

Girls basketball team reads with Hutchison Elementary students through Readers Are Leaders. Pictured: Herndon High student Mayumi Shill and Karla Vargas Veizaga of Hutchison Elementary read together.

Readers Lead at Herndon Schools

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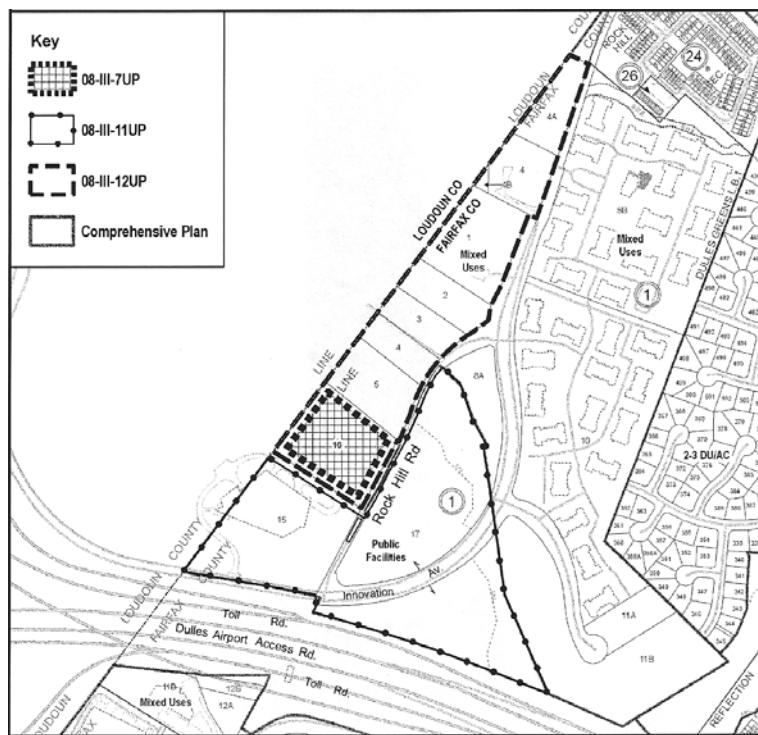
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The land in question lies against the western county line, north of the Dulles Toll Road and west of the town of Herndon. The Route 28 station is planned to be built just west of the toll road's intersection with Route 28.

DRAWING COURTESY FAIRFAX COUNTY



Recommendations Completed For Route 28 Development

Special study task force recommends densities depend on proximity to Metro station.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

It was late into the night when Herndon Planning Commissioner Kevin East and former commissioner David Swan, both members of the special study task force examining proposals for development near the Route 28 metro station, suggested that the group should make one set of recommendations for the entire 48 acres in question, rather than lay out guidelines for the three proposed developments individually. Density should consistently be determined by proximity to the planned Metro station, they both said.

"I see too many proposals that get a lot of momentum, a lot of push to get them in the Comprehensive Plan, and they fail," East said, adding that either the county's planning document then would have to be redone yet again or a new developer would be locked into the proposal that had fallen through. "What's important to the Comprehensive Plan is having language in there that serves the purpose of land use, not the purpose of a developer," East said.

It was an approach that the task force ended up adopting at its final meeting in Hutchison Elementary School, one that ran until about midnight on Monday, Dec. 14.

THE CITIZEN GROUP, appointed by Supervisor John Foust (D-Darnestown) had been meeting since late October to discuss changes to the Comprehensive Plan proposed by the owners of three adjoining properties straddling the Fairfax and Loudoun county line, between the town of Herndon and Route 28. The task force, which reports to the Fairfax County Planning Commission, only had authority to consider Fairfax County's portion of the proposals. About 70 acres of the proposed Dulles World Center development would lie in Loudoun County. As proposed, the

three developments together would result in almost 3,300 dwelling units, 4.7 million square feet of office space, 850,000 square feet of retail and 600,000 square feet of hotel space.

East and Swan suggested that any reference to the individual parcels in question be eliminated from the task force's recommendation. Instead, they said, guidelines for density, as well as the transportation grid, mix of uses, parks, parking, pedestrian-friendliness, "transportation demand management" — the elimination of vehicle trips — for the entire area should be considered as if it were a single parcel.

East proposed that development within a quarter mile of the station be limited to a maximum density of 2.28 floor-area ratio (FAR), meaning that 2.28 square feet of floor space be allowed for each square foot of land. The number came from the Center for Innovative Technology's (CIT) estimate that this would be the density that would be required for the center's proposal to introduce 2.4 million square feet of development. The CIT is a nonprofit organization chartered by the state to create local, innovative businesses, and it owns the property closest to the planned Metro station and the only property up for consideration within half a mile of the station. About half of its property lies outside that radius.

East proposed that the area between one-fourth and one-half mile of the station be limited to a density of 2.0 FAR and that the small slice north of the half-mile radius top out at 1.5 FAR.

"[County] staff didn't recommend this kind of density," task force member Rich Bliss said. Bliss had said from the beginning that he thought the task force was premature in making recommendations for the site, but after his remark, the group ended up voting that staff should translate its recommendations for density into a scheme related to proximity to the

SEE METRO, PAGE 5



CONTRIBUTED

Stefan Jacoby; Donna Morea, NVTC Board Chair and President, CGI, U.S., Europe & Asia; and Consumer Electronic Association's President and CEO Gary Shapiro.

Volkswagen's Stephan Jacoby Meets Area Business Leaders

Jacoby discusses company's long-term focus on innovation.

Stefan Jacoby, president and CEO of the Volkswagen Group of America, spoke Friday, Dec. 11, to a group of 440 business and technology leaders at The Ritz-Carlton in Tysons Corner as part of the Northern Virginia Technology Council's (NVTC) 2009-2010 Titans series. In his speech, titled "Driving the Future through Innovation and Responsibility," Jacoby outlined the Volkswagen Group's long-term growth strategy in the U.S. and the important role sustainability will play in the automotive industry's future.

As the largest technology council in the nation, NVTC invites technology and business leaders to address its members through its signature Titans series, covering a wide range of current business and technology topics. Jacoby joins a distinguished list of past presenters that includes Forbes Media's Steve Forbes, Microsoft's Bill Gates, Dell's Michael Dell, and the Consumer Electronics Association's Gary Shapiro.

In discussing Volkswagen's move to Northern Virginia, Jacoby praised NVTC for being "instrumental in making Virginia the premier place to do business in the U.S." He explained that the atmosphere within the Volkswagen

Group of America reflects the core values of this area — innovation, creativity and collaboration — and that the company plans to grow its U.S. business more than three-fold in the next 10 years. "From our Herndon headquarters, we see a clear way forward," said Jacoby. When answering audience questions after his remarks, Jacoby addressed Volkswagen's desire to work with local suppliers as the company expands its U.S. brand.

While applauding the reliability of the combustion engine, Jacoby discussed the company's long-term focus on second-generation biofuels, electric cars, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and nanotechnology. He also described clean diesel, optimized gasoline engines, and advanced computer systems that will improve miles per gallon and emissions.

"These technologies will eliminate the fuel-wasting gridlock that is regrettably all too familiar to the Northern Virginia commuter," said Jacoby. He added that these types of innovations would put "cars on the road that get 50, 60 or 70 miles per gallon," within the next 10 years. Jacoby also discussed the need for better infrastructure nationwide if plug-in vehicles are ever going to reach higher levels of popularity in the United States.

"From our Herndon headquarters, we see a clear way forward."

— Stefan Jacoby

OPINION

Happy Holidays

A time to reflect,
a time to share.

For the observant of any faith, and even for the more secular among us, the close of the year brings ritual, magic, reflection and hope.

In events around the area, a sense of community has infused holiday parades, Christmas tree lightings, menorah lightings, choral performances, singing of carols, and other traditional events with warmth and joy.

EDITORIAL In Great Falls, it was the 19th lighting of the Christmas tree, with holiday songs by the Langley Madrigals. In Reston, Santa arrived by boat across Lake Anne in a snow squall. In Alexandria, the Scottish Christmas Walk announced the beginning of the season despite the wet snow. In Clifton, the Christmas spirit was celebrated in a candlelight homes tour, among other events. In Fairfax, one congregation built a 7-foot-tall menorah out of Legos. And in every community, volunteers have come together to provide food, clothing and some holiday cheer for the needy.

2009 has been a challenging year for many

families, businesses, schools, charitable organizations. As the year comes to an end, we can count our blessings. Here in the Washington suburbs most of us have been spared the intense difficulties of the economic downtown. We'll all likely to welcome 2010 with optimism and relief.

Next week between Christmas and New Years, look for our annual Children's Connection, when we turn our entire paper over to the contributions of area students — artwork of many kinds, poetry and other writing. Our next regular edition will come out the week of Jan. 4, 2010.

From the all the staff here, we wish you a merry Christmas, a happy Hanukkah, joyful holidays and a wonderful beginning to the New Year.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Give Locally

Remember that more local families are in

need right now than ever before; thankfully, most of us are in a position to help. It's not too late to brighten the holidays for a needy family as many organizations are reporting record demand for holiday meals and help with providing children at least one present. The need will continue into the New Year as well.

Where to Donate

- ❖ Reston Interfaith, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston Serving Reston and Herndon 571-323-9555 www.restoninterfaith.org
- ❖ SHARE of McLean Food Pantry Located in the McLean Baptist Church 703-284-2179 www.SHAREofMcLean.org P.O. Box 210 McLean, VA 22101
- ❖ Herndon-Reston FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 703-391-0105.
- ❖ Northern Virginia Family Service, Oakton, 703-385-3267
- ❖ Shelter House, www.shelterhouse.org, operates two homeless shelters in Fairfax County, in Centreville and Seven Corners. 571-522-6800
- ❖ Committee for Helping Others (CHO), Vienna, 703-281-7614.



Brianna Moses of Herndon High reads with Hutchison Elementary student Tania Vargas.



High schooler Carlon Chambers reads with Hutchison Elementary student Payam Eshtab.

Readers Lead at Herndon Schools

Girls basketball team reads with Hutchison Elementary students through Readers Are Leaders.

The Readers Are Leaders program gives Herndon High School athletes the opportunity to serve

as role models and mentors in area elementary schools. These student athletes are paired with elementary students in first through sixth

grades. The student athletes attend a training program with the reading specialist to help equip them to engage in supportive reading activities with the students weekly.

Each week, the athletes come to read with and mentor an elementary student at Hutchison Elementary School. Incentives and books are given to the students each week of

the 10-week program, which is mutually beneficial to the young readers and to the student athletes.

Readers Are Leaders is a non-profit program founded by Wendell Byrd in 2002. Byrd is retired from coaching the South Lakes High School boy's basketball team and teaching second grade at Hutchison Elementary.

THE CONNECTION

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NEWS

Metro Shapes Area Planning

FROM PAGE 3

Metro station.

In October, county planners had proposed a maximum density for the CIT property that was in line with the center's request, totaling 1,110,344 square feet of development on 25.5 acres. They had suggested a maximum total of 958,320 square feet on the other two parcels, which total 22 acres, most of which would be within half a mile of the station.

This was less than had been requested.

THE CIT DEVELOPMENT was proposed as primarily office and residential space, as well as 300 hotel rooms and limited retail space. Dulles World Center, most of which would lie in Loudoun, is to have a more even mix of uses, and the swath of land to its north was also proposed as a mixed-use development, but staff recommended that it be approved only for 420 residential units. Most of the properties in the northernmost section of land under consideration stretch into Loudoun, so it is probable that the development will extend beyond Fairfax County.

Whether landowners could build to the maximum density would depend on the types of uses in their developments and whether they met a host of criteria and conditions for streetscape features, parks, parking, street-level retail — even under parking garages — well-integrated design and others. Moreover, development would hinge on transportation improvements like road construction and expansion, as well as “transportation demand management” plans to reduce single-occupant car trips. This could include transit services, shuttles, HOV lanes and guaranteed-ride-home programs, among other options.

The task force specified that developers should be required to submit studies of proposed developments’ impacts on traffic and plans to keep traffic flowing. Task force member Pam Dutton proposed that the Comprehensive Plan should specify that traffic studies “should demonstrate that any impact to traffic can be mitigated by phasing in development in such a way that effective transportation methods will be in place or substantially completed, including TDM (transportation demand management) measures, Metro

rail service and road improvements, before proceeding with proposed developments.” The group decided that such improvements might not be able to be in place before development began but should at least be approved and funded before building was authorized.

“There ought to be a commitment to fix it before you break it,” task force member Rich Bliss quipped.

The group also made countless recommendations on the specifics of the proposed communities, which it said should cumulatively create a compact, mixed-use community with a focus on mass transit and pedestrian-friendliness. These included specifications for wide sidewalks, a grid of streets, “multi-modal” transportation systems, discouraging freestanding and drive-through establishments, and encouraging plazas, bike lanes, pedestrian safety and large tree preservation, as well as many other recommendations.

MANY SUGGESTIONS were discarded, such as task force member Kathleen Murphy’s persistent requests for a trolley system and car-free communities, or Bliss’s insistence that references to “harmonious architectural and other design features” celebrating the CIT building should be struck. Calling the landmark, top-heavy black glass building “one of the weirdest structures I’ve ever seen,” Bliss said, “It makes me nervous. I feel like it’s going to fall over.” He added, “I don’t want to see upside-down pyramids all over the site.”

Task force Chairman John Ulfelder said he didn’t think that was the intent of the language.

A proposal that no structure be higher than the CIT building, however, was also struck down.

The group also suggested that an interjurisdictional team consisting of representatives from Fairfax County, Loudoun County and the town of Herndon help the localities cooperate to prioritize and fund necessary road improvements surrounding the developments, monitor reductions in single-occupancy vehicles, create a regional trails plan and other goals.

The task force’s recommendations will now be forwarded to the county Planning Commission, which will make its own recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

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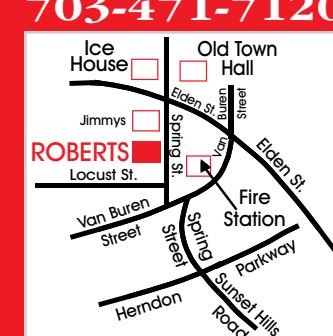
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Joyous and Heartfelt Performance

'Oklahoma!' at Herndon High School.

BY STEVE EINHORN
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The horizon stretches on for miles, wheat fields sway in the sweeping wind and love complicates the simple lives of frontier folk. Indeed, "Oh, what a beautiful morning," it was at Herndon High School, where the tragedy and comedy of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" was unfolded with enthusiasm and glee.

Opening on Broadway in 1943, "Oklahoma!" propelled the then unknown Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II to their first critical success. An iconic musical, "Oklahoma!" tells the tale of the blossoming romance of cocky but charming cowboy Curly (Trevor Morgan) and the feisty farm girl Laurey (Evi Dobbs) in a tiny town near Kansas City. But when jealous Jud Fry (Ian Gildea) finds a fancy for Laurey, he won't let anybody stop him from claiming her.

With a plethora of talent, Herndon High School's production of this iconic tale was joyous and heartfelt and well deserving of the standing ovation it received.

Morgan lassoed the character of Curly in with charisma and sweet, controlled vocals that swelled beautifully over difficult but classic songs such as "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," and "Surrey with a Fringe on Top." As Laurey, Dobbs did a beautiful job conveying her character through her lovely vocals and strong-willed personality. As the malignant and malicious Jud Fry, Gildea demonstrated an intimidating stage presence and beautiful baritone.

"Oklahoma!" would not be complete without its subplot of the erratic Ado Annie (Ashleigh Markin) and her two suitors- the spirited Will Parker (Joey Truncle) and the prince of con, Ali Hakim (Andy Raoufi). Markin portrayed Ado Annie with an innocent air and her comedic antics constantly entertained. Truncle tackled Will Parker with his cheeky grin, luscious leaps and dance steps and all-around superb portrayal. Raoufi possessed a



Tiffany Schick plays the wise and witty Aunt Eller.

knack for comedic timing as Ali Hakim and his energy was always maintained.

Tiffany Schick was amusing as the harebrained and loving Aunt Eller and Sara Talebian was perfectly obnoxious in her characterization of Gertie Cummings, a good thing as this is what the character called for. Other memorable characters included Dimitri Gann as Ike Skidmore and James Snow as Andrew Carnes. As the Dream Laurey in the 15-minute ballet, which was excellently executed, Kirsten Lloyd was elegant in her brilliant balletic moves. "Oklahoma!" was brought to life by its well-designed sets (Megan Warren, Calvin Rayburn, Hope Ruffner and Logan Peter) and lighting (Giovanni Jiminez and Byron Liveoak). The orchestra was lively and exquisitely spot-on for a tremendously difficult Broadway score. Choreography by Callie Harman, Erika Radakowski, Kirsten Lloyd and Allison Dyke was well done, however the execution of it was not always in sync.

Although the last scene fell somewhat flat as did a character or two, the energy was abundant throughout Herndon High School's production of this timeless show and with its strong principles and technical elements Herndon High roped in a sure-fire winner that anybody can't say no to.

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.cofumc.org or 703-620-1977.

The Longest Night: A Service of Healing, 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.

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.

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 Inter-

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.

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.

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 703-770-7700.

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.

697 Spring St., Old Town Herndon.

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

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.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

Flight from Extinction: Helping Whooping Cranes Survive, 7 p.m. at U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Brian Forst and "Terrorism and Crime and Public Policy". Signed copies will be available at the Reston Museum & Shop, Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston.

Friday, December 25, 2009

Violinist Augustin Hadelich and the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra

8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. 7 p.m. pre-concert lecture free to ticketed patrons. Tickets \$25-\$55, available at 1-888-945-2468 or Tickets.com.

THURSDAY/JAN. 7

Open Mic for Bands Night, 9 p.m. at Jimmy's Tavern, 697 Spring St., Old Town Herndon (on the Corner of Elden and Spring Streets). Bands will

receive 30 minutes to play, and must pre-sign with Andre' Love at soulcraftmusic@yahoo.com or 703-984-9114. Walk-ins will only be accepted if time permits. All types of music welcomed. 703-435-5467.

SUNDAY/DEC. 27

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.

TUESDAY/DEC. 29

Auditions for Metamorphoses, at The Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Play runs March 19-April 10. 703-481-5930.

Ultimate Fighting Championship, with Gray Maynard and Nate Diaz

6:15 p.m. at George Mason University Patriot Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$43-\$203, at www.ticketmaster.com or at 703-573-SEAT. 703-993-3000 or www.patriotcenter.com.

ESL Adult Group Conversation, 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-689-2700.

www.colvinrun.org

TUESDAY/JAN. 11

Bob Brown's Snow Show Puppet Performance, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. \$4 per person, pre-paid reservations recommended. 703-437-9101.

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.

www.colvinrun.org

TUESDAY/JAN. 12

Colvin Run Community Center



PHOTO BY AL REITAN
Jo Fleming stands with painting entitled 'Pollen Count' to be shown at Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston, Jan. 3-Feb. 7.

Jo Fleming To Exhibit in Reston

Great Falls Artist Jo Fleming presents a solo exhibition of abstract paintings reflecting the renewal of life at Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston, Jan. 3-Feb. 7. Unitarian Universalist Church

Reston, 1625 Wiehle Ave. Opening Reception: Sunday, Jan 3, 12:30-3 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more information and to view a portfolio of Fleming's work visit www.jofleming.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 Wadsworth 9 Theatres, 13025 Worldgate Drive, Herndon. Conducted by Marco Armiliato, directed by Gilbert Defo, starring Florenz Cedolini and Marco Berti. \$25. 703-318-9290 or www.1stStageSpringHill.org/zenda.

SUNDAY/DEC. 20
The Prisoner of Zenda, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students.

Rocknoceros Tunes for Tots, 7 p.m. at Sunset Hills Montessori School, 11180 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. Holiday classics, songs from Pink! and more. \$7 per person. Light refreshments.

www.sunsethillsmontessori.com
Colvin Run Community Center

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

SATURDAY/JAN. 3
The Prisoner of Zenda, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students.

Rocknoceros Tunes for Tots, 7 p.m. at Sunset Hills Montessori School, 11180 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. Holiday classics, songs from Pink! and more. \$7 per person. Light refreshments.

www.sunsethillsmontessori.com

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

SATURDAY/JAN. 13
Open Mic for Bands Night, 9 p.m. at Jimmy's Tavern, 697 Spring St., Old Town Herndon (on the Corner of Elden and Spring Streets). Bands will

receive 30 minutes to play, and must pre-sign with Andre' Love at soulcraftmusic@yahoo.com or 703-984-9114. Walk-ins will only be accepted if time permits. All types of music welcomed. 703-435-5467.

MONDAY/JAN. 11
Auditions for Metamorphoses, at The Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Play runs March 19-April 10. 703-481-5930.

Ultimate Fighting Championship, with Gray Maynard and Nate Diaz

6:15 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$43-\$203, at www.ticketmaster.com or at 703-573-SEAT. 703-993-3000 or www.patriotcenter.com.

SPORTS

Herndon Starting Fast in Boys' Basketball

Hamilton leads early season charge, which includes win over rival South Lakes

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Three returning starters from last year — point guard Austin Hamilton, shooting guard Randoll Anane and forward Zack Ozycz — give the Herndon High boys' basketball team one of the top trios of players in the Northern Region this winter season. The threesome have been a key factor in the Hornets' early success.

Herndon improved its record to 4-0 on Tuesday, Dec. 15 with a lopsided 73-53 non-district home win over a talented Annandale Atoms team. Coach Chris Whelan's team led by more than 30 points at times and had control of the game throughout the night, building a 37-22 lead at the half and extending it to 56-34 following three quarters.

Hamilton, a junior who has been the team's top scorer in each of its first four games, led the way with 18 points. Ozycz, a senior who is being recruited by colleges as a football player, added 10 points. Chris Hightower and Jonathon Beltran both contributed eight points. Anane, one of the region's better defensive players, scored five points.

"That was the first time we saw glimpses of how good we can be," said Whelan, of his veteran team's most dominating win thus far. "We were up by 30 points against an Annandale team that some predict will be in the [region] final four this year."

Herndon's strengths are its experience, savvy court sense and its overall excellent athleticism. A year ago, the Hornets had limited success, going 13-10 overall and qualifying for the region tournament where it fell to Stuart in a first round game. Within the Concorde District, the Hornets were a solid 9-5 over the regular season.

But expectations are a bit higher this season for a Herndon team loaded with firepower and determination.

"We have so many different

weapons this year and guys who can score," said Whelan, in his third season as the program's head coach.

But, as with all good teams, Herndon's success starts at the defensive end of the floor.

"We are very quick, smart and fast," he said. "With those combinations, they allow us to set up our defense on people."

Hamilton, a Second Team All-District selection a year ago when he averaged 16 points per game, is an outstanding floor leader. He is a solid all-around player and plays nearly every minute of games. Perhaps his biggest offensive strength is his ball-handling ability. Not a flashy player, Hamilton is fundamentally sound and rarely turns the ball over. He is a prolific scorer but also gets his teammates involved in the offensive flow of the game. Hamilton scored 25 points in Herndon's 57-47 road win over Lake Braddock on Dec. 8.

"He'll put up a quiet 20 points," said his coach. "He's a very good passer and sees the court real well.

He doesn't turn the ball over.

"He's getting a lot of college looks, and he's just a junior," said Whelan. "He worked hard all summer. He makes people all around him better."

Ozycz, Herndon High's football quarterback the past several fall seasons, brings toughness to the Hornets' basketball line-up. He is a fierce defensive player and one of the region's better rebounders. He's averaging over 10 points per game. In Herndon's 66-53 victory at cross-town rival South Lakes on Dec. 11, Ozycz scored 10 points and pulled down 17 rebounds.

"He's an absolute monster on the boards," said Whelan. "Guys on the team respect him because of his work ethic."

Anane is another versatile member of the starting line-up who defends and passes well. Whelan would like to see the backcourt player, who was an All-District Honorable Mention selection last year, be more aggressive on the scoring front.

"He's always been a defensive demon," said Whelan. "He works

so hard at the defensive end. I'd like to see him more proactive on offense. He's so unselfish. He always leads our team in assists."

Herndon has four team captains — Anane, Ozycz, Hamilton and senior starting guard Matt Auker, who scored 10 points in the win over South Lakes.

Whelan loves the personality make-up of his team. The Hornets, he said, practice hard and have fun playing the game. They are hungry to succeed.

"It's all about staying grounded," said the coach, of keeping Herndon at an even emotional pitch over the course of a long season. "We need to work hard every day and take that into our games. We came out against Annandale and we were prepared. I'm very pleased where we are being at 4-0. We're playing pretty good basketball right now."

IN ITS ANNUAL early season game against South Lakes, a member of the Liberty District, the visiting Hornets, playing in front of a large, enthusiastic crowd, led 14-12 after the first quarter. But Herndon played a stellar second quarter, outscoring the Seahawks, 18-11, to carry a 32-23 lead into the half. Whelan's team outscored the home team by four points in the second half and came out with

a nice win in the rival contest.

Four Herndon players scored in double figures in the win. Hamilton tallied 14 points, while teammates Ozycz, Auker and Beltran each had 10 points.

For South Lakes, senior guard Ramin Shaheedan finished with 14 points and junior guard Joe Daye had 10. Also for the Seahawks, junior backcourt player Darius Smith scored eight points while Brendan Galbraith and Donald Christian both had six.

South Lakes, under co-head coaches Irv Greene and John Kemmerer, came back strong following the loss to Herndon with wins over both Madison, 54-42, on Dec. 15, and Westfield, 71-68, on Dec. 16. The win over Madison, South Lakes' Liberty District opener, was on the road. The game against Westfield was at home. Daye and Shaheedan scored 21 and 20 points, respectively, in the non-district win over Westfield. Against Madison, Daye led South Lakes with 16 points while senior forward Jamal Cooper added 11.

Over the holidays, Herndon will take part in the Milford Mill Academy Christmas Tournament in Baltimore. The Hornets will play the host school in their opening game on Monday, Dec. 28. The following day, Herndon will take on Walkersville High of Frederick.

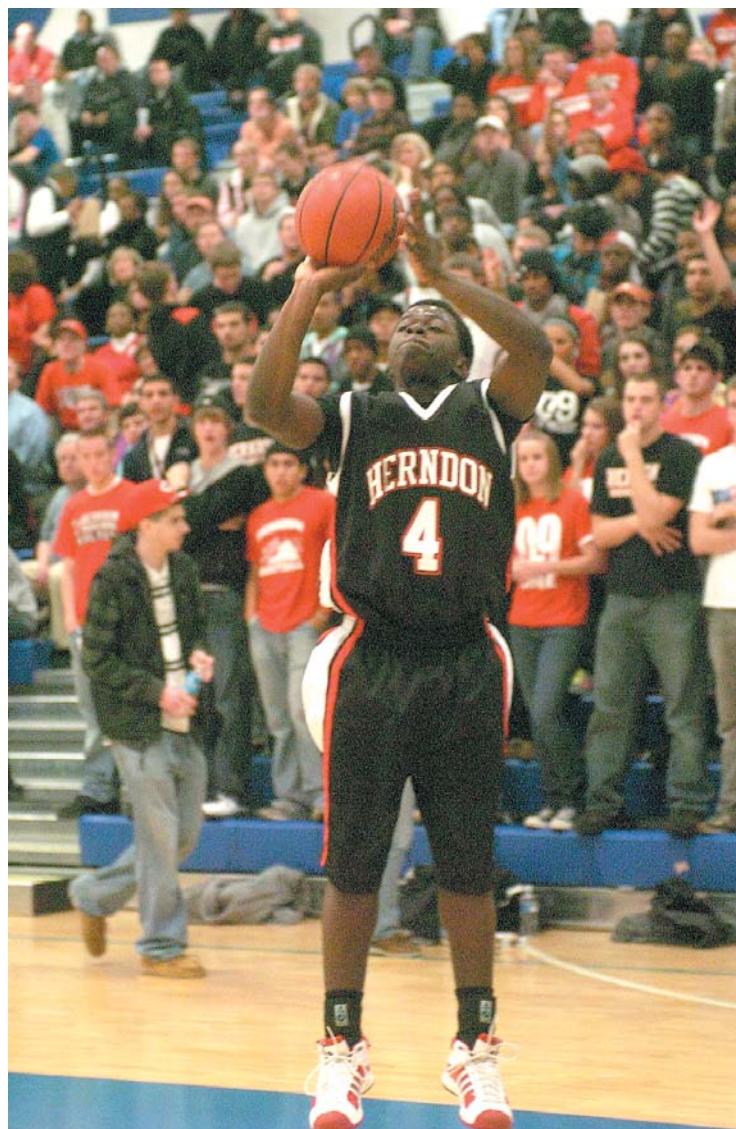


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Herndon shooting guard Randoll Anane



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton High Girls Win First Five Games

Caroline Coyer (5) and the Oakton High Cougars, shown here at last year's state AAA girls' basketball tournament, won their first five games of the new season, including a 69-30 home win over Jefferson on Dec. 15. Coyer, a standout sophomore point guard, scored 17 points in the win. The Cougars' leading scorer in the game was Zora Stephenson, who scored 20 points.

NEWS



The toys were delivered to Reston Interfaith's Embry Rucker Community Shelter located in Reston.

MV Connector Employees 'Stuff-the-Bus' for Area Children

MV's Connector employees, including bus operators, mechanics, supervisory and administrative staff, collected new toys for area children at each Fairfax Connector operations facility; Huntington Division, Reston/Herndon Division and West Ox Division.

The MV Connector team collected more than 100 new toys to distribute to children served by Reston Interfaith, a nonprofit that promotes self-sufficiency through direct support and advocacy for those in need of food, immediate shelter, affordable hous-

ing, child care, and other human services. As a Fairfax Connector bus delivered the toys, the event became collectively known as "Stuff-A-Bus." The toys were delivered to Reston Interfaith's Embry Rucker Community Shelter located in Reston.

MV Transportation, Inc. is the contracted operator of Fairfax Connector bus service.

For information about Fairfax Connector, visit www.fairfaxconnector.com. For information on MV Transportation, Inc., visit www.MVtransit.com.



SCHOOL NOTES

Meagan Carrick of Reston has been inducted into Ithaca College's Oracle Honor Society. Carrick is the daughter of James and Mary Carrick, and majoring in music performance education, voice.

Navy Seaman Apprentice **Dylan L. Grise** was promoted to his current rank upon graduation from recruit training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Grise received the early promotion for outstanding performance during all phases of the training cycle. Grise is the son of Michelle M. Grise of Reston and Gregory D. Johnson of Cumberland, Md., and a 2004 graduate of Allegany High School of Cumberland, Md.

Edward Reed of Reston has been awarded a

dean's scholarship by Gettysburg College of Gettysburg, Pa.

Karen Kelleher of Reston played the Lecturer for recent the University of Mary Washington production of "Reefer Madness." Kelleher is the daughter of Ken and Sheri Kelleher of Reston, a 2007 graduate of Paul VI High School, and a junior theatre major at the university.

Gabriela Faundez Rojas of Reston has been named a national outstanding campus leader and included in the 2009 edition of Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Faundez Rojas is majoring in history and in the honors program at Marymount University.

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'Tis the Season...

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

To be thankful. Let's be realistic; I'm a stage IV lung cancer patient/survivor, eight months into a treatment protocol with a life expectancy initially projected out to between 13 months and two years, so jolly isn't really in the discussion – or in my vocabulary any more. Still, I'm not complaining, just providing a little context for the rest of this column.

It's post-Thanksgiving Sunday and now that the food and festivities are mostly finished (and work looms tomorrow, Monday, for many), reality has once again reared its ugly head. Life goes on (for me, Thank God!) but to not be thankful every day for the "above average"/relative good medical fortune I've experienced (since receiving my quite unexpected diagnosis last March) would be disrespectful to those very Gods who likely control my fate.

Whatever mental exercises in futility I employ to defeat these death-defying cancer demons, I do so without their expressed written consent. It is a battle royal every day (more so the nights) and no doubt it will be a battle to the end, or at least that's my intention. And one of my unique weapons in this war against attrition is my attitude. Inherited from my parents, I guess, programmed somehow into my DNA, I can fight this fight with positive – and realistic optimism, good humor and good sense. But "jolly" I can no longer be, regardless of the season. Thankful though, at every opportunity, I can and will be this holiday season.

And not that I think this "holiday season" will be my last. Hardly. But as a cancer patient, one of the attitudes you are encouraged to embrace is "today." I can still remember Team Lourie's first meeting with my oncologist (how can I forget?) when, after listening to the doctor's reading/reviewing of all my medical reports/scans and biopsy, ending in the diagnosis with which many of you regular readers are intimately familiar, I replied, "Wow, it doesn't sound like I should be working any more;" to which the doctor added, "And you might want to consider taking that vacation you've always wanted to." ("WHAT!?", in my head.) From that moment (the beginning, if you will), it was communicated to me/us (my wife, my brother and me) that tomorrow (the future) has now left the building. At that point, the word "jolly" also left and went right out of my brain for evermore.

But it's eight months later, almost nine in fact, much has transpired in my treatment. I have "tolerated" (a semi medical term commonly used, in my experience, anyway, to describe the body's reaction to whatever the doctor/medication is doing to it) extremely, maybe even exceptionally well, all that my oncologist has "protooled." What happens next? What scenario might play out? It depends on everything that it is dependent upon. Meaning, death and taxes – as they say, are all that's guaranteed, as opposed to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. One is a declaration, the other is a decree, almost.

Every day presents new challenges, mentally and physically. My attitude remains good, great even. "Jolly" it will never be, though. Thankful, it most certainly is.

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



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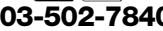
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21 Announcements

Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process: Public Participation

Clearwire Wireless Broadband, an FCC-licensed wireless provider in the State of Virginia, is proposing the installation of telecommunications equipment on an existing lattice utility tower at W & OD Trail and Grace Street, Herndon, Fairfax County, Virginia 20170. The proposed development will include a 9' x 13' lease area for equipment. Members of the public interested in submitting comments on the possible effects of the proposed project on historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places may send their comments to Alex Bos, Rescom Environmental Corp., P.O. Box 6225, Traverse City, MI 49696 or call 1.231.947.4454. Project Reference #: 0910133

21 Announcements

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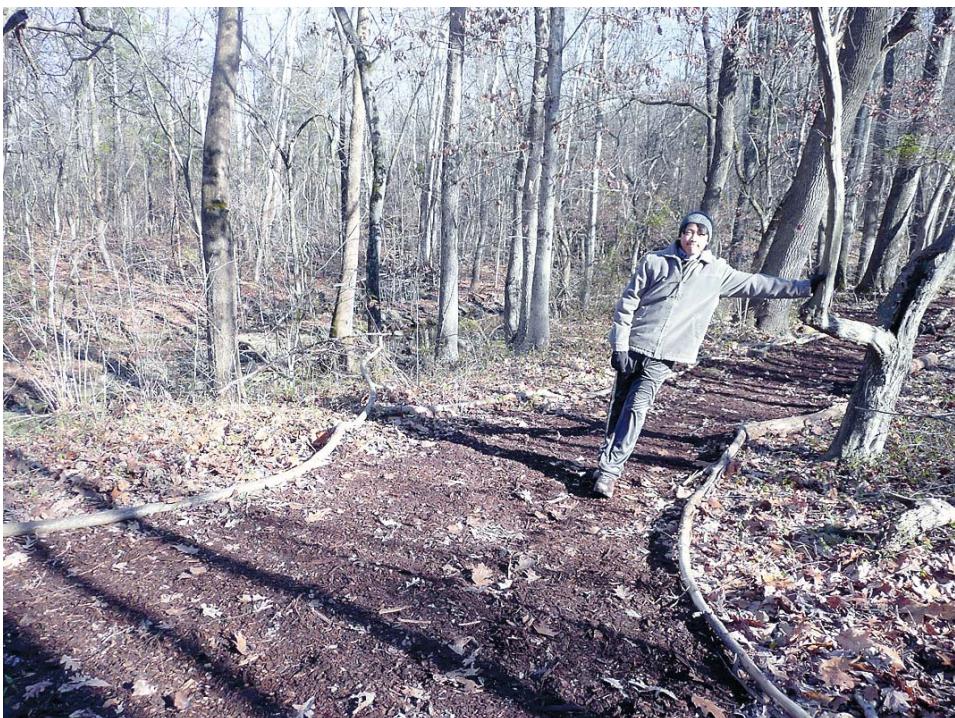
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NEWS



CONTRIBUTED

Tyler Choe, a 14-year-old freshman at South Lakes High School, conducted his Eagle Project at the Frying Pan Farm Park.

Scouts Rebuild Two Trails Behind Meeting House

On Saturday, Dec. 12, two trails were rebuilt behind the Meeting House at the Frying Pan Farm Park as Tyler Choe conducted his Eagle Project. Choe is a 14-year-old freshman at South Lakes High School and a member of Troop 51, which is a Boy Scout troop that meets at the Floris United Methodist Church every Wednesday night.

Twenty-four members of Troop 51 and seven adults volunteered their time and came out to help conduct this project. The Frying Pan Farm Park is the only working farm operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority. The Meeting House is designated as a Virginia Landmark and National Registry of Historic Places Site.

Choe's Eagle Project was to rebuild two trails behind the Meeting House by clear-

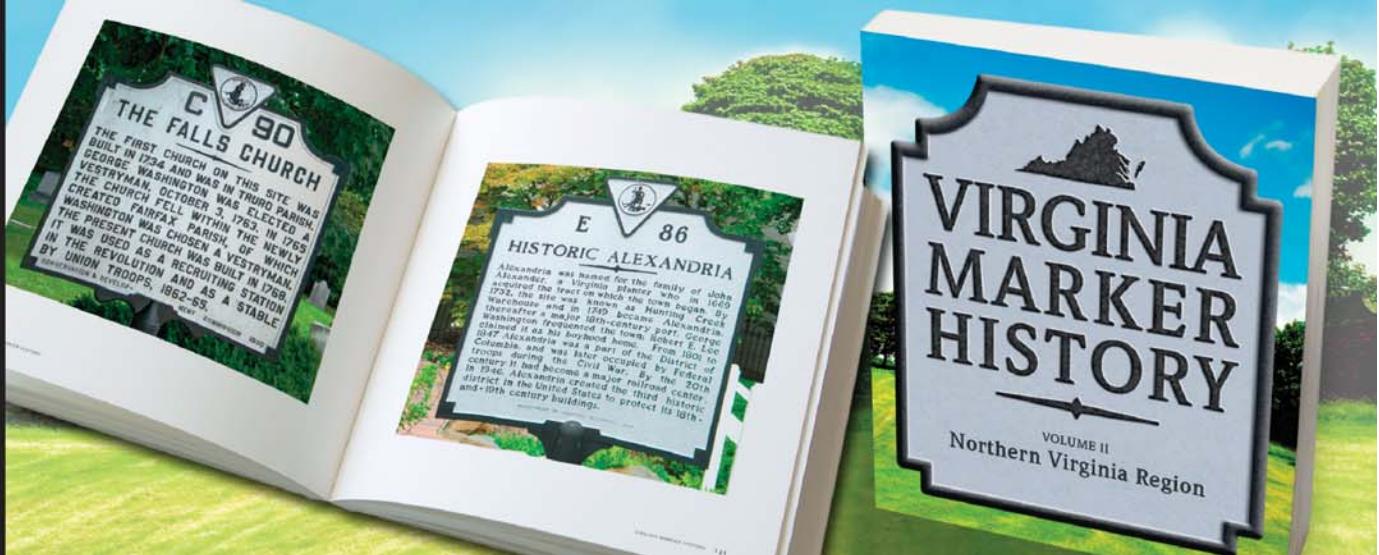
ing all plants, weeds, and overgrowth to make 65-70 inch wide paths. Next, about 5 inches of mulch and woodchips were laid over the cleared trails and logs or sticks from the surrounding woods were used to border the paths. Choe hopes that the trails will be maintained and used for a long time and will help connect more people, including visitors as well as maintenance crew, to be able to enjoy the historic property of the Meeting House and Frying Pan Farm Park.

Choe led his project by organizing his volunteers into three groups and making sure that all aspects of the project were running efficiently. The Saturday's weather was cold but bright and the project was finished earlier than planned due to the collaborative work of the Boy Scouts.



Twenty-four members of Troop 51, as well as seven adults, volunteered their time and came out to help conduct this project.

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