

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER / THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 12 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 17

School Opening Prompts Another Boundary Study

NEWS, PAGE 4

Smaller Diamond Approved

NEWS, PAGE 3

'Sounds of Music' At Herndon High

NEWS, PAGE 3

Brittany Bishop prepares to enter the auditorium for the closing show of "The Sound of Music" at Herndon High School last Sunday afternoon.

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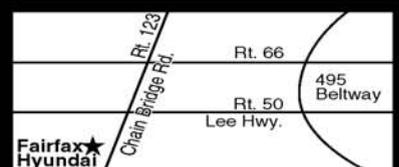
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For the Herndon High School's production of "The Sound of Music" senior Kate Merryman portrayed the lead role of Maria.



Maria, played by Kate Merryman, introduces the children to music for the first time.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Herndon High Presents 'Sounds of Music'



PHOTO COURTESY OF COOLEY GODWARD KRONISH LLP

The approved hotel proposal as viewed from Elden Street.

Smaller Diamond Approved

Herndon Town Council approves hotel rezoning with 7-0 vote.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHC
THE CONNECTION

The Herndon Town Council voted unanimously to approve a Diamond Properties rezoning that would allow for a 150-room hotel to be built in downtown Herndon. The proposal for the hotel has gone through a number of changes since it was first brought to the Herndon community and the proposal approved by a 7-0 vote at the Town Council on Tuesday

"The most important thing it brings is presence, is eyes."

— Patrick Kane,
Planner and Reston resident

night, Nov. 11, is smaller in scale than the one the Town Council rejected in September by a 4-3 vote.

"A quality smaller hotel is still better than nothing at all," said Council Member Richard Downer, who supported the rezoning application both times it went before the Herndon Town Council. He said the proposed hotel would bring activity to downtown Herndon. "And activity that is very consistent with what is there," said Downer, adding that the presentations from the developers throughout the community input process have made him believe the end product will be an attractive building.

"I hope they can actually build it," said Downer, referring to tough economic conditions in the construction industry. "They sure have been persistent," he said of Diamond Properties, the developer that met with community organizations and Town boards close to 30 times and continued to amend their project in order to satisfy the public and the decision makers.

"A quality smaller hotel is still better than nothing at all."

— Richard Downer,
Herndon Town Council Member

THE FINAL PROPOSAL, the one that ushered the passing of the rezoning on Nov. 11, sets the hotel at 150 rooms, previously brought to the Town Council as a 163-room hotel, which started as a 179-room hotel when first proposed. The building features three full floors and parts of it rise to four floors, all of which is a one-floor reduction from the defeated proposal in September. The building continues to provide 12,850 square feet of retail space. However, in order to offset the profits lost in building a smaller scale hotel, the developer has reduced the size of the parking below the building, providing one-and-a-half floors of parking instead of two floors as previously proposed.

"The hotel is reestablishing the vitality of the downtown," said Patrick Kane, a Reston resident who did the master plan for the Town of Herndon. "The most important thing it brings is presence, is eyes" to down

SEE HOTEL, PAGE 19

Taneja Pleads Guilty

\$33 million owed.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Vijay K. Taneja, 47 of Fairfax, pleaded guilty Thursday, Nov. 13, to one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering in a \$33 million mortgage fraud case.

Taneja's company, Financial Mortgage, Inc. (FMI), originated and sold mortgages on residential properties in the metropolitan area. Before his company sold mortgages to financial institutions as long term investors, FMI used "warehouse lenders" to temporarily fund the mortgages before they were sold.

Taneja defrauded a series of his company's lenders and other long-term investors of \$33 million by creating fictitious loans with bogus loan closings; selling the same legitimate loan to multiple investors; and pocketing proceeds generated from refinancing loans when the money was intended to payoff prior mortgages on the same properties, according to Dana Boente, acting U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Taneja's company filed for bankruptcy in June 2008.

Taneja is scheduled to be sentenced in federal court in Alexandria on Jan. 30, 2009.

He agreed to pay \$8,141,327 in res

SEE GUILTY PLEA, PAGE 19

Police Seek Assistance

Fairfax County Crime Solvers is asking for public's assistance in locating Rafael Villagomez, 32, wanted in connection with an attempted armed robbery and abduction on Oct. 4 in the Fox Mill Giant. Villagomez, of no fixed address, has outstanding warrants for robbery and the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. He is 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighs 150 pounds. He has brown eyes and black hair and is known to frequent Elden Street in the Town of Herndon.

An investigation into the crime has led to the arrest of Anthony Michael Handy, 21, of Sterling. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with robbery.

Anyone with information on Villagomez's whereabouts is asked to contact Fairfax County Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus the message to CRIMES(274637). A \$1,000 cash reward will be paid for information that leads to an arrest. Callers never have to give their names or appear in court.

Town Introduces 'Single Stream' Recycling

Effective immediately residents of the Town of Herndon may put all their recyclables into one container for pick-up each Wednesday. Items that may be co-mingled into one or more containers include aluminum and glass containers, newspapers, cardboard, magazines and catalogs, cereal boxes, telephone books and printer/copier paper.

Some plastics, including narrow neck and screw top plastics such as milk, water, detergent and shampoo bottles, as well as plastic toys, drinking cups and flower pots may also be co-mingled in the container. Recyclables must be placed curbside by 7 a.m. each Wednesday for pick up. For more information call the Town of Herndon Department of Public Works (DPW) at 703-435-6853 or visit www.herndon-va.gov.

Obama Supporters Gather in Herndon

Supporters of president-elect Barack Obama's presidential campaign are gathering at Old Town Herndon's So Addictive Bar, Grill & Nightlife on Thursday night, Nov. 20, starting at 6:30 p.m. The "Fired Up and Ready To Go" gathering is a nationwide effort by MoveOn.org and is for everyone who wants to keep Obama's campaign going to help him pass the plans he campaigned on.

LINK Used Winter Coat Distribution

The Sterling United Methodist Church will host the LINK Used Winter Coat Distribution on Nov. 22. Donated coats can be dropped off at the church, 304 East Church Road, from Nov. 16 to 22, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Coats do not need to be new, but do need to be in good condition and clean. A record 600 families have registered for this year's LINK Thanksgiving Food and Used Coat distribution event, comprising 1,269 adults and 1,619 children. Other winter garments are also welcome, including hats, mittens, scarves and sweatshirts. Contact a LINK representative for more information via e-mail at HolidayFoodBasket@LINKAgainstHunger.org.

Spirit of Giving Open House

The annual Spirit of Giving Open House at JJ Deli to help the wounded soldiers at Walter Reed and their families at Fisher House will take place on Sunday Dec. 7, starting at 1 p.m. JJ Deli is located at the Herndon Centennial Golf Course. Items needed this year include sweatshirts, sweatpants, T-shirts, men's boxers, ladies' underwear, men and ladies pajamas, winter hats, gloves, deodorant, lotion, body wash and gift cards for Walmart and Target. The deli will collect donations from Dec. 1 through Dec. 14. For more information e-mail JJDel@cox.net.

NEWS

School Opening Prompts Another Boundary Study

Shift could be sixth in 10 years for some communities.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

It was less than a year ago when Henry Hueng spent late nights at public hearings urging the Fairfax County School Board not to move his neighborhood into a different high school district. Now, the Herndon resident was attending another public meeting about yet another public school redistricting.

Fairfax County Public Schools plans to open a new elementary school, called Coppermine, on River Birch Drive in Herndon next fall. Hueng was one of about 200 residents to attend the first meeting about the resulting boundary changes at Rachel Carson Middle School Nov. 14.

School planning staff said the redistricting could impact families attending McNair, Floris, Herndon, Hutchinson and Oak Hill elementary schools.

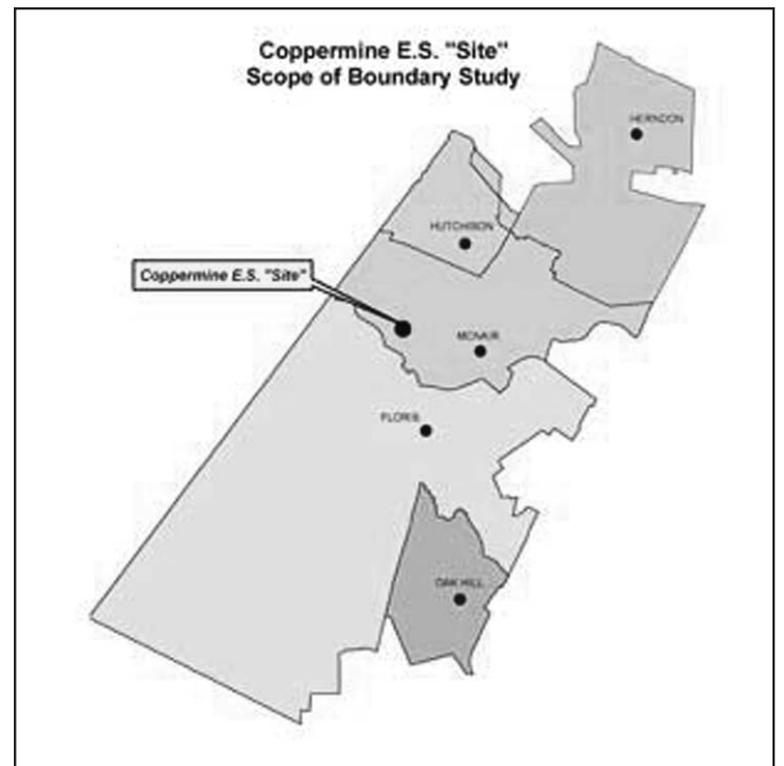
Like Hueng, several of those who could be affected have been redistricted several times, including a shift from Westfield High School to South Lakes High School earlier this year. They do not want to move again.

Dozens of these residents — from the Sycamore Lakes, Sycamore Ridge, Monroe Manor, Monroe Chase, Meadow Hall, Cockerill Place and Fox Mill Heights neighborhoods — showed up at the boundary meeting to protest changes that could impact them. They far outnumbered people from other school communities who attended the meeting.

"They let some people be hurt last year and they should not let them be hurt again," said Hueng, adding that school redistricting can affect home values and community morale.

SCHOOL STAFF has proposed two initial options for redrawing the elementary school boundaries in the Herndon area.

The first option moves 374 children out of Floris, which is currently over capacity by 94 students, and sends them to both Coppermine and McNair. About 30



COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SYSTEM

The current elementary school boundaries in the Herndon and Oak Hill area.

Boundary Study Dates

- Dec. 10** – Second Town Hall Meeting, Franklin Middle School, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 8** – FCPS presents boundary recommendation to School Board
- Jan. 12** – School Board discusses FCPS recommendation
- Jan. 29** – Public hearing on recommendation
- Feb. 4** – Public hearing on recommendation (if needed)
- Feb. 9** – School Board discusses recommendation
- Feb. 19** – School Board votes on new boundary

students from Oak Hill, which is 274 students over building capacity, would then shift over to Floris.

Also in option one, McNair, which is about 490 students over building capacity, would lose about 350 students to Coppermine, Herndon and Hutchinson. But the school would also gain about 100 students from Floris.

If they include the existing modular classrooms, staff manages to get the enrollment of every school except Oak Hill under capacity in the first option. But the school demographics remain extremely unbalanced.

Coppermine would open with almost 60 percent of its students qualifying for free and reduced lunch — the school system's leading indicator of poverty — and about 34 percent of the school's students would be entitled to English-as-a-second-language services.

Herndon and Hutchinson — where the percentages of students who are poor and non-native English speakers are already well

above the county average — would experience a slight increase among these at-risk populations.

Floris, which has relatively few at-risk students, would also see a small rise in these needier student groups. The number of pupils who qualify for free-and-reduced lunch will go from 3.5 to 6.7 percent and students who qualify for English-as-a-second-language services from 5.7 to 7.1 percent.

Oak Hill, the most affluent of the six elementary schools, will see a drop in students who qualify for free-and-reduced lunch from 4.4 to 3.4 percent and students who qualify for English-as-a-second-language services from 4.6 to 3.8 percent.

The largest change would occur at McNair, where the number of students who are poor and non-Native English speakers would be cut in half. Students who qualify for free-and-reduced lunch would go from 47.3 to 20.9 percent and students who qualify for English-as-a-second-language services would go from about 29 percent

SEE BOUNDARY, PAGE 9

NEWS



Strayer Moves to Herndon

Strayer Education recently signed a 12-year lease for 104,914 sq. ft. at Dulles Station East, a six-story office tower located at 2303 Dulles Station Boulevard. Strayer will occupy the top three floors plus 5,000 sq. ft. on the first floor. Strayer is consolidating its headquarters and administrative functions for the D.C. area, commencing in early 2010.

Lions To Host Citrus Sale

The Reston Lions Club will hold its annual citrus sale at the club's trailer located at the North Point Village Center on Reston Parkway. Fresh Florida navel oranges and pink grapefruit, Whitley's Gourmet Virginia Peanuts and Cabot Private Stock Cheddar will be available.

The site will be open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 5; 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6, and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. or until sold out on Sunday, Dec. 7.

All proceeds will benefit the club's sight and hearing programs and other charities in the Reston and Herndon areas.

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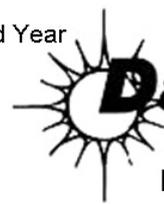
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– Virginia Municipal League

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OPINION

Call for Student Connection

Looking for writing and artwork by local students.

Every year, over the winter holidays, the Connection turns the pages of one entire issue over to the contributions of local students.

As with previous years' issues, we will feature artwork of many kinds, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories, reflections and more. Artwork can include paintings, drawings or any media; photos of sculpture, ceramics or other works too large to sub-

mit are also encouraged.

We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled. Past contributions have come from children from nursery schools through those preparing to graduate from high school.

Sometimes an art or English teacher will assign a project and submit the work of an entire class, but individual submissions from any young person in the commu-

nity are also welcome. We prefer digital submissions.

Please be sure to include the name of the artist or author, and include age, school attended and name of the hometown, along with a phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

Mail, e-mail or deliver submissions to the Connection by Dec. 5. Our address is 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. E-mail to kemal@connectionnewspapers.com, or call 703-917-6428 with questions.

EDITORIALS

Here's a Stimulus Plan

Many localities are calling for their share of the federal bailout. It's not unreasonable, given that the economic slowdown means less revenue for localities at the very moment local citizens turn to their local governments for more help.

For a stimulus plan that would create jobs, give localities a boost and provide lasting benefits, the next phase of stimulus spending should involve dispensing funds to localities that have major projects, like rail to Dulles or

school building and renovations, ready to go.

Rail to Dulles is not the only major (and sorely needed) transit project that has been languishing in a parsimonious and convoluted federal process waiting for funding. Let's spend \$150 billion paying for projects around the country that will put people to work right away, stimulate the economy via jobs and demand for goods and services, take cars off the roads.

Think what a boost it would be to the local economy to have most of the cost of such a

Build rail to Dulles, and other infrastructure projects.

project taken care of by the feds.

Do we have anything to show for the \$150 billion in stimulus checks mailed out to consumers a few hundred dollars at a time?

The federal government is spending inconceivable sums of money to help stabilize the economy. Let's spend some of it on something that will last.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,
703-917-6416

Of Budgets and Buses

How everyone wins with better school start times.

BY SANDY EVANS, PHYLLIS PAYNE AND TERRY TULEY

As the budget crisis looms over all Fairfax County school issues, it's important to remember that changed bell schedules can both improve student health and learning while also saving money.

Benefits of having the right schedules for our students and buses include: Students who are awake during class, reduced absenteeism, tardy, and drop-out rates, less depression, and improved performance in class, sports and behind the wheel. There are multiple health and academic benefits to all our students, both elementary and adolescents, to having them in school when they are most ready to learn.

Implementing healthy start times for our children can be a win-win for the students and the budget. Thanks to recommendations from the school board-appointed Transportation Task Force, the FCPS transportation department has updated routing maps and found many efficiencies. Compared with

previous estimates to fix a broken transportation system, the most recent proposal would actually save about \$16 million (so far).

ESPECIALLY IN TIMES of tight budgets, we must look to providing our students with the essentials. One of these essentials, as outlined in FCPS's Strategic Governance Goal 6.7 is to provide a "healthful learning environment" for our children. Sleep researchers point to early school start times as a major culprit in our adolescents' chronic and harmful level of sleep deprivation. Jurisdictions that have a start time of 8:30 to 9 a.m. show that teens do sleep longer with these start times. They fall asleep at about the same time (close to 11 p.m.) and use the extra time in the morning to sleep.

Research indicates that after a complete night's sleep, memory is consolidated and test performance improves. Interrupted or incomplete sleep disrupts this process and impairs cognition. Not all sleep is equal. The deepest sleep, REM (rapid eye movement) is concentrated in the last hours of the

normal sleep cycle. So when sleep is cut off, some of its most important functions suffer. The body will demand the sleep it needs in one form or another. Some students will fall asleep in class, while others will experience "mini-REM's" that make them miss a few seconds of instruction at a time.

IT IS MORE important than ever to make sure that our tax dollars are wisely invested and that our teachers are providing instruction during a time when students are best able to learn. The right school schedule confers huge benefits for students, families and our community.

With more than 8,400 signatures on our petition and agreement from 85 percent of the more than 6,000 parents who participated in an FCCPTA poll this summer, SLEEP calls on the School Board to enact and implement healthy school start times in 2009.

Sandy Evans and Phyllis Payne are co-founders, and Terry Tuley is chair of SLEEP (Start Later for Excellence in Education Proposal). Go to www.SLEEPinFairfax.org for links to research cited in this column.

LETTERS

Democracy Alive, Well

To the Editor:

There will be many memorable images from election 2008, but perhaps none is more heartening than that of Americans voting in staggering numbers at the polls. It is an affirmation that our democracy is alive and well. Voters deserve to be congratulated for their deep commitment to voting and for their patience and perseverance. They showed real dedication by voting early, standing in long lines when necessary and making sure their voices were heard.

In Fairfax County, 78.7 percent of the 665,674 registered voters voted for president/vice president. Election Day went smoothly and after the early morning rush, there was little waiting to vote at most precincts. Voters were greeted with the option of using the "old" WinVote computer or the new optical scanning paper ballot. The paper ballot option sped up voting and seemed to be well received by those who chose to use it.

Democracy got a big boost this election with such enthusiastic participation from voters, especially younger voters ages 18-29,

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

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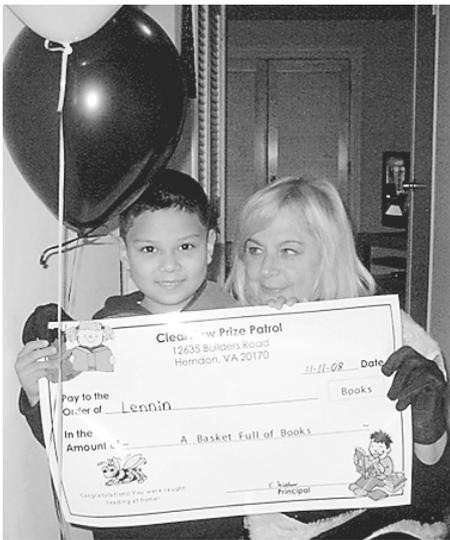
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Awarding Readers

Allie Kassraie (4th Grade) with Clearview Elementary School Principal Elaine Wellner, Allie's sister Hayley Kassraie, Allie Kassraie and Christy Aronheim. Clearview's reading specialist.



Herndon's Prize Patrol

The Clearview Prize Patrol, modeled after the Publishers ClearingHouse Prize Patrol, cruised Clearview Elementary neighborhoods on the evening of Tuesday, Nov. 11, looking for students who are reading. Randomly choosing addresses submitted by students, the Clearview Prize Patrol stopped at a house, and, if the student in that home is reading, the student received a book-related prize. Here, Lennin Reyes (1st Grade) is congratulated by Principal Elaine Wellner.

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Where: George Mason University - Fairfax Campus (Concert Hall) - 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030
Park in the Visitor Parking Deck by the pond. Check-in will be in front of the Concert Hall (Bldg. 60 on Mason Pond Drive). Further details will be posted at www.racepacket.com.
What: USATF certified 5k race - course is two clock-wise loops around the Patriot Center
Registration: \$20 on or before Wednesday, December 17th, 2008; \$25 after December 17th and on race day
Packet Pick-up: Tuesday, December 30, 2008 at Metro Run & Walk from 6:00-8:00 PM (7516 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA)
Race Day Registration: GMU Concert Hall, Wednesday, December 31st from 2:30 to 3:30 PM (& Packet Pick-up)

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More Unlicensed Than Drunk Drivers at Checkpoints

When the Fairfax County police set up a checkpoint over a weekend night, they are more likely to find people driving without a license than people driving under the influence, according to county executive Tony Griffin.

"Each police station has controlled stops in the district and they tend to arrest more people for not having an operator's license [than drunk driving]," said Griffin at the Board of Supervisors legislative meeting Nov. 14.

Fairfax County officers wrote about 5,440 tickets for driving without a license from October 2007 through September 2008. Of the eight precincts, the Mount Vernon police district garnered the most offenders in this area last year, with about 1,120 tickets issued for this problem.

Some elected officials suspect that some of the people caught driving without a license are undocumented workers because illegal immigrants are prohibited from acquiring driver's licenses in Virginia.

"Hundreds of people are getting pulled over and arrested for not having a driver's license. ...These are hundreds and hundreds of people who have never had a license, never had training" said Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D).

Foust suggested Fairfax County look into a state legislative initiative backed by the Town of Herndon, which has taken several aggressive steps to crackdown on illegal immigrants. The town government proposed a measure that would allow police officers to impound a citizen's vehicle if that person was caught driving with no license for a second time.

Some Fairfax County supervisors had reservations about the measure, partly because it was part of a Herndon legislative package focused on illegal immigrants that the county generally did not support.

Most supervisors wanted more information from the Fairfax County police about the problem before they backed a solution.

"I think this is a bit ominous. The owner and operator of the vehicle may not be the same," said Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D).

In an interview this week, Springfield Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R) said something should be done to address the issue.

Herrity said one of the problems is the fines for driving without a license are not high enough to deter people, until someone is caught for the third time. Since many people regularly driving without a license use aliases with the police, the offenders rarely rack up the three charges that trigger a harsher fine and penalty, according to Griffin.

Herrity would like the police to run a background check on all people pulled over for driving without a license. But the supervisor is not sure the checks, which are time consuming for police, should take priority over other law enforcement duties.

"Do you want to pull police officers off the street to do this?" said Herrity.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Police encounter more people driving without licenses than driving under the influence, according to a report this week. In the Mount Vernon police district alone, police issued 1,120 tickets for driving without a driver's license last year.

Put 'County Checkbook' Online?

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors backed away from an initiative to provide more transparency by itemizing county expenditures online when board members put together the county's 2009 state legislative package Nov. 14.

State Senators Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) and Chap Petersen (D-35) have already submitted a bill for next session that could require the creation of a searchable, detailed database of its budget and expenditures.

The measure is similar to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, which set up a free publicly searchable Web site for all federal contracts and grants over \$25,000.

President-elect Barack Obama and Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Ok.) were leaders on the open government legislation. Former presidential candidate John McCain (R) was also one of its initial sponsors in the U.S. Senate.

After the federal law passed, several states followed with their own transparency laws, including Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin (R) who posted her state's check register online.

"Other states have done this. We will monitor it and see how it has gone there," said county attorney David Bobzien.

Some county staff said they could think of examples where government would want to keep some of its payments "out of the public record."

"There are some downsides to doing this. We need to examine it. We need better answers," said county chairman Gerry Connolly (D).

But Springfield Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R)— who is running to replace Connolly — said he felt the county was dragging its feet on the issue. "For us not to be doing that is ridiculous. It has been done in a bi-

partisan fashion across the country," said Herrity.

Connolly Favors Bail Out for Localities

U.S. Representative-elect and current Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly (D) indicated that he would advocate adopting an additional Economic Stabilization Act to give federal assistance to local governments.

"When you are looking at bailing out GM, Ford and Chrysler, how about bailing out us? There has to be aid to localities for the purpose of stimulus," said Connolly at a county board legislative committee meeting Nov. 14.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors also backed a resolution adopted by the Virginia Association of Counties that requested the federal government give money directly to localities and not only to state governments.

Fairfax Students Report Depression

The percentage of Fairfax County Public School students reporting depression has fallen in the last seven years but still remains higher than the national average, according to the county's 2008 Youth Survey released Nov. 14.

Approximately 31 percent of the eighth, 10th and 12th grade students in Fairfax County who participated in the survey said they had felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for weeks that they had stopped participating in some regular activities. The national average is for their peers reporting depression is 28.5 percent.

The number of Fairfax County students who say they have experienced depression has consistently dropped since 2001, when 35 percent of those surveyed said they felt the same symptoms.

The percentage of Fairfax students who have considered attempting suicide, about 14.5 percent, is around the national average, 14.7 percent, and has also dropped from its 2001 figure, 18.5 percent.

Those students who report a suicide attempt, about 3.5 percent, is approximately half of the nationwide figure of 7 percent.

About 35 percent of girls reported feeling sad and lonely to just 26 percent of boys. Approximately 18 percent of girls to just 11 percent of boys said they had considered suicide and the percentage of female students who said they attempted suicide, 4.7, was more than twice than of the boys, which hovered around two percent.

In terms of ethnic groups, Hispanic or Latinos appeared more prone to feeling depressed, 39 percent.

White students were the least likely to report depressive symptoms, according to the report.

Since 2001, all student ethnic groups in Fairfax County had seen a decline in feelings of depression, according to the survey.

But Dranesville District School Board member Janie Strauss cautioned people not to be too optimistic about the statistics.

The a nationwide drop in attempted and "successful" suicides among teenagers but the incidents of cutting — self-mutilation to relieve stress — have increased, she said.

Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly said he would like to see Fairfax County Public Schools train classroom teachers to spot early warning signs of depression or suicide in their students.

"My candid opinion is that we don't do this well. ... And there is a still a tremendous stigma attached to suicide," said Connolly. "A teacher who is trained a little bit could be a pivotal figure."

Help is available for anyone who depressed or considering suicide by calling CrisisLink at 703-527-4077, or 1-800-SUICIDE.

Panel Recommends New Utility Fee

Fairfax County's Environmental Quality Advisory Council proposed a new storm water management impact fee during a Board of Supervisors meeting Nov. 17.

The county currently pays for storm water management through its general fund. The supervisors dedicate one penny of Fairfax's real estate tax rate, 92 cents per \$100 of assessed value, to the cause, which would amount to about \$21 million annually.

Due to budget constraints, the county has been using more of the funding from the storm water-dedicated penny to cover staffing and equipment, resulting in a 38 percent reduction in funding going to actual infrastructure upgrades.

The environmental advisory council would like to see a steadier stream of funding for storm water management, particularly in light of the county's projected \$500 million budget shortfall next year.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Boundary Changes Challenged

FROM PAGE 4

to 12.6 percent.

Due to the change in demographics, McNair would lose the federal funding it receives for being a school that serves a larger portion of "at risk" students. This money would likely shift to Coppermine which, along with Hutchinson, would be a "Title I" school that serves enough at-risk students to have access to extra federal dollars, known as Title I funding. "Title I" schools are also subjected to more stringent laws under the federal No Child Left Behind Act and can be required to provide certain services if their students do not perform adequately on standardized tests.

SEVERAL PEOPLE attending the first boundary meeting were opposed to the first boundary option, precisely because of the change in the elementary school demographics.

Meeting participants, mostly from the Floris community, were also upset that the option proposed moving that Floris' northeastern attendance area — the portion of the district that recently switched high schools — to McNair.

In the last decade, homes in the northeastern Floris district have undergone six major school boundary changes, mostly because of new schools opening.

Families moved from Fox Mill Elementary School to Floris when the local elementary school opened in 1998. One year later, the same communities had to change from Franklin Middle School to a new Rachel Carson.

In 2000, two years after the initial Floris boundary change, the community moved from Oakton High School to Westfield after the high school opened. Then, the following year, the Floris Elementary School boundary changed because McNair had been built.

Finally, the northeastern Floris community underwent a major redistricting last year, when the communities shifted from Westfield to South Lakes.

"Children thrive in a stable and consistent environment. Moving northeastern Floris is just going to disrupt them more," said Mary Mireles, a parent and resident of the area.

Some parents from Floris' northeastern boundary also had concerns about McNair, the school where the communities would be moving. McNair, which has more at-risk students than Floris, also has poorer test scores than their

New Boundary Options

Option One –

- From McNair Elementary School ...
- To Herndon Elementary School
- ❖ Move Chandon Park area
- To Hutchinson Elementary School
- ❖ Move homes in northern portion of boundary
- To Coppermine Elementary School
- ❖ Move homes west of Centreville Road and north of the Dulles Toll Road

- From Oak Hill Elementary School...
- To Floris Elementary School
- ❖ Move northern school district "islands"

From Floris Elementary School...

- To McNair Elementary School
- ❖ Move the eastern portion of boundary – Sycamore Lakes, Sycamore Ridge, Monroe Manor, Monroe Chase, Meadow Hall, Cockerill Place, Fox Mill Heights
- To Coppermine Elementary School
- ❖ Move area west of Centreville Road, south of the Dulles Toll Road
- To Coppermine Elementary School
- ❖ Move Dulles Glen Apartments and Worldgate

Option Two –

- From McNair Elementary School....
- To Herndon Elementary School
- ❖ Move Chandon Park area
- To Hutchinson Elementary School
- ❖ Move two northern attendance "islands"
- ❖ Move Dulles Glen Apartments
- To Coppermine Elementary School
- ❖ Move Worldgate
- ❖ Move portion of boundary north of Sunrise Valley Drive
- ❖ Move area west of Centreville Road and south of the Dulles Toll Road

- From Floris Elementary School
- To Coppermine Elementary School
- ❖ Move area west of Centreville Road, near Frying Pan Road

current school.

On a whole, the community appeared to prefer the school system's second boundary option, where Floris' northeastern attendance area was not moved.

IN OPTION TWO, McNair's population is cut in half as about 520 students move from the school to Coppermine, Herndon and Hutchinson.

Like the first scenario, a little over 100 students in the western portion of the Floris would move to Coppermine under this option. But the Oak Hill boundary would be left alone, according to school documents.

The demographics are better but still relatively unbalanced under this option. Coppermine would still open with about 39 percent of the students qualifying for free-and-reduced lunch and 23 percent of the students entitled to English-as-a-second-language services.

Herndon, Hutchinson and Floris would see a slight increase in their percentages of students who are poor or non-native English speakers as well.

Under option two, McNair would still see a drop, though not as great, in its percentage of at-risk students. The population would go from 29 to 20.6 percent of students qualifying for English-as-a-second-language services and 47 to 35.4 percent of its students

qualifying for free and reduced lunch.

Though the balance of demographics improves, option two still leaves Oak Hill about 125 students over capacity, even with its modular classrooms. Herndon would also have to keep its modular to avoid overcrowding.

Several parents said the capacity problems at Oak Hill are a result of its gifted and talented student center, whose students outnumber those registered for general education. School system staff said they would be reluctant to move the gifted and talented program — which serves all six local schools — because it would leave the school with too few students.

But several parents are lobbying for the Fairfax County to open a new gifted and talented center at McNair. Under option two, the school would have enough room for the program and residents said a second center is needed to meet demands from the surrounding community.

"Everyone benefits from option two and we are going to need another [gifted and talented] center," said Sarah Giusti, a parent from Floris' northeastern attendance area. "If I sent my daughter to the [gifted and talented] center at Oak Hill, I would be sending her to school with kids who are not going to be in her [middle/high school] pyramid."

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Gift for Better World

By MIRZA KURSPAHIC
 THE CONNECTION

Rather than giving a gift to them, each year Elli and Kati Imel, fourth and fifth graders at Herndon's Crossfield Elementary School, present their teachers with holiday cards that explain their gifts to the teachers. Last year Elli bought school supplies for a student in Peru in her teacher's name while Kati chose a flock-of-chicks from Heifer International as her holiday gift to her teacher.

"My family, we really enjoy it," said the girls' mother, Jodi Imel, of the annual Alternative Gift Market at Reston's Unitarian Universalist Church, the largest market of its kind in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area. "It's just a gift you can feel really good about giving," said Imel.

The shoppers at this year's Alternative Gift Market will choose from 30 projects they can support, ranging from \$5 to \$275, in the name of the person they wish to present with a gift. For example, \$10 will buy an umbrella and a hot meal for a drop-in client at Reston

"It's just a gift you can feel really good about giving."

— Jodi Imel, Reston resident

Interfaith's Embry Rucker Community Shelter, while \$83 will buy supplies for one portable microbiology lab for solar solutions and drinking water in Kenya in someone's name. "You can tailor it to a person," said Imel of the gifts. "If you are buying a gift for someone who is a doctor you can buy medical care," she said.

THE GIFTS at the annual market vary in the type of project they support, as well as price. They support local nonprofits, as well as organizations working on a global level. An organization that is new to the market this year, said Imel, is Friends of Homeless Animals. The market also features fair trade jewelry and other crafts made by women in countries such as Zambia, Kenya and India.

When a gift is bought, the buyer is given a card that explains the project they are supporting, which



PHOTO COURTESY OF JODI IMEL

Area residents visit last year's Alternative Gift Market at Reston's Unitarian Universalist Church on Wiehle Avenue.

the buyer then presents to the person in whose name the donation is made. All of the proceeds from the market go to the organizations represented there. "It's a way to help others around the world, and not just internationally, but also locally," said Reston resident Judy Erickson.

"It's a way to give a little bit to make the world a better place in the name of someone you care about," said Reston resident Maxine Jaubert.

Last year's Alternative Gift Market raised \$31,500 for the participating organizations. Erickson said she hopes this year's Alternative Gift Market will reach more people than in the past, especially given the economic situation where people have fewer dollars to give and the needs are greater.

"The money is tight and you never know what to give people," said Imel, adding that contributing to a cause presents a feeling of self-gratitude for the buyer and the recipient of the gift. She said the gift's recipient is also the giver because in the end it is a charitable cause that receives the donation in the recipient's name.

"People I have given gifts to love it," said Jaubert. "People like to get this as a gift," she said.

In addition to the feeling of self-gratitude achieved when a gift is bought, Imel said attending the Alternative Gift Market is a valuable experience. She said that while the cards that are given as a gift to the recipients explain the projects supported, the people manning the tables at the market are a great resource to gain first-hand knowledge of the projects. "People can come in and learn about the projects they are supporting," said Imel.

The gifts available at the Alternative Gift Market are suitable for all of the upcoming holidays, said

Imel, Erickson and Jaubert, but they added that they are not limited to holiday gifting. "The gifts can be used for all kinds of occasions," said Erickson.

This year's Alternative Gift Market will take place on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston, 1625 Wiehle Avenue. For more information call 703-742-7992 or visit www.uureston.org.

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THURSDAY/NOV. 20

Farmer's Market. Last day to shop for locally grown produce, meats, cheeses, beverages and more at the Reston Town Square, 11900 Market St. 3:30-7 p.m. Visit www.smartmarkets.org.

Release Celebration. Beaujolais Nouveau's executive chef, Marty Tigar presents Beaujolais inspired dishes and Beaujolais Nouveau wine offerings at Mon Ami Gabi in Reston Town Center from 5-10 p.m. Call 703-707-0233.

SATURDAY/NOV. 22

HOLIDAY BAZAAR. LANK's Annual holiday bazaar features local crafters and vendors offering a variety of gift items. LANK School, 12021 North Shore Drive, Reston. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free.

Enchanted Forest. Stroll through a whimsical forest of nearly 300 theme-decorated trees and handmade gingerbread homes while enjoying crafts and entertainment. All proceeds benefit the Junior League of Northern Virginia's mission and community programs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 703-848-2884, visit www.jlrv.org or e-mail tef@jlrv.org for tickets.

Bluegrass Concert. The Blue Moon Cowgirls are playing at the Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series at Holy



The Blue Moon Cowgirls are playing at the Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon on Saturday, Nov. 22. Call 703-435-8377.

Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$12; call 703-435-8377.

Washington, DC. Bus pick-up at Hunter Woods Shopping Center, Thoreau Place and Lake Anne Fellowship House at 9 a.m. \$25/Reston residents; \$30/non-residents. Call 703-435-6577 to register.

Broomball. Free lessons for the new Broomball leagues forming this season at Reston Town Center Ice Skating Pavilion at 7 p.m. No skating skills required; ages 18 and older. Call 703-709-6300.

TUESDAY/NOV. 25

Blood Drive. INOVA Blood Drive from 12-7:30 p.m. beside the Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St. Schedule appointments at 1-866-256-6372 or inova.org/donateblood.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

Senior Movie Day. Reston Association presents a feature film at 10 a.m. at the Multiplex Cinema, Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Refreshments and door prizes provided prior to the movie. Free to those 55+. Call 703-435-6530.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

Holiday Celebration. Celebrate the Holidays at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Stores open at 8 a.m.; run with Alan Webb, U.S. record-holder for fastest mile; 11 a.m., Reston Holiday Parade; 12:30-4:30 p.m., visits with Santa; 6 p.m., tree lighting; 6:30-10 p.m., horse-drawn carriage rides. Visit www.restontowncenter.com.

Carol Sing-Along. The Reston Chorale will perform at 6 p.m. at the Reston Town Center in front of the tree on Market Street. Free. Visit info@restonchorale.org.

Reston Holiday Parade. The Reston Town Center presents the 18th annual Reston Holiday Parade 11:00 AM, launching the festive season with Macy's-style balloons, musical groups, dancers, antique cars and more in a one-hour parade along Market Street.

Thanksgiving Story. An interactive retelling of the Thanksgiving Story will be held at Frying Pan Farm Park's Visitor Center, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon, 11-11:40 a.m. Recommended for ages 3 and up. \$4/person. Prepaid reservations are required; call 703-437-9101.

SATURDAY/NOV. 29

Visit Santa. Visit Santa and take photos with him on next to M&S Grill on Democracy St. at the Reston Town Center, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Artist Demos. Artist demos will be shown at the Reston Art Gallery and Studios in Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Call 703-481-8156.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

SUNDAY/NOV. 30

Visit Santa. Visit Santa and take photos with him on next to M&S Grill on Democracy St. at the Reston Town Center, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

MONDAY/DEC. 1

Creation Station. A workshop for children entitled "The Shapes of Sound" will be held in the Reston Arts Center in Reston Town Center from 3:30-5 p.m. Call 703-471-9242 to register.

TUESDAY/DEC. 2

Explore More! The Greater Reston Arts Center Learning Center at Reston Town Center has self-guided tours and art activities for children during gallery hours. \$3/art bucket restocking fee for individuals; \$5/groups. Call 703-471-9242 for reservations.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3

Holiday Mini-Book Sale. Friends of the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-689-2700.

Holiday Concert. The Herndon High School and Herndon Middle School Orchestras will perform at their holiday concert Wednesday, Dec. 3 in the Herndon High School Auditorium at 7 p.m. Admission is free; all are welcome. Visit www.herndonorch.org.

THURSDAY/DEC. 4

Holiday Mini-Book Sale. Friends of the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-689-2700.

Art Exhibition. Meet the artists and see Lee Gainer's work "The Thought That Counts" and Huguette Roe's "Recycle Series" on exhibit at the Greater Reston Arts Center in Reston Town Center, 6-8 p.m. Call 703-471-9242 or visit www.restonarts.org.

ART

An exhibition entitled "**Not All Heroes Wear Capes**" will be held at ArtInsights in Reston Town Center through the **end of November**. Exclusive images by DC and Marvel artists will be on display. Visit www.artinsights.com.

A **holiday exhibition** of original art and unique gifts entitled "Art for Giving" is on display at the Greater Reston Arts Center in Reston Town Center **Nov. 26-Dec. 23**, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

An exhibition entitled "**Landscapes Through New Eyes**" is on display at the Reston Community Center's Jo Anne Rose Gallery in Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, **through Dec. 1**. Call 703-476-4500.

An exhibition entitled "**World View: Greece and Italy**" is on display at Reston Art Gallery and Studios in Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, **through Dec. 4**. The gallery is open Saturdays and Sundays, 12-5 p.m. Call 703-481-8156.

Photographs by Northern Virginia photographer **Lillis Werder** are on exhibit at Washington Dulles International Airport **through December**. Two series of work by the artist, "Washington DC War Memorials" and "Venice, Italy" are on display. Visit www.gallery222.com or www.loudounacademy.org.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Carol Sing-Along

The Reston Chorale, accompanied by a brass quintet, will continue a Reston holiday tradition and bring in the holiday season with the annual tree lighting ceremony and the arrival of Santa Claus at the Reston Town Center on Nov. 28, at 6 p.m. The event is free.

"Great Expectations" Open Houses on Nov. 22nd & 23rd



***Featured Home- *302 Red Hawk Cir., \$899,000, Sun 1-4**
Missy Edmundson, Long & Foster, 703-932-8484

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Herndon					
2645 Fox Mill Dr.	\$630,000	Sat 1-3	Carla Zegarra	Long & Foster	703-437-3800
11656 Gilman Lane	\$769,999	Sun 1-4	Peter & Nancy Burke	Weichert	703-786-3334
Reston					
Lake Audobon Ct.	\$625,000	Sun 1-4	Betty Plshal	Long & Foster	703-926-8177
2517 Freetown Ct.	\$475,000	Sun 1-4	Rhea Thomas	Weichert	703-938-6070
*302 Red Hawk Cir.	\$899,000	Sun 1-4	Missy Edmundson	Long & Foster	703-932-8484
1538 Twisted Oak Dr.	\$339,900	Sun 1-4	Peter & Nancy Burke	Weichert	703-786-3334
1242 Vintage Place	\$424,900	Sun 1-4	Stephanie Czajowski	Avery Hess	703-492-6500
Loudoun County					
Ashburn					
20472 Charter Oak Dr.	\$399,000	Sat & Sun 12-4	Joan DeSantis	Weichert	703-447-0062
Chantilly					
24903 Earlsford Dr.	\$560,000	Sat 10-3	Lisa Miclot	Long & Foster	703-501-4532
Leesburg					
120 Alpine Dr., SE	\$549,900	Sun 1-4	Julie Hertel	Long & Foster	571-243-5952
121 Balch Spring Cir., SE	\$529,900	Sun 1-4	Julie Hertel	Long & Foster	571-243-5952
508 Beauregard Dr., SE	\$549,000	Sun 1-4	Dawn Perusse	Long & Foster	703-669-6715
42041 Brightwood Ln.	\$615,000	Sun 1-4	Bridget Allen	Weichert	540-338-2024
609 Diskin Pl., SW	\$524,900	Sun 1-4	Bonnie Selker	Keller Williams	703-430-9008
529 Fortress Cir., SE	\$579,000	Sun 1-4	H. Cronin	Weichert	703-760-8880
249 Mindy Ct., SE	\$500,000	Sun 1-4	Julie Hertel	Long & Foster	571-243-5952
40815 Woodside Pl.	\$794,900	Sun 1-4	Margie Barnes	Long & Foster	703-380-8272
South Riding					
42797 Sykes Ter.	\$319,900	Sun 1-4	Frank Kroner	Keller Williams	703-946-2526
Sterling					
47383 Darkhollow Falls Ter.	\$384,399	Sun 1-4	Madhu Reddy	Realty Direct	703-777-7970
21223 Edgewood Ct.	\$784,000	Sun 12-4	Deborah Gorham	Long & Foster	703-581-9005
20866 Rockingham Ter.	\$315,000	Sun 1-4	Vicky Robertson	Coldwell Banker	571-435-8093

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Lauri Swift or Winslow Wacker
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Things in Demand



According to **Dung Lam**, owner of **Herndon Clock & Watch in Herndon**, Swiss-made watches are in demand this year and many varieties can be found at his store. "Americans vary on what kind of watches they want each year. One year it's Japanese, the next it's something else. This year, I've had a demand of Swiss watches."

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/
THE CONNECTION



French bead flowers, made by local artist **Donna DeAngelis Dicket**, can be found along with other locally made items at the **Herndon Florist** for holiday gifts.

FAITH NOTES

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

Rabbi Lia Bass will give a lecture entitled "Living a Life of Torah" at Congregation Beth Emeth, 12523 Lawyers Road, Herndon on Sunday, **Nov. 23**, 10 a.m. Rabbi Bass will address the challenges facing modern Jews who wish to integrate tradition with modernity. \$18/ Beth Emeth and Etz Hayim members; \$25/non-members. Call 703-860-4515, ext. 127.

Susan Yates, a renowned speaker on marriage, parenting and women's issues, will give a lecture entitled "Trust-

ing God in Life's Transitions" at Church of the Epiphany, 3301 Hidden Meadow Drive, Herndon, Thursday, **Nov. 20**, 7-9 p.m. Free. Call 703-481-8601, ext. 101 or visit www.yatesbooks.com

Congregation Beth Emeth Hazak Chapter, 12523 Lawyers Road, Herndon, hosts prominent speakers and entertainers on the **third Tuesday of each month**, Sept.-June at 1 p.m. There is no cost and light refreshments are served. Call 703-860-4515, ext. 127. The guest list is as follows:

Nov. 18: Rabbi Steve, Jewish Medical Ethics

Dec. 16: Laura Shulman, Religious Diversity in the US

Jan. 27: Rabbi Leonard Cahan, Jewish Marriage Customs

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

but there is always more to be done to make it work well for all Americans. The challenges we face will require our continued participation in this democratic process. The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area works year-round to inform our community about candidates and advocate on issues that affect our daily lives. We were immensely gratified to see so many people engaged in the political process this year and were proud to be a part of the process in various ways such as producing

our Voters Guide and registering voters.

As president of the Fairfax Area League of Women Voters, I invite others in the community to maintain their commitment to civic improvement by joining the league and helping us continue the good work. Together we can keep our community strong, healthy and vibrant. For more information, call 703-658-9150 or go to our Web site, www.lwv-fairfax.org.

Sherry W. Zachry, president
League of Women Voters of the
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Meet Norm Davis as seen on the Food Network.

General admission tickets (\$12 per child, \$7 per adult) include access to the forest and a wide variety of entertainers and events, including face painters, magicians, Polar Express Train and crafts.

For event information, ticket sales or reservations to premium events, e-mail tef@jlnv.org or visit www.jlnv.org/theenchantedforest

All proceeds benefit the mission of the Junior League of Northern Virginia, a nonprofit tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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PEOPLE

Lone Wolf

Congressman will be the only Republican in Congress from the region.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

On a day when Republicans, especially Republicans in Virginia, suffered many losses, U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) turned in a resounding victory Nov. 4. The 28-year incumbent beat Democrat Judy Feder by 20 points, four points more than he did when the same candidates squared off in 2006.

Wolf was the only Republican to win in Virginia's 10th Congressional District, which stretches from McLean's border with Arlington County to West Virginia. President-elect Barack Obama won 52.9 percent of the vote and Senate-elect Mark Warner won 64.95 percent of the vote in the district.

The Republican ran strong not only in the conservative western portion of his district, but also in the more moderate eastern area like Fairfax County and eastern Loudoun county.

Wolf won the Fairfax portion of his district with 54 percent of the vote, taking back several precincts south of Route 123 in McLean that he had lost to Feder two years ago.

The congressman also beat Feder in Loudoun County, winning 58 percent of the vote in that locality. In Loudoun, Wolf ran ahead of Obama, who won the county with 53.66 percent of the vote.

"It comes back to his record. He is more about getting things done than taking credit. ... He appeals to a broad base of people. It is a tribute to who he is and how he represents the area," Dan Scandling, Wolf's campaign manager and congressional chief of staff, said.

WITH his 2008 victory, Wolf has become a bit of an anomaly. Starting in 2009, he will be the only Republican representative from the Washington, D.C., region in the U.S. Congress.

Connie Morella, Maryland's last Republican representing the Washington suburbs, lost to Democrat Rep. Chris Van Hollen in 2002.

The Virginia suburbs' other two Republican representatives, Sen. John Warner and Rep. Tom Davis, are retiring this year and replaced by Democrats Mark Warner and Gerry Connolly, respectively.

As the only remaining regional member of the Grand Old Party, it will be up to Frank Wolf to convince other Republicans in Congress to support some key regional matters — like funding for the Metrorail system, as well as the welfare of federal workers and government contractors, Davis said.

"Thank God you have one Republican. You need Republicans. It is important to federal employees and government contractors. Everybody likes to pick on Washington and if you don't have someone on the Republican side defending it, the voice of the region won't be heard," Davis said.

Davis, as well as Wolf, was known for working across the aisle on local issues and rallying people from his own party to support key bills that impact the Washington region. Davis worked with Democratic majority leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) to bring a dedicated source of funding to the Metrorail system earlier this fall.

Even while endorsing Connolly to replace Davis at



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) brought his wife Carolyn and several of their grandchildren on stage after the 28-year incumbent's won his election Nov. 4.

a Connolly campaign fund-raiser, Hoyer called Davis, "a great partner and a great representative."

FEDERAL workforce advocates agreed with Davis, saying it does help to have friends in Congress from both political parties.

"Certainly there is a benefit to having people on both sides of the aisle. Who is to say what will happen two years from now? We work well with Democrats and Republicans and continue to strive to do that," Dan Adcock, legislative director of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, said.

Adcock added, "Frank Wolf has been a great friend to us. The fact that he has been re-elected is certainly a large benefit to the federal community."

While congressional advocates for federal employees are not limited to those representing the Washington, D.C. region, Adcock said the local delegation has the highest concentration of advocates, largely because those people represent more federal employees than others do.

"Locally, there has always been bipartisan support of federal employees and retirees," Adcock said.

The local business community also benefits from having bipartisan representation on Capitol Hill.

"It certainly helps to have an ambassador in every portal," Eileen Curtis, president of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce, which spans both Fairfax and Loudoun counties, said.

"It is good to have bipartisanship so that when the majorities change, you always have folks at the senior level working on your behalf," Bill Lecos, president of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, said.

LECOS and Curtis also emphasized Wolf's seniority, not just his party affiliation, is also an asset, especially since so much of Virginia's delegation is relatively new.

With John Warner's retirement, Wolf is now the longest serving and most senior member of the entire Virginia Congressional delegation.

When the new sessions starts in 2009, both of Virginia's senators, Mark Warner and Jim Webb, will still be in their first term and Connolly will be a freshman congressman. Wolf and Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) will be the only people returning to Capitol Hill to represent Northern Virginia.

Moran and Wolf are both members of the U.S. House of Representatives appropriations committee, where experience and long-term relationships can matter more than party affiliation, Lecos said.

Wolf, who is a member of the appropriation's transportation subcommittee, has been able to shepherd the Dulles Rail project through Congress, despite being in the minority over the past two years.

Christina Royal Named Hokie Hero

Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets alumna Special Agent Christina Royal, who received a degree in sociology from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences in 2006, has been selected as a Hokie Hero.

The corps Hokie Hero program, started in 2006, honors Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets alumni who are currently deployed. Recipients of this honor are featured during the radio broadcast Virginia Tech football games, on the corps alumni Web site, www.vtcca.vt.edu, and in the Corps Review magazine.

Royal, originally from Herndon, is currently deployed on detached duty to Baghdad, Iraq, from her home station of Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., where she is a member of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 104, Air Force. She is about eight months into her 12-month deployment.

While at Virginia Tech, Royal was named the Undergraduate Student Leader of the Year for 2006 and held the top leadership position in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets when she served as the regimental commander during her senior year.

In doing so she became the first African-American female cadet and the fourth female cadet to hold the



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIRGINIA TECH NEWS

Christina Royal of Herndon, center, has been selected as a Hokie Hero.

highest position in the corps. Regimental commanders, who are responsible for the overall operation and efficiency of the corps of cadets, are selected during an evaluation process that assesses the cadet's initiative, commitment, effort and leadership potential.

Her mother, Pearl Royal, who raised seven children as a single parent, was named the Virginia Tech Parent of the Year in 2004 based on Christina's submission. Christina Royal is also the older sister of former Hokie football standout wide-receiver Eddie Royal, who plays for the National Football League's Denver Broncos.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Employees at BAE Systems in Reston attend a ceremony on Nov. 17. This is the fourth year that BAE has donated bicycles to the USO. Beginning in February each year, BAE holds a charity event every week for its employees to help raise money for the bike program.

Bikes for Military Children

BAE Systems donated 600 new bicycles and helmets to the USO of Metropolitan Washington at its building in Reston on Nov. 17. The USO will give the bikes to the children whose families are stationed at D.C. metro area military bases and have at least one parent currently on deployment.

Oakton Reaches Finals

Now the Cougars are set to host Chantilly for the region Div. 6 title.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

In the end, the Oakton High defense made the stops when it had to in the Cougars' 49-43 scoring feast postseason football win over West Springfield last Friday night.

The Div. 6 Northern Region semifinals playoff contest took place in foggy, light drizzling conditions at Oakton High School.

Oakton (12-0) was on the verge of seeing a second half, 27-point lead evaporate. The Cougars' perfect season was in danger of ending after the Spartans, behind sensational, UNC-bound quarterback Bryn Renner, closed to within 49-43 following a 47-yard scoring hook-up from Renner to Fabrice Kambinga with eight minutes, 30 seconds left in the final quarter.

But thereafter, the Oakton defense was up to the challenge the remainder of the game as it held the high-powered West Springfield offensive attack on its final two possessions

after the Spartans had cut the deficit to six.

"West Springfield's an unbelievable team," said Oakton senior running back and tri-captain Trey Watts, who caught two touchdown passes in his team's win. "They showed a lot of heart near the end in making a comeback."

Next up for Oakton is the Div. 6 region title game this Saturday afternoon at 1 against Chantilly, which defeated Westfield in its semifinals game. Meanwhile, West Springfield, with the loss to Oakton, sees its season end at 8-4 overall.

OAKTON'S DEFENSE was certainly challenged down the stretch after a turnover gave West Springfield the ball at its own 20 with 6:33 remaining. The Spartans, trailing by the 49-43 score, moved the ball into Oakton territory on a Renner (25-of-48, 427 yards, 4 TDs) completion of 16 yards to the Oakton 49.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton's Trey Watts cradles in a long pass just out of the reach of a Spartan defender. Watts caught the pass that resulted in a 46-yard touchdown and a 21-3 Oakton lead.

But Oakton junior lineman Daniel Aevermann came up with a huge sack, for a loss of eight yards, on the next play. Over the next few plays after that, West Springfield hurt itself with a penalty and two dropped passes, in-

cluding an incompleteness on a fourth down play that ended the drive. Springfield attack throughout the game. But often, Renner's offensive line gave him plenty of time to set up in the pocket and throw. And when he didn't throw, the 6-foot-4 inch, 195-pound QB would often scramble out of trouble with large chunks of yardage. On 17 carries, Renner ran for 99 yards.

Of Renner, Thompson said, "The kid's amazing, a great warrior with great accuracy."

Renner's touchdown passes on the night went to Andy Stallings (8 catches, 144 yards, 2 TDs), Kambinga (4 catches, 124 yards, 1 TD) and Dan Collins (4 catches, 56 yards, 1 TD), who also ran for 67 yards.

WHILE RENNER was sensational for West Springfield, Oakton quarterback Chris Coyer was equally as valuable to his team. The senior tri-captain ran for two long touchdowns runs (65 and 49 yards) in the first half. He also hurt the Spartans through the air, tossing four touchdown passes and passing for 214 yards.

Watts caught two scoring passes, as did senior wide receiver Jay Young.

Watts, Oakton's terrific offensive playmaker, said Oakton's 12-0 record hardly assures the Cougars of success in this Saturday's region finals against a Chantilly team it defeated in the regular season.

"It just means we have to work even harder," said Watts. "

"Against West Springfield you have to completely forget what you know about conventional football. It's more like basketball."

-Oakton High Football Coach Joe Thompson

cluding an incompleteness on a fourth down play that ended the drive.

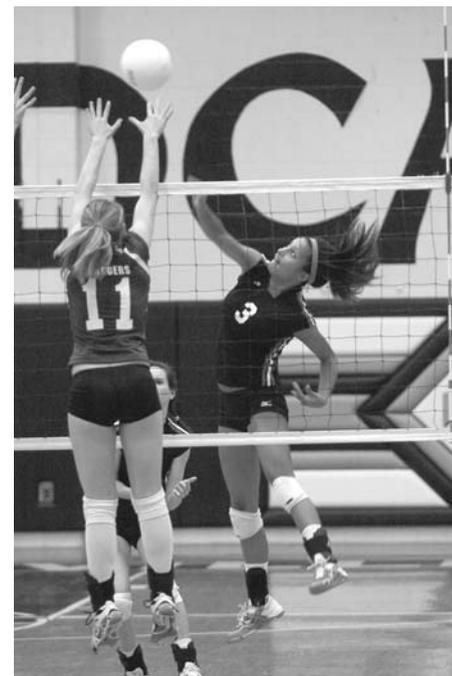
Later, West Springfield began its final possession of the game from its own 30 with 1:21 left to play. The Spartans, with Renner running the offense, still had a chance. But the Spartans could not get a single first down. On a fourth-and-six at the 34, Spartan running back Brandon Bailey picked up five yards.

A measurement confirmed that the Spartans were a yard short of the first down. That set off a huge, victorious roar from the Oakton side of the stadium.

Oakton, with the ball back in its possession with just 54 seconds left, ran out the remainder of the clock to conclude the pressure-packed, high scoring affair.

Afterwards, Oakton coach Joe Thompson described the game as "emotionally draining."

Thompson had seen his defense try to hold down the potent West



Herndon High girls' volleyball player Jessica Strother (3) hits the ball during the Hornets' recent Northern Region semifinals match against Chantilly. The Hornets lost the match to the Chargers, but won two prior region playoff matches to reach the final four. For the season, coach Pat Smith's team was 19-4.

The Reston Blue Devils, representing the Reston Soccer Association, won their U-19 SFL Tournament division, played the weekend of Nov. 8-9. The Blue Devils won both of their games in dominating fashion, beating the Northern Virginia Soccer Club of Manassas, 7-1, in the semifinals and then winning the championship game against Prince William County by a score of 6-0.

The Reston U-19 All-

Stars, representing the Reston Soccer Association, won the Herndon All-Star Cup Tournament over the weekend of Nov. 15-16. After winning three of four qualifying games on Saturday by a combined score of 7-1 over teams from Vienna, Herndon and Team America Soccer Club, Reston earned the number one seed in the top division of its age group. In Sunday's championship round, the All-Stars won two hard-fought games against SYA in the semifinals and Braddock Road in the finals by identical 1-0 scores.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Westfield High running back Jordan Anderson (38) carries the ball against Herndon during the two teams' recent Northern Region Div. 6 quarterfinals football playoff game. Westfield won the game, 41-22, against the visiting Hornets, who finished the season 6-5. Westfield went on to lose to Chantilly in a semifinals game.

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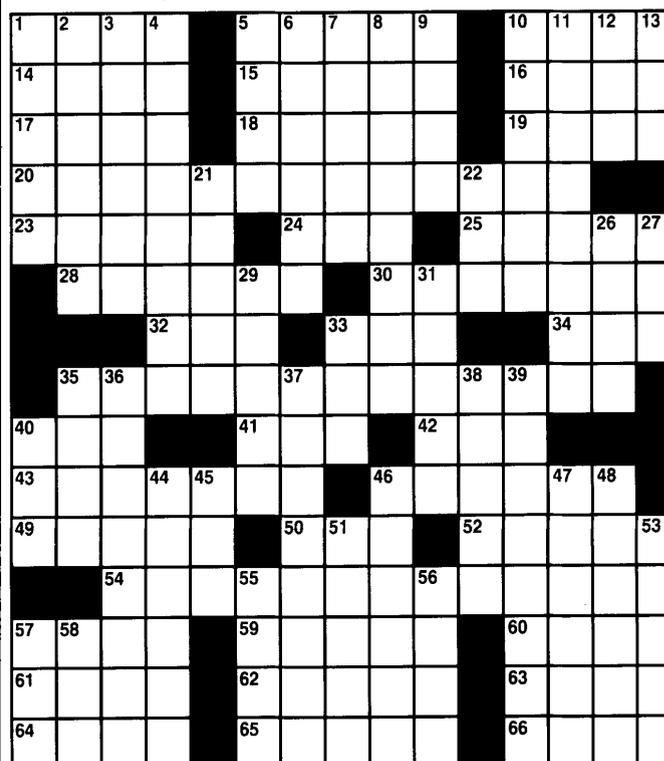
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Puzzle by David J. Kahn

ACROSS

- 1 Orchestra alternative
5 Comment around the deck?
10 Terrible —
14 Last words?
15 Opposite of sur
16 Four-letter word
17 Architect Saarinen
18 Company whose logo has a red "o"
19 Cogitate
20 Noted director who acted in 30-Across with 35-Across
23 Bud of baseball
24 Before, once
25 Isle of Man residents
28 Brought up
30 See 20-Across
32 Calif. neighbor
33 Midpoint: Abbr.
34 On a roll
35 See 20-Across and 54-Across
40 Big —
41 Link
42 Classified inits.
- 43 See 54-Across
46 Singer Mel and namesakes
49 Napoléon led one
50 "Forget it!"
52 — Park, N.J.
54 Noted director who acted in 43-Across with 35-Across
57 Drunk's tipoff
59 Plant and animal life
60 Andrews of "The Mod Squad"
61 Money writer Marshall —
62 "A house — a home"
63 — Bator
64 The rich man in "Rich Man, Poor Man"
65 Some guard dogs, for short
66 Get better

DOWN

- 1 Loamy deposit
2 Good dog
3 Slimming device
4 Some English students
5 "— Room" (Beach Boys hit)
6 Spent
7 Shady alcove
8 Kind of heel
9 Push, maybe
10 Tabby's mate
11 Wisconsin city
12 Exciting times in the N.I.T.
13 — wolf
21 Plume source
22 Earlier
26 Brave one
27 Harden
29 1980 Tony winner

- 31 Gluck's "— ed Euridice"
33 29-Down role
35 Precious
36 Not permeated (with)
37 Silly
38 1938 Physics Nobel
39 Campaign asset
40 Support provider
44 Nigh
45 Terre's opposite
46 A lonely place, so they say
47 Store, as fodder
48 Ad dressing?
51 Let —
53 Successively
55 Power stats
56 Tanks
57 Certain camera, for short
58 Baseball's Brock

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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OF PENNSYLVANIA

FRANKLIN COUNTY BRANCH

CHRISTINA M. CARR, Plaintiff,

v. AMY RIZZO and FREDDIE JACKSON, Defendants

Civil Action — Custody

TO: AMY RIZZO and FREDDIE JACKSON, DEFENDANTS

You are notified that Christina M. Carr, Plaintiff, has commenced a custody action against you in the above Court which you are required to defend. A Custody Complaint will be presented to the assigned Custody Motion Judge of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, 157 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, on November 13, 2008 at 8:30 a.m.

NOTICE

If you wish to defend, you must enter a written appearance personally or by attorney and file your defenses or objections in writing with the court. You are warned that if you fail to do so, the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you without further notice for the relief requested by the Plaintiff. You may lose custody rights concerning the child, Ja' Nyla Pamelamarie Jackson born December 29, 2006.

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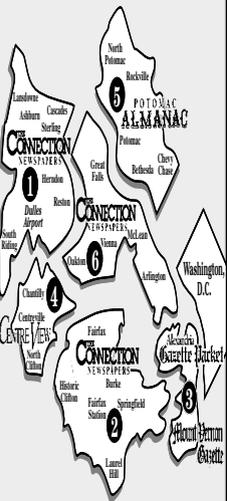
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The approved hotel proposal as viewed from Monroe Street.

Town Council Approves Hotel

FROM PAGE 3

town Herndon, he said. Kane said the increased visibility the downtown area would gain once the hotel is built would be important in helping existing downtown merchants gain a customer base and improve their business.

"Hotels is what brings people," said Kane. He said the proposed retail space should have been larger and that it would not compete against the shops that now exist in downtown Herndon. The retail that is likely to occupy the proposed hotel space, he

said, would create synergy with the existing retail uses.

The next step toward building a hotel at the 1.3-acre site, fronting Monroe and Elden Streets, is for the developer to submit a site plan to the planning staff. The rezoning application, said Downer, has been vetted to the point where the developer has almost presented the site plan, so most of that work should be already done. The Heritage Preservation Review Board has to approve the exterior design of the building and the Planning Commission and the Herndon Town Council must approve the site plan before building permits are issued.

Guilty Plea in Mortgage Fraud

FROM PAGE 3

titution to Franklin Bank; \$5,637,293 in restitution to First Tennessee Bank; \$7,503,350 to Wells Fargo Bank; and \$11,880,321 to EMC Mortgage Corporation, according to his signed plea agreement filed in U.S. District Court in Alexandria.

The maximum penalty for conspiracy to commit money laundering is 20 years in

prison, full restitution, three years supervised release and a \$500,000 fine.

The United States and the defendant agreed to recommend to the court that he be sentenced to 84 months incarceration, according to the plea agreement.

Special Agents of the FBI and the IRS conducted the investigation.

U.S. Attorney Stephen Learned is prosecuting the case.

Mortgage Fraud

Vijay K. Taneja used some of the following properties in his fraudulent schemes, according to court documents; property owners were unaware, and some properties were used repeatedly, defrauding different financial institutions:

- O'Hara Court Drive, Springfield,** \$206,600, April 26, 2001
- Edinburgh Drive, Springfield,** \$416,658, Dec. 7, 2007
- Summit Drive, Fairfax,** \$2,950,000, Jan. 25, 2007; \$2,897,921, Jan. 25, 2007
- Becket Court, Fairfax,** \$410,201, March 19, 2001
- Wildflower, Clifton,** \$346,980, Sept. 14, 2007
- Split Oaks Lane, Burke,** \$383,100, March 5, 2001
- Sawteeth Way, Centreville,** \$412,413, Sept. 21, 2007; \$416,088, Nov. 23, 2007; \$415,916, Nov. 14, 2007; \$417,000, Sept. 28, 2007
- Poland Road, Chantilly,** \$600,163, March 29, 2007; \$113,034, March 29, 2007
- Copper Brook Way, Herndon,** \$496,780, April 27, 2001
- Christy Place, Herndon,** \$344,059, Nov. 14, 2007; \$345,000, Sept. 9, 2007
- White Cornus Lane, Reston,** \$351,741, Dec. 7, 2007
- Utterback Store Road, Great Falls,** \$649,150, April 27, 2001
- Old Dominion Drive, McLean,** \$1,985,892, Oct. 2, 2006
- Centerboro Drive, Vienna,** \$454,000, Nov. 17, 2005
- Mohegan Drive, Ashburn,** \$411,449, Nov. 20, 2007; \$412,350, Sept. 20, 2007
- Seneca Square, Ashburn,** \$287,465, Aug. 28, 2007
- Red Oak Lane, Sterling,** \$430,193, Feb. 12, 2007; \$79,850, Feb. 12, 2007
- Huntly Court, Sterling,** \$239,803, Dec. 7, 2007
- North Pershing Drive, Arlington,** \$627,883, Nov. 29, 2007
- Falkstone Lane, Alexandria,** \$260,230, March 19, 2001
- Parenham Way, Alexandria,** \$404,334, Nov. 30, 2007
- Garden Way, Potomac,** \$628,985, April 26, 2001
- Willowbrook Drive, Potomac,** \$989,620, Sept. 11, 2007; \$1,075,633, Aug. 16, 2006; \$889,744, March 6, 2006; \$100,651, March 6, 2006; \$123,044, Aug. 16, 2006

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