

'A Dream is A Wish...' at Herndon High

NEWS, PAGE 5

Fashion Show Co-Director Kelly Sartorius, a senior from Herndon, wears a look reminiscent of one of the guards of the Queen of Hearts in Lewis Carol's *Alice in Wonderland*.

Bringing Ballet Dancers Together

NEWS, PAGE 3

Songwriting On the Spot

NEWS, PAGE 15

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13

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NEWS

Herndon-Reston FISH Receives \$10,000 from RealNetworks Foundation

Herndon-Reston FISH is pleased to announce that it was presented with a Community Enhancement grant for \$10,000 from RealNetworks Foundation for FISH's Emergency Family Assistance Program. Based in Seattle, RealNetworks, Inc., has an office in Reston.

Marcia DiTrapani, former president of Herndon-Reston FISH and now community development volunteer said, "I am thrilled and very thankful for the grant FISH received from RealNetworks Foundation. It will truly make a difference in the lives of Herndon and Reston residents in crisis."

The check was presented to DiTrapani, Sherri Longhill, executive director, and Darlene Palmer, president of FISH, on Feb. 18 by RealNetworks' General Manager of Business Development Adrian McAloon.

For more information visit www.HerndonRestonFISH.org or call 703-391-0105.



RealNetworks' General Manager of Business Development Adrian McAloon presents Herndon-Reston FISH President Darlene Palmer with a \$10,000 donation.

Reston Chorale Concerts Sold Out

They had to bring in extra chairs, lots of them at recent Reston Chorale concerts.

The Chorale filled the Reston Community Center to beyond capacity at 6 p.m., and then did it all over again at their 8 p.m. performance. It seemed everybody in Reston decided to come hear a large selection of Broadway popular music that spanned about 80 years. Composers from Cohan to Sondheim were sung by the entire Chorale, but also by a great numbers of solos, duets and small groups.

Director David Lang chose an audience-pleasing program that resulted in both concerts receiving standing ovations. Assistant Director Luke Frazier helped lead several numbers, Bobby Tartaglia and the Reston Chorale Trio performed throughout the evening and Ralph Cosham was the narra-



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL & KATHLEEN DRISCOLL MCKEE

Director David Lang chose an audience-pleasing program that resulted in both concerts receiving standing ovations.

tor. The audience included Bob and Cheryl Simon, long time supporters of the Chorale.

— MICHAEL MCKEE



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Dreams and dedication are a powerful combination.

—William Longgood



PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION



From left, Erin Lewis, Camille Passante, Sydney Sasser and Glenna Yu perform "Four Little Swans" from "Swan Lake" at the "Ballet and Bordeaux" fundraiser event for the Classical Ballet Theatre at the Center for Innovative Technology March 26.

Elissa Marshall, a 2009 graduate of the Classical Ballet Theatre in Herndon, performs a modern dance piece at "Ballet and Bordeaux" March 26 at the Center for Innovative Technology.

Bringing Ballet Dancers Together

Classical Ballet Theatre kicks off capital campaign with "Ballet and Bordeaux."

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Aaron Thayer, who grew up in Reston, graduated from the Classical Ballet Theatre in Herndon in 2000 and has danced professionally in Cincinnati and San Francisco. He is currently headed back to school, to Stanford to study bioengineering, but returned to the area March 26 night to perform "Before the Kiss" a piece he choreographed to a composition by Sergei Rachmaninoff.

"Dancing helped me become attuned to so many other technical disciplines, and showed me how beneficial a strong arts education can be," he said. "It's sort of hard to qualify. I have an athleticism, and body awareness that I'll always take with me, and I know what it's like to work long hours at something."

THE PERFORMANCE was part of "Ballet and Bordeaux" at the Center for Innovative Technology, which showcased the nonprofit's current and former students, many of whom have gone on to successful professional dance careers. The event also kicked off the theater's capital campaign, as they attempt to find or build a new location in the Herndon-Reston area that will give them more space.

"This is the best-kept secret in the performing arts in the area, and we're hoping to end that tonight," said Richard Thayer, chair of the CBT's board. "We've been growing so much, both in stronger faculty and performances that our current space doesn't work anymore. Our mission is edu-

cation, outreach, but most of all, performance."

Meghan Rudorfer grew up in Herndon and graduated from the program in 2006, and danced with the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance in New York City. She still teaches dance.

"I love to move and share energy with fellow dancers," she said. "It's another way to speak to people, to express what you have to say without using words."

Rudorfer is currently working in the field of neuroscience, and credits the theater for helping her develop a work ethic, and called

Cynthia Donavin, the theatre's executive director "the most motivational, inspiring woman I've ever worked with."

Elissa Marshall branched off from ballet to modern dance, and she performed a modern dance piece at the event.

"It's funny, when I was at the theater, I hated modern dance, but I also knew I wouldn't keep up with ballet," said Marshall, who grew up in the Oak Hill area. "But I realized that there are so many different ways to express yourself. And I still come back to work on ballet, to work on my techniques."

Marshall credited the CBT's staff with helping her through her initial self-doubt, and she currently works in New York City as a freelance dancer and photographer.

"They showed me so much kindness, I always doubted myself, but they showed me there's no place for self-doubt if you really want to do something," she said. "I think even if current students don't go on to professionally dance, it builds character that helps you no matter what you do."

THE CLASSICAL BALLET THEATRE is a 501(c)3 organization that performs outreach events to local schools. More information including ticket information for their April 9 and 10 performances of "Sleeping Beauty" can be found at www.cbtnva.org



Hannah Markowitz performs "The Dying Swan" at the "Ballet and Bordeaux" fundraiser event for the Classical Ballet Theatre at the Center for Innovative Technology.



Aaron Thayer and Ariane Georg perform "Before the Kiss" at the "Ballet and Bordeaux" fundraiser event for the Classical Ballet Theatre at the Center for Innovative Technology.

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WEEK IN HERNDON

Annual 10th District Art Show Set for April 14

The annual 10th District Congressional Art Show featuring works by area high school students will be from 6-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, at the George Washington University (GWU) campus in Loudoun County, Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) announced.

The show is free and open to the public. The winner will be announced at 7 p.m.

All submitted artwork will remain on display at the GWU campus until April 28. The winning piece will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for a year alongside other "Best in Show" entries from congressional districts across the country.

The GWU Loudoun County campus is located at 44983 Knoll Square, off Route 7 in Ashburn, and the art show will be held in Building 2, also called Enterprise Hall.

For more information about the art show, contact Donna Crowley in Wolf's Winchester office at 540-667-0990 or 1-800-850-3463.

Xceedium Moves Headquarters to Herndon

Xceedium Inc., has moved its headquarters to Northern Virginia to support its expanding federal government and commercial customer base.

Based on growing demand, Xceedium also said that it is increasing its workforce through new hires at its Northern Virginia headquarters, located at the Virginia Center for Innovative Technology (CIT), which is home to cutting edge technology companies, and in its New Jersey office, the hub of its product development.

"We opened our new headquarters to address the continuing demand for the Xceedium GateKeeper that we're witnessing in the federal market as agencies take advantage of data center consolidation and virtualization and need to meet increasing compliance requirements," said Glenn Hazard, CEO of Xceedium.

The GateKeeper secures and audits access from privileged users—company employees, partners, consultants and IT staff—to computing infrastructure. It allows organizations to enforce access control policies and contains users in a manner that enables them to see only the network resources to which they have access.

Town-Wide Clean Up Set for April 11-15

The Annual spring clean-up throughout the Town of Herndon to be held the week of April 11-15. is an opportunity for residents to place large or bulky items curbside for pick-up, such as: appliances (remove doors), furniture, vehicle parts and plumbing fixtures (all under 50 pounds), tires (maximum two per household) and a limited amount of building materials (approx-

mately one cubic yard, lengths not to exceed four feet)

Yard waste, auto parts in excess of 50 lbs., large quantities of building materials and household hazardous waste will not be picked up.

Items should be placed curbside by 7 a.m. on your trash day only, but no earlier than 24 hours prior to pick-up

For more information, contact the Department of Public Works at Public.works@herndon-va.gov 703-435-6853.

Town Sets Concrete and Paving Schedule

Concrete replacement, milling and paving for the Town of Herndon begins March 28 (schedule subject to change, due to weather conditions or other project issues). The annual concrete replacement and asphalt repaving project is planned to improve the safety of town streets.

The following streets are impacted: Bayshire Lane, Bayshire Place, Benicia Lane, Broad Oaks Drive, Cuzco Court, Dulles Place, Grace Street, Haley Place, Hillwood Court (concrete work only), Longfellow Court, Oakshire Court and Page Court.

During milling and paving operations, vehicular access and parking will be restricted along these streets. Notices will be provided door-to-door and no parking signs will be posted to advise residents of parking restrictions or disruptions. Please pay attention to message boards and use alternate routes during milling and paving operations to avoid delays.

For more information, contact the Department of Public Works at public.works@herndon-va.gov or 703-435-6860. Visit the town's Web site at www.herndon-va.gov for regular schedule updates.

Spirit of Reston 5K Set for April 9

The Spirit of Reston 5K, sponsored by the South Lakes High School Band Boosters and the DC Road Runners, will take place April 9, starting 9 a.m. The course will go around the South Lakes High School neighborhood

Registration will be available online at www.southlakesband.org until midnight on Thursday, April 7. T-shirt included with registration fee.

The entry fee before April 7 will be \$30 for runner over age 15 and \$25 for under 15. Day of race registration will be \$35 for over 15 and \$30 for under 15, and the T-shirt will not be guaranteed.

Arabic-Speaking Volunteer Sought

Fairfax County needs an Arabic-speaking female volunteer to assist an older Reston resident with grocery shopping and other errands. Contact 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186, DFSAAAvolunteer@fairfaxcounty.gov, or visit Volunteer Solutions at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm.

Fashion Show Co-Directors Melissa Chow (middle) and Kelly Sartorius (right) take a moment during the show to acknowledge and thank Fashion Teacher Julie Pickering (left).

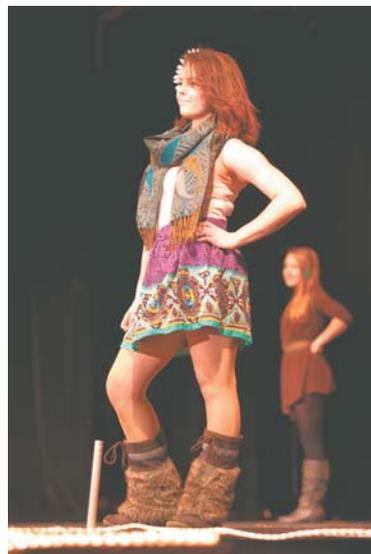


‘A Dream is a Wish...’ at Herndon High

On Wednesday, March 23, the Herndon High School Fashion Marketing and Entrepreneurship Program presented its annual fashion show to a packed auditorium. Themed “A Dream is a Wish...” the nine collections presented in the show were inspired by some of Walt Disney’s most famous feature films. The fashion looks were designed by Herndon fashion students and modeled by Herndon students. The show was directed by seniors Kelly Sartorius and Melissa Chow under the supervision of fashion teacher Julie Pickering and fashion marketing teacher Dave Petruzzi.

—DEB COBB

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/
THE CONNECTION



Designer Yana Seryakova models her own look.



Freshman model Madi Chernick, of Herndon, tosses her lei into the crowd. She was wearing a look inspired by the movie Lilo & Stitch, designed by Courtney Guengerich, Trina Ziegler and Kendall Brancart.



The first two rows of the Herndon High School auditorium are reserved for models. From left: Freshman Kayla Dosda (rear), Freshman Rachel Gregson, Freshman Shelby Stevens, Freshman Kelly Moss, Sophomore Tarryn Chichester, and Freshman Madi Chernick, all of Herndon.



Models show off looks in the Pocahontas scene. In no particular order: Yana Seryakova, Francesca Polito, Haley Jenus, Emily Horn, Mayra Olivos, Madison Lewis and Macy Villa.

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In Praise of Workforce Housing

County needs more affordable housing of all varieties.

After a recent vote to approve 270 apartments that would be rented to families with a variety of income levels, the three members who voted against it — John Cook (R-Braddock), Michael Frey (R-Sully) and Pat Herry (R-Springfield) — called the project “subsidized luxury housing” which would compete with the private sector.

Fairfax County desperately needs a mix of affordable housing. The county offers a wide variety of options, from tiny efficiency apartments for a single person that can cost less than \$400 a month including utilities, to three-bedroom apartments that cost \$1,100 a month for families of four or more who could earn \$100,000 a year.

But there is not nearly enough such housing available. There are more than 12,000 families or individuals languishing on a waiting list that could take three years or more. Some families are waiting in homeless shelters.

This isn't a case of wanting to spread the wealth around. This is a serious economic development issue.

“Businesses today are seeking young creative professionals with state-of-the-art technology skills,” said Gerald Gordon, of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, call-

ing workforce housing and this project in particular “fuel for the growth of our technology and other businesses.” These workers often cannot, at the beginning of their careers, afford to live in Fairfax County.

“Opportunities to live close to where they work helps employees reduce commute time and improve their quality of life. And that translates into a business advantage,” said Douglas Koelemay of Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC).

More than 70,000 households in Fairfax County have income of less than \$50,000 per year, less than half the area median income for a family of four, \$102,700, according to the 2008 US Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

More than 26,000 households in Fairfax County have income of less than \$25,000 per year.

EDITORIALS

Think about it for a minute. If you're reading the Connection in newsprint, chances are that your household has

annual income of more than \$200,000 a year. How can any family survive on less than \$25,000 here?

Fairfax County has the largest number of renters with what is described as “worst case housing” in Virginia: More than 12,000 Fairfax County renter households pay more than 50 percent of their income for housing costs, have incomplete plumbing facilities and/or live in severe overcrowding.

Fairfax County is smart to take underused county-owned property, like the land around Government Center and other “surplus” property to help create more opportunities to expand lower cost rental apartments.

The biggest boom in the county will come in the next few years in Tysons Corner, where the county must engage every creative mechanism to boost housing opportunities for every income of Tysons worker.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Redistricting Maps To Be Released Just after Presstime

Don't miss your only opportunity to comment locally in Northern Virginia on newly drawn state district lines for Virginia Senate, House of Delegates and U.S. Congress. The public hearing is Saturday, April 2, 10:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Board of Supervisors Auditorium.

Or travel to Loudoun, the only other Northern Virginia hearing, on Thursday, March 31, 7:30 p.m. in the Loudoun County Board Room,

Leesburg.

New districts are on a fast track to approval in time for summer primary elections.

For more, see <http://www.vpap.org/updates/redistricting>, and <http://redistricting.dls.virginia.gov> and www.connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 31

Operation School Bell Weekend Food for Kids. 9:30 a.m. Hoop Magic, 1480 Murdock St., Chantilly. Assistance League of Northern Virginia is looking for volunteers to help pack 500 food bags for students in Fairfax and Prince William counties. The League is a nonprofit volunteer organization promoting literacy and well-being through community-based programs. 703-591-2312 or www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

Newcomers Night. 7 p.m. Reston Association Conference Center, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Learn about the amenities, services and programs available through the Reston Association. Meet members of the RA Board and staff and find out about volunteer opportunities. Light refreshments and door prizes. Reserve at 703-435-7986 or habrock@reston.org <mailto:habrock@reston.org>

MONDAY/APRIL 4

Haven Volunteer Bereavement Training. Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. from April 4-15. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

American Red Cross Class Registration. 8:30 a.m. Reston Association, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Classes include lifeguard training (initial certification), lifeguard training

review (recertification) and CPR/AED for lifeguards (recertification). www.reston.org or aquaticsinfo@reston.org.

TUESDAY/APRIL 5

Reston Garden Club Meeting. 1 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11050 Glade Drive, Reston. “Historic Garden Restoration,” presented by Charlotte Benjamin. www.restongardenclub.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 6

De-Escalating Behaviors at Home. 9 p.m. The Auburn School, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon. With Margarita Benavides, Behavior Support Specialist. www.theauburnschool.org/forms.

FRIDAY/APRIL 8

Casino Royale Evening and Fundraiser. 8 p.m. Hidden Creek Country Club, 1711 Clubhouse Road, Reston. Includes two cocktails, heavy appetizers, casino chips, dancing and a D.J. Silent auction includes over 70 items ranging in value from \$30-\$7000. \$85 per person. Sponsored by Oakton Elementary School PTA.

Celebrate 50 Years of the Peace Corps. 6 p.m. Nature House, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. With Aaron Williams, Director of Peace Corps and Reston resident. Music, wine and more. \$25. Reserve at katie.morris81@gmail.com

on a list if funding becomes available.

Really? A rough estimate is that 6.2 miles of sidewalks and trails are planned but unfunded and more than 50 cross walks will not be installed.

Why would the County planners and leadership approve a plan for dozens of high-rise buildings along the route of the new Silver Line and not insist on the simultaneous construction of safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities? Even the Munchkins knew better.

Dennis Husch
Dranesville

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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By e-mail: herndon@connectionnewspapers.com

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PEOPLE

Herndon Student Honored

Tiffany Nicholls of Herndon, a 2010 Oakton High School graduate, and currently a freshman attending Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, has accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS). Tiffany will be honored during an Induction Convocation this fall on the campus of Virginia Commonwealth University.

"NSCS is more than just a symbol of academic achievement. Membership gives students access to a number of amazing benefits including career and networking resources, scholarships, travel, and service projects both on campus and in the community," says Stephen E. Loflin, NSCS CEO and Founder.

Membership is by invitation only, based on grade point aver-



Tiffany Nicholls

age and class standing. NSCS has more than 750,000 lifetime members and 270 chapters in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

For more information visit NSCS' website nscs.org.

Reston Dentist Returns From Afghanistan

Keith J. Wilson, D.D.S., resumes his fulltime position this week at Fusion Dental, formerly the Dental Arts Center, in Reston. From October through January Dr. Wilson provided emergency and essential dental care and support to the soldiers and civilians located on Forward Operating Base Salerno in Afghanistan.

"I consider it a great honor and my duty to have been afforded the opportunity to provide dental care for the men and women serving in Afghanistan. My goal in the last few months was to take what I have learned and provide the best possible care for them while they are away from home. Having spent six years in the United States Army Dental Corps, followed by a one-year stint at Fort Campbell Kentucky, I feel strongly about finding ways to extend my service to my country, and this was certainly

one of those ways," said Dr. Wilson.

FOB Salerno is located on the eastern side of Afghanistan in the Khost Province very near to the Pakistan border. The military unit that Dr. Wilson attended to there was the Rakassans of the 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Ky.

The deployment to Afghanistan was Wilson's third deployment overseas but his first to an area of conflict, for which he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service. Wilson holds the rank of Major in the District of Columbia Army National Guard.

"We're pleased to have Keith back safe and sound. We're honored to have him in our practice and commend his spirit and willingness to go into harm's way for the benefit of our country's troops," said Dr. Gregory Bob,



Keith J. Wilson

President of Fusion Dental.

Complete information about Fusion Dental is available at www.FusionDentalGroup.com.

SCHOOL NOTES

Herndon High School students **Patrick Miller** and **Zach Ward** made the All Virginia Orchestra and **Matt Larson, Ryan Little, Kat Lopes,** and **Caitlin Williams** made the All-Virginia Band and Orchestras. **Kevin Hopkins** is an alternate on English horn. These students will perform at Charlottesville HS on April 9.

Robert Snow of Herndon received a bachelor of science in recreation and parks management from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Md.

Oak Hill residents **John Thomas Palmisano, Alison Virginia Silkworth** and **Molly Caitlin McKee** have been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

Lila Herk Rieber of Herndon was named to the fall 2010 honors list at Mary Baldwin College of Staunton, Va.

Herndon residents **Nicholas Jacobs** and **Yoshinori Takeda** have been named to the fall 2010 president's list at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg.

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ArtSpace Announces Photography Competition Winners

The March exhibit at ArtSpace Herndon features the finalists of the 2011 Fine Art Photography Competition. Last Saturday night at the opening reception, Ed Hahn, Herndon Foundation for the Cultural Arts board member, greeted the patrons and introduced the photographers. The winners of the competition were announced by juror Erin Antognoli.

Antognoli gave a brief gallery talk about her philosophy as juror. "Everyone comes to art with a different perspective; that's the beauty of it." She said her desire is to discover images that are different, i.e. "had something new," and she was not disappointed.

The following photographs were selected as winners:

First Place: Brotherhood, Study 1 by George Borden

In comments about the first place winner, Antognoli mentioned how difficult portraiture is and that this particular image moved her.

Second Place: Dummore, Pennsylvania June 2010, by D. B. Stovall

Third Place: Lifeboat Station by Jeff Miller

The second place winner made her chuckle at the words on the building and then she was taken by the composition and color.

The third place winner was not evident to Antognoli until she saw it hung in the exhibition and was impressed by the tonal qualities of



First Place winner: Brotherhood, Study 1 by George Borden.

the print of the lifeboat station.

The exhibit runs through Sunday, March 27, 2011 in the Post Gallery at ArtSpace Herndon is free and open to the public.

ArtSpace Herndon is located near the Fortnightly Library and W&O

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 & Sunday 12-5 p.m. Call 703-956-6590.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 31

Entry deadline for the "At Home in Herndon" Town Calendar. 5 p.m. The competition is open to professional and amateur photographers aged 16 or older. Go to www.artspaceherndon.org and click on the Classes, Workshops, and Calls for Art link.

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

FRIDAY/APRIL 1

The Virginia Opera: Puccini's "Madama Butterfly." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

"Thrill Me: the Leopold and Loeb Story." 8 p.m. The Elden Street Players at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The story of Leopold and Loeb, the Chicago "Thrill Killers" of 1924. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Las Vegas Night. 7 p.m. Reston Community Center 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. South Lakes High School Theatre Arts Boosters benefit for the cast and crew of "Rumors," and their trip to perform at the International Fringe Festival in Scotland in August. Tickets include hor d'ourves, one drink, gaming chips. Cash bar and silent auction. \$45 in



The Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series presents the **Blue Moon Cowgirls on Saturday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road in Herndon. Vocal harmonies and solid instrumentals that harken back to when country music was really "country". Tickets are \$12. www.bluemooncowgirls.com.**

advance, \$50 at the door. www.southlakesdrama.com/lasvegasnight.htm.

Roger McGuinn. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. The former front man of the Byrds. \$27. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 2

"Thrill Me: the Leopold and Loeb Story." 8 p.m. The Elden Street Players at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The story of Leopold and Loeb, the Chicago "Thrill Killers" of 1924. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Something Different 2011. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The Elden Street Players, Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Four short improvised plays for young audiences, including The Gingerbread Man, The Cracked Pot, The Pied Piper and The Rabbit's Judgment. Written and directed by Holly Harrington. \$7. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Artist Christine Lashley. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Art demonstration 2-3 p.m., opening reception and gallery talk 3-5 p.m. for the "Artist in the Garden" exhibit. Free and open to the public. 703-956-6590 or www.artspaceherndon.org.

Civil War Earthworks in Reston. 12 p.m. Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. View the Fairfax County certified Civil War

earthworks on the edge of Reston with tour guides Jim Lewis and Bob Eldridge from the Hunter Mill Defense League. The earthworks include trenches, rifle pits, and an artillery location. Learn who built these earthworks, when, and why. For ages 12 and older. 703-709-7700 or www.restonmuseum.org.

Cravin' Dogs 25th Anniversary Celebration with The Michael Clem Trio. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk/roots-rock. \$16. www.wolftrap.org.

Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series: Blue Moon Cowgirls. 7:30 p.m. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. Vocal harmonies and solid instrumentals. \$12. www.bluemooncowgirls.com.

FISH Fling Gala and Fundraiser. 6-11 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, Elden St. near Dulles Toll Road intersection, Herndon. Seated dinner, auctions, raffles, dancing and games. Proceeds benefit Herndon-Reston FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help). fish@herndonrestonfish.org.

Cravin' Dogs and The Michael Clem Trio. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$16. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 3

The Virginia Opera: Puccini's "Madama Butterfly." 2:30 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

Northern Virginia Kidney Walk. Registration 2 p.m., Walk begins 3 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. 5K or 1K, family friendly with a Kids Corner, wellness area and more. Honorary chairman, Reed Doughy of the Washington

Redskins Proceeds benefit the National Kidney Foundation of the National Capital Area. www.kidneywdc.org or 202-244-7900.

"Thrill Me: the Leopold and Loeb Story." 3 p.m. The Elden Street Players at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The story of Leopold and Loeb, the Chicago "Thrill Killers" of 1924. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Something Different 2011. 12 p.m. The Elden Street Players, Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Four short improvised plays for young audiences, including The Gingerbread Man, The Cracked Pot, The Pied Piper and The Rabbit's Judgment. Written and directed by Holly Harrington. \$7. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 4

American Red Cross Class Registration. 8:30 a.m. Reston Association, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. www.reston.org or aquaticsinfo@reston.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 6

Treasures of the USGS Library. 7 p.m. US Geological Service, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Dr. Richard Huffine, Director of the USGS Libraries Program, will present early maps of America, the provenance of the Hope Diamond, documentation of the exploration of the American West by Hayden, King, Powell and Wheeler and more. Requests for accommodations (i.e. sign language interpreting) require at least two weeks notice. Federal facility, photo ID required. Free. 703-648-4748 or www.usgs.gov/public_lecture_series/

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Reston Lions to Deliver Mulch on April 16

The Reston Lions Club has been around since 1967 and have been delivering mulch to Reston and Herndon gardeners since 1993. All proceeds go to charity. As the club has grown and become more diverse, so have those who unload the trucks.

"It takes all of our members, young, old, petite or brawny, to deliver dozens of pallets, each with 45 bags and last year it was cold and rainy. We're exhausted at the end of the day, but it's worth it to raise funds for vision, hearing, diabetes and other projects," said Sue Porter Beffel, mulch chair.

"Fortunately, many loyal clients order year after year. Some have large yards and order two or more pallets. In some clusters, townhouse owners combine to order enough for their spring clean-up. Orders can be for as small as 10 bags. Now we are reaching out to new neighbors who may not know about the service we offer."



PHOTO BY SUE BEFFEL

Lion Anne Ryan stands by one of the trucks that will deliver mulch in Reston, Oak Hill and Herndon again this Spring, just in time for Earth Day gardening.

Lions were called "Knights of the Blind" by Helen Keller. They serve their communities and the world in many ways. Local Lions collect eyeglasses from the familiar recycling boxes located in libraries and opticians and send them to needy communities around the globe. As part of their support of research to eliminate major causes of blindness, they will form teams this

spring to march in walks sponsored by The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Foundation Fighting Blindness. Lions International has 1.35 million members in 206 countries. See www.restonlions.org and their Facebook page for more activities as well as details on the mulch sale and membership.

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NEWS



Team Catherine from the Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church of Arlington pulled together a team of 80 people – spanning ages from 2 to 85 – to participate in the event in honor of one of their parishioners, Catherine Blair, an 8-year-old who has been battling cancer for five years. Katie Remedios, Director of Religious Education at the church explained that the family has stayed at several Ronald McDonald houses during Blair's treatments.

Red Shoe Run Attracts 500

About 500 runners – and a few dogs – participated in the first Red Shoe Run in Herndon. A fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House charities of greater Washington D.C., the event was open to all, from competitive runners, to those riding in strollers in wagons.

— DEB COBB

Ronald McDonald does some warm-up exercises with Chloe Romero, who was diagnosed with eye cancer when she was just 2 years old. Now 7, she tries to be involved in fundraising activities for the Ronald McDonald house as much as she can. During some treatment in Philadelphia, the Romero family stayed in a Ronald McDonald House. "They are truly passionate about helping families," said mother Karina Romero.



And they're off. The course is a certified course, which means competitive runners can use their results in their national rankings.

HOME SALES

In February 2011, 56 homes sold between \$1,030,000-\$105,500 in the Herndon and Oak Hill area. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$480,000-\$105,500 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
2650 LOGAN WOOD DR	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$480,000	Townhouse	0.07		MCNAIR FARMS LANDBAY
547 VAN BUREN ST	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$469,990	Townhouse	0.05		DARLINGTON OAKS
12206 MEADOWSTREAM CT	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$450,000	Detached	0.24		KINGSTREAM
1000 VAN BUREN ST	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$425,000	Detached	0.46		VAN VLECKS
206 HERNDON STATION SQ	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$425,000	Townhouse	0.03		FORTNIGHTLY SQUARE
12704 FANTASIA DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$415,000	Detached	0.20		KINGSTON CHASE
13236 COPPERMILL DR	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$407,000	Townhouse	0.06		COPPERMILL
13511 GEORGE WYTHE CT	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$401,000	Townhouse	0.06		MCNAIR FARMS WEST
2495 GOLDEN HARVEST CT	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$392,000	Townhouse	0.04		MCNAIR FARMS LAND BAY 2
897 BALLOU ST	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$390,000	Detached	0.29		HERNDON STATION
1100 GRANT ST	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$380,000	Detached	0.46		VAN VLECKS
1440 POWELLS TAVERN PL	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$360,000	Detached	0.24		CRESTBROOK
2428 WHEAT MEADOW CIR	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.04		MCNAIR FARMS LAND BAY 2
1014 CHARLTON PL	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$357,500	Detached	0.36		HALCYON OF HERNDON
1638 HIDDENBROOK DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$355,000	Detached	0.21		KINGSTON CHASE
1446 CELLAR CREEK WAY	5	3	0		HERNDON	\$323,000	Detached	0.32		HIDDENBROOK
13459 HIGGS CT	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.04		FRANKLIN FARM
12945 CENTRE PARK CIR #310	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$275,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BRYSON AT WOODLAND PARK
12958 CENTRE PARK CIR #419	2	2	0		HERNDON	\$272,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BRYSON AT WOODLAND PARK
12917 CENTRE PARK CIR #215	2	2	0		HERNDON	\$267,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BRYSON AT WOODLAND PARK
1112 TWAY LN	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$262,000	Townhouse	0.06		POTOMAC FAIRWAYS
12958 CENTRE PARK CIR #119	2	2	0		HERNDON	\$260,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BRYSON AT WOODLAND PARK
1106 DEVON ST	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$253,000	Detached	0.21		HUNTERS CREEK
1110 FLOYD PL	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.06		POTOMAC FAIRWAYS
704 HEMLOCK CT	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.04		COURTS OF CHANDON
2109 HIGHCOURT LN #302	2	2	0		HERNDON	\$225,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			WORLDGATE
2102 HIGHCOURT LN #301	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$220,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			WORLDGATE
13012 CABIN CREEK RD	2	2	0		HERNDON	\$220,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			FOX MILL STATION
301 RENEAU	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$208,000	Townhouse	0.05		CRESTVIEW
304 RENEAU WAY	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$188,000	Townhouse	0.03		CRESTVIEW
13343 HUNGERFORD PL	3	1	2		HERNDON	\$172,375	Townhouse	0.03		REFLECTION LAKE
12905 CENTRE PARK CIR #402	1	1	0		HERNDON	\$165,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BRYSON AT WOODLAND PARK
12915 ALTON SQ #317	1	1	0		HERNDON	\$147,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			WORLDGATE
1305 SPRINGTIDE PL	3	1	1		HERNDON	\$140,000	Townhouse	0.04		FOUR SEASONS REGIME
603 CENTER ST #202	3	2	0		HERNDON	\$140,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			LIFESTYLE
13286 POENER PL	2	1	1		HERNDON	\$129,000	Townhouse	0.03		REFLECTION LAKE
2206 ZOSIMO PL	2	1	1		HERNDON	\$124,900	Townhouse	0.03		REFLECTION LAKE
545 FLORIDA AVE #203	2	1	0		HERNDON	\$105,500	Garden 1-4 Floors			JEFFERSON MEWS

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REAL ESTATE NOTES

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

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Reston supported the American Heart Association's national "Go Red for Women" campaign in February. "Go Red for Women" draws attention to the fact that heart disease is the number one killer of women in the United States and encourages healthier habits. For more information about buying or selling a home in the Fairfax County area, contact Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Reston at (703) 471-7220 or visit www.cbmove.com/Reston.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Reston has announced its sales associates, and teams who have earned the company's International President's awards. The winners include: Individual Achievements - President's Club

Bonnie Harrison, Shelley Lawrence, Alexis Norton, Suzanne Parisi, Deborah Pestronk and Vicky Robertson.

Group and Team Achievements - International President's Circle: The Scoggin Home Team; President's Club - Lilyan Dickerson and Heather Watson.

Jim Weichert, founder and president of Weichert, Realtors, has been selected for the Inman News list of the 100 Most Influential Real Estate Leaders for 2010. This year's selection is the fourth consecutive year that Weichert was honored with this distinction. Jim Weichert was recognized in the Brokerage category, which is reserved for company leaders who command the attention of real estate professionals through their words and actions. During his more than 40 years of sales experience, Weichert has led the development of Weichert, Realtors from a single office in 1969 to one of the largest privately held real estate companies in the nation.

Regional vice president Bruce Green recently announced the 2010 Weichert, Realtors Ambassador's Club winners from the region. These top



Wearing red are (left to right) Coldwell Banker Reston Branch Vice President Mark Pergerson, agents Deb Pestronk, Alexis Norton and Mary Ellen Rubenstein, and receptionist Leonela Clavijo-Guevara.

ducers are recognized in the top 2 percent of all Weichert, Realtors associates. Green's region consists of offices throughout Virginia.

The associates who earned membership to the Ambassador's Club include:

Tatiana Moody, Sepideh Farivar, David M. Swartzbaugh and Lisa Ann Thompson of Weichert McLean/Dolley Madison office; Philip Cefaratti and Joan J. Stokes of Weichert Great Falls; Louise A. Molton, Randy Becker, Erin A. Mendenhall, Priti L. Malhotra, Valerie Gaskins, Charles H. Mayhew, Cindy A. Beline, John Seggerman and Arada Suwande Grantz of Weichert McLean/Old Dominion; Suzanne M. Gaibler and Sloan C. Weisen - Weichert Reston; Claire M. Driscoll and

Laura L. Maschler - Weichert McLean Center; and Cindy Dwyer, Marilyn S. Fisher, Nancy E. Kane, Elizabeth A. Petree and Shailaja Raju - Weichert Vienna.

For more information, Weichert's customer service center can be reached at 1-800-USA-SOLD or at Weichert's Web site, www.weichert.com.

Bruce Green, regional vice presi-

dent of announced Tahir Nisar of the Reston/Herndon office was recognized for industry success in December. A neighborhood specialist, Nisar led the region for resales. Weichert, Realtors experienced sales associates can be reached at Weichert's Reston/Herndon office, 703-264-0000, located at 1760 Reston Parkway #111.

RE/MAX Distinctive Real Estate is pleased to congratulate the following agents celebrating their anniversaries with the company this month: Evelyn Flynn - 21 years and Kurt Kuykendall - 23 years.

Both Evelyn and Kurt are members of the RE/MAX Hall of Fame and have been recipients of numerous local sales and marketing awards.

Nikki Ryan of Keller Williams Realty in Reston has earned the "Certified Distressed Property Expert" designation, having completed extensive training in foreclosure avoidance and short sales. Realtors with the designation can offer the homeowner better alternatives to foreclosure, which virtually destroys the credit rating.

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday & Sunday, April 2 & 3



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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.

Reston

11406 Fairway Dr.....\$539,999.....Sun 1-4...Starr Ibach.....Century 21.....540-349-1221
10816 Oldfield Dr.....\$529,900.....Sun 1-4...Stan Goldberg.....Weichert.....703-941-0100

Oak Hill

13441 Muirkirk Lane.....\$499,900.....Sun 1-4...Bernie Kagan.....Samson Properties..703-216-0985
13120 Rounding Run Circle..Call Realtor...Sun 1-4...Bernie Kagan.....Samson Properties..703-216-0985

Herndon

12308 Myterra Way.....\$569,900.....Sun 1-4...Clark Smith.....RE/MAX.....703-626-6445
705 Ferndale Ave.....\$550,000.....Sun 1-4...Bonnie Haukness..Long & Foster.....703-437-3800

Vienna

1929 Beulah Road.....\$1,349,900.....Sun 1-4...Marie Gallagher...Weichert.....703-795-5458
2620 Lemontree Lane.....\$644,000.....Sun 1-4...Barbara Voorheis..Weichert.....703-938-6070
9204 Bois Ave.....\$545,000.....Sun 1-4...Larry Lessin.....Homes by Owner.....301-356-6104
2019 Spring Branch Dr.....\$1,174,000.....Sun 1-5...Ann Romer.....Weichert.....703-597-4280
10431 Lawyers Rd.....\$899,900.....Sun 1-4...Irene Schiffman...Weichert.....703-593-7848
9705 Meadowmere Dr.....\$1,250,000.....Sun 1-4...Casey Samson.....Samson Properties..703-508-2535

Oakton

10306 Greenwood Pl.....\$890,000.....Sun 1-4...Bobbie Cardillo....Coldwell Banker.....703-598-5534

McLean

1008 Eaton Dr.....\$1,545,000.....Sun 1-4...Jane Price.....Weichert.....703-628-0470

Ashburn

21925 Gullane Way.....\$539,900.....Sun 1-4...Olga Aste.....Century 21.....703-624-4199

Arlington

3608 17th ST. N.....\$999,888.....Sun 1-4...Scott Koval.....Samson Properties..703-625-3446

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 P.M.

THE COUNTY LINE

School Board Kicks Off Disciplinary Process Review

Community activists hope to see some immediate changes to disciplinary procedure.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Cheryl was waiting for her son outside Westfield High School on March 5 when a teacher approached her and told her to come inside because her son, a freshman, had been caught with drugs.

Neither the principal nor Cheryl could figure out exactly what the two capsules found in her son's empty water canister were. But when she got home 15 minutes later, Cheryl found that the pills looked exactly like antibiotics her husband had been prescribed. "My son wasn't feeling great about himself so he took some prescription pills from his father and put them in a canister on a carabiner," said Cheryl, who did not want to give her last name to protect her son's privacy as they navigate the school disciplinary process.

Cheryl's son has been barred attending class or any event on Fairfax Public School grounds for 10 days. He has also been recommended for expulsion from the Fairfax County public school system.

Westfield administrators told Cheryl that her son will probably have to transfer to a new high school. Disciplinary officers also could take up to two weeks to come up with a decision in the case of Cheryl's son, which means that the high school freshman could miss an entire month of school.

Cheryl's son already struggles in school. The school system has agreed to test him for learning disabilities.

Some students may be able to keep up with work while at home on suspension but Cheryl's son cannot, she said.

"This is boy who needs school more than anyone else," she said.

SINCE THE suicide of a 15 year-old Woodson High School student



School Board Member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill) looks over a list of issues related to the Fairfax County Public Schools disciplinary process at a brainstorming session March 14.

PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

in January, Fairfax County Public Schools has been under pressure to revise the way it addresses disciplinary issues, particularly non-violent drug offenses. It was the second suicide in two years that coincided with a student's suspension or expulsion.

Accounts of students being suspended and forced to change schools for bringing legal drugs to school — everything from birth control pills to acne medication — have also been publicized in recent weeks. All the attention has made Cheryl, who is in the middle of the discipline process with son, keenly aware of what her family might be up against.

The Fairfax County School Board kicked off a review of the disciplinary process with a brainstorming session of concerns at a work session March 12. School officials are expected to report back to the school board with data related to discipline issues at another work session April 4.

The school board expects to discuss the changes they intend to make regarding discipline at a third work session May 16.

STEVE STUBAN, the father of the Woodson student who committed suicide, applauded the school board for taking an initial step toward reviewing the process this month.

"I am very grateful that the school board is following through," said Stuban.

Community activists from Fairfax Zero Tolerance Reform — a group that has been advocating for more flexibility in the disciplinary process for several years — said the school board is articulating many more concerns about discipline issues than they had in the past.

"[The school board discussion] was better than I expected. There were some school board members that I didn't think were on our side who expressed concern," said

Caroline Hemenway, one of the advocacy group's founders.

Still, there remains some trepidation about the school system's approach. Many worry school officials will not expedite the review and that necessary changes will not come as quickly as they are needed.

Stuban said he thought the school system should put a hold on involuntary transfers while the school board reviews the disciplinary process. He also said the school system should start recording the hearings immediately, since the Stubans, Andersons and other parents have complained about hearing officers being inappropriately adversarial and traumatic for their children.

"I am concerned about the kids who are still going through this process. These hearings are continuing right now. They happen every day and nothing has been changed yet. There has been no adjustment at all," said Stuban.

"We've made some life changing decisions for kids."

— School Board Member
Patty Reed (Providence)

A FEW SCHOOL board members appeared ready to start making changes to the way the school system handles disciplinary issues.

"One thing I have learned from being in this job, the world is not black and white. We've made some life changing decisions for kids who have made their first bad mistake," said School Board Member Patty Reed (Providence).

School Board Member Janie Strauss (Dranesville) said she would like to see a disciplinary process that "better addressed adolescent mental health needs."

Still, the actions of some students require dramatic consequences, said School Board Member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill).

"Sometimes we have students who do things wrong and don't admit it. ... Sometimes the process is adversarial because we need to get to the bottom of the situation," said Gibson.

A few school board members said they needed to learn a lot more about how the average disciplinary hearing is carried out. School board members review only a handful of the total number of disciplinary cases each year and the cases are almost always those where a student has been recommended for expulsion from the entire school system, typically for an egregious offense, they said.

"The students with 66 or 78 prior infractions, those are the only students I see. ... This is the crux of the matter. I don't know how often [theses first-time offender situations] happen," said School Board Member Elizabeth Bradsher (Springfield).

FAITH NOTES

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

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.

Adult Sunday school will be held 9:30 a.m. Sundays at the Washington Plaza Baptist Church at Lake Anne Village Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or

www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or www.meditation-dc.org.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the

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21 Announcements

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28 Yard Sales

YARD SALE 4/2, 8am-2pm. 95 gal salt water fish tank, furniture, tools, toys, clothes, etc.. 710 Huntsman Place, Herndon, 20170
YARD SALE: Sat, April 2, 8:30am-Noon. Wrestling Mat, Baby Toys, Furniture, Lamps, Books, etc. 12001 Creekbend Drive, Reston, VA 20194

29 Misc. for Sale

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Summer Web Internships Available

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What It Is I Do Know



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm having a problem of late (Oh really, just one?) concerning the fact – and the feelings I have – about having cancer. Specifically, talking about it with people I know. Let me amend that: talking about it with people with whom I'm familiar but who, for a million reasons, are currently out of my cancer loop (and thus, don't have the latest information). It seems that it's easier for me to talk to people I don't know who know about my having cancer; readers, people I've met over the last two years and/or people with whom I've remained in touch, than it is to talk with people I do know who don't know about my diagnosis. Do you know what I mean? If so, that probably makes one of us who does.

Not that I want to – or need to – avoid the subject, but other than writing about it as frequently as I do, I am not exactly looking to spread the Gospel of Kenny-has-cancer. So when conversations begin with people I know from my pre-diagnosed-with-cancer life, I have very little to say. I mean, how do you have a "normal-type" conversation with someone when the most important and dominant part of your life, your 24-7 life (cancer) is a subject which, for a variety of reasons, you're extremely uncomfortable discussing – with that particular person. It's not so much personal, as it is poor timing.

Let me try and explain that. With anybody who knows me and knows I have cancer – and I know they know, I am not uncomfortable discussing any of the cancer-related aspects of my life. I am an open book, as you regular readers know. "Discussing" I don't mind. However, dredging up all the sordid details from the past two years, where conversations invariably go when you haven't seen or talked to someone in those few years – and they're the least bit curious about you, causes me great consternation; anticipating their questions and in turn deciding on my answers.

I never know how much or how little to say. I never know if I can be totally honest or must I be totally sensitive – to their feelings, in the event they have some personal/family-type history. I never know exactly how to behave; to be self-effacing and self-confident concerning my own health status – and/or try not to not make them feel bad/awkward for having asked, and then try to delude myself by making light of the situation – so they won't feel sorry for me, or lie to them and not say anything of cancer substance. And if I choose the latter strategy and say nothing about the cancer, can you imagine how on guard I have to be to not let anything slip out about the last two years, two years which have been consumed by my having cancer? It's like pretending to be someone else just so you don't have to deal with/re-visit all the history that has preceded this conversation (much of which you'd like to forget, anyway) and placed you in this real-life predicament of truth or dare.

I have enough difficulty dealing with my own reactions to having cancer, along with the reactions of family and friends who know, to have to spend any time sorting through and processing the emotions of people who now know but previously didn't know. It's not being selfish as much as it is self-preservation. I really don't want to use my precious time bringing people up to speed and reinforcing the morbid and terminal nature of my diagnosis. I don't want to have to convince anybody of anything – about me. It's difficult enough keeping myself on the straight and narrow. I can't waste any additional mental energy on people I know who don't know. I want – need, actually – to spend it on people in the know. I don't know if I have enough time to spend it on people who don't know, well-meaning though they may be. Sometimes, it's just easier this way, although not always; and that's the problem I'm having.

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

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NEWS

A.J. Smith, a Herndon native and sophomore at NYU, performs at the school's Ultra Violet Live talent competition Feb. 24, where he used his musical and computer knowledge to create a song on the spot, winning Best Solo Performer.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Songwriting on the Spot

Herndon native wins Best Solo Performer at NYU talent competition.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Herndon native A.J. Smith was a long way from home Feb. 24. He was on the New York University Campus Skirball Center for the Performing Arts stage, a contestant in the annual Ultra Violet Live talent competition. All he had onstage with him was a keyboard, his computer, a loop machine, a guitar and a microphone.

He asked the audience what kind of song they wanted to hear, began using his equipment to belt out a completely improvised song.

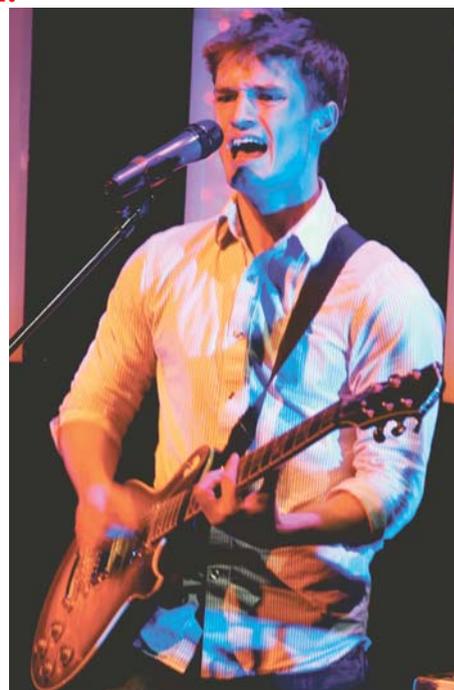
"I had about 30 seconds to put something together. I used a rock beat, and electronic bass line and used the keyboard for some pop/blues piano," Smith said. "The audience cheered the loudest for rap, and I don't rap, but I figured I might as well go for it."

Smith's "go for it" attitude earned him the Best Solo Performer award at the contest. In 2005, an 18-year-old student named Stefani Germanotta won third place in the same competition. Today, Germanotta is better known as Lady Gaga.

Dan Rickmers of NYU Local wrote that Smith put together a "song on the spot, looping multiple instruments together in a really innovative way compared to many of the other acts."

Smith says he thinks the novelty of putting a song together on the spot was what helped him stick out to the judges. He was one of 19 contestants in the contest, each one representing a student dormitory. Unlike the other acts though, Smith didn't know what exactly he would be performing.

"I used the time I was talking to the crowd to stall a bit, so I could program the music in. It's tough, because it all has to be synced up if I miss even by a millisecond, the gap gets bigger and bigger, and soon I'm behind a full beat and more," he said. "I was also trying to get a few lyrics together in my head, that was something I practiced a lot



A.J. Smith

beforehand, I would have my friends come over and throw out words, and I would see what I could put together."

SMITH WAS ABLE to go back and forth from the keyboard to his guitar, to taking the microphone and interacting with the audience. He even was able to squeeze in a joking verse about how actress Emma Watson was rumored to be coming to NYU the following semester.

"I get nervous beforehand, especially when I know I'm doing an act I haven't done before," he said. "Once I'm onstage it all goes away, but it comes back in waves after. I was rattled the entire night after the show."

Smith has been involved in music since he was three, when he would listen to his grandmother play piano and began taking lessons. He eventually picked up the violin, and when the Circuit Riders, the bluegrass band at the Herndon United Methodist Church needed a fiddler, he joined them too.

Around the time he was 10, Smith began

composing music. His mother Sharon remembers him improvising while he was supposed to be practicing his lessons.

"We could always tell when he was playing around, and would get him back on track practicing what his piano teacher had assigned," she said. "Eventually we couldn't tell when he was playing his made up stuff or the actual assigned pieces."

Smith also picked up the guitar along the way, as well as the mandolin and the banjo.

A 2009 GRADUATE of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Smith is currently majoring in Music Composition/Film Score and Computer Science at NYU.

"It's interesting to see how technology and music intersect, but sometimes it feels though the music is left behind in the technology," Smith said. "But music is what I'd like to do long-term."

Smith, currently a sophomore, says he plans to write and record during the summer, and play shows around New York City to try and pick up a following and see where that leads him.

"I want to remain grounded, to remember where I come from, whether I'm begging on the street with a guitar or playing in front of a sold out concert hall," he said. "I wouldn't be here right now if my parents didn't make me practice, if they didn't pay for and take me to my lessons."

Smith has also acted in several student films, and plans to continue acting when the chances arise. Smith also does computer programming, and has been working on learning website design, Facebook programming, online marketing and iPhone application development.

"I want someone to stumble on my website and see all the things I can do," he said. "As a musician, the best thing to do is network, and the internet works well for that."

Smith said his tenure at T.J. helped him learn how to manage time effectively, as he balanced playing lacrosse with school. He said his athletic experience has helped him with his musical pursuits.

Smith can be found online at www.ajsmithmusic.com.

Herndon High Softball Team Playing Lights-Out Defense

Coach Amps likes the potential of his young Hornets.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Slowly, but surely, the Herndon High girls' softball program is making progress and becoming more and more the type of squad third year head coach Roy Amps envisions it becoming.

The Hornets won just one game in Amps' first season at the helm in 2009, and followed that up with three victories last year. This spring will undoubtedly see Herndon improve in greater measure. The team has impressed its coach early on with exceptional defensive play over its first three games, two of those resulting in wins.

"We've had a good start," said Amps, a longtime girls' high school softball coach in Northern Virginia who became the Herndon head coach after former coach Bonnie O'Hearn, who led the Hornets to the Northern Region finals in her final season in 2008, stepped down due to health issues. "The good defense is expected. Our strength is definitely our defense. We've been playing solid [in the field] all the way around - from the outfield to the infield, to catcher to pitcher. In our first two games, we had no errors. And our pitching was good."

Amps said his squad is young overall, with just one full-time starter from a year ago back in the line-up, that being Heather Ferguson, who as a freshman in 2010 earned All-Concorde District Honorable Mention accolades. Ferguson, a versatile ballplayer, can play catcher, third base, or in the outfield. Amps is still making decisions with a number of his players as to where they will play defensively.

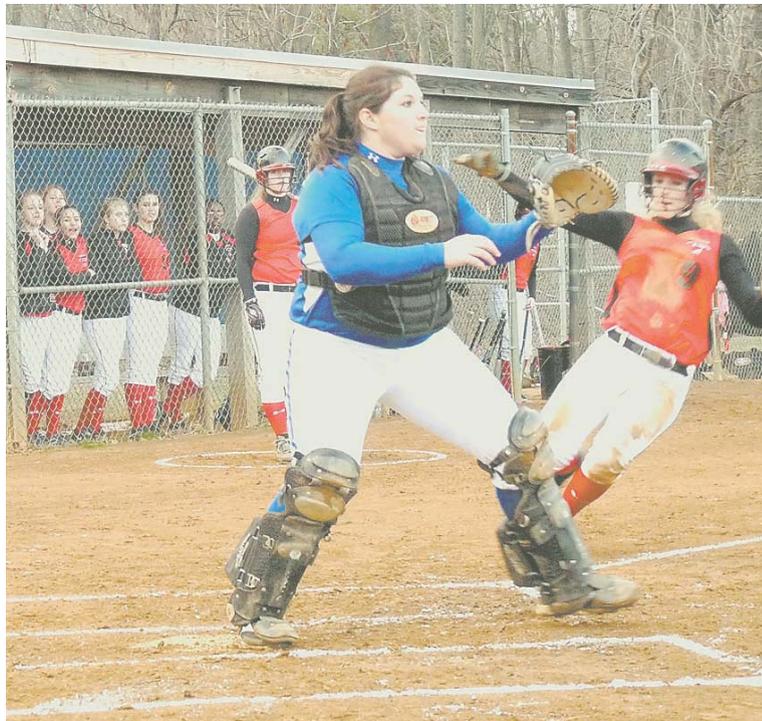
Herndon's 15-player roster is made up of three seniors, two juniors, five sophomores, and five freshmen. Some of the team's key players this spring, along with Ferguson, include: senior first baseman/right fielder Katie Thomas; freshmen pitcher/outfielder Sarah Kurtz; junior pitcher/right fielder Michelle Le; freshmen catcher Morgan Fries; junior second baseman Leta Kent; and freshmen shortstop Carly Shue.

Both Kurtz and Le have seen action on the mound this season, with Kurtz earning the decision in Herndon's 4-0 win at South Lakes on March 14, and Le getting the 'W' in the Seahawks' 8-0 home victory over Washington-Lee on March 16.

Kurtz, the freshmen, began the season playing shortstop. But Amps likes the ninth grader's demeanor, pitching prowess, and defensive ability on the mound.

"She consistently keeps the ball down and her fielding is impressive," said the coach, of Kurtz.

Herndon will likely be solid both defensively and on the mound this season. But in order to com-



Herndon High freshman Sarah Kurtz begins her slide into home plate during the Hornets season-opening game at South Lakes on March 14.

pete and win games in the ever-tough Concorde District, the Hornets are going to have to hit the ball and score runs with consistency. Amps said his team is showing good early season progress at the plate.

"We will continue working on our offensive game," said the coach. "We'll see good pitching."

HERNDON is scheduled to play a road game at Loudoun Valley, a non-region opponent and member of the Cedar District, this Friday evening, April 1 at 5 p.m. Then, next week, the Hornets will begin a four-game stretch of district contests leading up to spring break week (April 16-23). Those district outings will be at Oakton (next Tuesday, April 5) and Centreville (Friday, April 8); followed by home games versus Westfield (Tuesday, April 12) and Robinson (Friday, April 15).

Over spring break, Herndon will participate at the first annual T.C. Williams Invitational in Alexandria. The Hornets, on Saturday afternoon, April 16, are scheduled to play Invitational games versus George Mason High at 1 and Franklin D. Roosevelt (N.Y.) at 3. Herndon will also play Invitational games two days later on Monday, April 18.

Amps said he should have a much better idea of his team's potential following its initial district games over the next couple of weeks followed by the spring break contests.

The coach likes the make-up and look of his team. "We're more balanced this year overall," he said. "Our goals are [higher]. Coming together is the main thing because we have a new group of kids."

Herndon did not field a JV team last year, but has one this season. The 13-member JV squad is under the direction of coach Lucy Bawiec.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Herndon High boys' basketball star Austin Hamilton, this past season's Northern Region Player of the Year, has received numerous postseason accolades. The senior shooting guard, who led the Hornets to the Concorde District title and as far as the region tournament semifinals, has earned the following accolades: First Team All-Met, both Concorde District and Region Player of the Year; and First Team All-Virginia. He is the first Herndon player to earn First Team All-Met or All-State recognition since former Herndon player and Villanova University sensation Scotty Reynolds six years ago.

South Lakes High School will offer day camps during the summer months for youth players in Basketball, Field Hockey, Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Volleyball and Wrestling. More information on each camp as well as the registration forms can be found on the SLHS Booster website at www.seahawkboosters.com. Space is limited so sign up today.

Three Northern Virginia area teams have qualified for the USA Hockey National Championships at the Youth Tier II, under-16 level. Featuring 36 of the top teams from across the nation, the tournament will take place March 30-April 3 at two locations - SkateQuest Reston and SkateQuest Ashburn Ice House. The host club, the Reston Raiders, will automatically qualify for the tournament. Two other area teams, the Ashburn Xtreme and the Metro Maple Leafs (Md.), earned seedings as a result of winning their respective state championships.

"We could not be happier to be hosting the 2011 USA Youth Hockey Championships for a second consecutive year here in Virginia, and we're thrilled to have three local teams qualify for the tournament," said Reston Raiders President Chris Kelly.

While automatically qualifying as hosts, the Reston Raiders proved they belong in the tournament as they finished fourth within their nine-team division and put a major scare into eventual champion Ashburn-1 in the league semifinals, playing them dead even through two periods before surrendering three third period goals in a 5-2 loss. Reston will host the Spokane (Washington state) Junior Chiefs in their first game Wednesday, March 30 at 4 p.m. at Reston SkateQuest.

Reston will compete within the tournament's 2A division, which also includes squads from Western Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Washington state, Indiana, Missouri, Rhode Island and Alaska. Tickets will be available for purchase at both the Reston and Ashburn rinks throughout the course of the five-day tournament. Week-long tournament passes are priced at \$35 for adults and \$25 for children ages 17 and under, while single day passes are \$15 and \$7 each. Children, ages four and under, will receive free admission. For more information on the USA Hockey National Championships, please visit www.usahockey.com or contact Lane Errington at 703-534-4600 x202 or lerrington@bwfcom.com.

Duke University senior Jasmine Thomas has been named among 40 finalists for the State Farm Coaches' All-America women's basketball team, which will be announced at the 2011 NCAA Final Four in Indianapolis. The 40 finalists were voted upon by Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) member coaches in each of the eight WBCA geographical regions. Thomas, an Oakton High graduate and resident of Fairfax, has led sixth-ranked Duke to a 31-3 overall record and a strong showing at the current NCAA Tournament. She was named ACC Tournament MVP for the second consecutive year after guiding Duke to its second straight ACC Tournament crown. Thomas, a guard averaging 14.9 points per game, is also a State Farm Wade Trophy, John R. Wooden Award and Naismith National Player of the Year candidate, while being named to the All-ACC Defensive Team and ACC Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Baseball Poll: The following is the Northern Region Coaches' top 10 high school baseball poll for the week of March 21: Lake Braddock (No. 1); South County (2); W.T. Woodson (3); West Springfield (4); Madison (5); Westfield (6); McLean (7); Stone Bridge (8); Oakton (9); and Marshall (10). Other teams receiving votes: Yorktown, Fairfax, Washington-Lee, Chantilly, and Langley.