

Brian McCarthy of McLean is handed a check from Virginia Lottery Executive Director Paula Otto at the Elden Street Giant in Herndon August 10. McCarthy won the \$107 million Mega Millions jackpot with a ticket he purchased at the Giant. McCarthy, who lives in McLean, decided to take the lump sum of \$68.4 million.

Winning Big In Herndon

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NEWS



Cub and Boy Scouts from the All Dulles Area Muslim Society distribute food to needy families at Herndon Without Hunger Monday at the Fortnightly Library.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Fighting Hunger in Herndon

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Hundreds of people lined up outside the Fortnightly Library Monday night: The annual Herndon Without Hunger event helps 200 families per week leave the library with fresh fruits, vegetables, rice, oil and other food items.

Herndon Without Hunger has been hosted by the Foundation for Appropriate and Immediate Temporary Help (FAITH) for the past seven years. Tanveer Mirza, a founding member of FAITH, says this year has been one of their busiest.

"Last week we were ready for about 200 people, and double that amount showed up," she said. "We ran out of food and had to turn people away; it was really sad."

FAITH works with local grocery stores to get fresh and nutritious food for those in need.

"We stay away from foods that are high in sodium and preservatives because they make health go down, which means people have less energy and don't work as well," Mirza said. "We want people to be healthy, to work hard to earn money for their family and get themselves out of the vicious cycle of poverty." Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Venturers based out of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society were part of the volunteer crew that spent the evening handing out food items. Israfael Jaka, 8, a Cub Scout, said he had fun handing out food. "I didn't really know what to expect, but it was fun because I was helping people get food, people who wouldn't have it otherwise," he said.

His sister Hidayhn Jaka, part of Venture Crew 1576, said the group



Volunteers from FAITH hand out food to needy families Monday at Herndon Without Hunger at the Fortnightly Library.

had done some lunch packaging before, but the experience of handing it out face to face was more rewarding.

"When you see the people face to face, you really get a sense of accomplishment, because they're the ones you're helping," she said. "I think the process went very well, it was organized and everything went faster than I thought."

Herndon Without Hunger happens every year during the Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting. It runs from Aug. 1 to 30 this year, and Muslims fast from dawn until sunset.

"Muslims are very generous during their month of fasting, we're all very anxious to provide for our neighbors," Mirza said.

FAITH runs a thrift shop and food bank just down the street from the Fortnightly Library. The money raised by the thrift store sales goes to stock the food pantry, and the organization works with Fairfax County and local groups to provide temporary housing and funds to victims of poverty and domestic abuse.

More information about FAITH can be found at www.faithus.org.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

From left, Jasmine Faubert, secretary and treasurer of the Herndon Optimist Club; lottery winner Brian McCarthy of McLean; Herndon-Reston FISH President Janet Hyman; and Herndon Mayor Steve DeBenedittis at the Elden Street Giant Aug. 10. McCarthy won the \$107 Mega Millions jackpot with a ticket purchased at the Giant, and donated \$25,000 each to FISH and the Herndon Optimist Club.

\$107 Million Lottery Winner Helps Local Charities

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

It was a typical day for Brian McCarthy, 25, of McLean, when he stopped at the Elden Street Giant in Herndon to withdraw money from the ATM. Next to the ATM was a Virginia Lottery machine, where he decided to purchase five tickets. Little did he know that this transaction would prove more profitable than any trip to the ATM ever could.

On the morning of July 2, a day after the drawing and two days after moving back in with his parents in McLean, McCarthy woke up and checked Facebook on his phone. He came across an article saying the winning ticket had been purchased at the Elden Street Giant.

"At that point I jumped out of bed and emptied my wallet, and I had the ticket, and I was shaking a bit when I realized what it was," he said. "It was a great feeling."

AFTER DISCOVERING he had won, McCarthy told his grandmother, who was the only one home at the time, and his grandmother immediately offered him a congratulatory grilled cheese sandwich.

"It was one of the best grilled cheeses I've ever had," he said.

McCarthy decided to take the lump sum, which was about \$68.4 million, rather than 26 annual payments. So far he's spread the

wealth around, taking his brother on a golf trip to Ireland, and his sister on a cruise to Alaska.

McCarthy, who was working as an account manager for PepsiCo when he bought the winning ticket, also made one purchase for himself: a custom built BMW M3.

"It's a lot of money, so you can't make any rash decisions," he said. "I'm just going to take it slow, help my family and talk to some financial advisors and make some sound decisions."

He received his check at the Giant Aug. 10, and also took the time to put some of his winnings to good use. He donated \$25,000 each to Herndon-Reston FISH and the Herndon Optimist Club. McCarthy grew up right down the street from the Giant, and said he wanted to support local nonprofits.

"The kids of Herndon who play sports, who participate in our education programs, our environmental stewardship programs, our law enforcement partnership programs are going to be so thankful," said Jasmine Faubert, secretary and treasurer of the Herndon Optimist Club. "We're so surprised and so grateful."

Janet Hyman, president of FISH, said McCarthy's donation comes at a very good time for them.

"The last two months we've been giving out more than we've been taking in, and we've been dipping into our reserves," she said. "We were even considering reducing the amount of donations to families, but it looks like that won't be

necessary right now."

McCarthy said he plays the lottery fairly regularly. He estimated he'd spent \$20 to \$30 a week sometimes, and has even won some smaller (\$1,000) amounts before.

"My dad and my mom always said 'why do you buy those things, you'll never win,' but I always said you'll never win if you're not in the game," he said.

MCCARTHY'S GOOD FORTUNE came as a result of random, computer-generated numbers, which picked out the winning 12-17-30-35-47 combination, as well as the Mega Ball number 26.

"This is the third-largest prize ever awarded by the Virginia Lottery and the seventh Mega Millions jackpot won in the commonwealth," said Pamela Otto, Virginia Lottery executive director. "In the time it took for the jackpot to grow to this level, from May 28 to the July 1 drawing, Mega Millions sales raised more than \$4.4 million in profits for Virginia public schools." As far as his future plans, Virginia's latest millionaire philanthropist said they involve more charity donations, as well as a donation to his alma mater, Penn State.

"We'll do some investments, help some charities, help out my alma mater," he said. "There's a lot you can do with this kind of money, and I have a good family, good friends and good people around me, so I think we can do some good things."



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Rafieya Aasieya Husain, 19 (left), of Herndon was crowned the new 2011 Miss Teen Virginia.

Herndon Teen Wins 2011 Miss Teen Virginia

Rafieya Aasieya Husain, 19, of Herndon was crowned the new 2011 Miss Teen Virginia for the National America Miss Pageant Monday evening, July 31. The three-day competition was held over the weekend at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Reston.

The pageant consisted of four segments: Evening Gown, Introduction, Interview and Community Involvement. Optional competitions were Spokesmodel, Talent, Actress, Photogenic and Casual Wear. Rafieya competed in all the optional competitions and won the following categories: Winner of Top Model, Spokesmodel and Casual Wear, 1st runner up for Talent and Actress and most promising model.

Currently Husain is also the reigning 2010 Miss India D.C. and 2010 National Ambassador for National America Miss, 1st runner up for Miss India USA. Her passion for modeling and fashion has given her the opportunity to walk the runway for the NFL Wives and Mothers fashion show in New York, the Miami Dive-in Fashion Swimwear show where she worked with America Next Top Model judge Roy Campbell and the Washington Chief's – an evening of Fashion Extravaganza.

A second year student at Marymount University, she is pursuing her Undergraduate in Business Administration and Information Technology. Husain is passionate about per-



Rafieya Aasieya Husain will compete in the 2011 USA National Pageant Competitions in Disneyland, Calif. in November.

forming and is volunteering for nonprofit organizations in her spare time.

Nov. 21-28, she will be competing in the 2011 USA National Pageant Competitions to be held in Disneyland, Calif. The weeklong competition will give her the opportunity to meet her fellow state queens from all over the United States, a VIP day at Disneyland, a tour of Hollywood and Rodeo Drive and a chance to win a mustang convertible to be drawn at the Thanksgiving banquet.



Aidan Scanlan, 8, poses with his medal after completing the Reston Kids Triathlon Sunday morning.



Bikers start the second phase of the Reston Kids Triathlon Sunday.



Triathletes run the final leg of the inaugural Reston Kids Triathlon Sunday at South Lakes High School.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Reston Hosts First Kids Triathlon

Children ages 6 to 14 run, bike and swim.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Randy Wilk of Reston came to the inaugural Reston Kids Triathlon Sunday morning to watch his son swim, bike and run his way around South Lakes High School. What he didn't count on was running most of the course.

"Once he got changed after the swim and started the biking route, I ended up running alongside him down Ridge Heights Road," Wilk said. "And then when he came

back and started the run to the South Lakes track, I ended up doing most of that too. Not a bad exercise, but pretty tough while wearing cros."

Almost 200 children ages 6 to 14 participated in the event, which was to raise funds for the YMCA Fairfax County Reston and Reston Association youth scholarship programs.

The triathletes started by swimming at the Ridge Heights Pool, then did a quick change and mounted their bikes for a loop around Langston Hughes Middle School and South Lakes High.

After the biking portion, they returned to the Ridge Heights Pool and ran down Ridge Heights Road before cutting through the South Lakes Athletic fields and finishing at the South Lakes track.

"IT WAS A GREAT FEELING after you finished," said Gabby McClellan, 9, who swam 100 meters, biked two miles and ran one mile as part of her age group. "I do swimming as a sport, so that was probably the easiest part for me."

Some of the athletes participated in another children's triathlon earlier this year, and they said the experience helped them build to this one. "After doing the other triathlon, I think the swimming was much easier, but the biking and running was still tough," said Maeve Keck, 9.

While everyone had a favorite and a least favorite activity, most athletes agreed that the support shown from the hundreds of parents lining the route was encouraging.

"It felt like you were in a real race, seeing all the people standing by the road and

cheering you as you biked past," said Margo Somer, 9. "That made it a lot of fun."

Sarah Siller of Reston is no stranger to adult triathlons, but when her daughter Violet, 7, wanted to participate, she was very surprised. "I couldn't believe she wanted to do it, when I was her age you couldn't pry me out of bed this early on a rainy Sunday morning, I didn't start until I was in college," Siller said. "I think it's great she likes being active. I'd love to one day do a triathlon with my daughter next to me, but I don't want to force her into these things. But she seemed ready to do another one right away, so maybe we'll do one together after all."

More information on the Reston Kids Triathlon, including results, can be found at www.restonkidstri.org.

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WEEK IN HERNDON

Town Publishes Updated Restaurant Directory

The Town of Herndon has produced an updated restaurant directory, listing close to 120 dining establishments located throughout the town's business and historic areas.

From casual to fine dining, from fast food to ethnic specialty restaurants, all are featured in the full color directory brochure. A comprehensive map of the town pinpoints the exact location of each featured restaurant in relation to Herndon's hotels, roads, parks, shopping centers and public spaces. Special offerings and amenities — such as free delivery, free Wi-Fi and catering services — are included in the restaurant listings.

"Residents and visitors alike to the Town of Herndon are always amazed at the vast selection of restaurants available here — literally, something for every taste and every price range," said Mayor Steve DeBenedittis. "The updated restaurant directory provides information on the town's array of dining options, all in one convenient place."

Produced by the town's Public Information Office, the directory is distributed via hotels, attractions, public facilities and the HR departments of local businesses — both within the Town of Herndon and in adjacent markets including Sterling, Reston and communities surrounding Dulles Airport. The directory is also available through tourism centers located throughout Northern Virginia and is posted on the town's website at www.herndon-va.gov (see "Living," "Business," "Visiting" and "About Herndon" tabs). Additional copies are available by contacting the town at 703-435-6800 X2084 or via email at

information@herndon-va.gov.

Herndon Named Among 'Best Places to Live'

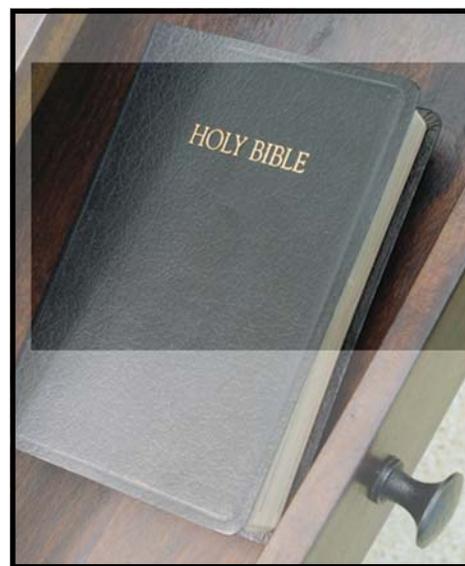
The Town of Herndon has been included in Money Magazine and CNN/Money.com's 2011 ranking of the "Best Places to Live" in America.

Herndon was one of only five Virginia communities deemed one of America's "Best Places to Live," and — at number 34 — was second only to Leesburg among Virginia communities included in the ranking.

The ranking of America's top 100 towns includes communities that, according to Money editors, "boast great job opportunities, top schools, safe streets and economic strength — even now." In particular, Herndon was lauded as "a great base to explore the many jobs in the area. Herndon sits right near the so-called Dulles Technology Corridor, where companies such as AOL, Microsoft, and Verizon are big employers." Money editors also cited Herndon's proximity to Washington, D.C., as well as the excellence of its public schools, as reasons why it is among the listed communities.

"It's gratifying to receive this national recognition — but certainly not surprising to those of us who live and work here," said Herndon Mayor Steve DeBenedittis. "Our neighborhoods, our excellent public and private schools, the uniqueness of our downtown area and the friendliness of our people all are a testament to the quality of life here in Herndon."

For more information, visit the town's Web site at www.herndon-va.gov.



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The national champion Herndon High School Step Team is honored by the Town Council during their Aug. 9 meeting.

Step Team Honored by Town Council

Herndon High team won national championship in May.

By ALEX McVEIGH
 THE CONNECTION

The Herndon High School Step Team was recognized by the Town Council Tuesday, Aug. 9, several months after winning the YouStep National Championship in Hershey, Pa. They defeated 18 other teams at the competition with a score of 483 out of a possible 500.

Gary Bushrod, coach of the Step Team, said the team worked hard all year long. "They worked really hard, and if you saw what they looked like at the beginning of the year

this national championship is a miracle," he said with a laugh. The team showed the council a video of their winning performance, and the members said they were impressed by the almost 10-minute performance.

"I commend the dancers, as well as their coaches and parents," said Councilmember Bill Tirrell. "It's clear from watching your performance that in order to win you have to be disciplined, coordinated and work as a team."

Councilmember Jasbinder Singh said "the way they moved reminded me a little bit of Michael Jackson."

Mary Ellen Mogee Presents 'Life Passages'

Mary Ellen Mogee will be presenting an exhibition of large and small abstract acrylic paintings called "Life Passages" at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston from Sept. 11 through Oct. 16. The public is welcome. An opening reception will be held Sunday, Sept. 11, 1-3 p.m. A brief artist's talk is scheduled for 2 p.m.

The church is located at 1625 Wiehle Ave. in Reston. "In my art, it is my pleasure and gratification to bring joy and sustenance to others in their passages in life," Mogee said.



Mary Ellen Mogee, Spiritual Journey.

Mogee is a studio artist at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, where her work is shown in Building 6. Additional artwork may be seen at her website: <http://www.maryellenmogee.com>.

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.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 17

Chris Botti. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. American jazz trumpeter. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/AUG. 18

"Ain't Misbehavin'" 8 p.m. The Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players in Thomas 'Fats' Waller's musical comedy of 1930s Harlem. \$22 adults, \$19 students and seniors. 703-481-5930 or www.EldenStreetPlayers.org.

Uptown Vocal Jazz Quartet. 7 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Live jazz music. Seasut@aol.com.

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Wild Swans by Jung Chang. Adults. 703-242-4020.

Paul Anka. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Singer/songwriter. \$48 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/AUG. 19

"Ain't Misbehavin'" 8 p.m. The Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players in Thomas 'Fats' Waller's musical comedy of 1930s Harlem. \$22 adults, \$19 students and seniors. 703-481-5930 or www.EldenStreetPlayers.org.

Reston Friends K-12 Book Sale. 10-4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Thousands of books in great condition. No scanners. 703-689-2700.

Gipsy Kings. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Flamenco guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Baliardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

Art Show and Sale. 6 p.m. Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. Karen Hale's "Oddjects." www.restonmuseum.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/AUG. 18

Committee for Dulles Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 45020 Aviation Drive, Dulles. With Leo Titus Jr., P.E., Civilian Member of VA-TF1, on "Virginia Task Force One's Search and Rescue Mission at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001." CFD members \$50, non-members \$70. 703-430-8749 or info@committeefordulles.org.

CroppMetcalfe Job Fair. 4-7 p.m. At the Fairfax location, 8421 Hilltop Road, Fairfax. Looking for HVAC technicians, plumbers and call center representatives. www.croppmetcalfe.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 20

Northern Virginia Community College Special Saturday Registration Hours. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All NVCC campuses. Students can talk to counselors, apply to the college and register for fall semester courses.



Gipsy Kings perform at the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna, on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 19-20, 8 p.m. Flamenco guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Baliardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/AUG. 20

DC Fest with Michael W. Smith and Steven Curtis Chapman. 3 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Motown, soul and R&B. www.reston.com.

"Ain't Misbehavin'" 8 p.m. The Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players in Thomas 'Fats' Waller's musical comedy of 1930s Harlem. \$22 adults, \$19 students and seniors. 703-481-5930 or www.EldenStreetPlayers.org.

Sounds of Summer. 11 a.m.-12 Noon. Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Reservations required by Aug. 17. \$4/person RA members, \$6/person non-members. For all ages (Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.) For reservations, call 703-476-9689 or e-mail naturecenter@reston.org.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Horticultural tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

Reston Friends K-12 Book Sale. 10-4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Thousands of books in great condition. No scanners. 703-689-2700.

Gipsy Kings. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Flamenco guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Baliardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

and emerging EEO issues, new ADA regulations, national origin and immigration discrimination in the workplace, equal pay and the law, using social media, credit checks and more. This seminar meets the yearly refresher training requirement for Federal agency EEO investigators. \$319-\$349. 703-291-0880 or eeoc.traininginstitute@eeoc.gov.

THURSDAY/AUG. 25

Lupus Support Group. 12 p.m. at Reston Hospital Center, The West Wing, 1850 Town Center Parkway, Reston. lh@ascendcomm.com or www.lupusgw.org.

Alzheimer's Association Memory Care Support Group. 11 a.m. Great Falls Assisted Living, 1121 Reston Avenue, Herndon. Facilitated by a geriatric care counselor. Meets monthly through December. Free. www.greatfallsassistedliving.com or 703-421-0690.

FRIDAY/AUG. 26

Equal Employment Opportunity Technical Assistance Seminar. Crowne Plaza Tyson's Corner Hotel, 1960 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Presentations on EEOC policies and procedures, including legal updates

of these noisy critters we can hear in their natural habitat.

Mo' Sol. 7:30 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston. Motown, soul and R&B. www.reston.com.

"Ain't Misbehavin'" 8 p.m. The Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The Elden Street Players in Thomas 'Fats' Waller's musical comedy of 1930s Harlem. \$22 adults, \$19 students and seniors. 703-481-5930 or www.EldenStreetPlayers.org.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Horticultural tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

Reston Friends K-12 Book Sale. 10-4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Thousands of books in great condition. No scanners. 703-689-2700.

Gipsy Kings. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Flamenco guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Baliardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

Market and the Master Gardeners to help with lawn and garden problems. www.restonfarmersmarket.com or 703-318-9628.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 1

Herndon Farmer's Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Lynn Street in downtown Herndon. Thursdays through Oct. Seasonal fruits, vegetables, flowers, meats, eggs, jams, plants and baked goods. All items are homegrown or baked by the vendors at the market. www.herndon-va.gov or 703-787-7380.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 3

Reston Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Lake Anne Village Center, Reston. Open Saturdays through Oct. Vegetable farmers and fruit orchards, baked goods, homemade sausages and soups, goat and cow cheeses, honey, kettle corn, ice cream and more. Live music, the Reston Crafts

guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Baliardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/AUG. 21

Reston Friends K-12 Book Sale. 10-4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Thousands of books in great condition. No scanners. 703-689-2700.

MONDAY/AUG. 22

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for non-native speakers. Adults. 703-242-4020.

TUESDAY/AUG. 23

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.

Conversations with the Director. 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Meet Sam Clay, Director of Fairfax County Public Library, and share your view of what the future should hold for our library system. Adults. 703-242-4020.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 24

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 3 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.

Color All Around Preschool Storytime. 11 a.m. Herndon Community Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Stories and rhymes about color. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-437-8855.

Kids Outdoors. 9 a.m.-12 Noon. Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Reservations required by Aug. 19. \$15/child RA members, \$20/child non-members. For ages 7-10 years. For reservations, call 703-476-9689 or e-mail naturecenter@reston.org. Parents - Drop off your child at this action-packed morning of outdoor fun.

SATURDAY/AUG. 27

Scythian. 7:30 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston. Celtic and world music. www.reston.com.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Horticultural tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

Market and the Master Gardeners to help with lawn and garden problems. www.restonfarmersmarket.com or 703-318-9628.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 7

Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce 2011 Health Fair. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Hyatt Dulles, Herndon. Local health care providers, alternative health practitioners, and nutritional experts combined with numerous complimentary health screenings. Concurrent break-out sessions with experts' perspectives on today's health topics. Free admission. 703-266-0505 or drgebaide@centrevillechiro.com.

Spiritual Development and Study Group. 7:30 p.m. Hunan East, 2533 John Milton Drive, Herndon. Every Wednesday. 703-620-3018.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 13

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Meeting. 9:30 a.m. Fairfax County Government Center, Board Auditorium, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903.

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 • Saturday, 8/20/11: Nick Tierra 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.
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Partners in Ending Homelessness

Government can lead the fight to end homelessness, but success is achieved with community partners.

BY U.S. REP. GERRY
CONNOLLY
D-11

The following guest editorial is part of a special edition of the Connection Newspapers on the topic of Ending Homelessness. Read more at www.connectionnewspapers.com/.

As the nation's economy continues to struggle, we should find hope in one recent bit of news reported by Fairfax County: The local homeless population declined 15.6 percent during the last four years despite the worst economic recession since the 1930s.

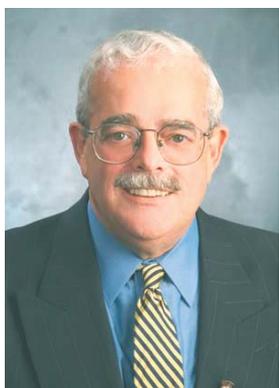
While the growth in the homeless population has slowed nationally, Fairfax County is one of the few localities to actually reduce the rate of homelessness, and this success is the product of a years-long effort by Fairfax County and its community partners.

When I was first elected chair-

man of the Board of Supervisors in 2003, there was growing concern about the increase in the local homeless population. Particularly alarming was the fact that 60 percent of homeless adults in families already were employed. It highlighted the need to address the shrinking number of affordable housing units.

Knowing government could not tackle these challenges alone, we convened separate community summits to devise action plans to preserve affordable housing and to prevent homelessness. The results were innovative partnerships with the non-profit, faith and business communities that yielded positive results, among them the preservation of more than 2,200 affordable housing units, which doubled our initial goal.

Given the success of this program and the benefits it has pro-



FILE PHOTO
U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11)

vided to Fairfax families and our entire community, I believe the county should reconsider its decision to scale it back.

Another part of that success story is the 10-year plan we adopted to prevent and end homelessness and the hiring of a coordinator to oversee all local efforts to

assist the homeless. One important element of that plan is the annual hypothermia program, in partnership with local churches, which provides warm meals and temporary shelter for those most at-risk. It also helps provide vital medical and mental health support services in a stable environment, supplementing the mobile medical outreach we initiated to reach the chronically homeless.

Last year alone, the county's Housing Opportunities Support Teams helped prevent nearly 900 people from becoming homeless. These efforts keep families off the street and they are cost-effective. At the federal level, I've sponsored legislation in the U.S. of Representatives to replicate the Fairfax model with the aim of preventing homelessness for all Americans.

Even in a region as fortunate as Northern Virginia, which has weathered the recession better than most metropolitan areas, there continue to be tremendous needs. I wish I could bring some of my colleagues from Congress to Fairfax to witness the value of these investments firsthand. As you know, we are in the midst of an important national debate about how much the federal government ought to be supporting such community efforts. There are some in Congress, who have proposed eliminating funding for a program that provides assistance to homeless veterans. I have fought this proposal on the House floor and will continue to do so because our veterans deserve better.

As we learned in Fairfax, government alone cannot solve the problem, but it can play a critical role in convening the private sector, non-profits, educators and other community partners to address the serious challenges we face. And as the recent data on homelessness shows, those efforts are making real progress and benefiting our entire community.

Gerald E. Connolly represents the 11th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives and served 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including five as chairman.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Chief Justice Remembered

To the Editor:

Recently, I attended the last meeting of the Commission on Mental Health Law Reform. I was filled with mixed emotions: pride in all we had accomplished, disappointment that the Commission was ending when there is still so much to do, and deep grief that the courageous man who created it has died so young.

Since 2006 the Commission has been meeting regularly and making major changes in how we treat persons with mental illness who come in contact with the law. Every branch of state government has been deeply involved. We changed the whole system for the better.

The Commission was the idea of Virginia Chief Justice Leroy Hassell. He was outraged by how poorly the legal system responded to mentally ill persons. Shackling was not uncommon and many conditions in the jails and prisons seemed barbaric to him. The sys-

tems that dealt with mental health were disjointed and severely underfunded. Far too many people were in front of judges mainly because they were not receiving needed treatment.

Justice Hassell and I were allies in this endeavor from the beginning. He came to my home in 2005 and we strategized how to address the issues. He knew that there would be those who said the courts had no business involving themselves and that he was overstepping his authority. I knew that without all branches of government working together there would be no real progress and encouraged him to proceed.

As expected, many legislators attacked the Commission idea and Justice Hassell personally. He refused to yield and put the whole weight of the court system behind it. We began deliberations with extensive work groups. Everything from civil commitment procedures to transporting persons with mental illness to treatment

delivery was under review. Recommendations for improvements were hammered out.

And, then, the terrible tragedy of Virginia Tech happened. Overnight, the work we had been doing so quietly was suddenly viewed as very important. We increased the pace of our efforts.

Over the next three years we totally overhauled the system. I am very proud to have been the chief Senate patron of almost all the legislation that the Commission wrote. Virtually all the bills passed. Had the economy not deteriorated, I believe we would have been able to make significant investments in our system. Unfor-

tunately, those investments have not happened.

Over a year ago it became obvious that the Chief Justice was very ill. He continued his support for our work despite his illness. I know he took pride in the accomplishments of his Commission. Tragically he died before our job was finished.

I remain committed to improving how Virginia treats persons with mental illness. But it will be more difficult without the leadership and friendship of Chief Justice Leroy Hassell.

Sen. Janet Howell
(D-32)

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:

Letters to the Editor • The Connection
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.

By e-mail: herndon@connectionnewspapers.com

SPORTS

RSTA Goes Hollywood

Reston Swim Team Association All-Stars Meet wrap-up.

With a theme of 'Hollywood Stars' as a backdrop, the Reston Swim Team Association (RSTA) put on a show to behold two weeks ago. In front of hundreds of spectators and other swimmers the 'Lights of Tinseltown' shined brightly on a number of swimmers — some making their final appearance for RSTA after 10 or more years of swimming.

And while there were tears for some at the Saturday season wrap-up, mostly there were tears of joy to celebrate the end of another successful season and their movement on to another phase of their lives.

"It was pretty amazing out there" said Dave Landeryou, father of two All Stars, Sophia and Emily Landeryou of Glade.

"Some of these kids have been here for over a decade," echoed Miles Flint, father of All Stars Nicole and Natalie Flint of North Hills and himself a member of RSTA back in 1973.

"And the theme and festivities that took place at the beginning of the event made it all the more fun," added Jamie Mazziotta, mother of All Star Christina Mazziotta of North Hills.

As has been the case for many years at RSTA, the top 12 swimmers in each stroke of their individual age groups are chosen as All Stars. There is a maximum of two individual races that a swimmer can participate in along with a maximum of two relay events. Thus, the best of the best swimmers are participating. And with that level of competition, there is the potential for records being broken. Indeed, that is what happened on Saturday with eight individual and four relay records being set.

For Lake Anne, Joanne Fu broke a record that stood for 13 years. Her time of 36.07 in the girls (11-12) 50-meter backstroke broke the mark that had been set in 1998 by Margit Severin (36.91).

For Autumnwood, Robin Brazier broke a record that stood since 1997. Her time of 31.73 in the girls (15-18) 50-butterfly broke Emily Trakas' mark of 32.12.

For Glade, Sophia Landeryou continued to raise the bar for swimmers who will follow. Her time in the girls (8-under) 25-breaststroke of 22.31 bested her old mark of 22.54 that she set back in June of this year.

For Hunters Woods, Eric Tang continued his assault on the record books. His time of 31.69 in the boys (13-14) 50-backstroke bested his old mark of 31.82 that he set a few weeks ago.

For Lake Audubon, two individual records were set. In the girls (13-14) 50-breaststroke, Sabrina Groves broke a record that stood for 23 years. Her time of 36.54 in the girls (13-14) 50-breaststroke bested the mark of 37.45 that had been set by Jessica Paul back in 1987. And Austin Chute broke



Friendly competitors! From left, Marlee Czarny of North Hills, Kathleen Boyce of Lake Newport, Anna Redican of Lake Newport, Sophia Landeryou of Glade, Emi Redican of Lake Newport, Emily Landeryou of Glade and Christina Mazziotta of North Hills get together one last time at the RSTA All Star meet.

PHOTOS/COURTESY OF RSTA



Lindsay Najjoom of North Hills gets ready to hit the water during her take off while competing in the girls 15-18, 50-meter freestyle event at All Stars.

the record for the boys (15-18) 50-breaststroke with a time of 32.61, eclipsing the old record of 33.54 that was set by Zachary Batts back in 2007.

Finally, Rachel Swarts continued to set the bar higher for girls at North Hills. Rachel set new marks in both backstroke and breaststroke. Her time of 32.64 in the girls (15-18) 50-backstroke lowered the mark that she had set at last year's All Stars meet, and her time of 38.00 in the girls (15-18) 50-breaststroke broke her old record that was also set at last year's all star meet.

In the relays, Rachel was also a key participant. The North Hills team of Rachel, Keara Jones, Kayla Kent and Lindsay Najjoom set a new North Hills record in the girls (15-18) 200-meter medley relay with a time of 2:17.56, easily besting the old

mark of 2:21.82 that was set last year.

For Lake Anne, the team of Greg Mayo, Jason Fu, Joseph Hosi and Dillon Jiang took over four seconds off their old record time. Their time of 2:12.43 in the boys (13-14) 200-medley relay easily bested their old mark of 2:16.88 that was set back on June 11.

For Hunters Woods, the team of Eric Tang, Connor Herron, Alex Li and Joseph Wang set a new mark of 2:14.94 in the boys (13-14) 200-medley relay.

And finally, in the girls (6-18) 200-freestyle relay the Lake Newport team of Isabelle Kahng, Anna Redican, Sienna Storch, Amy Edgmond and Katie Storch stormed into the record books with a time of 2:08.84, easily besting the old mark of 2:11.25 that was set last year.



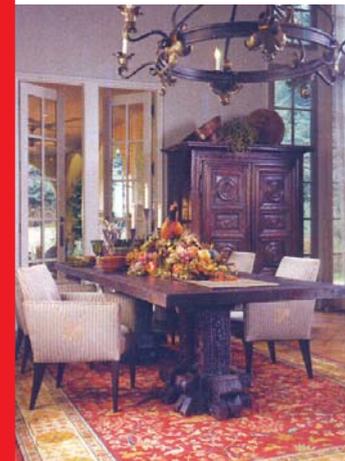
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Wednesday August 24, 2011 for Loudoun (at Leesburg) 3 pm - 6 pm
41 Lawson Rd., S.E. 20175

Monday September 12, 2011 for Fairfax (at Newington) 3 pm - 6 pm
8305 Cinderbed Rd. Lorton, VA 22079

Thursday September 29, 2011 at District 9 am - 4 pm

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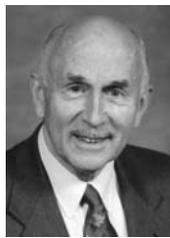
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21 Announcements



OBITUARY
Thomas (Tom) Patrick Hartnett
Reston Activist

Tom Hartnett, 83, died July 26, 2011, at Reston Hospital, of respiratory failure caused by Guillian-Barre Syndrome. Mr Hartnett was born in Seattle, Washington, in 1927, served in the US Navy after high school, and graduated from the University of Washington with a BA degree in English. From his youth, Mr. Hartnett was a community activist, having collected signatures as a teenager during WWII to protest the internment of Japanese-American citizens.

He served as the Chairman of the IRS Commissioner's Art Advisory Panel, from 1968 until his retirement in 1983. Previously, he had worked in Ohio as a real estate appraiser during the building of the Federal highway system. Mr. Hartnett served in many volunteer leadership roles, including Master Member and President of the American Society of Appraisers; in the Hemlock and Memorial Societies; and in Mensa. He moved to Reston, Virginia, in 1968 and his great appreciation of this planned community was his incentive to serve in numerous community organizations, including as Board Member of the Reston Community Center; as Director and then President of the Reston Association; and as active member of Useful Services Exchange. Tom Hartnett was cited for his "dedicated service to the people of Reston".

Mr. Hartnett's life-long love of learning and teaching fully flowered in his retirement. He enthusiastically pursued these avocations through his early support of and participation in its classes, Learning in Retirement and its successor institution, Osher Life-Long Learning Institute, for whom he founded the ever-popular Readers' Theater.

He was an early member of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston and later a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax.

Tom Hartnett is survived by two nephews in Seattle, Washington, Dr. Donald Thomas Stewart and Mr. Scott Halladay Stewart; two great nieces; and seven great, great nieces and nephews; long-time companion Ms. Barbara Leigh Denton Berlage of Reston and her sons, Bradley Page Berlage of Chicago, Illinois, and Bruce Ladd Berlage of Columbia, Maryland; and former wife Ms. Janet S. Hartnett of Washington, DC; and many devoted friends and colleagues.

A Memorial Service for Tom Hartnett will be held at 10:00AM on Saturday, August 20, 2011, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, Virginia (703-281-4230). In lieu of flowers, donations in Mr. Hartnett's memory may be sent to Osher Life-Long Learning Institute: Scholarship Fund for Reston Seniors; or WETA.

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32 Lost

LOST MALTESE - REWARD OFFERED

White 16-year old male Maltese, named Picabo, lost around 10 p.m. near Springvale and Route 7 on Saturday Aug 13. He's old and sick and needs his medication. Last seen at Meadows Farms Nursery at Springvale and Route 7. If you have any information, please contact us. LARGE REWARD offered, no questions asked. Call 571-238-3051 day or night.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.

-Werner Heisenberg

21 Announcements

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25 Sales & Auctions

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 28TH @ 12PM
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21 Announcements

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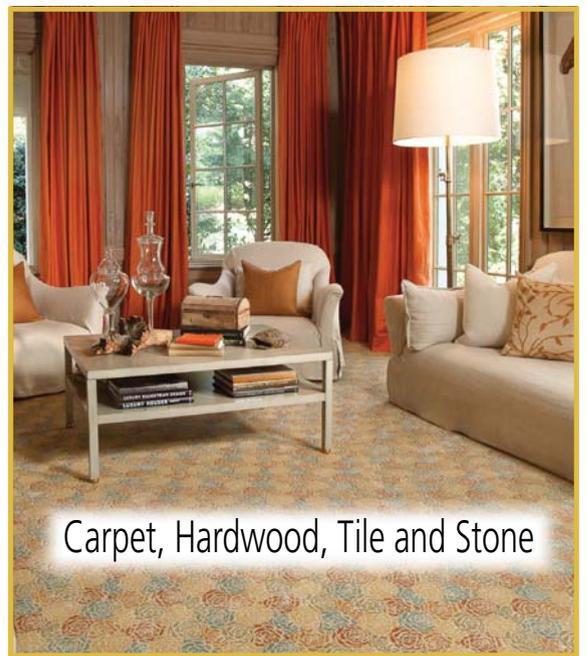
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