Reston Seen As ‘Part of The Dream’
News, Page 8

Squire Muse leads guests at the Reston Museum in singing freedom songs while Ellen Graves holds a sign like the ones used during the Civil Rights Movement at the Reston Museum’s celebration of Black History Month Saturday.

Honoring Past, Preparing For Future
News, Page 3

Reston Loses One of Its Best
News, Page 4
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Honoring Past, Preparing for Future

Past Reston Association Leaders discuss past, present and future.

By Alex McVeigh
The Connection

The Reston Association hosted a luncheon Saturday featuring six past presidents of the RA Board of Directors, spanning across the community’s six decades of existence. The former presidents spend the afternoon reflecting on their time with Reston, as well as their views on Reston’s future.

“I hope this inaugural luncheon will help us find a way to honor the past while preparing for the future,” said current RA president, shows past Reston Association Board presidents and CEOs a book of photos from Reston’s history put together for the occasion.

RA BEGAN as the Reston Homeowners Association, which were actually two separate organizations until 1970, with one group managing the area north of the Dulles Toll Road and one managing the area south of the toll road.

“Reston was only partially developed then, and it was set up to hedge the success of townhouses [to the south],” said Reston founder Robert Simon listens to stories from past Reston Association presidents and CEOs during a luncheon at the RA headquarters Saturday.

Kathleen Driscoll McKee, Reston Association Board president, shows past Reston presidents and CEOs a book of photos from Reston’s history put together for the occasion.

began with cocktails and ended with snifters of brandy. Naef began serving as treasurer and eventually became president from April to September of 1971. He recalled much of his early years were spent trying to get the two associations together.

“The [Reston] Home Owners Association has been split over concerns that the single family houses would be a success and the townhouses wouldn’t,” Naef said. “The biggest challenge of my tenure was to get the First and Second Home Owners Associations to work together.”

The First and Second Reston Home Owners Associations eventually were combined after a citizen vote in April 1970, and one month later, citizens went to the polls to elect Reston’s first Town Council.

SEVERAL PAST PRESIDENTS remember coming to a board and community that was divided on almost everything, and the struggles they had to start getting things done.

“We had to get away from the adversarial nonsense,” said Joe Caravella, who served as RA president from April 1996 to April 1998. “We had a divided board personality-wise, but it was a matter of working out a compromise on a whole lot of stuff, and we got it done.”

Vicky Wingert, who served as CEO from 1993 to 2000, remembers that the personality divisions weren’t just limited to the board.

“We changed the format of the annual members meeting, originate it was the board members up front with the members facing them, it was a very adversarial exchange,” she said. “But we started sitting around a table and serving food, to make it so it wasn’t us versus them, but a real community meeting.”

Mary Ellen Craig, who served as RA president from April 2000 to April 2001, said one of her biggest challenges was getting funding for the Reston Nature Center, which eventually opened in November 2009.

“The RA wouldn’t commit to spending money on the Nature Center, any proposal wouldn’t get the vote unless a foundation could raise the money,” she said. “That’s what they eventually did, and they did an incredible job.”

THE LEADERS agreed that despite past conflicts, the staff of the RA deserved credit for meeting the needs of the community through the years.

Jerry Volley, a former RA CEO, said the organization’s commitment reminded him of his time serving in the armed forces.

“In 24 years in the Air Force, you get an attitude that whatever needs to be done gets done, no matter what,” he said. “RA is a magic organization because of the people on staff, who had that same attitude. When I was here, all I had to do was think an idea and it would get done.”

McKee said she too enjoys the approach the current RA board takes when it comes to issues, knowing that despite debates on how to proceed, people have the best interests of Reston at heart.

“I’ve enjoyed every second I’ve been president,” said McKee, who was elected in April 2010. “We work together to solve every problem, and though we don’t always agree, I think we come up with good decisions.”

Fred Naef, RHOA president, April 1970 to September 1970
“I would like to see the Reston Association try to shift some of the development funding burden to the new industrial occupants that will be coming. There ought to be a way to increase the revenue you get from them.”

Mike Freeman, RA president, April 1988 to April 1989
“RA does a good job, but it’s going to be a challenge to keep up their core functions and preserve the common amenities. I’d also like to see not only residents taxed, but the businesses as well.”

Joe Caravella, RA president, April 1996 to April 1998
“We need to communicate with new members of this community. We know the founding principles of Reston, it’s why we moved here, but we need to teach the new members what Reston is all about.”

Mary Ellen Craig, RA president, April 2000 to April 2001
“Reston is filled with bright and capable people, and the more of them we can bring in to volunteer, the more you can incorporate them into the thoughts and processes here, the better. As we grow part of the challenge will be keeping this community a special environment.”

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The year after receiving his Master’s degree in city and regional planning from the University of North Carolina, Dave Edwards moved to Reston. That was 1967. He involved himself in his community and making it a better place from the beginning.

Mr. Edwards played a key role in that shaping Reston in its earliest formative years and was back playing a vital role recently as Reston enters a period of urban expansion.

Dave made his living working for Fairfax County, first as a county planner where his work included developing the county’s first comprehensive plan for the Upper Potomac Planning District, including Reston. Subsequently, he worked as executive director of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. His work included bringing to Reston dozens of businesses that made this their home.

Meanwhile, he helped to organize and energize the new Reston Citizens Association created in 1967 to protect the Robert Simon’s founding vision following his firing by Gulf Oil Corporation. Mr. Edwards served on the RCA Board from 1968 to 1972, service which included chairing RCA’s Planning and Zoning Committee. In this capacity, he worked to develop the agreements with Fairfax County establishing the P & Z as the recognized voice of the community in reviewing proposed new development. Previously, development proposals went directly to the county staff and elected officials with very limited community input. In those years, P & Z was a highly professional group that developers took seriously and whose recommendations were usually accepted by the county. It is hard to overstate the importance of this function and its impact over the last 40-plus years. Dave Edwards was a principal architect of this key institution.

In the early 1970s, Dave joined the Ad Hoc Committee to plan and design the Reston Community Center. This Committee later became the new Center’s first Board of Governors. As a member of the Ad Hoc Committee, it was Dave who conceived the financing mechanism for the Center, the creation of Small Tax District #5. Last year, the Community Center celebrated the 25th anniversary of its founding. It has expanded to Lake Anne and serves thousands of Reston citizens of all income levels with a wide array of cultural, recreational and educational programs. We can, and should, thank Dave Edwards for his crucial role in shaping both its physical plant and the inclusive philosophy which still governs it today.

Over the years, Dave played scores of other roles serving Reston with no thought of personal reward. As a volunteer for Reston Association, he provided input into the planning for South Lakes High School; served on the Reston Metro Access Group (RMAG); served on the RA Election Committee, 2004-2010; and, served as member and Vice Chair of the Transportation Committee. Most recently, Dave was an active participant in preparing a new Master Plan for Reston, a plan to guide development for a generation and to convert Reston from a suburban to urban community. He was a dynamic force within the citizens Reston 2020 group providing skilled, experienced input fo
Edwards

From Page 4

Edwards was censed on assuring that Reston’s future development is up to his high standards for excellence in design and quality of life.


Giving a Gift of Himself

Kathleen Driscoll McKee, President of Reston Association, on the passing of Dave Edwards:

“Dave was dedicated to Reston and to ensuring that what he did made a difference. He was also kind and willing to help others. For me, personally, I recall that when I first joined the Reston Association Board, Dave was a great mentor, who gave of his time, his knowledge and was incredibly generous in helping me understand the issues before us as a community.

Dave’s final gift to us was himself. Dave loved and felt an obligation to Reston and by his commitment, our community — and each of us who had the gift working with him — will be forever enriched.”

7 Things You Must Know Before Putting Your Home Up for Sale

Washington, D.C. — A new report has just been released which reveals the 7 costly mistakes most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you to avoid them and sell your home fast and for the most money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional approaches to selling homes have become increasingly less effective in today’s complex and fast-paced society. The fact of the matter is that three quarters of home sellers don’t get what they want for their homes, become disillusioned and — worse yet — financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report shows, most home sellers make the same 7 deadly mistakes costing them thousands of dollars needlessly. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a FREE, Special Report called, “The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar!"

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 24

Lupus Support Group, 12 p.m. at Reston Hospital Center, The West Wing, 1850 Town Center Parkway, Reston. lb@accescom.com or www.lupuswpg.org.

Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce Virtual Reality Tour, 7:30 p.m. Hyatt Regency Reston, 1800 Presidents St., Reston. Commercial reality event with government agencies, commercial brokers and more. communications@restonchamber.org. “Race to Nowhere,” 7:30 p.m. St. Thomas a Becket Church Findley Hall, 1421 Wible Ave., Reston. A 30-minute panel discussion will be held immediately following the movie. $10 advance, $15 at the door. www.rhendesoapna.eventbrite.com.

Board to Hear Design Changes, 7 p.m. Reston Association Board of Directors, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. The Board will hold a public hearing on proposed changes to Design Guidelines. Open to the public.

Humane Society of Fairfax County

Hours: Monday-Friday 10-4 and Saturday 10-3 • www.hsfc.org
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HUMANE SOCIETY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

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O P I N I O N

Time to Talk about ‘Discipline’

Schools need to consider the best interests of the student.

Our hearts go out to the parents of Nick Stuben, a student at Woodson who died of suicide last month after an ordeal of navigating a suspension and disciplinary process that clearly has gone awry.

Nick was not the first local student to suffer from the process. In March 2009, Josh Anderson, 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.

It is true that a teenage suicide never has only one cause; the students’ deaths are not the “fault” of disciplinary policies. But no one can deny that the disciplinary process contributed to the unhappiness that these two students experienced.

We have heard now from many parents whose teenagers (and even younger children) have suffered through an inflexible and adversarial process that separates students from support systems and healthy activities and even schoolwork at exactly the moment that they need them the most.

Students who have not been in serious trouble before suddenly find themselves isolated at home, unable to participate in sports or clubs, unable to interact with peers or teachers on a regular basis. The results have been devastating for many families.

Many people are seeking a dialogue to understand and hopefully modify the current approach.

Del. Kaye Kory introduced legislation in the Virginia House of Delegates that would require schools to notify parents if their student was in trouble that might lead to suspension. Fairfax schools opposed it.

Caroline Hemenway founded Fairfax Zero Tolerance Reform, a community group that advocates for changes to Fairfax’s approach to disciplinary matters, years ago after her family’s ordeal with suspension years ago.

School board member Tina Hone (At-large) has been asking for data about suspensions and expulsions from school staff, but reports that she has been unable to get good answers, leaving open questions about minority students being over-represented in students who have been suspended, among other issues.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Feb. 8 to “make outreach efforts” to the local school system about student disciplinary tactics, hoping to begin a friendly and ongoing discussion about possible reforms to the schools’ current system.

Fairfax County Superintendent Jack Dale made it clear he had no intention of discussing the disciplinary system with the county. Dale said in a statement that the resolution demonstrated a “serious misunderstanding” of the school system’s current disciplinary policies.

Note that this exchange involved dueling “statements,” not discussion.

Dale is correct when he suggests a broader approach of tackling teenage depression in general, but this must be in addition to grappling with the challenges in the disciplinary process.

“I believe our efforts would be far more productive if we focused on the incidence of depression among our own students and how our agencies can work together to tackle this problem,” wrote Dale in his statement.

In the meantime, if you have a teenager in your family, it might be worth letting him or her know that they shouldn’t sign any statements admitting they’ve done anything wrong at school without having the school call you first.

—MARY KIMM

And in this Corner… bigger Government

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

The legislative process is not unlike a sporting event: one interest versus another. Complicated by the fact that many issues do not break down as simply as two competitors or two teams against each other, the playing field is broad with many teams competing together at the same time with some competitors working together in coalitions or partnerships around a common interest. The winner in the game is supposed to be the public interest as determined by legislators who sit not unlike international ice skating judges to determine the winner with less than objective criteria.

At the risk of pushing the analogy too far, a legislative session has the majority political party as the favorite on most issues. Republicans in the majority in the House of Delegates refuse to approve an independent redistricting commission for fear that they might lose power to the minority political party in the next election. The Republican Party in the House of Delegates with its new alliance with the Tea Party seeks to reduce the size of government with proponents on both sides falling on deaf ears.

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—MARY KIMM

By Jack Kenny
Past President, Republican Club of Greater Reston

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, having been manipulated by the Farm Bureau, has embarked on another flight of fancy: the idea that government can do a better job running a profit-making enterprise than private industry. At issue is the proposal to purchase what used to be referred to as the Energy Recovery Facility. In its planning stage, some 30+ years ago, the ERF was calculated to provide about 120 megawatts of power which would be sold to local power suppliers.

Subsequent to the approval and development of the private/public partnership, the United States Congress stepped in, at the behest of the Department of Energy and “big power” and placed a limitation on the amount of electricity local ERF’s could generate. Thus, the Fairfax ERF was limited to generating 80 megawatts of power. The result is the Fairfax ERF vents a full one third of the heat generated to the atmosphere. Notice the frequent clouds of steam emanating from the facility at a cost to the operation of the plant. Some questions need to be asked.

Why hasn’t our Congressional delegation sought a waiver or exception or, Lord forbid, an amendment to the Federal statute to allow Fairfax to generate at full capacity? Has the Board of Supervisors even asked any of our congressmen to look into the possibility? One Congressman’s office has no record of any inquiries to that effect. It would be a safe bet that the other two would come up with the same answer. What would happen to the numbers if all of a sudden Fairfax were to realize a 50 percent increase in power sales? Should we even suggest that, in these days of energy shortages, using the waste heat to generate more power makes sense?

Closer examination of the staff study proposing this excursion into a profit-making enterprise reveals that it will be 25 years before Fairfax realizes a breakeven point on the “investment.” A sec- ond point of serious question is: What other uses of the report’s $418M bond issue revenues could be put to use for core gov
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ile a young man, Ron and reston founder Robert Simon worked as a journalist and came across a magazine article in the New Yorker that made a lifelong impression on him, and later the community he would found.

“Back then, you wouldn’t go across the country on a train, and when you would, you would eat at a Harvey House to take a break,” he said. “I read an article about black soldiers being transported as a group of white prisoners, and they stopped at a Harvey House outside Chicago,” Simon said. “And while the white prisoners ate in the dining room, the black soldiers were confined to the kitchen.”

Growing up going regularly to white schools, Simon said he didn’t realize such a disparity until after reading that, which made a lifelong impression on him.

Simons and other Reston residents gathered at the Reston Community Center last Saturday to celebrate the company’s 50th anniversary and in recognition of Black History Month. Many residents had experiences that shaped them in the thick of America’s racial equality.

Vern and Vicky Wingert have made their impressions in Reston, with Vicky serving as Reston Anthology’s managing editor and Vern playing the part of the city every year. But decades ago, the couple were involved in the Civil Rights movement whenever they could be.

Vicky Wingert still remembers having dinner with Martin Luther King Jr. while in college in 1959. He “doesn’t eat peas,” she remembers, but they still enjoyed dinner together. “His demeanor, his character and grace is something we need to be reminded of today,” she said. In 1963, she was part of the March in Washington and then involved in the in the civil rights campaign in Chicago. That was my first exposure to the systematic and logical racism in this country.

She remembers playing the part of a white couple who would see their child moving into houses, and then a black couple would follow them and be denied.

Vern Wingert grew up in Orlando, Fla., which he remembers as being “very segregated,” including separate water fountains and restaurants. “One day he invited me to go上课, and we learned about South ern struggles through the newspapers,” she said. Bradley became a teacher and taught a segregated school in Jersey City, Newark, N.J., Joliet, Ill. And Gary, Ind. She participated in Jesse Jackson’s Operation PUSH and other civil rights organizations before moving to Reston 27 years ago, eventually becoming principal at Torrance Elementary School. “We raised our children here, and they learned to live with a lot of different kinds of people,” she said. “When I was principal, I really worked hard to make sure that all kids were welcomed in all the classes and activities.”

In the 1970s, Wingert also worked as a foreign correspondent for The Washington Post in West Germany, Greece and England, has been in an international marriage for the last 41 years, and has two adult children with his wife Beverly, who currently is the Chair of the Reston Community Board of Governors.

Simon made his impressions in Chicago, with King serving as the first president.

Vern Wingert says Reston fits very much with the goal of equality that he and his wife have spent their lives trying to achieve.

“Reston is certainly part of that dream to help shape that future for all of us,” he said.

Carol Ann Bradley, a board member at the Boston Community Center, grew up in Jersey City, N.J. As “an orthodontist,” she said the goal was not realizing the problems facing African Americans in this country.

“We never took black history classes, we learned about the Southern struggles through the newspapers,” she said. Bradley became a teacher and taught a segregated school in Jersey City, Newark, N.J., Joliet, Ill. And Gary, Ind. She participated in Jesse Jackson’s Operation PUSH and other civil rights organizations before moving to Reston 27 years ago, eventually becoming principal at Torrance Elementary School. “We raised our children here, and they learned to live with a lot of different kinds of people,” she said. “When I was principal, I really worked hard to make sure that all kids were welcomed in all the classes and activities.”

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One of the first items he knew to America’s Civil Rights movement wherever they were.

“The first time I came to the United States, a child of colored prejudices was limited to what I had been brought up to think,” Simon said. “I moved to Washington, D.C. around 1967, and after the riots in the wake of King’s death in 1968, became acquainted with civil rights leader Walter White, whom eventually provided with his support. After deciding to raise a family, they came to Reston.

“Here we have an incredible range of people, and we’re not raising them,” she said. “We have four children, two of whom still live in Reston, and we have four grandchildren who are growing up here.”

As a 95-YEAR-OLD, Oscar Haynes was the only person at the event that could truly be called a contemporary of Simon. A participant in lunch counter and bus sit-ins on multiple occasions during the Civil Rights movement, Haynes shared his experiences from the past century.

“We have no more internment and hatred, and men in people black and white love and respect each other,” he said.

Haynes has seen other great changes as a part of the Black community, from England, has been in an international marriage for the last 41 years, and has two adult children with his wife Beverly, who currently is the Chair of the Reston Community Board of Governors.

Another story he told involved meeting the grandson of one of the brothers from the Carter family.

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Great Falls
754 Ellsworth.............$1,699,999.00...Sun 1-4....Dianne Van VolkenburgWeichert....................703-980-4553
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Home Sales
In January 2011, 55 Reston homes sold between $975,000-$100,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the $975,000-$460,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address ................................ BR FB HB . Postal City .. Sold Price .. Type ... Lot AC ..............................Subdivision
11990 MARKET ST #1703 .... 2 ... 3 ... 0....... RESTON ......... $975,000 ... Hi-Rise 9+ Floors ... MIDTOWN AT RESTON TOWN
11990 MARKET ST #1804 .... 3 ... 2 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $956,000 ... Hi-Rise 9+ Floors ... MIDTOWN AT RESTON TOWN
1207 8334HipGate WAY .... 4 ... 3 ... 2....... RESTON ......... $950,000 ... Detached 2.58 ... ASCOT
12101 WALNUT BRANCH RD 5 ... 4 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $797,500 ... Detached 0.38 ... RESTON
2039 BEACON PL ........... 4 ... 4 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $724,000 ... Detached 0.14 ... RESTON
12014 WALNUT BRANCH RD 5 ... 3 ... 0....... RESTON ......... $720,000 ... Detached 0.41 ... RESTON
1507 ELK POINT DR .... 5 ... 3 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $715,000 ... Detached 0.48 ... RESTON
11776 STRATFORD EASE PL#406 2 ... 2 ... 0....... STRATFORD ......... $709,000 ... Hi-Rise 9+ Floors ... STRATFORD
2615 BLACK FIR CT .... 5 ... 4 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $650,000 ... Detached 0.34 ... FOX MILL WOODS
11307 HARBORBREEZE CT 2 ... 2 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $640,000 ... Detached 0.12 ... RESTON
12088 KINSLIEY PL .... 3 ... 3 ... 0....... RESTON ......... $602,000 ... Townhouse ... 0.03 ... RESTON
11675 STOCKBRIDGE LN .... 4 ... 3 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $583,000 ... Detached 0.18 ... RESTON
1608 CHIMNEY HOUSE RD .... 3 ... 2 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $538,000 ... Townhouse ... 0.03 ... RESTON
2483 FREETOWN DR .... 5 ... 3 ... 2....... RESTON ......... $523,000 ... Detached 0.18 ... RESTON
11100 LAKESPRAY WAY .... 3 ... 3 ... 1....... RESTON ......... $517,000 ... Townhouse ... 0.08 ... RESTON
12024 CANTER LN .... 4 ... 2 ... 2....... RESTON ......... $506,000 ... Detached 0.64 ... WINDSOR PARK
1373 PARK GARDEN LN .... 3 ... 2 ... 2....... RESTON ......... $485,000 ... Townhouse ... 0.05 ... RESTON
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On Friday, Jan. 14, the fifth grade students had an extra opportunity to show their support and encouragement for people with intellectual disabilities as they attended the state level Special Olympic speed skating competition in Reston.

Opening Hearts, Changing Minds

Students pledge to always treat people with respect and dignity.

By Donna Mecca
Armstrong Elementary Reading Specialist

Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.

This oath, taken by the athletes who compete in the Special Olympics, was but one small part of a presentation given to fifth grade students at Armstrong Elementary School on Jan. 6. Ashley Counts, a Special Olympic athlete, came and spoke to the students about what it was like attending public school as a student with an intellectual disability, and how the Special Olympics has impacted her life in such a positive way.

The time she spent with the students included an educational component about the Special Olympics, an inside look at her heroes and friends, and an honest conversation about how difficult it was being ignored or teased in school.

“School was a very sad time for me,” she recalled when discussing her memories of the way she was treated by other students. Her message to the fifth grade students focused on the importance of showing kindness to others and making an effort to include people with physical and/or intellectual disabilities.

The idea for Ashley’s visit came about after Stephen Giese, fifth grade teacher, and I, as reading teacher, began a read-aloud unit with a fifth grade language arts class last November. As part of their reading workshop, the students have been listening to a book called Out of my Mind, by Sharon Draper, which focuses on the experiences of a fifth grade girl who has severe disabilities and is unable to communicate. When the main character finally receives a new state of the art communication device and can begin to “speak” for herself, the school community is stunned to discover that she is exceptionally smart.

With the book as the center of the teaching unit, the Armstrong fifth grade students have been led through a maze of complex issues that span topics like inclusion, tolerance, advances in technology, and fair treatment for people with disabilities of all types. Teachers have been trying to get the students to think deeply about these issues and have provided them with opportunities for role playing, discussion, journal response, blog entries, and the chance to engage with some special visitors who have deepened their understanding of how important it is to make an effort to include and support people with disabilities.

On Friday, Jan. 14, the fifth grade students had an extra opportunity to show their support and encouragement for people with intellectual disabilities as they attended the state level Special Olympic speed skating competition in Reston. Armed with supportive posters, the students showed up ready to be fans and cheered on the athletes. The teachers and students were thrilled to have a chance to watch the event and bring along some “Armstrong Spirit” to share.

With the end of the read-aloud unit now in sight, teachers feel that the last few months have had a positive impact on the students. “Students have inspired me with their thoughts, connections, and insights, as we have seen the world through the main character’s eyes. I hope that this unit will help students better understand, respect, and include all people with disabilities,” said Giese. His reading workshop students have each signed a pledge in their journals that seals their promise to always treat people with respect and dignity.

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Opening Hearts, Changing Minds

Students pledge to always treat people with respect and dignity.
Christian scores 28 points to lead South Lakes past Falls Church at regionals.

D.J. Christian (23) was all around the basket on Monday evening, converting close range shots or getting fouled and making his free throws. He was a huge factor in South Lakes' region playoff win over the visiting Jaguars of Falls Church.

South Lakes, late last week on Friday, Feb. 18, had undergone a lopsided, 64-37 loss to Langley in the finals of the Liberty District tournament. Langley, with the win, captured the district crown for the fourth straight year. South Lakes, while disappointed in that title game setback, took solace in the fact that it had made it to the championship game, having defeated Madison and McLean to do so.

"Making the finals was real big for us," said Christian. "In previous years we've had troubles in the first round, so to get to the district finals felt good for us."

South Lakes was scheduled to play Herndon in a quarterfinals game on Wednesday (Feb. 23). The Hornets eliminated South Lakes in the first round of regionals last year. The two teams played Herndon winning both times - 79-64 at Herndon and 80-65 at South Lakes.

Coach Duggan was thrilled with the hard-fought win and what his team has accomplished thus far in the postseason, reaching the district finals and advancing to the elite eight at regionals.

"I'm very happy for the kids, our school and the community," said Duggan. "This is something our players have been working for. We struggled tonight but had kids step up at the right time."

South Lakes was scheduled to play Herndon in a quarterfinals game on Wednesday (Feb. 23). The Hornets eliminated South Lakes in the first round of regionals last year. The two teams played twice early on this season in December with Herndon winning both times - 79-64 at home and 82-56 at South Lakes.
Forrest Earns Third Place at State Wrestling Tournament

Seahawk junior finishes remarkable season with 41-1 overall record.

By Rich Sanders
The Connection

Ryan Forrest’s quest for a Virginia State AAA wrestling title fell short last weekend at the mega state postseason event held at Robinson Secondary. But the junior, who wrestles at the 145-pound weight class, displayed the heart of a champion in bouncing back from a third round loss - his first setback of the entire season - and going on to earn a third place standing in the state.

“It was my first loss of the season, and that was tough,” said Forrest, of a 7-1 setback in the semifinals to Kevin Johnson of Forest Park High (Woodbridge). I really wanted a shot at the state title.”

Forrest, the Liberty District and Northern Region champion who entered the state tournament with a perfect 37-0 record, won his first two matches at states last Friday, Feb. 18 - a third round pin win over Mosiah Mitchell of Battlefield (Haymarket), followed by a 4-1 decision win over Brandon Smith of Great Bridge (Chesapeake). That put Forrest into Saturday afternoon’s semifinals - one victory away from the opportunity to wrestle for the state crown. But Forrest, 39-0 going into the semifinals, lost his third place match against Forest Park’s Johnson, experienced his first loss of the season, 7-1.

Naturally, the loss shook Forrest up somewhat with his opportunity at winning a state crown dashed. But prior to his next match - a mid-afternoon, loser’s bracket bout against Zakeel Muhammad of Henrico High (Richmond) - Forrest re-adjusted his thinking.

“Going into the loser’s bracket, I said to myself, ’Third place would be pretty good,’” said Forrest, who would need two loser’s bracket wins to garner third place overall.

He defeated Muhammad, 16-0, to move into the consolation finals for third place. Forrest recalled five years earlier when he had finished fourth place in a state youth wrestling tournament.

“I remember [at the time] thinking that fourth place didn’t sound nearly as good as third,” said Forrest, with a smile.

So, going into his consolation semifinals match on Saturday, Forrest didn’t want anything to do with finishing the season in fourth place. He wanted the third place tournament medal. Going up against Alex Turley of Thomas Dale High (Chester), Forrest toughened his way to a 4-2 decision to get third place.

Forrest, in that match for third place, earned a two-point advantage he never lost. He followed that up with reversal points in the second period to take a 4-0 advantage he never lost.

Later that evening, after accepting his third place medal, Forrest reflected on the semifinals loss to Johnson.

“If I feel it made some tactical better decisions I could have come out ahead,” he said. “That one loss at states will stick with me.”

But Forrest will likely have another chance to make a run at a state title next year. For this season, he had to settle for a 41-1 overall record and a third place finish at states - an awesome season to say the least.

ROBINSON SECONDARY captured the team championship on Saturday, marking the first time since 1985 - when Robinson also won it - that a team from the Northern Region has won a state title. The Rams also won the state crown back in 1981. Like this year, Robinson Secondary was the host site for the ’81 state tournament.

Robinson’s individual state champions last weekend were Brooks Martin (135-division) and Jake Smith (119). Rams who reached the finals before losing were Dallas Smith (112), Jack Bass (125), and Jake Pinkston (heavyweight).

Robinson won the team title with 155.5 points, besting runner-up Cox High (125) of Virginia Beach and third place Colonial Forge (98.5) of Stafford.

Other individual state champions to come out of the Northern Region were Beau Donahue (140-division) of Westfield and Dane Harlowe (135) of Annandale. Henry Majano (130) of Wakefield finished second.

Other top eight place finishers from the Northern Region were: Tyler DeLeon (eighth at heavyweight) of Westfield; Joseph Vandiplas (third place at 215) of Fairfax; Ali Musa (fourth at 215) of Annandale; Scott Blackstone (eight at 199) of South County; Dusty Floyd (fifth at 171) of Mount Vernon; Tim Fitzpatrick (eighth at 171) of Robinson; Wes Jones (third at 160) of Robinson; Christian Merino (seventh at 160) of South County; Kombeh Koroma (fifth place at 152) of Lee; Zaq Depasquale (eighth at 145) of Robinson; Rory Renzi (fifth at 135) of Lake Braddock; Omar Maknassi (seventh at 135) of T.C. Williams; Santiago Valdez (third at 130) of Robinson; Nathan Cobi (sixth at 130) of Hayfield; Steven Aiello (eighth at 130) of Westfield; Derek Arnold (third at 125) of Westfield; Robert Dooley (fifth at 119) of Madison; Brett Campbell (third at 112) of Westfield; Jon Le (seventh at 112) of Annandale; and Hunter Marley (eighth at 103) of South County.

To highlight your Faith Community, Call Karen at 703-917-6468
Best of Reston Winners To Be Announced

The winners of the 2011 Best of Reston Awards will be announced Thursday, May 19, at an event called ‘Revealing the Best’ reception. The reception will be held at Google’s Reston Office, 1818 Library Street, 6 – 8 p.m.

The 20th Annual Best of Reston Awards honor businesses, organizations, and individuals for their commitment to community service and improving the lives of others. The Awards and Gala are produced in partnership by Reston Interfaith and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce. Community members submitted nominations for the awards during the months of November and December of 2010. An anonymous panel reviewed all nominations and selected the seven winners of this year’s awards. Winners of the 2011 Best of Reston Awards will be formally honored at the 20th Annual Best of Reston Gala on Thursday, April 28, at the Hyatt Regency Reston. Sponsorship opportunities for the gala are available and details can be found at www.restoninterfaith.org. Proceeds from Best of Reston support the programs and services of Reston Interfaith.

Photo Exhibit to Open at ArtSpace

The March exhibit at ArtSpace Herndon will feature the finalists of the 2011 Fine Art Photography Competition. “I was impressed by the quality of the submissions for the first Fine Art Photography Competition produced by ArtSpace Herndon,” said Erin Antognoli, juror. “The exhibit will include a wide variety of works by talented photographers.”

The following photographers were selected as finalists:

Rick Barnard, George Borden, Al Boze, Mike Cary, Mark Constantine, Patricia Degee, Peter Del Toro, Thuy Dong, Marshall Dupuie, Jennifer Foley, Peter Karp, Carolyn Koslow, Jeffrey Miller, Alesis Mattila, Eric McCollum, Pete McCutchen, Martina Parsley, Wendy Paulas, Robert Rease, Fran Saunders, Madhu Sharma, D. B. Stovall, Steve Strawn, Karen Stringer, Kami Swingle, Michelle Tootle, and Scott Zetlan. The exhibit runs from Tuesday, March 1 through Sunday, March 27, in the Post Gallery at ArtSpace Herndon. The opening reception and awards ceremony will be held Saturday, March 5 from 7-9 p.m. The exhibit and the opening reception are free and open to the public.

ArtSpace Herndon is located near the Furlong Library and W&OD Bike Trail in downtown Herndon at 750 Center Street. The Post Gallery is open Tuesday –Thursday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, call 703-956-6590.
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- **Herndon Office**
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**Call Mary Miceli** 703-362-2242 or Mary.Miceli@longandfoster.com

**Call Terry** 703-861-0538 or terry.atherton@longandfoster.com

**Call Dale** 703-408-2626 or e-mail Dale.Repshas@Longandfoster.com

**Call Debbie Gill** 703-346-1373  • www.DebbieGill.com or e-mail Debbie.Gill@longandfoster.com

**Call Virgil Frizzell** 703-585-1821 or virgil.frizzell@longandfoster.com

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