

Oak Hill ♦ Herndon CONNECTION

The Mardi Gras tree, one of six, full-size trees that Scott Mayhugh and Keven LeBlanc placed in their home for the holidays, greets visitors under a Danish lamp decorated with a 'reverse painting.'

Homes for The Holidays

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Free Clinic Finds New Home

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Going Smoke Free?

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NEWS Homes for the Holidays

Holiday Homes Tour displays history, decorative prowess.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

What was Herndon's first public school house is now the home of Brian and Siri Compton, who home-school their four children in what is now the dining room, where students were taught more than a century ago. The former three-room schoolhouse on Center Street, built in 1868, was one of five homes to open its doors to the public for the Herndon Holiday Homes tour on Saturday, Dec. 5.

A one-story building with an attic and a root cellar, the house has the high ceilings of a public building, and large double doors with glass panes open between the hallway and what were once classrooms. Town Council member and local historian Richard Downer said such doors were typical of schoolhouses. "The floor in here has not been refinished," he said in the living room. "You can still see the dings of classroom times."

When the county built a new school on Locust Street in 1910, it sold the old school to a real estate speculator, who sold it three years later to a man named Chamblin for \$1,500, said Sally Silberman of the Herndon Rotary Club. The club was the sponsor for that stop on the tour. Silberman said Chamblin turned the building into a residence and gave it to his daughter, it is thought, as a wedding present. He dug the root cellar near the road and rolled the house over it on logs, she said. "The lady who owns it says the logs are still under the house."

CHAMBLIN renovated the building, adding, among other things, fireplaces. Only one of the three chimneys still works, although another acts as a vent for the boiler that still heats the house via water radiators.

On a shelf in the kitchen sit little, empty glass phials of the sort that once held medications. "When they're digging in their garden, every year, they find little bottles," said Downer's wife, Linda. The owners assume that the glass is all that remains of a trash heap in the backyard, she said.

In the nearly 100 years since Chamblin's renovation, a large front porch has been added, a hallway was moved to create an additional bedroom, and the master bedroom was subdivided to give it a bathroom. The original claw foot tub still sits in the master bathroom.

Another historic house on the tour was the home of Louise Fairfax and Gray Campbell on Elden Street. Built around 1917, the home's first owners were Dr. Ernest Lee Robey, a pharmacist and banker, and Edith Bready Robey, daughter of Herndon's first mayor.

In the 25 years that Campbell and Fairfax have lived in the house, Campbell has stripped the paint from nearly all of the frames, doors and moldings, which are original, and refinished them. In the process of updating the kitchen, he also built a new set of glass-paned cabinets.

The house is still heated with its original system of



PHOTOS BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Town Council member and local historian Richard Downer talks about the large, paned-glass doors that separate rooms in what was once a schoolhouse.



Hand-carved Santas and reproduction blue Canton china adorn the dining room table in the home of Louise Fairfax and Gray Campbell.

radiators, but it is cooled by two air conditioning units — one in the basement and one upstairs — so that the walls didn't have to be redone to accommodate ducts, said Town Council member Charlie Waddell, who was one of the hosts at the house.

For the holiday season, the tree in the living room was decorated with ornaments and toys from Campbell and Fairfax's youth, and hand-carved wooden Santas and snowmen sat on the tables in the living room and dining room. The china on the dining room table was reproduction blue Canton, Waddell said, but the Canton on a nearby chest was original. Waddell said Fairfax had bought the antique

SEE 'PEACEFUL HOUSE,' PAGE 10



PHOTOS BY WILLIAM SCOTT MARTIN/THE CONNECTION

Shahid Malik, Herndon Mayor Stephen DeBenedittis, Syed Iftikarhar and Faifal Riaz at the grand opening on Friday.

Safe Driving Academy Opens in Herndon

Academy offers in-classroom, behind-the-wheel training.

BY WILLIAM SCOTT MARTIN
THE CONNECTION

The Safe Driving Academy had its grand opening ceremony on Friday and has started taking in students on Monday. The Academy began as a behind-the-wheel driving instruction program on Friday, Dec. 11.

"We have a driving improvement course, development course, reexamination course and also regular driving courses," said Shahid Malik, the office manager and an instructor in the Safe Driving Academy. "Other than that, we also have cars for behind-the-wheel training."

The academy's two classrooms is what Malik said separates it from other driving instruction programs. "There are so many new schools in [the Herndon] area that are not offering the ... in-classroom teaching." Malik said that students are already signed up to take classes.

Asked how he was able to open a new business during a bad economy, Malik said, "Whether the economy is not good or whether the economy is good, all of the advantages and disadvantages are going to be the same I think. ... People are perhaps thinking of putting off for the driving because it is the least important thing for

any person but as we have seen in the past two years it has never slowed down." Malik also runs an event management business in the same building, "UBeingServed".

Capt. Brad Anzengruber, who represented the Herndon Police Department at the grand opening, said, "I appreciate them doing a good job teaching the drivers out here today. Some of the people don't drive and obey the law and some don't even know the law." Anzengruber said he was overall impressed. "They are just as knowledgeable about the law as I am."

For more information on the academy including rates and enrollment information, visit <http://safedrivingacademy.net/>. The academy is located on 905 Alabama Drive in Herndon.



Instructor Syed Iftikarhar and Manager Shahid Malik of the Safe Driving Academy.

Herndon Police Arrest Man in Homicide

Herndon Police arrested Jamie Aaron Kuhne, a 34-year-old Herndon man, in connection with an apparent homicide that occurred in his apartment in the 700 block of Tamarack Way on Friday, Dec. 11. Kuhne was arrested, charged with murder and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.



POLICE PHOTO

Aaron Kuhne

According to detectives, a 36-year-old female was found deceased at the apartment. The victim was transported to the Medical Examiner's Office to determine the cause of death. Police have not publicly identified the victim pending next of kin notification.

Detectives believe that this case stemmed from a domestic altercation and was contained within the apartment, where an argument took place between Kuhne and the victim.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Sgt. Dennis Royal of the Herndon Police Department by phone at 703-435-6846, e-mail at dennis.royal@herndon-va.gov

Police Seek Help in Finding Missing Person

Detectives are asking for the public's help locating a missing Herndon woman. A friend of Norma Alicia Avillan who reported Avillan as missing called police on Dec. 8.

Avillan was last seen leaving work at Dulles International Airport on Nov. 29, at about 11:30 p.m.

Avillan is a 51-year-old Hispanic female, 5-foot, 3 inches, 118 pounds, with brown eyes and brown hair.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Det. Steve Pihonak of the Herndon Police Department at 703-435-6846 or via e-mail at steven.pihonak@herndon-va.gov.



Norma Alicia Avillan

Town of Herndon Winter Holiday Schedules

Town of Herndon government offices and services will be impacted by the Christmas and New Year's holidays as follows:

* Town Offices - Closed Thursday, Dec. 24, at 12 p.m.; closed Friday, Dec. 25 and Friday, Jan. 1.

* Refuse Collection - Refuse will not be collected Friday, Dec. 25 or Friday, Jan. 1. Refuse normally collected on Fridays will be collected Monday, Dec. 28 and Monday, Jan. 4.

* Herndon Community Center - Open Thursday, Dec. 24, 6 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Friday, Dec. 25; open Saturday, Dec. 26, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 31, 6 a.m.-5 p.m.; and closed Friday, Jan 1.

* Herndon Centennial Golf Course - Open Thursday, Dec. 24, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed Friday, Dec. 25; open Saturday, Dec. 31 and Friday, Jan. 1, 8 a.m.-dark.

For more information, visit the town's Web site at www.herndon-va.gov.

Town of Herndon, VDOT Cooperate To Protect Runnymede Park

In a cooperative effort between the Town of Herndon and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), VDOT has decided to the Town of Herndon a parcel of land near Runnymede Park that will be used for storm water retention, thereby minimizing the impact of runoff of storm drainage on the park.

The land, a 1-1/2 acre parcel across the street from Runnymede

SEE WEEK, PAGE 5

NEWS

Going Smoke Free?

Some restaurants have more flexibility to continue indoor smoking than others.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

When Ed Hearn moved to Herndon last year, he reveled in the fact that he could light up a cigarette in his local neighborhood bar again. He had recently lived in Frederick, Md. where all restaurants and bars had been smoke-free for at least two years. "It was an absolute pleasure to move down to Virginia. I enjoy smoking while I am drinking. I mean I am a smoker," said Hearn, perched on a barstool at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern in Herndon Nov. 29, two days before new smoking restrictions went into effect in Virginia.

Hearn, who said he had "lived through a smoking ban before," was nevertheless frustrated by the prospect of having fewer choices to enjoy his beer and cigarettes together.

The new Fairfax County resident had good reasons to think he had outrun the anti-smoking movement when he moved to Virginia. The commonwealth is historically tied to the tobacco industry and home to Philip Morris USA, the largest cigarette producer in the world.

The Virginia General Assembly, particularly the Republican Party caucus in the House of Delegates, had also stymied attempts to restrict smoking for years, including a push for statewide smoking ban by Gov. Tim Kaine in 2007.

BUT LAST SPRING, a compromise between Gov. Tim Kaine and the Republicans led to legislation that falls short of the nearly universal ban on restaurant and bar smoking enacted in Maryland and Washington D.C. Yet it still significantly tightens up the commonwealth's former regulations.

As of Dec. 1, Virginia establishments have to be smoke-free. Restaurants and bars that have space are able to accommodate smokers indoors in rooms that are closed off and separately ventilated from the non-smoking sections.

Both Maryland and the District make it much tougher for bars and restaurants to retain a smoking section indoors than the commonwealth.

In fact, for some local Fairfax businesses, creating a separate facility for smokers took little to no extra work. Other restaurants were happy to go smoke free, saying they thought it would improve business overall.

AT JACKSON'S, a large restaurant that is part of the Great American chain and located in the Reston Town Center, the management had to make very few, if any, changes to accommodate indoor smoking.

Jackson's, which has been open for a little over a year, already had two bars, including one that could accommodate smokers easily, since it is already enclosed and backs up onto an outdoor patio space.

Ned Devine's Irish Pub in Herndon is only undergoing some light renovations and construction to create a smoking room. The restaurant is installing a new door to separate a small bar and lounge from the rest of the restaurant, according to Trina Medford, a bartender who works at the restaurant. Chic 'n Wings in Tysons Corner has enclosed an outdoor



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Waitresses Brimmer Atkins and Galina Cataldi serve beer at the Vienna Inn, which went entirely smoke free Dec. 1.

patio to accommodate people who want to smoke.

Several restaurants have also embraced the idea of going smoke free, even if they had previously allowed cigarettes.

Nearly all the people leaning up against the bar at The Old Brogue in Great Falls had a cigarette in hand just 48 hours before the new smoking restrictions took effect. But the restaurant's staff said most people seemed pleased about the Brogue's decision to ban smoking.

"I think most people are happy actually. A lot of people who smoke said it will give them a chance to quit," said bartender Greg Fabitta.

Setting aside an area for smoking was not feasible for some restaurants, including some who would prefer to keep a smoking section.

In several cases, building and design constraints, in particular, would have made it difficult to create an entirely separate smoker's lounge.

For example, two of the most successful local restaurant groups, Clyde's and Great American, made a separate decision about each of their individual restaurants, partly based on the layout at each location.

Great American, which owns Jackson's, will not have indoor smoking at Mike's in Springfield, Artie's in Fairfax and the Sweetwater Tavern location in Sterling, largely because the design of those facilities does not make it easy to separate out a smoking area.

Clyde's does not plan to offer smoking at its Tysons Corner facility, where the bar sits directly at the front entrance. But it will have smoking rooms at its Alexandria and Ashburn locations, where the layout is more flexible.

The advantages some businesses have over others because of their facilities irks Jimmy Cirrito, the owner of Jimmy's in Herndon. He is concerned he will lose business to other local bars that can offer a lounge or a nice outdoor patio to smokers.

"My situation is unfair because I don't have a convenient way to let people smoke. Carpool has a patio. Ned Devine's has a patio," said Cirrito, whose restaurant has very little outdoor space.

The owner, who does not smoke, was opposed to the new smoking regulations in general, he said. But given a choice, he might have preferred something

SEE SMOKING BAN, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

WEEK IN HERNDON

FROM PAGE 4

Park near Reneau Way, had been owned by VDOT as part of the Herndon Parkway construction project. A pipe running beneath the parkway has been draining storm water into Runnymede Park, and the town's Department of Public Works (DPW) began looking for options that minimize the impact of the drainage on the 58-acre nature park. Following review and negotiations, the town and VDOT came to an agreement whereby the town is deeded the land at no cost and under two primary conditions: 1) it must be used solely for storm water retention; and 2) the project to retain storm water on the parcel must be completed within three years, by the end of CY 2012.

"This cooperation between VDOT and the town helps us to provide much-needed storm drainage improvements, as itemized in the town's Capital Improvement Program, by minimizing the impact of storm water runoff on Runnymede Park," said Robert B. Boxer, director of Public Works. According to Boxer, work on the project's survey and design is already under way, and the town anticipates completing the project by the 2012 deadline.

For more information, visit the town's Web site at www.herndon-va.gov.

Town Seeks To Expand 'Talent Bank'

The Town of Herndon is seeking applicants to serve on its boards and commissions, to include the Plan-

ning Commission, the Architectural Review and Heritage Review Boards, the Board of Zoning Appeals and various ad hoc committees.

"I urge all citizens who are interested in serving on one of our boards and commissions to get an application on file, so that when vacancies arise we have a qualified field from which to select candidates," said Mayor Steve DeBenedittis.

The Town Clerk's Office maintains a "talent bank" of applications to boards and commissions. The Town Council reviews talent bank applications when making selections to fill vacancies. Applications are available via the town's Web site, www.herndon-va.gov (Government/Town Council), and at the clerk's office in the Herndon Municipal Center, 777 Lynn St. A description of all boards and commissions is included on the application.

For more information or to update an application already on file, citizens may contact the clerk's office at 703-435-6804 or town.clerk@herndon-va.gov.

Chipotle Opens in Reston Town Center

Chipotle's newest burrito eatery opened to the public at 11913 Freedom Drive at Fountain Drive in Reston Town Center. The eatery is wheelchair accessible, with seating for 36 inside and four outdoors, hot music and cool atmosphere. Fax and online order pick up window. For fax forms or to order online, go to www.chipotle.com.

Major credit cards accepted.

The restaurant is open daily, from 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

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OPINION

Clearing the Air

New rules on smoking are flawed and fail to protect many workers, but still great step in right direction.

Non-smokers and families looking to eliminate exposure to second-hand smoke got an early and unlikely Christmas present from Gov. Tim Kaine and Virginia General Assembly on Dec. 1, when substantial restrictions on smoking in restaurants and bars went into effect.

Restaurants and bars in the Commonwealth are required to go smoke free. But many establishments will still be able to offer a smoking area.

If the business has the space and the financial ability, it is allowed to construct a separate smoking area, if it is completely walled off and has its own ventilation system.

This exception is unfortunate for several reasons.

First it is unfair to the businesses that do not have the space or wherewithal to add smoking rooms.

Other jurisdictions, like the District or Montgomery County, Md. have passed true smoking bans, leaving a level playing field for businesses. And overall, in Montgomery County and many other places, receipts at restaurants increased after the smoking ban went into effect.

Second, such restrictions fail to protect workers from the serious detrimental health effects of second-hand smoke, one of the key objectives of smoking restrictions. Especially in the current job market, restaurant workers are

more likely to feel compelled to continue to work in conditions that are hazardous to their health. A full ban on smoking in restaurants and bars would protect more workers.

Third, even with a separate ventilation system, many smoking rooms will continue to leach smoke into non-smoking areas every time the door is opened and closed. Those who want a truly smoke-free dining environment will still have to do a little research.

But even with all its flaws, the successful implementation of smoking restrictions in Virginia remains a bit of a miracle, and a blessing.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Upbeat Look at Business in 2009

Economic Development Authority has worked with companies to add 4,000 jobs to local economy.

BY GERALD L. GORDON
PH.D.

As 2009 draws to a close, it will be remembered as an especially significant year for Fairfax County's economy and for those who live and work here. And, the successes achieved this year will position the county and its residents well during the economic recovery and beyond.

The national unemployment rate topped 10 percent this year, and in many communities it is much higher. Job creation in many locations is non-existent. Meanwhile, in Fairfax County, we will end the year with about a 4.5 percent unemployment rate. My office has worked with dozens of companies that have added or will add more than 4,000 jobs to the economy. Decisions by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), Hilton Worldwide and The Ignite Institute to locate their corporate headquarters in Fairfax County are especially noteworthy.

Individually, each of these new headquarters operations would be leaders in any business community. Adding another Fortune 500 headquarters — SAIC is the county's seventh — is a tremendous achievement. Hilton, perhaps the world's best-known hotel



brand, and Ignite, a non-profit that is pioneering the field of personalized medicine, bring important new diversity to our economic base and business community. The same can be said of the 2007 addition of the headquarters operation of Volkswagen Group of America to Fairfax County.

Neither should we overlook the growth of the small and mid-sized firms that are the backbone of this and every economy. Of the more than 100 companies that the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority worked with this year, a vast majority of them are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees.

The successes of 2009 have important implications for Fairfax County taxpayers in 2010 and beyond. First, there will be more job opportunities, particularly compared to many other parts of the

nation. Second, a larger commercial tax base means residents bear less of the cost of providing the range of high-quality services funded by the county Board of Supervisors.

Third, new workers in our community buy homes, dine in restaurants and shop in local stores. Fourth, the broader the base of companies that are here, the greater the likelihood that our economy and commercial tax base will be stable and grow. And, finally, the quality of life for which Fairfax County is known will be improved by economic stability and growth.

The mission of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority is to build the commercial tax base by promoting the county as one of the world's best business locations — attracting companies here and working with them to stay and create jobs here and fill office space.

The FCEDA is proud of its success in 2009 to broaden the economic diversity of Fairfax County. It will help ensure that Fairfax County remains one of the best of the best places to work and live for decades to come.

Gerald L. Gordon Ph.D. is president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

THURSDAY/DEC. 17

Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce new and prospective members lunch, 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Dulles Regional Chamber's Chantilly Office, 3901 Centerview Drive, Suite R, Chantilly. Extensive networking on site; attendees are asked to bring business cards. Lunch will be provided. Pre-registration required at 571-323-5300 or dullesherndonregionalchamber.org.

Dulles Airport Manager's Annual Update. At the Westin Washington Dulles Airport, 2520 Wasser Terrace, Herndon. Reception 11:30 a.m., lunch 12 p.m. Airport Manager Chris Browne's annual review of how Dulles Airport fared in 2009 and what is coming in 2010. Committee for Dulles Members in advance \$45; at the door \$50. Non-members in advance \$55; at the door \$60. www.committeefordulles.org.

FRIDAY/DEC. 18

Pat Mullins at the Republican Club of Greater Reston. 7:30 p.m. in the Reston Community Center's Rose Gallery, Lake Anne, Reston. Pat Mullins, chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia, at the RCGR Christmas party. The public is welcome to this informal holiday gathering; appetizer or dessert contribution appreciated. Liquid refreshment provided. 703-406-9740.

THURSDAY/DEC. 24

Chantilly-Centreville Chamber of Commerce Monthly Power Networking Breakfast. 7:45-9:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select, Expo Center, Chantilly. Network, exchange business cards, develop prospects and introduce your company to other attendees. Those who register prior to the event will have their contact information provided to all attendees at registration. \$30 dollars for members. 703-815-6060 or dullesherndonregionalchamber.org.

THE CONNECTION

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NEWS



Vector 67 members are, from left, first row, Zane Holdstock (Leesburg), Jeffrey Russell (Herndon), Isabella Loparo (Lovettsville), Joshua Kobayashi (Langston Hughes Middle, Reston); and, second row, Luke Loparo (Lovettsville), Will Schrag (Herndon High, Herndon), and Justin Kobayashi (South Lakes High, Reston).

Area Students Win State Championship

Team Vector 67 wins first place overall.

A number of robotics teams from the Northern Virginia area participated in the FIRST Lego League (FLL) Virginia/DC State Championship Tournament at James Madison University in Harrisonburg.

The tournament had 750 children on 99 qualifying teams from

all over Virginia and D.C. competing over two days. The teams were divided into two age groups: 49 Division I teams made up of children ages 9-12, and 50 Division II teams made up of children ages 9-14. Each team was scored in four categories or events of the tournament: Robot Performance, Robot Design, Research Presentation and Teamwork.

The Sea Monsters (#1055), a Division I team sponsored by Lake Anne Elementary School in Reston, was made up of nine children

SEE ROBOTICS, PAGE 15



Hakuna Matata are, from left, Amaani Sirajuddin (Langston Hughes Middle), Julia Morgan (Herndon Middle), Isabel Hansen (Franklin Middle), Natalie Schauer (Langston Hughes Middle) and Junior Coach Priya Seetharaman (Langston Hughes Middle.)



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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/DEC. 17

Roosevelt, Truman and the Founding of Israel. 8 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, 1441 Wiehle Ave., Reston. Speakers will be Allis and Ronald Radosh, co-authors of A Safe Haven: Harry Truman and the Founding of Israel. Free and open to the public. 703-437-7733 or www.nvhcreston.org.

Elden Street Players in It's A Wonderful Life. 7:30 p.m. at Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$10, \$7 age 10 and under. www.eldenstreetplayers.org or 703-481-5930.

Holiday and Christmas Party. 7 p.m.-2 a.m. at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Old Town Herndon. Casino games, photos with Santa, dancing, prizes and more. Refreshments and hot drinks provided. Starting around 5:30, walk around Lake Anne to view holiday lights, then return to the museum for carols. Dress warmly and bring flashlights for the walk. www.restonmuseum.org or 703-709-7700.

Giant Menorah Lighting on the Plaza. 6 p.m. Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. A giant Menorah lit by Robert E. Simon, Jr., Reston's founder. Family entertainment, prize drawings, Chanukah donuts, latkes and chocolate gelt, free dreidels and balloons. Free, reserve at www.chabadrh.org

FRIDAY/DEC. 18

Natalie MacMaster: Christmas in Cape Breton. 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Celtic melodies and classic Christmas carols. Tickets are \$23-\$46. Youth through grade 12, half price when accompanied by an adult. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

The Prisoner of Zenda. 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageSpringHill.org.

Elden Street Players in It's A Wonderful Life. 7:30 p.m. at Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$10, \$7 age 10 and under. www.eldenstreetplayers.org, or 703-481-5930.

Sidewalk Book Sale and Signing. 5-8 p.m. Outside Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, at Elden and Spring Streets in Herndon. Civil War authors Chuck Mauro, Don Hakenson and Eric Buckland will sign and sell their books and movies on the Civil War and Herndon history. Partial proceeds to The Friends of Laura Ratcliffe. 703-435-JIMS.

SATURDAY/DEC. 19

Santa's Workshop. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Holiday fun for children ages 3 and up, to include a visit with Santa, holiday tattoos, games and lunch. \$7 per child, \$3 per adult (if eating lunch). 703-787-7300 or www.herndon-va.gov.

Breakfast with Santa. 9:30 a.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$10 per person for McLean district residents, \$15 per person for all others. Age 2 or younger are free. Advance registration required, no walk-ins permitted. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

Colvin Run Christmas Ball. 9 p.m. at Colvin Run Schoolhouse, 10201 Colvin Run Rd., Great Falls. Live music by The Helmut Licht band. \$15

dance, \$5 lesson. 703-795-2003 or www.colvinrun.org.

A Rockapella Holiday. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$21-\$42. Youth through grade 12 half price. Pre-Performance Discussion held 45 minutes prior to the performance. 703-993-8794.

The Prisoner of Zenda. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students.

www.1stStageSpringHill.org/zenda.
Elden Street Players in It's A Wonderful Life. 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$10, \$7 age 10 and under. www.eldenstreetplayers.org or 703-481-5930.

A Holiday Celebration at Reston Museum: The 45th Anniversary of Reston Pioneers Arrival & Lake Anne Lights Walk. 4:30 p.m. at 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. Meet some of Reston's original residents, hear and share stories of moving to Reston, and how it was back in the day. Watch a short video featuring first resident Julia Rogers. Refreshments and hot drinks provided. Starting around 5:30, walk around Lake Anne to view holiday lights, then return to the museum for carols. Dress warmly and bring flashlights for the walk. www.restonmuseum.org or 703-709-7700.

The League of Reston Artists Bluejeans and Bowties Holiday Party. 6-9 p.m. at Camden Dulles Station, 2330 Dulles Station Blvd., Herndon. Guests are encouraged to enter the "Edible Art" contest. Over 300 pieces of art on display in addition to artists selling small gift items. Canned food donations for Reston Interfaith will be collected. 202-607-6223 or www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

Christmas Party for Kids. 12:30-3:30 p.m. at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Old Town Herndon. Photos with Santa, coloring and crafts, TeGee's Dance Party, sing-along and more. \$11.95 per child; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Reservations encouraged, space limited. 703-435-JIMS or www.jimmystavern.com.

SUNDAY/DEC. 20

The Prisoner of Zenda. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students.

www.1stStageSpringHill.org/zenda.
Elden Street Players in It's A Wonderful Life. 2:30 p.m. at Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$10, \$7 age 10 and under. www.eldenstreetplayers.org or 703-481-5930.

Musical Winter Solstice Celebration. 3:30 p.m. at 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Bob Brown Puppets, the South Lakes High School Choir, native flutes, drumming and bag pipes, followed by a solstice celebration ceremony will be held beneath the moon around a bonfire, weather permitting. EcoStewardsAlliance.Org or MaureenESA@gmail.com.

MONDAY/DEC. 21

Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Reston's Used Book Shop, Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. www.lakeanneplaza.com

TUESDAY/DEC. 22

Live from Gran Teatre Del Liceu, Barcelona: Verdi's Il Trovatore. Transmitted live at 12 p.m., with a delayed broadcast at 7:30 p.m. at the Worldgate 9 Theatres, 13025 Worldgate Drive, Herndon.



Northern Virginia NTrak member Cotton Bowen explains how the trains run electrically.



Melissa Aru shows her son Owen the trains from a higher point of view.

Model Train Show Comes to Herndon

Engines, cabooses, and everything in between could be seen at the Holiday Model Train Show last weekend at the ArtSpace in Herndon.

Residents of all ages were entertained and intrigued by the trains on display.

The N scale track, displayed by the Northern Virginia NTrak club, occupied the larger room. Because a different member of the club owns each section of the track, the full track changes every time it is set up.

This club is known for their choices of scenery, which is left up to the owner of that section of

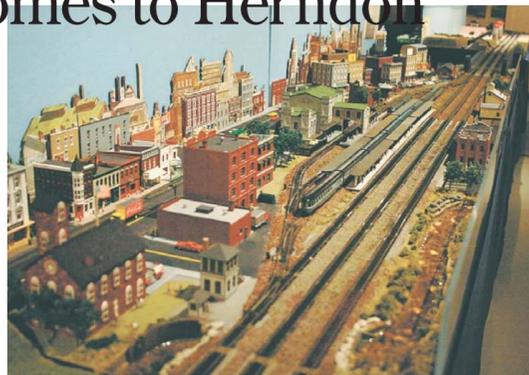
track. Member Cotton Bowen modeled his section after his father's hometown in New York, and says every scene is a family memory.

Everything from trees to stores, cars to people is represented to scale in these detailed scenes.

Other events that took place included tours of the W&OD Caboose, train movies, and toy tracks for the children to play with.

The Northern Virginia NTrak club presents shows all over the area and beyond. For more information, check out the group's Web site at www.nvtrak.org.

— STEPHANIE KNAPP



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'Peaceful House' on Display at Holiday Homes Tour

FROM PAGE 3

dinnerware in the china cabinet on a trip to California and given it to her husband, one or two pieces at a time, as gifts. "He couldn't figure out where she kept getting them around here," Waddell said.

"During the Depression, the house was converted to handle two families," said Florence Reese, as she showed tourists the stairs on the back porch, which the Robeys used to access the upstairs. Ernest Robey's pharmacy assistant and his family had moved in downstairs.

When Campbell and Fairfax remodeled the house, they found numerous toys, knickknacks and other items, including a report card with a failing math grade, in the floor of the second story, said Sandy Turner. "So children had used it for fantastic hiding places."

Two of the bedrooms upstairs now serve as studies, one for Campbell and the other for his wife. When the Robeys lived upstairs, what is now Fairfax's study was their kitchen, and the current master bedroom was the living room, Turner said.



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Scott Mayhugh, right, and Keven LeBlanc pose with their 'peacock tree,' one of the several Christmas trees placed in their house for the holidays.

THE HOME of Scott Mayhugh and Keven LeBlanc on Locust Street was built in 2006, but what it lacked in history it made up for in decorative character. Each room of the house had its own theme and color scheme, from the living room designed around a Louis VIII

chair to an art-deco guest room and the Tiffany-blue master bedroom.

"The color is fabulous. They have a huge knack for color," said Wendy Booma, adding that the couple had a gift for tying together bold hues.

Owned by two southerners — a

Cajun and a Creole — the house has its own name, La Maison Piacevole, a blend of French and Italian meaning peaceful house, said Diane D'Amico. "The theme of their home is home and entertainment and family," she said.

In keeping with the emphasis on family, artifacts from parents' and grandparents' lives were on display in each room, such as the boxing gloves that used to belong to Mayhugh's grandfather and the propeller of a plane that his father wrecked on the ground in flight school. Both were in the den, which doubled as a library.

With the vaulted ceiling covered in dark, lacquered tongue-and-groove boards and floor-to-ceiling bookshelves along one wall, the room had a warm, cozy feel. Dual ceiling fans with broad, leaf-shaped blades stirred the air.

In the dining room, the table was set with Noritake china, although Mayhugh and LeBlanc own several sets, as they like to entertain, D'Amico said.

A variety of artwork was on display, depending on the theme of the room. In the living room and much of the common area, French

prints of muscular women in slinky black dresses dancing and socializing with dapper men were prominent. A series of paintings by an Egyptian artist, depicting the creation of Eve, hung in the master bedroom, accompanied by prints from Louisiana. Among the art in the Asian-themed guest room were small Vietnamese pieces that looked like paintings but were hand-stitched.

Six full-size trees, including one on the front porch, were placed throughout the house for the holidays. Greeting visitors at the entrance was the Mardi Gras tree, topped with a pineapple, a symbol of southern hospitality.

THE HOUSE is three stories tall, and a montage of family photos in a variety of frames could be found on the second story, as well as numerous shadowboxes, many of them displaying souvenirs from LeBlanc's grandfather's service in the Korean War.

Among the items in Mayhugh's conservatory — he is a classically trained opera singer — are two pieces of metalwork from B.B. King's house, which he salvaged

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Smoking Ban Expands

FROM PAGE 4

closer to the stricter bans in Maryland or D.C. over the more lax regulations in Virginia.

If the ban was more universal, and no separately ventilated smoking rooms were allowed in general, bars like his would not be at a disadvantage when it came to smoking customers, he said.

CIRRITO was not the only one to worry about what his competitors were doing in response to the smoking ban.

Tyler Hudgins, a bartender at the Clyde's Tysons Corner location, said she was put more at ease when she heard other restaurants in the area like hers— including J. Gilbert's in McLean and the nearby Morton's location — were not moving ahead with plans to add smoking rooms. Had that happened, she might have lost some of her "scotch and cigar" patrons to those places.

"It is universal so it is not like we are going to lose business," she said.

Still, Clyde's and Chics 'n Wings are some of the only Tysons bars open until 1:30 a.m. regularly and



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

New restrictions on smoking in Virginia restaurants started Dec. 1.

Hudgins said it was possible that some patrons would chose to go to the latter because of the indoor smoking.

In general, the bartender and McLean resident said she was pleased that Clyde's was going smoke free.

"I don't like when it becomes smoky in here, even though I smoke when I go out drinking. ... And it will be nice not to get bronchitis this year," she said.

AMERICAN LEGION POSTS, Veterans of Foreign Wars locations

and country clubs, as private clubs, are exempt from the new rules.

In fact, Hearn's planned to start patronizing his local American Legion hall bar when Jimmy's officially went smoke free at the beginning of the month.

"If I am allowed to smoke in the [American Legion] bars, I will go there. But I will not come back to Jimmy's. I will never come back to this bar again, which is sad because this is a great bar," said Hearn's.

Still, smokers may not be safe at the American Legion for long. A group of members at Post 180 in Vienna have already started a campaign to get their bar to comply with state regulations.

Even though it doesn't have to, the Vienna Post decided to go smoke-free at the main bar and only allow cigarettes in a smaller game room as of Dec. 1.

"Some of our older members are very anti-smoking. This smoking ban, they saw it as an opportunity to push no smoking here," said Rick Hodgins, who sat with a pack of menthol cigarettes and an ashtray at the American Legion's bar Dec. 1.

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SPORTS

Reston Little League Names New Board of Directors

Sports Notes:
gymnast Strug visits
local community.

Reston Little League recently implemented a Board of Directors. The members of the youth organization met on Oct. 25 and voted to form a Board of Directors composed of 18 positions to govern and guide the activities of the league. At a meeting on Nov. 12, the board met to determine and vote on the duties for which board members would be responsible. Also at the meeting, Outgoing President Jeff Thomas and Vice President Alan Altschuler were recognized for their contributions to Reston Little League. During their four years of leadership, both provided outstanding service to the community through their stewardship of the league.

During the 2009 season, Reston Little League opened a new concession stand with permanent restrooms and a new training center. The season ended in July with the league successfully hosting the Virginia State Baseball Tournament for 10/11-year-olds at Fred Crabtree Park.

The new board will continue Reston Little League's focus on the development of baseball skills, sportsmanship and developing a love for the game of baseball through a fun, family-oriented organization.

The new Board of Reston Little League is: Craig Sablosky (president); Frank Lynch (vice president); Bob Waggoner (treasurer); Paul Allen (secretary); Mike Curcio (League information officer); Kent Overholt (player agent); Brian Schweppe (director of safety and training); David Pollock (chief umpire); David Grossman (quartermaster); Tom Fahey (Majors commissioner); Jeff Gallo-way (Triple-A commissioner); Will Hilder (Double-A commissioner); Kevin Smith (Single-A commissioner); Mike Louko (T-Ball commissioner); Scott McIntosh (Challenger commissioner); Tom Dubler (fields commissioner); Greg Arakelian (scheduler); and Mike Nielsen (member at large). Participating on the Board in non-voting positions are: Jeff Thomas (capital improvements); Tammy Heinemann (fund raising); and Ray Boatwright (registrar). Reston Little League was established in 1972 and is a member of Virginia's District 4. The League's boundary includes the greater Reston and Herndon community with more than 600 players participating every spring. Reston Little League offers a fun and competitive baseball experience for players ages 5 to 12.

Former Olympian gymnast Kerri Strug, who captured the heart of the U.S. at the 1996 Summer Olympics (Atlanta) with a one-legged landing on vault that solidified the USA team's winning of the gold, was in Sterling last month. Strug stopped by NVGA Gymnastics, which she has been visiting regularly, to share her gym-



The Northern Virginia Blaze U-18 girls' travel softball team, made up of players from all around Northern Virginia, captured the championship at the Winchester Fall Shakedown Tournament last month. The team was 6-0 for the weekend. Back row, from left, are assistant Eric Cohen, assistant JJ Foster, Kayla Lherisse, Debbie Ward, Rachel Leonard, Emmaline Lofaro, Karysa McPherson, Hanna Joseck, Laura Jennings, Karen Johnson and head coach Eric Snyder; and front row, Nina Rodriguez (Reston), Natalie Eichner, Courtney Conklin and Ali Cohen.

nastics knowledge and to work with the NVGA program's competitive gymnasts.

At the 1996 Olympics, Strug competed with six other American gymnasts, including Shannon Miller and Dominique Moceanu, under the direction of head coaches Marta and Bela Karolyi. The team, often called the Magnificent Seven, struggled against the Russian team to win the all-around gold medal. On the last day of team competition, Strug needed a high score on vault in order for the American team to win. On her first attempt, she severely injured her ankle, causing many spectators to fear she could not complete a second attempt. Despite the injury, Strug went on to complete her second attempt, scoring a 9.7 and winning the gold medal for the Americans. She is famous for her perseverance, resilience and sportsmanship at those 1996 Games and continues to be a positive role model for young gymnasts.

Registration is now open for the Spring 2010 season of **Herndon-Reston Youth Lacrosse**. Registration is open through February to youth in the Herndon and Reston areas for girls and boys, ages 6 to 15. No experience is needed. Separate teams are available for boys and girls in age divisions U-15, U-13, U-11 and U-9, with various levels of play based on experience and skill level. The teams compete in the Northern Virginia Youth Lacrosse League (www.nvyll.org) against opponents from throughout Northern Virginia. Equipment rental and financial assistance is available. The season begins in March and runs through the second week of June. For more information on the league and to register, visit www.HRYL.org.

The Sterling Lions Club hosted the 31st Annual Terry McGowan Invitational Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 12 at Park View High School. Participating teams were expected to be the host Patriots along with West Potomac (Alexandria), Charlottesville High (Charlottesville), Rappahannock High (Washington, Va.) and

local Briar Woods High. Individual medals were to be awarded to first through fourth place finishers. There was to be a Sportsmanship Award given to the wrestler exhibiting the qualities of fair play, enthusiasm and discipline in the tournament.

Sterling Lion member Dwight Brooks has chaired the event for the past 16 years and has worked on the event for 29 years, since becoming a member of the Sterling Lions Club in 1980. Brooks took over the chairmanship of the event after the original chairman and namesake, Terry McGowan, moved from the area to retire in Victoria, Texas in 1993.

The event allows ranked teams and their wrestlers to compete against other top contenders from schools that they may not compete against during the regular season schedule.

Sterling Lions President Dale Pontiff said the Sterling Lions depend on the support of the local community. "The event is no longer a fundraiser, but a youth outreach service project," Pontiff said. For more information on the Lions Club of Sterling, see the group's Web page [SterlingLions.googlepages.com] or call Mike Ryan, at 703-723-0077.

Fit Kids is hosting basketball classes for youngsters ages 3 to 5 at the Douglass Community Center beginning Jan. 14 for three weeks. Classes will introduce children to the basics of dribbling, shooting, passing and more. Sign up at webtrac.loudoun.gov or call 703-771-5913. Class registration numbers are 204123-01 for age 3 and 204123-02 for ages 4 and 5.

Get those future NHL-ers off to a good start. Floor Hockey is a super sport for young players with tons of energy. This class for ages 3 to under-7 is aimed at developing physical skills and hand-eye coordination. It will focus on the fundamentals of hockey, teamwork and sportsmanship. Classes take place at the Claude Moore Recreation Center on Tuesdays Jan. 5-26 from 12-12:40 p.m., with another class at 4:45-5:25 p.m. Class registration numbers are

273140-01 and 273140-02. Register online at webtrac.loudoun.gov or call 571-258-3600.

Fire and Ice Girls Fast Pitch Teams, ages 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U have limited openings for experienced players on their spring travel teams. For more information, call Mother Ice at 703-980-9951.

Lower Loudoun Little League has opened registration for the Spring 2010 season for players ages 5 to 18 (age as of April 30, 2010) living in the Sterling/Cascades/Potomac Falls area. Early Bird registration ends Dec. 31. Visit the league Web site at llbaseball.com for more information or to register online.

Matt McLean of Sterling, a junior at the University of Virginia and a member of the Cavaliers' swim team, recently received a pair of swimming honors. He earned ACC Performer of the Week accolades (Nov. 10) and was also named the NCAA Division I Men's Swimmer of the Week by CollegeSwimming.com. In UVA's 165-125 team victory over Kentucky, McLean won both the 200 and 500 freestyle events. He clocked a mark of 1:38.08 in the 200, which qualified him for the national "B" cut. He also won the 500 in 4:26.48, the fastest time in the ACC this season, for another qualifying "B" cut.

The Sterling Golf, Swim and Tennis Club had its fifth annual Mega Scramble. The weather, unfortunately, did not cooperate. Top prize was a four-day, three-night travel package to each member of the winning team. First place went to Don Christenson, Ken Albanese and Todd Murphy. The second-place team, made up of Doug Mallory, Sean Mallory and Thomas Breedan, received a three-day, two-night travel package. Dave Bryant won the Carnival Cruise in the Putting Contest and Mike Yannello won the opportunity for a 60-foot putt, but was 2 inches short for the \$5,000 prize.

Cascades Flag Football League in Sterling concluded its fall season. Consisting of 375 players on 39 teams and four grade divisions, the league had its annual end of season tournaments Nov. 7-8. The tournaments featured 35 games on three fields. Four teams won championships with the Vikings finishing off an undefeated season and winning the kindergarten-first grade division. Other division winners were: the Patriots (grades two and three); the Rams (grades four and five); and Falcons (middle school division). Registration for the Spring 2010 season is now open at youthflag.com/cascades.

Cascades Flag Football is a youth league open to boys and girls grades kindergarten to eighth. The Spring 2010 season starts April 5. Early bird rates apply through Feb. 12. For more information on coaching or officiating, call 703-444-8805, ext. 112, or e-mail cascades@youthflag.com.



Yvonne Lynch and Beverly Harris volunteer at the clinic.

Free Clinic Finds New Home

Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic moves to the Herndon's Dulles Technology Drive.

BY JANELLE L. PLUMMER
THE CONNECTION

The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic has found a new home this December.

Meagan Ulrich, the executive director of the free clinic, said the move would not only give the clinic more space, but also allow for partnerships with all the co-located organizations.

According to the JSFC, the clinic will be partnering with other non-profit organizations serving low-income neighbors as part of the Connections for Hope located at 13525 Dulles Technology Drive in Herndon.

Ulrich said the clinic served 949 patients last year.

"We have had a 62 percent growth in patient visits [this year]," Ulrich said. "We attribute this to the economic downturn."

Nevertheless, Ulrich said the clinic anticipates serving at least 30 percent more in the upcoming fiscal year.

The JSFC clinic provides free medical care for adults with hypertension or diabetes and all children in the Herndon, Reston, Centreville and Chantilly communities who are at or below the 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

Dr. Mark Hughes, the medical director at the clinic, said volunteers like him want to see people get the care that they need.

"[Currently], we are in one room divided by a curtain," Dr. Hughes said. "It's pretty crowded and noisy. [The move] is a huge step up for us."

Janet Lillestolen, a volunteer registered nurse at the clinic, said she enjoys that people are being helped. "The move is going to bring about treatment rooms."



Dr. Colleen Kivlahan and a patient at the Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic in Herndon.

Lillestolen said. "It will better serve the clients."

In the end, Ulrich said the volunteers are the driving force behind the free clinic. "Volunteers function at every level of the clinic from the board to the medical providers to administrative support," Ulrich said. "Without volunteer support, we would not be able to see the number of patients we [care for] or provide the comprehensive level of care offered."

The clinic provides children's services, which include short term non-emergency medical care, health screenings, school and sports physicals, medications, specialty referrals, and dental and vision screenings.

Services for adults with high blood pressure and diabetes include full primary medical care including preventative screenings, prescription medicines, health education, diagnostic testing and repeat visits with a medical provider.

In addition, JSFC serves as a site for torture evaluations, and referrals for the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JEANIE SCHMIDT FREE CLINIC

"Serve-Us" Contracts?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Can someone please explain to me the pros and cons of these after market, service contracts, available for purchase after your car dealer's/manufacture's warranty/warranties have expired? Their solicitations on television, radio and print are almost replacing the credit card companies in their vigorous pursuit of American consumers. Just yesterday, I received in the mail, what looked like a very official, certified-type, for your-eyes-only directive, aimed very specifically at yours truly, owner of an expiring automobile warranty. When I tore the four perforated sections and opened the remaining fold, what I found was yet another "If your car is not more than 15 years old and has less than 200,000 miles on it" offer of automobile repair and maintenance relief.

However, since I wasn't born yesterday (or even the day before), I can't help being cautious and concerned about the "relief" offered. Moreover, I can't help thinking that there's likely so much fine print, finely printed, that I won't be able to read or, won't likely understand, that as a car owner with future repair bills ahead, what I'll likely be relieved of is my money, not my worry about those future bills. But what do I know? As has been proven in this space many times before, not much.

My instincts, as a former Life & Health insurance broker, is to be concerned – and to plan for – worst case scenarios and pre-existing conditions (meaning exclusions). With respect to life and health insurance, I am well aware of the issues and conditions under which medical and lifestyle-type, pre-existing conditions/considerations might adversely affect one's coverage. However, I don't have near that same level of experience and instinct when it involves car repairs and maintenance. What little I can say is, with absolute certainty, that the longer a car is driven/owned and the more miles it accumulates, the more likely repairs will be needed. And if I may presume a little bit more, the more expensive and involved those repairs likely will be.

That presumption being logical and agreed to, in theory; why would companies take on that unfunded – and likely undocumented by the car's owner – commitment, to assume liability of future repair bills likely to be "major:" engine, transmission, struts, gaskets, etc., as listed in the company's advertisements? Further presuming that these companies are not in business to lose money and are not advertising (putting their money where their marketing mouths are) because they are stupid, I'm left with no other conclusion than to paraphrase one of my recently deceased father's favorite expressions: the idea must have merit.

Still, I can't get past the "If it sounds too good to be true..." feel of these promotions/assurances. Are these companies regulated in some way like Life and Health, and Property and Casualty insurance companies are? Must these service-contract companies have a certain amount of cash reserves on hand to pay for their future – and as yet undetermined – liabilities? Have they been vetted/investigated/researched and/or evaluated by consumer groups, consumer magazines or even Consumer Agencies? Has the Better Business Bureau done any due diligence?

I understand the coverage is not free. However, if I am to believe – and ultimately buy in to – all that I hear, read and see about these reassuring offers, I'd have to be crazy to not want to learn more and see if I really can eliminate the worry I will admit to having, about these inevitable future car repairs. But I'm hesitating. I must be crazy, right? (Maybe that's a side effect of the oral chemotherapy?)

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

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NEWS

Teams Bring Home Trophies

FROM PAGE 7

dren who all attend Lake Anne Elementary School and reside in Reston, Herndon and Vienna. They were the winners of the Second Place Trophy in the category of Robot Performance.

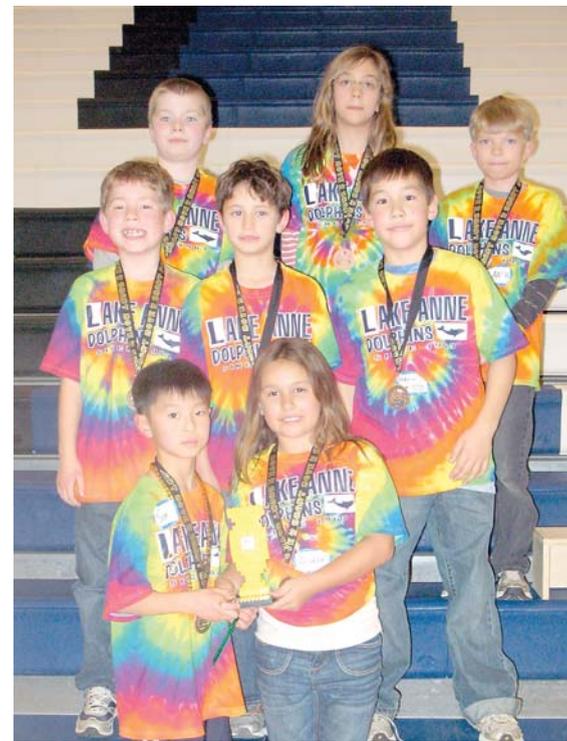
Team Hakuna Matata (#5361), a Division II team representing Franklin, Herndon and Langston Hughes middle schools, consisted of four team members and a volunteer junior coach residing in Herndon, Reston and Oak Hill. They were the winners of the Second Place Trophy in the category of Teamwork.

Team Vector 67 (#6089), a Division II team, consisted of three team members representing Langston Hughes Middle, Herndon High and South Lakes High schools residing in Herndon and Reston, and four home schooled members residing in Herndon, Leesburg and Lovettsville. Their combined score in all four categories won them First Place overall, making them the winner of the State Championship Tournament.

They were awarded the prestigious First Place Champion's Award.

The next level of competition is the FLL 2010 World Festival in April 2010 where 84 teams from the U.S. and all over the world meet to compete in Atlanta, Ga.

In the event that Virginia/D.C. receives an invitation to attend the FLL 2010 World Festival, Vector 67, as the Division II winner of the State Championship Tournament, will



The Lake Anne Elementary School Sea Monsters are, from left, first row, Samuel Kobayashi (Reston) and Gizelle Walter (Herndon); second row, Evan Luczko (Reston), Nico Lagendyk (Vienna) and Andrew Barrett (Vienna); and, third row, Patrick Keefer (Herndon), Madeline Emmert (Reston) and Ian Hulbert (Reston).

represent Virginia and Washington, D.C. at this Festival. This invitation process will be finalized at the end of February 2010.

More information on the State Tournament and the World Festival invitation process can be found at: www.vadcfll.org/championship/awards.html and <http://usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fll/content.aspx?id=766>.

FAITH NOTES

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

Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, will hold several Advent and Christmas events. Contact 703-430-7872 or www.dranesvillebrethren.org.

❖ **A Chance to Serve: Grate Patrol.** 2:30 p.m. Dec. 19. Collecting Christmas cookies to be distributed along with bag meals, soup and clothing to the homeless in D.C. Volunteers will also be needed to help bag cookies and prepare meals.

❖ **LINK Toy Collection.** 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 19. Volunteers are needed to help distribute toys to families. Unwrapped toys, batteries included, will be collected through Advent, and transported to Herndon United Methodist Church 4 p.m. Dec. 18 for distribution.

❖ **Christmas Worship Service.** 11 a.m. Dec. 20. Theatrical reading and music to focus hearts and minds on the coming of the Christ Child.

❖ **Peace Service: Remembering the Battle of Dranesville.** 7 p.m. Dec. 20. Worship and remembrance to recall the historic battle, remember those who lost their lives, and pray for peace.

❖ **Christmas Eve Worship.** 7:30 p.m. Dec. 24. Traditional Christmas music, worship and communion to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Community of Faith United Methodist Church, 13224

Franklin Farm Road, Herndon, will have several holiday services. Contact www.cof-umc.org or 703-620-1977.

❖ **The Longest Night: A Service of Heal-**

ing, Hope and Encouragement. 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 21. The loss of loved ones, financial insecurity, broken relationships, ill health or other factors can leave people feeling down in this season of celebration and good cheer. The Longest Night Service is a reminder that even on the darkest day, Christ comes to offer light into the world.

❖ **Christmas Eve Worship Service for Young Children.** 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 25. A 25-minute service specially prepared for preschool and young children.

❖ **Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Services.** 7:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 25. All are invited to be a part of the joyous celebration of Christmas.

The United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive in Reston, will hold four Christmas Eve services on Thursday, Dec. 24. The United Christian Parish is an ecumenical church combining the United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), United Church of Christ and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Contact 703-620-3065 or www.unitedchristianparish.org.

❖ 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. For families with young children.

❖ 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Including scripture lessons and special music.

A Birthday Party for Jesus at Reston Presbyterian Church, 10610 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, on Saturday, Dec. 19, 1-2:30 p.m. for parents and children. Play games and eat birthday cake. New shoes for needy children overseas through Buckner International and canned goods for the Salvation Army Food Bank will be collected. 703-759-5515, rpckids@ilovejesus.net or www.rpconnected.org.

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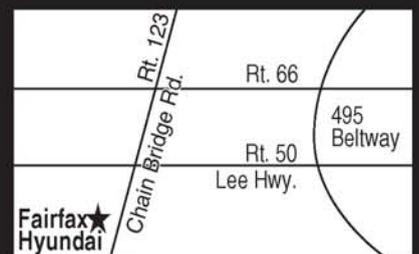
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