

Reston CONNECTION

Dancing At Wolf Trap

A+, PAGE 19

Flash in The Pan

NEWS, PAGE 3

Thomas Jefferson High School freshman Priya Seetharaman of Reston has practiced southern India dance for seven years. 'It's part of the culture,' Priya said. 'I feel I understand a lot more about our traditions when we do dance because the dances tell stories.' She participated in the last weekend's 40th International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap.

By the Public, For the Public

NEWS, PAGE 3

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Reston Community Center

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RESTON MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL



Saturday, September 25

11 a.m.–5 p.m.

Lake Anne Village Center
Rain or Shine • All ages

For additional event information and up-to-date entertainment schedule, go to our website at www.restoncommunitycenter.com.



In partnership with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington District Director Sarah Taylor will administer the *Oath of Allegiance* to 23 of America's newest citizens during a special naturalization ceremony at this year's Festival.

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The Reston Multicultural Festival is sponsored by the Reston Community Center and co-sponsored by the Reston Association and Lake Anne of Reston Condominium Association, with support from many other community organizations and businesses.



Reston Community Center
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Students and teachers from Hunters Woods Elementary School, as well as members of the Initiative for Public Art Reston cut the ribbon on the Glade Underpass mosaic Sept. 15. The project is Reston's first permanent public artwork.



PHOTOS BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

By the Public, For the Public

Ribbon cut on Reston's first permanent public art project.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Initiative for Public Art Reston unveiled its very first project Sept. 15, a mosaic on the underpass near the Glade Drive and Colts Neck Road. The project — Reston's first permanent public art project — was created by artist Valerie Theberge with assistance from students at nearby Hunters Woods Elementary School.

Theberge and her fellow artists were joined by several dozen people who came to witness the official ribbon-cutting ceremony. The mosaic itself was installed during the summer, but the ceremony was delayed to make sure the students were back in school.

The students each designed a star, which was incorporated to Theberge's design for the underpass. The mosaic stretches along the wings of the southern part of the underpass, and the students' stars adorn the interior as well as the top, where a stylized Glade Drive sign has replaced the old one.

IPAR comprises a group of community leaders committed to public art in all forms throughout Reston. IPAR members are dedicated to involving the community with their art, which is why the students were such an integral part of the project.

"Every element of the community came through on this," said Joe Ritchey, president of IPAR. "It's just another fine example of how Reston works."

District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) said she was especially excited about the project because "it showed the young people that we want them involved, and what they can do when they get involved."

Reston Association Board of Directors President Kathleen Driscoll McKee, who served on the founding board of IPAR, said that it was hard to imagine such a project when IPAR was founded.

"Who would have thought that we would come up with a project like this?" she said. "My only regret is that the people driving over it won't see it. But maybe



Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) speaks at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Glade Road underpass mosaic. The mosaic was the first major project for the Initiative for Public Art Reston, and it featured the work of artist Valerie Theberge and students from nearby Hunters Woods Elementary.

this will help get them out of their cars."

THE STUDENT-ARTISTS were the guests of honor during the ceremony, and they spent the time before and after the ceremony showing off their stars on the wall. The students recognized that they had been given an opportunity to make an impression on their community.

"It was a really cool experience that most people don't get to have at our age," said Varun Iyengar, 11. "To be able to make public art, and to be able to show it off to people is awesome."

While some students were proud to see their work on display, others were just happy that the drab gray concrete of the overpass is now a work of art.

"If you saw the wall before, it was all dirty and vandalized, and now it's a work of art," said Victoria Soave, 11. "I want to be an artist, so this is good experience for me."

Noah Taylor, 10, was feeling a little more philosophical about the students' role in the project.

"Together we worked to create these glass stars, and with them we have left a little bit of ourselves in Reston, for the good of the whole community," he said.

More information about future IPAR projects can be found at www.publicartreston.com



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

More than 40 people formed a 'flash mob' at the Reston Farmer's Market Saturday, Sept. 18.

Flash in the Pan

'Flash mob' at Farmer's Market.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Saturday, Sept. 18 was just a typical morning at the Reston Farmer's Market. Locals were perusing a selection of local produce, meats and other goods while Gallows Road, a local band, played. And then, it started.

At first it was one woman — clad in a purple Reston Farmer's Market shirt — who started dancing to "The Weight" as originally played by The Band. Then another person joined her, then another, then another. Soon more than 40 people were dancing in sync with one another, and the patrons of the farmer's market couldn't help but stop and watch.

It's known on the internet as a "flash mob," a group of people assembling suddenly in a public place and performing a dance or other unusual act before dispersing.

It came to Reston courtesy of Teri Westbrook, a Lake Anne resident who has been dancing her entire life.

"I participated in a flash mob in Washington, D.C. last spring, and it was a blast," Westbrook said. "They're usually used to bring attention to something, and we thought 'why not bring attention to the farmer's market?'"

WESTBROOK began reaching out to fellow Reston residents, careful not to play her hand. When it comes to flash mobs, secrecy is paramount. She re-

cruited a mix of people, from children to senior citizens to help in the effort.

Westbrook's living room was transformed during the past few weeks to a dance studio. She worked with member of the band to choose "The Weight," and also the song that preceded it, "Folsom Prison Blues." The classic Johnny Cash song alerted the performers that their time was about to come, and they strategically placed themselves around the farmer's market.

"I hadn't been to all the rehearsals, so I was a little surprised at some of the people that jumped in," said Colette Robinson, who helped coordinate the flash mob with Westbrook. "We tried to get dancers and non-dancers involved, and I think doing it with a live band was a nice added element that I haven't seen before."

It certainly made an impression on the patrons of the farmer's market.

NONE OF THEM KNEW what was happening before it was too late, but most seemed to enjoy the show.

"I've never been to the Reston Farmer's Market, and this was a great first experience," said Lynn Levis of Gainesville.

As far as where the next flash mob might appear in Reston, Westbrook and company aren't spilling the beans. Video of Saturday's mob can be found on YouTube by searching "Flash Mob at Reston Farmer's Market."

Preliminary Costs Released for Dulles Metrorail Phase Two

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is in the process of finalizing preliminary engineering work on the plan for Phase Two of the Metrorail line through the Dulles Corridor from Wiehle Avenue to Route 772 in Loudoun County. This engineering work will provide needed information to assess the potential cost and plan for the funding of the next phase of the Dulles Metrorail Project.

As a result of this ongoing engineering study, the current estimate for Phase 2 of the Dulles Metrorail Project is approximately \$3.83 billion, which includes a tunnel and underground station at Dulles Airport. The Airports Authority Board of Directors continues to consider alternative alignments and station locations for the Dulles Airport Metrorail Station.

One alternative could bring estimated cost savings of \$640 million compared to the current plan for an underground tunnel and station.

"We have made a considerable effort to do as exhaustive a study as possible to determine what the plan for Phase 2 of this important project will require in terms of engineering, construction and funding," said Lynn Hampton, president and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. "As we move forward we will continue to review these alternative airport station alignments and project cost estimates carefully in preparation for going to final design on Phase Two. We are hopeful that the competitive bidding process will result in lower costs than are currently reflected in these preliminary engineering estimates."

RA Wins Award for Commitment to Employees

For the third year in a row, Reston Association is a recipient of one of the 2010 Care Awards, which recognize companies in Northern Virginia who are leaders in providing innovative, supportive family friendly policies, programs and services.

Reston Association won the Care Award in 2008, 2009 and 2010 for instituting programs and procedures that demonstrate the high value the organization places on employees and their families, according to Alice Page, Human Resources Director.

"Our employees make the difference and the Care Award is one way we can show the Association's commitment to maintaining a work environment that promotes the work/life flexibility we embrace," Page said.

Among the initiatives at Reston Association are the employee recognition program in which anyone in the community can nominate employees for outstanding work, an internal employee advisory committee that includes all levels and all departments. This committee works on issues that affect the entire organization.

Lake Anne Plaza Unveils New Website Design

Lake Anne Plaza has unveiled a newly redesigned website, www.lakeanneplaza.com. The new website design provides visitors with dramatic improvements in navigation, appearance and accessibility. The site was redeveloped as part of the rebranding campaign for the area. Among the new features and properties included in the new design are: colorful look and feel, improved navigation paths, vibrant images, interactive blog, a visitors guide, social media channels and the history of Lake Anne.

Community Symposium on Disability Rights and Accessibility

"Disability Rights & Accessibility: Practical Approach for the Reston Community Symposium" takes place Thursday, Sept. 30, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Reston Association, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive.

The symposium will feature presentations by panelists from the region and keynote speaker David Hominik, Disability Rights Advocate, Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy.

NEWS



A group discusses their thoughts on the future of Lake Anne at the Reston Community Center Lake Anne Sept. 8.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

A Rebuilding Effort

Business owners, residents meet to discuss future of Lake Anne Village Center.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) and the Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment hosted a meeting at the Reston Community Center Lake Anne Sept. 8 to solicit ideas to turn Lake Anne Village Center into a destination for both locals and visitors.

With business turnover and vacant spaces throughout the village center, Lake Anne business owners came together to discuss strategies to make it more attractive to the consumer.

The group discussed six options for Lake Anne: a food and dining destination, an ethnic marketplace, a local arts district, a sustainable development, a start-up office cluster and a housing/retail plan. The future plan would most likely be a combination of two or more of those elements, said Barbara Byron, director of the OCRR.

HUDGINS called the meeting as part of the "continuing journey to revitalization, and we hope to use this effort to sustain and stabilize existing businesses while attracting appropriate new businesses."

The Eisen Group, development consultants brought in by the county, conducted an assessment of the Lake Anne Village Center, and found while it features a well-designed and unique architecture, there are also outdated floor plans and high costs to maintain aging infrastructure, which has led to problems such as a vacancy rate of more than 19 percent.

"From a retail perspective, the average income of the surrounding area is greater than \$116,000, which is a very appealing statistic," said Robert Wolcheski, a senior associate with The Eisen Group. "We think we can do better in attracting secondary and tertiary customers, which include employees and residents of Reston and Herndon, as well as visitors to Fairfax County."

One of the major changes that could be underway at Lake Anne is the addition of a commercial management program, which would coordinate the retail space, protect the management strategy with business owners and coordinate to fill vacant spaces among other duties.



The Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment met Sept. 8 to discuss strategies for revitalizing the Lake Anne Village Center over the next few years.

Several options were presented for the nature of the management program, whether it is operated by staff at Lake Anne, a third party management, and the various costs each option would bring.

"The role of a management entity would not be to enforce regulatory matters, but more to coordinate and get people to participate in the revitalization, but it has to be voluntary," said Tom Moriarity, a principal with The Eisen Group. "There are a lot of strengths that draw people here, and we just need to find a way to build these strengths."

Thomas Kamstra, an architect based at Lake Anne, said that Lake Anne should make a push to attract children and seniors, but he acknowledged that it was hard for small businesses to start at Lake Anne.

"The hardest part in attracting new businesses here is that they end up paying a lot in improvement costs," he said. "It's hard for a small business to come here and have to pay more than they would at another location."

Hudgins said that after years of meetings and proposals, now is the time for the revitalization of the Lake Anne Village Center.

"We've had many meetings, and we always felt that we were at the beginning of the process," she said. "But this is the end of the beginning, it's time to move forward."

THE COMMENTS collected at the meeting will be put together into a preferred plan, which will be discussed at the next meeting, currently scheduled for Oct. 13. For updates on meeting times and locations, as well as the latest presentations, go to www.fcerevit.com.

One Strike, They're Out

Some call the school system's polices on marijuana punitive and ineffective.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Under different circumstances, Josh Anderson would have been headed to college this fall, likely joining a college football team.

His parents, Tim and Sue Anderson, had been looking forward to this time in their lives. Josh was the youngest of their four children, leaving Tim and Sue Anderson as empty nesters.

Instead of planning trips to watch Josh play his first season of college football, the Andersons are left with sadness and despair.

One morning in March 2009, Sue Anderson went to rouse her son from bed and found him dead in their Vienna home. Josh, then a junior at South Lakes High School, died of suicide the day before he was to face expulsion from the Fairfax County school system at a disciplinary hearing.

Earlier that month, Josh and his friend smoked marijuana on a car ride back to school from lunch at Taco Bell. A South Lakes assistant principal smelled marijuana on the students when they arrived back on campus and Josh was immediately placed on home suspension.

This was Josh's second violation. In 2008, he had been kicked out of Langley High School when a school official found a small amount of marijuana in his bag.

A lawyer told Josh and his mother that it was unlikely Fairfax County Public Schools would allow him to return to South Lakes or another general education program.

His best hope was to be offered a program at one of the county's alternative high schools. Otherwise, his parents would have to consider moving, sending him to a military academy or enrolling him in another type of private school, said Sue Anderson.

In a statement written immediately after the incident, Josh wrote: "I'm honestly going to try my hardest to fix this, help my parents, they haven't raised me to be like this in any way. I'm so scared for the future, this wasn't worth any of it at all. I've only recently been thinking I could make college football and I've gotten so excited about it and now everything is ruined."

Tim and Sue Anderson took Josh's first marijuana offense seriously as a mental health matter. After the incident at Langley, he also enrolled in drug counseling and attended regular appointments with a therapist and psychiatrist.

The Andersons agreed with the school system on some levels. What Josh did was wrong. His actions should have had consequences.



PHOTO BY GILLIAN ANDERSON/CONTRIBUTED

South Lakes Junior Josh Anderson died of suicide the night before he faced expulsion from the school system in 2009.

Josh may have used marijuana, but he was not accused of trying to sell or distribute it to other students. Yet the Andersons' son was treated as if he was a dangerous criminal, they said.

"The school system doesn't distinguish between a bad kid and dumb kid when it comes to these types of cases. Josh was a dumb kid making a dumb mistake," said Tim Anderson, who thought obligatory community service, perhaps cleaning the cafeteria at school for awhile, would have been a more appropriate punishment.

Several school administrators considered Josh an asset, not a threat, to the school community, said the Andersons.

"The guidance counselor and the football coach, even the guy who caught him, were totally devastated," said Tim Anderson.

School officials cannot comment on individual students' records, which makes it difficult for the school system to defend its approach to cases like Josh's, or respond publicly to complaints like the Andersons', said Paul Renier, spokesperson for Fairfax County Public Schools.

JOSH ANDERSON was among 154 students who faced expulsion from Fairfax County Public Schools for marijuana during the 2008-09 school year alone.

Possession of marijuana was, by far, the most common reason students faced expulsion. The second most frequent offense — an umbrella category called "prohibited conduct" that includes fighting, causing a disruption and defying staff — resulted in 84 recommendations for expulsion during 2008-09.

The vast majority of students recom-

mended for expulsion are not kicked out of the school system entirely, though those charged with violations related to drugs almost always face stiff consequences.

Violators frequently are removed from their base school, subjected to random drug tests and required to attend counseling, said School Board members familiar with the process. Some parents believe that punishment, particularly for those students who are caught with marijuana for personal use and not intending to sell it, is too harsh and more consideration should be given to the student's overall conduct and community support.

CHARACTER REFERENCES, personal accomplishments and endorsements from the community appear to have little bearing on the outcome of disciplinary hearings, particularly in matters related to drugs, according to the Andersons and some other families who have encountered the process.

The cases of students facing serious consequences, like a long-term suspension or expulsion, are typically reviewed during a disciplinary hearing, when members of the school system's central administration staff recommend a punishment for the student. The School Board also reviews and votes on all expulsions individually.

But some parents complain the hearing officers largely ignore the testimony of the student and his or her supporters.

When Josh first faced removal from Langley High School, the Andersons worried their son had given a bad impression at his hearing because he was intimidated by the situation, they said.

Tim Anderson called a school official the

Consequences:

Marijuana verses Alcohol

The consequences for Fairfax County Public Schools' students caught with alcohol are not as severe as those related to marijuana in many cases. According to the Fairfax County Public Schools website, students who are caught:

- ❖ **in possession of alcohol and nonalcoholic beer**, must serve a minimum suspension of five days and a maximum suspension of 10 days; prohibited from participating in student activities, including sports, clubs and the performing arts, for 30 days; must participate in a substance abuse prevention program.
- ❖ **in possession of alcohol and nonalcoholic beer for the second time in 12 months**, serve a suspension of 10 days and prohibited from participating in student activities, including sports, clubs and the performing arts, for one year.
- ❖ **distributing or manufacturing alcohol**, serve a suspension of at least 10 days and automatically recommended for expulsion from the school system.
- ❖ **under the influence of marijuana but not in possession of the drug**, serve a minimum suspension of five days and a maximum suspension of 10 days; prohibited from participating in student activities, including sports, clubs and the performing arts, for 30 days; must participate in a substance abuse prevention program.
- ❖ **under the influence of marijuana (without possession) for the second time in 12 months**, serve a 10-day suspension and removal from student activities for one year. They are also automatically recommended for expulsion from the school system.
- ❖ **in possession of marijuana or imitation marijuana**, serve a 10-day suspension and an automatic recommendation for expulsion.
- ❖ **distributing marijuana or imitation marijuana**, serve a 10-day suspension and recommended for expulsion from the school system.

What Happens?

SOURCE: Fairfax County Public Schools website.

❖ If school administrators catch a child engaging in behavior that warrants a disciplinary hearing, they contact Superintendent Jack Dale's office. The school principal then forwards a packet of information, including details about the incident concerning your child and the student's overall disciplinary record, to the hearing office.

❖ If a child has been recommended for expulsion from the school system, he or she will have to serve an automatic 10-day suspension in the days leading up to the disciplinary hearing.

❖ A child recommended for expulsion cannot set foot on any Fairfax County public school campus and cannot attend school functions while they are serving their suspension.

❖ The school principal and assistant principal usually attend disciplinary hearings. The parents and child are permitted to bring one other witness, such as a clergy member, psychiatrist or family friend, to the event. Families are discouraged from bringing a lawyer.

❖ The school system notifies the family about a child's punishment through a letter following the disciplinary hearing.

❖ If the hearing officers have endorsed the expulsion recommendation, then the student's case is automatically forwarded to the school board for consideration.

❖ Panels of three school board members typically hear and vote on individual disciplinary cases. In cases where all three school board members vote in favor of expulsion, the family is not allowed to appeal the decision. However, if the school board panel voted in favor of expulsion though not unanimously, the family can request that the full school board hear the case.

next day to express concern. "We had the hearing and we felt like Josh hadn't been heard," he said. The official told him not to worry about the impression Josh made on the officers because it was essentially a "done deal" once a student was caught on school grounds with drugs.

"His fate was determined before the hearing," said Tim Anderson.

SEE PUNISHMENT, PAGE 7

OPINION

Vote Nov. 2

In an unpredictable year, all the more important to turn out to vote, no matter what your beliefs.

With political extremes on all sides getting most of the attention in this run up to midterm elections, most voters in Northern Virginia are far more moderate. It would be easy to decide that this election really isn't for you if you're not way out on one side or another. (We suspect that there are more than two extremes at play this year.)

There isn't too much on the ballot, how much can it matter if you just decide you're tired of the hyperbole and you'll just sit this one out?

It matters more now than ever that elections actually demonstrate the priorities of the electorate. If voters who feel very strongly about a few issues turn out strongly to vote, and voters whose views are more general stay home, the results could be quite surprising, even here in Northern Virginia.

Mark your calendar. Absentee ballots are already available, so if you think Nov. 2 that you

might not be available to vote, you can vote absentee, or you can vote early. See your local elections board website or call for details. There is no excuse for not voting.

Every year is an election year in Virginia. This combined with a bevy of special elections in some areas can result in voter fatigue.

EDITORIAL This year, every voter in Virginia will vote for a candidate for U.S. House of Representatives plus vote yes or no on three statewide constitutional questions.

Voters in Fairfax will also vote yes or no on a transportation bond referendum.

Voters in Arlington will also choose one member of Arlington County Board, one member of the Arlington School Board and vote yes or no on four bond questions, one for Metro funding, one for "county infrastructure," one for schools and one for parks.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Register by Oct. 11

You must be registered to vote at least 22 days before the General Election.

The deadline to register to vote or update your address for the Nov. 2 election is Monday, Oct. 11. To register to vote, download a form from: www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Forms_Publications/Index.html

Fill it out and mail it to your local elections office. You can also register in person at the elections office during business hours, or pick up a form in a library or other public places.

After you register, you will receive confirmation and a voting card in the mail. You can call the elections office to verify that you are registered. If you are already registered to vote at your current address, you do not need to register again.

To find your polling place, go to www.sbe.virginia.gov and click on "voter information." Polling places will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check with your local elections office for information on absentee and early voting. Absentee ballots are available now.

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Pulse of the Community

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

All states but Nebraska have a bicameral, two-house, legislative branch of government. The smaller of the two houses is always called the Senate or the State Senate. The house with the most members of the two legislative chambers is most often called the House of Representatives as is the case in the federal Congress. In Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia the larger legislative chamber is called the House of Delegates. I cannot bring myself to call one house the upper house and the other the lower house as the two chambers are sometimes referenced.



phone and stayed on the line I was able to discuss current issues, answer questions posed by listeners, and have the listeners respond to questions about issues through the use of their telephone keypads. I was able to see immediate tabulated results to my survey questions. At one point there were more than four thousand people on the line. You can listen to a recording of the meeting on my website at www.kenplum.com.

What I learned during the course of answering constituent questions and conducting the telephone survey was that most people do not like the plan to privatize liquor stores in the state. There is an understanding that the proposal is not a good economic deal for taxpayers; the state will lose a valuable revenue stream that it needs during this time of economic recession. Also, most people do not seem to like the idea of tripling the number of liquor stores in the state. I also learned from constituents that I am delegated to represent that if additional revenues are needed for transportation projects that the gasoline tax should be increased and not the sales tax or an increase in the number of toll roads.

The strongest sentiment expressed by listeners on my call was in favor of an independent, non-partisan redistricting commission to redraw legislative boundaries as a result of the new federal census. I have introduced a bill in many sessions that would have set up such a commission, but it has been killed in the committee that has the power to redraw district lines. Partisan self-interests drive the current approach that badly needs reform.

Although distractions are the major cause of automobile accidents, half the participants on the call opposed a ban on cell phones while driving.

Over 80 percent of participants have taken action to reduce energy consumption in their homes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rules That Make No Sense

To the Editor:

We have had it with the Reston Association! We are fighting back against the covenants and bylaws of the association and wish for others to join us in our fight.

We received several letters from Reston Association complaining about specific issues regarding our townhome. Mind you, our home is neat and tidy, updated, and we have lived here for almost 14 years. For about 10 of those years, not once have we had complaints about our home except to repaint our railings by our front door. As a former board member of our cluster, I have seen how many times we complained to RA about homes in the neighborhood, that were falling apart, had trash in their back yards, tall grass, and numerous toys. It took RA sometimes many months to even take action against these homeowners. Yet when it comes to homeowners like us who have neat and tidy places, they want to come down hard on, what we would consider, nit-picky issues. For instance, we have a Rubbermaid shed that we have had for over 10 years, on our back patio. RA has been around our home during those times doing inspections and has never once said anything about our shed. It matches our home; is enclosed in the back

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THE CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Newspaper of
Reston

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

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Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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EDUCATION

Weighing Punishment

FROM PAGE 5

School Board members denied that the outcome of student disciplinary cases are predetermined. "In my experience as a School Board member, every case has been decided on the individual facts of that case," said Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill), who has presided over 1,000 different disciplinary proceedings.

But Gibson and other School Board members said they also try to be consistent when it comes to consequences for student violations. They make an effort to dole out the same punishment for similar offenses.

"I cannot remember a situation where a kid was caught with drugs at school when they were not sent to another school," said School Board member Dan Storck (Mount Vernon). ... "I can count on one or two hands the number of times we voted for a student not to receive services. The vast majority of students stay in the system."

FAIRFAX COUNTY Public Schools used to take a more flexible approach to some drug violations. Until 10 or 12 years ago, students caught with a small amount of marijuana at school were only subjected to a five-day suspension and then allowed to return to their base school, said Gibson.

Then, Virginia enacted a new law that required schools to automatically expel students for a variety of offenses, including the possession of marijuana. There are special circumstances School Board members can use to justify a "modified expulsion," where the student is allowed to stay in the school system with a less severe punishment.

In fact, the Fairfax County School Board rarely expels students outright for drug offenses according to data provided by the Virginia Department of Education. From 2004 to 2009, 905 Fairfax County students caught with drugs at school for personal use received "modified expulsions." Only nine students were expelled from the school system entirely.

Gibson said allowing a student to return to their classes after he or she has been caught with drugs on campus could send the wrong message to other teenagers and children.

"I don't think there is any question about whether learning can go on in an environment that is infused with drugs," he said.

Last year, a student from a public school in McLean who admit-

Recommended for Expulsion

Fairfax County school administrators recommended 683 students for expulsion during the 2008-2009 school year. Only 161 were expelled in the end, but students who are initially recommended for expulsion often face other types of sanctions. About 84 of these were transferred to another high school, about 94 moved to an alternative high school and 99 were placed on long-term suspension. Several students are also enrolled in an alternative learning center or program, including those at juvenile facilities.

Reasons students were brought up for expulsion during the 2008-2009 school year:

Violation	Number of Cases
Possession of Marijuana	154
Prohibited Conduct (disruptions, fighting, and defiance of staff)	84
Possession of a Knife, Blade More Than 3 Inches	59
Possession of Other Drugs (Heroin, Cocaine, Prescription, Ecstasy)	38
Assault Against Student As Part Of A Mob	37
Assault Against Staff	30
Threatening Staff	28
Distribution Of Marijuana	27
Assault Against Another Student As An Individual	26
Possession Of A Razor Blade	25
Possession Of Other Weapon	25
Distribution of Other Drugs	19
Sexual Assault	17
Possession of Drug Look-A-Like	17
Inappropriate Sexual Behavior	13
Possession Of A Pneumatic Gun	13
Gang Activity	9
Outside-Of-School Court Charges Or Convictions	8
Theft	8
Vandalism	6
Threatening Another Student	5
Found Under The Influence For The Second Time	4
Distribution of Alcohol	3
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	3
Arson	3
Possession Of A Chemical Substance That Could Be Used As A Weapon	3
Distribution of Over-The-Counter Drugs	2
Bomb Threat	2
Possession Of A Firearm	2
Possession Of Nonprescription Drugs	1
Robbery	1
Possession Of A Taser	1

ted to smoking marijuana on a school trip garnered support from teachers, coaches and other students' parents.

According to the student's family, many members of their school community did not think the teenager should be forced to transfer schools for a first-time offense.

Several people wrote letters of support on behalf of the student to the hearing officers presiding over his case but the school system still removed the student from his base school. According to the student's family, the hearing officers appeared to ignore or disregard information about their son.

"Over 90 percent of the time, we accept what the hearing officer has sent us," said Storck.

This is just another indication that the process disenfranchises students and parents, said Caroline Hemenway, founder of Fairfax Zero Tolerance Reform, a community group.

"The hearings themselves are a kangaroo court. Principals call the hearing officer and make a recommendation for expulsion or suspension way before the hearing. Right from the beginning, the students don't get the same opportunity to present their case," said Hemenway.

And there are few positive outcomes that appear to derive from having harsh consequences for

marijuana use in particular, Hemenway said.

In 2008, approximately 38 percent of 12th graders responding to the Fairfax County Youth Survey reported that they had used marijuana at least once. Seventeen percent said they used it at least once in the last 30 days.

"You cannot claim that a child caught smoking a joint is a danger to the community when something like 40 percent of seniors have used it," she said.

Removing a child from their friends and support network and sending them to a different school is not going to help those who might have depression, low self-esteem or other mental health issues, she said.

But during the 2005-06 school year, the Fairfax County hearing office considered 154 students for expulsion related to the possession of marijuana and just one student for the possession of alcohol, despite the fact that approximately 72 percent of 12th graders who answered the 2008 Fairfax County youth survey reported using alcohol at least once in their lifetime.

Twice as many 12th graders (43 percent) said they had used alcohol over the past month when compared to 12th graders who said they used marijuana during the same time period.

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/SEPT. 23

Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mixer: Tango into Success. 5:30 p.m. at Cox Communications, 3080 Centerville Road, Herndon. Hosted by the Hispanic Business Council. Member \$20, non-member \$30. info@dullesregionalchamber.org.
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.
Conversations with Delegate Ken Plum. 7:30 p.m. at Reston Association, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive. Open house with Del. Ken Plum (D-36). www.reston.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 25

Lake Anne Farmer's Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. Local produce, honey, meats and more. Live music. www.restonfarmersmarket.com.

MONDAY/SEPT. 27

NARFE Dulles Chapter 1241 Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. at Amphora Diner, 1151 Elden St., Herndon. With 10th Congressional district re-election candidate Frank Wolf, and 8th Congressional District candidate Patrick Murry. \$17. 703-435-3523.
After School Snacks. 4 p.m. at Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Students will blend-up a fruit cooler and create a potato chipped grilled cheese sandwich. \$20, for ages 6-12. Register at 703-787-7300 or www.herndonva.gov/registrationmain.sdi.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 29

Loss-Grief-Hope. 7 p.m. at the Reston Community Center, Hunter's Woods, Reston. A support group meeting weekly through Oct. 25, for those who have experienced significant loss including relationships, employment, and death. Sponsored by Community of All People United Church of Christ. Free. 703-758-0527.
Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce Third Annual Skeet, Scotch & Cigars. 2-7 p.m. Meet at Blue Water Grille, 5127 Westfields Blvd., in Centerville, followed by a chauffeured ride to Bull Run Park. Practice shooting sporting clays, followed by scotch and cigars and hors d'oeuvres. Members \$165, non-members \$185. Reserve at info@dullesregionalchamber.org.

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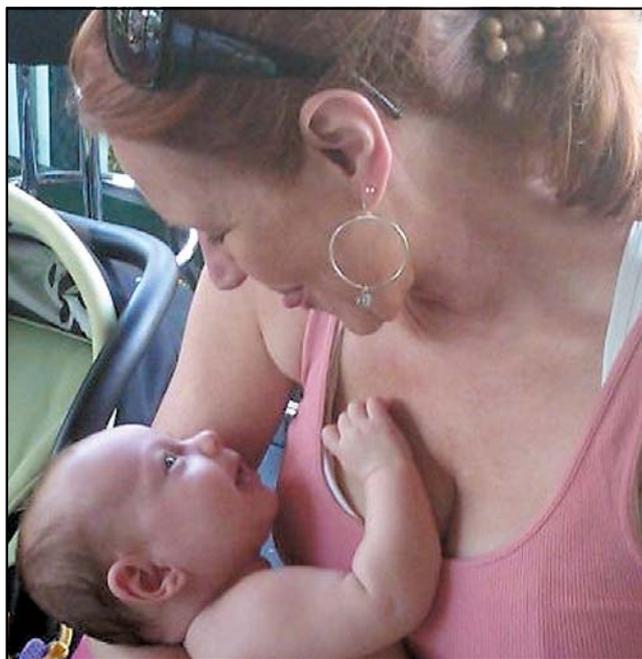
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Velma Jean Love Nellum Dies

Velma Jean Love Nellum quietly died on Monday, Sept. 20, 2010. Devoted wife of Albert Nellum. Also surviving are mother Evelyn Love, children Brian Stewart (Michelle), Rebecca Nellum Williams (Rodney) and Daniel Nellum (Michelle), siblings Thomas Love (Boots), Sylvia Green, Evelyn Kenley, Valre Love and Charles Love (Tammie), beloved niece Alicia Robinson, eight grandchildren, sisters-in-law Margie Lee and Joyce Shuemaker, and a whole host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Friends may call at Sugarland Hills, 1100 Dranesville Road, Herndon, on Friday, Sept. 24, from 4-7 p.m. A Mass of Resurrection will be held on Saturday, Sept. 25, at 12 noon St. Augustine's Church, 1419 V Street, NW, Washington, DC. The family will receive visitors at 11:00 am at the church.

OPINION

Reston Vision Emerging

BY JOHN LOVAAS
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

Lately, I'm averaging four Reston Master Plan Task Force meetings a week. Besides the less frequent sessions of the full, 24-member Task Force, there are the working meetings of the three station area subcommittees—Reston Parkway/Town Center, Wiehle Avenue, and Herndon-Monroe which comprise the corridor study area. These three are devising plans for development in the respective station areas for the next 20-30 years. A couple of months ago, the Task Force finally formed a Vision Subcommittee, to provide a comprehensive view of development in the corridor and Reston.

Without Vision, the Task Force has seemed rudderless. Each area subcommittee dances to its own tune, tending to be developer interest driven, focusing on maximizing the return for each parcel of land. The constant themes one hears are more flexibility and incentives for developers; and, fewer requirements, such as open space and affordable housing. Few, if any, of the developers or their lawyer advocates so heavily influencing the process actually reside in Reston. The Vision group is different. Its leadership provides the best subject matter experience (urban design and community planning) on the Task Force and its self-selected membership is nearly 100 per cent resident and planning to stay. Curiously, although Vision is open to all, to date not one single developer or land-use lawyer has attended even one Vision Subcommittee meeting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

fence; and is lower than the fence line. When we asked about putting the shed in many years ago, the reply by RA was that the shed had to be below the fence line and had to match our home colors. We have been told to take the shed down and my husband inquired about what we are to do about the bicycles in our shed? Throw a tarp over them? The answer: A brown tarp would be approved. Go figure! A brown ugly tarp thrown over the bikes is acceptable? But not a neat tidy shed? The rules make no common sense. There has now also been a complaint about our back patio light, which again has been on our home for many years. Our

neighbor tried to find the light requested by the RA and had trouble finding it, until he finally located one at Lowes. The lights are not even commonly made or used and are outdated. The trouble with RA is the lack of oversight over the years of the designs for the clusters, and they have been lax in making advances to the colors and designs to update the look of the clusters. We, like many of our neighbors, have been blindsided by these letters that have arrived requiring us to make changes to our homes, as well as the fines that have been added to ensure we comply. Let me ask you: First of all, why now, after 10 years or more? Why us, who have kept our homes

neat and tidy? The high fees we have for living in Reston are being used to go around and nit pick about a nice looking shed or light, when the lights and shed are well kept and updated. Can we really afford in these times to have RA micro-manage other people's property right down to the light fixtures on someone's well maintained home? Having bikes sitting out on our back patio is better than having a nice shed to store them in? We think this is fiscally irresponsible. We appreciate a nice, neat community, but come on!

Not going to take it any more.

Matt and Wendy Fetter
Reston

INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

Vision began its work by establishing guiding principles. These principles include: strive for excellence in planning, urban design and architecture; plan environmental sustainability and green technology; balance land use with [supporting] infrastructure (i.e., transportation, schools, public facilities); concentrate development near transit; maintain character of existing residential neighborhoods; provide diverse housing; provide high quality, active public open space; address economic needs; and, encourage public participation. These subjects rarely arise in existing subcommittees.

The shame, of course, is that the Task Force did not establish guiding principles at the outset. The Vision group and its extraordinary leadership have restored a glimmer of hope that this overdue Master Plan will not result in excessive density, lacking beauty and character and piled upon an inadequate, ill-planned infrastructure base—for the sake of short-term profit. Now, the test will come as the principles are matched with the proposals coming out of the station subcommittees. In varying degrees, I expect proposals coming from the station subcommittees will fail to match up with many of the principles, and it is a pretty safe bet that none will achieve balance between land use and infrastructure. I'm hoping for a surprise or two in the excellence, character and open space fields. It is not too late to get involved in the Reston Vision. Go to www.reston2020.blogspot.com to see dates and times of open Vision meetings.



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Multicultural Club

Lake Anne hosts 10th annual Reston Multicultural Festival.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Lake Anne Village Center will host Reston's 10th Annual Multicultural Fair Saturday, Sept. 25. The event will have a new feature this year: a

live entertainment ceremony in which 23 candidates will become American citizens. The 23 candidates come from 19 different countries from Asia, Africa, North America and South America. Sarah Taylor, Washington District director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will administer the oath of allegiance to the candidates.

"We're really excited to have his celebration of the diversity and multiculturalism of Reston," said Kevin Danaher, community events director.

"We've blended our opening cer-

emony with the naturalization ceremony, and it should be quite an experience."

There will be acts going on throughout the day at one of three stages, as well as various acts roaming throughout the festival. Arts and crafts, food, activities and

"Come expecting to walk away enlightened, you'll see the whole world in one spot."

— BeBe Nguyen

live entertainment from a variety of cultures will be going on all day. "Come expecting to walk away enlightened, you'll see the whole world in one spot," said BeBe Nguyen, communications director for the Reston Community Center. "Dress in your cultural attire, bring the whole family, see, taste

and smell what these cultures have to offer."

The outdoor stages will feature a variety of live music, dancing and other performances, while the stage inside the Reston Community

Center Lake Anne will feature more toned-down activities, such as storytelling.

"We are encouraging our performers to give context to their performances, to take the time to explain the significance," Danaher said. "There will be everything from teens performing Moliere to an 8-year-old boy, Vishnu Murali, who blends Bollywood with hip-hop."

Such an event, in addition to providing Restonians an afternoon outdoors, hearkens back to the principles on which Reston was founded.

"Even though there are big changes coming to Reston with the Metrorail and the new master study, Reston has always had a vibrant culture," Nguyen said. "The strength of this diverse community serves [Reston founder] Robert Simon's vision of diverse recreational and cultural opportunities, and this festival serves both."

The Reston Multicultural Festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lake Anne Village Center, Saturday, Sept. 25. More information on parking, as well as a complete schedule, can be found at www.restoncommunitycenter.com/arts_community_MCF.shtml.



PHOTO BY LINDA RUTLEDGE

Performers take part in a dragon dance, a traditional Chinese performance at last year's Reston Multicultural Festival. In addition to three stages, the festival will feature food, activities and arts and crafts from many cultures.



Dancers perform on an outdoor stage at last year's Reston Multicultural Festival. In addition to three stages, the festival will feature food, activities and arts and crafts from many cultures.

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/SEPT. 23

Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-829-5467.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 24

Artists' Reception. 6-8 p.m. at the Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, at Lake Anne in Reston. Nature's Best Photography Windland Smith Rice International Awards collection, including wildlife and landscape imagery from professional, amateur, and emerging photographers. The exhibit will be open 12-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays through Nov. 18. 703-709-7700 or www.restonmuseum.org.

Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-829-5467.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 25

Dulles Day Family Festival and 18th Annual Plane Pull. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Washington Dulles International Airport. The Plane Pull pits teams of 25 people in a game of "tug of war" against a FedEx jet. Proceeds benefit Special Olympics Virginia. Kids' Bus Pull, a similar event where teams of children pull a yellow school bus; \$10 donation per kids' pull. Children's games and activities. Live music. Car show, including top 30 and "Best in Class"



Penguin and Chick, by John Conrad. There will be an Artists' Reception 6-8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 24 at the Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, at Lake Anne in Reston, for Nature's Best Photography. The exhibit will be open 12-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays through Nov. 18. 703-709-7700 or www.restonmuseum.org.

people's choice awards for classic, street rod, truck, motorcycle and import. Military, civilian and World War II-era aircraft on display. Free admission and parking. 703-359-4301 or www.planepull.com.

Bobbe Shore Jazz Combo. 8:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Reston Town Center, 1800 Presidents St., Reston. Every Saturday through Oct. 703-925-8250.

Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-829-5467.

Reston Multicultural Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Reston Community Center, Lake Anne Village Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Live entertainment by Andean Pulse, Furia Flamenca, Bharatha Malika, the St. Petersburg Trio and Hindustani Classical Violin. Food, children's activities, arts and crafts and more. 703-476-4500.

"The Miser." 11:15 a.m. at Reston Community Center, Lake Anne Village Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The Traveling Players in Moliere's caricature of a man who hoards his money and values it above everything, updated and moved to the 19th century American West. Part of the Reston Multicultural Festival. Free. www.restoncommunitycenter.com/arts.

Weed Warriors Projects: Oriental Bittersweet. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. 11284 Stones Throw Drive, Reston. Must be age 13 or older to volunteer. Oriental Bittersweet is an aggressive non-native vine that strangles and topples native trees. Cut and remove the vines from around the trees, which will help reduce the amount of seeds produced. There is poison ivy at this site. habrock@reston.org or 703-435-7986.

A Night at the Blues-eum. 7 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Angela Haywood and the Soul Expression perform a musical history of the Blues, featuring songs by Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, and BB King. Preceded by a BBQ

dinner. Cash bar available. \$42 in advance and include dinner, concert and a chance for a door prize of art. Reserve at www.angelahaywood.webs.com.

Fall Fest & Health Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Dranesville United Methodist Church, 1089 Liberty Meeting Court, Herndon. Crafters, games for children, free health screening for adults, petting pony, clowns, moon bounce, snow cones, music from UTR and Snack Shack. debharris57@gmail.com.

Herndon Skate Park Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening. 1:30 p.m. at Trailside Park, at the intersection of Crestview Drive and Herndon Parkway. Refreshments, entertainment and door prizes from 2-3 p.m., skating 2:30 p.m. until dark. 703-435-6804 or town.clerk@herndon-va.gov.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 26

Northern Virginia Alzheimer's Memory Walk and Candlelight Rally. Reston Town Center, 11921 Freedom Drive, Reston. Registration opens 4 p.m., Program and Walk at 6 p.m., Candlelight Rally 7 p.m. 703-359-4440 or memorywalknova@alz.org.

Friends of the Library Book Sale. 1-3:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-829-5467.

Civil War Era Hymns at Meeting House. 1 p.m. The Meeting House is at the northern end of Frying Pan Farm Park, at 2516 Centreville Road, Herndon. Hear a choir sing hymns from a hymnal used during the Civil War era. Learn of the Civil War activities held in the 1791 building and the stories of those who prayed there, including those in the site's historic cemetery. Proceeds

to benefit cemetery restoration. \$15. Not appropriate for young children. Registration required at 703-437-9101.

MONDAY/SEPT. 27

Geocaching for Kids. 7 p.m. at Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Geocaching is high tech treasure hunting, using a handheld GPS unit to find hidden containers. Join Northern Virginia Geocaching for a quick lesson, then look for caches hidden on the nature center. \$4 per child RA members, \$6 per child non-members. For ages 5-12 with adult. 703-476-9689 or naturalist@reston.org.

Mr. Knick Knack Children's Performance. 10:30 a.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston. Music for kids. Free. www.restontowncenter.com.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 29

Apple Season Preschool Storytime. 11 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Boost your child's early literacy skills with this storytime featuring stories and activities about apples. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-437-8855.

Howl If You Love Libraries. 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Family Stories Celebrating Libraries. All Ages. 703-689-2700.

Trickster Tales from Latin America. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Age 4-5 with adult. 703-242-4020.

English Conversation Group. 12 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for adult non-native speakers. 703-242-4020.

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Tina Fey
Light The Night National Spokesperson

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Oktoberfest Reston
The 3rd Annual Oktoberfest Reston, produced by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, will be held at beautiful Reston Town Center on Friday, October 8 through Sunday, October 10. For additional information regarding Oktoberfest Reston visit us online at www.OktoberfestReston.com.

Kids Pumpkin Dash
The Kids Pumpkin Dash will take place between 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM on race day! We encourage all participants to come dressed in their favorite Halloween costume! The Kids Pumpkin Dash is FREE!

Pumpkin Decorating Contest
We invite all families to participate in a pumpkin decorating contest during the event! Pumpkins and decorating materials will be provided!

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FAITH

First Baptist Church of Herndon Installs New Senior Pastor

First Baptist Church of Herndon has called the Reverend Sean Roberds to serve as senior pastor beginning Sept. 13.

An installation service will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at the church, 681 Elden Street, Herndon. The community is welcome.

Rev. Roberds, 37, comes to Herndon from Chadbourn, N.C., where he served as senior pastor of Chadbourn Baptist Church from 2004 until his call to FBC Herndon, a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship-affiliated church in the Northern Virginia suburbs of the nation's capital.

"The family and I are excited about the journey of faith that is before us, and we know that with God, there are amazing possibilities for First Baptist Church," said Rev. Roberds.

Before becoming Chadbourn's senior pastor, he served five years as Associate Pastor of Youth, Children and Education at First Baptist Church in Taylorsville, N.C. His previous ministry positions were as youth minister at Weatherford Memorial Baptist Church in Rich-



Rev. Sean Roberds, wife Cara and boys Cole and Eli.

mond, Va., and at Mars Hill Baptist Church in Mars Hill, N.C.

A native of Raleigh, N.C., Rev. Roberds received his Bachelor of Arts in Religion in 1996 from Mars Hill College in Mars Hill, N.C. He received his Master of Divinity from Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond in May 2000.

He and his wife Cara, a teacher, have two sons, Cole, 10, and Eli, 7.

First Baptist Church has been without a fulltime senior pastor since June 2008, when Dr. Raymond Spears retired after 18 years of service.

For a year after Dr. Spears' re-

tirement, FBC partnered with McLean Baptist Church, sharing pastors and cooperatively working on various ministry projects.

Dr. Neal Jones has been serving as FBC's interim pastor since July 2009.

"The two-year period without a fulltime pastor has grown our faith and strengthened our bonds to each other," said Laura Greenspan, FBC Deacon chairman and a member of the Pastor Search Committee. "In Sean Roberds, we believe we have found a man after God's own heart who has the skills and faith to lead us into the future. We are excited about the possibilities."

FAITH NOTES

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

St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church, 1421 Whiele Ave. in Reston, will host its 40th Anniversary Celebration at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25. Former Space Shuttle Astronaut Tom Jones, Ph.D. will speak on "Reaching the Heavens," an astronaut's human and spiritual experiences during spaceflight, and whether America has a future in space exploration. Dr. Jones' books will be available for purchase and signing. stthomasabecketparish.org.

Tau Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans Open House. 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7 at Saint Joseph Meeting Room 205, 750 Peachtree St., Herndon. The Third Order Secular Franciscans is an order within the Catholic Church. The SFO are members of local fraternities who recognize that they are called to follow Christ in the footsteps of Saint Francis. Brothers and Sisters of these fraternities, led by the spirit, strive for perfect charity in their own secular state. For a brochure contact Bill Bouffard, Tau Minister at billbouff@cesmail.net or 703-437-6465.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St. in Herndon, presents "Journey to Adulthood", a comprehensive Christian Education for youth in grades 6-12. It uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, outreach ministries and both serious and playful activities to underscore its core message that adulthood must be earned.

Bright Pond Bible Study presents

their 12th year of Bible study, a non-denominational group of women searching the Bible for God's truth. Meeting at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1133 Reston Ave. in Herndon, starting 9:30 a.m. Sept. 22. bpbiblestudy@aol.com.

Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road in Herndon, holds worship services at 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays with a Latino service on Saturdays at 7 p.m. 703-793-0026 or www.florisumc.org.

Hope Fellowship Church will temporarily be meeting at Woody's Golf Range, 11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Sunday Worship Services for this new Southern Baptist church are at 10:45 a.m. The public is invited to join a growing Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org.

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

Nondenominational **Christian businessmen** meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship 7 p.m. Fridays at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and 12 p.m. Thursdays at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.

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CRIME

Activities reported by the Reston police department through Sept. 17.

DEER MANAGEMENT

A new Archery Program was implemented last year as part of the Fairfax County Deer Management Program. The Archery Program was developed with the recognition that archery is a safe, efficient, and sustainable deer management tool in urbanized regions such as Fairfax County. The Archery Program will be implemented from Saturday, Oct. 16 until Saturday, Feb. 12. Selected parks will not be closed to park patrons during this time and signs will be posted on trails informing

visitors of this deer management activity. All hunting will be conducted from elevated tree stands and located at least 100 feet from park property lines and 50 feet from trails. The Archery Program is conducted at selected park sites by a qualified archery group selected via archery hunt lotto. Qualified archery groups are comprised of ethical, experienced bow hunters with superior marksmanship and skill. The careful screening of each archery group, as well as overall monitoring and oversight of the Archery Program, is the responsibility of the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist (Fairfax County Police Department, Animal Services Division). For more

information contact Victoria Monroe, Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist at 703-246-6868 or email victoria.monroe@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit the Fairfax County website for more information about local wildlife species and wildlife management at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals/wildlife.

DISTRACTED DRIVING CAMPAIGN

If you're texting, eating, applying make up or getting dressed while behind the wheel, you may want to reconsider: Fairfax County Police will be watching. They're

SEE CRIME, PAGE 17

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11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
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Sundays

8:30 AM Traditional Worship
11:00 AM the Connection, Contemporary Worship Service
11:00 AM the Garden, Traditional Worship Service

other weekly services

5:30 PM Saturdays: Relax & Renew, Casual Worship Service
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OPEN HOUSES

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 25th & 26th



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

 **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.** 

Oak Hill/Herndon

1011 Charlton Pl.....\$389,999...Sun. 1-4...Robert Collo.....Global Link.....703-619-5019
12828 Kettering Drive.....\$469,850...Sun. 1-4...Kathleen Tuthill.....Long&Foster.....703- 945-4966
13210 Windy Oak Way.....\$522,500...Sun. 1-4...Priti Malhotra.....Weichert.....703-536-5800
12407 Myterra Way.....\$549,000...Sun. 1-4...Bernice Maddox.....Long&Foster.....703-328-1205
12007 Meadowville Ct.....\$765,000...Sun. 1-4...Irene Schiffman.....Weichert.....703-593-7848
11917 Richland Lane.....\$997,000...Sun. 1-4...Eddie Seymour.....Samson Properties...703-989-1598
12833 Rose Grove Dr.....\$1,399,900...Sun. 1-4...Sue Chong.....Countrywide.....703-941-8575

Reston

11608 Ivystone Court.....\$315,000...Sun. 1-4...Carol Ellickson.....Weichert.....703- 862-2135
11500 Fairway Drive, Unit 208...\$429,900...Sun. 1-4...Abbey Siciliano.....Long&Foster.....703-861-4024
11559 Brass Lantern Ct.....\$534,950...Sun. 1-4...Judy Gruner.....Long&Foster.....703- 517-2464

Vienna

1577 Leeds Castle Dr. #102...\$428,500...Sun 12-3...Bill Garrett.....MLS Connect.....703-466-0576
1511 Gingerwood Ct.....\$639,950...Sun 1-4...Eugene Curtin.....Weichert.....703-856-3416
9602 Counsellor Drive.....\$649,300...Sun 1-4...Melissa Dabney.....Long & Foster.....703-795-5923
2022 Carrhill Road.....\$875,000...Sun 1-4...Betsy Carson.....McEneaney.....703-599-9494

Great Falls

11109 Farm Rd.....\$739,000...Sun 1-4...John Murray.....Long & Foster.....703-608-4004

McLean

3039 Franklin Park Rd.....\$1,589,000...Sun 2-4...JD Callender.....Weichert.....703-606-7901

Oakton

10528 Elmsway Court.....\$639,900...Sun 1-4...Ray Leahey.....Weichert.....703-403-2579

Sterling

302 Lillard Road.....\$350,000...Sun. 1-4...Young Yim.....Century 21.....571-215-9417
46605 Hampshire Stn Dr...\$479,900...Sun 1-4...John McCambridge.....Samson Properties...703-906-7067
10865 Monticello Ct.....\$539,900...Sun 1-4...Betty Plashal.....Long & Foster.....703-926-8177
46991 Bainbridge Pl.....\$599,900...Sun 1-4...John McCambridge.....Samson Properties...703-906-7067

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Pechacek-Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-Mail the info to kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Monday at 3 pm.

REAL ESTATE NOTES

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

Weichert, Realtors will host a company-wide seminar, entitled "Rates Down, Opportunity Up," on Saturday, Sept. 25, at 11 a.m. to help potential homebuyers understand how record-low interest rates and attractive home prices can benefit them both now and over the long-run.

"Home affordability is at its most attractive levels in decades but it

won't remain that way indefinitely," said James M. Weichert, president and founder of Weichert, Realtors. "Consumers who attend our seminar will learn why purchasing a home in today's market could potentially end up saving them tens of thousands over the life of their mortgage."

This free, no-obligation seminar will delve into the historic trends of interest rates and demonstrate how today's market conditions offer buyers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

The seminar will begin with a brief presentation detailing the many benefits of owning a home, followed by a questions and answers session. Weichert managers and sales associates will also be on hand to provide a current summary of the local real estate market.

To reserve your seat or to learn more about the location of the seminar nearest you, call your local Weichert office. For a directory of Weichert locations, visit www.weichert.com

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Change of Name

I, AHMED NISAR, have changed my name as NISAR AHMED Vide affidavit dated 12/07/2010 before John T. Frey, Virginia, USA

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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CRIME

FROM PAGE 13

kicking off a new distracted driving campaign aimed at keeping motorists and county roadways safer. A recent study by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute points out that nearly 80 percent of all crashes and 65 percent of all near-crashes involved driver inattention due to distraction. The new campaign combines public education and awareness with strict, innovative, enforcement techniques. Officers will be posted at intersections and along roads where there is high volume and high number of crash incidents, such as the Route 28 corridor and the Tyson's Corner area. In addition to the increased enforcement effort, a new survey with a focus on texting while driving is being launched. Officials want to measure and assess public attitudes and behaviors about distracted driving in Fairfax County so they can best determine and target traffic safety education efforts. The online survey is now posted for public participation at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police. School resource officers are also encouraging teen drivers to participate. In partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools, police will distribute a new texting-awareness poster throughout schools across the county as well. The campaign is slated to run through June 2011; with updates on education and enforcement efforts to be shared with the public. For more information on the new campaign or distracted driving issues, contact the Traffic Safety Division at 703-280-0500.

ROBBERY

Two men, ages 35 and 37, were robbed at knifepoint by two men in the 1500 block of Cameron Crescent Drive around 12:20 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 13. The suspects were described as black, about 6 feet tall and 180 pounds. One was about 37 years old while the other was about 27 years old and had a tattoo, possibly of a dragon, on his neck. The victims were taken to a local hospital for non life-threatening injuries.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

A screened patio was damaged in the 2600 block of Meadow Hall Drive around 9:18 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 14. An investigation indicates someone may have tried to burglarize the home.

LARCENIES

2400 block of Centreville Road. Wallet stolen from business.
11900 block of Democracy Drive. Purse stolen from business.
11900 block of Freedom Drive. License plate stolen from vehicle.
11900 block of Killingsworth Ave. Painting stolen from vehicle.
11200 block of Silentwood Lane. Laptop computer stolen from vehicle.
2600 block of William Short Circle. GPS stolen from vehicle.
2600 block of William Short Circle. GPS stolen from vehicle.

VEHICLE THEFTS

11000 block of Becontree Lake Drive. 2002 Ford Focus.
13300 block of Glen Echo Circle. 2009 Toyota RAV4.
New Dominion Parkway/ Explorer St. Porsche.
1600 block of Washington Plaza. 1995 Honda Accord.

Activities reported by the Fair Oaks police department through Sept. 17.

BRANDISHING A WEAPON/ARREST

Police arrested a man for allegedly pointing a gun at a 26-year-old man during a verbal altercation in the 4200 block of Hunt Club Circle around 20:37 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 12. A 25-year-old male of the 4200 block of Hunt Club Circle in Fairfax was charged with brandishing a weapon. The victim was not injured.




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SPORTS

'Hype Squad' Shows up in Full Force

South Lakes football team feeling the support and good vibes of student fan base.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Perhaps the most fun place to be these days for a South Lakes High football game is in the Hawks' Nest — that area of the stands where the student body faithful, many clad in Kelly green and royal blue school colors, make their home and vigorously cheer on the Seahawks.

Indeed, the South Lakes High student body, known as the "Hype Squad," has gotten caught up in the football fever surrounding the Seahawks and new head coach Andy Hill. The team, over its first three games, has received great student support and turnout, in both home and away contests.

The Hype Squad was in full force last Thursday night, Sept. 16 during South Lakes' 43-0 win at cross-town rival Herndon. The victory was the Seahawks' third in a row to start the season.

Certainly, high school teams can receive a psychological, emotional lift from their student fans. That has been the case with the football Seahawks, who are quite aware of their fellow students' backing and loud cheers.

"The fans have been so positive and have helped us keep our intensity level up," said Rashaan Jones, South Lakes' sophomore quarterback.

"The fans have been here every game," said senior safety/back-up quarterback Mikey Bissonnette. "You can feel their enthusiasm."

RAIN during last week's game did not deter the South Lakes student fans from getting caught up in their team's outstanding showing. Seated in the front row bleachers almost directly behind the South Lakes team bench, the teenage fans made their voices heard. A large, green and blue banner, with large block letters, read, Hawks' Nest, lest there be any confusion as to the large group's allegiance.

Early in the game, following a punt block by Seahawk senior Sean Price, the students directed a chant of, "You're Not Ready," to the Herndon team. It was not mean-spirited or malicious, just



PHOTO BY RICH SANDERS/THE CONNECTION

Hype Squad members, left to right, Sheree Chen, Austin Leggett and Anastassia Perfilieva helped cheer South Lakes on to victory over the cross-town rival Hornets.

good old rivalry stuff.

Late in the first half, with their team leading 21-0, the students began the more traditional, "South Lakes Seahawks" chant.

South Lakes Principal Bruce Butler even got the treatment — in a positive vein — when the Hype Squad chanted his name, "Mr. Butler," over and over late in the third quarter. Watching the game near the South Lakes sidelines, Butler could not help but smile and acknowledge the student body.

"We have a lot of real quality juniors and seniors who are real leaders," said Butler, of the student fans. "The kids have just banded together to cheer."

LATER IN THE NIGHT, there were chants of "Let's Go Hype Club" to give themselves a late game boost and then, "This is Our House," based on their team's overwhelming showing that had all but taken the home team Herndon fans out of the game.

"We really get into it with the chants," said senior Austin Leggett, a Hype Squad member. "The team has really come a long way. We have a new coach and everything, and we have a lot of friends on the team."

Another Hype Squad member named Austin — South Lakes junior Austin Chutz — was in awe at his fellow students' emotional level throughout the night.

"This is my first time in the Hype Squad," he said. "It's really crazy. The bleachers were rocking. We were going nuts."

During the moments following the game's conclusion, the South Lakes players waved to their crowd, acknowledging what their support had meant to the team. Following a brief team celebratory huddle, the Seahawks, all of a sudden, dashed towards the bleacher area behind their team bench. Separated from their adoring fans

only by a metal fence, the players yelled their thanks and greetings towards South Lakes Nation.

"I was real happy that they acknowledged the fans," said Hill, of his players.

South Lakes senior Anastassia Perfilieva, a Hype Squad member, said students at South Lakes had been looking forward to the game versus Herndon all throughout the week.

"I don't remember the whole school being so pumped up for a game," she said. "Everyone wanted to go."

Sheree Chen, a senior who came to South Lakes as a transfer student last year from Florida, said school spirit has picked up with the success of the football team. She said the sky is the limit for the 2010 Seahawks. "I think they can go to states," said Chen, with a broad smile.

HILL, the former Park View High (Sterling) football coach who came to South Lakes this past off season, has an understanding of school spirit and student emotions directed at a football team. At Park View, his Patriots had ample success and a huge fan following. He is glad to see football fever is currently flourishing at his new school. Hill said the Hype Squad has displayed heart-felt enthusiasm and displayed class as well.

"I'm really happy with the student body and that they are respectful [of the opponent]," said Hill. "South Lakes has a lot of pride." It was a festive night for the visiting South Lakes team and its fans. Why not? The Seahawks had improved to 3-0 and had beaten the Hornets for the first time since 2002.

"It's a big deal for us," said Butler. "Herndon is always strong. This is like our version of the Army-Navy game. And everybody likes everybody."



PHOTO COURTESY/RESTON UNITED

The Reston United '98 girls' soccer team captured first place at the recent Capital Cup Labor Day Tournament.

The U12 girls' Reston United '98 started their new season just as they ended their last one, building on their victory at the 2010 Virginian Memorial Day Tournament last May to win the prestigious 2010 OBGC Capital Cup Labor Day Tournament.

Reston United '98, competing in the U12 Elite division age group of the Labor Day tournament, once again, went undefeated with a record of 5-0-0. The girls were well prepared for the season, having benefited from a terrific training regimen implemented over the summer by Reston's experienced coaching staff.

By the time of the OBGC tournament, United '98 was a finely honed unit of capable soccer players who worked well together as a team and played with a great sense of camaraderie. The team hopes its OBGC victory will portend to an exciting season of competition, personal growth and team success. For more info about the team, go to: www.eteamz.com/RestonUnitedGirls98/.

The Reston Masters Swim Team (RMST), represented by 23 members whose ages span seven decades, participated in the U.S. Masters Swimming Long Course National Championships in San Juan Puerto Rico Aug. 9-12.

Reston, in the team standings, placed fifth out of 90 teams. A gold medal in the competition equates to a national championship. RMST members took home nine gold medals. They also scored over 90 other medals in the four-day competition. Coach Frank

Koval, who has led RMST for over 10 years, expressed great satisfaction with the results.

Kim Brightwell scored two individual firsts and a relay gold as did Frank Manheim. At age 80, Frank is the senior member of the team. The other three individual golds were earned by Steve Pohnert, Adam Orton and Jillian Orton. One of the meet highlights was the win by the RMST "Geriatric Relay." The team of Frank Manheim, Nick Nobbe, Gordon Gerson, and Muraji Nakazawa, whose combined age exceeds 280 years, won the 280-plus men's freestyle relay by 11 seconds.

AC Cugini will host the six-week Free Fall Soccer Program, designed for girls' and boys' players ages' six to eight years old, on Saturdays beginning Sept. 25 and running through Nov. 13 at Baron Cameron Park in Reston.

All players must register and sign a medical release online to participate. No walk-ons will be permitted. The camp opportunity is designed to introduce more children to the Italian soccer school. Professional instruction will be provided by AC Cugini President Fabio Diletti, a native Italian who played as a goalkeeper for the professional Italian club Ascoli Calcio. The weekly practice sessions will take place from 2-3 p.m. on field No. 5 at Baron Cameron. Special discounts for players who later enroll in AC Cugini's new winter house league or spring house league seasons. For more information, contact AC Cugini's registration department at registration@cuginisoccer.com; or by calling 866-792-9433.

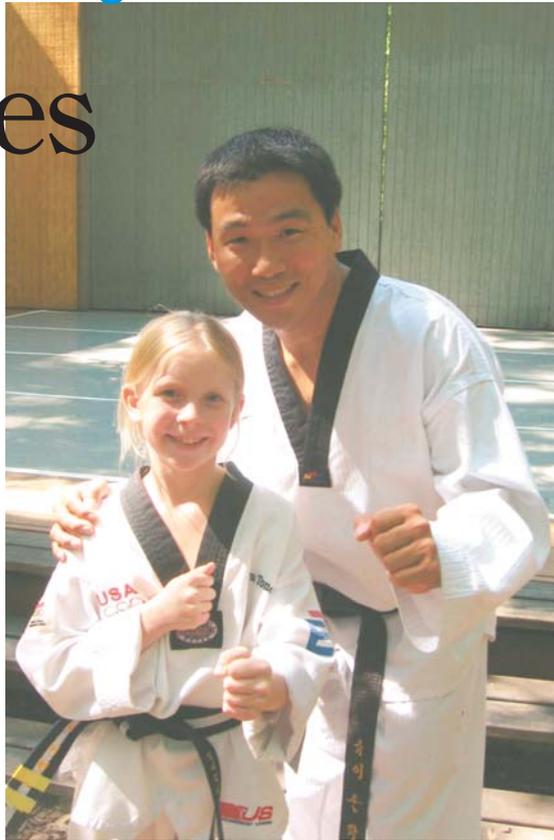
The World Comes to Wolf Trap

Arts Council of Fairfax County produces 40th International Children's Festival.

The 40th International Children's Festival, produced by the Arts Council of Fairfax County, took place on Sept. 18 and 19 at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. Performers came from local cultural and dance academies, from the east coast and from as far away as Poland and Mexico. Stages were set up under tents, in the meadow pavilion, patio pavilion and in the Theatre-in-the-Woods. Families watched modern dance, classical dance, ethnic dance, tae kwan do set to music, puppets, and Mariachi musicians. There were hands-

on activities for children, from an instrument "petting zoo" to screen-printing art. The weather was the kind of weather that gives September its good name. The sky was blue, the sun strong, the temperature comfortable. Five stages set throughout the park featured all-day music and culture. From jazz to Asian sounds to the Latin beat and European melodies, the festival offered programming for every cultural taste. For more information on the Arts Council of Fairfax County, see ArtsFairfax.org.

— DONNA MANZ



Eight-year-old second-degree black belt Sara Toner of Reston has studied with the H.K. Lee Tae Kwan Do Academy in Herndon for three years. Sara said she is learning tae kwan do to protect herself should she ever be attacked. With Sara is Master Jun Hak Lee who choreographed the school's program at the Children's Festival.



Eva Varghese, a Wolf Trap Elementary School sixth-grader, has danced with Center Stage of Fairfax since she was three years old. Said Eva, 'it's really fun and I love being with the people and learning new stuff.'

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



Victoria and Lily Yacobucci of Great Falls said they had a lot of fun at the children's festival. They made tissue paper flowers and screen-printed poster art.

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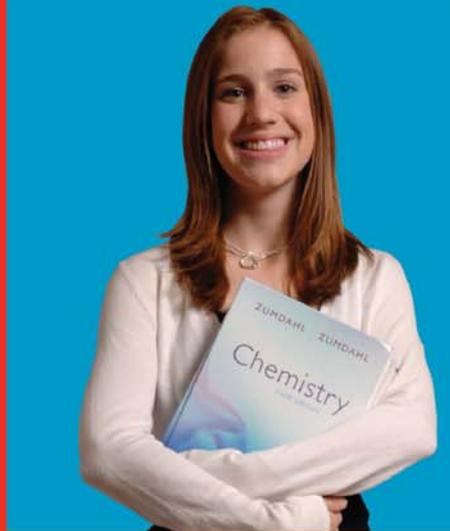
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