

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 9 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 11 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 14

Stream Restoration to Cross Toll Road

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Frank Graziano of Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc. (WSSI), left, and Forest Edge Cluster resident Brian Ruhl look over plans for the restoration of the Glade Watershed at a meeting at Forest Edge Elementary School Saturday morning. As work in the Glade draws to a close, WSSI conducted the meeting at Forest Edge to brief residents of northern Reston on the stream restoration work coming to the Colvin Run Watershed.

Public Weighs In on Reston's Guiding Principles

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Joint Meeting of the Program/Policy and Community Relations Committees**



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NEWS

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION



Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force Chairwoman Patty Nicoson opens last week's meeting, where the task force sought input from the public on the principles that should guide its revisions to the Reston plan.

Public Weighs In on Reston's Guiding Principles

Master Plan Special Study Task Force finds some disagreement, but broad consensus.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Although last week's meeting of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force, which sought input from residents on the study's guiding principles, was not without its moments of dispute, nearly all residents seemed to agree on several points.

County planners had proposed a list of seven principles that built on Reston founder Bob Simon's original seven goals for the community, although planner Heidi Merkel told the crowd that filled about half the cafeteria at Langston Hughes Middle School Tuesday night, Jan. 26, "These are the broad-brush concepts. These are not trying to get down to the level of where we're talking about what level of density is appropriate for a certain area."

Three other groups — the Reston 2020 Committee of the Reston Citizens Association, the Alliance of Reston Clusters and Homeowners and the team of urban planner Guy Rando and poet and naturalist Kathy Kaplan — had prepared their own sets of principles.

OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, the task force is to update the portion of the county's Comprehensive Plan that deals with Reston. A main driver behind the effort is the coming of Metrorail through the Reston Center for Industry and Government (RCIG), which to date has prohibited residential and many commercial uses within its boundaries. This area is to be studied first, and the group will then turn its attention to the surrounding town centers.

All four sets of principles placed an emphasis on preserving and creating open space, with the county encouraging its preservation "to the extent possible,"

while Rando and Kaplan asked for 33.3 percent open space and, along with the 2020 Committee, set a minimum of 25 percent.

Virtually everyone who spoke agreed that existing neighborhoods outside the RCIG, Reston Town Center and the existing village centers should be left undisturbed. While the county's document called for "protecting and enhancing existing communities," Kaplan said the term "enhancing" should be struck, as she saw it as a code word for infill development.

Davood Sedaghatfar asked if the plan could protect neighborhoods from increased traffic. "It's hell getting out of some of these clusters in the morning," he said, adding that he was afraid of being trapped in his neighborhood.

Others shared his concern, and a main topic of discussion was the extent to which development could be tied to improvements in transportation and other infrastructure.

THE COUNTY'S DRAFT said the plan should "encourage a transportation network that appropriately supports the planned land uses," but all three citizen groups, as well as other residents who spoke up, wanted requirements that adequate transportation infrastructure be in place, or at least financed, before development was allowed. Several also asked that the 2008 recommendations of the advisory committee Reston Metrorail Access Group (RMAG) be implemented.

Director of Planning Fred Selden said infrastructure could be a requirement for certain levels of development, in the way the Comprehensive Plan currently links high-density development options to the proximity of Metrorail. However, he pointed out that most of the RCIG was not developed to the maximum density currently allowed and that no such conditions could be applied to by-right development without the likelihood of a lawsuit.

"Several aspects of travel behavior will change radically when we go to a more urban environment," said Joe Stowers, past chair of Reston's Planning and Zoning Committee. With more development and a balance of jobs and housing, he said, more

SEE SIMON, PAGE 7

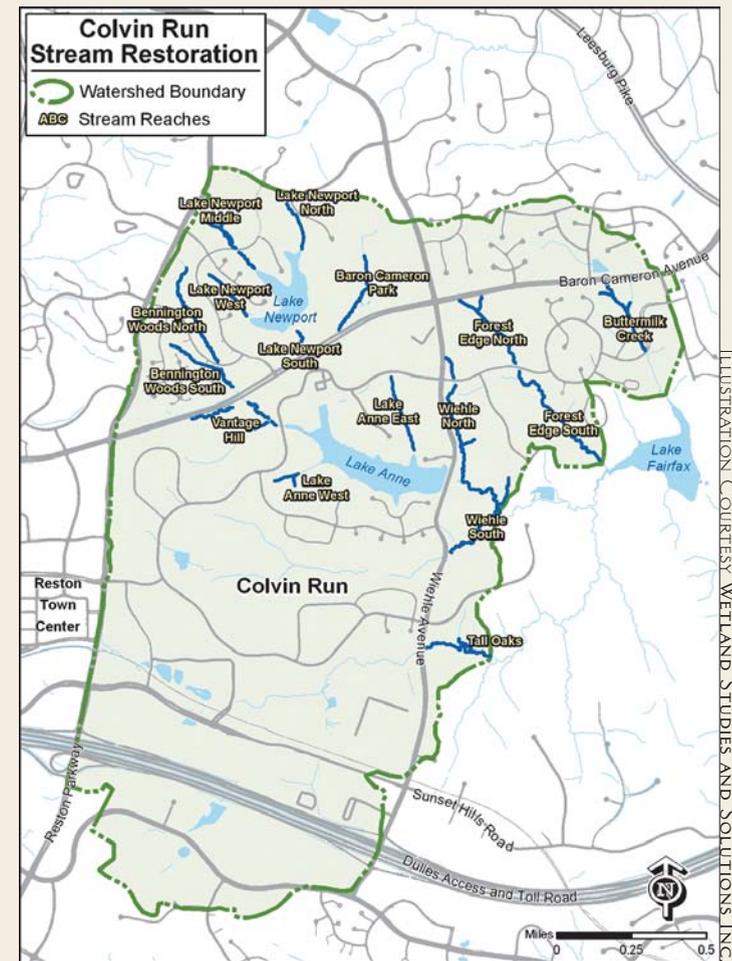


ILLUSTRATION COURTESY WETLAND STUDIES AND SOLUTIONS, INC.

Design work is underway for the restoration of the Colvin Run Watershed in north Reston.

Stream Restoration To Cross Toll Road

Residents in north Reston get preview of work to come, though construction is not yet funded.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

David Slater, president of the Forest Edge Cluster, said he had harbored several concerns about the forthcoming restoration of the Colvin Run Watershed. Having watched the work of Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc. (WSSI) in the Snakeden and Glade watersheds over the last two years, he said he thought the company "overdid it" in terms of taking down too many trees and creating pools that bred mosquitoes. Some of his cluster's property values resulted from the number of trees on its land, he said, and he was wary of the fact that workers would have to come onto cluster property to work on the streams.

"However, Wetland Studies has received enough feedback that they've gotten religion," Slater said. At a meeting that the wetland restoration company conducted Saturday morning, Jan. 30 at Forest Edge Elementary School to inform residents of northern Reston about the work to be done in their area, Slater said he thought enough people had been upset by the number of trees taken down in the lower Snakeden Watershed that WSSI had become more accommodating of residents' concerns.

Others among the 50 or so in the crowd were more readily enthusiastic. "I think it's great. I'm a full supporter of it," said Brian Ruhl, also of Forest Edge Cluster. "Erosion has just been

SEE COMMUNITIES, PAGE 5

Assault and Exposure in South Lakes Area

On Wednesday, Jan. 27 around 12:55 a.m., a 39-year-old woman was walking in the 11100 block of South Lakes Drive when a man confronted her as she exited a pedestrian tunnel. The suspect exposed himself and then grabbed her before fleeing on foot. The victim was not injured.

The suspect was described as white, in his 20s, with brown eyes, around 6 feet tall, 200 pounds and wore dark clothing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Community Center Seeks Community Input

The Reston Community Center Board of Governors invites Small District 5 residents to attend the Joint Meeting of the Program Policy and Community Relations Committees to gather the community's input on Reston's cultural, recreational, and leisure time amenities needs. The meeting is Monday, Feb. 8, at 6 p.m. at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. All community members are encouraged to attend.

"This is an excellent opportunity for community members to ask questions and offer their ideas to strengthen RCC's educational, social, cultural and recreational service delivery," said Carol Ann Bradley, chair of the RCC Board of Directors. "It is also a chance to discuss the Center's capacity to better provide for these services now and into the future."

The RCC Board of Governors will be seeking public participation in identifying and prioritizing Reston's future recreational needs. The Board's monthly meeting schedule is posted on the RCC's Web site at www.restoncommunitycenter.com and published in the local newspapers. Residents are welcome to attend and participate in the planning process. Written comments may also be submitted by e-mail to RCCcontact@fairfaxcounty.gov or mailed to:

Reston Community Center, Attn: Board of Governors, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191.

Fund-raiser for Public Art

Open Your Heart to Public Art in Reston by joining the Initiative for Public Art-Reston (IPAR) and Hunters Woods Elementary School PTA for some family-friendly fun, Monday, Feb. 15, 4-7 p.m., with ice skating at the Reston Town Center Pavilion. Admission is \$10 and includes the skates rental fee.

The skate is open to the public, and proceeds from admission, hot chocolate and cookie sales will benefit IPAR's first public art project — the creation of a permanent Reston underpass art work involving an artist-in-residence who will engage students from Hunters Woods Elementary School, a Fairfax County magnet school for the arts and sciences. This first Public Art Project is launched by IPAR in collaboration with project co-sponsors, Reston Community Center and Reston Association.

For more information about the fund-raising skate and IPAR, call 703-467-9797, e-mail info@publicartreston.org, or visit www.publicartreston.org.

Park Authority Forum for Hunter Mill District

Fairfax County Park Authority Director John Dargle Jr. will host a conversation about parks on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., at the Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center. Anyone with questions, concerns or suggestions about Fairfax County parks is invited to attend this meeting.

Information gathered at previous Listening Forums is available online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/listeningforums.htm>.

NEWS



PHOTO BY MICHAEL KATZ

Eleven area nonprofit organizations that help people in Northern Virginia each received a \$5,000 grant by the Giving Circle of HOPE at a ceremony (Jan. 29) in Reston. Representatives from left are Shally Stanley, board member, Greenbrier Learning Center; Marga Fripp, president, Empowered Women International; Lynn O'Connell, executive director, Computer C.O.R.E.; Kari Galloway, executive director, Friends of Guest House; Diana Katz, past Grant Circle chair; Peggy Cressy, current Grant Circle chair; Jennifer Wassermann, development associate, Bethany House; Andrea Saccoccia, executive director, Project Mend-A-House; Rob Rutland-Brown, executive director, Just Neighbors; Nancy Dezan, executive director, Alzheimer's Family Day Care; Marcia DiTrapani, Herndon-Reston FISH; Rev Martha Real, executive director, Floris/Grace Ministries; Ginger Seeley, V.P. and treasurer, Kid R First.

Granting the Hope

Reston-based Giving Circle of Hope awards grants to 11 nonprofits.

BY STEPHANIE KNAPP
THE CONNECTION

The Giving Circle of Hope, a philanthropic service organization, honored the winners of its 2009 grants on Friday, Jan. 29. The grants were awarded to 11 nonprofit organizations chosen out of the 34 that applied to receive a grant of \$5,000 each.

Some of the winning nonprofit organizations for the 2009 grants included:

- ❖ The Alzheimer's Family Day Center, which helps treat dementia in patients both in early and late stages by getting them active. They plan to use their grant to have some extra programs for their patients including music and art.
- ❖ Bethany House, a group to help women and children experi



Sharmila Karamchandani, left, and Marga Fripp, from Empowered Women International, stand next to some art made by women their organization supports.

PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE KNAPP/THE CONNECTION



Peggy Cressy, the chair of the grant process for the Giving Circle of Hope, far right, introduces each recipient.

SEE VOLUNTEERISM, PAGE 10

Communities Discuss Stream Restoration

FROM PAGE 3

quite severe in our neighborhood," he said. "We're kind of anxious for it to start."

FOREST EDGE is tentatively planned to be the starting point for restoration in the Colvin Run Watershed, as residents there had expressed the most interest in the project to the Reston Association, said WSSI President Mike Rolband, adding, "We've agreed to do anything [Parks and Recreation Director] Larry [Butler] tells us to do, in terms of order."

In late 2008, seven or eight months after work had begun in the Snakeden area, residents raised an outcry as numerous trees were taken down to accommodate reconstruction of streams in the badly eroded lower reaches of the watershed. Rolband responded by revising plans and involving the public in even minor decisions about the project's design, and many residents in turn expressed their support for the work.

"I'm sure it's going to be ugly when they're doing it," said Laura Twardy, also a resident of Forest Edge. "I'm sure they're going to knock down some trees I don't want to see go. But it's going to be a new normal and it's going to be OK." She said she was "happy someone is going to do something," noting that what was once a pleasant stream in her neighborhood now ran along the bottom of a canyon 8 feet deep and 10 feet wide.

Restoration of the Snakeden Watershed is now completed, and work is underway in the final three of six reaches in the Glade Watershed, which is to be completed by fall. Tree, wildlife, archaeological and other studies have been carried out in the Colvin Run area, and Rolband said he hoped to have preliminary designs for restoration north of the toll road completed by the end of the year.

At this point, that is all of the project that is funded. WSSI is a partner in the Northern Virginia Stream Restoration Bank, which receives funding from development projects that negatively impact wetlands in the area and then uses the money, under the oversight of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, to repair and restore other wetlands in the local Potomac River Watershed. With construction slowing due to the economy, Rolband said, fewer developers are buying credits. He said financing could be an option but added, "Borrowing money for

this type of project in this type of economy is problematic."

THE COLVIN RUN WATERSHED is larger and will require considerably more work than its two counterparts south of the toll road. While Snakeden and the Glade each constitute about 20,000 feet of streams, about 35,000 feet are planned for restoration in Colvin Run. The Glade was broken into six reaches for restoration and Snakeden into 10, but Colvin Run will be divided into 14 reaches.

And the amount of repair and reinforcement a watershed needs is primarily dictated by the amount of impermeable surface surrounding it. This is why streams throughout the county are in such poor shape, Rolband said. While roads, buildings, parking lots and driveways create runoff where the ground once absorbed rain, until recently, storm water management policy "was to get the water as quickly as possible off the land and into the streams," he said.

Impervious surface coverage in the Colvin Run Watershed averages close to 40 percent, peaking

at 50 percent, Rolband said. This average is similar to the Snakeden Watershed and considerably higher than the Glade area, which averaged about 15 percent impervious coverage. He said the worst damage in Colvin Run was in the reach running along the east side of Wiehle Avenue.

No timetable has been set for construction in the northern watershed, as it remains unfunded, but Rolband said it would probably take about two years if everything were paid for.

WSSI has already held meetings with a few clusters in the Colvin Run Watershed and will meet with each community to discuss plans for the streams in its area. Designs are finalized one reach at a time, and in south Reston, Rolband has hosted walks along each reach before submitting plans for approval.

The three watersheds together, totaling 14 miles of streams and \$70 million worth of work, constitute the first phase of stream restoration in Reston. The second phase comprises another 15 miles of streams in the Sugarland Run area.

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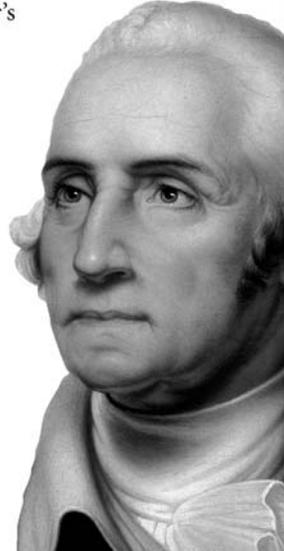
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OPINION

Adding More Painful Cuts

With talk of cutting programs that make it bearable to go to school for students, pay cuts should also be on the table.

Some of the cuts proposed by Fairfax County Public Schools might sound like they will not affect learning very much.

Freshman sports, for instance, involves 2,200 students across the county who are engaged in the delicate transition from middle school to high school. Why would it matter? How about the 5,000 students who participate in indoor track?

Or the thousands of students who find their love of learning through music.

Or the students getting a second chance on success at Pimmit Hills Alternative School.

Succeeding in school is all about finding a niche, a reason to go, particularly in high school. For some students, this is band. For others it is the chance to run track. For some,

it's an art class. For others it might be a connection to friends made through freshman sports.

Education succeeds for many different reasons. It is a huge mistake to cut off the very things that help students engage.

Nevertheless, schools across the area will have less money per student this year, and they will have to make cuts. Before they cut the life out of the school day for some many children, parents and the rest of local taxpayers deserve to see administration and staff over a certain level willing to share the pain.

No doubt many administrative cuts are not receiving as much publicity as cuts that impact students. But what administrative departments will face cuts similar to those proposed

for music or some sports programs?

Pay cuts for staff with salaries more than \$75,000 should also be on the table, holding classroom teachers harmless. Here are some suggested guidelines, more moderate than many of the cuts in many private companies with revenue shortfall in the past two years:

- ❖ 5 percent for employees who make \$75,000-\$90,000

- ❖ 10 percent for employees who make \$90,000-\$115,000

- ❖ 15 percent for employees who make \$115,000-\$140,000

- ❖ 20 percent for employees who make \$140,000-\$200,000

- ❖ 30 percent for employees who make more than \$200,000

This budget crisis is different than in the past. Right now for the first time, taxpayers are looking at drastically lower home values, and many are underwater. Tens of thousands of taxpayers in Northern Virginia are unemployed. For the public to press for more money for schools, schools will have to demonstrate that they "get it."

EDITORIAL

COMMENTARY

The LCI Takes Center Stage

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

Virginia's formula for funding public schools is very complex. Theoretically the average school district would be funded half by the state and half by local government. In actuality, the split in spending for public schools is closer to 55 percent local government and 45 percent state government because of the state's failure to fully fund its share. The complexity comes from determining the true cost of education and the ability of local governments to support their own schools. The cost of education is determined by pricing the Standards of Quality (SOQ), the basic state requirements for operating a school. The SOQs relate to staffing, materials, and square footage needed to run a school. All public schools in Virginia including the poorest districts exceed the SOQ standard because the standards are so minimal. The understated standards result in a lower state share of costs.

The local composite index (LCI) determines the ability of a local school system to pay for its own schools. The relative wealth of a school system is measured by its property values (50 percent), adjusted gross income (40 percent) and retail sales. The wealthier a jurisdiction, the higher its composite index and vice versa. The higher a locality's LCI, or its abil-

ity to pay, the less state aid the locality receives. The system is intended to ensure that children throughout the Commonwealth have a nearly equal access to public education. Such an equalization effort is not only the moral thing to do, but it has been interpreted by the courts as being required under the equal protection clause of the Constitution.

Not surprisingly, the LCI for Northern Virginia localities is high; Arlington is at the .80 ceiling. Fairfax is .7650. That means local governments in Northern Virginia pay 75 percent to 80 percent of their school costs; the state pays the rest. In poorer areas in southside and southwest Virginia the state pays as much as 80 percent of school costs. These numbers are often used in political campaigns to say that a community is not getting back the money it sends to the state because money from richer communities is clearly used to educate children in poorer school divisions.

Periodically, the LCI is recalculated based on the relative changes in wealth of localities. This year was to be such a year. For Fairfax County, the recalculation was favorable for an increase in state aid because of the decline in property values in the County with the re-



cession. The LCI would drop to .7126. In the budget that Gov. Tim Kaine (D) submitted, he proposed that the LCI be frozen and that the recalculations not be used. For Fairfax County, his proposal would be very costly resulting in a decrease of \$61 million in state aid. The

business community is as organized as I have seen it to support the change in the LCI. The delegation as Democrats and Republicans are united to defeat the Kaine proposal. Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) has not made his position known. Be prepared to hear much more than you may care to know about the LCI, for it is center stage in the budget debate. Big dollars are at stake when there are not enough dollars to go around.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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1606 King St.
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Questioning ObamaCare

To the Editor:

In response to Jim Radmore's Letter to the Editor ["Lifesaving Bill," Reston Connection, Jan. 13-19, 2010]: Hats to Mr. Radmore for his volunteer work in supporting cancer patients. Being a two-time survivor, I am sure Mr. Radmore appreciates the treatment and medicines that arrested and, perhaps sent his cancers into permanent remission.

Before we let the government take over the healthcare industry, perhaps we should ponder statistics: If you live in Canada or England, your chances of surviving a cancer diagnosis after five years is 42 percent or 46 percent respectfully. Under our present healthcare system in the United States, it is 65 percent.

However, ObamaCare is not dead by any stretch of the imagination. The services of Mr. Radmore and other volunteers will require a change in emphasis if we take Sen. Harry Reid at his word: "Elderly Americans must learn to accept the inconveniences of old age!"

Keep your letters and phone calls coming to our Virginia Sens. Mark Warner (202-224-2023 and Jim Webb (202-224-4024).

John J. Kenny
Reston

SEE MORE LETTERS, PAGE 11

THE CONNECTION

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Simon Highlights 'Community'

FROM PAGE 3

people would walk, traffic peaks would spread out and congestion would decline. "If you get the perfect balance, you'll minimize traffic," he said, adding that high-density areas would also require street grids.

Rob Whitfield countered that most of Reston was suburban, not urban. "If [Stowers] wants to go live in Tysons, that's fine," Whitfield said.

SIMON asked that residents stop worrying about what was urban or suburban and focus on the idea of community. "One hundred sixty acres was considered just the right amount of land out west," he said. "But there are other people who like other people." Density, he said, "makes community."

On the subjects of architecture and affordable housing, though, everyone seemed to be in agreement. ARCH called for innovative designs for the Metro stations, the county encouraged "innovative and high-quality site design and architecture," or what the 2020 Committee called "excellence in

planning, design and architecture," and Rando and Kaplan urged "world-class design."

Merkel noted that little housing opportunity existed for young people who grew up in Reston to return to the community and that it could be difficult for the elderly to find more modest housing without moving away, concerns that were shared by all three citizen groups. Reston Community Center Executive Director Leila Gordon took the life cycle theme a step further, calling for some sort of memorial space "for those of us who may want to die here, and not in our office."

Some questions were raised as to the parameters and timing of the special study, with Kaplan encouraging the task force to consider the Comstock development at the coming Wiehle Avenue Metro station, which is already being planned, and Dick Stillson of the 2020 Committee continuing to push for the RCIG and greater Reston community to be considered simultaneously.

Doug Pew said more bicycle and pedestrian connections needed to cross the toll road, and Yonna

Kromholz said the Reston Internal Bus System (RIBS) had to be expanded.

Task force Chairman Patty Nicoson suggested that more educational opportunities be included in the new development.

This prompted Sedaghatfar to make a tongue-in-cheek call for new special tax districts to support educational and other opportunities. "I think we should start thinking about these tax districts so we don't forget about it," he said.

Diana Carter offered this as a guiding principle. "There shall be no additional tax or toll burdens layered on residents of Reston to support or to compensate changes to the master plan," she said.

Having heard from residents, the task force will again consider guiding principles for redevelopment at its Feb. 9 meeting, when it will also receive a presentation on transit-oriented development, including the findings of RMAG.

"We can have a really wonderful outcome here, but it's going to take all of us working together to come to some agreements about what's important to us," said Kaplan.

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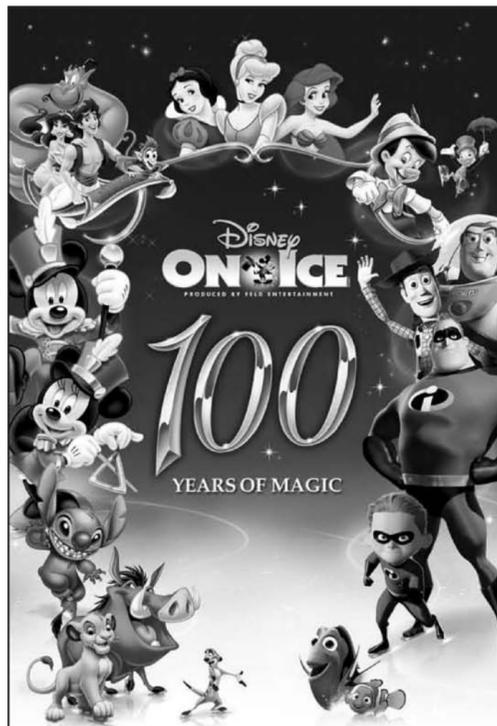
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CALENDAR

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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 or 703-984-9114. Walk-ins will only be accepted if time permits. All types of music welcomed. 703-435-5467.

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.

FRIDAY/FEB. 5

'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.

'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 or 703-476-4500 or at the Reston Community Center's box office. 703-435-2707 or www.restonplayers.org.

Dancing to the Helmut Licht Band. 9 p.m. at Colvin Run Schoolhouse, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Ballroom, latin and swing music, including a Samba lesson at 8 p.m. prior to the dance. Lesson \$5; dancing 9-11:30 p.m. \$12. Sodas, snacks available for purchase. 703-795-2003 or www.colvinrun.org.

'The Vagina Monologues.' 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$25. Part of the Vday campaign to end violence against women and girls. sas.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/FEB. 6

Third Annual Polar Dip. 2 p.m. at the Lake Anne Dock, Reston. Registered plungers will jump into Lake Anne to raise funds for Camp Sunshine. Come to plunge, or come to watch the fun. Information, registration and pledge forms at www.FreezinForAReason.com.

Father-Daughter Dance. 6:30 p.m. at the Herndon community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. For ages 4-12. \$50 per couple, \$25 each additional daughter. 703-435-6800 or www.herndon-va.gov.

Jeri Sager. 7:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Northern Virginia native and Broadway star Sager debuts at the Barns of Wolf Trap with her solo cabaret show, Broadway by Jeri. Accompanied by a four-piece band, Sager will re-create her roles in Cats, Les Misérables, and Evita. \$25. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series: Mill Run Band. 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. \$12. 703-435-8377 or www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net.

'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.

'The Violet Hour.' 8 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269

Salima Fellah's 'View from Above' at Jo Ann Rose Gallery

Abstract paintings by Salima Fellah are on exhibit in the Jo Ann Rose Gallery this February. "View From Above" runs from Feb. 1 to March 1. The opening reception will be Sunday, Feb. 7, from 2-4 p.m., in the Gallery.



Fellah said when painting, she has a "feeling of hovering – like floating above the work" creating the impression of a "view from above." She began painting in the early 1990s, but her current abstract style was developed "during one long weekend in 2006."

Fellah's work has won several awards. She is a member of the League of Reston Artists, The Fairfax Art League and the Arts Council of Fairfax County and her work was selected for an AWSJ juried exhibit. Her Web site is www.safehart.com.

The Jo Ann Rose Gallery is located in the Reston Community Center Lake Anne at 1609-A Washington Plaza in Reston,

'Coin Tranquille' in acrylic by Salima Fellah

Virginia. For further information on Gallery exhibits, call Gloria Morrow at 703-476-4500 X 3012.

Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$19 adults, \$16 seniors and students. 703-481-5930 or 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 or 703-476-4500 or at the Reston Community Center's box office. 703-435-2707 or www.restonplayers.org.

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'The Vagina Monologues.' 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$25. Part of the Vday campaign to end violence against women and girls. sas.gmu.edu.

SUNDAY/FEB. 7

Ensemble Gaudior: Soggiorno Italiano Concert. 4 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian church, 124 Park St., Vienna. Italian sonatas by Corelli, Vivaldi and more in a benefit concert for New Hope International. Free, the public is invited. Donations accepted. Reception to follow. 703-395-2899 or ensemblegaudior@gmail.com.

'Cinderella Wore Combat Boots.' 2 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$7. 703-481-5930 or www.elderstreet.com.

Early February Bird Walk. 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Explore the upper Glade stream valley. Meet at the Nature Center parking lot, walk down to the Glade Stream valley and continue upstream. No reservations required. Free; adults. Enviroed@reston.org or 703-435-6530.

Jimmy's 13th Annual Super Football Bash. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon. NFL JOTTeopardy at 4 p.m. with Mike, Buzz, Rob & Oscar from the Mike O'Meara Show. 703-435-5467.

MONDAY/FEB. 8

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

Easy Reader Book Discussion - Level 2. 3 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Read a book aloud and enjoy a related craft. Call for title. Age 6-7. 703-689-2700.

Artists' Reception: Ineffable Rhythms by Andy Ilachinski. 5 p.m. at the Market Street Bar & Grill, 1800 Presidents Street, Reston. 703-925-8250 or www.restonarts.org.

Owl Moon. 10 a.m. at Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Pretend to be an owl. Make some owl calls and create a feathery craft. \$4 RA members, \$7 non-members.

Pages 18 – 35 months. Enviroed@reston.org or 703-435-6530.

TUESDAY/FEB. 9

Annual James A. Bland Music Scholarship Competition. 7:30 p.m. at the Reston Community Center Theater at Hunter Woods Shopping Center. Admission is free. Co-sponsored by the Reston Lions Club and the Reston Community Center. Jack Gazlay, 703-476-0383.

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.

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

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 10

Book Discussion. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows. Adults. 703-689-2700.

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.

Moms Club of Reston. 10 a.m. at the Hunter's Woods Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Playgroups, babysitting co-op, regular monthly activities and events, moms' night out and more. momsclubofreston@yahoo.com

'Danger Between the Lines: The Civil War History of Hunter Mill Uncovered.' 7 p.m. at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The film includes authentic period music by the 2nd Carolina String Band, and features local historian Tom Evans. Jim Lewis of the Hunter Mill Defense League will introduce the film and conduct a question and answer session. www.gfhs.org.

THURSDAY/FEB. 11

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

Friends of the Library Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder. Adults. 703-689-2700.

Lupus Support Group. 12 p.m. at Reston Hospital Center, The West Wing, 1850 Town Center Parkway, Reston. tinyurl.com/lupusgrps or 1-888-349-1167.

Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.' 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater in the Performing Arts Building, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$6, \$3 for students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by phone at 703-993-8888.

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Recipients Ginger Seeley, left, and Kathy Miles from Kids R First being introduced.



PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE KNAPP/THE CONNECTION

Computer C.O.R.E. representatives Adron Krekeler, left, Lynn O'Connell and Bo Pham standing in front of their display.

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Volunteerism Honored

FROM PAGE 4

encing domestic abuse, operates an emergency shelter that has to turn people away due to not enough beds. The organization will use this grant to continue this service. Representative of Bethany House, Jennifer Wassermann, said that the best part of working for this organization is "watching women who come in without hope leave full of hope." Bethany House also runs Joseph's Coat, a thrift shop in Falls Church. All proceeds go directly to the organization.

❖ Kids R First is a nonprofit that gives supplies to around 15,000 students in Northern Virginia. Vice President Ginger Seeley said they would be using this grant for local high school students' needs. Being a retired high school guidance counselor herself, Seeley said the best way to help is to give money to guidance counselors and letting them supply whatever is needed to the students, including payment for AP tests, college applications, or SAT prep course.

❖ Empowered Women International's mission is to help refugee or immigrant women harbor their artistic skills and then sell

2009 Grant Recipients

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www.alzheimersFDC.org
- Bethany House (Alexandria)**
www.bhmv.org
- Computer C.O.R.E. (Alexandria)**
www.computercore.org
- Empowered Women International (Alexandria)**
www.ewint.org
- Floris/Grace Ministries (Alexandria)**
www.graceministriesumc.org

- Friends of Guest House (Alexandria)**
www.friendsofguesthouse.org
- Greenbrier Learning Center (Arlington)**
www.gblc.org
- Herndon-Reston FISH (Herndon)**
www.herndonrestonfish.org
- Just Neighbors (Herndon)**
www.justneighbors.org
- Kids R First (Reston)**
www.justneighbors.org
- Project Mend-a-House (Manassas)**
www.pmahweb.org

their art to eventually become self-sufficient citizens.

❖ Friends of Guest House helps women released from prison integrate back into society. They offer housing, jobs, therapy, rehab for substance abuse, or whatever else is needed by a woman trying to improve her life. The grant will be used for their outreach program, which helps women not staying in the Guest House, which has limited capacity and a constant waiting list. The outreach program gives one on one attention and assistance to women. Volunteer are always welcome.

❖ Computer C.O.R.E., a group that teaches individuals computer skills, is run mostly by volunteers. With 169 current volunteers, the

group is able to educate people not only about computers but also life skills such as interviewing. Sixty-five percent of graduates from this program receive a promotion, pay raise or new job at the completion of the six-month course. Along with these skills, each participant also receives a home computer to keep from this organization.

This was the sixth annual grantee celebration of the Giving Circle of HOPE, based in Reston, which was founded in 2004 to promote volunteerism and effective philanthropy. Since its inception, the Giving Circle has awarded over \$300,000 through the grant program. More on the Giving Circle of Hope can be found on their Web site; www.givingcircleofhope.org.

OPINION

Human Being or Corporate Being?

BY JOHN LOVAAS
CIVIC LEADER AND RESTON
IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

Just when I thought our corroded political system couldn't get worse, the slim conservative Republican majority of the U.S. Supreme Court decided to overturn the founding fathers and 220-plus years of opinion to give corporations the right to spend unlimited amounts of money to buy elections in our once proud democracy. The final door has been opened by the Roberts Court. Imagine what Dominion Power, big Pharma, developers and all the rest will be able to do with this unlimited purchasing power!

Some chicanery in the courts 100 years into our independence — particularly a decision involving the railroads in California in the 1880s — led to some ludicrous precedents equating corporations with individual citizens in terms of rights protected by the U.S. Constitution. This served as a foothold for Roberts, Inc. Our founding fathers surely have turned over in their graves.

Corporations are created by the state for the purposes of making a profit and initially were chartered by the states for limited time peri-

ods after which renewal was required and at times denied. Our founding fathers had a deep distrust of corporations, especially their involvement in government. In fact, one of the major grievances that drove the colonists to declare independence in the first place centered on the abuses of the powerful East India Company. That corporation was a source of wealth for the crown and in return received special trading privileges. For example, it was granted a monopoly for the import of tea and other commodities into the colonies. Sound familiar? Like large pharmaceutical companies protected from foreign competition today? It is quite clear that the founders never intended to extend birth rights of U.S. citizens to entities with so much potential to undermine our political system.

To learn more, see Thom Hartmann's defining book "Unequal Protection: The Rise of Corporate Dominance and the Theft of Human Rights."

Reston Master Plan (RMP) up-



INDEPENDENT
PROGRESSIVE

date: At the Jan. 26 RMP Task Force meeting, community organizations RCA/Reston 2020 and ARCH proposed principles to guide Task Force planning. They were remarkably consistent in the values they offered. Highlights of the radical 2020 proposal:

- ❖ comprehensive, holistic plan for Reston as a whole community, not segments as Fairfax County proposes;

- ❖ limit high density to RCIG corridor, Town Center and village centers;

- ❖ require excellence in planning, design and architecture including LEED Gold standard for new construction (county silent on this)

- ❖ require a minimum of 25 percent open space for future development;

- ❖ protect existing residential neighborhoods (including affordable rental units) and natural areas; and, require

- ❖ adequate infrastructure (e.g. roads) in place before new projects are built.

established residential neighborhoods and it should be deleted.

"Ensuring that high-quality green and open spaces are incorporated into new development." Mr. Rando and I have requested that the minimum amount of open space be 33.3 percent for the RCIG. Under the covenants of the RCIG, the area between Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive, open space is currently mandated at 50 percent. Much of the land in the Dulles Corridor is basically undeveloped, that is, it consists of parking lots which can be easily uncovered with a minimum amount of effort. This land can be used for parkland. It can also be reforested to provide green buffers.

In the proposals for redevelopment along the Dulles Corridor, 20 such proposals referred to as APR nominations request new residential units. If these residential units are built at the density requested by developers there will be 23,413 new residences in the RCIG.

Using the county's figure of 2.15 people per household to calculate people living in high-rise apartments, there will be an addition of over 50,000 people living in the

SEE MORE LETTERS, PAGE 15

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Master Planning Under Scrutiny

To the Editor:

On Jan. 26, I spoke at the Community Meeting of the Dulles Corridor Special Study Task Force. I was invited to speak by Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning to present the Citizens' Reston Master Plan, Dulles Corridor — Specific Planning Principles written by myself and Urban Designer and Landscape Architect, Guy Rando. Mr. Rando worked on the initial construction phase of Lake Anne with Whittlesey and Conklin, the urban planners who designed Reston for Robert E. Simon. His children and my daughter grew up in Reston and all of our grandchildren live in Reston. We are very concerned about the county's effort to change the Master Plan. Our "Specific Planning Principles" were written to provide a framework for the redevelopment of Reston. In addition to our presentation, Jerry Volloy presented planning principles from ARCH, the Alliance of Reston Clusters and Homeowners, and Richard Stillson presented planning principles written by the

Reston Citizens Association 2020 Committee.

We were given a "Strawman" list of planning principles written by DPZ Planner Heidi Merkel to guide our discussion last night. I made some editorial changes to that document, and I would like to share my reasons for those changes with the community.

"Preserve the long-term stability of Reston by protecting and enhancing existing neighborhoods throughout the community." I asked that the phrase "and enhancing" be deleted. The term "enhancing" is a specific term that refers to adding commercial and residential infill to established residential neighborhoods. This is a way of increasing density. This is promoted in the Council of Government's 2050 Region Forward report signed by Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill).

"Continue to encourage a development pattern which provides residential, commercial, recreational and other entertainment uses in proximity to each other to maintain Reston as a community in which to live, work and play." The phrase "in proximity to each other" is a justification for inserting commercial properties into

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Tough Seahawks Hungry For District Wrestling Success

Slover, Forrest likely to be top seeds at Liberty championships this weekend

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The South Lakes High wrestling team will be competing at the Liberty District championships this weekend at Langley High School. South Lakes, under head coach Bruce Hall, enters the postseason following a somewhat chaotic regular season in which the team has had to adjust to player losses as a result of geographical moves, several injuries, illnesses and other issues.

Even so, the Seahawks entered the final week of the regular season with a winning record of 11-10-1 overall and 4-3 in the Liberty. It marks the second year in a row in which the Seahawks, who over the past decade or so had struggled to win even a handful of matches each winter, have put together a winning record under Hall, who has revitalized the program during his couple of years at

the helm.

Throughout this turbulent season, a result of all the changes in the line-up, the Seahawks have been stabilized by the leadership they have received from underclassmen Justin Williams (130-weight class), Ryan Forrest (135) and Jake Slover (171).

"I'm more proud of this team than any I've ever had," said Hall, a long time athletic coach in the Northern Region. "

Forrest, a sophomore and the team's lone returning district champion from last year, is 25-1 this winter. Williams, a junior, has 15 victories, and Slover, also a junior, has struggled through a physically demanding season but enters districts with a solid 12-7 record. Slover is unbeaten in district matches.

"He's just starting to hit his stride right now," said Hall, of Slover.

Other good seasons have come from: sophomore Harrison Drier (112); junior Andrew Goldberg, a third year varsity wrestler; freshman Michael Shoebottom, who is 3-1 in district matches; junior Haris Hafizi (152), who holds a stellar 18-3 record; senior Alex Stanley (189), who is having a terrific winter for the Seahawks; sophomore Owen Wolfe (215), whose 6-5 decision win two weeks

ago clinched South Lakes' 36-33 team win at Washington-Lee High on Jan. 20; and junior Eduardo Molina (heavyweight), who is 3-1 in the district.

South Lakes is young across the board with just two seniors, Stanley and Phillip Kroke (135).

THE TOP TEAMS in this year's district are defending champion Langley, Fairfax, Marshall and South Lakes. At districts, the top four place finishers in each weight class will earn medals and advance to the following weekend's region championships. Both Slover (171) and Forrest (135) are expected to go into districts as No. 1 seeds in their respective weight categories, while Williams (130) could also get a top seeding. Stanley will be a No. 2 or 3 seed at 189 and Hafizi (152) will likely be a No. 3.

"If we could send 10 or more wrestlers to regionals, that would be great," said Hall.

Districts will begin Friday evening at Langley. Action will continue Saturday morning with the finals likely to take place in the early to mid-afternoon.

"We're trying to stay healthy and in shape this week," said Hall. "We're working hard and the kids I've got in my weight room right now are really dedicated. This is a group of tough kids."

Postseason Meets Underway in Swim and Dive

Madison boys and girls victorious at districts; South Lakes, Saxons, Highlanders and Statesmen each have highlight moments as well.

Both the Madison High boys' and girls' swim and dive teams captured titles at their respective Liberty District championships last Friday night. The event, shortened to one day due to the snow storm that hit the area last weekend, took place at Wakefield Park's Audrey Moore Recreation Center.

The Madison girls finished with 435.50 points to capture the title, ahead of second place Langley (404.50) and third place McLean (323). South Lakes (154) finished sixth overall in the eight-team field.

On the boys' side, the Warhawks were champions with 404.50 points, besting runner-up Fairfax (393) and third place Langley (334). South Lakes (201), Marshall (172) and McLean (168) finished fifth through seventh, respectively, among eight-teams.

Madison High's Adam Pennington, a senior, won both the 200 and 500-yard boys' freestyle races. In boys' diving, Warhawk junior Ryan Fox captured first (390.15). For the Madison girls, junior Bev Dobrenz was a first place finisher in the 500-free event.

South Lakes' Emily Sennett, a sophomore, won the girls' 100-fly event and was third in the 200-IM. The South Lakes boys' 200-medley relay team of senior Brad Dillon, senior Nick Hazelton, junior Sean Shada and senior Mike Grimmett-Norris finished a strong third place. In individual boys' races, Dillon was a second place finisher in the 100-back and a third place finisher in the boys' 100-fly race.

"I was really happy with how the entire team swam on Friday night," said South Lakes coach Scott Brown. "I told them before the meet that there may not be a tomorrow night and swim like there would not be one, and they did. Emily [Sennett] and I spoke about getting out real strong in both of her events and being first at the turn, and mak-

ing the other girls chase her. Brad [Dillon] and Mike [Grimmett-Norris] are having a great ending to their high school careers, and should have great swims for the rest of the month."

For the Langley boys, junior Chuck Katis won both the 200-yard individual medley and 100-breaststroke events. Other first place finishes for the Saxon boys came from sophomore Ryan Natal (100-butterfly) and senior Stephen Richards (100-free). The Langley boys' 200-medley relay team of Richards, Katis, junior Alex Brumas and senior Chris Pivik finished first. Also, the Langley boys' 400-free relay team of Natal, senior David Case, Katis and Richards was a winner.

For the Langley girls, freshman Abi Speers was the winner in the 50-free race and junior Jayme Katis won the 100-free. The Saxon girls' 200-free relay team of Katis, junior Torrie Zarella, junior Megan Howard and Speers was victorious.

"Although both boys and girls teams were aiming for district titles, we had a great meet with 48 season best times," said Langley coach Ryan Jackson.

FOR THE MCLEAN BOYS, junior Charlie Putnam finished first in the 100-back race.

For the Highlander girls, junior Eva Greene was first in both the 200-free and 100-back events. Annie Springsteen, a freshman, won the 200-IM. The Highlander girls' 400-free relay team of senior Margaret Harlow, Springsteen, Greene and junior Katie Yensen finished first. The same foursome also teamed up to win the 200-medley relay. In individual girls' races, Margaret Harlow was second in the 500-free and fourth in the girls' 100-fly, while sophomore Adrienne Harlow was a third place finisher in the 500-free.

— RICH SANDERS



PHOTO COURTESY/HERNDON ICE HOCKEY

Herndon High Ice Hockey Enjoys Outstanding Season

The Herndon High ice hockey team will be participating in the postseason this winter. The team is enjoying an outstanding season. Through nine games, Herndon was 8-1 and showing no signs of slowing down. Back row, from left, are coach Ryan Rya, coach Tarn Jones, JC Daudelin, Paul Hubble, Patrick O'Bryan, Ville Rutanen, Max Kortegast, Jon Jenus, Elisha McIntosh and head coach Robert Hubble. Bottom row, from left, are Alex Jones, Ian Jones, Chris Wolfe, Mac Emery, Andrew Weaver, Sam Stone, Matt Ellison, Michael Horn and Bryan Kadlec. The last regular game of the season is scheduled for this Friday night, Feb. 5 at Skatequest in Reston. Herndon will celebrate its Senior Night. Faceoff time is 9:40 p.m.

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Strength in Numbers



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

My wife, Dina, and I found out the other day that a friend in our social circle was recently diagnosed with lung cancer. It's the first friend/acquaintance of ours so diagnosed since I was similarly informed last February. Naturally I was sorry to hear of another person joining this less-than-exclusive cancer club. However, since I knew this new member, its effect on me was more personal. I called her the next day to offer any insights, answer her any questions, share a few anecdotes, some of which hopefully she might find helpful. And in so doing, I felt another sensation, the sensation of not being alone, vis-a-vis the whole honor/camaraderie-amongst-cancer-patients thing.

Initially, upon hearing this friend's news (after she had called and confided in Dina), I again felt the all-too-familiar fear, shock and anxiety I had felt a year earlier when I was told my biopsy confirmed a malignant growth in my lung. And so I could certainly appreciate, although I hadn't yet talked to this friend and learned of the particular set of cancer-related circumstances (X-Ray, scans, biopsy), which lead to this diagnosis, to learn what she had been going through and for how long (it's not exactly share and tell in the beginning, or in the middle or the end, either).

Respecting her privacy and understanding full well the whole private/public, want to talk/need to talk/don't want to talk/don't need to talk cycle, I decided nonetheless to call the next day (not that previous evening when the initial call to my wife had been made). Our friend was very receptive to my call and eager even (can't really say happy) to discuss her health-related deficiencies of late which ultimately lead to her cancer diagnosis.

Similar in some respects to my experience and different in others, still it was comforting (to me) in some ways to not be the one providing the details and discussing medical matters of such severity and sensitivity. I felt as if in making the call I was providing a public service, almost, to someone in need. And in feeling good I began to feel selfish about feeling good. What was wrong with me? Here I am talking to a friend who is sharing intimate - and very personal - details, and life-changing details at that, that very few others in our group have been privileged/entrusted to hear about her tumors, life expectancy, inoperability and so forth, and I'm feeling a kind of serenity and strength, rather than sympathy and sorrow. How, why, do I feel anything other than sadness, especially considering all that I know that lies ahead, for this friend?

I think the explanation has to do with her future now being a part of my present/future, sort of. It's another connection I have in the cancer world. And from what I've read, what I've felt, what I've been encouraged and reminded to pursue during this whole cancer thing is, to find and maintain, connections. And having another member in the club (some club!), a member who so far exhibits all the attributes of a positive force for good/overcoming evil, I feel empowered, emboldened even by her membership. Not that either one of us is particularly interested in fighting this fight. Nevertheless, her attitude and willingness to do so, and her desire to take on all comers in the process, makes me feel stronger, more capable, more determined than ever to win this war.

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



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Third grade Cub Scouts from Pack 913 watch with great anticipation as their cars approach the finish line in this year's annual pinewood derby race at St. Joseph School on Jan. 30. Pictured from left are Christopher Williams, Chris d'Hedouville, Ben Hammett and Charlie Burns.

Cub Scout Pack 913 Hosts Pinewood Derby Race

Herndon's St. Joseph School Cub Scout Pack 913 conducted its annual Pinewood Derby race on Saturday, Jan. 30 at the school. More than 100 scouts and their siblings participated in this year's event. Each scout designed, cut and finished his car from a block of wood. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of Boy Scouts of America.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF STEVE TOOLE

Webelo Scout Danny Jones of Herndon, 10, aligns his pinewood derby car on the track for optimal speed during Pack 913's annual Pinewood Derby race at St. Joseph School on Jan. 30.



Scouts from St. Joseph School Cub Scout Pack 913 display the trophies they received Saturday during the pack's annual Pinewood Derby race at the school. Pictured, from left, are Webelo II Scout Nicholas Gambino, Tiger Scout Kevin Dickson, Webelo I Scout Joseph Dickson, Bear Scout Ben Hammett and Wolf Scout Chase Stabolepszy, who also won the pack championship this year. Each of these scouts took first place within their rank and will continue on to compete against the winners of every other pack throughout the Powhatan District on Feb. 20.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

register at 703-284-5902 or www.marymont.edu/reston

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.

Marymount Business Programs Information Luncheon.

11:30 a.m. at Marymount's Reston Center, 1861 Wiehle Ave., Reston. Programs include 'Essential MBA' and graduate programs in management and HR management. Free,

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.

FRIDAY/FEB. 19

Republican Club of Greater Reston Eighth Annual Lincoln-Reagan Dinner.

6:30 p.m. at the Hidden Creek Country Club, 1711 Clubhouse Road, Reston. Speaker, George Allen, former governor of Virginia. \$55 per person. 703-742-0149 or 703-406-9740.

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 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. 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 or 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 more 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 or 703-742-6694.

St. Timothy's Youth Group and parents will host a **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** will be at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16. Feast on pancakes, French-toast sticks, ham, applesauce, coffee, apple juice and milk. Proceeds will benefit the Youth Group's mission trip to Dunganon, VA in August. Tickets are \$14 per family and \$8 per adult, and may be purchased at the door. Leftover food will be donated to the Emily Rucker Community Shelter.

Ash Wednesday Services will be at 6:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 17. All are welcome to attend. All services will include Holy Communion, and the 7:30 p.m. service will also include a sermon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11
corridor.

Those people will need amenities. In the Lake Anne Comprehensive Plan Amendment, it states that Reston Association will provide parkland for new residents. According to county guidelines each person needs 0.00148 acres of parkland. Our developer, Robert Simon, provided us with open space and parkland. The developers of the Dulles Corridor need to provide new residents with parkland and it needs to come from the Corridor itself: 50,000 new residents require 74 acres of parkland. There are 760 acres of land in the RCIG. Much of it is under parking lots which are never used. There is ample land to create recreational spaces for new residents.

Developers should not anticipate that Reston Association homeowners will allow our common lands to be stripped of trees to create parkland for 50,000 new residents. Our common lands are our private property. The riparian easements sold to WSSI to complete stream restoration are under a Mitigation Banking Instrument enforced by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Virginia Dept of Environmental Quality. These stream valleys are protected from any kind of development or disturbance whatsoever. They may not be cleared for tennis

courts, basketball courts, or parks. They must remain in their natural state.

At the meeting, I also mentioned the Comstock/County Wiehle station development proposal and showed a 3D model of the area now occupied by the park and ride. This 3D model was created by Fred Costello, a Task Force member. According to VDOT, the level of density of this project will create unacceptable traffic delays on surrounding streets. The density of this project as measured as a floor-to-area ratio, or FAR, is well beyond the 2.5 FAR allowed by the current county Comprehensive Plan. This proposal needs to be evaluated along with the other 20 APR nominations by the sitting Dulles Corridor Special Study Task Force. It will be reviewed by Reston Association's Planning and Zoning Committee on Feb. 8 and will go to the county Planning Commission on Feb. 25. If this development goes ahead as proposed, it will effectively block traffic on one of the two bridges across the Dulles Toll Road.

The Reston 2020 Committee, of which Mr. Rando and I are members, has a Web site [<http://reston2020.blogspot.com/>]. I hope you will visit this Web site and read more about the master planning process.

Kathy Kaplan

Reston

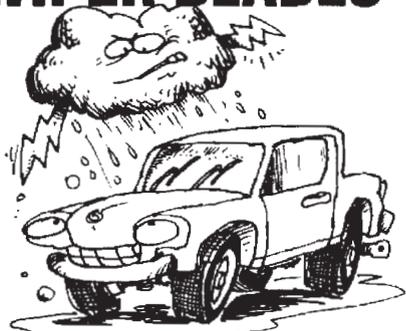
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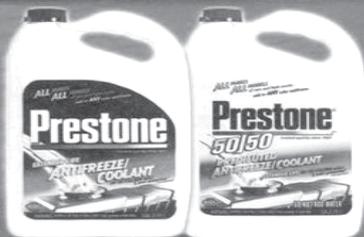
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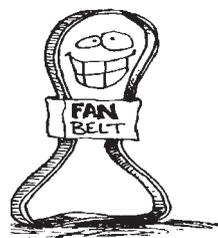


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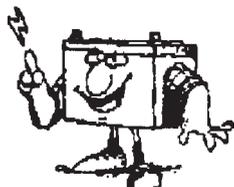
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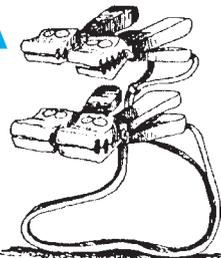
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