

# Reston CONNECT

Bryan Moll of JBG Companies presents an updated plan for the Fairway Apartments redevelopment at last week's Design Review Board meeting.

## Taking the Plunge for Sick Children

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## Students To Participate In First IPAR Project

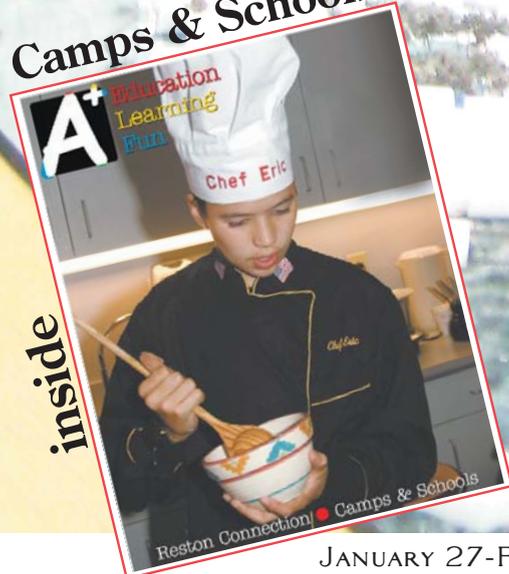
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### Camps & Schools



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## NEWS

### Third Annual Virginia Plunge

Polar Dip to benefit Camp Sunshine, Saturday, Feb. 6, 1-3 p.m. Plunge takes place at 1 p.m., followed by apres-dip party for participants at Reston Community Center in Lake Anne Village Center. To register and create a fund-raising page, go to [http://www.freezinforareason.com/event/event.php?event\\_id=56](http://www.freezinforareason.com/event/event.php?event_id=56). Chickens welcome to dunk feet only.

**Gail and Bill Toth, making the jump in 2009, organized the Virginia Polar Plunge three years ago to give back to Camp Sunshine. Daughter Jennifer, now 17, was a camper there when she was 4.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOTH FAMILY

## Taking the Plunge for Sick Children

### Freezin' for a good reason.

DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n Feb. 6, a group of hardy souls will plunge into the icy waters of Lake Anne. They will be "Freezin' for a Reason," participating in the third annual Virginia Polar Dip to benefit Camp Sunshine, a year-round retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

"You're only in the water for about 20 seconds, but it is shocking to your system," said Gail Toth, whose 17-year-old daughter, Jennifer, was a 4-year-old camper at Camp Sunshine in Maine. "You jump in, swim to the ladder as quickly as you can, in and out."

Last year, members of the Prince William Cold Water Dive Team broke up the ice to create a hole for the plungers.

All four members of the Vienna family, Gail, her husband Bill, Jennifer and 6-1/2-year old Julianna, will take the plunge to help raise funds for Camp Sunshine. To date, more than 25 people have registered for the polar dip, so far, including faculty from Jennifer's school, Flint Hill School in Oakton.

"Being a cancer survivor is who I am and it influences what I do," said Jennifer. "Being able to give other families the opportunity to attend Camp Sunshine means the world to me."

The Toths hope to have 100 people jumping in Lake Anne and to raise \$25,000, enough to send 16 families from the Virginia, Maryland and the Washington, D.C. area to Camp Sunshine this year.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHLEEN SMITH

**The Potomac School junior Kathleen Smith of Oakton takes the plunge in the 2009 Virginia polar dip on behalf of Camp Sunshine.**

**THE VIRGINIA PLUNGE** in Reston is one of nine polar dips in the country on behalf of Camp Sunshine, most of them along the East Coast. Camp Sunshine on Sebago Lake in Maine is free of charge to all families. The program includes 24-hour onsite medical and psychosocial support.

Every summer since Jennifer was a camper there herself, the Toths have returned to Camp Sunshine as volunteers. For Jennifer it is especially meaningful. She tells the young patients that she was once like them. Jennifer, the young cancer survivor who is considering a career in medicine, thinks that everything happens for a reason. "I want to turn a bad event into something good," she said.

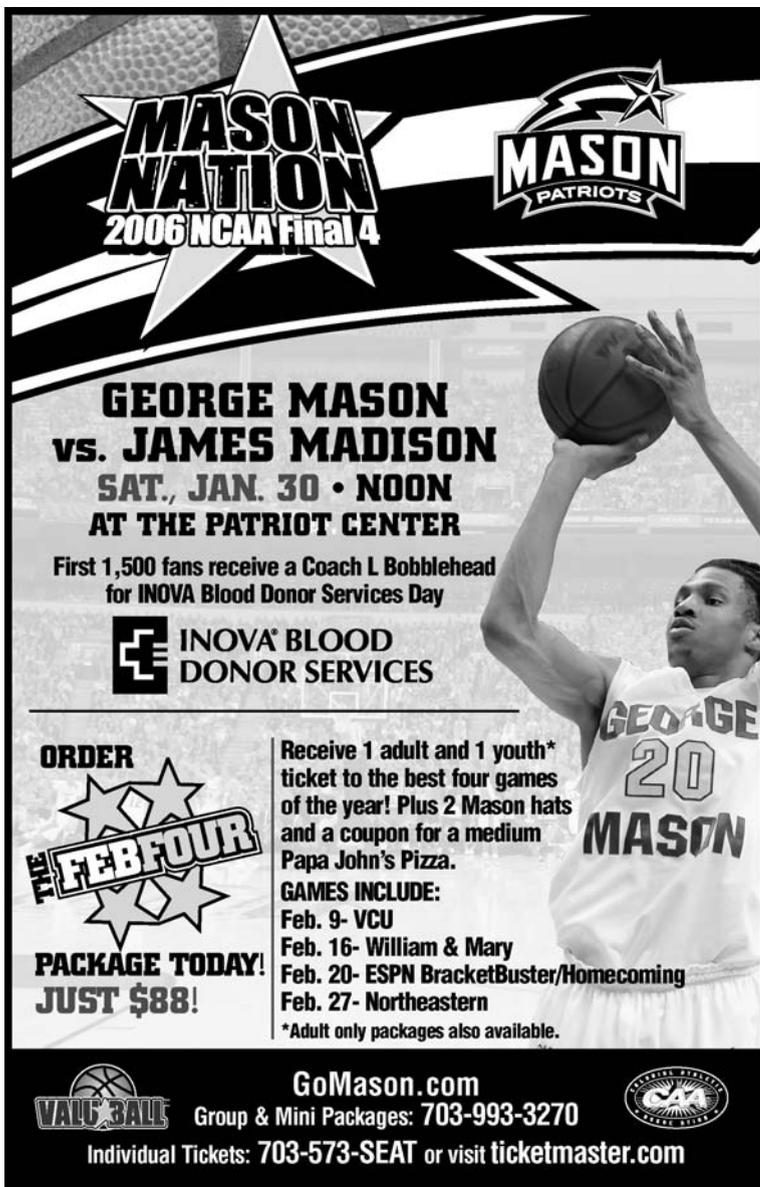
Flint Hill School headmaster John Thomas calls Jennifer "outstanding, talented, kind, compassionate, and a great leader."

Kathleen Smith of Oakton is one of Jennifer's best friends and a junior at The Potomac School in McLean. Smith will be taking the Virginia dip for the third year. While Flint Hill and Potomac are big rival schools, they are working together on behalf of Camp

Sunshine. Smith is spearheading a Hershey Kiss fund-raiser for Valentine's Day, with the proceeds going to Camp Sunshine. At the Flint Hill/Potomac basketball game on Jan. 15, Jennifer and Kathleen gave a Camp Sunshine pep talk to spectators and collected donations. Several of Kathleen's classmates at Potomac are considering registering for the Virginia Polar Plunge at Kathleen's urging.

**PARTICIPANTS** are welcome to donate any amount, but those contributing \$100 or more receive a commemorative tee shirt. After the plunge, participants are invited to an apres-dip party at Reston Community Center in Lake Anne Village Center. The Sheraton Reston, Reston Community Center, Lake Anne Village Center, Jasmine Cafe and Reston Association are sponsors. Participants are invited to dress up in costume, and chickens are welcome to dip feet only.

"The dip is fun, crazy and exhilarating," Thomas said. "People have a hoot. When I heard about this, I thought, I need to do this. Raise money for a cause and do something bizarre at the same time."



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By turning two 10-story-tall buildings into a building 19-stories high, the developer could save enough open space for a one-acre park at the center of Fairway West.

ILLUSTRATION  
COURTESY JBG  
COMPANIES



## Upping Building Heights, Expanding Green Space

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**B**en Tompkins, an attorney representing JBG Companies, credited the Reston Association's Design Review Board (DRB) with much of the plan for the Fairway Apartments redevelopment that he and JBG representatives were presenting to the board last Tuesday, Jan. 19. It was JBG's third appearance before the group since proposing a redevelopment of the aging townhouse-style apartment community last summer, and Moll said comments from the board, the Reston Planning and Zoning Committee and the public had resulted in a design that pleased county staff, at least initially, although no official staff report had been issued.

The developer still plans to replace the 346 apartments that currently occupy the 19-acre neighborhood with 940 units. The biggest change to the plan, Bryan Moll of JBG told board members, was that the company had decided to propose more open space on both Fairway Properties, which are separated by the Clubhouse Cluster, by raising the heights of the proposed buildings. "We have greatly increased the open space around these buildings," Moll said. "We've made Main Street feel less like Main Street and we've created a pretty big park."

**THE TALLEST BUILDING** will now be 19 stories high on the Fairway West parcel. Previously, two buildings were proposed to reach a height of 10 stories. The newly planned building will consist of six levels of parking, with one level underground, topped by a 14-story building and will be located away from the existing residential cluster. "We heard that height is OK, but it matters where you place it," Moll said.

Townhouses and screening are to hide the parking garage, and a green space on the roof of the structure would be available to residents. Nearby, a 1-acre park on land made available by raising building heights will be open to the public. Forty-five percent of Fairway West will be open space.

Half of the land in the Fairway East parcel is now



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

**Attorney Ben Tompkins, left, and Bryan Moll of JBG Companies, show the proposed layout for the Fairway Apartments redevelopment.**

to be open space, with building heights raised a story or two, to range from five to six stories. About an acre of land is to be left open along the Hidden Creek Country Club golf course. "You've got some beautiful views looking down on the fairway," Moll said. He noted that construction would be well within the boundaries of the existing Fairway East neighborhood and set back from North Shore Drive and Lake Anne Elementary School.

He said JBG had also been asked to protect the wooded feel of North Shore Drive. Diminishing the development's footprints, as well as eliminating a retaining wall, would allow that to happen, he said. The increase in open space would also allow a pedestrian connection from North Shore through the park in the western parcel and into Fairway East.

Moll said the company was beginning to work out

SEE OPEN SPACE, PAGE 15



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

**The tunnel under Glade Drive between Hunters Woods Elementary School and Hunters Woods Village Center will be the site of the Initiative for Public Arts Reston's (IPAR) first public art project.**

## Students To Participate In First IPAR Project

**Public arts initiative partners with Hunters Woods Elementary.**

**S**tudents at Hunters Woods Elementary will help to create the first public art project spearheaded by the Initiative for Public Arts Reston (IPAR), the beautification of the tunnel under Glade Drive between the school and Hunters Woods Village Center.

Pedestrian underpasses, of which Reston has more than two dozen, were identified as desirable locations for art projects in the public art master plan that IPAR unveiled in December 2008, said Anne Delaney, the organization's public art manager, adding that IPAR had also made cooperation with schools one of its objectives. She said the school had been chosen "mainly because Hunters Woods has a focus on arts and science, and they also have an artist-in-residence program."

Through that program, sixth-graders have been working with professional artists to create public art on the school grounds for the last seven years or so, said Hunters Woods art teacher Norma Morris. The underpass will be the school's first art project off school grounds. "It's pretty exciting," she said.

**DELANEY** said the organization hoped to put out a call for artists in February, with the project to be completed before the end of the school year. The professional artist who is commissioned will decorate either two or all four of the surfaces that frame the tunnel with an unspecified, two-dimensional me-

diuum such as a mural or mosaic. Hunters Woods students will then work with the artist to come up with a complimentary ideas for the inside of the tunnel.

"The artist will discuss many ideas with the schoolchildren, and the children will be asked to come up with ideas," Delaney said. "The children also will be involved in the actual realization of the public artwork."

She said the Reston Association and Reston Community Center were also partnering with IPAR to help fund and maintain the project, and Morris said the Hunters Woods PTA would also help with fund raising.

The partnership with a local school is one of three projects that IPAR announced as its first goals last February. Another, to be located in Reston Town Center, will commemorate the development's 20th anniversary. With the town center turning 20 this year, Delaney said the endeavor was to be completed by the year's end. The third project is to celebrate Reston's current stream restoration project and will be located in one of the restored areas. Delaney said the public art master plan recognized the importance of the environment and sought ways to integrate art and nature.

While sculpture was a possibility for either of these two artworks, she said other possibilities, such as art integrated into the side of a building or the design of a bridge could be considered.

— MIKE DICICCO

## WEEK IN RESTON

### Accessibility Committee Meetings Open to All

The Reston Accessibility Committee (RAC) invites interested Reston residents to its meetings. The RAC works through volunteers to improve accessibility for mobility-impaired persons to a variety of establishments in Reston. RAC acknowledges owners/managers of retail and service businesses that have made their premises more accessible for all customers.

Meetings are on the second Saturday of every other month at 10 a.m. The next date is Feb. 13, and the one after that will be April 10. The location is United Bank, 1801 Reston Parkway in Reston. The bank is across the Parkway from Macaroni Grill. The entrance and parking lot are at the back of the building.

Contact Ken Fredgren at 703/391-9019 or fredgren.k@gmail.com for more information or to receive a RAC brochure.

### Rainbow Trout Fishing To Begin at Lake Fairfax

The spring 2010 rainbow trout fishing season at Lake Fairfax Park will run from Feb. 19 through April 23. Stocking dates are set for Feb. 19, March 5, March 19, April 2 and April 16. Trout will not be stocked at Lake Accotink Park this year due to construction on the dam. Anglers can try their luck from the shores of Lake Fairfax between 7 a.m. and dusk.

Every effort is made to cover costs of the trout stocking program through participant fees in order to minimize the burden on county taxpayers. Season pass prices for those 16 years of age and older are \$37; anglers between ages 6-15 and 64 years of age and older are \$32. Daily pass prices for those 16 and older are \$12; ages 6-15 and 64 years old and older at \$10. Passes can be purchased at the park.

Under this program, all Virginia game and fishing laws apply, including a six fish daily limit and the requirement for those 16 years and older to carry a current Virginia fishing license.

Lake Fairfax Park is located at 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive in Reston, VA. For more information, call 703-471-5415.

### John Grady Williams Exhibits at Community Center

Harmony of Texture II, an exhibit of all new abstract works from local artist, John Grady Williams, runs from Feb. 1 to 28 in the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods.

"The first Harmony of Texture exhibit [in March 2008 at the same venue] was my first public show. I sold four paintings by the time it was all said and done. It gave me the encouragement to keep at it, and I have," Grady Williams said.

A lifelong resident of Northern Virginia, he earned his BFA from the Corcoran School of Art in 1989 and now has a studio in his home in Chantilly. Contact him at jdubbe@msn.com or visit his Web site: www.JDubbeAbstracts.com.

The Reston Community Center Hunters Woods is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road. For information about exhibits at the Reston Community Center, contact Gloria Morrow, Exhibit Coordinator, 703-476-4500 X 3012 or Gloria.Morrow@fairfaxcounty.gov.

### Correction

The article "Community Service Honored" [Reston Connection, Jan. 20-26] should have identified the Interfaith Board member as Stuart Rakoff.

## NEWS



Alexander Chopivsky hands the donated clothing he collected to Hunters Woods Elementary School Principal Olivia Toatley.

## Cub Scout Collects Warm Winter Clothing

In the fall, Webelos 1 Cub Scout Alexander Chopivsky of Pack 1971 and a third-grade student at Hunters Woods Elementary School, noticed that the acorns were falling earlier and faster than in years before. He knew this probably meant that the Reston area would be in for a hard winter. He also knew that many of his fellow students at Hunters Woods might lose heat due to the slumping economy.

To help insure that his friends would stay warm this winter Chopivsky started a clothing drive in his neighborhood seeking warm winter items such as boots, blankets and sleeping bags. He engaged potential donors by going door-to-door and by soliciting around the school's parking areas during various events. Word spread and clothing came in from as far as Arlington and Chantilly.

## More Changes at Lake Anne

### Geoff relocates services, public relations take new direction.

After five years at Lake Anne, Body by Geoff closed its doors when the business's lease ran out at the beginning of the year. The health and fitness company is moving its operation to the One to One Fitness Centers in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Reston Town Center.

Eve Thompson, president of the Lake Anne Merchants Association, said another business had already spoken for the space but had not yet signed a lease. "I believe the space is under negotiations right now," she said.

Another contract that came to an end was the plaza's ongoing relationship with Myers Public Relations. "What we feel is that we need to take control of our own image," Thompson said. As of last week, the village center took on two independent

**"What we feel is that we need to take control of our own image."**

**— Eve Thompson, Lake Anne Merchants Association president**

marketing people to rework its logo, its Web site and its brand. A temporary Web site is now up, and Thompson said marketing for Lake Anne will place more focus on social media and blogging than previously.

However, she said updates to the center's image would also take place on the plaza, and not just online, with a new landscape company hired and storefront improvements on the way.

Meanwhile, Thompson said, one of the property owners was hoping to bring a decidedly low-tech pres-

ence to the plaza. The owner of the former convenience store next to Washington Plaza Baptist Church is hoping to bring in a yarn shop, complete with knitting groups and classes, she said, noting that such specialty businesses become destinations that shoppers seek out from afar.

The owner, she said, is offering "a huge rent discount" to a

shop that fits the description.

"She really wants to do what's best for the plaza, which I think is great," Thompson said.

— MIKE DICICCO

## PEOPLE

# Dance Teacher Pens Healthy Choice Children's Book

**F**airfax County Dance teacher Terlene D. Terry-Todd recently added published author to her name, publishing "A Healthy Choice Story — Sweetie's Healthy Start," released by Strategic Book Publishing Group.

In this light-hearted tale fit for the entire family, Terry-Todd brings to light the importance of having a healthy lifestyle. She takes readers into the home of the Portly family and reveals the bad health choices of each family member. Mr. O. Bese Portly smokes horrible green cigarettes one after another, Mrs. Patricia Plump Portly only eats fried foods, their son Craven craves only processed foods and their daughter Sweetie only eats the most sugary foods she can find. Each member of the family has poor health habits, and they never exercise or get any fresh air. Sweetie encounters an energetic friend on TV that helps her realize the poor state of her health. Dramatic changes begin to occur as the Portly family discovers the joys of healthy eating, exercise and family fun.

Terry-Todd, an award winning dance and physical education specialist and creative writer, has written more than 20 children's plays. She has been a teacher at South Lakes High School for 17 years and involved in the local performing arts community for over 30 years. She plans on completing her



**Terlene D. Terry-Todd**

series of healthy choice stories and is working on a CD of original songs for children that focus on fitness and making healthy choices. The first book signing will be held at Lake Anne Gallery on Sunday, Feb. 14, 2-5 p.m. For more information, call 703-623-3621.



PHOTOS BY SCOTT MILLS



## Herndon Scout Wins Annual Bake Off

Isaac Mills won both the Artistic/Creative division and his scout rank-Wolf at the annual Cub Scout Pack 1570 Bake Off, at Clearview Elementary School in Herndon. Mills won with his entry "Old Faithful Geyser Cake," a four-layer chocolate cake creation with cream cheese icing. The cake had a dry ice geyser spouting up through the center and about 2 pounds of molded

chocolate bison and bears running around the sides of the cake. The cake was a hit at the Pack 1570 meeting. Mills now goes to the Powhatan District contest on Feb. 20 at Floris Elementary School, where he will defend his 2009 Powhatan District Bake Off title in a contest among several scouts from other packs. The cake, by the way, weighed about 22 pounds.

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The Community Coalition for Haiti, a faith-based nonprofit relief organization, has set up a restricted fund for the Haitian relief effort. 100% of every donation is used to help the thousands in need. Every dollar is a treasure to those in desperate need of food, water, medicine and help. Please donate today. Make a donation online at [www.cchaiti.org](http://www.cchaiti.org) or mail your check to Community Coalition for Haiti, P.O. Box 1222, Vienna, VA 22183.

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— Charles Mann, Inova Health System Board Member



"Luciana and I have worked with the Community Coalition for Haiti and we ask you to join us in supporting the humanitarian efforts that are under way."

— Robert & Luciana Duvall



"We all need to take swift action to make sure that relief reaches the people of Haiti as quickly as it can."

— Darrell Green, NFL Hall of Fame

Photo by © Cameron Davidson

# OPINION

## Time for Civil Redistricting

Governor campaigned on non-partisan redistricting; now is time for proposals in General Assembly.

The U.S. Census is underway, an every-10-year process that attempts to count every single person in the United States at their home address. From the results of the count come a nearly infinite number of critical decisions. The way those decisions are carried out have consequences for every one of us.

One of those decisions is the redrawing of political lines for all political offices, including the General Assembly, U. S. Congress and local offices. In Virginia, the current process allows the political party in charge to draw the lines.

Proposals in the Virginia General Assembly could lead to a change in politics and democracy here. The measures would establish the Virginia Redistricting Commission to redraw Congressional and General Assembly district boundaries without the bitter partisan hatchet that has characterized Virginia's process under each party in the past.

Tradition in Virginia holds that the ruling

party decides how to redraw the lines around political districts after each census. The process in the past has involved the majority party using its power without any checks or balances to create districts that protect incumbents of the majority party and try to force out incumbents of the minority party.

The losers in the process are the citizens of Virginia, who first find themselves in political districts that make little sense geographically or in terms of communities of interest. They then find that even if they are unhappy with their elected officials, the gerrymandering has created districts that have killed any competition between parties, and that each party strongly discourages any primary challenges.

The result: most voters have far less choice in who represents them than they should.

There are probably hundreds of ways to set up a commission or non-partisan board that would take the politics out of the process.

House Bill 323, introduced by Del. Ken Plum

### EDITORIAL

## Obstructionist?

BY JACK KENNY  
PAST PRESIDENT,  
REPUBLICAN CLUB OF  
GREATER RESTON



The Inauguration of Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) was barely over when news broke that Sen. Janet Howell (D-32), chairman of the Privileges and Elections Committee, threatened to turn down one of the governor's selections for a cabinet post. We may wonder what this bodes for the governor and his administration. As we know, Republicans Gov. McDonnell, Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling and Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli soundly defeated a Democratic slate. However, here comes the rub. The Senate of Virginia is controlled by the Democrats while the House of Delegates is controlled by the Republicans: thus, a divided General Assembly.

Will the citizens of the Commonwealth be faced with two years of gridlocked government while the Senate forces face-off after face-off on critical issues? Remember, the present makeup of the Senate is the same tax and spend crowd that brought us a sales tax increase and at least four years of deficit budgets: some as high as \$7 billion. Will we see threats of a state government shutdown as the Sen-

### A DIFFERING POINT OF VIEW

ate turns down the House's passed budget? Gov. McDonnell has been left with a budget deficit of \$4 billion. Serious surgery will be required to bring the budget into balance. Of course, there are a number of Democrat-sponsored bills to re-institute the not-too-long ago eliminated death tax, to reinstate the estate tax at the amount of federal credit, raise the gas tax by \$0.10 per gallon and increase the sale tax on motor fuels in Northern Virginia from 2.1 percent to 4.2 percent. Thus, we see the Democrats' solution to the budget deficit is to raise taxes. Why are we not surprised?

Sen. Howell, piously commenting on the threat, remarked "I think the lesson is that we are all learning how to deal with divided government. ... Everybody is going to be learning how to adjust." Can we interpret this statement as a warning that the Senate will be difficult to deal with? Gov. McDonnell has a full agenda including expanding charter schools, crafting tax credits for job-creating businesses.

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OBSTRUCTIONIST,  
PAGE 13

## Summary of Redistricting Bill

"Bipartisan Redistricting Commission created. Establishes a seven-member temporary commission to prepare redistricting plans in 2011 and each tenth year thereafter for the House of Delegates, state Senate, and congressional districts. Appointments to the Commission shall be made one each by the four majority and minority party leaders of the House and Senate and by the state chairmen of the two major political parties. Those six appointees shall appoint the seventh member and chairman of the Commission. If they cannot agree, they shall submit the names of the two persons receiving the most votes to the Supreme Court for the Court to select the chairman. The Commission will prepare plans and submit them as bills to the General Assembly. The General Assembly shall then proceed to act on the bills in the usual manner. The bill provides for Commission comments on plans as they change in the legislative process. It also spells out the standards and process to be followed by the Commission in preparing plans, including limitations on the use of political data and opportunities for public comment on the plans."

SOURCE: <http://leg1.state.va.us/lis.htm>

(D) of Reston, and Senate Bill 626, introduced by Sen. Jill Holtzman Vogel (R) pave the way for real reform and integrity in the political process.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Reston Future Begins Now

To the Editor:

In his column ["Master Plan-Lines Are Drawn," Reston Connection, Jan. 20-26] John Lovaas once again impugns the integrity of those with whom he disagrees. Mr. Lovaas says, "Let's face it: developer and Fairfax County interests lie in a plan maximizing new construction, the developer for profit, the resource-strapped county to broaden its tax base." It is impossible to have a rational discussion with someone who insists on such a premise. And it is really difficult to see Mr. Lovaas embracing any change.

Is it inconceivable that developers and county officials might have the community's best interests at heart? And isn't it true that they are much more familiar with the financial realities and construction and zoning issues than the average citizen? Have we not been told that the Washington metropolitan area will experience population growth of some 2,000,000 people over the next 20 years? Can anyone believe that a reasonable share of that increase will not devolve to our county and to Reston? Be sure that if we don't plan to locate future residents where it is in our best interest to have them, unmanaged growth will occur and likely in a manner that is destructive to our community fabric.

Robert E. Simon  
Reston Founder

## THE CONNECTION

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
To discuss ideas and concerns,  
Call: 703-778-9410

e-mail:  
reston@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Justin Fanizzi  
Editorial Assistant  
703-224-3032  
jfanizzi@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike DiCicco  
Community Reporter  
703-778-9441  
mdicicco@connectionnewspapers.com

Julia O'Donoghue  
Education & Politics  
703-778-9436  
jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore  
Courts & Projects  
kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com

Rich Sanders  
Sports Editor  
703-224-3031  
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Employment Advertising  
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classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief  
Steven Mauren  
Managing Editors  
Michael O'Connell, Kemal Kurspahic

Photography:  
Robbie Hammer, Louise Krafft,  
Craig Sterbutzel

Art/Design:  
Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,  
John Heinely, Wayne Shipp,  
John Smith

Production Manager:  
Jean Card

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426  
Circulation Manager:  
Linda Pecquex  
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS,  
L.L.C.

Peter Labovitz  
President/CEO

Mary Kimm  
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer  
703-778-9433  
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon  
Executive Vice President  
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse  
Controller

Debbie Funk  
National Sales, 703-778-9444  
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

# Enter Governor McDonnell

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

For the first 100 years of its existence as part of the new nation, Virginia elected its governor by a vote of the General Assembly for a one-year term. While now elected by the people for a single consecutive four-year term, the governor is inaugurated in a Joint Assembly of the House

## COMMENTARY

of Delegates and the State Senate. A couple of Saturdays ago, I along with other senior members of the legislature donned formal English morning suits with tails and escorted Robert Francis McDonnell to the portico of the Capitol for his swearing in as Virginia's 71st governor. In his speech that followed, Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) pledged that his administration was dedicated to building "A Commonwealth of Opportunity." He expressed that "All Virginians must have the same fundamental opportunities to work hard, live free and succeed" with the caveat "that government cannot guarantee individual outcomes, but equality of opportunity must be guaranteed

for all."

The governor returned on the following Monday evening to further address a Joint Assembly on the details of his plans for his administration. His speech was at the same time filled with some small details but devoid of specifics of what he hopes the General Assembly will accomplish this session. For example, on transportation he announced the reopening of the interstate highway rest stops that had been closed as a budget cutting action and he announced support for raising the speed limit on rural interstate highways. There were no specifics on raising the billions needed for transportation improvements in the state.

He was specific in announcing his opposition to Gov. Tim Kaine's (D) proposal to cut the car tax completely and replace it with an income tax. "If you pass a bill in this recession that raises taxes on the hardworking families of Virginia, I will veto it," he said. That means an additional \$2 billion in cuts must be made. No mention was made as to where the reductions should be made. Even Re-



publican legislators were heard grumbling that the proposals in the remainder of his speech required additional spending.

For public education, his goal is for "every child to graduate from high school either career-ready or college-

ready." To accomplish this goal, he will be introducing legislation to establish charter schools, expand access to virtual schools and pursue college laboratory schools. There is a promise to "put Virginia on a track to become a leader in higher education and make a college education affordable and accessible to all motivated young people." No mention was made of who will foot the bill.

How to accomplish these goals when the state is cutting back so severely on its budget? Legislators are eagerly awaiting more specifics. They need to be forthcoming in the days and weeks ahead. The legislature is scheduled to adjourn March 13, and the budget is several billions of dollars from being balanced.

Send your suggestions and views about proposed legislation to me at kenplum@aol.com.

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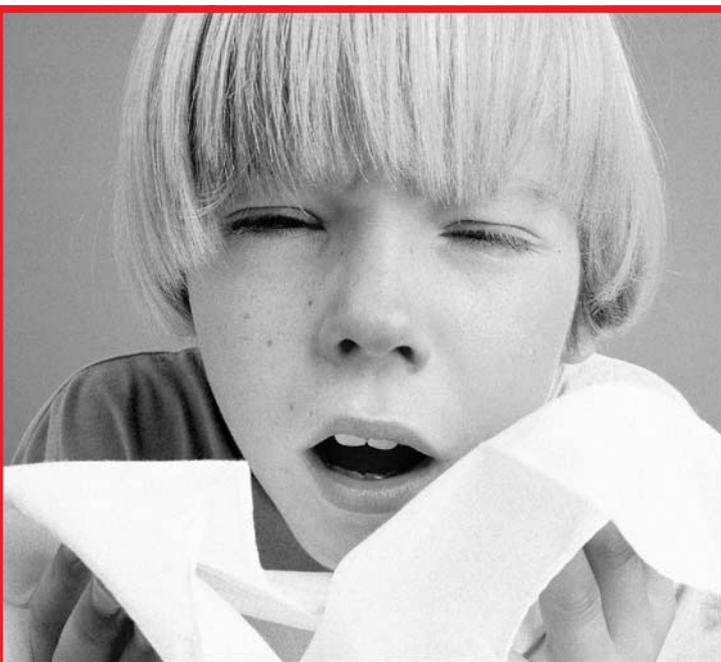
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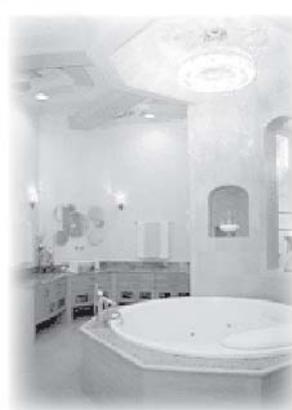
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## RESTON ASSOCIATION CALL FOR CANDIDATES



Reston Association is seeking candidates to fill three open positions on the Board of Directors. This spring, Restonians will elect three Reston Association Board members - one from the Lake Anne/Tall Oaks District, one from the North Point District, and one At-Large Director. Each will serve a three-year term. Directors determine the Association's goals and policies, making a significant and lasting contribution to the community.

For additional information log on to Reston Association's Web site, [www.reston.org](http://www.reston.org) 703-435-6512.

## SCHOOL NOTES

**Spencer Barr**, a 6th grade student at Armstrong Elementary, won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on Jan. 5 and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The runners-up were Ben Murdock and Michael Sasseen.

The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the 22nd annual National Geographic Bee.



The 2010 Liberty District **Spencer Barr**

**Theatre Festival** begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 30 at George C. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike in Falls Church. Eight schools will be allotted 45 minutes each for a one-act performance: Langley HS at 10 a.m., Thomas Jefferson HS at 10:45 a.m., South Lakes HS at 11:30 a.m., Stone Bridge HS at 1:15 p.m., McLean HS at 2 p.m., James Madison HS at 2:45 p.m., Fairfax HS at 3:30 p.m. and Marshall HS at 4:15 p.m. Contact 703-336-2134 or [joe.swarm@fcps.edu](mailto:joe.swarm@fcps.edu).

**Rahul Dewan** of Reston has been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Ga.

**Sara Nourian** of Herndon 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. Nourian is majoring in Business Administration and in the honors program at Marymount University.

**Kristin Leonard** of Herndon, a senior nursing major at York College of Pennsylvania, has been named to the fall 2009 dean's list.

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# CALENDAR

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

## THURSDAY/JAN. 28

**Brrrr-y Good Stories.** 11 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Chilly tales for chilly days. 3-5 with adult. 703-242-4020.

**Five Local Chefs, Five Local Wines, Five Local Farms, One Local Cause: Loudoun Interfaith Relief.** 6:30 p.m. \$150 all inclusive, with sparkling wine and hors d'oeuvres, followed by a five course menu with wine pairings. Each course will be prepared by chefs Mark Marrocco of Magnolias at the Mill, Patrick Dinh of Tuscarora Mill, Aaron McCloud of Vintage 50/51, Chris Carey of The Wine Kitchen and Christopher Edwards of The Restaurant at Patowmack Farm. Live Music by Olivera Music Entertainment. Reserve at 540 822-9017 or [info@patowmackfarm.com](mailto:info@patowmackfarm.com).

**Al di Meola.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$35. 703-938-2404 or [wolftrap.org](http://wolftrap.org).

## FRIDAY/JAN. 29

**'The Violet Hour.'** 8 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. A mysterious machine is delivered unordered, and within a few minutes begins spewing out pages of information about the future. \$19 adults, \$16 seniors and students. 703-481-5930 or [www.elderstreet.com](http://www.elderstreet.com).

**'The Trip to Bountiful.'** 8 p.m. at the Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets are \$15-\$18, available at [www.rcp-tix.com](http://www.rcp-tix.com) or 703-476-4500 or at the Reston Community Center's box office. 703-435-2707 or [www.restonplayers.org](http://www.restonplayers.org).

**Giving Circle of HOPE Grantee Celebration.** 7:30 p.m. at Lake Anne RCC Rose Gallery 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. 703-408-1354.

**Aspen Ensemble: The Discovery Series.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$35. 703-938-2404 or [wolftrap.org](http://wolftrap.org).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 30

**Lake Newport Walk.** 1:30 pm at the Reston Museum & Shop, Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Beginning at Reston Museum, take a 2-mile amble that includes a look at a couple of areas slated for revitalization. at the Reston Museum & Shop, Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston.

**Dead Men's Hollow.** 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. Bluegrass. \$12. 703-435-8377.

**'Cinderella Wore Combat Boots.'** 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$7. 703-481-5930 or [www.elderstreet.com](http://www.elderstreet.com).

**'The Violet Hour.'** 8 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$19 adults, \$16 seniors and students. 703-481-5930 or [www.elderstreet.com](http://www.elderstreet.com).

**'The Trip to Bountiful.'** 8 p.m. at the Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. This performance will be sign interpreted for the deaf and hearing impaired. Tickets are \$15-\$18, available at [www.rcp-tix.com](http://www.rcp-tix.com) or 703-476-4500 or



PHOTO BY JEFF BOATRIGHT  
Above, Alana Sharp and Adam Down, below: Heather Plank and Adam Downs in the Elden Street Players' production of 'The Violet Hour,' which runs until Feb. 13 at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon (for dates and times see the Calendar).



at the Reston Community Center's box office. 703-435-2707 or [www.restonplayers.org](http://www.restonplayers.org).

**The Spotlight on Elvis Show.** 7:30 p.m. at Café Montmartre, 1625 Washington Plaza North, Lake Anne, Reston. No cover charge. 703-904-8080.

**John Eaton.** 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. 703-938-2404 or [wolftrap.org](http://wolftrap.org).

## SUNDAY/JAN. 31

**Learn to Predict the Weather During the Groundhog's Day Out.** 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Learn about groundhogs and other ways to forecast the weather. Take a short walk to visit a real groundhog burrow. Appropriate for all ages, with a puppet show, crafts, games and hot chocolate. \$5 per person; registration required at 703-437-9101.

**'Cinderella Wore Combat Boots.'** 12 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$7. 703-481-5930 or [www.elderstreet.com](http://www.elderstreet.com).

**'The Violet Hour.'** 7 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$19 adults, \$16 seniors and students. 703-481-5930 or [www.elderstreet.com](http://www.elderstreet.com).

**'The Trip to Bountiful.'** 2:30 p.m. at the Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets are \$15-\$18, available at [www.rcp-tix.com](http://www.rcp-tix.com) or 703-476-4500 or at the Reston Community Center's box

office. 703-435-2707 or [www.restonplayers.org](http://www.restonplayers.org).

## MONDAY/FEB. 1

**Chip Bok, co-author and illustrator of The Great White House Breakout.** 3 p.m. at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free, register at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library) or 703-689-2700.

**Baby Steps Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Interactive storytime. Age 13-23 months with adult. 703-689-2700.

**Exhibit Opening: Harmony of Texture II.** At Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The exhibit will run through Feb. 28, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 9 a.m.-8 p.m. on Sundays. 703-476-4500 ext. 3012.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 2

**Alternative House: Open Door at the House.** 8-9 a.m. at 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna. Alternative House offers counseling, shelter, neighborhood support and after school programs. Find out about issues facing young people and get an overview of the history and services. Talk with our Executive Director, a Board member and staff, and take a tour of the teen shelter. Space is limited; contact Gina Cocomello at [gina\\_cocomello@TheAlternativeHouse.org](mailto:gina_cocomello@TheAlternativeHouse.org) or 703 506-9191. [www.TheAlternativeHouse.org](http://www.TheAlternativeHouse.org).

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

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PHOTOS BY ALLISON AUSTIN/THE CONNECTION

The whole families joined the effort to help the victims of the Haiti earthquake.

# Coming Together To Help Haiti

BY ALLISON AUSTIN  
THE CONNECTION

On Jan. 24, volunteers gathered at the Dranesville Church of the Brethren to assemble hygiene kits for distribution to Haiti through the Church World Service. Dranesville Church of the Brethren is one of many churches in the area contributing to the Haiti relief effort.

"I think everybody wants to find some way to help," said Kate Jacobsen, a Fairfax resident.

John Waggoner, a member of the Church's Service and Outreach Committee, was surprised by the amount of material for the kits, expecting only to complete around 100 kits. "It's really nice to see," said Waggoner. "There are at least 300 kits we'll do."

The purpose of the hygiene kits, according to Waggoner, is to help keep wounds from getting infected and to aid in the general health of Haitians.

Items in the kits include a hand towel, washcloth, soap, comb, nail clipper, toothbrush and Band-Aids. Each kit is valued at \$10.

Pastor Paul Liepelt spoke of the importance of helping those who are sick and in need. Liepelt was impressed by the number of families participating together in the assembly of the kits.

"It's good for the little kids to be doing this and helping out. It's quite a blessing," said Liepelt. "It's going to teach them a lesson that they'll carry into the future."

Nearby Good Shepherd Lutheran Church was also involved in collecting and assembling hygiene kits.



Brian McNanley putting together a kit with John Waggoner.

"It's not denominational. It's everybody coming together," Jacobsen said.

Dr. Myra Niemeier, a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, went through her neighborhood where she collected material for 25 complete kits. Niemeier was motivated by her desire to try to do something personal for as many people affected as possible.

"I think people needed an opportunity to do as much good as possible for as many people," Niemeier said.

The assembled kits will be taken to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md. where they will be transported to Haiti.

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## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

**Literary Heroines.** 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Explore the role of female characters in *A Room with a View* by E.M. Forster. Adults. 703-242-4020.

**Preschool Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Storytime and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-689-2700.

**ESL Advanced.** 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Practice English in a conversation group. 703-689-2700.

**Reston Garden Club Meeting.** 1 p.m. at the Lake Anne Community Center. Kevin Monroe, Park Manager of Huntley Meadows Park will speak on the flora and fauna of Huntley Meadows. Guests welcome. [www.restongardenclub.org](http://www.restongardenclub.org).

**Passing Strange, with Dr. Martha Sandweiss.** 7 p.m. at the U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. The story of Clarence King, the first USGS director. A scientist and architect of the surveys that mapped the West after the Civil War, he socialized by day with the upper reaches of society and lived by night as a black man. Federal facility: photo ID required. [www.usgs.gov/public\\_lecture\\_series](http://www.usgs.gov/public_lecture_series).

**English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for adult non-native speakers. 703-242-4020.

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

**Buckwheat Zydeco, General Admission Dance.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$22. 703-938-2404 or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### THURSDAY/FEB. 4

**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](mailto:soulcraftmusic@yahoo.com) or 703-984-9114. Walk-ins will only be accepted if time permits. All types of music welcomed. 703-435-5467.

**Drop-In Story Hour.** 11 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Build early literacy skills with this storytime with a focus on books. 703-437-8855.

**Baby Steps Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Storytime. Age 13-23 months with adult. 703-689-2700.

**The Persuasions.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. 703-938-2404 or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 3

## Cancer Can, Or It Can't (Me, Too)



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I can mostly handle this cancer stuff. However, there is one area I can't totally manage – emotions. Specifically when certain things – physical, mental, spiritual – happen. I never know if what I'm feeling is attributable to the cancer, and thus worthy of a phone call/email to my study nurse and/or oncologist, or more a function of simply being who I am, independent of the cancer business; meaning a middle-aged, slightly overweight ("Slightly?" Be quiet, Dina.), out-of-shape, white-collar worker bee. I don't want to overreact to symptoms, nor do I want to be stubborn and stupid and underreact either. For all I know (and it's not really very much), whatever I'm feeling might actually matter, or it might not. Ergo the problem.

It's hard, make that impossible (for me anyway) to separate fact from fiction, cancer-related from normal wear and tear, the beginning of the end from the end of the beginning. I am encouraged by the medical staff to call with any concerns (real or imagined) that I may have. Still, when I called last week to report a non-stop runny nose that required constant blowing and tissue use (which ultimately lead to a very chapped and sore nose, inside and out) I felt funny. Here I have stage IV lung cancer and I'm worried about a runny nose. Even the description "runny nose" sounds insignificant and not nearly as serious many of the other symptoms familiar to cancer patients: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of sleep, loss of appetite, weight loss, nose bleeds, tingling and loss of use/control of your extremities and so forth that might warrant a cancer-call. Runny nose! What am I going to call about next? A skinned knee? A boo-boo on my buttock? A pimple on my poopik? Finding that line between compulsively obsessing over my symptoms to accepting what's happening to me as normal, given my age (and thus not particularly worthy of cancer-induced worry/anxiety/fear/depression) has been most difficult for me.

This difficulty has manifested itself because my coping mechanism diagnosis-to-date, has been not to consume myself (or try not to) with everything that is happening to me medically (or could be in the future). That's not to say that I'm ignoring what's occasionally been happening, but more so attempting to keep it in perspective/context: try not to overreact to the things (side effects, symptoms, deficiencies), that typically happen to cancer/chemo patients and conversely, try to react positively to the things that don't happen. My concern is that I'm taking too much in stride, attributing too much of what cancer stuff I think I feel to the inevitability of the underlying health situation in which I find myself immersed (and thus not unique or worth mentioning) and instead go with the proverbial flow and not fight this rising tide.

I don't want to be swept away and drowned by these waves of emotion and end up in a sea of non-tranquility. Somehow I need to, as Katie Winter of Secret Deodorant marketing fame once made famous, "Keep myself cool, calm and collected." I don't imagine that being in denial would help, but neither do I think proactively pursuing pathology reports (as but one example of the endless amount of information available from your health care provider) would provide the solace and balance I seek. I am open to suggestion.

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

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Diane and Scott Hammond at the 'sea of blue and red' at the Giants stadium.

# A Giant Boost

## Vienna teen fighting cancer attends New York Giants game.

BY KRISTIN MUDD

Scott Hammond turned 16 on Nov. 16, 2009. He is a sophomore at James Madison High School. He likes listening to Metallica, and he's a fan of the New York Giants football team. Hammond is also battling cancer. His journey began in the fall of 2007 when a small cyst the size of a pea popped up on his wrist. He was diagnosed with Stage IV Merkel Cell Carcinoma, a skin cancer rarely seen in children.

Hammond's treatment protocol called for six cycles of chemotherapy and two bone marrow transplants. In September 2009, a follow up scan showed that the cancer is relapsing in his lymph nodes. After consultations with oncologists, the Hammonds were told they would not be able to cure Scott's cancer. Scott's current treatment will keep him palliative between hospital stays and clinical trials at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

When Victoria Levi, whose daughter Mackenzie is a cancer survivor, learned of Scott's story she offered the Hammonds two tickets to see a New York Giants game. Victoria works for the Assistance Support Kindness (ASK) — an organization that enhances the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Department at VCU Health Systems in Richmond. ASK together with The ReeseStrong Foundation and the CJ's Thumbs up foundation donated money to cover all of the accommodation for their trip up to New York to see the Giants play. "The stadium was a sea of blue and red," said Diane Hammond. "It was full of pumped up Giant Fans. Scott was in awe watching the players warm up on the field. I loved watching the look on his face. We can't put into words how we feel about the love, prayers, and support that everyone has shown us over these last many months."

To follow Scott's cancer journey visit [www.caringbridge.org/visit/scotthammond](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/scotthammond).

To learn more about the organizations mentioned in this story and how to help, go to [www.ReeseStrong.org](http://www.ReeseStrong.org); [www.askweb.org](http://www.askweb.org); [www.connorsheroes.com](http://www.connorsheroes.com); and [www.cjstuf.org](http://www.cjstuf.org).

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PHOTO BY VERONICA GARABELLI/ CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Del. Mark Keam (D-35), center, at the General Assembly session.

# School Funding Formula Angers Fairfax Delegates

'Legal action' under consideration.

BY VERONICA GARABELLI  
CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Gov. Bob McDonnell's (R) plan to continue using an education funding formula that takes money from more affluent school districts and gives it to less affluent ones has so upset Fairfax County supervisors that they are considering legal action.

"This is really a cut-and-dried issue," said Supervisor Jeffrey C. McKay (D-Lee). "It's outright discrimination against Northern Virginia."

McDonnell's decision will cut \$61 million from the Fairfax County Public Schools' budget, said Paul Regnier, a spokesman for the school district.

According to the school system's Web site, Fairfax County's school budget for the 2010 fiscal year is \$2.2 billion, so the funding cut amounts to 3 percent of the budget. Regnier said that could mean larger class sizes, the elimination of full-day kindergartens or the curtailment of foreign language emergence services.

McDonnell's office confirmed Friday, Jan. 22, that he would uphold the use of the school funding formula proposed in December by then-Gov. Tim Kaine (D).

Details will be given to agency heads next week, McDonnell's press secretary, Stacey Johnson, said in an e-mail to Capital News Service.

Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) said he was furious when he heard the formula would be frozen at the level set by Kaine.

Petersen noted that because the real estate market had fallen in Northern Virginia, Fairfax, Prince William and Loudoun counties received lower scores on the scale than they had in the past.

Ordinarily, the lower scores would have resulted in more money from the state for basic education.

"Now, thanks to the plan that was put forward by Gov. Kaine, the rules are being changed on us," Petersen said.

On Jan. 12, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted 10-0 to look into legal action if the McDonnell administration upheld the freeze in the school funding formula.

The formula is called the Local Composite Index, or LCI. It determines which localities can pay the most for basic kindergarten-through-12th-grade education and which ones cannot. It is calculated using adjusted gross income, taxable retail sales and true value of real property.

This year, Fairfax's score went from .76 to .71; Loudoun fell from .67 to .58 and Prince William dipped from .44 to .40.

That should have meant more money for those school districts. However, Kaine — and now McDonnell — decided to freeze the formula at the previous scores.

That decision will please some localities, such as Russell County, in the southwest corner of Virginia.

Dr. Lorraine C. Turner, superintendent for the Russell County Public Schools, said her school district would benefit from the LCI freeze.

"If it's frozen at last year's rate, the state will give us more money, as opposed to asking the locality to pay for it," Turner said.

In December, Kaine proposed freezing the LCI until the 2012 fiscal year. He said this would help protect 97 school divisions that would lose money if the formula were re-calculated.

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 30

**Stream Restoration Meeting, Colvin Run Community Outreach.** 9 a.m. at Forest Edge Elementary School, 1501 Becontree Lane, Reston. Residents east of Reston Parkway and north of the Dulles Toll Road are invited to hear about Reston's Stream Restoration Project in the Colvin Run watershed. Preliminary designs are underway for the Uplands-Tall Oaks area. 703-435-6560 or Nicki@reston.org.

## MONDAY/FEB. 8

**Reston Planning and Zoning Committee.** 7:30 p.m. in the Main Conference Room, Reston Association Building, 1930 Isaac Newton Square, Reston. Agenda includes Reston Excelsior Residential Apartments, Wiehle Avenue Metro Station Project and approval of minutes of previous meeting. Agenda subject to change without notice by order of the Chairman, David Vanell, 703-904-9299, or Arthur S. Hill,

Vice Chairman, 703-264-1178.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 10

**Herndon Town Council Public Hearing.** 7 p.m. Mary Ingram Council Chambers, 765 Lynn St., Herndon. Town staff will provide a general overview of the fiscal year budgetary trends and issues. 703-435-6805 or [www.herndonva.gov](http://www.herndonva.gov).

## SATURDAY/FEB. 13

**The Reston Accessibility Committee (RAC)** meets at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of every other month, at United Bank, 1801 Reston Parkway, Reston. The RAC works improve accessibility for mobility-impaired persons in Reston. Contact Ken Fredgren, 703-391-9019 or [fredgren.k@gmail.com](mailto:fredgren.k@gmail.com).

## MONDAY/FEB. 22

**Weekly classes in Chen tai chi.** Beginners class every Monday, 6:30 p.m. at the Jow Ga Shaolin Institute, 600-D Carlisle Drive, Herndon. First class free. All levels and ages welcome. [truetaichi.com](http://truetaichi.com) or 703-801-0064.

## FAITH NOTES

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

**The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute Winter Course, Portraits in Leadership: Timeless Tales for Inspired Living,** will run for six Tuesday nights beginning Feb. 2 at Chabad-Lubavitch of Reston and Herndon, 718 Lynn St., Herndon. Portraits in Leadership is a study of the life stories of six figures whose courage and determination helped Judaism weather its darkest hours. Lessons will examine a range of classic Jewish sources, drawing extensively from the stories of the Talmud and modern commentaries. Contact Rabbi Leibel Fajnlund, Chabad of Reston-Herndon, for more information. 703-476-1829, [chabadrh.org](http://chabadrh.org) or [www.myJLI.com](http://www.myJLI.com).

**St. Timothy's Episcopal Church,** 432 Van Buren St., Herndon, will host a teacher training day, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13. Christian educator Sharon Ely Pearson will offer two sessions: An Engaging Lesson Plan in which participants will learn how to use their current curriculum to make it the most engaging to the learner, and Trends in Christian Formation that will explore what the future may look like. A number of workshops will also be offered by the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Pre-registration is required. 35 per person, including lunch. [education@saint-timothys.org](mailto:education@saint-timothys.org) or 703-742-6694.

**The Hazak Active Retirees Chapter of Congregation Beth Emeth,** 12523 Lawyers Road in Herndon, present author Ron Arens at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16. Arens is the author of 'The Jews of Sing Sing,' the true story of Jewish gangsters from the late 1800s through the 1950s, and the Jewish community's response. The CBE Hazak Chapter presents a program the third Tuesday of the month from Sept.-June, providing area Jewish seniors with a time to socialize and learn. Programs are free to Hazak members, \$3 for guests. Call 703-860-4515 ext. 127.

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

Nondenominational **Christian businessmen** meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship **every Friday**, at 7 a.m., at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and **every Thursday** at noon at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.

**Adult Sunday school** will be held **every Sunday**, at 9:30 a.m., at the Washington Plaza Baptist Church at Lake Anne Village Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow every Sunday at 11 a.m.

# Obstructionist?

FROM PAGE 6

merit-based pay system for teachers, offshore drilling to relieve the energy demand, selling off the ABC stores and consolidate or privatize non-core government services.

Will a difficult Senate serve the best interests of the Commonwealth or will we be treated to the obstructionist tactics of a partisan clique bent on making life difficult for our elected administration? Locally, Fairfax teachers are facing a second year of no pay raises and high school freshman athletics and music programs are being threatened.

At this point, Virginia is feeling the effects of the recession. Lower tax receipts have reduced revenues to support

the growth in entitlements, a larger state bureaucracy and increased regulation. Virginia has great depth in the business sector of the economy. If freed from unnecessary regulations, the Commonwealth's economy will rebound and continue its reputation as a business-friendly state. It has been demonstrated time and again that lower taxes and less government regulation promotes a healthy economy.

It remains to be seen if the Senate of Virginia will put petty, partisan, obstructionist politics ahead of playing a supportive, productive role in fostering a spirit of cooperation to help Virginia recover from the recession. The voters two years hence will be the judge of how well the Senate performed.

# Seahawk Boys Showing Gradual Improvement

Daye scores 19 in South Lakes' basketball win over Madison.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

For a South Lakes High boys' basketball team that entered the season with little returning varsity experience from a year ago, victories were not expected to come easy. But the Seahawks have shown steady progression over the winter and, despite carrying a less than glamorous 6-9 record going into this week, remain upbeat about what can be accomplished over the final month of the season.

"I think we've played as well as expected," said Irv Greene, who is sharing head coaching duties with former South Lakes player Jon Kemmerer. "We've had some inconsistent play in several games. But I think we've gotten better with our defensive pressure and knowing when to turn it up a notch in a game. We've gotten better in our execution of the offense."

South Lakes snapped a two-game losing skid with a 51-42 home win over Liberty District opponent Madison Friday night, Jan. 22. Joe Daye, a junior guard who attended Herndon High last school year before transferring to South Lakes, scored a game-high 19 points in the win. Darius Smith,

also a junior guard, and Ramin Shaheedian, a senior guard and the Seahawks' most experienced player from last year, both scored nine points. South Lakes built a 27-14 halftime lead and went on to the win — their third district victory to four losses.

"I think our overall defensive play got us going early," said Greene, whose team led 16-10 after one quarter before holding the Warhawks to four second quarter points.

South Lakes won despite making only five-of-18 foul shots in the game.

Shaheedian, averaging eight points per game, will play a key role in how the Seahawks fare over the second half of their district schedule. The 6-foot-1 inch Shaheedian broke out for 23 points, along with pulling down seven rebounds, in South Lakes' recent 67-64 district toad loss at Fairfax on Jan. 15.

"He's our most seasoned player and we're hoping to get the most out of him down the stretch," said Greene.

Daye, meanwhile, has been a key addition to the Seahawks' lineup. The 5-11 junior, who is a nephew of coach Greene, is leading South Lakes in scoring with 13 points per game.

"He is a scorer," said Greene. "He's been able to catch the ball and shoot right away. He's also improved on defense."

Smith is averaging 11 points and four assists per game. In recent weeks, he moved to point guard and has excelled in that role.

"Darius is doing a fantastic job," said Greene. "He's the most athletic player on the team. He's good at penetrating, dishing off and scoring. Now that he's got four or five games under his belt [at point guard] he is playing a lot better. He knows when to push it and, if it's not there, to slow it up."

**IN THE FRONT COURT**, senior center Kevin Ball, a standout football lineman who did not play basketball last year, has given the Seahawks a positive inside presence. Ball is averaging six points and six rebounds a game.

"He's given us real solid minutes," said Greene, of the 6-4, 250-pound inside player. "He's given us a whole lot from a guy who didn't play last year. He's just a solid kid who knows his role."

Greene said the Seahawks have struggled to put together four consistent quarters of play.

"If we do that we could see different results in the second half of [the district schedule]," he said.

South Lakes' district wins have come over Jefferson, McLean and Madison. This Friday night, the Seahawks will be at home against Jefferson.

Virginia's District 4. The league's boundaries include the greater Reston and Herndon Communities. More than 600 players participate every spring. Reston Little League offers a fun and competitive baseball experience for players ages 5 through 12.

**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. There are separate teams for boys and girls in age divisions U-15, U-13, U-11, and U-9. Various levels of play are based on experience and skill level. The teams compete in

the Northern Virginia Youth Lacrosse League ([www.nvyll.org](http://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](http://www.HRYL.org)

Registration is open for Reston Youth Association Winter Cheerleading. Practice times are Mondays, from 6-7:30 p.m. indoors at South Lakes High School. Register at [www.RestonSeahawks.org](http://www.RestonSeahawks.org) or at practice. For more information, contact Traci Waller at [TraciWaller@aol.com](mailto:TraciWaller@aol.com).



PHOTOS COURTESY/RYA

Alex Woodward, with the trophies he was awarded at the RYA football and cheerleading banquet this past December.

## Youth Football Honors Excellence

Reston Youth Association (RYA) Football and Cheerleading culminated its fall season with an awards banquet Dec. 17 at the Reston Community Center where excellence on and off the field was recognized. Academic All Star Awards were given to dozens of cheerleaders and football players for receiving A's and B's on their report cards. Team Hall of Fame Awards were given for football and cheerleading, along with five-year awards and league most valuable player awards. RYA's Football MVP was awarded to linebacker/guard Alex Woodward from the 110-division

American team. Five-year trophies were awarded to Darius Hawkins, Akram Gibreel, Sam Joslyn, David Webb, Delontae Wingfield and Alex Woodward. The five boys began playing together five years ago on an RYA 75-pound national team and were teammates as they progressed through 85, 95 and 110 pound American teams. They brought excellence to the program the last five years with their hard work and dedication.

While the 2009 fall season is over, RYA will sponsor a flag football spring season. See [RestonSeahawks.org](http://RestonSeahawks.org) for information.



Five-year cheerleading and football award winners: cheerleaders Kaylyn Macaluso, Cheyenne Keeter, and Jordan Rosenblatt; football players Darius Hawkins, Delontae Wingfield, David Webb, Akram Gibreel, Sam Joslyn, and Alex Woodward; and coach Steve Gambrell.

### SPORTS ROUNDUPS

**Registration for tryouts** to the Herndon/Reston 2010 Showcase Glory softball team are now open. This program is designed for high school juniors and seniors in the Herndon/Reston area who are interested in playing on a college showcase softball team.

**Reston Little League Baseball** announces that registration for the Spring 2010 season is now open. Registration for Majors/AAA/AA (generally ages 9-12) is open until Feb. 19. A late fee of \$35 will apply after this date. Registration for T-ball and A-ball (generally ages 5-8) is open until March 25. Please register on-line at [restonlittleleague.com](http://restonlittleleague.com).

Reston Little League was established in 1972 and is a member of

# REAL ESTATE

## A Very Good Year

BY JON QUEROLO  
REALTOR

I hope you had a great holiday season and that 2010 is your best year ever. Below is my Annual Update on the Reston real estate market. Also, some reflection, thoughts and comments on what the coming year might hold. I hope you find it informative and helpful.

❖ 2009: Overall it was a very good year. You could not find a better real estate market nationwide than the D.C. metro area in general and Reston in particular. We are blessed to have the federal government, lots of private industry, great schools and a wonderful standard of living. If 2008 and 2009 were "make do/getting by" years, 2010 should be better for most. We have little inventory of homes for sale and Reston continues to be a sought-after place to live. Currently, there are just 31 detached homes for sale, 53 townhouses and 67 condominiums.

Opinion: If there is a negative to the story it is that we suffer a bit from lack of inventory. In a buyer's typical price range, say we are looking between \$500,000 and \$600,000 (a range of \$100,000) you might have six or eight houses

to consider. That is not much of selection and leads me to believe there is plenty of pent up demand. Pre-approved buyers are on the sidelines waiting for the right house to come on the market. If you are considering selling, you may want to do it sooner vs. later. Historically, sellers get a better price early in the year when there is little competition vs. waiting until the spring when there tends to be more on the market. Call me to discuss.

SOLD in 2009: There were 1143 homes sold in Reston in 2009 vs. 968 in 2008 – a 20 percent increase. Here's the breakdown by type also, note days to sell.

OF NOTE: Prices pretty much held their ground in 2009 compared to the previous year. We did see some short sale and foreclosure activity in the townhouse and condo markets. In many instances these sales could have an adverse effect on the averages. When pricing a property to sell in this market remember that real estate is a "by neighborhood" value transaction. It is important to deal with short sale and foreclosure stats in context with "normal" sales and have a Realtor advisor you trust explain the circumstances behind each and every sale. A short sale or foreclosure has extenuating circumstances and does not make the

value of another property.

INTEREST RATES: Mortgage money is plentiful and currently a 30-Year fixed mortgage can be found in the 5 percent range. We see dips into the four's. Forecast is that rates will continue to rise through the year. While there was some difficulty finding jumbo money for larger loan amounts over the spring and summer that does not continue to be an issue today.

BUYING/INVESTING NOW? Absolutely! I am the eternal optimist. I have spent 30 years counseling hundreds if not thousands of sellers, buyers and many Realtors. We are not a nation of renters. Buy and own a nice house that you can afford with a mortgage that is fixed for 30 (or 15) years. Take care of it, maintain and love it and it will take care of you in the long term. Selling and moving into a rental is not the answer for most. To have no tax deduction for your mortgage interest and taxes and to be at the mercy of a landlord raising the rent is not the way to build equity and savings for one's retirement.

If you are thinking of selling your home or have a real estate question call and talk with us.

"Reston's Realtors since 1967 – www.restonproperties.com"

Reston continues to be a sought-after place to live.

## Open Space To Expand

FROM PAGE 3

a way to phase in the development so that all the existing housing would not need to be torn down in order for construction to get underway.

He also noted that JBG had met with Lake Anne business owners. "They're very excited about this," he said. "We think it's important to get a few more people in that area." While the developer had eliminated plans for 8,000 square feet of retail in Fairway in response to concerns that those businesses could detract from Lake Anne, Moll said some members of the Planning and Zoning Committee had wanted to see some minimal retail in the development. In a quick poll, though, two DRB members opposed the idea and none supported it.

"I think the design's come a long ways," said DRB Chairman Richard Newlon, adding that JBG had responded well to the board's input. However, he said was concerned about the mass of the buildings on the eastern parcel and wondered if the parking could be pushed underground or the buildings contracted.

**BOARD VICE CHAIRMAN** Neal Roseberry said he wished land values would drive parking underground, but Moll confirmed that this was not the case. "To be frank with you, it's cost-prohibitive to put parking underground," he said, noting that the cost was \$50,000 to \$60,000 per space.

"Why don't you make the east look more like the west?" asked board member Ed Abbot, wondering why no high-rise was planned for the eastern portion.

Moll said the cost was a problem. "We crunched the numbers and we couldn't get there," he said.

Asked by board member Jenn Byl whether JBG would consider sustainability as a design element, Moll said there was not yet a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification for wood-frame residential buildings, but the company wanted to pursue equivalent standards, if not certification.

Resident Kathy Kaplan said she had heard that an offer had been made to sell the Clubhouse Cluster to JBG, and she wondered how that might affect the development.

"At this point, we don't have any interest in buying the Clubhouse Cluster," Moll said, adding that the neighborhoods could still be connected if Clubhouse were redeveloped.

Kaplan also noted that the 1,000-square-foot units mentioned in JBG's plans would not be big enough for families and said she wanted to see a better balance in apartment sizes.

Moll told her 1,000 square feet was only an average size, and two- and three-bedroom units would be included.

Larry Butler, Parks and Recreation director for the Reston Association, asked how the amount of impervious surface in the development would compare to the current neighborhood and was told that the eastern parcel would be at or below its current level, while Fairway West would be slightly over but storm water management measures would mitigate impacts there.

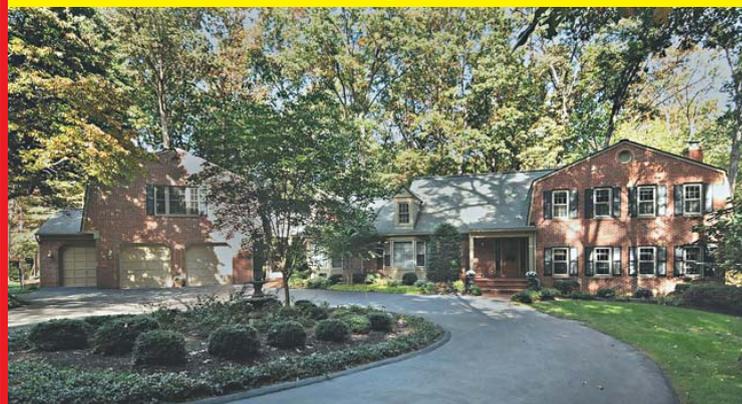
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Sonya Davis, Avery-Hess, 703-850-1156

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com), click the Real Estate links on the right side.



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**Reston**  
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**Four Level Townhome**  
So much room w/four levels. 3BR, 3.5BA plus walk-out basement. Open floor plan w/extra den and loft. Many upgrades, all on private North Hills lot backing to mature trees.



**Herndon** **\$995,000**  
**Designed for Entertaining**  
This 8-yr old elegant home features generous room sizes with an open floor plan. Perched high at the end of a cul-de-sac the home boasts 5BR, 4.5BA and an oversized 3-car side load garage.



**Reston**  
**\$989,000**  
**Waterfront Patio Home**  
Breathtaking water views from this 3800 4 BR 4.5 BA home on Lake Newport in north Reston. Completely renovated with new chef's kitchen, baths, flooring, fab open floorplan. Lawn care & cluster dock!

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Perfectly sited on the estate sized lot. The open floor plan boasts 4BR, 3.5BA, an oversized sunroom, finished W/O basement. Elegant luxury master suite w/sitting room or office. Neutral, upgraded enticing design.

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**Reston**  
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**Luxury Garage Townhouse**  
Features 3 finished levels w/walkout basement. Neutral & light w/high ceilings. Dual master suites upstairs. Recent deck and patio additions-backing to common area & trees.



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