

Plenty to Show At Farm Baby Day

NEWS, PAGE 3

Kyla Motta, 11, a member of Frying Pan Farm Park's 4-H chapter, the Hoofers and Heifers Livestock Club, introduces an unnamed 6-day-old lamb to Scott Barone, 3, of Herndon at the park's Farm Baby Day last Saturday, April 17.



Banking at Herndon Middle

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Comments Sought On Proposed Budget

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CONTRIBUTED

Troop member Kimberly Rigger thanks ReLeaf's Taylor Beach.

Tree Planting at Rachel Carson Middle School

On Saturday, April 10, nine Girl Scouts of Oakton's Cadette Troop 6989 led nearly 60 other Girl Scouts in earning the EcoAction Interest Project badge at Rachel Carson Middle School, and assisted Fairfax ReLeaf in planting trees in the school's front yard.

contributed space in the school cafeteria and in the yard for the event. ReLeaf provided native oak saplings, plus equipment and instruction for the many shovel-bearing Girl Scouts.

Both Taylor Beach of ReLeaf and Fratalli were thanked with boxes of Girl Scout Thin Mint cookies



Troop 6989 girls watching a tree-planting lesson by Taylor Beach of ReLeaf. From left, Kimberly Rigger, Kailey McCullen, Ellen Poole, Monica Webster, Rebecca Shapiro, Grace Wines, troop leader Tracy Wines and Laura Michaelis with other participating Girl Scouts.

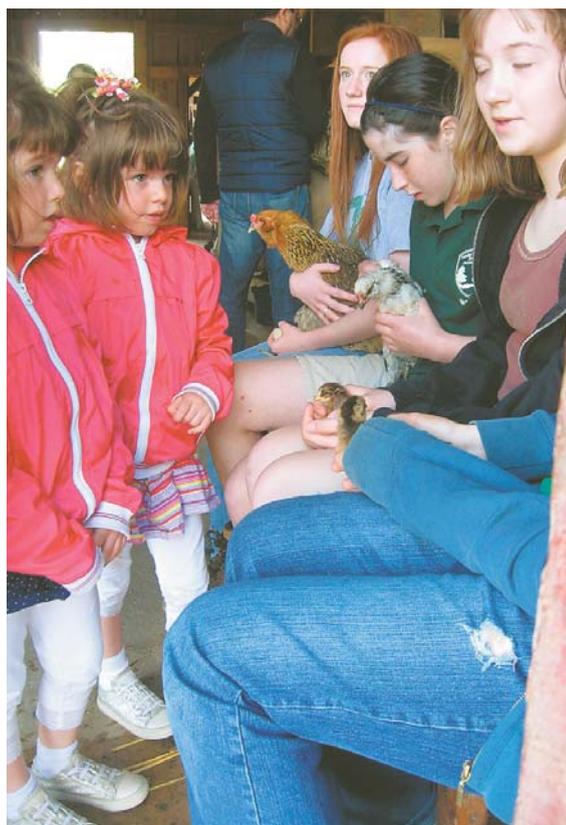


Clean-Up Day at Sugarland Run and Runnymede Park

Pack 157 of Herndon Elementary School cleans up Sugarland Run and Runnymede Park on Saturday, April 17.



Abbie Ernst, an 11-year-old 4-H Club member from Oak Hill, holds a month-old lamb known unofficially as Gladiator at Frying Pan Farm Park's Farm Baby Day.



From left, 4-year-old twins Elizabeth and Susan Rotherham of Arlington meet Ellie the chicken, Elvis the rooster and baby chicks, held by 4-H Club members Kellen Livinson, 15, of Herndon; Kayla Blatman, 12, of Oak Hill; and Mary Cook, 12, of Reston.

Plenty to Show at Farm Baby Day

Frying Pan Farm Park introduces public to animals born during compressed birthing season.

There was no shortage of newborns to introduce to the public at Frying Pan Farm Park's annual Farm Baby Day last Saturday, April 17. As of last Friday, 119 baby animals, including chicks, had been born at the park.

Farm manager Paul Nicholson said the number of chicks hatched was unusually high this year, as the farm was adding new blood to its flock, changing out the egg-layers for a new generation. He said the number of other animals being born was not especially high for the spring season but had been compressed into a shorter time span than usual.

While births are usually spread out from January to May, only one piglet was born in January. The next month, nine lambs and a calf were born. In March, four calves,



PHOTOS BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Ava McLin, 4, of Reston meets 5-week-old calf Anastasia under the supervision of 12-year-old 4-H Club member Caitlin Frasch of Fairfax.

five lambs, a litter of piglets and a brood of chicks joined the farm. And the first half of April saw four more goats, three more lambs, another litter of piglets and another brood of chicks born.

Nicholson said the number of babies for the year would soon be around 130, as another pig, a goat and two cows were still pregnant.

Farm Baby Day is an opportunity to introduce newborn farm animals to the public, as well as a

chance to bring members of the farm's 4-H Club chapter, the Hoofers and Heifers Livestock Club, out to the park to begin training the animals and getting them accustomed to being handled by people.

The event fell on a temperate, sunny day this year, and scores of young human children, accompanied by their parents, turned out to meet their animal counterparts.

— MIKE DICICCO

Comments Sought On Proposed Budget

Herndon Town Manager Art Anselene said the public hearing on his proposed budget on Tuesday, April 13 didn't generate a particularly large turnout. While some who showed up to speak asked that certain services be retained, others spoke out against a proposed increase in the meals tax, he said. "I guess it depends on how it affects you individually." He said he hoped more people would turn out for the next hearing.

The budget that Anselene proposed at the beginning of the month was 2.7 percent larger than the last fiscal year's budget, at \$42,252,600, but he said the increase was due to state and federal grants for capital improvement projects. The town is actually facing a decline in revenues of \$2.1 million, due in large part to declining real estate values, particularly in the area of commercial real estate this year, meaning a drop in the town's real estate tax revenue. He said other excise tax revenues were also in decline, especially the tax on hotel stays, as business travel slowed and other hotel options became available outside of town.

Anselene proposed offsetting about \$700,000 of the revenue loss by raising the real estate tax rate by three-fourths of a penny to 26.75 cents per \$100 of assessed value, raising the meals tax rate from 1.5 percent to 2 percent and increasing the motor vehicle licensing fee and the recycling fee.

The rest of the \$2.1 million gap would be filled by cutting costs. This would mean freezing or eliminating 20 vacant staff positions, freezing pay for town employees, and temporarily eliminating such items from the budget as Big Truck Days, National Night Out, fall cleanup, police academies, big Dumpster rental, the town recycling center, the summer concert series and others.

Anselene said the recycling center had become redundant 221 since curbside recycling service started. The summer concert series, held on Thursdays until it was switched to Saturday nights last year, is not to be confused with Friday Night Live, which will be retained. Anselene said the summer concert series' popularity had waned over the years. "With all



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Herndon Town Manager Art Anselene

Give Two Cents

The next public hearing on the town budget will be Tuesday, April 27 at 7 p.m. in the Herndon Town Council chambers. Residents can also comment online at www.herndon-va.gov, where the entire proposed budget is also available, or send e-mails to information@herndon-va.gov.

the opportunities people have for entertainment options today in all the communities around here, there isn't as much demand and need for that," he said.

Despite the proposed real estate tax rate increase, Anselene said 62 percent of homeowners would see some decrease in their tax bill, as assessed values continued to fall.

He said the capital improvement grants that made the budget larger than last year's included \$800,000 in stimulus funding toward burying utility wires downtown, a grant for transportation consulting services related to the creation of a downtown master plan, funding for Herndon Parkway improvements, and state money for improvements to Station Street and the intersection of Park Avenue and Monroe Street, as well as others. "Most of them are for transportation or are transportation-related," he said.

The Herndon Town Council will hold its next public hearing on the budget on Tuesday, April 27. The council will have to decide on the budget, which goes into effect on July 1, by the end of May.

— MIKE DICICCO

On 40th Anniversary of Earth Day...

... a Fortunate Potomac River.

BY MICHAEL LIPFORD

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans actively participated in a new holiday: Earth Day. Inspired by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, the event evolved into an annual celebration of the planet that gives us life.

In Washington, those first Earth Day celebrants assembled around the monuments on the National Mall, within sight of the Potomac River. But the Potomac of 40 years ago was far different from the river we know today.

That river would literally make you sick. Huge toxic algae blooms created such a stench that government officials steered visiting dignitaries away from the river. The algae also caused massive fish kills, and pollution made swimming unthinkable, even on the hottest days.

But those first Earth Day celebrants were part of a rising tide of environmental awareness, and ensuing landmark legislation would improve the health of rivers nationwide. Most notably, the Clean Water Act of 1972 prompted Virginia, Maryland and D.C. to modernize sewage treatment plants and reduce pollution entering the Potomac by 95 percent.

A CLEAN POTOMAC benefits us all, especially the more than 80 percent of Washing-



Michael Lipford, Virginia director of The Nature Conservancy.

ton-area residents whose drinking water comes from the river. The Potomac also is the second-largest tributary of the Chesapeake Bay, so the cleaner the river, the better our chances of restoring the bay's fish, crabs and oysters.

People also love to fish, boat and hike along the Potomac. In fact, more than 3 million people a year visit Great Falls alone, a place The Nature Conservancy helped protect a decade before the inaugural Earth Day. That year, 1960, also saw the establishment of the Conservancy's Virginia Chapter.

So in addition to observing the 40th Earth Day, the Conservancy throughout 2010 is celebrating the golden anniversary of our conser-

vation work in Virginia. Our earliest milestones, in fact, occurred right here in Northern Virginia. Besides helping spearhead a partnership that led to Great Falls Park, we established our first Virginia preserve in Fauquier County at Wildcat Mountain.

Along the Potomac, the Conservancy owns Fraser Preserve in Fairfax County and, with the National Park Service, co-owns Bear Island and the popular Billy Goat Trail. We continue to work with the Park Service and other partners to protect the entire Potomac Gorge.

WE STILL HAVE WORK to do to improve the Potomac's health, but Earth Day presents an opportunity to celebrate how far we've come. Not only have we turned around the health of the river in a generation, but also proven that we can restore our environment. In the shadow of our national monuments, we have achieved the rebirth of a natural monument.

This year, you can celebrate, have fun outdoors and help nature by running or walking in the Conservancy's annual Earth Day 5K in Silver Spring, Maryland, on Sunday, April 17. Hosted by Pacers Events LLC, this "Sprint for Spat" will raise funds to plant 5 million baby oysters (called spat) in the Chesapeake Bay. See nature.org/earthday5k.

Michael Lipford is Virginia director of The Nature Conservancy, a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve the diversity of life on Earth. The organization cares for more than 50 preserves across Virginia and Maryland. On the Web at nature.org/virginia.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Ingram Council Chambers, 765 Lynn St., Herndon. 703-435-6805 or www.herndonva.gov.

THURSDAY/APRIL 22

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.

Reston Association Tennis. Lessons for all ages. A fun competitive league that plays every Wednesday and Thursday evening, April-October. Register at www.usta.com or 703-435-6534.

FRIDAY/APRIL 23

Tax Relief Workshops for Senior and Disabled Citizens. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Reston Community Center. Sponsored by Supervisor Catherine Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), on the County's real estate tax relief and car tax relief programs for citizens who are either 65 or older, or permanently and totally disabled, and meet the income and asset eligibility requirements. Qualified taxpayers may also be eligible for rent relief.

MONDAY/APRIL 26

Chen tai chi. Beginners class every Monday, 6:30 p.m. at the Jow Ga Shaolin Institute, 600-D Carlisle Drive, Herndon. First class free. All levels and ages welcome. truetaiichi.com or 703-801-0064.

TUESDAY/APRIL 27

Public Hearing on Proposed Herndon Budget. 7 p.m. Mary

Call for Mother's Day Photos

And Father's Day too ...

Every year at this time, the Connection puts out the call for photographs of moms and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren. Most years, we're lucky enough to receive a photo or two that includes four generations great-grandma and all the rest.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9, and once again the Connection will publish a gallery of Mother's Day photos, celebrating the mothers who make so many things possible in families, communities, schools and other institutions in local neighborhoods.

Send in photos as soon as possible, including information about who is in the picture, the date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and sentence or two about what is happening and the location (who, what, where, when, why).

We prefer digital photos in JPEG format; email them to Herndon@ConnectionNewspapers.com, and write Mother's Day Photos in the subject line. Or you can mail a CD with your photos on it in Jpeg format.

We will also accept prints, and we will do our best to return photos that include a self-addressed-stamped envelope for that purpose, but please do not send us any photos that cannot be replaced.

Send photos to Herndon@ConnectionNewspapers.com, or mail to Herndon Connection, Mother's Day Photo Gallery, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

And remember, a few weeks from now it will be time to send photos of Dads and children, grandfathers and children and grandchildren. Or feel free to send your Mother's and Father's Day photos at the same time.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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Youth Theatre Comes to Herndon Elementary

The Council for the Arts of Herndon (CAH) presented a free short performance of "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf," a youth theater production from Elden Street Players at Family Night at Herndon Elementary School on Tuesday, April 13.

Mary Ann Hall, director of Youth Theatre, was honored for her role in developing the concept and working with CAH to make free theater a yearly event for Herndon elementary school students.



Pictured, from left, Grace Wolf, president, Board of Directors of the Council for the Arts of Herndon; Mary Ann Hall, artistic director for Elden Street Players Theater for Young Audiences; and Vicky Dorman, executive director, Council for the Arts of Herndon.



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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 22

Author Jeffrey Siger: Assassins of Athens. 7 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 1851 Fountain Drive, Reston. 703-437-9490.

Semi-Annual Book Sale. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Used Book Sale. All Ages. 703-689-2700.

Artists' Reception. 8 p.m. at South of Market Building, 1875 Explorer St., Reston Town Center, Reston. Greater Reston Arts Center and the Washington Sculptors Group present POP-UP@SOMA. 703-471-9242.

'Disney's High School Musical Jr.' 7 p.m. in Wilkins Lecture Hall, Hughes Middle School, 11401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. Tickets \$7. rosedaum@msn.com.

'Bus Stop.' 7:30 p.m. in the Herndon High School Auditorium, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. William Inge's drama of stranded bus passengers. Tickets \$10. keh561@msn.com.

Indie-folk rocker Luke Brindley with The Alternate Routes. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$16. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 23

The Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. 8 p.m. at Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. Volunteer Fairfax and more than 500 community members will honor 176 volunteer individuals and organizations. \$35 for individuals or nonprofits, \$50 for corporate guests. Tickets available at www.volunteerfairfax.org. Contact Samantha Watson at swatson@volunteerfairfax.org or 703-246-3826.

The Virginia Opera presents The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

Semi-Annual Book Sale. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Used Book Sale. All Ages. 703-689-2700.

Guy Zollar Opening Reception. 6 p.m. Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. A show and sale of works by Reston potter and sculptor Guy Zoller. Through May 28. 703-709-7700 or www.restonmuseum.org.

Endless Cup Coffee House. 8-10 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church Reston, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston. With JC Reigns and the West Market Trio. \$5. RosePromotions@aol.com.

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'Bus Stop.' 7:30 p.m. in the Herndon High School Auditorium, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. William Inge's drama of stranded bus passengers. Tickets \$10. keh561@msn.com.

Folk singer/songwriter Lucy Kaplansky. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 24

CycleFest and Paul's Ride for Life. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center. Paul's Ride for Life benefits the Washington Regional Transplant Community, with 35 and 10 mile options on the W&OD trail. CycleFest includes bike demos, BMX stunt



PHOTO BY MELANIE MILLER-CIVILAKIS

A cast of the Herndon High Theatre 'Bus Stop.'

Herndon High Theatre Presents 'Bus Stop'

Herndon High School Theatre presents "Bus Stop" by William Inge on April 22, 23 and 24 at 7:30 p.m., at the Herndon High School Auditorium, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. Tickets are \$10.

"Bus Stop" is a drama set at a diner in the Midwest.

Romance, comedy, and drama ensue when bus passengers are stranded for a night by a snowstorm. More at www.herndonadrama.org.

shows, children's safety bike rodeo, local cycling clubs and more. Special quest, Gary Fisher. 703-689-2671, thebikelane.com or Paulsrideforlife.org.

Great Grapes! Wine, Arts & Food Festival. 12-6 p.m. at the Reston Town Center N.E. Surface Lot & Park. More than 200 wines, 20 Virginia wineries, seminars, gourmet cooking demos, live music and souvenir wine glass. Dozens of artists and crafters plus a children's activity and craft area. \$25 on-site, \$20 advance, \$15 designated drivers. Under 13 free. Chairs and blankets welcome. 800-830-3976 or uncorkthefun.com.

Semi-Annual Book Sale. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Used Book Sale. All Ages. 703-689-2700.

Earth Day Festival. 1-5 p.m. at Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Participate in arbor activities in honor of Reston's Tree City USA certification. Live entertainment, green building tours, fishing activities, children's crafts, canoe and kayak rentals, on-site home electronic recycling and a native plant sale. 703-476-9689.

Virginia Hunters Horse Show Series. 9 a.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Classes include hunters, ponies, equitation and more. Free. 703-437-9101.

Chamber Music Recital. 7:30 p.m. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Violinists Mark Dorosheff and Monika Dorosheff, pianist Marina Chamasyan. Beethoven, Bach, Saint-Saens, Wieniawski, and Sarasate. Benefit for the Herndon Montessori Country School. Free admission. Jennifer_M_Schneider@hotmail.com.

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'Bus Stop.' 7:30 p.m. in the Herndon High School Auditorium, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. William Inge's drama

of stranded bus passengers. Tickets \$10. keh561@msn.com.

Folk duo Buskin & Batteau. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

Herndon Author A.M. Cormier. 5 p.m. at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon. Cormier will sign copies of her new novel, 'Mission,' about a medical mission team trapped in Central Europe after a coup d'etat. The Herndon resident is a freelance writer/editor and former medical radiographer. Proceeds benefit charity. 703-435-5467.

SUNDAY/APRIL 25

The Virginia Opera presents The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess. 2 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

Great Grapes! Wine, Arts & Food Festival. 12-6 p.m. at the Reston Town Center N.E. Surface Lot & Park. More than 200 wines, 20 Virginia wineries, seminars, gourmet cooking demos, live music and souvenir wine glass. Dozens of artists and crafters plus a children's activity and craft area. \$25 on-site, \$20 advance, \$15 designated drivers. Under 13 free. Chairs and blankets welcome. 800-830-3976 or uncorkthefun.com.

Semi-Annual Book Sale. 1 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Used Book Sale. All Ages. 703-689-2700.

MONDAY/APRIL 26

Walker's Rangers: Spring Sensations. 2:30 p.m. at Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. A hands-on nature club for ages 5-8. \$40 per child RA members, \$64 per child non-members. Register at 703-476-9689 ext. 6540 or naturalist@reston.org.

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PHOTOS BY JENNA PUGRANT/THE CONNECTION

At a ribbon cutting ceremony in honor of the opening of the Herndon Middle School Hawk Bank in conjunction with Cardinal Bank, Cardinal Bank's mascot KC 'Kids Club,' Cardinal Bank Regional President Kevin Reynolds, Fairfax County Assistant Superintendent Marty Smith, Herndon Council Member Connie Hutchinson, Cardinal Bank's Executive VP Alice Frazier, and Herndon Middle School Principal Justine Klena celebrate the beginning of the new bank partnership that opened on Friday, April 17.

Banking at Herndon Middle

BY JENNA PUGRANT
THE CONNECTION

The principal of Herndon Middle School Justine Klena prefaced the opening of Herndon Middle School's "HMS Hawk Bank" in conjunction with Herndon's local branch of Cardinal Bank with a quote by First Lady Michelle Obama: "Little by little, the bird builds its nest," she said.

While the first lady was referring to the recovery of Haiti, Klena was referring to the middle school students' potential fiscal growth if they utilize the banking opportunities now available to them.

On Friday, April 16, Cardinal Bank opened its 11th school bank at Herndon Middle School, which is run by selected students trained by Cardinal Bank employees. All students at Herndon Middle School are given the opportunity to open an account at HMS Hawk Bank and deposit their money into it. While students can deposit any amount of money, as big or small as they want, they are not permitted to withdraw money unless they go to an actual branch of Cardinal Bank with their parents.

"You all can learn how to grow your money," said Klena, to students during the opening celebration and ribbon cutting ceremony. "Little, tiny increments make a whole. If you deposit a little bit of money often, over the course of time, you will have created something for yourself that you're proud of."

THE BANK will be open on two Fridays every month for students to use. Cardinal Bank representa-

tives will be at the school whenever the bank is open to answer any questions about banking and oversee the work of the student bank employees. Aside from the actual bookkeeping, however, students will be running the bank by themselves with minimal adult supervision. The student bank workers were each trained by the staff members of the Herndon Cardinal Bank branch and each has been assigned a specific role that resemble the positions of a staff team in a real bank.

Each student that was selected went through an intensive application process in which they were required to write an essay and participate in an interview with bank staff members. "I was so impressed with the essays I read," said Branch Coordinator Payada Habib. "It was important to pick students who would be very engaged in the process. For example, Michael Chen wrote an amazing essay to show how interested he was."

Eighth grader Michael, 14, of Herndon, was assigned the role manager at HMS Bank and seventh grader Jenna Odeh, 12, was assigned the role assistant manager. Seven other students are tellers and eighth grader Alicja Johnson is the first deposition officer.

"I've been section leader of the trumpets in band, and I wanted to apply for this job to help me learn how to lead better," Michael said.

Eighth grade Teller Heena Baig, however, wanted to be involved with the school bank for the specific experience with money. "I want to be an accountant," said Heena. "I am taking an accounting class next year and I want to have some experience before starting."

Jeannine Cotner, an eighth grade civics teacher who has been at HMS for 14 years, was the school coordinator of this project. In her civics class, students learn about economics and financial planning.

"Mrs. Cotner has integrating banking into core curriculum," said Dan Bommer, a parent at Herndon Middle who was actively involved in the opening of the bank. "In math, students are learning about interest rates and costs of loans and in civics, students are learning a lot about fiscal responsibility."

CARDINAL BANK has been working with local community schools to help educate students at younger ages about such practical matters as financial responsibility. "We want to be a partner with the community, especially with the kids," said Cardinal Bank Regional President Kevin Reynolds. "It is important for them to learn financial literacy and to separate out the difference between needs and wants."

The bank is continuing to look for ways in which to educate children about financial planning. "We have 26 branches now," said Reynolds. "I want to try to expand this program so that we have programs with 26 schools as well."

Right before the ribbon was cut at the opening ceremony, Reynolds concluded the presentations with applause and said "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your bank team of HMS. They're here to serve you."

Other bank employees include Subu Adhikari, Kethan Rao, Prince Baidoe, Matthew LaRosa, Virginia Murphy and Jimmy Nguyen.



The HMS Hawk Bank is student run. Eighth grader Michael Chen, 14, is the bank manager and seventh grader Jenna Odeh, is the assistant manger. Other members of the bank include Subu Adhikari, Kethan Rao, Prince Baidoe, Matthew LaRosa, Virginia Murphy, Alicja Johnson and Jimmy Nguyen.

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2010 SPRING VOTERS' GUIDE

TOWN ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010 POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) is cooperating with The Connection Newspapers to produce this Voters' Guide to assist citizens in the Town of Herndon choose candidates for election to the Office of Mayor and Town Council. Registered voters who live within the Town of Herndon are eligible to vote at the Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The LWVFA sent a questionnaire to all candidates whose names were qualified to appear on the May 4, 2010 ballot. Biographies and responses to the questions appear as written by the candidates and are not edited except to comply with Voters' Guide style. The candidates' original responses are on file with the LWVFA. Candidates are listed in the order in which they will appear on the ballot.

The LWVFA is a nonpartisan political membership organization

whose purpose is to encourage informed and active participation of citizens in government, increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy. The LWVFA does not support any political party or candidate.

For more information on the Spring 2010 Voters' Guide, or the LWVFA, please contact 703-658-9150 or visit www.lwv-fairfax.org.

For additional information on the May 4, 2010 election, including voter registration or eligibility, polling location, or absentee voting, contact the Fairfax County Office of Elections at 703-222-0776 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb or contact the Virginia State Board of Elections at 800-552-9745 or visit www.sbe.virginia.gov.

IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO VOTE

Election officers at all polling places are required to request identification from each voter. **PLEASE BRING IDENTIFICATION**

WHEN YOU COME TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010.

Acceptable forms of identification can be any ONE of the following:

- Virginia Voter Information Card
- Valid United States passport
- Social Security card
- Valid Virginia driver's license, or special identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles
- Military identification
- Any Federal, state, or local government-issued identification card
- Employee-issued photo identification card

If you do not have an acceptable form of identification, you must complete, under oath, an Affirmation of Identity to cast your ballot.

THE TOWN OF HERNDON MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

THE OFFICE

TERMS: Two years

SALARIES: Mayor, \$6,000 per year. Town Council members, \$4,000 per year.

DUTIES: The mayor presides over council meetings, serves as ceremonial head of town government, authenticates any document or instrument required by the council, has all rights and duties of other council members and has no veto power. The council provides policy guidance

for the town manager, establishes town policies, passes resolutions and ordinances, approves the town budget, sets tax rates, approves land use plans and makes appointments.

BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

BIOGRAPHY: Background provided by each candidate.

THE QUESTIONS

Would you support moving the Town of Herndon May general

ELECTIONS to the date of the November general election? Why or why not?

What proposals in the advertised Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2011 **BUDGET** do you believe could have the most negative consequences for the residents of the Town of Herndon? How would you resolve these as an elected leader in your jurisdiction?

What is an **ISSUE** that you believe is important to residents of the Town of Herndon, and how would you address it?

CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR, TOWN OF HERNDON – VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE (1)



Steve J. DeBenedittis
Incumbent

BIOGRAPHY: BS, Virginia Tech; Herndon Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Manager, Personal Trainer, One To One Fitness. Herndon Mayor, 2006-present; Northern Virginia Transportation Authority; Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA); Town Association Northern Virginia, Chairman; Northern Virginia Regional Commission; Four Seasons Neighborhood Watch; Herndon Optimist Youth Baseball Coach

ELECTIONS: No. We should continue the long history of non partisan May elections to keep them separate from the noise

and partisan bickering that would obscure local issues if local elections were held in November. Candidates in local elections should do everything possible to foster high voter turnout in May and focus on issues important to voters.

BUDGET: Fairfax County should plan for necessary transportation improvements to ease gridlock and work with State officials to fund transportation improvements benefitting the entire region. I have worked with elected leaders from Fairfax and Loudoun Counties on the inter-jurisdictional committee to plan for necessary transportation improvements as Rail to Dulles arrives and the region continues to grow. Fairfax County should make targeted budget cuts to ease the burden on taxpayers, but cuts to the Herndon Fortnightly Library and School Resource Officers should be minimized.

ISSUE: Quality of life. We must finish the Downtown Master Planning process with continued citizen input. We will continue to plan for appropriate infrastructure and necessary amenities for Herndon's Metrorail service area. Although we have made great progress over the past four years, residential overcrowding continues to be an important concern. I will work hard to ensure that all residents live in a healthy and safe environment in neighborhoods free of the negative impacts of residential overcrowding. Taxes and spending must be kept under control to minimize the burden on taxpayers. Building on our economic development efforts will provide jobs and keep our commercial tax base strong.

CONTACT: Steve@HerndonSteve.com 703-801-4812

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OF HERNDON TOWN COUNCIL – VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN SIX (6)



Daniel E. Alvarado
Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: Daniel raised his children in Herndon where he lives since 1992. He is an Economist, political analyst and free-lance writer for hispanic newspapers. Works in the Travel Industry, closely linked to the soccer program in Herndon and actively participates in the community through his involvement in different organizations.

ELECTIONS: Yes, because it'll means a significant savings in the budget for the government and for the voter, in terms of time.

BUDGET: The property taxes, the Town proposed \$0.26/100 rate wich constrain the town to raise the fees or cut essential services they provide.

ISSUE: I believe that most important issue our residents are facing is the dramatic drop of our property values, they drop much more than surrounded areas.

I'll address this issue focusing on some factors that play a big role in the fluctuations of Herndon's property values, let me mention some of them:

The Metrorail station proyected for Herndon, Empty and Crowded houses, Nice and safe environment, People standing at 7/11 and the big noise our tow council is making in order to

get ride of them, Nice amenities and strong organizations. In order to resolve most of these issues we need to work together with our community, with our specialists (we also need to hire a professional Naturalist), as well with Fairfax county and all the agencies involve in these projects,

CONTACT: 703-478-6806 dear@cuzco-travel.com

TOWN ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010 POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OF HERNDON TOWN COUNCIL - CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OF HERNDON TOWN COUNCIL (CONTINUED)



Cesar A. del Aguila Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: I was born in Washington, DC and have spent my entire life in this area. Professionally, I've held many roles with large computer software companies. I moved to Fortnightly Square in 2007, drawn by the town's rich, diverse community; its great restaurants; its beautiful trails; and its family-friendly environment.

ELECTIONS: No. I support maintaining a separate Town election so the focus can remain on local issues. Our challenge is

how to be inclusive and representative while effecting meaningful change in the way we do Town business. Until 2006, Herndon elections were not partisan and campaign practices were not polarizing. My goal is to go back to a more neighborly time.

BUDGET: First, although Herndon is a part of Fairfax County, Town Council members do not have the authority to "resolve" County budget issues. As a Council member, I will work to rebuild and strengthen ties with County officials so that Herndon concerns are heard. Second, the County proposal to eliminate middle school resource officers could have serious consequences for Herndon Middle School. School resource officers play a critical role in preventing and reducing

incidences of criminal and gang activity. What we can do is to continue our support for organizations, such as Kids at Hope and Vecinos Unidos, that support our youth. I believe that a caring community can positively impact young people during their tumultuous initiations into adulthood.

ISSUE: Our Town image needs polishing. We live in the information age and news, words, and images travel faster and to more people than ever before. As an elected official it is paramount to focus and promote the positive aspects of our Town. Herndon is the Gem of the Dulles Corridor and we should promote this value. I will always work to represent the entire Town in a positive light.

CONTACT: 703-989-4023 cesardelag@gmail.com



Connie Haines Hutchinson Incumbent

BIOGRAPHY: Vice Mayor, Connie Haines Hutchinson, a Herndon native with four grown children; manages the Herndon Dulles Visitor's Center, a non-profit organization she helped create. She is a Certified Local Government Official and has served on several Virginia Municipal League committees and is a graduate of Virginia Computer College.

ELECTIONS: I am not in favor of moving Town elections from May to November because they are non-partisan and, hopefully,

will stay that way in the future. Moving Town elections to November could cause a focus on partisanship rather than Town issues. Town issues might not get the attention they deserve if voters were considering Federal, State, and County issues at the same time.

BUDGET: Proposed budget cuts to public transportation, schools, and libraries will have a negative affect on Town residents. Herndon relies on the County for public education and the proposed \$16 million reduction in funds for school operations will create many challenges for both teachers and students. Any increase in the real estate tax rate, above the equalization rate, will add to the tax burden of Herndon property owners. Something the Town Council can do to help al-

leviate the burden of additional taxes at the County level, is not to raise the Herndon real estate tax rate.

ISSUE: Planned development adjacent to Herndon's western boundary could have a significant impact on Herndon's roads, public facilities, and overall quality of life; depending on how transportation, recreation, public safety and land-use issues are addressed by Fairfax and Loudoun counties. The Mayor and Council have been proactive by identifying and voicing concerns and working with both counties on planning for this development through an inter-jurisdictional committee, on which I serve, representing Herndon.

CONTACT: conniehutch072@hotmail.com 703-501-6282



Philip R. Jones Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: Born in Hong Kong, Philip moved to Virginia in 1970 arriving in Herndon 1999. He is an Information Technology professional solving complex military and organizational problems in the intelligence communities. He earned an A. S from Regents, and BS in CIS from Excelsior College. He is a U.S. Navy Veteran.

ELECTIONS: No. Moving the election to November will drown out local candidates by big dollar partisan politics. We

would lose focus on Herndon's issues by voting on party lines.

BUDGET: Herndon tax payers and residents will be directly affected by proposed tax increase of .05 for property owners, a decrease in school funding, cuts in library services and possible cuts in public safety (Fire department 404).

Herndon has grown and evolved. It may be time for Herndon to assume city status and be independent of Fairfax County. It already has its own police and public works departments. Its return on investment from Fairfax property and other taxes is less than if it collected them for itself. It is a complex issue with hard choices, but worth our consideration.

ISSUE: While metro and downtown are important, the average

Herndon citizen is affected daily by quality of life issues that affect the town's image, decrease in property values from overcrowding, and public safety concerns from individuals who are not legal residents. Every week, we are reminded in Herndon's court how large the problem is with individuals who do not play by the rules and represent a public safety threat.

I would continue the steadfast policies, legislative efforts by the Mayor and Council, and recommend a visit to the States Attorney's office. I would express concern over the lax enforcement of traffic laws in our court with repeat offenders with jail time often waived or fines suspended.

CONTACT: 571-249-3154 Phil4Council@verizon.net



David A. Kirby Incumbent

BIOGRAPHY: AS, Coyne Electrical School, Boston, 1967; Broadcast Engineering, Cleveland Institute of Electronics, 1973; Vietnam Veteran; Commander, American Legion, Post 184, 2006-present; Retired Federal Government IT Officer; Government Advocate, Loyal Order of Moose 2274; Board of Review, Boy Scout Troop 913; parishioner, St Joseph Church; married 33 years, two sons.

ELECTIONS: No. I believe it is important to keep the local

town election separate from the General election because we are a small town with small town issues. I would not like to see General election issues mixed in with, and causing confusion with, town issues.

BUDGET: The Elimination of the Gang Prevention Coordinator Position and the Elimination of 26 Police Officers who are assigned to all middle schools to prevent and reduce the incidence of criminal and gang activity, and to provide a safe and secure learning environment. I would look for other cuts and would lobby our federal and state representatives for the \$2.2 million needed to fund these important positions.

ISSUE: Metro is coming to Herndon in 2016. Some believe

we may be behind the eight ball on this issue however, I do not agree. We have put an RFP on the street to contract a consultant (soon to be awarded) to come and work with a committee of Herndon citizens to identify what needs to be done in the design of our Metro stop. We will need to negotiate with the private land owners and the general public on zoning and density issues. With no town owned land, we will have to raise the density levels in the current Light Industrial zoned area north of the toll road and south of the Herndon Parkway (our new Urban Develop Area) that will encourage redevelopment and to get a proffered Kiss and Ride and other Metro related amenities.

CONTACT: 703-481-6189 kirbyforcouncil@aol.com



Lisa C. Merkel Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: Lisa holds a MS in Curriculum and Instruction from Virginia Tech, and a BS in Education from Auburn University. She has worked in public education and recently represented Herndon on the APR Task Force. Lisa and her husband Dave live in downtown Herndon with their two young children.

ELECTIONS: My only concern with moving Town elections to November is the possibility of Town issues getting lost in the flood of state and national campaigns. I am in-

terested in the voters' perspective on this issue: the ultimate goal is making elections work best for residents, so that as many voters as possible will make their voices heard.

BUDGET: Schools are a key component of our community, and play a huge role in attracting and retaining the families, businesses and other organizations that make Herndon prosper. The proposed cuts to the Fairfax County Schools will have an impact on every family in Herndon. Full-Day Kindergarten, French Immersion, and smaller class sizes are reasons that families choose Herndon as their hometown. I will remain involved in the PTA and continue to advocate for our public schools at School Board and County Budget Hearings, both as a parent and elected official.

ISSUE: Property values have plummeted in Herndon at a greater rate than in surrounding areas in Northern Virginia. I will initiate work immediately with Fairfax County, appropriate agencies, and adjacent property owners to ensure that Herndon's Kiss & Ride facility is properly planned and in place when Metro arrives in 2016. I will work to attract high-quality, desirable businesses to Herndon's downtown and Metro station, providing a greater commercial tax base and lowering the tax burden for residents. These projects, coupled with an economic development plan, will ensure higher property values, excellent services, and prosperity for the Town and its residents.

CONTACT: 703-689-9669 lisa@lisa4herndon.org



Sheila A. Olem Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: M.S., University of Memphis; B. S., University of North Alabama. Aflac sales associate. Past vice Chair, Board of Zoning Appeals; Board Member, Council for the Arts of Herndon; Board Member, Friends of Runnymede Park; Board Member, Foundation for the Cultural Arts, Herndon Rotary Club; Herndon High PTA, Sports Booster Club.

ELECTIONS: No. I do not believe there has been enough discussion about the subject with residents. I would support polls

or having town staff organize public meetings on the subject.

BUDGET: The cuts within the library will affect our students in their quest for research and study materials and our community groups that use the library for meeting space. To resolve the students' dilemma I will work with local businesses and staff to find access to computers with internet access so students could do their research on line. For our community groups, I would work with local businesses and staff to find available meeting spaces for the groups so we could continue to be a place for the volunteer organizations that provide our residents with programs.

ISSUE: A Metrorail kiss and ride in Herndon is imperative to

making Herndon a destination of choice for new businesses and residents. Now is the time to make sure we have a Kiss & Ride on the Herndon side of the toll road. As a member of council, I will strongly encourage other council members to vote to work with Fairfax County and MWAA to ensure we have a Kiss & Ride in Herndon.

CONTACT: 703-709-9880 saolem@verizon.net

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OF HERNDON TOWN COUNCIL - CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OF HERNDON TOWN COUNCIL (CONTINUED)



Jasbinder Singh Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: B. Tech. Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, India; M.S. Civil Engineering & 2.5 years in PhD Program in Urban and Public Affairs, Carnegie-Mellon University. Owner, Policy Planning & Evaluation, Inc., an economic & policy analysis company in Environment, Energy, & Transportation since 1977. Part Owner- Jando Trucking, Inc.
ELECTIONS: Yes, I would support moving the May general election to November. My main reason for doing so is that the

change would result in a more representative government. The disparities in voting patterns for minority groups are astounding. For instance, in 2006, only 50 Muslims-Americans out of more than 650 registered vote in the May election. In comparison, more 450 vote in November elections. The same trend is applicable to Indian, Hispanics and Asians. The immigrant communities are simply not vested in local affairs. For this reason, the politics are skewed in favor of fringe groups.

BUDGET: It should be noted that Herndon residents pay more than their fair share of Taxes to the County, but do not receive an equitable share of services. This problem is not amenable to a quick solution. Most of Herndon's Budget is

independent of Fairfax County's finances, because the Town raises revenues through a large number of its own taxes. The reductions in services hours for libraries and parks, increase in fares for the Fairfax Connector, senior service reductions etc. will have some effect; however, the Town has not planned any compensatory adjustments at this time.

ISSUE: The current Council's policies have failed to stop the loitering around Alabama and Elden Streets. The discussions to find acceptable solutions stopped almost four years ago. I propose to begin discussions with all stakeholders immediately to try and find practical and cost-effective solutions.
CONTACT: 703-582-2229 singhforcouncil@earthlink.net



Carl I. Sivertsen Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: B.S. Athens State University, Athens Ala. 1970, U.S. Army veteran, Herndon resident since 1977, employed by Fairfax County Health Department, 25+ years of Herndon planning and zoning experience, former Board of Zoning Appeals chairman, current Chairman of Herndon Planning Commission, single parent of two grown children, Lindy swing dancer.

ELECTIONS: I would not support having Town of Herndon

elections in November. Town elections are special events for a community that should not be overshadowed by the state and federal political campaigns.

BUDGET: The most negative consequence of the 2011 Fairfax County budget is the overall cost of government that results in a need for more tax dollars from area residents. If elected I will evaluate the staffing in Herndon to make sure we have the right number of people doing jobs that need to be done. I hope to freeze all but essential hiring and begin shifting staff to perform truly needed tasks. Once that effort is completed, reductions in staffing may need to be done. I will encourage the towns, cities and county to follow a similar plan of action.

ISSUE: Many issues are important to Herndon residents. In my opinion the big issue is economic development. Herndon has a great downtown area that needs to be energized. The arrival of Metro provides opportunities for the region and the world to come to Herndon to live, work and play. With a wide range of housing choices, an outstanding parks and recreation system, great festivals and cultural events Herndon can become "the place to be" if you want a great lifestyle. Getting the economic engine running will allow Herndon to flourish as never before. Visit Herndon and see what we have!

CONTACT: 571-225-8362 carl4council@verizon.net



William B. "Bill" Tirrell Incumbent

BIOGRAPHY: BS, U.S. Naval Academy; MS, Naval Post-graduate School; Federal employee; seven Council terms (90-92, 94-02, 06-10), two Town Planning Commission terms (88-90, 02-06), Town Board of Zoning Appeals term (87-88), Town Architecture Review Board term (85-87); leader of many local, state and national organizations (National Chair, Spina Bifida Association)

ELECTIONS: No. Energizing voters to vote in May is challenging. Getting citizens to focus on Herndon issues during National, State, and County campaigns could be impossible.

BUDGET: Real estate tax increases (reducing residents' disposable incomes) aside, various proposed service reductions impact community members and organizations differently. If reduced/eliminated services are truly needed, civic organizations and volunteers become the best method of providing those services. Herndon's charter severely limits our ability to provide social services. Making a Herndon police officer available on call may help mitigate the proposed removal of the middle school police officer liaisons by the county.

ISSUE: Maintaining current tax levels is important as is the quality of life Herndon provides. Real estate taxes paid in 2010 should not exceed those paid in 2009, but other revenue sources should be considered to retain Herndon's ethos. Real estate development in Loudoun and Fairfax counties west

of Herndon and the two metro stops bordering, but outside, Herndon can have deleterious impacts on traffic. Currently, the Town is part of a three jurisdiction group trying to mitigate adverse effects on developing land in the counties outside of Herndon on our western border - although no Herndon land is involved. Hiring a consultant and providing redevelopment incentives are planned to help with private sector development of the future Town Kiss and Ride facility for the Herndon/Monroe Metro station. Staff and council members have been involved for months and failure to resolve this will have long-term economic impacts.

CONTACT: 703-709-7586 bill.tirrell@verizon.net



Charlie D. Waddell Incumbent

BIOGRAPHY: Occupation: Senior Systems Engineer; Education: Bachelor of Science, Randolph-Macon College. Graduate, Virginia Certified Planning Commissioners Program; Citizens Planning Education Association of Virginia; Experience: Herndon Town Council, 2006 - present; Chairman, Town of Herndon Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee; Joint Communications Committee, Herndon Town Council/Planning Commission; Transportation Policy Committee, Virginia Municipal League (VML)

ELECTIONS: No, the citizens would vote in the May elec-

tions are engaged, informed about issues and know the candidates' positions. I fear that combining Herndon elections with the fall elections would possibly reduce voter interest in town issues.

BUDGET: Fairfax County's imposition of a penny per \$100 assessed real estate value to fund the County's Storm Water Management Program. This is a new tax for storm water projects formerly funded through Fairfax's General Fund. The Town currently has its own storm water management program with a number of projects in our Capital Improvements Program. I will advocate that the tax revenue generated within the Town be dedicated to help fund our storm water management projects.

ISSUE: Having a viable and sustainable tax base upon which to fund Town amenities and services.

My goal is to attract new businesses and citizens to our community; businesses that will locate in our downtown and near the new Metrorail stop.

We're currently working on Comprehensive Plan amendments that will define future development in our Downtown and Metrorail Development areas.

This growth will be achieved at a level that balances the potential growth with our citizens' expectations as expressed in community meetings and the Citizens' Advisory Committee. Using this citizen input will guide me in deciding the right mix and balance for our future development.

CONTACT: 703-435-2520 [703-282-7031 charliewaddell@verizon.net](mailto:charliewaddell@verizon.net)



Grace H. Wolf Challenger

BIOGRAPHY: 12 year resident of Herndon. Small business owner and President, Council for the Arts of Herndon. Awarded Herndon's Distinguished Service Volunteer of the Year in 2006. Attended Leadership Fairfax in 2007. BA and MBA from Cornell University. Worked for Fortune 500 companies in finance and strategy. Married with one daughter.

ELECTIONS: I support moving the Town of Herndon May general elections to the November general elections because I believe it will allow more voters to become aware of, interest-

ed in and willing to vote for Herndon specific issues. Despite the risk of increased partisanship and loss of sole focus on town issues, I believe more voters will engage in town issues. Additionally, localities and states will reduce overall spending for elections, reducing the expense to taxpayers.

BUDGET: Two proposals, #58 - Reduce Library Operations and #91 - Eliminate Middle School SROs, pose the greatest challenge for Herndon. The Herndon Fortnightly Library stands to lose 20% of its operating hours under this proposal. Hours lost include useful times for student to do homework, civic groups to hold meetings, job seekers to use resources. A host of program impacting thousands of school age children will be eliminated or curtailed. This will have a major impact

on our education and community. Proposal #91 will negatively impact school safety. Maintaining a secure atmosphere for students to development and need guidance and roles models to stay on the right path and not get involved in criminal or gang activity.

ISSUE: Creating an implementable design to build the Herndon Metro Rail station with a Kiss and Ride in Herndon is the more important issue facing residents. Phase 2 engineering design development closes in early 2011 and we are not prepared. I will move immediately to commence design planning, soliciting citizen input and approaching affected landowners to ensure Herndon can access Rail.

CONTACT: gracehewolf@gmail.com

VOTE

TOWN ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010 POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY

Brittany Dao, right, with some of the girls participating in the event.



Oakton High Students Organize Fund Raiser

Students from six area high schools turned out in droves for Down for Dao, a fund raiser organized by the junior-class officers at Oakton High School, on Saturday, April 10. More than 400 students attended the third Down for Dao dance, and approximately \$3,000 was raised for the American Cancer Society.

Down for Dao was organized in honor of Herndon-resident, Emily Dao, to help raise funds for her cancer treatment. Sadly, Emily Dao lost her battle with cancer of the young age of 20 last summer. The proceeds from Saturday's Down for Dao will go to the American Cancer Society.

"Whenever I went to chemotherapy treatments with my sister and I talked with other people affected, it really broke my heart," said Brittany Dao, Emily's sister and founder of Down for Dao. "Anyone who fights and is willing to go through what they were going through, well, I just really wanted to find a way to help them."

The junior class typically plans and runs a spring dance to raise money for prom; however this year the Class of 2011 had already raised enough money for prom, so they decided to give back to the community and support their friend, Brittany, and the American



Brittany Dao and Jennifer Corser helped organize the event in memory of Brittany's sister Emily raising \$3,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Cancer Society. Oakton junior class officers who organized the fund raiser are Sara Iacovino. Jennifer Corser, Sarah Kowarski and Sean Navin.

Upcoming local events in sup-

port of the American Cancer Society include Relay for Life of Reston, May 22, and Relay for Life of Herndon, June 12. Visit www.relayforlife.org for more information.

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HERNDON CONNECTION ♦ APRIL 21-27, 2010 ♦ 11

SPORTS

Rainy Conditions Can't Slow Down Highlanders, Cougars

Whitebread's second half score breaks 2-2 tie, leads McLean past Oakton.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Playing in sloppy, wet field conditions due to sporadic rainfall did not seem to put much of a damper on the quality of play during McLean's 4-2 non-district boys' soccer win at Oakton Friday evening, April 16.

Both teams displayed grit during a contest in which it appeared, in the first half at least, that the talented Highlanders were on their way to an easy victory.

McLean, a seasoned squad and certainly one of the Northern Region's best clubs this spring, improved its record to 6-0-1 on the season. Meanwhile, Oakton, in a rebuilding phase of sorts under its first year head coach Todd Spitalny, saw its season record slip to 2-4.

Trailing 2-0 at halftime, Oakton stormed back with a pair of goals in the first 10 minutes of the second half to tie the score at 2-2. But seven minutes later, McLean senior midfielder Tim Whitebread, from about 12 yards away off the left wing area, grounded the ball into the left side of the net for a tie-breaking score to give the Highlanders a 3-2 advantage. A hard McLean offensive rush off the right side helped set the tally up.

Twenty minutes later, with just over three minutes remaining, McLean all but put the game out of reach on a score by senior forward Matt Janssen, set up on a Whitebread corner kick.

McLean, following Oakton's early second half goals that had tied the game, displayed its fortitude by answering with the game's final two scores.

"It says something about the character of the team this year," said Johnny Sims, McLean's senior forward who scored a first half goal in the win. "We won't get our heads down."

OAKTON showed no quit either, coming out in the second half with an intensity and fire that resulted in the Cougars getting right back in the contest. The Cougars, trailing 2-0, got their first goal of the night on a close-range header shot by junior midfielder Noah Merlin, who aggressively dove towards an on-coming corner kick ball to get his head on it and redirect the ball into the net. Charlie Ahn, a junior midfielder, earned the assist by kicking the corner shot that led to the goal.

The revved up Oakton team continued to pressure the Highlanders and, several minutes later, scored the equalizer when junior midfielder George "Bubba" Delgado, following a nice move to free himself up for a shot off the left side, scored with 30 minutes, 20 seconds remaining in the second half to make it 2-2.

But the Highlanders re-gained control thereafter with two of their own scores to land the win.

"As a team we're firing on all cylinders right now," said Sims. "The season has been phenomenal. We've come together as a unit. The win [over Oakton] is great for morale. But we have to make sure we don't forget that our next game is just as important."

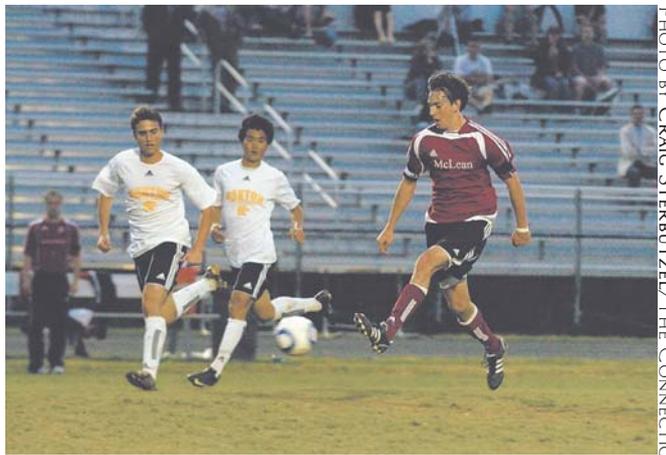


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton (white jerseys) had won two games in a row before its non-district home loss to unbeaten McLean last Friday night.

Spitalny, in his first season at Oakton following several seasons as the Thomas Jefferson High girls' head soccer coach, said the Cougars have shown good improvement over the course of the season thus far. The team lost its first three games this spring before getting victories over Chantilly, 1-0, and Washington-Lee, 2-1, going into the McLean game.

The coach, whose team was missing starters Ahmed Ismail, Andrew Hippe and Alvaro Cabal against McLean, credited the visiting Highlanders.

"McLean played very hard, very solid," said Spitalny. "Their center midfielders were dominant with their tackles. They are ranked No. 5 [in area polls] for a reason."

Spitalny, who led the Jefferson girls to a district title, is looking to build the Oakton boys, who were 4-6-1 last year, into a winner.

"It's about changing the culture and we're doing that," he said. "These guys for a long time haven't believed they could win. But we've outplayed opponents. It's always [a mistake] late in the game, a little bit of panic and the feeling that we won't win."

Spitalny, the travel team coach of both the Braddock Road 94 Elite boys as well as the Northern Virginia Royals U-15 boys' summer team, loves the makeup of his Oakton team, led by tri-captains Sean Zewe, Alvaro Cabal, both seniors, and Ahn, who is a junior. He calls Zewe, a defender, his "Mr. Dependable."

"This is a great group of kids," said Spitalny, of his team.

The loss to a talented McLean team hardly dampened the Cougars' spirit.

"So far, our season is going very well, although the [win-loss] results aren't going as well," said Ahn, one of the Oakton tri-captains and a travel team member of the McLean Academy U-17. "We have a good roster and some real quality players. We've come into the season with a different attitude. We need to work on executing in front of the goal. Our strengths are speed, passing and keeping the ball."

Oakton has scheduled games this week against visiting Robinson on Tuesday, April 20 and at South County on Thursday, April 22 at 7 p.m.

McLean was scheduled to play at Madison on Tuesday, April 22.



PHOTOS COURTESY/RESTON RAIDERS

The 12-under Reston Raiders enjoy a few moments together prior to the start of the festive parade that took place in celebration of Reston being the host town of the youth showcase national ice hockey tournament.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The under-12, AA-division Reston Raiders' ice hockey team participated at the National Championship Tournament two weeks ago. The showcase event was hosted by Reston this year.

The 12-under Raiders made it all the way to the quarterfinals before falling to top-seed Spokane, Wash., by a 2-0 score. It was the 60th and final game of an outstanding season of hockey for the locals.

Reston made it to the national quarterfinals by finishing fourth out of its respective bracket. During bracket play, Reston had squared off against teams from Texas, Missouri and Alaska.

The Raiders played one of their best games against Spokane in the quarterfinals matchup. Reston played the Washington state team almost dead even for the entire game, getting 24 shots off to Spokane's 28. With one minute left in the game, Spokane was desperately trying to hold onto a 1-0 lead. The Raiders pulled goalie Jack Lalor (26 saves) in order to have an extra attacker. But 30 seconds later, Spokane scored an empty net goal and the Raiders' historic run for the national title was over.

Once again, the Raiders received great performances from all three lines, which got equal

playing time under Coach Jeff Harrington's philosophy of playing as a team.

The strong performance by the Reston team wasn't the only thing the Raiders were proud of during Nationals Week, which included a parade through Reston and a lot of great memories. Two Raiders competed in the Easton Skills Competition against some of the best AA players in the United States. Andrew Herrmann won best goalie for the shooter challenge, stopping all six shots in the first round and going on to win the goalie title. Ted Leggett won the breakaway challenge, scoring four out of five in the preliminary round and then three out of five in the shoot-off round to take the skater title.

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



The Reston Raiders, shown earlier this year displaying their medals after winning the region title, reached the national quarterfinals two weeks ago.

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Between a Rock and a Hard Place



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Now I don't want to make much ado about something but, it's impossible for an individual with cancer not to grasp at anything remotely looking, feeling, pretending even, to be a straw. Therefore, when your oncologist speaks (like E.F. Hutton used to say it did) – you listen – and look; for a glimmer of hope, a flicker of light; anything to illuminate (literally and figuratively) the tunnel in which you travel every emotional day. Sometimes the status is quo, other times, the news/results are less clear. There is no more certainty. Though much is known about the human body and how and why it functions – and responds the way it does, much remains a mystery, especially concerning cancer. The effect is, "What if?" is always my next question and my doctor's answer is always something like, "We'll see," something non-definitive. Still, I continue to ask my "scenario-type questions" as I characterize them, and my oncologist continues to answer them, as honestly and clearly as he knows I prefer to hear them.

It's rare so far, that he anticipates and then initiates a preemptive "scenario-type" answer. But this is exactly what he did during my last infusion day (chemotherapy is every three weeks for me; each patient is different), a day when I am not scheduled to see him, nor a day quite frankly when I even expected to see him (given the demands of his schedule; splitting time between multiple treatment centers). As I sat in my Barcalounger, being infused (needle in arm), into the center walks my doctor to discuss something with a member of the center's medical staff. He sees me; I'm 10 feet away, approximately; he's certainly seen me here many times before, but I doubt (based on previous interactions we've had) that he would actually know when I, or any other patient, quite frankly, would be present and accounted for. Nevertheless, there we both were.

He finishes his conversation and walks over to where I'm sitting, smiling at me, and then while gesturing at his chest (the chest is where my tumors are located, primarily, so I knew what his gesture meant) says; "You're going great! Your scans were fine." (This scan information was not new. I knew the results from a week-ago courtesy phone call I received from my oncology nurse/research study coordinator, but then he offered up the following straw-type statement): "Before you ask your question" (my usual scenario-what's-it-all-mean-type question which I always ask), he adds, "this is highly unusual. I don't know if the medication is working or you're just lucky, but you're doing great!" "WOW!" I said. "And we can continue doing this for awhile?" I asked. "Absolutely!" He replied. Then he walked away, smiling some more, to attend to other medical responsibilities. I exhaled and started crying.

As I attempted to get my bearings, I wondered to myself, did he just say (and do/initiate) what I thought he said/did? Composing myself yet again, I next called Team Lourie; my wife, Dina; and my brother, Richard: "Great news, Kenny! I'm so happy for you." "I know," I said. "Amazing," I summarized. And so it remains. But I'm hardly out of the woods. Maybe I'm out of a tree, still very deep in the forest though. But it was news I can live with (duh) for now, tempered by the underlying medical reality of course, and that's the problem. On the one hand, it's a milestone; on the other, it's a millstone.

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

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FAITH

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

Full Circle Band presents an evening of contemporary Christian and praise music popular songs, 7:30 p.m. on April 23 at **Floris United Methodist Church**, 13600 Frying Pan Road in Herndon. A free-will offering will be collected to support Mercy Hospital and the hospital's well project in Bo, Sierra Leone, Africa. Free. Reserve seats at www.florisumc.org/507316.html.

Faith and Public Policy Breakfast at the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 24. U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) will

share his perspectives on the interface between faith and the issues that he deals with in the House of Representatives. Everyone is invited for this free continental breakfast. Contact the church at 703-356-7200, or Ray Martin at 703-556-0123 or martinrs@aol.com.

The Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation USA invites the public to a series of events on Sunday, May 9, at their Regional Office, 1516 Moorings Drive, Reston. Vegetarian light refreshments will be served. Contact 703-707-8606 or www.us.tzuchi.org.

❖ **Sakyamuni Buddha's Birthday Celebration**, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

❖ **Sharing On Haiti Relief Efforts**, 10:50 a.m.-12 p.m.

❖ **Tzu Chi Missions Exhibition**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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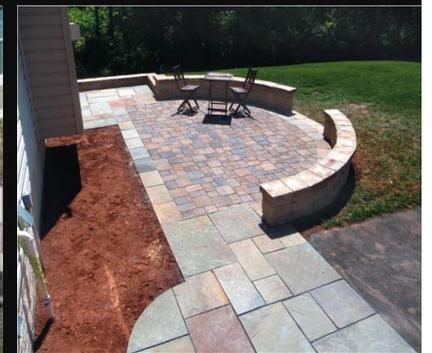
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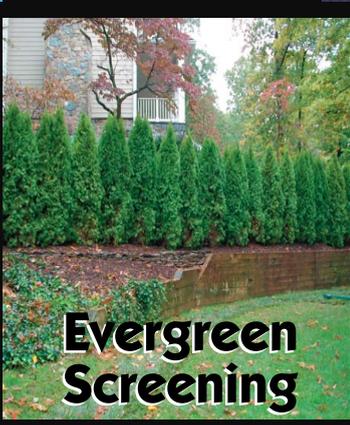
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