

# Works Sunday

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## Skate Park Rolls Forward

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From left around the table, Anna McCormally, Melanie Stanley, Izzy Simpkins and Kristin Yost prepare lunches for clients of the Embry Rucker Community Shelter at the Herndon Friends Meeting as part of Works Sunday.

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Illness Inspires First Novel

Design Show To Benefit NSO

Business designer Caille Soren selected to participate

Living Herndon makes plans on personal building for little home story

Small to go

Small to go

PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC / THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 11 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 12

## Skate Park: Something for All Ages

Skateboarding enthusiasts support Herndon recreation proposal at town hearing.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC  
THE CONNECTION

By day, Evan Phillips works at the State Department. When he is off the shift, Phillips visits area skateboarding parks, taking pleasure in an activity he has pursued for decades.

"I've been skating since I was eight," said Phillips, a 34-year-old Oak Hill resident. Skateboarders of all ages — children, teenagers and adults — visit area skate parks often, including the one in Arlington. Phillips said 30 to 40 adults are at the Arlington park on any given Sunday morning. "We don't ever talk about work, it's really a fun setting," he said.

**"We could do something positive with that park."**

— Karen Anderson, Herndon resident

Jon Mengenhauser, a 43-year-old Reston resident, said he used to skateboard a lot in his younger days. He picked it up again after taking his daughter to a skate park because she wanted to try the activity. Now Mengenhauser skates twice a week and hopes he and his daughter will be able to do so in a community closer to home than Arlington.

The Town of Herndon has set aside \$175,000 for construction of a skate park in the community, with the idea of providing another recreational use without taking away another use.

Phillips was one of about 20 skateboarding advocates — skaters of varied ages and their parents — who participated in a meeting on Thursday night, Aug. 14, with the Town's Parks and Recreation Department staff, discussing options for a site for the future park.

Patti Hurst, a 41-year-old Justice Department attorney from Arlington, said it is important that Herndon builds a good skate park. Hurst began skateboarding two years ago and said she would visit the Herndon park even though she had a skateboard park in Arlington. "Skaters go places," said Hurst, adding that they look for new courses much like skiers and snowboarders look for new terrain. "If you got a great park, people like me will travel to your park," said Hurst, adding that the economic benefits of such a facility would speak for themselves. "There is a lot of commerce that takes place around an attractive recreational facility," said Hurst.

**OF THE THREE OPTIONS** considered for the skate park in Herndon on Thursday night, the skateboarding enthusiasts supported building a park at Trailside Park, on the corner of the Washington and Old Dominion Trail and Crestview Drive. The other options were a strip of land by Coral Road and a parking lot on Station Street in downtown Herndon. Some of the goals in choosing a site were to build the park 300 feet or more from residences, have it be visible and have parking at the site.

"We want it accessible, we want it visible and we want it safe," said Cynthia Hoftiezer of the Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department. She said other options for the site could still be developed, but the

SEE SOMETHING, PAGE 4



Oak Hill resident Evan Phillips is a frequent visitor to the Arlington skate park.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Community Projects Benefit Less Fortunate

Works Sunday volunteers discuss importance of community service day.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC  
THE CONNECTION

Izzy Simpkins stood over the table making sandwiches and packing lunches with three other women. She would not have stood out within the group except for one obvious thing, she was younger than the others gathered around the table.

The 11-year-old Ashburn Village resident joined some 25 volunteers at the Herndon Friends Meeting on Spring Street on Sunday, Aug. 17, to help pack 140 lunches for the clients of Reston's Embry Rucker Com-

munity Shelter. "I wanted to help homeless people," said Izzy of her decision to dedicate some of her Sunday afternoon to help make and pack the lunches. "We are so fortunate and it would be good of us to give back," she said of joining her family and others in helping with the project. It was Izzy's first time participating and she said she would definitely be back again. "I liked it. People here were nice," she said.

Izzy was not the only child participating in the project. Her brother and a handful of other children assisted in making and packing lunches, sorting through the food and

cleaning up after it was over. "I think it's great for kids to do this project," said Susan Huebsch, a Reston resident who is a member of the Herndon Friends Meeting and the co-chair of Sunday's project. "They get to see hands on that a simple project makes a difference," said Huebsch, who participated in the project for the fourth time on Sunday. "They understand people get hungry and need to eat."

**THE PROJECT** at Friends Meeting in Herndon was one of many in the Reston and Herndon community that took place as part of Works Sunday, a series of community service projects that serve the underprivileged in the area. It is an effort conceived from area faith communities that come together to better the general com-

**"They get to see hands-on that a simple project makes a difference."**

— Susan Huebsch, Reston resident

munity through the projects.

"One thing I like about Works Sunday is how people from all different faiths come together," said Huebsch. She said the projects are very local and their impact is immediate. It took 45 minutes to pack 140 lunches for the Embry Rucker Shelter. Reston In

SEE HELPING, PAGE 4

# Digging Up History

After decades-long quest, Steve Libert begins unearthing historic shipwreck.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

“So this is how this thing ties into the presidential election,” said Oak Hill resident Steve Libert. He was talking about his long quest for a 17<sup>th</sup> century vessel called the Griffon, a sprawling tale that began in his junior high school years and ended up with him having a piece of an underwater shipwreck “arrested” by U.S. marshals last month. Along the way, Canada, France, at least one millionaire and “Good Morning America” have been involved.

**LIBERT** started his company, the McLean-based Great Lakes Exploration Group LLC, after finding what he believes to be the wreck of the Grif-

“I kept saying, ‘You know, maybe it’s time to start trying to find that ship.’”

— Steve Libert

fon seven years ago at the bottom of Lake Michigan. A senior analyst for a Navy intelligence agency by day, Libert has now dedicated more than 30 years of his life to finding and recovering the ship, which was built by the French explorer Robert de La Salle. The first European ship to sail in the upper Great Lakes, the Griffon sank on its maiden voyage in 1679, laden with 6,000 pounds of furs.

Libert said the vessel was “one of the most sought-after ships in the world,” but he believes he found it in a place where no one else was looking. “I think just about everyone was looking in Lake Huron,” he said. This was because La Salle’s journals said the ship sank near the Huron Islands. However, Libert and his crew found that there were islands in Lake Michigan, where the boat had set sail, that had been called by that name. Using La Salle’s descriptions of the area and his own knowledge of the lake, Libert pinpointed an approximate location, and he and some other divers began searching. That was 30 years ago, after about six years of intensive research, he said.

To keep the competition off his trail, Libert’s stated purpose for exploring the area was a quest for \$400 million in gold that is said to be at the bottom

of Lake Michigan.

It was Libert himself who, after three hours of searching on his last dive of the season in 2001, with his nitrogen level in the red, stumbled on what he believes is a bowsprit jutting from floor of the lake. He returned the following year with archaeologist Scott Demel, who found that the trunnels, or “tree nails,” holding the bowsprit together were 12.8 inches long – a French foot. “I thought he was having a heart attack when he was measuring them underwater,” said Libert.

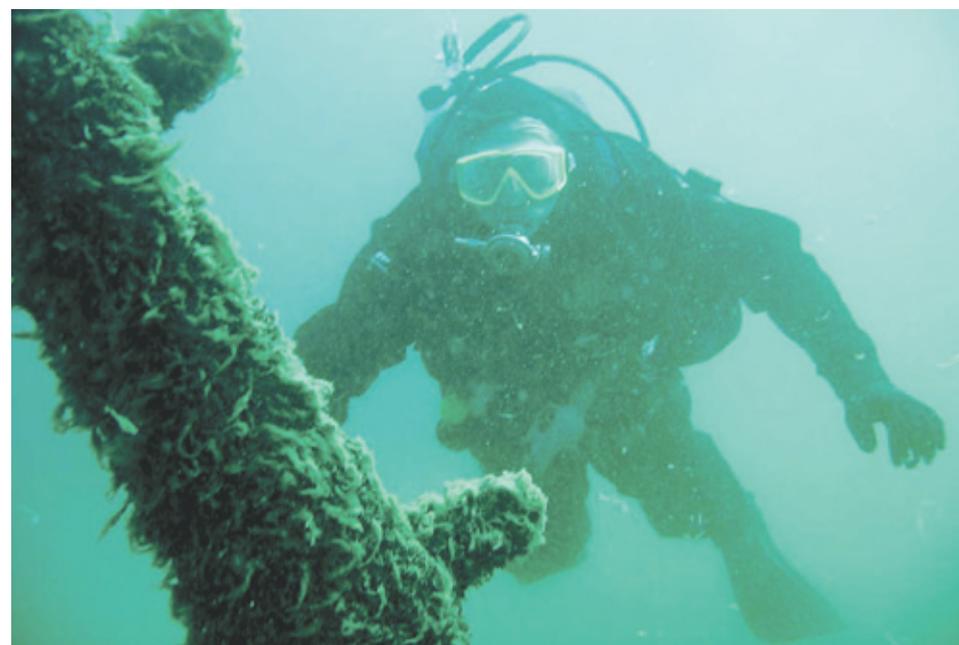
Two carbon tests, each by a separate laboratory, have determined that the wood could date to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and Libert noted that historical records, by his interpretation, place the wreck in the area where he discovered the bowsprit.

“I think it’s got a real good chance,” said Demel, who is a Great Lakes archaeologist and works for the Chicago Field Museum in the anthropology department and as the head of collections. He noted that the timbers of the ship are hand-hewn, which is rare but consistent with the Griffon, which was built by hand in the wilderness north of Niagara Falls. Also, he said, a metal detector found that no metal had been used, which he said was also consistent with his understanding of the Griffon. Demel said

Libert’s find was likely to be a bowsprit, although it could also be part of a mast.

There is no formal agreement between Great Lakes Exploration and the Field Museum, Demel said. “We just sort of had a shared interest in the Griffon and La Salle.” He said his interest in the ship had been rekindled by the writing of one of the museum’s curators, prompting him to buy a book on the ship. “Steve Libert happened to call me a week later.”

In spite of indicators that Libert’s find is the Griffon, the identity of the ship, which is still almost entirely buried, remains un-



What Steve Libert believes is the bowsprit of the Griffon, pictured with archaeologist Jeff Morris of the company Geomar Research.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Oak Hill’s Steve Libert, left, and diving partner Jim Kucharsky prepare for another dive into Lake Michigan.

resolved. Following its discovery, the state of Michigan laid claim to the wreck and asked for its location, and a lengthy legal battle ensued. Just this spring, an appellate court unanimously handed down a decision in Great Lakes Exploration Group’s favor, giving the company custodial rights to the ship, while the federal government has jurisdiction over it and, if it turns out to be the Griffon, ownership goes to France. The U.S. Coast Guard can use police powers to protect the vessel.

This is not the first legal battle between the state and Libert, who said he had spent 12 of the last 14 years fighting Michigan “or four or five bureaucrats who think they are the state of Michigan.”

**LAST MONTH**, in order to finalize the transfer of ownership, he hand-delivered documentation of the location of the vessel to Michigan authorities and brought a piece of the bowsprit, representing the entire ship and its contents, to be taken into custody by U.S. marshals, formally bringing the wreck under federal jurisdiction. Although the marshals did not exactly read the wood its rights, said Libert, they did carry out

some verbal formalities before placing it under arrest. Libert said he had to take out a \$1 million insurance policy on the piece of wood.

“Now we have the right to go out there and identify it with our own archaeologists,” said Libert. He said he hoped to begin unearthing the find in late fall or early spring.

Libert’s interest in finding the Griffon was sparked during a history class at his junior high school in Dayton, Ohio. The teacher had mentioned the ship, noting that the figurehead on its bow was said to be a mythological griffin to ward off evil and that the vessel had vanished nonetheless, said Libert. “I was daydreaming looking out the window, but I was listening to what he was saying.” The teacher suggested that one day, someone in the room might find the boat, “and as he said that, he put his hand on my shoulder,” said Libert. “And that piqued my interest.”

He went on to become a semi-professional football player, trying out as a punter for the Dallas Cowboys and the New York Jets. Hungering for adventure, he got a pilot’s license. But he never forgot about the Griffon. “I kept saying, ‘You know, maybe it’s time to start trying to find that ship,’” he said. In his 20s, he started learning to dive, and he found out his neighbors were divers as well. He suggested that they start looking for “some real shipwrecks” rather than diving in Ohio stone quarries. “And they said, ‘Do you have any in mind?’ And I said, ‘Yes, I do,’” he recalled.

From the beginning, he suspected the ship was in Lake Michigan. “Most people were laughing at me when I was looking in Lake Michigan,” said Libert. “Nobody’s laughing now.”

**IN 1994**, he formed Fairport International, which later became Great Lakes Exploration Group after he found what he believes to be the object of his quest. It was never a money-making venture, although Libert said he does sometimes offer his services for hire. He has worked on the wreck of the Titanic and done research for adventure novelist Clive Cussler, among other jobs.

SEE DIGGING UP HISTORY, PAGE 15

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## Citizens Police Academy

The 14th session of the Herndon Citizens Police Academy will begin on Sept. 3. The program is designed to educate citizens concerning police operations within the Town of Herndon. It will meet on Wednesdays through Nov. 19, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The 12-week course presents an opportunity to experience police work and includes ride-alongs with officers, a trip to the firing range and a tour of the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. Topics include criminal and narcotics investigations, community policing, traffic enforcement, firearms training, police K-9, crime scene investigation, general district court information and overviews on gang activity.

Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Town residency is not a requirement for participation. Applications may be downloaded at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov) and are also available at the Herndon Police Department or by contacting SPO D.L. Morgan at 703-435-6881 ext 2394 or by e-mail at [dexter.morgan@herndon-va.gov](mailto:dexter.morgan@herndon-va.gov).

## Homeownership Classes

The Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) and local nonprofits are offering free homeownership classes in Northern Virginia throughout the month of August. They cover credit issues, personal finances, home inspections and roles of lenders and real estate agents. To become eligible for VHDA loans, a VHDA homeownership class must be completed. A class will be offered in Herndon on Wednesday Aug. 20, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors-Herndon Service Center, located at 520 Huntmar Park Drive. Call the Homeownership Education Hotline at 888-643-2696.

## Giving Circle's Grant Cycle Open for Applications

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](http://www.givingcircleofHOPE.org) or can be requested at [givingcircle@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

## ArtSpace Herndon Opening Celebration

Herndon will celebrate the opening of its first community art center, ArtSpace Herndon on Sept. 1. The Herndon Foundation for the Cultural Arts is inviting the public to attend the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of the gallery at 750 Center Street. The events begin at 6 p.m., followed by \$2,000 award presentation for the Paint Herndon Plein Air Exhibit and Competition. The opening of the center is the result of a nine-year effort to provide a home the arts in Herndon. Fundraising efforts have raised more than \$100,000 toward the renovation of the old Hands, Inc. building. For more information contact Robin Carroll at 703-709-6380.

## RCP Call for Audition

Reston Community Players are conducting an audition for "Forbidden Broadway" under the direction of Andy Regiec. The auditions will be held on Friday, Sept. 5, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 6, at 2:30 p.m. The performances will take place Nov. 8 - 23. The Players are seeking four to six performers, ages 20 to 50. Those auditioning are asked to prepare a comic song of 16 bars and to dress to move. The auditions will take place at Lindsay Peterson Hall, 266 Sunset Park Drive, at the Sunset Business Park in Herndon.

For more information visit [www.restonplayers.org](http://www.restonplayers.org) or call 703-435-2707.

## NEWS

# Helping Less Fortunate

FROM PAGE 2

terfaith, the shelter's operator, hands out about 60 lunches per day, rendering Sunday's project as about two days worth of lunches for the shelter.

Nearby, at Herndon's First Baptist Church on Elden Street, volunteers conducted free health screenings from 1 to 4 p.m. Jim Ryan, Herndon resident and president of the Reston Lions Club, managed the tests at the club's van that held three to four sight and hearing checking units in it. "It's just community service," said Ryan. "There's a lot of people who need glasses or hearing aids and they don't even know they need them," he said.

**"I wanted to help homeless people."**

— Izzy Simpkins, Ashburn Village

Linda Soller, a member of the First Baptist congregation, said the church is located centrally, which made it a great location for the screenings. She said the congregation felt very strongly that it is important to provide community service and to help other churches provide the same service. "We are very excited to be doing this," she said.



PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSAHIC/THE CONNECTION

**Residents of the Hunters Woods Fellowship House listen as Imam Daoud Nassimi recites verses from the Koran on Sunday, August 17. About 60 residents attended an interfaith meditation session and lunch on Sunday afternoon, a project in the scope of Works Sunday, a day of community service throughout the Reston and Herndon communities.**

# Something for All Ages

FROM PAGE 2

conversation with the skate park supporters led to no new sites proposed, given the goals stated for building the park. Hoftiezer added that the Town also explored building a portable park, leasing underutilized parking lots or using the space at the old police station, all of which proved ineffective. She also said that one of the goals, as currently stated, is to build a 7,000 to 10,000 square-foot park.

"I'd be uncomfortable with anything smaller than 12,000 square feet," said Karen Anderson, a mother of skateboarders. She said the size is important for the safety of the skaters. A smaller park would crowd a lot of people together. "If you're going to have a skate park you need to have a safe skate park," said Anderson.

"It needs to be bigger," said skateboarder Ben Wilson, a 14-year-old rising freshman at Herndon High School.

"A bigger park is definitely safer," said Sean Warsing, a Herndon resident since 1982 and an active skater. He supported the Trailside Park site because it was accessible and near other Town of Herndon parks. The new skate park would also promote beneficial use of the park. "I've lived here since 1982 and Trailside Park has been the same since 1982," said Warsing.

Hoftiezer said the advantages of building a skate park at Trailside Park were that its topography was conducive to a skateboard park, it was near the Washington & Old Dominion Trail, it is an existing park and has decent street visibility. The disadvantages were that it is already a well used park — and the town does not want to replace another use — it is not quite 300 feet from residences and building a skate park would require cutting down some trees and shrubbery.

"It's well used, but look what it's used for — gang activity," said Warsing. Anderson said the police consider the park a high drug traffic area, but Hoftiezer said the Parks and Recreation Department did not receive any numbers to suggest there is more crime in the park than anywhere else in the community. Vice Mayor Connie Hutchinson said part of the reason for the higher crime at the park is that it is secluded and anything that could be done to open the park up would be helpful.

"The thing about skate parks is they are unbelievably family friendly," said Anderson. "We could do something positive with that park."

**THE PARKS AND** Recreation Department will make a presentation to the Herndon Town Council at its work session on Sept. 16, updating it on the skate

park developments. In the meantime, Anderson and other skateboard activists will continue to work toward securing the park. She said her sons and other skaters needed a place to go. She had received a phone call from a Herndon Police officer after one of her sons was

skating downtown.

"It is sad when a Herndon Police officer calls your house only because your son was skating," said Heather Woodall, Ben Wilson's mother.

The group also considered at the meeting forming a 501(c)3 organization to collect grant money and tax deductible donations for the skate park to add to the Town's \$175,000 funding. "We should diligently explore private funding," said Mengershauser, adding that Herndon is in a wealthy county with many corporate headquarters. He added that he and other advocates have reached out to the grassroots skateboarding community throughout the country to find examples of how their communities have built skateboarding parks.

**"If you got a great park, people like me will travel to your park."**

— Patti Hurst, Arlington resident

# Downtown Hotel Plan Waits on Approval

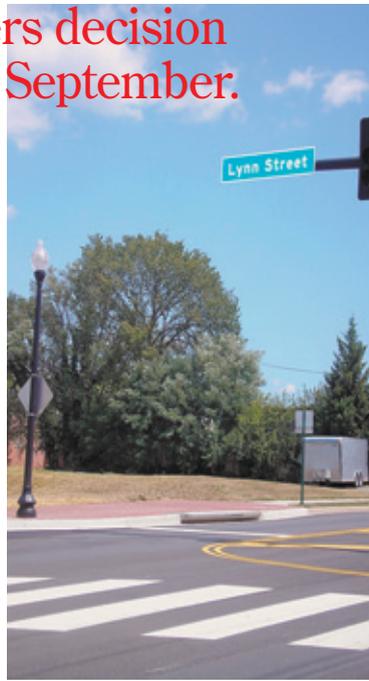
**Town Council defers decision on proposal to late September.**

BY MIRZA KURSPAHC  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen Herndon resident Arthur Nachman asked those who would support a downtown hotel proposal at the Town Council meeting to stand up, 15 residents stood. Nachman proceeded with his own testimony in support of the project and read from eight e-mails, all of which supported the 163-room hotel proposal.

Nachman is providing easement on one of his properties in downtown Herndon to allow access for cars and loading trucks to the hotel off of Lynn Street. "My family and I did not ask or receive any payment for granting this easement," said Nachman. "We provided this easement because it is in the best interest to Town of Herndon residents and business owners," he said, speaking at the Herndon Town Council Meeting that started on Tuesday night, Aug. 12, and ended after midnight.

The 15 people who stood up upon Nachman's request also spoke in favor of the Diamond Properties proposal to build an Element hotel, an extended stay hotel catering to business travelers, fronting Elden and Monroe Streets, as well as an alleyway behind Nachman's Lynn Street property, in downtown Herndon. Tim McGrath said the most valuable aspect of the Diamond proposal is that it would achieve the critical mass of people needed to support Herndon's businesses, without bringing many additional cars. "That speaks highly to the viability of this project," said McGrath.



**Elden Street perspective now.**

Chris Gay, an engineer with transportation consultant Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB), displayed a traffic study through a simulation that showed the evening rush hour traffic patterns at the hotel if it is built and if it is not built. He concluded that traffic heading southbound on Monroe Street, and turning right on Elden Street, does not clear the signal per one green light cycle once the hotel is in operation. That affords a failing level of service at the intersection. Gay said that Diamond preferred a traffic signal timing study, which could improve the circulation on Elden and Monroe Streets during evening rush hour. If signal timing adjustments do not improve the level of service, "relatively major capital improvements" would be the next thing to consider, he said.

McGrath argued that it is not the traffic from the hotel and its retail component — 12,850 square feet

PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSPAHC/THE CONNECTION



**Elden Street perspective according to Diamond proposal.**

RENDERING COURTESY OF CMSS ARCHITECTS, PC

— that render a failing level of service at the Monroe and Elden Street intersection during the evening rush hour, but the roads themselves. He said the traffic conditions are worrisome, but added, "not because this project creates them, but because limitations of our roads."

Mark Looney, a land use attorney representing Diamond Property in the rezoning request, said the VHB simulation did not make adequate use of the alleyway behind Nachman's Lynn Street property. A large majority of the cars in the simulation used the Monroe Street exit from the hotel garage. Looney said some of that pressure on Monroe Street would be alleviated as customers discovered the alleyway that could take them from the garage to Lynn Street. "Traffic will find the least resistance," he said.

**THE PROJECT'S** supporters were loud and clear at the Town Council meeting, but Ann Null presented the lone voice of dissent. She said that transient lodging is the lowest contributor of volun-

teers to a community. While a general manager might provide volunteer hours to community organizations, the 163-room building will not provide many more such hours. She also brought attention to the claim by the hotel's management company, McLean-based Crestline Hotels and Resorts, that it prides itself on taking its employees from the bottom to the top of the hotel operation pyramid. "Shift managers may become managers," said Null, "but it is unlikely that Crestline is grooming their chambermaids for management."

While Null was the only person testifying against the project at Tuesday night's public hearing, Vice Mayor Connie Hutchinson said that the Town Council had heard from many citizens who did not attend the meeting through e-mails and telephone calls. Some of those citizens, she said, were not in support of the project.

Dale Adams, a 40-year Herndon resident, however, did support the project. "Forty years I've lived in Herndon, this is the best opportunity for us to move into 21<sup>st</sup> Century," he said.

"We have been rebuilding downtown Herndon for 35 years, so little has been done," said Mary Burger, who spoke in support of the project. Burger, who recently came back from a trip to Europe where she toured historic sites, told the Town Council, "You have before you a chance to make history."

Elden Street resident Lisa Merkel said the most exciting part of the hotel is that it will bring people to downtown Herndon "with money and their expense accounts." She added that the Town could not afford to turn away an estimated \$700,000 of tax revenue per year that the project would generate.

**TOWN COUNCIL** voted unanimously to defer the decision, and the public hearing, on the rezoning while staff and developer work out additional details of the proposal. "It's a very difficult project," said Hutchinson, one with many implications. "I think a deferral is absolutely the right thing," she said. The public hearing is scheduled to continue on Sept. 23.

Council Member Bill Tirrell said he is renewing his call for a Master Plan of Herndon's downtown, so the community would present its vision of the downtown to future developers. "When someone comes in, we know what we want," he said of the Master Plan.

Tirrell also alluded to the Town negotiations with JPI, a developer that was proposing a redevelopment of downtown areas in exchange for building community improvements. "When we were discussing the JPI contract, everything was too big," he said, asking for a distinction between that project and Diamond's proposal. In terms of hotel management, he

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# OPINION

## Local Olympians

**Kudos to them, every one, for being there.**

Lost somewhere in the quest for gold and medal counts and world records of the Olympics is appreciation for the effort and talent it takes to qualify, to go, to be an Olympian, whether or not an athlete comes home with a medal of any color.

Last week, we celebrated Justin Spring of Burke who contributed to U.S. winning bronze in men's team gymnastics.

We're proud of Kate Ziegler of Great Falls, who showed wisdom beyond her years in interviews after she failed to make the finals of either of her two events. The 20-year-old George Mason University student was disappointed, but smiled and said: "Even though I had disappointing swims, I still am an Olympian. ... I went to the Olympics. I'm going to enjoy my experience. This is ... the end of this four-year chapter, but I feel like I'm just ... beginning on my way."

Ziegler's best event actually isn't even an Olympic sanctioned race. The four-time world record holder shattered Janet Evans' 18-year world record time by 10 seconds in the 1,500 in October 2007. (The 1,500 is only for men

in the Olympics.)

Two McLean High graduates, Giuseppe Lanzone and Sam Stitt, are both members of the U.S. Rowing Team and are rowing in the Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

### EDITORIAL

The two were McLean Highlander rowing team members during the spring of 2000. The Highlanders finished undefeated that season and earned several medals in several major regattas.

Lanzone, an All-Met rower that season, went on to row collegiately at the University of Washington. Stitt, meanwhile, competed in the sport at Rutgers University. Lanzone came to the United States from Peru and eventually became a U.S. citizen.

These two young men spent 10 years of hard work in hopes of making the 2008 Olympics' Team.

Kara Lawson, who enjoyed a standout career at West Springfield and who was named among the Connection's Top-100 Athletes of all time, is on U.S. Women's Olympic basketball team.

Lawson, a 5-foot-10 guard for the WNBA's

Sacramento Monarchs, will make her first Olympic appearance. She is a Tennessee graduate.

At West Springfield, she led the Spartans to the 1997 and 1998 Virginia Class AAA state crowns and perfect 30-0 seasons. In college, she led the Lady Vols to a 126-17 (.881) record, four Southeastern Conference (SEC) regular season titles, the 2000 SEC Tournament crown, and four NCAA Tournaments where UT advanced to the 2001 Sweet Sixteen, 2002 Final Four and 2000 and 2003 championship games.

And Northern Virginia will be represented by at least two athletes in Beijing this year. Tyler Byers of Sterling and Josh George of Herndon were the first two American finishers in the wheelchair division of the L.A. Marathon in March, making them automatic competitors in the marathon event of the Paralympics, which will follow the Olympic games in September.

If you know of local Olympic athletes we've failed to mention (and we're sure there are), please let me know.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,  
703-917-6416

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Need Further Analysis

To the Editor:

Your editorial ["Seeking More Diversity at TJ," Connection, July 31-Aug. 6, 2008] demonstrates a lack of understanding of the key difference between TJ and the base high schools.

All Fairfax County high schools

offer advanced (AP or IB) math and science classes. All Fairfax County high schools provide students with opportunities to participate in science fairs. However, only TJ offers a multitude of post-AP math and science classes and related co-curricular activities for students who want to go far beyond the normal high school math and science programs.

It makes no sense to reserve

seats at TJ for students whose needs can be met at their local high schools just because they live in certain neighborhoods or belong to certain racial groups. Under the admissions process proposed in the editorial, more students who would take advantage of unusually advanced TJ math and science options would be denied that opportunity because they are from "overrepresented"

groups.

As a long-time TJ parent and volunteer, I have seen first-hand how TJ students who excel in math are far more likely to take advantage of TJ's most advanced offerings in math and science. TJ students with weaker math skills often seek out the easiest ways to satisfy TJ's math and science requirements, and gravitate towards activities available in all high schools, such as the yearbook, student paper, student government, and sports.

The Connection's editorial assumes that students who enjoy science in elementary school will become "leaders in math or science" even if they don't have good test scores. There is no proof for that assumption. In fact, research suggests the opposite is true.

Before Fairfax County revamps the TJ admissions process yet again in search of diversity, Fairfax County should gather, analyze and publish data — including middle and high school math test scores — regarding TJ graduates who majored in math, science or engineering, versus TJ graduates who majored in non-STEM subjects such as journalism, business, or history. The results of that analysis should be more important than the percentage of TJ students from "underrepresented" groups.

**Louise Epstein**  
McLean

## Competing in Korea



Students from the H.K. Lee Academy of Tae Kwon Do, 465 Herndon Parkway, recently returned from a trip to South Korea. They participated in the 2nd Annual World Tae Kwon Do Culture Expo held in early July. The students took part in education tours, tae kwon do seminars, exhibitions and shows, and Korean cuisine. They also competed in the sparring and forms competitions. More than 47 countries from around the world participated in the competition and expo. The students received 1st, 2nd and/or 3rd place medals in their respective divisions; they are. From left, Venci Atanasov, Katherine Dubishar, Benjin Dubishar, John Dudzinsky, Shelley Kirkpatrick, Ryan Kirkpatrick, Anton Dudzinsky, Genevieve Dudzinsky, and Grandmaster H.K. Lee.

## THE CONNECTION

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# CRIME

Activities reported Aug. 11 through 17, according to the Herndon Police Department:

## NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS

**900 Block Alabama Drive.** A 50-year-old female of Herndon was arrested for dispense a controlled drug without a license, selling ephedrine or pseudoephedrine without maintaining a log, and operating as a drug store in violation of Title 54.1, Aug. 12.

## BURGLARY

**1100 Block Elden Street.** Forced entry was made into a business and several items were taken between Aug. 13-14.

**1100 Block Herndon Parkway.** Forced entry was made in to a business and items were taken between Aug. 16-17.

## ASSAULT

**700 Block Herndon Woods Court.** The victim reported being assaulted by an acquaintance, Aug. 11.

**500 Block Florida Avenue.** The victim reported being assaulted by an acquaintance, Aug. 12.

**1200 Block Springtide Place.** The victim reported being assaulted by an acquaintance, Aug. 16.

**1200 Block Springtide Place.** A 45-year-old male of Herndon was arrested for assaulting an acquaintance, Aug. 16.

**800 Block Locust Street.** The victim was assaulted by an acquaintance, Aug. 11.

**500 Block Worchester Street.** An 18-year-old male of Herndon was arrested for assault, disorderly conduct

and resisting arrest, Aug. 11.

**1000 Block Alabama Drive.** The victim reported being assaulted by an acquaintance between Aug. 12-13.

**600 Block Dulles Park Court.** A 21-year-old male of Herndon was arrested for domestic assault and a 19-year-old male also of Herndon was arrested for obstruction of justice, Aug. 16.

**1000 Block Elden Street.** The victim was assaulted by two unknown males, Aug. 11.

**1200 Block Elden Street.** The victim reported being assaulted by an acquaintance, Aug. 17.

## LARCENY

**200 Block Missouri Avenue.** The victim reported gas was siphoned from his vehicle between Aug. 11-12.

**12000 Block Alton Square.** Two vehicles were broken into and had GPS's stolen between Aug. 13-14.

**400 Block Maple Court.** A vehicle was broken into and a GPS was stolen, Aug. 15.

**500 Block Florida Avenue.** A vehicle was broken into and CD's were stolen, Aug. 17.

**300 Block Ferndale Avenue.** The victim reported their laptop was stolen from the trunk of their car, Aug. 16.

**400 Block Elden Street.** A 45-year-old female of Herndon was issued a summons for shoplifting, Aug. 11.

**400 Block Elden Street.** A 45-year-old female of Herndon was issued a summons for shoplifting, Aug. 11.

**400 Block Greear Place.** Tools were stolen from a vehicle, Aug. 15.

**400 Block Elden Street.** An unknown male shoplifted numerous bottles of wine, Aug. 15.

**400 Block Hillwood Court.** An

undisclosed amount of cash was stolen from a vehicle, Aug. 15.

**300 Block Elden Street.** Three unknown subjects stole a box of tobacco, Aug. 16.

**300 Block Elden Street.** A 55-year-old male of Reston was arrested for stealing a donation box containing an undisclosed amount of cash, Aug. 16.

**800 Block Grace Street.** Keys were removed from a running vehicle, Aug. 11.

**900 Block Park Avenue.** A CD player was stolen from a vehicle between Aug. 11-12.

**600 Block Elden Street.** A large oven was stolen from behind a restaurant between Aug. 11-12.

**1000 Block Elden Street.** The victims purse was stolen from a shopping cart, Aug. 13.

## 287(G) ENFORCEMENT

The table below provides statistical data in relation to the Town of Herndon's Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). A detainer is generally obtained when the investigation, or ICE authorization, calls for detention. Detainees are held in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and eventually processed through the federal court system. Final disposition of these cases is under the purview of ICE.

2008	Investigations	Detainers Issued
January	15	4
February	17	5
March	16	12
April	12	6
May	21	10
June	2	0
July	27	12
Year to Date	110	

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# E

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

## Illness Inspires First Novel

Lifelong Herndon resident draws on personal feelings for 1970s horror story.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC  
THE CONNECTION

A rare disease forced Jake Ziemba to drop out of college and quit his job at the age of 18. The lifelong Herndon resident did not allow the bout with the disease to have absolute control of his life, he used the newfound free time to exercise his passion for writing and completed his first novel.

"I really enjoy the challenge of writing," said Ziemba, now 21. "It's very cerebral. You have to construct a story and keep it interesting for the reader." He said writing was something he could do without leaving his house, which was important as he struggled through

a fight with Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH), a bone marrow failure disease that causes blood clots and restricts mobility. "It would be very painful" to leave the house, said Ziemba. When he was diagnosed with PNH, Ziemba had already been



**Jake Ziemba will be reading from "The Yukon Glory" on Saturday, August 23, at Reston's Used Book Shop in Lake Anne.**

SEE AUTHOR, PAGE 9



**Carmen Stull, vice president for development, Women's Committee for the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO); Edith Chhin, wife of the Cambodian Deputy Chief of Mission to the U.S.; Linda Gaa, wife of the Philippine Ambassador to the U.S.; Nunung Kuncorowati, wife of the Indonesian Ambassador to the U.S. and Luis Florendo, Filipino American designer.**



**Camille Beers of Camille Beers Design Studio has designed her version of an "East meets West bedroom."**

## Design Show To Benefit NSO

Reston designer Camille Beers selected to participate.

Beyond Dragons — an east-west fusion of interior design, presented by the Women's Committee for the National Symphony Orchestra — was announced last week at a luncheon at the Kennedy Center. The design show will be held this year at the Chevy Chase Women's Club on Oct. 22-26. Ten local designers will be featured. Feng Shui, table settings, Ikebana and window treatments are some of the workshops and demonstrations already scheduled for the five-day show. The

Embassy of Japan is tentatively planning a Tea Ceremony.

Local designers include Camille Beers, Reston; Sally Steponkus, Washington, D.C.; Liz Levin, Washington, D.C.; Sandra Meyers, Rockville Md.; Shannon Munn, Springfield; Janet Morais and Anna Bimba, Manassas; Luis Florendo, Baltimore Md.; Karen Luria and Mary Beth Schepp, Alexandria; Tracy Morris, Washington D.C. and Ian Simpson of Smith & Hawken in Chevy Chase Md.

In addition to the Women's Committee and the designers; members of the ASEAN

Women's Circle are participating with this year's show. This non-profit organization is composed of wives of ASEAN ambassadors and diplomats, and female diplomats from the 10 ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) embassies. The 10 ASEAN nations are: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

For more information on the upcoming show visit [www.kennedy-center.org/celebrations](http://www.kennedy-center.org/celebrations).

### THINGS TO DO

Send announcements to [herndon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:herndon@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](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com).

#### 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 Dynaflores — 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.restonchorale.org) or call 703-834-0079.

**INOVA Blood Drive.** 12 - 7:30 pm, beside Reston

Town Center Pavilion. Schedule appointments at 1-866-256-6372 or [inova.org/donateblood](http://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](http://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

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

# Author's Illness Inspires His First Novel

FROM PAGE 8

fighting it for two years. The time spent writing, instead of studying or working, resulted in "The Yukon Glory," Ziemba's first novel that tells a story of a late 1970s America battling an energy shortage crisis and a pandemic flu that breaks down the government. The story is told through four vampires heading from California to New York on a train. They are portrayed as ill people who depend on human blood for survival, rather than supernatural beings.

"I definitely did feel like a burden some time," said Ziemba about his parents' and friends' efforts to keep him as comfortable as possible during his fight with PNH. "Vampires have to feed on other people to survive," he said, and he felt that way many times during the four-year bout with PNH. He said a lot of his writing inspiration is drawn from pre-Dracula vampire myths in which vampires are feared, but there is also an element of pity for them. "There is still an element of humanity," said Ziemba.

"The Yukon Glory," said Ziemba, is an end-result of research he conducted on history of plagues. He said the pandemic cycle lasts some 60 to 70 years and the last one should have hit in the 1970s. "We are seriously overdue," said Ziemba. "I'm putting it back on track."

**ZIEMBA'S PASSION** for writing is not

## Meet the Author

Jake Ziemba will be reading from his book, "The Yukon Glory," at Reston's Used Book Shop, 1623 Washington Plaza, at the Lake Anne Village Center on Saturday, Aug. 23. The event will begin at 2 p.m. For more information call 703-435-9772.

news to people who have known him for years. "He was just a phenomenal writer," said Connie Casserly, Ziemba's journalism teacher his senior year at Herndon High School. She said Ziemba always displayed sophistication in his writing and thinking and would often go to see her and talk about writing during his illness.

Even as a high school student, said Casserly, "His writing was mature beyond his years." She said Ziemba has always been able to identify the human struggle and able to do so with a wry sense of humor. She remembers that Ziemba started the He Said She Said column in the high school's newspaper, written from a chauvinistic point of view, and obviously not written by a chauvinist. The students loved reading the column, recalled Casserly. "It was hysterical," she said.

Perhaps most impressive of Ziemba's qualities is his perseverance, said Casserly. "The fact that he wrote a book while he was really ill just blows me away," she said. Casserly added that writing a book is one milestone, but getting it published adds

another level of frustrations and necessity for that perseverance. "Going through getting published is so extremely difficult," said Casserly. While many of her students are great writers, she said, she only knows a few who would put up with the "agony" of getting published.

Another person familiar with Ziemba's writing is John Waggoner, a family friend and writer for USA Today. "I had seen some of Jake's writing for the school newspaper, but didn't really realize how serious he was about writing until he handed me a manuscript of his novel," wrote Waggoner in an e-mail. "I was incredibly impressed and insanely jealous," he wrote. "At his age, I could barely write a 10-page thesis, much less a work of fiction."

**"I hope they get some of the joy from reading it that I had from writing it."**

— Jake Ziemba, Author  
"The Yukon Glory"

Waggoner, who is also impressed that Ziemba wrote a good part of his novel while fighting a rare illness, remembers him as more than a writer. Waggoner's son Nate is a good friend of Ziemba's and played in a band with him. "Jake's smart, funny and

brave, too," said Waggoner. "His long ordeal with his bone marrow transfusion really was quite harrowing," wrote Waggoner. "Also, he's just a really good writer."

**AFTER A WEEK** of chemotherapy to kill his own bone marrow, Ziemba underwent an experimental stem cell transplant, extracted from his older brother, in January of 2007. Complications followed, but he prevailed again and has been PNH free for more than a year. He is dedicating a \$1 from every copy of "The Yukon Glory" sold to the PNH Foundation.

Ziemba is also working on his next novel, although that one is in its early stages. He plans on writing a science fiction novel on topics of bio-ethics and genetic engineering. He has also re-enrolled in school and is back at his old job at Frequent Flyer Express, a print shop in Sterling.

Ziemba said his goal for "The Yukon Glory" is for the readers to enjoy themselves. "I hope they get some of the joy from reading it that I had from writing it," he said.

Ziemba will be reading excerpts from "The Yukon Glory" and signing copies of the book in Reston's Used Book Shop, 1623 Washington Plaza, at the Lake Anne Village Center on Saturday, Aug. 23. The event will begin at 2 p.m. For more information call 703-435-9772. Copies of the novel are available for sale on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

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

### MONDAY/SEPT. 1

**Jazz & Wine Festival.** Jazz artists, Virginia wineries, fine arts and food, noon-6 p.m., in historic downtown Herndon. See [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

### 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](http://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.

### 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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.

## 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](http://www.sunsethillsmontessori.com) or contact Heather Briggs at [hkswann@hotmail.com](mailto:hkswann@hotmail.com) or Navara Jordan at [nljevents@yahoo.com](mailto:nljevents@yahoo.com).

**Paint Herndon** visit [www.ArtSpaceHerndon.org](http://www.ArtSpaceHerndon.org). Work of competition artists will hang in ArtSpace gallery for one month. Preview art exhibit is free to public.

**Paint Herndon Quick Sketch & Finale** occurs **Monday, Sept. 1**, at 11 a.m. Artists of all ages are welcome to join this light-hearted event at ArtSpace Herndon 750 Center St., Herndon. Bring paints, pencils, pastels or even crayons to check-in. Cost is \$10 for each artist. Create a new piece of artwork on this day and return it to the Herndon Old Town Hall green by 3 p.m. for judging and the opportunity to win prizes. The artwork of three winners will be chosen to hang in the gallery. Awards event at 6 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon. Exhibit and awards event free to the public.

### 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.

### FRIDAY/OCT. 3

**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.

**Grand opening of the ArtSpace Herndon gallery with exhibit of Plein Air Paintings, from Sept. 1-28**, at ArtSpace Herndon at 750 Center St., Herndon. Free.

**Mandarin Oriental, Washington**

**Mandarin Oriental, Washington**

**SUNDAY/OCT. 12**

### SATURDAY/OCT. 4

**Original Sewing & Quilt Expo.** At Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. General admission is \$10 per day at the door. Children under 12 are admitted free.

D.C., in association with **Galerie Brigitte** of Reston, presents an exclusive exhibit of modern lacquer, Vietnamese paintings, "Blending Traditions: Contemporary Lacquer by Duong Sen," featuring Sen's fascination with traditional Asian subjects. The Gallery,

located on the ballroom mezzanine level of Mandarin Oriental, Washington D.C., will run the exhibit **now through February 2009**.

The artwork is available for purchase through Galerie Brigitte and inquiries can be made by calling 703-860-2345 or visiting online at [www.galeriebrigitte.com](http://www.galeriebrigitte.com).

Mandarin Oriental, Washington, D.C. houses rotating art exhibits in the 1,566-square-foot gallery. Located on the mezzanine level of the hotel, the room features floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the Tidal Basin and Jefferson Memorial. There are daily viewing hours from 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. when the room is not scheduled for a private function. Call 202-554-8588.

# OBITUARY

## Richard N. "Dick" Davis

**R**ichard N. "Dick" Davis, 82, died July 29, 2008 at his home in Herndon. Mr. Davis was a partner with Dewberry, a leading engineering and architectural firm, until his retirement in 1986. Mr. Davis joined the firm in 1958 as chief engineer and became principal partner in 1966.

"The first time I met Dick was in 1948 while hitchhiking back to my hometown," said Sid Dewberry, chairman of the firm. "He stopped his 1936 roadster, pointed at me and said 'I know you! You're in my chemistry class!'" Mr. Dewberry recalls that the firm paid a recruiter \$600 in 1958 to bring Mr. Davis on board. "It was the best investment I ever made — which Dick was proud of reminding me," said Mr. Dewberry.

Mr. Davis was a professional

engineer and land surveyor. He graduated from George Washington University in 1948. In the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area he was involved in multiple critical projects such as the initial extension of the Dulles Toll Road and the Dulles Greenway.

He also managed the reconstruction of the Filene Center at Wolf Trap National Park after it burned in 1982.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Richard N. Davis Memorial Fund to support civil engineering students at George Washington University. Checks should be made payable and sent to the School of Engineering, George Washington University, Tompkins Hall, Room 210, 725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20052.

## Hotel Plan Waits on Approval

FROM PAGE 5

said hotel operators and owners change and therefore do not play a large role in what his ultimate decision on the proposal will be.

Council Member Charlie Waddell agreed with Tirrell in calling for a downtown Master Plan, while Council Member Richard

Downer offered to explain the difference between the JPI proposal and the one Diamond is being considered for. "JPI came across as an unknown," said Downer, adding that Diamond held numerous community meetings, as well as meetings with Town boards and commissions.

## HCTV SCHEDULE

HCTV-23 Herndon Community Television on Verizon FiOS Cable-channel 42 and Cox Communications Channel 23.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 21

7 a.m. Jazzercise  
8 a.m. Army Newswatch  
9 a.m. Travel TV  
10 a.m. Vintage HCTV  
11 a.m. Guitar Instruction 3  
Noon Jazzercise  
1 p.m. Gang Task Force Presentation  
2 p.m. Policing Our Town - Meet the Officers of HPD  
3 p.m. Army News Watch  
4 p.m. Concert: Eddie from Ohio  
6 p.m. Jazzercise  
6:30 p.m. Army News Watch  
7 p.m. Travel Television  
7:30 p.m. Jimmy's Old Town Tavern Open Mike Night  
9 p.m. Guitar Instruction 3  
10 p.m. Vintage HCTV

### FRIDAY/AUG. 22

7 a.m. Jazzercise  
7:30 a.m. The Reading Lady  
8 a.m. King Henry Show  
9 a.m. Something Different 2008  
10 a.m. Gang Presentation  
11 a.m. Battle of the Brookie  
11:30 a.m. After the Storm  
Noon Jazzercise  
1 p.m. Travel Television  
1:30 p.m. Reigning in the Storm  
2 p.m. Herndon Depot  
3 p.m. King Henry Show  
4 p.m. Concert: Robin Wynn  
6 p.m. Jazzercise  
6:30 p.m. The King Henry Show  
7 p.m. Jimmy's Old Town Tavern Open Mike Night  
8:30 p.m. Guitar Instruction 3  
9:30 p.m. Woody's Western Theater

### SATURDAY/AUG. 23

7 a.m. Jazzercise  
8 a.m. Music and the Spoken Word  
9 a.m. The Reading Lady  
9:30 a.m. King Henry Show  
10 a.m. Guitar Instruction 4  
10:30 a.m. Guitar Instruction 5  
Noon Jazzercise  
12:30 p.m. Jimmy's Old Town Tavern Open Mike Night  
2 p.m. Gang Task Force Presentation  
3:30 p.m. Music and the Spoken Word  
4 p.m. Concert: Liz Briones  
6 p.m. Jazzercise  
6:30 p.m. Inside Herndon

7 p.m. Guitar Instruction 4  
7:30 p.m. Guitar Instruction 5  
8:30 p.m. Travel TV  
9:30 p.m. Music and the Spoken Word  
10 p.m. Jimmy's Old Town Tavern Open Mike Night

### SUNDAY/AUG. 24

8 a.m. Music and the Spoken Word  
10:30 a.m. David Young - A Musical Journey  
12 p.m. Vintage HCTV  
1 p.m. Guitar Instruction 4  
1:30 p.m. Guitar Instruction 5  
2 p.m. Inside Herndon



**Experiences from War** Brigadier General Michael "Mike" DeArmond, USAF (Retired) spoke to the Reston Lions Club at its meeting Wednesday, Aug. 6, at the China Star Restaurant in Reston. He shared with the members some of his experiences as a jet fighter pilot during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and as a prisoner of war in North Korea. From left are Gerry Washburn, program chairman; DeArmond, and James Ryan, club president. DeArmond's talk was sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association of which DeArmond of Clifton and Washburn of Herndon are members.

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Minister Mary Barrino-Smith

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# HOME SALES

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Date Sold
12834 ROSE GROVE DR	4	4	1		OAK HILL	\$1,145,000	Detached	0.82966	07/09/08
3004 HAVENCREST ST	4	4	1		HERNDON	\$900,000	Detached	0.880441	07/18/08
12918 HARRINGTON CT	4	4	1		HERNDON	\$852,600	Detached	0.266208	07/01/08
1170 BANDY RUN RD	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$700,000	Detached	0.868434	07/15/08
675 OLD HUNT WAY	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$689,000	Detached	0.415473	07/21/08
2750 COPPER CREEK RD	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$685,125	Detached	0.589555	07/21/08
409 MADISON ST	4	4	1		HERNDON	\$672,743	Detached	0.229683	07/10/08
12501 SUMMER PL	5	3	1		HERNDON	\$660,000	Detached	0.311226	07/09/08
13221 LAZY GLEN LN	4	2	1		OAK HILL	\$630,000	Detached	0.244605	07/03/08
2445 DAKOTA LAKES DR	5	4	1		OAK HILL	\$610,000	Detached	0.215473	07/17/08
415 MADISON FOREST DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$592,762	Detached	0.242998	07/17/08
13126 TUCKAWAY DR	4	3	1		OAK HILL	\$590,000	Detached	0.230303	07/15/08
3030 EMERALD CHASE DR	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$555,000	Detached	0.385606	07/15/08
2904 PARKLAWN CT	4	3	1		OAK HILL	\$550,000	Detached	0.21056	07/08/08
1257 ROWLAND DR	5	3	1		HERNDON	\$540,000	Detached	0.46219	07/17/08
3229 AUTUMN HILL CT	4	2	1		OAK HILL	\$525,000	Detached	0.259068	07/03/08
2616 QUINCY ADAMS DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$525,000	Detached	0.311019	07/17/08
1401 KINGVALE CIR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$505,000	Detached	0.236134	07/18/08
1204 MONROE ST	4	4	1		HERNDON	\$480,000	Detached	0.298485	07/15/08
13315 POINT RIDER LN	5	3	0		HERNDON	\$475,000	Detached	0.195592	07/11/08
13562 CEDAR RUN LN	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$473,000	Townhouse	0.052525	07/17/08
2576 JOHN MILTON DR	5	4	1		HERNDON	\$465,000	Detached	0.251607	07/15/08
1627 SADLERS WELLS DR	5	3	1		HERNDON	\$450,000	Detached	0.197314	07/17/08
12618 GLENBROOKE WOODS DR	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$426,000	Detached	0.424977	07/03/08
1317 SUMMERFIELD DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$420,000	Detached	0.215978	07/10/08
13512 BRIGHTFIELD LN	3	2	1		OAK HILL	\$410,000	Detached	0.167952	07/21/08
12631 ETRUSCAN DR	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$406,500	Detached	0.32764	07/16/08
1403 CUTTERMILL CT	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$392,000	Detached	0.371534	07/09/08
12712 SOCIETY DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$390,000	Detached	0.220317	07/15/08
12710 LONGLEAF LN	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$390,000	Detached	0.212121	07/18/08
13225 FOX RIPLE LN	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$375,000	Townhouse	0.055096	07/15/08
12819 BRIERY RIVER TER	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$365,000	Detached	0.310009	07/01/08
12605 WESTLODGE CT	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$359,000	Detached	0.246924	07/14/08
2930 TIMBER WOOD WAY	4	2	0		HERNDON	\$355,000	Detached	0.392929	07/14/08
1313 BAYSHIRE LN	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$350,000	Detached	0.218526	07/20/08
1120 TREESIDE LN	5	2	1		HERNDON	\$350,000	Detached	0.200574	07/21/08
828 VAN BUREN ST	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$346,900	Detached	0.459137	07/08/08
1437 KINGSTREAM DR	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$345,504	Detached	0.201882	07/18/08
2599 LOGAN WOOD DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$344,000	Townhouse	0.037879	07/21/08
1004 CHARLTON PL	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$340,000	Detached	0.345546	07/16/08
2559 JAMES MONROE CIR	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.034435	07/23/08
2025 MALEADY DR	5	3	1		HERNDON	\$339,000	Detached	0.199587	07/02/08
1103 TREESIDE LN	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$334,000	Detached	0.257323	07/11/08
1307 WINTERBOURNE CT	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$333,000	Detached	0.374839	07/21/08
2552 JAMES MAURY DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$327,900	Townhouse	0.036478	07/17/08
13691 SAINT JOHNS WOOD PL	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.031221	07/10/08
2613 CLAXTON DR	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$320,000	Detached	0.275413	07/18/08
13124 MARCEY CREEK RD#13124	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$310,000	Townhouse		07/02/08
2434 CORN CRIB CT	2	2	1		HERNDON	\$309,000	Townhouse	0.041414	07/11/08
507 ALABAMA DR	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$306,000	Detached	0.214669	07/16/08
804 FALL PL	4	2	0		HERNDON	\$303,000	Detached	0.219995	07/11/08
1010 JEFF RYAN DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$300,000	Detached	0.259642	07/08/08
2009 BLUE RIDGE CT	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$294,000	Detached	0.375826	07/21/08
13402 HAMER CT	5	3	0		HERNDON	\$287,000	Detached	0.25404	07/03/08
3019 MCMASTER CT	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$285,000	Townhouse	0.028926	07/14/08
1247 BOND ST	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$285,000	Townhouse	0.0677	07/24/08
504 ASPEN DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$281,000	Detached	0.220983	07/02/08
1104 WINTROL CT	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$280,000	Detached	0.128558	07/12/08
2116 MALEADY DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$279,900	Detached	0.199885	07/16/08
1609 SADLERS WELLS CT	4	2	0		HERNDON	\$279,000	Detached	0.19286	07/02/08
1270 REDWOOD CT	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$275,001	Detached		07/14/08
1129 CYPRESS TREE PL	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.036731	07/11/08
1237 WILSHIRE DR	5	3	0		HERNDON	\$255,500	Detached	0.248416	07/21/08
3095 MCGRANE CT	2	2	1		HERNDON	\$250,000	Townhouse	0.028926	07/14/08
12915 ALTON SQ #116	2	1	0		HERNDON	\$235,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		07/03/08
803 DULLES CT	5	2	0		HERNDON	\$235,000	Detached	0.222291	07/08/08
1210 SUNRISE CT	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$234,000	Detached	0.251102	07/24/08
411 PATRICK LN	4	1	1		HERNDON	\$230,000	Detached	0.261318	07/24/08
1049 NICKLAUS CT	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.060262	07/24/08
492 VIRGINIA AVE	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$224,700	Townhouse	0.038843	07/08/08
1264 BOND ST	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$219,900	Townhouse	0.034435	07/07/08
1163 LISA CT	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$215,900	Townhouse	0.048439	07/02/08
1014 SABER LN	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$215,000	Townhouse	0.033058	07/15/08
367 LINDEN CT	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$200,000	Townhouse	0.039669	07/21/08
804 SYCAMORE CT	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$200,000	Townhouse	0.089991	07/23/08
3086 MCGRANE CT	2	1	1		HERNDON	\$197,900	Townhouse	0.028926	07/18/08
13343 FELDMAN PL	5	3	0		HERNDON	\$196,900	Townhouse	0.03214	07/15/08
13349 APGAR PL	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$194,750	Townhouse	0.049679	07/07/08
807 SYCAMORE CT	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$192,500	Townhouse	0.035468	07/11/08
3096 MCGRANE CT	2	1	1		HERNDON	\$190,000	Townhouse	0.028926	07/10/08
312 CHERRY CT	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$185,100	Townhouse	0.081428	07/03/08
2165 ORAM PL	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$184,000	Townhouse	0.033701	07/09/08
2171 MONAGHAN DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$176,000	Townhouse	0.033219	07/03/08
401 MAGNOLIA CT	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$173,900	Semi-Detached	0.048806	07/11/08
326 RENEAU WAY	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$170,000	Townhouse	0.04697	07/03/08
13326 SCHWENGER PL	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$166,500	Townhouse	0.033219	07/23/08
13347 FELDMAN PL	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$165,000	Townhouse		07/10/08
1038 KNIGHT LN	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$160,000	Townhouse	0.034435	07/14/08
1172 DUBLIN PL	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$160,000	Townhouse	0.063338	07/24/08
1124 SHANNON PL	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$150,000	Townhouse	0.053375	07/02/08
13322 SCHWENGER PL	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$149,900	Townhouse	0.033219	07/07/08
2107 MONAGHAN DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$147,000	Townhouse	0.03214	07/22/08
1236 SPRINGTIDE PL	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$145,000	Townhouse	0.036731	07/18/08
2116 MAGER DR	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$140,000	Townhouse	0.033219	07/03/08
2127 ORAM PL	3	3	0		HERNDON	\$140,000	Townhouse	0.033701	07/07/08
1126 SHANNON PL	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$140,000	Townhouse	0.034435	07/07/08
1273 SPRINGTIDE PL	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$140,000	Townhouse	0.036731	07/15/08
13276 POENER PL	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$139,900	Townhouse	0.028926	07/18/08
1030 SABER LN	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$136,000	Townhouse	0.034435	07/24/08
1022 CHARLES ST	3	1	2		HERNDON	\$130,000	Townhouse	0.033058	07/16/08
1131 SHANNON PL	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$130,000	Townhouse	0.034435	07/23/08
511 FLORIDA AVE #T3	2	2	0		HERNDON	\$100,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		07/24/08

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Viewing / Inspection: Thursday August 7th + 14th: LAND: 1-2PM, OFFICE 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Final Inspection & Registration: Thursday August 21st: 10 AM

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24106 Mercers Crossing Ct.	\$864,900	Sun 1-4	Lori Hall	Long & Foster	703-968-7000

#### Ashburn

19919 Alexandras Grove Dr.	\$565,000	Sun 1-4	Melissa Dabney	Long & Foster	703-938-4200
23077 Oglethorpe Ct.	\$1,180,000	Sun 1-4	Thomas Reidy	Long & Foster	703-631-3200
21510 Tithables Cir.	\$649,000	Sun 1-4	Barbara Dugger	Weichert	703-980-9024

#### Broadlands

21388 Shady Woods Ter.	\$359,900	Sun 1-4	Steve Grimes	Realty 2000	703-772-2270
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#### Hamilton

16629 Swanbourne Dr.	\$849,900	Sat & Sun 11-4	Joan DeSantis	Sampson	800-323-9267
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#### Leesburg

42041 Brightwood Ln.	\$660,000	Sun 1-3	Bridget Allen	Weichert	540-454-0943
20400 Crimson Pl.	\$899,900	Sun 1-4	Julie Hertel	Long & Foster	571-243-5952
1154 Keokuk Ter., #28	\$424,000	Sun 1-4	J. Jordan	Weichert	703-655-6665
108 Loudoun St., SW	\$1,750,000	Sun 12-4	Anna Greaves	TMG Consultants	703-346-5727

# Well Done



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not that anybody in a position of decision-making or public relating is listening to me, lowly middle class consumer that I am, but I think I owe the oil companies an apology. As much as I have complained about and criticized their grotesque profits in print (occasionally) and in conversation (frequently), their most recent record-setting quarterly profits have turned me completely around. With the numbers, and variety, of businesses reeling from the high cost of oil (up 72 percent in the last year, as of Aug. 8), and with bankruptcies, foreclosures, store closings, unemployment and inflation all increasing, and with even the possibility of some governments going to a four-day work week to reduce the financial pressures on their thousands of employees, dominating the headlines, a direct result of increased energy costs (as well as all the other collateral costs on down and across the food chain, metaphorically speaking), why is it that the companies who actually import the oil, who themselves have to absorb this unprecedented increase in the cost of their doing business, and who, I would imagine, spend more money on energy costs than most other companies do, are the ones least effected by the escalating costs of these goods and their related services? It has to be management and their business acumen.

When all/everybody else is failing and you are not, it must be a direct result of your brains and perhaps a little brawn. Running a multi-billion dollar company with hundreds of thousands employees spread across nearly the entire universe (that we know of), with offices, platforms, drills, rigging, vehicles, equipment, hardware, software, etc., everywhere, and it all needing to be integrated into some kind of organized business plan that allows for everyone to be paid: management, employees, contractors, sub-contractors, vendors, insurers, attorneys, accountants, public relations and advertising people, researchers and developers and of course, stockholders and bond holders; and have products brought to market in a timely and efficient manner, and still make a profit, even after the main component of their business — oil, has increased by an amount totally out of their control — a 100 percent increase in one year until this most recent fall back, is nothing short of miraculous and worthy of, at the very least, a PBS-type documentary explaining how a company/industry could thrive under such extraordinary and excruciatingly difficult — and challenging — circumstances. Circumstances that have cut so many of their fellow business owners down to the quick.

A quick that has seen many blue chip, blue bloods; some of the best and the brightest, in America and abroad, devastated, suffering indignities and financial losses never before imagined, not just millions or even hundreds of millions, but in some board rooms, losses calculated to be in the billions. That's the real "b" word in today's economy.

But somehow the oil companies muster on, encountering the same fossil fuel-related increases as everyone else, yet still posting record profits. We shouldn't be questioning their success; we should be celebrating it. If only the rest of us could learn, even just a little bit, from the oil companies' success, I'm sure the world would be a much better place, what's left of it anyway.

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

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# Digging Up History

FROM PAGE 3

Early next month, he will return to a case he worked on about 10 years ago and which he had thought was closed. During a July 4 air show, two jets had plunged into northern Lake Michigan, and Libert later calculated their approximate location, picked them up on his scanners and sent down a camera that spotted what appeared to be the torso of one of the pilots. He did the work free of charge and is now being asked to help out again.

Libert also said the military had recently asked him to seek "something very precious" off the coast of North Carolina.

**MUCH OF THE FINANCIAL** backing for Libert's search for the Griffon, though, has been founded by Pelican Products CEO David Parker, who met Libert after overhearing him at a maritime store asking for the sort of floats that are used to mark a deep sea find. Parker asked what kind of floats he was looking for, and when Libert said he wanted Pelican floats, Parker said he thought he could help. He soon became Libert's benefactor.

Great Lakes Exploration has also held fund-raisers around the city of Charlevoix, its base of operations in Michigan, but Libert said he generally lost money on those events and held them primarily to foster community support for his project.

And the fund-raisers bring the story to the presidential election.

Libert said the office of Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox, one of the offices that has asserted the state's claim to the ship, made him cancel one of his fund-raisers, saying it was being held illegally. As soon as the scheduled date for the event had passed, said Libert, Cox's office sent a letter of apology saying that prohibiting the fund-raiser had been a mistake, but Libert said he had a paper trail to prove the office had deliberately interrupted his fund-raising. He said he planned to release the story to the Michigan media shortly.

Cox, meanwhile, was the state chairman for presumptive Republican presidential nominee John McCain's campaign. "This won't help McCain," said Libert, noting that Michigan is likely to be a swing state in the November election. Libert described himself as "a Republican, but not a staunch Republican."

**HIS FIND** and the ensuing legal battle have attracted attention from ABC's "Good Morning America," which ran a piece on Libert late last month, and the story was re-aired with a fresh interview a week later on the network's "Law & Justice" program. Libert said he has also been in talks with National Geographic and did an interview in Paris. The French, he said, "are pretty excited about it."

He said France and Canada would each send an archaeologist for the unearthing of the ship. Ultimately, he said, if it does turn out to be the Griffon, he hopes France will grant the U.S. a 99-year lease on the vessel



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Steve Libert, head of the McLean-based Great Lakes Exploration Group, hands up a piece of what he believes to be a piece of the bowsprit of the Griffon, a long-sought vessel built by French explorer Robert La Salle. Libert recently won the right to begin excavating the wreck.**

so it can be turned into a museum. He has been working with the French Embassy to that end and said they seemed amenable to the idea. He said he planned to put the museum in Charlevoix, although Chicago, the sister city to Paris, had also made a bid. And if it is not the Griffon, "it's an extremely old vessel that may be rewriting some history books," said Libert.

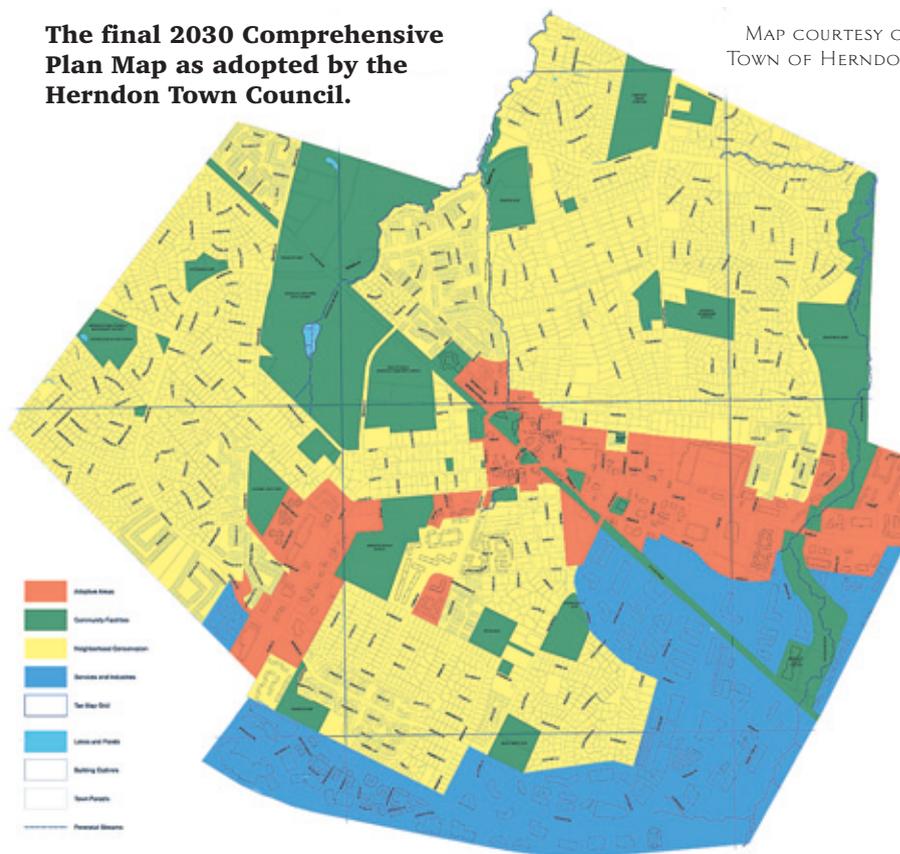
Demel agreed that if the ship was not the object of Libert's quest, "it's still going to be an interesting story." However, if it is the Griffon, he said, "this would be a huge find." He said the vessel would offer some insight into how a ship would have been built by hand in the wilderness, for one thing. "It's very unique in its construction," said Demel. Also, he said, it would serve as a time capsule from the early days of American exploration. Demel said he hoped to be involved in unearthing the ship, which he guessed would take anywhere from three to five years.

Libert estimated that there are some 3,000 shipwrecks spread across Lake Michigan's 22,400 square miles. "People say this must have been like looking for a needle in a haystack, and I say it's not," he said. "It's like looking for a needle in a hayfield."

His wife, Kathie, said both navigation and individualism came naturally to her husband. "Anybody that met him in my family knew he was different, but in a good way," she said, adding that her mother had always thought of Libert as a restless soul who had returned to address some unfinished business. "When everybody's zagging, he zigs."

The final 2030 Comprehensive Plan Map as adopted by the Herndon Town Council.

MAP COURTESY OF TOWN OF HERNDON



## Herndon Adopts 2030 Plan

**Land use document anticipates Rail to Dulles and Phase 2 Tax District.**

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC  
THE CONNECTION

Sixteen months of work for Herndon's Chief Planner Dana Heiberg and his staff culminated with the passing of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan at Herndon Town Council on Tuesday night, Aug. 12.

"It's been an extensive process of going out to the community," said Heiberg, adding that the planning staff made presentations at seven public hearings on the draft of the document. In addition, several public meetings were held in the summer of 2007, soliciting public input on what topics the plan should cover. The 2030 Plan anticipates the Phase 2 Tax District for construction of the rail extension to Dulles Airport. This tax district will include commercial properties that will benefit from the rail stations, similar to the district currently serving the first phase of the extension up to Wiehle Avenue in Reston. However, said Heiberg, "No actual tax district has come forward."

Council Member Richard Downer said the 2030 Plan is "an excellent piece of work." He urged the community's planners to produce more detailed analysis for the rail extension, adding that Herndon is "way behind" some other communities in planning for metro's arrival. "We have not kept up with that

pace," said Downer. He said all the other Fairfax County sites that will be home to metro stations on the extension have extensive land use plans prepared. "We don't," said Downer. "We need to get cracking on a sub-plan for that area."

Other council members also lauded the planners' work and emphasized the importance of the document. Council Member Dennis Husch said the 2030 Plan is a result of "a tremendous amount of work by a lot of people." The document produces Town's land use ordinances and public facilities, which result in the citizens' quality of life. "An intangible thing, but the comprehensive plan makes it tangible," said Husch. "People make big dollar decisions based on this document," he said. "This [passing a comprehensive plan] is the most important thing a Town Council will ever do."

Council Member Bill Tirrell urged the planners to consider trash receptacles and bicyclists in the community. "We need to do what so many communities

have done, what so many countries have done," said Tirrell, talking about multi-container trash receptacles that encourage recycling.

As for the community's bicyclists, on the increase

since the price of gas has been rising, Tirrell said Herndon should make sure of two things: one, that they are safe and, two, that bicycle racks are placed at appropriate locations in Herndon. Their safety relies on them being observant of the signs meant for them on the area roads and trails, in particular the Washington and Old Dominion Trail.

To view the 2030 Plan visit the Town of Herndon Web site at <http://herndonva.gov>.

**"We need to get cracking on a sub-plan for that area."**

— Richard Downer, Herndon Town Council Member

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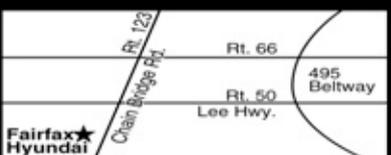
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