

OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 16 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 21 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 22

PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Visitors to Reston Oktoberfest sample a variety of beers at the beer garden. This year's event will take place Oct. 7 through 9 at Reston Town Center.

One New Smile at A Time

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FC PS FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
State of The Schools Report

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OBITUARY

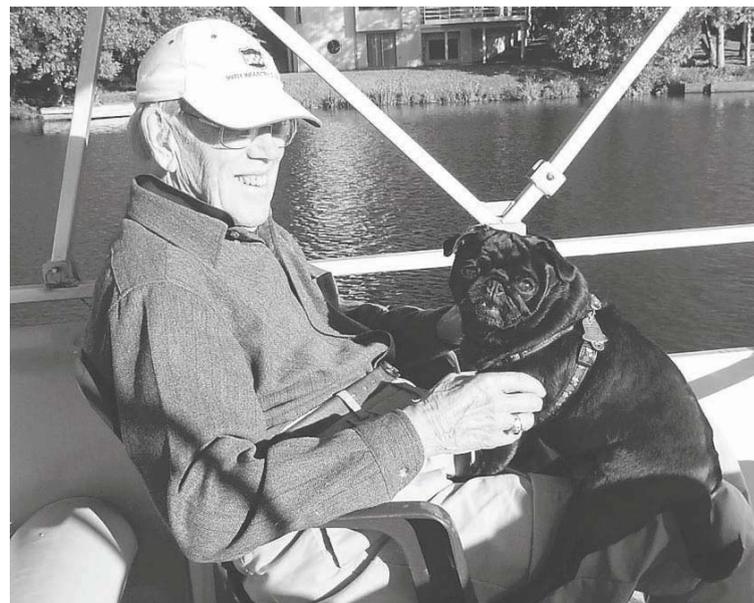
John Wesley Rue II Dies

John "Jack" Wesley Rue II, 91, of Reston died peacefully at home on Sept. 20, 2011. Born July 27, 1920, in Brooklyn, N.Y., he was the son of the late Gilbert and Dorothy Rue, formerly of Denton, Md. He was a graduate of Northfield Mount Hermon in Massachusetts and the Ottmar Mergenthaler School of Printing in Baltimore.

Rue joined the Maryland National Guard (29th Division) before Pearl Harbor and was commissioned at Officer Candidate School, Fort Benning, Ga. He became motor transportation officer of the 394th Regiment, 99th Infantry Division and was promoted to captain during the Battle of the Bulge. He crossed the Rhine on the Remagan Bridge the morning after it was captured, and then took part in the battle for the Ruhr Pocket.

He later crossed the Danube River on a pontoon bridge with Patton's 3rd Army just before the end of the war. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge and two Bronze Stars. His Unit received three Battle Stars, the Presidential Unit Citation and two Belgium Feurre au Guerres. Read the Star Democrat interview of his experiences at www.constancerue.com.

Rue was chief executive of the Mid-Atlantic Food Processors Association; director of the Plentiful Foods Program of the USDA; chief administrative assistant for the First Congressional District, Maryland; and



DONATED PHOTO

John 'Jack' Wesley Rue II with his pug Snuggles

field director of the Central Region of the Veterans Administration from which he retired in 1983 with its Distinguished Career Award.

He was a life member of four Veterans organizations; served on the governing bodies of the Talbot County Md. Historical Society and St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Trappe and was a member of the Tred Avon Yacht Club, Oxford, Md.

Predeceased by his wife of 61 years, Helen W. Rue,

SEE OBITUARY, PAGE 7



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FALL FUN

Reston To Host Annual Fall Events

Homes tour, Oktoberfest, Reston Community Center to host fall fun.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Reston is home to many fall events, as the Reston Community Center offers programs to enjoy indoors, while Reston Town Center hosts its share of annual events as well.

For the 10th year in a row, the Reston Historic Trust will give people from around the area a taste of what it's like to live in Reston. This year's Homes Tour will take people on a tour of six houses whose owners downsized from larger residences, and the benefits of such a change.

"So many people today are downsizing, whether because they're retiring, saving money or another reason. The houses on the tour this year all feature people who have downsized for one reason or another," said tour chair Bonnie Haukness. "We want to highlight the advantages of such a change, to show that these people are happy they did it."

The tour will feature two residences at Lake Anne, one at Reston Town Center, one in Hunters Woods and two in South Lakes. Haukness says the owners come from houses with huge yards, pools and other things that required constant maintenance.

"They said it was a relief to get rid of the clutter, rid of the baggage, the pool, the yards that need maintenance, and into more manageable spaces," she said. "One homeowner had a huge house with a big yard and pool, but now he lives in a townhouse on Lake Anne, and he says he paddles around the lake, walks to dinner at the plaza, and doesn't have the issues that came with his previous property."

This year's tour will also feature a bonus house, the DeLong Bowman House, which was built 1941, when the area produced Virginia Gentleman Bourbon. Now an office park, the property will be shown, along with pictures from its history, a BBQ sauce sampling and more.

The tour is the Reston Historic Trust's major fundraiser for the year, and will take place on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. Tickets are \$25 before Oct. 8 if purchased at the Reston Museum, and \$30 online and

after Oct. 8. More information can be found at www.restonmuseum.org.

The Reston Community Center has kicked off its Meet the Artists series, where local and national talents will take to the stage in this joint venture between the RCC and George Mason University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Reston resident and 2011 Best of Reston awardee Beverly Cosham will perform Oct. 6 as part of the series. An internationally known vocalist, she will perform her cabaret act "Love is a Timeless Thing." Cosham also serves as chair of the RCC board.

RCC Executive Director Leila Gordon called Cosham "vivacious, passionate and she never shies away from expressing her beliefs," when Cosham was named Best of Reston for her efforts in promoting the arts. Cosham is just one example of the local talent on display at the Meet the Artists series.

"My friend called me last minute last week and wanted to know if I wanted to see a show at CenterStage, and I went back and forth, but I'm really glad I went," said Emily O'Neill of Reston, who attended the series' inaugural performance, a horn and piano recital from Ted Thayer and Laurie Corkey. "It was such an intimate way to experience the performing arts, I think I'll find myself here for the next few Thursdays."

The events will take place every Thursday through Nov. 10 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at CenterStage. Tickets are free, but must be reserved by calling the CenterStage Box Office at 703-476-4500.

Reston Town Center will host its annual Oktoberfest Oct. 7 to 9 on Market Street in Reston Town Center. Live entertainment, German food prepared by local restaurants and wine and beer from around the world will be a part of this event.

"I'm a big fan of Reston Town Center in general, and if you're filling its streets with food vendors, a beer garden and live music? Try and keep me away," said Lewis Ellster, who lives nearby. "I went last year, and the only downside was deciding which hand to put a cold beer in, and which to eat with."

There will also be a carnival, located at the parking lot at Freedom Drive and Fountain Drive, as well as the largest pumpkin in Virginia on display throughout the weekend.

The festival will be open Friday, from 3-11 p.m.; Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Sunday, from 12-8 p.m. For more information, visit www.oktoberfestreston.com.

RESTON CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC
703-778-9414 OR MCLEAN@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Whetton-Hunter home at Lake Anne is one of the stops on the 10th annual Reston Homes Tour, which will take place Oct. 15.

Fall Fun in Reston

- ❖ **Oct. 1:** Lake Anne Jazz and Blues Festival, 4-9 p.m. an afternoon and evening of music outside at Lake Anne Plaza, this annual event is hosted by Friends of Lake Anne and the Lake Anne Merchants Association.
- ❖ **Oct. 8:** Anthem Great Pumpkin 5K, Reston Town Center, 8:30 a.m. The annual event, which will take place during Reston Oktoberfest, will allow runners and walkers to view the largest pumpkin in the state of Virginia, as well as a Kids Pumpkin Dash where children can run in costume. More information can be found at www.thegreatpumpkin5k.com.
- ❖ **Oct. 16:** Festival on the Square, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, noon to 5 p.m. The festival will feature roving children's entertainment, a Help the Homeless walk, live entertainment, a hay maze, petting zoo and more.
- ❖ **Oct. 22:** Nature Walk, Reston Museum, 1:30 p.m. Join Joe Stowers for a walk from the museum to Reston Town Center along Reston's trails and an update on trail signage. For more information, visit www.restonmuseum.org.
- ❖ **Oct. 22:** Sustainable Reston presentation, Reston Community Center, 3 p.m. Reston civic organizations and members of the Hunter Mill district office on ways to keep Reston sustainable through the future.
- ❖ **Oct. 29:** Halloween Family Fun Day, Reston Community Center, noon. Children can attend in costume and hear stories, watch a puppet show and participate in carnival games for a chance to win prizes. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- ❖ **Nov. 20:** Reston Community Orchestra Performs "Mood Music," Reston Community Center, 4 p.m. Underwritten by a partnership with the Holy Cross Lutheran Church, the orchestra will perform works from Sibelius, Bruch, Faure and Dvorak. More information can be found at www.restoncommunityorchestra.org.
- ❖ **Nov. 25:** Reston Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting, Reston Town Center, 11 a.m. Community groups and organizations will enter in the display showing off a balloon or other demonstrations. The tree lighting and arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus will take place at 6 p.m.

Labovitz Sentenced on Misdemeanors

Peter Labovitz, President and CEO of Connection Newspapers, has been sentenced to six months in prison for two misdemeanor counts of failing to fully pay the company's payroll taxes for two quarters in 2007.

Magistrate Judge John F. Anderson acknowledged Labovitz's long record of leadership in civic and business affairs at a hearing in U.S. District Court in Alexandria on Sept. 27. He cited scores of letters to the court praising Labovitz's commitment to community journalism as head of Connection Newspapers and his years of community service.

Anderson said Labovitz's history of service "weighed heavily" in his decision not to impose a longer sentence, citing "your service to the community, the newspapers and other organizations" and "your support for your family, not just your wife and daughters, but also to your grandchildren." But Anderson said some incarceration was necessary "to give credence to adequate deterrence."

Labovitz will pay more than \$645,000 in restitution.

In a statement in July, when he pled guilty to the misdemeanors, Labovitz took full responsibility and cited economic challenges: "Like all American newspapers, in recent years the Connection Newspapers have faced daunting technological and economic challenges. We have weathered repeated crises that killed or crippled many others in the news media. I am proud that we have kept these vital community voices alive."

Fairfax County Volunteer Needs

Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions needs volunteers to help older adults and adults with disabilities. Urgent needs include a Korean-speaker to help a Reston resident with grocery shopping. Call 703-324-5406; TTY 711 or e-mail DFSAAAvolunteer@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices and click on volunteers.

HEALTH NOTES

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

WEDNESDAY/JULY 6

Lupus Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. A free support group for lupus patients and their families, with education, medical information and emotional support. <http://tinyurl.com/lupusgrps>.

THURSDAY/JULY 7

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.

MONDAY/JULY 18

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

Motherhood Without Stress and Guilt. 12 p.m. Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan

Road, Herndon. Learn how to keep a balanced perspective, how to filter outside pressure, how to reduce negative messages to yourself, and how to increase motherhood enjoyment. \$35 non-members, \$25 members. Register at www.thewomenscenter.org.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 20

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Reston Police Station, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-204-4664 or 703-723-4657.

MONDAY/JULY 25

Be Prepared for Your Children: Learn Legal Aspects of Child Support, Custody & Visitation. 7 p.m. Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road, Herndon. Discuss how courts determine what financial support is required based on spousal income(s), what is deemed to be in the "best interests" of the child and what to expect during the custody proceedings. A support group will be available. \$55 non-members, \$45 members. Register at www.thewomenscenter.org

THURSDAY/JULY 28

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.

SEE HEALTH NOTES, PAGE 20

FALL FUN



DeLong Bowman house parlor.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Reston Homes On Display

Reston Historic Trust presents the 10th annual Reston Home Tour on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The self-conducted tour offers exclusive viewing of six private homes located in Reston's renowned neighborhoods and clusters. Each destination features inspiring interior design and architecture. A seventh stop on this year's tour is the historic DeLong Bowman house, a pre-Reston, "antebellum-style" home that was a residence for the family of Virginia Gentleman Bourbon fame, and later, for Reston founder Robert E. Simon Jr. This year's tour theme, "Finding the Upside of Down," summarizes how various changes have brought positive results to each home and the owners' lifestyles — downsizing, downturns, downstairs, and more.

Advice for Reston Home Tour attendees:

- ❖ Start the tour at any location of your choice using the map that is provided on the ticket and inside the tour program that you'll receive at your first stop. The program also contains exclusive offers for tour-goers.

- ❖ Wear comfortable shoes. You may be asked to remove your shoes at some of the homes, especially if weather is wet. Bags will be provided for shoes to be carried until exiting the home.

- ❖ Reston Home Tour is not recommended for children, and those under the age of 10 cannot be admitted into the tour homes.

Reston Home Tour 2011 features six private homes:

LAKE ANNE — THE WHETTON-HUNTER HOME

The wish to downsize, coupled with a market downturn, allowed David and Nancy to fully renovate their "new" townhouse on Lake Anne. Today it reflects their modern design sensibilities, incorporating glass block and tiles, stacked stone and textured walls, extensive ceramics and intriguing lighting, all overlooking Lake Anne.

LAKE ANNE — THE MILLER-HANNA HOME

Dan and Leslie's desire to return to Reston and the Lake Anne neighborhood coincided with a slow time in real estate, immediately following events of 9/11. Not only did this property offer fabulous views of Hidden Creek golf course, it also was an opportunity for one-level living. In early 2006 they presented remodel ideas to their local architect, Mike Miller, who met the challenges of the plans, including Leslie's "must have" curved glass block foyer wall, and a main-level laundry and powder room.

RESTON TOWN CENTER — THE BREHONY HOME

JP Brehony is a custom homebuilder, and when he and his

Ticket Sales

All proceeds from Reston Home Tour ticket sales benefit Reston Museum, www.restonmuseum.org. Reston Home Tour tickets include the tour map and are available for purchase:

Online: \$30 at www.restonmuseum.org

In Person: \$25 until Oct. 7; \$30 Oct. 8-15 at Reston Museum, Lake Anne Florist, Appalachian Spring, GRACE, The Wine Cabinet at North Point.

Group discounts available.

wife Deborah decided to downsize, they envisioned a compact, eco-friendly custom construction in their town of Vienna. When their home sold quickly, and the lot they were purchasing went into short sale, they came to Midtown with the thought of renting short-term. Mesmerized with a condo that was morphed out of a concrete corner of the parking garage, they were hooked. Now, with their bronze lawn deer grazing in an 18-foot window, they are in love with their new space and lifestyle change.

HUNTERS WOODS — THE POULOS HOME

"Renovating Reston one home at a time" has been Peter and Lisbeth's mantra. This time, though, they think they'll stay, and their main-level master bedroom will allow them to stay for a long time. What began life as a Beckanstin rambler was "popped" into a traditional with Cape Cod overtones by the previous owner, and now holds the Poulos' mid-century modern furniture collection, amazing artwork from family and ceramics from time spent in the Middle East. Before and after pictures tell the story best and offer inspiration for possibilities.

SOUTH LAKES — THE BONNES HOME

Entering this CP1 contemporary, with its angled walls, is like walking into an art gallery, one filled with colorful work by local artists, as well as art glass from all over the world. The owners themselves are inspiring — they are avid cyclists who have traveled the world, acted in and produced theatre in Northern Virginia, active in the Reston Triathlon and, though they sold their Reston business, both are still "working" part-time.

SOUTH LAKES — THE KING HOME

Having grown up spending summers at the family-owned lake resort in Wyoming, Kim decided to tackle the major renovation of this lakeside condo when the opportunity arose. Acting as her own general contractor, she was able to alter the space and make it her own with the use of color, lighting and mirrors — and all within five weeks. There is also going to be a special visit: The historic DeLong Bowman House, a Virginia colonial-style home built in 1941, was a family home during the early days of Virginia Gentleman bourbon production. From 1961 until 1967, it was Robert E. Simon Jr.'s part-time home and headquarters from which to launch his New Town of Reston.

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PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale announced that he would retire in June 2013, at the end of his current contract.

Dale To Retire in 2013

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale announced Thursday, Sept. 22 that he would retire in June 2013, at the end of his current contract. Dale, who has been in education for more than 40 years, has been superintendent since July 2004.

As Fairfax County has developed, Dale said he believes Fairfax County Public Schools have become a “destination district,” and “there are pressures that come with that.”

“People and businesses move here to have access to Fairfax County Public Schools, which brings pressure,” he said. “But pressure is what we need to maintain the excellence that has become one of our hallmarks.”

Dale served at a time when budgets went down as school enrollment went up. He said while making cuts were tough, it was important for the school system to know its values.

“When it came to making cuts, I asked the board to prioritize their core values,” he said. “And what was near and dear to their heart was their quest to serve needy children, knowing that if they’re successful, Fairfax County Public Schools will be successful.”

He also said the cuts made in the school’s central office could have long-term affects.

“By diminishing our central office, we’re eliminating opportunities for research and development, and we’ve always been proud of our research and development,” he said. “When you eliminate the ability for R and D, that’s going to create a long term challenge for future school boards and superintendents.”

In the seven years since Dale took office, technology has been a driving force in education, often requiring rapid changes to curricula. New tools such as Smartboards require teachers that are trained to use them most effectively, he said.

“Also, technology gives kids access to so much information, it falls to us to show them how to sift through and find the right information,” he said. “We

used to have encyclopedias, now we have Wikipedia, and there’s a huge difference in the accuracy of each.”

Dale also said that he considers Fairfax County’s growing diversity is an asset.

“I’ve spoken to high schoolers who come back and say ‘college wasn’t as diverse as high school,’” Dale said. “I think it allows students to learn so much about the world just from their classmates.”

Dale’s tenure was not without controversy, as issues such as changing grading scales drew much discussion within the community.

“From my view, changing the grading scale to change the weights of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes helped kids get more merit scholarships,” he said.

On Friday morning, Sept. 23, Dale attended the White House when President Barack Obama and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced that states could seek waivers from the No Child Left Behind Act. Dale said he would give the act an A- or B+ in intent, but a D or F because of components that he believed would fail over time.

“You have that expectation that 100 percent of students on any given day will pass a test, and if they don’t, your school is deemed to be failure,” he said. “I think Virginia will probably apply for a waiver and create its own accountability.”

Dale says future county staff must figure out a way to deal with the expected growth of the county.

“Birth rates are increasing, and we currently have more kids in kindergarten classes than are seniors,” he said. “As we go through our plans for future renovations, we’ll need to add more space, but not even that might satisfy the need. We could look at building new schools, but we don’t have the land.”

Dale said he plans to spend his retirement visiting family around the country, golfing and flying a plane he co-owns with several other pilots. While he said he would enjoy his retirement, the four plus decades spent in education were well worth it.

“I thought about going into education when I was in college, and since then, I rarely thought about it as going to work, more like going to school,” Dale said. “I never looked at it as a job, but as a passion.”

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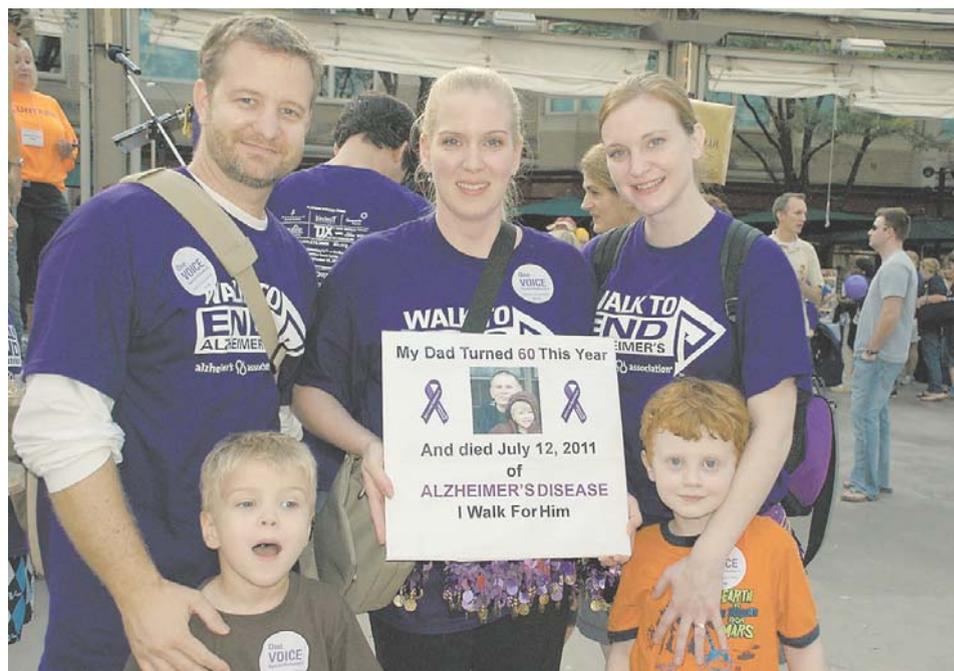
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Reston residents Debra and David Penn with daughters Peyton, right, 5, and Sydney, 2. Debra was walking in memory of her mother and grandmother who both had Alzheimer's Disease. Debra was a top fund raiser in Sunday's event. At the time of the walk she had raised more than \$4,000.



Sterling resident Heidi Matchett, center, with her husband, Jason; son, Aaron, and friend, Laura Walz and her son, Jacob, participated in Sunday's Alzheimer's walk in memory of Matchett's father who passed away this summer at the age of 60.

Area Residents Walk To Fight Alzheimer's

Walk at Reston Town Center raises money to support Alzheimer's Association.

BY AMIEE FREEMAN
THE CONNECTION

The pavilion at Reston Town Center was a sea of purple Sunday night, Sept. 26, as more than 650 walkers participated in the Alzheimer's Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's. The goal of the 1-mile walk and candlelight vigil was "to provide hope and help and to raise money and awareness for programs," said Susan Kudla Finn, president and CEO of Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter. This walk was the third annual walk in Reston and one of 600 events that took place nationwide this year.

According to Finn, Alzheimer's is in the "top 10 of disease killers." The disease affects more than 5.4 million people nationwide, with an estimated 80,000 affected in the Washington, D.C., area.

Walk to End Alzheimer's co-chair Linda Bucelli, a Vienna native and current resident of Oak Hill, became involved with Alzheimer's Association because of her mother. She saw how Alzheimer's devastated a family, so she volunteered with Alzheimer's Association.

"I made it my personal goal to fight this disease," Bucelli said. She calls Alzheimer's a two for one disease, affecting the person diagnosed and the caregiver.

Margie and John Gold of Vienna recruited family and friends to form the Gold Team. Together they raised more than \$4,500 and

were one of the top fund-raising teams.

John Gold said that he and his team were participating in the Walk to "make Alzheimer's just a memory." Both Margie and John Gold's fathers were victims of Alzheimer's, and they do not want their children to have to "deal with this disease, to deal with us," said Margie Gold.

Reston resident Debra Penn, walking with her husband David, and daughters Peyton, 5, and Sydney, 2, was among the top individual fund raisers, raising more than \$4,000. She lost her mother and her grandmother to the disease.

"Alzheimer's Association has so many great services to help caregivers. I wanted to help get the word out about this organization," said Debra Penn.

Heidi Matchett of Sterling participated in the walk with her husband, Jason; son, Aaron, 4; her friend, Laura Walz and her son, Jacob, also 4. Matchett lost her father this summer, at age 60, to Alzheimer's. After having been diagnosed five years earlier with the disease, Matchett said Alzheimer's "crippled" her family.

"When people hear Alzheimer's, they think he must have been in his 80s, but he was still young," Matchett said. Her mother had use of her savings to take care of her father. Matchett hopes Alzheimer's Association works to create legislation to help caregivers take care of loved ones.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) was the Walk's honorary chair. She

"When people hear Alzheimer's, they think he must have been in his 80s, but he was still young."

— Heidi Matchett



The Gold family team were top fundraisers in Sunday's Alzheimer's walk. At the time of the walk they had raised \$4,500 to support Alzheimer's Association. From left are John Gold, Colleen Sheppard, Scott Gold and Margie Gold. John and Margie live in Vienna. They participated in the walk in memory of their fathers.

said that the disease "affects us all some way or another." She wants to ensure that county employers are aware of and "look out for signs of Alzheimer's." She hopes to work to "promote awareness through the county of the disease."

In her opening remarks to start the Walk, Hudgins related how the disease effected her. She said she lost her father to Alzheimer's and a very close friend was diagnosed with the disease at 40.

"We are working to stop this disease from robbing families of parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles," she said. "One day, we want to say that we cured this disease. Fairfax County is committed to being a partner in fighting this disease."

ABC7/WJLA reporter and Maryland Bu-

reau Chief Greta Kreuz was the Walk's emcee. In her opening words to the walkers, Kreuz called the disease "very insidious" and recounted the story of her mother who just passed away from the disease. Kreuz also read a letter of support from Gov. Bob McDonnell (R). According to Kreuz, Alzheimer's has also affected the governor's family, with the governor's father being diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

At the conclusion of the Walk, participants gathered again in the pavilion at Reston Town Center to take part in a candlelight vigil.

Light from the glowing candles was reflected overhead in the pavilion's glass covering, calling to mind those who had been lost to the disease, said Kreuz.

PHOTOS BY AMIEE FREEMAN/THE CONNECTION

OBITUARY

John Wesley Rue II Dies

FROM PAGE 2

he is survived by his three children, John W. Rue III (Wendy) of Frostburg, Md.; Gerald G. Rue of Easton, Md.; and Constance R. Hartke (Paul) of Reston. He is also survived by two granddaughters, Lisa M. Rue of Oxford, Md. and Margaret Perry Dover of Reston, and three great-grandchildren — Kahlil, Devonne and Kaiya Dover; two nieces, one nephew, and many friends. His beloved pug dog, Snuggles, will continue to take boat rides on Lake Audubon with Connie and Paul.

Rue requested donations be made to the Alzheimer's Family Day Center, 2812 Old Lee Highway, Suite 210, Fairfax, VA 22031. A memorial service will take place on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 1 p.m., at Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Rd, Herndon, VA 20171.

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Overabundance

Adapting suburban, urban sensibilities to controlling deer; adapting deer control to suburban, urban sensibilities.

If you've lived almost anywhere in Northern Virginia for 10 years or longer, you probably remember when it was a bit of a thrill to catch sight of a deer.

Now in some neighborhoods, it can be a bit surprising if you don't see half a dozen deer in a mile at dusk. With the automobile the only active predator, and a remarkable 24-hour buffet set on nearly every block, the deer population is growing. Along with the growing deer population come serious impacts on people, as well as the deer and other plants and creatures.

If you drive in suburban Washington, chances are you know someone who has hit a deer, or had a deer hit them while driving. This has proved to be fatal for the driver in a small number of cases, but nearly always results in death or serious injury for the deer, plus often thousands of dollars in damage to the vehicle.

Lyme disease is an increasing problem, which can have serious health consequences if untreated. Lyme disease is often overlooked as a diagnosis.

The large deer population is hard on other flora and fauna. Not only do the deer consume vegetable gardens and landscaping, they damage habitat needed by other wildlife and impact native plants and young trees.

But even as we admit that something needs to be done about the deer population, it's difficult for many to embrace hunting in urban/

suburban areas. Some residents have safety concerns, some are concerned about the suffering of the deer.

Last year, Fairfax County's archery program killed 452 deer in 11 county parks, more than half the 815 deer killed through the county's deer management program on parkland. Last year marked the most deer killed since the deer management program began in 1998. Sharpshooting operations, conducted at 15 parks by Fairfax County police, killed another 226 deer.

EDITORIAL

Managed hunts killed 137 deer at four parks. Bow hunting allowed on private property is also part of county efforts to keep the deer population in check.

With the deer population likely more than 25,000, it's not clear that such numbers will make enough of an impact.

Fairfax County will again use bow hunting, sharp shooting and managed hunts from now through March 2012 in efforts to control the population of deer. The sharpshooting and managed hunts will be conducted at selected park sites throughout the county.

Bow hunting began last weekend and will run until February in parks in every part of Fairfax County: Lake Accotink and Accotink Stream Valley park in Springfield; Wakefield Park in Annandale, Eakin Park in Fairfax, Laurel Hill Park and golf course in Lorton, Pohick Stream Valley, South Run Stream Valley and Lake Mercer in Springfield; Burke Lake Park in Fairfax Station, Confederate Fortifications

Historic Site and Johnny Moore Stream Valley Park near Clifton; Eleanor C. Lawrence Park and Cub Run Stream Valley Park in Chantilly; Sully Woodlands Park and Sully Historic Site; Colvin Run Stream Valley and Difficult Run Stream Valley parks, along with Riverbend Park in Great Falls; Difficult Run Stream Valley and Clark's Crossing parks in Vienna; Sugarland Run Stream Valley park in Herndon, and Huntley Meadows in Mount Vernon. Bow hunting is also used at Fort Belvoir, Mason Neck, and on private property. It is a continuous program with bow hunting allowed six days a week from just before dawn until sunset.

Managed hunts will go forward in two county park authority parks, Sully Woodlands on Nov. 17 and Jan. 12, and Scotts Run Dec. 14-16.

More research is needed. U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R) sponsored legislation that would direct more funding to develop a better test for Lyme disease. There are methods under study to apply some insecticide to deer to kill the ticks that spread Lyme disease. Some breakthrough method of curbing reproduction would be a welcome addition to deer management.

What are your thoughts? Have you seen bow hunters in the parks you frequent? Do you have an anecdote to relate about deer? We also welcome your photos.

MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Different Priorities

To the Editor:

The debate sponsored by the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce at the Capital One building recently between the principals in the county Board of Supervisors election raised decorum to a new level, but did point up essential differences between the candidates.

Chairman Sharon Bulova's (D-At-large) stated priorities are the white elephant of Rail to Dulles, which no one appears to either want or to pay for, and "afford-

able" housing, with which the old Soviet Union was glutted. Michael "Spike" Williams (R) believes that in terms of county government, less would be more.

The county ran a 2011 budget surplus of \$100 million, which means that taxpayers were overtaxed by exactly \$100 million. So some of this is being returned to the taxpayer, surely? It is not, unless he is a government employee, that is.

"People come to Fairfax County

because of what I like to describe as the 'mood,'" Bulova solemnly intoned.

Well, maybe, but the "mood" that I most discern is one of discontent at traffic problems, luxury "affordable" housing, sanctuary mentality and ever-rising real estate taxes.

There was more in the same vein: "People love to come together," Bulova hilariously informed us.

Businessman Spike Williams

appears to live more in the real world. "Government needs to cost less," he said.

Take a look at the county government phone-book listings and tell me you disagree.

Williams understands that in a recession "you have to tighten up your belt in order to fight another day."

Spike Williams has my vote.

Harry Locock
Reston

Vote for Cannon Too Many Signs

To the Editor:

I am voting for Mac Cannon for Delegate of the 36th District Nov. 8. It's time to retire Del. Ken Plum (D-36) who would not help the nearly 5,000 Reston citizens who wanted the opportunity to vote on Reston becoming a Virginia town.

Rod Koozmin
Candidate
Reston Community
Center Board

The following is an open letter to Sen. Janet Howell (D-32).

Dear Sen. Howell:

I am writing to you as a resident of the South Lakes area of the Virginia 32nd State Senate District. I have lived in this community for over 10 years and this is the first time I have been compelled to write you directly. I am not affiliated with any political party or

candidate.

As a resident of Reston, I am sure you cherish and enjoy all of the lovely green space our community has to offer. Our parks, walking paths, pools and tennis courts are the envy of many of our neighboring communities. Personally, one of my favorite parts of Reston is our wide boulevard like streets. This has until recently included Reston Avenue and South

Lakes Drive. So what happened you ask? Well political campaign signs have been carpeted along South Lakes Drive. Just today, in the 1-mile stretch of South Lakes Drive between Sunrise Valley Drive and South Lakes High School I counted over 125 political campaign signs. No less than 105 of these signs are in support of your campaign. See attached

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15

RCC Hosts Preference Poll

Six candidates vie for three full-term, one one-year positions on Board of Governors.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Six candidates are currently vying for three full-term positions and one one-year position on the Reston Community Center Board of Governors. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will make appointments to the board after seeing the result of the preference poll of residents and business of small tax district 5, which will end Oct. 15.

N. Barry Carver, John Gasson, Rod Koozmin, Bill Penniman, Cathy Vivona and Vicky Wingert are seeking the positions. Gasson, Penniman and Vivona are incumbents.

The six candidates participated in a forum discussion Wednesday, Sept. 21, at the community center.

Carver is an Army veteran with a decade of experience in newspapers and radio, as well as an actor, writer, painter and filmmaker. A native of Michigan, he has lived around the country as well as a few years in Europe. He said his main goal was to extend RCC resources to everyone possible.

"I don't believe we have taken full advantage of what we might do, both on the Internet and with people with physical or financial challenges," he said. "Let's say a child has to sign up for a class and gets a waiver for his tuition... and he turns up in class without the proper uniform. Because the person teaching the class is also trying to drum up business, they ask the child to buy the uniform or stop pretending. That's something that shouldn't be addressed to anyone's child, yet it's happened more than once, right here, this year. That's something that shouldn't happen"

Carver also said his goal for the RCC would be to increase its presence online, and also to provide more access for people to get online.

"I'd like to take a look at our digital divide, which I believe this community center could do a to develop," he said. "Kids who have access to computers at school sometimes get no access at home. And if they're shut out, they're shut out altogether. We have to find a way to deliver our message through computers and get those kids online and knitted together as a community. Since the social community is mostly online, we have to tie that to what we do here at the center every day."

Gasson has been a board member since 2009, and is currently a member of the board of directors for the Friends of Reston. A former vice president with Sprint Nextel, Gasson also serves as the fundraising committee chairman for the Initiative for Public Art- Reston.

"The big [challenge] in front of us is the economy. Our revenue here at the RCC is based upon the tax revenues we get from the folks in the community. And if you look

at 2009 to 2011, we had close to a 20 percent reduction in tax revenue," he said. "If our mission is to create a positive leisure culture and enhance the quality of all people living and working in Reston, it means we have to be real smart with how we spend our money."

He also said he wanted to get the center more involved with local schools.

"If we get more schools involved with the RCC and bring the kids here and run additional programs to further their cultural experiences, we can have partnerships with schools coming together here at the same time," he said. "As a board, we work very well, and need to continue to work very well

How To Vote

Voting in the preference poll for the Reston Community Center Board of Governors can be done at the center, online or by mail. Ballots should be arriving in the mail of Reston residences and businesses this week.

Walk-in and online ballots must be cast by 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15. Mail-in ballots must be cast by 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14.

For more information on the poll or the RCC Board of Governors, visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com, or call 703-476-4500.

to reach out to the community. They're our customer. They pay the tax revenue, and we need to work to give them what they want."

As the only candidate from North Reston, Gasson emphasized his ability to connect the area with the community center, as well as tailor the community center to its needs.

"I understand what my neighbors needs up there, and more importantly, I understand what they do not want," he said.

Koozmin, a 20-year Reston resident, has served on the Reston Association Neighborhood Committee, as well as with the Reston Citizens Association. He said a lack of transparency is a current challenge facing the RCC.

"You can go to Best Buy and buy a toaster, and if it's a crummy toaster and the knob falls off, you can go to their website and say whatever you want to about it, and that helps Best Buy be a better retailer," he said. "We don't have anything like that at RCC."

He also said a top priority was to make the center's woodshop more accessible to patrons.

"I want to emphasize opening the woodshop, so Reston citizens can use the woodshop, rather than not use the woodshop," he said. "I'm often visiting the center, and I'll go over to the door, and it's most often just closed. Currently, the woodshop is closed to citizens six days out of the week."

Koozmin said he would like to establish a support system for woodshop users, where



From left, N. Barry Carver, Cathy Vivona, Vicky Wingert, John Gasson, William Penniman and Rod Koozmin discuss their views on the Reston Community Center at the candidates forum for the RCC Board of Governors Sept. 21.

PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

people could take advantage of others skills and knowledge. He said he would like to have time at the woodshop dedicated to students who want to learn boat building and other skills.

Penniman has been a member of the board of governors for the past five years, and has served as secretary, treasurer and chair of the finance committee. He is also a member of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force, where he co-chaired the Wiehle Avenue station committee, and serves on the steering committee.

"With tens of thousands of new people and employees, the RCC is critical to making the community continue to work as a community, and I'd like to be part of expanding the programs to meet the growing demand, anticipating the needs and keeping this the unique Reston community we have," he said. "We're going to need to engage the new people as they come in, to join them to our new community, and if we don't, then we'll go the way of another suburb, and we don't want that."

Penniman said that as Reston grows, the need for recreational opportunities will be higher than ever.

"We've got several constituencies that have a graying population, which will have more leisure time that we'll need to address. We do a good job of it now, but that's going to grow," he said. "We're going to have a lot of people who are in there late 20's, 30s, people who want to live in an apartment near a place where they can be active. We need to find ways to give them recreational opportunities that will draw them into the community."

Vivona has served two separate times on the board, from 1997 to 2001, and since 2005. She has served as the board's treasurer and chair, and is a board member on the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia. She is currently an English as a Second Language Teacher at Northern Virginia Community College.

"I see community dialogue and partnerships being a key part of what we're doing.

Public-private partnerships, public-public partnerships are really how we're going to get stuff done," she said.

She said the coming of the Metro to Reston will bring with it both challenges and opportunities.

"We need to respond and anticipate, and we have a couple of years window to anticipate, and I think that's the biggest challenge," she said. "We need to take care of our current base, but also understand that there are more people with more needs out there, and start planning for that growth."

She also said that with an increased population, access to the center and its resources will be more important than ever.

"I think the challenge, as we get bigger and bigger and traffic gets worse and worse, is transportation to the center," she said. "I think we can get creative in the communication between schools and RCC, so that the kids can take advantage of it, either here or at their school."

Wingert is a former Reston Association CEO, as well as former president of the Reston Historic Trust. A Restonian since 1973, Wingert has also served on the RA Board, and the board of the Friends of Reston.

"I'd like to see an effort put toward having an annual planning session with various stakeholders in terms of recreational services, including Reston Association, the Park Authority and RCC, to look at what each organization is addressing and see what collective needs need to be addressed," she said. "Creative partnerships is a key to addressing ongoing needs. ... The community center itself is an example of people coming together and deciding to do something and collectively getting it done."

Wingert also said she would like to see the RCC increase its avenues of communication with the community at large.

"Communication with a much broader community is a big issue ... We need to find ways to reach this broader community," she said.

FALL FESTIVAL



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Nazifa Amin, originally from Afghanistan, and Maryna Po, originally from Cambodia, were just two of the almost 20 immigrants that officially became American citizens on Saturday morning during the Reston Multicultural Festival.

All Together Now

Reston shows off its diversity at Multicultural Festival.

Several area residents officially became American citizens as they took their Oath of Allegiance during a naturalization ceremony during the Reston Multicultural Festival at Lake Anne on Saturday morning, Sept. 24.



Alma Boliviano officially opens the annual Reston Multicultural Festival with a traditional Bolivian dance on Saturday morning at the Lake Anne Village Center.



Friends and family members watch as their loved ones officially become American citizens during a naturalization ceremony held on Saturday morning as part of the annual Reston Multicultural Festival at Lake Anne.



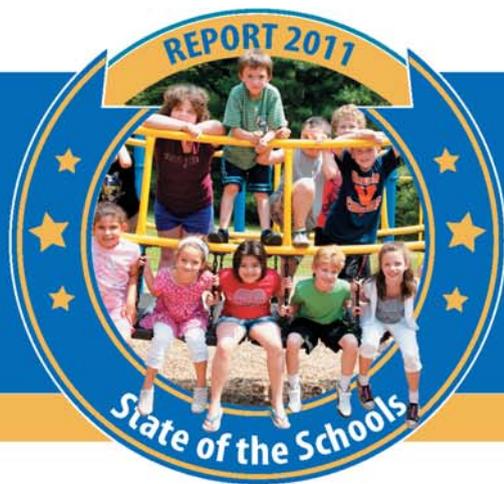
Ajaya Upadhyay first came to the United States 11 years ago to study, and on Saturday he officially became an American citizen. Upadhyay walked across the stage to be congratulated with his 6-year-old daughter, Srija.



Following the naturalization ceremony at the beginning of the Reston Multicultural Festival, several doves were released to celebrate the event.



Gable Powell, 3, of Reston, helps to create a Chinese Dragon while attending the Reston Multicultural Festival with his mother.



There's Never Been a Better Time to Be a Student in Fairfax County Public Schools!

The Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) bus comes to a stop at the curb in front of the school. The engine continues to hum as the brakes let out a hiss. Standing eagerly at the curb are three smiling staff members waiting to greet the students. Students gather their backpacks and line up in the aisle. The students wait patiently as each child before them carefully navigates the steps off the bus. Their orderly line soon turns into a happy-go-lucky stride as they swing open the door to school, looking forward to seeing their classmates and teachers.



In every classroom, teachers are channeling the enthusiasm of their students and taking them on a journey that will inspire, motivate, and prepare them with knowledge and skills they will need for the future. Everyday, FCPS teachers help their students learn skills that will allow them to succeed in personal, community, and workplace environments and to understand and

participate in the global economy. Teachers adjust their methods and techniques to meet the unique needs of individual students and challenge all students.

Look inside a classroom. An elementary school teacher leads a language arts class discussion on synonyms and antonyms. The teacher is using an interactive white board to demonstrate how the words are similar or opposite. Observe other classrooms where students work quietly in centers, or designated areas of a classroom, allowing for small group instruction and learning.

Visit a middle school and observe 8th grade students in the science lab using computers and probeware to study temperature change during chemical reactions. The geometry class down the hall is hard at work using theorems to determine if lines are parallel.

Take a seat in a high school auditorium where students are participating in a seminar about the Cold War, listening to speakers who share their stories as influential players during the war. In another classroom, students log onto their computers and access their online social studies textbooks that offer extra learning resources and interactive maps to enrich their learning.

Hear a tune coming from the band room down the hall? Open the door and your ears fill with the music of Frank Ticheli's *Vesuvius* played by the high school concert band. Beginning in grade 4, FCPS students can play an instrument and be part of the band



or orchestra, or even choose to sing in their school's chorus.

For many students, their day does not end with the learning in the classroom. Thousands of FCPS students participate in extracurricular activities which can enhance what they learn in the classroom and also provide important lessons in teamwork, cooperation, and problem solving.

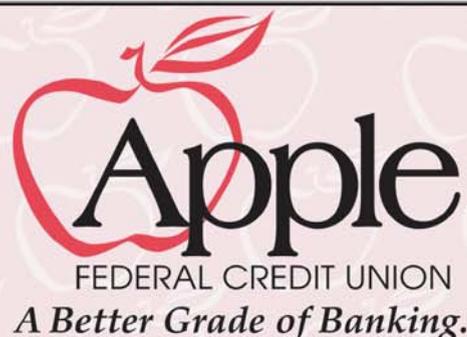
The clapping in the auditorium is coming from yet another sold-out performance of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Secondary and high schools throughout Fairfax County have established well-known theater programs that produce popular plays and shows.

The athletic fields and gymnasiums at FCPS schools are buzzing with activity most of days of the week as soccer, lacrosse, football, basketball, volleyball, and many more sports teams are

meeting to prepare for their next match.

Students can participate in a wide variety of activities as early as elementary school as members of the safety patrol, student government and school publications. At the middle and high school level, students can choose to get involved with the student newspaper or yearbook, join clubs, run for student government, try out for performance groups and athletics, and become a member of an honor society.

There's never been a better time to be a student in Fairfax County Public Schools!



This year's *State of Schools Report* courtesy of
Apple FCU - 2011 FCPS Business Partner of the Year

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Greetings from Superintendent Jack Dale



Fairfax County Public Schools is fortunate to have the support of an engaged community, involved parents, talented principals and teachers, and motivated students. Our school system ranks among the best in the nation and throughout this State of the Schools Report, you will see why. We are very proud of the hard work and focus of our staff and students, which have resulted in our extraordinary student achievement gains. But there's always more to do to make sure every one of our students is reaching his or her highest potential—academically and personally.

In moving FCPS forward, we have to help each student find his or her element—the meeting point between natural aptitude and personal passion. Our commitment here in FCPS is to provide as many opportunities as possible for students to achieve at the highest levels and help our students discover what possibilities for passion lie within them.

However, the reality is that while the way we educate students remains somewhat static, our world is changing exponentially. Through lots of great interventions and technology, we educate more students to higher levels of success and often at younger ages, but all within the current model of education. I believe it's time to change the paradigm.

What should our education system look like and be like to prepare our students to create the possibilities and opportunities to succeed in the 21st century? We will start to have these conversations during this school year throughout our community. I invite you to join in that conversation by visiting a special web site we have set up where you can share ideas and comments about what the future should look like for FCPS at <http://fcps.uservice.com>. Ideas will be posted on the site throughout the year. School system employees, parents, and members of the community are welcome to weigh in on these topics, vote for the ideas they prefer, and include their comments.

Thank you for your continued support of our school system, our families, and our students!

FCPS Focuses Relentlessly on Student Achievement....

FCPS has established three student achievement goals as a framework to prepare students for the world of college and beyond:

Academics - Students will integrate academic knowledge and 21st century skills, allowing them to succeed in personal, community, and workplace environments and to understand and participate in the global economy.

Essential life skills - Each student will demonstrate the ability to work with others and develop relationships through effective communication, cooperation, negotiation, honesty, and ethical behavior.

Responsibility to the community - Students will demonstrate an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, and rights specific to a democratic society such as expressing ideas, act-

ing responsibly toward self and others, making informed decisions, accepting accountability and consequences for actions, and practicing honesty and treating others with respect.

Each year, the School Board receives reports on how the school system is progressing toward reaching each of these goals.

... That Results in High Performance

- For the 2010 Standards of Learning tests, 92 percent of FCPS students passed mathematics and 93 percent of FCPS students passed reading.
- FCPS had the second highest graduation rate (91.2 percent) among the nation's 50 largest school districts.
- 91.7 percent of 2010 graduates are attending post-secondary programs.
- 65 percent of 2010 graduates earned advanced studies diplomas.

- All FCPS schools were in the top 6 percent of all American high schools as measured by their student participation in Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams, according to the 2011 *Washington Post* rankings.
- A record 234 National Merit Scholars semifinalists were named from the class of 2011, the most in FCPS history.
- FCPS students earned more than 7,000 industry certifications during the 2009-10 school year, an increase of 86 percent from the previous year.

SAT Scores (Class of 2011)



THE TALENTS OF FCPS STAFF

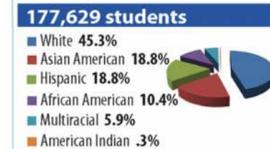
FCPS employs 22,980 staff (92.9 percent school based and 7.1 percent non-school based).

Just as every student brings individual strengths and needs to our classrooms, our teachers and staff bring unique skills and talent to prepare students for the future. More than 9,700 (64 percent) of teachers have master's degrees and more than 360 FCPS teachers are certified by National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, the highest credential a teacher can earn.

Our principals provide strong leadership and focus on creating collaborative teams that use the best teaching practices to raise the bar

for all students and close the achievement gap. Principals also collaborate throughout the school system to share leadership strategies and success stories.

FCPS has the lowest ratio (0.8 percent) of non-school-based management positions to total school system positions in the entire metropolitan region. So while FCPS enrollment increased by 13,000 from 2007 to 2012, we hired 906 positions in the schools and decreased non-school positions by 130.



THE FACES OF FCPS STUDENTS 2011-12 Projected Enrollment: 177,629 students

Fairfax County Public Schools is the 11th largest school system in the United States with nearly 200 schools and centers.

Diversity is one of FCPS' greatest strengths and is an important part of creating resilient, caring, and innovative citizens of a global community. Our schools support more than 23,000 students who receive services for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and more than 24,000 students who receive special education services. One in four students (or 45,000) is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, the federal measure of poverty.

More Ways Why FCPS is a World-Class School System

- Closing the achievement gap between black and white students and Hispanic and white students is a priority for FCPS. Over the past three years, the black/white achievement gap on Standards of Learning (SOL) reading tests continues to decline from 13 percent to 10 percent. The Hispanic/white achievement gap on SOL reading tests increased from 10 percent to 11 percent. On SOL math tests, the achievement gap between black students and white students declined from 15 percent to 13 percent. The Hispanic achievement gap also declined from 16 percent three years ago to 11 percent.
- FCPS is one of eight school divisions in Virginia to be recognized with **2011 Excellence Award from the Virginia Board of Education**, which recognizes divisions that exceed minimum state and federal accountability standards and meet or exceed a number of performance indicators. In addition, 98 FCPS schools were honored for Virginia Index of Performance Awards.
- Nine students from FCPS won awards at the **2011 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair**.
- FCPS received the **2011 CIO 100 Award**, recognizing innovative use of technology, from *Chief Information Officer* magazine. FCPS was honored for creating and deploying the FCPS Electronic Curriculum Assessment Resource Tool (eCART), which provides teachers and school administrators with access to web-based curricula, assessments, tools and resources that support teaching and learning for grades K-12, and are available anytime and anywhere.
- The Broad Foundation recognized FCPS in 2010 as one of the top performing school districts in the nation for improving African-American and economically disadvantaged student achievement.

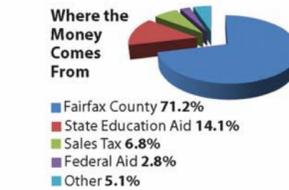
FCPS Manages Its Resources Responsibly

Two primary budgets help to fund the programs and facilities of Fairfax County Public Schools—the annual school operating budget and the Capital Improvement Program budget.

The school operating budget, which is approved by the Fairfax County School Board every year, provides for the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the schools.

In FY 2011, FCPS ranks in the middle of other school districts in the Washington metropolitan area with a cost per pupil of \$12,597, a decrease of \$301, or 2.3 percent, from \$12,898. This decrease was due primarily to a lower county transfer and budget reductions. This represents the third consecutive year of declining per-pupil spending, with an overall decrease of \$810, or 6.0 percent, from FY 2008 to FY 2011.

2011-12 Fiscal Year Operating Budget -- \$2.2 billion



FY 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program -- \$805 million

Student enrollment continues to grow each year. More than 177,629 students attend FCPS, an increase of 2,333 students in one year alone. Enrollment has increased by 13,000 students since 2007. Additional space is needed to accommodate our growing student population and the accompanying normal wear and tear on buildings.

Since 2007, FCPS has built three new schools, renovated 10 schools, and completed three school building additions and eight modular additions. In 2011-12, FCPS is currently building two new schools and renovating 10 others. We will begin renovations on two schools and putting additions on nine other schools this year.

Did You Know ?

65 percent of FCPS graduates complete college-level courses in high school.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM THE PAST YEAR



Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook Update

Fairfax County Public Schools is committed to the safety of all students and providing a secure learning environment at school. The *Student Rights and Responsibilities* (SR&R) handbook helps students understand both their right to be educated in a safe environment, and their responsibility for proper behavior. This year, the booklet has been updated to reflect recent Fairfax County School Board decisions about the discipline process. Some of the changes include:

- Principals will have increased discretion regarding consequences for possession of prescription drugs at school.
- Ensuring that before a student is reassigned from his or her base school, other disciplinary options would be considered, including loss of privileges.

- Providing, if feasible, academic support and other services to a student on out-of-school suspension to maintain academic progress.

Priority Schools Launch

As part of the school system's commitment to closing the achievement gap, 30 elementary and middle schools were designated as Priority Schools. These schools receive additional support in training, resources, and staff to ensure that all their students achieve at high levels. Support teams composed of central office staff provide new ideas and extra attention to the Priority School principals and teacher leaders so that any barriers are removed that might impede success. First-year results show significant gains in reading and math in many of the priority schools.

Online Textbooks for Social Studies

All FCPS students in grades 7-12 began using online textbooks this year in all core social studies classes. Online textbooks offer resources to differentiate and enrich student learning and can include built-in features such as read aloud, highlighting, dictionaries, glossaries, videos, and flashcards.

Full-Day Kindergarten Rollout

Beginning this fall, children entering kindergarten will attend a full-day program in every one of our 137 elementary schools. The completion of the implementation of full-day kindergarten in the remaining 36 elementary schools this year was a critical step that ensures all of our youngest students will receive the same educational opportunities.

CHALLENGES AHEAD

Closing the Achievement Gap

While FCPS has made progress on closing the achievement gap, we haven't reached our goal of all students achieving at high levels. School system data show that black and Hispanic students still do not perform academically, as a group, as well as their white and Asian counterparts. A steady focus on best teaching practices, collaborative teams, and using data to drive decisions on teaching and learning strategies will result in the continued narrowing of the gap.



Larger Class Sizes

Fairfax County continues to be one of the fastest growing counties in the United States. This year's budget provided for an increase of more than 2,300 additional students for the 2011-12 school year at a cost of \$28.4 million. As FCPS enrollment continues to grow, more resources will be needed to accommodate more teachers, learning materials, and classrooms.

Did You Know ?

Approximately 70 percent of high schoolers participate in student activities, and nearly 40 percent participate in Virginia High School League (VHSL) athletic or academic activities.

Teacher Compensation

More is demanded of teachers every year. They consistently update their professional training to improve their teaching skills, and are required to keep up with technology changes in their classrooms and new ways of collaborating together to ensure every child succeeds. In FY 2012, FCPS teachers (and all other employees) received their first salary increase in two years. FCPS believes in its teachers and wants to compensate them for the increase in demands of their jobs.

Fairfax County School Board

We Believe in Our Children

- Each child is important and entitled to the opportunity to realize his or her fullest potential.
- High expectations promote high achievement.

We Believe in Our Teachers

- Effective teachers are essential to student success.
- Learning occurs best when instruction is tailored to individual needs.

We Believe in Our Public Education System

- Adults and children thrive in a vibrant, safe, enriching, and respectful environment.
- A well-rounded education enables students to lead fulfilling and culturally rich lives.
- An educated citizenry is critical to sustaining our economy and our system of self-governance.

We Believe in Our Community

- A dynamic partnership among students, parents, teachers, staff members, and the community is critical to exceptional student achievement.
- Our diversity creates resilient, open, and innovative citizens of the global community.



Jane K. Strauss
Chairman,
Dranesville District



Ilryong Moon
Vice Chairman,
Member At Large



Elizabeth T. Bradsher
Springfield District



Brad Center
Lee District



Sandra S. Evans
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Member At Large



Patricia S. Reed
Providence District



Kathy Smith
Sully District



Dan Storck
Mount Vernon District



Tessie Wilson
Braddock District



Parents, Citizens Invited to Education Summit on Saturday, October 15

Education is moving away from the traditional industrial model and evolving into an era of customization in which individual student goals drive the learning process. The second annual **Fairfax Education Summit** will explore student goal setting, project-based learning, and new ways of measuring student success. Superintendent Jack Dale will lead a discussion panel composed of educators, students, and business leaders.

Please join parents, school system leaders, and community members at Woodson High School on October 15 from 8 a.m. to noon for this program, "Moving to the Next Level: Customizing Public Education."

For more details, visit www.fcps.edu

Getting to Know Us

Middle School Teacher **Jamie Sawatzky**



For Rocky Run Middle School history teacher Jamie Sawatzky, every new school year is like the opening day of baseball season. The year is a fresh start, a chance to work with a new group of students and help each of them hit an academic homerun.

Sawatzky, the Fairfax County Public Schools 2011 Teacher of the Year, brings history lessons to life for seventh graders at his school. Not only do his students learn about historical events, they participate in role play exercises to reinforce the lesson. For example, his students are assigned a position to debate the merits and expenses of the Social Security program while studying the New Deal or they each assume the identity of an immigrant arriving at Ellis Island.

Sawatzky also serves as a coach in FCPS' Great Beginnings, a comprehensive program that provides support to new teachers through mentoring and professional learning opportunities.

"It is an extensive program designed to inspire teachers who are new to FCPS," he said. "The level of excitement in the new teachers is just great. Fairfax County recognizes that teaching is a profession and they provide the resources to help us on that journey."

Sawatzky has been teaching for 12 years. He is also the recipient of The Washington Post Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award for educational excellence.

Strengthening Schools with Business and Community Partners

More than 350 businesses, community organizations, and individuals have partnered with Fairfax County Public Schools. Through generous donations or time, each person makes a valuable contribution to creating a world-class school system and an environment that values learning. To date, 130 schools, supporting 3,800 students, have active mentoring programs.

If you would like to partner with FCPS, here are five ways to get involved:

- Mentor a child
- Partner with a school
- Partner systemwide
- Support an existing partnership
- Help develop or advance an educational initiative

To learn more about how your business or community group can support the schools, please visit www.fcps.edu.

For more information on Fairfax County Public Schools, visit www.fcps.edu.

Be sure to look for regular updates about Fairfax County Public Schools every month right here in your Connections/Gazette newspaper!



Become a fan of the Fairfax County Public Schools on Facebook



Follow **FCPSnews** on Twitter

Did You Know ?

In partnership with the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, the Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools was launched this year to support the mission of the world-class school system to inspire, enable, and empower students to meet high academic standards, as defined by the superintendent, through resource development and business partnerships.

Learn more at <http://www.fairfaxchamber.org>

High School Senior **E. J. Coleman III**



E.J. Coleman's week is similar to many other high school seniors. He's an active member of the Mount Vernon High School debate team, the National Honor Society, the Men of Vision and Purpose program and many other clubs. He is enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program at his school and he serves as a Battalion commander in the Marine Corps JROTC. He's even a licensed pilot. But the one thing that sets him apart from other seniors? He's the student representative to the Fairfax County School Board.

Coleman said he wanted to serve on the School Board because he is interested in politics.

"I saw it as a way for me to help other students in Fairfax County Public Schools in a more direct way. Before I was elected to the position I spoke at different public hearings and that was a way to help other students. This position allows me to have more of a positive impact on a larger group of my peers," he said.

Coleman has served as class president and was elected Governor at Boy's State last summer. His experience at Boy's State gave him the opportunity to meet students from around the country.

"I'm especially proud to say that Fairfax County Public Schools is one of the best school systems in the country and that it has been recognized internationally," he said. "I am also proud of the fact that some of the best students in the country would give me the honor of representing them on the school board."

Lifelong Partners Through Education Apple Federal Credit Union and FCPS

Apple FCU is pleased to sponsor FCPS' outreach efforts in the *State of the Schools* initiative. This year, Apple and the Apple FCU Education Foundation were named the FCPS Business Partner of the Year and we're honored to be associated with this premier school district.

Serving the Education Community Since 1956

No one understands educators, students and their families better than Apple FCU. Our commitment to the education community is evident through our exclusive product and service offerings and support for student achievement and academic success.

19 Student Run Credit Unions (SRCU). Apple FCU was the first credit union in Virginia to deploy an SRCU program at Robert E. Lee HS in 1995, providing students with invaluable money management skills and financial literacy acumen.

Sponsorship of the Junior Achievement Finance Park. Apple hosts a storefront to provide practical skills and financial education to approximately 14,000, eighth-grade students.

Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive supports Fairfax County families in need with school supplies and backpacks.

FREE Money Management Workshops. Monthly workshops are provided to assist FCPS employees in meeting their financial dreams.

Apple FCU Education Foundation's partnership with the Great Beginnings New Teacher Induction Program.

For details, visit AppleFCU.org or call 703-788-4800.



OPINION

Accessing State Government

Delegate publishes 11th edition of citizens' handbook.

BY DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
D-36

In my earliest years of service as a member of the House of Delegates, there was no guide or directory of state programs and services. Each constituent request that was different from previous ones resulted in an investigation to determine who was responsible for what in the area in which the constituent needed assistance. Sometimes it took several long distance telephone calls to get to the right agency or the

COMMENTARY

right person. There was no Internet and no search engines. State government was not all that friendly, and there were few "800" numbers to encourage calls from Northern Virginia and other parts of the state into Richmond.

Each successful investigation led to the completion of an index card with individual names, agency names, addresses and telephone numbers that were eventually expanded to include facsimile telephone numbers to accommodate the new technology. The shoebox that was more than half-full of index cards became an invaluable tool in responding to constituent inquiries.

If it was invaluable to my office, it would clearly be useful to others.

From that realization came the idea to print all the information from those index cards in a booklet that would be a citizens' handbook. Our first edition was in great demand from citizens, businesses, agencies and others. It clearly filled a void; it clearly met a need.

Last week, I sent out the 11th edition of my citizens' handbook that has now been



combined with my constituent guide. It is published every two years. The document is quite different from the first edition. Now users of the handbook are referred to the right website where all the details that were once printed in the guide can

be found.

It has gone from 24 pages to 8 pages as a result. But with the expansion of the websites the guide opens state government to voters and constituents more than the original print-only version ever could. I organized and chaired the original Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) where we placed an emphasis on state government expanding its use of technology and making its programs and services more accessible through the Internet. We have been wonderfully accessible. Virginia state government has received many favorable recognitions for its website.

You should have received the Citizens Handbook and Constituent Guide, 11th Edition, last week in the mail. If you did not, call my office weekday mornings at 703-758-9733 or e-mail me at kenplum@aol.com. If you need more copies for your family or business, just let us know the number you need, and we will be glad to provide them.

They are not printed at taxpayer expense. They are paid for by my campaign committee.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 8

photo for a view looking south.

Sen. Howell, clearly I recognize you personally did not install all of these signs. You didn't, correct? But I do have to question the value your campaign will derive by placing these signs in such dense clusters. Would it not make sense to distribute these signs around Reston and other areas of the district? How many signs are enough?

I understand you would like to be re-elected and I also know the placement of the signs no matter how ugly and distracting are perfectly legal in Virginia. That said, as your neighbor I ask you to take a drive along South Lakes Drive and tell me with all honesty that you think the number of signs is appropriate and not the eyesore that I describe.

Thank you for your time and best of luck with your campaign.

Matthew Swayhoover
Reston



Campaign signs fill up the median along one Reston road.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW SWAYHOOVER

BIG APPLE CIRCUS

DREAM BIG

Grandma's Farewell Tour!

SEPT. 22 - OCT. 10

Dulles Town Center
(at the intersection of Routes 7 and 28)

Tickets Start at \$15*

BUY TICKETS NOW!

BigAppleCircus.org
888.541.3750

Big Top Box Office opens Tuesday, Sept 20
Tues. - Sat. 10am - 8pm
Sun. - Mon. 10am - 6pm

*Offer good on select seat locations and performances. Children under 3 are free on the lap of a paid adult, one child per lap.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 28

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

No Kidding! 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Great Grass-Grazing Goat Stories for the entire family. All ages. 703-689-2700.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 29

Big Apple Circus. 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 30

ValeArts Fall Art Show Reception. 7-9 p.m. Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. More than 150 paintings by nine artists. Free. www.valearts.com or 703-860-1888.

Big Apple Circus. 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Light the Night Walk for Leukemia & Lymphoma. 5-9 p.m. Reston Town Center, Pavilion and Market Streets, Reston. Celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Funds raised support the ongoing mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Children's games, local restaurants, live music and entertainment until 2-mile walk begins at dark. Register at 703-960-1100, 1-877-LTN-WALK or leukemia-lymphoma.org.

The 73rd Annual Potomac Rose Society Rose Show. 1-6 p.m. Merrifield Garden Center Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Exhibitors must place rose specimens by 9:30 a.m. Saturday, judging follows. Consulting Rosarians will answer questions. Free. 301-869-4948 or kay.george@verizon.net.

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Brain Aneurysm 8K Run and 2K Walk. 9 a.m. South Lakes High School, 11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston. Proceeds benefit the Brain Aneurysm Foundation of the Washington Regional Transplant Community, in memory of Timothy Susco. www.susco8k.com.

Artist Reception and Gallery Talk. 8 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center

Lab Rescue of the Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac Inc., a nonprofit group that rescues, fosters, and adopts Labs to approved applicants, will have an Adopt-A-Lab Event on Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Weber's Pet Supermarket, 11201 Lee Highway, Fairfax. 703-385-3766.



The Fairfax Festival of the Arts will be at Fairfax Corner, 11900 Palace Way, Fairfax, on Saturday, Oct. 8 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 9 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Over 10,000 pieces of art will be for sale, including paintings, sculptures, photographs, jewelry, glass, fiber and ceramic art and more. Admission is free. paragonartevents.com/fairfax2/

St., Herndon. Petra Gerber's paintings for "Birth of a Star" were inspired by telescope images. 703-956-6590 or www.artspaceherndon.org.

Adopt-A-Lab Event. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Weber's Pet Supermarket, 11201 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Meet Labrador retrievers from shelters, humane societies and more. Bring the family and you may be able to adopt the same day. Event organized by Lab Rescue of the Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac Inc. Free admission. 703-385-3766 or www.lab-rescue.org.

Lake Anne Jazz Festival. 1-9 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza Waterfront, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. With performances by Veronneau, Wayne Wilentz Quartet, The Mykle Lyons Group, Cissa Paz and more. www.lakeanneplaza.com.

The 19th Annual Fall For Fairfax KidsFest. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Interactive and educational programs, entertainment and activities for families with elementary and pre-K children. Free admission. 1-800-880-6629.

Loudoun Black U15 Boys Soccer Team Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. 709 Alabama Drive, Herndon.

Proceeds help pay for the team's tournament expenses to Va. Beach. mickzahora@verizon.net.

SUNDAY/OCT. 2

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

The 73rd Annual Potomac Rose Society Rose Show. 12-4 p.m. Merrifield Garden Center Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Consulting Rosarians will answer questions. Free. 301-869-4948 or kaygeorge@verizon.net.

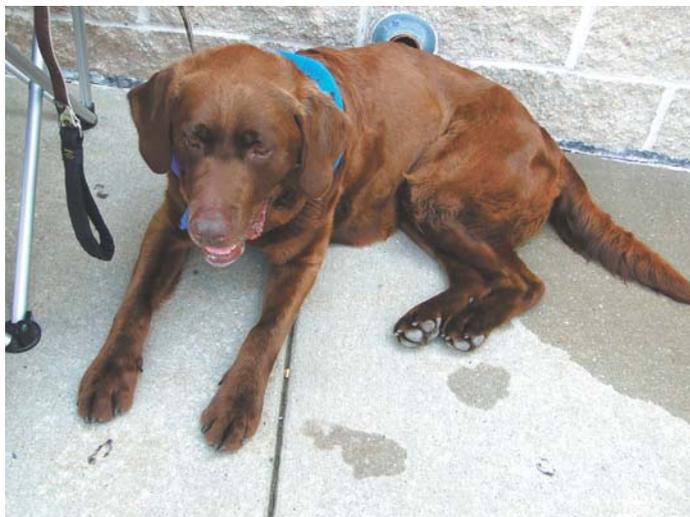
TUESDAY/OCT. 4

Big Apple Circus. 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Author Ingrid King. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Author of "Buckley's Story: Lessons from a Feline Master Teacher." www.ingridking.com.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 5

We Can't Live Without Them: The



Importance of Minerals to Our Way of Life. 7 p.m. USGS, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Every year about 25,000 pounds of non-fuel mineral materials are extracted from the Earth for every person in the US. Learn what these minerals are and how we use them, where they come from, and the steps involved from discovery to use. Free and open to the public. Federal facility, photo Id required. 703-648-4748 or www.usgs.gov/public_lecture_series.

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

THURSDAY/OCT. 6

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 7

Oktoberfest Reston. 3-11 p.m. Reston Town Center, Pavilion and Market Streets, Reston. Featuring fall brews, food from area restaurants, live entertainment, children's rides and more. Presented by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce. oktoberfestreston.com.

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

The Wood Brothers with Clay Cook. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20. www.wolftrap.org.

Transforming the Written Word into a Spoken Performance. 1:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Laura Giannarelli, a professional actress and audio book narrator for the Library of Congress, gives the inside scoop on transforming the written word into a spoken performance by taking you behind the scene in the recording

studio. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/tr/direct.htm.

SATURDAY/OCT. 8

Fairfax Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fairfax Corner, 11900 Palace Way, Fairfax. Over 10,000 pieces of art will be for sale, including paintings, sculptures, photographs, jewelry, glass, fiber and ceramic art and more. paragonartevents.com/fairfax2/

Oktoberfest Reston. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Reston Town Center, Pavilion and Market Streets, Reston. Featuring fall brews, food from area restaurants, live entertainment, children's rides and more. Presented by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce. oktoberfestreston.com.

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Chris Smither. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Blues and contemporary roots music. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

Discover eBooks. 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 1925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. A check presentation will be followed by hands-on demonstrations on downloading eBooks and will allow participants to compare different eReaders. 703-689-2700.

SUNDAY/OCT. 9

Fairfax Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fairfax Corner, 11900 Palace Way, Fairfax. Over 10,000 pieces of art will be for sale, including paintings, sculptures, photographs, jewelry, glass, fiber and ceramic art and more. paragonartevents.com/fairfax2/

Oktoberfest Reston. 12-8 p.m. Reston Town Center, Pavilion and Market Streets, Reston. Featuring fall brews, food from area restaurants, live entertainment, children's rides and more. Presented by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 17

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

oktoberfestreston.com.

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Anthem Great Pumpkin 5K and Kid's Pumpkin Dash. 8:30 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11921 Freedom Drive, Reston. Kids Pumpkin Dash and pumpkin decorating contest. Timed 5k \$35, non-timed 5k \$25. 703-707-9045.

MONDAY/OCT. 10

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Take Steps for Crohn's & Colitis. 3 p.m. Temporary Road Pavilion, Reston. Raise money for research and raise awareness of these painful digestive diseases that afflict millions of people. www.ctakesteps.org, 703-865-6130 or hpalmer@ccfa.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 15

Frying Pan Farm Park Harvest Day. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Watch the cider press in action, milk a goat, shell corn, peel apples, and meet the farm animals. Paint a small pumpkin, play farm games and see traditional farm demonstrations. \$5. 703-437-9101.

Comedian Wanda Sykes. 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. \$35-\$45, available online at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.wandasykes.com or

www.patriotcenter.com.

Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series: Hearttown. 7:30 p.m. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. \$15. 703-435-8377 or www.hearttownband.com.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 19

Disney On Ice: Dare to Dream. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$15-\$70, available at 1-800-551-SEAT, www.ticketmaster.com; and www.patriotcenter.com. www.disneyonice.com.

THURSDAY/OCT. 20

Disney On Ice: Dare to Dream. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$15-\$70, available at 1-800-551-SEAT, www.ticketmaster.com; and www.patriotcenter.com. www.disneyonice.com.

FRIDAY/OCT. 21

Herndon Spooktacular. 6:30 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Ghoulish games, creepy cuisine, pumpkin contest and trick or treating during the costume parade. Registration fee covers all activities, treat bag and Magic Show. Ages 3-8 with parent. 703-787-7300.

Disney On Ice: Dare to Dream. 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$15-\$70, available at 1-800-551-SEAT, www.ticketmaster.com; and www.patriotcenter.com. www.disneyonice.com.

16th Annual Craftsmen's Fall Classic Arts & Crafts Festival.



10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dulles Expo Center South Hall, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Original designs and work from hundreds of artists and craftsmen. Admission \$7, \$1 age 6-12, under age 6 free. 1-336-282-5550.

THURSDAY/OCT. 22

Signed Trail Update Walk. 1:30 p.m. Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. Meet at Reston Museum for a 3-mile walk and an update on Reston's signed trails between Lake Anne and Reston Town Center. 703-709-7700 or restonmuseum@gmail.com.

Disney On Ice: Dare to Dream. 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$15-\$70, available at 1-800-551-SEAT, www.ticketmaster.com;

and www.patriotcenter.com. www.disneyonice.com.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With the Alturas Duo. Sibelius' Tapiola, Farias' Commissioned Concerto, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, "Eroica." Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. info@fairfaxsymphony.org.

16th Annual Craftsmen's Fall Classic Arts & Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dulles Expo Center South Hall, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Original designs and work from hundreds of artists and craftsmen. Admission \$7, \$1 age 6-12, under age 6 free. 1-336-282-5550.

Centreville Day. 6:30 p.m. Historic Centreville Park, 4630 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Walk the banks of

Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers with Punch Brothers will perform music spanning rock, bluegrass, country, and jazz on Sunday, Sept. 28 at 8 p.m. at the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

the Cub Run stream and hear the stories of the people who once called it home. Find out why Rock Hill could be considered cursed and hear the stories of the Hutchinson bothers and their parts in the revolutionary and civil wars. \$4 for Fairfax County residents, \$6 for out-of-county residents. 703-817-9407.

SUNDAY/OCT. 23

Festival on the Square. 12-5 p.m. Westin Reston Heights, 11790 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Petting zoo, face painting, children's activities and more. Z Car Club's Judging and People's Choice Awards (Sports Cars) and outdoor restaurant grills. 703-476-9377.

8th Annual Help the Homeless Walk to Benefit Reston Interfaith. Reston Heights, 11750 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Registration begins 12 p.m. and the Walk at 1:30 p.m. A 3-mile walk to increase awareness about homelessness in the Greater Reston area and to raise funds for those in need of housing, childcare, food, or financial assistance. www.restoninterfaith.org or 571-323-9555.

Experience the hospitality that made Ireland famous.

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NEW OR NOT SO NEW TO RESTON?

Come learn more about Reston Association (RA) and its many services, amenities and programs. Meet RA Board members and staff. Find out how you can get involved in Reston. Light refreshments will be available and door prizes will be awarded.

Please RSVP by Oct. 17 to Ashleigh@reston.org
or call 703-435-6577.

www.reston.org

CRIME

Activities reported by the Reston police department through Sept. 23.

LARCENIES

- 10700 block of Falls Pointe Drive.** Silver stolen from residence.
- 2300 block of Hunters Woods Plaza.** Meat and seafood stolen from business.
- 1700 block of Jonathan Way.** Iron table stolen from residence.
- 11600 block of Plaza America Drive.** Food and beverage stolen from business.
- 11200 block of Roger Bacon Drive.** Text book stolen from school.

Activities reported by the Fair Oaks police department through Sept. 23.

BURGLARY/ ASSAULT

Police are investigating a burglary and assault that occurred Monday, Sept. 19. Around 9:30 a.m. a 29-year-old woman was entering her residence in the 13200 block of Leafcrest Lane when a teen approached from behind and forced his way into the residence with her. The suspect displayed a weapon and sexually assaulted the victim. The victim screamed and the suspect fled on foot. The victim was not injured. The suspect was described as black, 15-16, around 5 feet 7 inches tall, thin and wearing a shirt and blue jeans. A composite sketch of the suspect is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

ROBBERY

A teenaged boy robbed a 46-year-old woman in the 13600 block of Lee Jackson Memorial Highway around 8:45 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 19. The victim was taken to the hospital with non life-threatening injuries. The suspect was described as black, about 15 years old, 5 feet 3 inches tall, wearing a navy blue

jacket and riding a bicycle.

LARCENIES

- Cashel Lane.** iPad and change stolen from vehicle.
- Fair Oaks Shopping Center.** Wallet stolen from business.
- 9900 block of Longford Court.** GPS and sunglasses stolen from vehicle.
- 13800 block of Metrotech Drive.** GPS stolen from vehicle.

VEHICLE THEFTS

- 3900 block of Fair Ridge Drive.** 2001 Hyundai Tiburon.
- 9600 block of Nonquitt Drive.** 2004 Ford Focus.
- 3900 block of Pender Drive.** Nissan Sentra.

REAL ESTATE NOTES

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

Paul Valentino, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in the Greater Washington Metro, has announced that Tanya Blosser has been selected as the company's Field Marketing Manager. She will lead the company's marketing efforts and work with agents to help them promote and develop their business.

"I look forward to assisting agents in developing their personal marketing plans and using all the resources Coldwell Banker has available to increase their visibility in the marketplace," said Blosser, who will be based in Coldwell Banker's corporate headquarters in Reston.

Blosser's career has focused primarily on print and digital media sales and marketing to real estate companies.

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




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HOME SALES

In August 2011, 73 Reston homes sold between \$870,000-\$105,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$300,000-\$217,500 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
12000 MARKET ST #308	1	1	0	RESTON	\$300,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		20190	SAVOY AT RESTON TOWN CNTR
1630 BARNSTEAD DR	3	2	1	RESTON	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.03	20194	RESTON
1755 IVY OAK SQ #95	3	2	1	RESTON	\$295,000	Townhouse		20190	IVY OAK SQUARE
11609 WINDBLUFF CT #09/009	3	2	1	RESTON	\$285,000	Townhouse		20191	RESTON
1700 LAKE SHORE CREST DR #22	2	1	1	RESTON	\$284,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		20190	EDGEWATER AT TOWN CNTR
1705 LAKE SHORE CREST DR #24	2	2	0	RESTON	\$280,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		20190	EDGEWATER AT TOWN CNTR
12202 NUTMEG LN	5	3	1	RESTON	\$262,555	Detached	0.10	20191	RESTON
11612 IVYSTONE CT #05/100	2	2	0	RESTON	\$258,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		20191	RESTON
11709 KARBON HILL CT #612A	2	2	0	RESTON	\$251,100	Garden 1-4 Floors		20191	BRISTOL HOUSE
2233K LOVEDALE LN #412A	2	2	0	RESTON	\$250,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		20191	BRISTOL HOUSE
11039A VILLARIDGE CT #11039 A	2	1	0	RESTON	\$232,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		20191	VILLARIDGE
11723 KARBON HILL CT #204	3	2	0	RESTON	\$230,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		20191	SPRINGWOOD
11760 SUNRISE VALLEY DR #312	1	1	0	HERNDON	\$225,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0.00	20191	THE MERCER
1960B VILLARIDGE DR #1960B	2	1	0	RESTON	\$222,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		20191	VILLARIDGE
11618 IVYSTONE CT #04/301	2	2	0	RESTON	\$219,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		20191	RESTON
1339 NORTHGATE SQ	3	1	1	RESTON	\$219,000	Townhouse	0.03	20190	RESTON
11723A SUMMERCHASE CIR	2	1	0	RESTON	\$217,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		20194	SUMMERRIDGE

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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.



Dunn Loring

7956 Arden Ct.....\$695,000...Sun 12-3...Cathy Zamanpour.....Long & Foster..703-517-2367

Herndon

414 Madison Forest Dr.....\$589,000...Sun 2-5.....Bob Lovett....Choice Properties..703-690-0037

McLean

6004 Woodley Rd.....\$939,000...Sun 1-4.....Jane Price.....Weichert..703-628-0470

Oak Hill

3154 Mary Etta Ln.....\$1,493,850...Sun 1-4.....Keith Harris..Samson Properties..703-395-6601

Oakton

3031 Borge St #105.....\$309,000...Sun 1-4.....Casey Samson..Samson Properties..703-508-2535

Potomac Falls

11409 Coyote Ct.....\$2,195,000...Sun 1-4....Janean Buchner.....Re/Max..703-444-5979

Reston

2385 Generation Dr.....\$392,900...Sun 1-4.....Daniel Rosas.....Total Resources..703-392-9093
11673 Bennington Woods Rd...\$1,044,000...Sun 2-5.....Carina Slepian.....Weichert..703-919-6364

Vienna

228 Commons Dr NW.....\$449,900...Sun 1-3.....Lynda Neil.....Re/Max..703-648-1870
1837 Batten Hollow Rd.....\$729,900...Sun 1-4.....Deborah Sevier.....Jobin Realty..571-243-4743
11809 Dawson St.....\$739,000...Sun 1-4.....Bettina Dee.....Premiere Realty..703-748-0001

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.

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10:25 a.m. Sunday school/Music: grades 3 - 12
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

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10:00 AM Garden, Traditional Worship Service
11:00 AM Connection, Contemporary Worship Service

other weekly services
5:30 PM Saturdays: Relax & Renew, Casual Worship Service

701 Bennett St., Herndon, VA
703-707-6271

HEALTH

FROM PAGE 4

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.

SATURDAY/AUG. 6

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

SATURDAY/AUG. 13

Free School Physicals Event. 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon. School entrance and sports physicals will be provided free of charge, by appointment only, for ages 3-19. Children are eligible to make an appointment if they currently live in Fairfax County have no health insurance, and have a family income of 200% or less of the poverty level. www.jsfreeclinic.org or 703-481-8160.

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.

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

MONDAY/SEPT. 19

Assistance League of Northern Virginia. 9:30 a.m. at the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. A nonprofit, volunteer organization promoting literacy and well-being for women and children through community based programs, such as Operation School Bell: New Clothes for Kids and Weekend Food for Kids. Meetings are the third Monday of

every month. 703-878-1928.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 22

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.

THURSDAY/OCT. 27

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.

THURSDAY/NOV. 24

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.

FAITH NOTES

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

Washington Plaza Baptist Church, Lake Anne in Reston, will have a Homecoming Celebration on Oct. 2, with a special homecoming choir. Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish to share for an old fashioned potluck after morning worship. www.washingtonplazachurch.com.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road in Oakton, seeks female actors for production of "Mother Wove the Morning", a play by Carol Lynn Pearson. All ages and types needed. Play will be performed Oct. 21-22 and proceeds benefit The Fistula Foundation. Auditions will be held on Tuesday, Sept 13. Schedule an audition appointment at www.uucf.org or scbenett@cox.net 703-281-4230.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, 2516 Squirrel Hill Road in Herndon, will celebrate their 145th Anniversary with a revival-style series throughout September. The theme for the 145th Anniversary is "Mobilizing the Masses for Ministry." Each Wednesday in September, 7 p.m. services will begin with Praise and Worship led by gospel choirs and guest preachers. www.mtpleasantbaptist.org or 703-793-1196.

Sept. 28. Dr. Howard John Wesley, Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria.
Anniversary Sunday, Sept. 25. Services at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. with Dr. Marion H. Newton, Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, Sumter, S.C., and Evangelist Dr. Willie Mae Lee, Pentecostal Church of God in Christ, Port Salerno, Fl. A celebration of food and fellowship will follow the 10:30AM service.

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Seahawks Reach Volleyball Finals at Hayfield

South Lakes wins four matches before falling to Forest Park in finals.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

South Lakes' successful girls' volleyball season continued on Saturday, Sept. 24, when the Seahawks won four of their five matches and reached the finals of the Hayfield Invitational in Alexandria.

South Lakes coach Cheri Hostetler and the Seahawks, three days earlier on Wednesday, Sept. 21, had lost their Liberty District opener, three games to none, to visiting Stone Bridge. But Hostetler said her team played solid throughout the match with Stone Bridge, one of the Northern Region's top teams every year.

"We lost to Stone Bridge but the team played really well and it was a competitive match," said Hostetler.

The Seahawks continued their good play into the Hayfield showcase on Saturday, a one-day event hosted by the Hayfield Hawks. In morning matches, South Lakes



The South Lakes Seahawks display the second place trophy that they earned at the Hayfield Volleyball Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 24.

defeated both Lee and Hayfield by identical 2-0 scores. Then in a pair of afternoon matches beginning at 2 p.m., the Seahawks were victorious over Mountain View (Stafford), 2-0, and Mount Vernon High, 2-0.

That put South Lakes into the 5 p.m. tournament finals where they

lost to Forest Park (Woodbridge), 0-2. Finishing runner-up was not bad for the Seahawks (8-3 overall record), who are on track to have a winning season this fall.

"We finished second in the Hayfield Invitational," said Hostetler. "The team didn't lose a set until the championship match

against a very tough team from Forest Park."

HOSTETLER has said she loves the makeup of this year's South Lakes squad, a roster made up of players who love the sport and give their all. The Seahawks' team co-captains are seniors Christy

Hoffman and Sarah Delaney.

South Lakes has a knack of winning close matches, a sign of good team cohesiveness. In a 3-0 win over Edison on Sept. 15, South Lakes won three close sets — 27-25, 25-19, and 25-23 — to earn the non-district match victory over the Eagles, members of the National District. Hoffman, who plays setter/opposite hitter, had nine kills and three service aces in that team win, while middle hitter Delaney and junior outside hitter Dory DeWeese both had eight kills.

In another big match this season, South Lakes, in a home meeting versus cross-town rival Herndon on Sept. 6, earned a hard-fought 3-0 win over the Hornets, who are coached by Rebecca Waters. The set scores were 25-17, 25-17, and 25-22. Delaney led the Seahawks with seven kills and five aces. Also for South Lakes, Annemarie Bresson (6 kills), Cloe Taylor (5 kills), DeWeese (5 kills), Mary Youngren (4 kills), Mary Severin (5 kills), and Hoffman (5 kills, 2 aces) all had stellar outings.

Herndon (2-5) has wins this season over Falls Church and Madison. The Hornets were set to play at South County on Monday, Sept. 26.

South Lakes was scheduled to play matches earlier this week against visiting Annandale on Monday and at Washington-Lee on Tuesday in Arlington.

Area Runners Shine at Oatlands Meet

McGorty captures first place in boys' race; Kolonich earns third in girls' race.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The annual midseason Oatlands Invitational high school cross country meet took place Sept. 17 at Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg. Numerous schools from the Northern Region participated in the huge showcase event.

In the varsity "A" boys' meet, consisting of 46 teams, Chantilly High, led by junior Sean McGorty, earned a second place overall finish with 197 team points, finishing behind champion Albemarle High (146 points) of Charlottesville. Other Northern Region teams competing in the "A" boys' race included fourth place Oakton (265), 11th place Jefferson High (282) of Alexandria, 15th place Hayfield, and 20th place Stone Bridge. South County finished 26th and Annandale 28th. Madison, Westfield, Langley, Fairfax, and Marshall High Schools

were also among the schools that competed.

Chantilly's McGorty captured the individual title with a time of 15 minutes, 30 seconds, finishing ahead of second place finisher Ahmed Bile, a senior from Annandale.

Chantilly junior Logan Miller also had an outstanding race with a third place finish at 15:49. South County senior Jeff Puhek finished 10th place overall.

Three-hundred sixteen runners in all participated in the boys' race. Other good outings from Northern Region runners included: Stone Bridge sophomore Brady Guertin (23rd); Marshall High sophomore Mackenzie Haight (41st); Westfield High junior Jeff Edmondson (47th); Chantilly sophomore Peter Malander (also 47th); Oakton seniors Greg Petruncio (33rd), Pratik Singh (37th), Chris Jewell (52nd), and Patrick Eberhart (55th); and Hayfield High's Jacob Miller (58th).

IN THE GIRLS' "A" RACE, McLean, Madison, and Jefferson High Schools finished eighth, ninth, and 10th, respectively, in a field of 41 teams.

Other Northern Region schools finishing in the top 25 were Oakton (15th), Washington-Lee (16th), Langley (17th), and Stone Bridge (22nd).

Top area individual finishers, included: Lee sophomore Bailey Kolonich (3rd place); Jefferson senior Katherine Sheridan (22nd); Oakton sophomore Hailey Dougherty (25th); Westfield senior Leidy Arias (32nd); McLean junior Hannah Dimmick (36th); South County junior Mary Cate Scully (40th); Madison freshman Amanda Swaak (45th); Langley senior Mary Fouse (50th); and McLean senior Alexa Tabackman (51st).

IN THE VARSITY "B" BOYS' RACE, Oakton finished sixth overall among 66 teams. Also among the top 25 teams were 11th place Centreville, 12th place Jefferson, and 14th place McLean.

Top local individual finishers were: Centreville junior Chan Young-Lee (19th

place); Lee High sophomore Biruk Amare (23rd); Oakton sophomore Jack Stoney (43rd); Jefferson's Elliot Simon (45th); and McLean senior Jason Richards (46th).

IN THE VARSITY "B" GIRLS' RACE, Chantilly High captured the team title with 81 points, finishing ahead of second place Briar Woods of Ashburn and third place Centreville High. Oakton (seventh place) and Hayfield (eighth) finished among the top 10 as well.

Oakton freshmen Allie Klimkiewicz captured the individual title with a first place finish.

Chantilly had three runners finish in the top 10.

They were junior Kendall Crowe (fifth), freshman Xaveria Hawvemarle (sixth), and senior Carolyn Carlson (10th).

Centreville runners Rebecca Vinter, a junior, and freshman Jackie O'Shea finished eighth and ninth, respectively, while teammate Joanna Ahn, a freshmen, was 23rd overall.

Hayfield sophomore Abigail Power finished 14th.

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"Confliction"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I know I need to get out more, as in go places – out of town, specifically, and do more things (while I'm able), but I'm conflicted. Since my diagnosis, back in February 2009, my life has evolved into a variety of cancer-targeted pursuits whose goal was to survive the original 13-month-to-two-year prognosis I was given; from adhering to the standard cancer-treatment protocols with which most people are familiar: chemotherapy and/or radiation, lab work, diagnostic scans, regular and recurring appointments with my oncologist, etc., to lifestyle and diet changes: alkaline diet, alkaline water, miscellaneous pills and supplements, baking soda, apple cider vinegar, pureed asparagus, probiotics, exercise and so forth. And largely, given the 30-month point at which I am presently still living and breathing, these changes/modifications have had a presumably positive effect on my life expectancy.

In considering the facts/feelings and wondering still (always) about the future (and the present, too; let's be honest here), I feel like I'm at a crossroads of sorts: what to do/where to go next? If I want to live longer and hopefully prosper, perhaps something in my life needs to change. But change is difficult for me, especially when changes that I've made previously have apparently (not definitively) extended my life way beyond that rather grim and discouraging prognosis I received two and a half years ago.

Nevertheless, stagnation is probably not good for the soul, either. And if I want to continue to pretend that nothing is really wrong with me, staying in my routine, as much as I've come to embrace it, might not be the best long-term answer. I can't imagine that being afraid to live outside my cancer-fighting cocoon is the best revenge, as they say. But breaking free of some of these cancer-induced boundaries is risky – in my head, anyway, and worrisome, too; as in why mess with success? But if I don't, there's an ever-increasing sense that the mental restraints that I am self-imposing will weaken my resolve somehow and provide a type of aid and comfort to the enemy which I – and so many others, are fighting.

I can't stop thinking that to do so would be a leap of faith, however. And though I've had faith and belief in what I've been doing to support my immune system in fighting this insidious – and incurable disease (stage IV lung cancer), I still want to think and act like I'm open to, and always doing, more – without leaping too much. But if more (something new and different – for me) causes me to do less of what I have already been doing and what I perceive has been successful in keeping me alive/enabling me to outlive my original prognosis, then I start using some of my deceased father's made-up words, which means I don't have any of my own real words to accurately describe the stress, anxiety, fear, uncertainty and "confliction" I feel. And even though invoking my father's memory – in almost any context is a good thing, invoking it here, with respect to one of my cancer conundrums seems disturbing somehow, as if I'm involving him in something I'd rather spare him from knowing. Do you know what I mean?

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

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Call Pat Gallagher 571-241-6324
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Call Terry@703-861-0538 or terry.atherton@longandfoster.com



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Beautifully decorated Craftmart Kenwood with 5 spacious BR's & 4 full baths upstairs, huge gourmet kitchen w/breakfast room overlooking peaceful 3 acre lot. Light-filled sunroom, library, 4FP, fin w/o lwr level, 3 car garage.



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A unique end unit TH w/4BR/3.5BA, amazing living space! Fenced rear yd, new deck, landscaped front yard. Kit w/SS appliances, new cabinets, granite countertops & tile backsplash, new floor-

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Call Jessica Brown 703-309-0441
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throughout, fin basement w/lots of storage, newer roof & siding. FR opens to a nice patio, large fully fenced, well maintained.

Call Elias Jabra 703-568-0711
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