Radio King Orchestra’s ‘Pincurl Girls’ Lori and Jamie Boyd pose for the camera with their 1950s style at the last Saturday’s opening of the Reston Concerts on the Town season.

Sounds of Summer at Town Center

News, Page 4

Reviewing Reston Stream Restoration

News, Page 3

Sculptures To Grace Town Square Park

News, Page 3
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Reviewing Reston Stream Restoration

By Alex McVeigh
The Connection

Reston residents were given an opportunity to review the stream restoration process going on in their community Saturday, June 5, with a new exhibit at the Reston Museum and a walking tour of several streams.

The Northern Virginia Stream Restoration Bank Project is a partnership between Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. and the Peterson Companies, who are working together with the Reston Association. The goal of Phase I of the project is to restore 14 miles of degraded streams in Snakehead Branch, The Glade and Colvin Run watersheds.

The streams are being restored using Natural Channel Design Techniques, which involve raising the stream bed, placing a reinforced bed and placement of rock and log structures designed to direct flow away from channel banks.

The project is the largest urban stream restoration in the mid-Atlantic.

Residents Gathered at the Reston Museum Saturday, where the night before a new exhibit was opened explaining the project.

“We are trying to help people learn the history and the benefits of the project, and to show them the pros and cons of what we’re trying to do,” said Mike Rolband, president of WSS. “The majority of people who have come have been pretty informed, and we’ve gotten a very positive response in the last few months.”

After visitors viewed the exhibit, they were invited to walk to a stream in the nearby Hickory Cluster section of Lake Anne, where restoration has been proposed for mid to late 2011.

“This kind of work has been needed at Hickory Cluster for a long time,” said Bonnie Whyte, a volunteer at the Reston Museum and a former resident of Hickory Cluster.

Bob Anderson, a longtime resident of Hickory Cluster, believes the project is something that is needed for the long-term well-being of the area.

“It might be a major change, but it’s something that has long been needed here,” he said. “It might be difficult to get through, but it will be worth it.”

In Case any of the residents needed convincing, Rolband and his associates took them to The Glade, which had a previous section restored at the end of March, and parts of which are still ongoing.

The Glade project was delayed more than six months while the community voiced its concerns, but the end results, Whyte said, should speak for themselves.

“I’d be very surprised if [the Hickory Cluster] part was held up, after all, now people can just go to The Glade and see the results for themselves,” she said.

The restoration aims to reduce the energy level of fast-moving water, which happens during and after storms. The fast-moving water creates steep, eroding banks and threatens adjacent trails, trees and sewers.

As part of the restoration, headers and cross-veins are placed in approximately 100-foot intervals to help dissipate the water’s energy. Headers, which are long, flat rocks placed horizontally across the stream, help to keep the water ripples flatter, which creates less erosion. Cross-veins, which are long sections placed out from the headers, help to replace steep, vertical banks, which were as much as eight feet high along The Glade, Rolband said.

The area around the stream is planted with rye and millet grass and as many as 20-30 other species of plant, all of which will form a cover crop whose root system will help keep the shore intact.

For more information on stream restoration in the area, visit www.wetlandstudies.com

Mike Rolband, president of Wetland Studies and Solutions, shows how restoration has affected the Glade stream for the better, by helping to cut down on erosion of the stream bank.

Sculptures To Grace Town Square Park

Earthquake, The Way to Be, and Monument to the Sun and Stars, three vibrantly colored wood sculptures, will be situated in planting beds along the Market Street side of Reston Town Square Park during the week of June 7. The three works by Maryland sculptor Mike Shaffer appear as part of gaps, a juried exhibition, featuring 22 other artists whose work will be installed inside Greater Reston Arts Center adjacent to the park at 12001 Market St. All sculpture was selected by Vesela Sretenovic, curator of modern and contemporary art at The Phillips Collection.

The installation of Mike Shaffer’s sculpture in Reston Town Square Park is the first temporary outdoor sculpture exhibition in the park and the first collaborative project between Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE), Initiative for Public Art – Reston (IPAR), and Washington Sculptors Group (WSG). In 2008-09, IPAR supported Sleeping Tree, a multi-project at GRACE and Dogwood Elementary School. During the spring of 2010, WSG collaborated with GRACE to present POP-UP@SOMA, a contemporary sculpture exhibition in the empty South Market building on Explorer Street in Reston.

To learn more about Shaffer, visit his website at http://mikeshaffer.net/ and join him as he discusses his work with juror, Vesela Sretenovic and other exhibition artists on Wednesday, July 7, from 6:30 p.m. at GRACE.

An exhibition catalog featuring all works in gaps will be available at GRACE.

To learn more about the sponsoring organizations, visit their websites: Greater Reston Arts Center www.restonarts.org; Initiative for Public Art – Reston www.publicartreston.org; and Washington Sculptors Group www.washingtonsculptors.org.

Reception, Salon, Discussion

Three sculptures arrive June 8-10 in Reston Town Square Park. Works are part of the juried exhibition, gaps, on view at Greater Reston Arts Center, June 24-July 31, with gaps opening reception on Saturday, June 26, 5-7 p.m. Juror’s Salon is Wednesday, July 7, 6-7:30 p.m. and Panel Discussion “The Gallery Outside: Acquisition or Exhibition,” is Tuesday, July 20, 7:30 p.m.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Robbery in Reston Area

A 26-year-old female hotel clerk and a 27-year-old female were robbed June 5 at 12:09 p.m. A man entered the Homestead Studio Suites, located at 12190 Sunset Hills Road, displayed a gun and demanded money. Both victims turned over cash and personal property. The suspect fled on foot in an unknown direction. The suspect was described as white, around 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet 2 inches tall, medium build and wearing blue jeans and black T-shirt. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org, text “TIP187” plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Protecting Your Path

Reston officers are stepping up patrols along the W & OD trail with a public awareness campaign ensuring “Safe Avenues for Everyone” from June 12 – 25. After years of steady decline, preliminary data showed a slight uptick in crashes in 2009.

Target areas for the campaign include the Sunset Hills Road and Wiehle Avenue where the W & OD trail crosses Wiehle Ave. The other location will be pedestrian crossing spots in and around the Reston Town Center, especially the Bluemont Way crosswalk.

The campaign involves officers traveling on bicycles, cars, motorcycles as well as a marked all terrain vehicle to traverse the W & OD trail. For more information on the Fairfax County Police Department, please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police.

Help Shape Reston’s Future

Seven Restons Citizens Association Board positions are up for election now; so is the position of RCA Board President. The seven district seats are: Hunters Woods (1); Lake Anne/Tall Oaks (1); North Point (1); South Lakes (1); and, At-Large (3). Those elected serve two-year terms, except that one At-Large vacancy is a one-year replacement term.

To be eligible to serve, you must be at least 18 years of age and must have a Reston mailing address (Small Tax District No. 5).

The final balloting for these offices will be held at the Reston Festival on July 10 and 11 at Reston Town Center. To file for election, go to www.restoncitizensassociation.org/elections, download and fill out the simple, straightforward 2010 Candidate Filing Form, and submit it online or mail it to RCA, PO. Box 2851, Reston, VA 20195. The deadline for receiving candidate filing forms is Friday, June 25, whether submitted online or via regular mail. For more information or filing forms, call 703-318-9628.

Krocker Awarded Nonprofit Friend of the Year

Michelle Krocker, Executive Director of Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance in Reston has received the Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance in Reston has received the Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance Nonprofit Friend of the Year Award. According to the award citation, “Krocker is a key coalition maker and advocate for affordable housing in Northern Virginia. She excels at developing partnerships with community-based organizations, faith communities, civic associations, local governments and chambers of commerce to develop and preserve affordable housing.”

Community Yard Sale

A yard sale will be held June 12 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Church in Reston, 1625 Wiehle Ave. Furniture, collectibles, clothing, baby items and more will be for sale.

How Loud is Highway Noise?

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority will hold a Highway Noise Policy Public Workshop June 10 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Langston Hughes Middle School, 1401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. Draft policy is available, and online comments will be accepted through June 30 on the “Highway Noise Policy” link at www.mwaa.com/tollroad.
Volunteers

To show gratitude for all volunteer work, Reston Association invites volunteers to the 2009 Volunteer Appreciation Luau! Food, music, games, give-a-way are provided. Friday, July 31 (Rain date: Friday, Aug. 7), 6 – 8 p.m. at Hunters Woods Pool – 2503 Reston Parkway, Reston. The pool has a children’s splash area, diving board and large spa. So bring your family and enjoy a relaxing evening at the pool. RSVP by July 24 to Ha Brock, Volunteer Coordinator at 703-435-7986 or via e-mail habrock@reston.org.

Stream Monitoring: Become a volunteer stream monitor and help RA assess the health of our streams. RA is in need of volunteers to assist with stream monitoring at several locations throughout Reston during all seasons. If you are willing to learn, can work with a partner, enjoy data collection, wildlife identification, and are interested in the health of Reston’s streams, this is the job for you. Volunteering consists of four monitoring sessions of 3-4 hours each for a total of 12-16 hours per year. Training and practice are required and a two-year commitment is encouraged.

Date: Wednesday, July 29 (sign up by July 22). Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Location: RA Main Conference Room – 1930 Isaac Newton Square, Reston.

Date: Aug. 1. Location: Twin Branches Nature Trail off of 2860 Trail on Buckthorn Lane. Contact: Ha Brock, RA Volunteer Specialist II at 703-435-7986 or email habrock@reston.org.

Volunteer Solutions Fair in Reston: Find your niche in creating a caring community for all ages at the Volunteer Solutions Fair on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2-10m 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Dr., Reston. Participants will learn about volunteer opportunities that help older adults and adults with disabilities. The first five people to register and start volunteering will receive a free gift. Contact retha.lockhart@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-5406 for more information.

Volunteer Solutions is a program of the Department of Family Services’ Division of Adult and Aging Services/Fairfax Area Agency on Aging. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa. Call 703-324-5406 (TTY 703-449-1186) for reasonable ADA accommodations.

Help Nursing Home Residents: Help residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities advocate for their rights, resolve conflicts and improve their quality of life. The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers who can commit a minimum of four hours a week for one year. Volunteers set their own schedules between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays and receive training and support. Call 703-324-5861 or 703-324-5422. TTY 703-449-1186 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lbrombudsman. Register now to attend our three-day training in September.

Weed Warriors Project - English Ivy at Old Trail: Our native trees, ferns and wildflowers are under attack by invasive exotic plants like English Ivy. Japanese Honey-suckle and Bamboo. That is why we need warriors like you to join us in rescuing Reston’s beautiful parkland from these aggressive plants. These fast-growing, invasive plants escape from people’s yards and seriously threaten local ecosystems, taking away vital food and habitat from already stressed wildlife populations. Please join the battle against English Ivy at the Old Trail natural area. We must return to protect the native plants we installed.

Date: Saturday, July 25, 2009 Time: 10 a.m. – Noon. Location: Near the lock inside the Old Trail horseshoe. You can access the natural area from a pathway on the inside of Old Trail Dr. or at the end of Shadbush Ct. cul-de-sac. It is never enough to attack English Ivy just once. Please wear long sleeves and pants. Contact Person: Ha Brock, Volunteer Specialist at 703-435-7986 or email habrock@reston.org.

American Flag Disposal Program

If your U.S Flag has seen better days, you can bring it to Reston Association for proper disposal. RA has teamed with American Legion Post 180 of Vienna to pick up any flag that is dropped off.

The locations are Reston Association Member Services, 1930 Isaac Newton Square, or at Reston Association Central Services, 12250 Sunset Hills Drive. The hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Only U.S. flags will be accepted.

Reston Hospital Center Donates $50,000 to GMU Lab

On May 12, at the George Mason University School of Nursing’s Class of 2010 pinning ceremony, the University not only placed its badge on 113 graduating nurses, but also accepted a gift of $50,000 from Reston Hospital Center. The gift will support the Reston Hospital Center Healthcare Education Lab. Cindy Glover, RN, MBA, Chief Nursing Officer of Reston Hospital Center, was present to speak on behalf of the George Mason University College of Health and Human Services Alumni Chapter.

“Giving back is something important to all of us at Reston Hospital Center, but this gift is all the more special to me,” said Glover. “As an alumna of George Mason, I’m proud to give back to a university that has helped me achieve so much in my own career, and that has had such a positive impact on the nursing workforce at Reston.”

Around Town

American Flag Disposal Program

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For Scientists, Start Earlier, Learn Geography

After years of changes designed to increase diversity, Thomas Jefferson this year admitted nine poor students.

Each year, 480 students are admitted to the top high school in the United States, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. Back in 2004, a Blue Ribbon commission recommended a variety of changes to the admission’s process to enter Fairfax County’s top public school, an effort to boost the diversity at the school. The school’s students have been about 90 percent Asian and White.

Many changes later, changes designed to consider students “holistically,” the incoming freshman class has dramatically smaller percentages of black, Hispanic and poor students than the student body of the county as a whole. Four African American students were admitted, along with 13 Hispanic students, in a class of 480 incoming freshmen.

More telling, there were nine students poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced price meals admitted to begin ninth grade next year at TJ. That’s less than two percent. Children in a family of four with income of less than $44,000 annually qualify for subsidized meals, and such children make up about 20 percent of all students in Fairfax County.

More than 70 percent of those admitted to TJ had completed geometry in eighth grade. But in some of the poorest and most diverse middle schools in the county, advanced math programs are not even offered.

In the overall state of the county, does it matter how many poor students, or black students, or Hispanic students, get to go to the best high school in the country? It does matter that students from schools with more diversity and more poverty are not getting the opportunity to develop a passion for science and technology. The school system’s failure to prepare more poor students well enough to gain admission to TJ means a huge missed opportunity. It means that tens of thousands of students who could be developing a passion for science at an early age that might transform their lives are not getting the foundation they need to go forward in rigorous programs, whether that’s at TJ or AP or IB.

FCPS is cutting programs that benefit poor students and schools with a higher percentage of poor students, for example Project Excel and year-round school calendar, even as it is clear poor students have almost no access to the county’s top programs. It’s time to add a geographic component to admissions at TJ, reserving some spots for students from every middle school.

This will also require starting earlier with advanced classes so that when those students arrive at TJ, they can succeed there.

OPIION

By John Lovasa
Reston Impact Producer/Host

There are so many blips on my radar that it is difficult to decide which to address. So, I’m going to the abbreviated version of the grapevine. First, the Reston Master Plan Task Force (www.reston2020.blogspot.com) is at a delicate stage, having nearly decided how to decide what to decide. Six months into their work, planning principles are still draft.

No vision guides the piecemeal work. Shaping recommendations for a new comprehensive plan is to be done by three subcommittees. The Town Center Station subcommittee is farthest along and typically the one that everyone wants to define. I offer the following response to Jack Kenny’s opinion (“The Threat to Federalism. Reston Connection,” June 2-8, 2010).

Litigation vs. Education

To the Editor:

Mr. Kenny like so many opponents of strong federal government plays the founding father’s card saying in effect that what was declared more than 200 years ago must be carved in stone. As a former history major and life long observer of our government, I have a great respect for those who established our form of government, the most enviable in the world. Our founding fathers, however, realized that time and circumstances change and built flexibility into our system. They would have been the first to say that if change is needed then change. We have 27 Constitutional Amendments to support that fact. States rights is not a panacea as Jim Crow laws and literacy tests for voting rights have proven. Social Security has financial challenges to be sure, but millions have been added in their senior years to live out their lives with some dignity where otherwise public funds would have been tapped for less successful

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**OPINION**

**To Tell the Truth**

By Kenneth R. “Ken” Plum  
State Delegate (D-36)

We did not have a televi-
in our home until I was 16. When Dad finally made some extra money raising broiler chickens in addition to his full-time job doing maintenance work on the Norfolk and Western Railroad, he took the extra hundred dollars and bought us a black and white television as color was not yet available. Reception where we lived was limited to one channel, WSWA-TV, Harrisonburg. On Saturday night it was Lawrence Welk whether we liked him or not. Funny how his re-runs seem a lot better than the origi-
nals did.

Game shows were popular in those days, including “To Tell the Truth” where an individual and two impostors tried to fool a panel of Disney Carlisle and other celebri-
ties as to who was the authentic person.

Much of political debate re-
minds me of an effort to find out who is telling the truth. There are television talk show hosts, expert commen-
tators, instant “experts,” blogs, etc., on television talking-head commenta-
ries as to who was the authentic person.

From Page 6

Support

The health care issue is complex and challenging to say the least. Health insurance companies are being dragged kicking and screaming into the realization that wellness and prevention costs less than treatment. The new health care law will push states in that direction. Those without health insurance are visiting emergency rooms and putting a burden on hospital costs which put many health care facilities in financial jeopardy. Again, public funds — our money — has to come to the rescue. Present experience, situa-
tion and wisdom dictates a bal-
anced public and government sys-
tem so that all have access to affor-
dable care at reasonable prices. Such a plan, like national defense, is too large a challenge to be left to the individual states some of whose existing laws such as the refusal to issue cross-state licens-
ing to many health insurance com-
panies, keep insurance rates artifi-
cially high.

The upcoming litigation by Vir-
ginia State Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli and his counterparts in other states will be an excessive economic financial expenditure as Del. Ken Plum (D-36) has said.

*Lloyd W. Kinzer, Reston Band Thanks Community*

To the Editor:
The fund-raising goal for the 2009-10 school year of the South Lakes High School Band was to raise money to outfit the band in new uniforms for the marching band season. As a result of the supportive citizens in the area, we are proud to say that we reached our goal. The band would like to thank the community for their generous support during this school year. To accomplish this, members of the band went door-to-door throughout the community in September, sold White House Ornaments and citrus in December, sponsored a pre-concert dinner in May and were involved in many more events. However, without the dedication and support from the South Lakes High School Community our goal would not be accomplished. Thank you very much!

Approximately 100 students are enrolled in the band program at South Lakes High School, which includes the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Percussion En-
semble, Jazz Band, Flag Corps and the Spirit of Reston Marching Band. Our numbers will increase next school year as additional stu-
dents join the band.

Our award winning South Lakes High School Band competed at the Fiesta-Val, an Invitational Music Festival in Atlanta Georgia this spring. The band captured first place in Division IV Concert Band, Division VI Concert Band and Jazz Band. The Jazz Band won the overall Jazz Band Champion.

Patrick Garziglia, senior, and Joshua Grant, junior, received awards for outstanding solo work and the Jazz Band Trumpet sec-
tion won the Georgia Brass Section in Jazz Band. This is quite an honor for the high school and our community. While in Atlanta, the South Lakes Band toured the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola and CNN. They also at-
tended the Atlanta Symphony and spent their last day having fun at Six Flags over Georgia. For further information, visit the South Lakes High School Band website at www.southlakesband.org.

Grayson Fore,  
Director SLHS Bands

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**To Me and My Dad**

To honor dad on Father’s Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father’s Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what’s going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to: Photo@connectionnewspapers.com. Or to mail photo prints, send to: The Reston Connection, “Me and My Dad Photo Gallery,” 1606 King St. Alexandria, VA 22314.

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don’t send us anything irreplaceable.

To tell the truth on emotional issues like government spending and taxation, it is important to work from good data. Hopefully this column has provided good informa-
tion on which to formulate an opin-
ion. I am always pleased to hear from you at kenplum@aol.com.

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THURSDAY/JUNE 10
Lake Braddock: 7:30 p.m. at Rising Pan Force: 8:30 p.m. at the Freedom HRW 3:00 p.m. at Reston Town Center. More informationavailable on the Internet.

FRIDAY/JUNE 11
Celebrated Frisbee Festival: 7:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: Info@frisbee.org. Telephone: 703-385-6390.

SATURDAY/JUNE 12

FRIDAY/JUNE 11
Celebrate Frisbee Festival: 7:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: Info@frisbee.org. Telephone: 703-385-6390.

CAFE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: info@cafenowreston.com. Telephone: 703-218-3584.

TEN MILES OF THE COWPATH
Friday-June 11 through Sunday-June 13. E-mail:registration@tenmiles.org. Telephone: 703-339-2525.

FRIDAY/JUNE 11
Celebrate Frisbee Festival: 7:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: Info@frisbee.org. Telephone: 703-385-6390.

Saturday, June 12, 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. at the Reston Town Center. E-mail: registration@tenmiles.org. Telephone: 703-339-2525.

TUESDAY/JUNE 15
English Conversation Group 1: 10 a.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: info@cafenowreston.com. Telephone: 703-218-3584.

SUNDAY/JUNE 13

FRIDAY/JUNE 11
Celebrated Frisbee Festival: 7:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: Info@frisbee.org. Telephone: 703-385-6390.

Bull Run Bed and Breakfast
To keep our community events listed in the Celebration, send to

THURSDAY/JUNE 10
Northwest Park Conservancy: 7:30 p.m. at 12010 Waxpool Rd., Herndon. Information: 703-773-6622.

SUNDAY/JUNE 13
CASA Volunteer Orientation: 10 a.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: info@cafenowreston.com. Telephone: 703-218-3584.

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English Conversation Group 1: 10 a.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: info@cafenowreston.com. Telephone: 703-218-3584.

SUNDAY/JUNE 13

FRIDAY/JUNE 11
Celebrated Frisbee Festival: 7:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: Info@frisbee.org. Telephone: 703-385-6390.

Saturday, June 12, 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. at the Reston Town Center. E-mail: registration@tenmiles.org. Telephone: 703-339-2525.

TUESDAY/JUNE 15
English Conversation Group 1: 10 a.m. at Reston Town Center. E-mail: info@cafenowreston.com. Telephone: 703-218-3584.
Marching in National Parade

The South Lakes High School Army JROTC unit was one of only four JROTC units invited to participate in the National Memorial Day parade. This spring this South Lakes High unit was awarded the Gold Star award, which is the highest recognition possible for JROTC programs. They also earned the top award of JROTC units marching in the St. Patrick’s Day parade in March.

Troops 678 and 1448 Celebrate Bridging Together

Celebrating the end of one stage of Girl Scouting and beginning a new stage, two Sunrise Valley Elementary School troops celebrated their bridging ceremonies together on June 2. Ten girls from Daisy Troop 1448 bridged over to become Brownies, while nine girls from Brownie Troop 678 bridged over to become Junior Scouts. Following the Girl Scout tradition of helping other scouts, Cadette Kathleen McLean and Junior Annika Gude led the joint bridging, where each older scout helped a younger partner. As the girls bridged, McLean and Gude told the girls to help others as they have helped them to ensure the helping spirit of Girl Scouts continues to others. Troop 678 is led by troop leaders Cindi McLean and Garen Duchak, while Troop 1448 is led by Lyn Cordts and Garen Duchak.

To Highlight your Faith Community Call Winslow at 703-917-6473

Photo by Lyn Fiscus Cordts

Pictured after the ceremony, first row, from left, Emily Colvin, Alex Carlon, Vanessa Hathaway, Alaina Cordts, Caley Duchak, Zoe Hunt, Brianna Scott, Jin Din, Paige Wilson and Katia Vivanco; second row, Kristine Vivanco, Delaney Duchak, Sierra Shuman, Sejal Gude, Caroline McLean, Kellie McCrea, Nicole Atkins, Emily Fritz and Olivia Hathaway; and, back row, Annika Gude and Kathleen McLean.
Reston Estates

Reston Condos Are Hot, Again

An insider’s view of local real estate market.

The real estate market in Reston, and in many cases nationwide, seems to be on an improving track. Sales nationwide in March were up over 6 percent. In Reston, we have seen great activity in the under $400,000 range. It is interesting that we are seeing multiple offers and in some cases escalation agreements on well priced properties in good locations. An escalation agreement is used when there are competing offers on a property. You submit your offer with an addendum stating you will beat any competing offer by “X” dollars (is negotiable/up to the buyer) up to a number specified. A price of “X”. As this is written, it does not appear there will be an extension of either tax credit. It remains to be seen what effect the buyer tax credits or the lack thereof will have on the market.

OPINION: The extended credits did not have the anticipated boost in sales that many had expected. Most people took the credit the first time around not knowing, and perhaps fearful, if they did not buy last year there would not be a credit later. April sales did not show a tremendous uptick even with the deadline to purchase (be under contract) well publicized at April 30.

WHAT’S HOT: All condos, everything around Reston Town Center (with some re-sales in the $1,000,000+ range). Properties walking distance to the future Wiehle Metro station (would be primarily townhouses and condos) and anything in North Reston under $600,000.

And what’s not — older properties in all categories that have not been improved/upgraded. This is not a market where we can put a home up for sale in any condition and assume it will sell. Reston properties from the 70s and 80s are “outdated” by today’s standards — 8-foot ceilings, small bedrooms and bathrooms. To get top dollar, you want to invest in upgrades that buyers are looking for. They will pay top dollar while the unimproved properties linger on the market.

FOR SALE: Currently, 67 detached homes ranging from $205,000 to $1,495,000 with an average list price of $726,767. The average days on market (DOM) is 64. There are 110 townhouses for sale priced from $188,000 to $915,000 with the average being $414,350 and DOM of 35. There are 111 condominiums for sale ranging from $84,900 to $1,100,000 with an average asking price of $324,411 and DOM of 57.

INTEREST RATES: Still outstanding 30-year fixed mortgages are found below 5 percent. Jumbo mortgage money (above $729,000) which has been hard to come by and expensive is more readily available for about 0.5 percent additional. The upper bracket above $1,000,000 – has been sluggish due to the premium on the rates and buyers resistance to pay but seem to be picking up.

WE’VE MOVED: Effective May 1, we have relocated the office to 11438 Washington Plaza, on the lake dock. We are excited about being back on the plaza where our real estate business started 43 years ago. We look forward to helping you with all your real estate needs and welcome your calls. Jon Querolo, Broker/Owner, Beneficial Real Estate, 703-585-4900. www.restonproperties.com

Real Estate Notes

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

David Houghtaling and Jalil Achir of Reston were among the Realtors receiving The Award of Excellence from the nationally renowned real estate marketing and technology speaker and REALTOR.com® Vice President, Mark Pigman. The Award of Excellence program was started 43 years ago. We look forward to helping you with all your real estate needs and welcome your calls. Jon Querolo, Broker/Owner, Beneficial Real Estate, 703-585-4900.

Keller Williams Realty International announced its 2010 “Family Reunion” Conference in New Orleans that the McLean office won top honors nationally among more than 30 new Keller Williams offices for 2009, with $8.5M in gross commission income. McLean was named the #1 Launch in the nation for 2009. The McLean office launched 18 months ago with 30 agents and today has nearly 100. Keller Williams International also surpassed Re/Max to become the #3 largest real estate company in the U.S. by agent count. This is the first time in 20 years that the order has shifted.

Easy-to-share reports include information about each county’s units sold, active inventory, median sales prices, months of supply, new listings, new contracts, list to sold price ratio, and days on market. In addition to the 100 counties in seven states it currently covers, The Long & Foster Market Minute will include more counties in future releases. The Long & Foster Market Minute™ reports are available at no charge on the Long & Foster Web site, http://www.longandfoster.com/.

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Reston

1033 Nortype Square #101, $189,000 • Sun 1-4 • Rita Desai • Samson Properties • 703-825-4949

Brambleton/Ashburn

4203 Good Hope Ln., $555,000 • Sun 1-4 • Rita Desai • Samson Properties • 703-825-4949

Great Falls

1121 Nica Ridge Lane, $865,000 • Sun 1-4 • Robyn Carter • Weichert • 703-422-0001

11444 Wootton Rd., $1,600,000 • Sun 1-4 • Anyway Home • 703-732-2399

11543 Trail Dr, $1,795,000 • Open Sunday 1-4 • Lyons & McGuire Team, Weichert, 703-406-9009

McLean

1101 Franklin Park Rd., $499,000 • Sun 1-4 • Jane Price • Weichert • 703-893-1500

16538 Herndon Place Dr., $689,000 • Sun 1-4 • Laura Maschler • Weichert • 703-422-0001

1616 Sadlers Well, $435,000 • Sun 1-4 • Vicky Noufel • Century 21 • 703-402-5416

Vienna

901 Patterson Circle, SW, $1,140,000 • Liz & Liz • Robert Hils • 703-919-8023

7707 Grovemore Lane, $849,000 • Sun 1-4 • David Lloyd • Keller Williams • 703-500-2204

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.
Two weeks ago, the South Lakes High boys’ track and field team accomplished a tremendous feat when it captured the Northern Region outdoor title for a third consecutive year. Having won the championship in both 2008 and 2009, this year’s Seahawks naturally wanted the wave of region success to continue.

“It was very important for the guys to win again,” said South Lakes second year head coach Scott Raczkó. “And they really came together and stepped up. They wanted to keep the tradition going.”

South Lakes lost All-State athletes Vincent Brown, Quintin Fortes and Michael Harrell to graduation from last year’s title winning team.

“All of our point-getters from last year’s region championship team graduated,” said Raczkó.

Nevertheless, this year’s Seahawks found a way to make up those lost points.

South Lakes, in winning its third straight region crown May 27-28 at Lake Braddock Secondary School, needed some late heroics to edge second place Annandale for the title. South Lakes finished with 66 points to the Seahawks’ 65.

South Lakes clinched the championship in the final event with a first place finish in the 4x400 relay. The winning foursome was made up of Muhammad Yasin, Armando Drain, Alvin Moore and Adrian Vaughn. Finishing second in the relay was Oakton, which barely edged third place Annandale.

Prior to the 4x400, South Lakes’ Nick Guarinacci finished seventh in the 3,200 race, despite not even being seeded. Had he not earned two points in that event, Annandale’s third place finish in the ensuing relay would have been enough to boost the Seahawks to the region title.

“Adrian Vaughn, a South Lakes High senior, will be running for the George Mason University Patriots next season,” said Raczkó.

So, in every sense of the word for South Lakes, gaining the team crown was a true team effort.

“It was important for us that everyone got what they could out of their events,” said Raczkó.

The coach recalled team members encouraging Guarinacci prior to his big 2-mile race. He responded with his best mark of the year in the event.

“Everyone was going up to Nick before the 3,200 and saying to him, ‘Can you get us a few points,’” said Raczkó. “Without Nick’s two points, everything changes. Nick’s two points in the two mile was huge. … We had to win the 4x400 and we did. If Annandale would have gotten second [in the relay] they would have won [the team title].”

As they have done so many times, South Lakes’ Vaughn, a senior, and Sean Price, a junior, had typically outstanding meets in helping pave the way for the Seahawks to the team title. Price won both the long jump and triple jump events, while finishing third in both the 100 and 200 dash running events. Vaughn was champion in both the 200 and 400 races.

“Both stepped up and met expectations at the meet,” said Raczkó.

“Both have worked real hard and had a great attitude,” said the coach, of the 12th graders’ spring season.

Price, meanwhile, will return to South Lakes for his senior year next fall.

“Sean has been very focused and has also worked very hard,” said Raczkó. “Sean is a gamer. When he needs to do something [in an event] he goes out and does it.”

Price, in fact, was down on the leader board in both the long and triple jumps throughout much of the region competition before storming back to capture both events. And his third place points in both the 100 and 200 races were invaluable.

Another key two points came from the Seahawks’ 4x800-relay team, made up of Will Sickenberger, Sean Williams, Morton Grundhal and Jacob Grundhal, which finished seventh. It was the foursome’s best race of the year.

Also for the boys, Armando Drain got 10th in the 300 hurdles and Ian Angara got 13th in the same event.

For the girls, Valerie Moyer jumped well and got third in the girls high jump and earned a personal best in the 1,600 for ninth place. Promising freshman Kynannah Caillou was ninth in the 400 and 12th in the 200. Sophomore Emily Lopynsky was 17th in the 400.

THE VIRGINIA STATE AAA Championships took place this past weekend at the Sports Backers Stadium in Richmond. For the South Lakes boys, Vaughn was a fifth place finisher in the 400 race and a sixth place finisher in the 200. Price, meanwhile, took seventh in the triple jump and eighth place in the long jump.

Top eight finishers at states earned medals.

For the Herndon boys at states, Jack Jasper finished fifth in the 1600 race. In field events, Kirk Nguyen earned sixth place in discus and ninth in shot put for the Hornets.

For the Herndon girls, Carolyn Hennessy finished fifth in the 2-mile race and Carina Peter was seventh in both the 100 and 200 races. Oakton’s Andrew McCullen finished fifth in the boys’ 3,200.

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Employers: Are your recruiting ads not working in other papers?

Try a better way to fill your employment openings

- Target your best job candidates where they live.
- Reach readers in addition to those who are currently looking for a job.
- Proven readership.
- Proven results.

A Question of Answers

By KENNETH H. LOURIE

As much – and as hard – as I try, it’s difficult to forget that I have cancer. There are reminders everywhere. But the reminder that caught me unawares, unexpectedly – though, are the worst. Let me give you two examples: my application for Social Security Disability benefits (which is merely a reduced percentage of your retirement benefit paid early, before your full retirement age) – if the retirement age is determined to be “disabled,” that is, a determination which is not easily or quickly made).

These days, even applying for Social Security disability is an online exercise (hopefully not in quantity, but there’s certainly no guarantee) and one that is somewhat daunting at that. My jibe has been proven – not so disabled that he can’t sit and type at a computer, (the definition of disability according to Social Security) was he perhaps a general, so much so that if you can do anything for which you have background, training, education or experience, Social Security can deny your claim. The process is supposed to take 45 minutes, the site address: it took me two hours, and I was still not able to submit my online application.

The questions begin simply enough, the non-medical ones, all the relevant facts, address, phone numbers, date of birth, social security number, employer, income, etc. Soon enough, the medical questions follow, half-way through these questions, (treating physician, facility, medications, symptoms, date disability began), all of which were very reasonable and expected, humdrum even (sort of, given the seriousness of the matter at hand, especially the following question which, had I not already been sitting, would have likely knocked me off my feet: “Is this disability likely to result in death in less than two years?” I hesitated then, as I’m hesitating now, writing the next sentence. By asking yourself that question and realizing you have to answer “Yes,” Heaven doesn’t begin to describe the weight I felt. Within a minute, I got my bearings and eventually re-engaged and ultimately completed the application. (By the way, when you answer “yes” to that “do you expect...” question, you are fast-tracked to a special page within the application for extra-special attention.)

The second example of an unforeseen reminder that I didn’t need, and one that came totally out of the blue, unlike the application for Social Security which certainly had the potential for such reminders but one that nevertheless I did not anticipate, came in the mail from my HMO. It was an innocent-sounding, customer service-type survey, asking me questions about my most recent visit with my oncologist: cancer, efficacy, pouty, or “above average” as my oncologist, Dr. Eva Grand, described your health? “Poor, Fair, Good, Very Good, Excellent?” Again, I hesitated, gulped and said out loud, “I am a cancer patient, I guess I’d have to say ‘poor.’ As much as I’d like to think otherwise, and as “above average” as my oncologist has described my diagnosis-to-date recove- 

rability, I’d have to say that checking ‘poor’ would have been the obvious choice. But the reminder that I didn’t need, and one that came totally out of the blue, unlike the application for Social Security which certainly had the potential for such reminders but one that nevertheless I did not anticipate, came in the mail from my HMO. It was an innocent-sounding, customer service-type survey, asking me questions about my most recent visit with my oncologist: cancer, efficacy, pouty, or “above average” as my oncologist, Dr. Eva Grand, described your health? “Poor, Fair, Good, Very Good, Excellent?” Again, I hesitated, gulped and said out loud, “I am a cancer patient, I guess I’d have to say ‘poor.’ As much as I’d like to think otherwise, and as “above average” as my oncologist described my diagnosis-to-date recovery condition, I’d have to say that checking a box other than poor would be naive on my part so I checked ‘poor,’ stuffed and sealed the envelope and then wrote this column.

In general, I feel fine. My oncologist is “pleased.” However, I have stage IV lung cancer. Sometimes, the less said – and the less asked about it, the better.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.
Advisory Committees Push for Accelerated Math

Two of the local school board’s advisory committees have urged Fairfax County Public Schools to offer accelerated math classes at all elementary schools in the county. According to the Advanced Academics Advisory Committee, students who do not take accelerated math as sixth graders are prohibited from taking Algebra I as seventh graders. And students who take Algebra I in seventh grade often have an advantage when it comes to getting accepted to advanced academic programs in high school.

According to a Fairfax County Public Schools press release, approximately 80 percent of next year’s freshman class at Thomas Jefferson School for Science and Technology had completed Algebra I by the end of seventh grade.

According to the school system’s minority student achievement oversight committee, elementary schools without accelerated math are more likely to enroll black and Hispanic students. If accelerated math was expanded to all schools, it could improve the acceptance rate of black and Hispanic students at Jefferson.

Fairfax schools reported last month that only 17 of the 480 students in Jefferson’s freshman class next year are black or Hispanic.

Fairfax Schools See Huge Increase In Students with Autism

From 1997 to 2007, the number of students with autism in Fairfax County Public Schools rose 775 percent, according to the local school board’s advisory committee on students with disabilities.

During the 1996-1997 school year, Fairfax County enrolled just 235 students who had been labeled autistic. By the 2006-2008 school year, the local school system included 1,712 students with disabilities.

Children in Fairfax schools are far more likely to be autistic than those in other parts of the country.

Approximately one in every 91 children enrolled in the Fairfax school system was autistic in 2007, compared to just one in every 150 students nationwide, according to the report.

Local Congressional Offices Participate In Race For The Cure

Staff of all three Northern Virginia congressmen participated in the Susan G. Komen Global Race For The Cure on the National Mall June 5.

Staff members for U.S. Reps. Gerry Connolly (D-11), Jim Moran (D-8) and Frank Wolf (R-Va.) made up three of the 43 congressional teams that took part in the annual event, which raised more than $4 million for breast cancer outreach and research.

— Julia O’Donoghue

Leave (Animal)

Babies Alone

It is not uncommon for wildlife mothers to be away from their young to avoid attracting predators. This is normal behavior. If a baby animal is hiding quietly, it is usually not an orphan, and young animals raised by their parents have better chances for survival.

Fairfax County’s wildlife biologist Vicky Monroe is urging people to leave young animals alone. According to Monroe, with the advent of warm weather, encounters between people and wildlife increase. The number of baby animals that are “found” and taken to the Animal Shelter, away from their natural habitats also increases.

Most common species of animals taken by residents include:

❖ Birds (fledglings have feathers, open eyes and leave the nest before fully able to fly)
❖ Deer (fawn are left unattended by their mothers 90% of the time)
❖ Rabbits (young rabbits are left unattended by mothers during daylight)
❖ Turtles (young turtles fully independent upon hatching from egg)

A young animal might be in need of rescue by a certified wildlife rehabilitator or veterinarian if it is found near deceased mother, has an obvious injury, is in distress (crying and wandering) or in poor condition (dirty, attracting flies, skinny).

For more about wildlife in Fairfax County, see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/livin/animals/wildlife or for more about injured wildlife, see www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/injured/.

Annual Cleanup

Rallies Supporters Against Litter

Thousands of residents volunteered at more than 575 sites as part of the Alice Ferguson Foundation’s fight against litter on Saturday, April 10, 2010, the 22nd Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. Final results indicate that 14,537 volunteers gathered 251.9 tons of trash throughout the watershed. Fairfax County contributed with 101 Clean-up Sites and 2,115 volunteers removing 3.3 tons.

Trash collected from Fairfax County included 26,200 bottles and cans, 6,016 plastic bags, 2,197 bags of trash and recyclables.

The cleanup is part of the Alice Ferguson Foundation’s aggressive litter prevention campaign.

The Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative seeks to make the Potomac Watershed trash free by 2013. The program sets out to change behavior and mind set to curb the tendency to litter.

For more on volunteer opportunities with the Alice Ferguson Foundation, see www.PotomacCleanup.org or contact Becky Horner at 202.518.7415.

Space Exploration, First-hand Account

Former astronaut Thomas D. Jones Ph.D. spoke to the Reston Lions Club at the group’s meeting on Wednesday, May 19, at the China Star Restaurant. He talked about how he became an astronaut, his training and his four space shuttle missions to Earth orbit and discussed the nation’s space exploration policy. From left are Program Chairman Gerry Washburn, Lion Lydia Brown, Jones and Lion Tom Cochrane.

Samantha M. Fulton

2005 graduate of Langley High School and December 2009 graduate of Longwood University, will attend St. George’s University School of Veterinary Medicine, located on the island of Grenada, West Indies, beginning in August 2010. St. George’s University has graduated more than 450 veterinarians and over 8,000 physicians who are pursuing careers in various locations throughout the globe. The veterinary school was established 10 years ago and is affiliated with 29 schools of veterinary medicine, most of which are in the United States. Fulton is the daughter of Steven Fulton of Great Falls and Suzanne Fulton of Reston.

Fulton holds a degree with a major in Biology pre-professional. She is a member of Tri-Beta National Biological Honors Society, Kappa Lambda Chapter, and Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority. She is presently employed at Banfield Pet Hospital in Reston. In previous years, while on school breaks, she worked as well as interned at Seneca Hill Animal Hospital, Resort and Spa in Great Falls. In addition, she has volunteered at The Equine Rescue League in Loudoun County.

Vanessa Oakes of Reston, a junior majoring in biology in the Virginia Tech College of Science, has been named to the national list of Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Oakes is one of 91 Virginia Tech students that have been named to the Who’s Who national list this year.

Herndon Elementary student Aubrey Werner and Lake Anne Elementary student Keerthi Machiraju were named winners in the Meadows Farms Nurseries 50th Anniversary 50 Trees for 50 Schools poster and essay contest. Their essays on why trees are important earned a new tree for each school; the trees were delivered by the nursery. Other schools receiving trees were Armstrong Elementary, Great Falls Elementary, Hunters Woods Elementary, Spring Hill Elementary, Terraset Elementary, Virginia Run Elementary, and Washington Mill Elementary.

Elisa Becker of Reston has received the M. B. Rich Endowed Prize at Loyning College of Williamsport, Pa. The South Lakes High School graduate is a freshman Spanish and international studies major.

Elyse Karin of Reston has graduated from the University of New Haven with a master of science in national security and public safety.

Allison Whitlock of Reston has been named to the spring 2010 dean’s list at the University of Notre Dame. Whitlock is a 2009 graduate of South Lakes High School, where she earned an international baccalaureate diploma and a National Merit Scholarship. She is the daughter of Steve and Rosemarie Whitlock of Reston.
**Reston Community Center**

**Take A Break Concert Series**

Thursday Evenings from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Lake Anne Village Center

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**Miles Stiebel Band**  
June 17  
Contemporary Jazz

**Honkey Tonk Confidential**  
June 24  
Retro Country

**IONA**  
July 1  
Traditional Pan Celtic

**Sol Y Rumba**  
July 8  
Hot Latin Sounds

**Marty Nau Quartet**  
July 15  
Jazz Bebop

**Big Hillbilly Bluegrass**  
July 22  
Bluegrass

**Sin Miedo**  
July 29  
Afro-Cuban Salsa & Rumba

**Mystic Warriors**  
August 5  
World & New Age

**Uptown Vocal Jazz Quartet**  
August 12  
American Classics

**The Dirty Pints**  
August 19  
Traditional Irish Fun

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*Bring a lawn chair and a picnic!*

Presented by Reston Community Center in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc.  
Hosted by Lake Anne Village Center

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Reston Community Center  
2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston VA 20191  
www.restoncommunitycenter.com  
To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-476-4500 • 800-826-1120 (TTY)