

New Businesses, New Concerts and Buskers

NEWS, PAGE 3

With the weather warming and properties continuing to change hands, the Lake Anne Plaza business community is preparing for an eventful summer.

2020 Committee
Document a
'Starting Point'

NEWS, PAGE 4

Let Freedom Ring!

FAITH, PAGE 13

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Reston Community Center



For ages 1-8

EGGNORMOUS EGG HUNT

Rain Date: April 3

Saturday, March 27, 2010
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

NEW Meeting Location:
Temporary Road Picnic Pavilion
At the corner of North Shore and Temporary Road in Reston.



For more information please visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com

For more information contact Debbie Heron, Director of Youth Programs, at (703)476-4500 or Deborah.Heron@fairfaxcounty.gov.



Egg Hunt Begins 10:30 Sharp!



Carnival Games



Other Highlights:
Moonbounce
'Human Statue'

RESTON MASTER PLAN

Community Engagement

Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force

The Reston Master Plan Special Study is a multi-phase planning study that is underway to identify appropriate changes to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan to help guide future development in the planned community of Reston and adjoining areas located along the Dulles Airport Access and Toll Road (the Dulles Corridor).

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston.htm>

April 2010 Meeting Schedule

- April 13 Discussion of Wiehle Avenue area and Understanding the Reston Parkway area
- April 17 Community Workshop for Reston Parkway area
- April 20 Continuation of discussion of Wiehle Avenue and Reston Parkway areas

Save the Date!

Divas Central

RCC PROM DRESS GIVE-A-WAY

Saturday & Sunday, April 24 & 25
12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
RCC Lake Anne
1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston



ITEMS INCLUDE: DRESSES, SHOES, JEWELRY, HANDBAGS, SHAWLS, ACCESSORIES

For more information visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com




Reston Community Center
2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston VA 20191
www.restoncommunitycenter.com

To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-476-4500 • 800-828-1120 (TTY)



NEWS



PHOTOS BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Shortly before Salon Chakra, left, closed, G. Sushi, right, opened next door.

New Businesses, Concerts and Buskers

As properties continue to change hands, Lake Anne businesses prepare to take advantage of the sunny season.



Rita Camacho mans the counter at Rita's Express Alterations and Dry Cleaning, which she just opened at Lake Anne this month.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Jiang "Kenny" Gangmiao said business at his newly opened sushi takeout and delivery business at Lake Anne Plaza had been slow thus far, but he was hopeful that it would pick up as warmer weather brought more people to the plaza.

"My sushi is very good, but my business is not doing too good," said Gangmiao, who opened G. Sushi next to the Reston Museum at the beginning of February. Marked by record snowfalls, though, last month was a difficult one for most businesses, and Gangmiao said business had improved this month.

The Lake Anne Merchant's Association is also hoping to take advantage of the weather to bring potential customers to the plaza with new attractions, such as accordion and ukulele festivals and buskers, to complement longstanding traditions like the farmers market and crafters market.

Properties on the plaza continue to change hands, with Rita's Express Alterations and Dry Cleaning opening at the beginning of the month in one of the two proper-

ties that comprised the former dry cleaners, at the same time that Salon Chakra, next door to G. Sushi, moved out.

"They had an ongoing dispute with their landlord, so that's not a surprise," said Eve Thompson, president of the merchant's association, of the salon's departure.

She said the potential buyer for the former Tavern on the Lake had been attending merchants' meetings at the plaza, but a deal on the property had not yet been finalized.

"It's a nice place, but hopefully the business can go up," said Rita Camacho, owner of the new dry cleaning and alterations business. She said she hoped the customers she picked up during the warm weather would stick with her through the winter. Even in the cold, she said, "It's nice to have somebody close so they don't have to drive a lot to find what they need."

Part of the merchants association's plan to bring people to the plaza this spring and summer is an accordion festival, scheduled for May 22, and a ukulele festival, whose date has not yet been

pinned down, Thompson said. The children's concerts and "Take a Break" concert series will continue this summer, and last year's Family Fun Nights, hosted by Washington Plaza Baptist Church, will be repeated. This weekend, auditions will take place for street performers, or buskers. Thompson said she was hoping to find acts like magicians and jugglers, as well as musicians. The association is also working on improving storefront appearances and building a new Web site, and a new Lake Anne logo was just approved last week, Thompson said. Security cameras are also being installed in the wake of January's purple graffiti spree.

Meanwhile, Gangmiao said he hopes to drum up business by introducing customers to new sushi dishes. His menu of "fusion" sushi is popular in New York City, where he learned the art of sushi, but includes some items that are unfamiliar to Northern Virginia diners, he said. "This area, the people, they don't know too much about sushi. I just do my best to bring new sushi for all the customers here," said Gangmiao.



Front row, from left, are Robert Santoro and Robyn Kampf; back row, Anthony Di Trapani, Don Owens, Wendell Driggers and Larry Stine. Not pictured: Lisa Groves and James O'Donnell

FISH To Honor Eight Volunteers

At its annual fundraiser and gala, FISH Fling, Herndon-Reston FISH will honor eight "Star FISH," volunteers who have spent many hours in service for the organization.

They are: Tony Di Trapani, grant writer for the Assistance Program; Wendell Driggers, driver for the Transportation Program; Lisa Groves, fundraiser and founder of present day FISH Fling; Robyn Kampf, Holiday Basket coordinator; Jim O'Donnell, volunteer for The Bargain Loft; Don Owens,

instructor for the Financial Workshops; Bob Santoro, volunteer for The Bargain Loft; and Larry Stine, volunteer for The Bargain Loft.

The FISH Fling will be held Saturday night, April 10, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Herndon.

Major sponsors of the Fling to date are Volkswagen Group of America and Dominion. For more information, visit the Events page of www.HerndonRestonFISH.org or send an e-mail to FISH@herndonrestonfish.org.

Weed Warriors Needed

Reston Community Weed Warriors Projects need volunteers to help remove fast growing invasive plants that harm the ecosystem in the Reston community.

Saturday, March 27, 10 a.m.-12 noon: Return to the First Ever Weed Warriors Site. The heavy vines of Oriental Bittersweet continue to strangle trees and take over shrubs in the natural area behind the houses of Fieldview Drive. Oriental Bittersweet is one of the most invasive and vigorous weeds in Reston. The participants will meet at the Bright Pond cul-de-sac and walk down the path on the left of the pipe-stem driveway. There is some poison ivy at this site. Wear long sleeves and long pants if you are allergic to poison ivy. RA will provide tools, gloves, snacks and water. Adults and youth ages 10 and up are welcome. With young volunteers adult chaperones are encouraged. This project fulfills community service requirements.

To volunteer, contact: Ha Brock, RA community outreach specialist, via e-mail habrock@reston.org or call 703-435-7986.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Road, Reston. With Dr. Lydia Temoshok, Prof Medicine-U-MD. Reservations required. \$30. cheznousreston@gmail.com.
Altum Career Fair. 3-6 p.m. at 12100 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 101, Reston. Matt.mero@altum.com or www.altum.com/Company/Careers.

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. lh@ascendcomm.com or www.lupusgw.org.

Psychology and the Immune System. 7 p.m. at Sunset Hills Montessori, 11180 Ridge Heights

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.

Motorcyclist Dies in Crash

Police are investigating a fatal crash that occurred on Sunday, March 21, around 7 p.m., in the Reston area. Corey Tarpley, 37, of 11702 Hoover Lane, Fredericksburg, Va. was pronounced dead at the scene.

Tarpley was driving a 2000 Honda motorcycle northbound on Fairfax County Parkway near Walnut Branch Road when he failed to negotiate a curve in the roadway and ran off the roadway. Tarpley was ejected from the motorcycle and struck a metal pole off the roadway.

Crash Reconstruction detectives responded to the scene and believe speed to be a factor in the crash.

Deadline Nears for Board Elections

Time is running out to vote in the Reston community elections. Ballots were mailed on March 5 with a return deadline of April 2, at 5 p.m. Reston Association Members and renters are eligible to vote by mail or online. www.reston.org.

Members of the Reston Association (RA) will elect three individuals to RA's Board of Directors — one each from the North Point and Lake Anne/Tall Oaks Districts and one At-Large Director. Each will serve a three-year term. The Board of Directors determines the Association's goals and policies, making a significant and lasting contribution to the community. Reston is a large community association with a population of 62,000. The candidates forum took place March 18 and will be broadcast on Comcast Community News Channel 28 in Reston on Saturday, March 27, 1 p.m. and Sunday, March 28, 1 p.m.

U.S. Census 2010 Offers Help in Reston

When citizens receive the U.S. Census 2010 in the mail, it's important to take time to answer the 10 questions and return the form. Anyone needing help filling out the U.S. Census form may contact the U.S. Census Bureau for free help. The location is Reston Association, 1930 Isaac Newton Square. Free help is available weekdays through Monday, April 19, from 2- 5 p.m. For more information call the Fairfax Local Census Office at 703-865-3040.



PHOTO BY LYN FISCUS CORDTS

Webelos Scouts Earn Arrow of Light Award

Ten Webelos Scouts from Cub Scout Pack 1313 earned the Arrow of Light Award and crossed over into Boy Scouting at the Pack's annual Blue and Gold Banquet, Feb. 26. The Arrow of Light is Cub Scouting's highest award and the only Cub Scout award that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. Earning the award were fifth graders, from left, Nic Kamali, Ty Brazell, Carter Beatty, David Joyner, Robby Cordts, Will Decamp, Jishnu Medisetti, Nikhil Rao, Nitin Rao and Matthew Ziegelbauer. The boys were under the direction of Den Leaders Vernon Joyner and David Cordts. Pack 1313 is chartered by the Sunrise Valley Elementary School PTA.

NEWS

2020 Committee Document A 'Starting Point' in Planning

Master Plan Task Force members to offer amendments to citizen group's planning principles.

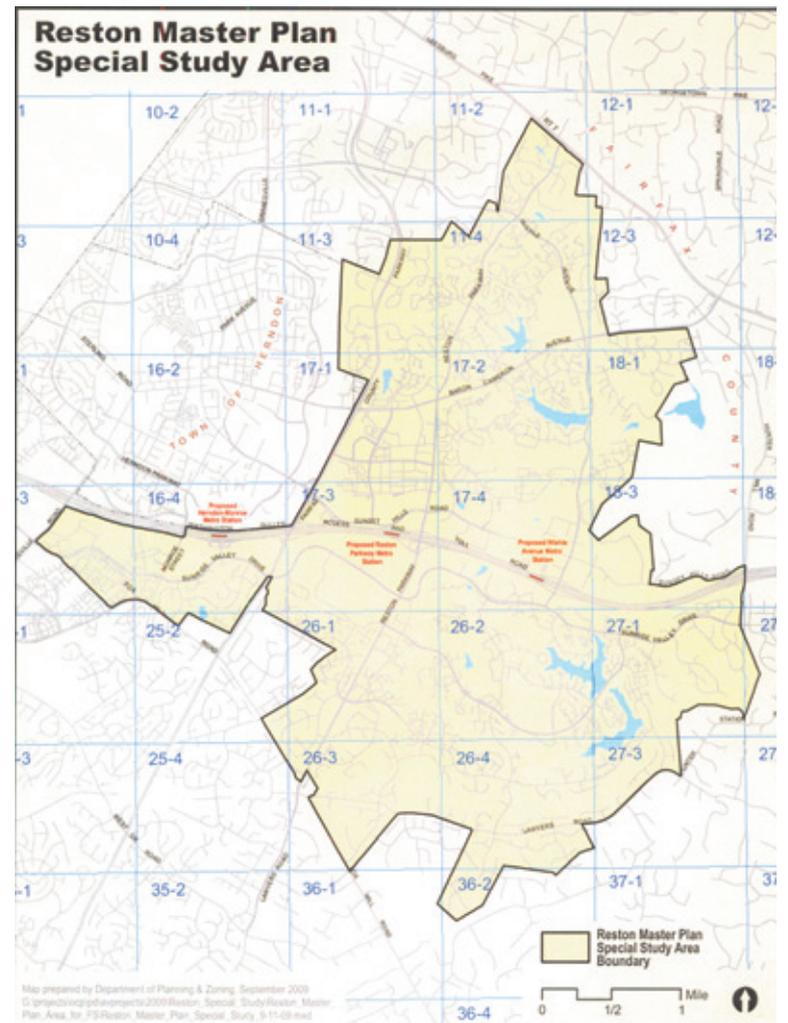
BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Several Reston citizen groups have written up sets of principles to guide the work of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force, and the county has now decided to use the guidelines laid out by the Reston 2020 Committee of the Reston Citizens Association as a starting point for a guiding document.

Members of the task force have been asked to suggest their own modifications to the 2020 Committee's planning principles. "I think it will take a few iterations before everybody's happy with it," said task force Chairwoman Patty Nicoson. But, she said, "It's a good recognition of the abilities of our community members that both staff, and I thought it would be a good starting point." Although the task force had not elected to appoint citizen advisory committees, Nicoson said, "We know we are fortunate in Reston to have so many knowledgeable and engaged community leaders."

"Clearly, the [2020] Committee thinks this is a good starting point in establishing a relationship with the task force," said Terry Maynard of the Reston 2020 Committee. In writing up the guidelines, he said, the group had tried to update Reston founder Bob Simon's principles to apply them to a community that now has about 25,000 households. While he thought the task force might initially have thought residents would oppose increased density around the future Metro stations in the Dulles Corridor, he said it should be clear now that the 2020 Committee, at least, only wanted to ensure that the additional density was compatible with the existing character of Reston.

COUNTY PLANNER Heidi Merkel said one advantage of the committee's document was that it clearly identified areas of concern



MAP CONTRIBUTED

The Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force will consider plan changes for both the Dulles Corridor and the larger planned residential community of Reston.

and then made recommendations on each of them. Also, she said, it lined up well with the results of an exercise at an earlier public workshop, where residents were asked to vote on guiding principles that were important to them.

However, Merkel said, "I wouldn't over-read into the decision to use the Reston 2020 document as a basis. We're really just trying to use it as a starting point for what the planning principles should encompass." Maynard said his group would be appreciative if, now that residents had laid out their ideas for planning guidelines, the developers and landowners with a stake in the process would clarify their preferences.

Another way the task force was

involving residents was by asking Working Alliance of Town Center Homeowners (WATCH) Chairman Robert Goudie to co-chair a subgroup concerned with redevelop-

"Clearly, the [2020] Committee thinks this is a good starting point in establishing a relationship with the task force."

— Terry Maynard, Reston 2020 Committee

ment in the Reston Town Center area, particularly on the site of the existing police station and government center, Nicoson said. The task force is considering moving the municipal buildings and redeveloping the site.

By the fall, the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force will propose plans for redeveloping the Reston Center for Industry and Government (RCIG) in anticipation of the arrival of Metrorail, and the group will then consider plan changes for some of Reston's village centers.

OPINION

Changing the Focus on Education

Only 30 percent of the jobs in the U.S. require a college degree.

BY BOB SIMON



Recently in the New York Times it was reported that Diane Ravitch, a leading scholar on educational matters, had changed from supporting concentration in our schools on math and science to saying "its requirements for testing in math and reading have squeezed vital subjects like history and art out of classrooms." This is welcome, but I feel still misses the core problem. She persists, as is universally done nationally, in focusing on the process of educating the young, what subject matter should be taught, what given priority. No evident distinction is being made between individual students, their backgrounds, their capabilities, their interests. Our objective seems to be to get as many students as possible to pass tests in two or three subjects. Ravitch is saying we should have a few more subjects in the curriculum.

I believe that our objective should be to focus on the product of our educational system. What we should aim for in a high school graduate. I believe we should strive for two principal results:

1. that a high school graduate, in addition to having the basic skills of reading, writing and arithmetic have acquired self awareness, appreciation of his/her areas of strengths and weaknesses that would serve as a reliable guide to career planning. This awareness can be fostered by providing a broad ranging curriculum covering athletics, music and the arts, philosophy, history and handicrafts as well as science and math. The propensity of the individual student should be the guide to his/her curriculum. Drop-outs would melt away if curricula were tailored to

the individual. Our present approach of one size fits all makes no sense. Over the 12 or 13 years leading to a high school diploma, each student should be able to experience sufficient range and variety of subject matter to have a pretty good idea of her/his preferences, strengths and weaknesses to use as the guide to decisions about the future.

2. that the graduate be prepared for citizenship. It would seem obvious that to be a responsible citizen one must have a basic knowledge of how our country works and how it compares to other countries of the world. This knowledge comes from studying history, geography and philosophy. Classes in math and science should most certainly be provided for interested students, but should not be required for everyone, let alone used as the main gauge for measuring success in education. An informed electorate in our country may seem too far off to be achieved, to be an impossible dream. However, if we want to get there, we must look to our educational system, presently focused on math and science that, in this context, are irrelevant.

We should most certainly stop preaching that one must go to college to get a "decent job." This is quite inappropriate in the USA where only 30 percent of the jobs require a college degree. The careers available to non-college degree holders range from farming to the service industry to the transportation industry, to building, to writing, to entertaining and to sports. If what is meant by a decent job is one that pays enough to support a decent standard of living, we fall far short as a nation in legislating that every full-time worker be paid a minimum wage sufficient to pay for a decent living. Our objective should be to produce high school graduates who can realistically decide whether to continue education in trade school, or in a two-year or four-year college or to go right into the job market — who will use every opportunity to exercise his/her right to vote with a familiarity of the issues debated by the candidates.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Request to Halt Board Election

Dear Reston Association Board Members:

It has become apparent to me that the current election for board seats has been compromised not only by statements from sitting board members meant to demean some of the candidates, but also by technical irregularities in the voting process itself.

President Robin Smyers circulated an e-mail alleging that the Save Brown's Chapel coalition has hidden and ulterior motives and their intention is to harm Reston. Such statements by the president of the Board of Directors has the potential to disrupt the election process by introducing fear, suspicion and mistrust. Robin Smyers should apologize to the candidates from the SBC slate and also to the community.

Richard Chew has written an e-mail in which he states that only

the younger candidates have the ability to look to the future. He states that the older candidates are stuck in the past and have no vision. Since I am the oldest candidate running in this election, I have to take exception with his statements. The vision I first conceived in 1964 using air rights to connect the north and south sections of Reston is a vision for the future. As recently as last week, I was working on drawings to create pedestrian walkways across the Toll Road at Herndon-Monroe Station. My age has nothing to do with my ability to look into the future and see possibilities. Mr. Chew's statements show a profound prejudice against the older candidates and he has to be called on this. Mr. Chew needs to apologize to me, to Joe Leighton, and to the community.

Both Mr. Chew and Ms. Smyers used email distribution lists they accumulated during their tenure on the Board of Directors. Using e-mail addresses collected as part of their work on the board to discredit cer-

tain candidates is inappropriate.

A number of people have spoken out against the statements by Ms. Smyers and Mr. Chew that denigrate certain of the candidates. Kathleen Driscoll-McKee has suggested passing Board Conduct Standards to keep sitting board members from endorsing or campaigning for board candidates. Dave Edwards of the Elections Committee has also asked for such standards. He states that the behavior he has seen in this election should not be tolerated. Gerald Volloy has stated that incalculable harm has been done to the candidates running in this election because of the hostile emails circulated by Ms. Smyers and Mr. Chew. In the end, it is the community that suffers. What volunteers will come forward in the future when they know they may be assailed by board members unwilling to let the democratic process work as it was intended?

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

Fox Mill Woods Swim & Tennis Club



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OPINION

Connection Wins Awards

The Connection Newspapers won more than 30 news awards — Virginia Press Association announced at the annual news conference held in Roanoke on Saturday, March 20.

Honors included multiple awards for business and financial writing, education writing, investigative reporting, election coverage, breaking news, public safety writing, editorial writing, photography, design, sports, special sections.

Political and education reporter Julia O'Donoghue won first place for her education writing, in particular three stories which appeared in the Connection's new special section,

A-plus. O'Donoghue also won multiple awards for business and financial writing and investigative reporting.

Reporter Michael Lee Pope won 11 awards in all, including first place for his breaking news coverage of the arrest of Alexandria's police chief for DUI. Pope also won awards for investigative reporting, election coverage, business and financial writing, education writing, government writing, feature writing and in-depth obituaries.

Photographer Louise Krafft won nine awards, including pictorial photo, picture story/essay, news photo and for her contributions to two special sections, HomeLifeStyle and A-Plus

Education, Learning, Fun.

Reporter Mike DiCicco won four awards, including first place for his coverage of a burglary spree that targeted local South Asians' gold jewelry. DiCicco also won for feature writing and education writing.

Mary Kimm won second place for editorial writing for a group of five editorials about education in Northern Virginia.

The Connection's design team also won awards, two for special sections HomeLifeStyle and A-Plus Education, Learning, Fun.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet also won second place in general makeup, a measure of overall excellence.



Winners

The Connection award winners include Mike DiCicco, Mary Kimm, Louise Krafft, Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue and Michael Lee Pope.

Here is a partial listing of stories, photos, special sections and more that won awards in the Virginia Press Association news contests. For a full listing, see www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, or www.vpa.net.

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue, first place, Education writing, Public School Art Programs, private school facilities and what community college has to offer. Stories written for our A-plus, Education, Learning, Fun section. *Judges' comments:* Good range of sources, including students, in stories, sidebars on transfer data and private school timetables provide good information outside of narrative. Strong story openings focus on individuals. Springfield Connection

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Breaking news writing Police Chief Busted for DUI. *Judges' comments:* "Amazing coverage, lots of voices and comment." Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Feature series or continuing story, Missing Children, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Personal service writing. Three obituaries, an officer, a gentleman and a savior. *Judges' Comments:* Michael offers a new spin on the obituary by offering the reader an in-depth profile of the deceased. He goes to great lengths to provide an accurate portrayal of his subject, including interviewing family far and wide as well as former colleagues. His work amounts to a tremendous reader service. His writing is exemplary, and he uses skillful techniques to share a complete picture of the person. Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Business and financial writing. *Judges' Comments:* "What a joy to find heavy subjects - unemployment

benefits, obligation bonds, stimulus money - explained in such a way that reader understands the issue. Such clarity, background, I was enticed to read it all." Arlington Connection

Louise Krafft, first place, Pictorial photo, May Dance Recital, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Louise Krafft first place Pictorial photo, Arlington Connection

Robbie Hammer, first place, General news photo, Clinton on the campaign trail, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

Mike DiCicco, first place, General news writing, Burglary Spree Targets South Asians' Gold Jewelry *Judges' Comments:* "Well written, with strong narratives in every report. Good balance of sources, and well-rounded examination of a public safety issue." Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Louise Krafft, Jean Card, Michael Lee

Pope, second place, General makeup. *Judges' Comments:* "Elegant typography; clean, consistent pages. Well organized & easy to use." Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, second place, Education writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope second place General news writing, Election 2009. *Judges' Comments:* "This reporter's coverage of an ongoing news event - the pending elections - kept readers well informed of the issues and circumstances that affected them, and the nuances of the various local races. Leads are strong and stories show a depth of reporting. Great job of preparing the community for critical election decisions." Alexandria Gazette

Packet

Michael Lee Pope second place Feature series or continuing story, Quackgate, Mount Vernon Gazette

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue second place In-depth or investigative reporting, local discussion of race and politics. *Judges' Comments:* "Good choice of timely enterprise topic with statistical presentations to show underlying patterns. Story had varied viewpoints and multiple sources for quotes - nice to quote to tie up story at end." Mount Vernon Gazette

Mary Kimm second place Editorial writing, Five editorials about education. *Judges' Comments:* "Crisp writing, well thought through."

Laurence Foong, Louise Krafft, Mary Kimm, Julia O'Donoghue, second place, Specialty pages or sections, A-Plus, Education, Learning, Fun. *Judges' Comments:* "Solid reporting, good writing and a variety of subjects offer readers insights into education issues in their community that any parent would appreciate." McLean Connection

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue, second place, Business and financial writing, Impact of economic downturn and construction on local business. *Judges' Comments:* "Very comprehensive report on what is going on, especially Tyson Corner story. Well written, well organized. I don't live in McLean but this gave me a good overall picture of the business climate."

Mike DiCicco, second place, Feature writing portfolio, *Judges' Comments:* "Wonderful topics of human interest - making them even better are stories well told. The Groveses seemed like old friends by the article's end - and I was sure I could smell the leather in their

shop." Great Falls Connection.

Ken Moore, Bonnie Hobbs second place Public safety writing. Stories of embezzlement, murder, rampage, and more. *Judges' Comments:* "We get a pretty good idea of how the victims of Jeffrey Koger have been impacted by his actions. Their comments give the readers eerie details of what it's like to be shot and survive as well as what difficulties they faced in the aftermath. The Nathan Jones story also reinforces the mental [health] aspects. The wide-eyed Koger mug shot is chilling." Fairfax Connection.

Jason Mackey, second place, Sports writing portfolio *Judges' Comments:* "Any reporter can go to an event and file a story. The good ones have a knack for spotting not-so-obvious stories and developing them. That's what Mackey did with his smartly-reported article on the lengths - literally - families will go to have a child seen by college recruiters. That story was bolstered by a nice feature that tells the story behind a scholarship and an in-depth look at an office manager who, at age 47, still gets in the ring as a regional wrestler." Centre View.

Louise Krafft, second place, Pictorial photo, Arlington connection

Michael Lee Pope, second place, Government writing, Arlington Connection

Michael Lee Pope, third place, Government writing, Perks Pitfalls and Plastic, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, third place, In-depth or investigative reporting, City Misses Potential Threat, *Judges' Comments:* "Clearly written story

SEE AWARD WINNERS, PAGE 9

THE CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Newspaper of Reston

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60 Years for Multiple Shootings

MS-13 member sentenced for role in gang-related violence.

Antonio Neftali Urrutia-Barrera, 20, of Reston, was sentenced to 720 months in prison, followed by a five-year term of supervised release, for his use of a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence. Barrera had previously pled guilty on Jan. 5.

According to court documents, Antonio Urrutia Barrera, a.k.a. ADuende@ was a full member of the transnational Hispanic street gang Mara Salvatrucha Thirteen (AMS-13@), and as a member of MS-13, the defendant abided by certain gang rules that included attacking rival gang members and supporting or backing up fellow gang members. During his active membership with MS-13, the defendant engaged in multiple acts of violence on behalf of the gang. First, on Sept. 17, 2008, in Loudoun County, the defendant, while riding as a passenger in a vehicle with another MS-13 member, observed what he perceived to be rival gang members on the side of a suburban street. The defendant brandished a revolver and

fired multiple shots out of the vehicle at the group of individuals. The defendant wounded three individuals, one of whom now remains paralyzed from the waist down.

On Oct. 6, 2008, the defendant was present at a second, violent MS-13 attack that took place in Reston. In this instance, the defendant, along with fellow MS-13 members Jose Aguilar Orantes and Dennis L. Gil Bernardez, approached two rival gang members in a suburban park during the middle of the day. The defendant and his two fellow gang members approached the two rivals and a third, unaffiliated bystander, at which point Dennis Bernardez began to shoot at the two rival gang members and finally at the third individual. Two of the victims, including the unaffiliated bystander, were critically injured and transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital's trauma center, each suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. Both critically injured victims suffered permanent injuries.

In July 2009, Bernardez and Aguilar were tried and convicted by the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia for their roles in the Oct. 6, 2008, triple shooting. Bernardez was sentenced to 80 years in prison, while Aguilar received 55 years.

ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING | 10



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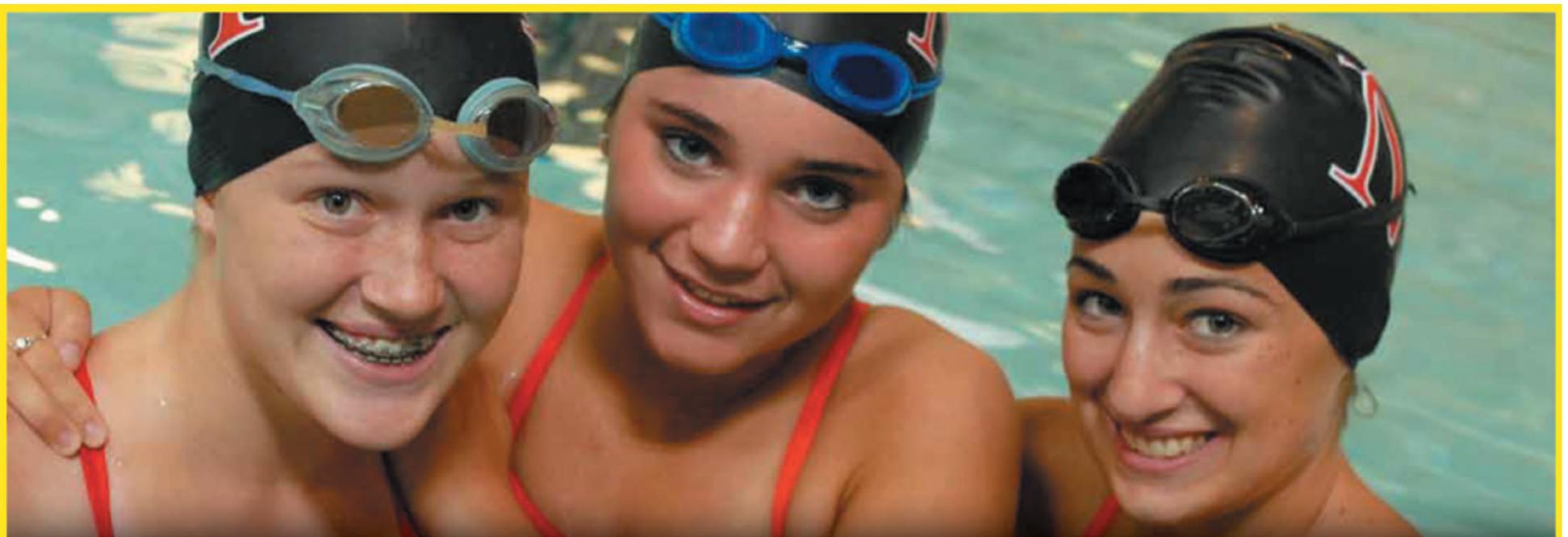
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Reston To Celebrate Founder's Day

Reston Historic Trust (RHT), with support from Reston Community Center, presents the seventh annual Reston Founder's Day, Saturday, April 10, at Lake Anne Village Center. Founder's Day begins with an illustrated presentation by urban planner, educator, and author, Alex Garvin from 12 noon until approximately 2 p.m. Garvin will focus on Lake Anne developments and James Rossant, who died last December. Rossant was the designer of the internationally recognized Lake Anne Village Center, the historical heart of the planned community of Reston, established in 1964. Garvin's presentation will take place at the Jo Ann Rose Gallery at Reston Community Center, Lake Anne, 1609A Washington Plaza. Afterwards, Founder's Day attendees are invited to view the newest commemorative bricks in Reston's "Walk of Fame" on the plaza, then on to Reston Museum

Founder's Day Schedule

Reston Founder's Day, Saturday, April 10, 12-2 p.m., at Lake Anne Village Center in Reston. Alex Garvin is guest speaker, at Reston Community Center, Lake Anne, 1609A Washington Plaza. Following that is a reception and Birthday Cake for Bob Simon, at Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza. For directions, the upcoming events schedule, and more information, visit www.RestonMuseum.org.

for a reception, celebration, and cake in honor of the 96th birthday of Reston founder, Robert E. Simon Jr., born April 10, 1914. Founder's Day activities are free and all are welcome. For information on Reston Founder's Day, contact Reston Museum, 703-709-7700, RestonMuseum@gmail.com, or visit www.restonmuseum.org.



Bob Simon shares his birthday cake with U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) and others attending the Reston founder's 95th birthday celebration in 2009, which also marked the 45th anniversary of Reston. The cake, contributed by Mallow Drama, was made in the shape of the Lake Anne Plaza.

PHOTO BY MIKE MCKEE

SCHOOL NOTES

Participants in the Hub Theatre's spring break camp, March 29-April 3, for ages 7-12, will rehearse "A Thousand Cranes," by youth theatre author Katherine Schultz Miller, and perform with the cast of professional actors. 703-674-3177 for more information.

The following Reston residents have been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Virginia Tech at Blacksburg: **Christopher H. Cummins, Omar G. Dary, Erik P. Lund, Jennifer L. Ravinskis, Ezana G. Zewdie, Timothy J. Boyle, Christopher B. Cox, Dana A. De Filippi, Aleksander V. Drozdetski, Joshua R. Eager, Sarah L. Francis, Scott E. Fundling, Matthew L. Green, Tara M. Kharrazian, Jessica E. Leonard, Naomi A. McCrea, Vanessa J. Oakes, James M. Parnham, David J. Pina, Eric J. Richards, Corey A. Robinson, Rachel N. Russell and Nachamai M. Singaram.**

The following Reston residents have been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Virginia Tech at Blacksburg: **Havens A. Smith, Nora B. Tayiel, Joshua A. Albert, Jeffrey S. Bentley, Kevin A. Chauvin, Carly P. Erickson, Anna A. Findley, Marliese A. Gowin, Brandon W. Grubic, Benjamin H. Jackson, Jessica R. Luehrs, Benjamin S. Miller, Courtney A. Pence, Trevor L. Richards, Ryan A. Scimeca, David L. Selnick, Daniel P. Shanahan, Grace E. Shin, Jennifer N. Sibio, Kelly A. Simoncic, Sarah C. Skrocki, Lawrence A. Stern and Megan D. Whitham.**

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OPINION

Award Winners

FROM PAGE 8
 about a problem many readers would not be familiar with." Alexandria Gazette Packet

Louise Krafft, third place, Picture story or essay, Halloween, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Louise Krafft, third place, General news photo, Mount Vernon Estate celebrates 4th of July

Gerald Fill, third place, Public safety writing. Judges' Comments: "Good thorough coverage. Interesting

material with details that inform readers of all aspects." Mount Vernon Gazette

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue third place, Business and financial writing. Judges' Comments: "Interesting and well-written stories on often forgotten niche businesses. Especially liked the story on the private school situation. Liked the sidebar on how to help non-profits." Laurel Hill/Fairfax Station Connection

Louise Krafft, third place, Picture story or essay, HomeLifeStyle,

Garden tour of Domaine St Charles, Great Falls Connection.

Louise Krafft, Laurence Foong, Mary Kimm, Julia O'Donoghue, Donna Manz, Mike

DiCicco, third place, Specialty pages or sections, HomeLifeStyle. Judges' Comments: "Attractive and appealing home section. Nicely written and presented." Great Falls Connection

Mike DiCicco, third place, Education writing. Judges' Comments: "Slice-of-life stories about Japanese immersion and case day show what schools are doing. Quotes move stories along nicely." Great Falls Connection



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Clearview sixth-graders Meghan Graney and Diego Flores Salazar work on art projects incorporating the number pi.



From left, Marlon Acuna, Kelsey Patelunas, Brian Chuang, Austen Greene, Kiana Venson, Matthew Kim and Cassidy Thompson display the paper chain they made for Pi Day.

Clearview Celebrates with Pi

Sixth-graders hold annual Pi Day.

Clearview Elementary School sixth-graders celebrated their annual Pi Day on Friday, March 13, with a variety of activities using the number pi. Activities included making a paper chain as a visual representation of pi, a competition to draw the most perfect circle freehand,

finding the area of a pizza, graphing the relationship between circumference and diameter, calculating pi, using the software program "Geometer's Sketchpad" to explore pi concepts, a competition to see who could memorize the most digits in the number pi, and, of course, eating pi.



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Rebeca Muniz works on Pi Day art.



Photo Contributed

Patrick Hammes will represent Clearview Elementary in the State Geography Bee.

Patrick Hammes Advances to States

Clearview sixth-grader will compete in State Geography Bee.

Clearview sixth-grader Patrick Hammes has qualified to compete for the state level of the National Geography Bee. Patrick will represent Clearview at

Shenandoah University in Winchester on April 9 against students from all over Virginia for a chance to advance to the national level of the Geography Bee.

Broadway Tunes at Herndon High

Herndon Broadway Cabaret 2010 presents 'We Start Today' on Thursday, March 25, and Friday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the Herndon High School auditorium. This evening of Broadway show tunes is directed by Dana and Jim VanSlyke. The show was originally scheduled for Jan. 30 but was cancelled due to the blizzard. Tickets are \$10; 65 and older, 11 and younger \$5.



Photo by Melanie Miller-Cviliikas



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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/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.

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. Mature themes and brief male nudity. Patrons in the front row may be splashed with water during the show; towels provided. \$19, \$16 seniors and students. Reserve at 703-481-5930. www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 27

Squirreling Around on a Spring Day. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. In the early 1800s the Lee's had a pet white squirrel. Children can find squirrels through the house, and make a white squirrel to take home. Reservations required. \$5. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully.

Fairfax County Park Authority Watershed Cleanup. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Pick up everything from plastic bottles and bags to discarded mattresses, rusting auto parts, old appliances, rubber tires and other debris illegally dumped in local waterways. Participants are encouraged to wear boots and old clothes. Bring gloves. Trash bags will be provided. Contact www.fergusonfoundation.org/ or call the parks directly.

***Frying Pan Farm Park,** 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. 703-437-9101.

***Riverbend Park and Nature Center,** 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. 703-759-9018.

***Sully Historic Site,** 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. 703-437-1794.

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. 8 p.m. at Reston Community Center CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets \$18-\$21. 703-476-4500.

Weed Warriors Project. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Bright Pond. Help eradicate aggressive vines. Contact Ha Brock, 703-435-7986 or 703-999-1219.

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. Mature themes and brief male nudity. Patrons in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELDEN STREET PLAYERS

Katharine Schellman and Laura Fontaine in The Elden Street Players' 'Metamorphoses,' Friday and Saturday, March 26-27, 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 28, at 3 p.m. the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon.

front row may be splashed with water during the show; towels provided. \$19, \$16 seniors and students. Reserve at 703-481-5930. www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

The Best of Broadway Show. 7:30 p.m. at the Café Montmartre, 1625 Washington Plaza North, Lake Anne, Reston. Live vocals and entertainment, music from the 1930s-1980s. Dancing to Latin, ballroom, swing, disco. No cover charge. 703-904-8080.

SUNDAY/MARCH 28

Reston Community Orchestra Concert. 4 p.m. at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, Reston. Pianist Carol Ann Barry and clarinetist Arnold Saslowsky and music by Chopin, Rubenstein, Debussy and more. Free, donations accepted. www.restoncommunityorchestra.org.

The Elden Street Players in 'Metamorphoses.' 3 p.m. at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. A modern adaptation of Ovid's Roman mythological stories. Mature themes and brief male nudity. Patrons in the front row may be splashed with water during the show; towels provided. \$19, \$16 seniors and students. Reserve at 703-481-5930. www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

MONDAY/MARCH 29

Auditions for Wit, at The Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Play runs June 4-26. 703-481-5930.

Scout Day. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Outdoor stations will fill the grounds as Scouts earn badges or achieve electives for Tiger, Bear, Wolf and Boy Scouts, Daisies, Brownies, Juniors and Cadets. Reservations required. \$15, Sully patch available for \$4. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully.

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

Kids' Science. 3 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Explore scientific topics through activities. Age 5-7. 703-689-2700.

TUESDAY/MARCH 30

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

Inti-Illimani with Francesca Gagnon. 8 p.m. At Wolf Trap

Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Chilean folk music masters on wind, string, and percussion instruments. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 31

American Life History Camp. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Discover the different lifestyles of the Lee family and the enslaved African Americans. Explore how textiles were woven and dyed. Cook in the 18th century kitchen and slave quarter. Bring a bag lunch. Lemonade and dessert provided. Ages 7-12. \$25 per day or \$70 for three days through Friday, April 2. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully.

No Fooling. 6:45 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Silly stories for April Fool's Day. All ages. 703-689-2700.

Magic and Clown Stage Show. 10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Magictainment, with magical illusions and a clown show. \$4 per person. Pre-paid reservations recommended. Also visit the farm animals, take a wagon ride or shop at the Country Store. 703-437-9101 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/fpp.

THURSDAY/APRIL 1

Open Mic for Bands Night. 9 p.m. at Jimmy's Tavern, 697 Spring St., Old Town Herndon (on the Corner of Elden and Spring Streets). Bands will receive 30 minutes to play, and must pre-sign with Andre' Love at soulcraftmusic@yahoo.com or 703-984-9114. Walk-ins will only be accepted if time permits. All types of music welcomed. 703-435-5467.

The Holmes Brothers. 8 p.m. At Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Roots, R&B, gospel and country influenced music. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 2

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. Mature themes and brief male nudity. Patrons in the front row may be splashed with water during the show; towels provided.. \$19, \$16 seniors and students. Reserve at 703-481-5930. www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Christine Lavin. 8 p.m. At Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk artist. \$20. www.wolftrap.org.

FAITH

Let Freedom Ring!

BY RABBI LEIBEL FAJNLAND
CHABAD OF RESTON-HERNDON

So it's Passover again (March 29-April 6). Another Seder night where we meet up with distant relatives we almost forgot about, to tell a story that we aren't allowed to forget about. Is it really necessary more than 3,000 years on to still commemorate our ancestors' freedom from slavery in Egypt? Can't we move on to more pressing and contemporary issues?

MEANING OF PASSOVER

The truth is that the Seder is not just a memorial to events of the distant past, it is a dynamic process of freedom from the challenges of the present.

We are slaves. Slaves to our own inhibitions, fears, habits, cynicism and prejudices. These self-appointed pharaohs are layers of ego that prevent us from expressing our true inner self, from reaching our spiritual potential. Our souls are incarcerated in selfishness, laziness and indifference.

Pesach means "Passover." It is the season of liberation, when we pass over all these obstacles to in-



Rabbi Leibel Fajnland

ner freedom. On Pesach, we give our souls a chance to be expressed.

Reread the Haggada. Every time it says "Egypt" read "limitations." Replace the word "Pharaoh" with "Ego." And read it in the present tense:

"We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt" =

"We are slaves to our egos, stuck in our limitations."

How do we free ourselves? By eating Matza. After eating Matza, the Israelites were able to run out of Egypt and follow G-d into the

First Seder Night

First Seder Night, Monday, March 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the Chabad Aleph Center 718 Lynn St., Herndon. Couvert: \$36 per person; \$18 children 4-12. \$180 Evening Sponsorship.

For more information call 703-476-1829 e-mail rabbi@chabadrh.org. or visit www.chabadrh.org.

desert. Because Matza represents the suspension of ego. Unlike bread, which has body and taste, Matza is flat and tasteless - the bread of surrender.

Usually, we are scared to suspend our egos, because we think that we will lose ourselves. On Pesach, we eat the Matza, we suspend our egos and find ourselves — our true selves.

That soul is the innocent child within us waiting to be free. This Pesach, let's allow that child to sing:

Ma Nishtana Halayla Hazeh ... Why is this night different!

This year, join friends and family at the Chabad Community Pass-

over Seder. Relive the exodus, discover the eternal meaning of the Haggadah, and enjoy a community Seder complete with hand-baked Matzah, Wine, and a wonderful dinner spiced with songs and insights.

Contact 703-430-7872 or www.dranesvillebrethren.org.

Washington Plaza Baptist Church, 1615 Washington Plaza in Reston, invites the community to Lenten services. www.WashingtonPlazaChurch.com or 703-471-5225

♦**Maundy Thursday**, 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 1. Experience Christ's last sorrowful night through narration and music.

♦**Good Friday**, 12 p.m. on Friday, April 2. The story of Christ's last hours through scripture and prayer.

♦**Easter Sunday**, 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 4. When the desert in the sanctuary blooms and we celebrate the resurrection of Christ Jesus.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St. in Herndon, welcomes all to Holy Week and Easter services. 703-437-3790 or website at www.saint-timothys.org.

♦**Palm Sunday**. Services at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. March 28. All services will begin in the Parish Hall, where palm branches will be blessed. All three services include a dramatic reading of the Passion Gospel.

♦**Weekly Healing and Holy Eucharist**. 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31.

♦**Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist**. 7:30 p.m. April 1.

♦**Good Friday**, April 2. Stations of the Cross service at 12:15 p.m. and a Passion Gospel and solemn prayer service at 7:30 p.m.

♦**Easter Sunday**, April 4. Resurrection/Easter Holy Eucharist services at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

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 how Jesus fulfills Old Testament prophecy. Other church events include:

♦**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.

♦**Easter Sunday**. Sunday, April 4. Breakfast at 9 a.m., Sunday school at 9 a.m. and Easter Service at 9:45 a.m.

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11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

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No to the Budget

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



Thanks to the Democratic state senators including Sen. Janet Howell (D-32) for making an almost intolerable budget more acceptable. The draconian reductions to the Fairfax County Schools' budget to deny the county funding it was due under an updated funding formula proposed by Gov. Kaine (D) and to cut the cost to compete monies the county receives because of the high cost of living in the region as proposed by the House Appropriations Committee were eliminated. The county will realize a much smaller reduction in its state funding for schools and will not have as great a percentage a reduction as do smaller and poorer school divisions. Also, the senators were able to mend some of the holes that were torn in the safety net of social services by the House budget by appropriating federal monies that are expected but not yet approved by the U.S. Congress.

I voted no on the budget conference report as I had voted no on the House budget. While the loss of essential services to those most in need continues to concern me, I am also worried about the long-term effects of the budget. Virginia has been known as the best managed state in the Union, but this budget could shake that designation. Nearly half of the couple of billion dollars shortfall in state revenue will be made up by delaying payments to the state retirement system. While this is a common practice among the states as a way to balance a budget, it has created huge unfunded liabilities in

some states that threaten the economic viability of those state governments. As one of the wealthiest states in the nation, Virginia does not need out of a sense of expediency to go there.

Virginia politicians have also tied themselves up in a knot over the subject of taxation. Of course there was not going to be a general tax increase during the recession. But the "t" word has become so politicized that it stands in the way of rational discussion.

Between the people who have signed no-tax pledges to those fearful of political fallout within their own party with a primary election challenge there is no serious review of the revenue side of the budget. Virginia state and local revenue as a percentage of personal income is 46th lowest among the states. The Commonwealth is the 12th largest state with the seventh highest per capita personal income. Its per capita state expenditures are the 35th lowest in the country. There was no willingness to consider many of the fees proposed by the Senate that would have shifted from the state the cost of certain government services to those receiving direct economic benefit from them because of a fear that some consider a fee as being the same as a tax. Nor was there a willingness to revisit the repeal of the inheritance tax that would have affected only a couple of dozen of Virginia's wealthiest families but cost the state hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue.

There was no way that a budget during this recession was going to be a pretty one. The one we passed is not. My vote of no reflects my feeling that as a wealthy state we can and should do better.

Solving Budget Problems

BY JACK KENNY
PAST PRESIDENT, REPUBLICAN CLUB OF
GREATER RESTON



A DIFFERING
POINT OF VIEW

In several recent actions by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, two items were of particular note. The Board of Supervisors authorized the expenditure of about \$580,000 or so to purchase two houses for the Affordable Housing Program. Along with that expenditure, another \$200,000 was authorized for renovating the units which had a reported market value of \$1.3 million. The second item was the authorization of \$38 million in Economic Development Authority bonds to fund a new classroom and administrative building on the George Mason University campus. While the County's exposure is virtually nil (a mere convenient financing vehicle), one may still wonder about the bonding limit of EDA.

However, let us wonder what would happen if we took that \$800,000 or so and loaned \$100,000 to each of eight small businesses. Each of those small businesses might employ two or three more people needed to meet the demand for sales or services. Thus, perhaps 24 people might come off the unemployment rolls. Scale that up with a bond issue of \$38 million from the EDA to loan \$500,000 to each of 76 small businesses. Now we are starting to talk about a serious hit on the unemployment rolls. Where are the Board's priorities?

The Fairfax County projected budget is due for Board action. Toward the end of February 2010, the County Executive released a preview of the budget. Why are

we not surprised that it contained a tax increase! We get to pay an average of about \$50 more in real estate taxes. We get to pay for a re-instituted Vehicle Registration License Fee of \$33. (Recall: that was done away with in 2007.) We also get to pay an increase in the sewer service charge, as well as an increase in School-Aged Child Care fees. Strange as it may seem, the County Executive's recommendation for a nickel (\$1.04 to \$1.09) suddenly grew to \$1.12 per \$100 of assessed value. As one budget wonk put it, the biggest gainer of the tax increase will be county employee benefits.

A week or so ago, the 2010 General Assembly just completed balancing a budget that had a \$4 billion deficit left over from the previous Gov. Tim Kaine (D) — you know, the one pushing ObamaCare. They did it without a tax increase or re-imposing the hated car tax. One local progressive politician described the budget as "ugly." Perhaps he didn't get an increase in retirement benefits. This same politician is fond of describing the Commonwealth as the "Best Managed State in the Union." It escapes this writer how a state can be best managed with a \$4 billion budget shortfall. (Are we missing something?)

The Commonwealth will effectively live with a budget providing the same level of expenditures as the FY 2006 budget. The obvious question is: If the state can live with the level of spending at the 2006 level, why cannot Fairfax County do the same? Make your thoughts known starting on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at the County Government Center. The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 5

In addition, it has come to my attention that there are irregularities with the way the ballots have been distributed this election. Cate Fulkerson has stated that some of the codes were incorrect and extra ballots were sent out to some condominium owner/occupants. How many of these extra ballots were sent out? Ms. Fulkerson says that it will be sorted out by the

next election. I don't think that is reasonable. We need an investigation of the ballot process now.

Because of my concerns, I am asking that the election be halted. I am asking that an investigation of the balloting process be undertaken and the election process begun over from scratch.

Guy L. Rando
Urban Designer and
Landscape Architect

It's Easier to Say No

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to the recent letter from Amy Justice regarding Bob Simon and his endorsement of candidates running for the Reston Association Board of Directors ["Founder's Vision," Reston Connection, March 17-23].

Let me start by saying that Bob Simon and I do not agree on all issues and he did not support me in my two attempts to run for the RA Board. Although I respect Simon's original vision for Reston and believe that his conceptual vision for well placed density was appropriate for its time, I suspect Bob and I may not be in full agreement on how that original vision translates to today's reality. Please remember, however, that neither Justice nor I would live where we do today without Simon's vision and hard work. So I take offense when she denigrates Simon because he has exercised his right to endorse candidates for the Reston Association Board of Directors who are running against her Save Brown's Chapel (from what I'm not quite sure) coalition slate.

Is Mr. Simon a passionate advocate for the redevelopment of the Lake Anne Village Center and the other Reston village centers? Absolutely. Does he favor higher density in the village centers? Absolutely. Does he favor high-density redevelopment of stable residential neighborhoods? Not at all. Is Simon's view best for Reston today and in the future? The community is currently grappling with that question. A discussion, by the way,

in which neither Justice nor her compatriots have chosen to actively participate. I guess it is just easier to say no than to participate in a constructive dialog. Is it any wonder that Simon is supporting three candidates that are involved in these community issues?

I find it extremely ironic that Justice and her colleagues speak so negatively against the developers who made it possible for her to live in Reston. By the way, many of the devil "developers" of Reston did not move on. They live in Reston. Some are neighbors of Justice.

How best to manage the inevitable change that confronts all of us in Reston is indeed a challenge. But it is a challenge best met by open minded folks who are willing to listen to all points of view. I suspect Simon understands that better than most and has made his endorsements accordingly. It seems the coalition co-chaired by Justice just prefers to say no.

Does she not see the hypocrisy in saying that she will fight "for the right for Reston residents to have a say in what happens to our community" but she will only do so if their vision of Reston coincides with her view. I also find it quite bizarre that she would trash Bob Simon when he publicly agreed with her — and most of the RA Board — that a massive indoor recreational facility at Brown's Chapel Park was inappropriate.

Richard Chew
Reston

Running on Record

To the Editor,

I write to support the candidacy of Joe Leighton, at-large candidate for the RA Board. I do so on his record, not campaign rhetoric. Joe is by far the most experienced of all the RA at-large candidates in community governance and has performed admirably in the process for all Restonians.

Joe has been an RA Board member for most of the last decade. He has also served on the Board of the Alliance of Reston Clusters and

Homeowners (ARCH), and he is the 10-year incumbent President of Wethersfield Cluster. All this work has kept him closely in touch with Restonians. He also served on the County's Reston Metrorail Advisory Group (RMAG), experience that will help as Reston considers how to adapt to the arrival of Metrorail and the beginning of high-density, mixed-use development.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 17

REAL ESTATE

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the next week's paper.

P. Wesley Foster, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of The Long & Foster® Companies, announced that Barry S. Redler has been selected to serve as chief marketing officer, a newly created position within the organization. Redler is an experienced marketing leader having worked with both Fortune 10 and privately held corporations. Prior to joining The Long & Foster Companies, he oversaw marketing and sales as a vice president for the Stanley Martin Companies, a privately held regional homebuilder. Redler also worked for The Ford Motor Company for over 20 years in various senior level marketing and sales positions. Redler resides in Northern Virginia with his wife and two children.

Nikki Ryan of Keller Williams Realty in Reston has earned the "Certified Distressed Property Expert" designation, having completed extensive training in foreclosure avoidance and short sales. Realtors with the designation have can offer the homeowner better alternatives to foreclosure, which virtually destroys the credit rating.

Reston Town Center Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage sales associate **Brent DeRobertis** was awarded the 2008 Seniors Real Estate Specialist (SRES) Distinguished Service Award. The SRES Council recognized him for being a driving force for change, and for his efforts to better serve the demands of the senior market. The SRES Designation program trains realtors to profitably and ethically serve the real estate needs of clients age 50-plus.

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Reston District of the Fairfax County Police Department through March 19.

LARCENIES

- 13300 block of Coppermine Road.** Cell phone and jacket stolen from residence.
- 2200 block of Golf Course Drive.** License plate stolen from vehicle.
- 11700 block of Holly View Drive.** License plate stolen from vehicle.
- 13300 block of Jefferson Commons Court.** Temporary license plate stolen from vehicle.
- 1500 block of Kingstream Circle.** Greencard stolen from residence.
- 11900 block of Market St.** Cash stolen from business.
- South Lakes Drive/Cabots Point Lane.** Purse stolen from business.
- 1800 block of Wiehle Ave.** Gasoline stolen from business.

VEHICLE THEFTS

- 11000 block of Becontree Lake Drive.** 1992 Toyota Camry.

Activities reported by the Fair Oaks District of the Fairfax County Police Department through March 19.

BURGLARY

- A 66-year-old woman was startled by a burglar** inside her home on Wednesday, March 10. Around 9:10 p.m. a woman in the 2700 block of Snowberry Court heard a noise inside her home after which she encountered an unknown man. When she verbally challenged him, the suspect fled. There were no injuries. The suspect was described as around 6 feet tall, 160 pounds and wearing black clothing. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

LARCENIES

- 13000 block of Cobble Lane.** Tools stolen from vehicle.
- 12700 block of Fair Crest Court.** CDs, coins, sunglasses and GPS stolen from vehicle.
- 13000 block of Fair Lakes Shopping Center.** iPhone stolen from business.
- 11700 block of Fair Oaks Shopping Center.** Skateboards stolen from business.
- 12000 block of Golf Ridge Court.** 1992 Buick Regal.

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Of Primary Concern



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not that I'm cared for, primarily (or otherwise), but my wife, Dina, has (and will have) the role of my "primary caregiver" when push comes to shove; and pull, hold, lift, etc. Not that such care is required at present (thank God!) but, there is an ongoing and likely scenario where such hands-on (literally) care will be needed. In the interim though, Dina has some additional responsibilities to be sure, and definitely has her own emotions/fears/anxieties concerning my unexpected diagnosis/demise to somehow manage and assimilate into her life and her own life's expectancies. It hasn't been – and it won't be – easy.

One day, your present/future is as you anticipated/expected, meaning you're semi normal; free of disease, disability, death, devastation. The next day, the calendar turns and your present/future is in fact disease, disability, death, devastation. One hundred and eighty degrees in 24 hours, and 13 months to two years instead of the rest of your life (30 years, give or take) is a bit more than the average bear, or spouse in this case, can bear, really.

And bare it lays your emotions. There's no real preparation or training for such circumstances. Although my diagnosis wasn't confirmed over night, it took almost two months of testing and scanning, the fortunate fact that I was basically asymptomatic (and basically still am, save for a few minor inconveniences) likely created a convincing yet false sense of security. Until the biopsy confirmed the cancer, each doctor/each subsequent scan never offered any real confirmation (at least so far as was shared with us at the time) of the seriousness of the working diagnosis. My normal appearance and all my "No" answers to their probing lifestyle/symptom questions (some of which presumably should have elicited a "Yes" answer to indicate something was rotten in my Denmark, didn't: Are you coughing? Are you short of breath? Do you smoke? Have you smoked? Are you experiencing any pain or discomfort? Any cancer in your immediate family; mother, father, siblings?) was somewhat perplexing. Apparently, my negative answers didn't confirm their positive findings. All of which contributed to the Lourie version of shock and awe; when my biopsy ultimately confirmed the malignancy and it was determined that my body/our way of life was definitely being attacked.

Of course, I was/am the target, as it were. But Dina is certainly collateral damage, at a minimum. She wasn't attacked per se, but her way of life certainly was (and has been). In some respects, it's almost been easier being the patient. It's my body, my life, my routine. I know the drill. For the significant other/primary caregiver however, they're sort of on the outside looking in, while being inside unable to look out, if that makes any sense. She knows a lot, but is still dependent, to some degree, on what I tell her (and what the doctor says, what it all means, etc.). And getting a clear and predictable picture of a cancer patient's future, given the nature of the cancer business is almost impossible, yet equally impossible for the patients not to want it/almost demand it.

Unfortunately, I sort of know what's going to happen to me. Dina, on the other hand, doesn't really know what's going to happen to her. It's (she's) dependent on me and my health. It's totally out of her control. All she can do now is wait for the other shoe to drop, so to speak (remember, I'm a salesman by day); and for a woman who loves her husband and her shoes, it's an extremely difficult way to live.

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 14

His experience has shown the depth of his character. He was the first Board member to take a stand against the ill-considered Brown's Chapel recreation center proposal and was indefatigable in opposing it, despite being ostracized by some Board members.

Also facing Board opposition, he voted against going to referendum on the RA headquarters purchase proposal, which would have authorized RA to spend up to \$15 million of our money to buy a huge building — because it was poorly prepared and had little member input.

Joe is also pragmatic and open. In 2007, he endorsed the idea that Restonians ought to be able to have a referendum to decide whether Reston should become a town, even if the result might reduce RA's authority. At the same time, he encouraged RCA leaders to work with the RA Board, Reston Town Center, RCC, and the business community to achieve its goal. That's both an open and pragmatic approach to community leadership.

Joe believes strongly in protecting our natural areas and recreational amenities,

core elements of our quality of life. He opposed the closing of several pools in RA Board discussions and, as we look to greater population density in the future, his position seems even wiser.

Finally, Joe treats RA's fiduciary responsibilities with the utmost seriousness. In 2007, Joe stood alone in voting against a 9 percent RA assessment fee increase because it was an unneeded burden on Restonians. On the other side of the books, last year Joe pushed RA to move its reserves from a near zero-interest account to a safe interest bearing investment earning RA \$150,000 per year, money Restonians won't have to pay in increased assessment fees.

In short, Joe brings a proven record to the Board that it needs as we face an uncertain future. He approaches this work by trying to solve problems, advance opportunities, and deter threats to Reston and its values. His commitment, pragmatism, openness, character, and fiscal prudence have all served Reston well. Please join me in voting for Joe Leighton for RA Board Member At-Large.

Terry Maynard
Reston

Communicating In Community

To the Editor:

For as long as I can remember, we have had candidates proclaiming a need to get citizens involved and the need for communication. Yet nothing concrete in this regard is ever really done.

I have specific recommendations to establish lines of two-way communication in Reston. I think Reston will be a better place for it.

If you send me to the board, you will send the Reston Association a message that you want two-way communication, not just can-

didates talking about communication and that you want to be a true community.

I'm for cutting the waste, two-way communication, allowing more citizen volunteering, lowering the assessment and more citizen control.

Let us all work together to fulfill the vision of Robert E. Simon to make this the best place on the planet to live, work, and play.

Rod Koozmin
Reston

Voice for Common Sense

To the Editor:

A letter to Del. Ken Plum (D-36): I just read your commentary ["A Time of Intolerance," Reston Connection, March 17-23] and truly appreciate your efforts on your recent motion to request a debate and ensure visibility to the House of Delegates regarding one of Gov. McDonnell's (R) regressive first acts in office, refusing to continue an Executive Order from his predecessor that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation. The new State Attorney General's recent advice to all colleges and universities that "they must remove any statements of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation from their student handbooks and other materials" is truly deplorable. How do these back-door actions represent or square with their other professed values and hypocritical campaign statements?

I take their actions as a personal affront to my friends and family's grassroots efforts and especially the collective efforts of their duly

elected predecessors, which now further promotes a climate of hate and discrimination that I thought Virginia had finally emerged from.

Your personal courage and convictions are highly commendable in bringing their actions into the sun-light of elected and public opinion, which needs to hold them accountable.

Thanks again for representing us in Reston and Virginia (and providing a warning call regarding Gov. McDonnell's record on civil rights) as one of our best elected public servants — especially in these highly charged times — which is proving to bring out the best and worst in public office holders. You are one of the best. You have my vote.

Please keep up your important work as our elected "voice" for civil rights, common sense and a better future in this evolving state. Virginia needs to make Gov. McDonnell a one-term governor to escape the hateful discriminatory past he is embracing.

Robert Cox
Reston

Fresh Perspective

To the Editor:

I am voting for Mike Collins to represent the North Point District on the RA Board. I urge you to do the same.

As a 38-year resident of Reston, who raised two daughters here and worked for many years in our town, I am excited to

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 19

Lots of Starters Back In Seahawks' Baseball Line-up

South Lakes confident it can improve on 2009's two-win season.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

A veteran South Lakes High baseball team is looking to break into the win column this spring with much more frequency than a year ago when a greener, younger Seahawks' line-up experienced just two victories.

"We have a lot of returning experience here," said Galvin Morris, the South Lakes head coach. "We just have to go out and play well."

South Lakes was scheduled to begin its new season this week with Liberty District games versus Langley on Tuesday, March 23 and Stone Bridge on Thursday, March 25. The opener against the Saxons was tabbed to be a road game, while the meeting versus Stone Bridge on Thursday will take place at home.

South Lakes' roster is filled with numerous non-seniors. Even so, many of the team's underclassmen received vital playing time last year and thus are experienced varsity players. One of the club's best players is junior Will Sweet, a third year varsity player who will play the hot corner position at third base and also be one of the team's

top pitchers.

"He won't overpower you [on the mound] but he gets a lot of groundballs," said Morris, of Sweet's ability to get opposing batters out on the mound.

At the plate, Sweet will likely hit in the No. 5 or 6 positions in the batting order.

"He uses the whole field," said Morris. "He's not a power hitter but he makes good adjustments at the plate."

Playing shortstop for the Seahawks will be sophomore Nick Beaulac, the returning starter at the critical infield position. As a

third year starter.

"He plays hard and he has a lot of confidence," said Morris, of Corps-Ortiz. "He's gotten better each and every year."

Seeing action at the catcher position will be both sophomore Austin Scheppe, who started behind the plate most of last year as a freshmen, and junior Taylor Gose, the team's JV catcher last year.

Other key members of South Lakes' line-up this spring will include sophomore utility player/pitcher Billy McLaughlin, who can play the infield corner positions at first and third bases, as well as being a solid outfielder; junior right handed pitcher John Beck, who will also see some time at third base; and senior relief pitcher Jordan Hataway, who will see time at shortstop.

In all, Morris' squad has seven returning starters back in the line-up.

"I think we'll be pretty good defensively and our pitching is pretty solid," said Morris. "Our bench should be much improved."

Next Sunday, South Lakes will travel to Bluffton, S.C., just outside of Hilton Head, to take part in the eight-team Batter Up Tournament. The Seahawks will compete in games throughout the week before returning home that following weekend.

Morris said South Lakes, despite having limited success last year, has the potential to be a pretty good team.

"They showed flashes last year," said the coach. "They know they can win. It's a matter of getting it done. They've worked hard up to this point."

"We have a lot of returning experience here. ... We just have to go out and play well."

— Galvin Morris, South Lakes head coach

ninth grader last year, he handled the duties at shortstop in fine fashion. Beaulac will be one of the team's top starting pitchers as well.

"Last year was a good experience for him playing shortstop at the [high school] level," said Morris. "He's just a pure baseball player. He's improved tremendously and gotten bigger and stronger. He handles the bat pretty well. He can bunt and hit behind the runners."

As a pitcher, Beaulac complements a good fastball with solid curve ball and changeup pitches.

SOUTH LAKES' No. 3 batter in the line-up will be junior Wilfredo Corps-Ortiz, a center fielder and



PHOTO COURTESY OF HERNDON OPTIMIST

The Spurs won the Herndon Optimist third-fourth grade boys' basketball championship game against the Bullets 22 to 17. The Spurs, who reached the league finals with a dramatic, five-overtime semi-finals victory, finished 6-2 for the season. Pictured, from left, are Chris Logan, Julian Bryant, William Zhang, Aidan Robinson, Justin Blevins, Steve Schoenefeldt, Ian Guevara and coach Richard Burger.

The pre-season Northern Region baseball rankings, as voted on by the coaches, are as follows: 1. McLean; 2. Lake Braddock; 3. West Springfield; 4. Westfield; 5. Centreville; 6. Robinson; 7. Madison; 8. Stone Bridge; 9. Woodson; 10. T.C. Williams and South County (tied). Others teams receiving votes: Oakton, Marshall, Chantilly, Yorktown and Washington-Lee.

In Liberty District girls' lacrosse action in Vienna on Thursday, March 18, host Madison edged Langley, 12-11. This week, Langley was scheduled to play road games at Marshall on Monday, March 22, and West Springfield, on Wednesday, March 24. The Warhawks do not play again until Wednesday, April 7 when they travel to Mount Vernon.

The Cardinal Girls Lacrosse league offers a year round program for girls from the fifth through eighth grades. Northern Virginia girls from areas including Centreville, Chantilly and Leesburg, are encouraged to try out. The or-

ganization will likely fill two teams per age group. Cardinals Girls Lacrosse, in its fourth year, is a non-profit, travel lacrosse organization. All the league money goes to uniforms, coaches and fields. The senior coach is the women's coach at Georgetown University, while the junior coaches are players or alumni from Catholic University, James Madison University, Virginia Tech or the University of Virginia. Practices are at Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Vienna. The league Web site is: www.cardinalgirlslacrosseclub.com.

NoVa West Lacrosse is currently registering youngsters for its summer select teams which include U11, U13, U15 and three levels of high school play. For more information about the teams, visit novawestlax.com/Team/index.asp.

To register for a tryout visit novawestlax.com/register. NoVa West is also accepting team registrations for the fourth annual NoVa West Shootout at novawestlax.com/novacup.

Herndon High NJROTC Fifth Overall in Virginia Beach

The HHS NJROTC varsity team ended the season with a fifth place overall finish in the All-Area Five Drill, Academic and Athletic meet in Virginia Beach, on March 11 and 12. The top two teams from the All-Area Five competition will continue to the NJROTC National competition. Herndon placed first in team pushups and in the 16x100, second place in the 8x200, and third place in curlups. Herndon was first in overall in athletics, fifth in academics, sixth in drill, and eighth in inspection. Cadet Lowry earned a first place overall in female pushups and Cadet Pinillos earned the top Herndon academic team score.



Oakcrest School Girls' Basketball Reaches Finals at AU

The Oakcrest School (McLean) varsity girls' basketball team, on Saturday, Feb. 20, met Covenant Life School in the Potomac Valley Athletic Conference (PVAC) tournament finals. The title game, which was won by Covenant Life, 49-46, took place in the Bender Arena at American University.

Oakcrest trailed by 28-20 at halftime before storming back in the second half and getting within one point. But in the end, Covenant Life held on for the hard-fought victory.

Oakcrest senior co-captain Eileen Kuzma led all scorers with 21 points,

five steals, and four rebounds. Senior teammate and co-captain Therese Franco also had a great game with 11 points, six rebounds, four steals, and two assists.

Also for Oakcrest, juniors Alessandra Christiani and Elise McNall were big contributors with five points each and Elise grabbed 10 rebounds. Senior Tori Jensen had four points and eight rebounds.

Oakcrest finished first place in the South Division regular season standings with a record of 14-2. Overall, the team was 15-6.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 17

vote for a person who has such a fresh perspective on our community. Mike Collins is an attorney with experience in local government, small businesses and homeowners' associations. I have been impressed by his interest in Reston, and I am confident he will continue our community's traditions of outreach and innovation.

I also know Mike Collins to be a person with superb judgment since he married Sarah Bailey, a close friend of my daughter's since they were in 9th grade together at Herndon High School nearly 25 years ago.

For those of us who have enjoyed Reston for a long time — living, working and playing here — it is deeply satisfying to see a new crop of capable, conscientious and energetic people like Mike Collins step up to be involved.

Please take the time to vote and when you do, I hope you will cast your vote for Mike Collins.

Claudia Smith
Reston

A Wealth of Experience

To the Editor:

The residents of Reston understand that big changes are com-

ing to our community. The arrival of Metrorail and the complex issues associated with ensuring the vibrancy of an aging community (both demographics and community infrastructure) will be important challenges that the next Reston Association Board of Directors will need to face. To many in our community, these changes seem very scary and threaten our way of life.

As a 39-year resident of Reston, I am proud of the fact that Reston has always managed to adapt to change without sacrificing the value we continue to place on community, diversity, the environment, our natural resources and our recreational facilities. Now more than ever we need to take care that we have the right individuals in place to ensure that we face the changes that are coming with wisdom, deliberation, and an enduring respect for protecting the values that make Reston a great place to live, work and play.

David Robinson is one of the candidates running for the at-large position on the Reston Association Board of Directors. David is currently the co-chair of the Reston Association Parks and Planning Advisory Committee. As a member of this committee myself, and as a former president of Reston Little League and long time community volunteer, I can vouch for the fact

that David is committed to preserving our community's open spaces and maintaining and improving our recreational facilities. David possess a balanced perspective toward managing short-term needs against the need to make sound financial decisions, while being true to our core community values and long range goals.

In addition to values and commitment, David will bring a wealth of community and professional experience to the Reston Association Board. In addition to managing a successful professional career as corporate liaison for strategic and technical solutions, David has served as a board member of the Devonshire Cluster Association, as a Board Member for the industry-leading Postal Commerce Association, and currently coordinates corporate sponsorships for the Washington Mystics Literacy Partnership. This combination of public and private sector experience vests David with the type of problem-solving, negotiation, facilitation, and communication skills needed to guide Reston through the change and challenges ahead.

I hope that you will join me in supporting David Robinson for Reston Association Board of Directors at large seat.

Jeffrey Thomas
Reston

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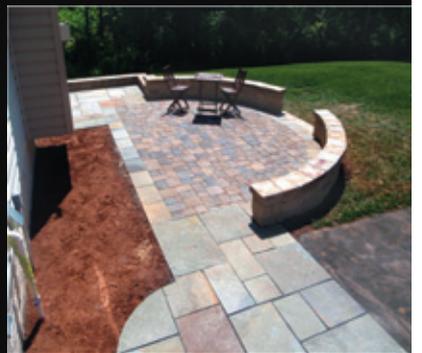
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