

Reston Buses Grind To Halt?

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY WRAP UP

The Virginia General Assembly concluded most of its 2010 legislative session March 14.

The following is a sample of bills that members of the Virginia General Assembly considered this year and information about how your local state senator and delegate voted on particular bills.

Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) still has an opportunity to veto any bill that General Assembly has passed over the next couple of weeks. Legislation that McDonnell vetoes would then require two-thirds of the votes in both branches of the General Assembly in a one-day session held April 21 in order to become law.

More information about each bill can be found on the General Assembly's Web site at <http://leg1.state.va.us>.

Concealed Guns Allowed In Bars

The Virginia General Assembly has voted in favor of allowing people to carry a concealed gun into a bar or restaurant as long as they have an appropriate permit and do not consume alcohol. Current Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) has indicated he will sign the bill into law.

IN FAVOR: Vienna and Fairfax Sen. Chap Petersen (D-35); Vienna and Oakton Del. Mark Keam (D-34); McLean and Great Falls Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34); Clifton and Centreville Del. Tim Hugo (R-40); Franconia Del. Mark Sickles (D-43); Springfield and Lorton Del. Dave Albo (R-42); Fairfax Del. David Bulova (D-37)

AGAINST: McLean and Great Falls Sen. Janet Howell (D-34); Centreville, Burke and Springfield Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37); Chantilly Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67); McLean Del. Jim Scott (D-53); Mount Vernon Del. David Englin (D-45); Mount Vernon Del. Scott Surovell (D-44); Mount Vernon Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-36); Mount Vernon Sen. Toddy Puller (D-30); Herndon Del. Tom Rust (R-86); Reston Del. Ken Plum (D-36); Reston and Herndon Sen. Mark Herring (D-33); Fairfax Station and Clifton Sen. George Barker (D-39); Springfield Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35); Fairfax and Springfield Del. Vivian Watts (D-39)

House Kills Several Bills To Ease Absentee Voting

About a half dozen bills aimed at relaxing the standards for early voting died in Virginia House of Delegates' subcommittees that review election law.

Virginia only allows residents to vote by mail or in person early if their circumstances – including having a disability or being out of town on election days – warrant a need to vote at a time other than when the polls are open.

Some would like Virginia to establish “no excuse” absentee voting, where residents would not have to provide a reason for voting before Election Day.

Law To Shield Gay Workers, Pregnant Women Fails

A House of Delegates subcommittee killed legislation that would have expanded the list of reasons people could not be discriminated against to include sexual orientation, pregnancy, medical conditions related to childbirth and pregnancy or status as a veteran. No Northern Virginia legislator was on the subcommittee that voted the bill down.

Currently, the law specifically says employers cannot discriminate because of race, color, political affiliation, age, disability, national origin or sex.

Money From HOT Lanes Tickets Will Go To Private Company

The private company that will own and operate the High Occupancy Toll [HOT] lanes being built from Springfield to Tysons Corner on the Capital Beltway will profit from those using the roadways both lawfully and unlawfully.

Transurban Group will not only collect revenue from people paying to ride in HOT lanes but also those who try to skip out on the fee and get caught. The Australian company will get to keep any of the money collected from traffic violations associated with the tolls.

Arlington County Del. Adam Ebbin (D-39) introduced legislation this year that would have altered this arrangement, sending all money collected from HOT lane violations to the state coffers instead of Transurban. But the Virginia House of Delegates' transportation committee voted to kill the legislation.

McLean, Great Falls and Herndon Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34), Clifton and Centreville Del. Tim Hugo (R-40) as well as Herndon Del. Tom Rust (R-86) – as members of the transportation committee – voted against Ebbin's proposal.

Ebbin's Arlington colleague, Del. Bob Brink (D-48), voted in favor of the bill.

Establishing Charter Schools Made Easier, But Not Much

The Virginia General Assembly did agree to tweak the charter school application process, though the legislative body stopped far short of the complete overhaul Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) put before them.

The Virginia Board of Education will now review and decide whether to support each charter school proposal that surfaces in the commonwealth, though local school boards would still have the ultimate say in whether a new charter school opens in their district.

Charter school advocates have said that a local school board's ability to veto any char

NEWS

Catching Up with the Candidates

Same questions are posed to RA candidates who weren't part of ARCH forum.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Last week, the Connection ran a story on the Reston Association candidates' forum that the Alliance of Reston Clusters and Homeowners (ARCH) staged on March 3, where seven candidates participated. This week, the paper caught up with the three candidates who were not part of the forum, asking them the same questions that were asked of their opponents.

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE Patrick Shipp had been under obligation as an Army reserve officer that night. As a staff sergeant who has done two tours in Iraq, he said he knew about leadership and being honest without sugarcoating. "Strong leadership is what this community needs," he said. Shipp got his masters degree in public administration and worked as an intern in the departments of communication and community development in the city manager's office in Wilmington, N.C, where he said he learned how the city communicated with its residents. He now works for the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Asked what his recommendations were for the current Reston master planning process, he said of the areas around planned Metro stops, "We've got to get mixed-use development in there and we need to make sure the master plan supports that mixed-use development," adding that traffic mitigation would be a key to success. He said preserving open space would also be important, as well as making sure the process was carried out with all of Reston in mind, not just the Dulles Corridor. For example, he said, the planned widening of Route 7 could have effects that should be taken into account.

Asked what he thought about accusations by some residents of abuse of executive session on the part of the current Reston Association board, Shipp said, "I'm big on transparency." He said executive session could be useful for dealing with personnel issues and offering frank criticism of other board members but added, "What you don't ever want to do behind closed doors is make a decision that's going to impact the community."

Asked whether he thought last year's failed headquarters referendum and recreation center initiative were worthwhile efforts that lacked community support or whether there were lessons to be learned from those conflicts, Shipp said he didn't think the board had come prepared to justify the ideas it proposed for a recreation center at Brown's Chapel Park. "Everyone I talked to thought that was an inside job," he said. However, he said, "At some point, the RA is going to have to provide an indoor swimming pool and indoor tennis to RA members, where we can get that at a reasonable price." With regard to the effort to buy a new headquarters, he said, "They pushed too hard and too fast on that." He said the space the board ended up leasing was more sensible than what it had been requesting.

In both instances, he said, the board had spent money on initiatives the community had not come out in support of.

"It's inappropriate for them to proceed in a direction without community support."

— Rod Koozmin,
at-large candidate



Rod Koozmin

"Reston Association needs to communicate with their members and find out what they want and then do what the homeowners want."

— Guy Rando,
Lake Anne/Tall Oaks candidate



Guy Rando

"At some point, the RA is going to have to provide an indoor swimming pool and indoor tennis to RA members."

— Patrick Shipp,
at-large candidate



Patrick Shipp

AT-LARGE CANDIDATE Rod Koozmin had been at the candidates' forum but had not participated because he didn't like one of the questions. He said that was the question about recommendations for the master planning process. Koozmin said he wasn't comfortable making such recommendations because the process reminded him of the Lake Anne revitalization effort, which he said amounted to a lot of talk, "and nothing came of it."

Koozmin said he wanted to cut back on waste in the Reston Association, encourage two-way communication between the board and residents, control the membership assessment and allow for members to volunteer in new capacities. To illustrate the need for two-way communication, he said, "If you buy a toaster at Best Buy, you can go home and comment on it. Why can't citizens similarly comment on the RA with their \$1 million Web site?"

SEE RA BOARD, PAGE 8

Reston Buses Grind to Halt?

Meanwhile, toll money to be spent in Loudoun.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

The possible loss of seven Fairfax Connector bus routes in the Reston area drew attention after County Executive Tony Griffin released a proposed budget in late February under which the routes would be eliminated, but a debate over funding for bus service in the Dulles Corridor has been ongoing between the county, the state and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) since the summer of 2008.

That was when the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) alerted Fairfax County that a grant that helped fund the bus routes would be terminated at the end of this fiscal year.

Since 1999, the department had set aside \$6,645,000 in toll road revenue each year to help fund bus transit in the Dulles Corridor, with the idea of building up transit ridership in the area in advance of the arrival of Metrorail, said DRPT spokeswoman Jennifer Pickett. "Basically, the origin of this was that Dulles Toll Road funds were used for transportation improvements in the Dulles Corridor," she said.

THE MONEY initially provided half the funding for the bus routes, but the county covered subsequent cost increases.

However, as Virginia prepared to turn the Dulles Toll Road and the revenue it generated over to the Airports Authority, the Department of Rail and Transportation wrote to Fairfax County in June 2008 to say the state would only provide the grant through the 2009 fiscal year, MWAA would cover it for the next year, and then it would be eliminated.

"The Commonwealth gave the county two years' notice that the grant would no longer be dedicated to Connector bus grids," said MWAA spokesman Rob Yingling, noting that the Airports Authority's agreement with the state had not required that it help fund the buses beyond this fiscal year. "There was no expectation that we would take over administration of those grants."



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Funding is in question for most of Reston's Connector bus routes.

However, Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) said the county had still assumed until late last year that MWAA would continue to fund the grant. "We were surprised when their budget came out, that [the grant] was not included," she said.

Following the first notice of funding cuts more than a year and a half ago, the county Department of Transportation and Board of Supervisors sent out letters of dismay, but MWAA responded in a December 2008 letter by acknowledging that it was obligated to spend all toll revenue within the Dulles Corridor but saying its agreement with the state set transit operations as the lowest priority for funding.

Then, late last year, the county discovered, from materials that the Airports Authority provided to the public to solicit comments on proposed toll increases, that the agency planned to spend toll revenues instead on improvements to Route 606 in Loudoun County, according to a sharp-toned letter the Board of Supervisors sent to MWAA on Sept. 14 of last year.

Route 606, the Loudoun portion of which is called Old Ox Road, along with routes 50 and 28, is under consideration for creating a mini-beltway, or "Dulles Loop," around the airport. Routes 606 and 50 are considered inadequate in this capacity, although some state funding has been approved for the Route 50 segment.

SEE CUTS, PAGE 7

Reston Pilot Dies In a Plane Crash

The pilot killed in a plane crash in the Town of Louisa, Va., where a plane crashed into a house on March 4, moments after refueling at the airport in Louisa County, has been identified as James Arvid Youngquist, 62, of the 1400 block of Waterfront Road in Reston. His plane crashed into a home causing both to become engulfed in flames. The homeowner was able to escape his residence without injury.

According to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), on Thursday, at 11:47 a.m., a 1981 Cessna fixed-wing, multi-engine aircraft departed from the Manassas Regional Airport. The plane landed at the Freeman Field Airport in Louisa County to refuel. The Cessna then took off to continue to its final flight destination of Danville, Va.

Within minutes of taking off, the plane crashed into a home at 128 Jefferson Highway in the Town of Louisa. The nose of the plane crashed through the front of the one-and-a-half story cape. Only the plane's tail was visible outside of the home.

The impact of the crash sparked a fire that completely engulfed the plane and residence. The residence is approximately a quarter of a mile from the airport. The homeowner was in the basement of the house at the time of the crash and was able to escape his burning residence without injury.

Community Meeting on Wiehle Avenue Station

On Saturday, March 20, at 9 a.m. Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D- Hunter Mill) and the Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) will host a community meeting to provide the community an opportunity to generate ideas for the Wiehle Avenue Transit station. The meeting takes place at Langston Hughes Middle School, Cafeteria, 11401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston.

DPZ will also be reporting on the results for the Brainstorming Activity for the Herndon/Monroe station area.

Hudgins encourages all Reston residents to come out and participate in the planning process for the Wiehle station. "The whole community should be involved in the process," Hudgins said. "We all want to retain Reston's existing natural beauty, vibrancy and sense of community. Working together, I know we can do that."

Questions regarding the meeting may be forwarded to Heidi Merkel of Department of Planning and Zoning at 703-324-1380.

Help Available to Fill Out Census Survey

Reston residents who need help filling out their 10 question census survey have another source. The U.S. Census Bureau will have representatives on hand at Reston Association, 1930 Isaac Newton Square in Reston.

Help is available weekdays between March 19 and April 19, from 2-5 p.m. For more information, call the Fairfax County Local Census office at 703-865-3040. The Census Bureau began mailing the survey to homes on March 15.

Laurel Learning Center Named Program of the Month

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), the nation's oldest and largest children and families' literacy nonprofit organization, has named Laurel Learning Center's RIF Program in Reston as its national Program of the Month award recipient for February, 2010.

"The Laurel Learning Center has done a fantastic job of inspiring young children to celebrate the joy of reading throughout the Reston community," said Carol H. Rasco, president and CEO of RIF.

The Laurel Learning Center childcare service is run by Reston Interfaith, a 40-year-old community service nonprofit founded to promote self sufficiency by providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, quality childcare and other services. Eloise Williams has been serving as the center's RIF coordinator for nine years.

NEWS

South Lakes JROTC Earns Gold Star

BY CADET MAJOR ANN GALEAS

The Gold Star is awarded to only the top Army JROTC units worldwide will receive the award. The Seahawk Battalion has held the Gold Star before, but the last time was 10 years ago in 2000.

Along with the Gold Star, the unit receives the title of Honor Unit with Distinction. Other benefits of the gold star are, receiving special consideration when applying for an ROTC scholarship, the principal or Army JROTC instructors can provide a nomination to one of the United States Military Service Academies, and it strengthens one's resume.

The inspection is conducted every third year, the 4th Brigade JROTC staff from Fort Bragg, N.C. is responsible for inspecting the entire battalion. The Seahawk Battalion went through their inspection on Feb. 22. "I have been preparing for this inspection since last year," said Battalion Commander Cadet Lt. Col. Ryan Dufrene. The inspection and the preparation process which the Seahawk JROTC leadership went through took a lot of hard work, dedication, many days staying after school, coming in between classes, coming in for lunch and even at-



Pictured, from left, are Cadet Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy The, Cadet Lt. Col. Ryan Dufrene, 4th Brigade Inspectors Arthur James and Lynn Davis, Cadet Maj. Sandra Reynoso, and Cadet Maj. Ann Galeas.

tend the Learning Seminar to get prepared for the inspection.

To receive the gold star the unit had to be proficient in all areas, such as supply, administration, academics and training. One of the most stressful parts of the inspection is giving a briefing.

"I was so nervous, well everyone was" said Cadet Capt. Daniella Haene. The Inspection starts with all the Cadets being inspected by

ROTC Cadets and active duty Army soldiers. After the in-ranks inspection, the Cadets must perform Color Guard and Drill routines. These routines must follow a set amount of commands with Cadets performing maneuvers as closely to the regulations as possible. After the drill, every area of the JROTC program is inspected to ensure it meets Army, state and school standards.

Martha Bayles Boyd, 80, Dies

Martha Bayles Boyd M.D. died March 12, 2010 in Reston Hospital Center. Boyd was 80 and has lived with her family in Reston for the past 20 years. She recently had lung surgery, and she died from complications arising from that procedure.

She is survived by her husband, Thomas Fyans Boyd M.D., her daughter, Tanya Parrish, and her sons, Stowe Boyd and Al Gresham, as well as her five grandchildren: Luke Boyd-Small, Alexis Saffran, Timothy Gresham, Keenan Boyd, and Conrad Boyd. Her older sister, Mary Carlson, of Atlanta, Ga., and her younger brother, Richard Bayles, also survive her.

Boyd was born on June 13, 1929, in Cranston, R.I., to Ruth Emmitt Bayles and Leo William Bayles. She attended Cranston schools and was an avid sailor. She briefly attended House In The Pines in Norton, Mass. She married Thomas Boyd in 1948. She graduated from Northeastern University in 1959, magna cum laude, and then received her M.D. from

Boston University in 1965. She received a Fellowship in Pharmacology from the National Institute of Health in 1965. She was the first graduate of Northeastern's night school program to attend medical school.

She undertook a surgical internship at University Hospital in Boston, and a residency in anesthesiology at Boston City Hospital, where she was the director of anesthesia research. Martha Boyd served in numerous hospitals in the Boston area, including Cambridge Hospital in Cambridge, Mass., where she taught at the Harvard Medical School, and later as the assistant chief and chief of anesthesiology at Emerson Hospital in Concord, Mass. She was a tireless educator, and held in the highest regard by her partners and staff during her prestigious career.

Martha Boyd lived in many places over her long life. As a child and young woman, she lived in Cranston, R.I., and after her marriage and Thomas Boyd's service in the U.S. Navy, she lived in Charleston, S.C., and Norfolk, Va.

Later, they settled in the Boston area, and she lived in Brookline, Malden, Acton, and Concord. Following her retirement from active practice, Martha and Thomas Boyd moved in with their son, Stowe Boyd and his wife, Sarah Hoover Boyd, in 1992, which involved a year's residence in Newport Beach, Calif., and then moving with Thomas, Stowe and Sarah and their two sons, Keenan and Conrad, to Reston, where she lived until her death. Martha and Tom Boyd also spent several months each year with her daughter, Tanya and her husband John Parrish, in Texas.

A private memorial service is planned for March 17. In lieu of flowers or other gestures, Thomas Boyd asks that contributions be made to Northeastern University in her name.

Martha Boyd's family wants to thank all the many people who have offered their love and support in a difficult time. She will be missed greatly. She was a shining light in a dark world, an inspiration to all that knew her.

COMMENTARY

A Time of Intolerance

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

Last week, I took the extraordinary step of making a motion on the floor of the House of Delegates that a bill be discharged from a committee. The rules provide for such a motion, but it is seldom made and almost never approved. Had my motion been approved, the full membership of the House of Delegates would have had the opportunity to debate a bill prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation. A subcommittee of the General Laws Committee on a vote of 5-3 had refused to report a bill on this subject that had passed the Senate just as it had refused to recommend bills on nondiscrimination that I have been introducing over the past nine years.

The timing on the issue was critical as Virginia has once again made national news in an unfavorable way with the announcement that the Attorney General has advised all colleges and universities that they must remove any statements of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation from their student handbooks and other materials. As one of the first acts of his administration, Gov.

McDonnell refused to continue an Executive Order from his predecessor that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in state hiring. A statement the governor issued last week came up short of being an Executive Order. Many fear with good reason that the reputation of intolerance the state is gaining may interfere with its ability to attract top-flight companies to locate here and students and professors to come to our universities.

Other actions that seem to reflect the darkest days of Virginia's intolerance of racial integration during the period of Massive Resistance have recently been seen. Using the same arguments of states' rights that were used during that period, there has been a series of bills proclaiming Virginia citizens' rights over actions of the federal government. Four bills were introduced proclaiming that Virginia citizens do not have to buy medical insurance if the federal government says they have to. Such bills will be struck down by the courts, but Virginia's Attorney General is likely to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars defending them as a further way to burnish his conservative credentials.



Just a few weeks ago the fiftieth anniversary of the "Richmond 34" was celebrated here in the Capital city. Among the 34 students of Virginia Union University who were arrested for a sit-in at the lunch counter at Thalheimer's

Department Store was Mamie BaCote who is now a member of the House of Delegates. Del. Algie Howell participated in sit-ins in Norfolk. In the State Senate, Sen. Henry Marsh was one of the lead attorneys in the more than 40 court cases that were necessary before Virginia desegregated its public schools. The Legislative Black Caucus has been adamant in its opposition to Gov. McDonnell's educational reforms to start more charter and lab schools fearing I believe that having more programs outside the public schools would have the effect of resegregating the schools.

Unfortunately, these are not the only signs of intolerance in the actions of the legislature. What is happening in the legislature is reflective of the decline in civility in public discourse. But the legislature should not be a follower of negative behavior; it needs to be a leader in demonstrating and protecting tolerance for all lawful citizens.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY WRAP UP

FROM PAGE 2

ter school application is a major impediment to establishing a robust charter school movement in Virginia. They argue that local school boards often have an incentive stifle local charter school applications, since charters often compete with traditional public schools the boards oversee for funding and students.

The issue of charters, privately run schools paid for with public dollars, cuts across political party lines. In addition to McDonnell, President Barack Obama (D) has stated his strong support for charter school development.

IN FAVOR: McLean and Great Falls Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34); McLean, Great Falls and Reston Sen. Janet Howell (D-32); Centreville, Burke and Springfield Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37); Centreville Del. Tim Hugo (R-40); Chantilly Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67); Reston and Herndon Sen. Mark Herring (D-33); Herndon Del. Tom Rust (R-86); Fairfax Station Sen. George Barker (D-39); Springfield Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35); Springfield and Lorton Del. Dave Albo (R-42); Fairfax Del. David Bulova (D-37)

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Springfield Del. Vivian Watts (D-39)

NO VOTE: Fairfax and Vienna Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34)

Local Schools Could Start Before Labor Day

The Fairfax County School Board will now have a good chance of being able to start the school year prior to Labor Day.

Every Northern Virginia legislator voted to pass a bill that allows the Virginia Board of Education to grant waivers for an earlier school year start if the school district's students have missed eight days of school in one year due to inclement weather at any time during the past decade.

This year all Northern Virginia school districts missed approximately 15 days of school due to snowfall, meaning they would all qualify for a waiver should the state education board grant them.

Several local school districts have been lobbying for such an exception for years, saying students are put at a disadvantage for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams – which take place on same days nationwide – because Virginia schools start weeks later than those in other states.

The Virginia tourism industry – including theme parks like Kings Dominion – has successfully fought the similar bill in the past, saying that Labor Day weekend business for the industry would drop off if school started earlier.

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OPINION

The Transportation Fix

No help on congestion just a small part of spreading pain from budget.

The Virginia General Assembly has adjourned. If for some reason your attention lapsed between the campaign for Governor (Gov. Bob McDonnell took office just two months ago) and now, you might expect a transportation plan as one of the outcomes of this assembly session.

Here is the transportation relief proposed and passed and likely to be signed: the maximum speed limit on some roads will increase to 70 miles-per-hour. This seems like it might violate equal protection standards, since there are very few hours of the day on any Northern Virginia's roads that getting above 55 is possible. Heck, most of us are really happy if traffic on the Beltway or 66 or 95 or Toll Road moves along

at 30 mph without frequent stops.

So in other parts of the state not dominated by congestion, vehicles will be moving faster.

In Northern Virginia, there will be even less money for even fewer efforts at relieving congestion.

The governor's commitment to fixing transportation, the center of his campaign that boosted him to an election victory even in Fairfax County (not Arlington or Alexandria) turned out to be far weaker than his commitment to eschew any new forms of revenue that might be needed to pay for such a fix.

Seriously, the Governor made no major proposal to the General Assembly on transportation.

EDITORIAL

Many, many people will face hardships that the rest of us can barely imagine because of the greatly pared down budget just passed in the General Assembly, especially people with disabilities of all kinds, working poor families, people who need mental health care, people who are struggling with addictions, families who can't afford health insurance whose incomes are just enough to keep them from getting assistance, etc.

Behind the Curtain in RA Election

BY JOHN LOVAAS
CIVIC LEADER AND RESTON
IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

When I saw there were 10 citizens running for three open Reston Association Board seats, I was delighted. Imagine four candidates running for one at-large seat, three running for Lake Anne and three for North Point. Last year, there was a total of three candidates for three seats-i.e., zero competition. This year we have real competition! We need new blood at RA and eight candidates are first timers.

But, there is more going on here than meets the eye. There are two well-organized slates, each running a candidate for every position. And, then there are the four innocents — citizens independently volunteering to work to improve RA operations and make it more responsive to its members. The slates have agendas not necessarily revealed in the candidates' filing documents. Learn more about them by listening to what they say, as I did at recent ARCH and RCA forums for the candidates. If the slates had names, they could be the Brown's Chapel Avengers and the RA Defenders. The BCA slate has: Ken Knueven for Lake Anne, Peter Greenberg for North Point and old reliable Joe

Leighton at-large. The three share conservative political leanings and oppose any new expenditure by the Reston Association. Leighton alone among them has a good community service record.

The other slate — Kevin Danaher for Lake Anne, Mike Collins for North Point and David Robinson for at-large — is a creature of the RA Board. Not surprisingly, the RADs, with the exception of Mr. Robinson, are uncritical of, almost apologists for, the RA Board. For example, at ARCH's forum, Danaher and Collins indicated they felt the failed RA headquarters referendum and the Brown's Chapel Rec Center fracas were merely matters of poor timing and misunderstanding. They feel the community needs more recreational facilities (as do I), but had given little thought as to how they might be paid for — unless Reston grows a great deal. All three see strengthening community as very important.

The ARCH forum showed this won't be a civil, high-minded debate. Even I was surprised at remarks made by two BCA candidates and an RA Board member in the audience. Worst were comments made by BCA's Lake Anne



candidate. Referring to his RAD opponent, a person with an exemplary record of community service, he expressed concern that Mr. Danaher as an RA Board member "might collude" with the Reston Community Center which employs him. (My dictionary defines collude: "to conspire to commit a fraud"). Danaher's job is to organize events like the multi-cultural festival at Lake Anne and the Reston Holiday Parade. Fortunately for Mr. Danaher, the BCA gang has yet to investigate his possible links to Girl Scout cookie sales and Lions Clubs' mulch sales rackets!

No slate for me. I will likely vote for David Robinson at-large. He is bright, caring and an independent thinker. For Lake Anne, it's Guy Rando, who single-handedly greatly improved a seriously flawed Lake Anne revitalization plan.

Write

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
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Localities will press to raise property taxes so they can buffer some of the cuts to education, health care and the safety net passed along from the state.

Parents and students and teachers will feel the pain as school districts struggle to adjust priorities in ways that won't sit well.

And everyone who needs to get anywhere will sit in traffic, wait longer for buses, pay more for rides on public transportation of all kinds.

But don't forget that if you are lucky enough to drive through some of rural Virginia on an interstate, you'll probably get to go 70 miles-per-hour. That should compensate for some of the pain.

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It's a work in progress, but the Connection and sister papers Centre View, Alexandria Gazette Packet and Mount Vernon Gazette are now on Facebook at www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers. Please become a fan.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reston Politics Hits New Low

To the Editor:

None of us thought the situation could get any worse, but Reston politics has hit a new low. As if the actions of the RA board members and RCC Board members surrounding the current election weren't unprofessional enough, now we have Jim Elder, president of RYBL (Reston Youth Basketball League). The children of Reston arrived at their tournament this past weekend (held in our area public school gymnasiums) to find a letter from Jim taped to the door endorsing a slate of candidates. It was printed on RYBL letterhead and came complete with candidate bios.

Mr. Elder, as a citizen of Reston, endorse whom ever you please, but as the president of RYBL, have respect for your position and the children you serve. My heart breaks for the children of the candidates you didn't endorse who showed up to play in the tournament only to be greeted by your inappropriate display. Your actions were certainly an abuse of power, but the bottom line is that they were misplaced and hurtful. What has this community come to?

I hope that the people of Reston will look past manipulating tactics, educate themselves on the issues, and decide for themselves who

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

THE CONNECTION

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Cuts in Bus Service Alarm Restonians

FROM PAGE 3

The Board of Supervisors pointed out in its Sept. 14 letter that it had contributed \$50,000 to planning for the Dulles Loop in 2007 on the condition that Dulles Toll Road revenue not be used to fund the project, and the board also argued that Route 606 was outside the Dulles Corridor, where

toll revenue is to be spent.

In an Oct. 19 letter, however, the Airports Authority contended that its permit and operating agreement with the state defined the Dulles Corridor as extending to Ryan Road, west of the Loudoun County Parkway, which would authorize the agency to spend toll road revenue farther west than the last stop on the planned Silver Line.

The Connector bus grant has helped to pay for routes 552, 553, 554 and 557, which collect riders from Reston neighborhoods and take them to the West Falls Church Metro Station, as well as routes 929, 951 and 952, which are “reverse-commuter” routes, serving people who work in Reston and live elsewhere.

To mitigate the loss, a new route

580, running between the Reston East Park and Ride and the West Falls Church Metro Station is being proposed. Some cuts to service are being proposed countywide, and Connector spokeswoman Ellen Kamilakis said additional cuts had been proposed for bus service in other parts of the county in order to fund the new line being considered for Reston.

HUDGINS said she hoped the county and Airports Authority could

come to a “meeting of the minds” on funding bus transit in the Reston area. “I don’t think it serves them not to have transit riders for the next three years in this corridor while they’re building the rail,” she said, adding, “and we’re not a small funder of the [rail] project.”

“I don’t really care who they get the money from. The best way for me to get to work is to take this bus,” said Deloris Bailey, who recently started the online group Save OUR Buses.

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RA Board Candidates Discuss Reston Priorities

FROM PAGE 3

And, as an example of expanded volunteerism, he said properly trained citizens could have run front-end loaders and other equipment during last month's volunteer snow-shoveling effort if they had been allowed

to.

Koozmin runs a knife- and scissor-sharpening business.

Asked about the perception on the part of some that the RA board had abused its right to executive session, he said the only reason to use executive session should be to deal with personnel issues. If

elected, he said, one of his first acts "would be to go into executive session and transfer [Reston CEO] Milton Matthews to another part of the organization," because he thought Matthews had implicitly endorsed certain candidates by sending out an RA e-mail soliciting volunteers to shovel snow, in

which he mentioned that the effort had been the idea of three of the candidates.

With regard to the recreation center and headquarters efforts, he said he thought the association had spent money on feasibility studies without the backing of the community. "It's inappropriate for

them to proceed in a direction without community support," he said. "If the public was for it, it wouldn't disturb me so much, but I don't think the public was for it." Koozmin said two-way communication with members could prevent such situations in the future.

LAKE ANNE/TALL OAKS DISTRICT CANDIDATE Guy Rando had not been at the candidates' forum because he had felt he needed to be at a work session of the Planning and Zoning Committee regarding the development planned for the Wiehle Avenue Metro Station. He sent his responses by e-mail.

Rando, an architect and planner, helped to create the original Reston Master Plan and has lived on Lake Anne for more than 40 years. He earned his master's degree in landscape architecture from Harvard University, did post-graduate work in architecture at Columbia University and received a Fulbright scholarship to study urban spaces in Italy. He is now the principal for Rando and Associates.

In response to a question of whether Reston needs additional recreation facilities and, if so, who should build them, Rando said the board needed to consider the expenses of such facilities and the impact of the costs on young families. "Their costs need to be openly and carefully discussed by the community and voted on in a referendum," he wrote.

With regard to the master planning process, he said the most important planning tool would be a "measurable set of criteria that will provide for our quality of life," against which any development proposal would be measured. Rando, along with poet and naturalist Kathy Kaplan, has created a set of principles that he suggested should guide the process. He noted that the current RA board had yet to produce such guidance for planners.

In response to the question about the value of the recreation center and headquarters initiatives and the implications of their failure, Rando wrote, "Reston Association needs to communicate with their members and find out what they want and then do what the homeowners want." He said board members needed to do their duties and follow the rules outlined in Reston's articles of incorporation. Another candidates' forum will be held Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m. at the Nature House.

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Contact the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

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- **Braddock** — John C. Cook 703-425-9300 braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov
- **Dranesville** — John W. Foust 703-356-0551 dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov
- **Hunter Mill** — Catherine M. Hudgins 703-478-0283 hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov
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- **Mason** — Penelope A. Gross, Vice Chairman 703-256-7717 mason@fairfaxcounty.gov
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- **Providence** — Linda Q. Smyth 703-560-6946 provdist@fairfaxcounty.gov
- **Springfield** — Pat Herrity 703-451-8873 springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov
- **Sully** — Michael R. Frey 703-814-7100 sully@fairfaxcounty.gov

Residents of Fairfax City contact the Mayor and City Council mayor&council@fairfaxva.gov

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

will best represent them for the future of Reston.

Sara Viener
Reston

Founder's Vision

To the Editor:

Several of the candidates running for the Reston Association (RA) Board are prominently featuring their endorsement by Robert E. Simon. While most of us know that Mr. Simon was the original developer of Reston over 40 years ago, how many of us know what Mr. Simon's vision for Reston really is. We look around at what we like and appreciate in Reston and assume that this was Mr. Simon's vision. We romantically credit the founder with what is today and while much is true to his basic goals the fact is that what exists is not complete according to his 1963 vision, and his vision is not as romantic as we may think. So what does Mr. Simon want Reston to become to complete his vision?

Fortunately, it is not hard to find out because Mr. Simon is still involved in Reston development. We don't have to look any further than the Spring Edition of Reston Magazine to find Mr. Simon pictured on the cover and an interview inside entitled "A Founder on the Future." Here is an excerpt from the interview:

"Mr. Simon, Supervisor Hudgins appointed you to the Reston Special Master Plan Study Task Force. What are your goals as a member?"

"My goals are to stress community by:

Revitalizing Lake Anne Village Center and rebuilding North Point, Tall Oaks, Hunter Woods and Southlakes as village centers with central plazas bounded by dense residential buildings.

"Converting the property designated as Town Center, other than the Market Street environment, to high density residential buildings to supplement community functions.

"Developing Reston Center for Industry and Growth as dense mixed use.

"Developing air rights over the Toll Road with high density mixed use."

Clearly Mr. Simon's vision for Reston is firmly focused on increasing density. In a recent letter to the editor ["An Advice to Density Deniers", Reston Connection, Feb. 24-March 2, 2010], Mr. Simon states that "It is bad manners, to say the least, for a resident to lobby to prevent development that a developer has 'by right' to develop." Mr. Simon sees the future

of Reston from a developer's perspective, having been one for more years than many of us have been alive, while homeowners see it from a resident's perspective. What Mr. Simon and the other developers need to understand is that residents live with the results while the developers move on.

Since most of Reston is developed to a lower level than its currently allowable maximum population density (13 people per acre, the 1963 number) Mr. Simon's vision means that we have to open the door to high density redevelopment throughout Reston, increasing our population by 25 percent and making Reston one of the most densely populated communities in Fairfax County, with a density comparable to that of Arlington County and Alexandria. Where are the roads and infrastructure to support such population growth, and don't we as residents have the right to question whether we want to dramatically change the existing character of our neighborhoods? Mr. Simon doesn't think so. We enjoy the town that Mr. Simon started, but the residents are long past having to play "Simon says."

While I greatly admire Mr. Simon, I respectfully disagree with him about his vision for Reston's future and I will continue to fight for the right for Reston residents to have a say in what happens to our community. The candidates that Mr. Simon endorses are coincidentally also endorsed by outgoing RA President Robin Smyers who was a proponent of building an indoor recreation center at Brown's Chapel Park that would have destroyed acres of RA parkland. I assume these candidates support Ms. Smyers and Mr. Simon's vision for Reston's future. Otherwise they would not have sought their endorsement.

This year let's elect candidates to the RA Board who are resident friendly. The candidates that I believe will act to protect our community, our parks, lakes, paths and property are Joe Leighton, at large; Peter Greenberg, North Point; Ken Knueven, Lake Anne/Tall Oaks.

Amy Justice
Co-chair Coalition to Save Brown's Chapel

A Good Joe To Vote For

To the Editor:

This time, there is competition in the Reston Board of Directors (RBD) election. Is there any real difference between the candi

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

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Fairfax Public School Superintendent Jack Dale talks with Reston residents Ellen and Jim Dyke and David and Caroline Hemingson.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Performs in 'Valentine Pops Gala'

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra "Valentine Pops Gala," a month postponed due to the unusual amount of snowfall, showcased the talents of the new orchestra's Maestro Christopher Zimmerman. 'Amore!' the encore to dinner was performed by tenor Robert Petillo and soprano Jeanine Thames accompanied by the FSO musicians.

For more information on the Fairfax Symphony visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org

Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), right, talks with Reston resident Kathleen Driscoll McKee.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/
CONNECTION



CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 18

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Write your Memories into Memoirs Beginner Class. 9:30 a.m. at Tall Oaks at Reston Assisted Living, 12052 North Shore Drive, Reston. A nine-week class that will teach you to turn your memories into meaningful stories. At the end of the program, stories will be bound and given to you as a keepsake. \$15 RA members, \$25 non-members. For adults 55 years and older. Register at Ashleigh@reston.org or 703-435-6577.

FRIDAY/MARCH 19

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change. 8 p.m. at Reston Community Center CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets \$18-\$21. 703-476-4500.

The Elden Street Players in 'Metamorphoses.' 8 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. A modern adaptation of Ovid's Roman mythological stories, this play contains mature themes and brief male nudity. Patrons in the front row may be splashed with water during

the course of the show; towels provided. \$19, \$16 seniors and students. Reserve at 703-481-5930. www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 20

Easy to Love: An Evening of Song, Poetry, and Good Company. 7:30 p.m. at St John Neumann Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. Silent auction begins at 6:30 p.m. Advance tickets \$18 adults, \$13 seniors and \$8 students; \$2 more at the door. 703-277-7772 or VoceVA@hotmail.com.

Children's Book Sale. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Used book sale. All ages. 703-689-2700.

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change. 2:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets \$18-\$21. 703-476-4500.

The Elden Street Players in 'Metamorphoses.' 7 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Tickets \$11 non-members, \$10 members. www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com.

ESL Group Conversation. 11:00 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. ESL conversation group for adults. 703-689-2700.

Big Apple Circus. 7 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 21

Easy to Love: An Evening of Song, Poetry, and Good Company. 3 p.m. at St. Timothy's Parish Hall, 432

Van Buren St., Herndon. Silent auction begins at 2 p.m. Advance tickets \$18 adults, \$13 seniors and \$8 students; \$2 more at the door. 703-277-7772 or VoceVA@hotmail.com.

Children's Book Sale. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Used book sale. All ages. 703-689-2700.

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change. 2:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets \$18-\$21. 703-476-4500.

The Elden Street Players in 'Metamorphoses.' 7 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Tickets \$11 non-members, \$10 members. Reserve at 703-481-5930. www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 23

Folk Club of Reston-Herndon: Samuel James. 7:15 p.m. at The Tortilla Factory, 648 Elden St., Herndon. Tickets \$11 non-members, \$10 members. www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com.

ESL Group Conversation. 11:00 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. ESL conversation group for adults. 703-689-2700.

Big Apple Circus. 7 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 24

Reading Comes Alive with Yoga.

10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Stories, music and yoga postures. 703-689-2700.

The Advance Man: A Journey Into the World of the Circus. 6:45 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Author Jamie MacVickars provides an inside look at Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey. 703-689-2700.

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 25

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.

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

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 26

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling. Tickets \$15-\$52 at 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change. 8 p.m. at Reston Community Center CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets \$18-\$21. 703-476-4500.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 18

Luncheon for Sean Connaughton, Va. Secretary of Transportation. 11:30 a.m. at the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. Committee for Dulles members in advance \$45, at the door \$50. Nonmembers in advance \$55, at the door \$60. www.committeefordulles.org.

The Greater Reston Newcomers and Neighbors Club. 10 a.m. at St. John Neumann Church, 11900 Lawyers Rd. in Reston. How to care for and find out more about costume jewelry. Refreshments served. Free. 703-437-6866.

SATURDAY/MARCH 20

Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins and the Department of Planning and Zoning Community Meeting. To generate ideas for the Wiehle Avenue Transit station. 9 a.m. at Langston Hughes Middle School, 11401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. DPZ will report on the results for the Brainstorming Activity for the Herndon/Monroe station area. Contact Heidi Merkel, 703-324-1380.

The Reston-Herndon Branch of AAUW Annual Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. at Café Montmartre by Lake Anne. Kimberly Bohinc, an AAUW Fellow currently studying at George Mason University, will speak of her experiences in the Peace Corps working with women leaders and HIV positive women in sub-Saharan Africa. \$16. 703-759-5543.

CAI Essentials of Community Association Volunteer Leadership Seminar. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Reston Association, 1930 Isaac Newton Square, Reston. Open to all board members of homeowners' associations for cluster, condo and single family detached homes in Reston. \$60 per member, \$70 non-members. Register at 703-435-6503 or Arlene@reston.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 25

Generation Next: Reston Leadership Development. 7 p.m. Reston Community Center at Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. An active dialog session on getting involved in leading the community. Free. RCCContact@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Lupus Support Group. 12 p.m. at Reston Hospital Center, The West Wing, 1850 Town Center Parkway, Reston. www.lupusgw.org.

Psychology and the Immune System. 7 p.m. at Sunset Hills Montessori, 11180 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. With Dr. Lydia Temoshok, Prof Medicine-U-MD. Reservations required. \$30. cheznousreston@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 27

Colvin Run Watershed Stream Restoration and Improvement Meeting. 9:30 a.m. at Lake Anne Elementary School, 11510 North Shore Drive, Reston. Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. will be presenting information about the history and purpose of the stream restoration project and the plans for this watershed. Time will be provided for questions and answers. 703-435-6560 or reston.wetlandstudies.com.

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FAITH

Reston Synagogue Selects Michael G. Holzman as Next Rabbi

Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation (NVHC) in Reston has announced the appointment of Michael Garret Holzman as the synagogue's next rabbi. An inspirational and compassionate spiritual leader, Rabbi Holzman has a strong commitment to lifelong Jewish education, youth programming and social action and is known for his innovative, energetic and successful approaches to making Judaism accessible and exciting to all.

Holzman is currently associate rabbi of Congregation Rodeph Shalom in Philadelphia, Pa. Before joining Congregation Rodeph Shalom in 2004, Holzman served for one year as the rabbi of B'nei Israel Congregation in San Jose, Costa Rica. He was ordained in 2003 by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York and Jerusalem and is a 1995 graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Prior to rabbinic school, he worked for three years



Rabbi Michael Garret Holzman

as a paralegal specialist with the Environmental Crimes Section of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC. He is also the editor of a collection of essays entitled, "The Still Small Voice: Reflections on Being a Jewish Man" (URJ Press, 2008). Holzman and his wife, Nicole Saffell Holzman, have a 7-year-old son, Avi, and a 5-year-old daughter, Talia.

The selection of Holzman follows a seven-month national search to fill the senior clergy position being vacated by Rabbi Robert A. Nosanchuk, who will leave NVHC at the end of June to become Senior Rabbi of Fairmount Temple in Cleveland, Ohio. Holzman will assume NVHC's pulpit in July and will serve the congregation along with Cantor Irena Altshul. NVHC is a 470-household Reform synagogue located at 1441 Wiehle Ave. in Reston (www.nvhcreston.org or 703-437-7733).

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 United Christian Parish will celebrate Holy Week with two choirs and a trumpet soloist on Palm Sunday, March 28, at 8:30 and 11 a.m. services at 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston.

❖ **Maundy Thursday, April 1.** A light meal to mark the Last Supper at 6 p.m., followed foot washing and communion.

❖ **Sunday, April 4.** 6:30 a.m. Easter sunrise service and 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship services.

The United Christian Parish is an ecumenical church combining the United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), United Church of Christ and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ.) Contact 703-3065 or www.unitedchristianparish.org.

All are invited to Lenten Bible study at **Dranesville Church of the Brethren**, 11500 Leesburg Pike in Herndon, 7 p.m. March 10-31. Greg Kozak will lead a journey to discover ways in which Jesus fulfills Old Testament prophecy and the sacrificial system. Other church events include:

❖ **Movie night.** 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20 in the Fellowship Hall.

❖ **Children's activity.** 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday, March 27 in the Fellowship Hall.

❖ **Maundy Thursday Love Feast.** 7 p.m. Thursday, April 1 in the Fellowship Hall.

❖ **Good Friday Service.** 1:15 p.m. Friday, April 2 in the Sanctuary.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 9

dates? Yes, there is a significant difference, which should be important to you.

Joe Leighton has a track record on the RA Board of being the candidate who has best served Reston citizens, at times in opposition to the solid majority of the RBD. Let's re-elect Joe.

I know this from watching the Board of Directors in action numerous times over the last 16 months.

I started going to Board meetings because of misconduct I saw in the Reston Association. Allow me to quote myself from a letter I wrote to The Connection last year: "both RA and the RBD have an agenda of their own and tend to regard the citizens as irrelevant to that agenda, or as a nuisance or a threat. To cite merely a few recent examples: the RA headquarters issue; the Brown's Chapel fiasco; the inappropriate transfer of RA funds to the Nature House despite a prior citizen's referendum explicitly prohibiting such a transfer;

Meeting Criteria For RA Board

To the Editor:

The Reston Association Board elections are underway and for the first time in recent memory the game is on. Although most RA members are not paying attention as always, I get the sense that there is more engagement than in past elections. I attribute much of the increase in interest to the Brown's Chapel recreation proposal, prematurely named the Robert E. Simon Center, that galvanized the community last summer and was soundly rejected despite what members of the current RA Board may think.

And in some measure, we can thank Richard Chew. It is clear that he thinks that the majority of RA members "just fell off the turnip truck". If he thinks that his coterie of candidates isn't perceived by the community as a move to stack the Board with like-minded directors, he is mistaken. And it has and will work against him and his cohorts. At the ARCH Forum that was held this past Wednesday evening, it was entertaining to see that their "guys" had the exact same fliers

Being Restonian

To the Editor:

I am a candidate for the North Point seat on the Reston Association Board of Directors. This letter responds to Jack Trenta's letter posted on the Reston Connection's Web site on March 10, 2010. Mr. Trenta argues that I am unqualified to serve on the RA Board because I rent a condo-

and writing a letter of Reston support for the increase in tolls on the Dulles Toll Road, without even a pretense at public discussion of the matter. There is a pattern here."

I further wrote (after regretting to have to be so critical of these volunteer RBD representatives) that "... there are at least two members of the nine-member board who do not adhere to the agenda set there, who are willing to voice strong criticism of proposals ... [in] the interests of Reston's citizens. But these two are a very small, and isolated, minority. Their numbers must be greatly augmented."

Joe Leighton is one of the two noticed. Joe has had the initiative and the courage to speak out. He is not obstructionist by any means, nor negative about the Board (nor is he seen that way). But for example, he alone challenged the Board opinion regarding the outrageous attempt by the Board to present the Brown's Chapel indoor recreation center ("Taj Mahal") as a fait accompli to the residents of

except for the color paper stock. Many of the attendees wondered if they were actually printed at RA headquarters.

But seriously, as a North Point resident, it is offensive to me and my neighbors that Mr. Chew would be so condescending as to recruit a candidate to represent our district with no real ties to the community. I mean no personal offense to Mike Collins and believe that anyone who volunteers for duty as a director should be commended. However, if you run to serve Reston's homeowners, you should have the basis to do so, not merely the chutzpah.

Mike Collins moved to Reston two years ago from California. Not from Herndon, but from three thousand miles away. His wife may have grown up here, but she is not the one running, he is. According to Fairfax County tax records, he is not a Reston homeowner. When pressed on the issue, his response was that, technically, ownership was held in the name of his in-laws' trust. As an attorney, he knows that there is nothing more technical than real property ownership. You either are the owner of record or you are not; and he is

minium from my wife's parents and, therefore, lack "real ties to the community" in his eyes.

In his assertion, Mr. Trenta has, unfortunately, disregarded Reston's traditional community values and discounted a large portion of the population. Fortunately, the Reston Association governing documents, as approved by referendum in 2006, allow renters to participate as voters, directors and

the Brown's Chapel area and to Reston in general (after spending \$100,000 to commission a study of the project, and then presenting it to the citizens with cover-up and obfuscation). He has been a lone voice on other issues as well. Very importantly, he has been receptive to citizen's input — a real sore point with RA — a trait which, we have recently learned in this paper, he carries over from his fine service in his own cluster (and which I know to be a fact from personal experience). Further, he took the initiative to get RA to take the simple step of investing its monies in a way to get more interest income.

Joe Leighton is, by his superior record on the Board and in his community, a superior candidate for the RBD, a candidate who truly makes a difference. On the ballot which has been mailed to you, vote for Joe Leighton for at large candidate, Reston Board of Directors.

Steve Jolivette
Reston

not, regardless of whatever arrangement he may have with his in-laws. Technically, he is allowed to run for the Board, but it is presumptuous of him to think that North Point homeowners who have a \$150 thousand to \$1.5 million investment in this community would be comfortable with an "occupant," not a homeowner, as their representative.

Fortunately, we have an excellent North Point candidate in Peter Greenberg. He has been a Reston homeowner for 14 years, is a successful businessman and entrepreneur with years of executive experience, who, if elected, I believe, will serve the entire RA community in a judicious and fiscally responsible fashion. Peter also was instrumental in saving a North Point park at Brown's Chapel and has advocated placing all RA common area land, including all parks and open spaces in a conservation trust. I give Peter Greenberg my vote and I urge all North Point residents to do the same.

Jack Trenta
North Point Homeowner

officers in the closest thing we have to a local government. Reston was founded on a premise that it would offer a wide range of living opportunities for residents of all means and backgrounds throughout their lives. In part due to this principle of inclusiveness, rentals comprise a third of the 21,436 households under RA jurisdiction. In North Point, about 1,300 units
SEE LETTERS, PAGE 17



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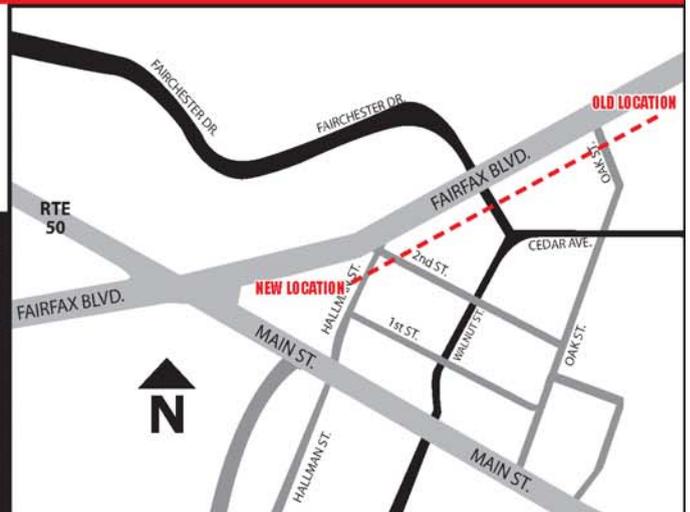
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Dr. Sigal Leads Surgical Team to Haiti

The devastation in Haiti continues to draw much needed support from across the globe. Several members of The Austin-Weston Center for Cosmetic Surgery in Northern Virginia will be volunteering with the University of Miami's Medishare Haiti Project. Dr. Robert Sigal will lead a surgical team from the Austin-Weston Center. They will be spending a week in Port-au-Prince contributing much needed medical relief to earthquake victims. Their Austin-Weston Center surgical team leaves on March 22.



Dr. Robert Sigal of The Austin-Weston Center for Cosmetic Surgery in Reston

Project Medishare Haiti is part of The Global Institute under the University of Miami Schools of Medicine and Nursing. The Global Institute works for the advancement of global health and development throughout the Western Hemisphere and beyond. Since the catastrophic earthquake, the University of Miami physicians and healthcare professionals have been in Haiti treating the injured. The Austin-Weston Cosmetic Surgery Team will join them in

their hospital, which consists of four large tents in the Port-au-Prince airfield. The medical staff there and over 140 volunteers and military personnel work in the busy field hospital, providing medical care and performing surgeries in very demanding conditions.

The Austin-Weston Center for Cosmetic Surgery was founded in 1978 and was the first practice in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area that was limited exclusively to cosmetic surgery. It is now the largest free standing facility in the area with three nationally respected surgeons on board, Dr. George Weston, Dr. Byron Poindexter and Sigal. The Austin-Weston Team have been celebrated for their special expertise across the globe as well as their ongoing charitable and community work, including sending medical supplies and staff to aid after Hurricane Katrina. For more information call 703-893-6168 or visit their Web site at www.austin-weston.com. For more information on Medishare and the Haiti Earthquake Relief Project, visit www.ProjectMedishare.org.

Supervisors Set Ceiling For Property Tax Rate, Consider Car Tax

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has set upper threshold of \$1.12 per \$100 of assessed property value for the 2010 property tax rate, which would lead to a tax increase of approximately \$100 to the average county homeowner if adopted.

During the same biweekly meeting March 9, the supervisors also voted to consider a new vehicle registration license fee of \$33.

Eight of the county board members, all of the Democrats and Republican Michael Frey (Sully), supported the two actions. Supervisors Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield) and John Cook (R-Braddock) voted against advertising the higher property tax rate or the new vehicle registration fee.

"In 2000, our average [property] tax bill was \$2,407 and we had a great county then. By 2007, our tax bills had more than doubled," said Herrity.

"We were a great county in 2000 and we need to give our citizens some relief," he said.

FAIRFAX SUPERVISORS are not bound to vote for a property tax rate of \$1.12 or a \$33 vehicle fee simply by supporting their public advertisement.

The action only set "the ceiling" for the local property tax rate and vehicle fee. In other words, the supervisors are unable to raise the property tax rate higher than \$1.12 when they adopt the 2011 budget April 27.

Fairfax County Executive Anthony Griffin has actually suggested that the supervisors only raise the property tax rate from \$1.04 to \$1.09 per \$100 of assessed value. If the supervisors take Griffin's suggestion, the average county property tax bill will actually decline by \$48.55.

Even though he recommended a tax break, Griffin also suggested the supervisors advertise the tax rate at \$1.12, leaving the county board flexibility to fund most of the Fairfax County Public Schools budget proposal if it desired.

The Fairfax County School Board has asked the county for \$81.9 million in additional funding for next year, which is equates to an approximately four or five-percent increase in the property tax rate, according to county figures.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors also had very little idea of how Virginia intended to deal with the commonwealth's \$4.2 billion shortfall and what types of cuts to local services the General Assembly and Governor might impose. Griffin said it was probably best to leave breathing room with the advertised tax rate, given the uncertainty of state funding.

THE COUNTY executive also pushed for the new vehicle registration fee, one few options for new taxes or revenue the Fairfax has open to them. Virginia controls many taxes itself – income, retail sales, cigarettes and alcohol – leaving Fairfax to rely heavily on local property taxes to balance the local budget.

But a new vehicle registration fee for just one car would almost eat up any tax relief gained through Griffin's proposal for the property rate. Herrity said the vehicle registration fee also cannot be deducted from federal tax bills.

"That is still coming from people's pocket books," said Herrity, who is also running for U.S. Congress in Virginia's 11th congressional district.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

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"According to Computer Models ..."



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And no, this isn't a take on the James Cameron-directed, special effects phenomenon, "Avatar." This isn't 3D. This is "reality." This is Doug Hill, Channel 7 meteorologist speaking (advisedly). This is weather at presumably its finest and most likely scenario. Weather predictions via man-made machinery; computers specifically, which we've (most of us, anyway) all come to respect and appreciate as tools of the respective trades. But weather itself is not so reliable, nor is it man made. Weather has a mind (track) of its own; predictable, generally, but subject to change/interpretation? Oh my, yes! As sure as the wind blows. We may think we understand nature, nurture it sort of, maybe even relate to it in some anthropomorphic way. But, it doesn't understand us. It doesn't relate to us, and it certainly doesn't seem to care about us. It reacts to its natural (and unnatural) surroundings and acts not according to any weather model, real or imagined. It just reacts, like a pinball on steroids; any which way, including loose.

As a result, the rest of us are left to pick up the pieces, sometimes literally. Otherwise, we pick up the shovels and "Ice Melt," hammer, nails and plywood and clear the walk and/or batten down the hatches, 'cause weather is coming or in some patterns/predictions, may be here already. And if it is, you better have your supplies, at least in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area because if you're late to the dance, there will be no party afterward. And no milk, bread, eggs, toilet paper or water either; that's presuming you can even find and/or fit into a parking space.

But it's nothing us Washingtonians (or transplants) have not grown accustomed to: panic in the streets (and the shopping centers, too). Are we proud are of our overreactions? Hardly. Has our snow-related behavior over the years been typically much ado about a little something? Until this, year, almost always. Has the Blizzard of 2010 finally earned us a little respect, grudgingly though it may be, from Buffalones specifically, and Northerners in general, many of whom have regularly laughed and scoffed at our school-cancellation policy and our many "snow emergencies?" You would think. Moreover, I would say we've earned our snow-shoveling stripes, our plowing medals of honor and our bravery above and beyond the call of reasonable and customary winter duty.

Eventually, life goes on, though. Until the next weather model predicts the formerly ever-scary "wintry mix." Which until this most recent record-setting/smashing blizzard, was as frightful a pair of words ever spoken here (in relation to the weather, that is; after all, this is Washington, D.C., home to the three branches of our Federal Government: the Executive, the Legislative and the Judicial, where snow accumulation, generally speaking, pales in comparison to the more pressing matters of the day; and night and weekends and holidays, too). Now we all know a little bit better.

And I don't believe we would have known better were it not for the local media who went into crisis mode: non-stop coverage preempting regularly scheduled programming. Much of it helpful and in real-time, but some of it redundant; amusing occasionally, informative certainly, but ultimately it was all too much, just like the snow. In general though, the local media made the most of a bad-weather situation. But the television and radio stations can't help themselves any more than the weather/nature can. Their reactions are mostly out of our control. Except we can turn them off. Unfortunately, we can't turn off the weather. All we can do is hope that the next "computer models" are kinder and gentler than the previous ones.

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

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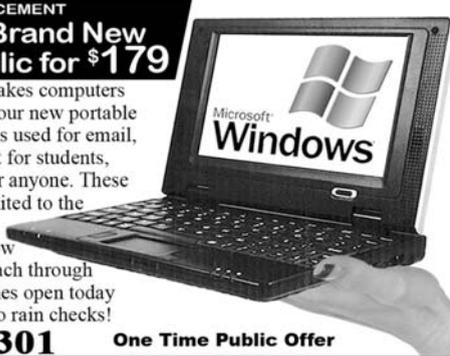
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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Effective March 29th, cable channel Fox Reality will cease to operate and will become Nat Geo Wild. Like Fox Reality, Nat Geo Wild will be carried on the same channel (219) in the Digital Variety Pak. Nat Geo Wild is dedicated to bringing audiences extraordinary stories of the natural world and the amazing animals that inhabit it. Through unique, powerful experiences and unparalleled imagery, viewers will get closer to animals and nature than ever before.



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Obituary notice for Roberta A. "Bobbie" Paugh

Roberta A. "Bobbie" Paugh, age 66, longtime resident of Reston, VA died on March 2, 2010 at INOVA Fairfax Hospital. She was born on February 22, 1944 in Connecticut. She was a graduate of Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA earning her Bachelor of Arts degree and then going on to become an English Teacher in the Philadelphia area. Bobbie was known to her family and friends as a passionate artist, who painted beautiful portraits.

Bobbie was the beloved wife of the late Jon Paugh, loving and devoted mother of Jon Paugh of Plano, TX, Katie Paugh of Milwaukee, WI and Rachel Paugh of Manassas, VA, daughter of John Post of Cape Cod, MA and the late Anne Zebrakus Post. Funeral services were held on Saturday, March 6th at 1pm at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren Street, Herndon, VA. Interment followed at Chestnut Grove Cemetery. Arrangements by Adams-Green Funeral Home, Herndon, VA.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 13

out of a total of 5,000 are occupied by renters. Perhaps my understanding of this key point in our history is why Bob Simon, Reston's founder, endorsed me.

Perhaps Mr. Trenta is actually more concerned that my qualifications might be superior to the candidate he supports. In addition to my college studies in city planning, my work as a volunteer starting the first homeowners' associations in the country for Habitat Humanity and eight years as a lawyer, consultant and small business owner, I have two young children, one at Buzz Aldrin Elementary and one at LANK preschool. I have a personal interest in seeing that Reston facilities are well cared for and that the RA Board works to maintain our community's strong quality of life. To the homeowners of Reston, I make the same promise I made to my wife's parents: I will do everything in my power to protect your investment. My background has given me the skills to do so.

I'm committed to living in Reston, as are thousands of others who happen to be renting while saving for a down payment or while enjoying retirement or even (gasp), as permanent renters. Oddly, Mr. Trenta questions my commitment to Reston since my family and I moved here from California two years ago, as if a fresh perspective

is a liability. Actually, my wife grew up in the area, graduating from Herndon High School, so this is a return home for her. More importantly, Reston as a whole has added about 6,000 residents since 2000. Growth in North Point in that period was about 14 percent. Many new families, including many veterans, come from places around the world specifically because of our inclusiveness and diversity. Certainly, it is in Reston's interest to remain attractive to our "newcomers" and their ties to the community should not be measured in dollars.

Finally, I am amused by Mr. Trenta's consternation over the similarities between me and fellow candidates Kevin Danaher and David Robinson. Granted, each of us is endorsed by Bob Simon and each of us (including Mr. Simon) believe Brown's Chapel Park is the wrong location for a huge indoor rec center. The more important connection between us, however, is a focus on developing innovative and pragmatic solutions for the future, not on rehashing an issue that died nine months ago by a 7-2 vote of the RA Board. I hope that Restonians of all living situations will join us with their support so that we can work together to ensure Reston's future as a quality place to live.

Mike Collins
Reston

Serving Reston At Large

To the Editor:

The Reston Association has been under attack by a special interest coalition focused on promoting its specific, narrow NIMBY agenda. This is frightening to those of us who care about the Reston community as a whole. In order to defeat the partisan slate proposed by this well-organized and well-financed group, known as Save Brown's Chapel, we must all be sure to vote in the RA Board election by supporting candidates who are committed to honesty, openness and fairness.

We have been involved in Reston civic and recreational activities for many years, raising our families here and spending thousands of volunteer hours on various Reston community boards. We have met and talked with the following candidates whom we believe have a true sense of integrity, in addition to also having a commitment to the Reston community and the experience, energy and enthusiasm to serve on the RA Board. They are non-partisan, as befits candidates for a community board.

Please help Reston to not only survive, but to continue to improve over the next decade, as we face significant changes together, by giving these candidates your support and your vote in the RA Board election. We need to renew our sense of community so that we can work together to support Reston's growth during the Metro expansion. What we've learned about these three candidates has led us to believe that they'll each bring much-needed fresh yet informed perspectives to the RA Board.

David Robinson, a candidate for at-large director, currently serves as co-chair of RA's Parks and Planning Advisory Committee and is especially interested in balancing RA

members' desire to preserve green space with Reston's goal of providing quality recreation at a reasonable cost for all. Through his work in both the public and private sectors, he has years of experience in problem-solving under tight budget constraints and will be able to maintain careful attention to RA's financial health, so that assessment monies are used wisely. He and his wife enjoy Reston so much that they have reached out to their daughter and her family, who now plan to move here. He has excellent experience in negotiation, a "can-do" attitude and will work collaboratively with colleagues on RA's Board to serve our short and long-term needs. We each know the incumbent at-large candidate, Joe Leighton, and are disappointed in his decision to align himself with the above-mentioned special interest group, rather than to maintain an interest in Reston at large. We believe that David is the at-large candidate who has the specific skills and the general perspective to help solve the problems our community will face as Metro expands into Reston and brings additional businesses and residents.

Kevin Danaher, candidate for Lake Anne/Tall Oaks director, moved to Reston with his wife as a newlywed 20 years ago and they're raising their two children here, all attending Reston public schools. He's been on the Board of the Ivy Oak Square Condominium Association for 12 years, eight years as President, and has the experience to understand the specific needs of Reston's clusters and neighborhoods in the Lake Anne/Tall Oaks area. He currently serves as the Community Events Director for RCC where he is known for his organizational skills and his sense of humor, both of which will help him to be a successful RA Board director. Kevin has told us that his overall goal as a board director for RA is to continue to main

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 19

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SPORTS

The U-12 Reston Raiders are champions of the Capital Beltway Hockey League.



PHOTO/COURTESY OF RAIDERS

Reston Youth Association (RYA) is currently taking registration for its Spring 2010 Coed-Flag Football League, for ages 5 to 16. For more information, visit restonseahawks.org or e-mail to Flag@restonseahawks.org.

The **U-12 Reston Raiders'** ice hockey team won the Capital Beltway Hockey League (CBHL) title this season. The Raiders won seven of their final nine regular season games to earn a postseason spot. There, they defeated the No. 1 seed Ashburn Extreme team by a 4-3 score in a semifinals game. Reston goalie Andrew Herrmann stopped 39 shots in the win. Then, in the finals, Reston defeated the Richmond Royals, 7-4, behind the solid play of Reston goalie Jack Lalor.

Reston is now preparing for upcoming nationals, set to take place in Northern Virginia from April 7-12. Games will take place at both SkateQuest Reston and the Ashburn Ice House.

Members of the Raiders' team are: Justin Cho, Luke Collins, Patrick Fergus, Connor Geshan, Nate Grisius, Sandy Harvie, Jack Heaps, Andrew Herrmann, Jack Lalor, Ted Leggett, Conor Maddry, Garrett Newton, Bryce Rogers, Amir Sadikov, Michael Soraci, Regan Upshaw, and Mackie Wheeler. The Raiders are coached by Jeff Harrington, Mark Kuczynski, Matt Burke, Tom Fergus, Tyler Maddry, Regan Upshaw and Mike Leggett.

The **Reston Raiders hockey club** will serve as the host club for the 2010 USA Hockey National Championships for the Pee Wee (U12) Tier II (AA) division. Championship teams from 48 states are expected to compete for four national tournament titles from Wednesday through Sunday, April 7-11. SkateQuest Reston will serve as the host facility with overflow action taking place at the Ashburn IceHouse. Each team is guaranteed to play three games, and at least one game at each rink.

"Our entire organization is thrilled about welcoming USA Hockey to our region," said Raiders president Chris Kelly. "While the players from around the country fine-tune their skills this season, we will be preparing to show why the Capital region is really and truly a hockey town."

Featured attractions will include social events, opening ceremonies featuring a parade of teams and special guest speakers, and the Easton skills competition. Reston's Pee Wee AA Raiders team will receive an automatic entry into the tournament as the host club.

The Washington Capitals, through their Amateur Hockey and Fan Development division, will also provide event support. Such benefits could include spe-

cial appearances from players and/or coaches, game tickets, the opportunity to watch the team practice and tours of their facility.

Northern Virginia Senior Softball (nvss.org) is seeking players for both men's (50-over) and women's (40-over) leagues. Participants will enjoy the fun, fitness and fellowship that's a part of slow pitch softball. Double-header games will be played on Tuesday and Thursday mornings on Fairfax County fields. The spring/summer season will run from April 13 through Aug. 12. NVSS fields 26 teams, organized into three skill-level conferences. Players are assigned to teams based on their skill assessment (not a try-out). NVSS runs an Indoor Conditioning Program through April 8. The Esprit de Corps Tournament is offered for members who served in the military. For more information on NVSS, contact Dave at 703-524-5576 or Paul at 703-323-7878.

The **NOVA Youth Flag Football League** is currently conducting online registration for its Seventh Annual NFL Youth Flag Football Summer camps. Camp sessions, open to children ages 6-12, will be June 28-July 2, and Aug. 9-13, from 9 a.m.-12 noon. Campers can choose to attend one or both sessions. For more detailed information or to register, visit novaflag.com.

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) is conducting its Annual Golf Tournament at Chantilly National Golf Course on Monday, April 19 at 11 a.m. Corporations, foundations, business owners, community groups and individuals are invited to participate in the community-sponsored golf event which will provide for the growing number of neighbors in need in Western Fairfax County. The event will include prizes and great food. The registration fee is \$175 per player. The fee will cover carts, range balls, lunch and dinner.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available and are as follows: Gold Sponsor (\$1,500), Silver Sponsor (\$1,200) and Hole Sponsor (\$300). Registration for four players is included with Gold and Silver sponsorships only. All sponsors will be publicly recognized at the event and on the WFCM Web site. Sponsors are encouraged to register by April 1 to ensure that they are publicly recognized on formal signage at the Golf Tournament.

To participate in the event, register at wfcmv.org/events.php. Or contact Jen Adkins, WFCM business manager, via e-mail at admin@wfcmv.org. For more information, contact Dan Whitaker, Golf Committee chair, via phone at 571-201-4091.

Three Added to Local Hall of Fame

Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame inducts Jason Witten, Nick Hilgert and Richard Herman during ceremony.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

Dallas Cowboy Jason Witten might one day be immortalized in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, but his first hall of fame honor is Fairfax's to claim.

than winning and losing...you don't just go out for sports to be winners," he said. "Always do your best. If you do your best, then you're not a loser. Learn more, study more, work hard, and don't be satisfied with average."

Richard Herman of Fort Belvoir Sports also was inducted into the Hall of Fame for his decades of service to area youth sports. In 1993, he founded a select basketball program, and in 2000 founded a youth track club.

He currently is the Fort Belvoir youth football commissioner.

"I love children and I'll probably do this until the day I die," he said. "I appreciate this award and I'm very humbled."

On March 14 at the McLean Hilton, the Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame inducted the six-time, Pro Bowl tight end and former Vienna Youth linebacker to its illustrious roster of local football legends.

"There's no question that the experiences I had [at Vienna Youth] helped me reach my dreams," Witten said. "Thank you for helping make my dreams come true."

Witten was unable to attend the ceremony due to duties with the NFL Players Association and its yearly meeting in Hawaii, but his award will be held in Fairfax until next year's ceremony and he vowed to claim it in person.

In addition to the Hall of Fame inductions, various service and player of the year awards also were handed out.

"Thank you for helping make my dreams come true."

—Jason Witten

Josh Hogan (W.T. Woodson), Kevin Samson (Madison), Anton McCallum (Hayfield), Brian Laiti (Robinson),

Former Robinson Secondary School head football coach Nick Hilgert joined Witten as one of the three 2010 inductees to the Hall of Fame.

Hunter Debutts (Episcopal) and Bo Revell (Battlefield) were named the High School Players of the Year.

Hilgert, who served as head coach from 1983 to 1996, was the first Robinson head coach to take the Rams to the state football finals in 1988. Hilgert also worked as an assistant coach at Hammond High School and Marshall High School.

Jim Poythress (Lake Braddock) and Mickey Thompson (Stone Bridge) were named High School Coaches of the Year.

Known for being a likeable coach and teacher, Hilgert used his time at the podium to remind the student-athletes in attendance to strive for excellence in everyday life.

Solomon Thompson Jr. won the Karl Davey Memorial Award. John Page won Official of the Year and Joe Swarm, director of student activities at Marshall High School, won the Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award.

Damian Caracciola, Southwestern Youth Association youth football commissioner, won the Gene Nelson Commissioner's Award.

"There's a lot more to [sports]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 17

tain the excellent programs, services and facilities already in place while carefully anticipating and planning for changes that will occur in the coming years. He is deeply committed to Reston, especially to the Lake Anne/Tall Oaks areas.

Mike Collins, candidate for North Point director, moved from California with his wife and children to be near his wife's family. Their young sons attend LANK and Buzz Aldrin. Mike works from home, so is able to live, work and

play in Reston. Mike studied city planning at U.C. Berkeley and led the first homeowners associations for Habitat for Humanity. He understands the needs of homeowners and renters from all backgrounds. He's practiced law for eight years, launched a small business and managed employees and vendors, all experiences which will serve him well on the RA Board. He has the time and energy to reach out to North Point's clusters, condos and single-family neighborhoods to listen to residents so that North Point RA mem-

bers' concerns and ideas can be heard on an ongoing basis. If elected, Mike will work with fellow RA Board Directors and RA staff to ensure that the Reston Association is a strong advocate for its members as Reston faces changes in the years ahead.

Please join us in supporting these three bright, caring and independent candidates for the RA Board.

Bill Bouie
Bill Keefe
Reston

Elizabeth Bishop Performs with Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

Nationally acclaimed local mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Bishop of Reston, praised in the opera world for her "gorgeous voice," performed with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra (ASO) on Sunday, March 14.



By SASHA VASILJEV

Bishop

Bishop has performed with a long list of internationally and nationally recognized opera companies and symphony orchestras

such as the Malaysian Philharmonic, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Washington National Opera, The Metropolitan Opera, and the National Philharmonic.

As a mezzo, Bishop gained career momentum when she won the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in 1993.

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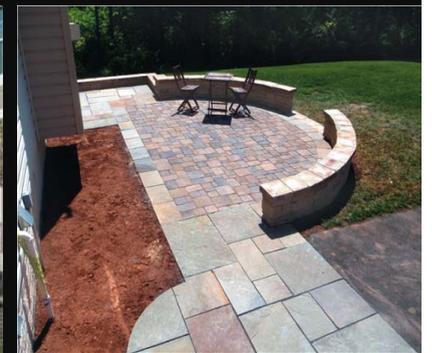
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