

Reston CONNECTION Inspired Campaigner

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Debra Steppel organized a last-minute campaign that gave a write-in candidate for the Reston Citizens Association a landslide victory over an unopposed candidate, after she learned that the man on the ballot had questioned historical accounts of the Holocaust.

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PHOTO BY DAVID ZARROW

Fran Pfeffer was one of several residents who joined Steppel in campaigning for write-in candidate Colin Mills at the Reston Festival.

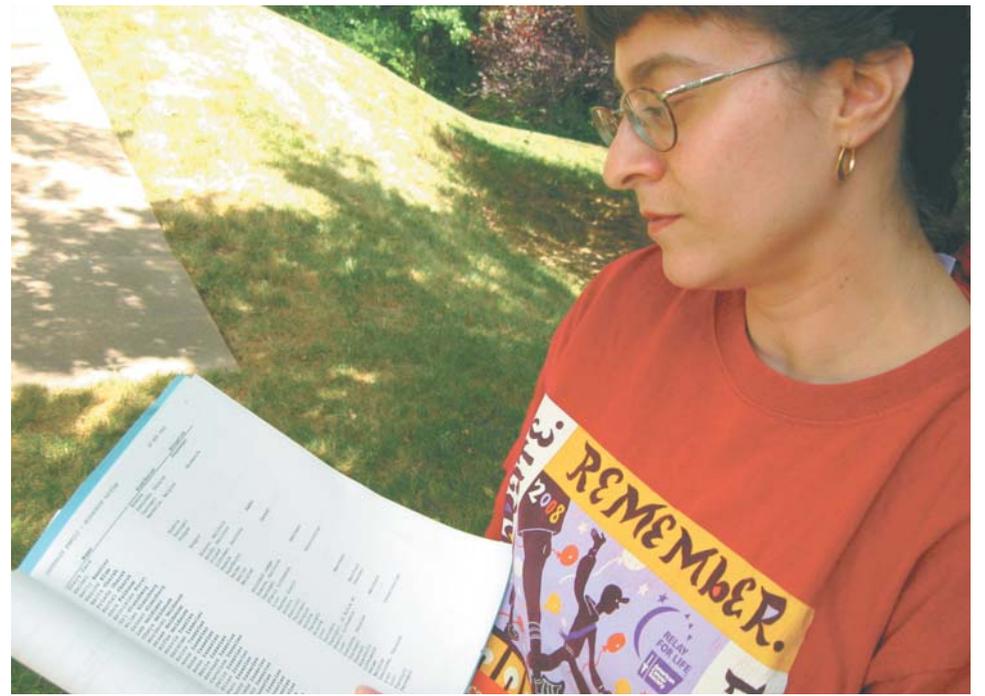


PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Debra Steppel displays half of the list of members of her father's side of the family who were killed in the Holocaust. She said she launched her campaign in memory of her relatives who died at the hands of the Nazis.

How a Write-In Candidate Won a Landslide

Reston resident orchestrated massive turnout for last-minute candidate after discovering Holocaust revisionist on ballot.

The name rang a bell. When Debra Steppel received her roster of Reston Citizens Association candidates on July 2, the name of an unopposed at-large candidate reminded her of a flyer she had been handed a few weeks earlier.

A member of her Shoreshim Jewish congregation had been passing out leaflets at a service, trying to start a letter-writing cam-

campaign to have a documentary that questioned accepted accounts of the Holocaust taken off of the local Comcast Channel 10, Steppel said. The film had been aired by Ken Meyercord, on his program, "World Docs." "I started wondering, 'Hmm, how many Ken Meyercords could there be in Fairfax County?'" Steppel said.

Days later, over the course of less than a week, the former RCA board member would

orchestrate a last-minute write-in campaign that would win a landslide victory for a candidate whose name did not appear on the ballot, pulling in more votes than are believed to have been cast for any candidate in the association's 42-year history.

After making the connection between Meyercord and the program that had offended her fellow congregant, Steppel contacted RCA President Marion Stillson and gave her the weekend to figure out what could be done, since Meyercord was unopposed. Voting was to take place the following weekend at the Reston Festival. Stillson called back on Monday, saying that since the filing deadline for candidacy had passed, the only option was a write-in cam-

paign. "I said, 'OK, I'll start a write-in campaign,'" Steppel said. "I swung into gear about 2 p.m. on Monday."

While Meyercord's analysis of the Holocaust would have little direct bearing on his service to the citizens association, Steppel said, she thought his conclusions showed him to have poor judgment.

She sent out a mass e-mail, and that afternoon, she heard back from then-South Lakes representative and RCA board Vice President Colin Mills, who had planned to step down. He offered to be the write-in candidate.

"I've got a lot of things going on, so I was

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Student Chosen for Leadership Forum

South Lakes teen spends 10 days learning what it's like to be a doctor.

Rising South Lakes junior Amanda Jayasinghe still isn't sure who recommended her for the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine, but she said the 10-day residential program had turned out to be "a great opportunity."

Late last year, she received a letter saying she had been selected for the program. "It was a complete surprise because I had never even heard of NYLF at the time," she said. "My teachers know I want to be a surgeon when I grow up, so one of my science teachers probably recommended me for it."

The National Youth Leadership Forum offers sessions on three different topics — law and crime scene investigation, medicine and national security. Jayasinghe was one of 300 to 400 students who spent the last 10 days of June living at the University of Maryland and visiting hospitals, as part

of the Washington, D.C. session of the forum on medicine. During that time, the students visited with surgeons, learned about their training, met like-minded youths from across the country and learned how to perform day-to-day medical tasks, she said.

EACH DAY after breakfast, Jayasinghe said, a classroom session taught skills like stitching, taking blood pressure and triaging, as well as leadership techniques and character building. Afternoons brought lectures and interactive experiences.

"We got to view live knee surgery and interact with the physician at the same time, which was pretty cool," Jayasinghe said, noting that the D.C. students, as well as those participating in sessions in Boston and Atlanta, watched the surgery on a live telecast and were able to ask questions of the

surgeon. "We got to watch him take someone's whole knee out and replace it with, like, plastic and metal," she said.

They also watched open-heart surgery being performed from the observation dome at Fairfax Inova Hospital and attended lectures by leading physicians. Socials and dances helped the students get to know each other, and group activities and projects were to teach them the sort of interpersonal skills doctors need in order to build rapport with patients, Jayasinghe said.

HAVING LEARNED about the college and residency training that different doctors receive, and given her interest in biology and anatomy, Jayasinghe said she was now leaning toward a career as either a coroner or a trauma surgeon. Next year, no longer required to take P.E., she planned to squeeze



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Amanda Jayasinghe

in two or three science classes.

Jayasinghe is a member of the science, information technology/business and French honor societies at South Lakes High School, as well as the National Honor Society, and she is a lifetime member of the National Honor Society for High School Scholars.

— MIKE DICICCO

NEWS

Free Clinic staff members and volunteers Melissa Richards, Michelle Hoyos, Meagan Ulrich and Jorge Cordova pause for a moment in an examination room.



PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN EUBANK/THE CONNECTION

Police Launch 'Summer Heat'

On Saturday, July 18, the Reston District Police Station kicked off Operation Summer Heat, a new, four-week initiative intended to confront and curtail gang activity in the Reston district.

During summer, when teens have more free time, gang activity tends to spike, said Lt. T.J. Rogers, one of the officers behind the operation. "We as a station wanted to get out in front of it and be proactive." He said crimes like graffiti and public drinking were picking up recently. "This summer, it's been more about quality of life."

THE 27 total gang-related incidents in the Reston Police District in the first half of this year are down from 49 during the same time period last year.

However, over the last few months, a number of gang-related and criminal incidents have taken place on paths in the Reston area. Several robberies were perpetrated on area paths in May, and Rogers said the robberies stopped after an arrest was made, with no gang connection ever found. In late June, a brawl between two groups of men on a trail behind Hunters Woods Center was suspected by police to be gang-related. Rogers said gang-related graffiti appeared to be on the rise.

He said trails were especially popular in Reston and that the police wanted residents to feel safe on their paths. As part of Operation Summer Heat, patrol officers, the Neighborhood Patrol Unit and plain-clothes officers will be out in force on Reston trails. "A significant number of additional officers are going to be working on this initiative," Rogers said.

THE OTHER PRONG of the campaign is public outreach. The station began the effort by sending out a letter in English and Spanish, asking residents to report suspicious activity, and officers will be visiting numerous residential and business communities to talk about crime prevention. Rogers said police would also be partnering with the county's Juvenile Court and Department of Health and Human Services to launch an outreach day in coming weeks, to inform residents and business owners about available crime prevention services. The day has not yet been scheduled.

Rogers said the Operation Summer Heat initiative came about quickly, after he was assigned to the station in late June.

Anyone interested in learning more or having an officer visit their community or business group to talk about crime prevention can call 703-478-0792 or e-mail restoncpo@fairfaxcounty.gov. "We'd love to go out and talk to community groups if they request it," Rogers said.

Police encourage residents to report suspicious activity by calling Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477), by texting "TIP187," plus a message, to CRIMES/274637, or by calling the police at 703-691-2131.

— MIKE DiCICCO

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Health Care Help

Demand for free clinic services up by 60 percent.

BY CHRISTIAN EUBANK
THE CONNECTION

As the slumping economy has made doctor visits and insurance payments more difficult, low-income patients are turning to free clinics for their medical needs.

"We have been really swamped since the downturn in the economy," said Meagan Ulrich, executive director of the Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic.

With increases in unemployment and the inability to pay for insurance, clinic demand has grown by 60 percent since last year. In order to adjust to the busier appointment schedule, the clinic has expanded its hours of operation and volunteer base.

Nine part-time staff members and nurse practitioners manage the clinic and provide continuity, but the doctors and nurses are volunteers. Reston Hospital provides lab work, and the clinic partners with other

organizations on an individual basis. Individuals, churches, businesses and local governments provide funds for clinic operation.

THE CLINIC typically receives 3,000 visits each year with a steady patient flow from week to week. Ulrich said the clinic treats around 1,000 patients out of 40,000 people in Fairfax County who qualify for treatment. The clinic treats uninsured people who live in Fairfax County with incomes of 200 percent or less of the federal poverty line. The clinic also accepts people with no addresses due to homelessness and eviction.

Adults must live in Herndon, Reston, Chantilly or Centreville and have high blood pressure or diabetes in order to enroll at the clinic. Accounting for about two-thirds of the appointments, child patients can come from anywhere in the county. Children also can simply walk in for appointments while adults must first fill out paperwork to verify their income level and condition.

ULRICH said that many patients are referred from the emergency room and are often chronically ill from lack of adequate medical attention. However, once someone is enrolled, the clinic offers full medical care and necessary medications for all of a patient's problems.

On Aug. 8, the clinic will offer a free physical from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., for children older than 3. Last year, 70 children were examined in preparation for the fall sports and school season. Doctors conduct extensive evaluations and offer advice and follow up opportunities.

"We don't want to do a quick once-over for a kid who may only see a doctor once a year," Ulrich said.

The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic, located at 500 Grove St., Suite 330, is open Monday-Thursday, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. To learn more, visit www.jsfreeclinic.org or call 703-481-8160.

Field Trip to Reston Architecture Studio

On Tuesday, June 30, a group of third-sixth graders from Pinecrest Elementary School in Annandale visited educational architecture firm SHW Group's Reston studio for a field trip during their architecture-themed summer camp. The students were taken on a tour of the studio, shown models and plans and were able to speak to the architects to ask questions and learn more about what they do. At the end of the day, the students were honored with SHW Group Junior Architect certificates.



NEWS

FISH Appoints Executive Director

Sherri Longhill becomes 'new face of FISH.'

For the first time in its 40 year history, Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc., hired an executive director, Sherri Longhill. She is the only paid FISH employee. Until now, the volunteer president performed all of the leadership roles and responsibilities. Marcia Di Trapani has served as president for the past four years and will continue into fiscal year 2010. Effective July 2009, the president, two vice presidents and the executive director will share the leadership responsibilities.

Longhill was first hired as the Bargain Loft manager on Aug. 1, 2008. Her management and supervisory capabilities were recognized by the board and she was offered the newly-created executive director position, whose major responsibilities are to manage The Bargain Loft — FISH's thrift shop — and take a leadership role in fund raising, networking and support to the FISH Board. She has taken on some of the responsibilities over the last six months under a board-approved transition plan.

Her primary interest is networking, raising the visibility of Herndon-Reston FISH in the community. Longhill will be the "Face of FISH." So far, she has participated in Reston Chamber of Commerce events, Rotary Club lunch meetings, the Women's Networking Luncheons (WNL) and the Best of Reston annual event (Reston Interfaith).

Longhill has already demonstrated her ability to work with community partners. Examples include establishing a relationship with a clutter control business whose client donated valuable crystal to the Bargain Loft; with WNL for donated designer clothing to sell at The Bargain Loft; with a representative from Marriott Residence Inn for a donation of overnight stay certificates for the next FISH Fling Fund Raiser. Her outreach to Sunrise Assisted Living in Reston and estate sales companies have also resulted in key donations. Her presentation to the Herndon Rotary Club about the 2009 FISH Fling fund raiser resulted in a Gold FISH sponsorship. She has been learning the grant writing process and will assist the



CONTRIBUTED

Sherri Longhill

lead grant writer. She has taken advantage of free seminars offered by Washington First Bank in Reston to non-profit executives on topics like fund-raising, grant-writing, public relations and marketing.

Longhill has brought eight years of director level experience to FISH. She was born in Memphis, Tenn., to an Air Force family that moved to Panama and then to parts of the East Coast. She spent much time in Northern Virginia while her father worked at the Pentagon and has been a resident since 1969.

Longhill's goals in fiscal year 2010 are to establish closer relationships with Herndon and Reston civic and community associations and determine the most potentially fruitful networking and educational events to attend. She said she also wants to write a successful grant application. Another priority is to recruit committed people who like to manage, possibly with a retail background, to volunteer as day managers at The Bargain Loft, to free her to attend events important to her executive director position. She is also looking for cashier volunteers once the summer student volunteers leave.

When asked about her aspirations for her new position, Longhill said, "FISH is an established organization, which has a long history of giving to the community of Herndon and Reston. I am committed to helping the many associates of FISH in their mission and hope to welcome many more volunteers."

For general information about FISH, visit www.HerndonRestonFISH.org or call 703-391-0105.

FISH is a volunteer, nonsectarian, non-profit 501c (3) corporation dedicated to helping local residents through short-term crises.

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Some Swine Flu Risks

If you're sick, stay home from work; if the children are sick, keep them home from school.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, Virginia has had more than 300 confirmed or probable cases of swine flu, and two deaths from the swine flu, including one in Arlington. A 27-year-old Alexandria man, hospitalized with a confirmed case of H1N1 flu, died in June.

We suspect the actual number of cases of swine flu in Virginia to be much higher, given the example of other states, e.g. Wisconsin, which reports more than 6,000 probably or confirmed cases of swine flu, but just eight deaths.

Cases have spiked in Virginia in recent weeks according to the Virginia Department of Health, during a time when health officials say anyone with flu symptoms of sore throat, fever and cough almost certainly is infected with swine flu. The regular, seasonal flu is almost unheard of this time of year. The CDC identifies the level of infection in Virginia as "regional," with the level of infection in Maryland as "widespread."

Overall, so far swine flu has been more mild than feared, with most people recovering without hospitalization. Seasonal flu, as differentiated from swine flu, kills about 36,000 people nationwide each year; about 1,000 people die in Virginia each year from influenza and pneumonia.

The CDC is predicting that swine flu will continue to spread through the summer and into the fall and winter, and will be a significant complicating factor when the seasonal influenza strikes when the weather gets cold.

The CDC reports: "The novel H1N1 virus, in conjunction with regular seasonal influenza viruses, poses the potential to cause significant illness with associated hospitalizations and deaths during the U.S. influenza season."

The primary method to avoid the spread of the swine flu is to tell people who are sick to stay home from work, keep sick children home from school or camp. Call your doctor's office, let them know you have flu symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat), so your doctor can determine if you would benefit from an antiviral medication. People who have had the swine flu are deemed contagious for seven days after the onset of symptoms, or until all symptoms have disappeared, whichever is longer.

All of our health in the coming year will depend on people following the advice to stay home if sick and seeking the right medical attention from a doctor's office, not the emergency room.

But what about the millions of workers who have no (or very limited) paid sick leave? What about the millions of people who have no health insurance and have no doctor to consult by phone?

According to a new report from an advocacy group, Health Care for America Now, in Virginia, about 12 percent of whites, 17 percent of African Americans and 45 percent of Latinos lack health insurance.

According to the National Partnership for Women and Families, about half of workers (excluding those who work for government) have no paid sick leave.

EDITORIAL

Frequently Asked Questions New H1N1 Virus (Swine Influenza)

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu: fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have reported vomiting and diarrhea.

What is the incubation period after exposure?

About 1-4 days. If a week has gone by from when you know you were exposed, it's not likely you will get sick.

Are there medicines to treat the new H1N1 virus?

Antivirals don't cure you of flu, but they do work to lessen the duration and severity of symptoms. ... Influenza antiviral drugs work best when started soon after symptoms appear, usually within two days. You must have a prescription to receive these medications.

How can people decrease the spread of the new (H1N1) virus?

Taking the following steps can decrease the spread of flu: frequent hand washing; covering coughs; having ill persons stay home, except to seek medical care; minimizing contact with others; having household members of cases minimize contact in the community, to the extent possible; reducing unnecessary social contacts; avoiding crowded settings, when possible; keeping children home from school if they are ill. If you are sick, stay home and call your doctor, wash your hands often.

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Health
<http://www.vdh.state.va.us/news/Alerts/SwineFlu/index.htm>

The rest of us who are blessed with access to health care and paid sick days are at risk as other workers are under intense financial pressure to go to work even when they are sick, or their children are sick.

There are no simple answers, but it's also important to recognize the growing costs of the status quo on health care.

— MARY KIMM,

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Growth by Degrees

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

Virginia business leaders are advocating that the Commonwealth should "grow by degrees," a campaign to create good jobs and high incomes by expanding access to higher education. Organized by the Virginia Business Higher Education Council, the campaign is directed to statewide and legislative candidates to raise awareness of the economic impact of higher education and public support for colleges and universities as measured by a public opinion poll conducted for the Council. The Council's message is clear: "After a decade of disinvestment in higher education, our state will forfeit business expansion and high-wage jobs to competing states and countries unless our elected officials commit

Virginia to a sustainable plan of investment and reform."

Virginia's colleges and universities have borne the brunt of budget reductions in recent years as the state has had to cut its budget because of declining revenues with the economic recession. According to the Council's calculations, state funding for Virginia four-year schools has declined since the year 2000 by more than \$3,300 per student — from \$10,675 to \$7,303 in constant dollars. If the recently received federal stimulus funds are excluded, the reduction is approximately \$4,000 per student. The institutions have had to raise tuition and limit expansion to exist within the contracting state dollars.

The public opinion poll conducted for the Council found that 75 percent of Virginia voters believe that a college degree is

needed to succeed. Yet only about 35 percent of college-age Virginians enroll in college with Northern Virginia being the exception where most high school graduates go on to higher education. Statewide, only about 42 percent of Virginians have college degrees. To get that number to 50 percent of Virginians, the state needs a specific goal of awarding a cumulative additional 55,000 bachelor's and associate degrees and a cumulative additional 16,000 graduate and professional degrees over the next 10 years as found in a study by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems. Such a level of education in the state would have a positive impact on attracting good jobs to the state. Already, Virginia is ranked

number one by Pollina Corporate / Real Estate in having a pro-business environment

The results of the poll found that two-thirds of the public would be more likely to vote for a candidate who says investing in Virginia's public universities, colleges and community colleges is a way to keep taxes low by attracting new businesses and jobs that increase state revenues without tax increases. The challenge to the Business Higher Education Council and other business leaders supporting this campaign is to get behind the statewide and legislative leaders who will ensure that funds are available in the short-run to invest in higher education in order for the long-term benefits to be realized.

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OPINION

Paralysis by Analysis

BY JACK KENNY
PAST PRESIDENT, REPUBLICAN
CLUB OF GREATER RESTON



A DIFFERING POINT OF VIEW

It is 2020 and the Olympics Women's Swim meets are just over. The commentator is excitedly reporting on the performance of Angela Herman besting Mark Spitz and Michael Phelps gold medal records. He delves into Angela's background citing her hometown, Reston, and their world class swimming facilities. Fast-forward a couple of months and another commentator at Wimbledon is also agog at the performance of Jason Branch in capturing the men's title. In an interview, Jason mentions his hometown — Reston, and the tennis facilities and support the community offered. Restonians are justifiably proud of their community and all it offers. Property values go up: new businesses are attracted and new residents move in seeking a higher quality of life.

Realistic? Probably a dream. Justification to spend tens of millions of dollars? Not hardly. Reston is more than tennis and swimming and there are other competitive health club facilities available. It even includes bridge groups, couch potatoes, and past members of the Board among others. The RA has accumulated a stack of "recreation" and community development studies sitting on the

shelf. Indeed, one suggestion was to merely take those studies, collate the results and get on with some project. The current Board of Directors decided to do one more study. The results of which have served as a basis for the Brown's Chapel proposal — now gasping its last breath.

Lighted baseball fields particularly draw the neighborhood ire, even when the lighted fields were planned and advertised well before the property was developed. People are either totally oblivious or knowing of the development plans, purchase their residences anyway and then proceed to dispute the project. Pete Murphy, chairman, Fairfax County Planning Commission likes to ask at hearings: "What do you find so offensive about parents cheering their children on the sports field?" However, noisy adult beer parties after a softball or volleyball game at 10:30 in the evening are another matter.

As this writer has previously pointed out, the first priority is to find a permanent home for a headquarters. In troubled economic times as we are currently experiencing, residents look to their homeowner's assessment and

property taxes fearful of any increase. The tens of millions of dollars to finance the Brown's Chapel project would have come from continuing the Small Tax District #5, an anachronism that has long since met its objective and should be relegated to the past. It was with a certain amount of dismay that it became known that the STD #5 was squirreling away tax dollars to build up a reserve fund. Why not a tax reduction? Why has the community not been afforded a vote to decide if they want to continue to be taxed in this manner. Typical of taxation, it's simple to implement but the tax and spenders never let it go away.

What is dismaying is the treatment the current leaders of RA and RCC receive when attempting to propose community development projects. Their motives are questioned. Inferences are made that somehow they will personally benefit financially from a project. NIMBY organizations are formed. Columns in the local news media are filled with Monday morning quarterbacking and second-guessing. What's more to the point, some of the criticism comes from former Board members who have had their eight years or more of opportunity to initiate some project. All we have so far is that stack of studies. One may wonder if there are hidden agenda. Let's give credit due and get on with it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Volunteers Make Festival a Success

To the Editor:

The Reston Festival Committee and Reston Festival, Inc. would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who came out on Saturday, July 11 and Sunday, July 12 to help celebrate Reston's 45th birthday at the Reston Town Center. This Festival would not be possible without the knowledge and time commitment volunteers put in.

More than 100 volunteers contributed to the two-day event by helping out in different areas throughout the day. Families, teens, groups, individuals and businesses pitched in to help make the festival special for the community. Thank you to all the commit-



CONTRIBUTED
Children's Activities volunteers at Reston Festival.

tee members who volunteer their time throughout the year to make this Festival possible. Thank you: Jim Traylor, Liz Traylor, Jay Monroe, Ladan Madresehee, Jackie Curran, Joy Pool, Rachna Arora Sharma, Radhika Murari, Mary Gould, Eleanore Tapscott, Nicole McGee, Kristen Lykke, Norbert Pink and Anna Jones.

We certainly couldn't put on this community event without our amazing volunteers.

Ideal Location For Rec Center

To the Editor

After following the debate concerning the proposed rec center at Brown's Chapel, it occurred to me that there is a more suitable location just a mile or so down the road: Lake Fairfax Park. Instead of having the Water Mine lie dormant for three seasons out of the year, why not build an indoor pool complex and a few tennis courts there and have it be a year-round revenue generator? The space is there, the parking is there, it is not in the middle of any residential neighborhoods; it is a perfect spot.

Of course, if the Brown's Chapel facility is meant to be tied-in somehow to the revitalization of Lake Anne, then I can see why some parties favor Brown's Chapel. But for a logical location for a facility the size that has been proposed, Lake Fairfax is ideal and is only a four minute drive from the proposed Brown's Chapel location.

Jeff Stone
Reston



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Festival Celebrates Asian Culture, Food

Sixth Annual Asian Food & Tennis Festival in Reston, Aug. 1-2 highlights India.

The Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce will again serve as a sponsor at the Asian Food and Tennis Festival this August. The Chamber joins other corporate sponsors such as TTOA, India International School and RCN Corporation to celebrate the vibrancy of Asian culture in its many ethnic hues.

The event, organized by the Thai Tennis Organization in America

(TTOA) in association with India International School (IIS) in Chantilly, will take place on Saturday, Aug. 1, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 2 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Lake Newport Tennis Facility in Reston. The festival is a two-day free admission event to promote a greater understanding of Asian-Americans and their cultures. The Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce will be hosting VIP luncheon immediately following the opening ceremonies on Saturday at noon, Aug. 1. Guests will include local legislators as well as foreign ambassadors from several Asian countries.

Each year, the festival showcases the culture of a particular Asian country and this year it is India. This year, the festival celebrates and explores the diverse Indian cultures by bringing India's authen-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THAI TENNIS ORGANIZATION IN AMERICA

Tens of thousands of people are expected to visit the Annual Asian Festival in Reston, Aug. 1-2.

tic regional foods, arts, crafts and entertainment.

The Indian Village Stage will present classical and folk dances; classical and fusion music; yoga; magic; and, of course the ever popular Bollywood dances. IIS is collaborating with a number of art-

ists and organizations to showcase the true spirit of India — unity in diversity.

"We are pleased to help organize this important celebration of Asia culture," said George Duangmanee, Thai Tennis Organization in America (TTOA) manag-

opportunity to see Dr. Gharagozloo and Dr. Lailas, Director of Robotics at Reston Hospital Center, try their hands at painting a masterpiece with robotic assistance. Complimentary health screenings, including: total cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure and stroke screen, available.

Tuesday/July 28
Chuck's Amazing Feats. 11 a.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.
Salsa Cinderella. 2:30 p.m. at the Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Grey Seal Puppets presents this classic tale with a spicy twist. All ages. 703-437-8855.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 29
Stream Monitoring. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the RA Main Conference Room, 1930 Isaac Newton Square, Reston. Volunteer to help assess the health of our streams. Volunteering consists of four monitoring sessions of 3-4 hours each for a total of 12-16 hours per year. Training and practice are required and a two-year commitment is encouraged. habrock@reston.org or 703-435-7986.
English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for non-native speakers. Adults. 703-242-4020.
Salsa Cinderella. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Grey Seal Puppets presents this classic tale with a spicy twist. All ages. 703-242-4020.

THURSDAY/JULY 30
Banjer Dan. 11 a.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.
Uptown Vocal Jazz Swing. 7 p.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.
Farmers' Market at Reston Town Center Pavilion. 3:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Locally grown fruits and vegetables, locally raised meats and poultry, bread and cheese, salsa and sausage. 703-689-4699.
Grease. 7:30 p.m. at the Herndon High School. Zoe.Dillard@feps.edu.



'Memories' Fine Art Train Photography of local artist Joseph Geraci, Aug. 2-Sept. 6 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston. The exhibit features both traditional and digital photography, and digital manipulation to create images that resemble impressionistic paintings. Call for exhibit times. 703-626-5035 or www.trainphotos4u.com.

picnic lunch at 11:30 a.m. and then a tour of the organic farm. www.brccs.org, 703-506-4310 or larva@attglobal.net.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.
The Wright Stuff. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Discover the mystery of flight with the Maryland Science Center. Age 6-12. 703-242-4020.
Bob Brown Puppets Clown Around. 10 a.m. at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Park, Reston. In case of inclement weather, call 703-324-7469. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

transportation to Pearmund Cellars for a vineyard tour and wine blending seminar. A southern picnic lunch will be served in the vineyard with Pearmund Vignier and the afternoon will be spent learning about and sampling wines in the estate's tasting room. Guests will be transported back to Morton's.
Morton's The Steakhouse - Reston Town Center, 11956 Market Street. \$159.00 per person, all inclusive. RSVP Kate Tourville at (703) 796-0128 or cm_mre@mortons.com
The da Vinci Exhibit. The region's most advanced robotic surgical system, the da Vinci Si HD, is now in operation at Reston Hospital Center. Drs. Farid Gharagozloo and Marc Margolis have the ability to surgically treat lung cancer, and other diseases of the lung, with the most precise, minimally invasive techniques available. Learn more at the da Vinci Exhibit, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Reston Town Center Pavilion and see the da Vinci robot in action. Audience members will even have an

SUNDAY, JULY 26
Pearmund Cellars Tour. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. This tour begins at Morton's of Reston with a continental breakfast accompanied by a glass of Pearmund Riesling. A noon departure, executive



The displays of Asian cultures include traditional dress of the countries showcased at the Asian Festival.

ing director. "We work with many local Asian Associations to introduce Asian cultures and tennis to the local community."

TTOA's mission is to promote tennis growth and encourage young people to broaden their ho-

rizons through education initiatives via scholarships. TTOA is a proud member of the USTA family, and was the recipient of the 2004 Organization of the Year Award by USTA Mid-Atlantic section and the USTA.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

WEDNESDAY/JULY 29
Beyond the Dollar: Support and Resources for Nonprofits. 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce- Chantilly Office, 3901 Centerview Drive, Suite R, Chantilly. Ed Powderly, President of Powderly Consulting, on "Branding and Messaging." Patti Stevens, Executive Director, Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships - OP3, on "Engaging and Sustaining Effective Public-Private Partnerships." 571-323-5300.

THURSDAY/JULY 30
Cooking at College. 10:30 a.m.,

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To show gratitude for all volunteer work, Reston Association invites volunteers to the 2009 Volunteer Appreciation Luau! Food, music, games, give-a-ways are provided. Friday, July 31 (Rain date: Friday, Aug. 7), 6 - 8 p.m. at Hunters Woods Pool - 2501 Reston Parkway, Reston. The pool has a children's splash area, diving board and large spa. So bring your family and enjoy a relaxing evening at the pool. RSVP by July 24 to Ha Brock, Volunteer Coordinator at 703-435-7986 or via e-mail habrock@reston.org.

Stream Monitoring: Become a volunteer stream monitor and help RA assess the health of our streams. RA is in need of volunteers to assist with stream monitoring at several locations throughout Reston during all seasons. If you are willing to learn, can work with a partner, enjoy data collection, wildlife identification, and are interested in the health of Reston's streams, this is the job for you. Volunteering consists of four monitoring sessions of 3-4 hours each for a total of 12-16 hours per year. Training and practice are required and a two-year commitment is

Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave Herndon. Practical cooking course for the college student on a budget. \$60 for ages 17-23. 703-787-7300 or www.herndon-va.gov/registrationmain.sdi and select category type "Special Interest."

Delegate Tom Rust and representatives from the Fairfax County Police Department and the Reston District Police Station will hold Oak Hill Community Meeting, 7-8 p.m. at McNair Farms Community Center, 2491 McNair Farms Dr. in Herndon to discuss recent home burglaries. For more information, call (703) 437-9400 or email trust@tomrust.org.

FRIDAY, JULY 31
Herb & Wine Tasting Tour. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce. \$40 per person. 571-323-5300 to reserve.

encouraged. Date: Wednesday, July 29 (sign up by July 22). Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Location: RA Main Conference Room - 1930 Isaac Newton Square, Reston. Date: Aug. 1. Location: Twin Branches Nature Trail near W&O Trail on Buckthorn Lane. Contact: Ha Brock, RA Volunteer Specialist II at 703-435-7986 or email habrock@reston.org.

Volunteer Solutions Fair in Reston: Find your niche in creating a caring community for all ages at the Volunteer Solutions Fair on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Dr., Reston. Participants will learn about volunteer opportunities that help older adults and adults with disabilities. The first five people to register and start volunteering will receive a free gift. Contact retha.lockhart@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-5406 for more information.

Volunteer Solutions is a program of the Department of Family Services/Division of Adult and Aging Services/Fairfax Area Agency on Aging. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa. Call 703-324-5406 (TTY 703-449-1186) for reasonable ADA accommodations.

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For accommodations, call 703-324-8563
(TTY 703-803-3354)

To Lake Fairfax park, take Beltway Exit 47A (Leesburg
Pike, Rt. 7) west about 6.5 miles to left on Rt. 606/ Baron
Cameron Ave. to left on Lake Fairfax Dr. to park entrance.

General Admission
\$13.50 - over 48"
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THURSDAY/JULY 28

Mizz Nemeec's Pretend Stories. 11 a.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.

Oasis Calypso & Reggae. 7 p.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com.

Farmers' Market at Reston Town Center Pavilion. 3:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Locally grown fruits and vegetables, locally raised meats and poultry, bread and cheese, salsa and sausage. 703-689-4699.
Lighters and Matches Are Tools for Grownups Only. 11 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department presents a puppet show which will focus on fire safety. Participants will receive a helmet, activity book, and parent brochure. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/JULY 24

Golf for Nature. 1 p.m. at the Reston National Golf Course, 11875 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. 571-244-7248 or www.restonnationalgolf.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 25

Civil War Camp for ages 8 to 13, at Vienna's historic Freeman House, 131 Church St., N.E. 9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. "Recruits" will learn about basic soldiering and camp life. The day will also include music and games. \$30 for Town of Vienna residents, \$37.50 for out-of-town participants, includes "rations" and a souvenir. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.
Sierra Club Bird Walk and Organic Farm Tour. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. A day of outdoor fun for all ages at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship in Loudoun County, at 11661 Harpers Ferry Road /Route 671. Free. Begin at 8 with a guided bird tour by the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, followed by a potluck

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NEWS

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Reston police department through July 17.

COUNTY WIDE DWI

ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

A county wide special month-long DWI enforcement and education campaign, Operation Safe June, has just concluded with 380 arrests for drunk driving. Officers used checkpoints or roving patrols every night from June 1 to July 5 to identify and arrest drivers under the influence. Their efforts are spurred by the eight lives lost as a result of 795 alcohol-related crashes last year and the knowledge that impaired drivers continue to risk jail, heavy fines and legal fees, loss of driving privileges, and death every time they drink and drive.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

Fox Mill Road/ Diamond Mill Drive. Two men, 41 and 39 years old, were victims of an attempted robbery on Thursday, July 9. Both men were walking in the area of Fox Mill Road and Diamond Mill Drive around 8:50 p.m. when a teenage boy approached and allegedly struck one of the victims in the head. A struggle began; the suspect repeatedly assaulted the first victim and demanded money. The second victim attempted to help but a second suspect reportedly grabbed and held him. After a brief struggle, both victims broke free and the suspects fled. An officer located a group of teenagers walking nearby and an investigation determined that two of them, a 14-year-old and a 17-year-old, were involved. The suspects were transported to the Juvenile

Detention Center and charged with attempted robbery. The victims did not require medical attention.

TRAFFIC PURSUIT/

SPEED TO ELUDE/ STOLEN AUTO

Dulles Toll Road/ Monroe St. An officer stopped a 2004 Hyundai Sonata for traffic charges on Wednesday, July 15 around 4:35 a.m. The driver pulled over, exited the vehicle and allegedly yelled at the officer. The suspect got back into his car and drove off. The officer pursued the suspect, who crashed into a tree in the 2100 block of Oram Place. The suspect fled on foot. An investigation revealed that the car was stolen. The vehicle was returned to the victim, a 37-year-old woman. The investigation continues.

ANTI-GANG CAMPAIGN

Reston Police District. On Saturday, July 18, the Reston District Station kicked off Operation Summer Heat, a four week enforcement campaign designed to address and deter criminal gang activity. In the past few months, the Reston area has experienced criminal and gang-related activity on and around various trails in the district. In the first half of 2009, there were 27 total gang-related incidents in the Reston Police District down from 49 during the same time period in 2008. In response to the recent incidents, Captain Deborah Burnett has focused on targeting gangs, identifying gang members and fostering awareness about criminal street gangs. Patrol officers, the Neighborhood Patrol Unit and plain-clothes officers will be out in force on trails throughout Reston. Crime Prevention Officers will visit

communities to educate residents and business owners about ways to prevent crime. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gangprevention/aboutgangs.htm. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

LARCENIES

- 11200 block of Center Harbor Road.** Ring stolen from residence.
- 2300 block of Colts Neck Road.** Cash stolen from business.
- 1800 block of Discovery St.** Ash urns stolen from business.
- 12800 block of Fantasia Drive.** DVD player and satellite radio stolen from vehicle.
- 11700 block of Fireside Place.** Bicycle stolen from residence.
- 11900 block of Grey Squirrel Lane.** Diamond rings stolen from residence.
- Leesburg Pike/ Baron Cameron Ave.** License plate stolen from vehicle.
- 12000 block of North Shore Drive.** iPod stolen from park.
- 13300 block of Parcher Ave.** Bicycle stolen from residence.
- 12100 block of Sunset Hills Road.** Bicycle stolen from business.
- 900 block of Utterback Store Road.** Tools, medication and gasoline stolen from vehicle.

VEHICLE THEFTS

- 2200 block of Double Eagle Court.** 2000 Ford Taurus.
- 1800 block of Presidents St.** 2005 Lincoln Grand Marquis.
- 2000 block of Tamani Drive.** 2004 Hyundai.

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.

Chabad of Reston, Herndon's New Hebrew School provides an academic environment where children acquire a broad knowledge of Judaism through Hebrew reading, writing, Jewish history, holidays and more. Registration is now open for 2009-2010. 703-476-1829, Rabbi@chabadrh.org or www.chabadrh.org

Trinity Presbyterian Church 'Discovery Canyon' Vacation Bible Camp, 8:45 a.m.-12 p.m. from July 27-31. For ages 4 through rising fifth graders. \$15/child. 651 Dranesville Rd., Herndon. www.trinityherndon.org or 703-444-2246.

BUSINESS NOTES

Send information to reston@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437. Deadline is Thursday. Photos/artwork welcome.

Merritt Group, Inc., has announced the promotion of **Jared Adams** to Practice Director of the Government Practice Group and **Michelle Schafer** to Practice Director of the Security Practice Group. Adams will be responsible for executing strategic communications plans for government customers as well as private companies targeting the public sector. He joined Merritt Group in 2007 and grew the Government Practice Group's 2008 revenues by 52 percent. Adams has experience in technology-focused public relations and public affairs, including with Edwards Lifesciences and Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). Schafer has worked on security technology including encryption, firewalls,

The Convocation of Anglicans in North America has announced Dr. Steve Garber of the Washington Institute for Faith, Vocation, and Culture and the Most Rev'd Emmanuel Egbunu, Archbishop of Lokoja, Nigeria, are the keynote speakers for the annual CANA Council meeting at the Church of the Epiphany in Herndon, from July 30-Aug. 1. This year's council meeting will have a special focus on teens and youth. Dr. Garber has taught with the Lilly Endowment and the American Studies Program on Capitol Hill. Before becoming archbishop of Lokoja, Archbishop Egbunu served as the bishop of Lokoja, suffragan bishop of Abuja, and a priest in northern Nigeria. CANA Council is open to all CANA clergy and will include delegates from each member congregation. To attend, contact Kelly Oliver (ext. 140) or Megan Franko (ext. 148) at 703-683-5004, or go to www.canaconvocation.org.

application security, network forensics and analysis, and identity and vulnerability management, and has worked with non-profit security coalitions to help influence public policy. Schafer has ten years of experience in technology marketing communications and public relations, and held previous positions with Current Analysis, Advanced Switching Communications and 2nd Century Communications.

SHW Group of Reston, one of the nation's top architectural design firms, has earned two awards at the Virginia School Board Association's Exhibition of School Architecture for its design of Eastern View High School in Culpeper. SHW was awarded the 2009 Virginia Educational Facility Planners' Facility Award and the Gold Design Award. Both awards recognize outstanding educational facilities that serve the needs of students, staff and the community while

The Dranesville Church of the Brethren: Prayer for the Community Needs. People of the community are invited to come to on Saturday, July 25 at 11 a.m. to receive prayers for their situations.

Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, VA 20170. Tel: (703) 430-7872. Email: DCOBoffice@aol.com <http://www.dranesvillebrethren.org/>

Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road, Herndon, is looking for people to sing in a choir. Floris UMC has a season of music including concerts featuring Schubert's "Mass in G Major", Handel's "Messiah" and more. Rehearsal on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and singing most Sunday mornings at the 11 a.m. service. Scott Glysson at sglysson@florisumc.org or 703-793-0026.

enhancing teaching and learning.

LEAP Group Inc. of Reston is offering 3-hour seminars that provide best practices and hands-on experience to help job seekers accelerate their search and land a job. The seminars are designed to develop an individual's competence and confidence. The seminars offered are "Powerful Resumes," where LEAP will help you understand your value and create a resume that highlights your accomplishments, and gets interviews, and "Winning Interviews." To learn more about upcoming sessions, go to www.leapgroupinc.com.

President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate **J. Randolph "Randy" Babbitt**, a Director of Access National Corporation, a holding company for Reston's Access National Bank, to be Administrator of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration.

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SCHOOLS

In **Marshall High School's** graduation ceremony, Principal Jay Pearson and Brian Shaw, president of the George C. Marshall Foundation, presented the Statesman Award to **Wen Kelly**, noting her optimism and encouragement, and **Michael LaBarbera** for his role as a leader. Kelly also won the Debbie Rodgers Witherow Award and Senior Faculty Award.

Seven Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) graduates from the class of 2009 have been named winners of college-sponsored scholarships by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Recipients of college-sponsored scholarships from the NMSC are:

* Joseph Huchette of Herndon High School (engineering), National Merit Rice University Scholarship.

* Athreya Tata of McLean High School (neurosurgery), National Merit Oberlin College Scholarship.

* Brian Pang of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) (economics), National Merit Vanderbilt University Scholarship.

* Rishi Iyengar of TJHSST (medical research), National Merit Vanderbilt University Scholarship.

* Debjani Saha of TJHSST (neuroscience), National Merit New York University Scholarship.

* Michael Sanders of TJHSST (military service), National Merit University of Oklahoma Scholarship.

* Rutger Schneider of TJHSST (computer science), National Merit Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Scholarship.

College-sponsored Merit Scholarships provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship.

Sara Anne Schlegel of Reston, a sophomore majoring in biology in the College of Science, was one of 127 Hokie Ambassadors who volunteered for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at Virginia Tech during the 2008-09 academic year.

Louis Marquet of Reston was one of nine Spanish majors from the College of the Holy Cross class of 2009 to be named North American Language and Culture Assistants by the Spanish government to teach English in primary, middle and high schools throughout Spain.

Jennifer Dawn O'Neil of Reston graduated with a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from McDaniel College.

Christopher Grill of Reston, a recent graduate from Virginia Tech's Architecture and Urban Studies with a degree in Industrial Design, has been selected for "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

Jason Aaron Harte of Reston earned Bachelor of Science from Excelsior College in Albany, N.Y.

Kevin L. Moore, Michael Chirila, Tracy L. Tato and Zeb Barcus of Reston were named to Marymount University's Delta Epsilon Sigma National Honor Society.

Michael Cavalieri, Leslie Fishpaw and Christopher Tjoumas of Reston were honored at Virginia Tech's fall graduate commencement ceremony Dec. 15.

Twenty-five **Armstrong Elementary students** recently traveled to the Hyatt Regency Reston where they spent the day shadowing Hyatt employees on the job. The students rode the Hyatt shuttle to the hotel then attended a staff



CONTRIBUTED

Wen Kelly with mom Denise.

meeting with the hotel's general manager. Students were able to shadow employees in a wide range of positions.

Summer Marie Thomas of Reston and was named to Episcopal High School's academic honor roll, for the third quarter of the 2008-09 school year. Thomas, a freshman, is the daughter of Tracy P. Thomas.

Aline Beaumont of South Lakes High School was named a Gold Award winner at the national level in the National Scholastic Art Awards.

Lake Anne Elementary was recognized as an official Certified Wildlife Habitat site by the National Wildlife Federation. In order to become certified, a property must provide the four basic elements that all wildlife needs—food, water, cover, and places to raise young—and must use sustainable gardening practices. The habitat at Lake Anne consists of a pollinator garden including a pond; a sponge garden, which is a natural way of filtering water; native plant species; and bird feeders.

The **Sunrise Valley Elementary Green Team** has received a Johnnie Forte, Jr., Memorial Grant to support the school's butterfly garden. The Green Team, a sixth grade leadership team, will use the funds to purchase a composter to recycle leaves and grass clippings gathered at the school. Once it is ready, the compost produced by the recycling will enrich the soil of the butterfly garden. The garden is available to all Sunrise Valley classes as they study science and stewardship of the environment.

Students at Terraset Elementary are collaborating to create tutorials for other students to use. Students select a topic, create a storyboard and a script, and use the SMART Board™ recorder to capture their actions and their voices. Teachers post the tutorials on their FCPS 24-7 Learning sites to use for unit or Standards of Learning (SOL) test review.

Alex Chung of Reston has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I. Chung is a junior in international business in finance.

Garrett B. Harrison-Lane of Reston was named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Lebanon Valley College of Annville, Pa. Harrison-Lane is a sophomore in music recording technology.

Monique Bailey of Reston was named to the spring 2009 honor list of Oxford College in Oxford, Ga. Bailey is the daughter of Austin T. Bailey and Mayuri A Bailey of McLean.

Melissa Tran of Reston has been

named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Providence College.

Rachel Clare Midura of Reston has earned a Jefferson Scholarship for study at the University of Virginia beginning this fall. Midura is the daughter of Christopher and Kelly Midura, and a graduate of South Lakes High School.

Aaron Kuney, son of Valerie Schneider Hollmeyer of Reston and Steven Ross Kuney of McLean, has received a master of business administration from the Goizueta Business School of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

Reston residents **Michael J. Lynn** and **Rebecca M. Porter** have graduated from Boston University in Boston, Ma. Lynn was awarded a bachelor of arts in psychology, and Porter a master of social work in social work.

Jonathan Volpe of Reston has graduated with a master of business administration from the University at Albany in Albany N.Y.

Catherine Skinner of Reston has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Lin Liu of Reston has graduated with a master of business administration from the University of New Haven, West Haven, Ct.

Army Pvt. Jessica A. Greer has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. She is the daughter of Catherine Greer of N. Point Court, Reston, and the niece of Cydney Shields of Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Greer is a 2006 graduate of Herndon High School.

Ida Abrahamson of Reston has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt. Abrahamson is majoring in Criminal Justice.

Three Reston residents have graduated from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg: ***Darrell Denny**, master of business administration.

***Nicole Gerike**, master of science degree in apparel, housing and resource management and a graduate certificate from the Graduate School.

***Kristen Manley**, master of accountancy and information systems.

Reston residents **Pamela Kristen Daniels** and **Timothy Lovitt-Reinfeld** have graduated from the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y. Daniels, the daughter of Craig and Suzanne Daniels, received a bachelor of music in all-pied music. Lovitt-Reinfeld, the son of Alison Lovitt-Reinfeld and Kenneth Reinfeld, received a bachelor of arts in political science.



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SPORTS



Jeff Thomas watches District 4 administrator Ellen Witherow, middle, thank parent volunteer Joanne Gryski during the Virginia Little League state tournament's Opening Ceremonies on Thursday, July 16 at Reston Town Center.



Fred Crabtree, far right, shakes hands with Mackie Wheeler of Vienna American during the Virginia Little League state tournament's Opening Ceremonies. Fourteen teams traveled to Reston for the annual event.

Little League Tourney Represents Reston

At Fred Crabtree District Park, 14 teams from across the state gather for Virginia Little League tournament.

BY JASON MACKAY
THE CONNECTION

Soaked with sweat, Jeff Thomas sat in the back right corner of a hospitality tent at Fred Crabtree District Park on Friday afternoon, July 17. It was fairly warm and flies, mosquitoes and other assorted bugs continually pestered the president of Reston Little League.

Regardless of heat, humidity or insects, nothing could derail Thomas' happiness this day. Finally, he thought, baseball was underway. All of the planning that had consumed the past six months of his life had passed. Nothing was left to do but watch.

And that's what Thomas did.

"Putting together a state tournament is a big undertaking, not just for the host organization, but for all the leagues that come here," said Thomas, who also works as an acquisitions analyst for the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Fourteen teams comprised of between 12

and 14 players descended on Reston over the weekend and early this week for the 10-11-year-old Virginia Little League state tournament. Although Reston did not have an entrant in the tournament, Thomas and others had just as much fun showcasing the organization as a whole.

"Having an event like this right here in our community is a great way to promote youth baseball, and we're very proud of our facilities here," Thomas said. "The All-Star adventure in Little League is a tremendous experience for the kids and that's what it's all about."

THE WHIRLWIND of planning started in early January with a phone call from District 4 administrator Ellen Witherow, who initially asked Thomas if Reston, which had the proper facilities and had hosted a 9-10-year-old tournament more than a decade ago, would be able to host this year's version.

Thomas jumped at the opportunity. This was do-able, he thought. So the next day,

Thomas went to work lining up sponsors, talking to other teams from around Division 4 and organizing a contingent of more than 100 parent volunteers.

Joanne Gryski, with three children playing for Reston, agreed to help. Her sons, Marty, 11; Ben, 10; and Nick, 8, have enjoyed their time with the organization, and she saw this as the perfect opportunity to give something back.

Of course, Gryski didn't expect to coordinate an entire hospitality tent, the picnic for the Opening Ceremonies on Thursday, July 17 or oversee an entire group of volunteers, either.

"The biggest thing for me was actually realizing how much work goes into this," Gryski said. "I think the teams have all been very hospitable, so it just makes it a very nice environment."

WITHOUT A Reston team in the tournament, Chantilly American and Vienna American have carried the load. Chantilly American posted a 3-0 record during pool play and topped York County, 15-3, on Monday night.

Vienna American went 2-0 in pool play and scored a total of 36 runs during those games. On Monday, Vienna American played McIntire and won, 16-0, which pro-

duced a semifinal matchup Tuesday night against each other.

"They took care of things and did a fantastic job," said Chantilly American manager Steve Norwood of the tournament experience. "A lot of these people go out and spend their weekends volunteering. It's a pretty amazing thing."

Thomas said that another fulfilling part of this whole experience was watching Little Leaguers from across the state interact with each other at the Opening Ceremonies, which took place at Reston Town Center. Many traded district pins — a Little League tradition — while others were content to discuss the entire state tournament experience.

Though the tournament's champion was crowned Tuesday night and too late for this edition, Thomas hoped that every player involved would leave town with the same feelings.

"We want them to go home with great memories, great pictures and a great smile on their face and to go back and tell their buddies that they had a great time at the state tournament," Thomas said. "Maybe one in 50,000 goes on and gets paid to play baseball, but if 20 years from now we have some Little League coaches out there ... that's just great."

WEEK IN SPORTS

Beach Blast

Playing barefoot on sand, the Southwestern Youth Association Storm, a U-10 girls' soccer team, remained unaffected. The Storm, creatively dubbed Category 5, captured the 2009 Beach 5 Sand Soccer Tournament, on July 27 in Ocean City, Md. Sponsored by Keller Williams Fairfax Gateway Realtor Group, the Storm went 4-0-0 throughout the tournament and outscored its opponents, 18-1. In the first two rounds, the Storm notched wins over the ASA Royalty and the BMYSA Stingrays by a total score of 10-0. In the championship game following a semifinal win over the CSA Speed, the Storm earned a 5-1 win over the HMMS United Team to win the tournament for the second straight year.

Get Going Green

Sports for Nature, an environmental awareness program that has raised more than \$190,000 to date, will host a series of summer events to benefit environmental organizations and recognize green initiatives. On Friday, July 24, Reston National Golf Course will host Golf For Nature, which will include 160 golfers and start at 1 p.m. Secondly, Soccer for Nature III will be the organization's third prize-money tournament in Northern Virginia, with a scheduled date of Aug. 2 at Baron Cameron Park. The winner will receive cash prizes, and after the last match all players will enjoy a dinner party hosted by Singha Beer. For full details of both events, visit www.SportsForNature.com.



By outscoring its opponents 18-1, the SYA Storm, a U-10 girls' soccer team, captured the Beach 5 Sand Soccer Tournament in Ocean City, Md. for the second straight year.



DONATED PHOTO
**Connor
 Ginger,
 Austin Bello
 of FTSK,
 Cheska
 Zaide,
 Trevor
 Fichtner,
 Marc
 Stewart of
 FTSK and
 Jake
 Rosenthal at
 the Loudoun
 Youth Fest.**

Ride to Top on Classic Rock

BY SARAH MOORE
 THE CONNECTION

“Are those kids in the band?” a man in the crowd whispered. While the band on stage finished setting up, the curious audience at Jaxx Night Club in Springfield on Friday, July 17 grabbed their drinks and headed down to the floor to get a closer look.

The band named The Fuzed was a noticeable deviation from Jaxx’s typical lineup and seemed to mimic a scene from the movie “School of Rock.” The Fuzed members include guitarist and lead vocalist **Cheska Zaide of Ashburn who is 12, lead guitarist Trevor Fichtner of Haymarket and drummer Jake Rosenthal of Oak Hill who are both 13. Bassist Connor Ginger of Gainesville is the senior member of the group at age 14. Though many “tween” bands like Hannah Montana and the Jonas Brothers have gained notoriety with pop-rock melodies and catchy lyrics, The Fuzed’s set list reflected more mature musical tastes.**

“We play classic rock covers that everyone knows,” said Ginger. “We all like different styles of music but we all like to play classic rock.”

TWO of the band’s biggest hits at Jaxx were Ozzy Osbourne’s “Crazy Train” and “Sweet Child of Mine” by Guns ‘n Roses. This hit caught the attention of headlining group Forever the Sickest Kids (FTSK) while The Fuzed was playing at Loudoun’s YouthFest in June. FTSK unexpectedly asked The Fuzed to open for them later that evening.

While their age sometimes makes balancing busy schedules difficult, Rina Zaide, **Cheska’s mother, said it can also be advantageous.**

“They are very noticeable because they are very young” she said. “So when people saw them they were like, ‘Whoa. We were surprised. We were like, cute kids-oh they’re going to play cute silly songs. But no, they can rock.’ They always manage to surprise

More

For booking inquiries, call 703-652-0888. For general information about the band visit www.thefuzed.com.

people.”

Band members cited such musical influences as Aerosmith, The Beatles, KISS and AC/DC. Besides covers, The Fuzed also has two original songs and they are working on more.

The young musicians met and formed the band after Zaide and Fichtner met through Bach to Rock, a music school catering to kids interested in performing. Later they recruited Ginger and Rosenthal.

Being in a band, the children and their parents said, has been enjoyable but has required lots of effort from both the children and their parents.

“If you want to know if we know all their songs, the answer is yes. We’ve heard them all a billion times” said John Fichtner.

BALANCING school, scouts and extra-curricular activities alongside of band practices several times a week has been difficult, their parents said. During the summer, the band practices for several hours, six days a week. But as long as the children are enjoying themselves, their parents said, they would continue being supportive.

“We ask them, ‘Do you guys want to take the day off today?’ and they’re like, ‘Nope’” said Andrea Rosenthal, Jake’s mother. “If they’re earning some high school money making music rather than bagging groceries and it becomes their high school job, it’s good, as long as they enjoy it.”

Members of The Fuzed, though, said they are aiming a little higher.

“We want to go to the top,” said Ginger. Other future goals include “World touring like AC/DC. Like Australia to Ireland to the U.S.A. and everything,” said Trevor Fichtner.

Before world tours, though, The Fuzed will continue to play in and around Northern Virginia at events like the upcoming Loudoun County Fair on Friday, July 31 and at the Montgomery County Fair in August.

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Time I Now Have



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

The way I've come to rationalize it, I received some unexpected – and good – health news the other day. One day after my normal two-days-before-chemo blood work, I received a call from my oncology nurse, Holly, to tell me that due to a (not totally unexpected) low white blood cell count (chemotherapy kills them along with anything else in its intravenous path), my oncologist wanted to delay my sixth and final chemotherapy one week. The logic is, they don't want to zap a good man when his white blood cell count is down, it can lead to other complications (as if stage IV lung cancer isn't complicating enough), and given the fact that my health is somewhat the issue, I really couldn't take issue with their precaution.

However, I was disappointed. I had already booked two post-chemotherapy medical appointments (per doctor's orders) and in my mind, I was sort of finished with what I hoped to be the most difficult and challenging part of my treatment. Now I had to reschedule my post chemo CT Scan and my every-three-week-post-chemo appointment with my oncologist as well. Instead of being "finished" on July 14, I am now not "finished" until July 31 (the next available appointment with my oncologist), 17 days after the original appointment was scheduled; an appointment during which my post chemo future would be discussed, as would my potential participation in a study and all manner of other words to the wise.

I didn't (I don't) want to wait an extra day, let alone an extra 17 days for the process to go forward. But as much as I pleaded to keep things on their original schedule (pointing out that I had already made these other doctor-ordered appointments), once again, my health, so far as the potential harmful effects of chemotherapy on a cancer patient whose immune system was already compromised was concerned, was their primary consideration and ultimately, I had no choice in the matter.

And for that matter, neither did my emotions have any choice; for the rest of the day, I was extremely disappointed, depressed even, over the delay. But by the next day, after an average night's sleep (good is rare, bad is typical, average is not bad), I came to a rationalization: I just got two and one half weeks of extra life that I might not have had, had the originally scheduled appointments been kept. Now, whatever life expectancy I have (and it's certainly not an exact medical science) starts from my next/new appointment with my oncologist when he reviews my scan, evaluates my lab work and examines me in person. I feel like I've actually received a reprieve of sorts, a few extra weeks which, (not that I'm counting the days, mind you, but I'm certainly not counting the years), might add up to time that is more quality, certainly more quantity than was previously anticipated.

At least that's my hope, irrationally speaking.

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

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Election Inspires Community Involvement

FROM PAGE 3

planning to focus on other things," Mills said. After receiving Steppel's e-mail, he said, he ran an Internet search on Meyercord. "It was very surprising and disconcerting to me to see some of the things he believed in," he said. "I decided that, since I have experience on the board, really for the sake of the community, I wanted them to have a choice."

Steppel ran off 1,000 flyers, and she spent 12 of the 16 hours of voting that weekend at the poll, passing them out while wearing a sandwich board. About 20 other residents volunteered to help her over the two days.

She said many people had come to the festival specifically to vote. Just before the poll closed on Sunday, one woman had told her that she had returned early from her vacation in West Virginia to cast a vote.

THE VOTING AGE for the association is 16, and Steppel said the parents of one teen whose family had had relatives killed in the Holocaust were ecstatic that this was their son's first vote. Several Iranians turned out, she said. "While they can't vote against [Iranian President Mahmoud] Ahmadinejad, they could come out and vote against Ken Meyercord."

Ahmadinejad has cast doubt on the Holocaust.

"People I never even met were coming up to me and shaking my hand and patting my back," Mills said. "It was really a great moment for the community, I thought." Having lived in Reston all his life, he said he had never seen such excitement over an RCA election. "It was a phenomenon."

By the weekend's end, Mills had 1,157 votes to Meyercord's 23.

"I don't know that there have ever been that many votes in an RCA election, total," Steppel said, noting that the association had initially been planning to print just 200 ballots.

"I rather enjoyed last weekend," Meyercord said. "I think the whole thing would make a good episode of 'Curb Your Enthusiasm.'" However, he said he was displeased that many people seemed to get the impression that he did not believe the Holocaust occurred, which he said would be preposterous. "I never met a person like that," he said. He said he wanted to inform people of discrepancies in Holocaust accounts not out of anti-Semitism but because "it's an enormous story."

Had he been elected, Meyercord said, he would have made putting a halt to growth in Reston a priority. Founder of the Zero Growth organization and author of the book "Zero Growth," he has forwarded the idea that economic and population growth must be stopped in order to limit the pressure humans put on finite resources.

However, he said he thought the election turned out to be "a win-win for everyone," as more people were reading his work and the Reston Citizens Association got a massive turnout for its election. "And I hope some people will be inspired by Miss Steppel to take a more active role in their community."

On that point, he and Steppel were in agreement. "I want this to be a lesson to people out there in the community to please volunteer," she said, noting that she hated uncontested elections. "Everybody should get involved with something in their own corner of the world, in their community."

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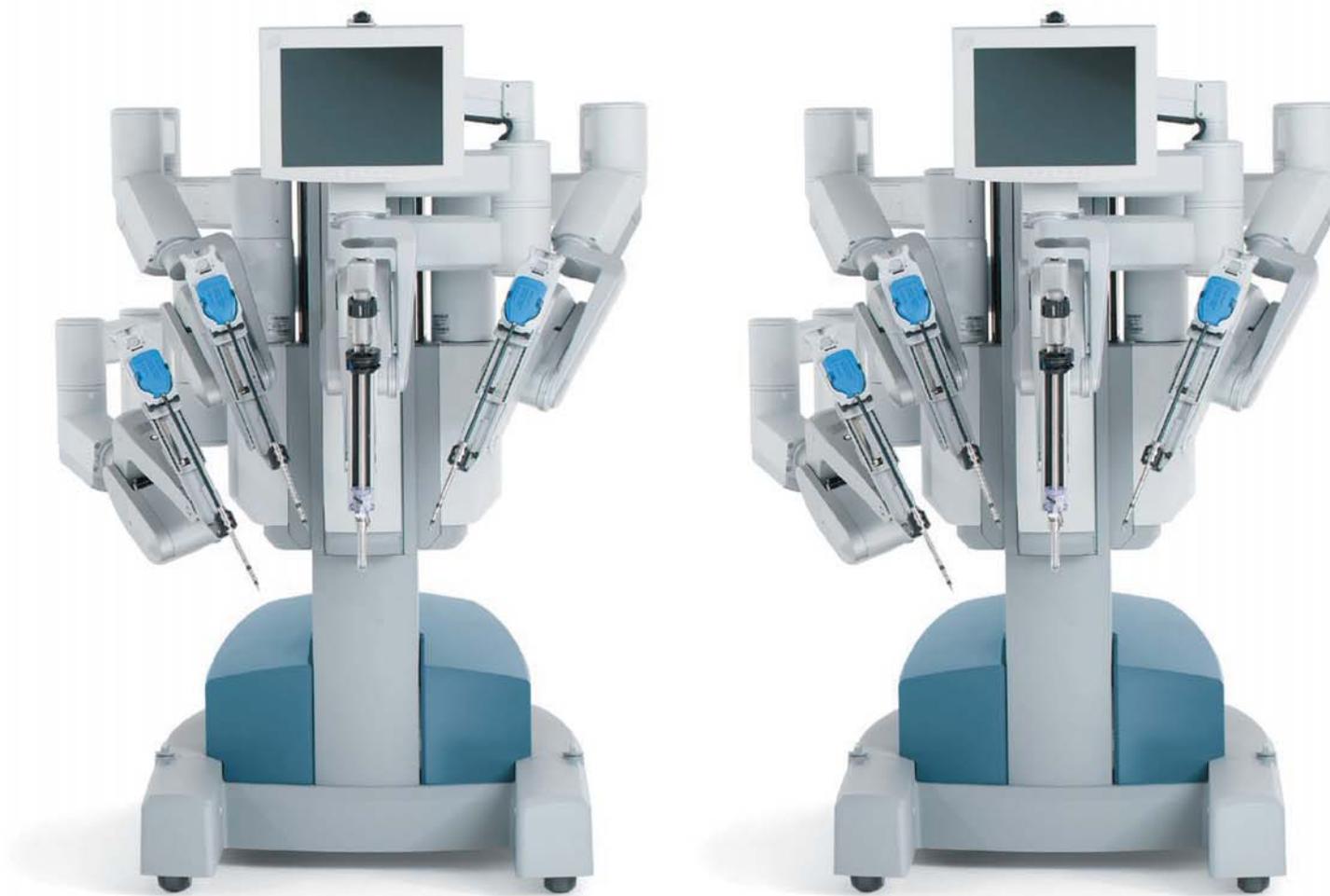
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