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CONNECTION

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Newcomers

& Community Guide 2008-2009

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NEWCOMERS AND COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome To Reston

You've arrived at the most exciting time since Reston's founding 44 years ago.

Congratulations! After considering many wonderful options, you chose Reston for your home. As your new neighbors, we welcome you. The timing of your arrival in Reston could not be better!

Today Reston is known as one of the best places in the country to both raise a family and to retire. Reston is the second largest employment center in Virginia, with unrivaled opportunities to work close to home. Reston has assets including over 1,300 acres of open space, 55 miles of trails and pathways and nationally recognized environmental education programs.



Joe Ritchey is the principal of Prospective Inc. and the Board Chairman and President of the Initiative for Public Art Reston.

One of the largest homeowners associations in the United States, Reston Association (RA) just announced achieving a fund-raising goal of \$1.5 million to build Nature House, Reston's environmental education center. For information visit www.reston.org.

RESTON'S INDOOR recreational and cultural center is the Reston Community Center. RCC offers more than 1,800 positive, self-development experiences for all people living and working in Reston. For information visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

The Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) enriches community life by promoting involvement and excellence in the visual arts. Its Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival is now the top-rated annual

SEE EXPERIENCE, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO BY ANDREW DODSON/THE CONNECTION

Reston Town Center reflects upon itself.

Looking To Hear from Our Readers

As local, weekly newspapers, the Connection's mission is to bring the news you need about your community, to advocate for community good, to share profiles that give insight to interesting people, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in people's lives and in the community.

We understand that local issues matter, from property values and taxes, to land use, to public services and safety, to quality schools, to teen driving, to fiscal responsibility. We know that it's our job to let you know about fun things too, about the arts, parks, nightlife, festivals and celebrations.

Local people matter, too. We're interested in the way our readers live, what they love about their homes and neighborhoods, their favorite pastimes, places and restaurants.

In addition to this edition of the Connection that is delivered to your home, we publish 17 additional weekly papers in Northern Virginia. We strive to deliver the

most local information possible to each of our readers.

But our Web site offers the opportunity to read any or all of the hundreds of items we report each week. If you go to www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, you can browse our stories by community, see what's new on any given day, or research past coverage of an issue. You can check out sports features for the region, or just your high school. There are some new developments on our site. Each week, you can download the print edition of any or all of our papers, identical to the printed paper including photographs, display ads and classifieds.

The classified, employment and real estate listings from our papers are also available in several different formats.

AT THE CONNECTION, we invite newcomers to the area and long-time residents alike to be a part of providing more reader input.

Let us know how we're doing, and let us know what is going on

in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, call us or send us an email.

We invite you to send letters to the editor, or just to send an email letting us know about something you especially liked or didn't like about our coverage. We appreciate readers' ideas. **EDITORIAL** If you see something that you think might be a story, or just something you wonder about, give us a call, or drop us a line.

We want to know if you have an idea for fixing traffic in your part of the world. We want to know if you've had a good or bad experience with local government. We'd like to hear your ideas about how to make things better, or just to hear what you have to say about things that should be different.

If you know of a person or an organization doing important work, something that might make a good feature story, let us know. We are looking for people to feature in our "Neighbor Question and Answer" section each week.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community

published a book, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon or having art included in an art show.

We publish photos and notes of a variety of personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email or mail us a photo and a note about the event. Be sure to include the names of all the people who are in a photo, and say when and where the photo was taken. If you want a hard copy of a photo returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope, and please do not send us anything that is irreplaceable.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees, anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to

SEE LOOKING, PAGE 11

RESTON CONNECTION ♦ NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE 2008-2009 ♦ 3

What do you like about Reston?



Terry Robinson
 "I love Reston, especially the Lake Anne area. I think it's beautiful and historic and I like everything about it. It's also very convenient."

Sekuntala Marganty

"We like the climate and the greenery and the lakes. We like everything! We are moving soon, unfortunately, and will miss this place a lot."



Marnie Spurlock
 "We have interesting people. You see all sorts of people out here just relaxing and having a good time. It's a fantastic place."

Joanne Rabaca

"We [she and her husband Dennis] like the quiet. Also, Reston Town Center has great places to sit down and relax."



Nadia Gambell
 "I love that it's growing and attracting lots of people and that it's becoming like a metropolis."

John Lossos

"It's very family oriented. I have a child and I think it's absolutely a good place to raise a kid."



Kate Colburn
 "I like Reston Town Center, because it always has a lively crowd. I think it's a good place."

— PHOTOS BY BEN LEATHERWOOD

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Opportunities for Involvement: Plentiful

Cultivating philanthropy.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHC
 THE CONNECTION

Reston and Herndon often welcome new people and businesses to the area, but some longtime residents warn against calling it transient.

"It is a wrong impression to believe that the Reston-Herndon area is very transient," said Linda Strup, a 20-plus year Reston resident. She said "long-term" neighborhoods and traditions are established in the area.

One of the traditions that has taken root and sprouted here is community involvement, especially in terms of helping less fortunate neighbors stand on their feet. "I think this area has always been very community-oriented," said Strup, a founding member of the Giving Circle of HOPE, a philanthropic organization that raises funds and redistributes them to Northern Virginia nonprofits through grants. "There are so many great nonprofits in this area that do so many wonderful things," she said.

Those nonprofits are always looking for new members. "If anyone has time on their hands, there are so many ways to get involved," said Marcia Di Trapani, the president of Herndon-Reston FISH (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help).

RESTON INTERFAITH is one of the area's largest nonprofit organizations and Amanda Andere, the organization's vice president of external affairs, said all of its programs are in need of volunteers. The number of organization's clients continues to grow as the economy continues to slump. "The food pantry is definitely seeing more people," said Andere. "Everyone is cutting back on their expenses, but their [the food pantry clients'] basic needs are not being met," she said.

"We have seen an increase in patients," said Meagan Ulrich, the executive director of the Herndon-based Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic that serves low-income people in the western portion of Fairfax County. She said a few people who moved to the area from the Carolinas thinking it would be easier to find work in Northern Virginia have registered in the clinic in recent months. Other new patients are established local residents. "Some of them are newly poor, facing the mortgage crunch," she said.

Another trend Ulrich has noticed since the economic downturn is that companies are underinsuring employees, cutting out benefits such as prescription coverage, forcing more patients into the free clinic. "We're definitely seeing that," she said. Ulrich said the tougher economic times have prompted more people to action in the free clinic, which has seen an increase in volunteers. "We really have had a tremendous response," she said. "It says a lot for the com-



PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSPAHC/THE CONNECTION

Yoshiko Spratley, right, and Avanthi Jayaweera help make Happy Hats at Sunrise Valley Elementary School in Reston on Saturday morning, March 1. Happy Hats is a one-day project of the Giving Circle of HOPE that benefits children at INOVA Fairfax Hospital.

munity." However, the clinic is always looking for more volunteers.

While some of the clinic's volunteers are medical professionals, Ulrich said there are needs for people with other skills as well, for example translators and those who could

ing volunteers for the Back To School Drive it conducts with KidsRFirst, another organization serving the Reston and Herndon area. Giving Circle of HOPE has awarded grants to the Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic and Herndon-Reston FISH in recent years and has partnered with Reston Interfaith to provide programs at the Embury Rucker Community Shelter for homeless individuals and families in Reston.

The Giving Circle is always looking for new members, said Strup, because more members means more funds, rendering the organization better able to help other nonprofits. "We try to make it really easy for people to plug in," said Strup.

Involvement, said Di Trapani, does not have to be through a nonprofit organization or a church helping support others. She said there are plenty of clubs in the area that would love to increase their memberships, including running, biking and hiking area clubs.

Increased membership does not only benefit the clubs and the nonprofits, but also those new members, said Di Trapani. "There is so much to do in this area, nobody should ever be without friends," she said.

For those who would like to get involved with Herndon-Reston FISH, Di Trapani said the organization's thrift shop in Herndon, the Bargain Loft, offers an opportunity to help make a difference and form friendships. "Come volunteer at the Bargain Loft, you'll meet a lot of people. We have fun there," she said.

On the Web

To learn more about these organizations and their efforts, visit them on the web at the following addresses:
 Reston Interfaith - <http://restoninterfaith.org>
 Herndon-Reston FISH - <http://herndonrestonfish.org>
 Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic - <http://www.jsfreeclinic.org>
 Giving Circle of HOPE - <http://givingcircleofhope.org>

help complete paperwork. "We try to respect volunteers in terms of giving them work to do," she said.

Andere said Reston Interfaith is also seeking new volunteers.

"We definitely are always looking to engage people in our mission," she said. Andere added that the best way to get involved in the community is to become aware, not just of volunteer opportunities, but also of the issues the community faces. The organization is hoping to recruit clients with legal and housing issues knowledge as it is getting ever more involved in helping people in mortgage crisis.

THE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS often cooperate, sharing volunteers and helping one another identify clients. They also partner to provide programs and events in the community. Reston Interfaith is currently seek-

WHAT'S AHEAD

Recreational Facilities

While Reston Association staff examines possibilities for an indoor tennis facility, some residents will continue to advocate for other recreational facilities. Reston founder Bob Simon has long advocated that a skateboard park be built in Reston. Some Reston Town Center residents are seeking passive recreation facilities, such as chessboards, while other town center neighbors wish to see tennis courts in their district, too.

RCC Reopening

Reston Community Center's main facility at Hunters Woods is undergoing renovations that will keep the building closed until later this fall. However, once reopened, the staff hope the facility, which also hosts an indoor pool, will prove to be a more comfortable destination for its visitors.

Pathway Lighting

Reston Association will consider its options to light portions of community's pathways, especially near the village centers. Conversations about the possibilities should begin when the association undertakes its next budgeting process.

Transit Rerouting

While Fairfax County conducts a study on how to route the Fairfax Connector buses to best serve the riders, Reston residents are considering options for the community's internal system. Outside of the proposals that came out of the Reston Metrorail Access



Group (RMAG) on accessibility to future metro stations, future development may dictate circulator buses in other parts of the community.

Town Center Redevelopment

With conceptual plans for Lerner's redevelopment of the Spectrum Shopping Center approved at the county, there is much talk about what that plan may do in terms of encouraging other town center landowners to develop on their properties. The Spectrum redevelopment, which is not slated for construction in the near future, could add up to 1,442 residential units in seven buildings and office and hotel space in another three buildings. The vision of some community planners is to transform Fountain Drive in town center into a street that would resemble Market Street, the main street in town center's urban core.

— MIRZA KURSPAHIC

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PEOPLE

RA Serves Homeowners

An association not only of homeowners but of renters of properties, the Reston Association owns and operates Reston's community-wide recreational facilities, such as pools and tennis courts, and looks after more than 1,000 acres of lakes and other open space, including the Vernon J. Walker Nature Center. RA is a nonprofit corporation.

All members of the board of directors are elected by residents; one board member represents the apartment complexes for Reston.

The board holds open meetings at 7 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month. The meetings are taped and shown later on Comcast Channel 28. RA's headquarters are at 1930 Isaac Newton Square, off Wiehle Avenue near Sunset Hills Road. RA directors make themselves available for informal discussions with residents before each meeting, starting at 6:30 p.m.

An important part of RA's structure is the Design Review Board (DRB), which must approve all changes proposed for the exterior of houses. To contact the DRB about any proposed exterior changes, call 703-437-9580.

Several RA committees are made up of area residents and advise the board on matters such as lake ecology, natural areas, pathways, recreation and public arts. For information, call 703-437-9580.



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Reston's First Resident

Bob Simon purchased 6,750 acres of farmland that would come to be known as Reston near the Washington Dulles Airport in 1961. He established seven goals for the new town. They included concepts that people should be able to live and work in the same community, that a wide range of cultural and recreational opportunities be provided and that "the importance and dignity of each individual be the focal point for all planning, and take precedence for large-scale concepts." In 1964, regarded as Reston's birth, the community's first residents moved in.

Forty-four years later people and businesses continue to move to the community of engaged citizens, including 94-year-old Simon. Volunteering and other community involvement is encouraged and respected in Reston. There are two ways Simon suggests new residents get involved in the community. "The secular way," said Simon, is

Who ...

Name: Robert E. Simon, Jr.
Age: 94
Residence: Reston
Title: Reston Founder
Years in Reston: 44-plus

to visit Reston Association (RA) offices and speak to Cate Fulkerson, the RA director of administration and member services. People can offer their time and expertise on one or more of RA's advisory committees, volunteer at RA events or run for election on the RA Board of Supervisors.

"The other way, the much more traditional way" to get involved, said Simon, is to seek out a faith group. For people who are not particular about their beliefs, Simon said they could contact the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Wiehle Avenue in Reston.

Simon's favorite thing to do in Reston is to walk around Washington Plaza at Lake



Reston founder Bob Simon

Anne Village Center, Reston's first village center, which is also home to a statue of him sitting on a bench, also known as 'Bronze Bob.' "It's almost impossible for me to go down the plaza without seeing somebody I know," said Simon.

— MIRZA KURSPAHIC

Managing 'Unique' Community

In October of this year, Milton Matthews will mark four years since taking over the helm of Reston Association (RA) as its Chief Executive Officer. A Virginia native, 54-year-old Matthews was absent from the Old Dominion for 28 years before coming to Reston in 2004.

"There is a uniqueness to Reston," said Matthews, who served as a city manager in a suburb of St. Louis, Missouri, before coming to Reston and worked in city management in Dallas, Texas. "Living in Reston is like living in a park," he said.

Matthews said Reston's diversity is what draws him the most to the community. "Diversity of housing stock, the diversity of the demographic makeup of Reston," he said. Meanwhile the community's open space, he said, is also its not-so-well hidden treasure. "You don't find 1,350 acres of open space, four lakes, three ponds" in communities of comparable size, said Matthews. He added that Reston is an urban area with offerings of a suburban community. Another feature

Who ...

Name: Milton Matthews
Age: 54
Residence: Reston
Title: Reston Association CEO
Years in Reston: 3

of Reston that would not be found in other comparable communities, he said, is the stock of 15 swimming pools.

Matthews is inviting all new and prospective residents of Reston to visit RA's Web site, www.reston.org, and learn about the community that is different from others. He said information about getting involved in the community is also available on the Web site. "Whatever your passion is, we probably have a way you can get involved with that," said Matthews.

The association also provides information in disclosure documents for new homeowners and hosts two Newcomers Nights, events to introduce the community



PHOTO BY MIKE MCKEE

Milton Matthews at a Reston Association South Lakes District meeting in June.

to its new residents, each year. The next Newcomers Night is tentatively scheduled for October. There is also a full-time volunteer coordinator, Ha Brock, on the RA staff. Matthews said RA is working on a new web site that will contain a lot of information and new features. He hopes the web site will be launched some time in October or November of this year.

— MIRZA KURSPAHIC

Serving a Diverse Population

Southgate Community Center reopened in Reston in 2006 promising to offer services and programs to residents in the Glade Drive corridor of Reston and beyond. LaShawn Timmons, 39, came to Reston to lead the efforts of the center, renovated and reopened in the spirit of community cooperation.

Southgate Community Center now offers programs for children, teens and adults, including Spark, a program for adults with disabilities, and Stroller Fit, a mom and child exercise class. "Our major focus is prevention," said Timmons, adding that some of the programs for children emphasize dangers of bullying and advocate nutrition and health.

Prior to taking charge at Southgate, Timmons gained experience working in the City of Alexandria's Department of Parks

Who ...

Name: LaShawn Timmons
Age: 39
Residence: Alexandria
Title: Southgate Community Center Executive Director
Years in Reston: 2

and Cultural Activities and managing swimming pools in Northern Virginia neighborhoods. She went to work at the Community and Recreation Services in Fairfax County and rose through the ranks before taking on her current duties.

Timmons is happy to be in Reston. "I love the diversity," she said, adding that she has also found a new hidden treasure, Reston Association's Walker Nature Education Center. She encourages all newcomers to Reston to explore the community because they may



LaShawn Timmons

be surprised with its offerings. "There is a lot here, you just have to go and find it," she said. "Ask questions. Get out and explore."

Timmons said whatever the person's passion or interest might be, chances are that Southgate Community Center, Reston Community Center or Reston Association have a program that fulfills that interest.

COMMUNITY

'Menu of Opportunities' at RCC

The Reston community established the Reston Community Center (RCC) in 1964. The center, funded by a special tax district, offers leisure, entertainment, fitness and other programs in two RCC facilities and throughout the community.

Leila Gordon, RCC's executive director, said those looking for activities that are fun and family-friendly should turn to RCC. "RCC is the first-stop for leisure," said Gordon. "It is something that offers anybody who lives or works in Reston a menu of opportunities to play," she said.

The main facility at Hunters Woods Shopping Center is undergoing renovations throughout this summer to improve the aquatics facility and the building's air conditioning system. It is expected that the building will be opened in November. In the meantime, the center has taken its programs outdoors. "Even though we are under reconstruction, RCC has not skipped a beat at all," said Gordon. "There are lots of things people can do whether we're open at Hunt-



PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC/THE CONNECTION

Sailor and Samantha jump straight into playing with one of the new toys the Good Neighbors woodworking group at Reston Community Center donated to the Laurel Learning Center on May 6.

On the Web

For more information about the Reston Community Center and its programs visit <http://restoncommunitycenter.com>.

ers Woods or not."

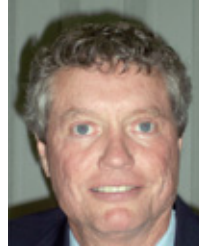
The Hunters Woods facility is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road. It features an aquatics center, a theater and meeting rooms. The Lake Anne facility is located at 1609-A Washington Plaza and it features an art gallery and meeting rooms.

— MIRZA KURSPAHIC

WHO'S IN CHARGE

RCC Board Oversees Programs

Reston Community Center's (RCC) mission is to create positive leisure experiences which enhance the quality of life for all people living and working in Reston. RCC offers more than 1,800 programs, trips, events and services for residents of Small Tax District #5. Fairfax County appoints the Board of Governors based on the results from an annual preference poll. The board is responsible for establishing RCC's policy among other things. See www.restoncommunitycenter.com



William Penniman



Terry Smith



Claudine Varesi



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Come dressed in your own native attire and share your culture with your neighbors.

For 30 years, RCC has been the Center of community-building in Reston. Come celebrate community all year with us as Reston Community Center turns 30 years old in May 2009. Check our website for the celebration schedule and activities.

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2008 Reston Multicultural Festival



1979 - 2009



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www.restoncommunitycenter.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HANMER/THE CONNECTION

Timra Stump of Reston jumps in Lake Anne last February despite the cold water in order to help raise funds for Camp Sunshine in the first Polar Plunge at Lake Anne.



PHOTO BY MIRZA KUSIMIC/THE CONNECTION

The Easter Bunny has his picture taken with Reston residents Jack, 5, and Patrick, 6, Twomey at the Easter Egg hunt at Reston Zoo.

AUGUST 2008

Asian Festival. The Asian Festival, Aug. 9-10, promotes a greater understanding of the Asian culture from Thailand, China, India, Philippines, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam. Each participating country will showcase its music, cultural performances, food, beauty pageants, fashion, handicrafts, gift shop and other products and entertainment. Contact Info: Visit www.asianfestivaldc.com/

Annual Works Sunday. An annual event that brings people of different faiths from Reston and Herndon together for community service and fellowship, Aug. 17. Visit www.worksunday.org.

SEPTEMBER 2008

Annual C-Note Sale. Build an art collection at the annual C-Note Sale at the Greater Reston Arts Center, a once-a-year opportunity to take home a piece of original art for \$150. All of the 200 art works are donated by artists from the 2008 Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival and throughout Northern Virginia. Tickets are \$150 each and available for purchase at GRACE or by phone. Limit: 5 tickets per person, and only as many tickets are sold as there are pieces of art, so no one goes home empty handed. Ticket-holders: View the art selection at the GRACE gallery beginning Sept. 2, through Sept. 28. Event Day: Sunday, Sept. 28, the Gallery opens at 11 a.m. All proceeds go to support GRACE programs.

Hoops for the Homeless. The greater Reston community travels down to the Verizon Center Sept. 13 and supports Reston Interfaith and its team in this charity basketball tournament featuring Magic Johnson, Gilbert Arenas and many other celebrities. Reston Interfaith will have exclusive free tickets and will hold pep rallies to cheer on its team and give tickets away to the community in the fall. This event is sponsored by Freddie Mac and benefits six local organizations. Contact: www.restoninterfaith.org or www.hoopsforthehomeless.org

Reston Multicultural Festival. The award-winning Reston Multicultural Festival at Lake Anne Village Center spotlights the diversity of the Reston community. Families, friends and visitors are invited to come, enjoy and experience international entertainment, children's and adults' activities, the world of food, arts and crafts, and cultural demonstrations on Sept. 6. Come dressed in native attire and share one's family's history with neighbors. Information: www.restoncommunitycenter.com

The Reston Triathlon. Every year in September local residents compete in the Reston Triathlon, a race which takes participants through lakes, woods and over 22 miles of roadway. Visit www.restontriathlon.org.

OCTOBER 2008

Help the Homeless Walkathon. Join Reston Interfaith for its 5th Annual Community Walk for the Homeless as a part of the Fannie Mae Walkathon Program on Oct. 19 at 2 p.m. Put on your walking shoes or just

come and learn about homelessness in the community at the Embury Rucker Community Shelter. Join the community in the family friendly event and take stand to end homelessness by raising money to support Reston Interfaith's many programs.

RCC on the Road. Sponsored by the Reston Community Center, hosted by Reston Town Center, a free concert, featuring Buckwheat Zydeco, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Light the Night. Evening fund-raising walk to celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer.

Reston Home Tour. Each year, the Reston Historic Trust selects five private homes to present a self-conducted tour Oct. 18, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. of the interior design and architecture in the neighborhoods of Reston. A map and information are published on a tour ticket purchased from the Reston Museum, which is the beneficiary of the event. Tour programs include art, information and history of the homes and owners. Contact: 703-709-7700; Information: www.restonmuseum.org

RCC Community Picnic. The Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, sponsors this fried chicken and all the fixings event for all Reston families on the day of the RCC Preference Pull. Adults can vote and eat on the lawn. Call 703-476-4500 or visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com

Halloween Family Day. Dress up in costume and join other Restonians in this community event on Oct. 18, 1-3 p.m. at the Reston Community Center, Lake Anne facility. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

NOVEMBER 2008

Ice Skating Pavilion at Reston Town Center. Starting Nov. 1 and continuing through March 1, outdoor skating in a twinkling atmosphere under the glass pavilion, open every day during the season. Skate rentals, lessons and private parties are available. Contact: Reston Town Center Skate Shop, 1818 Discovery Street - 703-709-6300; www.restontowncenter.com

Thanksgiving Food Drive. Co-Sponsored by Reston Community Center and Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, this food drive begins on the first of November and continues through Nov. 27. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com for drop-off points.

Race for the Kids. On Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m., children join the fun and run "The Reston Mile" to benefit Neediest Kids. No entry fee. Visit the Web site for sponsorship and registration information. Contact: www.restontowncenter.com

Turkey Trot 5K Race. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave. Visit www.active.com

Ethics Day. Tuesday, Nov. 21 at the Sheraton Reston. Sponsored by Greater Reston Chambers of Commerce. Call Andrew Sterling at 703-707-9045. Visit www.restonchamber.org.

Holiday Parade. Reston welcomes the holiday season with the annual Reston Holiday Parade Nov. 28 featuring Santa and Mrs. Claus, Macy's style balloons, musical groups, dancers, antique cars and more, making their merry way down Market Street. Afterwards, children can meet Santa and have their photos taken.



PHOTO BY BEN LEATHERWOOD/THE CONNECTION

Reston residents take to the streets of Town Center during the annual Reston Festival.

Horse drawn carriage rides are offered until 10 p.m. Contact: www.restontowncenter.com

Holiday Tree Lighting & Sing-a-long. Santa and Mrs. Claus will light Reston's tree and the Reston Chorale will lead a sing-a-long with a brass quintet. Takes place in the Reston Town Center on Friday, Nov. 28 at 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 2008

Lake Anne Welcomes the Holidays. Santa will arrive by barge across Lake Anne in this community Holiday celebration in Washington Square Plaza, Lake Anne on Saturday, Dec. 6. Lake Anne merchants present family fun on the plaza with a petting zoo and entertainment. In the evening, a plaza tree lighting and caroling begin at 6 p.m. to Light Up Lake Anne, with a flotilla of boats. www.lakeanneplaza.com

New Year's Celebrations. Welcome the new year at Reston's Lake Anne Center. Call the Historic Trust at 703-709-7700.

JANUARY 2009

MLK Celebration. An annual celebration of the holiday commemorating Dr. King's birthday. There will be a commemorative march at the Reston Community Center Lake Anne as well as a full-day celebration at RCC Hunters Woods. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

FEBRUARY 2009

Polar Plunge at Lake Anne. Registered participants will plunge into the water of Lake Anne to raise

funds for Camp Sunshine. Registration, regulations and pledge forms are at www.freezeinfo4reason.com

MARCH 2009

Reston Town Center Easter Celebrations. See www.restontowncenter.com or call 703-481-6600.

APRIL 2009

Best of Reston Awards Dinner. Reston Interfaith and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce present the annual Best of Reston Awards on April 24. The awards are presented to businesses, individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond in their service to improving the quality of life of those in the Reston community. Contact: www.restoninterfaith.org

Founders Day. Established on Reston's 40th anniversary in 2004, this annual celebration of the April 10 birthday of Reston's founder, Robert E. Simon, Jr., also recognizes the community's pioneers. Local dignitaries and residents will gather Saturday, April 17 at the historic heart of Reston, Lake Anne Village Center, for special presentations, entertainment, an installation of commemorative bricks on the plaza, and an open reception at Reston Museum. Contact: www.restonmuseum.org; 703-709-7700

Pet Fiesta. This annual celebration of pets and pet owners features contests, exhibitors, pet rescue groups, a Super Pet Adoption, and entertainment on May 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The day starts off with the Tails on Trails Dog Walk to benefit pet organizations. Contact: www.restontowncenter.com

Annual MS Walk. The walk starts and finishes at Reston Town Center April 6 for the benefit of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Contact: www.MSandYOU.org

Herndon Rotary Club Dinner. Annual event honoring a citizen for years of volunteer service and leadership. Sponsored by Herndon Rotary Club.

MAY 2009

Relay for Life. On May 31, a fun-filled overnight event celebrates survivorship and raise money to help the American Cancer Society save lives, help those who have been touched by cancer, and empower individuals to fight back against this disease. During the event, teams of people gather at schools, fairgrounds, or parks and take turns walking or running laps. Each team keeps at least one team member on the track at all times. Contact: www.restonrelay.org.

Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival. Held May 17-18, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m., the Greater Reston Arts Center produces the festival, which features an outdoor, juried art exhibition in fine art and fine craft, live entertainment, and a children's art activity area. Contact: www.restonarts.org/Festival/FestivalWelcome.htm

Memorial Day Services. Chestnut Grove Cemetery in Herndon, sponsored by the Herndon-Reston American Legion Post 184. Avenue of Flags display honors veterans from the local community. Call Doug Swisher at 703-435-9340.

JUNE 2009

Taste of the Town. Northern Virginia's largest outdoor food festival features delectable fare from the region's finest eateries, live music all day in the Pavilion, a beer and wine garden, and activities and games at Kids Korner on June 14, noon - 10 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Hosted by Reston Town Center. Visit www.restonchamber.org/tasteofthetown.htm

Take a Break Concerts. Held June through August, every Thursday, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.; beginning on June 12. Free outdoor concerts featuring live bands of all styles at Lake Anne Village Center.

Reston Concerts on the Town. Held June through August, every Saturday, 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. Free outdoor concerts are presented at the Reston Town Center Pavilion through the summer featuring live music from rock to ethnic to folk. Rain or shine. Contact: www.restontowncenter.com; 703-912-4062

Reston Town Center Grand Prix. The Mid-Atlantic's top men and women racers compete for thousands in cash and prizes. All races held on a demanding 3/4-mile circuit through the heart of the Reston Town Center, with sprint finishes on the bricks at the Market Street pavilion. Music, race commentary and a festival atmosphere. Visit www.evolutioncycling.org.

Herndon Festival. Held in historic downtown Herndon. Festivities will include live entertainment, arts and crafts, and 5K and 10K runs. Visit www.herndonfestival.org. Call 703-435-6868.

Celebrate Fairfax! Held the second weekend after Memorial Day at the Fairfax County Government Center. For more information about times and events, call 703-324-FAIR (3240).

JULY 2009

Rucker Memorial Golf Tournament. Reston Interfaith's



PHOTO BY ANDREW DOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Lake Fairfax is home to the county's Watermine water park as well as more relaxed pursuits.

Annual Golf Tournament, Live/Silent Auction will be held July 14 at the Hidden Creek Country Club. Contact: www.restoninterfaith.org

Reston Festival. On July 12-13, the Reston Festival showcases local entertainment talent, artisans, businesses and community resources in celebration of the birthday of Reston. The festival emphasizes the importance of volunteerism and community involvement by introducing Reston residents and businesses to an array of volunteer organizations in and around Reston. Contact: www.restonfestival.com

July Fourth Fireworks. Fireworks display at Lake Fairfax Park at Hunter Mill Road and Baron Cameron Avenue. Contact Fairfax County Parks at 703-324-8700.

July Fourth Celebration. Lake Newport pool, 11601 Newport Road. Call the Reston Association at 703-437-9580. Visit www.reston.org.

SEASONAL

Children's Shows. Lake Anne merchants present free entertainment for children on the plaza through the summer, every Tuesday and Thursday from 11 - 11:30 a.m. See www.lakeanneplaza.com

Reston Farmer's Market. Saturdays, May to November, from 8 a.m.-noon. Parking lot of Lake Anne Village Center.

Reston Town Center farmers market. At the Reston Town Square park, Thursday afternoons, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.smartmarkets.org>.

ENTERTAINING

Reston Community Players - Reston's own community theatre. Check out its current calendar and make your reservations online. www.restonplayers.org

VOCE - A Reston Based chamber Orchestra, now in its 11th season. www.voce.org

Elden Street Players offers theatre that is challenging and thought provoking as well as entertaining. www.eldenstreetplayers.org

Reston Chamber Orchestra - established in 1977 as Reston's community orchestra. Members, both amateur and professional musicians, enjoy exposure to and performance of musical literature for the small orchestra. While a large portion of the chamber orchestra literature is from the Baroque, Classical and early Ro-

mantic periods, the orchestra performs works from contemporary composers as well. www.restoncommunityorchestra.org

The Noble Blades - The area's only professionally-trained, community based fight group. The Noble Blades are committed to the performance of stage combat in an entertaining, educational, historically accurate and safe manner. www.nobleblades.org

Reston Institute for the Arts is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the performing arts in the Reston-Herndon community. RIA offers several community outreach programs in the Reston area and conducts an expanded tuition dance program for the entire community. www.restondance.org

A RESTON PRIMER

Reston's Top Issues

Revisiting Reston's Plan

The plan that guided Reston's development has received international praise since its creation in the 1960s. A planned community from its inception, Reston is studied in international universities for its original plan, its implementation and the founder, Robert E. Simon — RESTON.

However, as Reston celebrates its 44th birthday, community leaders and activists are in the process of establishing a method to study the current plan and make adjustments that will guide Reston's development for the foreseeable future. Fairfax County Supervisor Catherine Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) told a group of Reston residents in May that she would convene a task force to study the plan. County planners are currently meeting with Reston citizen groups to determine their views on the subject.

Lake Anne Revitalization

Numerous studies have been completed to determine what level of development is necessary or wanted to help restore the economic wellbeing of merchants at Lake Anne Village Center. However, there is hardly

consensus on the issue in the community. Between the residents who want more dense development and those who want more moderate development are county planners. Fairfax County had scheduled public hearings on proposals developed by a consultant in the summer of 2007, but citizen involvement delayed those hearings and pushed the planners to consider other alternatives. The hearings have not been rescheduled yet, but planners are working on the details and completing studies necessary to understand the terrain, such as transportation and parking studies.

Building New Recreation Opportunities

Community activists have long advocated for certain recreational facilities to be built in Reston. They include a skateboard park, indoor tennis and other indoor recreation space. Tennis, in particular, has a huge following in the community and Reston Association (RA) is in the process of examining proposals for an indoor tennis facility. A likely area for the facility is Brown's Chapel Park, located off of Baron Cameron Avenue.

Metro Coming?



A floating deck carries people enjoying a Sunday afternoon on Lake Thoreau.

PHOTO BY
MIRZA KURSPAHC/
THE CONNECTION

As of now, the metro extension project to Dulles Airport is on its way. Reston will house two of the extension's stations, both in the median of the Airport Access Road, one west of Wiehle Avenue and one west of Reston Parkway. If it holds up, the extension will encourage development of thousands of residential units coupled with construction of office buildings. Two things stand in the way of those plans coming true: the current zoning along the Dulles Toll Road and citizens opposed to high levels of development without accompanying improvements to the community's roads and transportation systems.

Encouraging Bus Use

If one of the goals of bringing metro to Reston is to reduce commuter car trips, the bus service in and around the community will need improvements. Fairfax County is undergoing a bus transit study to determine best practices and routes for the Fairfax Connector and other services that operate in the area. In the meantime, the Reston

community is also examining its internal system RIBS to improve that service. Recent ridership numbers have been record-breaking, which is not saying much, thanks in large part to rising gas prices.

Aging Community

Much of Reston's infrastructure was built in the community's first two decades of existence and some community organizations are looking into their budgets to prioritize renovation needs. From pathways and sidewalks, to roads, lakes, swimming pools and tennis courts, infrastructure in the community faces possibilities of deterioration without intervention.

— MIRZA KURSPAHC

WHO'S IN CHARGE

RCA Defends Founding Principles

Reston Citizens Association (RCA) was founded in 1967 to protect and defend Reston's founding principles. It is a volunteer-run, nonprofit civic organization that serves about 60,000 people living in the Small Tax District #5. Its mission is to protect and promote Reston's social and political interests serving as a forum for residents and a voice and advocate in front of the county and state governments.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marion Stillson

President
mbs@point0.net
Colin Mills
Vice President/South Lakes Director
cwmills47@hotmail.com

Mike Corrigan

At-Large Director
mike.corrigan@comcast.net

Jason Hartke

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mail@jasonhartke.com

John Lovaas

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North Point Director
Janelwong@aol.com

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Barbara Burleson

Lake Anne Director
Barbaraburleson@gmail.com

Dan McGuire

South Lakes Director
Guildmore@aol.com

RCA elections took place on July 12 and 13 and it is possible additional directors may be joining the board. A North Point director position is vacant.

— MIRZA KURSPAHC

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

WHAT'S NEW

Nature House

A seven-year effort to raise funds for construction of the Nature House at Walker Nature Center in Reston has reached its goal. Friends of Reston raised more than \$1.5 million needed for construction of the educational center that was a part of Reston's original plan. Close to 1,000 donors participated in the fundraising effort, from children collecting change to corporations providing funding. The Northern Virginia Stream Restoration Bank was key in providing funds for the Nature House in its latest push to reach the goal. It directly awarded the Nature House \$350,000 and Reston Association awarded \$108,000 of its funds from the Stream Restoration Bank toward the project. For more information on the Nature House, visit www.reston.org/Nature/n_nature_house.html.

For The Connection article on the announcement of funds raised for the Nature House, visit <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=316754&paper=71&cat=104>.

Stream Restoration Bank

The Northern Virginia Stream Restoration Bank was established to offset the impact of water runoff created by development in the area. Developers pay money into the bank as credit for their projects' environmental impact. For example, the fourth runway at the Dulles International Airport paid an estimated \$12 million into the bank. Reston Association (RA) won the bid for the bank's funds to be used on its property. Miles of stream restoration is being constructed at no cost to Reston residents. Approximately \$70 million will be put into the bank for restoration work in Reston, which will improve the streams' ecological standing and appearance. The construction of the project is expected to take five years and 10 years of monitoring work will follow. Phase 1 of the project includes restoration on Snakeden Branch Stream, Glade Run and Colvin Run. More information is available at www.reston.org/water.



Digging from left, Larry Butler, Robin Smyers, Casey Veatch, Robert Simon, Cathy Hudgins, Mike Rolband and Nicki Foremsky at a groundbreaking ceremony for the Reston stream restoration project.

Town Center Farmers Market

Reston Town Center is a site of a new farmers market since May 2008. The market opened under the management of Smart Markets Inc., a nonprofit organization, and support from the Reston Whole Foods store. In addition to offering fresh produce and other food products at the Reston Town Square park, the Thursday afternoon market, from 3:30 to 7 p.m., offers wine and wine tasting. For more information on the Thursday afternoon market at Reston Town Center, visit <http://www.smartmarkets.org>.

In the meantime, Reston's Saturday morning farmers market at Lake Anne Village Center, operated through the Fairfax County Park Authority, has won regional awards for its offerings and management. To learn more about the Saturday morning, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., market at Lake Anne visit <http://restonfarmersmarket.com>.

NEWCOMERS AND COMMUNITY GUIDE

Experience Reston and Get Involved

FROM PAGE 3

juried arts festival in the United States. For information visit www.restonarts.org.

The Initiative for Public Art – Reston, Inc. (IPAR) was organized by Reston's key community and artistic organizations to fulfill founder Robert E. Simon's vision to integrate art into Reston's public spaces. IPAR has raised approximately \$200,000 and retained two nationally recognized public art consultants to develop a world class public art master plan for Reston. When our public art master plan is completed later this year, Reston will become the first non-incorporated jurisdiction in the United States to complete a public art master plan. For information and to take a public art survey, visit www.publicartreston.org.

South Lakes High School (SLHS) is currently

completing a \$42.8 million renovation in time for the 2008-2009 school year. Students there speak over 65 languages and its International Baccalaureate program truly prepares students for the world. For information, visit www.fcps.edu/SouthLakesHS.

Founded in 1970 by area religious organizations to encourage the development of affordable housing, Reston Interfaith is a non-profit organization that promotes self-sufficiency by providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality child care and other human services. For information visit www.restoninterfaith.org.

Located in Reston Town Center, Reston Hospital Center (RHC) provides the ultimate in community health care and is celebrating its 20th anniversary. RHC has recently received

national recognition for attentive patient care and nursing excellence. For information visit www.restonhospital.com.

The internationally-celebrated Reston Town Center District is the urban core of Reston with office, retail, hotel and residential amenities. Its pedestrian-friendly streetscapes, parks, squares, fountains and sculptures have won more than 50 national and regional awards.

While there is much more to explore, I hope this provides a glimpse of why this is the most exciting time to be a part of the Reston community since our founding. All organizations in Reston welcome your interest, participation and involvement. On behalf of our community, I invite you to take advantage of all that Reston has to offer.

Welcome home!

— JOE RITCHEY

Looking To Hear from Our Readers

FROM PAGE 3

us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos. Events for our calendars should be free or at nominal cost and open to the public.

As independently owned newspapers, we

can respond to our readers in a way that others cannot. If you email me, or a community editor or reporter, you'll hear back from us. If you call, I'm likely to answer my own phone, and any of us will return your call if you leave a message.

Call Reston reporter Mirza Kurspahic at 703-917-6452, sports editor Rich Sanders at 703-917-6439, or editor Steven Mauren at 703-

917-6451. Send mail to the Reston Connection, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102 or e-mail reston@connectionnewspapers.com.

In covering the issues, we strive to provide a voice for our readers.

I look forward to hearing from you.

— MARY KIMM, PUBLISHER,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
703-917-6416



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Your Doorway TO THE Dulles BUSINESS Corridor

Welcome, the Doorway to the Business Community is Wide Open!

WELCOME TO RESTON

The **Regional Visitor and Convention Center**, sponsored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, is a comprehensive business and residential community resource serving hundreds of visitors, relocating companies and new residents each month. We are open Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 5:00pm.

STOP BY FOR LOCAL INFORMATION:

- ❖ Business Referrals ❖ Real Estate Guides
- ❖ Hotel, Dining, Child Care, and Bank Directories
- ❖ Local Newspapers and Magazines ❖ NoVa Road Maps
- ❖ and much more!

NEW TO THE AREA?

If you are relocating your home or business to the Greater Reston area, we would be happy to provide you with a Relocation Package. To order a package, visit us at www.RestonChamber.org or contact the Visitor Center by phone: 703.707.9045 or e-mail: restonbiz@restonchamber.org



LOCAL BUSINESS

The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce has been opening the door to business opportunity along the Dulles Business Corridor for over 25 Years. The amazing growth of businesses in the area during this time is mirrored by the growth and success of our Chamber of Commerce. With a professional staff, dedicated volunteer members, an involved Board of Directors and alliances with major corporate, non-profit and media enterprises, you can be assured that this Chamber will continue to serve this robust region as a leader in issues critical to business development.

MEMBER BENEFITS

To learn more about the many opportunities provided by Chamber membership, visit us at www.RestonChamber.org or contact us at 703.707.9045.

Start enjoying membership benefits, affiliate benefits, member-to-member services and discounts, networking, publicity and more today!

www.RestonChamber.org

1763 Fountain Drive, Reston, VA 20190
E: restonbiz@restonchamber.org T: 703.707.9045 F: 703.707.9049

THE COUNTY LINE

Meet Your Representatives ...

Elected officials share their favorite places to go in their political districts.

Gerry Connolly (D)

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman, 2004-present

12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 530
Fairfax, VA 22035

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/

703-324-2321

chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov

Favorite Place: Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts – 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. It is the only national park for the performing arts. It is in Fairfax County and it provides world-class arts and entertainment, according to Connolly.



clients there. The school board member has been going to the restaurant every week since it opened near his law office.

Tina Hone

At-large school board member, 2008 – present

8115 Gatehouse Road, Suite 5400

Falls Church, VA 22042

<http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/members/>

571-423-1089

martina.hone@fcps.edu

Favorite Place: Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens – end of George Washington Memorial Parkway, Mount Vernon. This is one of the places our country began, said Hone. She particularly treasures the slave memorial on the estate.



ington Plaza, Reston. There are always things to do there. There is a beautiful view of the lake and the farmers' market on Saturdays. There are also great restaurants.

Janet Howell (D)

32nd District State Senator, 1992 – present

P.O. Box 2608

Reston, VA 20195

www.janethowell.com/

703-709-8283

SenHowell@aol.com

Favorite Place: Lake Anne

Plaza – 1600 Washington Plaza, Reston. Howell enjoys one of the several restaurants and takes romantic strolls along the quayside with her husband.



Ken Plum (D)

36th District House of Delegates, 1978 – 1980, 1982 – present

2073 Cobblestone La.

Reston, VA 20191

www.kenplum.com/

703-758-9733

Kenplum@aol.com

Favorite Place: Reston Town Center – Intersection of Market St. and Fountain Drive, Reston. Plum said it has a good cosmopolitan feel and going to the Town Center provides a good chance to see neighbors. It is also an excellent place to eat.



Jim Moran (D)

Virginia's 8th District, U.S. House of Representatives, 1990 – present

2239 Rayburn Building

Washington D.C. 20515

<http://moran.house.gov/>

202-225-4376

Favorite Place: Lake Anne

Plaza - 1600 Washington Plaza, Reston. Moran enjoys the shops and restaurants at Lake Anne, especially Lake Anne Coffee House and Reston's Used Book Shop.



Cathy Hudgins (D)

Hunter Mill District Supervisor, 2000 – present

12000 Bowman Towne Dr.
Reston, VA 20190

fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/

703-478-0283

hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov

Favorite Place: Meadowlark Botanical Gardens (9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna); Lake Fairfax Park (1400 Lake Fairfax Dr. Reston); Frying Pan Farm Park (2709 West Ox Road, Herndon) Hunter Mill is fortunate to have some of the most unique parks in the county, said Hudgins.



Ilryong Moon

At-large school board member, 2004 – present

8115 Gatehouse Road, Suite 5400

Falls Church, VA 22042

<http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/>

571-423-1090

ilryong.moon@fcps.edu

Favorite Place: Yechon Korean Japanese Restaurant – 4121 Hummer Rd. Annandale. This restaurant has fantastic food, good service and is very reasonably priced, according to Moon, who meets and takes many of his



Jim Raney

At-large school board member, 2008 – present

8115 Gatehouse Rd., Suite 5400

Falls Church, VA 22042

www.fcps.edu/schlbld/

571-423-1091

james.raney@fcps.edu

Favorite Place: Northern Virginia Shag Club (Meets at Rene's Supper Club, 3251 Old Lee Hwy); Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association (various Fairfax County locations). These clubs are not-for-profits but if you pay the modest fee, you get free dance less, said Raney, who is a member of both.



Stu Gibson

Hunter Mill District school board member, 1996 – present

8115 Gatehouse Road, Suite 5400

Falls Church, VA 22042

www.fcps.edu/schlbld/members/htm

571-423-1082

stuart.gibson@fcps.edu

Favorite Place: Lake Ann Plaza - 1600 Wash-



Other Elected Officials

Fairfax County:

❖ Ray Morrogh (D)

Commonwealth's Attorney, 2008 – present (Terms ends 2012)
4110 Chain Bridge Rd. Rm 123
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2776

❖ Stan Barry (D)

Sheriff, 2000 – present (Terms ends 2012)
4110 Chain Bridge Rd.
Fairfax, VA 22030
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/sheriff/>
703-246-3227
sheriff@fairfaxcounty.gov

❖ John Frey (R)

Clerk of the Circuit Court, 1992 – present (Term ends 2016)
4110 Chain Bridge Rd.
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2770

Virginia:

❖ Tim Kaine (D)

Governor, 2006 – present (Term ends 2010)
1111 East Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23219
governor.virginia.gov/AboutTheGovernor/
804-786-2211
governor@gov.state.VA.us

❖ Bill Bolling (R)

Lt. Governor, 2006 – present (Term ends 2010)
102 Governor St.
Richmond, VA 23218
<http://www.lt.gov.virginia.gov/>
804-786-2078
ltgov@ltgov.virginia.gov

❖ Bob McDonnell (R)

Attorney General, 2006 – present (Term Ends 2010)
900 East Main St.
Richmond, VA 23219
<http://www.oag.state.VA.us/>
804-786-2071
mail@oag.state.VA.us

United States:

❖ John Warner (R)

U.S. Senate, 1978 – present (Term ends 2008)
<http://warner.senate.gov/public/>
202-224-2023
senator@warner.senate.gov

❖ Jim Webb (D)

U.S. Senate, 2006 – present (Term ends 2012)
<http://webb.senate.gov/>
703-807-0591

Upcoming Congressional Race for Reston Voters

Fairfax County votes Nov. 4.

U.S. House of Representatives, 8th District

Alexandria native and Republican Mark Ellmore will take on 18-year incumbent Jim Moran in the upcoming general election Nov. 4.

Moran has represented Virginia's 8th congressional district — which spans Alexandria, Arlington and Reston — since 1991. The district traditionally leans Demo-

cratic, having give Moran nearly 60 percent of the vote in 2004.

Moran is considered to be one of the more socially liberal members of the U.S. Congress. Earlier this year, he joined the congressional Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender caucus to advocate for the rights of same sex couples. He also has been a strong opponent of the War in Iraq since its outset, having voted against its original authorization.

Ellmore advocates lower taxes and has come out in fa-



Mark Ellmore (R)



Jim Moran (D)

vor of putting a fence along the U.S./ Mexican border to help deal with the issue of illegal immigration. Ellmore said the United States should open more of its land and offshore area up to drilling for oil. He also supports using more nuclear power plants and "clean" coal technologies to provide more energy.

For more information on the candidates, visit their Web sites – www.markellmore08.com and

www.jimmoran.org.

THE COUNTY LINE

Five County Issues To Watch Out For ...

Traffic Congestion

As bad as it is now, local traffic could actually get significantly worse in the coming year.

Virginia and a private partner are launching the five-year High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes construction project on the Capital Beltway this summer. They intend to work on approximately a dozen exits and overpasses from Springfield to the Dulles Toll Road at the same time.

The Metro rail extension to Dulles — which could trigger more real estate construction in the northern part of the county — could also move forward this year.

And the Virginia General Assembly failed to pass a transportation-funding package in 2008, making congestion relief or traffic improvements unlikely.

Budget Cuts

Fairfax County generates over 60 percent of its revenue from real estate taxes and the downturn in the housing market could be very hard on the local government.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors budget committee chair Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock) is scheduled to start a “line item” review of the county budget this month. The supervisors raised the real estate tax rate three cents this spring — less than neighboring localities — mostly to provide additional funding to Fairfax County Public Schools in 2008 and 2009.

The school system — which gets the bulk of its money from the county — is most likely one of the agencies that will have to make tough choices in the next budget cycle. School officials have considered measures such as implementing an activities fee for students who participate in sports or limiting transportation to special programs — like gifted and talented centers.

Housing Foreclosures

Fairfax County's housing market remained stable in 2007 but a recent report suggests this could change in the upcoming year.

Fairfax saw a sharp increase in foreclosures in the early months of 2008 and several of the region's upcoming “hot spots” for foreclosures are located in the county, according to a report from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Fairfax's foreclosures tend to be concentrated in a few



neighborhoods — particularly parts of Herndon, Centreville and the Route 1 corridor.

School Facilities

There are too many repairs, renovations and new facilities that need to be built for the Fairfax County Public Schools and not enough money to do it, according to officials.

The school system is currently reviewing its project priority list to make sure that those communities that need the most help, get it first. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors may cut the facilities budget due to economic shortfalls, which could put the school system in more of a bind in terms of meeting its needs.

West Springfield High School, South County Secondary School and Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology are a few of the communities asking for facilities funding.

Officials are considering a “rolling renovation” program — where they work on several school projects at once and complete construction in phases over several years. The simultaneous renovations allow the school system to address several schools' most egregious problems at once but ultimately take longer and cost more than they would if a one-by-one approach was used.

Red to Blue

Fairfax County may be paving the way for Virginia to move from a Republican stronghold to a political toss-up in 2008 and 2009.

The county is the largest locality in the commonwealth, accounting for more than one-eighth of Virginia's total population. In recent statewide races, Fairfax has voted for Democrats, like

Gov. Tim Kaine in 2005 and U.S. Sen. Jim Webb in 2006, who have gone on to win elections.

The municipality's own elected officials are also increasingly Democratic. Six years ago, Fairfax County's delegation to the Virginia General Assembly had 13 Democrats and 13 Republicans. Today, there are 22 Democrats and four Republicans. The Grand Old Party also lost one seat on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors last year, making the breakdown eight Democrats to two Republicans.

Two Fairfax County congressional seats currently held by Republicans are also considered “competitive” for Democrats in November 2008. Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly (D) is thought to have a good chance of beating Republican Keith Fimian in the race for retiring Rep. Tom Davis' open seat. Democrat Judy Feder has raised almost as much as incumbent Rep. Frank Wolf (R) in 10th congressional district.

Presidential candidate Barack Obama's campaign thinks they may have a chance to win Virginia, and to do so, they invested in at least 10 field organizers in Fairfax County alone.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

VOTE NOV. 4

Elections for the U.S. President, U.S. Senate seat and several congressional offices will take place Nov. 4. Here is what residents need to know to participate:

HOW DO I REGISTER TO VOTE?

❖ In Person –

Go to the Fairfax County Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, Va. 22035. The office is open for voter registration from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

❖ By Mail –

Pick up a Virginia Voter Registration application (see list below) and mail it to the Fairfax County Office of Elections at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, Va. 22035.

With your registration application, you must include a copy of current and valid identification photo or a copy of current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or other government document that

shows your name and address. **Note: Virginia law requires people who register to vote by mail to vote in person during their first election.**

Pick up a Virginia voter registration application at the following locations

- ❖ Public libraries
- ❖ Department of Motor Vehicle offices
- ❖ Military recruitment offices
- ❖ Public assistance agency offices
- ❖ District government centers
- ❖ Board of Supervisors offices
- ❖ Citizen Information Desk in the County Government Center lobby
- ❖ Judicial Center Information Desk

WHEN DO I HAVE TO REGISTER TO VOTE BY?

Those people who want to vote in upcoming U.S. presidential election Nov. 4, **must register to vote by Oct. 4.**

HOW DO I KNOW I AM REGISTERED TO VOTE?

Fairfax County's Office of Elections will mail new voting cards to all registered voters in July. The card will

include the voter's address and polling location.

If you do not receive a card or the one sent to you has incorrect personal information, call 703-222-0776 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/eb.

WHERE DO I FIND MY POLLING PLACE?

The name of your polling place and its location should be included on the voter registration card, which was mailed out in July.

Residents may also visit the “Where Do I Vote?” Web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/> or call 703-222-0776.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the Fairfax County Office of Elections Web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/> or call 703-324-4700. Avoid sending emails on election day that you would like answered promptly.

Key Contacts

For Fairfax County, General Information – 703-324-7329, www.fairfaxcounty.gov

For Fairfax County Public Schools, General Information – 703-876-5230, www.fcps.edu

For Police, Fire and Ambulance – 911 (emergency), 703-691-2131 (non-emergency) www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr

For Public Transit - Metrorail and Metrobus – 202-637-7000, www.wmata.com/ Virginia Railway Express (VRE) - 1-800-RIDE-VRE, www.vre.org Fairfax Connector – 703-339-7200, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/

For Road Maintenance – Virginia Department of Transportation's Northern Virginia District Office – 703-383-8368, <http://>

www.virginiadot.org/about/nova_quick.asp

For Fairfax County Public Libraries – 703-324-3100, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/

For Electricity Service – Dominion Virginia Power – 1-888-667-3000, <http://www.dom.com/contact/electric.jsp> Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative – 703-335-0500, www.novec.com

For Gas Service – Washington Gas Light Company – 703-750-1000, 703-750-1400 (emergency) <https://eservice.washgas.com/> Columbia Gas of Virginia – 1-800-543-8911, 1-800-544-5606 (emergency) <http://www.columbiagasva.com/about/ccs.htm>

For Water Service – Fairfax County Water Authority – 703-698-5800, <http://www.fcwa.org/customer/index.htm>

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Connection will publish back-to-school articles in the weeks before school begins this fall. Basic staff information and school facts, are listed below. Visit the Fairfax County Public Schools Web site at www.fcps.edu for more information, as well as links to individual school Web sites.

Throughout the year, the Connection publishes School Notes, and submissions are welcome. Send photos from special events, announcements about fund-raisers and notes about students' achievements. E-mail reston@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6449.

Aldrin Elementary School

11375 Center Harbor Road, Reston
703-904-3800
Principal: J. Martin Marinoff
PTA President: Claudia Arko
Enrollment: 580 students
2008 Back to School Night: Thursday, Sept. 11, 6 p.m. for ESOL parents and 7 p.m. for all parents
Herndon High School pyramid, cluster 1



Armstrong Elementary School

11900 Lake Newport Road, Reston
703-375-4800
Principal: Shane Wolfe
PTA President: Karen Knox
Enrollment: 460 students
2008 Back to School Night: grades K-3, Tuesday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m. for grades K-3, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m. for grades 4-6
Herndon High School pyramid, cluster 1



Dogwood Elementary School

12300 Glade Drive, Reston
703-262-3100
Principal: Robyn Cochran
PTA President: Rylan Hutzler
Enrollment: 620 students
2008 Open House: Monday, July 28, 6:30-8:15 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



Forest Edge Elementary School

1501 Becontree Lane, Reston
703-925-8000
Principal: Frank Bensinger
PTA president: Javed Zaidi
2008 Back to School Night: grades K-3, Monday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m.; grades 4-6 Tuesday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences

2401 Colts Neck Road, Reston
703-262-7400
Principal: Olivia Toatley
PTA president: Susan Sather
Enrollment: 1011 students
2008 Back to School Night: grades K-3, Tuesday, Sept. 9, 6:15 p.m.; grades 4-6 Wednesday, Sept. 10, 6:15 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



Lake Anne Elementary School

11510 North Shore Drive, Reston
703-326-3500
Principal: Linda Hajj
PTA President: Anthony and Christina Fletcher
Enrollment: 555 students
2008 Back to School Night: grades K-3, Monday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m.; grades 4-6, Tuesday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



Sunrise Valley Elementary School

10824 Cross School Road, Reston
703-715-3800
Principal: Elizabeth English
PTA President: Kim Zeigelbauer
Enrollment: 570 students
2008 Back to School Night: Thursday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



Terraset Elementary School

11411 Ridge Heights Road, Reston
703-390-5600
Monday: 9 a.m.-1:10 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday: 9 a.m.-3:35 p.m.
Principal: Ellen Cury
PTA President: Renee Gilanshah
Enrollment: 399 students
2008 open house: Monday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



Langston Hughes Middle School

11401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston
703-715-3600; Attendance: 703-476-5029
Principal: Aimee Monticchio
PTA president: Joan Burkhart
Enrollment: 925 students
2008 Back to School Night: Wednesday, Sept. 17, 7 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



South Lakes High School

11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston
703-715-4500
Principal: Bruce Butler
PTSA president: Elizabeth Vandenburg
Enrollment: 1,650 students
2008 Back to School Night: Thursday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m.
South Lakes High School pyramid, cluster 8



Herndon High School

700 Bennett St., Herndon
Phone: 703-810-2200
Principal: Agustin Martinez
PTSA president: Ann Marie Ruskin
Enrollment: 2,200 students
2008 Back to School Night: Thursday, Sept. 18, 6 p.m.
Herndon High School pyramid, cluster 1



Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria
Phone: 703-750-8300
Principal: Evan Glazer
PTSA President: Liz Ross
Enrollment: 1,800 students
2008 Back to School Night: 6:30-9:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 17
County magnet school for science and technology, cluster 3



Northern Region

The majority of public high and secondary schools in Northern Virginia are members of the Virginia High School League. The VHSL is based in Charlottesville and is the largest governing body for prep sports in the state.

Public schools are divided into three classifications of competition in the state: AAA, AA and Single A. All of the schools in Fairfax and Arlington Counties, along with the City of Alexandria, are AAA schools except for Single A George Mason High School in Falls Church. In 2005, two Loudoun County schools, Stone Bridge and Loudoun Valley, joined the Northern Region, with Loudoun Valley leaving after the 2006-2007 season.

Thirty schools now comprise the Northern Region, which is split into four districts of competition: the Patriot, National, Liberty and Concorde.

Athletic teams compete within their districts until the postseason, when each sport advances to regional single-elimination play. Typically, the top two teams in each sport advance to the Virginia AAA state tournaments, held seasonally around the state.

Sports played in the Northern Region in the fall are football, girls volleyball, field hockey, cross-country, golf and cheerleading.

In the winter, the region plays basketball, wrestling, girls gymnastics, swimming/diving, indoor track and ice hockey.

In the spring, regional schools participate in soccer, cheerleading, lacrosse, crew, outdoor track, baseball, softball and tennis.

Patriot District

Annandale Atoms
Hayfield Hawks
Lake Braddock Bruins
South County
T.C. Williams Titans
West Potomac Wolverines
West Springfield Spartans
Robert E. Lee Lancers

Liberty District

Stone Bridge Bulldogs
Langley Saxons
Madison Warhawks
Marshall Statesmen
McLean Highlanders
South Lakes Seahawks
W.T. Woodson Cavaliers
Thomas Jefferson Colonials

Concorde District

Centreville Wildcats
Chantilly Chargers
Herndon Hornets
Oakton Cougars
Westfield Bulldogs
Fairfax Rebels
Robinson Rams

National District

Edison Eagles
Falls Church Jaguars
J.E.B. Stuart Raiders
Mount Vernon Majors
Wakefield Warriors
Washington-Lee Generals
Yorktown Patriots

Seahawks' Boys Captured Track Title

Football standout Price gave Buckley's squad a huge springtime lift.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

One of the athletic highlights of the South Lakes High school year was the outstanding season of the boys' track and field team.

The Seahawks, under first year coach Alfred Buckley, won both the Liberty District and Northern Region outdoor titles this past spring.

Several team members were particularly key to the Seahawks' vast success, including newcomer A.J. Price. A senior, Price had excelled at South Lakes as both a football and basketball player. He even earned a scholarship during his senior year to play football at Penn State.

Over his high school junior and senior football seasons, Price emerged into one of the best wide receivers in the Northern Region.

As a first year member of the track team, he immediately became a leader and key points contributor. He finished first at districts in the 200 and 400 dash events, as well as in the long jump.

"A.J. was the backbone of the team," said Buckley.

Other key athletes on the squad included Vincent Brown, who won the 110-hurdles at regionals, and the Vaughn brothers - Nicholas and Adrian.

All around, it was a great team effort by the Seahawks.

South Lakes High School

School Opened: 1979

Mascot: Seahawks

School Colors: Kelly green and blue

Rivals: Herndon

Athletic Director: Linda Jones,
703-715-4518

Athletic Hot Line: 703-321-5270

Famous Athletic Alumni:

Two years ago, Basketball superstar Grant Hill was selected by The Connection as this area's all-time top athlete from any sport. A small forward, Hill helped the Seahawks to a Northern Region championship in his senior year along with four Great Falls District titles. His school career scoring record of 2,028 points was broken in 1993 by Joey Beard with 2,138. Hill still holds school records in rebounds (942), blocked shots (160), steals (274) and assists (311). Hill played his college basketball at Duke where he was a part of two national championship teams. He has played 13 seasons in the NBA with Detroit and Orlando and has been



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

AJ Price was a key basketball player and standout football player for South Lakes. As a senior, he also emerged as a track star.

selected to seven NBA All-Star Games. Hill was also a member of the gold medal-winning 1996 U.S. men's Olympic basketball team.

South Lakes head girls basketball coach Christy Winters Scott is also the school's most famous female athlete. As a senior in 1986 she led the Seahawks girls basketball team to a 29-0 record and a AAA state championship. She holds school records in points (1785) and rebounds (1075). Winters Scott went on to play for the University of Maryland where she was named team captain in



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

her senior year. She helped the Terrapins to two ACC championships (1988, 1989) and a final four (1989). Currently, she is leading a resurgence in the South Lakes High girls' basketball program.

South Lakes is also the alma mater of track star Alan Webb. In 2001 he ran a mile in three minutes 35.43 seconds at the Prefontaine Classic in Oregon. This broke Jim Ryun's 36-year old record. As a Seahawk, Webb set state records at the Virginia AAA Indoor Championships in the mile (3:59.68) and the 1,000 meter run (2:23.68). In 2004, Webb won the U.S. Olympic trials at 1500 meters and represented the U.S. at the 2004 Athens Summer Olympics. At the recent Olympic Trials, Webb, unfortunately, did not qualify for the upcoming Olympic Games in China.

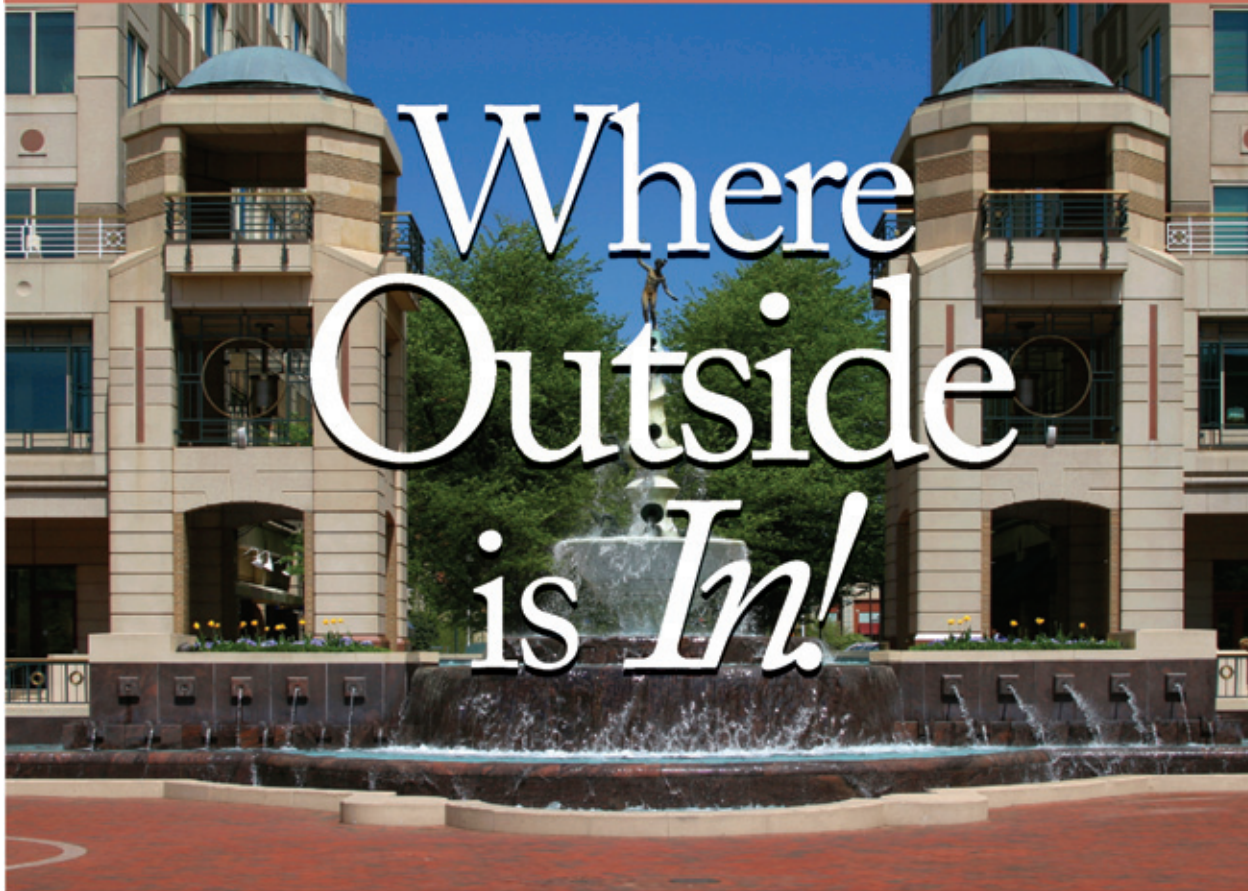
Most Successful Programs:

Traditionally, basketball has been South Lakes' strongest sport. The boys' team reached the state championship game in 2003 and reached the state quarterfinals in 2004. Those Seahawk squads were under the direction of former coach Wendell Byrd. Currently, former Byrd assistant, Daryl Branch, is at the helm of the program.

The South Lakes girls' basketball team won the state title in 1986.

South Lakes' last state championship was won in 2005 by the girls swimming and diving team. The boys cross country team finished second in the state in 1994.

Running sensation Alan Webb.



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| Davelle for Men | Big Bowl |
| Eddie Bauer | Busara Thai
Restaurant &
Lounge |
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Gregg Sundries | Cosi |
| Gap Kids/Baby Gap | Edibles Incredible! |
| Gap Women | Il Fornaio |
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