

Funding A New Rec Center

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Larry Butler, director of parks and recreation for the Reston Association, speaks at the first of a series of community meetings regarding the proposed indoor recreation center Monday night.



Seahawks Look Forward to The Next Chapter

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PHOTOS BY CAROLINE ADAMS/THE CONNECTION

Parker Benbow stands with fifth-time keynote speaker Laurence Ward.

Looking Forward to Next Chapter

South Lakes graduates celebrate their high school experiences.

BY CAROLINE ADAMS
THE CONNECTION

South Lakes High School honored the Class of 2009 at its graduation ceremony Tuesday, June 17. "We have made it through high school and we can now call ourselves high school graduates of 2009," said Wiaam Yasin, class president.

Student speaker Sam Moyer reflected on how much South Lakes has given him the past four years. "At any other high school, I wouldn't be looking out at so many friends," he said. "I have gotten exactly what I wanted out of high school, and even though we caused a lot of trouble, we are a good class."

THE CLASS of 2009 donated microwaves to enhance the lunch experience, a permanent sign that reads "Congratulations Seahawk Graduates," and \$2,000 for land-

scaping the school campus.

Laurence Ward, the keynote speaker, closed the ceremony by speaking to the graduates of his hopes for them in the future. "Go out there and find the problem for you to solve," he said. "Ask questions, and question those answers." Wishing the graduates well, he asked them "What will you do now? What won't you do? Start thinking now because you are pressed for time."

Michael Harrell, a 2009 graduate, referenced Ward's words of wisdom as one of the most valuable things he took away from the graduation ceremony. "I will cherish the past, learn from my mistakes, and live life to the fullest, because, as Mr. Ward said, you only live once," said Harrell. Thinking back to his favorite South Lakes moment, Harrell said, "Winning districts and regionals of indoor and outdoor track in my senior year is my favorite high school memory." When asked what he will miss most about high school, Harrell said, "I have enjoyed the close relationships I have with my teachers and the friendly community of South Lakes. I like knowing everyone and that will be one of the things I'll miss most next year."

Pictured, from left, Jessica Gonzales-Perez, Martha Lopez-Espinoza, Sharle Mataren, Ana Amaya and Alicia Gonzales.



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Cheryl Beamer, Hunters Wood/Dogwood District representative to the Reston Association board, addresses the crowd.

Funding a New Rec Center

First community meeting on proposed rec center focuses on money.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Richard Szeide just wanted to know where the money would come from. "Is the bond free or do we have to pay them back?" he asked rhetorically at Monday night's community meeting regarding the proposed construction of an indoor recreation center in Reston.

The crowd of about 60, gathered in the cafeteria of Hunters Woods Elementary School on June 22, had just been told that the center, projected to cost between \$37 million and \$49 million to build, could be funded without raising taxes in Small Tax District 5 or raising Reston Association (RA) dues.

As it was a meeting of the Hunters Wood/Dogwood District, held at Hunters Woods Elementary School several miles from the park being considered for the recreation center site, much of the discussion revolved around money. The proposal has generated more visceral discussion among members of the community around Brown's Chapel Park, which has been the first choice for a location for the center.

Reston Community Center (RCC) Executive Director Leila Gordon told Szeide that the county's lending office had advised the RCC and RA, who partnered to study possibilities for a recreation center, that projected growth in Reston's tax base would cover the cost of building and operating the center without necessitat-

ing a hike in the tax rate. "The advice we were given was that this was a sound plan on which to proceed," she said. "That doesn't mean we have to do it."

She said future development in the Reston Center for Industry and Government (RCIG), which runs along the Dulles Toll Road and future Metro Silver Line, as well as at the planned Reston Parkway Metro stop, would be largely responsible for increasing tax revenue in Small Tax District 5 by growing the commercial tax base.

CURRENTLY, the RCIG covenants prohibit residential and hotel buildings and strictly limit retail uses, but with the coming of Metrorail through the center of the area, these restrictions are expected to be eliminated, allowing for considerable growth. Even with residential values expected to drop by 5 percent to 6 percent in Reston next year, Gordon said higher densities and mixed-use development in the RCIG were expected to increase the district's overall tax base substantially in the future. The rail line is to be completed by 2013.

Small Tax District 5 comprises all of Reston, including the business community and the residential component of Reston Town Center, both of which are left out of the RA and don't pay association dues.

Reston Association board member and Hunters Wood/Dogwood District representative Cheryl Beamer, who hosted the meeting, said the recreation center could be built without increasing RA dues if the center were built on RA-owned land such as Brown's Chapel Park.

In response to Szeide's comment that nearby commercial fitness clubs like Worldgate Sport & Health in Herndon were underutilized and "hurting for

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 5

Crime Solvers Tip Solves Several Crimes

A tip received through Crime Solvers led to the arrests of two men for several unsolved crimes. In late May a tipster identified the suspects in several outstanding cases to include robberies and a burglary. Detectives followed up on the tip and determined the information was accurate.

In late May and June the suspects were charged in the following cases:

* A commercial robbery on Monday, May 4 at the 7-Eleven store located at 11714 Sunset Hills Road in the Reston area.

* The robbery of a person on Saturday, May 16 in the 2200 block of Colts Neck Road in the Reston area.

* A burglary on Wednesday, May 24 at a home in the 14400 block of Woodmere Court in the Centreville area.

An 18-year-old man of no fixed address was charged with robbery and the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony in the May 4 robbery. He was charged with burglary for the May 24 incident.

Another 18-year-old man of Reston was charged with robbery and the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony in the May 4 robbery. He was also charged with robbery in the May 16 incident.

A 25-year-old man of no fixed address, had an outstanding warrant for robbery in the May 16 incident. He was arrested in a nearby jurisdiction for unrelated charges on June 18 and is awaiting extradition back to Fairfax County.

Detectives continue to investigate several other robberies and further charges are possible.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES(274637). A \$100 to \$1,000 cash reward will be paid for information that leads to an arrest. Callers never have to give their names or appear in court.

Catherine D. Rice Barnes, 74, Dies

Catherine D. Rice Barnes, 74, of Reston died on June 15 in Reston. She was preceded in death by her husband Edward P. Barnes and son Ronnie Barnes. She was the beloved mother of Kim (Clarence) Randall and Michelle (Chris) Woodfolk of Baltimore, Md. and Sharon (Troy) Lee of Reston. She is also survived by four grandchildren, Ronald Greene, Devin Williams, Derek Barnes and Britany Randall; four sisters-in-law, Bernetta Barnes, Zeldia Briscoe, Kasa Barnes and Tiara Barnes, all of Washington, D.C.; two brothers-in-law, John Barnes and Paul Barnes of Washington, D.C. and a host of other relatives and friends.

Family and friends may call on Saturday, June 27, from 10 a.m. until time of service at 11 a.m. at Christian Life Church, 7845 Ashton Ave., Sudley North Building, Manassas. Wake and viewing is Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m., and private funeral services at 11 a.m. at the same place.

Nation Children Hosts Charity Event

Nation Children will be having a charity outreach at the Lake Anne village center in Reston on the June 26. Last year's event saw more than 400 people trooping in for food and clothing. In collaboration with the department of family services and the Embry Rucker Shelter, the Nation Children will welcome to the event the low income, homeless and families living in the shelter, giving them fresh food and vegetables, clothing and bric a brac. No registration is required to attend the program that is also supported by the Reston Community Center.

For more information, visit the project page at www.nationchildren.org/projects/html Nation Children is located at 603 Carlisle Drive, Herndon, VA 20170.

NEWS

Fighting Homelessness

Reston Interfaith celebrates the acquisition of its 39th townhome.

BY ANNA MCCORMALLY
THE CONNECTION

For Rodney Merrill, who moved from Michigan to Northern Virginia in October 2008 in hopes of finding employment, the cost of living in Fairfax County was too much. Merrill, his wife and two children found themselves among the 350 homeless families in Fairfax County, living out of their van, even though Merrill's wife was employed in Reston.

Some stories that begin this way don't have happy endings; this one, however, does. Merrill found his way to Reston Interfaith, a non-profit organization founded in 1970 that works to provide basic human services to the underprivileged in Herndon, Reston and northwest Fairfax County. Thanks to the fundraising done by what Reston Interfaith calls its "strategic partners" — the JBG Companies, Northrop Grumman, Reston Hospital/HCA Virginia and the Virginia Spine Institute — a three-year grant awarded in 2007 by Freddie Mac and the commitment of local public officials to preventing and ending homelessness in Fairfax County, Reston Interfaith now owns 39 townhomes that it rents out at affordable rates to those who earn less than half of Fairfax County's median yearly household income. It's one of these homes that Merrill and his family now call their own.

"I am a living witness," said Merrill, who was housed by Reston Interfaith and Freddie Mac's Housing Opportunities Strengthen Everyone (H.O.U.S.E.) program.

MERRIL told his story on the morning of June 16, as Reston Interfaith dedicated its 39th townhome, located at 2270 White Cornus Lane in Reston, in the name of Best of Reston, the partnership between Reston Interfaith and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, for the work it's accomplished in the name of Reston's community.

"You couldn't be supporting a more worthwhile organization than this one," Merrill said to the representatives from Reston Interfaith's partners who attended the dedication.



Reston Interfaith's 39th acquired townhome at 2270 White Cornus Lane in Reston. The townhomes are rented out at affordable rates to low-income families.

PHOTOS BY ANNA MCCORMALLY/THE CONNECTION



Rodney Merrill, a Reston Interfaith/Freddie Mac H.O.U.S.E. unit resident, tells his story at the dedication of Reston Interfaith's 39th acquired townhome.

In addition to the 39 townhomes that Reston Interfaith rents out at affordable prices, the non-profit also owns 30 transitional housing units that families are staggered through in a two-year program.

"Ninety-seven percent of the people who were in our transitional housing programs have remained in permanent housing," said Jody Tompros, Reston Interfaith director for transitional houses and residential services. Families living in both transitional and affordable housing have access to other human services provided by Reston Interfaith, such as food pantries and educational programs like the Laurel Learning Center.

The availability of affordable housing is an enormous issue in Fairfax County, where the average monthly cost of housing is nearly twice the national average.

"You really need to earn \$45,000, \$46,000 a year to afford transportation and living in Fairfax County," said Kerrie Wilson, CEO of Reston Interfaith. She estimated that 28,000 families in Fairfax County are living in poverty — that is, earning less than \$26,000 a year.

Tompros considers homelessness is a "very big problem" in Fairfax County, with 350 families and 600 other individuals counted as homeless in Fairfax County as of January 2009. What is Fairfax County doing to increase the availability of affordable housing and fight homelessness?

THE ANSWERS can be found at the newly founded Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, directed by Dean Klein.

SEE PROMOTING, PAGE 10

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Community Debates Recreation Center

FROM PAGE 3

members," Gordon said, "At RCC, we're turning away nearly as many people as we serve every season." She said the community center was able to offer lower rates to Reston residents and employees than commercial fitness centers could because it was subsidized by the tax district, with only about 16 percent to 17 percent of its budget covered by activity fees. About 40 percent of its tax revenue, she said, came from the commercial tax base.

Whether the community wanted to continue subsidizing such operations would be a question on the RCC's survey to be administered this fall, Gordon said.

Mikhail Belyavsky wondered whether the proposed recreation center, which is to house indoor tennis and swimming facilities, as well as a gym and common space, could possibly pay for itself without a subsidy.

Based on the going market rate, Gordon said, such a facility could not only maintain itself but could help to subsidize other RCC ser-

vices. On the other hand, if it stuck with current RCC rates and 90 percent of its clientele paid the lower rate for Reston residents, she said, it would need a subsidy of about \$1 million per year to cover operations.

Alfred Kromholz pointed out that no evidence had been provided to indicate that the number of people willing to pay even subsidized fees to use a recreation center would remain constant.

Craig Levin of Brailsford & Dunlavey, the facility planning and program management firm that recently completed a study on the possibility of another recreation center in Reston, conceded that the planning effort had not come to the point that people were being asked what they were willing to pay but had sought to find out whether there was sufficient demand for such a center. "The answer is yes," he said. "Will they pay for it? We need to get to that point."

When asked why the RA and RCC had commissioned a roughly \$92,000 study by Brailsford & Dunlavey before soliciting commu-

nity input, Beamer said planners had wanted to flesh out a notion of what was feasible, "rather than come up with some half-baked idea," so the community could decide whether the concept had any merit.

Kim Brightwell asked Beamer to dismiss any notions that the Reston Association had made up a need for indoor swimming and tennis facilities, and Beamer said surveys had shown a desire for such amenities, as well as frequent comments at meetings from RA members.

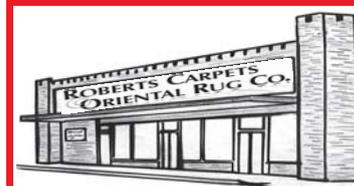
Larry Butler, the RA's director of parks and recreation, said a Fairfax County needs assessment had found an especially sore need for indoor swimming in the area.

AT THE MEETING'S START, when Beamer asked how many in the crowd wanted to see a recreation center somewhere in Reston, about 25 hands went up. More than half the crowd members raised their hands when she asked how many were swimmers or tennis players.

Butler reviewed the long history

of the Reston Association's attempts to bring indoor tennis back to Reston, since the association stopped leasing space for tennis at the Reston Racquet Club in 1992. Particularly since 2000, several attempts had been made, he said, from a cost-sharing business venture to cover the Barton Hill Tennis courts to a partnership with South Lakes High School and initial plans to cover four of six courts at Lake Newport. He also noted that a private contractor had run the Ridge Heights pool bubble until 2003, when it was closed due to zoning requirements for parking. "So RA's only venture into indoor swimming came to an abrupt halt in 2003."

Monday's meeting was the first of four community meetings regarding the proposed recreation center. Beamer said the RA and RCC wanted to hear from the community, through comments and surveys circulated at the meetings, as well as the RCC's community survey, which will be due in November. "We started with some seed of an idea, we fleshed it out for you and now we want your input," she said.



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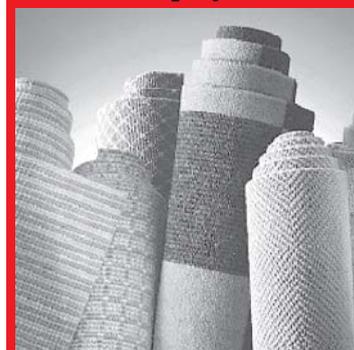
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OPINION

Top Ten Secrets

To long, happy, useful,
productive and meaningful life.

This is a month filled with graduations and graduation messages. Last month the speech for graduates at my daughter's Earlham College struck me as one of the best. Here, squeezed to less than 20 percent of its original, are excerpts from the Baccalaureate address by Chuck Yates, professor of history.

—MARY KIMM

NUMBER TEN: Figure out what you like to do and then find someone who'll pay you to do it. But don't go where the money is good; go where the work is good, where the good comes from the difference the work makes in your life and the lives of others.

NUMBER NINE: Get to know the locals. Remember: they live here; they know how the system works here; they know who the movers and shakers are. The locals are your neighbors. The locals are your community. The locals are your lifeline.

NUMBER EIGHT: Ask for directions. You might as well get used to the idea that you're going to get lost now and then. So ask for directions. There's no shame in not knowing the way.

NUMBER SEVEN: "To thine own self be true." ... And when you mess things up, be the first one to step up, and own up, and do what you can to fix what you broke.

And forgive — always forgive. Forgiveness is not about letting the other person off the

hook; it's not about the other person at all. It's about you, about the kind of person you want to be, about how you define yourself as a moral agent. And forgive yourself when you trip over your own feet and fall flat on your face.

NUMBER SIX: Know what you think, but more important, know why you think it. What you believe is nobody's business but your own, but the rub is that belief guides behavior, so knowing why you think what you think is a precondition for knowing why you do what you do.

NUMBER FIVE: Remember that other people want you to take them just as seriously as you want them to take you. If you don't understand your opponent's position well enough to make your own persuasive defense of it, at a minimum that probably means you haven't been paying attention.

NUMBER FOUR: Take care of yourself. Hold it in your heart that taking care of yourself is not the same thing as being selfish. ... And there's this one other thing that's absolutely essential if you want to do your best job of taking care of yourself: never take yourself too seriously.

NUMBER THREE: Remember that most of the time, most of it isn't going to make much sense to you. But that doesn't mean it doesn't make sense. Most of us spend a lot of time and

energy trying to make the math come out even. The trouble is, the only place where the math comes out even is in math.

NUMBER TWO: Keep your scriptures handy. We all need scriptures. What's good about scriptures is that they put us in touch with the wisdom of others who've gone a lot farther down the road than we have. The scripture I rely on most frequently is very simple, and goes like this: "God, grant me serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."

NUMBER ONE: Love. Paul told the Corinthians, there are three things that last forever. They work together — faith, hope, and love — each one woven through the other two into a fabric that never tears, never wears out, and always gives warmth and shelter. But love, Paul said, love is the main thing.

So here I am, telling you to love. Love yourselves. Love each other. Love this magical mysterious heart-breaker of a world we live in. Love it for what it can become. But love it for what it is too. If you choose love, you create a center of gravity for yourself that will help you stay balanced no matter what happens.

Yate's address ended with a crowd-pleasing round of the Beatles' "All You Need Is Love." For the full address, see www.earlham.edu/documents/pdf/baccalaureate/2009address.pdf

Voting Records

BY JACK KENNY
PAST PRESIDENT, REPUBLICAN
CLUB OF GREATER RESTON



A DIFFERING POINT OF VIEW

Finally, we do have some good advice: check the voting records. Not too many issues ago, this writer noted specific actions by our senators at the national level, action by a senator at the state level, and a supervisor at the local level on funding transportation projects. The silence has been deafening. In a recent Opinion column ("The Fall Line/Up," Reston Connection, June 17-23), Del. Ken Plum (D-36) cites the achievements of the Democratic slate for the forthcoming election on Nov 3, 2009. Senator Deeds is the "Education Candidate!" a "country boy" fully appreciating the needs of cities and suburbs, Ms. Wagner, the former Secretary of Finance under former Governor Warner, and finally Del. Steve Shannon (D-35), of Illinois politics fame.

Ms. Wagner is one of the henchpersons behind Warner's \$1.4 billion sales tax increase to fix a \$6 billion budget deficit that

magically disappeared when a few days after passage was found to actually be a \$1.1 billion surplus. That tax increase was promised to fund transportation improvements. Where has it disappeared?

In the recent 2009 General Assembly session, Del. Chris Saxman (R-20) patroned H.B. 1633 — a bill to designate projected revenues from Virginia offshore gas and oil operations to transportation, energy projects and cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay. The idea of moving the Commonwealth from an energy importer to energy independence is really exciting. The naysayers will point to the risk of another Exxon Valdez incident. Nothing is mentioned about fully loaded fuel barges that transit our shoreline daily and up the Bay to Baltimore. On the positive side, it will give the Virginia economy a big boost, many more jobs, new, more competitive industries, and cheaper

energy costs for Virginians. The environment will be protected: no demagoguery on this one.

Surprise! Who voted party-line against the bill: Dels. Plum, Shannon, Caputo, Scott, Bulova, Amundsen, Herring and Marsden — our neighboring representatives. It passed the House. However, it was killed in the Senate Finance Committee. Who voted to kill the bill in committee? Our own Sen. Janet Howell (D-32). Are these representatives of the people really interested in fixing our transportation crisis or moving Virginia ahead? Are we supposed to return these people to Richmond to "fix" our transportation mess, not to mention our economy?

Del. Plum is fond of noting that Virginia was named the "best managed in the country" and "best for business." One wonders who came up with that award and on what basis. "Business Week" recently listed Virginia as "one of 20 states that can't pay its bills." Who are we to believe? It takes a lot of concerted effort or just flat out incompetence (or the darker side of partisan politics) to drive the Commonwealth \$5 billion in the hole.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bring HQ to Lake Anne

To the Editor:

I remember the pride that, as the CEO of the Reston Association, I felt when I hosted visitors from Korea, Scandinavia, Canada, China and other areas who came to Reston in an attempt to understand those aspects of Reston that brought global recognition to it. Often they came to find if it was possible to incorporate or emulate characteristics or aspects of Reston that made it successful in their own community's development.

Part of Tour always included a tour of Town Center to demonstrate that Reston continued to be a vibrant community that was still continuing in its evolution; tours of Reston's open space — a special defining character of our community, and the various housing opportunities that accommodated individuals of varying financial strata to seek the American dream in Reston.

But what they always wanted to see was Lake Anne. I recall, to this day, both the Scandinavians

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OPINION

Secure Driver's Licenses

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

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles is taking greater strides to protect Virginians from fraud by enhancing its driver's license security. The DMV is changing the method of issuing driver's licenses and identification cards from an over-the-counter process to issuance from a central location. What this means for you is that the next time you renew your driver's license or ID card, you will receive it in the mail.

The new process will reduce the risks for fraud and use of false addresses. It serves as a deterrent to those attempting to obtain Virginia licenses illegally, because they won't be issued on the spot.

Although you will no longer receive your driver's license and ID cards at DMV offices, you can continue to apply for them there. You will notice the new process when you visit the DMV. Customer photos will be taken at the beginning of your transaction at the customer counter. If renewing a Virginia

driver's license, you will retain your old license and receive a temporary driving permit so you can continue to drive. ID card customers will be issued a receipt; cards will be mailed within three business days.

COMMENTARY

I encourage you to take a moment right now to check your current license and make sure your address is up to date with DMV. If you have moved since your current license was issued, you can update your mailing address by visiting DMV's Web site at www.dmvNOW.com.

The new cards will be produced at a facility in Danville comparable to a credit card production center with a high level of security and restricted access. Sophisticated equipment in a centralized environment can produce more secure cards than printers in dozens of



DMV offices across the state.

The new secure cards have a new look and feel and are made with a tamper-resistant material called polycarbonate, which allows the words and pictures to be laser engraved into the cards. The most unique of the security features is a clear window containing a black and white photograph of the cardholder, visible from the front and back of the card. Virginia's will be the third such driver's license worldwide and the first in the U.S. to carry this feature.

Adult license will remain horizontal and include a security print outline of the state capitol building. Cards for those under 21 will be vertical and carry images of Virginia's state flower, the dogwood.

Virginians can rest assured that DMV's new issuance process, production center, and security features will position the Commonwealth as a national leader in credential security and will make Virginia's driver's licenses and ID cards the most secure and trusted state-issued credentials in the nation.

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COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Hunters Wood/Dogwood District
hosted by Cheryl Beamer, RA Secretary & District Representative
Monday, June 22, 2009, 7-9 p.m.
Hunters Woods Elementary School cafeteria
2401 Colts Neck Road, Reston

North Point District
hosted by Frank Lynch, District Representative
Tuesday, June 30, 2009, 7-9 p.m.
Armstrong Elementary School cafeteria
11900 Lake Newport Road, Reston

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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.

THURSDAY/JUNE 25

"The History Boys." 8 p.m., Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players continue the 2008-2009 season with Alan Bennett's Tony award-winning play "The History Boys," a play about an unruly bunch of bright, funny senior boys in a British boarding school. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$16/seniors and students. Call 703-481-5930 or visit www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 26

"The History Boys." 8 p.m., Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players continue the 2008-2009 season with Alan Bennett's Tony award-winning play "The History Boys," a play about an unruly bunch of bright, funny senior boys in a British boarding school. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$16/seniors and students. Call 703-481-5930 or visit www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 27

"The History Boys." 8 p.m., Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon.

Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players continue the 2008-2009 season with Alan Bennett's Tony award-winning play "The History Boys," a play about an unruly bunch of bright, funny senior boys in a British boarding school. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$16/seniors and students. Call 703-481-5930 or visit www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

The King's Brass. 7-9 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon. The King's Brass will perform in concert. \$10/person. Call 703-439-2755.

Concerts on the Town.

7:30-10 p.m., Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston. Rudy Gonzalez Y Su Lokura will perform Latin dance, salsa, merengue, cha-cha and bolero music. Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets; alcohol permitted at restaurants only. Free.

SUNDAY/JUNE 28

Reston Town Center Grand Prix, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. All races held on a 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. www.evolutioncycling.org

Connie Slack, In Search of Resolution, acrylic on paper, 40" x 32" "Faraway Nearby," an all-media, juried exhibition featuring 16 artists selected by Dale Lanzone, president of International Public Art Marlborough, will be on display through July 31 at the Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. The opening reception is Friday, June 19, 6-8 p.m. and the artists' roundtable will be held Thursday, June 25 at 7:30 p.m.

their visit.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Hurricanes and Our Changing Coasts. Dr. Asbury (Abby) Sallenger will explain how the coast changes during extreme storms — such as Hurricanes Isabel, Katrina, and Ike — and what this means for our coastal developments today and in the future. The US Geological Survey Science in Action public lecture series the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Dallas Peck Auditorium, on the

TUESDAY/JUNE 30

Northwest Federal Credit Union community blood drive, at 220 Spring St., Herndon, with Inova Blood Donor Services. Make appointmentscan at www.nwfcu.org/donate. Walk-ins are welcome. Donors should allow one hour for

first floor of the USGS Building, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive in Reston. For additional information contact the USGS Visitor Center in Reston at 703-648-4748.

ONGOING

Reston Community Center is showcasing the works of father and son duo, John and Michael Mendez, along with former neighbor Rick Rosenwig in Generations: A Blue Smoke Connection. The exhibit will run through July 31 at the Reston Community Hunters Woods. The three artists developed an interest in photography while all residing on Blue Smoke Trail in South Reston 30 years ago when Michael and Rick were students at South Lakes High School. Since then, each artist has pursued his own artistic ways within the realm of photography. Michael Mendez has made art and photography his career. He currently teaches photography, art history and aesthetics and design at Shepherd University. Rick Rosenwig holds a Bachelor of Education from Virginia Tech and is currently employed in the high-tech Internet field. After his retirement, John Mendez made photography his key pursuit of artistic endeavors.

South Lakes High School Wind Ensemble at Carnegie Hall

The South Lakes High School Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Grayson Fore, was invited to perform this spring at Carnegie Hall in New York City. The Wind Ensemble performed several pieces and received superior ratings.

Fore is in his 10th year as director of bands at South Lakes High School. During his tenure his bands have earned numerous first place awards and superior ratings at festivals and competitions.

Approximately 120 students are enrolled in the band program at South Lakes High School, which includes the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, Flag Corps, Small En-



The South Lakes High School Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Grayson Fore, performed several pieces and received superior ratings at Carnegie Hall.

semble and the Spirit of Reston Marching Band. The Wind Ensemble is the premier performing ensemble at South Lakes High School and performs across the

United States.

While in New York students saw the musical "Shrek" and toured Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty.



Reston resident Richard Chew argues for a more holistic re-evaluation of the Reston Master Plan at the first session of the Land Use College.



Reston residents gathered to listen at Lake Anne Elementary School for the Land Use College on June 16.

Stratton Woods Plan Amended

Volleyball court to be retained, comments still being accepted.



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

The plan for Stratton Woods Park has been amended to keep the sand volleyball court, although the court will be where the basketball courts are now.

court will not be lit.

The idea is to increase the park's capacity by extending its hours, as local sports groups have indicated that not enough fields are available.

The Park Authority is taking comments on the revised plan until July 1, and Pedersen said it was possible that plans would change again.

"We've seen change before based on public comments and sentiment, so I wouldn't be surprised either way," she said.

Pedersen said she expected a final plan to come before the Park Authority Board in September.

Comments on the plan can be sent to parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or to

Pat Rosend, Project Manager, Planning and Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax, VA 22035. To learn more, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/stratton.htm.

— MIKE DICICCO

Metrorail Affects Area Planning

Citizens go to Land Use College.

BY CHRISTIAN EUBANK
THE CONNECTION

After over 40 years of existence, the Reston Master Plan, in the face of change and the construction of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail, is outdated.

Around 80 Reston citizens gathered in the Lake Anne Elementary School cafeteria for the first session of the Reston Land Use College to learn about the process of rezoning and new development. The June 16 meeting offered "an opportunity for community members who want to know what is happening to be grounded in what happens," said Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill).

The lack of a single Reston community association leads to some disconnect between the county and its citizens, Reston resident Marion

Stillson said. Stillson, president of the Reston Citizens Association, explained that the presence of multiple groups means that different citizens have different information about certain local issues.

THE RESTON MASTER PLAN,

a set of three maps for communities, transportation and land use, guides the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in its zoning regulations, said Heidi Merkel, a senior planner with the county's Department of Planning and Zoning and event speaker. However, she added that this plan does not have the force of regulation.

County planner Loren Bruce said that the re-evaluation would include the Dulles Corridor Metrorail's impact on the Town Center, the possible addition of hotels to Reston, the size of Reston

and the development of the centers.

Karen Harwood, deputy county attorney, said, under the Dillon Rule, local governments can only act with the express permission of the state legislature, implied permission or in cases of necessity.

Currently, the Board of Supervisors is the only local body with authority to make changes in the Comprehensive Plan, aided in part by the Planning Commission. The Comprehensive Plan, in turn, provides the basis for zoning guidelines. Merkel said that citizen advisory groups, such as the Environmental Quality Advisory Council, also serve in an advisory capacity to the Board.

IN 2008, local focus groups and an October public meeting outlined the four phases for reviewing and modifying the Master Plan, Merkel said. The Land Use College and an examination of existing conditions

mark the first step of a four-part process. The second step includes a reexamination of the Dulles Corridor and Town Center as well as an overview of Robert Simon's original seven principles for Reston. The last two steps include a reexamination of the residential neighborhoods and the village centers.

Several audience members expressed concern that citizens do not have any control over the zoning process once the Board issues zoning decisions. Merkel responded that the citizens have the ability to influence decisions through advisory groups. Alternatively, they could use proffers to attempt to change zoning on the condition that these changes conform to the Comprehensive Plan.

Future Land Use College meetings will take place in July and September. For more information, contact the Department of Planning and Zoning at 703-324-1380.

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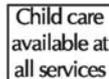
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11402 TOWERING OAK WAY	6	4	1	RESTON	\$1,185,000	Detached	0.69	RESTON		
11304 STONES THROW DR	5	4	1	RESTON	\$1,125,000	Detached	0.60	ESTATES AT WYNDHAM HILLS		
11205 BRIGHT POND LN	7	4	1	RESTON	\$1,100,000	Detached	1.87	RESTON		
1602 NORTH VILLAGE RD	5	3	1	RESTON	\$1,100,000	Detached	0.87	RESTON		
1389 CAMERON HEATH DR	5	4	1	RESTON	\$1,010,000	Detached	0.22	ONE CAMERON PLACE		
1214 TOTTENHAM CT	4	4	1	RESTON	\$980,000	Detached	0.68	BRANDERMILL		
1565 REGATTA LN	4	4	1	RESTON	\$876,000	Detached	0.12	RESTON		
11316 WOODBROOK LN	5	3	1	RESTON	\$820,000	Detached	0.26	RESTON		
1437 WATERFRONT RD	5	4	0	RESTON	\$781,500	Detached	0.19	RESTON		
1420 HEMINGWAY CT	3	3	1	RESTON	\$755,000	Detached	0.10	RESTON		
1581 NORTH VILLAGE RD	3	3	1	RESTON	\$750,000	Detached	0.38	RESTON		
11776 STRATFORD HSE PL#1404	3	3	0	RESTON	\$745,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		STRATFORD		
11426 NIGHT STAR WAY	4	2	1	RESTON	\$740,000	Detached	0.22	RESTON		
2415 SILVER FOX LN	4	4	0	RESTON	\$733,000	Detached	0.61	RESTON		
11952 GREY SQUIRREL LN	5	3	1	RESTON	\$725,000	Detached	0.32	RESTON		
1999 LAKEPORT WAY	3	3	1	RESTON	\$700,000	Townhouse	0.06	RESTON		
1985 LAKEPORT WAY	4	3	1	RESTON	\$680,000	Townhouse	0.06	RESTON		
11082 THRUSH RIDGE RD	3	3	1	RESTON	\$670,000	Townhouse	0.15	AUDUBON TERRACE		
1423 BELCASTLE CT	3	2	1	RESTON	\$660,000	Detached	0.19	RESTON		
1312 WESTHILLS LN	4	3	0	RESTON	\$600,000	Detached	0.57	RESTON		
11538 HEMINGWAY DR	4	3	1	RESTON	\$600,000	Townhouse	0.06	RESTON		
1327 BUTTERMILK LN	5	3	1	RESTON	\$585,000	Detached	0.29	RESTON		
2074 LAKE AUDUBON CT	3	2	1	RESTON	\$575,000	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
11436 HOLLOW TIMBER CT	4	3	1	RESTON	\$575,000	Townhouse	0.10	RESTON		
12042 LAKE NEWPORT RD	4	2	1	RESTON	\$555,000	Detached	0.29	RESTON		
2350 NASHUA CT	4	2	2	RESTON	\$545,000	Detached	0.37	RESTON		
11306 FAIRWAY DR	4	4	0	RESTON	\$543,000	Detached	0.25	RESTON		
2019 LAKEWINDS DR	4	3	1	RESTON	\$543,000	Townhouse	0.05	RESTON		
11485 WATERHAVEN CT	3	2	2	RESTON	\$520,000	Townhouse	0.06	TOWNES AT WATERFORD		
2337 ARCHDALE RD	4	2	1	RESTON	\$520,000	Detached	0.46	STRATTON WOODS		
1316 PARK GARDEN LN	3	3	1	RESTON	\$515,000	Townhouse	0.06	RESTON/WINDSOR PARK		
11432 SUMMER HOUSE CT	3	3	0	RESTON	\$510,000	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
12367 LIMA LN	4	2	1	RESTON	\$502,500	Detached	0.35	RESTON		
11250 HANDLEBAR RD	3	2	0	RESTON	\$487,500	Detached	0.49	RESTON		
1531 INLET CT	3	2	1	RESTON	\$480,000	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
2349 ROSEDOWN DR	4	2	1	RESTON	\$469,000	Detached	0.61	STRATTON WOODS		
1401 NEWPORT SPRING CT	3	2	2	RESTON	\$445,000	Townhouse	0.05	RESTON		
11404 ORCHARD GREEN CT	3	2	1	RESTON	\$444,900	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
12507 KINGS LAKE DR	4	2	1	RESTON	\$438,000	Detached	0.46	STRATTON WOODS		
2308 SAINT BEDES CT	4	2	1	RESTON	\$430,000	Detached	0.62	STRATTON WOODS		
12328 COLERAINE CT	4	2	1	RESTON	\$429,000	Detached	0.46	STRATTON WOODS		
2323 ARCHDALE RD	5	3	0	RESTON	\$425,000	Detached	0.53	STRATTON WOODS		
11467 HERITAGE COMMONS WAY	2	3	1	RESTON	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.03	RESTON		
11116 SAFFOLD WAY	3	2	1	RESTON	\$386,000	Townhouse	0.06	RESTON		
11976 GREYWING CT	4	3	1	RESTON	\$380,000	Townhouse	0.07	RESTON		
11990 MARKET ST #716	1	2	0	RESTON	\$375,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MIDTOWN CONDOMINIUMS		
2354 SOFT WIND CT	4	2	2	RESTON	\$372,500	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
2186 POND VIEW CT	3	2	2	RESTON	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.03	RESTON		
12030 TRUMBULL WAY	2	2	1	RESTON	\$369,900	Townhouse		LINCOLN PARK		
2315 GLADE BANK WAY	3	2	1	RESTON	\$365,500	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
11922 SENTINEL POINT CT	3	2	1	RESTON	\$365,000	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
1860 STRATFORD PARK PL#103	2	2	0	RESTON	\$350,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		STRATFORD		
11577 LINKS DR	3	2	1	RESTON	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		
11755 MOSSY CREEK LN	3	2	2	RESTON	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.05	RESTON		
11116 FOREST EDGE DR	3	3	1	RESTON	\$345,000	Townhouse	0.04	RESTON		

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Promoting 'Housing First'

FROM PAGE 4

"We're adopting an approach called Housing First," said Klein, when asked what work is being done at the new office. He said that the Housing First model puts as its priority an emphasis on permanent housing for the homeless and providing newly re-housed families with the services they need.

"Previously, the model was that people who are homeless ... would be assessed and moved in to emergency shelter and then into transitional housing," said Klein. "This model is more rapidly placing people who are homeless from the shelter into permanent housing."

Klein estimated that 1,800 individuals are homeless in Fairfax County, and that 35 percent of those are children.

Representing governmental commitment to ending and preventing homelessness at Tuesday's dedication was U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), who praised Reston

Interfaith's strategic partner Northrop Grumman on its fundraising efforts.

"Northrop Grumman's job is to keep us secure from outward attack ... but it's not just protecting us from attack from without," said Moran. "We also have to be strong from within."

Over the past 18 years, the global security corporation has raised \$25,000 a year for Best of Reston, and Wilson estimated that what they have given to the community in general numbers is even higher.

"You all have donated \$1.5 million over the years that has gone directly back to the community," Wilson said, as she thanked the representatives from Northrop Grumman who were present at the dedication ceremony.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) spoke of the importance of supporting the diverse needs of a community like Reston. "We're a community," she said, "and as a community everyone is

included. No one is left out."

Hudgins, who will lead a discussion about affordable housing at the Fairfax County Board retreat at the end of this month, said that Reston Interfaith's business of housing families in homes that they can keep for a while is critical, a principle seen in the Housing First model. She and others talked about the difference that having a roof overhead can have in helping struggling families get on their feet.

She identified partnerships, like the one between Reston Interfaith and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, as critical to preventing and ending homelessness in Fairfax County.

Hudgins said that Reston Interfaith's emphasis on housing, and the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness' concentration on permanent residence, keeping people in their homes, could "change the face of homelessness" in Fairfax County by creating stability.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

and Koreans reaching into a portfolio that they were carrying, and pulling out the same exact picture — a picture of the “key” at Lake Anne. That is where they wanted to go; that is what they wanted to see.

It wasn't until they visited Lake Anne that they understood and realized how the development and design of a residential, retail and service milieu could create community; how people could come together from various levels of housing opportunities, meeting each other in a Plaza where relationships were being created and sustained that could last a lifetime, and how the sinew of “community” could be established by their environment and then how that could be extended to the entire community of Reston.

RA's Board President Robin Smyers mentioned that the plans for Lake Anne development and revitalization have been talked about and talked about for many years. Those plans may finally now be ready to become a reality. RA has the opportunity to be the spark that drives and begins that process of redevelopment revitalization of Lake Anne, bringing its thousands of visitors, newcomers, and residents that come to the association each and every year to not only do business with the association and to serve their great community, but to support the financial stability, growth and revitalization of Lake Anne so necessary to its viability. Locating RA's headquarters to Lake Anne would give us all the opportunity to experience — every so often — what is the essence, soul and heart of the Reston Community, and to be reminded about that which makes Reston's history and importance so meaningful on a global scale.

If RA must decide that, when this lease expires next year, it can no longer subject its employees to leaky ceilings, poor HVAC and cramped conditions, then this board will make the decision to move forward with its efforts to find alternative space immediately after the referendum. But now, realizing that RA's current landlord is willing to extend RA's lease, and whether or not the referendum succeeds, RA has the opportunity to delay its decision in the short term to not only consider the proposal being offered at Lake Anne, and, if it meets RA's needs, to make RA's relocation to Lake Anne a reality.

Gerald R Volloy
President
Alliance of Reston Clusters and Homeowners

Dismayed at HQ Search

To the Editor:

Recently, I, along with all Reston residents, received a Referendum in the mail asking if Reston Association Board of Directors should be authorized to finance and purchase land to construct a building, or purchase a building, or condominium space

or interest therein, for future use as the RA headquarters. This referendum cost a lot of money to produce, to mail and to tally results. The RA Board should respect the outcome, or not waste any more dollars on referendums that they do not choose to abide by. The Reston residents chose not to support the Referendum question posed either by exercising their right not to vote, thereby increasing the likelihood of not

achieving a quorum, or by voting against the proposal. The Referendum failed to meet the quorum requirements. I am surprised and dismayed upon reading that the RA Board of Directors is still considering the possibility of obtaining land to construct a building in the Lake Anne area for a new headquarters right after the Reston residents chose not to approve this type of action [“Lake Anne Location Pondered,” Reston

Connection, May 20-26]. The Board should not spend any more time or money looking into the purchase of a building, or land to construct a building, or a condominium or interest therein at Lake Anne or any other location. Instead the Board should try to get the best lease they can in this market for the headquarters.

B. Russo
Reston

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SPORTS

Local Swimmers Jump In

Summer swim teams bring community and competition to kids in Northern Virginia.

ANNA MCCORMALLY
THE CONNECTION

For his high school swim team — the Oakton Cougars — Bradley Phillips has performed on some of the area's biggest stages. Because of Phillips and several other talented swimmers, Oakton captured the Northern Region boys' title this past winter.

But Phillips, who won the Virginia AAA 200-yard freestyle title with a time of 1 minute, 40.62 seconds, has another passion: He spends his summers swimming for the Pinecrest Piranhas, a routine Phillips has followed since he was 6 years old.

Phillips will be able to participate in the Northern Virginia Swim League for one more year before he will be too old, and it's something that he'll definitely miss.

"It's going to be sad when I leave," Phillips said. "I've had so many memories and made so many friends. That's my favorite part: all of the people I've met over the years."

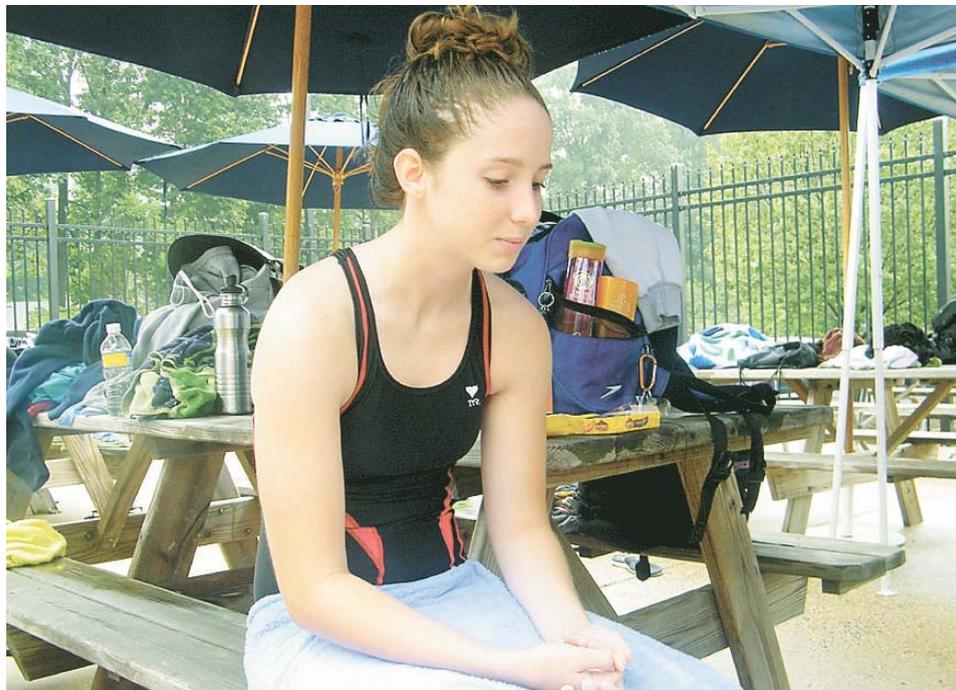
"I remember getting disqualified as a little kid ... You know, for not being able to swim across the pool."

THE PIRANHAS swam against the Virginia Run Riptide on Saturday morning, June 20 but suffered a 231-171 loss. Both are Division 5 teams in the Northern Virginia Swim League, a popular summer swim organization with teams that have long histories of close-knit swim communities.

"That's my favorite part: all of the people I've met over the years."

Bradley Phillips, Pinecrest Piranhas swimmer

The NVSL gives kids ages 5-18 a chance to get in the pool and race, and it draws the same swimmers year af-



Hiddenbrook's Sarah Hamilton anxiously awaits the result of an event during the Hurricanes' swim meet last Saturday, June 20 against Great Falls.

PHOTOS BY ANNA MCCORMALLY/THE CONNECTION



Sarah Doyle, left, of Virginia Run and Katie Sanfield of Pinecrest take their marks for the U-8 girls' 25-meter freestyle event on Saturday, June 20.

ter year as they make friends on the team. Having fun while fostering a spirit of competition can be a difficult balance for some NVSL coaches to find.

"It's tricky because we want to make it fun," said Caitlin O'Brien, one of the Piranhas' coaches, who also competed in the meet. "But at the same time, swimming is competitive and you want to win."

The Piranhas keep practices fun by having 'Game Day' once a week. Conversely, Virginia Run co-coach Stasia Schlatter and her fellow coaches also go to great lengths to make sure swim practice is fun and not all work for their swimmers.

"We try to keep it fun, so we're not stressed out about winning or losing," she said. "We try to do a lot of different things at practice. We do a lot of hard stuff, but on Fridays we have 'Fun Friday.' We work hard

all week and we have fun on Friday. That's one of the ways we balance it."

WHILE SOME swimmers like Phillips take the competitive aspect of the NVSL very seriously, winning isn't the only point — or even the main one — of summer swim season. Tyler van Viersson, a junior coach with the Hiddenbrook Hurricanes, believes that there is more to swimming than winning meets.

"Pep rallies are always good," said van Viersson, whose team faced off with the Great Falls Rapids on Saturday at Hiddenbrook but suffered a 187-153 loss. "We make banners and things."

Pep rallies are a very popular part of swim meets. Before meets, teams gather to make banners, practice cheers and get pumped up with their teammates.

Being with friends is a huge aspect of the summer swim league, too. Sarah Hamilton of Hiddenbrook called the friendly environment of the swim team one of the best parts.

"We're like a family," said Hamilton, 17, who remembered looking up to older kids on the team when she was younger. "People call it a swim family because you grow up with them and watch the kids grow up. You know everything about everyone, and they cheer you on."

Her teammate on both the Hurricanes and also the Herndon swim and dive team, van Viersson agreed.

"The swim team here is almost more like a community than it is a swim team," van Viersson said. "Everyone here is pretty close, and I like that a lot."

WEEK IN SPORTS

Herndon Soccer Advances

By winning the U.S. Youth Soccer Virginia State Championship, two Herndon-area soccer teams — the U-14 boys' Herndon Real Juniors and the U-15 boys' Herndon FC — have qualified to compete in the U.S. Youth Soccer Region I (East) Championships. The teams will join the 282 top U.S. Youth Soccer teams from 15 associations that are competing for a regional title, July 2-7 at the U.S. Youth Soccer Region I Championships in Barboursville Soccer Complex, Huntington YMCA Kennedy Center and Scott Orthopedics Soccer Complex in Barboursville, W.Va. The Region I Championships feature top teams in the U-12 through U-19 age groups and start on Thursday, July 2. The champion will be crowned on Tuesday, July 7.

Register Now for RYA

Registration is open for Reston Youth Association's (RYA) fall 2009 football and cheerleading programs. Registration is also open for RYA football camp and a 3-on-3 basketball tournament to be held the week of July 18. The RYA programs are open to youth ages 6-16 in Reston and the surrounding areas. No experience is needed and full player participation is guaranteed regardless of ability or experience. There are three levels of play in each weight-class based on age, weight and experience. Games will be played on the turf fields at Lake Fairfax Park. Practice begins Aug. 10 and the first games are Sept. 19. The season ends by Thanksgiving. Obtain information on the RYA programs and register online at www.restonseahawks.org. For questions, call the RYA Hotline at 703-620-2019 or send an email to vp@restonseahawks.org.

Grab a Stick and Go

This summer, Academy International will host two week-long girls' lacrosse academies at Cooper Middle School in McLean on Aug. 3-7, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., and Aug. 10-14, from 4.30-7.30 p.m. A field hockey camp will also take place July 27-31 at Washington-Lee High School in Arlington. Renowned coaches from Canada and Britain will group players by age and skill level to customize training and make playing lacrosse fun. To register, visit www.academyinternational.net or call 703-816-0244 for more information.

Farewell Wave at Armstrong Elementary

The entire staff of Armstrong Elementary School came out to the bus loop at dismissal time Thursday, June 18 for the traditional end-of-school farewell wave to the students as the buses pull out.



South America Explored at Sunset Hills

Sunset Hills Montessori School presents International Day.

Sunset Hills Montessori School conducted an International Day for students, family and staff on June 8. Students have learned about South America throughout the year and International Day was a hands-on event through which the children experienced what they have been learning.

Mary Childerston, speaking about the event, said, "Children board the planes in their classrooms where they watch an in-flight movie and enjoy a snack just like on a normal plane ride. They then exit the plane and enter South America in our auditorium. They have plane tickets and passports that are stamped for every country they visit."

Dori Henson, a parent to three students at Sunset Hills, described the various events of the day. "After the plane ride, the children can visit a variety of stations," she said. "They visit a Colombian coffee station, where they pick out the green beans from the rest of the beans and they get to grind real coffee beans that they take home in little bags. Parents constructed Machu Picchu that the children climb and cave drawings are taking place in the 'Cueva De Las Manos' with neon paint. The entire event is absolutely incredible."

When asked why Sunset Hills chose South America, Eileen Minarik, the owner of the school, said, "There is a three-year cycle. Last year, we did Asia and this year is South America. We choose to have the children study an entire continent because it allows for more depth of exploration. We are able



Parents constructed Machu Picchu that the children climb.

to bring in dancers and musicians. ... However, none of this could be done without the parents. They give so much support and time into creating a great event."

Ashleigh Dorfman, a member of the PTA, with many other parents, helped in making International Day possible. "It is a great experience for the children and the school is dedicated to bringing to life the sights and sounds of learning. All three of my children attend Sunset Hills because of the emphasis placed on early learning," Dorfman said.

— CAROLINE ADAMS

Crossing the Amazon River, the children hop on stones and wooden bridges to avoid piranhas.



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To: Carl Curry
From: Clerk of Court
New Castle County

Shimona Curry, Petitioner has filed a petition for custody against you in the Family Court of the State of Delaware for New Castle County on 3/10/09. If you do not file an answer with the Family Court within 20 days after publication of this notice, exclusive of the date of publication, as required by statute, this action will be heard in Family Court without further notice.

Date Mailed 6/15/09 Mailed by: Kean Williams

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF HORRY

IN THE PROBATE COURT
CASE NUMBER:
2007-ES-26-1731

Dorothy E Darling
Petitioner

SUMMONS AND

vs

HEARING NOTICE

HEIRS-AT-LAW OF HOWARD N. DARLING

and all persons unknown who are or might claim to be heirs-at-law of Howard N. Darling, all such unknown persons being collectively designated as JOHN DOE and MARY DOE, including any unknown persons in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, any minors, persons non compos mentis and persons under a disability of any kind of nature who might claim to be heirs-at-law or Howard N. Darling.
Respondents.

TO: RESPONDENTS NAMED ABOVE

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Petition to Determine Heirs, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to the Petition to Determine Heirs on the subscriber at his office at 4702 Oleander Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577, within thirty (30) days of service. If you fail to answer the Petition to Determine Heirs within the time aforesaid, the Petitioners will seek default against you.

CLIFFORD H. TALL, P.A.

Clifford H. Tall
SC Bar No: 005463
Attorney for Petitioner,
Dorothy E. Darling
4702 Oleander Drive
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
Telephone: 843-497-9777

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Merits Hearing in this matter will be held at the Horry County Probate Court 1301 Second Avenue, Courtroom 2A, Conway, SC 29528 on July 23, 2009 at 8:30 AM. Interested parties are encouraged, should they require additional information, to contact Guardian ad Litem, Mary W. Tovornik, 201 Beatty St, Suite 107, Conway, SC 29526 843-438-8251 or Petitioner's counsel, Clifford H. Tall 4702 Oleander Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-497-9777.

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Skinny!?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If I ever felt like Robert Di Niro (which would be never), it was recently when my co-worker, Winslow, called me skinny. She couldn't have been talking to me, could she? But since it was she and I speaking on the telephone (and it wasn't a conference call), it had to be me. Granted, I've lost weight, chemotherapy has an affect of doing that, but skinny?

If there's an adjective, disparaging or otherwise, that I haven't been called in my entire life, it's skinny. In fact, growing up, my nicknames (most often given to me by my older brother, Richard) almost exclusively had to do with my girth. Other than being called by my first and middle initials, K.B., I was called a variety of synonyms for fat: Fatso, Goodyear Blimp, Endicott "Chub" (after a former Massachusetts Governor, Endicott "Chub" Peabody; he wasn't skinny either) and my personal least favorite, corpulent. Look it up in the dictionary/thesaurus, my brother did; it means fat.

So for me to react, literally, when anyone calls me skinny, is beyond any sense of reality or proportion I've ever known. It's simply not relevant, accurate, possible, etc. However, as a cancer patient, surviving through six days of six-hours of chemotherapy (every three weeks) over the course of 15 weeks, give or take, will, as many of you might already know, dampen your eating enthusiasm, you might say. Food begins to matter less, sort of. Its unique taste disappears or worse, changes. Food you used to love now inspires zero interest. Food you never thought to eat becomes food you tolerate because it tastes no different (no worse) than the food you formerly loved but now only ingest as a matter of need/routine. And so, the passion for food is gone. The lust for food is gone. The desire to eat diminishes as the taste and flavor of food likewise diminishes.

Combine this disappointing change in your senses with the depressingly low energy level you're progressively struggling to maintain — a direct result of the chemotherapy destroying your red blood cells (in its battle to destroy the cancer cells) and causing anemia in the process, and your interest in food; physically, mentally, emotionally becomes practically nil. And unless you're incredibly diligent or disciplined, the result is, you lose weight. It's not exactly an ideal scenario for a chemo/cancer patient since your body needs sustenance/energy to fight/destroy the cancer but the demands on your body during this time can be overwhelming. As such, forces beyond your control (or so it seems) make it extremely difficult to maintain your weight.

And so I've lost weight. But skinny? 215 pounds is not skinny. Sure, it's 20 pounds that I've lost in the last three months, and perhaps 40 that I've lost in the last 30 months (due to a pre-diabetes diagnosis in Sept. '06), but 215 is a long way from skinny (especially so if I told you my lack-of-height). Heck, it's even a long way from the weight I've listed on my driver's license.

And though I'm hardly a shell of my former self, I can certainly appreciate and respect the perspective of friends and family members who've seen the changes, I'm not exactly shriveling up to nothing.

But neither am I "around" 250 pounds anymore.

Such is life as a chemo/cancer patient. I just hope its cheating death as well.

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

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