Sridhar Ganesan, RCA president, right, honored Rescue Reston’s founding member John Pinkman and its president Connie Hartke and all Reston citizens who got involved with Rescue Reston as this year’s Citizen of the Year.
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News

Thousands Become RCA’s Citizen of Year

Rescue Reston and all involved Restonians honored Sunday for fighting to preserve Reston National Golf Course.

By Ken Moore


“Rescue Reston is a grassroots organization comprising thousands of Restonians who united to support preserving the Reston National Golf Course as open green space,” said Connolly.

On Sunday evening, April 24 at the Reston Community Center, Reston Citizens Association named Rescue Reston and all of its members and participants the 2016 Citizen of the Year. Reston Citizens Association is a nonprofit founded in 1967 that serves the 60,000 people who live in Reston.

“It is fitting that this award is given by one grassroots organization to another,” said Connolly. “It speaks yet again to the legacy that the founder of Reston, Robert E. Simon, leaves behind. I believe that such a high level of engagement is one of the best indicators of a healthy and vibrant community.”

RESTON CITIZENS ASSOCIATION seeks “to promote Reston’s vision and planning principles and to sustain and enhance its quality of life now and in the future,” according to president Sridhar Ganesan.

By Ken Moore

Sridhar Ganesan, RCA president

“We can get a lot done working together. ... We got the outcome that we wanted.”

John McCrea, nominator

“We came here in large part because of the open space and the recreational opportunities Reston provides. That is why I wanted to nominate the volunteers of Rescue Reston. This fired up this community. Rescue Reston fired us up to preserve what is best for Reston.”

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

“It is exemplary when you have committed support behind something the county is committed to. And the amount of community support here is outstanding.”

Ellen Graves, president, Reston Association

“Reston Association and Rescue Reston share a common priority of protecting Reston’s open space. Through the long, drawn out legal battle, Rescue Reston demonstrated outstanding leadership and a fight to preserve open space that we all love.”

Connie Hartke, president Rescue Reston

“Make no mistake, this isn’t over. God, I wish it were. We must stay united. They are going to be back in some shape or form. We have to stay strong.”

Photos by Ken Moore/The Connection
Double Duty

With the number and types of commitments made on their daily schedules, it takes a special occasion to gather the entire roster of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in one place at one time outside the walls of their meeting chambers. The annual Leadership Fairfax (LFI) Board of Supervisors Breakfast was just that, with all ten members in attendance on April 22 before a packed auditorium of other elected officials, community and business leaders and members of local law enforcement — many of them alumni of LFI programs that the nonprofit sponsors to “create and support leaders.”

Welcoming remarks by LFI President and CEO Karen Cleveland and LFI Board Chair Brian Monday of event sponsor TD Bank got things started. Before the supervisors were called to the dias, however, there was an important presentation that had first to be made — a celebration of Bill Bouie, the recipient of the 2015 Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award. Chairman of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, Bouie is the embodiment of the award’s objective to recognize a member of the community “who exemplifies service above self and has had a positive effect on the County,” according to award presenters Rodney Lusk with the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority and award namesake Katherine Hanley.

“Under Bill’s leadership,” said Lusk, “the Fairfax County Park system received the Gold Medal for Best Large Park System, added 786 acres of parkland,” and impressively was the “only park system in the nation to receive a perfect score during accreditation. He’s a national leader and has truly made a positive difference in the lives of Fairfax County citizens.”

In addition to his work with the Park Authority, Bouie serves on numerous boards, including Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, Reston Hospital Center and Reston Community Center Board of Governors. Bouie grew up next door to a Catholic Church and a convent and came from a family that firmly believed in a “life of service.” His service record is one that anyone could be proud of, but in accepting the honor Bouie admitted that he was unable to fulfill his late father’s greatest wish — “that I be proud of, but in accepting the honor” Veatch started them off with a “soft-ball,” asking each supervisor to name a place or an event in the area that’s high on their favorites list, as well as a favorite musical group. Answers for the former included Lake Anne Plaza (courtesy of Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins), Riverbend Park (Dranesville District Supervisor Foust), Clifton (“a place that will lower your blood pressure,” declared Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity), and the Sully District Police Station, “If I go by the frequency of my visits there,” said Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith.

After getting to know a bit more about our county’s elected legislators, Chairman Bulova was then called upon to deliver what she termed the “speed dating version” of the State of the County address — in four minutes or less.

Chairman Bulova’s State of the County highlights:

❖ Progress on the Silver Line metro — the extension work beyond the Wiehle-Reston station is proceeding and the rail line is expected to begin service to Dulles Airport by 2020.
❖ I-66 Inside and Outside the Beltway improvements — planning, public input and decisions are on-going, but “at least we are finally moving forward.”
❖ Tyson’s — so much has already been done, with many more projects well underway.
❖ Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Committee — a final report was delivered to the Board in October, 2015. The full report is available on www.fairfaxcounty.gov website, but includes recommendations on new training and practices that stress “the sanctity of life.”
❖ Implementation of Diversion First Program — the county has adopted policies and procedures and is conducting Crisis Intervention Training to “decrease the use of arrest and incarceration” for persons experiencing mental health crises, “diverting them to treatment” wherever possible and allowing them to “access treatment at many points of contact.”
❖ Preparation of the 2017 Budget — which Bulova said was a determined effort to find the “sweet spot” balancing revenue with the county’s many needs.

Once Bulova had completed her rapid summary, moderator Veatch began posing questions of the other supervisors, some-times in a single-person responder format, sometimes in a “point-counterpoint” method, and even tasking three supervisors to communicate on different aspects of one major issue — Metro. Supervisor Cook commented on performance of the system, Hudgins on maintenance issues, and McKay on why we need to support Metro at all. Cook pointed out that one of the problems with Metro is that it answers to some twenty different jurisdictions. “We need to operate more like the New York Port Authority, trimming it down to Federal, District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. Hudgins reminded the audience Metro is forty years old and was designed as a simple two-track system. “And we are still trying to secure a dedicated funding source to address maintenance, safety and growth,” she added. In general defense of Metro, Supervisor McKay said the state would have to add at least one more lane to every interstate if there were no more Metro. He also noted that most major economic de
More Voters Might Not Mean Much More Voting

Last week, Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D) restored the voting and civil rights of more than 200,000 Virginians who were convicted of felonies, served their time and completed any supervised release, parole or probation requirements.

This moves Virginia into the mainstream; only 10 states have more restrictive policies about voting for people who have been convicted of felonies. Previously, Virginia had been one of the most restrictive states in terms of restoring voting rights. Fourteen states automatically restore voting rights once the individual’s term of incarceration is over, and two states allow absentee voting from prison.

While some claim partisan motivation, with most of those affected presumed to be Democrats, getting these men and women registered to vote and then turning out to vote in 100,000 new voters in November. Studies show that people who were previously convicted of felonies who are eligible to vote register and vote at lower levels than the general population, according to the New York Times.

Clean Energy Creates New Opportunities

To the Editor: This Earth Day, April 22, the United States signed the Paris Agreement, which required unprecedented international cooperation to address climate change by reducing carbon pollution. Even before the agreement is formally signed, countries have been taking action by investing in clean, renewable energy - a necessary step to meet commitments of carbon reduction. The United States current contribution to climate action includes policies like the Clean Power Plan. Renewable energy innovation has created good jobs here in Virginia to supply clean, reliable power to our communities. Governor Terry McAuliffe has repeatedly confirmed he will take strong climate action and cut harmful pollution.

Selfishness, Not Altruism, Behind Tax Increases

To the Editor: The Board of Supervisors and School Board should give the approximately 12,000 classroom teachers salary increases, but give no raises to other school and county employees. They should hold real estate taxes constant to spare the moderately poor, who are the most hurt by real-estate tax increases, many fleeing the county when taxes are raised and others becoming welfare dependent. Politicians gain by raising taxes so they can pay their employees more, employees who will dutifully re-elect them. Politicians gain also by making more people dependent on government, people who will re-elect them so their welfare continues. Selfishness, not altruism, makes them raise taxes. Eventually, they will suffer the consequences of selfishness.

Send in Mother’s Day Photos

Mother’s Day is May 8 this year and every year at this time this newspaper calls for submissions to our Mother’s Day photo gallery.

Virginia is being sent to the kids?

The sign in question adorns the preschool’s carpool line and is in the shape of a train, cutely designed to attract the attention of their preschool students. My own child inquired about it: “What does that train say?... Why are those names on there?... Where is my name?... Is [insert classmate’s name] on there?”

I spoke to a LANK administrator and was told the sign was being sent to the kids? What about families who cannot afford to make a donation? LANK sells itself as a “community preschool.” If this is a fundraising tactic “a community preschool” would do?

Editorial

More Governor’s action brings Virginia in line with 39 other states.

nyti.ms/26Knr52, with a registration rate of around 10 percent and about 20 percent actually voting, although some suggest voting rates of between 10-15 percent. If, as the studies suggest, 55 percent of those would vote Democratic, then likely new Democratic voters would be around 22,000.

While that’s a lot less than 200,000, it’s also more than the margin of victory in quite a few statewide races. Consider that Attorney General Mark Herring (D) won his race by about 900 votes out of more than 2 million cast.

These new voters could have an impact on statewide races. Districts for members of Virginia’s General Assembly are so gerrymandered, it’s hard to imagine that the impact of these new voters will be huge in terms of local representation.

In a Democracy, it’s better when more people vote.

Gov. McAuliffe said: “If we are going to build a stronger and more equal Virginia, we must break down barriers to participation in civic life for people who return to society seeking a second chance. We must welcome them back and offer the opportunity to build a better life by taking an active role in our democracy.”

Again, this action brings Virginia into line with 39 other states, with more than 20 states having less restrictive policies. For example, on Feb. 9, 2016, the Maryland General Assembly overwhelmingly overrode the Governor’s veto and restored the voting rights to all convicted felons immediately upon their release from prison. Previously, people convicted felons in Maryland had to complete all parole and probation before they were able to vote. In Virginia, such individuals have to complete their term of incarceration and their term of probation or parole before voting rights are restored.

— Mary Kimm

Letters to the Editor

The Money Train

A local Reston preschool, Lake Anne Nursery and Kindergarten (“LANK”), annually solicits cash donations from its families, on top of taxes raised and other coming because welfare dependent. Politicians gain by raising taxes so they can pay their employees more, employees who will dutifully re-elect them. Politicians gain also by making more people dependent on government, people who will re-elect them so their welfare continues. Selfishness, not altruism, makes them raise taxes. Eventually, they will suffer the consequences of selfishness.

Fred Costello

Reston

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Brenda Lindsey
Reconvened Session—2016

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

The Library of Virginia has an informative new exhibit “First Freedom” that includes documents on the passage of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom penned by Thomas Jefferson and passed by the Virginia General Assembly in 1786. The original manuscript on parchment drafted by Thomas Jefferson is housed at the Library of Virginia. Termed in the exhibit as “one of the most revolutionary pieces of legislation in American history,” I believe it is the most important piece of legislation ever passed by the Virginia legislature and possibly by any legislative body. It codified freedom of conscience. The meaning of the Virginia Statute as it found its way into the Virginia Constitution’s Declaration of Rights and the U.S. Bill of Rights is still debated today.

Just across the street from the Library of Virginia the General Assembly met in the Commonwealth’s Capitol in a reconvened, day-long session to consider vetoes and amendments made by Governor Terry McAuliffe to bills passed by the 2016 session of the General Assembly that had adjourned in March. One of the bills that had passed the legislature would have stretched freedom of religion to include the right to discriminate against others because of your religion. Specifically, the bill would have allowed all forms of discrimination against the LGBTQ community. North Carolina and Mississippi continue to make headlines as more businesses and events leave the states because of a law just like the one passed in Virginia. Fortunately Governor McAuliffe vetoed the bill, and both houses refused by straight party-line votes in the reconvened session to override the veto.

In the House I led the debate to sustain the Governor’s veto of a bill that would have established a statewide system of censoring literature in the schools that some may consider sexually explicit. As I pointed out, local school divisions led by elected school boards should be the place to accommodate parent concerns about materials used in the classroom. I personally remember the time when the state had its own history textbook written, but it was so biased and slanted that I and other teachers refused to use it.

Good news in the area of gun safety is that the legislature—again on straight party-line votes—sustained the Governor’s vetoes of bills that would have made guns more readily available. The proponents of the NRA interests continue the false argument that most people are killed in gun-free zones. Democrats also sustained the Governor’s veto of a bill that would have defunded Planned Parenthood.

An issue of disappointment to me in the reconvened session was the approval of an amendment by the Governor that will allow the Commonwealth to procure in a secret process the drugs necessary to carry out the death penalty. I voted against it. While the amendment would forestall a return to the electric chair, I would have preferred a moratorium or end to the death penalty. The Governor made it clear that each member should vote their conscience, but had his amendment not passed he would have vetoed the electric chair bill.

It is an honor to serve in a body where freedom of conscience has such a long and important history.
Easing Prom Pressure

By Angela Constantino

It’s a night filled with anticipation. But it can also cost one almost one month’s rent. It’s prom night. Through Doria Central Prom Dress Giveaway — held in Reston on Saturday, April 23 — Delta Sigma Theta Fairfax County Alumni Chapter and the Reston Community Center, along with other business and community partners, are helping ease the cost by giving away dresses, shoes, accessories and make-up.

“Sometimes there’s a lot of pressure to look pretty and look nice,” said Jeanelle Baptiste of Delta Sigma Theta. “We want to take the pressure off the young girls so they can enjoy that night that they can break out their parents’ prom dress.”

A 2015 Visa Inc. survey calculated that a prom-going teen will spend an average of $519 on a dress, limousine rental, tickets, flowers, food, after-party, etc. A promposal — an elaborate way to ask someone to the prom — can cost as much as $324.

Kellianne Byers, of Clark County, Va., knows this too well. Last year she spent $1,000 on a prom dress, shoes, accessories and make-up. “It was so expensive,” said Byers. “I was not able to spend that much money.”

Byers is not alone. Leanna Bailey and her mother, Angela Starling, have gone to proms and spent a lot of money on dresses, flowers, food, attending after-prom parties and fare. “We save money on a dress, that’s really going to cost us a lot of money,” said Byers.

The Delta Sigma Theta Fairfax County Alumni Chapter and the Reston Community Center are working together to help ease the cost of prom on Saturday, April 23.

The Delta Sigma Theta Theta Fairfax County Alumni Chapter have been collecting donations since January for the 14th Annual Doria Central Prom Dress Giveaway.

“The Mystic School of Sixth Graders Win Virginia State Odyssey of the Mind

Eleventh graders from the Mystic School in Herndon won the Virginia State Odyssey of the Mind (P.O.W.E.R.) Tournament on Saturday, April 16 in Newport News.

Dr. Patrick Kirsch, President of the Mystic School, said, “The Mystic School is proud to report that its Odyssey of the Mind team has again performed exceptionally well at the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals in May at Fox Mill Elementary, where they will compete against teams from around the world.”

The team consists of 12 students and six adult mentors. This year, the Mystic team traveled to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals in May at Fox Mill Elementary, where they will compete against teams from around the world. They worked on various projects, including community service, technical solutions, and other projects.

The team won two awards: second place in the competition and third place in the recognition category.

The Mystic School is located in Herndon. The school was founded in 1957 by Dr. Patrick Kirsch and his wife, Ruth. The school offers a rigorous academic curriculum and emphasizes extracurricular activities.

The Mystic School has won numerous awards for its academic and extracurricular achievements. The school is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS). The school is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Schools and Colleges (MSCS).

The Mystic School offers a range of extracurricular activities, including music, drama, athletics, and community service. The school is proud to offer a wide range of extracurricular opportunities to its students, including opportunities to participate in community service projects, volunteer at local charities, and engage in athletic activities.

The Mystic School is committed to providing a rigorous academic curriculum and emphasizing extracurricular activities. The school is proud to offer a range of extracurricular opportunities to its students, including opportunities to participate in community service projects, volunteer at local charities, and engage in athletic activities.

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WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27
The Big Read Herndon, Writing the American Family. 6-10 p.m. Herndon Farmleigh Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Meg Medina with Special Guest Kozue Alexander. Mayan dancer Acoatzin Torres will perform. Free. 703-556-9560. www.artspaceherndon.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 28
Dollars and Sense. 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. A monthly book discussion group that focuses on business leaders and markets. April’s title is “A Random Walk Down Wall Street” by Burton Malkiel. Free. 703-435-6520.

SATURDAY/APRIL 30

TUESDAY/MAY 2

SUNDAY/MAY 8
“A Journey to Hope.” 8 a.m. United Christian Parishes, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Join in the celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with the community. Free. 703-367-4700.

THURSDAY/MAY 12

SATURDAY/JUNE 11-12
Lake Anne Chalk on the Water Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Chalk on the Water is a two-day street-painting festival where participants will create amazing street art. Festival goers can purchase a “plot” of brick space on the plaza and paint to their hearts delight whatever flower or design they can imagine. Spots are limited for this event. Participants have a chance to win cash prizes for various categories, awarded by notable community judges. Register at www.chalkonthewater.com.
Volunteers Needed for Fine Arts Festival

Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) is offering a variety of volunteer opportunities for the 25th annual Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival. This signature community event is made possible with help from 500 volunteers from the greater Reston area and beyond, including students from college, high school, middle school (with parent), corporate teams, and individuals who provide their time from a few hours to a full day to assist GRACE with the 2-day festival, May 21 and 22 at Reston Town Center.

Volunteer positions include: artist hospitality, festival ambassadors, Family Art Park assistants, managing supplies and personnel, Launch Party support, and other essential tasks. This opportunity is ideal for students needing community service hours, for which GRACE will provide confirmation.

To learn more, visit www.restonarts.org, click on “Festival” and view the “Volunteer” page that provides full registration and advance training information. Volunteers receive T-shirts and dining discount certificates.

Those who cannot volunteer but wish to support the event can do so through GRACE’s new Adopt-an-Artist campaign. For $100, donors can make a personal connection to the festival that helps defray the costs of artist amenities, and receive appropriate recognition for their support.

The 25th annual Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival is an eleven-block art walk filled with more than 200 of the nation’s fine artists exhibiting and selling their paintings, photography, mixed-media, sculpture, jewelry, and fine craft. Entertainment includes dance performances, free art-making activities for families in the Pavilion, periodic live music, and more throughout the weekend.

The festival is open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 21, and 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 22. A gate donation of $5 to GRACE provides a festival program and dining certificates for local restaurants.

On the evening of Friday, May 20 at Reston Town Center Pavilion, GRACE will present “artsy beverages and savory food creations,” plus a silent auction at the Festival Launch Party. Ticket quantities are limited for this special celebration and are now on sale at GRACE for $100 each.

The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival is made possible with the support of generous sponsors, including Title Sponsor Lindsay Volkswagen of Dulles, Signature Community Sponsors Reston Community Center and Reston Town Center Association, Pavilion Sponsor The M Group, and Venue Host Reston Town Center, among other valued supporters.

GRACE is located at 12001 Market St., Reston. Parking is free in Reston Town Center’s seven multilevel garages. If taking Metro, there is a bus that runs every 20 minutes on weekends from Wiehle-Reston East station.

For more information, visit www.restonarts.org, or email info@restonarts.org, or call GRACE at 703-471-9242.

GRACE is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. In addition to its GRACE Art program that serves more than 40 schools in the D.C. region, GRACE offers changing exhibitions of contemporary art at its gallery free to the public, as well as a diverse schedule of educational programs all year round.
Herndon Baseball to Face Westfield Friday

The Herndon baseball team will travel to face Westfield at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 29 as the Hornets enter the second half of their Conference 5 schedule.

Herndon concluded the first half of its conference schedule with a 2-1 road win over Robinson on April 21. The victory improved the Hornets’ record to 10-4 overall and 2-3 in the conference.

Herndon faced Oakton on Tuesday, after The Connection’s deadline.

South Lakes Baseball Snaps 5-Game Skid

The South Lakes baseball team defeated Fairfax 1-0 on April 19, ending a five-game losing streak that started when the Seahawks were no-hit by Herndon on April 2.

The win improved South Lakes’ record to 8-7 overall and 3-6 in Conference 6.

The Seahawks faced Yorktown on Tuesday, after The Connection’s deadline. South Lakes will host Madison at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 29.

South Lakes Boys’ Lax Improves to 6-1

The South Lakes boys’ lacrosse team improved to 6-1 and extended its win streak to five games with a 16-1 road win over West Potomac on April 19.

After dropping to 1-1 with a loss to Stone Bridge on March 31, the Seahawks defeated Yorktown, Madison, McLean and Langley before thumping the Wolverines.

South Lakes faced Hayfield on Tuesday, after The Connection’s deadline. The Seahawks will host rival Herndon at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27.

Herndon Girls’ Lax Earns First Wins

After dropping six straight to start the season, the Herndon girls’ lacrosse team earned back-to-back wins against Chantilly and Falls Church.

The Hornets captured their first win by beating Conference 5 foe Chantilly 14-13 at home on April 19. Two days later, Herndon beat Falls Church 22-4.

The Hornets faced Robinson on Tuesday, after The Connection’s deadline. Herndon will host Broad Run at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 28.

McLean Softball Wins Fourth Straight

The McLean softball team defeated South Lakes 5-0 on April 21, giving the Highlanders four straight wins. McLean’s win streak included a 1-0 victory over private school Bishop O’Connell on April 16.

With the win over South Lakes, McLean improved to 13-3 overall and 7-3 in Conference 13.

The Highlanders faced Langley on Tuesday, after The Connection’s deadline. McLean will host Yorktown at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 29.

Madison Baseball Extends Win Streak to Nine

The Madison baseball team extended its win streak to nine games with a 16-5 victory over Fairfax on April 21.

The Warhawks improved to 14-2 overall, 10-0 in Conference 6 and remained unbeaten since returning from a spring break tournament in Florida.

Madison faced Washington-Lee on Tuesday, after The Connection’s deadline. The Warhawks have regular season games remaining against South Lakes (Friday), Langley (May 3) and McLean (May 6) before competing in the conference tournament, which is scheduled to begin May 12.

Oakton Boys’ Soccer Remains Undefeated

The Oakton boys’ soccer team shut out Briar Woods 3-0 on April 20 to improve to 8-0-1.

The Cougars will wrap up Conference 5 play with a home match against Westfield Thursday, April 28, at 7:15 p.m.

South Lakes Girls’ Lacrosse Program Stays Unbeaten

The South Lakes girls’ lacrosse program started 12-0 this season. It’s moments like that that I play for, when we aren’t 25 different girls but a single family.”

—Langley goalkeeper Megan O’Hara

The Langley girls’ lacrosse team seems to be best known as a prolific goal-scoring group. At 12-0, the team has won 11 games by a margin of at least five goals, and seven of their wins came by double digits. What is not being discussed as much is the how the differential is being held on the defensive side.

Junior goalie Megan O’Hara has quietly been leading a defensive unit that has only allowed 75 goals in 12 games. Senior Mackenzie Regen, junior Allie Leto, sophomore Lilly Byrne and freshman Charlotte Smith anchor a ferocious defensive line. Lauren Bell, Samantha Lee, Marina Carlucci and Stephanie Long round out the strong group.

O’Hara began playing in the first grade for Great Falls Lacrosse coach Michelle Buller.

“I started out playing for Great Falls Lacrosse because my older cousins played and I was sick of soccer,” O’Hara said. “Coach Buller gave me an old stick bag after a practice and I was hooked.”

O’Hara credits the coaching staff with creating a team-first mentality.

“Coach Maggie (Kovacs) and Annie (Swanson) have brought so much to the team this year, well beyond their lacrosse experience,” she said. “They are creative, keeping the practices challenging but also fun and they build confidence in all the players. Coach Bucky (Morris) has personally been a huge help to me. He does goalie specific drills with me and just brings such a great spirit to the team.”

Her greatest memory in her three starting varsity years at Langley occurred just this year during the Fairfax game on April 19.

“We won [20-2] and even though it was not particularly close, it was the closest I’ve come to a shutout,” O’Hara said. “After the final horn, the team stormed the field and tackled me in a huge group hug that practically brought me to the ground. They were all screaming and yelling about how well we all played as a team. It’s moments like that I play for, when we aren’t 25 different girls but a single family.”

In her spare time, O’Hara loves to bake – especially rhubarb pie. The next time she makes her favorite pie, she says she’ll be making at least two, so she can share the good food with the best family she knows: her team.
Open Space Forever

FROM PAGE 3

course must now be preceded by the filing of specific plans with the county, which will then be compared with the ‘Development Plans’ approved in 1971,” said John McBride, Reston Association’s legal counsel.

“These plans are in the county zoning files and clearly limit use of the land to a golf course, open space and driving range. Any change to these approved plans will require amendment approval by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The golf course owner had sought to avoid this requirement for a plan amendment by seeking by-right use status for a number of residential and other uses.”

GANESAN CALLED it a “unique” year to be able to offer the citizen of the year to Rescue Reston, its Board, and all citizens that became involved in Rescue Reston’s efforts to help preserve Reston National Golf Course from development.

“Every year, we take this time to celebrate,” said Ganesan. “We do this by honoring the citizen of the year. Through this we spotlight the work of volunteer citizens and their actions. They are the heroes that make Rescue Reston what it is.”

“Thousands of citizens united behind the Rescue Reston cause which resulted in a great public common good for Reston,” he said. “Being an association of, by and for the citizens, RCA is proud to honor the citizen to honor the citizens and their actions. They are the heroes that make Rescue Reston what it is.”

Connie Hartke, now president, and John Pinkman were two of the original founders of Rescue Reston in 2012.

“Connie Hartke, she’s a pit bull,” said Ganesan. “She takes on an issue and you can’t stop her.”

Hartke thanked the people of Reston that committed to the battle that she says is not over. She said Rescue Reston has received donations all the way from Paris, and donations ranging from $1 to $2,000 from individuals. Two businesses, Apex and Achieve, it, made $5,000 donations to Rescue Reston.

“We were up against an opponent that had three different law firms working for them,” she said. “Their unlimited budget for attorneys was met by our team.”

The Board includes Hartke; Joe Deninger, vice president – finance/treasurer; Robin Hogan, vice president – communications; Lisa White, vice president – technology; David Burns, director; John Pinkman, director; and Ray Wedell, director.

“Look at all the work we have done in that time,” said Pinkman. “I thank you. My family thanks you. I thank you for the future.

“I hope we don’t have to do this again in this lifetime,” he said.

THE SECOND ANNUAL Golf Tournament and Nature Hike is scheduled on Monday, Oct. 3, and the Walker Nature Center will sponsor the nature hike along the course. Already 20 of last year’s business sponsors committed to sponsor the event again this year.


“Northwest Mutual invested in a golf course. A golf course is what they have,” said Hartke.

“Mr. Speaker,” said Connolly, “the efforts of Rescue Reston on behalf of the greater Reston community are selfless undertakings which are truly worthy of our highest praise. I commend them on their award and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them.”

State of the County Presented Over Breakfast

FROM PAGE 4

development is taking place near Metro rail or other transit stations. “It’s not that Metro is too big to fall, it’s too important.”

TRANSPORTATION continued to be a theme with Supervisors Herrity and Lynda Smith providing pro and con arguments about the proposals to improve I-66, inside and outside of the Beltway. Smith expressed concern that the project would be “worse than the Beltway construction,” and mean major work at artery roads and intersections like Gallows Road, Nutley and Cedar Lane, disrupting the lives of many who “are already major users of transit.” Herrity countered that the congestion to I-66 could not go unchecked, citing the improvement in travel times on the Beltway since the addition of the Express Lanes. “These improvements will give people choices in transportation and actually encourage transit usage and carpooling.”

Re-visiting the issue from last year’s event, Veatch asked for commentary from Supervisor Kathy Smith on the controversial proposed Meals Tax. Smith allowed that it was something that needed discussion. Smith, Herrity and several other supervisors expressed concern in this regard, indicating that a diversification of the revenue stream was critical. To considerable applause, McKay spoke about “Richmond’s assumption of Northern Virginia’s wealth” when it comes to the state’s formula on providing funding for Fairfax County schools. To keep looking to real estate taxes is “unsustainable” said McKay.

One of the final questions was to Supervisor Herrity, asking him if he agreed that drug overdoses had become a “public health crisis.” “Yes,” was his immediate and succinct response. “More of our citizens die from heroin overdoses than car accidents.” The supervisor noted that 75 percent of heroin usage has been found to have started with the use of legitimately prescribed drugs, often for pain from sports or other injuries. Herrity announced to the assembly that the new LFI class year will be a reminder that the new LFI class year will begin in September with programs for current leaders, emerging leaders, and those transitioning towards, or in retirement. For more details, go to www.leadershipfairfax.org.

Leadership Fairfax President and CEO Karen Cleveland, and Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Karen Garza listen as the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors offer their remarks on the school budget process and whether school boards should be given taxing authorities to raise funds.
WEIGHT
FOR IT, WAIT...

BY KENNETH B. LOURIE

“MBR looked good. CT stable. Smiley face.” Words and personality from my oncologist with which I can most definitely live. And arriving via e-mail, to my inbox, six days prior not less than to my next regularly scheduled, post-scan appointment — which typically such results are discussed, in person, by the doctor’s preference. But I can take good news electronically, especially before the weekend, when further communication is not likely. What was heard at 6 pm-ish last Friday was me exhaling, and the follow-up thud was the weight of the world falling off my shoulders and hitting the floor. Not shattering, unfortunately, only repositioning until a few months hence when once again it will return to its figurative perch as I await the results of my next quarterly scan.

Such is life, and I’m happy to live it. Moreover, given my original prognosis from February, 2009: “13 months to two years,” there’s very little that I deem complaint-worthy SEVEN YEARS LATER. Nevertheless, there are realities that cancer patients and/or other patients similarly characterized as “terminal,” as I was, must endure. And given my projected life expectancy then, I am “pleased as punch” now — to invoke a long-ago Vice President / Democratic nominee for President, Hubert H. Humphrey — to be enduring anything.

And “endure” isn’t really the right word, but it’s most assuredly in the naming. Still, if I don’t find a way to lighten the emotional load (other than receiving amazingly good scan results and equally positive e-mails from my oncologist, all of which is not exactly in my control), I will likely crack under the weight of it. I’m not exactly Atlas condemned to hold up “The Heavens,” but I am holding something; maybe just my sanity. And just as “Hawkeye” Pierce joked about war in a *M*A*S*H episode back in the day: “If truth is the first casualty of war, I guess sobriety is second.” A cancer patient might joke (if he or she had a sense of humor): “If one’s hopes and dreams are the first loss from cancer, your sanity is second.” As Mark Twain “self-effaced” later in his life: “Out of all the things I have lost, I miss my mind the most.”

A “terminal” cancer patient loses lots of things. Control of one’s emotions has to be most difficult. A cancer diagnosis/prognosis, is difficult to receive amazingly good scan results and equally positive e-mails from my oncologist, all of which is not exactly in my control, I will likely crack under the weight of it. I’m not exactly Atlas condemned to hold up “The Heavens,” but I am holding something; maybe just my sanity. And just as “Hawkeye” Pierce joked about war in a *M*A*S*H episode back in the day: “If truth is the first casualty of war, I guess sobriety is second.” A cancer patient might joke (if he or she had a sense of humor): “If one’s hopes and dreams are the first loss from cancer, your sanity is second.” As Mark Twain “self-effaced” later in his life: “Out of all the things I have lost, I miss my mind the most.”

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**Faith Notes**

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

**Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Draneville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. and childcare are provided and youth and adult Sunday school classes are held prior, from 9:40-10:45 a.m. Nursery and childcare are available starting at 8:30 a.m.**

**Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Villele 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.**

**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.stannes-reston.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 study- ing the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.**

**Haven of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.**

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources on Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meet- ings and group Shabbat and holiday retreats. Participants include Sha’are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. ShaolimDC.org.

Epiphany United Methodist Preschool, 1034 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is now enrolling 3- to 4-year-old students. 703-938-2391 or www.epiphanypreschool.com.

Hope Fellowship Church will temporarily be meeting at 15500 Chain Bridge Road, 11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Sunday worship services for the Southern Baptist church are at 10:45 a.m. The public is invited to join a Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or www.hopefellowschurchloudoun.org.

Knitters needed the first and third Wednes- days of the month, at 7 p.m., at St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church will invite knitters and crocheters for free knitt- ing instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. Email shawl@sttimothy.org or visit the Pastoral Care page at www.sttimothy.org.

Nondonominational Christian business- men meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship 7 p.m. Fridays at Anita’s, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and noon Thursdays at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.
Updated Colonial!
$349,900
“Exceptional!”
Just off Beulah Road, in secluded enclave of outlets homes, this gracious floor plan boasts distinctive features & open flow that create an inviting haven. Rickabaugh chef’s kitchen, sunroom, 5 fireplaces, expansive finished lower level. Over 6,000 sq ft on .83 acre lot. Terry Albright 703-861-6538 or e-mail Terry.albright@longandfoster.com

Cascades-Central Parke

Just Listed-Great Bones!
$327,000
Rarely Available Model!
Tremendous 1100 sq ft unit in North Reston’s Sutton Ridge! Spacious 2BR, 2BA floor plan. Hardwood floors throughout, gas FP, remodeled & upgraded kitchen, upgrade designer features, 2 walk-in closets in MBR. 2 private patios from LR & MBR. Please call Deb Pestronk 703-624-2132 or e-mail Deb.pestronk@longandfoster.com

Vienna

1,400 sq ft unit. Ask about buyer credit.
“Just Listed-Deepwood end unit! Beautiful all brick townhome w/main level library & AC w/promenade style atrium” says current owner. 3 lots backing to Va Run are zoned RC & being sold as package “as is”. Excellent road frontage, great exposure possible uses include 3 new homes, church or day care, pro-school, nursery, camp ground, restaurant-perc sites in process. Please call Deb Pestronk 703-624-2132 or e-mail Deb.pestronk@longandfoster.com

McLean Farm features FR w/P & built-in-cabinets. Kitchen w/granite counters & stain steel appl. Two master suites, recreation room & one-car garage. Thomas & Associates

Curb Appeal!
Incredible
$724,900
Backed w/gorgeous deck backing to lush trees set the stage for this lovely updated 3BR, 2BA colonial. Open the door to gorgeous wood plank hardwoods in foyer, tastefully renovated gourmet kit w/appliances. High level granite, tile floor, island, unique corner window & breakfast area with wall of windows looking onto deck, cozy FP w/NF & hardwood, luxury owner’s suite w/walk-in closets, master bath w/soaking tub. Don’t miss the opportunity to own this property! Please call Dale 703-408-2626 Dale.Repshas@Longandfoster.com

Cascades end unit townhouse!

Move-in Ready!
$674,900
Just Listed! Deepwood end unit! Beautiful all brick townhome w/main level library & AC w/promenade style atrium” says current owner. 3 lots backing to Va Run are zoned RC & being sold as package “as is”. Excellent road frontage, great exposure possible uses include 3 new homes, church or day care, pro-school, nursery, camp ground, restaurant-perc sites in process. Please call Deb Pestronk 703-624-2132 or e-mail Deb.pestronk@longandfoster.com

Herndon

Just listed--in sought after Reston community Fresh paint throughout, brand new granite counter tops, eat in kitchen. Travertine tile hardwood floors, finished walk-out basement, walking trails. Easy access to Fairfax County Parkway, less than 2 miles from the booming Reston Town Center, approximately 4 miles to the new Winkle METRO. Susannah Falk at 703-588-4432 or e-mail Susannah.falk@longandfoster.com

Vienna

Just listed-Great Bones!
$675,000
Waiting for new owner or investor to update to your own liking! 4BR, 3BA. Great Vienna location in Madison High School district. Show by appointment. Kathy Tuthill 703-945-4966 or e-mail Kathy.tuthill@LNF.com

Briar Woods Office Park

Make an Offer!
$630,000
Great Falls

Super spacious, super bright! 4BR, 3.5BA end unit townhouse w/main level library. Price way under tax assessment. Ask about buyer credit. Please call Deb Pestronk 703-641-3132 or e-mail Deb.pestronk@longandfoster.com

Sterling

Cascades-Central Parke

Just listed-Great Bones!
$539,000
Rarely available St. Regis model at Central Parke, a 55+ community. Bright & beautiful townhome in sought after community. Totally move-in ready! Please call Pat Cott 703-585-2522 or e-mail Pat.cott@longandfoster.com

Herndon

$844,000
Main Level Living!
Sun-soaked pre-ownering contemporary w/main level master suite in North Reston private wooded setting. Many recent improvements: Open floorplan w/great room, left, 2 FP, walk out lower level & oversized deck. Debbie Gill 703-346-1373 or e-mail Debbie.gill@longandfoster.com

Reston

$677,000
Stunning Townhouse
Breathtaking contemporary design! Sunken floor plan w/finished levels, hardwoods throughout, kitchen w/corner sink, granite counter-tops/breakfast bar. Adjoining FR w/FP Leads out to deck & treed view. Upstairs 3BR, 2 BA, finished lower level (use as 4th BR), walkout to patio.

Reston

Super spacious, super bright! 4BR, 3.5BA end unit townhouse w/main level library. Price way under tax assessment. Ask about buyer credit. Please call Deb Pestronk 703-641-3132 or e-mail Deb.pestronk@longandfoster.com

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Patio-level condo
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