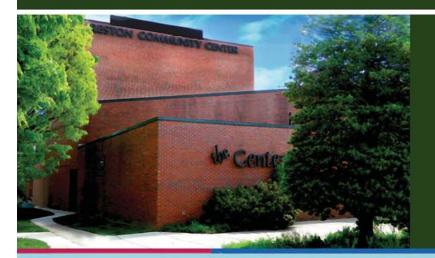


RESTON COMMUNITY CENTER ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING



The public is invited to attend the Reston Community Center Annual Public Hearing for programs and budget.

Monday, June 18, 2012 6:30 p.m. • RCC Hunters Woods

Comments may be sent to RCCContact@fairfaxcounty.gov if you cannot attend.

RCC Teen Slides & Rides Club

Ages 12 - 18

\$20 Reston/\$40 Non-Reston



Saturday, June 23 SIX FLAGS

Reg# 804222-2A • 6:00 a.m. -11:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 14 BUSCH GARDENS

Reg# 804222-3A • 8:00 a.m. -11:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 28 MASSANUTTEN WATERPARK

Reg# 804222-3B • 8:00 a.m. -11:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 11 KINGS DOMINION

Reg# 804222-3C • 8:00 a.m. -11:00 p.m.

Come and join the Slides and Rides Club and experience the many rides and attractions that Six Flags, Busch Gardens, Massanutten Waterpark and Kings Dominion have to offer.

Reston Community Center, Reston Association and Reston Teen Center have joined together to provide teens with a series of affordable trips to amusement parks throughout the summer. Please be advised that although there will be chaperones on this trip, teens will be on their own in the park and required to check in several times during the day.

Bus transportation will be provided for all day trips. Participants must be prepared to purchase their own meals. Registration forms and liability waivers must be completed by a parent/guardian in order for the teen to participate in any of the activities. Registration will be accepted by Reston Community Center only. Rising middle and high school students only. Please check in at RCC Hunters Woods. Time of return is estimated at 11:00 p.m. for all trips.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenny Burrowes, Teen Program Director, 703-476-4500



www.restoncommunitycenter.com

2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston VA 20191

To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-476-4500 • 800-828-1120 (TTY)





Reston Connection Sports Editor Rich Sanders 703-224-3031 or Richsand8@aol.com

News

Reston founder Robert Simon tells stories from his early life at the Reston Community Center Lake Anne Thursday, April 19.



PHOTO BY
ALEX MCVEIGH/

Museum Tells Story of pre-Reston Simon

Program features early life of founder Robert Simon.

By Alex McVeigh The Connection

hile Robert E. Simon Jr. literally started Reston's history, his own history goes back five decades. Reston wasn't founded until Simon was 50, and the Reston Historic Trust attempted to fill in residents on Simon's early life during their Thursday, April 19 program at the Reston Community Center Lake Anne.

Simon celebrated his 98th birthday April 10, he was born in 1914 in New York City. He was one of four children (the only son) born to Robert E. Simon Sr. and Elsa Weil. Robert Simon Sr. was born in 1877 and started work at age 14 at a ribbon factory.

"It didn't take long before he got in trouble," said Loren Bruce of the Reston Historic Trust, one of the presenters. "Nobody knew Robert Sr. was color blind, so he didn't last very long at that job."

Robert Simon Sr. was a partner in a real estate company by the time he was 21, and Bruce said he "worshipped" Weil, due to her high level of education received at Vassar College. Education was greatly respected by the elder Robert Simon.

"My father valued education enormously, in my opinion he almost overvalued it, because he started working when he was 14," Simon said. "My mother was very interested in music... she very often had us singing something or other, and I remember sitting on her lap while we listened to a performance of the whole "Ring Cycle" [by Richard Wagner]. She might have thought of it as a punishment, but I thought it was the greatest collection of music there was."

In 1920 Robert Simon Sr. sold the Paramount Building on 43rd and 44th Street in New York for approximately \$750,000. His father used that money to take his family to Europe for 15 months, visiting Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Belgium Holland and England

THE TRIP PROVED TO BE a memorable one for Robert Simon Jr., for good and bad reasons. On the trip, on the border of Germany and Austria, their car collided with another car, throwing Robert Simon Sr. and Jr. (who were in the front seat) through the

windshield, and severely injuring his sister Betty, but all survived.

The trip also provided Simon with many architectural inspirations for Reston.

Industrialist Andrew Carnegie began construction of the hall that would bear his name in 1890. After his death in August 1919, his widow eventually sold it to Robert Simon Sr. in 1925, a move that would prove instrumental to the history of Reston.

Meanwhile, Simon attended the Horace Mann School, graduating in 1931. He then headed to Harvard to study Literature and History from 1931 to 1935.

"I specialized in the Henry VIII era of history," Simon said. "I also played squash and tennis and did a lot of singing. I was lucky enough in my last two years to get into the group that did the morning services at Harvard Chapel... we would also try and perform at funerals, which was good for about \$20."

After graduating from Harvard, Simon's father arranged for him to work at a local business to learn the ropes, until Simon was ready to join his father's business. But it was not to be.

"In 1935, his father passed away, and Robert has already graduated and is finishing up a bicycle trip around England and France," Bruce said. "His mother and three sisters greeted him at the dock, and soon he took over responsibility for the family business."

Later Robert Simon Jr. served in the Army from 1942 to 1946, serving in the Quartermaster corps and he left the Army as a captain.

He also sold Carnegie Hall to the city of New York in 1960, for \$5 million. That money would eventually go toward purchasing 6,750 acres of land outside of Washington, D.C., which would eventually become Reston.

Kristina Alcorn and Bruce presented the story of Simon's life, taking their information from more than six hours of interview tapes with him, as well as other sources.

"The challenge with history is that it's going back to someone's earliest memories. If I were to line up 10 people who all witnessed the same event, chances are we'd get 10 different versions," Bruce said. "We compared notes of our interviews and there's not a lot of discrepancies, so we're hoping that's confirmation that we're close to the real events."

During the process, Alcorn accompanied Robert Simon Jr. and his wife to New York City. She recalled

See Simon, Page 5



A family joins the vigil for Trayvon Martin at Reston Town Center Tuesday, April 7.

Town Center Hosts Trayvon Martin Rally

More than 150 attend interfaith rally in support of justice.

By Alex McVeigh The Connection

s the Trayvon Martin case began making headlines around the nation, Rev. Mary Barrino-Smith of the Community of All People United Church of Christ decided it was time to get the local community involved. By contacting local faith communities and spreading the word online, more than 150 people attended a vigil Tuesday, April 17 at Reston Town Center.

"We wanted to bring people together to show support for the Martin family, as well as our dissatisfaction of a law like Florida's Stand Your Ground law," Barrino-Smith said. "Our church is known for their activism when it comes to social justice causes, and we wanted to make sure our voice was heard."

Barrino-Smith said the church takes particular issue with the Stand Your Ground law, and the 20 other states that have similar laws on the books.

"We feel those are the kinds of laws that threaten people's lives and their civil rights," she said. "We see those laws as something to follow up on, to help open people's eyes."

The day after the vigil, George Zimmerman turned himself in after being charged with second-degree murder. Barrino-Smith said she was happy Zimmerman turned himself in so the judicial process could take place.

"I'm glad the outcry across the country led to a further examination of what happened that day," she said. "Obviously, we don't know all the facts, but had the charges not been made, I feel like it's something important that would have gone ignored."

Deborah Love Rogers of the National Council of Negro Women Reston-Dulles section was in attendance April 17.

"It was a very good energy there, it was good to bring matters of national importance to the local community," she said. "There were a lot of mothers and parents there, who I'm sure felt the pain of the situation. It was a pleasant surprise, I've never seen that sort of community response on short notice."

More information on the church can be found at www.allpeopleucc.org.



Rev. Mary Barrino-Smith of the All People United Church of Christ addresses more than 150 people gathered at Reston Town Center Tuesday, April 17 to show their support for Trayvon Martin.

News

Coming In from The Cold

Fairfax County hosts hypothermia meeting to address shelters' concerns.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

airfax County officials met with about 75 representatives from churches and other houses of worship Sunday, April 22, to address rumors and concerns that the County's Fire Marshal will shut down their hypothermia programs next winter - and shut out many homeless residents - because of fire code violations.

Held at St. Stephens United Methodist Church in Burke, the information session was hosted by county staff, elected officials and nonprofit partners. Panelists included Amanda Andere, executive director of FACETS; Kerri Wilson, executive director of Reston Interfaith and Deputy County Executive Patricia Harrison.

"I think the bottom line is that the fire marshal's office will work individually with houses of worship to make sure they are safe and up to code," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large),

who called Sunday's meeting.

"In some cases, it might be as simple as a installing a smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector," she said.

Currently, about 35 houses of worship provide shelter to approximately 1,000 homeless residents during the winter months. Each year, various churches, synagogues, mosques and temples take turns providing space to provide food and shelter for the homeless population during the winter months. Last year, there were no hypothermia-related deaths reported during the season

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

(D- Hunter Mill), who has been a longtime advocate for the county's homeless population, said she wants to see the county maintain a partnership with the faith community in a safe environment.

"But the more critical issue is how will we eliminate or reduce hyperthermia without the needed housing? Our faith partners are looking to us to do the heavy lifting by providing the housing so they can support the county by serving the clients," Hudgins said.

Sunday's meeting was prompted by concerns from some church leaders that they would be forced to shut down their programs due to fire code violations.

On Monday, April 16, the Rev. Keary Kincannon of Rising Hope Mission Church in Alexandria sent out a press release stating the county will close 18 of 36 churches that host a hypothermia program.

"Nine churches will not be allowed to bring the homeless in from the cold under any circumstances. An additional nine require extensive work to correct code violations that may cost hundreds of thousands of dollars," Kincannon said in the release.

Last week, Bulova said four houses of worship may be affected by their inability to comply with fire

Fast Facts about Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Program

❖ During the 2010-2011 winter season, approximately 1,025 residents sought shelter through Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Program, in partnership with other agencies.

• During the 2011-2012 winter season, partners opened their shelters to "no turn-away" status on Nov. 1, even if the weather was not at freezing temperatures.

❖ FACETS' Hypothermia Prevention Season is Nov. 21 through March 17. FACETS served more than 219 clients last season.

❖ Volunteers of America Chesapeake (VOA) Baileys Crossroad's Hypothermia Program served more than 442 clients last season and an additional 84 clients in their other winter seasonal programs for a total of 526 clients.

* Reston Interfaith's Embry Rucker Community Shelter (ERCS) operates three separate winter programs. The ERCS Winter North County Program and winter seasonal programs served over 298 clients last season.

❖ The Homeless Healthcare Program (HHP) has four nurse practitioners from the Fairfax County Health Department providing free flu shots during Hypothermia Prevention season.

For more information on Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Program, go to http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/partnerupdate/partnership-highlights-hyposeason2011-12.htm

"I think the bottom line is that the fire marshal's office will work individually with houses of worship to make sure they are safe and up to code."

— Chairman Sharon Bulova, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

codes, not 18, and stressed Fairfax County's longstanding support of the Hypothermia Prevention Program.

"I have been working with County staff to make sure safety concerns that arose during this program year are addressed before the 2012-2013 program begins," Bulova said in an email announcing Sunday's session.

"I am committed to finding solutions that do not put undue burden on houses of worship but still provide adequate safety for the vulnerable population that relies on the Hypothermia Program during the winter months."

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock), who attended Sunday's meeting and met with faith representatives last week, said part of the concern was that some churches heard they were on the list (for code violations), but didn't know why.

"There was a real interest in churches to counter the rumor mill," Cook said. "The meeting was a good step in that regard."

Cook said other localities, such as Richmond and Virginia Beach, have encountered similar issues because the fire code is a state-wide set of regulations enacted by the General Assembly but enforced by local jurisdictions. Tensions arise because each jurisdiction has some discretion when interpreting the codes.

"Everyone has to take deep breath, and recognize that we have to work through a process," Cook said. "But there's a significant commitment and confidence on the county's part that we can work through these issues."

"Fairfax County has a unique partnership with our faith communities and non-profits. We are committed to serving the homeless population in a way that is compassionate and ensures their safety," Bulova said.

Spending Plan Approved

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

he General Assembly passed a spending plan for FY2012-2014 last week in a session that had much more drama than most meetings of the state's legislature. One Democratic Senator changed his vote after the budget had failed to pass in order that the constitutionally required majority could be reached; a Republican Senator got a State Police escort back to the Capitol from visiting his wife in the hospital in order that he could vote. By a one vote margin the \$85 billion spending plan for the next biennium was approved.

I refer to the bill that passed as a spending plan because it lacks essential features of a real budget. Every year the Governor and the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committee members get together and slice the pie of available state revenue. Just as at any party, there often is sharp disagreement as to the size of the slices and who should get what. Such a disagreement delayed approval of the plan for about a month. The good news with such a system is that the spending plan is balanced so long as the revenue estimates are accurate. The bad news is that needs often go unmet.

One of the areas of greatest need that continues to go unaddressed is in transportation. Although Governor McDonnell campaigned for his job on the basis of having a transportation plan, he has yet to show leadership in meeting the growing urgency of responding to the worst traffic congestion in the Nation that is in Northern Virginia. The most logical answer to automobile traffic congestion is to provide alternative means of commuting such as mass transit among others. While Governor McDonnell agreed to provide an additional \$150 million of state funds for the Silver Line Metrorail project, the amount is a fraction of the monies being provided in Hampton Roads for projects there. No analysis is provided as to the relative need of the regions of the state in dividing up funds



COMMENTARY

as budgeting system with minimal sophistication would require. While the Governor frequently reminded voters during his campaign that he was born in Northern Virginia, he has spent the last several decades in the Tidewater region. He is well aware of the transportation needs there from personal experience, but he does not seem to respond as strongly to the needs of Northern Virginia that are well documented.

Budget amendments sponsored in the House by me and Delegate Tom Rust and in the Senate by Senators Janet Howell and Mark Herrings to increase the amount of direct state support to the Silver Line were not supported by the Governor nor approved in the General Assembly. The budget impasse was related to getting the Senate amendment approved. While the approved spending plan did not include the additional monies, the Silver Line Phase 2 can move forward with its existing financial plan and have an increase in state monies for the project debated at future General Assembly ses-

The needs of our region for additional transportation funding are but one example of an antiquated state budgeting system that leaves our region short of the state assistance it warrants. Just slicing up a shrinking pie is not adequate for our high growth region. We will limp along with another spending plan, but the Governor could create a real legacy for himself by providing real leadership for an objective based budget that would certainly include more monies for the Silver Line, our schools and social services.

FAITH

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

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road in Herndon, has Sunday Worship Service at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery and childcare are

available during worship services. Youth and Adult Sunday School is held Sundays from 9:40-10:45 a.m. 703-437-5500 or

www.trinityherndon.org.

Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road in Herndon, has worship services at 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays, with a Latino service on Saturdays at 7 p.m. 703-793-0026 or www.florisumc.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Brown's Chapel, 11450 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston, holds monthly classes for the general public. Gen Kelsang Varahi, an American Buddhist nun, will teach 'Living Meditation: Meditation for Relaxation,' teachings and guided meditations that teach students how to relax their body and mind. \$12. www.meditation-dc.org or 202-986-2257.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 1700 Wainwright Drive in Reston, holds Sunday services at 7:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and contemporary service at 5 p.m. Nursery, Sunday School and Adult Education available. Morning Prayer on Monday at 9:30, Holy Eucharist Wednesday at 8:15 a.m. 703-437-6530 or www.stannesreston.org.

Simon

From Page 3

one experience that stood out, while they were passing by the apartment at 404 Riverside Drive, the apartment where the Simon family grew up.

"We walked past, and Bob pointed out the window, and we kept walking. Then we looked back and Bob was standing in front of the building, and talking to the doorman, and the next thing we know we were on our way up to the apartment," she said. "We were on our way up and I wondered what we would encounter, and we encountered a very gracious mom and her teenagers, and she let us in, and Bob went around showing us things and making comments like 'Oh, my mom would not have liked this pool table here.' It was a testament to Bob and his 'can do' style."

THE RESTON MUSEUM will present the early days of Reston for their May program, which will tell the story of Simon's land purchase and the initial planning of Reston. The program will take place May 24 at the Reston Community Center Lake Anne at 7 p.m.

More information is available at www.restonmuseum.org.

Photo Gallery!

"Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

reston@connectionnewspapers.com
Or to mail photo prints, send to:
The Reston Connection,

"Me and My Mom Photo Gallery," 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314 Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable

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Bring in coupon for 100,000 points

These prizes to be awarded

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- ${\tt 2. \ \textbf{Canon}\ PowerShot\ Camera,\ \$400.}$
- 3. **Saeco** Espresso Maker, \$350.
- 4. Canon Camcorder, \$290.
- 5. **DeLonghi** Food Processor, \$250.
- 6. **Garmin** GPS System, \$160.
- 7. Keurig Coffee System, \$160.8. Frigidaire Toaster Oven, \$150.
- 9. **Kick** Sound System, \$115.
- 10. **Tiger** Rice Cooker, \$100. Game Ends 6/02/2012

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OPINION

Connection Wins Public Service Award for Homeless Coverage

VPA Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service; plus 44 other awards.

awarded the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service last Saturday, April 22, "for exhaustive coverage of homelessness in the newspaper's circulation area." The award was announced in Roanoke at the press association's annual convention. EDITORIAL

The public service entries were judged by Robert Giles, former editor and publisher of The Detroit News and the O'Connell, the project included stories, video immediate past curator of the Nieman Foun-

Giles wrote of the Connection coverage:

"Its stories gave voice to the homeless. Its stories effectively portrayed the plight of the poor living in tents and other makeshift shelters. It reported on how poverty and homelessness affects children. It examined the causes of homelessness and explained why people don't have a place to live even when some have a job. It reported on the role of government and groups that advocate for the poor.

he Connection Newspapers was It provided extensive lists of community organizations with missions to help the poor and homeless, and told how individuals could vol-

> "It invited knowledgeable citizens to contribute guest editorials that offered perspectives and fresh ideas for addressing the problems of

homelessness."

The online component of the homeless project also won first place in the multimedia category. Edited by Michael

and photos by Victoria Ross, Deb Cobb, Robbie Hammer, Bonnie Hobbs and Amber Healy.

The Connection Newspapers group, including the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and Centre View and Potomac Almanac, won 45 awards in all.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet won 17

The top award winner was Michael Lee Pope, who won 12 awards including first place for government writing; health, science and environmental writing; in-depth or investigative

WINNING ENTRIES, CONNECTION, CENTRE VIEW

See a complete list of winners on

❖ Virginia Press Association 2011 Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service

❖ Michael O'Connell, Victoria Ross, Deb Cobb, Robbie Hammer, Bonnie Hobbs, Amber Healy, 1st Place, Fairfax Victoria Connection, Multimedia Feature Report, Ross An End to Homelessness,



Judges comments: Wow. This is an amazing endeavor. The print and digital components complement each other nicely, although I would have liked to see

some aggressive promotion **Deb Cobb** of digital from print. The video and photo gallery

provide nice layers to the overall storytelling. The webpage



featuring your original coverage will be an excellent home to keep following this important topic. Well-

❖ Alex McVeigh, 1st Place, Great Falls Connection, In-Depth Or Investigative

Reporting & Bonnie Hobbs, 1st

place, Centre View, Education Writing, Judges Comments: What the judges really appreciate about Bonnie's stories is that each one is a unique, interesting and very readable story that makes the sometimes dry subject of education coverage appealing to readers. Much more than the "school Hobbs



board did this and the school board did that" type stories that so many newspapers publish, not to say that this coverage is not important. Bonnie's work really made us want to read it. Good job, and congratula-

Bonnie Hobbs, 1st place, Centre View, Feature were fantastic. Great writing style really makes these unique stories shine. Nicely packaged final product.

❖ Deb Cobb, 1st place, Fairfax Connection, Online Slideshow, Wounded Warriors at Bat

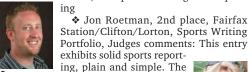
❖ Deb Cobb, 1st place, Fairfax Connection, General News Photo, Warm Welcome, Judges comments: I love how every subject in this photo is engaged into a mo-

ment. Wonderful.

❖ Deb Cobb, 1st Place, Burke Connection, Photo-Illustration, Vampire Feast, Judges comments: The intensity in the model's face combined with the high contrast photo make this a dynamic illustration for a story about vampires.

❖ Victoria Ross, 2nd place, Fairfax Station/Clifton/ Lorton, In-Depth Or Investigative Report-

❖ Jon Roetman, 2nd place, Fairfax



Portfolio, Judges comments: This entry exhibits solid sports reporting, plain and simple. The completeness of these sto-

Roetman ries is the name of the game here. The reporter demonstrates versatil-

ity, switching from feature to news writing within the articles themselves, giving the reader the whole story. ❖ Jeanne Theismann, 2nd place,

Mount Vernon Gazette, Feature Story Writing, 10th Anniversary of 9-11, Judges comments: Good job of writing about the 10-year anniversary of 9/11 — many stories were written, this

was one of the better ones. Nice work. ❖ Louise Krafft, 2nd place, Mount Vernon Gazette, Picture Story or Essay, Graduation Day in the Mount Vernon District, Judges comments: Good variety

of a regular event in the community. Louise * Michael Lee Pope, 2nd place, Mount Vernon Gazette, Business and Financial Writing



Lashawn

❖ Lashawn Avery-Simon, 2nd Place, Arlington Connection, General News Photo, ribbon cutting at park, Judges comments: great expression and tight Lee Pope composition

❖ Michael Lee Pope, 2nd Place, Arlingon Connection

Science and Environmental Writing, Judges comments: Excellent writing. Diverse topics. Took what could be dry material and led me through it and kept me interested. Good work.

Marilyn Campbell, 2nd Place, Great Falls Connection, Personal Service Writ- Marilyn ing, Beating the Holiday Blues, Great Campbell





place, Fairfax Connection, In-Depth Or Investigative Reporting

columns are strong, particularly the one taking to task a school board on its disciplinary procedures in light of a student's suicide. The community is better for her work.

In-Depth Or Investigative Reporting

Read the Winners

Many of the winning entries are posted at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/

reporting; breaking news and public safety

In addition to her work on the homeless project, photographer Deb Cobb won individual first place awards for photo illustration for a cover depicting a vampire; for an online slide show of "wounded warriors at bat," and for general news photo.

Bonnie Hobbs won two first place awards, one for education writing and one for feature portfolio. Alex McVeigh won first place for in depth or investigative reporting for his coverage of a land use issue in Great Falls. Montie Martin won two first place awards, one for business writing, the other for personal ser-

The Children's Connection won an award and judges said it was a "simple and elegant idea showcasing children's artwork, a great way to attract young readers."

While it is gratifying and fun to win awards, it reflects our mission to tell the stories of the local community. We welcome your ideas and suggestions about what we should be covering now.

MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM, WWW.TWITTER.COM/MARYKIMM

American Smokeout, Getting into 'Right Fit' Private School; Judges comments: Trio of strong entries.

❖ Mike O'Connell, Victoria Ross, Deb Cobb, Robbie Hammer, Bonnie Hobbs, Amber Healy 2nd place, Fairfax Connection, Special Sections or Special Edi-

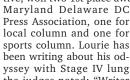
tions, End to Homelessness, Judges comments: "End to Homelessness" tab. It is nice to see a newspaper commit to a project such as this in the form of a spe-

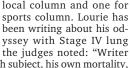
❖ Julia O'Donoghue, 2nd place, Fairfax Connection, Education Writing

W2W06 31912 Judges comments: Very Julia nice variety in these stories, again, like O'Donoghue the first place winner, going much deeper into the multitude of possibilities available in coverage



* Kenny Lourie, longtime columnist and Connection advertising representative, won two 1st place awards from the

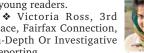




yssey with Stage IV lung cancer, and the judges noted: "Writer chooses tough subject, his own mortality, and handles it quite well.

He gives us an honest look at a very personal issue." ❖ Kemal Kurspahic, Laurence Foong, Amna Rehmatulla, 3rd place, Reston Connection, Special Sections or Special

Editions W2M08 30698, Children's Con-Laurence nection, Judges comments: Simple and elegant idea showcasing children's artwork, a great way to attract young readers.



Burke Connection, Editorial
Writing, Judges comments: Mary Kimm's

❖ Michael Pope, 3rd place, Mount Vernon Gazette,



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NEWS DEPARTMENT: To discuss ideas and concerns. Call: 703-778-9410 e-mail: reston@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic Editor * 703-778-9414 kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Amna Rehmatulla **Editorial Assistant** 703-778-9410 ext.427 arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com

Alex McVeigh Community Reporter * 703-778-9441 amcveigh@connectionnewspapers.com

@AMcVeighConnect Victoria Ross County Reporter ***** 301-502-6027 rosspinning@yahoo.com

Rich Sanders Sports Editor 703-224-3031 rsanders@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING: For advertising information e-mail: sales@connectionnewspapers.com

> Trisha Hamilton Display Advertising 703-778-9419

trisha@connectionnewspapers.com **Andrea Smith** Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411

classified@connectionnewspapers.com **Debbie Funk** National Sales

703-778-9444 debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

> **Editor & Publisher** Mary Kimm

703-778-9433 mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MaryKimm

Executive Vice President Jerry Vernon jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

> **Editor in Chief** Steven Mauren **Managing Editor** Kemal Kurspahic Photography: Deb Cobb, Louise Krafft, Craig Sterbutzel Art/Design: Laurence Foong, John Heinly, John Smith **Production Manager:** Jean Card Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher

Jeanne Theismann 703-778-9436 jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426 **Circulation Manager:** Linda Pecquex

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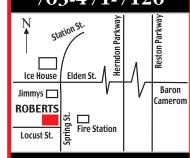
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Michael Lee Pope

❖ Michael Lee Pope, FIRST PLACE, Breaking News Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

♦ Michael Lee Pope, FIRST PLACE, Government Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

♦ Michael Lee Pope, FIRST PLACE, Health, Science & Environmental Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

♦ Michael Lee Pope, FIRST PLACE, In-Depth or Investigative Reporting, Alexandria Gazette Packet

♦ Michael Lee Pope, FIRST PLACE, Public Safety Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

♦ Montie Martin, FIRST PLACE, Business & Financial Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

❖ Montie Martin, FIRST PLACE, Personal Service Writing,



Montie Martin

Alexandria Gazette Packet



❖ Deb Cobb, FIRST PLACE, Photo Illustration, Burke Connection

❖ Deb Cobb, FIRST PLACE, General News Photo, Fairfax Connection

❖ Deb Cobb. FIRST PLACE, Online Slide Show, Fairfax Connection

Deb Cobb

*Bonnie Hobbs, FIRST PLACE,

Education Writing, Centre View

♦ Bonnie Hobbs, FIRST PLACE, Feature Writing Portfolio, Centre View North

♦ Michael O'Connell, Victoria Ross, Deb Cobb, Robbie Hammer, Bonnie Hobbs,



Hobbs



Amber Healy, FIRST PLACE, Multimedia Feature Report, Fairfax Connection

♦ Alex McVeigh, FIRST PLACE, In-Depth or Investigative Reporting, Great Falls Connection

Victoria Ross

♦ Kenny Lourie, FIRST PLACE, Local Column, Potomac Almanac

Kenny Lourie, FIRST PLACE, Sports Column, Potomac A**İ**manac

♦ Ken Moore, Mary Kimm, Robbie Hammer, FIRST PLACE, Continuing News Coverage, Potomac Almanac



McVeigh

Alex



Mary

Kimm

♦ Staff, SECOND PLACE, General Makeup, Alexandria Gazette **Packet**

♦ Staff, SECOND PLACE, Lifestyle or Entertaiment Pages, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Kenny

Lourie

Ken Moore

Jeanne

Marilyn

Theismann



Robbie Hammer

♦ leanne Theismann, SECOND PLACE, Headline Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

❖ Jeanne Theismann. SECOND PLACE,

Business & Financial Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

❖ Jeanne Theismann, SECOND PLACE, Feature Story Writing, Mount Vernon Gazette

♦ Michael Lee Pope, SECOND PLACE, Personal Service Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

❖ Michael Lee Pope, SECOND PLACE, Health, Science & Environmental Writing, Arlington Connection

♦ Michael Lee Pope, SECOND PLACE, Business & Financial Writing, Mount Vernon Gazette



Lashawn Avery-Simon

❖ Lashawn Avery-Simon, SECOND PLACE, General News Photo, Arlington Connection

♦ Mike O'Connell, Victoria Ross, Deb Cobb, Robbie Hammer, Bonnie Hobbs, Amber Healy, SECOND PLACE, Special Sections or Special Editions, Fairfax Connection

❖ Julia O'Donoghue, SECOND PLACE, Education Writing, Fairfax Connection

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❖ Victoria Ross, SECOND PLACE, In-Depth or Investigative Reporting, Fairfax Station/ Clifton/Lorton Connection

Campbell **♦ Jon Roetman, SECOND PLACE,** Sports Writing Portfolio, Fairfax Station/Clifton/ **Lorton Connection**

LOCAL MEDIA **NECTION**

Louise Krafft,







SECOND PLACE, Infographics, Potomac Almanac



Foong





Laurence



Feature Story, Profile, Potomac Almanac



Jon Roetman



Carole Dell



Susan **Belford**

❖ Louise Krafft, THIRD PLACE, Pictorial Photo, Alexandria Gazette Packet

♦ Michael Lee Pope, THIRD PLACE, Breaking News Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

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♦ Michael Lee Pope, THIRD PLACE, In-Depth or Investigative Reporting, Mount Vernon Gazette **♦ Mary Kimm,** THIRD PLACE, Editorial Writing,

Alexandria Gazette Packet ♦ Mary Kimm, THIRD PLACE, Editorial Writing, Burke Connection

❖ Victoria Ross, THIRD PLACE, In-Depth or Investigative Reporting, Fairfax Connection



Kemal **Kurspahic**

Kemal Kurspahic, Laurence Foong, Amna Rehmatulla, THIRD PLACE, Special Sections or Special Editions, Reston Connection



Amna Rehmatulla

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THEATRE

Seated first row, from left: Dino Coppa, Marisa Johnson, KJ Jacks, Andra Dindzans, Lee Slivka; second row: Gayle Nichols-Grimes, Rich Bird, Mary Suib, Mark Yeager; back row standing: Randall Baughman, David Gorsline, Matt Williams, Leta Hall.



PHOTO COURTESY O RESTON COMMUNITY PLAYER

All in Family

Reston Community Players presents Tony winner 'August Osage County.'

> BY DAVID SIEGEL The Connection

ith rich, memorable characters, a dark comedy about family members challenging each other" will drop in at Center Stage, said Andrew JM Regiec, director of "August Osage County." Complete with unforgettable family members living a very unique family life style the show is "fodder for how people communicate with each other with quite unexpected manners."

Written by Tracy Letts, "August Osage County" was the 2008 Pulitzer Prize winner for Drama and 2008 Tony Award winner for Best Play. It is frank, written for mature audiences.

The setting is modern day Oklahoma: a large country home. The story centers upon the middle-class Weston Family; a multi-generation family with its own full share of discord, secrets, abrasiveness, addictions, quick tongues and loads of comic touches reveling much.

Reston Community Players Director Regiec has put together an ensemble cast of 13 that spans many ages and much experience. "While the particular situations in the show may seem unique, the play really is about universal situations. It is about how we learn

Where and When

Reston Community Center, Center Stage Theater, Hunters Wood Village Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, Virginia, 20191. Performances: April 27 – May 12, 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays 2:30 p.. Matinee on May 6. Tickets: \$15-\$18. Phone 703-476-4500 or visit: www.restonplayers.org. Note: contains frank family melodrama laced with bitter comedy, sexuality, profanity, and mature themes. Not recommended for children under 13.

to recognize and then push the buttons of those we

During a recent interview, Regiec made connections between Lett's "August Osage County" and the "story building" playwriting of Tennessee Williams. He mentioned how both playwrights take on "the inner workings of a family and their struggles, making them fascinating."

Mary Suib, a veteran of area professional and community theater is the Weston mother, "a woman of great extremes, with intense strong feelings built upon the tremendous frustrations she has experienced over her life." For Suib, what is most unique is that her character's "frustrations just burst out of her, she has no filters to stop her."

Mark J. Yeager, with 25 years of acting experience, plays the patriarch of the family. For Yeager, his "character has real personality, a cerebral sort who gets wrapped up in his words, speaking with a dry, almost arrogant humor." His role sets off the evening with a monologue which "must grab the audience's attention so that he matters when others speak about him throughout the play."

Barbara Fordham is cast as one of the Weston's three daughters. Hers is "a tough character, wicked funny. She is part of a family that cannot filter themselves when they speak." Fordham said, "we all keep and use secrets in our families; whether families by blood, choice or chance. People will be able to relate to this show."

ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

Open Mic Night. 9:30 p.m-1:30 a.m. Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon. Every Wednesday. Register your band at BluesSlide@aol.com or 703-593-5206. www.jimmystavern.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 26

Fenwick Fellow Lecture and Reception. 2 p.m. George Mason University, Johnson Center Instruction Room, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With Dr. Michael

Chang, 2010-2011 Fenwick Fellow, on "Service at the Manchu Court: The Young Kangxi Emperor and His Personal Advisors." Refreshments served. 703-993-2491 or dhogan1@gmu.edu.

Comedy Night. 8:30 p.m. p.m. Sully's, 14513 Lee Jackson Highway, Chantilly. Every Thursday. 703-818-9292 or mysullys.com.

Soprano Hilary Park with David Lang. 2 p.m. Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, Center Stage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Free. 703-503-3384 or -476-4500

Friends Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. All ages. 703-689-2700.

Singer/Songwriter John

McCutcheon. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 27

Concert Pianist Joyce Yang. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Including pieces by Bach, Schumann, and Brahms. \$35. www.wolftrap.org. **Friends Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. All ages. 703-689-2700.

SATURDAY/APRIL 28

Operation Care Package 5k. 9 a.m. Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston, Race to raise funds for postage for servicemembers, featuring finishers ceremony with refreshments, awards and raffle prizes. Register at www.active.com/

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11

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Fairfax County Public Schools: Visual and Performing Arts

Coming Next Month: Summer Activities and Programs

The Power of Art

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"If I Were a Rich Man," Fiddler on the Roof

A catchy show tune, a mesmerizing photograph, stunning computer graphics, a stirring orchestra rendition, an eloquent pencil drawing, or

This Just In:

Fifteen Fairfax County Public School students received national medals for their entries in the 2012 Scholastic Art Awards sponsored by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers. the graceful movements of a modern dance performance – each has the power to move audiences and transport them to a moment in time.

Whatever the talent or interest, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) provides students with a comprehensive arts education.

Students in grades K through 6 receive music and art instruction taught by certified art teachers. Middle school and high school students may choose to enroll in a variety of elective course offerings in

all fine arts disciplines to include dance, music, theatre, and visual art. Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) art classes are offered for students in grades 11 - 12.

Art engages students in a process that helps them develop the self-esteem, self-discipline, cooperation, and self motivation necessary for success in life.

"Art making involves critical thinking and problem solving to create a product," said Aaron Stratten, art education specialist at FCPS. "In this sense, art is an authentic approach to providing students with essential skills they will need in the 21st century to

develop creative solutions to challenges. Creativity and problem solving are essential components of innovation which will feed the economy and industries of the future."

Art All Around Us

Students can explore many forms of art including art, music, photography, computer graphics, dance, orchestra, theatre, band, and more. Beginning in elementary school, students are introduced to concepts and processes that nurture creative thinking and problem solving through art and music classes.

"As they advance to the next grade level, students are exposed to recognized works of art and become actively involved in finding connections between images and ideas," said Stratten. "Emphasis is placed on exploring themes and concepts related to family and a sense of place. By participating in real and meaningful art experiences, students increase their understanding of the value of the visual arts to themselves, their family, and to the world in which they live."

Music to Your Ears

More than 40,000 FCPS students are enrolled in the music elective programs of band, chorus, general music, orchestra, and guitar. The vocal and instrumental ensembles are seen and heard worldwide. Locally, the ensembles perform at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, George Mason Center for the Performing Arts, and the White House among others.

"Music, through its inherent ability to develop intellectual and emotional communication skills, encourages cultural awareness and enriches society," said Tamra Ferreira, fine arts coordinator at FCPS. "The FCPS music curriculum provides opportunities for students to attain the knowledge and skills necessary to be become musically literate, well-rounded individuals."

Let the Shows Begin!

Springtime theatre productions bring performance spaces alive throughout Fairfax County Public Schools. The study of theatre provides students opportunities for personal and academic growth, ways to create bridges to other subject disciplines and other cultures, and the development of skills which provide

lifelong enjoyment. In middle school, FCPS students discover and explore the basic elements of theatre, and augment that study with a variety of theatre presentations and special events. At the high school level students develop and expand their knowledge, skills, and resources to create a high level of accomplishment in the classroom and in performance.

Go see a show at a Fairfax County Public School. Many events are free or inexpensive. Find out more at <u>www.fcps.edu</u> and click on the blue Events tab.



Getting To Know Us:

Herndon High School Theatre Teacher

Zoë Dillard

Zoë Dillard grew up around theatrical personalities, so it was an obvious choice when it came time to decide on a career. Theatre, of course.

Though she initially pursued acting roles, it was a request in 1982 from Falls Church High School to help them choreograph a musical that confirmed her love of working with young people in the theatre.

Today, she serves as the theatre director and teacher at Herndon High School.

Dillard believes theatre offers students a chance to discover themselves.

"High school is all about finding your niche. Some students come into the theatre to

for publicity."

Did You Know

More than 33,000 secondary students enrolled in fine and performing arts courses during the 2011-12 school year: Visual art – 12,400 Music – 12,600 Theatre – 2,600

Dance - 200

see what's here and what's going on. Once they are here, they realize there are many opportunities," said Dillard. "They can direct children's theatre or participate in improv. They can be part of the ensemble or put their technical skills to work building sets. They can work with 5th and 6th graders in the children's theatre. They can also use their computer graphic design skills

"I try to offer students many different kinds of opportunities in the theatre so they will grow," she said. "It's not just about acting."

"I love their energy," she continued. "By the time they are seniors, they've changed and grown. I find that inspiring to watch."



Cappies: Award-Winning Performances

"The C

For those who would rather critique than perform, the Cappies, or Critics and Awards Program, is designed for high school theatre and journalism students who are trained as theatre critics, attend shows at other schools, write reviews, and publish the reviews in local newspapers and online. The international program was launched by FCPS in 1999.

Each spring, Cappies critics nominate actors and technicians for Cappies awards, which are presented, along with awards for critics, at the annual Cappies Gala at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

"The Cappies Gala showcases the amazing artistic talents of our high school students," said Judy Bowns, co-founder of Cappies and theatre arts and dance specialist at FCPS. "Student actors, backstage technicians, singers, dancers, and musicians are honored with a Cappie by their peers who acknowledge this excellence by their votes. It's the only student theatre awards program that is student-driven with no awards decided by adults."

The gala draws more than 2,000 theatre students and their families. For more information visit www.cappies.com.



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10 * Reston Connection * April 25- May 1, 2012

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Entertainment

From Page 9

running/reston-va/operation-carepackage-5k-2012.

Friends Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. All ages. 703-689-2700.

Cheery Chickadees. 10:30 a.m. Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Reservations required by April 25. \$5-\$8. For age 3-5 accompanied by an adult. Reserve at 703-476-9689 or naturecenter@reston.org.

Virginia Ballet Company: Swan **Lake.** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Cultural Center Theater, 4001 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale. Tchaikovsky's four-act full-length classic ballet, with local dancers Christine Gilmore and Eleni Thomas alternating in the role of Odette,

www.virginiaballetcompany.org. Arts Reception and Performance.

Reston Community Center, Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. "Play," an exhibition of sculpture by six regional artists, at 5 p.m., followed by "Out of Place," a site-situated installation and contemporary dance performance, at 7:30 p.m.

www.restoncommunitycenter.com or 703-476-4500.

Folk Duo The Nields. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Traditional folk music. \$18. www.wolftrap.org.

Artists' Reception. 5-7 p.m. Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE), 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. "Play" features six artists linked by imagination and a childlike engagement with materials and concepts. www.restonarts.org or 703-471-9242

Yard Sale and Car Wash. 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. South Lakes High School, 11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston. Yard sale proceeds benefit the Choral Arts Department, car wash proceeds benefit the class of 2015. wallertraci3@gmail.com.

Puppy Prance Fun Walk and Canine Carnival. 10 a.m. Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. For families and dogs over 4 months old, followed by demos, contests, vendors, food, games and prizes. Proceeds benefit

BULLETIN BOARD

THURSDAY/APRIL 26

Oakton HIgh School Dance Team **Tryouts.** 4 p.m. Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. alphajane@aol.com

Registration Open House. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Clifton Children's Academy, 14315 Compton Road, Centreville. For fall 2012 kindergarten and preschool classes and summer camp. Reserve at 703-968-8455 or www.childrensacademy.com.

FRIDAY/APRIL 27

Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards Breakfast. 8 a.m.

Waterford, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. Honor volunteers who are dedicated to improving life in Fairfax County and finding new ways to serve. www.volunteerfairfax.org or 703-246-3816.

SATURDAY/APRIL 28 Fairfax County Women in the

Correction

On the cover of the April 18-24 issue, the caption for the photo

reads "co-chairs Michael Clarke and Cathy Vivona..." The female on

the cover is Valerie Novak, who was one of the event's co-chairs.



The International Chamber Soloists will perform at the Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road in Reston, on Sunday, April 29 at 2 p.m. Founded in 2004 by violinist Dmitri Berlinsky, they are a group of young string players from all over the world. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

paws4people/paws4vets. www.puppyprance.com.

SUNDAY/APRIL 29

Virginia Ballet Company: Swan

Lake. 2 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Cultural Center Theater, 4001 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale. Tchaikovsky's four-act full-length classic ballet, with local dancers Christine Gilmore and Eleni Thomas alternating in the role of Odette/ Odile.

www.virginiaballetcompany.org. Friends Book Sale. 1-3:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. All ages. 703-689-2700.

How to Make a Solar Oven. 1 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Recommended for children age 10 and up. Supplies provided. \$5-\$8. 703-476-9689 or naturecenter@reston.org.

April Bird Walk: Twin Branches. 7:30 a.m. Twin Branches Trail, intersection of Twin Branches and Glade Drive, Reston. Age 16 and up. Beginning and expert birders welcome. 703-476-9689 or

naturecenter@reston.org. **International Chamber Soloists.** 2

p.m. Reston Community Center. 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, A group of young string players from all over the world. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 2

Nature's Altered Seasons. 7 p.m. USGS, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive Reston. Free public lecture with Dr. Jake Weltzin. The USA National Phenology Network, a program sponsored by USGS, is a national effort to help track the timing of plant and animal activity as an indicator of environmental variation and climate change. This presentation describes current results. Federal facility, photo Id required. www.usgs.gov/public_lecture_series.

Open Mic Night. 9:30 p.m-1:30 a.m. Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon. Every Wednesday. Register your band at BluesSlide@aol.com or 703-593-5206. www.jimmystavern.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 3

The Phoenix Winds Trio. 2 p.m. Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, Center Stage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Jane Hughes on

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

NAACP Voter Registration Drive. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. 703-470-2137 or www.fairfaxvawin.org.

Fairfax County Women in the

NAACP Voter Registration Drive. 1-3 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. 703-470-2137 or www.fairfaxvawin.org.

Useful Services Exchange (USE) Meet and Greet. 1-3 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston, Learn about USE, a time bank through which services are traded. Live music and refreshments. Membership \$10/year for Reston/ Herndon residents.

www.restonuse.org or 703-860-5141. **Federal Resume Development** Workshop. 10 a.m. Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road, Herndon. Create a federal-styled resume. \$25-\$35. 703-281-

SUNDAY/APRIL 29

Our Constitution and How it has

Evolved Since 1788. 12:45 p.m. Fairfax Unitarian Church, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Focus will be on the profound changes from the original provisions and also the continual tension affecting the role of religion as originally provided in the First Amendment.

Cat Adoption. 1-4 p.m. PetSmart, 11860 Spectrum Center, Reston. Every Sunday. Sponsored by Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation. www.lostdogrescue.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 30

Kindergarten Information

Meeting. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Forest Edge Elementary, 1501 Becontree Lane, Reston. Kindergarten orientation. Register at 703-925-8000

TUESDAY/MAY 1

Online Tools to Manage Lyme and **Co-infections.** 7 p.m. Oakton

Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place. Oakton. Track diagnoses, symptoms, and treatment plans using a webbased program. Laptop recommended. Free, register at JournalMgr@TBIJournal.com or www.tbijournal.com.



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Sundays

8:30 AM Sanctuary, Traditional Worship Service 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

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Sports

The Silly and the Serious Mix at Bicycling Charity Event

Redskins' linebacker Alexander hosts third annual Ride to Provide.

By Amiee Freeman
The Connection

edskins linebacker Lorenzo Alexander along with teammate Kedric Golson and several other current and former Redskins traded in their shoulder pads and football helmets for biking shorts and biking helmets for the third annual Ride to Provide, a charity bike ride, Saturday April 21.

Approximately 150 riders joined Alexander in the event which raised nearly \$10,000 for Alexander's ACES (Accountability, Community, Education and Sport) Foundation, serving youth in Alexander's hometown of Oakland, Calif., and his adopted hometown of Washington, DC, and Ride 2 Recovery, a national-wide program designed to promote mental and physical healing among returned military service members

To participate, adult riders paid a \$50 registration fee. Riders were also able to enter a raffle to ride with a Redskin or media personality. Media personalities on hand included Kelli Johnson of Comcast SportsNet and ESPN's Chris Russell. Howiette, Pork Chop and Boss Hogette of the Hogettes were also on hand. Howiette said the Hogettes participate in 110 charity events per year and were happy to attend this one.

Riders were able to choose from 10, 20, 35 or 53 mile rides. The event began at 9 a.m. on Saturday at Reston Town Center. Riders rode at least part of the ride on the adjacent Washington and Old Dominion Trail. The Bike Lane, a bike shop located at Reston Town Center, provided tech support prior to the event and rented out loaner bikes.

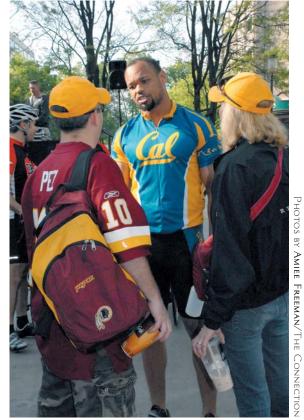
Prior to the event and sporting Pilate a blue and gold University of Cali-MBS.

fornia biking jersey, Alexander looked like just another cyclist getting ready for a ride. He explained that he became involved in cycling a few years ago through the Tour de Cure, a biking charity event which promotes awareness and fundraising for diabetes prevention and cure. Alexander is also a spokesman for the National Kidney Foundation. Diabetes research and prevention, and the work promoted by the National Kidney Foundation are causes that are personally important to Alexander as there is a history of diabetes in his family. Over the past few years, however, Alexander has expanded his interests to working with inner-city children.

"Me and Kedric really got into cycling a few years ago. We rode in the Tour de Cure a few years ago and saw how beneficial it is. It's really a good event for a good cause. I decided that I wanted to do a similar event for causes that are close to my heart," said Alexander.

Alexander along with his wife started ACES in 2008. The mission of ACES, as stated on its website, is "to support youth through emphasizing self-accountability, taking pride in community, striving for educational excellence while promoting a healthy mind and body through sports."

Alexander admitted just like everyone else, he has difficulty squeezing exercising into his busy schedule. Of course, as a professional football player, the majority of his schedule involves exercising. However, since adding children to his life, he said, he has had trouble making time for indoor cycling or outdoor rides. Alexander and his wife have two young daughters. In addition to his work, family and charity activities, Alexander and Golson own a Pilates studio in Ashburn, Studio MBS.



Washington Redskins' linebacker Lorenzo Alexander chats with Ride to Provide participants prior to Saturday's charity bike ride. This is the third year Alexander has hosted this event.



Reston residents, Josie Morrow, Aaron Fleet and Mason Rothman with dog Toby in basket came ready to ride.

UPON FIRST ENTERING the staging area, a trio of cyclists from Reston dressed in non-traditional biking attire were the first to catch many eyes. Josie Morrow was dressed as though she were headed for an Oktoberfest party, Aaron Fleet was dressed as a hippie with an Orange Crush t-shirt, and Mason Rothman was wearing a kilt (with biking shorts underneath). The three, plus their Chihuahua, Toby, riding as a passenger in basket attached to Morrow's handlebars, were geared up to do the 20 mile ride.

"We like doing a lot of Reston activities," said Rothman. "Plus, this is for a good cause." Rothman also said the three were former members of the armed services. The fact that the event supported Ride 2 Recovery was especially important to them, he said.

Morrow said she never thought she would live outside Washington, D.C., but she really enjoys living in Reston. Part of her love of living in Reston is participating in events such as the Ride to Provide. "It's a wonderful event," said Morrow.

Dr. Hirad Bagy of United Wellness Center, a chiropractic and physical therapy practice based in Herndon, participated in the event with his 8-year-old son Kian and three other members of the United Wellness team. Bagy is also the Redskin's official team chiropractor.

"We are happy to be part of this event. It looks like a great turnout," said Bagy.

Kian said he had been training for the event by riding his bike up and down his driveway. Team United Wellness was geared up for the 10-mile ride.

In addition to the costumed riders and the families was a team of riders with matching red, white and blue jerseys riding for Team Ride 2 Recovery. This team was composed of returned service members, veterans and their families. The goal of Ride 2 Recovery is to promote physical and mental rehabilitation for wounded veterans. Most riders on this team Saturday rode conventional bikes, however, there were also a few recumbent bikes and bikes with specially designed handlebars and clips to aid riders who had been wounded in combat.

"Cycling is really beneficial for physical, emotional and mental health," said Team R2R rider Connie Depner of Woodbridge. "It gets you out of your head and onto your bike."

Reston, Herndon Sports Notes

The **Northern Region's 30** varsity high school girls' lacrosse teams will each compete in their respective first round district tournament games next Friday, May 4. The region is made up of four districts - the Liberty, Concorde, Patriot, and National Districts.

But the first round district postseason games will be extra special this spring because they will benefit breast cancer research. The Friday night of district tournament field hockey is being dubbed the first annual 'Virginia High School League (VHSL) Tournament for a Cure.'

VHSL is the governing body of high school sports in Virginia.

Each of the Friday night district first round contests will be played at different locations in support of, and for the awareness of, breast cancer research and its cure. Proceeds from the postseason games will be given to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

More than 625 girls' lacrosse players from the region will take the field for the postseason showcase wearing the same 'pink' attire, unified in their support for the breast cancer awareness cause. All of the players will be wearing pink hair wraps, pink ribbon shoe laces, and pink ribbon pins.

The multi- site, multi- team, near simul-

taneous effort is the first of its kind and one in which the Northern Region Girls Lacrosse Coaches Association hopes will become an annual event.

"It is a unique and first of its kind tournament in support of breast cancer awareness, its research and cure," said Lindsey Linden, the head coach of the South Lakes High girls' lacrosse team.

Fundraising for this year's district tournaments was left to each team.

OPINION

Finally - a Budget!

By Jack Kenny Past President, Republican Club of Greater Reston

t started in January, 2012 when the Virginia General Assembly convened for the 2012 Session. The Democrats, unhappy over being turned down in their bid for power-sharing in committee assignments commenced a guerilla action – putting partisan politics ahead of the needs of Virginians. The

first budget was DOA. The next was a refusal to negotiate. Then, it was healthcare and education. Finally, it devolved to a \$300M earmark for funding Rail-to-Dulles Phase II.

The final budget provided a sound, disciplined approach to meeting the key needs and functions of our government: K-12 public education got an increase of \$500B; higher education got a \$200M increase; transportation got an extra \$10B; health and education got \$44M for our safety net, 225 intellectual disability waivers and 80 developmentally disabled waiver slots and more beds at the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute. The Virginia Retirement System was reformed and additional money was allocated to meet actuarial requirements which enabled Moody's to rate it credit positive: a historic first. The budget would also have funded 23 vacant judgeships in courts around the state that will reduce a growing backlog of cases.

The budget was not passed during the regular 60-day session. The Governor had to call a special session at additional costs to get to an agreed upon budget of \$85B covering the next two years. The delay caused by Democrat demands for funding the Silver Line – Phase II started to spin out of control. Local governments, school boards, state universities and agencies, attempting to finalize their operating budgets starting July 1 – the new fiscal year were



A DIFFERING POINT OF VIEW

stymied. VDOT notified its contractors that as of May 1, they could not authorize any additional work. In short, we came dangerously close to a shutdown of the state government.

The Democrats picked what they thought would be a political winner in contributing to the comple-

tion of the Silver Line: the proposal to come up with the \$300M included raising the state borrowing limit by \$300M. This would allow the state to borrow \$300M. That ploy ran aground rather quickly when it was pointed out that it would be like using a credit card to make a car-payment. It was pointed out that if the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, managing the Silver Line project restructured their debt, tolls could be reduced by 90 cents a trip. With the \$300M contribution, the fare reduction would be only 40 cents a trip.

What happened at the end? One of the Democrat signatories to the budget agreement, Senator Charles J. Colgan (D-Manassas) went back on his signed pledge and voted no on the final budget. Thereby throwing a proverbial monkey wrench into the works. Our Senator Howell (D-Reston) supported his move.

Whether it was stupidity, senility or just a bad miscalculation brought on by the realization that the Dems would take the fall if a state government shutdown occurred, a vote was re-scheduled the next day and Senator Colgan responsibly joined the Senate Republicans to pass the budget. Thus, Virginia continues its disciplined approach, holding spending and taxation at manageable levels and providing an efficient government meeting our core needs that, as was announced this past week, achieved another reduction in the state unemployment rate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sad and Unfortunate

To the Editor:

This letter is a response to a recent column by Jack Kenny regarding the testimony of Sandra Fluke before Congress ["Creating a Need," Reston Connection, March 28-April 3, 2012]. There are several demeaning, less than factual and condescending terms used by Mr. Kenny to describe/comment on Ms. Fluke's testimony. Of note: Mr. Kenny said "knowing her background" and that she failed to mention previous 10 years as an outspoken activist for women's rights. I am unaware that such activity is unlawful, out of the purview of an American citizen's right to free speech or to work for justice regarding a cause she believes in. Mr. Kenny stated that what is "most offensive" is the "idea that recreational sex is included in reproductive rights". What part of Ms. Fluke's testimony mentioned "recreational sex"? Mr. Kenny omitted the extremely important fact that birth control pills are pre-

dangerous problems of the female reproductive system. I know this because I am a woman and know many men who also know this because they care about women. Mr. Kenny referred to Rush Limbaugh's comments regarding Ms. Fluke as simply "ill-chosen words" and "colorful". Mr. Kenny neglected to mention Mr. Limbaugh's "colorful" reference or request to watch Ms. Fluke having this "recreational sex." There are words for people who wish to watch other people having sex. Perhaps "perverted" comes to mind. Mr. Kenny stated that birth control decisions should be between [among] a woman, her pastor, and her husband. I would not put the pastor between a husband and wife but this is a proper concept...and an amazingly recent one not favored by some Republican candidates who then espouse the idea that government should stay out of citizens' lives. Mr. Kenny seems very concerned repaying for "unmet needs." Those of us who have insurance do that every day, whether for a very ill

scribed for various painful and

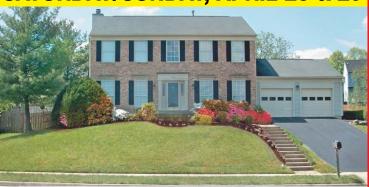
insured person or one who is not insured.

We are left with the question of what kind of a country do we want...one in which uninsured human beings (children among them) die for lack of affordable care or one in which we cooperate to further a nation of the healthiest and most productive citizens possible? Mr. Kenny refers to "the opulent life style of the occupants of the White House." Is he referring solely to the Obamas? Have we not had wealthy presidents before? And is not the prospective nominee of Mr. Kenny's party living in opulence? Is opulence a good thing when one is a Republican but maligned when a Democrat? The state of political discourse in our country is simply sad and unfortunate and will be a dark part of our history as a great country. It does nothing to bring us together for intelligent and respectful discussion to find answers to mutual problems. Commentary such as Mr. Kenny's does not help.

Elaine MontgomeryReston

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Really?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Having recently upgraded my cell phone, I have finally, due to its larger keys and simplified data-entry process, learned how to enter "contacts" and their phone numbers as well as select some of these key contacts for speed-dialing. This relatively basic function, which had eluded me for years, has opened up a slew of possibilities, that even I can see will lesson the burden on my brain to remain engaged. Now I won't have to think nearly so much about what I've spent 40-plus years doing: dialing a phone number from memory and/or referring to a phone/ address book for that number. Thanks to my new phone, I have finally turned the corner of technology. I have passed "Go." Next we'll see where I land: "Boardwalk" or" Baltic" and see if there is a monopoly of my time as a result.

One week into my new communication life, I have entered 16 contacts, some with only one phone number, others with mobile, home and work. In addition, I have entered/selected two speed-dial numbers. Obviously, I have ample space remaining for future contacts and certainly more space for speed-dials. Going through the list of prospective "speed-dialers" and "contactsto-be," I have now reached a point where I'm sort of looking for people/numbers to add; I suppose you could say I've reached the second tier. I've already entered/allocated from the top tier (most called, most familiar, most logical: friends, family and business). Yet spots remain, so I've begun a mental search of who/what numbers might be cell phone-worthy (meaning whose phone numbers might I want to include in my cell phone) either as a "contact" or a "speed dial" since the process of doing so is now clearly within my rather limited abilities.

Two numbers that I've thought about adding and which relate directly to this column's title. are my car's auto repair shop and my oncologist. I have most definitely entered them as contacts. However, given the semi-precarious nature of driving a car with 137,000 miles on the odome ter, perhaps it would be prudent to assign a speed dial number to my mechanic. Not that I want to be calling him that often or have the circumstances be so time-sensitive that speed – in our ability to connect with one another over the phone - is of the essence but, hoping and praying don't necessarily make it so. And let's be honest, my car is not getting any newer.

I have similar feelings toward my oncologist. I don't want to have to/need to call him that quickly, but again, let's be realistic; I'm probably not getting any healthier. As such, if I did call him, presumably it wouldn't be to inquire about the weather; more likely it would be to inquire whether a new symptom or a deterioration of some kind relating to my being a stage IV lung cancer survivor (who has now outlived his original "13-month-to two-year prognosis" by years) is significant. But if I'm being honest about my life/ health circumstances, who better to call - and be able to call quickly and efficiently, than the doctor who is primarily responsible for my wellbeing/treatment? I don't want to feel this way, but if there's anything that seems increasingly more relevant (as I continue to live beyond my original prognosis), it would be to plan for circumstances that are beyond my control (although I'm not saying/admitting to their inevitability), especially if there are other people (close to me) who might need some assistance attempting to control those circumstances, should they occur.

Admitting to their significance – and need however, and in turn acting/planning on their behalf, so to speak, are tough pills to swallow. Never do I want to give credence to my original diagnosis and accept my fate, sort of. Nevertheless, organizing my phone to prepare for the ning for the best way - for me, to take care of myself and those closest to me as well. But thinking that technology, specifically my phone, would play a major role in that task, is a really big surprise, all things considered.

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

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ONG & FOSTER

Reston North Hills/Herndon

1700 Bracknell Drive • Reston, VA 20194 703-435-4900



Reston \$338,900 Immaculate!

3BR, 2.5BA TH in North Reston. Updated kitchen. Higher grade maple cabinets granite counters, ceramic tile flooring and classic black apgraded appliances. Ipdated bathrooms with eramic tile floors. Closets with 6 panel doors and built in shelving, Master BR w/insuite bath. Convenience of

urban life style while living in a tranquil cul-de-sac setting. Home has deck, shed & fenced backyard. Future silver line METRO, all Reston amenities

Kathy Tuthill 703-945-4966 or e-mail kathysellsva@longandfoster.com



Reston \$499,900 Privacy in Golf Course Community! Lovely 2 car garge TH

/3BR, 2.5BA

either the front or back patio. Fenced yard, updated lit w/corian, beautiful wood cabinets, newer appliances, w/adjacent den, breakfast rm. Huge FR w/FP, spectacular MBR w/gorgeous designer MBA. Large secondary BR's and lightfilled DR. A rare find.



Herndon \$649,000 **Under Contract** in 14 Days!

Updated commuter's dream in Lovely Shaker's Woods. Cozy sunroom, hot tub & patio enhance this terrific lot. 4BR,

3.5BA, hardwoods, 2-story foyer, gourmet kitchen w/SS appliances, island, breakfast bar & desk. Spacious FR had brick FP & built-ins. MBR w/enormous sitting room & skylights opens to custom MBA w/rimless glass shower & double vanity w/granite & skylights. Fin lower level w/wine cellar, FP, full BA. No maintenance aluminum wrapped outside trim.



Herndon \$759,900 Under Contract in 10 Days!

ought after Shaker Woods! Huge brick colonial, 5BR, 3/5BA, fin W/O lower level, deck on .62

re treed lot. Smashing new gourmet kitchen w/granite, maple cabinets, high end appliances, island/breakfast bar, butler's pantry and stunning new MBA w/designer tile, rimless glass shower surround, high double vanity w/granite, 2-person soaking tub. FR w/brick FP, vaulted ceiling & upper level overlook. MBR suite

w/sitting room, 2 W/I closets Cathedral ceilings, hardwoods library, bay & palladium windo

Marcy Thomas 703-927-2190 or e-mail mathomas8@aol.com Gail Romansky 703-980-5300 or e-mail gpromansky@aol.com



\$1,049,000 **Breathtaking!** 5BR, 3.5BA Fulick estate

nome w/over 6,000 sf on lovelylandscaped lot in

north Reston enclave. Exquisite Michael Nash designed kitchen w/cherry cabinets, stainless steel appliances. Spectacular two-story sunroom with walls of glass. Fin lower level walk-up w/rec room, full guest suite, library & exercise rm. Incredible outdoor living with huge 2 level deck, fire pit, garden pond & waterfall, custom stone pathways, dry stack stone walls & very beautifully landscaped grounds.



Stunning! \$775,000 Herndon

Just listed 4BR brick home on gorgeous land scaped .50 acre lot. Incredible upgrades throughout, gourmet kitchen, family rm off kitchen w/FP, sunroom, wonderful backyard w/gazebo and enjoy Reston amenities. This is truly a "10"!

Call Missy Edmondson 703-932-8484 • missy.edmondson@LNF. com



Reston \$875,000 Spectacular! Custom CP 1 contemporary on gorgeous .75 acre lot in the heart of

North Reston WOW dramatic designs w/soaring ceilings & walls of glass, fabulous chef's kitchen w/granite countertops & floors, upgrades throughout, upper level loft, master suite

w/balcony & spa bath, fantastic multi decks and brick patio for outdoor entertaining, fin lower level walk out w/rec rm, 4th BR and BA.



\$579,950 Reston **Stunning Garage Townhome!**

Spacious townhome boasts first floor office, open design, dual master suites, hardwoods new carpet, oversized finished walkout lower level, backing to trees

Call Debbie Gill 703-346-1373 or e-mai Debbie.Gill@longandfoster.com





Ashburn

\$245,000

Brambleton!

3 level TH w 2BR, 2.5BA and over 1400 SF w/1car garage in Summerfield Brambleton, close to shops, restaurants, movies, community center.



Alexandria

Amazing Yard!

4BR, 1.5BA on flat fenced .5acre. Newer cabinets, flooring & appliances in kitchen New roof and newer windows throughout. 4-season Florida room leads out to patio and flat vard. Plenty of room for a pool!



Ashburn

\$390,000

Every Option is Here!

4BR, 2.5BA cul-de-sac in gated Belmont Country Club. Hardwoods, sunroom, study, bay window, crown molding, tray ceiling, huge deck, 2FP, deck on 9th green sitting room in MBR. Bright and stunning



Vienna **Great Wolftrap Location**

5BR, 2BA, updated kitchen w/stainless appliances, backsplash & new counters, hardwoods throughout, 2FP's, deck, patio, huge yard, W/O basement, future METRO minutes away.



Call Leslie Thurman 703-895-6000 or e-mail lesliekthurman@gmail.com



Herndon \$549,900 Coming Soon!

Great center hall colo-nial in sought after Kingstream, 4BR,

out, kitchen appliances, HVAC, hot water heater, lighting, bath fixtures, custom paint, recessed lighting & more, An open floor plan w/2-story foyer, separate living & dining rooms, butler's pantry, kitchen breakfast area, family room w/fireplace, Florida room overlooking private yard & red paver patio. Wonderful master uite w/luxury BA & walk-in closet w/custom shelving. You will not be disappointed. Stop by the open house, Sunday, April 29th 1-4.

Call Karen Kidwell 703-216-7437 or e-mail



Falls Church \$1.599.000 West Falls Church METRO Less Than 1 mile!

Stunning home w/4BR, 4.5BA, 10 ft ceilings & gleaming hardwoods on main level, spectacular curved stairs, bright sunroom, huge rec room w/custom wet bar, incredible chef's kitchen w/SS Viking professional appliances, main level library! Call Terry@703-861-0538 • Terry.



Best of Both Worlds

Incredible custom stone colonial w/6BR, 7.5BA including separate apart-

ment/office. Nestled on nearly 6 acres of wooded privacy, yet minutes to Greenway, airports, shopping. Leesburg side of Middleburg. Atherton@longandfoster.co





\$999,900 Magnificent Colonial! With over 5800 SF on 3 fin levels! Stately & ele-

Reston

soaring ceilings & palladium windows, back staircase, gourmet kitchen & more enticing feature, Windows galore in the huge walk-out lower level featuring a 5th BR, rec room & 2 full baths! This home is an incredible value.

Call Karen Swanson 703-795-9970 Karen.Swanson@longandfoster.com





1-800-296-259

www.Reston-Herndon-Homes.com

