

Reston
CONNECTION

Kickoff Held For Fairfax 2015 Games

NEWS, PAGE 13

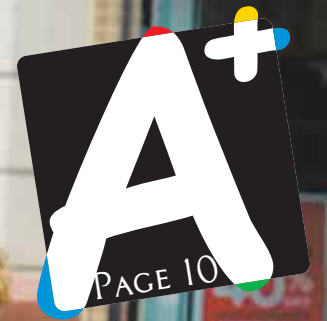
Sam Reed and his sister Sophia try the junior ultimate fire fighter course at Reston Town Center on July 13. The Athlete's Village for the Fairfax 2015 Games will be at the Reston Town Center.

Hawaii Spirit at
Lake Anne Plaza

NEWS, PAGE 8

Reston Water Mine
Pool to Expand

NEWS, PAGE 4



Opposite Sides of the Road

Candidates for Senate divided on funding Virginia roads.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

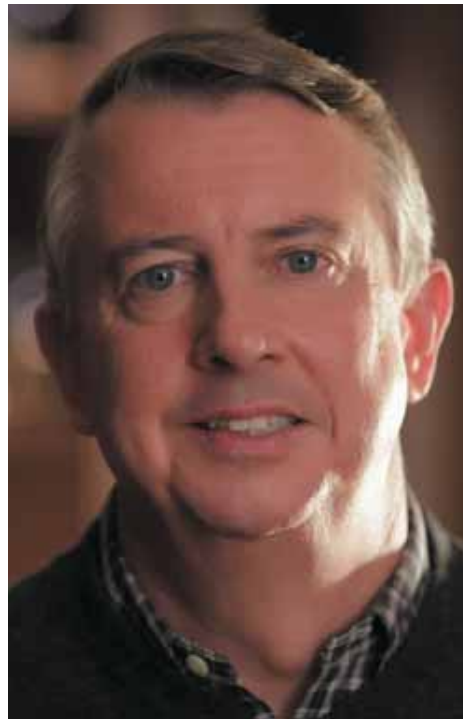
Washington is on the road to creating a short-term fix for funding the nation's highways, kicking the can down the road and handing the problem to the next Congress. That means voters will have the final say when they cast a ballot in this year's hotly contested race for Senate, a contest that features three candidates with sharply different perspectives on how to handle the \$100 billion shortfall over the next six years.

Democratic incumbent Mark Warner supports public-private partnerships as a way to raising new revenue, an approach that includes a bipartisan proposal to leverage private capital known as the Bridge Act. Republican challenger Ed Gillespie says revenues for roads could be raised from offshore energy exploration, an approach that Republicans say Democratic President Barack Obama has blocked. Libertarian candidate Robert Sarvis says the federal government should get out of the business of funding highways altogether, leaving the role of funding surface transportation to the states.

"This is an issue that voters should care about," said Geoff Skelley, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "It's something of daily importance that could impact voters directly, whereas it's harder sometimes to draw a direct connection between immigration policy or certain aspects of health-care policy."

One aspect of the debate all the candidates agree on is that revenues from the gas tax are on the decline, and as automobiles become more efficient the government continues to receive less money. One solution is to raise the gas tax, a proposal supported by Sen. Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) and Sen. Christ Murphy (D-Conn.). But neither Corker nor Murphy are up for reelection this year. Gillespie opposes raising the gas tax, and a spokesman for Warner says he does not support the proposal currently before Congress to raise the gas tax.

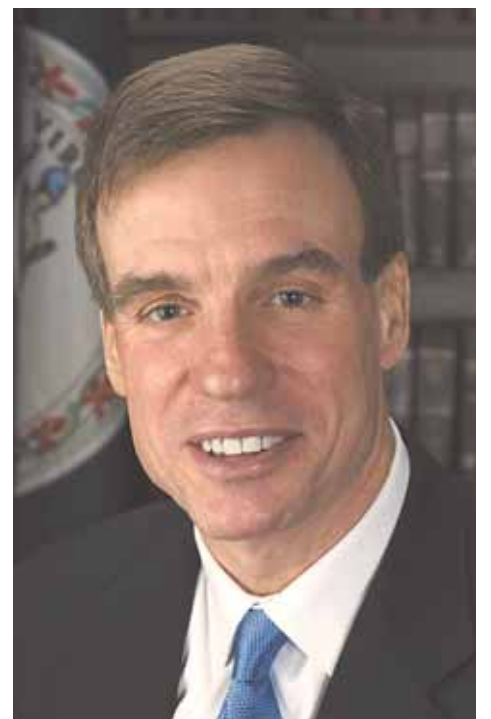
"This is going to be a very big issue next year," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Leadership at George Mason University. "So it's something voters should consider when they go to the



Ed Gillespie



Robert Sarvis



Sen. Mark Warner

"This is an issue that voters should care about. It's something of daily importance that could impact voters directly, whereas it's harder sometimes to draw a direct connection between immigration policy or certain aspects of health-care policy."

— Geoff Skelley,
analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics

polls in terms of what this means to the taxpayers of Virginia."

THE HIGHWAY TRUST Fund was created during the Eisenhower administration in 1956, when the Highway Revenue Act created a new tax of three cents per gallon. In January 1983, Republican President Ronald Reagan signed a bill that increased the gas tax to nine cents a gallon. A few years later, Republican President George H.W. Bush increased it to 14 cents a gallon. Then Democratic President Bill Clinton increased the gas tax to 18.4 cents a gallon, which remains the current rate. That brings in about \$34 billion a year even though the current transportation bill includes about \$50 billion in infrastructure spending.

"Despite months of debate, lawmakers have failed to act," said BlueGreen Alliance executive director Kim Glas in a written statement. "The job market is steadily improving but the threat that Congress will let the Highway Trust Fund go bankrupt looms large."

Conservatives in Congress have questioned the role the federal government should play in surface transportation. Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) introduced legislation that would eliminate the 20 percent of the trust fund that is not spent on roads. And Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) wants to create a fund for emergency transportation projects paid for by repatriating overseas capital back to the United States. Libertarian candidate takes those arguments a step farther, saying the federal government

should get out of funding surface transportation altogether.

"It just creates graft and corruption and inefficient use of resources," said Sarvis. "The federal government should not be channeling billions of dollars of taxpayers dollars through the federal bureaucracy to the states."

THE TWO MAJOR party candidates both believe that the gas tax is a dwindling source of revenue, and neither candidate supports raising it. Instead, Warner and Gillespie have seized on alternatives sources of revenue in a way that reveals something about their priorities and legislative style. As governor, Warner supported public-private part-

nerships such as rail to Dulles. Now that he's in the Senate, he hopes to use his background as a venture capitalist to forge a solution to the funding crunch facing the nation's roads.

"We need to acknowledge that the current funding mechanism - the gas tax - is a declining source of revenue, and that means everyone will have to bring some new ideas to the table," said Kevin Hall, spokesman for Warner. "That should include Sen. Warner's Bridge Act, a bipartisan proposal that will leverage more private capital to jumpstart work building and modernizing our country's infrastructure."

On the Republican side, Gillespie responded to a question about the Highway Trust Fund by blasting Democrats for presiding over an economy when gas prices have gone up so dramatically.

"We need to increase accountability in how transportation funds are spent, give states more say in spending decisions, and identify a stream of revenue to fund our transportation infrastructure projects for the long-term," said Paul Logan, a spokesman for Gillespie. "One such revenue source could be new revenues from offshore energy exploration, which this administration has consistently blocked."

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

❖ **Volunteer Advocates for Nursing Home & Assisted Living Residents** needed throughout Northern Virginia. Contact the Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltcombudsman/, email or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-5861, TTY 711.

❖ **Meals on Wheels** needs drivers in Franconia, Reston, McLean and Falls Church and substitute drivers throughout the county. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

❖ **The Sully Senior Center in Chantilly** needs a certified personal trainer, preferably with experience working with older adults, for one hour two days per week. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

❖ **Fairfax County needs volunteers** to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Fairfax County Prepares Bus System For Silver Line

Bus changes help ensure Silver Line success.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

On July 26, the Silver Line, an extension of the Washington Metro rapid transit system will have its opening day. Silver Line riders will be able to board trains at the Wiehle Avenue station in Reston at noon that Saturday, according to an announcement by Metro General Manager Richard Sarles. Officials anticipated the Silver Line would open months earlier, but the decision was put off because of construction delays. Among the changes are elimination of old bus routes and the closure of the Sunset Hills Interim parking in Reston near the intersection of Sunset Hills Road and Town Center Parkway.

The \$2.9 billion first phase of the Silver Line is 11.4 miles of track from Wiehle Avenue to East Falls Church, where the route meets the Orange Line. The Silver Line will have one station in Reston and four in Tysons Corner. Ultimately, the Silver Line will extend to Dulles International Airport and serve passengers traveling to Tysons from the Dulles Corridor to the west, and from Arlington and the District of Columbia to the east.

Fairfax County transportation experts



PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/ THE CONNECTION

Five Fairfax Connector bus routes will be eliminated once the Silver Line opens. Route 950 will continue to serve Sunrise Valley Drive as it does today and connect to the Wiehle station after serving Herndon-Monroe daily.

have been preparing the public for the new transportation routes bus services will offer at Silver Line stations.

Route 950 will continue to serve Sunrise Valley Drive as it does today and will connect to the Wiehle station after serving Herndon-Monroe daily. In addition, routes 924, 926, and 929 will connect Herndon-

Monroe and Wiehle during weekday rush hours. For the year 2013, the most used five Fairfax Connector bus routes were Routes 401 and 402: Backlick - Gallows Road, Route 171 Richmond Highway, Route 950 Herndon - Reston, Route 980 Herndon-Monroe Park and Ride, and Route 310 Franconia Road - Rolling Valley.

On Wednesday, July 9 Nick Perfili, Fairfax Connector operations and planning manager, and Martha Coello, Dulles Rail project planner, held an online discussion on Fairfax Connector's upcoming Silver Line service. Using the online Ask Fairfax! forum, they took 66 questions about bus route and schedule changes, park and ride options, and other topics related to the Silver Line.

Metrobus will provide service to and from the new McLean and Tysons Corner stations. The Fairfax Connector will handle the bulk of the bus service to all five new stations.

The second phase of the Silver Line will be 11 miles and six stations which will extend to Washington Dulles International Airport and eastern Loudoun County, at an estimated cost of \$2.7 billion. It is intended to open in 2018. The second phase of the silver line will be built by Bethesda-based Clark Construction. The project from Falls Church to Loudoun County is being paid with this formula: 16.1 percent from Fairfax County, 4.8 percent from Loudoun County, 4.1 percent from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), and 75 percent from Dulles Toll Road revenue, less contributions from the Federal Transit Administration and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Fairfax County created two special tax districts to fund the bulk of their Silver Line contribution. Federal funding was provided to Phase 1 of this project but no federal funds are currently committed to Phase 2.

For more information on the Silver Line, visit silverlinemetro.com.

Reston Hospital Center Gets STAR Program Certification

At an open house event earlier this month, Reston Hospital Center's Ann B. Rodriguez Cancer Center announced its STAR Program Certification from the Massachusetts-based Oncology Rehab Partners, leading experts in the field of survivorship care. Reston Hospital Center is leading the way by offering excellent cancer rehabilitation services to its patients by becoming STAR Program Certified.

The STAR Cancer Rehabilitation Program at Reston Hospital is now uniquely qualified to offer premium cancer rehabilitation and survivorship services to people who suffer from the debilitating side effects caused by cancer treatments.

To receive its certification, Reston Hospital implemented the STAR Program which involves training clinicians and focusing on improving patient care outcomes. The healthcare services

offered by the STAR Cancer Rehabilitation Program are covered by most insurance providers, including Medicare,



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left: Jane Raymond, COO/vice president, Reston Hospital Center; Barbara Keller, founder/executive director, Cancer Can't Get Me; Catherine D'Reaux, STAR Program coordinator, Reston Hospital Center; Susan Foy, director of oncology services, Reston Hospital Center; Mic Adams, director of rehabilitation services, Reston Therapy & Fitness.

and will be offered to patients by a knowledgeable and sensitive medical staff that is specially trained to work with survivors of all forms of cancer.

Specialty caregivers from a pool of disciplines—including physicians, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, dietitians, mental health professionals, and others—will work together with each patient on a personalized rehabilitation plan to increase strength and energy, alleviate pain, and improve daily function and quality of life.

The STAR Program is a best practices multidisciplinary cancer rehabilitation service-line model that improves patient care. STAR Program Certification provides healthcare facilities and clinicians with the tools (education, training, evaluation and treatment protocols, and outcomes support) to develop and deliver state-of-the-art cancer rehabilitation services to survivors who suffer the side effects and after effects of treatments—whether they are in remission, living with cancer or cured. All of the services integrated in the STAR Program, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, mental health counseling, and consultations with rehabilitation medicine physicians (physiatrists), are typically covered by health insurance.

Learn more at www.OncologyRehabPartners.com.

For more information about Reston Hospital Center visit www.restonhospital.com.



PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

The Water Mine outdoor pool at Lake Fairfax Park in Reston has been a big attraction since it opened in 1997. Expansion of the pool is expected to begin once the pool closes in September.



Fairfax County Park Authority Board Chairman William Bouie and Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) welcomed members of the public to participate in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Water Mine pool at Lake Fairfax Park.

Reston Water Mine Pool to Expand

Lake Fairfax pool facility to be expanded, construction begins September.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

More than one million people have visited the Water Mine since it opened to the public in the summer of 1997. With a lazy river and water slides, the outdoor pool has been a great attraction for families and visitors, but size and capacity limitations have increased the waiting times for patrons. The pool is operated by Fairfax County Park Authority, which also operates the Lake Fairfax Park.

On Saturday, July 12, there was a groundbreaking ceremony for the beginning of construction of the Water Mine. The water park received a \$5 million dollar project to substantially increase the size of the Lake Fairfax facility. The expansion will include a 3,000 square foot tot spray pad with spray features, a 5,300 square foot active spray

pad with spray features, a slide tower with three flume water slides and an interactive play structure. Other project elements include a 1,000 square foot restroom and mechanical building, improvements to the pool deck, relocation of shade structures, new shade structures and related utility and site work.

THE WATER MINE'S ATTRACTIONS are designed for elementary-aged children, yet there is something there for everyone. Children can careen off covered wagons, float on rattlesnakes and dash through showers tipped from water-filled ore carts. The deepest point in the pool is only 4 feet deep.

Over the past 17 years the park has grown in popularity. "Through the expansion, more of our patrons will be able to enjoy the facility at a time," said Ninette Heiligh, admissions manager at the Water Mine. At times visitors have had to wait in line as much as

two hours before they could enter the water park. Friday through Sunday are the busiest times to visit the Water Mine. People capacity is currently set at 755, but once expansion construction at the pool is complete, capacity will be up to nearly 1,300.

"Today we celebrate much needed growth that will provide more diverse amusements for visitors, generate additional revenue, and increase the water park's capacity," said Fairfax County Park Authority Board Chairman William G. Bouie. "This is an improvement on our original dream made possible by reinvesting, expanding, and making this water park a more exciting place for all people to enjoy."

Planning for the expansion began in earnest when the Park Authority Board approved the agency's first Financial Sustainability Plan in December 2011. In November 2012 with the voter approved 2012 Park Bond available, the Park Authority Board included \$5 million dollars for the expansion. "The expansion is aimed at accomplishing two things: adding capacity and broadening our market appeal," said Bouie. "We estimate a significant improve-

ment on revenue and customer service."

SUPERVISOR CATHY HUDGINS (D-Hunter Mill) praised Lake Fairfax Park for the broad appeal it offers to visitors. Lake Fairfax offers campground, picnic areas, playground, trails and a skatepark which are open year-round. "The expansion here is just the next logical step," said Hudgins.

"Our staff is excited about this growth opportunity," said Brian Laws, Park Services Operations Manager. "We welcome the chance to serve more customers and to provide a better experience for those who come to the Water Mine. It is really all about having fun and of course, about doing it safely." The project is scheduled to be completed in the late summer of 2015. Construction at the Water Mine is expected to begin Sept. 2, the day after the Water Mine closes for the year. Construction supplies will begin arriving in Reston in August.

The Water Mine is located in Lake Fairfax Park at 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive in Reston. For more information about the Water Mine, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/watermine/.

Wolfe Elected President of Principals' Association

Shane Wolfe, principal of Aldrin Elementary since 2012, has been elected president of the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals (VAESP) for the 2014-15 year. Wolfe served on the VAESP board of directors for the past six years, and served as an at-large member and president-elect before being elected president. Wolfe has also served as president of the Fairfax Association of Elementary School Principals (FAESP) in 2011-12. He received the Virginia School Bell Award in 2011 from VAESP for outstand-

ing contributions to his school and school system, and also received FCPS' Bruce Oliver Leadership Award for his involvement in school-business partnerships. Wolfe served as principal at Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences from 2010-12; previously, he was principal at Armstrong Elementary from 2001-10. He has completed graduate and post-graduate work at the University of Virginia. He is the seventh FCPS principal to be elected VAESP president since 1978. Contact Shane Wolfe at 703-904-3800 or sawolfe@fcps.edu.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Shane Wolfe, principal of Aldrin Elementary

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.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds weekly classes starting Sept. 12, Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m., for the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. \$12. 202-986-2257 or www.meditation-dc.org.

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

NEWS

Serving for Heroes

Tennis tournaments benefiting wounded warriors to be held in Reston.

Reston will be the site for two upcoming tennis tournaments to benefit some of America's bravest heroes.

The 2nd Annual Serving for Heroes Charity Open will be hosted at the Lake Newport Tennis Facility in Reston on July 19-20 to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project, an organization committed to raising awareness and serving America's wounded service members. Last year's inaugural tournament raised over \$3,400 and won the 2013 USTA Military Tennis Award. This year's USTA-sanctioned tournament, sponsored by Chartis Consulting Corporation, will feature men's and women's singles and doubles along with mixed doubles draws. Registration can be completed at <http://tennislink.usta.com/Tournaments/TournamentHome/Tournament.aspx?T=151796> by July. For more information, contact the tournament director, Wilson Paine, at Wilson.Paine@gmail.com.

The 3rd Annual Rally for a Cause tennis tournament dates are set for Sept. 20-21 at

Reston's Lake Newport tennis courts. The charity event will feature brackets for 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0 and above players, competing in men's and women's doubles and singles matches. The \$30 entry fee guarantees each player two matches with awards, raffle prizes and participation t-shirts. It is through the generosity of our presenting sponsor, Dr. Hani Thariani, and donations from local businesses that make this tournament possible. Entry is open to all tennis players, regardless of USTA membership.

All proceeds go to the charity organization of each participant's choice: USTA Serves Foundation/Wounded Warriors Program Curriculum, supporting rehabilitation through tennis for wounded, ill and injured military service members and veterans or Cornerstones/Laurel Learning Center, providing comprehensive family services and developmental childcare programs. Last year's event raised \$3,100 for charity organizations. Registration opens Aug. 1.


For more information or to sign up, email rally4acause@restontennis.org or visit www.restontennis.org.

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**Fairfax County Federation of Teachers
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ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

Bonnie Glazewski
(Oak View)

Jesse Kraft
(Providence)

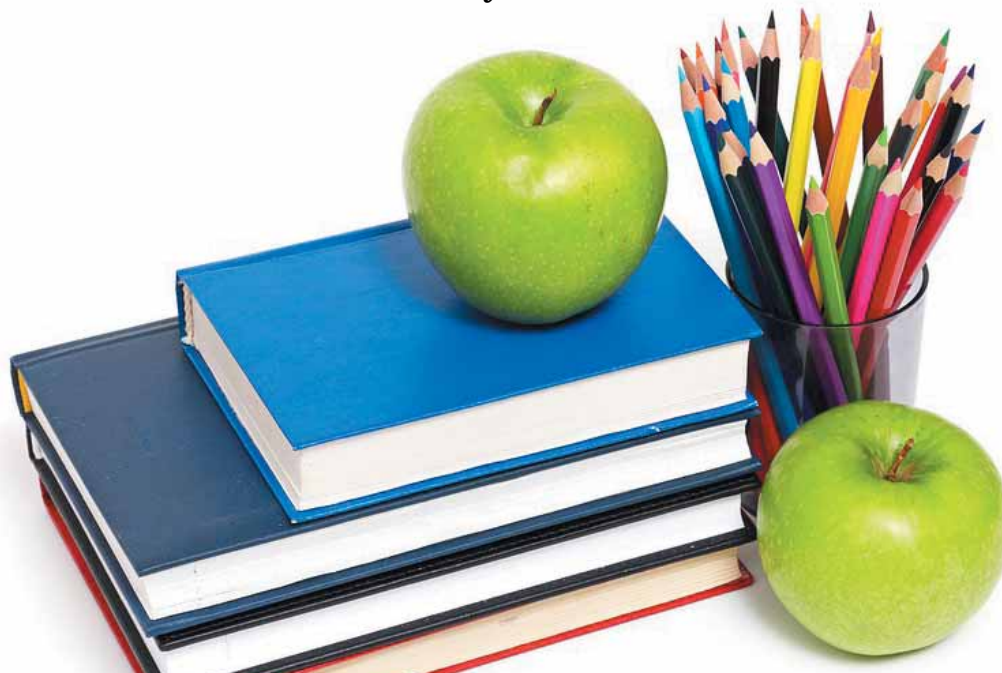
Michael Macrina
(Island Creek)

Suzanne Montgomery
(Laurel Hill)

Lindsay Trout
(Terraset)

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Penny Gros (Glasgow)



HIGH SCHOOLS:

Teresa Johnson
(Chantilly)

Nardos King
(Mt. Vernon)

Michael Yohe
(Falls Church)

Jeff Yost
(Woodson)

**THANK YOU TO ALL
OF OUR MEMBERS WHO
RETURNED THE SURVEY**

OPINION

Save a Little, Help Others Prepare for School

Virginia's tax holiday on school supplies is a good reminder to donate supplies and dollars for children who need help arriving at school prepared.

Virginia's tax holiday on school supplies and clothing is Aug. 1-3, and it makes sense to take advantage of the savings, and to spread the wealth around.

During this three-day period, school supplies selling for \$20 or less per item, and clothing and footwear selling for \$100 or less per item will be exempt from Virginia sales tax. There are some items that do not qualify, for example digital school supplies. See <http://www.tax.virginia.gov/> for more details.

When you are buying school supplies for your family, buy extra to donate to local families

who are not able to afford to do the same.

In Fairfax County, just under 50,000 students are poor enough to qualify for free or reduced price meals at school.

EDITORIAL

In Fairfax County, local nonprofits, Fairfax County Public Schools and corporate partners are collecting school supplies and backpacks. Monetary donations and backpacks are being accepted by eight local nonprofits and through local Apple and Northwest Federal Credit Union Branches, as well as online at <http://collectforkids.org/donate/> through Sept. 2. Last year the drive provided supplies for nearly 20,000 students.

A \$10 cash donation goes a long way.

Collect for Kids Program runs through Sept. 2. Monetary donations can be accepted any time. Donate money at www.collectforkids.org. Donations of backpacks are also being accepted at every Apple Federal Credit Union and Northwest Federal Credit Union branch in Fairfax County and at any of the affiliate charitable organizations, including Cornerstones, Western Fairfax Christian Ministries, Our Daily Bread, Koinonia, United Community Ministries and others.

For more, see the Collect for Kids website at <http://collectforkids.org>.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

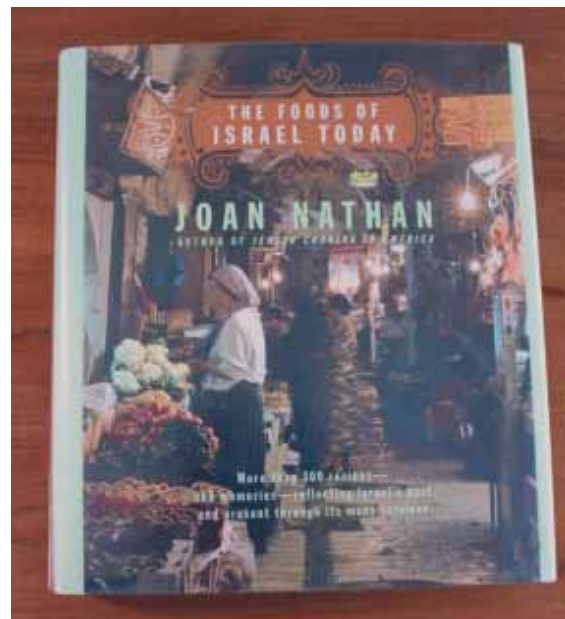
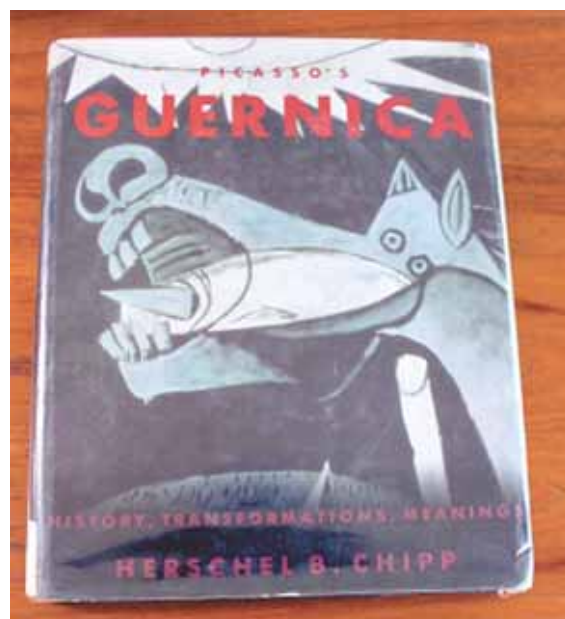
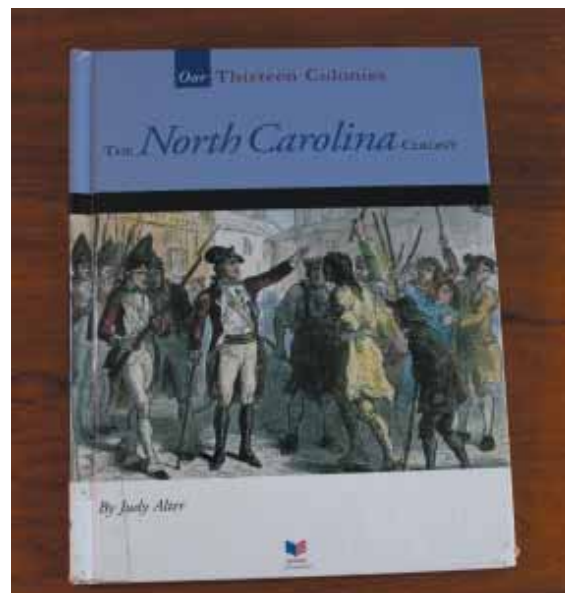
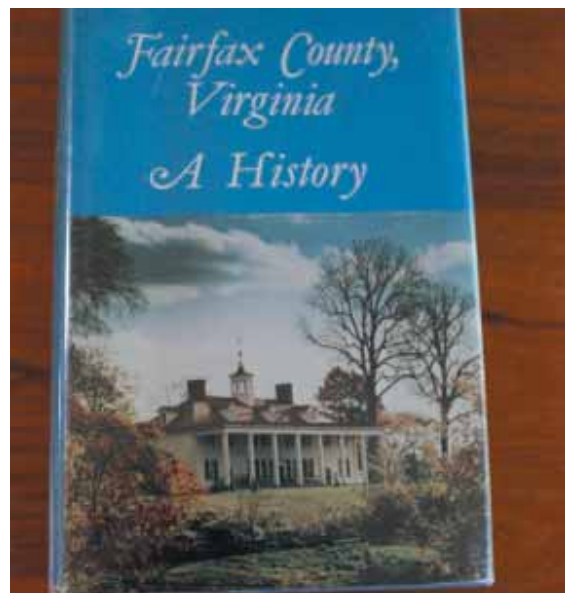
Help Save Our Books

To the Editor:

Last November the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to cancel the Beta Plan for the county library system; however, Library Operations has continued to pursue the Beta Plan. At the Library Board of Trustees meeting July 9, 2014, Michael Cutrone, the Hunter Mill Representative to the Library Board, requested that current procedures for discarding low demand items be changed. Low demand items are books that have not been checked out for 24 months. Low demand books are now transferred to Technical Operations, and large numbers in very good condition are being discarded. Michael Cutrone asked that until a new policy can be instituted that the discard of low demand books be stopped. The Director of Library Operations stated that it was his decision to make and he was opposed to changing current procedures.

Many neighboring library systems keep their books on the shelves for five years before they are considered for weeding. Even then, I am told by librarians in other library systems, they are very reluctant to let go of nonfiction works. Nonfiction is the heart of any library's collection. Our children need nonfiction for their school papers. Information from the Internet is often incorrect and incomplete.

We have lost thousands of non-fiction books in good condition since February 2014. Especially vulnerable are large art books which are often only used in the library and not checked out because of their size and weight. Since the Library Board is reluc-



Some of the low demand books that were discarded by the Fairfax County Public Library since February 2014.

tant to direct operational procedures is there anything library patrons can do to protect the collection and culturally significant books?

Yes, there is. Patrons can check out books. Once books are checked out, they are protected for

two years. Two years from now we will have a new Library Director and hopefully the new one will value the library as a place of learning and literacy. You can check out 50 books. Check out art, poetry, philosophy, science, history, biography, ethnic cookbooks. And

don't forget the children's nonfiction. It's the only way we have now to protect our collection. Think of it as a civic and patriotic duty.

Help save our books.

Kathy Kaplan
Reston

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Silver Line: At What Cost?

To the Editor:

As a transit commuter living in Reston, I appreciated the honesty in the opinion piece by Ken Plum, "Silver Line No Silver Bullet" [Reston Connection, July 2-8, 2014]. Still, among all the positive notes about the benefits of the Silver Line, I continue to see public officials ignoring the huge increase in costs for daily transit riders in Reston (not just drivers on the Toll Road).

I commute from Reston on a Fairfax Connector bus to West Falls Church, where I transfer to metro to my job at Farragut West. With the recent metro fare increase, I pay \$5.10 each way (\$3.85 metro + \$1.25 bus transfer) for a total of \$10.20 per day. Based on the posted new Silver Line fares (<http://silverlinemetro.com>), I will soon have to pay the max

metro fare of \$5.90 + \$1.25 bus transfer for a total of \$7.15 each way, or \$14.30 per day. This is a 40 percent increase in costs, and I still have to transfer from bus to rail! I used to park free at the Wiehle Ave park-and-ride, but if I now park at the metro station, I have to add \$4.85 per day to the metro fare, resulting in a cost of \$16.65 per day – a more than 60 percent increase in daily costs!

These are huge increases. For someone who commutes every day to Arlington/DC, this is well over \$1,000 per year in added costs – and the irony is that rail times are no faster than the current bus/rail service, since the Fairfax Connector buses use the airport access road.

I've seen discussion about supporting affordable housing in Reston, but where are the voices

of our politicians for affordable transit options? With the Silver Line, the bus ride to metro in Reston will be a very short trip – why not reduce the bus fares to encourage use and mitigate these much larger rail fares? Why not change the metro fare structure so that price rises per station rather than per mile, so the one stop between Tysons and Reston doesn't break our budgets? Metro will do

wonders for redeveloping Tysons and Reston, and commuters from DC/Arlington to Tysons will be the big winners, along with land owners near the stations. But for Reston residents who have to pay \$1,000+ extra per year to get to work, this is a very high price to pay.

Michael Grant
Reston

Deer Hunting Contradicts Reston's Values

To the Editor:

It seems ironic that the RA approved bow hunting of deer less than a 1/2 mile away from Reston's prized multi-million dollar Nature Center ["Bow Hunting to Help Deer Management," Reston Connection, July 2-8, 2014]. The mission of the Nature Center is "to provide good environmental stewardship." Does that not include stewardship to the inhabitants of our environment? Bow hunting can result in a slow painful death. Why choose that when humane alternatives exist?

Suburban Whitetail Management, a professional hunting organization, presented a compelling case to the RA board. However, they have their own agenda: hunting. Has a deer count been conducted in Reston by an impartial party? If there is indeed a population problem, why not follow Fairfax City's forward-thinking lead and implement a sterilization program? Hunting has been shown to be an ineffective way to reduce deer population because the deer compensate in the following years through multiple births. Sterilization eliminates this possibility.

Deer are also blamed for the loss of our forest understory. On my daily walks through the Reston woods, I see plenty of oak saplings but most of them are being choked by invasive plants. Why not implement a summer job program where the sole job is to remove invasive species? It would help our

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

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PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Kathy and Merv from Rockville during their set at the Lake Anne Ukulele Festival Saturday.

Hawaii Spirit at Lake Anne Plaza

Fifth annual Ukulele Festival held Saturday.

By REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

Reston experienced a slice of Hawaiian spirit on Saturday. Lake Anne's fifth annual Ukulele Festival brought out music lovers from all over the D.C.-metro area to the plaza to listen to live music, learn to play a Beatles tune or two and pick up a ukulele for those feeling inspired.

"The purpose of the festival is to showcase the ukulele, the versatility of the ukulele," said festival stage manager Ann Granger. "We started this morning with three workshops on how to play Beatles music on the ukulele."

The festival was created from a tongue and cheek joke from resident Eve Thompson, who runs the craft market during the plaza's Saturday farmers market. Thompson said after she realized there was a growing ukulele community in Reston, it would be a great opportunity to create a festival.

"The farmers market is a regular Saturday thing, so we always try to coexist," she said. "The proceeds from the market help to run these music festivals."

In addition to the craft and farmers market, several shaved ice stands and ukulele hawkers



Blake Miyashiro, Aloha Munchies, soaks shaved ice in syrup at the Lake Anne Ukulele Festival Saturday.

surrounded the scene, giving visitors the illusion they were in Hawaii for the day.

She said the festival is a great way to bring non-Restonians into the community. Many of the people watching the performers drove up to an hour to the unique festival.

Randy Dalnekoff from Maryland said the festival inspired him to buy a ukulele and learn to play about three years ago. He now performs short sets around Columbia.

"I wanted to come back, because one of the draws for me this year was learning to play Beatles songs," he said.

Becky Schneider, Warrington, said she has been playing the ukulele for three years but mostly from the comfort of her own home.

"It's a casual instrument, so you can just pick it up and play it," she said. I literally bought one on the Internet and started playing it. Taught myself."

When she found out there was a ukulele festival within driving distance, she could not pass up the opportunity to go.

"I drove out, because how often do you get to go to a ukulele festival," she said.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

TUESDAY/JULY 15-SUNDAY/JULY 27
Vacation Vistas: Painting the Travel Experience. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609 Washington Plaza N, Reston. Christine Lashley will exhibit watercolor and acrylic paintings with her students. 703-476-4500.

TUESDAY/JULY 15-FRIDAY/AUGUST 15
To the Beach. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Hunters Woods Exhibit, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Acrylics by Karen A. Pida. 703-476-4500.

THURSDAY/JULY 17-SATURDAY/AUG. 23
Greater Reston Arts Center Artist Member Exhibition. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market Street Suite #103, Reston. Come see the first of what will become a biennial exhibition highlighting the talents of our artist members. 703-471-9242.

THURSDAY/JULY 17
Dragonfly Class: An Introduction. 7-8:30 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Join guest naturalist Kevin Munroe of the Fairfax County Park Authority as he focuses on basic identification, natural history and conservation of local dragonflies; ages 16 and over. \$0-\$5. Reservations required by July 14 at 703-476-9689 and press 5.

SATURDAY/JULY 19-THURSDAY/AUG. 14
To the Beach. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Hunters Woods Exhibit, 2310 Colts Neck

Road, Reston. Come see acrylic paintings by Karen Pida. 703-476-4500.

SATURDAY/JULY 19
Scent-sational Noses. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Learn about animal noses through fun activities, and take the Great Smelly Challenge; all ages. \$5-\$7. Reservations required by July 16 at 703-476-9689 and press 5.
Water, Water Everywhere! Tell Us, Tell Us, Should We Care? 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Students will examine water phases and water quality through hands-on demonstrations and experiments. School-age. 703-689-2700.

Family Fun Entertainment Series at Reston Town Square Park. 10-10:45 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Come see Mark Lohr in a side-splitting family vaudeville show with circus skills and a sprinkling of magic. 703-579-6720.

Cine Classics at Bow Tie Cinemas. 11 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Classic films back on the big screen. 703.464.0816.

Old World vs. New World Wine Tasting at The Tasting Room Wine Bar & Shop. 2-3 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Learn the difference between "New World" and "Old World" styles of wine. \$15. thetastingroomwinebar.com.

Reston Concerts on the Town Series - Deanna Bogart & Bruce Ewan. 7:30-10 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavillion, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Jump blues and swing. 703-579-6720.



PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Lake Fairfax's inaugural family-friendly Pirate Fest will be on Saturday, July 26.

Pirate Fest on July 26

Argh you in? The inaugural Lake Fairfax Park Pirate Fest will take place July 26, giving children and adults the opportunity to dress in costume, talk to pirates and search for buried treasure.

"We wanted to create a family-fun festival that celebrates the cultural history of Fairfax County," said county Park Authority education and outreach manager Tammy Schwab. In addition to all the pirate related activities, like a boat tour, singalongs to sea shanties and

a quarter-size pirate ship model, park rangers will talk about how archaeologists are excavating the Colchester port town that tobacco was shipped from in the 18th and 19th century.

The park is still looking for event volunteers. To sign up, contact Schwab at 703-324-8750 or through the Fairfax County website.

Advanced tickets are \$10 and will be \$12 at the gate.

The park is located at 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

SUNDAY/JULY 20

Dragonfly Count. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Bright Pond, Bright Pond Lane, Reston, park at the end of the cul-de-sac. Meet local dragonfly experts, learn tips on identification and have fun while helping to obtain important information on our fast-flying friends; ages 16 and over. Reservations required by July 17 at 703-476-9689 and press 5.

Exercise Series with Athleta and Reston Town Center. 10 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Enjoy various fitness classes including yoga, pilates, self-defense, cardio and core strength. 703-668-0256.

Sunday Bourbon and Blues Brunch at McCormick and Schmick's. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. A southern-inspired bourbon brunch featuring live blues music performed by local artists. 703-787-7766.

Cine Classics at Bow Tie Cinemas. 11 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Classic films back on the big screen. 703-464-0816.

TUESDAY/JULY 22

Tips on Tuesday. 6-8 p.m. The Dandelion Patch, 1810 Library Street, Reston. Join us for a free workshop on creative ways to enhance a memorable guest experience at your wedding with local wedding planners

Sara Bauleke of Bella Notte and Teresa Lee of Rex & Regina Events. Please RSVP to 703-689-2240.

American Giants of Science. 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Meets America's most famous inventors and see them come to life onstage with Bright Star Theatre. Ages 6 to 12. 703-689-2700.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 23

Meet Me at the Movies - Senior Movie Day. 9:30 a.m. Bow Tie Cinemas, 11940 Market Street, Reston. Reston Association presents Saving Mr. Banks. Free to 55+. 703-

435-6530.

FRIDAY/JULY 25

Summer Songs Campfire. 7-8:30 p.m. WNC Campfire Ring, Soapstone Drive, Reston, between Glade Drive and Lawyers Road. Listen for nature's sounds and discover who is making them through stories, songs and fun activities; all ages. \$6-\$8. Reservations required by July 22 at 703-476-9689 and press 5.

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Nature's Symphony. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Play a game of name-that-sound, go on a sound walk

listening for bees buzzing and birds calling while collecting natural sound makers; ages 3 to 5. \$7-\$9.

Family Fun Entertainment Series at Reston Town Square Park. 10-10:45 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Come see bagpiper Robert Mitchell for music and fun featuring the Great Highland Bagpipes, Small Pipes, Percussion and more. 703-579-6720.

Cine Classics at Bow Tie Cinemas. 11 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Classic films back on the big screen. 703-464-0816.

Reston Concerts on the Town Series - Incendio. 7:30-10 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavillion, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Spanish guitar, flamenco and Latin fusion.

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Financial Education for College Students

Local experts offer budget tips to keep students out of debt.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As the summer wanes, many recent high school graduates are preparing to head to college. For those who are living away from home for the first time, this means newfound independence. But that freedom brings responsibility — especially when it comes to money.

From student loans to credit cards, the financial maze can be filled with debt-traps and money pitfalls. A recent financial literacy assessment of 15-year-old students by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development shows that one in six lacks basic financial literacy skills.

That leaves approximately three years for them to learn about money management before leaving home. And that education is key: financial education is the best way to develop sound money management skills, say financial advisors.

Taking a financial education class is an option. The Northern Virginia Urban League offers a financial literacy workshop series with Fairfax County Human Services and Fairfax County Homeownership & Relocation Services.

“College students can learn everything from understanding a [credit] score and avoiding credit

traps to banking and money management,” said Vickey King of the Northern Virginia Urban League.

“College is not the time to live the lifestyle of your dreams,” said Rachel Powell of the Northern Virginia Council for Economic Education at George Mason University’s Center for Economic Education in Fairfax. “College courses, room, board, books are all costly. You can expect to be poor in college, and if you use the many resources your college makes available to you in exchange for all the fees you are required to pay, you can expect to be fed, safe and reasonably comfortable.”

THE FIRST STEP in financial literacy for college students is taking a personal money inventory. “Know before you go how much money you’ll have available from your income or allowance,” said Powell. “Will your folks be making regular contributions to your survival or are you on your own?”

Make a budget that includes all expenditures, including luxuries like frozen yogurt or coffee or movie tickets. Put some money aside for emergencies; even \$5 per week will add up over time.

Online tools can help college students organize their finances and track their spending and savings patterns. Alexandria-based financial planner Mark Frieze recommends mint.com, which categorizes spending, and bettermoneyhabits.com, which offers videos clips on how to budget better.

“Many people, especially teens and young adults, are surprised when they look at their entire

spending picture because they haven’t ... had to make the money they spend,” said Frieze. “They just don’t know the value of a dollar until they are lining their own wallets with their own money. So the big picture tools that highlight spending and savings habits are helpful.”

Know the difference between needs and wants: “Don’t buy what you don’t need,” said Powell. “Cold medicine — yes. The latest movie on DVD — no.”

Open a checking and savings account at a bank located close to campus, one that offers products and services for students, advises Powell. “Don’t accept accounts that require minimum balances or charge fees,” she said. “Shop around for the right bank.”

Find a way to establish or build savings, especially if you plan to work during college. “Pay yourself first,” said Frieze. “When you have a job, take a set portion of it and save it for your future self. If the job offers a retirement plan such as a 401(k), take advantage of it. A 401(k) provides the significant



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Financial planners advise college students to avoid the credit card debt trap and make an effort to save money.

benefit of saving before taxes are taken out.”

AVOID USING CREDIT CARDS for immediate gratification and focus on building a high credit score for the future, said Frieze. “That score, that number, will be more important and reap greater rewards than any grade or SAT score ever was or could be,” he said. “If you build and maintain a good credit score, you will be rewarded time and time again

with preferred lending rates.”

When it comes to financial aid, take time to do research, and don’t underestimate the availability of college scholarships. Frieze points to a study from scholarship.com, which shows that billions of dollars in scholarship funds go unawarded every year.

“Take advantage of the opportunities out there,” he said. “Don’t assume that scholarships are only for top scholars or athletes because many scholarships start with GPA requirements of 2.5 or less. Start looking as early as sophomore or junior year and apply as soon as you qualify.”

“Saving as much as possible from summer jobs ... can help with at least some of the expenses,” said Powell. “Loans are available for all the expenses you cannot pay for through gifts, grants and scholarships. Be aware that money borrowed must be repaid and the interest [accrued] is the cost of the rental of those funds.”

In fact, the Department of Education reports that 10 percent of U.S. college graduates default on student loans so only borrow money as a last resort.

Investigate federal loans first. “Loans such as the Stafford loan can be far more cost effective than higher-priced private loans,” said Frieze.

College students should also estimate how much they will be able to afford to repay after graduation, said Powell. “Make sure that your target labor market is willing to compensate you with income commensurate with the cost of your education.”



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The full cast and crew.

Peter Pan Jr. at Forest Edge Elementary

On June 13, Forest Edge Elementary School’s Drama Club put on a production of Disney’s Peter Pan Jr. This was the story narrated by Tinkerbell about Wendy Darling who loves to tell stories to her brothers, Michael and John. When her father announces she must move out of the nursery, Peter Pan comes

to visit the children and whisks them away to Never Land. Their adventure introduces them to the Fairies, Lost Boys, Pirates, Mermaids, Indians and even the infamous Captain Hook.

The cast and set/stage crew consisted of 64 students from grades 4 through 6. Lead roles were per-



Musical number ‘What Makes the Brave Man Brave.’

formed by Zoey Birman (Peter Pan), Danielle Yakubisin (Wendy), Camille Denny (Tinkerbell), Louisa Margaret Mattozzi (Captain Hook), Sebastian Byrum (John), Lucas Abousleiman (Michael), Frankie Delmolino (Tiger Lily), Madison Witt (Smee), Alexis Jeffries (the Chief), Gustavo Vega (Mr. Darling),

Jordana Sweeney (Mrs. Darling), Cid Vita (Nana), and Cameron Howard (the Crocodile).

The Musical was directed and produced by FCPS teachers Sara Birkhead, Mary Ella Mohyla, and Kate Fellin. Assistant Direction by Brianna Miles and Choreography by Chloerissa Kirwan.

Summertime at the General Assembly

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

Legislators in the earliest days of the Republic were mostly of the planter class; women, blacks and non-landowners could not vote or hold office. The best time to get away from the plantation and the crops was in the wintertime. That probably started the custom that continues to today whereby the General Assembly holds its regular session in the winter beginning on the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January. In simpler times and up until 1971 the state law-making body only met every other year, in the even-numbered years. The current schedule has the House of Delegates and the State Senate meeting for 60 calendar days in the even-numbered years and 30 days, most often extended to 45 days, in the odd-numbered years. Passage of the biennium budget passed in the even-numbered years is the justification for the more than two weeks additional time. Special sessions are not that unusual, although they seldom extend for more than a few days. Virginia government is organized around the idea of citizen-legislators. We who serve in the legislature have work and family responsibilities beyond our service as legislators. With the minimal salaries paid—\$17,640 in the House and \$18,000 in the Senate—an additional source of income is necessary if one is not independently wealthy. If legislative sessions were lengthened, it would likely impact who could serve as fewer people would be able to leave their work for extended periods of time. I would not support a full-time legislature as it would



be likely to lead into governing in areas best left for local government or the private sector.

Legislative work does get done in the interim between legislative sessions. Study committees meet to consider the need for legislation in areas where more time is needed for analysis beyond that available in the regular session. An important study committee this year will consider the need for additional health care reform beyond that passed in the last session. The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) provides legislative oversight with legislative members and a professional staff and conducts some of the most in-depth studies. In 1997 I introduced the legislation to establish the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) and served as its original chair. JCOTS conducts studies, with private-sector and academic technical advisory committee members assisting it, in its mission to study and advise in the development of sound technology and science policy in the Commonwealth.

The summertime provides more opportunities to meet with constituents locally and to learn their needs. The General Assembly is referred to as a part-time legislature although I spend more than full-time as a member. My retirement status provides me time to work year-round at a job I really enjoy and am honored to have. Although it is summer, still feel free to call on me whenever you think I can be of assistance to you. Email me at kenplum@aol.com.

FROM PAGE 7

natural areas while teaching young people about native and invasive plants and their effect on our environment.

Killing deer is the "easy" answer to a very complex problem. On Sept. 25, the RA board is going to be taking a wider look at "the deer issue," such as tying it to bigger efforts being made elsewhere (e.g., the deer hunts in Fairfax County). This could mean an ex-

pansion of hunts to Reston common grounds. I hope Restonians will attend the Sept. 25 board meeting to learn more about what is being considered. If you have an opinion, write to your board members (see www.Reston.org). Many of us moved to Reston for nature and the wildlife. A decision to expand hunting would, in our view, contradict Reston's values.

Pam Corbett
Reston

SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to north@connectionnewspapers.com by Friday.

Kacey Hirshfeld, a senior at South Lakes High School, was one of 59 Virginia students awarded scholarships through the Comcast Foundation's annual Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program. The program, one of the Foundation's signature community investment initiatives, recognizes students' leadership skills, academic achievement and commitment to community service. Comcast, joined by Attorney General of Virginia Mark Herring, recognized the students at a special event held Thursday, May 22, at the State Capitol.

Five Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students have received national awards for their writing from the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Three of the stu-

dents received Gold Medals, the highest form of recognition.

Aline Dolinh of Oakton High School received the American Voices Medal, the equivalent of the best of show award, for her poetry, "Accent Marks, Exorcism, Model Minority, Second-generation."

National winners include:

❖ Melissa Halbrook of Woodson High School, Gold Medal for humor, "Kim Jung-Un's New Clothes."

❖ Emma Hastings of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST), Gold Medal for short story, "Sight Without Vision, Vision Without Sight;" and Gold Medal for writing portfolio, "I Sing Of."

❖ Jean Jeon of Herndon High School, Silver Medal for novel writing, "Strain."

❖ Sara Warrington of TJHSST, Silver Medal for Journalism, "Overcoming Intolerance."

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NORTHWEST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

†Voucher for complimentary, no-obligation college savings consultation with Northwest Financial Advisors will be provided to you at the time of Northwest Federal account opening. If opening account online, call 800-269-2156, ext. 110, to schedule your free consultation. Securities offered through LPL Financial, member FINRA/SIPC. Insurance products offered through LPL Financial or its licensed affiliates. Investment advice offered through Northwest Financial Advisors, a registered investment advisor and separate entity from LPL Financial. The investment products sold through LPL Financial are not insured Northwest Federal Credit Union deposits and are not NCUA insured. These products are not obligations of Northwest Federal Credit Union and are not endorsed, recommended, or guaranteed by Northwest Federal Credit Union or any government agency. The value of the investment may fluctuate, the return on the investment is not guaranteed, and the loss of principal is possible.

reston celebrates

FOUNDING OF RESTON 1964 50 YEARS 100 YEARS BIRTH OF ITS FOUNDER 1914

Reston's civic and community organizations will be celebrating anniversaries all year. Check out all the fun in store for the community at www.restoncelebrates.org. For information about how to add your organization's anniversary-themed event, please email restoncelebrates@myerspr.com.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:

Reston Hospital Center, Reston Association, Reston Turnpike Center, etc.

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SPORTS

Jensen to Play Point Guard for Mary Washington

Q and A: South Lakes basketball standout helped Seahawks win Conference 6 championship.

As a junior, Caitlin Jensen helped the South Lakes girls' basketball team reach the 2013 state tournament, providing a signature moment when she knocked down a game-winning, buzzer-beating jumper against a talented Mount Vernon team in the second round of the Northern Region tournament.

As a senior captain, Jensen was part of a Seahawks team that finished 23-4 and captured the 2014 Conference 6 championship. She participated in the 10th Suburban Classic all-star game on March 23, knocking down four 3-pointers en route to a game-high 22 points.

Now, the recent South Lakes graduate is taking classes at the University of Mary Washington and will play point guard for the women's basketball team in the winter. Jensen recently participated in a Q and A via email with The Connection.

***Connection:** What made Mary Washington the right fit for you?

Jensen: I chose Mary Washington because I loved the fact that it was academically challenging but still a very competitive athletics school. It also gives me a chance to come in right away and make a difference on the team. The girls on the team welcomed me as if I had been playing with them for years and the coaching staff did everything in their power to make me feel at home.

***Connection:** What is your major?

Jensen: My major is going to be in business with hopefully a double minor in social justice and biology.

***Connection:** What position will you play?

Jensen: I play point guard.

***Connection:** At what age did you start playing basketball? When did you realize playing college basketball was a possibility for you?

Jensen: I started playing basketball ever since I could remember. I would always go outside with my dad or grandpa and make them



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

South Lakes graduate Caitlin Jensen, left, will play basketball at the University of Mary Washington.

rebound for me. I started realizing it was a real option for me because of both my trainer, Mandy, and my coach, Christy Winters Scott. Both of them were willing to help me and gave me advice on how to contact colleges, gave me film to watch to improve and always pushed me to play with the older girls, which made me see that I could play at the same level they were playing.

***Connection:** What is your favorite memory of playing basketball at South Lakes?

Jensen: My favorite memory would just be anything with my teammates — celebrating after wins, going out to eat with them after, our dancing before the games. They were the best teammates I could have asked for and thankfully we have all stayed close!

***Connection:** If you could go back and change one thing about your high school athletic career, what would it be?

Jensen: I would have to say there are three things. The first one would be stopping [Madison's] Megan LeDuc from shooting that [game-winning] half-court shot in the district semifinals two years ago. The second would be our loss to Centreville [in the 2014 region tournament] and not stepping up as a leader or player as much as I could have. Lastly, I would say I wish I had played better than I had. Some games I disappeared and now looking back at that I wish I had

stepped up more, but it has only made me grow as a player.

***Connection:** What are you most looking forward to about the transition from high school to college?

Jensen: I am definitely looking forward to the freedom and the complete access to gyms and weight rooms instead of having to wait for gym space to open up or calling my coach so that she would come open the gym. I am also excited about being away from home so that I can grow and start to learn how to really balance my schedule.

***Connection:** Who is your favorite music artist? Why?

Jensen: My favorite music artist would have to be almost anything country, like Carrie Underwood or Florida Georgia Line. Country is just

something I can listen to on long road trips and it can be very relaxing.

***Connection:** What is your favorite movie? Why?

Jensen: My favorite movie is "Bridesmaids" or "Pitch Perfect." Both movies were basically team movies where we would always quote them or watch them together, not to mention they are both hilarious.

***Connection:** What is your favorite food?

Jensen: Chipotle. I eat it all the time and never hear the end of it from anyone!

***Connection:** What is your favorite hobby outside of basketball?

Jensen: I actually love working. It's nice to hang out with friends and go exploring, but working has given me a very satisfying feeling and working in a very friendly and open environment makes it even better.

***Connection:** What location is the farthest you have traveled from the Washington, D.C. metro area?

Jensen: The farthest I have ever been would probably be when my family took a trip to Sicily and Naples.

***Connection:** Did you follow the World Cup? If so, for which team(s) did you cheer?

Jensen: I follow the World Cup very closely and since the beginning I have wanted Germany to win!

— JON ROETMAN



Glade's Maya Berry races to a third-place finish in the girls' 9-10 25-meter butterfly.

Sportsmanship Rules Duel in the Pool

Good sportsmanship was the order of the day as RSTA's two undefeated teams went head to head in last Saturday's meet. As evenly matched as they were, the lead went back and forth and the outcome wasn't determined until the very end when Lake Audubon emerged victorious over Lake Newport, 594-582.

"The great part about a meet like today is that everyone can make a direct impact to the outcome," said Keith Jacobson, Lake Newport parent. "This is not a league where only the A level swimmers count; even the new kids swimming in C have as much of a direct impact as year-round A swimmers!"

Swimmers from both teams prepared for what they knew would be a meet that could go either way.

"It was fun seeing the kids gear up to swim against swim-

mers who have previously just been a name on the top times list," said Lisa Fritz, Lake Audubon manager.

The competitive nature of the meet stayed positive as swimmers stayed in the pool to shake hands and parents applauded good effort on both sides.

"At the end of the relays, the whole crowd applauded both A teams for what was a really exciting race and then kept cheering as the last kid finished—really summed up the feeling of the whole meet," said Mike Collins, Lake Newport parent.

"What I love about RSTA and this meet in particular was the obvious support for all swimmers," said Blake Kohn, Lake Newport parent. "At the end of relays and an extremely competitive meet, the round of applause was the loudest I've ever heard. Everyone was proud of all the kids on both teams."



PHOTO BY RSTA

Lake Audubon's Madeleine Daum and Lake Newport's Katie Storch demonstrate the good sportsmanship that was the hallmark of the competition between the top two teams in the league last Saturday.

Kickoff Held For Fairfax 2015 Games

Police and firefighters conduct demonstrations at Reston Town Center.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

Sections of Market Street were closed the afternoon of Sunday, July 13 at Reston Town Center for an introduction of the Fairfax 2015 World Police & Fire Games. The World Police & Fire Games (WPF) Sports Extravaganza offered live demonstrations including Honor Guard, Muster Carts, Police Motors, and Martial Arts. The demonstrations are part of the 2015 WPF games competitions, which will be hosted by Fairfax County and throughout the National Capital Region.

The World Police & Fire Games is one of the largest multi-sport, multi-venue events in the world. It draws more than 12,000 athletes from police, fire and other public safety agencies representing 70 countries competing in 1,600 medal events across 61 sports. Hosted by Fairfax County and held throughout the National Capital Region from June 26 to July 5, 2015, the games strive to inspire, celebrate and honor public safety officials.

On Sunday, master of ceremonies Kevin Shafter introduced activities including a kid's zone with junior ultimate fire fighter course. Fire engines, police and sheriff cruisers were available for children to explore. The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office was onsite,



PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/ THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Police Department Motorcycle Squad gave demonstrations at the Reston Town Center as part of a kickoff for the upcoming 2015 WPF games.

making child ID cards. Health and fitness groups came to display fitness routines at the Reston Town Center Pavilion. One fitness group was from the Reston YMCA. "The YMCA is excited to support the 2015 world games," said Joseph Crawford, an Executive Director of the YMCA and resident of Reston. Performing live music during the afternoon was the Northern Virginia Firefighters Emerald Society Pipe Band (NVFESPB).

Held biennially, the games will be held in Fairfax County in 2015, Montreal in 2017 and Chengdu, China in 2019. The August 2013 WPF games in Belfast, Northern Ireland welcomed 7,000 competitors from 67 countries. "It is a great opportunity to showcase all of the professions and Fairfax County itself," said Fairfax County Fire Chief Richard Bowers, Jr. Fire Chief Bowers, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, and U.S. Congressman Gerry Connolly (D-11) had the

opportunity to welcome everyone and gave remarks on the Fairfax 2015 games. At the end of the presentation the name of the Fairfax 2015 games mascot was announced as Captain Courage.

"This is huge," said Barry Biggar, President of Visit Fairfax. "The games will be a great time to see the caliber of competitors, and to not have to pay for tickets for it is extraordinary." Opening ceremonies for the Fairfax 2015 games will be at the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington, D.C. on June 26, 2015. Closing ceremonies will be at Wolf Trap Park in Vienna. The Athlete's Village will be at the Reston Town Center, with many of the events taking place at George Mason University.

"It was no surprise the games were able to come to Fairfax," said Bill Knight, President and CEO of the Fairfax 2015 World Police & Fire Games. Knight was appointed to this position in November of 2012. Previous to this appointment, Knight operated a consult-



Members of Reston YMCA demonstrate health and fitness exercises at Reston Town Center on July 13.

ing practice in Atlanta, Ga. Knight served as Vice President of Venue Operations for World Cup USA in 1994, and as the General Manager for all venues and events in Athens, Ga. for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games.

In planning for the event, Knight has taken into account the use of the Metro's Silver Line. "The Silver Line will be a tremendous boost for the community," said Knight. Some of the athletics competitions will take place in Arlington, Loudoun and Prince William counties. "It is an enormous event," said Knight. "We need 4,000 volunteers and ultimately those volunteers will be the number one resource in holding these games."

The games are expected to bring between \$60 and \$80 million in economic impact to the area. Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe was named the chairperson of the Honorary Board of the games, along with leaders across Fairfax County. The Fairfax 2015 Honorary Board includes former U.S.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, Virginia Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, Virginia Congressional Representatives Jim Moran, Gerry Connolly and Frank Wolf, George Mason University President Angel Cabrera, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce President Jim Corcoran, and Cal Ripken, among others. Funding to support the effort was secured from seven official corporate partners and from Fairfax County, who approved \$2 million in funding for Fairfax 2015 supplementing its prior funding and in-kind contributions.

"This is a source of pride for Fairfax County, it will bring athletes and their friends and families to Fairfax County," said Chairman Sharon Bulova. "It will bring economic opportunity for us at both Reston and the Dulles corridor. ... It will put Fairfax County on the map in ways it has not been before." For more information about the Fairfax 2015 games, visit fairfax2015.com.

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Between Halves

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



At present, July 12th, I'm halfway, approximately, between my last CT Scan which showed a previously unseen silver-dollar sized growth in my lower left lung and my next CT Scan scheduled for August 6th, one month earlier than my usual three-month interval in order to make an evaluation sooner rather than later; to determine if this is new growth or nothing more than old growth that is now visible due to the combination of shrinking tumors and dissipating fluid opening up the viewing area, so to speak. Apparently, the chemotherapy drug, Alimta, with which I've been infused every three weeks since last September appears to be doing its hoped-for job: shrinkage.

My reaction to this new finding in late May was not negative. At worst, it was neutral, at best, it was positive; something seen for the first time because previously there was too much of other unhealthy stuff in the way for it to be seen at all. Less clutter, if you'll allow a lay person's description to suffice. And for all my oncologist knows, this growth may have been there all along and is not the least bit a cause for concern, quite the opposite in fact. But we don't know enough yet, so he decided not to wait three months. Heck, this growth could even be smaller than it was originally (affected by the Alimta also) and smaller even on this next scan. But we won't know definitively, we'll only know comparatively – between late May and early August.

To say I'm looking forward to the results would be a bit overstated. Curious, I'll allow. Moreover, I don't want to express any real confidence about my prospects, because so much of what cancer does it will do, regardless of what I think or hope or pray. But two things/symptoms my oncologist advised me to e-mail him about: pain in the area of the "new" growth and/or a persistent cough, neither of which I've experienced in the slightest. Now he didn't give me a timeline as to when I might feel something, but six weeks out, I haven't felt a thing. (I know better than to ask him hypotheticals; presumably patients feel symptoms differently, manifest symptoms differently and tolerate/notice symptoms differently, so feeling/not feeling might mean something or nothing; it varies. Uniformity is hardly at play here.) Still, I suppose I would have to go along with my brother Richard's encouragement: "It's better not to feel anything, KB, isn't it?" Heck yes! But it's hard not to worry. It's cancer, after all.

Following the calendar and chemotherapy schedule, I will have one more infusion before my next – and final – CT scan before I see my oncologist to discuss the results and dare I say, treatment options. On or about August 15th, I will once again know the tale of the tape. I will learn if my life goes on as it sort of is, with relative calm, or if I'll be thrust into the unknown vortex of clinical trials/N.I.H-type studies and the educated hands of researchers.

I've been extremely fortunate so far, diagnosis-to-date. And I'd like to think (wishfully, naively) that my luck will continue to be exceptional. Although, I realize I may be beginning to bump up against some shorter odds here, having survived five-plus years already (only 16 percent of stage IV NSCLC survivors live beyond five years). Nevertheless, I'm thrilled to be an aberration. In fact, I can't think of anything I'd rather be called.

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

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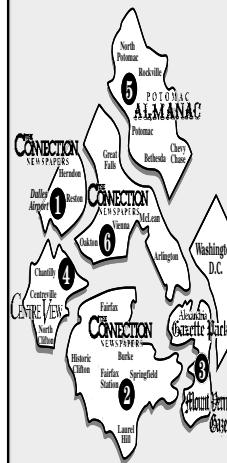
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The biggest things are always
the easiest to do because there
is no competition.
-William Van Horne



Nancy Bass, Anniebelle and Patch, 2014, oil on panel, 18" x 50" x 2"

GRACE Presents Artist Member Exhibition

Greater Reston Arts Center is presenting the first of what will become a biennial exhibition highlighting the talents of the area artist members. Selected by distinguished curator, educator, and artist, Helen Frederick, founder of Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center and Professor of Art at George Mason University, the exhibition features 28 artists treating a range of themes and working in a variety of media including painting, photography, sculpture and site-specific installation.

An opening reception is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, from 6 – 8 p.m.; all are welcome to attend. GRACE is located in Reston Town Center and is accessible by

public transportation. For directions and further information,

visit www.restonarts.org. A full-color exhibition catalog will be available at the gallery.

Featured artists include: John Adams, Lina Alattar, Ann Barbieri, Nancy Bass,

Brenda Belfield,

Julia Bloom, Jes-

sica Chong Kang,

Catherine Day,

Julia Dzikiewicz,

Dorothy Fall, Jo

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Kehoss, Elizabeth Kendall, Brian Kirk, George Kochev, Mary Ellen Mogee, Michele Montalbano, Craig Moran, Connie Slack, Paul Steinkoenig, Nasir Thamir, Anna Watson, Ann Williams and Fred Zafran.

What, Where, When

2014 Artist Member Exhibition, July 17 – Aug. 23.

Opening Reception: July 17, 6 – 8 p.m.

Gallery Hours Tuesday – Saturday: 11 a.m. – 5

p.m. Free and Open to the public.

Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market

Street, Suite 103, Reston. info@restonarts.org

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To have community events listed in the Connection, send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com by the Friday prior to the following week's paper.

THURSDAY/JULY 17

ESL Pronunciation and Speaking for

Intermediate Students.

1 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adults. 703-689-2700

FRIDAY/JULY 18

ESL for Beginners.

10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

Let's Talk - ESL for Intermediate Students.

11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

MONDAY/JULY 21

ESL for Intermediate Students. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

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TUESDAY/JULY 22

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ESL for Advanced Students. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 23

ESL for Intermediate Students. 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

INOVA Blood Drive. 12-7 p.m. Reston Town Center, beside the Pavillion, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Come donate blood to those in need. Schedule appointments at 1-866-256-6372 or inova.org/donateblood.

ESL for Intermediate Students. 6:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

ESL for Intermediate Students. 6:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

ESL for Advanced Students. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

ESL Pronunciation and Speaking for Intermediate Students. 1 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adults. 703-689-2700.

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ESL for Intermediate Students. 1 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adults. 703-689-2700.

FRIDAY/JULY 25

ESL for Beginners. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

Let's Talk - ESL for Intermediate Students. 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925

Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

School Board Decreases Suspension Time

Student Rights and Responsibilities revised.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

Starting this fall, suspensions for certain student offenses in Fairfax County will decrease, thanks to a revision of the school system's Student Rights and Responsibilities.

The school board voted unanimously at the end of June to change the discipline handbook, which will now focus on in school suspensions to preserve time in school. Offenses that come with mandatory punishments are decreased under the updated handbook.

Sully District School Board member Kathy Smith said at the meeting that the focus remains to have safe schools, but to ensure that children are kept in school so they can continue to receive their education.

"The changes to the SR&R were made to better align with best practices, to reduce suspensions, and to include changes that have been made to the Code of Virginia," said School Board Chairman Ilryong Moon in a press release. "The adopted



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County School Board voted unanimously to change the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook to decrease suspension times.

changes emphasize the School Board's desire to keep students in class by promoting alternative forms of discipline and reducing the length of suspension for certain offenses. However, serious infractions will still be dealt with in a manner that protects students and staff."

The Student Rights and Responsibilities provides a guideline of rules for students of Fairfax County Schools and the consequences for breaking those rules. Students are required to sign it each year.

CHANGES ALSO INCLUDE adjustments to a marijuana-related punishment. First-

time use of marijuana that does not take place on school grounds or during a school-sponsored activity will be extended expedited review, meaning disciplinary actions other than expulsion may be used.

A motion was also approved that requires the collection of data on cases involving first-time possession and use of marijuana cases each semester. Principals are also given more independence in assigning disciplinary decisions.

Superintendent Karen Garza said at the meeting that disproportionality in school suspensions will continue to be examined.

"Are we there yet with the Student Rights and Responsibilities? No. I think we have to keep working on it and keep making it better," Garza said.

Under the updated handbook, the suspension time for many punishments is decreased from 10 to five days.

"We wanted to reduce the number of days students miss school due to disciplinary infractions. We need to hold students accountable, but can we do that in a way that still supports our educational mission, and I think we've made progress there," Garza said.

A requirement that required a 10-day suspension with a referral to the Division

Superintendent has also been eliminated.

"Everything we know at the national level of research is, when you pull children out of their school building, when you pull them even out of the classroom, they fall further and further behind," said Braddock District School Board member Megan McLaughlin. "When we look at the things that we as a system can try to control and improve upon for student achievement, it's important that we recognize that this is why getting our discipline practice right is so important, because this is how we will help improve student achievement and narrow the achievement gap."

FAIRFAX COUNTY'S ADOPTION of the new Student Rights and Responsibilities will be a model for the rest of Virginia, said Ted Velkoff, member at large.

"School boards are going to be looking at ways to respond positively to students without doing zero tolerance," he said.

Electronic cigarettes and hookah pens were also added to be classified as tobacco products under the updated handbook.

A motion was also approved that requires data to be collected regarding in-school and out-of-school suspension, as well as the number of those students not suspended, out of the total number of referrals to the superintendent for discipline infractions, to be reported each semester.



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