

Reston CONNECTION

Meeting Real-Life Hero

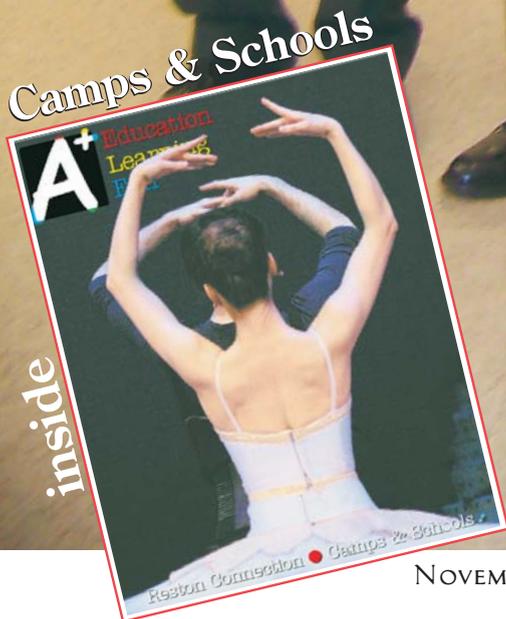
NEWS, PAGE 8

Brig. Gen. Lyn Sherlock spoke to students at South Lakes High School on Veterans Day. Pictured here, from left, are Kaleb Whitford, Alexee Shepherd, Brig. Gen. Sherlock, Natasha Russell, and Zachary Shepherd.



Lake Newport Considered For Indoor Tennis

NEWS, PAGE 4



From Running Back to Bar Back?

NEWS, PAGE 8

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Pictured, from left, Kaleb Whitford, Alexee Shepherd, Brig. Gen. Lyn Sherlock, Natasha Russell and Zachary Shepherd.

Real-Life Hero at South Lakes High

Veteran encourages students to excel academically.

BY JANELLE L. PLUMMER
THE CONNECTION

More than 100 students at South Lakes High School had the opportunity to listen to a real-life veteran in honor of Veteran's Day on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

Brig. Gen. Lyn Sherlock, secretary of the air force at the Pentagon, encouraged students to work hard and take advantage of opportunities to serve their country.

"That's why I joined," Sherlock said. "I wanted to serve. I wanted to get out of small town U.S.A."

"I knew I would have great opportunities," she said. "You have the same opportunities to lead. All you have to do is work hard."

Sherlock told students it is critical to excel academically if they want a career in the federal government. She said grades matter.

"If you want to have a job in the military, you have to work hard," Sherlock said. "Do well in school. You have to have extra-curricula activities."

Sherlock informed students that their personal character was also important. She said students must make the right choices.

"Anything you put on the Internet will be forever," she said.

Sherlock spoke to the audience about her experience and adventures as a pilot and an instructor. She said she traveled to Panama and went to Operation Desert Storm.

She also talked about her family's military history. Her father was a marine in Korea.

Bob Smith, the organizer of the event and a physics and geosystems teacher at South Lakes High School, said every year since 2001 the school hosts

What is the most memorable message of this day for you?



Chris Sheppard, Sophomore

"To have Gen. Sherlock here to talk about her service and how we can do better and where she's been and how the military affected her life"



Alexandra Tudor, Senior

"That she was the third woman to graduate from the academy."



Bryan Linsangan, Junior

"When she was talking about her experiences when she was young. When she became a pilot when she was 23-years-old."

Veterans' Recognition Week.

Smith said it's a total of five days ending on Veteran's Day. It includes a poster contest, speakers, people from the community and veterans on staff that participated in a question and answer session.

Throughout the year the school has a Veterans' display.

"This is the week to highlight it," Smith said, "and teach kids about patriotism and awaken them to understand the world we live in."

Chris Sheppard, class president of the class of 2012 and sophomore at South Lakes High School, who listened to the veteran, said he's considering entering the navy after high school.

"Living close to D.C. we have it all around us," Sheppard said. "All these activities and opportunities to cater to our veterans. I admire the tradition."



CONTRIBUTED

South Lakes High Band To March in Holiday Parade

The South Lakes High School Marching Band will bring in the holiday season by marching in the Holiday Parade at the Reston Town Center on Nov. 27. The band members hope the community will join them in celebrating the holidays.

The South Lakes High School Band has been selected to perform for the Virginia State School Board Association Conference in Williamsburg on Wednesday, Nov. 18.

The band's first concert was on Thursday, Nov. 12, featuring the Wind Ensemble and the Marching Band. The Wind Ensemble performed the "Fairest of the Fair" by J.P. Sousa, "The Star Spangled Banner" arranged by Jack Stamp, "American Elegy" by Frank Ticheli and "America the Beautiful" arranged by Carmen Dragoon in honor of Veterans Day. The 2009 Spirit of Reston Marching Band performed music from their half-time show entitled Urban Dances which featured "Short Ride in a Fast Machine" by Adams, "Bolero" by Maurice Ravel and "Three Blocks" by John Harbison. Their next concert is scheduled for Wednesday,

Dec. 16 at South Lakes High School.

The band had a successful marching band season. They not only performed a half-time show but also participated in several competitions this fall such as the USSBA Northern Virginia Regional Competition. They took first place in class IVA at the 2009 Fall Classic Marching Band Competition in Manassas in October. The band also received awards for best Marching, Best Music, Best General Effect, Best Drum Line, Best Drum Major and 2nd Place Color Guard in class IVA. The powerful 101 marching unit of the Seahawk Marching Band began practice in August before school started under the direction of Grayson Fore.

The band wants to thank the community for their support of the band program. They just completed selling citrus and White House Ornaments to raise funds to replace their uniforms. Also, they are looking for corporate support and business that are willing to place an ad in their concert programs. For more information and to follow the events of these students, visit the South Lakes Bands Web site at www.SouthLakesBand.org.

Assessments Set To Increase

RA also considers move to make budget more flexible.

At its Nov. 19 meeting, the Reston Association is to consider raising its assessment on homeowners from \$491 to \$515. Last year's assessment increase of \$16, rather than the \$8 increase that had been planned when the biennial budget was laid out in 2007, represented the first time that the association had amended a two-year budget before the second year began.

That increase was due to declining revenue resulting from the economic downturn. Federal subsidies for affordable housing were decreasing, investments were not paying off as expected, more households were qualifying for the association's reduced rate and an increase in foreclosures was ex-

pected to affect the collection of dues.

Next year's proposed rate increase was to be discussed at two recent public hearings on the budget, but Reston Association Chief Financial Officer David Hopkins said only one resident showed up for the meetings.

The association is also to consider a move to make its two-year budgets more flexible. While the Reston Deed specifies that the association "shall" create a biennial budget, the board will weigh an option that would allow the association to revisit the second year of the budget and adjust it based on how well the budget's first year had measured up to expectations.

— MIKE DICICCO

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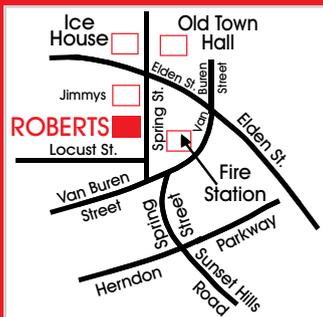
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NEWS

Lake Newport Considered for Indoor Tennis

Advisory committee brings recommendation to RA Board.

By MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Larry Butler, the Reston Association's director of parks and recreation, said the presidents of clusters around the Lake Newport tennis facility had mixed reactions to the suggestion that the six outdoor courts there be replaced with five indoor courts. While they appreciated the outreach, he said, they wanted to know what a new facility might look like.

At the same time, he said, "There's a lot of interest out there in moving this forward, certainly with the tennis community and certainly with the Parks and Planning Advisory Committee."

After consideration of a large indoor recreation center at Brown's Chapel Park exploded into angry community meetings earlier this year, with neighbors fearful of the impact such a facility would have and others wondering how its construction would be funded, the Reston Association abandoned the idea and in August tasked the Parks and Planning Advisory Committee with coming up with suggestions for indoor tennis and swimming and for improvements to Brown's Chapel.

Butler said the committee had decided to tackle indoor tennis first because there had been a number of recent studies on the matter. Last month, after three or four meetings, he said, the group had forwarded to the RA Board a recommendation that the Lake Newport site, located next door to Brown's Chapel, be considered.

"In 2003, we got concept approval from the Design Review Board for a four-court structure at that site," Butler said, adding that the board had decided at that time not to take the proposal to a community vote. The decision to recommend five courts this time, he said, was driven by the tennis leagues, which use at least five courts and maintain that this would also be the optimal number for tournaments. And he said the structure, which would include some accessory space for bathrooms, an entry area and other uses, could be built on the site without increasing the amount of impervious space that is already there.

According to the committee's recommendation, a 2007 study by development consulting firm Urban Ltd. had identified and examined 12 potential sites for a four-



The Reston Association will consider whether to replace the six outdoor tennis courts at Lake Newport with five indoor courts.

court structure, including both Lake Newport and Brown's Chapel. After receiving its assignment from the board, the advisory committee asked Urban to update the study, focusing on the most viable sites and also evaluating them for five- and six-court facilities.

Following the consultant's input, the committee considered four sites. Of those, the Bordeaux Recreation Area was considered to have environmental, road and utility cost issues, and an indoor facility at the Hook Road tennis courts was expected to cause problems with neighborhood traffic, be highly visible and suffer from a lack of parking and access to a major road. The North Hills Park tennis and pool facility was also considered a low priority, due to a lack of existing buffers, issues regarding architectural compatibility with the existing pool building and, again, lack of major road access.

The committee zeroed in on the Lake Newport site because it already had sufficient parking, arterial road access, substantial tree buffers and prior approval for covered courts, and because the facility would have a minimal impact on adjoining properties and no impact on other recreation facilities and would be next to an existing park.

The advisory committee recommended that the RA begin to engage the community in the process and conduct additional studies to develop concept plans that could be looked over and approved by residents and the Design Review Board. A referendum sometime next year was suggested.

The RA's Board Administration Committee discussed the proposal

front of the Design Review Board by December or January.

Board member Richard Chew recommended that when community outreach began, each of the surrounding neighborhoods be brought in individually for a presentation and to provide feedback before a community-wide meeting was held. He said the committee should also make presentations to the Environmental Advisory Committee and other affected groups, inviting the neighboring clusters to those meetings as well.

RA President Robin Smyers agreed, saying, "If we have multiple, multiple chances [for community input], I think that would be a real positive."

Speculating on the community's reaction to the Lake Newport proposal, Chew said, "It's almost this or nothing. But it may be nothing."

The group decided to take the matter to the full board and propose that studies be undertaken while the board holds off on approval until plans are completed and the community has been heard. Chew said the board should "reiterate that we are still directing everyone to move forward as rapidly as practical," as there was a sense of urgency around addressing the need for indoor tennis.

"It's almost this or nothing. But it may be nothing."

— Richard Chew, RA Board

at its meeting Monday, Nov. 9 but took no formal action.

Butler told board members he wanted studies and concept plans undertaken immediately so that he could have them in hand when he went back to the community. He said he hoped to have plans in



Reston Girl Scouts Earn Bronze Award

Five girls from Troop 4158 recently earned their Bronze award, the highest award that Junior Girl Scouts can achieve. Jessica Klonaris, Erin Bobby, Gisela Johnson-Harbers and Anna Tignor from Terraset Elementary School and Maryam Gilanshah from Holton Arms School organized summer food drives at local grocery stores to stock Reston Interfaith's Food Pantry. While working at the food pantry last year, they learned that food banks typically have low inventory during the summer months. Reston Interfaith's emergency food pantry provides people in need with fresh and nonperishable food. The girls collected about \$1,000 worth of groceries, including diapers and infant formula which were in very short supply.

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

DIARY

African Moment Scripted for Me

A letter from Tanzania.

BY DEBBIE VENTIMIGLIA

Last month, my husband and I packed our bags, three kids, two spare tires and headed west down the Tanzania Highway for an excursion to Ruaha National Park, one of the wildest and least accessible safari parks in East Africa.

Tanzania is glorious once you emerge from the urban sprawl in Dar es Salaam. Just to give you a sense of the city, it's not unlike the feeling you might get driving down Wisconsin Avenue between Bethesda and Silver Spring late on a Friday afternoon—maybe July 4th weekend-multiplied by 200. Pepper in dozens of “piki pikis,” covered motorbikes with back seats, and daladalas, little mini vans that are this country's public transport, anointed with pictures ranging from Jesus to Barack Obama. A few goats, herds of cows and Maasai warriors dressed in traditional red checked robes carrying wooden sticks and cell phone — you get the general idea.

As the road opened up, the surrounding changes from Wisconsin Avenue to more like the stretch of the road in Colorado after Vail Pass where suddenly the sky gets bigger, the mountains beckon and a stream meanders through the wild flowers like an Ansel Adams painting and you remember suddenly how beautiful the world is.

I was just beginning to relax when I noticed Bella, our 4-year-old daughter, had a fever.

Sometimes I long to be back in the U.S. where most fevers mean an aspirin and a day off. When a child has a fever in Africa, you test for malaria. A day's drive from home, we found a town with a hotel and hospital that could test her the following morning. Each hour her fever rose and by midnight her breathing seemed shallow. As her fever raged, we covered her with clothes, blankets, our own bodies. At sunrise, we drove to a small clinic where her blood was tested and malaria was confirmed.

I LOVE our life in Africa, but since I am genetically predisposed to worry, life here can really test my faith. I travel with a pharmacy under my front seat not because I'm organized, but because I'm scared. Situations like these catapult me into my “get out of Africa” mode and I could feel my getaway plan bubbling to the surface. “First, we'll drive far enough to get cell phone coverage, then I'll arrange to be evacuated. I'll call my old boyfriend, a real estate developer in D.C., and get him looking at four bedroom colonials — should be able to get something near my parents in Reston in this recession.”

But, in a bizarre twist, as I held my phone in one



Debbie Ventimiglia and family in Ruaha National Park in Tanzania.

hand, the malaria medicine in the other, I felt a familiar peace come over me. Familiar not in the sense that I feel it often, rather in the sense that, in my 40s, I've just started to recognize it in the midst of my fear. I calmly spooned Bella her medication and we continued west. Anybody who knows me has to know that is as far away from a “Debbie moment” as you can get. Anytime I display courage instead of a nervous breakdown, it's a miracle.

Before we reached the city limits, my daughter's fever broke.

Later that day when we arrived at the lodge located on the banks of the Great Ruaha River, I sat on the verandah and gazed out across the river as the sun squeezed out its final rays. As the light dimmed, a gentle rain began to fall and suddenly the scene in front of me came to life. A bushbuck appeared from the south, a giraffe and her baby approached from the north, an elephant slurped from a rain puddle in front of me. An African moment scripted just for me.

DON'T GET ME WRONG. I'm still afraid of crocodiles and hippos, of malaria, typhoid, tsetse flies, H1N1, anything snakey, turbulence in a 747 over the Atlantic and phone calls in the middle of the night. I wonder what it would feel like to submit completely to life in Africa and surrender entirely to faith. I doubt I'll ever know. But I do know that sometimes along my African journey, peace reigns when fear used to. Though I long for my family and the comfort of home, I am thankful for this experience, for all the wrinkles this place has given me, for all the nights it has stolen, it has also given me some miracles.

Debbie Ventimiglia grew up in Reston (South Lakes class of 1983). She is a writer and public health consultant and lives with her husband and three children in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

OBITUARY

Dr. Rafael Garces, 78, Dies

Dr. Rafael Garces, 78, of Reston, and formerly of Princeton, N.J. died on Nov. 11, at Reston Hospital Center. He was born on June 19, 1931 in Arecibo, Puerto Rico to the late William H. and Carmita Rivera Garces.

Rafael Garces graduated from the University of Puerto Rico, then went on to receive his doctorate degree from the University of Puerto Rico Medical School. He worked as an anesthesiologist for more than 30 years at the Helene

Fuld Medical Center, Trenton, N.J. Rafael Garces was an avid bridge player while living in New Jersey and a member of the Princeton Hispanic American Circle. He was the beloved husband of 53 years of Maria I. Garces; loving and devoted father of Yvonne Garces Glusica of Great Falls, Denise Garces of Pikesville, Md. and William H. Garces of Philadelphia, Pa.; brother of William H. Garces of Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico and Carmen Julia

Montes of Sun City, S.C.; proud grandfather of Alyssa and Mallory Glusica. A memorial service took place on Monday, Nov. 16 at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls. In lieu of flowers the family suggests that memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, Greater Washington Area, 4301 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 530, Arlington, VA 22203. Arrangements by Adams-Green Funeral Home, Herndon.



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OPINION

Children's Connection

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

We will feature artwork of many kinds, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories, reflections and more. Artwork can include paintings, drawings or any media; photos of sculpture, ceramics or other works too large to submit are also encouraged.

We welcome contributions from public

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

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

You can see last year's Children's Connections on our Web site. Go to www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click on

"print Editions Online" in the red bar and scroll down to "Children's Connection."

We prefer digital submissions, delivered on CD or via email. Please send in submissions as soon as possible. Our address is 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. E-mail to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. Please be sure to include the name of the artist or author, and include age, grade, school attended and name of the home town, along with address and phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

COMMENTARY

From Campaigning to Governing

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



At the same time, the new administration and the General Assembly will be expected to turn the generalities of a campaign transportation plan into the realities of traffic congestion relief. While the simple solution of selling off the ABC stores may net a few hundred million to help with a multi-billion dollar problem in one year, it will cost the Commonwealth hundreds of

millions of dollars in future years of forgone profits. Public opinion polls make it clear that Virginians want traffic congestion relief, but they do not want to pay any new taxes to finance it.

One defeated legislator is under federal investigation for allegedly using his position for personal gain. Ethics laws need to be tightened up. The federal census will result in legislative district lines being redrawn. The new governor says he is in favor of a bipartisan approach. Will he be able to convince his House majority to agree to it? The conservative base that greatly influenced the outcome of the election will want some of their social agenda enacted. Jobs need to be created to stem the economic recession. The mentally ill need to be treated. The demand for programs to meet the needs of senior citizens is on the increase. Numerous interest groups have their legislative agendas. Campaigning is hard work for sure, but it is not enough to get one in shape for the Herculean task of governing.

Elections are over except for the post mortems. While winners may be tired from strenuous campaigning, there is little time to relax. The deadline for requesting the drafting of pre-filed legislation is Dec. 7. By the middle of December, a \$70 billion biennium budget must be ready for the legislature to consider. The annual General Assembly session convenes on Jan. 13, 2010, and will meet for 60 days. As exhausting as election campaigning may have been, it will seem like a cakewalk compared to the challenges of governing the Commonwealth at this time.

The greatest challenge will be adopting a Constitution-required balanced budget for the next two years. While there will be partisan differences over priorities, the basic problem is that there will not be enough money to go around. In a recent issue of The Virginia News Letter from the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia (www.coopercenter.org), independent financial analyst James J. Regimbal Jr. termed Virginia's state budget "a train wreck about to happen." According to Regimbal, "in the 2010-12 biennium Virginia's state budget will experience the full force of the worst economic downturn since the 1930s." The most recent revenue decline is the largest experienced in the past 70 years. The usual budget flexibility has been used up during the current biennium. In spite of all the campaign rhetoric, the actions of governing will require deep cuts and the probable elimination of some services of government.

What Does Campaign Money Buy? – II

BY JOHN LOVAAS
CIVIC LEADER AND RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

The corrosive effects of money have spread throughout the American political process at the local, state and federal levels. Locally, developer interests contribute large amounts to many, but not all, county supervisors who make land-use decisions. The question is: why are they, or others, permitted to do so when the potential for conflicts of interest are blatantly obvious?

INDEPENDENT
PROGRESSIVE

The sour smell of money influence is even stronger in Richmond where legislators take not only unlimited campaign dollars but also personal gifts. Last time, I outlined the blatant pur-

chase of influence leading to overnight re-regulation of the electric power industry, a gigantic example of unprincipled practice, but only one of many. A few years back, a proposal with the backing of many educators was made to extend school years in public education. But amusement parks like Kings Dominion objected and contributed lots of campaign cash. The proposal went down in flames.

Ask your Virginia legislators why they think it is appropriate to take personal gifts from special interests which stand to benefit by their favorable actions. And, by the way, why are there no limits on campaign cash?

Opportunities for corruption at the federal level are even greater. Big contributors can make kazillions

SEE CAMPAIGN MONEY, PAGE 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Planning for Reston's Future

To the Editor:

The Reston Land Use College, about one hundred residents strong, met three times in September. The Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force (Task Force) is in the process of being formed. Reston is ready to update its land use documents!

Reston Citizens Association (RCA) urges everyone involved in the update to press for collaboration by as broad a cross-section of the Reston community as possible. In particular, RCA advocates that the Task Force extend its reach into the community by using several Citizen Advisory Groups, subordinate to the Task Force. Each Citizen Advisory Group would study a particular topic and report on its findings to the Task Force. Examples of topics are Transportation, Housing, Village Centers and The Environment. Citizen Advisory Groups would meet in parallel with the Task Force and share when appropriate in its field trips and expert presentations. The Citizen Advisory Groups would report recommendations to the Task Force on a schedule, which would not delay the Task Force but contribute to the depth of Task Force's findings.

Reston was founded on principles of community inclusiveness and citizen involvement, principles RCA was created to support. It is appropriate as Reston updates its forty-year old land use documents, that the community be included more broadly than a twenty-person Task Force allows. After all, this is no ordinary exercise of Fairfax County procedure: this is our world-famous planned community, renewing its principles and adapting them to the changes of the next forty years. When the initial Master Plan was devised the population of Reston was negligible. Now we boast

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

THE CONNECTION

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SCHOOLS

Lake Anne Elementary has established a Bayscapers Club for students in grades 2-6 who want to learn about the Lake Anne environment, do some gardening, create outdoor and indoor artistic projects about the environment, publish a newspaper, and build a shed. Bayscapers members will also add to the school's compost pile, build a frame for a garden sign, and transplant plants.

Khrystyna Chekhlata of Reston, Pratt photography freshman, was honored with a Young Photographers Alliance Award and \$2,000 at an award ceremony and benefit auction in New York City.

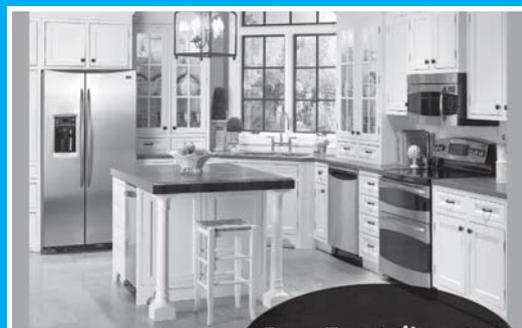
Reston residents **Vanessa Oakes, Katie Cleveland** and **Larry Stern** have gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech. To qualify for the marching band students must audition one week before the beginning of classes each fall. Commonly known as The Spirit of Tech, Virginia Tech's marching band is celebrating their 35 anniversary this year. Under the direction of David McKee and Tony Marinello, the band will present music by Rodgers and Hammerstein, Chicago, the Four Seasons, and other artists during the 2009 season.

Sareenah Sayall of Reston has received a master of business administration in business administration and management from Boston University of Boston, Mass.

Emilia Saunders of Reston has been accepted as a student at The Culinary Institute of America (CIA).

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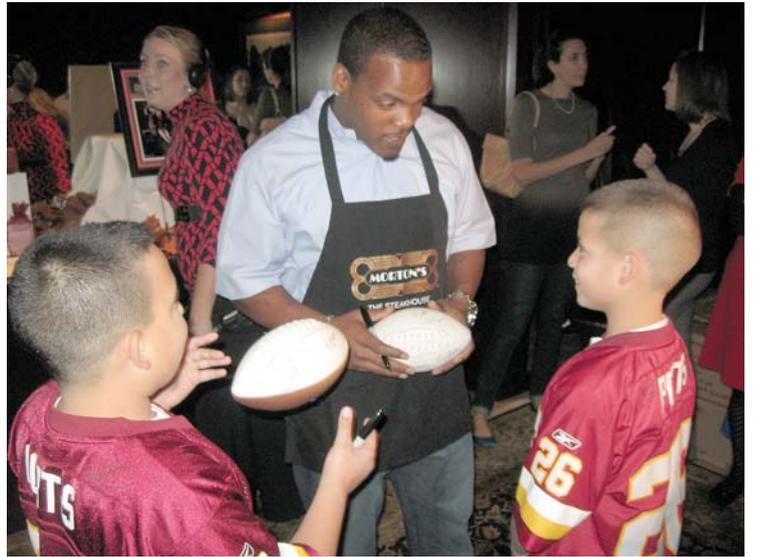
Tianne Wade snaps a picture as Redskins defensive end Phillip Daniels presents the lobster he is about to serve her table.



PHOTOS BY MIKE DiCICCO/ THE CONNECTION



Jen Miller of Morton's Steakhouse looks on as cornerback Kevin Barnes prepares to seat Ashley Bone.



Running back Rock Cartwright signs footballs for Angelo and Antonio Ruiz, both 10.

From Running Back to Bar Back?

Redskins players serve at Morton's Steakhouse for Make-A-Wish.

On Monday, Nov. 9, players for the Washington Redskins worked as servers, bartenders and maitre d' at Morton's Steakhouse in Reston Town Center to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Morton's is the official restaurant of the Redskins,

and the team conducts meet-and greets Monday nights at the chain's various locations in the area, but Morton's spokesman Linda Roth said, "This is the first time they've done this promotion with Make-A-Wish here."

The event also included a silent auction with Redskins keepsakes, autographed sports memorabilia and other items. A donation of \$25 was suggested for reservations, and all donations and silent auction funds, as well as all tips collected by the players, were donated to Make-A-Wish.

— MIKE DiCICCO

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NEWS

Public Art Manager Named Anne Delaney sees value of public art in community enrichment.

Anne Delaney has been appointed the first Public Art Manager of IPAR, the Initiative for Public Art — Reston, which is made up of a group of Reston's top civic leaders and key community organizations.

"The Board is confident that she will bring new energy, new ideas, and above all an exciting vision to Reston, as we seek to expand cultural resources and broaden access to public art for all our residents and visitors," said IPAR president and long-time Reston arts activist, Joe Ritchey.

A Canadian by birth, Delaney brings to her new post a well-developed perspective on the role and value of public art in community enrichment. She is well prepared for her new job, having completed an honors degree in art history at McGill University and graduate work in Museum Studies at the University of Toronto. Her most recent involvements include a four-year stint as Counselor for Cultural Affairs at the Canadian Embassy, where she developed staffing, business planning, communications, and grants activities, including arts exhibitions, relationships with museums and galleries, and arts and culture programming.

Among the projects she takes most pride



PHOTO BY P. D. CHISHOLM

Anne Delaney, public art manager, Initiative for Public Art-Reston (IPAR)

in are a program featuring Canadian aboriginal artists, helping to commission a major artwork that commemorated the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian, and developing an exhibition program featuring artists from all over Canada.

Delaney also has had a highly successful fundraising career, building corporate sponsorships to support Embassy programs.

Prior to her Embassy work, she had a long and well-recognized career in the visual arts, SEE DELANEY, PAGE 17

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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 19

The GMU Players present Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's "The Exonerated." 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater. \$6, \$3 students and seniors. 703-993-8888.

Fairfax Christian School's Fall Concert Salute To America. 7 p.m. at Reston Presbyterian Church, 10610 Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Featuring the Lower School students, Colonial Fife and Drum Corps and a Cappella Choir. 703-759-5100 or www.FairfaxChristianSchool.com.

Special Twos. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Stories and activities. Age 2 with adult. 703-689-2700.

Our Daily Bread 25th Anniversary Celebration. 7-9 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Business casual. Light appetizers, cake, wine tasting provided by The Wine House. Children's activities for age 5 and up. Donations welcome. 703-273-8829 or info@ODBfairfax.org. www.our-daily-bread.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 20

The GMU Players present Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's "The Exonerated." 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater. \$6, \$3 students and seniors. 703-993-8888.

SATURDAY/NOV. 21

The Junior League of Northern Virginia Enchanted Forest, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Reston Sheraton, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Entertainment and crafts for children, gifts and holiday decorations to

purchase, afternoon tea, silent auction, and an evening gala celebration.

Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit **Our Daily Bread.** www.our-daily-bread.org.

The GMU Players present Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's "The Exonerated." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater. \$6, \$3 students and seniors. 703-993-8888.

Trinity Presbyterian Church 50th Anniversary Concert. 5 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon.

With the Westminster Choir, the Trinity Ringers handbell choir, brass instrumentalists, timpani and organist/pianist Tom Pandolfi. Free. 703-437-5500 or www.trinityherndon.org.

St. Timothy's Annual Holiday Shop. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Books, toys, household items, Christmas decorations and more. Lunch available for purchase. The church will also collect new, unwrapped gifts for Toys-for-Tots and canned goods and non-perishables for the area LINK food bank. 703-766-0294 or www.saint-timothy.org.

GreaterRestonArtsCenter at 12001 Market Street, Suite #103, presents **The Empty Landscape - Doug Moulden and Small Worlds - Sharon Fishel and Nancy Sausser.** Nov. 20 - Dec. 23, 2009.

Artist Talk - Saturday, Nov. 21, 5-6 p.m. followed by Reception, 6-7:30 p.m. Join or renew your membership today. <http://www.restonarts.org/support/Membership.htm>

Elvis Tribute with Leon Reyes. 7:30 p.m. at Café Montmartre, 1625 Washington Plaza North, Lake Anne, Reston. Music from the 1930s to the 1980s. Latin, ballroom, swing and disco dancing. No cover charge. 703-904-8080.

Morning at the Movies. 9 a.m. at the Reston Town Center Multiplex Cinemas. \$10 adults, \$8 children.

Proceeds benefit the Ashley Fister Cole Foundation melanoma support group. 703-435-7528 or www.ashleyfistercole.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 22

The Junior League of Northern Virginia Enchanted Forest, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Reston Sheraton, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Entertainment and crafts for children, gifts and holiday decorations to purchase, afternoon tea, silent auction, and an evening gala celebration.

The GMU Players present Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's "The Exonerated." 2 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater. \$6, \$3 students and seniors. 703-993-8888.

The Reston Community Orchestra and Maestro Dingwall Fleary: Brand New Among the Ageless. 4 p.m. at the Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods Village Center, 2310 Colt's Neck Road, Reston. World premiere performance of Symphony No. 5 in B flat by David Ott; Symphony No. 7 in A, Op 92 by Ludwig van Beethoven and Fils du Mandarin Overture by Caesar Cui. Free, donations accepted. www.restoncommunityorchestra.org or 703-476-9181.

Fall Chamber Music Recital. 7:30 p.m. in St. John Neumann's DeSales Chapel, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. Mozart Violin and Piano Sonata in F Major K.377, Prokofiev Violin and Piano Sonata in D Major, Franck Piano and Violin Sonata, and Wieniawski Polonaise No. 1. Donations accepted. cjcapen@saintjnj.org.

MONDAY/NOV. 23

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, Dulles Chapter 1241. 11:30 a.m. at Amphora's Diner Deluxe, 1151 Elden St., Herndon. Walton Francis, principal author of Checkbook's Guide to Health Plans for Federal Employees, will

speak on the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program plans. \$16 includes lunch. 703-435-3523 or www.vanarfe.org/1241/1241.htm.

TUESDAY/NOV. 24

Colvin Run Community Center Weekly Dance. 7 p.m. at Colvin Run Schoolhouse, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. \$10. www.colvinrun.org.

Harvest Preschool Storytime. 11 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Stories and activities about giving thanks. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-437-8855

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 25

Nation Children Charity Outreach, at the Lake Anne village center in Reston. In collaboration with the department of family services and the Reston Community Center, NACI will donate fresh food and vegetables, turkeys, clothing and more to low income, homeless and families living in the shelter. No registration required. 866-533-6629 or esther@nationchildren.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 27

Reston Chorale Carol Sing-Along. 6 p.m. at the Reston Town Center, with the annual tree lighting ceremony followed by a sing-along of holiday favorites led by members of The Reston Chorale and a brass quintet. Free. 703-834-0079 or info@restonchorale.org.

Fun Run for Neediest Kids. On Market St. at Reston Town Center. Registration begins 7 a.m., race begins 8 a.m. Races in six age brackets for children and the Corporate Challenge, in which Alan Webb will participate. \$5 requested, not required. All proceeds go to Neediest Kids, to provide area students with the basic necessities to attend class and to be ready to learn. www.guestevent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary_filderman_lynne@bah.com or 703-917-2158.

Proposing on the Ice

On the season opening evening of the Reston Ice Rink, to add even more excitement to the evening, one ice skater, Patrick Hallman proposed to his girlfriend, Lydia Putney, in the middle of the rink. They have been dating for close to 3 1/2 years and met their junior year in high school. Hallman is originally from Southern California and met Putney when he moved to Virginia four years ago. They plan to be wed in December 2011. The camera caught the moment when Hallman proposes to Putney at the Reston Ice Rink.

Enchanted Forest Returns to Reston

Family-friendly holiday event at Sheraton.

The Junior League of Northern Virginia (JLNV), a women's volunteer organization that empowers women to be a driving force to improve the Northern Virginia community, is hosting its largest annual fundraiser, the ninth annual The Enchanted Forest, Nov. 21-22, returning to the Sheraton Reston. In addition to the wide variety of affordable holiday festivities for the entire family, this year's Enchanted Forest will host special guest Spike Mendelsohn from Bravo's "Top Chef."

Mendelsohn, a contestant on season four of the program, "Top Chef: Chicago," will appear on the Enchanted Forest's main stage on Saturday, from 11 a.m.-12 p.m., with a healthy, holiday cooking demonstration, followed by an appear-

ance and meet and greet in the Kids in the "Holiday" kitchen room, a section of The Enchanted Forest dedicated to the award-winning educational initiative on childhood obesity and nutrition.

The Enchanted Forest will also feature exhibits from the JLNV's signature project, the Children's Science Center and, back by popular demand, an elaborate model train display presented by the National Capital Trackers.

At The Enchanted Forest, visitors will walk into a winter wonderland of theme-decorated trees which are part of a silent auction that continues through the duration of the event. Throughout the weekend, children are treated to special events and activities, including Cocoa & Georgetown Cupcakes with the Snow Fairy Princess, Breakfast with Santa, photos with Santa, face painting, magic shows, crafts, and games. Local artisans and vendors will entice attendees wanting to get an early start on holiday shopping. Two Gingerbread Workshops will take

Schedule and Pricing

The Enchanted Forest General Admission, Saturday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$10

Breakfast with Santa - Saturday, Nov. 21, and Sunday, Nov. 22, 10-11 a.m., \$25 per person. Includes general admission to The Enchanted Forest.
Cocoa and Georgetown Cupcakes with the Snow Fairy Princess - Saturday, Nov. 21, 1-2 p.m., 2:30-3:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 22, 1-2 p.m., \$25 per person. Includes general admission to The Enchanted Forest.

Snacks and Stories with Santa - Saturday, Nov. 21, and Sunday, Nov. 22, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., \$25 per person. Includes general admission to The Enchanted Forest.

For more details and reservations for these special events, call 703-442-4163 or visit www.jlnv.org/theenchantedforest.

place on Saturday, Nov. 21, where participants will have the opportunity to create an edible masterpiece to take home and enjoy throughout the holidays. Also on Saturday, Nov. 21, the Sugar & Spice Gala will provide an opportunity for adults to ring in the holiday season with cocktails and dancing.

The JLNV's community projects for 2009-10 include working to

build The Children's Science Center, coordinating Back-to-School Health Fairs for uninsured children in Alexandria, Herndon and Loudoun County, supporting the JLNV-created My Life self-esteem photography and Kids Can character development programs for children living in area shelters, and expanding its participation in the national Kids in the Kitchen program.

Enchanted Forest Gingerbread Workshop - Saturday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. \$40 per house. Includes general admission to The Enchanted Forest.

Sugar & Spice Gala - Saturday, Nov. 21, 8-11:30 p.m. \$60 per ticket if purchased before Nov. 7, \$65 per ticket if purchased after Nov. 7. Includes general admission to The Enchanted Forest.

For more details and reservations for these special events, call 703-442-4163 or visit www.jlnv.org/theenchantedforest.

place on Saturday, Nov. 21, where participants will have the opportunity to create an edible masterpiece to take home and enjoy throughout the holidays. Also on Saturday, Nov. 21, the Sugar & Spice Gala will provide an opportunity for adults to ring in the holiday season with cocktails and dancing.

The JLNV's community projects for 2009-10 include working to

FAITH NOTES

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

Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service. Wednesday, Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Participants will include Farhanahz Ellis, minister of outreach of ADAMS (All Dulles Area Muslim Society); Fr. Thomas E. Murphy, OSFS, pastor of St. John Neumann Catholic Church; Rev. Joan Bell-Haynes, pastor of the United Christian Parish; Delegate Ken Plum; Fairfax County Supervisor Cathy Hudgins; and representatives of the Shoreshim Community and Reston Interfaith. Refreshments will follow the service. 703-620-3065 or www.unitedchristianparish.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.

Congregation Beth Emeth, 12523

Lawyers Road, Herndon, will host a **Yiddish Club on the first Tuesday of each month.** Members will engage in a variety of activities that utilize the Yiddish language, including reading stories, listening to music and radio broadcasts, reading Yiddish newspapers and more. Free. Call 703-860-4515, ext. 127.

Every Wednesday, at 12:15 p.m., **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church,** 432 Van Buren St., Herndon, offers a lunch-time Healing and Holy Communion service. This half-hour service is offered to all and allows people an opportunity to worship during the work week when they may be away from their regular church. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament and all who have not been baptized may receive a blessing at the Altar rail. Call the church Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at 703-437-3790 or visit www.saint-timothys.org.

Knitters needed the **first and third Wednesdays** of the month, at 7 p.m., at **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church,** 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. E-mail shawl@saint-timothys.org or visit the Pastoral Care page at www.saint-timothys.org.

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OPINION

What Does Campaign Money Buy? – II

FROM PAGE 6

from federal legislative favors. Why is a congressman or senator allowed to take campaign contributions and turn around and earmark millions for a non-competitive federal grant or contract? And proving that money was taken in exchange for a favor is not easy — unless you record the conversation, like Gov. Blagojevich! The media seem to have given up investigating links of money to favors or even pointing out painfully obvious coincidences, such as a freshman Virginia senator, now an ardent opponent of a public health insurance option while taking bundles of money from the industry. Since the press rarely evinces interest in gross influence peddling, we are left to mercies of self policing by the legislators at all levels. In a world where top priority is building a stash for reelection and some personal comfort, vigorous en-

forcement is unlikely, unless something changes to incentivize the honest legislators to rat out their colleagues!

So, what are we mere citizens to do while corporate interests cozy up to our “public servants” for favors not consistent with our interests. The first thing to do is be vigilant. Great public interest Web sites like the Virginia Public Access Project (VPAP.org), follow political contributions (and gifts) and link them to legislative acts. OpenSecrets.org is a place to go for U.S. senators and congressmen. Amazing what a few clicks reveals! Follow what they do, where they get big bucks. Let them know you care about these issues. E-mail or write a letter asking about big contributions and their behavior. Also, thank legislators you observe acting in the public interest and, as a matter of principle, not taking corporate interest cash. A constituent’s vigilance alone may impress!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

sixty-one thousand residents. Residents know there will be massive changes wrought by the advent of Metro and they are understandably anxious that the special characteristics of Reston not be lost. These citizens expect and deserve to collaborate in decisions about Reston’s future.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime process. Let’s do it right. Let Citizen Advisory Groups supplement the work of the Task Force.

Marion Stillson
President, Reston Citizens Association

Don’t Stop Thinking About Tomorrow

To the Editor:

Please forgive the line lifted from the Fleetwood Mac song. But it’s oh, so true.

Americans cannot stop thinking about the impact that enacting true healthcare reform will have

upon our generations to come. Despite the doomsday prophecy fodder that the ultra-conservative, ultra-right wing is pushing, the reality of this legislation would simply be twofold: accountability mandated for the huge insurance companies and a cost-effective public solution for the 50 million plus citizens and permanent residents without healthcare.

That’s it. Let’s revisit those lies again, shall we?

No, undocumented workers/illegal aliens would not be given access to this public program.

No, small businesses would not suffer from the public program. They are already paying through the nose for expensive private health insurance.

No, America will not become a socialist state because we do what every other country (count’em, every single one) in the developing world did decades ago — invest in the long-term health of their most prized possession, their human capital.

Why do you think medicine here costs a grossly more amount than

in Canada or Cuba? Somebody’s getting very, very rich, and it’s not you or me. Or at least not me.

There’s nothing unethical about stopping private insurers from denying care and discriminating against small groups based on an individual’s health status, gender or age. There is something sickly, though, about leaving a fellow American to die because of money. (If that last sentence doesn’t make sense to some of us, then there’s our real problem.)

We as Americans made excellent strides with the recent passage of health reform including a public option in the House. That common-sense concern needs to now translate to the Senate and into reality with a public option that includes affordability measures, tax credits for small businesses and subsidies for our workers.

Or we can continue our slow march to death, financial and otherwise.

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CRIME

Activities reported by the Reston District of the Fairfax County Police Department through Nov. 13.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY/

GRAFFITI/BIAS CRIME

2000 block of Durand Drive. Police responded to a home in the 2000 block of Durand Drive for a report of graffiti on Saturday, Nov. 7. The victim, a 45-year-old woman, reported that some time between 10 p.m. the night before and 7 a.m. on Nov. 7, someone spray painted racial slurs and profanities on the exterior of her house. An investigation determined the graffiti may have occurred around 3 a.m. The Fairfax County Police Department recognizes the potential harm that bias crimes and incidents can have in a community, and strongly encourages people to report them. All bias crimes and incidents are investigated thoroughly. Anyone with information is asked to call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131 or 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.

LARCENY

11900 block of Market St. Three males entered an Apple computer store, located at 11949 Market Street, on Saturday, Nov. 7 around 1:44 p.m. and stole several laptop computers, an iPhone and an iPod. The suspects fled the store on foot toward a parking garage. They were described as black. One suspect was about 6 feet tall and wore a gray sweater with a green shirt underneath and gray driving hat. The second suspect was described as having medium-length dreadlocks.

LARCENIES

11000 block of Granby Court. Catalytic converter stolen from vehicle.
900 block of Locust St. Cellular phone stolen from school.
900 block Locust St. Cellular phone stolen from school.

11900 block of Market St. Laptop computers, iPod and iTouch stolen from business.

12000 block of North Shore Drive. Wallet stolen from business.

1700 block of Raleigh Hill Road. Diamond earrings and bracelet stolen from residence.

1800 block of Wiehle Ave. Wallet stolen from business.

Activities reported by the Fair Oaks District of the Fairfax County Police Department through Nov. 13.

BURGLARY

11200 block of James Swart Circle. Police responded to a burglar alarm at Dave's Seafood and Subs, located at 11280 James Swart Circle, on Monday, Nov. 9 around 5:36 a.m. An investigation determined a male forced entry into the business and stole the register which contained an undisclosed amount of cash. The suspect fled the store on foot. He was about 5 feet 8 inches to 5 feet 10 inches tall, 160 to 200 pounds. He was wearing a gray or black jacket, jeans, a gray beanie and gray gloves. His face was covered with a black mask and he wore black shoes. Anyone with information is asked to call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131 or 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.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

2700 block of Rushing Brook Lane. A 65-year-old man was the victim of an attempted robbery on Monday, Nov. 9. The victim pulled into the driveway of a home in the 2700 block of Rushing Brook Lane around 9:28 p.m. As he exited his vehicle, two men approached and demanded money from him. He refused to give them money and one of the suspects assaulted him. The victim continued to resist and the suspects fled on foot. One suspect was described as white, in his 20s. He was about 6 feet tall and wore a large, black jacket with a hood. The victim did not require medical attention.



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Both hikes begin with a short information session with Fairfax County wildlife Biologist, Victoria Monroe.

For more information and to register for the hikes please go to www.madeira.org/hike

Immediately following the hikes we will have a Camp Greenway Open house at the Hurd Sports Center as well as an Open House at the Stables. If you are interested in learning more about summer camp at Madeira or just visiting some of our four legged friends please feel free to join us for either or both of these events.



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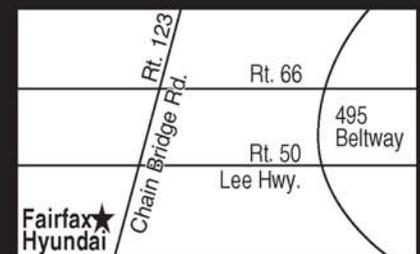


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Dogwood Could Lose Year Round Calendar

Superintendent proposes ending program because of budget cuts.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Seven Fairfax County elementary schools operating on a modified calendar could lose their extra instructional time as a result of budget cuts during the next two school years.

Most Fairfax schools are in session from early September to mid-June, but 10 schools have a different calendar, operating almost year-round without the traditional 2 1/2-month summer break.

This fall, officials have asked the seven elementary schools with an alternative schedule, including Dogwood in Reston, to prepare their communities for a return to the commonly used nine-month school year. Cutting the modified calendar program at the secondary level — in use at Stuart High School, Falls Church High School and Glasgow Middle School — was not discussed.

Many of the schools with alternative schedules have been using a modified calendar for more than a decade, according to Hunter Mill District school board member Stu Gibson.

ACCORDING TO the school system's Web site, these elementary schools currently operate on a "45-15" schedule, where school is in session for nine weeks, followed by a 15-day break.

The modified elementary school calendar provides more flexibility for an extended school year. Children sometimes take part in two-week intensive classes that offer an opportunity to intensive remedial work in core subjects, accelerated learning or enrichment exercises like cooking classes.

Those schools that employ the modified calendar tend to serve students who come from low-income households or are non-native English speakers. Six of seven elementary schools on a modified calendar receive additional money, called "Title I" funds, because they are among the dozen or so schools with the neediest populations in the county.

At Dogwood, for example, approximately 62 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced-price meals at school and a little over 46 percent are not considered English

proficient.

FAIRFAX SCHOOLS superintendent Jack Dale has proposed letting the elementary schools keep their modified calendar next year if they can financially support it through the extra "Title I" funding they received from the federal government. He does not want to spend the more flexible general education dollars, those supplied by the county and state, on the modified calendar in elementary schools because of the system's overall budget shortfall.

The following school year, which starts in the fall of 2011, no extra federal money is expected to be available to these schools and Dale has proposed ceasing the use of an elementary school modified calendar altogether.

"My interpretation is that we had agreed we would be phasing this out," said Dale to the Fairfax County School Board of the modified calendar.

DALE and Fairfax County staff say the literature on whether modified calendars work is mixed. In Fairfax's own experience, about half of the elementary schools with a modified calendar had seen improvement in test scores and half did not, said the superintendent.

"In some, it makes a difference. In others, it doesn't make a difference," said Dale.

The school system staff did acknowledge that more substantial evidence exists on a national level that low-income students benefit from a modified calendar. Indeed, two of Fairfax County's most honored elementary schools — Graham Road in Falls Church and Parklawn in the Alexandria area — operate on a modified calendar and have been recognized for their success with needier students, said Hone.

But the school system is facing a daunting budget cycle and several School Board members said they were not ready to commit to keeping the modified calendar in light of the current financial situation.

"This isn't a question of cutting a program because it isn't loved. ... It is going to be a question of a lack of money. It is really not because we want to do any of these things," said School Board member Janie Strauss (Dranesville).

grandchildren Destinie, Delshana and Eden, as well as a host of other family and friends.

Funeral services were Saturday, Nov 14, at Heritage Fellowship Church in Herndon. Arrangements by: Lyles Funeral Service serving Northern Virginia.

OBITUARY

Russell B. Mcrae, 64, of Reston, Dies

Russell B. Mcrae, 64, a long-time resident of Reston, died on Nov. 6, at Cameron Glen, N.H. Survivors include companion of many years Sadie McLemore of Reston, daughters, Fawn Beckham of Reston, Michelle O'Connor of Fredericksburg, and Michaun Harrison of Centreville, and three

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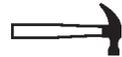
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Delaney to Head Public Art Effort

FROM PAGE 9
including work for the leading co-operative of Inuit art in North America, Dorset Fine Arts, and the international contemporary art gallery, René Blouin. Her successful private sector work led to a position in Ottawa where she promoted arts internationally.

Delaney is already at work spearheading the implementation of the comprehensive "Public Art Master Plan for Reston," developed in December of 2008 by a consultant team working with cadre of local leaders, including Ritchey, William G. Bouie, Kohann Williams, and Mary Bronson, as well as a broad spectrum of Reston artists. Also included in the Plan's development were arts educators, advocates, organizations and supporters throughout Reston.

Taking her cue from the proud tradition of public art built into Reston from its earliest days at the Lake Anne Village Center and most recently manifested in Fountain Square and the development of Reston Town Center, Delaney says she is "looking forward to building on that strong foundation to create a future for public art in Reston that will match its history." The

Master Plan, she said, can help Restonians do four things:

- * Serve as a blueprint for inspiring a vigorous commitment to public art;
- * Stimulate civic partnerships that will create a new generation of world-class art in Reston;
- * Bring more public energy to the long-term task of building a quality living environment in Reston;
- * And foster a lively public discussion and an attractive educational environment for public art.

Asked why she was attracted to Reston as a place for developing public art programs, Delaney said that she had "been impressed with Reston's long and well-known history of commitment to public art," noting that in her first visit to Reston after joining the staff of the Canadian Embassy, she immediately saw that Reston was "a great concept. When I learned that the people here had developed such a comprehensive and dynamic master plan for public art, that made the job irresistible. My whole career in the arts fell right into place when I saw the job description."

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SPORTS

Bulldogs Get the Final Bite on South Lakes

Stone Bridge ends Seahawks' football season in Division 5 playoff encounter.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

John Ellenberger, the South Lakes High football coach, thought his team could defeat two-time defending Division 5 Northern Region champion Stone Bridge in a first round playoff game Friday night, Nov. 13. The game came one week after the Seahawks had lost a lopsided affair to the same Bulldogs' team, 45-22, in the final regular season game. Ellenberger thought if South Lakes could play a more efficient game by cutting down on mistakes and successfully utilizing its talented group of skill position players by hitting on some big plays, the Seahawks might have a chance to pull off a postseason upset.

"We felt we could make some changes from that game," said the coach. "We said, 'Hey, if we correct some things, we can beat these guys.'"

But it turned out Stone Bridge proved too formidable an opponent in the quarterfinals playoff affair. The Bulldogs took command early on and defeated South Lakes, 28-7, to move on to this week's Division 5 semifinals. With the loss, the Seahawk finished the season with an overall record of 5-6.



Da'Juan Jones, South Lakes' junior running back, scored the Seahawks' lone touchdown in the playoff loss to Stone Bridge last week.

"We played with those guys for a half," said Ellenberger, whose team trailed by just a 14-7 score at halftime. "We felt pretty good."

But Stone Bridge (10-1) outscored South Lakes 14-0 in the second half to gain the victory.

The game, following several days of rainy weather, took place at a neutral site on Marshall High School's field off Route 7 in Falls Church.

Marcus Harris, one of the region's top running backs, rushed for 123 yards on 27 carries with two touchdowns, including a

7-yard scoring run to give Stone Bridge a 21-7 lead in the third quarter. The Bulldogs went on to score another third quarter touchdown on a 3-yard scoring run by Kyle Gouveia (74 rushing yards).

South Lakes' top ball carrier was junior Ja'Juan Jones (nine carries, 67 yards), who accounted for the Seahawks' lone touchdown, a 15-yard scoring run in the second quarter that, following Erich Belt's extra point kick, tied the game at 7-7. The Seahawks' next leading ball carrier was Darius Smith, who ran for 57 yards on 10 carries.

Stone Bridge took the lead for good before halftime when quarterback Brian Rody tossed an eight yard touchdown pass to Taylor Lambke.

STONE BRIDGE, on its first possession of the game, put together an impressive scoring drive in which its offensive line made an impressive early statement.

"They were just better than we were up front," said Ellenberger. "It seemed they ran the same [running] play 10 times [on the drive]. We just couldn't stop them. I think they're as good as we've seen."

South Lakes was playing without starting inside linebacker Lance Petit, a senior, who had injured a knee in the third quarter of the previous week's game against the same Stone Bridge team.

South Lakes, which began the season 5-1, struggled over the latter half of the season. The Seahawks lost their final five games, including the playoff game.

Two of those losses were close games — 27-22 to Fairfax and 24-21 to Langley, both district defeats coming at home.

"We just played some good teams," said Ellenberger, of the losing streak to end the season.

Still, the five wins added up to one of South Lakes' better overall win totals in recent years. Ellenberger said this year's team was a total joy with which to work.

"Our kids did a great job this year and we were happy to make the playoffs," said Ellenberger. "Most of them worked their tails off in the offseason. They are good kids of character. I'm going to miss this group."

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The Capital Area Golf Tour (CAGT) is having a November tournament event Nov. 28-29 at the Raspberry Falls Golf Club in Leesburg. The tour consists of nationally-ranked junior golf events in Suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia during a split fall/spring season. Several local players are among the points leaders in various divisions. **Jackson Lizardo** of Fairfax (Oakton) and **Chas Bassing** of Great Falls (The Heights School) currently sit in second place in their respective age divisions. In the boys' 10-12 division, **Nathan Chuwait of Herndon** is the points leader. Among girls, **Nicole Flores of Ashburn** (Briar Woods High) leads in the 13-15 age division, and **Amber Liu of Vienna** leads the 10-12 year-olds.

Lori Walker of Reston experienced a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity by taking pictures from the sidelines of the Redskins' game against the visiting Kansas City Chiefs on Oct. 18. It was part of Canon U.S.A.'s 'Shoot Like a Pro' Sweepstakes. Walker had Redskins team photographer Ned Drashman by her side throughout the afternoon. Drashman offered advice, suggestions and tips on how to shoot action sports photographs. In addition to shooting from the sidelines, Walker received four tickets to the game along with a Canon EOS Digital Rebel T1i SLR camera kit.

AC Cugini, an official Italian soccer school, is conducting weeknight tryouts in Reston for guest spots on its 10, Play Soccer in Italy tournament teams, which will be traveling to Rome and the Italian Adriatic beach during the 2010 World Cup, June 23-July 7. A three-day training camp with the Italian Olympic Committee is included in addition to tournament play against Italian teams and a review by talent scouts for professional Italian teams. Boys and girls, ages 10-to-16, are eligible. Entire teams are welcome. For every 14 registered, the 15th person travels free. For further information, contact Cugini President Fabio Diletti at 703-477-5957; or go to info@cuginisoccer.com.

Preston Bacon of Oak Hill was a recent recipient of the Champions of Character Awards in ceremonies last month at the Fairfax County Government Center. Members of the Fairfax County Athletic Council and the Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services presented the honor to Preston and other members of the athletic community throughout Fairfax County.

Preston, 9, is a member of the Fairfax Stars' traveling basketball team. He is an outstanding young athlete and, as important, a top-notch student in the classroom. For the Stars, he is the starting point guard for the programs' 9-under boys' Gold Team.

Last month, the Stars participated at the AAU Division 1

National Championships in Orlando. Preston and his teammates had a successful tournament and finished ninth nationally in their age group. Preston is considered the Stars' floor general at point guard. He has displayed solid leadership skills and is known for encouraging and inspiring his teammates. On the floor, Preston is an exceptional shooter and scorer but focuses on team play first and passing to open teammates. He is a true competitor but always displays good sportsmanship.

On most evenings, one can find Preston playing basketball at home with his two older brothers. He loves being an athlete and also enjoys doing his best at school.

The Champions of Character Awards were designed to honor young athletes like Preston as well as other deserving members of the local athletic community.

"Youth sports play a key role in youth development," said Mark Meana, chairman of the Fairfax County Athletic Council. "The relationships kids build with adults and peers through sports, and the lessons they learn on the playing field are integral to keeping kids safe from gangs, violence, drugs, and other problem behaviors. Fairfax County values the benefits youth sports programs provide our community."

For more information about the Champion of Character Awards or a complete list of all recipients, contact Jesse Ellis at 703-324-5704.

MS-13 Gunman Sentenced 80 Years for Attempted Murder in Reston

Dennis L. Gil Bernardez, 33, of Landover, Md., the gunman in an MS-13 shooting, was sentenced to 80 years in prison today for attempting to murder rival gang members on Oct. 6, 2008, at a park near homes in Reston. His accomplice, Jose M. Aguilar Orantes, 18, of Reston, who provided the firearm, was sentenced to 55 years in prison for his role in the attempted murders.

A third member, Carlos B. Guzman Cruz, 25, of Richmond, was sentenced to 144 months in prison for getting rid of the firearm used in the shooting.

"The victims in this case were targeted by MS-13 for one reason, they were rivals," said Neil H. MacBride, United States attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. "The victims are fortunate to be alive today, but other MS-13 rivals have not been so fortunate. I'm grateful for the dedicated men and women in law enforcement who made today's sentencing possible. This case should send a clear signal that MS-13, despite its strict rules against cooperating with law enforcement, can be investigated and that

would-be murderers can be brought to justice."

According to court documents evidence at trial, Aguilar Orantes and Bernardez sought out members of the 18th Street and Crips gangs as retribution for an earlier assault on Aguilar Orantes. Aguilar Orantes and Bernardez located the two victims in a residential park, where they were sitting with a third victim, who was not a gang member. As they approached the three victims, Aguilar Orantes pointed out two of them to Bernardez as having been involved in the earlier attack. After pointing out the victims, Aguilar Orantes stepped back, as Bernardez pulled out a .357 revolver from his waistband and shot at the vic-

tims six times. A bullet pierced one victim's jacket as he ran, barely missing him. The other two victims were critically wounded and taken to Fairfax Hospital suffering from multiple gunshot wounds.

After the shooting, Cruz sold the .357 that Bernardez used in the shooting to a person in Richmond, with the understanding that the gun would be hidden in an auto frame and shipped out of the country. Unbeknownst to Cruz, the person to whom he sold the gun was an FBI informant posing as an MS-13 gang member.

On July 29, 2009, Aguilar Orantes and Bernardez were found guilty of conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering, conspiracy to commit as-

sault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering, attempted murder in aid of racketeering, assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering, and use and discharge of a firearm during a crime of violence. Cruz was convicted of being an accessory after the fact to attempted murder in aid of racketeering and assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering. Bernardez and Cruz were also convicted of being an illegal alien in possession of a firearm.

The Washington Field Office and Richmond Field Office of the FBI, the Fairfax County Police Department, the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force and the Chesterfield County Police investigated this case.

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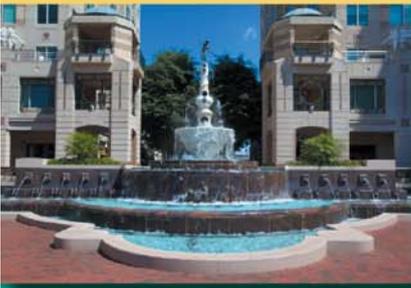
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