Revitalizing the Lake Anne Village Center, as well as the other village centers in Reston, will be a top priority for the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force in 2011. Pictured here, a Lake Anne resident Jen Marcus gets a kiss from her Grate Dane, Bono.

Legislators Head for Richmond

Resolutions 2011

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
Reston Community Center

UPCOMING
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETINGS

RCC Board Retreat
Friday, January 7–Saturday, January 8, 2011
Airlie Center
Dates and times subject to change. Please check our website for up-to-date information.

2011 RESTON DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15
Reston Community Orchestra Musical Program
6:00 p.m.
RCC Hunters Woods

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16
Voices of Inspiration
4:00 p.m.
Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation
1441 Wiehe Avenue

MONDAY, JANUARY 17
9:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
All events at
RCC Hunters Woods
(unless otherwise noted)

Commemorative March
9:00 a.m.
Southgate Community Center
12125 Pinecrest Road

Especially for Youth
(1st through 6th grade)
10:00 a.m.

Keynote Address by Michele Norris and Community Service Awards
10:30 a.m.

Community Service/Volunteerism Panel Discussion
12:15 p.m.

Community Service Projects and Homelessness Workshop
12:15 p.m.

Art Reception for Reston Elementary Schools
1:30 p.m.

Please check our website for an up-to-date schedule of events.
www.restoncommunitycenter.com

RCC's Annual

DIVA CENTRAL

Prom Dress Drive to Benefit Reston Area Teens

JANUARY 10–FEBRUARY 25
Get a head start on your New Year's resolutions to give more and clear out your closets!
Donations are accepted Monday–Sunday • Reston Community Center Hunters Woods
We are collecting formal dresses (circa 2006 or newer), shoes and accessories such as jewelry, handbags, scarves and shawls. The dresses and collected items will be available to high school juniors and seniors on Saturday, March 12.

Please go to our website for additional donation guidelines.
For more information please contact Nakish Jordan, Director of Teen Programs, at Nakish.Jordan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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

To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-476-4500 • 800-828-1120 (TTY)
Revitalizing the Lake Anne Village Center, as well as the other village centers in Reston, will be a top priority for the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force in 2011.

By Alex McVeigh
The Connection

The Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force looks to finish up its work on planning for the three metro stations that will be in the vicinity of Reston in 2011, and then will move onto figuring out the future of the Reston village centers.

The Wiehle Avenue station, the first station after Tysons Corner on the proposed Silver Line, currently is not zoned for any residential units. The Wiehle Avenue subcommittee recommends “mixed use (transit oriented development) with an emphasis on adding residents, an active street life and educational institutions.”

Since the station will open as part of Phase One, in 2013, it is a top priority for the task force. Reston 2020, a citizens group planning for the future of Reston, called planning for the Wiehle station the “most challenging planning task.”

With almost 30,000 jobs in place around the area, the report recommends “the plan emphasize residential development, at least a 60:40 residential to non-residential ratio for future development.”

Heidi Merkel, a senior planner with the Fairfax County Planning Commission, said there are more changes needed to update Reston’s master plan than they originally thought, which has led to the task force being extended.

The next phase will be to make the village centers more viable, as they area becoming less of a vital part of the community than they originally were.

The Wiehle Avenue metro station will be the first one in Reston to open, so plans for the development around it will be finalized in 2011.

“A lot of the village centers are just getting old,” said Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill). “We don’t want to lose the quality of life that comes with a successful village center, but we want to help the community recognize what’s important when it comes to redevelopment.”

The Lake Anne Village Center is one of Reston’s signature locations, and the county has hired consultants to look into making it a premium destination for retailers and shoppers alike.

“From a retail perspective, the average income of the surrounding area is greater than $116,000 per year, which is a very appealing statistic,” said Robert Wolcheski, a senior associate with The Eisen Group, one of the consultants. “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.”

Various scenarios have been proposed for the governance of Washington Plaza, to ensure the right kind of tenants are there, and also to create a brand that attracts people to Lake Anne.

“There are a lot of strengths that draw people to [Lake Anne],” said Tom Moriarty, an associate at The Eisen Group. “We just need to find a way to build these strengths.”

Paul Goldberger, Pulitzer prize winner and architecture writer for the New Yorker, who spoke to members of the task force in October, said he thought the future of Reston should be more focused on urban development like Reston Town Center rather than the village centers.

“The village centers don’t seem to have a uniquely Reston quality,” he said. “And very little about [Reston’s] future will be an accident.”

More information about the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/reston, and more information about Reston 2020 can be found at www.Reston2020.blogspot.com.

New Year's Resolutions

Sen. Janet Howell (D-32)

Casting all my votes in the long-term best interest of Virginians rather than for short-term political gain is my resolution. This is always my goal but it will be especially challenging this year: It is an election year and I will be chairing the redistricting committee. With divided government the pressures to look for partisan advantage will be intense.

An important corollary is to be the first to extend a hand across the aisle. The only way to accomplish anything in Richmond is to work collaboratively with legislators from other parties and regions.

Losing 15 pounds and getting in shape would also be nice!

Leila Gordon, Executive Director, Reston Community Center

Reston Community Center resolves, in 2011 and every year, to be Reston’s essential resource for enriching experiences that enhance the wellbeing of the community. Thank you for the opportunity to share this with your readers. Happy New Year!

Resolutions 2011

— Miriam McPhie

Gaby Lapera, Reston

“I’m going to start drinking more water.”

Andrea Blakemore, Reston

“I plan to start cooking more meals for myself.”

Anne Keady, Reston

“I’m going to drink more water and learn how to take naps.”

Marguerite Keady, Reston

“I’d like to get my family photos organized.”

Stefanie Muldrow, Reston

“This year, I’m going to try to be a little more athletic. When it gets cold outside I just can’t convince myself to go for a jog or even to go to the gym to use the treadmill. I hope that changes this year.”
News

Legislators Head for Richmond, Discuss Assembly Priorities

Budget, transportation, retirement system top agenda.

By Miriam McPhie
The Connection

The Virginia General Assembly, the legislative body for the Commonwealth of Virginia, will convene on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011. The 140 elected members of Virginia House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia will meet in Richmond to confer on proposed resolutions and amendments to the state constitution. The Connection asked some of our area legislators the following three questions:

1. What do you see as the single most important issue facing the Assembly this year?
2. What is your biggest personal goal for the session?
3. Will you be holding any hearings or town hall meetings in January?

Sen. Janet Howell
(D-32)

1. The single greatest issue facing the General Assembly is balancing the budget and related issues concerning the use of debt and the funding of the retirement system. As a Senate budget negotiator, I will be deeply involved in every aspect of the budget. The future of the Virginia Retirement System is one area where I am hopeful we can work together to find an acceptable compromise.

2. My personal goal will be to facilitate passage of the budget. However, two other goals are also important to me. One is to pass a bill to require insurance companies to provide appropriate treatment for autism spectrum disorder, which is very treatable in young children. Also, as chair of the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee, I will be preparing for the special redistricting session that will follow the regular session.

Del. Ken Plum
(D-36)

1. The Assembly will put a great deal of its focus on the economy and how we’ll reduce the state’s budget. Another big issue will be dealing with all the proposed amendments.

2. My goal is to try to stop any further cuts to education. The shortfall in the general fund does not even take into account the decline in revenue for transportation. I will resist any efforts at excessive borrowing that will leave the state too far in debt.

Del. Tom Rust
(R-86)

1. The Assembly will put a great deal of its focus on the economy and how we’ll reduce the state’s budget. Another big issue will be dealing with all the proposed amendments.

2. I look forward to working with the Governor on the transportation proposal and trying to infuse cash into that. I will also be working with the Governor on the higher education proposal, which will attempt to increase its accessibility and affordability, particularly for the middle class.

Kim Longworth (standing) helps Girl Scout Cadettes, from left, Erin Bidwell, Katherine Qian, Halle Wilson, Cheyenne Keeter, Natalie Schwarzkopf and Mary McDonald assemble turkey sandwiches that were donated to the Embry Rucker Community Shelter in Reston.

Girl Scouts Serve Community

About 100 Girl Scouts ranging from kindergarten to high school seniors participated in Girl Scout Service Unit 51-7’s annual Winter Service Project from 7-8:30 p.m. on Dec. 13 at the Floris Elementary School cafeteria.

“It was great to see girls of all ages coming together to help others in our community who are less fortunate and those who are away from home serving our country,” said Amy Fujii, project coordinator and member of Troop 2568. “We could not have done such an event without the support of our troop leaders, parents, and community businesses. Apple Spice Junction helped make the sandwiches special with a donation of fresh baked bread and Chick-fil-A in Reston donated the mustard and mayonnaise packets.”

As part of the service project, the girls assembled sandwiches, snacks and drinks into more than 70 decorated lunch bags that were donated to the Embry Rucker Community Shelter later that evening.

Also at the event, the girls created and decorated holiday cards destined for U.S. soldiers currently serving in Afghanistan.

Earlier, troops collected donations ranging from toys to diapers for Reston Interfaith’s Transitional Housing and Healthy Families programs. Donations were collected from troops that evening for distribution to Reston Interfaith.

“We’re so proud of all the girls who participated in our annual Service Unit service project,” Service Unit Manager Anne Parrish said. “They truly exemplify Girl Scout values of being considerate and caring, and making the world a better place.”

Service Unit #7 of Association #51 Ashgrove West is part of the Girl Scouts Council of the Nation’s Capital, based in Washington, D.C. Troops comprise students from elementary to high schools in the Herndon/Reston/Oak Hill area.

Kaylyn Siegfried, a Girl Scout Daisy, shows her holiday card she made for U.S. soldiers overseas.
Opportunity for Leadership

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

As Spock in the 1991 film Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country quoted “an ancient Vulcan proverb, only Nixon could go to China,” only Governor Bob McDonnell can save Virginia’s transportation funding program from bankruptcy. Nixon had a strong anti-communist reputation. He was able to go to China and open diplomatic relations without fear of being politically attacked by the right-wing in this country. Two economists studied the phenomenon and developed a model of how “politics often exhibit counterintuitive resultsRight-wing politicians sometime can implement policies that left-wing politicians cannot, and vice versa” (Coven and Sutter: “Why Only Nixon Could go to China,” Public Choice 97: 605-615, 1998).

The fact that the Virginia Department of Transportation does not have adequate revenues with which to do its job of either maintaining existing highway infrastructure or constructing new facilities is no longer debated. A press release from the Governor’s Office Dec. 29, 2010, stated that even with the Governor’s proposal to sell bonds, “Still, Virginia’s aging infrastructure requires at least $1 billion a year in new, recurring revenue.” He has asserted in arguments like those used by the Obama Administration to support stimulus spending that now is the time with high unemployment and low construction costs that projects should be built. His proposal to borrow nearly four billion dollars as a way to move the problem into the next administration has received criticism. The Richmond Times Dispatch editorialized recently that taxing and spending is bad but borrowing and spending is worse.

The Governor wrote to legislators in late summer asking for ideas on funding transportation needs. The political implications of his letter became clear when the chairman of the state Republican Party sent a similar letter to Democratic legislators. The tone of that letter was clear: tell us what you would do to fund transportation so that we can run against you next year on that issue.

The other ideas the administration has put forward thus far have been non-starters. Tripling the number of liquor stores throughout the state in order to raise enough money to build one highway interchange holds little hope. Drill, baby, drill! will not happen in our lifetime. Numerous audits of VDOT have not produced a single dime of new money. Only Nixon could go to China; only Governor McDonnell can fix Virginia’s transportation mess. Time to step up, Mr. Governor. This is your opportunity for leadership!

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 6
Public Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Reston Community Center at Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. With Department of Transportation.

SATURDAY/JAN. 8
Winter Bird Count, 7 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Lunch provided. 703-476-9869 or knpulum@aol.com.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 12
Moms Club of Reston, 10 a.m. at the Hunter’s Woods Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. An international non-profit organization providing support for mothers. Playgroups, baby classes, co-op, regular monthly activities and events, moms’ night out and more. momsclubreston@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

ROSSLYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1133 Reston Avenue, Herndon, VA 20170
Worship: Sunday, 8:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Church Office: 703.437.5020
Preschool: 703.437.4511
www.gslcva.org
**Resolved: Pick One Way to Get Involved**

Jan. 17, 2011 at George Mason University, an opportunity to work on service projects with your family. See www.volunteerfairfax.org. The Arlington County Volunteer Office promotes civic engagement and active volunteer participation, coordinating volunteer opportunities from hundreds of nonprofit and government agencies. Visit www.volunteeralexandria.org. The Alexandria Volunteer Bureau recruits and coordinates volunteers and matches their interests, skills and availability with the needs of service-providing nonprofit organizations and public agencies. Visit www.volunteeralexandria.org. The Literacy Council Northern Virginia is in need of volunteers who will devote several hours a week to helping adults master reading and writing skills; visit www.lcnv.org. A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer is a trained citizen who is appointed by a judge to represent the best interests of a child in court. CASA volunteers help children who will have their home placement determined in juvenile court. See www.casafairfax.org.

The Alexandria/Arlington Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program has helped hundreds of children have a voice within the court system. See http://www.scanva.org/casa.htm

Some other suggestions:
Get involved in state and local political campaigns. Every seat in the Virginia General Assembly, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and School Board and many other state and local offices are about to enter campaign mode, with some races hotly contested. Volunteer with a candidate, with the League of Women Voters or with your local electoral board.

The public school or library closest to your house is also in need of volunteers. Homeowners associations need activists to learn about a variety of local issues and coordinate neighborhood response. Your church or house of worship could use a hand. Animal shelters and animal rescue groups are also over extended with families giving up pets due to the economy, in addition to their usual work. Environmental groups like Audubon Naturalist Society and the Nature Conservancy offer many kinds of volunteer opportunities, as do local parks.

Winter is a great time to give of your talents, whether it’s playing the piano or baking cookies. The instructors at the Reston Community Center welcome volunteers to help run classes. Visit www.rcccenter.org/volunteer.

**The Politics of Failure**

By John Lovaas

Reston Impact Producer/Host

While the year-long Reston Master Plan Task Force exercise for the Dulles Silver Line Corridor has often been muddied, a few things are clear. First, developers and fellow travelers understand county planning and zoning processes better than Reston residents involved and wield the lion’s share of influence in shaping a new plan. Second, the Silver Line Corridor will form a new, high-density urban core from Hunter Mill Road all the way to the Fairfax County Parkway on the west. It will be a commercial center first, with more commercial space and more jobs than Tysons Corner, and a residential one second, with a population likely to exceed 40,000. This growth is not the end of the world if it comes with creative, high-quality design and the supporting infrastructure to make it work. But, neither Fairfax County officials nor the developer nation have a clue how to deliver the essential infrastructure—especially transportation—to support a fraction of the massive construction they propose.

Yet, it is a safe bet they will proceed with the plans, failing intersections and imminent gridlock notwithstanding.

Given the sad state of affairs with the Supervisor’s task force, I thought I’d go to my elected representatives at the state level, since it is the Commonwealth of Virginia which has the responsibility for public roads and transportation infrastructure. Having just received a glowing mailing about the upcoming legislative session from my long-time State Senator, Janet Howell, I decided to contact her. Her mailing consisted of a full page on the Virginia budget and another on her “major legislation.” To my surprise, nowhere did she mention transportation at all, much less the staggering problems facing Reston with no funding in sight for transportation infrastructure. I sent her a message expressing surprise at the absence of transportation in her plans, in light of the Hudgins’ Task Force preliminary proposals and the dire implications for Reston aside from the infrastructure. I got a prompt, curt response which said in part: “Surely you remember that the public fourteen months ago voted in a landslide for a Governor who has pledged to veto any tax increases we would send to him. Surely you have read in the newspapers various House Republicans declaring any tax increases are DOA. Surely you know we have had to cut more than $7 billion from our General Fund and cannot further cut education, public safety, etc. to fund transportation.” I think I got the message: she feels she has done enough and intends to do nothing more. It is an election year, after all.

In closing, I demanded my suggestions. I accepted her challenge. While acknowledging my lack of legislative experience, I offered suggestions for standalone bills or amendments for supplemental funding from a couple of sources specifically to meet requirements in the Silver Corridor essential to support massive growth coming with rail. In fairness to a competent Senator, this is not an easy issue. But, it is her job to take on tough issues as well as the easier ones mentioned in her mailing. I hope she and Del. Ken Plum address the coming crisis in Reston at their “Town Meeting” Thursday, Jan. 6, 7:30 at Reston Community Center.
New Year’s Resolutions


“I was grateful to receive 61 percent of the vote in November and in 2011 will be working hard to earn that level of support.”

Bulletin Board
From Page 5
MONDAY/JAN. 17
Assistance League of Northern Virginia. 9:30 a.m. at the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. A nonprofit, volunteer organization promoting literacy and well-being for women and children through community based programs, such as Operation School Bell, New Clothes for Kids and Weekend Food for Kids. Meetings are the third Monday of every month. 703-878-1928.

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Ashburn - Jan 10, 7pm
Purcellville - Jan 11, 7pm
Alexandria - Jan 22, 11 & 1pm

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YMCA National Capital
1711 Rhode Island Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-862-9622

YMCA Arlington
3412 North 12th Street
Arlington, VA 22201
703-525-5420

YMCA Reston
1218 Sunset Hills Road
Reston, VA 20190
703-742-8800

YMCA Bethesda- Chevy Chase
5401 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-383-3125

YMCA Potomac Overlook
10109 Indian Head Highway
Forestville, MD 20744
301-303-7203

YMCA Silver Spring
5880 Hastings Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-585-2120

YMCA Alexandria
420 East Monroe Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22310
703-938-8083

“Programs and facilities vary at each location. Zero joining fees offer ends January 17, 2011.”

We are open to all, regardless of ability to pay. Financial assistance is available.
8
8
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For additional listings, visit
Deadline is Thursday for the following
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p.m. at the George Mason University
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Admission $8, workshop free. Partner
7:15-8 p.m., dance 8-10:45 p.m.
Road, Reston.
Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck
SEAT.
www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-
years old and excluding top price
Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle,
945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.
for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400
University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-
twenty dates at The Tortilla Factory, 648 Elden St,
703-435-8377 or www.patwictor.com,
Saturday/Monday/Friday/Thursday.

SATURDAY/JAN. 8
Artists’ Reception at GRACE
“Staplerscape” by Travis Childers
How humans manipulate the natural
Childers’ sculpture and installation
fairy tales and animals. In “Guilt”, Matt
Ravenstahl’s videos and sculpture
and Matt Ravenstahl. 703-471-9242
“Menagerie”, Ellen Cornett’s
In “Slave Block”

THURSDAY/JAN. 13
International Guitar Night (IGN)
Wolf Trap Foundation for the
Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-
Treasurer and Board Chair of the
International Union of Spying Scientists,
In “Menagerie”, Ellen Cornett’s
dancers and musicians performs the
rhythms, sounds and movements
of the Inca, Mayan and Aztec.
“Festejo”.

THURSDAY/JAN. 20
Read to the Dog.
Wolf Trap Foundation for the
Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-
Saturday/Friday/Thursday.

FAITH NOTES
Faith Notes are for announcements
to the faith community, by
several local religious leaders.
For more information, contact
Blessings, a local religious leader,
to the faith community.

Join us at an Upcoming Admission Event!
Morning Admission Information Session
for Parents 8:15-9:45 a.m.
Tuesday, January 11
Friday, January 4
Evening Admission Information Session
for Parents 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, January 11
The Reston Museum is quietly tucked amongst cafés and shops at the Lake Anne Village Center. It has been open for eleven years, but underwent some major renovations about fifteen months ago. Long-time volunteer David Slater described its new set-up as “Smithsonian-like.” Permanent displays circle the cozy space, detailing Reston’s history from inception to present projects. The current focal point of the room is a three-dimensional exhibit celebrating the twentieth anniversary of Reston Town Center.

Bruce Loren, the special projects administrator for the museum, was part of the committee that designed the present exhibit. “The primary goal of the Reston Museum is education and civic outreach,” Loren said, and the Town Center display encapsulates those standards.

The exhibit shows the original plans for the Town Center’s layout and explicates how a grid construction was ultimately settled on. The straight lines, which make it easier to block off a small section when there are festivals or other public events, were deliberately designed that way.

Another large component of the area’s arrangement involved the creation of public domains. The designers of Reston Town Center wanted there to be a variety of gathering spaces for the community to gather and interact. Planners wanted people to want to visit Town Center, which led to the variety of shops and restaurants, and of course the ice skating rink.

The museum is looking to move the current exhibit to a location in Town Center itself at some point in January.

Recent exhibits at the Reston Museum have included displays on the Stream Restoration Project and transportation developments with the expected arrival of the Metro.

The work of local photographers is always displayed in the museum, and during the holiday season there is also local artwork for sale.

The museum attracts visitors from the area, but also sees a good number of international tourists. “We’ve had groups from China and Japan and Australia,” said Loren. Groups of foreign developers and city planners have made the trip to Reston specifically to study the history of how the community was created and grew. The museum chronicles the community’s inception, from Robert E. Simon’s vision to today’s reality.

The current focal point of the Museum is a three-dimensional exhibit celebrating the twentieth anniversary of Reston Town Center.
Local volunteer and mother will represent Reston in competing for the title of Mrs. Virginia America on Feb. 5 at the historic Colonial Theater in South Hill, Va.

Amy Cannon, a community volunteer, wife and mother was chosen to compete for the title of Mrs. Virginia America from a field of applicants received from throughout the area.

Cannon's commitment to raising her children with a sense of giving back to the community through volunteerism throughout the area was significant in her being chosen for the title of Mrs. Reston. “It’s only natural that I teach my children to help others,” said Cannon. “I want them to understand the importance of giving back. It’s not about self, it’s about being self-less.” Cannon volunteers in many capacities in the community including local mom’s clubs, political groups, substance abuse prevention and her neighborhood homeowner’s association.

Cannon and her husband, Mac, an association executive and local political candidate, have three young children. In addition to family duties and volunteerism, Cannon is also a business woman operating two at-home businesses, working for an association management firm and, together with her husband, is co-owner of Cannon Consulting. She enjoys meeting new people, exercising, spending time with friends and travel.

Cannon will compete in three categories for the Mrs. Virginia title: personal interview, swimsuit and evening gown.

For sponsorship or ticket information call 703-539-5727 or e-mail tracy-crist@msn.com

2011 Reston Association
CALL FOR BOARD CANDIDATES

Interested in guiding the direction of the Reston community?
Then consider running for the Reston Association Board of Directors.

Two seats will be open in the spring:
• Hunters Woods/Dogwood District must be a resident of the district
• One At-Large Director

To qualify you must:
• Be a Member of the Reston Association
• Complete a Statement and a Petition of Candidacy

Details or questions? Cate Falkerson
cate@reston.org • 703-435-6512

Forms must be filed by 5 p.m., Feb. 4, 2011. Candidacy forms and other election information can be found online at www.reston.org.

The election is open to property owners and renters within Reston Association.

“New World” Symphony!

Saturday, January 15th – 8:00 p.m.
George Mason University Center for the Arts, Fairfax
and
Sunday, January 16th – 3:00 p.m.
Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas

• BERNSTEIN: Overture to Candide
• WALTON: Violin Concerto, Chey-Yun, violin
• DVORÁK: Symphony No. 9, “From the New World”

Tickets: 888-945-2468 or www.fairfaxsymphony.org

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Fairfax Symphony Orchestra
Christopher Zerrnow | Music Director

“New World” Symphony!

Saturday, January 15th – 8:00 p.m.
George Mason University Center for the Arts, Fairfax
and
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• BERNSTEIN: Overture to Candide
• WALTON: Violin Concerto, Chey-Yun, violin
• DVORÁK: Symphony No. 9, “From the New World”

Tickets: 888-945-2468 or www.fairfaxsymphony.org
Reston Chorale Presents Christmas Concert

Worshippers from across Reston and Northern Virginia came to see and hear The Reston Chorale present their Christmas Concert at Our Lady of Hope church in Sterling. Artistic Director David Lang played both organ and piano, while Associate Director Luke Frazier conducted. A wide selection of sacred Christian music was performed, ranging from early medieval to modern times.

The well-known and beloved pieces were matched with some modern British, Canadian and American music that added to the diversity and richness of the program.

—Mike McKee

Luke Frazier, Associate Director of the Reston Chorale, conducted the program at Our Lady of Hope.

David Lang, the Artistic Director of the Reston Chorale, played the organ.

Al Tozilli, President of the Reston Chorale, his wife Ellen and Charles Russell relax before the concert.

Educational Internships

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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I’m having some difficulty starting this column. The reason being, primarily, that it’s presently Dec. 18 and it won’t be until Jan. 5, 2011 when it will appear in print. And why that latter date is problematic is, that it occurs a week after my next round of quarterly scans will have been completed and two days before my every-three-month, follow-up appointment with my oncologist — Jan. 7, is scheduled. And it is during that appointment when I will learn the fate of my universe. Because that is when the results from my weeks-previous Bone and CT scans and Brain MRI will be revealed/discovered with my doctor. And whatever it is I think I feel — or don’t feel, the scans will confirm it, presumably.

Not that much has changed concerning my health/symptoms. It’s more that there are results, fortuitously, which will change my life — for the worse potentially, or reaffirm how fortunate my present lack-of-circumstances are. Either way, it’s a matter of moments in time when the world stops — and you can’t get off. I can only hope that when my oncologist enters the examining room where my wife, Diana, and I will be waiting anxiously, he’ll be smiling when he sees us, and not uncomfortably, but reassuringly, as he has in the past 1.5 months.

Therefore, to write definitively about anything health-related now, when the tale of the tape will tell it all in three weeks, seems risky somehow. I don’t want to presume facts not in evidence nor do I want to anger the gods. And I most assuredly do not want to want to write about substance/circumstance on which I have fairly limited knowledge and make statements not in evidence nor do I want to anger the gods. And I most assuredly do not want to write about substance/circumstance on which I have fairly limited knowledge and make statements not in evidence. I will know sooner than later what it is I will know. And to write anything significant about my cancer, given the Jan. 5/7 time line, other than I’m feeling pretty good, though increasingly nervous about this next appointment, seems prudent and certainly precautionary — given my general mental state.

Every day, I begin a sentence with “What...?” And every day, I try not to complete that question. Every night I go to sleep wondering if the next day I’ll learn the answer to that question. And the next day when I will learn the answer to that question will be Jan. 7, 2011. And since Jan. 5, 2011 arrives before that, and I’m writing this column three weeks before both of those dates, anything I’m thinking or feeling now (in mid December), seems incredibly presumptuous and naive almost. I will know soon enough if the road ahead is paved with good intentions or whether it’s a road under repair.

As I wrote about in a recent column, the end of my quarterly scan cycle always presents these subconscious/unconscious emotions and anxieties — which are usually beyond my control. What is in my control is writing about them as if I knew anything definitive about the “underlying problem” (as I refer to my lung cancer) and I don’t. All I do know is, I’m in pretty good shape for the shape I’m in. However, it’s exactly the way I felt — basically, when I was first told back in late February 2009 that I had stage IV lung cancer.

Certainly I realize that it is better to feel good than it is to feel lousy. Still, given the minimal symptoms I experienced back in the beginning, it’s not as much consolation now as you might think, especially considering that the projected back end of my “13-months-to-two-year life expectancy” anniversary is fast approaching.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.
No two games are ever exactly alike.

By Rich Sanders
The Connection

Sports are a big part of my life as I realize they are for much of the Connection Newspapers readership which support and cheer on their favorite youth, high school, college and professional sports teams. For me, the yearly calendar is often marked by signature sporting events, such as the NFL playoffs in January, Major League Baseball’s Opening Day in early April, and the men’s NCAA college basketball tournament in March.

My birthday (March 13) always arrives as the college basketball conference and national tournaments are beginning to unfold. Many of my birthdays have been extra special or marred somewhat, depending on how my favorite college men’s basketball team, the Terrapins of the University of Maryland, fared at the ACC Tournament or whether or not they went on to qualify for the national tournament field.

Sports fans often associate major events in their lives with landmark sports moments involving their favorite teams. A former co-worker of mine, a huge Boston Red Sox fan like myself, got married and enjoyed his honeymoon during the Sox’s history-making World Series run in the fall of 2004.

After being with my mom in the hospital for the birth of one of my younger brothers, my father, then the high school boys’ basketball coach at Bishop O’Connell in Arlington, rushed from the hospital to the O’Connell gymnasium where his Knights were in the closing minutes of a nip-and-tuck game. Upon my dad’s arrival to the home team bench, his head assistant coach, in one of those memorable moments that has been remembered and laughed about for years, simply told him, “It’s yours to lose.”

In fact, O’Connell won that night, making it one of my dad’s landmark coaching days - with the birth of a son and a basketball victory.

THERE WERE WONDERFUL local sports memories made in 2010 for fans around the Northern Virginia area. Quickly coming to mind for me were the prep school heroics of the Virginia State AAA girls’ softball champions from McLean High School, as well as the Langley High boys’ lacrosse team which, after being disappointed in the Northern Region title game - an overtime finals loss to Robinson - stormed back to capture its second consecutive state title the following week with a championship game win over Loudoun Valley.

In Reston, the South Lakes High girls’ basketball team, under head coach Christy Winters Scott - the former University of Maryland women’s basketball star - advanced all the way to the Liberty District finals before falling to two-time defending champion Madison. Freshmen center sensation Zoe Beard-Falls made the all-district tournament team, as did freshmen guard Marlena Tremba. A year earlier, a much more seasoned South Lakes team had captured the regular season district crown.

The Herndon High baseball team did not capture any titles, but enjoyed a winning season (11-7) under new head coach Greg Miller, a former Hornet baseball star himself who was taking over the reins of the program from the legendary, longtime Herndon baseball skipper, Al McCullock.

Fred Priester’s Oakton High Cougars, behind the terrific guard play of the Coyer twins - Caroline and Katherine - and shooting sensation Zora Stephenson, made their annual strong postseason charge, capturing another region crown and qualifying for the state tournament. The Cougars defeated West Springfield in the region finals. Caroline Coyer scored 20 points in the title game win and earned tourney MVP honors. Also from the Vienna area, the Madison High girls’ hoopers, under steady head coach Kirsten Roberts, a former Warhawk player herself, won their third consecutive district tournament title. Junior guard Erin Kavanagh earned tourney MVP honors in the Warhawks’ finals win over South Lakes.

Other local team’s experienced sensational seasons, including McLean High football, baseball and boys’ soccer; Langley boys’ soccer and girls’ lacrosse; Madison baseball, girls’ softball and girls’ soccer; South Lakes’ boys track, boys’ cross country and boys’ lacrosse; and Herndon boys’ basketball.

Local professional sports highlights for 2010 included the Washington Capitals putting together the best win-loss record in the NHL; Washington Nationals rookie pitcher sensation Stephen Strasburg electrifying the Washington, D.C. home crowd and the entire baseball universe with his debut game, 14 strikeouts versus the Pirates; and the Wizards landing the top pick in the NBA Draft and selecting point guard extraordinaire John Wall from Kentucky.

I HAVE COVERED high school sports for The Connection Newspapers for the past 23 years, and I am still amazed that every contest - regardless of the year, sport, schools involved, or even the players and coaches - is a special, one-of-a-kind event which will never be duplicated. One could attend hundreds of high school football, field hockey or soccer games and all of those sporting contests would hold their own, distinct characteristics, such as weather elements, the mentality of the individual athletes on that particular day, the recent success or failures of the teams leading up to the game, or even the biggest picture world events taking place at that particular time. No two games are ever exactly alike.

Almost always, the teams and players I have watched compete over the years have played with passion, determination and a healthy will to win within the rules. There is still a sense that high school sports is, overall, pure in a way the professional and college games are not. I get tired of watching enormously high paid pro athletes playing half-hearted in front of packed stadiums and millions of TV viewers. There is another option - supporting and attending the local high school and youth sports events.

The New Year, God willing, will be filled with more numerous, exciting high school and youth events for local sports aficionados to take in and enjoy. May area high school and youth sports fans throughout Northern Virginia continue to rally around and remain a big part of the local sports scene in 2011.

My best wishes go out to all for a happy, safe and successful New Year.

Sports
An Annual Fabric of Life
**Barba Stewart Merriwether, 71, Dies**

Barba Stewart Merriwether died on Dec. 5, 2010 at her home in Rehoboth Beach, Del. with her husband Richard caring for her after she bravely fought cancer for 18 months.

She was a determined and caring mathematics educator and Christian social activist well known as a loyal wife of 47 years, mother to three children and four grandchildren, and youngest sister to five siblings who also served two Christian ministers.

Born in 1939 in Baldwyn, Miss., she was educated at Central State and Ohio State Universities, where she pledged to the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. She worked in Dayton, Ohio in the early 1960s before moving to New York City where she met her husband. She moved to Maryland in 1970.

In her retirement, Barba worked passionately to empower the largely African-American residents of West Rehoboth through tutoring, gaining an historic designation, and organizing for neighborhood development. She also spearheaded the creation of a local United Church of Christ house church. She attended Israel United Methodist Church as well, while also supporting the Social Justice Committee of Epworth United Church of Christ and at the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. She was a determined and caring mathematics educator and Christian social activist well known as a loyal wife of 47 years, mother to three children and four grandchildren, and youngest sister to five siblings who also served two Christian ministers.

In addition to her husband, Barba is predeceased by her parents, Leroy and Bessie Stewart, and is survived by her son Phillip of Jacksonville, Fla.; son David and daughter-in-law Maleke, and their children, MacKenzie, Alexa and Logan, and daughter Linda and son-in-law Richard of Rehoboth Beach, Del. with her husband Richard caring for her after she bravely fought cancer for 18 months.

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Barba was also active as a Court-appointed Special Advocate for Children (CASA) and at Sojourner United Church of Christ where she helped guide an antitrust initiative that grew to inspire churches in five states. She retired and moved with her husband to Rehoboth Beach in 2001.

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