no one needs to walk around with scar tissue or discoloration. ❖



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BY KATHLEEN MCDONOUGH

David Baldacci

## David Baldacci's Neighborhood:

WHERE THE NEXT THRILLER PLOT  
IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

You know him as a best-selling author of page-turning thrillers, with over 130 million books in print. But it might surprise you to learn that David Baldacci lives, works and plays in our community. A native Virginian, he and his wife of nearly 30 years, Michelle, are long-time residents who have raised their two children in the area. It

was a distinct pleasure, therefore, to have the opportunity to meet this well-known “neighbor” at his Reston office, which is equal parts writer’s retreat and literary power hub, a book-lined reader’s paradise that exudes the serene charm of a beloved bookstore. We spent our time together talking about storytelling, creative inspiration and his newest release, *Long Road to Mercy*.

### A Writer’s Life

With 37 novels for adults and six books for younger readers published to-date, you might conclude that David Baldacci has been writing all his life, which isn’t far off the mark. Baldacci recalls fondly that his mother gave him his first writer’s notebook when he was just a boy in Richmond. A way to record the stories that seemed to constantly spring from his imagination, as well as observations about the world around him, the habit of filling that notebook ignited a spark of creativity that helped the budding writer to emerge.

By the time Baldacci had graduated UVA Law School and moved to Washington, DC to practice law, he had turned his hand to writing screenplays, even securing an agent in Los Angeles, but failed to catch the attention of Hollywood. “I suppose my stories were ahead of the trend when it came to the types of movies studios were interested in producing at the time”, Baldacci says, “so I switched from screenplays to novels.”

While he continued to practice law, he surreptitiously worked on his first novel, which was written, rewritten and polished over three years. It was a story that sprung from an observation: “I was practicing law in DC and worked near the White House, where I would occasionally see the presidential motorcade and secret service agents, which, of course, gave me an idea.”

The finished manuscript was submitted to the (then) dozen or so publishers of note, with a cover letter promising them a read they wouldn’t be able to put down. Sent as much in the belief that his work was as good as any thriller on the shelf, it was also a bold challenge to the editors



he was sure would relish the opportunity to prove him wrong. It was Baldacci who was right—they couldn't put it down—with every publisher vying for the rights to his first novel, *Absolute Power* (later to become a major motion picture starring Clint Eastwood).

With one book and a young family, Baldacci wasn't completely sure he'd be able to make a career out of writing, so stayed with his "day job" at the law firm for another year before he finally took the plunge and became an author, full time.

Twenty-four years on, Baldacci says he's never regretted the decision to seize "the chance to do the job I love", where, for him, work is play.

## The Making of a Storyteller

As to how his skills as a storyteller really developed, Baldacci readily points to his grandmother who lived with the family in Richmond and mesmerized him from an early age with stories of her home in Southwest Virginia. Also, it helped, he says, that his was an Italian family, full of colorful tales of their own, which further underscored storytelling as an integral part of everyday life and which he credits with helping to launch him and his siblings into professional and creative careers where good story telling informed and elevated their endeavors.

If the best attorneys are also good storytellers, then his years practicing law only helped him to further hone his writing skills, teaching him to be organized and disciplined and to take a long term approach to the process. For Baldacci, there's no perfect place or time to write. Unlike authors who rely on regimented rituals and routines to get their words on the page, Baldacci is constantly writing in his head, finding source material all around him. As he explains, "Some mornings all I have to do is open the blinds to find a story." Great if you're a prolific writer of best sellers, but given his proclivity for action-packed thrillers, it might make his neighbors a bit nervous if they knew.

"Inspiration comes every day," Baldacci says, helped along, no doubt, by being an avid reader and a man with many interests and endless curiosity about what's going on in the world. He recognizes that breadth of knowledge is important to

a writer, not only because it feeds the creative flame but because he's repeatedly found that the most surprising of obscure facts can end up being useful in the most surprising of ways (and are often to be found sprinkled throughout his books).

Baldacci believes that it's important to write what you know, but argues it is absolutely vital to write about what you would like to know. "It's the natural curiosity and reach for knowing that has fueled storytelling since the cave man; it's what lifts and makes buoyant the prose and plotting of the best books," he says. From the outset of his literary career his novels have touched on important topics, because he's a man who wants to inform and believes his stories should have a point, but his readers can always count on the boy in Baldacci to deliver a ripping good yarn.

For him, writing isn't a hobby, or even a job, but a lifestyle that influences every aspect of his day-to-day life. "I'm happiest," Baldacci acknowledges, "when I'm in the middle of writing a book. When I'm finished, I can't wait to start the next one."

## The Power of Place

As to the strong sense of "place" present in his stories – with so many of his books set in our own back yard of Washington DC and the surrounding Metro area – Baldacci explains, "It's impossible to live in this area and not be struck by the vitality and energy that's unique to it. This is a place that attracts some of the brightest people, people with ideas and agendas, with the wish, and very often the power, to make things happen." And because this is the nation's capitol, where actions have worldwide impact, the stakes are higher, making it the perfect setting for the thrillers Baldacci is most famous for writing.

As a life-long resident of Virginia, Baldacci finds that his Reston office and nearby home, just a stone's throw from DC's seats of power, serve not only as his family anchor but also as the source of ongoing literary inspiration.

## Indelible Characters

With compelling plots and dynamic settings drawn from the surrounding milieu, his stories require no suspension

## Quick Take Aways from David Baldacci:

### HIS FAVORITE BALDACCI BOOK

"I'm used to telling interviewers it's whichever book I've just finished, as that's the book you'll find me most excited about at the moment, but to be completely honest, *Wish You Well*, my novel based on my grandmother's life in the very rural Dickenson county in Southwest Virginia, is the book that has meant the most to me."

### THE REACTION BY READERS TO A BOOK SERIES THAT HAS SURPRISED HIM MOST

"Whenever I'm at appearances or speaking engagements, there are always *Camel Club* fans wanting to know when the next book in this series will appear (good news: there'll be at least one more to come). There was one appearance where I spotted a particularly ardent "fan" among the crowd who had duck-taped a stuffed camel to the top of a pole, using it to urge me from the rear of the room, in his uniquely passionate way, to deliver more tales of the 'Club'!"

of belief. It seems only natural that many of Baldacci's protagonists hail from the worlds of espionage or national and international policing. Likewise, his peripheral characters just as believably are journalists, policy wonks and local law enforcement officers. No contrivances necessary, these are the people indigenous to our unique metropolis. Baldacci excels at creating charismatic characters that drive his stories and whose motivations, strengths and weaknesses consistently connect with readers.

In order for these characters to come to life on the page, however, Baldacci must be part fiction writer, part journalist. He researches, digging deep to discover who these characters are and what makes them

authentic. But he's no Wikipedia writer, happily glued to a computer. Instead, he does his own legwork, meeting and interviewing the real-life prototypes of his characters, trying to do what they do, to better understand how these people react when under pressure. Baldacci stresses, "I interview dozens of people for each book and make it a point to travel, if at all possible, to the places that I write about. But mostly, I just listen to people—that's where the real stories are."

### Long Road to Mercy

Baldacci's newest book, and the start of his seventh novel series, *Long Road To Mercy*, (which debuted on November 13th), is yet another challenge the writer set for himself to keep his storytelling fresh and timely. Featuring his first female sole lead character, Baldacci explains that, "This book comes from my sincere desire to recognize and honor the

powerful women in my life—my mother, grandmother, wife, daughter, and female colleagues." It also fulfills a long-held interest by setting the novel in the American Southwest.

The story introduces readers to FBI agent Atlee Pine, a strong woman in a traditionally masculine role, who finds herself not only the lone federal agent for hundreds of miles, but struggling with a personal past of loss and unanswered questions.

Women have always played a prominent, although not main, role in Baldacci's novels, but whether as part of an organic evolution of character, or as a direct reaction to current trends that are moving women from the margin to the middle, Baldacci emphasizes that he "knew the time was right to portray a strong woman and for a forceful female character to take on the role of leading my newest series of thrillers."

From his earliest days as a lawyer Baldacci observed "female colleagues with far more talent and intelligence, losing out to the men," and knew they deserved better. To hear Baldacci speak about Atlee Pine, it's clear that, in her, he has brought to life a female character eminently capable of surviving in a man's world. This is someone that resonates with the writer, a reaction he's confident his readers will share.

A large portion of *Long Road to Mercy* was written in his Reston office, although Baldacci admits that research for the book, coupled with a busy schedule that often included guest teaching, along with speaking engagements and book signings, left him writing, as is so frequently the case, "wherever the day and mood finds me."

But that doesn't worry the author, for, as David Baldacci likes to say, "How can I survive without writing?" ♦



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BY DR. RISHITA JAJU

## Use It or Lose It— *Don't Let Your Child's Dental Benefits Expire*

With the end of the year approaching, it is time to make sure you take advantage of the dental benefits that you have invested into your child's dental insurance policy. On average, the yearly maximum is renewed every calendar year on January 1st of each year. Unfortunately, insurance companies do not allow you to roll over any unused benefits into the following year. If you have not used up all the dental benefits allowed for your child, they will be gone forever!

Here are 4 quick and easy things you can do to make sure you are maximizing your insurance:

- ✓ **Make sure to call your insurance.** Check whether you have a dental exam and cleaning benefit available. Most dental insurance companies provide 2 standard dental exams, 2 professional cleanings, and radiographs every year.
- ✓ **Call your dentist to schedule the appointment.** These visits are often in high demand as many parents want the same time frames when kids are out of school. They are an easy way to make sure your child's oral hygiene is not negatively impacting your child's overall health. During a thorough exam, the dentist is able to make sure every tooth is strong and healthy while ruling out any abnormalities in the soft tissue of the mouth.
- ✓ **The dentist's clinical team will help remove any old plaque and tartar that may have build up since the last professional cleaning.** Digital radiographs are a safe way to help the dentist rule out any

cavities or abnormalities happening on tooth surfaces not visible to the naked eye. Fluoride treatment may be recommended based on your child's risk level of getting cavities.

- ✓ **If there is anything suspicious found in your child's mouth, it is always best to find out as soon as possible.** If you have allowance left in your 'plan-max' for the year, you can utilize that amount towards any preventive sealants or any treatment that might be needed. If a dentist is able to diagnose and restore cavities while they are small, they are able to preserve more tooth structure and better protect the tooth. Primary teeth (also known as baby teeth) are critical in helping a child learn to speak, eat, and they save the space for future adult teeth. Losing a primary tooth to dental decay should never be a first option for the dentist or parents.

If you ever have any questions about your insurance policy, you should feel free to reach out to your insurer to provide a breakdown of benefits allowed on your plan. Your Pediatric Dental office can help maximize your insurance benefits by verifying them prior to your child's visit. Take advantage of your investment, and use those dental benefits before you lose them!

If you have questions about teeth whitening, reach out to Smile Wonders located in Reston, Virginia. ♦



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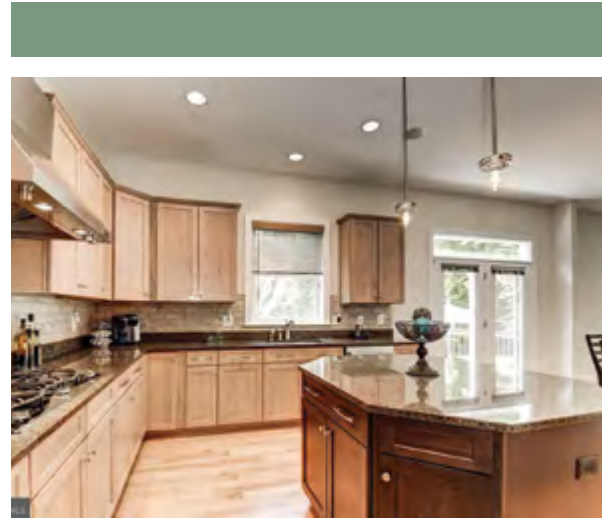
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## 10503 TABA COVE FAIRFAX, VA \$978,900

Stunning 5 BR, 4.5 BA colonial, located in heart of FFX. Gourmet kitchen w/ granite counters, S/S appliances. HW floors. Hunter Douglas remote control shades on picture windows, surround sound system inside & out. Unique 4th floor loft w/ full bath. Gorgeous back patio w/ built in gas grill, cozy fire pit & accent lighting, all remote controlled. 20KW natural gas generator. Audio equipment conveys.



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"WHEN EXPERIENCE COUNTS"



She's fully prepared for the less appealing aspects of online celebrity, however, having already weathered some unfavorable responses to her "mean girl" character on *Chicken Girls* among that teen soap opera's avid followers.

But the haters don't affect her and she's able to take it in stride, actually finding it all very funny. She recognizes, however, how other young actors without supportive people around them might take such comments to heart. In Sissy's experience, "Social media is very powerful and can be used for bad, or really great, things, hopefully to uplift people and connect them in a powerful way."

Sissy is personally committed to not getting caught up in the negative and her natural positivity draws far more admirers than critics, leaving her regularly flattered and appreciative of the follows, comments, and video edits on her Instagram account as well as the support she receives for her projects. She's vocal in her praise of her #sherifans, calling them "the nicest, most creative, and coolest people on line!"

Being too modest to consider herself "famous", Sissy does take great pride in the fact that, at 14, she's been able to do some impressive things in the world of acting. Even if she's yet to be asked for her autograph, Sissy's well on the path to recognition, recently garnering her first public recognition by fans of *Chicken Girls* while at the South Lakes Chipotle that left her feeling, she enthuses, "like a superstar!"

Looking down the road, Sissy wants to make her mark in television and film, perhaps even Broadway, but more importantly, plans to do well by doing good. She's ambitious to be well known, not just for her creative talents but also for having social impact, and her experience volunteering with special needs students has instilled a desire to advocate for issues surrounding equality and independence. In addition to the inroads she's been able to make in acting, Sissy counts herself lucky to have opportunities to contribute in the community, because allowing the spotlight to shine on others keeps her grounded and grateful.

Well on the path to recognition—and perhaps one day soon, fame—Sissy is putting her talent out for the world to see, and it's so nice for her neighbors in Reston to watch her star rise! ♦

#### WHERE TO CONNECT WITH SISSY:

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BY AMANDA SCARANGELLA

## TESTING, TESTING ALL ALONG THE TRACKS

### WHAT IS AN AMBERG IMS 5000?

Workers constructing Phase II of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project recently rolled out a strange-looking piece of equipment called an Amberg IMS 5000, not exactly a name that rolls off the tongue or alludes to any visual inference.

The tool, which somewhat resembles a yellow scooter, has been employed by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) and purchased by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to survey and assess project data on Phase 2 of the Silver Line.

The equipment was manufactured in Switzerland by Amber Technologies AG. One person maneuvers the three-wheeled trolley along the track alignment as a multidimensional scanner and computer system mounted on top records the position of an object based on pre-determined orientation points.

In unofficial terms, it tells you how the location of one object compares to the location of another object. And then another object. And another. The process continues until all relevant object locations have been assessed to produce a report comparing the location of one object, such as a metrorail train car, to another object, such as a wall or a hanging sign.

On the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, these orientation points have been placed by Capital Rail Constructor crews on track walls, safety walk troughs and other stable locations.

"This equipment will provide detailed reports about the project to better guarantee a safe environment," said John Kearney, construction manager for the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project. "For example, the equipment has the ability to tell us that the metrorail train car

will pass safely underneath an overhead road sign, through a station or past a train moving in the opposite direction."

Transportation enthusiasts should start gearing up for more project accomplishments. This is one of the early steps in the process that will allow the project to begin placing railcars on the track for testing, project officials said.

WMATA is the first institution in the United States to obtain the Amberg IMS 5000 for surveying railways and surrounding structures. Permission to geek out granted! ♦







◀ **Loudoun Gateway Station**  
*At the Loudoun Gateway Metrorail Station is Loudoun County's parking garage under construction just west of Lockridge Road. (Photo by Phil DeLeon)*



◀ **Along the Dulles Greenway**  
*Facing east from the transit connector bridge at the trackway in the median along the Dulles Greenway. (Photo by Phil DeLeon)*



◀ **Along the Dulles Greenway**  
*Facing south of the pavilion at the east end of the Loudoun Gateway Station is the roof platform along the Dulles Greenway. (Photo by Phil DeLeon)*





Installation of the first escalator in Phase 2 of the Silver Line is now complete at Innovation Center Metrorail Station. This will be the closest escalator to the pedestrian bridges and public restrooms, and will connect the mezzanine level to the track platform. There are a total of 20 escalators in the second phase.

## VIVARESTON: “DID YOU KNOW?” FACTS

- The Innovation Metrorail Station's roof has been completed and all protective wrappings removed.
- Installation of the first escalator in Phase 2 of the Silver Line now complete at Innovation Center Metrorail Station in August 2018.
- Metals producer Arconic has signed a lease with Lerner Enterprises for their new headquarters located at Tysons II.
- On July 31, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved the Reston Gateway project including offices, apartments, hotels and retail at the north entrance to the Reston Town Center Metro Station.
- 7 new restaurants signed on at Tysons megaproject, The Boro, located near the Greensboro Metrorail Station.
- San Diego-based analytics firm BigBear, Inc has opened its Reston office as of August 2018.
- Peter Lawrence Cos. in conjunction with MRP Realty has applied to redevelop Isaac Newton Square into a mixed-use residential, retail and office space including “Willow Oak Park” open space and an athletic field.
- Walmart Labs has revealed plans to double its workforce at its Reston office, which would mean adding 100-plus jobs. Walmart Labs includes software engineers, data scientists, designers and product managers within Walmart working to improve customer experiences and business operations.

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# BRIDGE CLUB

## SAVING PARTNER

♠ Q J 10 5

♥ Q 9

♦ Q J 8

♣ A Q J 8

N	
W	E
	S

♠ 8

♥ K 5 2

♦ A K 10 4 2

♣ 10 7 6 2

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♥
pass	1 ♠	pass	3 ♥
pass	4 ♥	all pass	

West leads the three of diamonds. Plan the defense. See page 80 for the answer.

Excerpt taken from: *Frank Stewart's Bridge Club*. Page 32.

## BIDDING QUIZ

YOU HOLD:

♠ A Q 9 8 5 ♥ Q 6 ♦ A 9 7 ♣ 9 7 3

Your partner opens one heart, you respond one spade and he then bids 1NT. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** Partner has a balanced 12 to 15 points. Since your hand is worth 13 points and your distribution is also balanced, bid 3NT. It's true partner may have three cards in spades, giving you an eight-card 'fit.' Still, you've no reason to think four spades would be a superior spot.

Excerpt taken from: *Frank Stewart's Bridge Club*. Page 34.

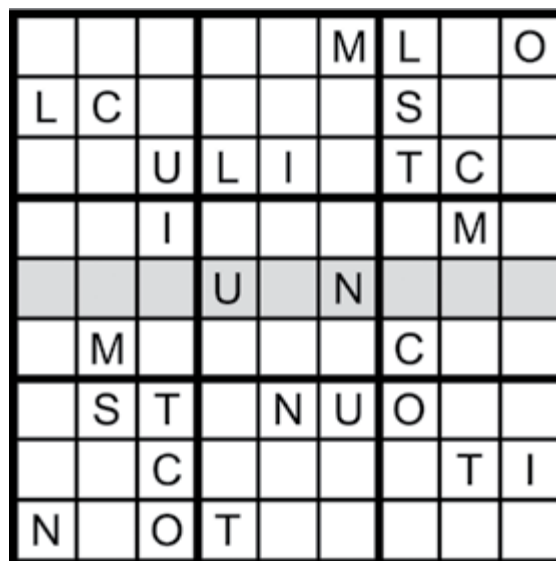
I'D LIKE TO LIVE AS  
A POOR MAN WITH  
LOTS OF MONEY.

—Pablo Picasso

## HOW TO SOLVE SODOKU PUZZLES

No math is required to solve a sudoku. You only need logic and patience.

Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has only one instance of the numbers 1-9. Similarly, each number can only appear once in a column or row in the larger grid. The difficulty on this puzzle is easy.



I WILL TELL YOU THE SECRET TO GETTING  
RICH ON WALL STREET. YOU TRY TO BE GREEDY  
WHEN OTHERS ARE FEARFUL. AND YOU TRY TO  
BE FEARFUL WHEN OTHERS ARE GREEDY.

—Warren Buffett

## "TO MY BIGGEST FAN"

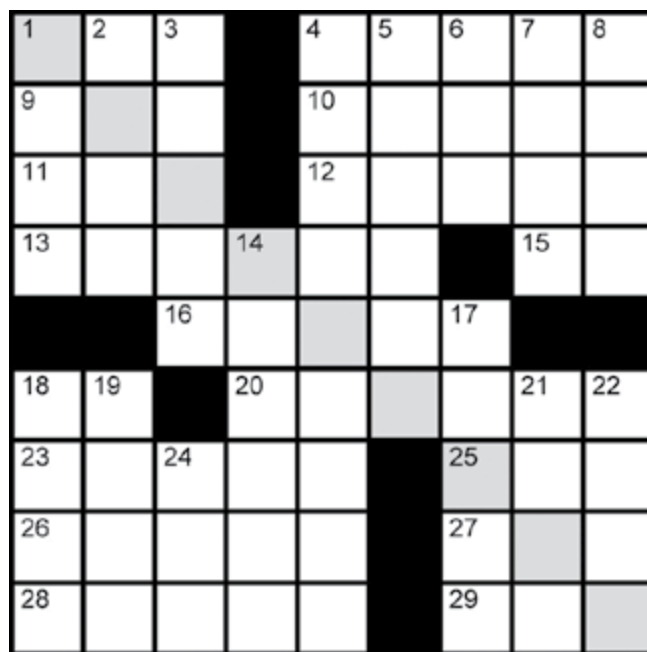
### CROSSWORD CLUES

#### ACROSS

1. Mamie's man
4. Gives the cold shoulder to
9. Lennon's lady
10. Blender button
11. Took place
12. Flair
13. At the summit
15. You and I
16. Nostrils
18. Bell or Barker
20. Sunni counterpart
23. Non-studio film, briefly
25. Plead
26. Flora's partner
27. Formal vote
28. Deluge
29. What Leary tripped on

#### DOWN

1. Hawkeye State
2. Sack starter
3. Red dye
4. Lead an attack



5. Cell centers
6. WWW address
7. Boy friend
8. Hardens
14. Vegas attraction
17. Delphic diviner

18. Tick off
19. Like a control freak
21. Golfer's bagful
22. "Good grief!"
24. Batman and Robin, e.g.



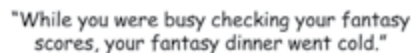
## SAVING PARTNER

West	North	East	South
	1 	1 	1 
pass	1 	pass	3 
pass	4 	all pass	

Excerpts taken from: *Frank Stewart's Bridge Club*. Pages 35

T	I	S	C	U	M	L	N	O
L	C	M	N	T	O	S	I	U
O	N	U	L	I	S	T	C	M
S	T	I	O	L	C	U	M	N
C	O	L	U	M	N	I	S	T
U	M	N	I	S	T	C	O	L
I	S	T	M	N	U	O	L	C
M	U	C	S	O	L	N	T	I
N	L	O	T	C	I	M	U	S

I	K	E		S	N	U	B	S
O	N	O		P	U	R	E	E
W	A	S		E	C	L	A	T
A	P	I	C	A	L		U	S
		N	A	R	E	S		
M	A		S	H	I	I	T	E
I	N	D	I	E		B	E	G
F	A	U	N	A		Y	E	A
F	L	O	O	D		L	S	D



–Steve Martin





BY DELEGATE KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

# Festivals and Fairs



With the passing of the unusual heat of summer this year, the infamous humidity of the Washington, D.C. region, and more torrential and flooding rains than I can remember comes the time when it is fun to go outside and enjoy the unique festivals and fairs of our region before we hibernate for the winter. Reston seems always festive with weekly charity runs at Town Center and regular events of vendors, craftpersons, and musicians at Lake

Anne Plaza as well as Town Center. While our population has grown to about 70,000, our community for me still has a small-town feel encouraged by the many community events and celebrations.

As much of the abundance that Reston has to offer in outdoor festival and events, our location in Northern Virginia puts us in close proximity to a wide range of ways to relax, be outdoors, try new foods, entertain our children or grandchildren, or just relax. The opportunities available in our Nation's Capital City are too many to list.

But, if you want a good old-fashioned autumn experience, try some of these. Fall festivals usually are held at the end of the harvest season in traditionally agricultural areas and often feature local produce, baked goods, and fresh cider. You'll find wine tastings and beer festivals around the state. Arts and crafts fairs are a great place to shop for holiday gifts. Holiday bazaars will get you in the mood for the winter holidays even without snow on the ground.

To find events you might enjoy, visit [www.virginia.org/directory/events/festivals](http://www.virginia.org/directory/events/festivals) or [www.fairsandfestivals.net/states/VA](http://www.fairsandfestivals.net/states/VA). ❖



## HOROSCOPES

# NOVEMBER DECEMBER



**SCORPIO 10/22 - 11/21:** Inspiration strikes! Don't let the idea pass. It will be crucial in coming days.



**SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21:** Travel on your mind? A friend won't say but would love to go along.



**CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19:** You find a happy groove by the light of the silver moon on the 24th. You have a chance to make a deeper connection with a friend.



**AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18:** Your energy is on the rise by mid-month, just in time for planning family gatherings.



**PISCES 2/19 - 3/2:** Some around you may be heading off a cliff. You'll have to decide if you will follow them. Examine your heart.



**ARIES 3/21 - 4/19:** It's a promising month for career and relationships. But diffuse tension with a well-timed joke.



**TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20:** You may hear financial news this month. If you are worried at first, relax. All will resolve to your benefit.



**GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20:** A mere sliver of the full moon is missing on Thanksgiving, the 22nd, but the night (and your heart) feel full.



**CANCER 6/21 - 7/22:** Your plans near completion as the stars align to bring opportunity.



**LEO 7/23 - 8/22:** The New Moon on the 7th will bring a dark night, but the day threatens to be fabulous. Enjoy.



**VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22:** The family will be visiting, but why break the bank on new furniture? Perfect cleanliness and flowers fit into the budget.



**LIBRA 9/23 - 10/21:** A little something extra comes your way this month. It may sparkle or clink but don't judge.



**SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21:** You might find yourself over-committed or burdened by mid-month. Sort out racing thoughts by turning to silence.



**CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19:** Holidays take a happy turn this year with unexpected guests or gifts. A surprise is in the works.



**AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18:** If the holidays leave you brooding instead of celebrating, take time to reflect on your own power to make the life you want.



**PISCES 2/19 - 3/2:** Holiday spirit overtakes you this year, whether it be Hanukkah on the 2nd or Christmas on the 25th. Simple cheerfulness goes a long way with loved ones.



**ARIES 3/21 - 4/19:** The first quarter moon on the 15th leaves you thinking about home. Dignity is critical for you this month in public places.



**TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20:** News this month might rattle you at first, but stars say you can use some information to your advantage. You have the necessary skills.



**GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20:** The topic on your mind is investment. In money, think protection. In love, think energy. In time, think the future.



**CANCER 6/21 - 7/22:** As the last quarter moon of the year peeks out on the 30th, you review your fortunes. Have you been lucky in the past year, or strategic?



**LEO 7/23 - 8/22:** Put your mind to work on a problem that has dogged you this year. Visualize the problem and the solution and get to work.



**VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22:** Thoughtful is one thing for holiday gifts, but obsession is another. Give something beautiful and relax.



**LIBRA 9/23 - 10/21:** You may be considering a personal sacrifice for another. This could end up immensely kind or destructive. Clearly assess the situation first.



**SCORPIO 10/22 - 11/21:** The New Moon on the 7th finds you dwelling on a relationship or problem. Stay optimistic. Everything resolves by the end of the month.





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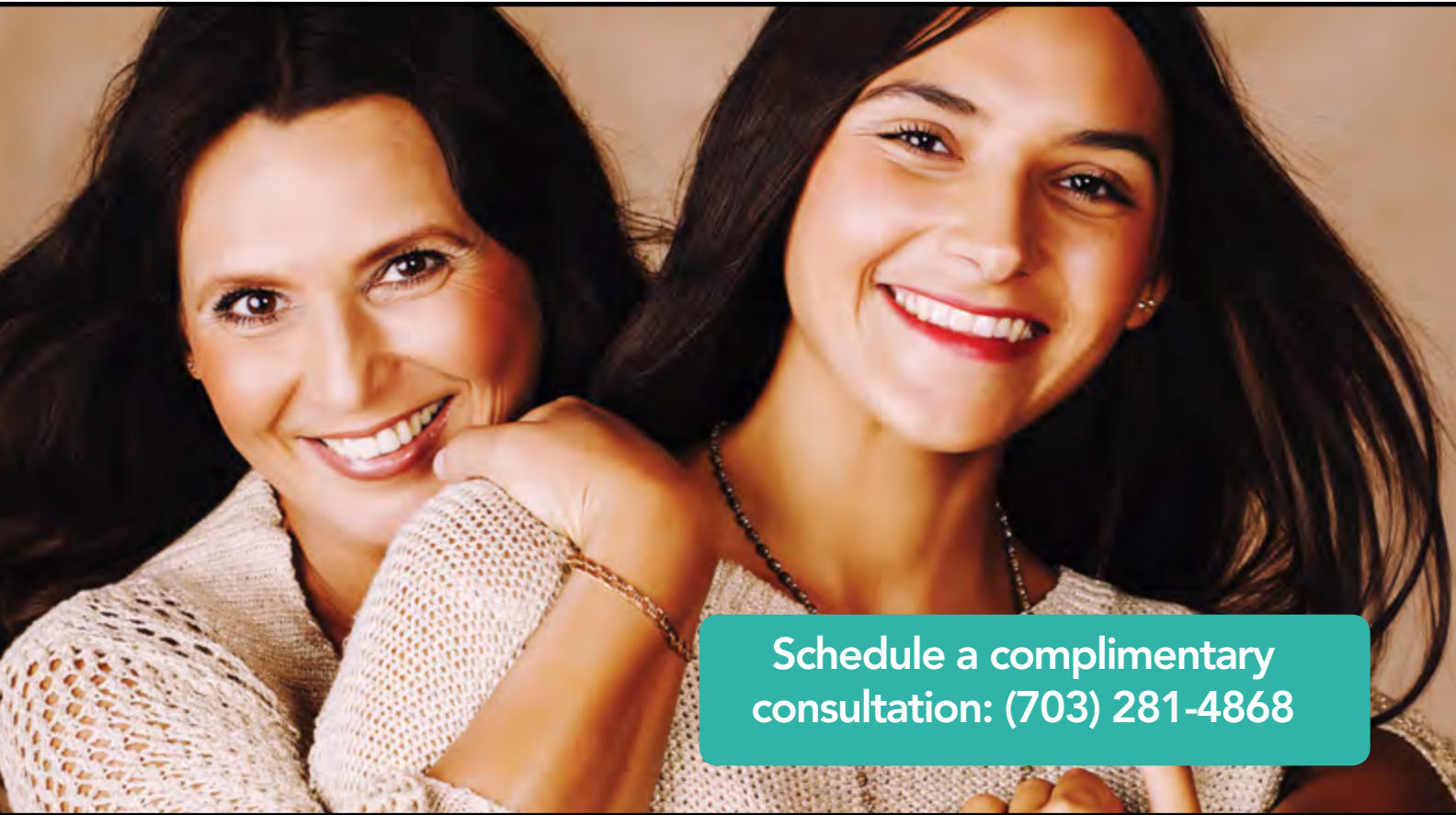
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