

Oak Hill ♦ Herndon CONNECTION

Madie McCormack, 15, and Abby Miller, 12, play outside of Union Station to raise money for Taylor Love. On Sunday, April 11, 75 local musicians participate in a benefit concert at Ned Devine's of Herndon, 2-10 p.m.

Love Notes
for Taylor

Concert For Life

NEWS, PAGE 8

100% of proceeds go
Taylor Love & her
family as they fight
neuroblastoma.



Commission Recommends Downtown Plan

NEWS, PAGE 3

Housing Market Looking Up

REAL ESTATE, PAGE 11

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13

PHOTO BY MIKE GILLETTE

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Commission Recommends Downtown Plan

By 'sharing vision' town hopes to encourage redevelopment.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

As a new resident of Herndon, Gary Miller told the town Planning Commission he wanted to show his support for the master plans that had been drafted for the downtown area. Miller said he had decided to buy his house last summer based in part on the town's sense of community, as well as its pedestrian-friendly environment. "And that's one thing I see emphasized in the plan and I'm very pleased to see that," he said. As for the choice between two plans of different densities, Miller said, "The differences in the options don't seem terribly significant."

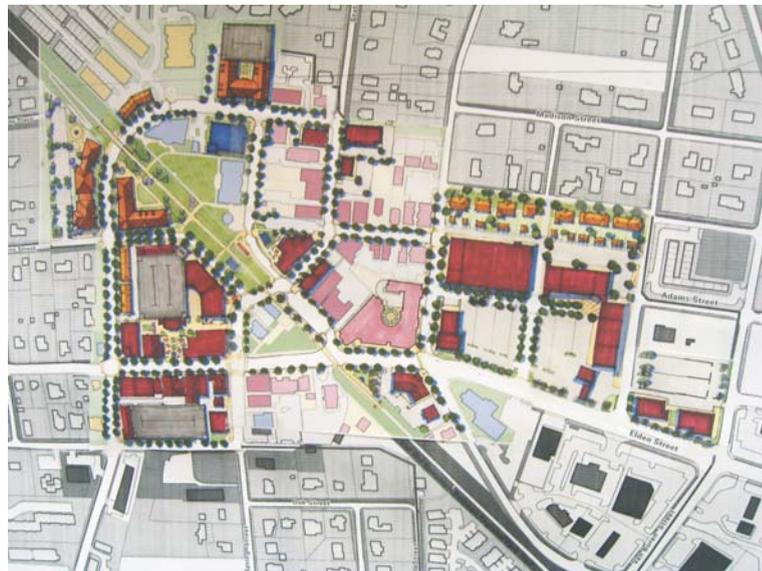
Following a brief public hearing on the master plan on Monday, April 5, the commission voted unanimously to recommend the denser option, with a few changes.

"We've all been here a long time and we've been listening to plans for the downtown for a long time," Commissioner Kevin East said, as he moved to recommend the plan, which he said would capitalize on the opportunity presented by the arrival of Metrorail to the town. "To have a downtown plan that capitalizes on that economic engine is something that is timely, something that is necessary and something that I think we desperately need."

IN AUGUST, the Town Council hired the architecture and planning firm Urban Design Associates, as well as a number of other consultants, to solicit input from the public and come up with a detailed plan for about 10 blocks at the heart of Herndon's downtown area. Urban Design drew up two plans of different densities, and the Downtown Master Plan Steering Committee, also appointed by the Town Council, recommended the denser plan in January. This was also the plan that staff recommended.

However, the density for the overall project is to be about half what would be the maximum allowed under the area's current Planned Development-Downtown zoning.

Urban Design showed the public plans and drawings of its proposed redevelopment in November, and the response was generally positive. "We have to look at a way of writing the regulatory document so that



On Monday, the town Planning Commission recommended that this, the denser of two proposed downtown master plans, become official.

in the future, what people saw during those presentations is, in fact, what ends up being built," Community Development Director Lisa Gilleran said after the meeting. To that end, she had proposed that a combination of traditional and form-based code be used.

This would dictate specific heights and shapes of buildings and would also encourage certain uses, such as retail and restaurant on the ground floor and office or residential space above, Gilleran told the commission. She said the architecture would be left largely up to the Heritage Preservation Review Board. She said she would also ask Urban Design about creating a few templates to serve as guidance.

Gilleran also said developers should be able to build to the plan by right, meaning there would be public hearings for site plans but no rezoning applications, simplifying the redevelopment process. This would require public improvements to be written into the master plan, as they could not be acquired through proffers.

A major reason for creating the plan was to entice developers to redevelop the downtown by letting them know what the town wanted and decreasing the risk involved in attempting a project.

Although several efforts at downtown redevelopment have been made, Commissioner Robert Burk said the town had never fully shared its vision with developers. "Now we're sharing the vision, and if you'd like to build it, please come," he said.

Commissioner George Burke said he would not have voted for the denser option two or three years ago, as it could be seen as more aggressive and more likely to change the character of Herndon's downtown. However, he said, that was before the real estate crash had diminished the town's tax base and

"Now we're sharing the vision, and if you'd like to build it, please come."

— Robert Burk, planning commissioner

SEE DOWNTOWN, PAGE 7



Accompanied by FISH President Marcia Di Trapani, Herndon Mayor Steve DeBenedittis presents a resolution from the Herndon Town Council recognizing 40 years of community service by Herndon-Reston FISH at last year's FISH Fling.

FISH Fling Returns

Residents invited to Herndon-Reston charity's largest fund raiser this Saturday.

Herndon-Reston FISH will conduct its fifth annual FISH Fling Saturday, April 10 at the Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Hotel. The event includes a sit-down dinner with wine, silent and live auctions, dancing, and games. It is the charity's largest fund raiser.

"It's one of the major sources for fund raising for us, so we look forward to doing it every year," said FISH President Marcia DiTrapani.

FISH (Friendly, Instant, Sympathetic Help) serves the needy in the Reston and Herndon areas, providing emergency assistance with rent, utility bills and medication. The organization also runs a holiday basket program and a financial workshop, operates the Bargain Loft in Herndon and transports senior citizens and others in need to medical appointments.

Last year, as the organization celebrated its 40th anniversary,

Join the Fling

The FISH Fling takes place Saturday, April 10, from 6-11 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Hotel, 2200 Centreville Road, Herndon. Tickets cost \$75. For ticket availability, call 703-437-0600.

the event sold out at more than 200 guests and netted about \$43,000. DiTrapani said she hoped to match that amount on Saturday. "The community has been really supportive of the event," she said, adding that attendance and participation in the auctions had been consistently heavy.

The biggest sponsor for this year's fling is Volkswagen Group of America, which moved its headquarters to Herndon in 2008. Other major donors are Dominion Power and Patricia and Allen Lenz, and more than three-dozen other local sponsors are supporting the event.

— MIKE DICICCO

Woman Charged With Setting a Fire

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department fire investigators charged a 31-year-old woman from Herndon with setting a fire on Tuesday, March 29.

She was charged with burning or destroying personal property (Virginia Code 18.2-77), burn in any manner or damage any place of assembly, building, or other structure (Virginia Code 18.2-83).

The charges stem from a fire on March 29, at 1247 Elden St., an apartment complex in the Herndon area of Fairfax County. She set fire to a floor mat that caused minor damage to an apartment door. There were no injuries.

Damage is estimated at \$200.

Town-wide Spring Clean-up Announced

Annual spring clean-up throughout the town, an opportunity for residents to place large or bulky items curbside for pick-up: appliances (remove doors), furniture, vehicle parts and plumbing fixtures (all under 50 pounds), tires (maximum two per household), limited amount of building materials (approximately one cubic yard, lengths not to exceed 4 feet).

Yard waste, auto parts in excess of 50 pounds, large quantities of building materials and household hazardous waste will not be picked up.

Weeks of April 12-16 and April 19-23. Items should be placed curbside on trash day only. Contact Department of Public Works, Public.works@herndon-va.gov, 703-435-6853.

Senior Senior Prom Returns May 1

The Rotary clubs of Herndon and Reston will once again present the Senior Senior Prom. The event will take place on Saturday, May 1, from 2-4:30 p.m., at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 750 Peachtree St., Herndon, located near the Herndon Community Center. Dance music and entertainment will be provided by the Loudoun Jazz Ensemble and The 8-Week Wonders Swing Dancers.

All residents of the Dulles area — Herndon, Reston and adjacent communities — age 50 or older are invited to attend, free of charge. Prom/formal attire or beach/Hawaiian attire, as an alternative is requested. All ladies and gentlemen who attend the event receive a corsage or a boutonniere, as well as a souvenir card with their prom picture.

At the close of the event, awards and crowns are given for Prom King and Queen, Best Dressed, Best Dancer, and the winners of other distinctive honors. Many familiar with the event will remember that several years ago the Prom King honor was conferred upon a 101-year-old gentleman who distinguished himself by dancing to every number the band played.

To reserve seats and a spot on the dance floor, call Chris Moore at 703-437-5886.

Centennial Golf Course Receives Family Course Grant

The Herndon Centennial Golf Course has been named as a recipient of the 2010 Family Course Grant, jointly awarded by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the Professional Golf Association (PGA).

The grant program is designed to engage young people and their families in the sport of golf.

Consistently recognized as one of Golf Digest's "Places to Play" and listed among the "Best Courses for Women" by Pros n'Hackers Magazine, Herndon Centennial Golf Course features 18 holes, a driving range, practice green and award winning deli and offers golf instruction by PGA professionals.

For more information, visit the town's Web site at www.herndon-va.gov.

NEWS

Frattali Named Principal of the Year

Carson Middle principal honored for educational leadership.

August Frattali, who has served as principal at Carson Middle School since 2003 and has been a Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) employee for 24 years, has been named the FCPS 2010 Principal of the Year and is the recipient of the Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award. Frattali is one of 21 principals representing the public school systems in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area and private schools—selected by the Washington Post for the award.

FRATTALI, known as Augie, was an assistant principal in 1998 when Carson first opened its doors, and, when his predecessor retired, staff members collected signatures on petitions and wrote letters to support his selection as the new principal. Since becoming principal, Frattali has become known for his hands-on approach to the job, greeting the buses every morning, showing up in the cafeteria during lunchtime, serving Thanksgiving lunch in a Pilgrim costume, taking students on hayrides during the school's Fall Festival, attending all after-hours events, all while establishing an atmosphere of collaboration, respect, and trust, with a side of humor. Frattali personally mentors some students and holds monthly Pizza With the Principal lunches to encourage students who need additional support, part of his efforts to bring out the best in his students.

"Let us constantly juxtapose the way things are with fresh visions of what they might become," a popular saying by Roland Barth, has been adopted by the Carson staff as its mantra, and, encouraged by Frattali, students and staff members are free to take positive risks and reach beyond their comfort zones. "Augie is not one to maintain the status quo, but an innovative leader who always encourages us to keep up with current and new educational trends," said seven department chairs, who cosigned a letter of support for his nomination.

"It's all about relationships," said four staff members who endorsed his nomination and who pointed out that Frattali builds and retains a talented staff, keeps the school on the edge of educational innovation, and makes certain that all students feel welcome, valued, and competent. "He builds relationships with his teachers that communicate his belief in their abilities to do what others see as not only difficult but impossible. He challenges them to work together to solve complex problems, involves them in collaborative decision making, respects and encourages them to run with their ideas, and provides them with the resources to do what they need to do to support students."

Frattali confronts challenges with creative solutions, said other nominators. When some minority students and families expressed that they felt disconnected from the school, Frattali established focus groups on minority issues, opened enrollment for honors classes to any student, and actively worked



August (Augie) Frattali, left, with FCPS Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale at the Principal of the Year Celebration at Rachel Carson Middle School.

to increase minority participation throughout the school, from the in-house television program to extracurricular activities.

DIRECTOR of student services Cheryl Weaver said that Frattali, in concert with the school's namesake, ecologist Rachel Carson, "has always tried to maintain a connection to improving our environment and establishing a 'sense of wonder' for learning." In that vein, Frattali established a paperless virtual opening to the school year, an electronic parent newsletter, and biweekly electronic progress reports to parents. He also worked with staff members to secure a grant for the installation of a set of solar panels on the school roof, she adds, as well as working with students to maintain a pond in the school courtyard and with local businesses to plant trees on school grounds.

"In the many years that we have worked with Augie, we have had the opportunity to witness, firsthand, the evolution of a good assistant principal into a great principal, mentor, and leader," said nominators Chad Clayton, special education department chair, and Elena James, English for speakers of other languages department chair. "Augie's charismatic leadership style, open door policy, respect for students and faculty and staff, willingness to help at a moment's notice, and obvious joy in what he does each and every day are all strengths that have inspired us, as well as other teachers and administrators throughout FCPS, to reach deeper within ourselves to find what truly drives and inspires us to continue working in this noble profession."

Frattali joined FCPS in 1985 as a sixth grade teacher at Chesterbrook Elementary School. He also taught at Spring Hill Elementary School and Franklin Middle School and served as assistant principal at Hunters Woods Elementary School, Franklin Middle School and Carson Middle School. He earned his bachelor's degree from Quinnipiac College in Connecticut, his master's degree at Southern Connecticut State University, and his public school administration endorsement from the University of Virginia.

Team Nysmith Makes Odyssey of the Mind World Finals

Team Nysmith won first place at the Virginia state competition last month to secure the position in the world finals at the Michigan State University in East Lansing, May 26-29. Students from around the world will compete in the 31st Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. This competition emphasizes creativity and teamwork. It has grown into such a huge event because OotM makes learning fun while giving kids the chance to explore their imaginations and express their

creativity. Millions of children have been working hard all year perfecting their solutions to OotM problems and competing within their regions and states in order to advance to the 2010 World Finals.

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices

to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.

CONTRIBUTED
Team Nysmith, all grades, pictured at the regional tournament.



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OPINION

Cuccinelli Misleads on Costs

Perhaps we need a referendum to decide if and when Virginia will spend time, resources and image on challenging federal actions?

Some of us are probably prepared to admit that we are embarrassed, as two of Virginia's major newspapers warned we might be. But no one predicted that there would be so much to blush about so soon.

Suddenly, Virginia is in the national spotlight, not for being home of the Internet along the Dulles corridor, not for being the place for lovers (too many exceptions apply), not for being the mother of many presidents, not for its history, not for its wine.

No, Virginia is in the national spotlight because our newly elected Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli of Clifton, Fairfax County, has taken to court declaring recently passed landmark health care legislation as unconstitutional. He also sued to stop the regulation of greenhouse gasses and now will challenge new federal standards for auto emissions (even though even the auto industry would rather have federal controls than a patchwork of state regulations).

He opened his administration telling Virginia's dramatically underfunded colleges and universities that they could not include sexual orientation in their anti-discrimination policies.

Last October, before the election, the Virginian Pilot warned: "Cuccinelli's election would bring embarrassment to Virginia." The Washington Post, a few days later: "Cuccinelli would drive away qualified lawyers from an office that

functions as the state government's law firm, and, given his bizarre ideas, he would very likely become an embarrassment for the commonwealth."

ADDING INJURY TO INSULT, Cuccinelli denies that these escapades are costing the Commonwealth anything, releasing a statement claiming, for example, that the only costs involved are the filing fees, \$350 in the case of the constitutional challenge to the health care.

That's like saying it didn't cost anything to close the Federal Government in the snow emergency in February. The actual cost was about \$70 million a day.

Cuccinelli owes his constituents a real accounting of the costs, the amount staff time devoted to the efforts. The Office of the Attorney General is Virginia's law firm, and there are established methods for billing and assessing costs.

Most important is admitting the opportunity costs. What is it that his office is not doing because of the time and focus playing national politics?

His two immediate predecessors, Gov. Bob McDonnell and Virginia Supreme Court Justice Bill Mims, both focused on consumer protection. McDonnell launched the "consumer alert of the month," a column which addressed real problems faced by ordinary Virginians in terms of financial fraud, identity theft and

other critical issues. Mims maintained the monthly effort. The columns appeared in media around the state, and served both as a warning and as a means of reaching out to people who had been victims.

The last such "alert" was filed the month before Cuccinelli took office, after monthly entries for four years through 2009. (www.oag.state.va.us/CONSUMER/Consumer_Alert_Archive.html)

Taking care of Virginian's interests is not at the top of the priorities of the current attorney general.

The 14 duties and powers of the Office of the Attorney General (see www.oag.state.va.us/OUR_OFFICE/Role.html) include providing information on identity theft and remediation, help Social Services collect child support, prosecute certain environmental and computer crimes, enforce laws that protect businesses and consumers, represent consumers in utility matters before the State Corporation Commission, in addition to providing legal advice and opinions to the Governor, General Assembly and other state agencies.

Ken Cuccinelli was elected state senator representing the 37th District, part Prince William and Fairfax counties, in a special election in 2002. The election drew 16.6 percent of registered voters after state Sen. Warren Barry (R) resigned to take a job with the Warner Administration. Cuccinelli was reelected in 2003 and then in 2007 held onto his seat by less than 100 votes.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Governor Signs 'Job and Opportunity' Bills

Herndon event promotes job creation agenda.

At a bill signing ceremony co-hosted by the Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC) and the Center for Innovative Technology (CIT), Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) signed several major components of his "Jobs and Opportunity" legislative agenda to encourage job creation and economic development in Virginia. NVTC President and CEO Bobbie Kilberg provided introductory remarks during the ceremony, which took place at the Center for Innovative Technology in Herndon.

THREE OF THE INITIATIVES highlighted by the governor were top legislative priorities for NVTC. First, the governor signed legislation establishing a 100 percent



Front row, from left, Gov. Bob McDonnell (R); Pete Jobse, president and CEO of The Center for Innovative Technology and Bobbie Kilberg, president and CEO of NVTC. Back row, Bob Sledd Sr., economic advisor to the governor; Michael Grisham, president of GPB Scientific; Spencer Williamson, president and CEO of Intelliject LLC; Del. Rich Anderson (R-51); Sen. Walter Stosch (R-12); Del. Mark Sickles (D-43); Sen. Mark Herring (D-33); Sen. Janet Howell (D-32) and Delegate Barbara Comstock (R-34).

capital gains tax exclusion for founders and investors in qualifying technology, energy and biotechnology startups in Virginia for

investments made over the next three years. This new law will position Virginia as a leader in next generation tech company forma-

tion and innovation, as well as a top destination for entrepreneurs, early-stage investors, researchers and innovators.

The governor also commented on several additional economic development provisions in the recently-passed budget. Particularly noteworthy was McDonnell's support of an additional \$1.5 million in funding over the next two years for the CIT GAP fund, which will underwrite critical and immediate first financing for 20 new early-stage technology companies by leveraging private sector capital at a rate of 11 times the Commonwealth's investment.

ALSO during bill signing ceremony, McDonnell cited a budget initiative that will improve incentives for companies to expand, relocate and move corporate headquarters to Virginia by doubling the Governor's Economic Development Fund with an additional \$12 million in FY 2011.

THE CONNECTION

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Downtown Reinvented

FROM PAGE 3

before details were known about the arrival of Metro. Now, he said, "What reservations I have are that it perhaps is not aggressive enough."

Commissioner Kevin Moses said his biggest concern was that the plan might not be promoted actively enough to developers.

ONE OF THE AMENDMENTS the commission added to the plan was the creation of marketing tools, such as a booklet aimed at developers. Among the other changes were the substitution of single-family detached homes for the townhouses proposed for the redevelopment of the block where the Pines Shopping Center sits, the provision that certain public improvements be required, a statement of the desire for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations to be integrated into the streetscape and an option for "exemplary" redevelopment applications to receive a density bonus.

Miller said he thought single-family homes were probably the least appropriate use set forth in the plan.

The only other person to testify at the public hearing was Councilman Richard Downer, who said he especially wanted to see housing for seniors included

in the plan. He said he and his wife had searched the town for a single-level home without a yard and couldn't find a condo larger than about 1,000 square feet.

Senior Planner Dana Heiberg said one block in the plan was planned for "active senior housing."

Downer also suggested that tax increment financing be put in place to direct some money from the property values that increased as a result of the plan toward public improvements, and he said he would like to see a two-level parking deck on the block on the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Monroe and Elden streets.

Heiberg said the parking garage would still be possible but would be a challenge because it would require a number of property owners to reach an agreement.

Although the market might not be favorable now, with an official vision, if the town didn't waver on details when applications came in, Downer said, "Sooner or later, we'll see it. Or our children or grandchildren will see it."

"I'm excited about the opportunity for somebody to come in and ask for a building permit and get it done," said Planning Commission Chairman Carl Siversten.

The Herndon Town Council will make the final decision on the downtown master plan.

"Sooner or later, we'll see it. Or our children or grandchildren will see it."

— **Richard Downer, Town Council member**

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- Mason** ■ Penny Gross: 703-256-7717
- Lee** ■ Jeff McKay: 703-971-6262
- Dranesville** ■ John Foust: 703-356-0551

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 8

Swing Dance with Natty Beaux. 7:30 at The Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-424-1745 or www.headoverheelsdance.com.

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.

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

Friends' Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" by Thornton Wilder. Adults. 703-689-2700.

Opening Reception for Reston: The Road and the Rail. 6 p.m. Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. How transportation affected Reston's development. Through May 30. 703-709-7700 or www.restonmuseum.org.

Irish folksinger, songwriter and harpist Moya Brennan. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 9

Romeo & Juliet/Slashed. 7:30 p.m. at Herndon High School, 700 Bennett Street, Herndon. Edited and updated by Director Zoe Dillard, followed by the Creative Coffee House II. Tickets \$5. www.herndonadrama.org.

Empty Bowls Benefit Supper for Hunger Relief. 5:30 p.m. at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. Guests choose a handmade pottery bowl and receive a simple supper of soup, bread, beverage and dessert. The

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

The Guyasamaja Buddhist Center will host Glenn Mullin, an author, poet, translator, and teacher of Tibetan Buddhism. On Sunday, April 11, 1-5 p.m. Mullin will teach two classes open to all from beginners in Buddhist practice to advanced practitioners. Location: The Unitarian/Universalist Church, 1625

bowl is theirs to keep as a reminder that there are "empty bowls" in the community. \$20. All proceeds go to Food for Others. givingcircle@hotmail.com or 703-648-0222.

The Discovery Series: the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 10

Founder's Day. 12 p.m. at the Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. In honor of the 96th birthday of Reston founder, Robert E. Simon, Jr., a celebration and commemorative brick dedication on Lake Anne plaza presented by Reston Historic Trust, followed by a reception at Reston Museum. Alex Garvin, urban planner, will speak about Lake Anne and revitalization. 703-709-7700 or www.restonmuseum.org.

Reston Little League Opening Day Parade. 8:30-10:30 a.m. A sea of colorful shirts and team hats will parade down Market Street from Mercury Fountain to Reston Town Square Park. restonlittleleague.com

22nd Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Join volunteers in a multi-state effort to clean the Potomac Watershed. Free pizza lunch. 703-435-79867 or habrock@reston.org.

Garth Fagan Dance. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A blend of ballet, contemporary dance and Afro-Caribbean movement by the Tony Award-winning choreographer of 'The Lion King.' Pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets are \$22-\$44, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

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.

Tom Mindte and the Patuxent Partners. 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. Bluegrass. \$12. 703-435-8377.

Animals Underground. 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Investigate who lives in the dark, damp world under the forest floor and learn about moles, earthworms, termites and more. Ages 4 & up. 703-689-2700.

Go Fly a Kite on the Farm. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Make and decorate a kite and see how high your kite can fly. For age 10 and under. \$6. Reservations required at 703-437-9101.

Julie Murphy Wells: Sophisticated Lady. 7:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

Wiedle Ave., Reston VA 20190. Suggested donation: one class \$10; both \$15.

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

page at www.saint-timothys.org.

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



Tom Mindte and the Patuxent Partners (pictured) perform on Saturday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, 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.

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Go Fly a Kite on the Farm. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Make and decorate a kite and see how high your kite can fly. For age 10 and under. \$6. Reservations required at 703-437-9101.

Julie Murphy Wells: Sophisticated Lady. 7:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 12

PJs and Teddy Bears Storytime. 6:30 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Wear PJs and bring teddy bears for bedtime stories and activities. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-437-8855.

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

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

TUESDAY/APRIL 13

Tail Waggin' Tutors. 6:30 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Sign up for a slot to read to a well-trained therapy dog. Age 6-10 with adult. 703-437-8855.

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

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

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 14

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group. 7 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. A group for anyone with multiple sclerosis and/or their family and friends. Sponsored by the National Capital Chapter of the MS Society. Free. 703-768-4841.

Book Discussion. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. The Street of a Thousand Blossoms by Gail Tsukiyama. Adults. 703-689-2700.

THURSDAY/APRIL 15

Community Memories: Spring Concert. 12-45 p.m. at The Herndon Senior Center, 873 Grace St., Herndon. Door prizes will be awarded prior to the free concert. Just Friends', a Great Falls-based five piece combo, performs at 1 p.m. with American popular music from the 1920's-1960's. Free. 703-464-6200.

Great Falls Optimist Club Oratorical Contest. 7 p.m. at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. This year's topic is Cyber Communication: Progress or Problem? Students from Great Falls, Reston and McLean, under age 16 compete to win scholarships. sandicolidge@verizon.net or www.greatfallsoptimist.org.

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.

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

Fairfax Antique Arts Association: Herend China. 10:15 a.m. at the City of Fairfax Senior Center, Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Room 111, Fairfax. Seymour Lazerowitz will display and speak about pieces from his collection. Free; annual membership fee required to attend subsequent meetings. 703-359-2487.

FRIDAY/APRIL 16

The NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Christopher Johnston. 8 p.m. at the Richard J. Ernst Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. The Mendelssohn Violin Concerto with Marlisa del Cid Woods of the U.S. Army Orchestra and works by Beethoven and Glazunov. Adults \$15, seniors and teens \$10, age 12 and under free. 703-569-0973.

Pianist Edvinas Minkstimas. 7:30 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Music by Schumann, Liszt, Debussy and Piazzolla. Tickets \$25, seniors and students \$15. 703-356-0670, www.minkstimas.com or www.saintlukemclean.org.

Moscow Festival Ballet: 'Giselle.' 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The tragic tale of the heartbroken peasant girl. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. \$27-\$54, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu. Youth through grade 12 half price.

Sunday/April 18 Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. 4 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Led by violin soloist Julian Rachlin. Edvard Grieg, Beethoven, Schubert and more. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 3:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. \$30-\$60, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Splash of Color Reception and Gallery Talk. 3-5 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Watercolors by Betty Ganley and pottery by Marianne Cordyack. Exhibit continues through May 2. www.artspaceherndon.com or www.herndonartscenter.org.

Monday/April 19 Mother Goose Time. 11 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Songs, stories and action rhymes. Birth-23 months with adult. 703-437-8855.

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SCHOOL NOTES

Herndon High Class of 1975 Reunion will be held Oct. 22 and 23, 2010. Contact Lisa Arbelaez at 410-730-5648. There will be a happy hour on the Oct. 22, and the HHS Homecoming Game, dinner and dancing at the Crowne Plaza on Oct. 23.

Jacob Merlin of Oak Hill was named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Emory College of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. Merlin is the son of Charles Merlin and Mary Jean Merlin.

The following Oak Hill residents have been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Virginia

Tech at Blacksburg: **Julie A. Aurora, Erin E. Banks, Lauren E. Binford, Lauren A. Burbach, Brittany A. Burton, Derek M. Cassells, Brian A. Covington, Theresa E. Cutler, Emily K. Dougherty, Daniel S. Drew, Jessica N. Fuller, Katherine T. Gilbertson, Colin M. Harrell, Kayla A. Hofer, Cara L. Holmes, Lauren C. Howard, Thomas C. Ivey, Monica L. Judkins, Benjamin A. Katz, Laura C. Klene and John T. Krulick.**

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Team Vector Meets the World

Area team travels to Atlanta, Ga.

At the end of February, Team Vector 67 was notified by the parent organization, FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science & Technology), that it was selected as one of 16 teams from around the world to be an FLL (FIRST Lego League) Core Values Ambassador Team. As such, Vector 67 was invited to attend and compete in the FLL World Festival down in Atlanta, Ga. on April 14-17.

Selection as an FLL Core Values Ambassador Team was based on first winning the Region's (VA/DC FLL) Championship at James Madison University in December 2009, and then having an application submitted by the Region to FIRST. The application included testimony to the team's actions and behavior during the competition season that exemplify the Core Values that FLL stands by.

In accepting the invitation to attend the World Festival, Vector 67 is the sole FLL robotics team that will attend the World Festival representing all of Virginia and Washington D.C.

The team will compete against 83 other teams from 32 countries



Vector 67 team, from left, first row, Zane Holdstock (Leesburg), Jeffrey Russell (Herndon), Isabella Loparo (Lovettsville), Joshua Kobayashi (Langston Hughes Middle, Reston); second row, Luke Loparo (Lovettsville), Will Schrag (Herndon), and Justin Kobayashi (South Lakes).

from around the world at the Georgia Dome and World Congress Center.

During this 2009-10 season, 14,725 FLL robotics teams, representing 147,250 students from 56 countries, competed at 89 Regional Championship Tournaments around the world.

The FLL World Festival is the culmination of the season when most of the winners from the vari-

ous regional championship tournaments come together not only to compete, but to meet, share ideas and experience a once in a lifetime event.

Team Vector 67 (#6089) is a Division II FLL Robotics team that consists of seven children, three of whom attend Fairfax County Schools — Langston Hughes Middle, South Lakes High and Herndon High School.

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3. CONTROLLING: Interrogates you intensely (especially if you're late) about whom you talked to and where you were; keeps all the money; insists you ask permission to go anywhere or do anything.
4. UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS: Expects you to be the perfect mate and meet his or her every need.
5. ISOLATION: Tries to cut you off from family and friends; accuses people who are your supporters of "causing trouble." The abuser may deprive you of a phone or car, or try to prevent you from holding a job.
6. BLAMES OTHERS FOR PROBLEMS OR MISTAKES: It's always someone else's fault if something goes wrong.
7. MAKES OTHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER FEELINGS: The abuser says, "You make me angry," or "You're hurting me by not doing what I tell you."
8. HYPERSENSITIVITY: Is easily insulted, claiming hurt feelings when he or she is really mad. Rants about the injustice of things that are just a part of life.
9. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS OR CHILDREN: Kills or punishes animals brutally. Also may expect children to do things that are far beyond their ability (whips a 3-year-old for wetting a diaper) or may tease them until they cry. Sixty-five percent of abusers who beat their partner will also abuse children.
10. "PLAYFUL" USE OF FORCE DURING SEX: Enjoys throwing you down or holding you against your will during sex; finds the idea of rape exciting.
11. VERBAL ABUSE: Constantly criticizes or says blatantly cruel things; degrades, curses, calls you ugly names. This may also involve sleep deprivation, waking you with relentless verbal abuse.
12. RIGID GENDER ROLES: Expects you to serve, obey and remain at home.
13. SUDDEN MOOD SWINGS: Switches from sweet to violent in minutes.
14. PAST BATTERING: Admits to hitting a mate in the past, but says the person "made" him (or her) do it.
15. THREATS OF VIOLENCE: Says things like, "I'll break your neck," or "I'll kill you," then dismisses them with "Everybody talks that way," or "I didn't really mean it."

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REAL ESTATE

Housing Market Looking Up

Older homes and new townhouses selling well in Northern Virginia.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

This is the third article in a series of three pieces about the local census data. To read more, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Home values in Northern Virginia, like most other places in the country, have declined, sometimes dramatically, since 2007. But, overall, the last decade was a time of unprecedented growth in local residential real estate, particularly in the very high-end house market.

Even accounting for the recent downturn, the median price of a home in Fairfax and Arlington counties still more than doubled over the last 10 years.

According to U.S. Census data, the median price of a single-family detached dwelling in Fairfax was \$233,300. Last January, Fairfax officials said previously-owned single-family homes in

2009 were selling for an average of \$521,050.

The market peaked in Fairfax from 2005 to 2007, when previously-owned, single-family homes had a median price of over \$600,000.

In Arlington, the price of a single-family detached home went from a median price of \$262,400 in 2000 to \$586,200 in 2008, according to census data.

"I don't think in the year 2000, anyone would have predicted their homes would be worth what they are today, particularly if they were living in that home at the time," said Fairfax County Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

Foust's district, which includes Great Falls and McLean, has one of the concentrations of high-end housing in Northern Virginia. During the real estate boom from 2005 to 2007, several parts of the Dranesville District saw the value of their homes increase by 20 percent or more in one year, said

Foust.

IN PARTICULAR, Fairfax and Arlington saw an explosion in the number of very expensive homes that came onto the market.

Fairfax was home to 1,896 single-family detached houses worth \$1 million or more in 2000. By 2008, that number had skyrocketed to 21,424 and the million-dollar-plus homes share of the Fairfax's housing stock had gone from just 1 percent to nearly 8 percent, according to data provided by the U.S. Census.

Arlington County had an even greater increase. In 2000, the locality had about 123 single-family homes worth \$1 million or more. By 2008, that number had increased to 4,721 homes, or about 10 percent of overall stand-alone homes in the jurisdiction overall.

Much of the growth in \$1 million homes, particularly in Fairfax, can be attributed to new construction, said Stephen Fuller, chair of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University.

SEE THREE YEARS, PAGE 15

Fairfax Real Estate: Then and Now

The year 2000 was the last time the U.S. Census did a precise survey of Fairfax County residents but the federal government also collected information through an American Community Survey from January 2006 to December 2008 in order to determine how the county has changed.

Many of the trends found when comparing the 2000 Census data to the 2008 survey estimates are likely to also show up when the 2010 Census is completed.

	FAIRFAX COUNTY		VIRGINIA		USA	
	2000	2008	2000	2008	2000	2008
Median Household Income	\$81,050	\$106,470	\$54,169	\$61,044	\$41,994	\$52,175
\$50,000 to \$74,999	20%	14.1%	22.6%	19.3%	19.5%	18.8%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	16.9%	13%	13.4%	13.3%	10.2%	12.5%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	21%	27.4%	4.1%	14.7%	7.7%	12.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	9%	13.8%	3.7%	6.2%	2.2%	4.3%
\$200,000 and up	7.5%	17.7%	3.3%	6.1%	2.4%	4.2%
Families Living In Poverty	3%	3.3%	7%	7%	9.2%	9.6%
Individuals Living In Poverty	4.5%	5%	9.6%	9.9%	12.4%	13.2%
Median Single-Family Home Price	\$233,300	\$566,100	\$125,400	\$259,200	\$119,600	\$192,400
Median Monthly Mortgage Payment	\$1,669	\$2,551	\$1,140	\$1,690	\$1,088	\$1,508
Home Values						
\$100,000 to \$150,000	25,911 11.8%	1,700 0.6%	373,288 24.7%	218,153 10.8%	23.7%	15.4%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	49,959 22.8%	2,596 1%	233,999 15.5%	247,106 12.2%	14.6%	13.7%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	73,026 33.4%	16,830 6.2%	209,613 12.9%	383,416 18.9%	11.9%	17.1%
\$300,000 to \$500,000	48,157 22%	88,069 32.5%	107,093 7.1%	478,734 23.6%	6.5%	17.4%
\$500,000 to \$1 million	14,153 6.5%	136,449 50.3%	28,041 1.9%	353,049 17.4%	2.4%	11.4%
\$1 million and over	1,896 0.9%	21,424 7.9%	4,013 0.3%	55,808 2.7%	0.6%	2.6%
Households With A Child Under 18 Years Old	29.7%	33%	32.7%	30.9%	32.8%	31%
Households With A Married Couple	59.4%	56.3%	52.8%	50.7%	51.7%	49.6%
One-person Households	21.4%	25.8%	25.1%	27.4%	25.8%	27.5%
Average Household Size	2.74 people	2.72 people	2.54 people	2.54 people	2.59 people	2.61 people
Average Family Size	3.2 people	3.29 people	3.04 people	3.1 people	3.14 people	3.2 people
Vacant Housing Units	2.6%	6.5%	7.1%	10.3%	9%	12%
Owner-occupied housing	70.9%	74%	68.1%	69.3%	66.2%	67.1%

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday & Sunday, April 10 & 11



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



Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.



Reston

1556 Northgate Sq. #21b...	\$209,900	Sun 1-4	Virginia Lung	Century 21	703-582-9756
11557 Rolling Green Ct...	\$258,000	Sun 1-4	Marck Conrad	Eventure LLC	703-774-7843
2262 Gunsmith Square...	\$319,850	Sun 1-4	Karen Kidwell	Long & Foster	703-216-7437
11506 Hearstone Ct...	\$399,000	Sun 1-4	Victoria Robertson	Coldwell Banker	703-867-0271
12000 Market St #274...	\$434,000	Sun 1-4	Ann Hogan	Weichert	571-216-9614
12332 Coleraine Ct...	\$439,990	Sun 1-4	Angela Bennett	Samson	703-851-3867
11532 Sunder Ct...	\$469,500	Sat 1-4	Joyce Braithwood	ERA Teachers	703-501-2426
11738 Great Owl Circle...	\$479,000	Sun 1-4	Trudy Severa	Long & Foster	703-668-1819
11418 Summer House Ct...	\$514,999	Sun 1-4	Mark Wilson	Long & Foster	703-307-1934
2408 Andorra Place...	\$515,000	Sun 1-4	Valerie Smallwood	Century 21 Spring	202-468-1869
11467 Washington Plaza West...	\$545,000	Sun 1-4	Mary O'Brien	Coldwell Banker	703-471-7220
2009 Swans Neck Way...	\$569,000	Sun 1-4	Virginia Clark	Long & Foster	703-254-3866
11616 Springhouse Place...	\$689,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Jackson	Long & Foster	703-759-9190
11613 Bromley Village Ln...	\$699,453	Sun 1-4	Christopher Pezzana	Weichert	703-447-1662
11344 Woodbrook	\$875,000	Sun 1-4	Debbie Gill	Long & Foster	703-346-1373
1256 New Bedford	\$1,049,000	Sun 1-4	Nader Mameghani	Long & Foster	703-624-5060

Oak Hill/Herndon

13211 Ashnut Lane	\$384,900	Sun 1-4	Ronald Layton	Remax	703-625-5586
1403 Skyhaven Ct	\$407,750	Sat 1-4	Mark Wilson	Long & Foster	703-306-1934
13053 Park Crescent Ct	\$434,900	Sun 1-4	Ronald Layton	Remax	703-625-5586
2101 Capstone Circle	\$439,900	Sun 1-4	Ronald Layton	Remax	703-625-5586
355 Woodgrove Ct	\$610,000	Sun 1-4	Laurie Mensing	Long & Foster	703-873-5793
1069 Cedar Chase Ct	\$1,045,000	Sun 1-4	Dale Repshas	Long & Foster	703-408-2626

McLean

2107 N. Scott St. #70	\$285,000	Sun 1-4	Katie Wethman	Keller Williams	703.655.7672
1607 Fielding Lewis Way	\$1,595,000	Sun 1-4	David Ballard	Weichert	202-437-4540
6412 Furlong Road	\$1,997,000	Sun 1-4	Anne DiBenedetto	McEanearney	703-615-1897

Great Falls

9567 Edmondston Dr	\$1,750,000	Sun 1-4	Virginia Clark	Long & Foster	703-254-3866
11300 Peacock Hill Way	\$1,395,000	Sun 1-4	Glynis Canto	Weichert	703-395-2355
633 River Bend Rd	\$999,000	Sun 1-4	Lyons & McGuire Team	Weichert	703-406-9009
9207 Jeffery Rd	\$1,150,000	Sun 1-4	Debbie McGuire	Weichert	703-856-4766
718 Springvale Rd	\$935,000	Sun 1-4	Vivian Lyons	Weichert	703-406-9009
105 Falcon Ridge Road	\$2,400,000	Sun 2-4	Carol Ellickson	Weichert	703-862-2135
639 Nalls Farm Way	\$1,895,000	Sun 2-4	Carol Ellickson	Weichert	703-862-2135
517 River Bend Road	\$1,499,999	Sun 1-4	Deb Pietras	McEanearney	703-738-9580

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11003 Sweetmeadow Dr	\$1,135,000	Sun 1-4	Nancy Laranjo	Long & Foster	703-618-0088
9977 Capperton Dr	\$319,900	Sun 1-4	Dan Mieziva	Jobin Realty	703-380-9915

Vienna

10032 Scenic View Trc	\$1,079,000	Sun 1-4	Lyons & McGuire Team	Weichert	703-406-9009
2701 Bellforest Ct #204	\$343,000	Sun 1-4	Sharon Edwards	Long & Foster	703-408-8144
204 Commons Dr Nw	\$459,900	Sat 1-4	Michelle Ouelle	Weichert	703-489-0740
9232 Brian Dr	\$565,000	Sun 1-4	Janet Scaffido	Long & Foster	703-403-3337
112 Tapawingo Rd SE	\$699,900	Sun 1-4	Paul Bedewi	Re/Max Premier	571-228-5648
9838 Coral Bells Ct	\$749,900	Sun 11-2	Anne Ruthling	Coldwell Banker	703-628-3671
1502 Pennycress Ln	\$779,900	Sun 1-4	Jin O'Neill	Weichert	703-967-3399
9106 Quarter Ct	\$820,000	Sun 1-4	Lupe Rohrer	WC & AN Miller	301-938-2499
602 Nutley St SW	\$1,069,900	Sun 1-4	Beckie Owen	Long & Foster	703-452-3941
445 Knoll St NW	\$1,299,000	Sun 1-5	Dee Carter	Keller Williams	703-508-1799

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Herndon Boys Meet Top Teams At Spring Break Lax Tourney

Hornets top private school foe St. Albans in highlight victory.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

If the Herndon High boys' lacrosse team wanted to learn something about itself early this season, it received such an opportunity by competing at the West Springfield Invitational over last week's spring break.

In playing at the eight-team tournament, the Hornets met some of the metropolitan area's better teams. To its credit, Herndon held its own and showed that some winning moments might be in store for them over the course of the spring season.

Herndon, which went 8-6 last year, went 1-2 at the West Springfield showcase tournament. The Hornets opened with a huge, confidence-building 11-10 victory over private school opponent St. Albans of Washington, D.C. on Monday, March 29. The Bulldogs compete in the renowned Interstate Athletic Conference (IAC) and have, over the years, fielded some of the better teams around.

"They're usually one of the top private school [teams] in the Washington area," said Bill Will, the Hornets' head coach, of St. Albans.

Herndon, in the win, trailed St. Albans by a pair of goals on three different occasions but continually fought back. In the final quarter, Herndon built a two-goal lead and went on to the one goal victory.

Billy Kelly, a senior attack who was a First Team All-Concorde District selection a year ago, led the way for Herndon with five goals. Ben Mank, also a first team all-district player last year, added two goals.

It was one of the Herndon programs best ever wins. St. Albans, following the setback, went on to defeat such teams as Madison and Chantilly in the tournament. Chantilly was the state public school runner-up last spring.

A day following the win over St. Albans, Herndon met up with tournament host West Springfield, considered to be the top team in the Northern Region this season,

in a Tuesday game. The Hornets played tough but lost by a 9-5 score to the Spartans.

Herndon played its final game of the tournament on Wednesday — an 11-5 loss to defending state champion Langley.

"They play real good defense and do a real good job [with the ball] of finding openings," said Will, of the Langley team.

While Herndon played respectably in the setbacks to Langley and West Springfield, coach Will expressed disappointment at the Hornets' inability to generate offensive firepower. Both opponents effectively guarded Herndon standout players Kelly and Mank. Unfortunately for Herndon, no other players were able to break

"I was kind of disappointed with the results. We let the games get away from us".

**— Bill Will,
the Hornets' head coach**

loose offensively.

"I was kind of disappointed with the results," said Will, of the two tournament losses. "We let the games get away from us. [Langley and West Springfield] both did real good jobs [defensively] against Billy and Ben. They were able to take away our two big guns. We've got to have our middies pick up the pace [in that case]."

Will was pleased with the overall play of midfielders Alex Wilson, a junior, and senior Daniel Shull. Wilson scored a couple of goals over the tournament.

"Both played really good defense, hustled and had real good tournaments," he said, of the duo.

Also having a particularly strong three games was senior Ryan Curran, a shutdown defender and the team's best one-on-one defensive player.

One low point for Herndon over spring break was an injury to jun-

ior middie Brad Mank (Ben's bother), who broke a bone in his left foot in the win over St. Albans. Brad Mank, with a healing time of six to eight weeks ahead, could be out for the season.

Brad Mank, who suffered a similar injury to his right foot this past summer, has been Herndon's top face-off man this season.

"It's going to be tough [without him]," said Will. "Brad is probably one of the best faceoff guys in Northern Virginia. That's a big loss for us. Syracuse [University] is recruiting him."

The coach went on to say Shull will handle most of the faceoffs in place of Brad Mank.

HERNDON has not qualified for the region playoffs in at least eight years, according to Will. Last year, the Hornets experienced outstanding regular season moments with wins over teams such as West Springfield and district opponent Westfield. But a loss to Oakton in a first round district tournament game ended Herndon's season.

This spring, Will's club wants to take that next step by winning a first round district tournament game, which would automatically advance the Hornets to the 16-team region playoff field.

The Hornets have two quality scoring threats in Billy Kelly and Ben Mank.

"Both are very good attackmen," said Will. "They have been playing a long time and are high skilled. They are both good with the right or left hand. What makes them stand out is their stick skills."

Herndon's goalie is senior Ryan Swisher, who served as the varsity backup last year.

"He had a pretty good tournament [over spring break]," said Will, of his netminder. "Certainly, the two games we lost were not his fault."

Herndon (2-2), which prior to spring break opened the season with a 19-4 win over South Lakes, is back in action this week with games against Fairfax, a home contest on Wednesday, April 7, and Centreville, the district opener set for Friday, April 9, at 7:15 p.m., at Centreville.

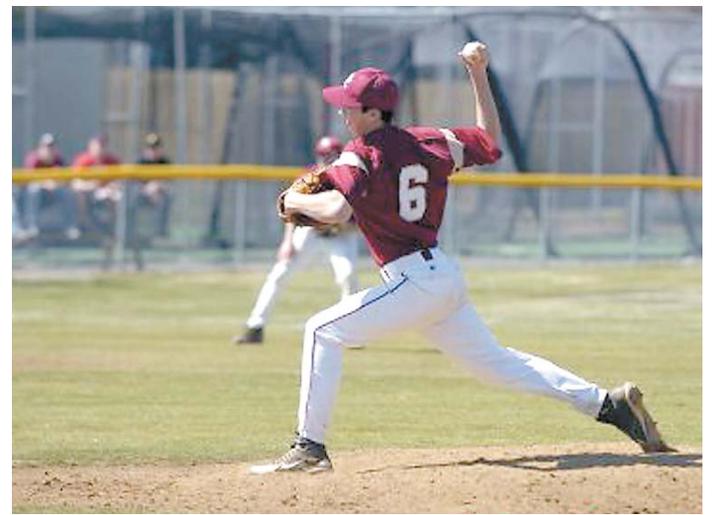


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton, Herndon High Play April 13

Oakton High pitcher Ty Prime, a sophomore, throws a pitch during early season baseball action. The Cougars, over spring break last week, competed at the Woodson Baseball Tournament. There, Oakton won three of its four games, with the victories coming over Falls Church, Washington-Lee and Chantilly. The setback came to Woodson. Oakton, coached by Justin Janis, will play a home game against a team from New Jersey, Holy Spirit, on Thursday, April 8 at 6 p.m. On Tuesday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m., the Cougars (4-1) will travel to Herndon High for a Concorde District game.



Spurs Win Herndon Optimist Championship Game

The Spurs won the Herndon Optimist third-fourth grade boys championship game against the Bullets, 22 to 17. That completes their very good season, including a five overtime win in the semifinals 26 to 22. The Spurs finished the season with a record of 6 and 2. Pictured from left are Chris Logan, Julian Bryant, William Zhang, Aidan Robinson, Justin Blevins, Steve Schoenefeldt, Ian Guevara and Coach Richard Burger.

Marshall Girls' Lacrosse To Host Chili Cook Off

The George Marshall High girls' lacrosse program will be hosting its first Chili Cook off on Friday, April 16, from 6-9 p.m. Go to www.seen.itgo.com for more details and an entry form. Tasters tickets are \$7 and include unlimited chili samples and sides (cookies, cakes, pasta salad, etc). Cooks only pay \$5 with their four quart chili entry and also get unlimited chili and sides to sample. Best Chili (meat and veggie category) winners will receive a certificate and VISA gift card. Winner of Best Chili Name will receive a gift basket. Cook entry forms are due Tuesday, April 13.

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"Choose Civility..."



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

...in Howard County." For some of you readers who may not make forays north into Howard County (think Columbia, Md.), perhaps you're unfamiliar as well with the ever-present, apparently popular and prideful green bumper sticker with the white printing adorned on many of its resident's automobiles promoting/advertising the civilized quality of life in this Maryland county: "Choose Civility in Howard County." As a resident in an adjacent county, I certainly am. And not because of any outreach to Montgomery County residents via radio, television or print (with which I'm familiar, anyway). No, the campaign, to the degree the production and dissemination/availability of these bumper stickers is concerted at all, seems to be a kind of passive-aggressive approach. Not exactly in your face, but likely within your sight, if you're driving behind a Howard County resident and paying attention, which I usually am. But the attention to which I'm now going to pay is somewhat unflattering. Isolated I'm sure, but certainly ironic given the image/brand-building going on through the appearance and presumptive token of their collective self-esteem.

However inadvertent it may have been, and however brief it was, I was nonetheless abruptly reminded, loudly and aggressively, that my driving delay in departing from a stop-light-having-just-turned-green was unacceptable. The driver behind me didn't just "lean" on his horn, if you know what I mean; he rested on it! Sorry, I thought, somewhat aggravated and nonplussed at the same time, as I pressed on the gas pedal and proceeded through the intersection. "Give me a break," (or something to that effect) as I reacted verbally to the tone and frequency of this horn o' plenty blaring directly behind me. "Cool it! Give me a second. Jeez." (I don't believe I swore, to tell you the truth.) And a few seconds later, this driver accelerated and passed me, but not before I noticed the familiar green bumper sticker on his car's rear bumper: "Choose Civility in Howard County." I didn't see whether the driver was a man or a woman, or whether the driver was in uniform or not (although the vehicle was not marked in any way); it simply appeared to be a regular passenger vehicle, not one on any kind of duty/in a hurry, but one proudly promoting the existence of civility in Howard County.

How ironic I thought. How rude I accused. How characteristic – or not, I wondered. I only wish I could have caught the whole episode on tape somehow; then found the Howard County employee/department responsible for this civility campaign; then found the actual driver whose behavior precipitated this pursuit and then presented it all to the County Executive for his/her approval/consideration. (Oh. I forgot to mention, this exchange occurred during the Blizzard of 2010, just to give the circumstances a little context.)

As an advertising consultant for 13 years with Connection Newspapers, I'm somewhat familiar with advertising campaigns. One of the old adages is, frequency matters; continuing exposure to the same message/promotion eventually wins the day (and the night, too). If consumers see/hear/read something enough times, they start to believe it. Previous to this incident, I had seen the Howard County bumper sticker many times, and had begun to wonder if in fact there was any truth/validity to its claim. Now I know better. This driver proved it.

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

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HINE, RAYMOND WILLIAM

Captain Ray Hine, USN (Ret.) of Reston, Virginia, retired businessman, father, grandfather and distinguished naval officer succumbed to his long battle with cancer on March 17, 2010. He was 78 years old. Ray was preceded in death by his mother Anna Christine Westman Hine, father Raymond Burton Hine and brother Harold Hine. Ray is survived by his four sons; Gregg and his wife Erin of Dunkirk, Maryland; Scott and his wife Helen of Fairfax, Virginia; Wayne of Pontiac, Illinois; Keith of Geneva, Illinois; daughter Leigh Lipp and her husband Bob of Boynton Beach, Florida; along with grandchildren Kayla, Audrey, Taylor, Derek, Ryan, Kevin and Patrick. Ray was married to Judith Frey of Fairfield, Connecticut from 1957-1990; they continued to be friends until his death.

Ray was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut on November 11, 1931 and grew up there. At age 17, he entered the Navy through the Recruit Training Program at Great Lakes, Illinois and attended electronics school in Memphis. He was selected to attend the Naval Academy Prep School and entered the Naval Academy in 1951 on a Secretary of the Navy appointment. He graduated in 1955 and was commissioned an Ensign. After graduation, he spent 23 years in the Navy, serving on two cruisers and five destroyers either in weapons related or command billets and served as the commanding officer of the USS Orleck (DD-866) from 1971-1973. He subsequently advanced to the rank of Captain in 1976. Ray also graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California and returned there in 1973 as a Curricular Officer. Shore tours included the Naval Academy, Ordnance Engineering Command and the Pentagon from where he retired in 1978. Ray remained in Northern Virginia after retirement and joined a small company named Advanced Technology, Inc. Through several acquisitions of this company, over a 20 year period, Ray continued his employment and retired as the Litton/PRC Director of Navy Programs. Other business ventures included home remodeling, car rental, restaurant, advertising and venture investments. Ray's long-time companion was Virginia Wyman. In 2002, he returned to academia and continued to travel extensively. Ray enjoyed playing golf and was an active member of the Hidden Creek Country Club in Reston, Virginia. He also was very involved in Naval Academy alumni activities and had served as the class vice-president. Ray loved life and his family. He always had a smile and never met a stranger. Ray will be deeply missed by so many.

A memorial service will be held at the U.S. Naval Academy Chapel in Annapolis, Maryland on April 15, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. Inurnment will be at the Naval Academy Columbarium. Those desiring may make memorial donations in the name of Raymond Hine to Evercare Hospice, 12018 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 400, Reston, Virginia 20191.

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FROM PAGE 11

"It wasn't the old housing. The brand new housing was the much more expensive housing. There were a lot of \$2 million and \$3 million houses being built during that period," said Fuller.

According to Fairfax County's "Economic Indicators" report, the average newly constructed home in the county sold for more than \$1 million in 2007, compared to just over \$600,000 for a "pre-existing" Fairfax home at the same time.

"Land has gotten so expensive to buy that is hard to build a new home for less than \$600,000 or \$700,000," said Fuller.

In 2000, Fairfax had 1,896 homes worth \$1 million or more. By 2008, that number had skyrocketed to 21,424. Million-dollar-plus homes grew from just 1 percent to nearly 8 percent of Fairfax County homes.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S real estate market has started to rebound over the last few months, according to Fuller, who has been studying housing market trends in the region for years.

Historically, Northern Virginia home values have appreciated at a rate of 7 percent per year. During 2008 and the first half of 2009, however, the average sales price for a home in Virginia plummeted, sometimes by as much as 30 percent from one month to the next.

Yet, in the last four months of 2009, the growth in home values had turned a corner and returned to an average appreciation rate of seven percent annually, Fuller said. In the first few months of 2010, Fairfax homes were appreciating at a rate even faster than seven percent, said Fuller.

"The market has come back much faster than I expected," he said.

Northern Virginia is poised to recover more quickly from the housing downturn than other parts of the country, in part because of its unusually strong economy, said Fuller.

At 6.9 percent, the Washington region has the lowest unemployment rate of the 15 largest job markets in the United States. Fairfax and Arlington, which have unemployment rates of 4.6 percent and 4 percent respectively, have even stronger economies.

IN SPITE OF the rebound, homebuyers are not necessarily behaving the way that they had in 2006 and 2007. Even as the market picks up, sales data shows that prospective buyers appear far more interested in buying a modest house than they were before.

In Fairfax, the number of sales of pre-owned single-family homes and condominiums has increased significantly since 2008, almost reaching 2007 levels. Sales of brand new townhouses are also up, though not nearly as high as in 2007.

The sales of brand new single-family

homes, which cost an average of \$270,000 more than a previously-owned house in 2009 and tend to be much larger, still lag behind.

Fuller said that more first-time home buyers, people who don't own property already, are in the marketplace than there have been in recent years. These buyers tend to be younger and either can't afford or don't have a need for larger houses with big yards and more than three bedrooms.

Younger people are also more interested in being closer to work and in pedestrian-friendly communities near transit, said Fuller. Newly constructed housing tends to be where land is cheap, farther from job centers and urban areas, and therefore less appealing to some young people.

"New homes tend to be farther out and younger people are looking at used housing that's closer in," he said.

The habits of these new buyers may offer one reason why Arlington and the City of Alexandria have fared better in current housing downturn than their suburban neighbors. When Fairfax saw a double-digit percentage drop in the value of single-family homes last year, Arlington saw a decline of less than five percent in the same type of real estate.

Aside from being transit friendly, Arlington and Alexandria have more condominiums and other more modestly priced housing. The localities also have fewer of the large, newly constructed homes that would act as a drag on other markets, said Fuller.

BUT FAIRFAX residents who may have bought property — even a large, newly constructed house — at the height of the real estate boom should rest easy, according to Fuller.

Fuller said he expects a Fairfax house that has lost approximately 20 percent of its value to regain its worth in approximately three years.

"Fairfax houses will gain more value. Even retirees should not sell for a few years so they can get their money back," said Fuller.

Fairfax is more suburban and may not fit the traditional model of an urban community like Arlington or Alexandria but it is also the largest job center in the Washington, D.C. region. Local residents, including younger people, will continue to want to live in Fairfax, not only for the excellent public schools and amenities, but also to be close to work, said Fuller.

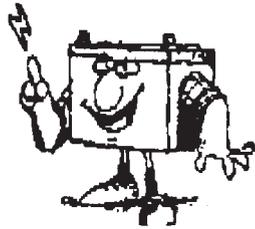
Fairfax is also the only regional locality with two major transportation projects under construction, the "high occupancy toll" [HOT] lanes on the Capital Beltway and a new Metro line, which will continue to make it attractive, he added.

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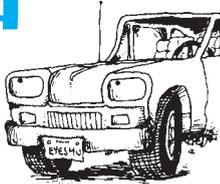
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