

Anne Loehr, left, and Lauren Saxman wrap food baskets for local families in preparation for the coming Empty Bowls fund-raiser, staged by the Giving Circle of Hope to help Food for Others.

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Aintree Women Pack Food For Others

COMMUNITY, PAGE 11

RA Headquarters' Size, Location Debated

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Lake Anne Plan Approved

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PHOTO BY VIVIAN KELLY

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Lake Anne Plan Approved

On Monday, March 30, the Board of Supervisors finalized a Comprehensive Plan amendment designed to revitalize the Lake Anne Village Center by allowing increased development in the area surrounding the historic development. The amendment has been in the works for years.

On March 18, at Hunter Mill District Commissioner Frank de la Fe's advice, the Planning Commission reduced the amount of "non-residential development" allowed on the parcel where the Crescent Apartments stand, from 4,000 to 2,000 square feet or, under the "full consolidation" option, from 8,000 to 4,000 square feet.

"Full consolidation" numbers would apply if the three northern land units, where Crescent Apartments, the Fellowship House and the parking lot are located, are consolidated and developed in coordination.

The amount of non-residential development was reduced in order to keep new businesses in the development from drawing customers away from Washington Plaza.

The Planning Commission also removed language instructing that the Millennium Bank at the main entrance to the plaza be moved. The idea of moving the bank was to open up visibility to the plaza, but many, including the Architectural Review Board and Reston founder Bob Simon, opposed the move, saying the current design, with a nar-

row entrance leading to the open plaza and lake, was intentional and pleasing.

Also, the recommendation on civic uses became a prescription for "complementary non-residential uses" and was expanded to include talk of a hotel and cinema. A call for "excellent design and architecture" and interactive public art was added to the urban design recommendations.

The commission had also requested that staff work out a way for the burden of affordable housing to be shared more equitably. Originally, the proposal was to require that Fellowship Square, which provides housing for elderly citizens of limited means, retain all of its 240 affordable dwelling units. Little was to be added to the maximum number of dwelling units allowed on the Fellowship Square parcel unless the full consolidation was attained.

Before passing the amendment Monday, the Board of Supervisors voted to change the text to say the total number of affordable dwelling units at Lake Anne was to remain constant but could be redistributed among the various land parcels. In all, the amendment allows the addition of a total of 1,495 to 1,655 residential units, 63,000 to 81,000 square feet of retail space and 225,000 to 235,000 square feet of office space to the Lake Anne Village Center area.

— MIKE DICICCO

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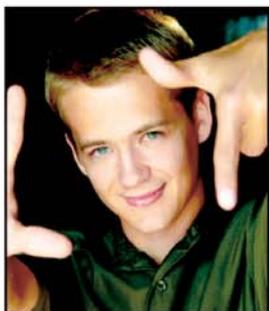
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RA Headquarters Debated Budget Alarm

Residents criticize size estimates, community leaders push for move to Lake Anne.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Having attended four of the seven recent community meetings about the referendum on buying a new headquarters for the Reston Association, resident Diane Royal told the association's board she remained unconvinced that a request for up to \$15 million for an estimated 35,000 square feet of space was justified.

"The RA board and the members are speaking entirely different languages," she said at the Thursday, March 26 board meeting. "The RA board are speaking the language of stories, of anecdotes, of business relationships. The community is asking questions using the language of data, of space needs analysis." She said she had not seen enough particulars in terms of specific uses of space to make the case for such an increase in space.

The Reston Association currently occupies about 19,000 square feet of space that virtually all parties agree is poorly designed and outdated, and the lease on the property is up next spring. The ballots that would decide whether the association has permission to spend up to \$15 million on a new location are due April 10, and the association's leadership has said that if the referendum fails, it would pursue a lease on a new property. This would not require membership approval.

THE ESTIMATED SIZE of the new headquarters was calculated with the help of a professional corporate real estate services provider, recently revealed to be CresaPartners

Many residents who have attended the meetings have voiced concerns similar to Royal's. Now, Reston founder Bob Simon is predicting that the referendum would fail and is asking that the association hold off on moving and build a headquarters in Lake Anne Village Center.

At the meeting's opening, Reston Association President Robin Smyers said, "The main question is whether we invest in a property and control our costs for the long-term or whether we continue to lease and face the fluctuations of the market."

In a later interview, Smyers said the square footage and maximum price tag were rough estimates, and the cost could end up being only \$9 million or \$10 million. If the association were going to buy space at a low price, the real estate market crash made this the time to do it, she said.

The association has also calculated that



Rick Rhodes, Kathy Thomas and Rich Meadows of the corporate real estate firm CresaPartners discuss their work in helping the Reston Association find its next headquarters at last week's RA board meeting.

the cost for the new facility would not break the annual assessment cap, costing about \$20 more than the current rate of \$491.

Simon, however, said he had found that the current landlord was willing to renew the current lease for two or three years at a favorable rate. Nonetheless, he said, "RA spokespeople have continued to state policy as being governed by the 2010 expiration date." He told the board, "I believe it is essential for RA to extend its present lease so that if the referendum fails, the opportunity will not be lost for it to build its headquarters rather than to lease it."

"Nobody's shown me that there's anything viable available [at Lake Anne]."

— Robin Smyers, RA president

Simon also said he felt "more than just secure" that the association's staff would have enough room to grow in 25,000 square feet of space if it were well-designed, and he said he hoped that space would be built on land purchased in Lake Anne Village Center.

Jerry Volloy, president of the Alliance of Reston Clusters and Homeowners (ARCH), agreed. With a Comprehensive Plan amendment designed to revitalize the Lake Anne development nearing approval, he said, "RA has the opportunity to be the spark that drives and begins that process of redevelopment and revitalization of Lake Anne."

"In my heart, I love the idea," Smyers said later. However, she said, "Nobody's shown me that there's anything viable available" at Lake Anne. "Even if we could buy time, is it realistically going to happen?" And she said the association would need the referendum to pass in order to have the money

to purchase or build a headquarters in Lake Anne.

IN 2005, a referendum was passed authorizing the association to purchase a headquarters for up to \$5 million, and accelerators bring the cap up to about \$6.4 million today. However, Smyers said the association had looked at facilities since the previous referendum and found that prices were considerably higher than that.

"If this referendum passes, we've got something to work with. If it fails, I think it's a nonstarter," she said of the idea to move to Lake Anne. She noted that the association only owns about three noncontiguous acres in that development.

At the meeting, she asked Simon if he would support the referendum knowing that the previous one had not authorized enough money to be spent.

"The referendum is so flawed and the spreadsheet so badly put together that I couldn't possibly support it," Simon said, referring to a spreadsheet comparing options of buying, building and leasing.

However, he said he was not there to weigh in on the referendum because he believed it would fail. What was more important, he said, was that the board not pursue a lease on a 35,000-square-foot facility if the referendum did fail. "When the referendum is voted down, you have been turned down, so don't just blindly go ahead," he said.

Simon also said the space needs estimate appeared to have been "dictated by RA staff."

IN A PRESENTATION at the meeting, Kathy Thomas, managing principal of CresaPartners, said the space estimate was largely based on questionnaires issued to Reston Association's staff and department

Notes from the county budget hearings.

Approximately 50 people showed up to testify at the first public hearing the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors held on the 2010 budget March 30. Three subsequent hearings – scheduled for March 31, April 1 and April 2 – took place after The Connection went to press.

Residents who spoke were alarmed either by the programmatic cuts or the tax and fee increases included in the initial draft of the county's 2010 budget, which goes into effect July 1. Last month, county executive Anthony Griffin proposed measures in order to close a \$650 million financial gap in county's approximately \$3.3 billion general fund next year.

The bulk of Fairfax's shortfall comes from the 12 percent drop in residential real estate property values, which account for the majority of the county's annual revenue.

Griffin has recommended the supervisors raise the real estate property tax rate 13.5 cents per \$100 of assessed property to offset the drop in the county's home values. If the county board adopts this proposal, many residents will pay the same amount in real estate taxes as they did last year, even though their homes are worth less than before.

The supervisors, who have the final say on the budget, will "mark up" their draft of the spending plan April 20 and take a final vote on April 27.

The following are some concerns local residents expressed about the budget at the hearing:

RESTON RESIDENT

Fred Scheler owns a tow truck company based out of Falls Church. He is alarmed by the proposal to cut Fairfax County's four public safety officers who monitor commercial vehicles, trucks and construction equipment.

These officers ensure the safety of people on Fairfax County roads by driving around and performing random spot checks on heavy commercial vehicles. They also run background checks on commercial drivers – like those who work for Scheler's towing company – to make sure they are appropriately licensed and don't have criminal or violent backgrounds.



Fred Scheler Reston resident, tow truck company owner

SEE NEW OPTIONS, PAGE 4

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 4

Reston Heights Recognized

The JBG Companies announced that the mixed-use development of Reston Heights has been recognized by the Workforce Housing Endorsement Coalition as a Workforce Housing Endorsed Project Proposal.

Previously a combination of surface parking lots and low-density office space, Reston Heights is quickly emerging as an example of a new urban neighborhood. This development will provide thousands of new jobs as well as the housing needed to support and sustain the lifestyles of residents in the community.

The first phase of Reston Heights, Reston Square, is complete and consists of a fully leased 140,000 square foot Class A office building, a 191 room Westin Reston Heights, and the sold out 194 unit Mercer Condominium. Follow on phases of the project will include at least 1.5 million square feet of trophy office space, 350,000 square feet of retail, and 500 new residential units. The entire project is estimated to be complete by 2015.

Reston Association Meeting

The Reston Association will meet Monday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Conference Room of the Reston Association Building, located at 1930 Isaac Newton Square. The RA will be discussing the following:

❖ **Proposal for development of 12000 and 12010 Sunrise Valley Drive**, also known as the Reston Crescent. By constructing three new office buildings and two parking garages the FAR would be .70 and the new construction would total 1,110,000 square feet. At present .50 FAR is permitted and with BOS approval, a special exception of .70 FAR is allowed. Petitioner seeks approval of .70 FAR by special exception and is also asking for height increases as follows: 8 story building, 113 feet; 8 story building, 114 feet; 9 story building, 127 feet. All heights are ex-

SEE WEEK, PAGE 7

County Budget Debated

FROM PAGE 3

"When someone comes to tow your daughter's car, you want to make sure he is safe before your child gets into a truck with him," said Scheler.

Such vehicles can be a real hazard if they are not maintained.

"In a truck accident, someone is more likely to get maimed or killed," he said.

Scheler added that lots of smaller contractors may have cut back on vehicle maintenance, given the tough economic climate, which makes this public safety service more important than ever.

"With the [High Occupancy Toll] lanes under construction on the

beltway and Dulles rail in Tysons Corner, we have more commercial vehicles on the road," he said.

RESTON RESIDENT

Jean Walker-Wiley has asked the supervisors to restore \$1.3 million in funding used to help young adults with disabilities transition from special education and job training programs in Fairfax County Public Schools to the working world.

Walker-Wiley, whose daughter has a disability, said parents like her will be forced to stay home with adult children if the transi-



Jean Walker-Wiley
Reston resident

tion funding is cut.

Walker-Wiley's daughter is set to graduate from the school system in 2009 and has been learning clerical skills for years. She had hoped to work in an office but, without this funding and the support programs, may end up staying home in her pajamas, said Walker-Wiley.

"Everybody does have something to share in the world. ... Show these kids they have not wasted their lives," said Walker-Wiley to the supervisors.

JULIA O'DONOGHUE

New HQ Options Discussed

FROM PAGE 3

heads, as well as examinations of spaces occupied by similar groups.

Rick Rhodes, another principal at the company, said the estimate was flexible, with the group still

in the conceptual stages of working out how the space would fit into a building, and he said the amount of meeting space was variable.

Thomas also said "tremendous savings" could be achieved if a building could be found that re-

quired minimal retrofitting to suit the association's needs.

Later, Smyers said the board had no plans to make any decision on April 20, when the results of the vote will be announced, but would begin reevaluating its options based on the outcome.

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COMMENTARY

The Capitol of Virginia

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

Later in the week, I will be taking a group of about 65 senior citizens from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at George Mason University on a tour of Virginia's State Capitol. As one of the founders of the Institute along with Lilyan Spero, the late Kathryn Brooks, and others, I continue to enjoy associating with persons who value lifelong learning. Originally called the Learning in Retirement Institute at George Mason University, the program offers noncredit courses on a variety of topics. Through the years, I have taught several OLLI courses on Virginia history and government. Field trips are offered as well, such as the trip to the state capitol. Visit www.oli.gmu.edu for more information.

The state capitol in Richmond is of course the meeting place of the General Assembly, the oldest legislative body in the Western Hemisphere tracing its beginnings to 1619 when colonists formed a representative assembly in the church at Jamestown. Visitors to Jamestown Island can see the foundation of the State House that was the largest building in the colonies at the time. The capital moved to Williamsburg in 1698, and a new capitol was completed in Richmond in 1792.

The center section of the capitol was built from a design submitted along with a plaster model by Thomas Jefferson who was in France at the time and who admired the Roman temple remains that he saw



there. Mr. Jefferson's "Temple on the Hill" is still considered one of the most outstanding works of American architecture. At the time, the capitol housed all three branches of government. Mr. Jefferson's disdain for executive authority can be seen in the very small office he provided for the governor. It is used today only for ceremonial purposes.

In 1906, wings were added on each side of the capitol to house the two branches of the legislature. In the central rotunda is the famous Jean Antoine Houdon statue of George Washington, the only one done from a life pose.

A renovation of the capitol building several years ago returned the building to its luster of the 1906 period. The center section was returned as much as possible to Jefferson's original design.

In order to make necessary structural improvements at the time and to expand the space available in the building, an underground space was created that provides modern meeting rooms and a museum.

You may miss my tour on Friday, but plan to come to Richmond this summer to see the renovated Virginia State Capitol and other sights in the area. If I can be of assistance in planning your trip, please let me know. A Virginia State Capitol Visitor's Guide is available by calling my office at 703-758-9733 or e-mailing me at kenplum@aol.com.



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Connection Wins Awards

The Connection Newspapers and sister papers Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and Centre View, won more than 40 editorial awards for all aspects of its coverage in 2008.

The awards, including 17 first place awards, were announced at the annual Virginia Press Association editorial conference in Norfolk on Saturday, March 21. Connection writers won in categories including investigative reporting, government writing, education, health, science and environmental writing, public safety writing, features, sports, business and financial writing, and editorial writing. Our papers also won multiple awards for lifestyle/entertainment pages, page design, and photography.

Connection political reporter Julia O'Donoghue won first place in depth/investigative reporting for her three part series on different categories of voters. She also won first place for government writing.

Mirza Kurspahic won first place for general news writing for his coverage of immigration issues in Herndon.

The Connection won multiple awards for ongoing sports coverage and sports photography.

Mark Giannotto won first place awards in both the Alexandria Gazette and one in the Arlington Connection for sports writing portfolio. Jason Mackey won for sports coverage in the Fairfax Connection and the Springfield Connection.

Connection photographer Robbie Hammer won eight awards while Louise Krafft won nine awards in all.

Centre View's Bonnie Hobbs garnered two awards, one for public safety writing and one for her ongoing coverage of immigration issues.

The Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection was also recognized for excellence of its lifestyle and entertainment pages, and editor Mike O'Connell also won for page design in Fairfax Station.



Mary Kimm



Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue



Robbie Hammer



Mirza Kurspahic

Connection Newspapers 2008 VPA Awards

FIRST-PLACE AWARDS

- ❖ General news writing, Mirza Kurspahic, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Controversy in Herndon; Judges' Comments: "Compelling story told fearlessly."
- ❖ Government writing, Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection
- ❖ Sports writing portfolio, Mark Giannotto, Arlington Connection
- ❖ Editorial writing, Mary Kimm, Fairfax Connection
- ❖ Sports news photo, Robbie Hammer, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection, Subject: Wrestling
- ❖ Feature photo, Robbie Hammer, Springfield Connection, Subject: Synchro Swim Team
- ❖ Picture story or essay, Robbie Hammer, Springfield Connection, Subject: Lee HS Prom
- ❖ Government Writing, Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ In-depth or Investigative Reporting, Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Health, Science and Environmental Writing, Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Education Writing, Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Sports Writing Portfolio Mark Giannotto, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Lifestyle/Entertainment pages; Rebecca Halik, Greg Wyshynski, Louise Krafft, Michael Lee Pope, Mary Anne Weber, Chuck Hagee; Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Pictorial Photo, Louise Krafft,

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Picture Story/Essay, Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ In-depth or Investigative Reporting, Julia O'Donoghue, Mount Vernon Gazette,

SECOND-PLACE AWARDS

- ❖ Combination picture and story, Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue and Louise Krafft, McLean Connection, Subject: Feature on the home of Terry McAuliffe
- ❖ Sports writing portfolio, Jason Mackey, Fairfax Connection
- ❖ Feature photo, Robbie Hammer, Vienna/Oakton Connection, Subject: Family support
- ❖ Sports feature photo, Robbie Hammer, Fairfax Connection, Subject: Soccer players in defeat
- ❖ Public safety writing, Bonnie Hobbs, Centre View Northern Edition
- ❖ Feature series or continuing story, Bonnie Hobbs, Centre View, Subject: Immigration
- ❖ General news writing, Jennifer Lesinski, Ashburn Connection, Subject: Catholic Charities' food program
- ❖ Personal service writing, Jennifer Lesinski, Ashburn Connection, Subject: Loudoun Interfaith Relief
- ❖ Business and financial writing, Nicholas M. Horrock, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection
- ❖ Public Safety Writing, Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Feature series or continuing story, Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ General News Photo, Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet

- ❖ Feature Photo, Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Personality or Portrait Photo, Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet

THIRD-PLACE AWARDS

- ❖ In-depth or investigative reporting, David Schultz, Arlington Connection, Subject: Unscrupulous landlord evicts tenants
- ❖ Page design, Michael O'Connell, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection
- ❖ Lifestyle or entertainment pages, Michael O'Connell, Lea Mae Rice, Paula Friedrich, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection
- ❖ Sports writing portfolio, Jason Mackey, Springfield Connection
- ❖ Picture story or essay, Robbie Hammer, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection, Subject: Robinson HS Marching Band Camp
- ❖ General news photo, Robbie Hammer, Fairfax Connection
- ❖ Sports news photo, Robbie Hammer, Vienna/Oakton Connection, Subject: Lacrosse celebration
- ❖ General News Photo, Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Column Writing, Kenneth Lourie, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Feature Writing Portfolio, Chuck Hagee, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Lifestyle/Entertainment pages; Rebecca Halik, Louise Krafft, Greg Wyshynski, Mary Anne Weber, Chuck Hagee, Michael Lee Pope; Mount Vernon Gazette

More Budget Games

BY JACK KENNY
PAST PRESIDENT, REPUBLICAN CLUB
OF GREATER RESTON

The news from the Taj Mahal gets more foreboding by the day. The current budget proposal by the County Executive shows little or no reduction in spending and substantial increases in fees (hidden taxes!), as well as an increase in the real estate tax (some \$.13.5 cents per \$100 valuation). The county, flush with cash realized from increasing real estate values,

has spent well beyond any increases for inflation and population growth. This has taken place over the past seven years. Have these flush years erased the corporate memory of sound fiscal management?

The present Board of Supervisors has spent every penny collected above and beyond the approved budget under the guise of a "supplemental budget" and just plain surplus. Was there never any consideration or suggestion that the extra money coming out of our pockets should perhaps be re-

turned as unneeded? Dream on!

The current budget proposals show no signs of controlling spending. Instead, it shows they want to get their hands into our pockets even deeper. Current "revenue enhancing measures" include increases in over 16 "fees." One of the fee increases is a 136 percent increase in fees on our children playing sports on park fields. This is flat out breaking faith with commitments that were



A DIFFERING POINT OF VIEW

promised when the fee was first imposed. Promises for more and better playing fields would be delivered.

Fairfax County Police tell us that they know when a sport starts and ends by the number of calls they get concerning misbehaving children. It is counter productive to be spending money on anti-gang activities and, at the same time, mak-

SEE KENNY, PAGE 15

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WEEK IN RESTON

FROM PAGE 4

clusive of penthouses. The current height allowed by I-4 zoning is 75 feet. Presenter: Jill Switkin . Matters of interparcel access and pedestrian access to the proposed rail stop at Town Center will also be discussed.

❖ **Rail to Reston.** Now that rail to Wiehle Avenue has been secured, plans for completing the rail line to Dulles Airport and beyond are in the works. Three speakers will present their views of the significance that the completion of rail will have on the communities through which it will pass. Construction and completion schedules and timetables, organization, financing and implementation of a Phase 2 Tax District will be discussed along with concerns about commercial density issues. Speakers will be Patty Nicolson of Dulles Corridor Rail Association; Joseph Ritchey, a Reston commercial real estate broker; and Len Wales of the Fairfax County Office of Budget Management, where he is Director of Debt Management.

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CALENDAR

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 1
Crazy Crafts. 4:30 p.m., Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Celebrate April Fool's Day with crafts. Use 11,000 different kinds of beads to create craft goodies. Recommended for ages 8-12. Free. Call 703-437-8855.
Herndon Book Club. 7:30 p.m., Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. The Herndon Book Club will meet to discuss the assigned book. Call 703-437-8855 for the title.
Baby Steps Storytime. 10:30 a.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Enjoy an interactive storytime for you and your child. Ages 13-23 months. Call 703-689-2700.

THURSDAY/APRIL 2
Falsettos. 8 p.m., Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players will perform the Tony Award-winning musical "Falsettos." Visit www.EldenStreetPlayers.com or call 703-481-5930 for tickets.
"The Curious Savage." 7 p.m., Paul VI Catholic High School, 10675 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. The PVI Players present "The Curious Savage," the tale of Mrs. Ethel Savage, a slightly eccentric and extremely wealthy widow whose greedy children commit her to a sanatorium. Tickets: \$5/ students and seniors, \$10/adults, \$30/ family (2 parents and children). Visit www.paulvi.net, e-mail PVIProducers@yahoo.com or call Mrs. Katherine Miller at 703-352-0925, ext. 524.

Homeschoolers' Book Club. 11 a.m., Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Discuss books with other home-schooled children. Call 703-437-8855 for the title.
Preschool Storytime. 10:30 a.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join other preschoolers for stories and activities. Call 703-689-2700.

FRIDAY/APRIL 3
Women's Show. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., 4368 Brookfield Corporate Drive, Chantilly. Satisfy your cravings at the Women's Show of Northern Virginia. Don't miss savvy shopping, creative cooking ideas, healthy lifestyle tips, fashion shows, celebrity guests and prizes. \$6/adults at door, \$8 online, \$7.50 at Harris Teeter; \$5/ children 6-12; under 6 free with adult; \$7.50 each/ groups of 10 or more. Call 800-849-0248 or visit www.WomensShowNOVA.com for tickets.
Falsettos. 8 p.m., Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players will perform the Tony Award-winning musical "Falsettos." Visit www.EldenStreetPlayers.com or call 703-481-5930 for tickets.
Bicycle Clinic. 2-4 p.m., Reston Association, 1930 Isaac Newton Square, Reston. Seniors can learn how to buy the appropriate bike, the correct equipment and clothing they need, how to fix a flat and bike safety. Fee: \$5. Registration required; call 703-435-6577.

"The Curious Savage." 7 p.m., Paul VI Catholic High School, 10675 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. The PVI Players present "The Curious Savage," the tale of Mrs. Ethel Savage, a slightly eccentric and extremely wealthy widow whose greedy children commit her to a sanatorium. Tickets: \$5/ students and seniors, \$10/ adults, \$30/ family (2 parents and children). Visit www.paulvi.net, e-mail PVIProducers@yahoo.com or call Mrs. Katherine Miller at 703-352-0925, ext. 524.
Sing-Along with Miss Belle. 10:30



Top row: Alex Turner, Marie Turner, Anne Kight Lloyd; second row: Kyla Waitt, Vanessa Moir; bottom: Scott Olsen.

adults, \$30/ family (2 parents and children). Visit www.paulvi.net, e-mail PVIProducers@yahoo.com or call Mrs. Katherine Miller at 703-352-0925, ext. 524.
 a.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Songs and hugs for everyone with Miss Belle. Ages birth-5 with adult. Call 703-689-2700.

SATURDAY/APRIL 4
Women's Show. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., 4368 Brookfield Corporate Drive, Chantilly. Satisfy your cravings at the Women's Show of Northern Virginia. Don't miss savvy shopping, creative cooking ideas, healthy lifestyle tips, fashion shows, celebrity guests and prizes. \$6/adults at door, \$8 online, \$7.50 at Harris Teeter; \$5/ children 6-12; under 6 free with adult; \$7.50 each/ groups of 10 or more. Call 800-849-0248 or visit www.WomensShowNOVA.com for tickets.
Falsettos. 8 p.m., Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players will perform the Tony Award-winning musical "Falsettos." Visit www.EldenStreetPlayers.com or call 703-481-5930 for tickets.
Something Different 2009. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players will perform the show "Something Different." Visit www.EldenStreetPlayers.com or call 703-481-5930 for tickets.
Meredith Cole. 2 p.m., Barnes and Noble, 1851 Fountain Drive, Reston. Meredith Cole, author of "Posed for Murder," winner of the St. Martin's/Malice Domestic Best Traditional First Mystery Competition, will be signing books. Visit www.culturecurrent.com/cole.

"The Curious Savage." 7 p.m., Paul VI Catholic High School, 10675 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. The PVI Players present "The Curious Savage," the tale of Mrs. Ethel Savage, a slightly eccentric and extremely wealthy widow whose greedy children commit her to a sanatorium. Tickets: \$5/ students and seniors, \$10/ adults, \$30/ family (2 parents and children). Visit www.paulvi.net, e-mail PVIProducers@yahoo.com or call Mrs. Katherine Miller at 703-352-0925, ext. 524.
Opus 3. 3 p.m., CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Opus 3 will perform chamber music with a special emphasis on modern repertoire and newly commissioned works. \$15/ person. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500, option 3, for tickets.

MONDAY/APRIL 6
Junior Golf Camp. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Herndon Centennial Golf Course, 909 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Herndon Centennial Golf Course will be hosting a Spring Break Junior Golf Camp that covers the basic skills and rules of golf in a fun and friendly environment. Open to girls and boys ages 7-16-years-old. Registration fee is \$95 and includes lunch, prizes and use of clubs if needed. Call 703-471-5769 or e-mail: steve.clary@herndon.va.gov.

TUESDAY/APRIL 7
Junior Golf Camp. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Herndon Centennial Golf Course, 909 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Herndon Centennial Golf Course will be hosting a Spring Break Junior Golf Camp that covers the basic skills and rules of golf in a fun and friendly environment. Open to girls and boys ages 7-16-years-old. Registration fee is \$95 and includes lunch, prizes and use of clubs if needed. Call 703-471-5769 or e-mail: steve.clary@herndon.va.gov.
Just Ducky. 10:30 a.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Stories and activities for children of all ages. Call 703-689-2700.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 8
Book Discussion. 10:30 a.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adult book discussion. Call 703-689-2700 for this month's title.

THURSDAY/APRIL 9
Toddler Storytime. 10:30 a.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Enjoy stories and activities with other toddlers. Ages 2-3 with an adult. Call 703-689-2700.

'Something Different' in Herndon

The Elden Street Players Theater for Young Audiences presents "Something Different 2009" at the Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. "Something Different 2009" will bring to life fairytales and folklore from around the world, April 4 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and April 5 at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$7. Go to www.eldenstreetplayers.org or call 703-481-5930, box 3 for tickets.

Camp that covers the basic skills and rules of golf in a fun and friendly environment. Open to girls and boys ages 7-16-years-old. Registration fee is \$95 and includes lunch, prizes and use of clubs if needed. Call 703-471-5769 or e-mail: steve.clary@herndon.va.gov.

Toddler Storytime. 10:30 a.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Enjoy stories and activities with other toddlers. Ages 2-3 with an adult. Call 703-689-2700.
Open Mic Poetry. 3 p.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Celebrate National Poetry Month with local poet Mary Kippis. Bring an original poem to read aloud or just come to listen. Ages 8-12. Call 703-689-2700.

ART
The Reston Art Gallery and Studios. 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston, is hosting an exhibition entitled "Four Seasons" through April 2. The exhibit features contemporary works by Marie Straw. The Gallery will also host Youth Art Month March 3-30. Call 703-476-4500.

An exhibition entitled "Two Views" will be on display April 2-May 7, 12-5 p.m. on weekends at the Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. The exhibition is a dual show by Gail Axtell and Pat Macintyre. Call 703-481-8156.

The League of Reston Artists will host the "IRA Fine Art Membership Exhibit" through May 4 at the Reston Community Center at Lake Anne, Jo Anne Rose Gallery, 1609

Judith Ivey at CenterStage



Judith Ivey

Tickets

To purchase tickets, call the CenterStage Box Office at 703-476-4500 and press option 3. For a full 2008-2009 Professional Touring Artist Reunion Series schedule or to download order forms, please visit restoncommunitycenter.com. Box Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 4-9 p.m.; Saturday, 1-5 p.m., and two hours prior to curtain times. The CenterStage is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston.

Ivey's most recent directing credit is "Secrets of a Soccermom" at the Snapple Theatre. She also directed "The Butcher of Baraboo," "Fugue" (Cherry Lane Theatre), "Southern Comforts," "Bad Dates," "More" and "Steel Magnolias." She is currently directing the musical, "Vanities," which is Broadway bound. Ivey has been a member of Actors' Equity for 33 years, and the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers for four years. Judith Ivey, a native Texan, studied acting at Illinois State University. She started her acting career in Chicago, eventually moving to New York City in the late 1970s to continue her career. She has been married to producer Tim Braine for almost 20 years and has two children, Maggie and Tom.

Washington Plaza, Reston. The artist reception will be Sunday, April 5, 2-4 p.m.

An exhibition of art by students from Herndon High School entitled "Emerging Visions: ROOTS" will be on display through April 14 at the Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston.

Works by Matthew Best will be on display through April 6 at the Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. The Reston Museum will be closed for renovations through April 17. A new interior and new exhibits are in the works. Children's Art Workshops will be on hiatus during the renovations, but Pat McIntyre's Art Workshop will continue Saturdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

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You are Invited to Reston Association's
ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2009
Time: 7 - 9 p.m.
Place: Sheraton Reston Hotel
11810 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20190

*Come meet your neighbors!
Light refreshments will be served.*



703-673-2035
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SCHOOLS

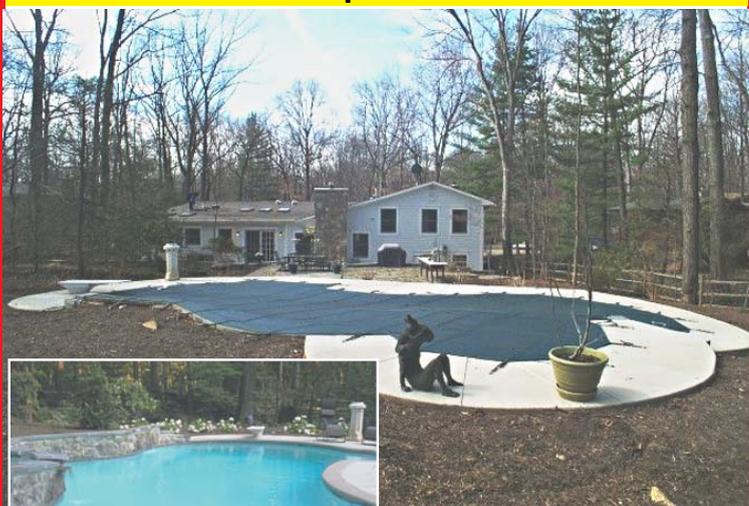
Students Learn About Animal Rescue, Pet Adoption

On March 25, volunteers from The Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation (LDCRF) spoke to a large group of students at Armstrong Elementary about animal rescue and pet adoption. Barbara Hutcherson gave a presentation and Pat McAlwee introduced the audience to Suzanne, a rescued dog. Students at Armstrong are interested in being involved in community service. Jeff Anders' fifth grade class is leading the school in a collection of needed items for LDCRF.



Students at Armstrong Elementary meet Suzanne, a dog rescued by LDCRF from another state.

Your Dream Home Is Priced To Sell! Check Out These Open Houses on April 4 & 5



Featured Home: 2415 Silver Fox Ln.
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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

2502 Fallon Dr.....\$644,900.....Sat 1-4.....Stan Kaszuba.....Long & Foster.....703-624-7838
12713 Ox Meadow.....\$1,145,000.....Sun 1-5.....Thanh Luong.....Jobin Realty.....703-365-9090
2490 Quick St.....\$219,900.....Sat 1-3.....Joseph Holbrook.....Jobin Realty.....703-269-7044

Reston

2645 Fox Mill Rd.....\$599,995.....Sun 1-4.....Carla Zegarra.....Long & Foster.....703-437-3800
1830 Fountain Dr.#1301.....\$1,299,000.....Sun 1-4.....Marian Williams.....ERA Elite.....703-359-7800
10891 Hunter Gate Way.....\$795,000.....Sun 2-4.....Laura Fall.....Fall Properties.....703-967-9987
2350 Nashua Ct.....\$549,000.....Sun 1-4.....Kay Graff.....Coldwell Banker.....703-725-5276
2415 Silver Fox Ln.....\$799,900.....Sun 1-4.....Rachelle Levin.....Long & Foster.....301-996-7245

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Don Park or Winslow Wacker
703-821-5050 or E-Mail the info to winslow@connectionnewspapers.com
All listings due by Monday at 3 pm.



Jeff Anders and some of the members of his class, Diego Rocha, Julia Persing, Paul Sesay and Crissy Stanley, with Suzanne, a rescued dog, and Pat McAlwee, a LDCRF volunteer.



Jeff Anders and some of the members of his class, Julia Persing, Diego Rocha, Paul Sesay and Crissy Stanley, with Barbara Hutcherson, a LDCRF volunteer.

Girl Scouts Learn Real-Life Lesson

During the past school year Sunrise Valley's Junior Girl Scout Troop 4433 has been working on earning their Bronze Award, the highest award a Junior Scout can achieve. The Scouts teamed up with Opportunity International (www.opportunity.org), a non-profit organization that provides small loans to disadvantaged individuals in the poorer regions of the world. The loans serve as seed money to help start a small business that can support the individual and their families.

To get a feel of what starting and owning a small business is like, the troop recently met with Gail Dobberfuhr, founder and owner of Blooms Florist on Sunrise Valley Road. Dobberfuhr told the girls that the flower shop grew from her love of flowers. "It all began 16 years ago when a friend suggested that I start my own business," said Dobberfuhr. She told the young visitors, "A business owner needs



Sunrise Valley's Junior Girl Scout Troop 4433 visits local florist to learn what it takes to start and run a small business.

to know about ordering, pricing, advertising, store appeal and managing employees – all of which are an important part of owning a successful business." The visit made an impression on the Girl Scouts, especially at discovering the

amount of work and time it takes to run a small business successfully. The Scouts also gained a deeper appreciation for the people living in the poorest parts of the world who are trying to start a small business to improve their living conditions.

COMMUNITY

Aintree Women Pack Food for Others

Neighbors turn donations for Empty Bowls event into social gathering.

MReston motherms on Aintree Lane came together on Saturday, March 28 to do something good positive for their community and catch up on each other's news. The enthusiastic group of women and children, affectionately named known as NOAA (Neighbors of Aintree Association), assembled in a groceryies-filled basement of a home on Aintree Lane to pack, wrap and decorate the baskets for the annual Empty Bowls fund raiser for Food for Others. The event takes place being held April 17, 5:30-8:00 PM at St. John Neumann Church in Reston.

Knee- deep in boxes of pasta, canned vegetables, baby food and juice boxes, the neighbors labored hard to create 27 food baskets for local families, then transferred went next door for an elegant brunch.

"Everyone is so busy, but this is an enjoyable way to spend time with each other and involve our kids, while doing something good for our own community," said Aintree resident Maggie Saxman, whose daughter Lauren helped wrap the baskets.

"It would be wonderful if we could inspire other Reston neighborhoods to have fun together and help local charities at the same time," said Aintree resident Anne Loehr, who had her young daughter, Ariana choose colorful bows for the dozens of food packages.

The Giving Circle of HOPE is



PHOTOS BY VIVIAN KELLY

Anne Loehr and her daughter Ariana decorate the gift baskets assembled by women of Aintree Lane for the Empty Bowls fund-raiser.



Neighbors Patty Stemler and Susan Hylton chat while building baskets.

organizing the Empty Bowls event on behalf of Food for Others, a Fairfax-based hunger relief non-profit organization. Local potters donate hand-made soup bowls, which ticket-holders can take home., Localarea restaurants donate delicious soup, bread, and desserts, and Girl Scouts and other service groups help serve the food.

"Ticket sales for the Empty

Bowls event are down this year, yet the number of hungry people turning to Food for Others is up by 50 percent, so we're doing everything we can to spread the word." Cathy Waters said. All donations go directly to Food for Others. – T the need is greater than ever," said Cathy Waters, another Aintree resident.

— VIVIAN KELLY

Services schedule:

April 5: Children will be given a special opportunity to participate in the Palm Sunday service, 11 a.m.

April 9: Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m.

April 10: Good Friday Service, 12 p.m.

April 12: Easter Sunday Celebration followed by free lunch, 11 a.m.

Visit www.washingtonplazachurch.com or call 703-471-5225.

Chabad of Reston-Herndon, 2598 Viking Drive, Herndon, will host their Community Passover "Seder" Wednesday, **April 8** at 7:30 p.m. and

on the second night Thursday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. \$36/adults and \$18/children. Call 703-476-1829 or visit www.chabadrh.org.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon, has announced their Holy Week Services schedule:

April 5: Palm Sunday Services, 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

April 8: Healing and Holy Eucharist Service, 12:15 p.m.

April 9: Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist Service, 7:30 p.m.

April 10: Stations of the Cross, 12:15 p.m.; Passion Gospel and solemn prayer service, 7:30 p.m.

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437. Deadline is Thursday.

United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston, is hosting a family Good Friday program Friday, April 10, 4-7 p.m. Each room will feature a scripture and a way to experience that scripture. Visit www.unitedchristianparish.org or call 703-620-3065.

Washington Plaza Baptist Church, 1615 Washington Plaza, Reston, has announced their Holy Week



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Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Maundy Thursday

Seder Service April 9: 6:30 pm

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Easter Sunday

April 12: 6:30, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 am

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SPORTS



PHOTO COURTESY/RESTON YOUTH BASKETBALL

The Sting, a member of the Reston Youth Basketball (RYB) organization, recently won three playoff games to capture the girls' 9-10 age group winter league title. Front row, from left, are Elizabeth King, Hagir Saleh and Rebecca Grundahl; second row, Kristina Woodward, Angie Osgood, Emmalyn Barlow, Stephanie Maamari and Asma Ibrahim. In the back is coach Kelly Barlow



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The South Lakes High boys' lacrosse team, under coach Matt Blamey (pictured), defeated host McLean, 14-5, last Friday night. The Seahawks were led by senior captain Matt Shinrock (four goals, two assists) and fellow seniors Alex Little (two goals) and Tyler Harned (three goals).

Herndon Grad Reynolds Leads Wildcats to Final Four

Softball player Rynex, another Hornets' grad, playing at Ball State.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Katie Rynex, a 2008 graduate of Herndon High School, is a freshmen pitcher on the Ball State University (Muncie, Ind.) women's softball team this spring. Rynex's role for the Cardinals this season will be as a back-up pitcher. Ball State, under head coach Craig Nicholson, is an NCAA Div. 1 member of the Mid-American Conference. Rynex, a right-hander who is wearing jersey No. 21 for the Cardinals, is coming off an outstanding high school playing career at Herndon, where she was a four-time letter-earner. She earned All-Concorde District accolades on three occasions and was a two-time All-Northern Region selection.

Rynex was instrumental in helping the Hornets reach both the district and Oregon tournament finals during her season year. That Herndon team, under coach Bonnie O'Hearn, qualified for the state AAA playoffs. Rynex, a marketing major at Ball State, is the daughter of Rick and Leslie Rynex.

Herndon High graduate Scottie Reynolds scored perhaps the most memorable basket of this year's NCAA Div. 1 men's basketball tournament when he converted a driving, buzzer-beater shot in the lane to lift his Villanova University (Philadelphia) team to a dramatic 78-76 victory over Big East rival Pittsburgh Saturday, March 28 in Boston. The East Region Final win advanced



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Scottie Reynolds, shown here during the state AAA playoffs in 2006, is averaging 15 points per game for Villanova.

the No. 3-seed Wildcats to this Saturday's Final Four in Detroit where they will meet North Carolina. It will be Villanova's first Final Four appearance since 1985. The 6-foot-2 inch Reynolds, one of the nation's top guards, finished with 15 points against Pittsburgh.

Reynolds, a 2006 Herndon High graduate, is one of the top players to ever come out of Northern Virginia. During his high school senior year, he led former coach Gary Hall's Hornets to the region title and a trip to the state AAA playoffs. He is averaging 15 points per game this winter for the Wildcats.

Nick Fialdini pitched six strong innings to lead the Stone Bridge High baseball team

to a 3-0 win over visiting South Lakes Friday night, March 27. Fialdini, in the strong outing, allowed five hits while striking out 10 and walking two. Stone Bridge reliever Johnny Bladel tossed a hitless seventh, striking out three.

South Lakes starting pitcher Nick Beaulac had a good showing, allowing three runs (2 earned) over four innings of work. He was hurt by four walks. Will Sweet pitched two scoreless innings of relief for the Seahawks, allowing no hits and fanning one.

Stone Bridge had five hits in the game. The base knocks came from Spenser Rositano, Michael Prince, Bladel, Patrick Thompson (2 RBI) and Pat Piccolo.

South Lakes' five hits came from Wilfredo Corps-Oritz (double), Jon Baamonde (2 hits), and Bill McLaughlin (2 hits).

Stone Bridge, the defending Liberty District champion, scored two runs in the bottom of the third and another run in the fifth.

South Lakes High School had its winter sports award ceremonies on March 3. At that time, the school's athletic boosters presented a \$13,500 donation to the South Lakes' sports program for this season. Bruce Butler and athletic director Linda Jones accepted it from Cheri Hostetler, Booster Club president. Reston-based companies and organizations strongly support the South Lakes booster efforts at the Sponsor Level, including Sam and Kathy Scoggin, Realtors; Explosive Performance; Reston Festival; Inova Health Systems; Kyle Knight Insurance; Cassel's Sports and Awards; and Reston Hospital Center.

South Lakes is looking to fill the following coaching vacancies: varsity field hockey coach and dance team coach. All interested applicants may send their resumes to Linda.Jones@fcps.edu or fax them to her at 703-715-4688.

The following is the weekly **top 10 high**

school baseball poll put out by the Northern Region Coach's: 1. West Springfield; 2. Lake Braddock; 3. Chantilly; 4. McLean; 5. Madison; 6. South County; 7. Westfield; 8. Langley; 9. Stone Bridge; and 10. Woodson. Other teams receiving votes were Herndon, Lee, Robinson, Centreville and Washington-Lee.

Registration for **Reston Youth Association Coed Spring Flag Football** is now open. The league is also looking for volunteers interested in coaching and refereeing. Visit www.RestonSeahawks.org to register. The fee is \$60. The league is for boys and girls, ages 5-to-18. No experience is needed. Teams practice only one hour a week and play one game per weekend, so that area youth can play flag football, while continuing to participate in other spring sports if they choose. Games, which will be played at Langston Hughes Middle School in Reston, will begin in April. Questions can be addressed to flag@restonseahawks.org

Reston Youth Association is sponsoring a winter cheerleading clinic. The registration fee is \$35. Practices are Monday and Thursday, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Langston Hughes Middle school in Reston through May 21. Invite a friend and learn new skills while getting in shape for the fall season. For more information, contact Traci Waller at TraciWaller@aol.com, or call 703-391-0206.

The Herndon Optimist Youth Baseball (HOYB) Spring Registration is now open. The program offers baseball for children ages 4 to 12. In addition to house league play, the 50/70 League participates in Inter-league games, providing players and families additional ball playing opportunities. For more information about HOYB or for registration, visit www.herndonbaseball.com. For additional questions, call 703-481-1132.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437 with questions. Deadline is Friday.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 1

USGS Lecture Series. 7 p.m., USGS Headquarters
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Dr. John Jones will present the lecture "Knee-high to Bird's Eye: Multi-scale Remote Sensing of Vegetation Dynamics." Dr. Jones will provide an introduction to these technologies and a sampler of his work to illustrate how this research helps address resource management issues related to climate change, water flow and habitat condition. Free. Call 703-648-4748 or visit www.usgs.gov/public_lecture_series/default.asp.

THURSDAY/APRIL 2

Local Impact of the Stimulus Package. 7:30 a.m., Accenture, 11951 Freedom Drive, 18th Floor, Reston. Two panels will share their unique insights into stimulus federal agency program funding, how funding will flow to state and local governments, what technologies will benefit the most and how government contractors can help support these requirements. \$45/NVTC members, \$75/non-members. Visit www.nvtc.org/events/geteventinfo.php?event=B2G-27.

FRIDAY/APRIL 3

Reston V.I.P. 2 p.m., Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Attend this support group for people with vision loss. Adults only. Call 703-689-2700.

SATURDAY/APRIL 4

Watershed Cleanup. 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Potomac

COMMUNITY NOTES

Send announcements to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437. Deadline is Thursday.

Mothers First-Herndon/Reston is a non-profit support organization helping women transition from careers to at-home motherhood. Meetings are held the **first and second Wednesdays** of each month at 10 a.m., at the Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Contact 703-827-5922 or www.mothersfirst.org.

Live acoustic music will be performed **Mondays and Saturdays**, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at Uno Chicago Grill at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St.

The Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, is open year round, Tuesdays-Sundays, 12-5 p.m. Call 703-709-7700 or visit www.restonmuseum.org

The **Greater Reston Arts Center**, 12001 Market St., Suite 100, Reston, is open Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Visit www.restonarts.org.

Belly dance performances at La Kasbah Moroccan Restaurant, 11424 Washington Plaza, Reston, **every Wednesday**, 7:30 p.m., and **every Friday and Saturday**, 8 p.m. Call 703-707-0733 or visit www.lakasbahrestaurant.com.

Run, jog or walk with Body by Geoff, **every Saturday**, 8 a.m. Free. Meet at Body By Geoff, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Call 703-464-5559.

Live music at Lake Anne: every Saturday, 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Jasmine Café, 1633 Washington Plaza, 703-471-9114; and every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. at Tavern on the Lake, 1617 Washington Plaza, 703-471-0121.

Chinese conversation, 5-6 p.m., at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, **every Sunday**. Call 571-225-7697.

Watershed, Reston. Join thousands of volunteers in a multi-state effort to clean up the Potomac Watershed. The group will focus on a number of streams in Reston. Contact Ha Brock, RA Volunteer Coordinator at 703-435-7986 or habrock@reston.org to volunteer.

Child Advocates. 10-11 a.m., Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates is hosting an information session. If you would like to learn more about advocating for abused or neglected children, call 703-273-3526, ext. 22 or e-mail ekosarin@casafairfax.org for more information.

Runnymede Park Cleanup. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Runnymede Park. Join the Friends of Runnymede Park and choose between stream cleanup or native plant garden assignments to help clean up the park. Bring work gloves and suitable clothing. Call the Town Forester at 703-435-6800, ext. 2014 to register and receive assignments.

Parent/Child Art Workshop. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. Make soft picture frames to hold children's drawings with artist Pat Macintyre. Free. Call 703-481-8156.

TUESDAY/APRIL 7

Reston Garden Club. 1 p.m., Lake Anne Community Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. The Reston Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting. Manette Lazear, garden club member and master gardener, will give a presentation entitled "Hydrangeas," covering the varieties available and their care and pruning. Visit www.restongardenclub.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 11

Parent/Child Art Workshop. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. Make soft picture frames to hold children's drawings with artist Pat Macintyre. Free. Call 703-481-8156.

Latin movement classes at Dance With Me Ballroom Dance Studio. No partner needed. Cuban motion, free style dancing and dance styling taught plus a fun exercise. Drop-in **every Sunday**, 2-3 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person. The studio is located at the border of Reston and Herndon at 251 Sunset Park Drive. Visit www.dancewithme.net or call 703-444-3061.

Play chess on the Plaza **every day**. Sets are available for free check-out at Reston's Used Book Shop, 1623 Washington Plaza N.

Blood pressure and diabetes screenings are available **every Saturday**, in front of Body by Geoff, Lake Anne Village Center, 1609-B Washington Plaza. Drive. Colleen Kivlahn conducts the free screenings.

Jazz on the Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, free every Sunday, from 5:30-8 p.m. featuring the Mykle Lyons Trio and friends. Visit www.lakeanneplaza.com.

Live Jazz every Friday, from 7-9 p.m., on the plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza. Different bands each week. Visit www.lakeanneplaza.com.

Free Saturday morning concerts every Saturday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., by the plaza fountain, 1609 Washington Plaza. For lineups, contact Reston's Used Book Shop at 703-435-9772.

Open mic nights every **Tuesday, 8 p.m.**, at Tavern on the Lake, 1617 Washington Plaza and on the **fourth Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m.**, at Reston's Used Book Shop, 1623 Washington Plaza.

Gather in the **Cradle & Crayon Nursery**, Reston Town Center, 11913 Freedom Drive, for a favorite children's book and some Mom social time **every Wednesday**, at 10:30 a.m. Call 703-437-0900 for details.

Broomball games will be held **every Monday**, 7-8:30 p.m., in the Ice Skating Pavilion at Reston Town Center. No skating skills necessary; helmet required. \$15/player. Register at 703-709-6300 or skating@restontowncenter.com.

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THE CONNECTION NEWS PAPERS

Serial Mixer



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Nothing satisfies me more for breakfast than a big — make that oversized — bowl of cereal, cold cereal, not hot cereal. And even though I've matured in my cereal choices and am no longer crunching through Trix, Fruit Loops, Sugar Pops (now known as Corn Pops) and Frosted Flakes, to name just a few of my former sweet indulgences, I am still bowled over by my enthusiasm to snap, crackle and pop my way through a fairly uninspiring combination of milk and some kind of flakes, raisins, nuts, and miscellaneous other real or imagined (natural or otherwise) tastes.

Having written this first paragraph, the thought has now occurred to me explaining this adult-age fascination with cold cereal and even colder milk (chocolate milk if I had my druthers): combinations. I can still remember the time and place, The Huntley Lodge (named after the famous news anchor, Chet Huntley) in Big Sky Montana where the combining-cereal light went on and cold cereal became so much more to me than it had previously been.

It happened about ten years ago when Dina and I took our first ski vacation to Montana. We stayed slope-side at the Huntley Lodge, where, among other amenities, an all you can eat-type hotel breakfast buffet was included in the package. And aside from the usual assortment of eggs, pancakes, waffles, bacon, sausage, bagels, breads, muffins, pastries, desserts, juices, coffee, tea, milk, was of course, hot and cold cereal. The cold cereal was out of their boxes and piled high in metal tins lined up side by side. There were multiple varieties. Because of this presentation, it was fairly simple to scoop out your portion and move through the line. As I stood in line and waited my turn, I noticed a man in front of me filling his cereal bowl with not one but two different types of cereal. It was at that exact moment when eating-cereal-a-whole-new-way light came on. I wouldn't say I had an epiphany (hey, we're only talking cereal here, let's be realistic) but I did have a moment.

No more would I have to start and finish my cereal the way I had started and finished it for the past 30 years. Why pour only one variety in the bowl? Why eat a boring and mundane breakfast when it could be interesting and be my own creation as well? And so from that ski-vacation week forward, rather than eating cereal as an adult as I had as a child; one bowl, one variety, I evolved. I still have the one bowl, but is likely now filled with two different cereals, maybe even three if the cereal inventory allows. The possibilities have become endless. I now have cereal choices/combinations beyond my wildest cereal-eating dreams. No more is my morning cereal, either or, or a repeat of yesterday's singular non-sensation. Humdrum has now turned into dim sum, cereal-wise.

Today, this morning (although sometimes it can be lunch or even dinner), the cereal choice is mine. What combination, what creation shall I concoct? Cereal is not just for children, anymore. Thank you, Huntley Lodge.

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

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21 Announcements

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Wrong Time To Buy [HQ]

To the Editor:

If the RA Board has followed the news this week, it will rethink its plan to buy a large new headquarters building. The Wall Street Journal reported on March 26 that the delinquency rate on commercial real estate loans has doubled since last September, and experts expect a slump in commercial real estate exceeding the one in the early 1990s. Deutsche Bank predicts commercial property values will decline 35 percent to 45 percent. In a separate article, George Soros stated that a decline of at least 30 percent in commercial real estate values is inevitable. Problems in the credit markets are causing commercial real estate loans to fail, and these failures will lead to increased foreclosures and increased vacancy rates that will force prices down even further.

Although commercial real estate prices have dropped since 2007, this recent news indicates we have not hit bottom yet. I would also cite the possibility of defense cuts creating additional vacancies in this area and exerting further downward pressure on price. The obvious conclusion is that the RA Board should not purchase a new headquarters building now, because it will vastly overpay and could get a much better deal in the future. This logic would hold even if the Board had sufficiently justified its supposed need for a large new building, which of course it has not.

I urge everyone to vote no on the headquarters referendum if they have not already.

James Perry
Reston

Diane Royal
Reston

More Budget Games

FROM PAGE 6

ing it more expensive and restrictive for children to engage in healthy activities. Where is the common sense?

Affordable housing seems to be the hot button. After spending \$160 million on the Wedgewood complex, after evicting all those who did not meet the county's affordable housing criteria, we now have a 7 percent to 10 percent vacancy rate. To fix the vacancy rate, the Housing Authority is offering a \$200 signing voucher paid for by us taxpayers. By the way, that \$160 million "investment" also purchased a couple million roaches that came as part of the deal! To add insult to injury, the Board of Supervisors created a new Office to Prevent and End Homelessness with a budget of \$500,000 including authorizing a director with a salary of \$125,000. We still are paying for 17 families to live in motels while their housing needs are figured out! Bottom line, our not-for-profits do a great job of meeting the emergency housing needs. Why do we need a bureaucracy to "help" this successful grassroots program? Back in

Different Languages

To the Editor:

I've attended a number of the community forums on the RA headquarters referendum, including last Monday's where Cresa Partners was revealed as the heretofore "confidential" advisor. I realize, sadly, that the RA Board and the members are speaking entirely different languages: (1) the RA Board are speaking the language of stories, of anecdotes, of business relationships, of bottom up design; (2) the community is asking questions using the language of data, of space needs analysis, of top down design. To the analysts, RA seems obscure, fuzzy, misleading, obfuscative, perhaps even dishonest. RA only picks up on the gross case that most everyone who has appeared at these community forums is opposed to what RA is saying. They have responded with a combative posture, and even developed wild scenarios to explain member questions.

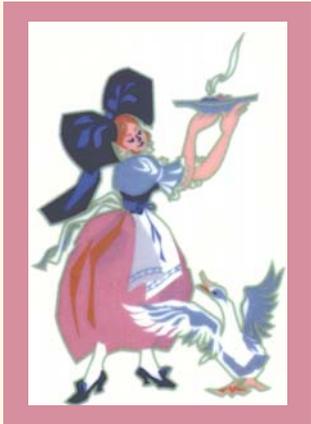
This underscores that the strongest case made so far is for additional due diligence. Most agree the current space is below-par and a move is warranted. In 2005, 87 percent of members voted that buying or building are good options. That's excellent common ground upon which to build a solution.

The key is credibly defining the space needs. Without some top-down analysis, Cresa's space analysis looks like Reston Association's unvetted wish list.

I am voting "no" because the case has not been made. With a more analytical and professional approach to defining the requirement and a request that matched that analysis, my vote would have been different.



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