

Asian Culture Displayed

PEOPLE, PAGE 6

Myatt Tazar Lynn of Springfield performs the Water Dance from Myanmar, formerly Burma, at the 5th Annual Asian Festival held in Reston on Saturday and Sunday. Tens of thousands of visitors witnessed dancing, music, martial arts and other performances highlighting Asian cultures.

Helping Students
In Need

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Keeping Rail
On Track

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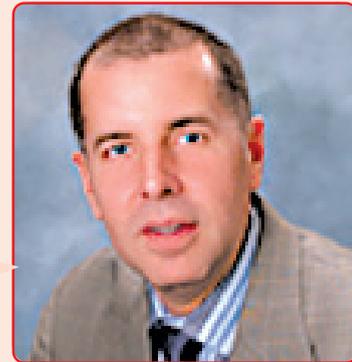
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PHOTOS BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC/THE CONNECTION

Kids R First and Wal Mart volunteers celebrate the \$2,000 donation the corporation awarded to the Reston nonprofit

Volunteering To Provide School Supplies

Kids R First will serve 14,000 students in 85 area schools this year.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC
THE CONNECTION

Ashley Heck was only entering seventh grade when she first decided to volunteer with Kids R First, helping the Reston-based nonprofit organization purchase, organize and distribute school supplies to children on free and reduced lunches in area schools. The recent Dominion High School graduate has not missed a single opportunity to continue helping the organization, volunteering countless hours each summer since then.

"I thought it was actually kind of fun," said Heck of her first experience with Kids R First. "I just came to help out and they were nice and they were funny," she said. The Virginia Commonwealth University-bound student said her work helping the nonprofit with its mission of helping children of low-income families start a school year with supplies has definitely helped prepare her for the future.

For her efforts, Kids R First awarded Heck its Community Service Award at her graduation ceremony in June, accompanied by a college scholarship.

Prior to departing for Richmond this summer, Heck joined other volunteers at Langston Hughes Middle School on Wednesday, Aug. 6, to sort through the school supplies collected for the upcoming school year. Susan Ungerer, founder of Kids R First, said the nonprofit is serving more children than ever this year. About 14,000 students will receive school supplies as a result of the nonprofit's efforts. "We are helping more kids this year," said Ungerer. "We are expanding our service area, but also helping more kids within that," she said, a sign of the economic slowdown. Students in 85 schools in Reston, Herndon, Sterling, Ashburn, Centreville, Chantilly and specific neighborhoods in other areas of Northern Virginia will be handed supplies. In addition, the organization is also giving out \$45,000 in mini-scholarships through December through its College and Career Bound Program.

ANOTHER CHALLENGE resulting from the current economy is the rising cost of school supplies. Last year, said Ungerer, every dollar the organization spent to buy the supplies equaled between \$3 and \$4 of the supplies' fair market value. This year, a dollar buys about \$3 of supplies. However, community involvement and support are



Kids R First volunteer Clara Johnson and board member Pat Orend prepare school supplies for students in Reston's Sunrise Valley Elementary School.

helping offset some of the additional expenses incurred. "We're having greater involvement from the community," said Ungerer, urging area residents to stay involved in helping the organization achieve its mission in the future. "People have been wonderful," she said. "They see the huge

SEE HELPING STUDENTS, PAGE 5

Seeking Continued Support

Rail to Dulles advocates redouble efforts to ensure federal funding.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC
THE CONNECTION

With the construction contract renegotiated at the end of July, Rail to Dulles advocates are preparing to submit the paperwork requesting full funding of \$900 million from the federal government for the extension's completion. They are calling on continued advocacy from area's political and business leaders, to ensure the federal funds are granted.

"Nothing in our democracy is accomplished without a strategic vision that is able to capture broad support," said Norman Mineta, a former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, addressing area leaders and rail advocates at a luncheon that focused on the future of the Dulles Corridor on Wednesday, Aug. 6.

James Bennett, president and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), said the renegotiated contract with Dulles Transit Partners, coupled with the federal approval for the project to move into final design, were all positive indicators. The construction of the extension is now planned to start next March. However, Bennett said, it is not a certainty that the federal government will release all of the \$900 million for the project. Bennett called for continued advocacy to get the money.

"We haven't secured it yet," said Leo Schefer, president of the Washington Airports Task Force. "And it is fairly fragile," he said. "If we have people who want to rock the boat, we'll have to work even harder."

"If we have people who want to rock the boat, we'll have to work even harder."

— Leo Schefer, President, Washington Airports Task Force

SEE ON TRACK, PAGE 19

Get Involved

To learn more about Kids R First, visit <http://kidsrfirst.org>.

New President at New Town

Barbara Zaczek has been named the new president of New Town Publications, Reston's third oldest business. New Town publishes "A Place Called Reston," "Hometown Herndon," "Potomac Communities" and "The Northern Virginia Legal Directory." Zaczek's mother, Nancy Larson, was the firm's president until her retirement. Zaczek's career in sales and marketing ranged from newspapers to wholesale manufacturing. She has been associated with New Town since 1976. Zaczek's long history in Reston includes her co-chairmanship of the Reston Festival when she was 16 years old and serving on the Reston Citizens Association when she was a teenager.

Festival Seeking Volunteers

The Reston Multicultural Festival is seeking volunteers. The event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 6, at Lake Anne Plaza. Volunteer hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Volunteers must be 13 or older, or accompanied by an adult if younger than 13.

The Multicultural Festival is an all-day celebration of international cultures that brings together thousands of people to dance, eat and celebrate diversity. Contact Ha Brock, the volunteer coordinator, for more information at 703-435-7986.

Volunteer Appreciation Cookout

Reston Association will thank its volunteers with a poolside cookout on Wednesday, Aug. 13, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Glade Pool, 11550 Glade Drive. The celebration will feature carnival style food, music, games and door prizes. The rain date is Aug. 14.

DemocracyFest in Dulles

The 5th Annual DemocracyFest, a political festival for liberal activists, will be held Aug. 16 and 17 at Holiday Inn Washington Dulles International Airport Hotel. Speakers for this year's event include Gov. Howard Dean, Jeffrey Feldman, Jim Dean, Charlie Grapski, Nathan Gonzalez, Ellen Garneau, Jen Sorensen, Scott Goldstein, Rep. Marcia Moody and Bernadette Vadurro. For more information visit <http://www.democracyfest.net> or call 802-483-4330.

Giving Circle's Grant Cycle Open

The Giving Circle of HOPE, a Reston-based organization that provides help to nonprofits in Northern Virginia, has opened its 2008 grant cycle. Grant guidelines and applications are available at www.givingcircleofHOPE.org or can be requested at givingcircle@hotmail.com. The applications are due Sept. 1. Grants of \$1,000 to \$5,000 will be awarded to organizations in December. Since inception in January 2004, the Giving Circle has given more than \$200,000 to 23 nonprofit organizations in Northern Virginia.

Oktoberfest Back in Reston

The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce is bringing Oktoberfest back to Reston on Oct. 10 and 11 at the main pavilion at Reston Town Center. The event will feature fall brews and traditional Oktoberfest foods from area restaurants, as well as live entertainment. Restaurant participation and sponsorship opportunities are limited. Contact the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce for more information at 703-707-9045 or visit www.restonchamber.org.

Business Counseling at Supervisor's Office

Fairfax County Economic Development Authority will send representatives to several Board of Supervisors' offices once a month to offer free on-site, one-on-one counseling to anyone who wants to start or expand a business in Fairfax County or learn about other business services. Hunter Mill District Supervisor Catherine Hudgins's office is one of the host locations. For more information visit www.fairfaxcountyEDA.org or call 703-790-0600.

NEWS

Helping Neighbors

The 13th Annual Works Sunday will take place this week, with people of a variety of religious backgrounds coming together to help less fortunate residents. This year's event offers volunteer opportunities in 18 projects, which include health services, food donations and home maintenance among others.

"The purpose really is neighbors helping neighbors," said Barb Gouldey, a Reston resident who is co-chairing two service projects, a Health Fair in partnership with the Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic at Herndon's First Baptist Church on Sunday, Aug. 17, and preparing a hot breakfast at Embry Rucker Community Shelter on Saturday, Aug. 16.

"It is finding opportunities to help neighbors and acting on it," said Gouldey, a member of the Herndon-based Holy Cross Lutheran church. She said that Christian, Jewish, Muslim and other religious communities participate in this event, but that it is not limited to people who belong to congregations. "We are encouraging all people to get involved," said Gouldey.

Gouldey said area residents could help Works Sun-



Some local residents, including state Del. Ken Plum (D-36), install a walkway at one of the Gabriel Homes in Herndon during the 2006 Works Sunday.

day achieve its goals through participation.

"If [community residents] notice people doing things that are of service, they should participate," said Gouldey. To participate or to learn about specific projects, she suggested that those who wish to participate in a project contact a project co-chair. For more information on the projects, the co-chairs' numbers or to get involved, visit the event's web site at <http://workssunday.org>.

— MIRZA KURSPAHIC

Works Sunday Projects and Beneficiaries

- ❖ Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center – new backpacks, school supplies and underwear for elementary school children collection
- ❖ Fairfax County Abused Women's Shelter – gift cards collection
- ❖ Herndon Harbor House Lunch – bring food
- ❖ Hunters Woods Fellowship House – Lunch, Interfaith Meditation and Sing-along
- ❖ Lake Anne Fellowship House – Protestant Worship Service, Lunch
- ❖ Filling Backpacks for Needy Children – Friday, Aug. 15, 1 – 5 p.m. at different locations
- ❖ Embry Rucker Community Shelter – Hot Breakfast on Saturday, Aug. 16, and Bag Lunches, bring supplies and participate in Game Night on Sunday, Aug. 17
- ❖ Food Drive for Reston Interfaith – local stores
- ❖ Health Fair for All Ages – need medical professionals and other volunteers for health checks and instructions
- ❖ Gabriel Homes Maintenance – residences for adults with intellectual disabilities
- ❖ Nursing Home Concerts – Sunday, Aug. 17, at Tall Oaks and Sunday, Aug. 24, at Sunrise Assisted Living
- ❖ Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic – Supper for volunteers on Thursday, August 14
- ❖ Laurel Learning Center – New underwear and socks and used clothing for children

All projects take place on Sunday, Aug. 17, unless otherwise noted. For more information, including information about specific projects and their chairs, visit <http://workssunday.org>.

Participating Faith Communities

All Dulles Area Muslim Society
 Christ the Servant Lutheran
 Community of All People United Church of Christ
 First Baptist, Herndon
 Floris United Methodist
 Heritage Fellowship Church
 Herndon Friends Meeting
 Holy Cross Lutheran
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Christian
 Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation
 Resurrection Baptist
 St. Anne's Episcopal
 St. John Neumann Catholic
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 Shoreshim
 Trinity Presbyterian
 Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston
 United Christian Parish
 Washington Plaza Baptist

Felony at Work?

A Verizon co-worker of James Stark, 47, observed Stark viewing child pornography on his work computer in Reston, according to U.S. Attorney Chuck Rosenberg.

When Verizon security seized Stark's computers and interviewed him, Stark, of Frederick, Md., admitted he had downloaded pornography that likely contained images of child sex abuse, according to Rosenberg, Fairfax County Police Department Chief David M. Rohrer and Joseph Persichini Jr., assistant director in charge of the FBI.

After Verizon contacted Fairfax County Police detectives, officers discovered more than 1,000 images and video files containing child pornography. Hundreds of additional child pornography images were

discovered on Stark's home computer, after a search warrant was executed, according to Rosenberg.

Stark pleaded guilty Thursday, Aug. 7, in federal court in Alexandria to one count of receipt of child pornography. Stark is scheduled to be sentenced on Oct. 24, 2008 and faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years and a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

The Fairfax County Police Department and the FBI investigated the case.

Andrew McCormack, special assistant U.S. Attorney from the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, is prosecuting the case.

— KEN MOORE

Helping Students in Need

FROM PAGE 3

need" Kids R First is fulfilling.

Aside from individuals who help the nonprofit through volunteer hours and donations, Kids R First has come to rely on corporate sponsorships to reach its goals. About 25 associates from Wal Mart's Fair Lakes store joined Kids R First volunteers at Langston Hughes on

Wednesday, helping organize boxes of school supplies. The store also donated \$2,000 to the organization during the day. Todd Lam, the store's assistant manager, said the company's participation in the project fits into its community involvement mission. "We want to help underprivileged children in our community," said Lam.

E.R. Anderson, Wal Mart's regional media director, said 2008 marked the 10th year the company has been involved with Kids R First projects. "It's

important to be a part of the community," she said. Anderson said that Wal Mart's involvement is also important because of the economic environment, which may persuade people from contributing to organizations such as Kids R First. "These are tougher times," she said.

Another company who sent volunteers to Langston Hughes on Wednesday is JK Moving & Storage, a family-owned company operating in the area for more than 25 years. It became involved with Kids R First last year, helping the nonprofit store and then distribute its supplies to the schools and students it serves. "It's a good way to give back," said Jennifer Hoyer, a marketing director at JK. "I think it's a great organization," she said of Kids R First. The company has conducted several pickups and drop-offs for the nonprofit this year and Hoyer said she hoped it could help Kids R First expand its operations to serve schools in other parts of the Washington metropolitan area.

Meanwhile, Kids R First will continue to operate with the help of its trusty volunteers, such as Heck. "Oh I'll be back," she said. "They were worried I was going to leave and not come back, but I'll be back."



Ashley Heck, a recent graduate of Dominion High School, has volunteered for Kids R First for more than seven years.

"I thought it was actually kind of fun. I just came to help out and they were nice and they were funny."

— Ashley Heck, Kids R First volunteer

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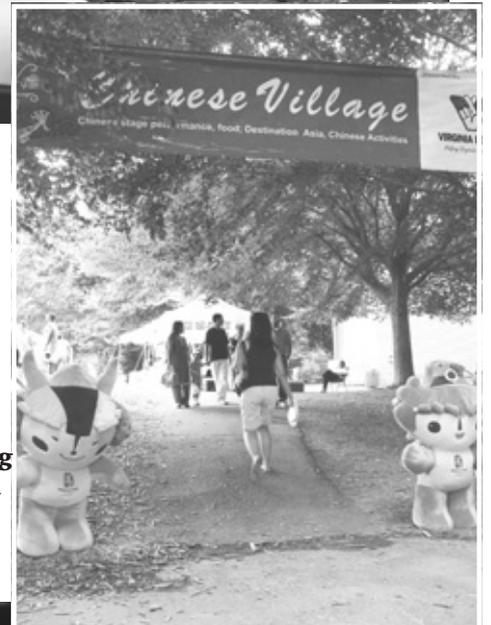


The festival featured area Asian restaurants, which offered off-the-menu specialties to the visitors.



PHOTOS BY MIRZA KURSPAHC/THE CONNECTION

A crowd gathered to watch a cultural dance from Myanmar, formerly Burma, at the Asian Festival as Springfield resident Myatt Tazar Lynn performed the Water Dance.



The festival highlighted China this year and Beijing Olympics mascots greeted visitors at the entrance to the Chinese Village.

Asian Culture Displayed

Tens of thousands of visitors flocked to Lake Newport in Reston for the Fifth Annual Asian Festival on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 9 and 10. The two-day festival featured cultural performances, including dancing, music and martial arts, and fea-

tured cuisine and traditional dress. The Thai Tennis Organization in America organized the event that also offered activities for children, including a Council for the Arts of Herndon tent where the children drew and colored dragons.

— MIRZA KURSPAHC



Davison Han, a student at the O-Mei Wushu school in Fairfax, performs a routine at the 5th Annual Asian Festival. Two of the school's members are scheduled to compete on Aug. 24 at the Beijing Olympics.



Audrey Huie, also from the Wushu school in Fairfax, performs her routine. Eight of the school's junior team members are preparing for a competition in Bali.

NEWS

Corridor Discussed

Planning and Zoning Committee weighs in on Reston Plan process.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC
THE CONNECTION

Reston Planning and Zoning Committee members focused much attention on the corridor that hugs the Dulles Toll Road in a discussion with county planners about the amendment process for Reston's plan.

Zoned in 1964 as the Reston Center for Industry and Government (RCIG), residential and hotel use is prohibited in most of the corridor that runs the length of Reston between Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive.

"The reason why RCIG is only commercial is because we were persuaded to do so in the shooting match in 1962," said Reston founder Bob Simon, referring to discussions with Fairfax County when Reston's original plans were nearing implementation. The corridor's covenants could be amended to allow residential uses, which would allow high density residential developments at future Metrorail stops in the median of the Dulles Airport Access Road. However, under the RCIG covenants, such a change would require approval of landowners representing 90 percent of the landmass. Without that approval, plans for residential developments at the Metro stations could stagnate.

Arthur Hill, the Reston Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Committee Vice Chairman, said the review of the Reston Plan is an opportunity to introduce residential development guidelines for the corridor. "I don't believe residential zoning [in the RCIG corridor] should be developer driven," said Hill at the Committee's meeting with county

planners on Monday night, Aug. 11. "This is a golden opportunity to put in residential standards."

ANOTHER FACTOR considered for the future of the RCIG corridor on Monday night was transportation. Dave Edwards, a P&Z Committee member and co-chair of Reston Association's Transportation Advisory Committee, said more crossings over the Dulles Toll Road should be constructed. "It's got to be done, we need more linkages between north and south [Reston]," said Edwards. Stephen Cerny, another P&Z Committee member, said the connections across the Toll Road would be somewhat improved with pedestrian bridges connecting the community to the Metro stations in the median of the Dulles Airport Access Road. Fred Rothwarf, also a P&Z member, said people in south Reston who live near Sunrise Valley Drive are overwhelmed by gridlock caused by traffic overflow at peak hours on Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston Parkway and Wiehle Avenue. He argued that placing residential development in the RCIG corridor would further worsen the traffic woes in south Reston.

"The concept that we live in gridlock is counter to my experience," said Simon. He said it almost never takes him more than ten minutes to get to other places in Reston by car. He said that gridlock is often the monster of development proposals, but suggested that when the county planners study traffic in Reston, they would not find it to be a major obstacle to development. "I think when you do your studies, the monster will disappear," said Simon.

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Particularly as gas prices soar, many people are turning to their two-wheeled friends, be it bicycle or motorcycle, for lower cost transportation.

Motorcycle sales have spiked, quadrupling in recent years with more than a million motorcycles sold in 2006.

But bicyclists and motorcycle riders are vulnerable on the roads. Motorcycles are sometimes hard to see in traffic, and drivers of larger

vehicles must be on the lookout.

Since June, there have been at least eight motorcycle fatalities in the Washington area. Last weekend, a 26-year-old Centreville man was killed when he lost control of the 2001 Honda motorcycle he was riding, according to police reports.

In 2007 there were 2,601 motorcycle crashes which resulted in 126 deaths and 2,284 injuries in Virginia.

For motorcycle riders, the keys to survival are wearing an approved helmet and protec-

tive clothing, taking safety courses, practicing in a controlled setting and riding defensively.

For drivers of larger vehicles, allow a motorcyclist plenty of room, including the full width of a lane, and more following distance. A motorcycle can stop faster than a car. And motorcyclists may need to react quickly to road and traffic conditions such as potholes, gravel, wet or slippery surfaces, pavement seams, railroad crossings, and grooved pavement — road conditions which are minor annoyances to cars pose major hazards to motorcyclists.

EDITORIAL

Justin Spring, Bronze Medal

Justin Spring, 24 and a graduate of Lake Braddock, helped lift the U.S. men's gymnastic team to an Olympic bronze medal on Monday night (Virginia time) in Beijing.

Spring had exceptional performances on the high bar and parallel bars.

His triple somersault for his dismount from the high bar brought elation to his teammates. NBC changed plans to televise the team competition as it became clear that the U.S. expectedly had a shot at a medal. But here at the Connection, we think any local

that makes the Olympic team is worth watching, with or without being in contention for winning a medal.

In early July, when he was named to the team Spring spoke with Connection reporter Eric Gilmore:

"The only way I can explain it is that I love my life right now," Justin Spring said. "It's been a dream come true."

We'd guess that's all the more true today, and that many, many local people can share in his success.

Bustlin' Biloxi

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

Jane and I recently returned from our fourth trip to the Gulf Coast where we participated in the rebuilding program for housing lost in the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. My son, David, and I are back there this week. In previous trips Jane and I worked in the City of Biloxi, Miss., that lost 70 percent of its houses to a mammoth 30-foot wall of water that washed over the city during Katrina. We worked in rehabilitating some of the homes of elderly and handicapped persons whose houses were not washed away but were left uninhabitable by the sea water. This trip we worked on a new house for a single parent in nearby Bay St. Louis, Miss. David and I are working in Gulfport this week.

The debris of the hurricane three years ago



has long since been removed, and commercial buildings have either been torn down or rehabilitated. The casinos were among the first businesses to re-open. Since our trips last year there has been a significant increase in economic activity. Compared with two years ago you

could say that the place is really bustling. Behind the cleaned-up streets and the newly re-opened businesses there is a much more difficult story of human suffering and perseverance.

Those who have not visited communities along the Gulf Coast in the past could be misled to believe they were well-planned with spacious lots. A closer examination of the lots reveals pads and foundations of homes that may

SEE HEAD SOUTH, PAGE 13

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

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

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Predatory Companies Can Be Stopped

To the Editor:

In the midst of the May-June mortgage crisis I received two letters from separate entities that were clearly trying to entice me to refinance. One falsely stated that I had an adjustable rate mortgage, the other tried

to look very official. I was incensed about the aggressive approaches these groups took and was worried that someone might actually succumb to their methods, so I sent a letter of complaint and the complete mailing — envelope and all — to the Virginia State Corporation Commission Bureau of Financial Institutions (www.scc.virginia.gov). I sent a copy to State Del. Kenneth Plum as well.

It actually made a difference! On

Aug. 4, I received a letter informing me that regulatory action had been pursued against both companies for misleading advertising that targeted Virginia consumers. Both companies have agreed to stop their campaigns and were fined for their violation of the law. I want to report this positive result and thank Kenneth Plum for his supportive inquiry to the Commission about my complaint.

It's very important to our economy that we stop predatory

mailings and phone calls. In addition we need to enforce laws designed to punish companies that thrive by preying on the vulnerable. I hope my small success encourages all Connection readers to take the time to report such incidents of particularly aggressive or misleading promotions. It's not enough to just toss such things in the trash basket, we need to report them.

— Lynn Stoppelman
Reston

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OPINION

Defending the Indefensible

BY JACK KENNY
PAST PRESIDENT, REPUBLICAN CLUB OF GREATER RESTON

One of the more oft-quoted principles of institutions is that their first order of business is to survive. A corollary to that piece of wisdom is "A growing institution is a successful one." Thus, we have the Virginia Department of Transportation: better known as VDOT — the people who catch the grief when 20 inches of snow does

not disappear within the first 12 hours after a snow storm. The grocery stores empty of bread and milk. After 24 hours of enforced restriction to their homes, many residents go downright stir-crazy, whatever that is, put their winter coats on, get out the snow shovels, risk a cardiac incident, and condemn VDOT.

VDOT is owned by the taxpayers of Virginia who exercise their control through elected representatives in the Virginia General Assembly. The taxpayers of Virginia provide the money to keep VDOT running. SEE DEFENDING THE INDEFENSIBLE, PAGE 13

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CALENDAR

Send announcements to reaston@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6451. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 13

Strolling musical entertainment.

Merchants of Worldgate Centre host The Gypsy Strings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., rain or shine. Worldgate Center is located at the corner of Elden Street and Worldgate Drive, in Herndon.

Annual Volunteer Appreciation

Cookout. Reston Association will thank its volunteers with a poolside cookout from 4-7 p.m. at the Glade Pool, 11550 Glade Drive, Reston. Enjoy carnival style food, music, games, great door prizes and more. RSVP by Aug. 1 to Ha Brock, 703-435-7986 or via email to habrock@reston.org.

Ice Cream for Books at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, 7:15 p.m. Call 703-689-2700. Family program.

Wine & Cheese Tastings. A selection of international wines and cheeses. 6-8 p.m. at Market Street Bar & Grill Patio. \$30 per person. Reservations at 703.925.8250.

THURSDAY/AUG. 14

Farmer's Market Fun Day will run from 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. Cincopation presents "Carnival Of Animals," a narrated story with musical accompaniment, at the Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Free. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

Farmers' Market from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at 765 Lynn St., Herndon. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

Baby Signs. Come meet Beebo the Baby Signs Bear, hear stories, and learn some simple signs at the Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon, 10:30 a.m. Call 703-437-8855. Age 6-24 months with adult.

Lutindo! Stomp those feet and clap along with Ssuuna, as he presents traditional African music, dance and stories at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, 7 p.m. Call 703-689-2700. Cosponsored by the Friends of the George Mason Regional Library. All ages.

Friends' Book Discussion at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, 7:30 p.m. Call 703-689-2700. Ask for title. Adults. No registration is required.

Take a Break Concert. Mystic Warriors will perform at the Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston, from 7-9 p.m. Call 703-476-4500.

FRIDAY/AUG. 15

Kiddie Open Gym, 10:30-11:45 a.m. Bring toddlers and enjoy open play, tumbling on the mats, and kiddie basketball. Don't forget to pick up the calendar on the first day and a prize after each visit. Play with parent. Ages - Walking - 5. Drop in Rate -

Shelter To Host 'Petstock '08'

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter will celebrate "Three Days of Pets, Love and Adoption" at its first annual Petstock '08, a special adoption event being held at its Fairfax facility. The three-day festival will be held Friday, Aug. 15, 12 - 7 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 17, 12 - 4 p.m.

Join the shelter for music and merriment and meet some of the

animals available for adoption. To view animals currently available for adoption, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animalservices/> and click on "view animals available for adoption."

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter is located at 4500 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 703-830-1100.



In Performance

Trout Fishing in America will be performing at the Town Green on Saturday, Aug. 16, 7:30-9 p.m. as part of the town's Music Under The Stars free concert series.

\$4. 5 Visit Pass - \$17. At the Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

Friday Night Live will be from 6:30-10:30 p.m. on the Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Gonzo's Nose will perform. Call 703-481-6133.

Dance. Save the last dance for this Teen Summer Series Summer Jam, 8-11 p.m. Dance to the tunes and beats of DJ Deluxe. Bring a school supply for free admission and a chance at a raffle drawing, otherwise admission cost is \$3. All collected donations will go to Reston Interfaith to benefit students in the local area. Located at the Reston Teen Center, 12196 Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Call 703-435-6577.

Totally Trucks. Bring the children and check out all the big trucks that Reston Association uses. The first 250 children in each session will receive a truck coloring book and construction helmet. No Reservations required. All ages welcome to attend. The first session will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 10:30 a.m. The second session will begin at 11 a.m. and end at noon. Located at Reston Association's Central Services Facility, 12250 Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Call 703-435-6577.

SATURDAY/AUG. 16

Reston Concerts on the Town.

Baaba Seth — Afro-beat, reggae, rock — at Reston Town Center Pavilion, 7:30 - 10 p.m., free.

Music Under The Stars. Trout Fishing in America to perform free concert at 7:30 p.m. at Herndon Municipal Center, Stage on the Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon.



Civil War Weekend Encampment will be held Aug. 16-17 at the Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way in Chantilly. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children. For more information, call 703-437-1794.

Civil War Weekend Encampment.

At Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way in Chantilly from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children. 703-437-1794.

Butterfly Count. Join the Reston Association for their annual butterfly count throughout Reston's natural areas, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Meet local butterfly experts, learn tips on identification and have fun while helping obtain important information. Visit www.reston.org.

Sushi Classes. Learn to make sushi at Obi Sushis at 2 p.m. All materials provided. \$50 per person. Adults only. Call 703-766-7874 for reservations.

SUNDAY/AUG. 17

Acoustic Jam. Bring an instrument or come by the Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 Ox Road, Herndon, Country Store from 1-4 p.m. and enjoy a free, drop-in session. For Call 703-437-9101.

The Reston Heights Concerts on the Square feature Big Hillbilly Bluegrass, from 5-7 p.m. Located in Reston Heights at 11750 Sunrise Valley Drive the concerts are free and open to the public. Light refreshments are offered, bring a lawn chair or blanket.

Civil War Weekend Encampment. At Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way in Chantilly from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children. 703-437-1794.

TUESDAY/AUG. 19

Children's Show. Safari Bingo will perform at the Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston from 11-11:30 a.m. call 703-620-5554. Free.

THURSDAY/AUG. 21

Children's Show. Rainbow the Clown will perform at the Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston from 11-11:30 a.m. call 703-620-5554. Free.

Take a Break Concert. IONA — traditional Pan-Celtic — will perform at the Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston, from 7-9 p.m. Call 703-476-4500.

SATURDAY/AUG. 23

Reston Concerts on the Town. Big Joe & the Dynafloes — New Orleans swing, jazz, jump blue — at Reston Town Center Pavilion, 7:30 - 10 p.m., free.

Book signing. Herndon resident Jake Ziemba will be reading excerpts from his first novel, "The Yukon Glory," 2 p.m., at Reston's Used Book Shop in Lake Anne. For more information on the event, call 703-435-9772.

SUNDAY/AUG. 24

23rd Annual Reston Century Bike Tour. 6 a.m. registration, Reston Town Center Pavilion & W&OD Trail. Riders can select from three routes of approximately 30, 63 and 100 miles. Post-ride party in the Pavilion with food and music for participating cyclists. Friends and family can join the festivities for a fee. Rain or shine. See restonbikeclub.org.

MONDAY/AUG. 25

Auditions. The Reston Chorale will be auditioning all voice parts 6:30- 9 p.m. at the Lake Anne Community Center, 1609 N. Washington Plaza, Suite A, Reston. To schedule an audition time, visit www.restonchorale.org or call 703-834-0079.

TUESDAY/AUG. 26

Children's Show. Kid Comic will perform at the Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston from 11-11:30 a.m. call 703-620-5554. Free.

Summer Horse Show Series. Watch a free horse show that starts at 4 p.m. See local talent competing in jumping and flat classes. The cost for competitors is \$12 per class. Call Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 Ox Road, Herndon, at 703-437-9101.

"Back to School" Family Fun Night. Hosted by Chick-fil-A of 12160 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, 5-8 p.m. Jansport Backpack raffle. Entertainment including Mr. Skip, a music and movement entertainer and face painting makeovers.

Auditions. The Reston Chorale will be auditioning all voice parts 6:30- 9 p.m. at the Lake Anne Community Center, 1609 N. Washington Plaza, Suite A, Reston. To schedule an audition time, visit www.restonchorale.org or call 703-834-0079.

INOVA Blood Drive. 12 - 7:30 pm, beside Reston Town Center Pavilion. Schedule appointments at 1-866-256-

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11



'Fairyland Detective Agency'

It's not always "happily ever after" in Fairyland as Detective Jack Sprat (Phil Reid) and Tinkerbell (Leah Daily) solve crimes in "The Fairyland Detective Agency," by the Elden Street Players' Theater for Young Audiences. Next performances are Saturday, Aug. 16 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 17 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. All performances are at the Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Tickets are \$7 general admission. For reservations or information call 703-481-5930, option 3, or visit the Web site at www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

6372 or inova.org/donateblood.

TUESDAY/AUG. 27

Meet Me at the Movies. Senior Movie Day, 10 a.m. (Doors open at 9:30 a.m.), Reston Town Center Multiplex Cinema. Reston Association presents "The Namesake." Refreshments and door prizes provided prior to the movie. Free to those 55+. 703-435-6530.

Complimentary Cake Tastings.

Sample moist, dense cakes and award-winning candies, 1-3 p.m. at Edibles Incredible!, 11917 Freedom Drive, Reston Town Center. 703-709-8200. ediblesincredible.com

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

Children's Show. Malcolm the Magician will perform at the Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston from 11-11:30 a.m. call 703-620-5554. Free.

Sampling Night. Free samples of the flower of the month, "Virginia's Finest" gourmet treats, and hand made chocolates. 5 - 8 p.m. Lake Anne Florist & Chesapeake Chocolates.

Take a Break Concert. Marty Nau Quartet — bebop jazz — will perform at the Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston, from 7-9 p.m. Call 703-476-4500.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30

Porsche Club Car Show. Display of vintage Porsches, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Reston Town Center Pavilion

Chartered bus trip. Cheer the Nats to victory over the Atlanta Braves. Call 703-435-6577 to register. Bus pick



Story with Music

Cincopation performs on the Herndon Town Green Aug. 14, at 10:30-11:15 a.m. Free.

up location: Reston Association, 1930 Isaac Newton Sq. \$32/RA members and \$36/non-members.

noon-6 p.m., in historic downtown Herndon. See www.herndon-va.gov.

MONDAY/SEPT. 1

Jazz & Wine Festival. Jazz artists, Virginia wineries, fine arts and food,



SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Reston Multicultural Festival. Entertainment, displays, activities, fashion shows, food, arts & crafts. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza and parking area. Free. Farmers Market will be located on upper parking area for this day.

Bluegrass Concert Series. ALL4HYM (www.all4hym.com)

Show time at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m., reservations: 703-435-8377; admission: \$12, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12

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RCTV

For more information about the shows and channel, and to see many of these shows in their entirety, visit www.rctv28.com.

7:30 p.m. Business Focus
8 p.m. Reston Impact: Flowers, Chocolate and Wine
9 p.m. Health Focus
9:30 p.m. Where's MJ

THURSDAY/AUGUST 14

9:30 a.m. Body Quest Pilates
10 a.m. Strength Advantage
11:30 a.m. Real Estate Showcase
4:30 p.m. Real Estate Showcase
6:30 p.m. Arnette Report
7 p.m. Life with Connie
7:30 p.m. Eyes on Reston
8 p.m. Toastmasters
8:30 p.m. Swingtime
9 p.m. Yoga with Cynthia
9:30 p.m. Business Focus
10 p.m. Defend Yourself
10:30 p.m. Where's MJ

FRIDAY/AUGUST 15

11:30 a.m. Real Estate Showcase
4:30 p.m. Real Estate Showcase
7 p.m. Just Another Sports Show^o

SATURDAY/AUGUST 16

9:30 a.m. Body Quest Pilates
10 a.m. Defend Yourself
10:30 a.m. Strength Advantage
11 a.m. Guitar Instruction
11:30 a.m. Just Another Sports Show
4:30 p.m. Real Estate Showcase
6 p.m. The Community of All People
6:30 p.m. Arnette Report
7 p.m. Toastmasters
7:30 p.m. Dogs Best Friend
8 p.m. Guitar Instruction

SUNDAY/AUGUST 17

9:30 a.m. Body Quest Pilates
11:30 a.m. Real Estate Showcase
4 p.m. A New and Living Way
4:30 p.m. Real Estate Showcase
5:30 p.m. Guitar Instruction
6 p.m. RCC News & Views
6:30 p.m. Connecting with Supervisor Hudgins
7 p.m. Strength Advantage

MONDAY/AUGUST 18

11:30 a.m. Real Estate Showcase
4:30 p.m. Real Estate Showcase
6 p.m. The Community of All People
7 p.m. Strength Advantage
7:30 p.m. Defend Yourself

TUESDAY/AUGUST 19

9:30 a.m. Body Quest Pilates
11:30 a.m. Real Estate Showcase
4:30 p.m. Real Estate Showcase
6:30 p.m. Health Focus
7 p.m. Update On ...
7:30 p.m. Virginia Legislative Report with Del. Ken Plum: State of the Commonwealth
8 p.m. Your Dog's Best Friend
8:30 p.m. Swingtime
9 p.m. Yoga with Cynthia
9:30 p.m. Eyes on Reston
10 p.m. Reston Impact: Integrity in Government—The Reston Example

WEDNESDAY/AUGUST 20

9 a.m. Yoga with Cynthia
10 a.m. Defend Yourself
11:30 a.m. Real Estate Showcase
4:30 p.m. Real Estate Showcase
6 p.m. The RCC News & Views
6:30 p.m. Guitar Instruction
7 p.m. A New and Living Way
7:30 p.m. Connecting with Supervisor Hudgins
8 p.m. Update On ...
8:30 p.m. Reston Impact: Fairfax County Economic Development Authority
9:30 p.m. Eyes on Reston
10 p.m. Latin Profiles
10:30 p.m. Virginia Legislative Report with Del. Ken Plum: State of the Commonwealth
Visit www.rctv28.com to see many of these shows in their entirety online.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Classic Car Show. 10 a.m. -3 p.m. in Downtown Herndon near the Municipal Center and Town Hall. To register a car, email president@aarpdulles.org. Proceeds will provide scholarship support to Nurse Practitioners specializing in Geriatric Nursing at George Mason University. Free for spectators. Auction, raffles and food.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

C-Note Sale Exhibition Reception. Greater Reston Arts Center's annual fund-raiser, 6-8 p.m. includes a silent auction of additional works. Online preview of available art at www.restonarts.org

FRIDAY/SEPT. 26

Semi-Annual Used Book Sale. Special collection of used books. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Cosponsored by the Friends of the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-689-2700. All ages.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

Semi-Annual Used Book Sale. Special collection of used books. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Cosponsored by the Friends of the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-689-2700. All ages.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

C-Note Sale. Greater Reston Arts

Center's annual fund-raiser. Online preview of available art at www.restonarts.org

Semi-Annual Used Book Sale.

Special collection of used books. Noon-3:30 p.m. Cosponsored by the Friends of the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-689-2700. All ages.

THURSDAY/OCT. 2

Original Sewing & Quilt Expo. At Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. General admission is \$10 per day at the door. Children under 12 are admitted free.

ART

Sunset Hills Montessori School's PTA is seeking artisans and crafters for their **2nd Annual Fine Arts and Crafts Show** that will be held **Saturday, Sept. 20**. In addition to gaining exposure and making some money, artists can feel good in knowing that they will also be contributing to a good cause as all registration fees will be used to construct a new library for the students of Sunset Hills Montessori School. Entries will be accepted until **Sept. 5** or the show fills whichever happens first. Booth space prices range from \$75- \$125 depending on location. Download an application at www.sunsethillsmontessori.com or contact Heather Briggs at hkswann@hotmail.com or Navara Jordan at nljevents@yahoo.com.

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- Centre View South
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- The Fairfax Connection
- The Springfield Connection
- The Fairfax Station Connection
- of Fairfax Station & Clifton
- The Laurel Hill Connection
- The Mount Vernon Gazette
- The Alexandria Gazette Packet
- The Arlington Connection
- The Potomac Almanac

Defending the Indefensible

FROM PAGE 9

Thus, they expect, even demand that their dollars are spent in the most cost-effective manner. Thus, it is surprising that after lord knows how many years, VDOT has finally discovered that buying white trucks and painting the VDOT logo and a vehicle number is cheaper than buying trucks painted regulation VDOT yellow. We should be encouraged. It should not surprise anyone that there is the perception that VDOT road repair crews are the more expensive way of performing maintenance.

The General Assembly has decreed that all state agencies are required to conduct an analysis to determine if it is more cost-effective to contract out the work than to do it in-house. There are three reasons: one, this country operates on the principles of capitalism — to have the state provide all the goods and services is socialism — recent history is replete with examples of a failed system. The second reason is that, as the citizens of the Commonwealth are paying the bill, the state is obligated to get the most out of each dollar. Third, when the state spends the dollars, there is no tax revenue. Basic economics holds that the multiplier effect of a state spent dollar is one: the same effect of a private dollar spent is somewhere between six to nine dollars. Thus VDOT, as all state agencies is required to conduct and contract out wherever the cost-benefit analysis so indicates. The most recent egregious violation is the proposal of The George Mason University proposing to spend \$30 million building and operating a hotel/conference center in spite of all the commercial hotels and



A DIFFERING POINT OF VIEW

conference facilities available in Northern Virginia — a blatant disregard for state law. The state shall not compete with private enterprise.

The fact that a contractor may not do or have done the job correctly is the fault of VDOT not writing a sufficiently detailed set of work specifications and/or is not sufficiently overseeing the

work, or signing off on a job that is not done properly. Following the corollary above, VDOT, given the resources will spend money to grow; i.e., expand its workforce and facilities. Try as we may, there is still the perception of fraud, waste, and abuse. There may be a number of legitimate reasons for four workers to be holding up shovels at the very moment one drives by and we should allow that the road maintenance crews are professionals doing their jobs. We depend on them to put in the 24 or 36 hour stretches pushing snow out of the way — contractors are right there pushing snow for the same 24 or 36 hours providing the same services required by their contract. However, there is also no excuse for VDOT to ignore state law by replacing contractors and hiring state employees who are more costly to accomplish VDOT's mission. VDOT needs to change the taxpayers' perception that they are adhering to the intent of state law by contracting out wherever a positive benefit accrues to the taxpayer. Transportation funding will become a lot simpler.

Head South and Volunteer

FROM PAGE 8

never be rebuilt. Some lot owners did not survive; others have chosen not to return. More than 3,700 families continue to live in the small FEMA trailers that have been found to be unhealthy. Most places are still without about a third of the population they had before the storm. Questions remain about the wisdom of rebuilding in some areas like New Orleans' Ninth Ward that has thousands of uninhabitable houses.

While the return of economic activity to the area is positive, the drying-up of grants to continue the rebuilding is very disheartening. Even with the private and public monies that have been available, the heart of the rebuilding effort has been the thousands of volunteers who continue to come to the area to do the physical labor of rebuilding.

Jane and I contend that a trip to the Gulf Coast is the best vacation you can have. The original idea of working on the Gulf Coast was David's, who is with me this week. You get out of town and go to a lovely part of the country. You meet the most wonderful people in the families for whom you are working and the other volunteers from around the country with whom you work. You get great exercise in working long hours. The mattresses on the floors of the churches where you sleep could not be more comfortable after a long day at work. The volunteer cooks at those same churches cook up their best recipes from back home.

If enough of us spend a part of our vacation working on the Gulf Coast, we will truly have a bustlin' Biloxi. Write to me at kenplum@aol.com if you need additional information.

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21620 Merion St.	\$425,000	Sun 1-4	Jodie Vaughn	Exit	703-771-8268
21001 Starflower Way	\$900,000	Sun 1-4	Kristi Stavrou	Long & Foster	703-728-7797

Broadlands

21497 Glebe View Dr.	\$729,900	Sun 1-4	Jeanne Siracuse	Weichert	703-726-3909
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Hamilton

16629 Swanbourne Dr.	\$979,900	Sat 11-5	Michael Severin	Keller Williams	571-223-2236
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Leesburg

1154 Keokuk Ter., NE #28	\$424,000	Sun 1-4	J. Jordan	Weichert	703-655-6665
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1717 F Ascot Way	\$367,000	Sat 12-7	John Farhat	Farhat	704-537-7113
1504 Church Hills Pl	\$329,000	Sun 1-3	Sheri Daniel	Long & Foster	703-437-3800
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To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Lauri Swift or Winslow Wacker
703-821-5050 or E-Mail the info to Lauri@connectionnewspapers.com
 All listings due by Tues at 10 am.

OPINION

Political Positioning This Summer

BY JOHN LOVAAS

CIVIC LEADER AND RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

The recent "Special Session" of the Virginia legislature wasn't very special. Why Governor Kaine called the session knowing full well there was no consensus for substantial funding to address mounting transportation problems is a mystery to me. As everyone predicted, nothing was accomplished. However, while no money was raised for a deteriorating transportation system, legislators collected \$2 million in campaign cash from Dominion Power, developers, Realtors and other special interests. Rules limiting lobbyists' passing out cash in regular Assembly sessions do not apply in special sessions. Richmond was flush with cash. The three announced Governor candidates racked up the biggest bucks. Attorney General Bob McDonnell (R) bagged \$482,000 in eight days; Del. Brian (brother of Jim) Moran (D) a cool \$472,000 and Del. Creigh Deeds (D) got \$158,000 in loose change.

According to Virginia Public Access Project (www.VPAP.org) stats, other legislators also gorged themselves at the lobbyists' trough in 2008. Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw either plans a run for higher office or expects a stiff challenge for his Senate seat. He raised over \$200,000. Vienna Del. Steve Shannon, eyeing a run for Attorney General, rolled up \$450,000 by June 30. Since elected, Shannon has behaved like someone running statewide — like a conservative.

Shannon's ambition is creating a stir among others with politics in their blood — e.g., Vienna Town Council folk. In addition, I hear a rumor that at first seemed just silly speculation about our Hunter Mill supervisor. Less than a year into her third term,

Hudgins is said to have told friends she will not seek another term and may quit before this term ends. It seems awfully early for a career politician to make such a decision unless ...? Does she have an heir apparent, a faithful planning commissioner perhaps? Others are wondering how to better position themselves ... just in case.

Master Planning: Fairfax County Planning and Zoning officials have begun meeting with so-called Stakeholder groups to identify "concerns" to be addressed in revising the Reston Master Plan and the County Comprehensive Plan. They also seek input to recommend to Supervisor Hudgins a process for making Plan revisions. So far they have been getting an earful. In initial meetings with Reston Association and Reston Citizens Association, the distrust has been palpable. Among points made by RA and/or RCA:

❖ What is the county's objective—just more density and revenue?;

❖ We need an absolute moratorium on development until plans are approved for all transportation and other infrastructure needs before a new Master Plan permits any additional development;

❖ In fact, the community not county planners, should prepare the new Master Plan (precedent cited); and,

❖ County plans are creating separate Restons no longer a coherent planned community — RA areas and the Reston Town Center enclave are separate in most ways, and now the county plans a new, separate "carbuncle" in the Reston/Herndon Metro corridor.

Not an auspicious start — a disaster in the making unless there is serious confidence building between the two sides: Reston and Fairfax County.

INDEPENDENT
PROGRESSIVE

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6449. Deadline is Friday.

Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, invites new And prospective members to its Annual Open House Ice Cream Social on **Sunday, Sept. 7**, from 2 until 4 p.m. in the Social Hall. Enjoy an ice cream sundae, meet and speak with Rabbi Robert A. Nosanchuk, Cantor Irena Altshul, Religious School Director Moshe Ben-Lev, Preschool Director Fran Gibbs, Temple Administrator Fay Weiss, and other temple leaders. Families are welcome. 1441 Wiehle Avenue, Reston, VA

20190. For more information, call 703-437-7733 or visit www.nvhcreston.org.

Every Wednesday at 12:15 p.m., **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**, 432 Van Buren St. in Herndon, offers a lunch-time **Healing and Holy Communion service**. This half-hour service is offered to all and allows people an opportunity to worship during the work week when they may be away from their regular church. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament, and all who have not been baptized may receive a blessing at the Altar rail. Call the church Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at 703-437-3790 or visit www.saint-timothys.org.

Knitters needed the **first and third Wednesdays** of the month at 7 p.m. at **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. E-mail shawl@saint-timothys.org or visit the Pastoral Care page at www.saint-timothys.org.

Non-denominational **Christian businessmen** meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship **every Friday** at 7 a.m. at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and **every Thursday** at noon at 555 Grove St, Ste. 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.

SCHOOL NOTES

ArtisTree, a creative arts collaborative forming in Reston, will hold an informational meeting on Thursday, **Aug. 14**, at 7 p.m. at the Reston Community Center at Lake Anne Plaza. ArtisTree programs in visual and performing arts for children and adults include Budding Artists for preschoolers, Homegrown Arts for homeschoolers, the

Branching Out weekend enrichment series for adults, the Mod Squad arts and design series for teens and two pre-professional performance ensembles, the Seedlings for young actors and Groundworks for young dancers. More information at <http://www.restonartistree.com>. This event is not sponsored by the Reston Community

Center, its Board of Governors, or staff.

Marymount University's Reston Center is now enrolling for fall.

Marymount's Reston Center accommodates the schedules of adult learners with evening and Saturday classes. For more information, call 703-284-5902 or visit www.marymount.edu.

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SPORTS

SUMMER SPORTS ROUNDUP

The Reston Youth Association (RYA) cheerleaders kicked off the 2008 fall season with a rookie camp on July 29. Over 25 girls came out to learn cheers, chants, motions, and jumps under the direction of head coach Nikki. The four-day camp ended with a cheer and football demonstration by attendees of the cheer rookie and football mini-camps. Cheerleaders will cheer at RYA youth football games from mid-September to mid-November. In addition, they will participate in local parades and at Fairfax County Cheerleader Performance Day.

No prior experience is necessary - only team spirit and the willingness to learn new things and make new friends. Come join the fun! RYA's regular cheerleading camp began on Aug. 4 and will run Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays throughout August at Langston Hughes Middle School in Reston. Camp times are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Girls ages six to 16 from the Reston area are welcome to participate and can register before any of the camps or online. For more information log-on to www.RestonSeahawks.org, or contact the Cheerleading Commissioner at Cheer@RestonSeahawks.org.

The Reston Youth Association (RYA) Football practices will be held Monday's through Friday's in August from 6 to 8 p.m. at Langston Hughes Middle School.

RYA cheerleading practices, meanwhile, will take place on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Hughes.

Players can register at Hughes before practices or online at www.RestonSeahawks.Org.

RYA football will be looking to build on the success of the 2007 season when RYA teams won nearly 70 percent of their games and eight of 11 teams qualified for the play-

offs. Reston-area youth ages seven to 16 as of Oct. 1 are welcome to sign-up. No experience is needed and players will fully participate regardless of ability or experience. There are three levels of play at each weight class, based on age, weight, and experience. Games will begin in mid-September and will be played on the new turf fields at Lake Fairfax Park. For questions, call the RYA Hotline at 703-620-2019, or send an email to vp@restonseahawks.com.

Local swimming sensation **Kate Ziegler** of Great Falls was scheduled to swim in the preliminary races of the women's 800-free event this Thursday at the Olympic Games in Beijing. Her hopes will be to qualify for Friday night's finals (U.S. time).

Ziegler, a Bishop O'Connell High graduate who is participating in her first Olympic Games, experienced a downer earlier this week when she did not qualify for the finals in the 400-free event.

Ziegler, age 20 and a student at George Mason University, holds several world record marks in the 1,500-free event. The 1,500, however, is not an Olympic swimming event.

In the 400-free event, Ziegler needed to finish among the top eight to advance to the finals. But she was unable to do so in Sunday's preliminaries. However, she still has the opportunity to put together a strong showing in the upcoming 800-free event.

The Chantilly Lace'97 11-under divi-



PHOTOS COURTESY/RYA

Reston Youth Association football teams won over 70 percent of their games combined last year within the Fairfax County Youth Football League.

sion team (year of birth 1997) will be holding try-outs for the 2008-09 season this Saturday (Aug. 16 at) Franklin Farm Park (a.k.a. Dave Denne Field) in Herndon (view google map). Try-outs will be from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, visit: www.chantillysoftball.org/lace97.html

The Reston Triathlon Association is pleased to announce the upcoming 24th Reston Triathlon, a major Reston sports event which first began in September of 1984.

For the last 24 years, the race has been held on the first Sunday in September following the Labor Day weekend. The race directors are grateful to the History Museum at Lake Anne Village Center for granting the Triathlon space from Aug. 3 through Sept. 15 to exhibit many photos, memorabilia, and trophies of one of the most successful and enduring sports events in Northern Virginia. All are invited to visit this exhibit. The History Museum hours are: Tuesdays (2:30 to 5 p.m.); and Wednesdays through Saturdays (noon to 5 p.m.).

Over the years, the race has involved a one mile swim in Lake Audubon, a twenty two and three-tenths miles bicycle course on rolling Reston roads and a 10 K run on shaded Reston pathways. The only part of the course that has been changed over the 24 years is the bike course due to increased congestion of Reston roads.

Many triathletes who were participants in the early races remember when the bicycle course included a two loop bike ride on a narrow Hunter Mill Road, followed by the steep ascent up Hunter Station Road and then a trek over the two lane portion of Lawyers Road before it widened to four lanes. Since 1995, to the delight of many triathletes, that long uphill ride of Hunters Station Road was removed and replaced by a three loop course within Reston proper.

The popularity of the race has increased from its humble beginnings with only 200 registrants for its first race in 1984. Now with the availability of online registration, the Triathlon Association has to turn away hopeful triathletes when registration reaches capacity on the first day of registration. At one time, the race seemed to be confined to mostly Reston area residents, but with the popularity of the race (especially in the last 10 years) triathletes who participate come from all over Northern Virginia and also from all over the country.

Plans are underway to make the upcoming September 2008 Triathlon a special commemoration of its 25th year.

—Abbie Edwards

The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics will be held Sept. 20-Oct. 2. for adults 50-and-over. Opening Day will take place at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center (3501 S. 2nd St., Arlington) on Saturday, Sept. 20. Welcome ceremonies will be held at 10:30 a.m., followed by track and field events. Virginia Hospital Center will sponsor a health fair from 9 a.m. to noon. Over 20 other events will take place during the 10 day competition at various venues throughout Northern Virginia. Participants must live in one of the sponsoring jurisdictions: cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church, counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William. In addition to track and field, events will include: swimming, tennis, table tennis, bowling, golf, miniature golf, pickleball, board games, card games, shuffleboard, horseshoes, women's 3-on-3 basketball, team line dancing, yo-yo tricks and more. New in 2008 are diving, ice skating, racquetball and scrabble. Registration is \$10, which includes one event; additional events are \$1. Registration forms will be available in June at senior centers and senior residences or by calling 703-228-3600, ext. 9996. Also online at www.novaseniolympics.com. Registration deadline is Sept. 5.



Reston Youth Association cheerleading camps are taking place throughout the month of August at Langston Hughes Middle School.

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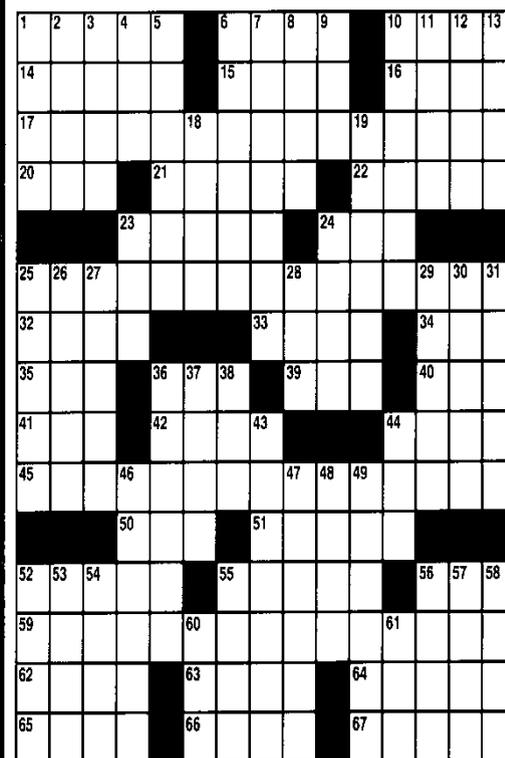
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0323-1



Puzzle by Nathaniel Weiss

ACROSS

- 1 Ayatollahs' predecessors
- 6 Gunslinger's command
- 10 "Oh, my!"
- 14 Hooded snake
- 15 Othello's false friend
- 16 "I'm — you!"
- 17 Start of a quip
- 20 Summer shirt, informally
- 21 Mallards' homes
- 22 Metric volume
- 23 Place for a 45
- 24 Cinch, as a deal
- 25 Part 2 of the quip
- 32 Son of Venus
- 33 Stiff denial
- 34 Old polit. cause
- 35 Dosage unit
- 36 Caribbean music
- 39 Ovine utterance
- 40 A major, maybe
- 41 Hydrocarbon suffix
- 42 Paris recreation area
- 44 Lucy's partner
- 45 Part 3 of the quip
- 50 Entanglement

DOWN

- 51 Encumbrances
- 52 One who grins and bears it
- 55 Greek S
- 56 Biol., e.g.
- 59 End of the quip
- 62 Novelist Waugh
- 63 Tallow source
- 64 Words before sight and mind
- 65 Entanglement
- 66 Stumbles
- 67 Query before "Here goes!"
- 19 Resort island off Naples
- 23 Word in a price
- 24 Whit
- 25 "The Terminator" woman
- 26 Yemeni's neighbor
- 27 E-mail need
- 28 Play — with (damage)
- 29 Belgian composer Guillaume
- 30 Newspapers, with "the"

- 31 "Don't mince words!"
- 36 Oration
- 37 Henry Kissinger biographer Marvin
- 38 Canine cry
- 43 Thickness
- 44 Radio staff, for short
- 46 On/off —
- 47 Tourist attractions
- 48 Prefix with spherical
- 49 Captivate
- 52 Defraud
- 53 It may be spun
- 54 Half of binary code
- 55 Disparagement
- 56 — good example
- 57 Oaf
- 58 Conjectural
- 60 Ethnic suffix
- 61 "So — me!"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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A Friend, Indeed



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Sometimes it takes visits from old friends to show you that who you thought you were, you actually are. The kinds of friends who were there for you — and with you — at the beginning. The kinds of friends who know where you came from and now, in person, and after years of multiple long distance phone calls, can see where you've gone. The kinds of friends whose opinions you respect, whose loyalty you admire and whose friendship you cherish. It's when these kinds of friends speak that you should listen. And listen I did in late June when my oldest, and best friend from High School (Newton South High School, Class of '76, Newton, Ma.), Cary and his wife, Mindy, flew into Reagan National for a two-day visit, our first face to face since February 2002, (2'02'02) the date of their youngest son, Jordan's, Bar Mitzvah, and the reason for our last trip to Boston/Needham.

Though Cary and I didn't attend any of the same schools before high school, soon after we met in 10th grade, we became instant friends. And over these last 35 years, our friendship has evolved and matured and sustained itself through our respective marriages and no divorces, deaths of family and friends, occasional disease (nothing too serious, though, thank God!), the birth of their three sons, the purchase of our first homes and many other highs and lows and successes and failures too numerous and typical to mention. Through it all, we've always been a phone call away. But due to Cary and Mindy's initiative this year (their "summer tour," as they called it), "a phone call away" was not going to suffice. And so airline reservations and hotel accommodations were made on a mutually convenient weekend for the Sneider's return trip to Washington, D.C., their first since the '90s, while attending what was then, a semi-annual Candy Show (Cary's in the candy business), held that year in the old Convention Center. And though I had been in Boston many times previously to visit (three High School reunions, two Boston Celtic basketball games, three Sneider Bar Mitzvahs), we had never just had a normal-type weekend without some kind of event dominating.

This visit, however, during the second to last weekend in June, was not dominated by anything. It was simply about two old friends, and their wives, hanging out; no agenda, no schedule, no timetable, no nothing — just time together. And believe me, it was time well spent. And though the weekend (Friday afternoon and evening) got off to a bumpy start with Cary experiencing some air travel-related nausea that had him indisposed through dinner, the rest of the weekend saw two friends reconnect, in person, and gave us an opportunity to tell our tales and walk our respective walks and find out if who we think we are is still someone with whom, after all these years and life's experiences, the other would find amusing, agreeable, acceptable and stimulating quite frankly, and we did (in my opinion, anyway; his too, he's just not in print to confirm it). In short, it was like old times, 35 years later, in the blink of an eye, and nothing had changed. Best friends then, best friends now. What a weekend!

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

NEWS

Keeping Rail on Track

FROM PAGE 3

THE RENEGOTIATED contract with Dulles Transit Partners schedules the construction of Phase I, to Wiehle Avenue in Reston, from March 2009 to July 2013 at the cost of \$1.6 billion. The new contract, said Bennett, provides certainty for the schedule of the project's construction, as well as its cost.

Fairfax County Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), an outspoken critic of the initial contract with Dulles Transit Partners, said he has not had a chance to review the renegotiated contract. However, he said, fundamental concerns exist, including the lack of bidding on the project and some open-ended issues, including costs for sub-contracting. "I suspect I will continue to have these concerns," said Foust. He said the contract seems to be "the best deal we can get" and that "we'll just have to be extremely vigilant" in its execution.

Foust also expressed disappointment that a tunnel option for Tysons

"Nothing in our democracy is accomplished without a strategic vision that is able to capture broad support."

— Norman Mineta, former U.S. Secretary of Transportation

Corner is not being at least evaluated as an alternative. "I still am very concerned about the fact we'll be elevating it through Tysons," he said of the project. "All over the world they are putting these systems under urban centers."

Bennett could not provide an exact date for the completion of Phase II, through Dulles Airport and out to Ashburn, of the rail extension. He said the probable date is in 2016 or 2017. He said the cost estimates for the completion of the project have not changed. "We're still holding on to those original cost estimates," he said.

Foust said he would like to have a definite date, but is not concerned that one is not provided yet. He said much more detail about Phase II is needed before a construction schedule could be set. However, what does concern him is that the special tax district that would help pay for that part of the extension has not been established yet. Also, he said, if construction costs have escalated for Phase I of the project, then there should not be an assumption that Phase II costs will remain unchanged. "I don't know if that is realistic," said Foust.

THOSE GATHERED at Wednesday's luncheon listened as Mineta compared



PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSAHIC/THE CONNECTION

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) discusses the future of Dulles Corridor at Wednesday's luncheon dedicated to the topic.

the Dulles Corridor and surrounding area of the future, to the past and present. Some 30 years ago, he said, Dulles Corridor consisted of four lanes, all of them leading to the airport, and Route 28 was a two-lane country road. The two corridors comprised 4 percent of the Washington region's economy. "Reston was still an interesting experiment," said Mineta, and Tysons Corner was a shopping center attached to a parking lot.

Today, said Mineta, the two corridors account for 25 percent of the region's economy. Introducing the rail system to the Dulles Corridor, he said, would link its present and future companies, universities and research facilities with resources and markets worldwide.

"Transit and highway improvements can offer people the mobility and freedoms" by offering a choice.

Without a transit system in the corridor, Mineta said, its residents and employees would not be served well. The current highway system was established to meet 20th century needs. "Today's transportation systems are, quite frankly, failing the American people," said Mineta, adding that Dulles Corridor is at the cutting edge of the change that is required to meet 21st century needs.

"Without a doubt, transportation is key to generating and enabling economic growth," said Mineta. "Transportation is thus the key to both our economic success as well as our quality of life."

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) said he believes he will live to take his grandchildren to Dulles Airport on the rail line. "It will be a renaissance in this region," he said of the extension project. "This will be important for economic development, jobs, quality of life, moms and dads who will get up and take that train to D.C., Tysons" and other communities on the rail line. Wolf said Rail to Dulles would prove that the Washington area is one of the best places in the world to live and do business.

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