

NEARLY NAKED MILE
11.09.13 Reston Town Center Register today at praces.com

Nearly Naked Mile Held at Reston Town Center

NEWS, PAGE 19

Runners in the male elite or men's competitive mile group race finish the race in the Nearly Naked Mile event at Reston Town Center.

RCA Gives 'D' To Reston Plan

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Sweet Gathering in the Sunshine

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PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION



THE COUNTY LINE

PHOTOS BY JOAN BRADY/JOANBRADYPHOTOGRAPHY.COM



Fairfax Families4Kids coordinates activities mentors and youth in foster care, including outings and community service. Paris, who was recently adopted, visited the honey farm of Dan Price with other young people and mentors, getting to see first hand how honey is made, and picking sunflowers to be delivered to people in nursing homes.



Dan Price of Reston, founder of Sweet Virginia Honey with Dante, a young man who is being mentored by volunteers with Fairfax Families4Kids.



A Sweet Virginia beekeeper makes the bees sleepy so visitors can see inside the hives.

Sweet Gathering in the Sunshine

Mentors, foster children and other youth learn about bees; county needs more foster families, mentors.

On a beautiful day in late summer, a group of young people of varied backgrounds, including some youth in foster care, gathered with their adult mentors under the ongoing auspices of Fairfax Families4Kids on a field trip into the countryside.

Their destination was a farm that is home to bee hives and sunflower fields owned by Dan Price.

Price first got involved with Fairfax Families4Kids several years ago when he contacted advocate Joan Brady of Great Falls after reading about the potential demise of the program due to budget cuts.

Price offered to donate money to help keep the program that matches older foster children with adult mentors going. He funded a trip for the group to go to New York to see the Lion King a few years ago, and has kept in touch since. He was impressed with the program and the long-term connections it created for young people who, by definition, had been through some very tough times.

Several weeks ago, the group visited his farm to see how honey is made.

"It's a very nice program, the mentors are very kind hearted," Price said. "The kids are just terrific, teenagers, they were all just very nice people."

ON AVERAGE there are about 300 foster children in Fairfax County during any given month, about one-third of them between 12 and 17.

Because of a shortage of foster families in Fairfax County, about 40 percent of foster children are placed outside of the county, some as far away as Richmond and beyond. This makes it even more difficult for them to maintain any sense of community, and makes it impossible for them to continue in the same schools.

Even within Fairfax County, there aren't enough foster families to ensure that children won't be living an hour away from their homes and schools because the county is so large.

"Removing a child from the home is used as a last resort – whenever possible we try to provide services that allow children to remain with their families or at least to be placed with relatives," said Amy Carlini, communications director for Fairfax County Department of Family Services. "Events leading up to removal are often traumatic, as is being placed with a family the child doesn't know. If the foster family lives far away from the child's original home, it can compound the disruption, making it challenging to remain in contact with friends and relatives, continue with after-school activities and more."

Foster children who reach the age of 18 without being adopted or reunited with relatives is another crisis of foster care in Fairfax County. Last year, 49 foster children in Fairfax County "aged out" of foster care at age 18 because they were not able to return to their families or be placed with relatives, and the county was not able to find adoptive families for them.

Get Involved:
Become a Foster Parent

There is a shortage of foster parents in Fairfax County, and as a result, about 40 percent of the 300 or so children are placed in foster care too far away to stay in the same schools and maintain their existing connections.

Fairfax County holds a monthly orientation session to find out more about being a foster parent; the next meeting is Nov. 18.

To find out more, call 703-324-7639, TTY: 703-222-9452, or attend an orientation meeting. See visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth/fca.htm>

Several foster children in Fairfax County are waiting, hoping to be adopted. You can see photos and descriptions at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth/adoption-creating-connections.htm>

Get Involved:
Become a Mentor

Fairfax Families4Kids coordinates group and individual mentoring for young people 12 to 21, many currently living in foster care. Opportunities to spend quality time in the community engaged in regularly scheduled, structured group activities and community service projects. Fairfax Families4Kids gives individual adults and groups an important role to play in helping youth and teens find permanent families, and lasting connections with caring, supportive adults. There are many upcoming events. Call coordinator Beverly J. Howard, Ph.D., at 703-324-7518 or e-mail at beverly.howard@fairfaxcounty.gov

The stakes are high. A 2010 study at the University of Chicago found that only about 6 percent of former foster children aged 23 or 24 had graduated from college with either an associate's or a bachelor's degree. Several surveys in other parts of the country show that between 18 and 40 percent of former foster children have been incarcerated for at least one night as adults.

Sweet Virginia

Sweet Virginia is a Reston nonprofit founded by Dan Price that advocates for honey bees, and provides students a hands-on experience in world of honey bees and the art and science of beekeeping and honey bee sustainability.

In addition to providing educational opportunities to groups like Fairfax Families4Kids, Sweet Virginia is partnering with George Mason University's New Century College to address the collapsing honey bee population through education and by establishing apiaries. GMU's recent course on beekeeping and sustainability was full and had a waiting list of more than 100. Sweet Virginia is raising money through indie-gogo at indiegogo.com/projects/hivestarter to build more apiaries, expand bee sustainability curriculum into public schools and expand George Mason's university level training to develop more professional beekeepers.

Sweet Virginia Foundation, 1760 Reston Pkwy, Reston, VA 20190. www.sweetvirginia.com

IT'S CRITICAL to increase quality foster care where children and youth can stay connected to support communities, to have long-term mentors for foster youth and to find adoptive families for the children and youth waiting to be adopted.

Mentors can provide a window for foster children and youth to a life beyond foster care.

"They need a connection with a caring adult," said Beverly Howard, coordinator of Fairfax Families4Kids and also an adoptive parent. The organization sets twice monthly up group activities for mentors, prospective mentors and foster children, including sports, visits to places like the Sweet Virginia apiary, community service projects like assembling back packs for school children in Haiti and many others. This group mentoring gives adult volunteers and foster children a chance to get to know each other. This arrangement has led to many long-term mentoring relationships and also quite a few adoptions.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/THE CONNECTION

Terry McAuliffe delivers his victory speech Tuesday night.

Democrats Score Narrow Victory

Division in Republican Party cited in loss.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

When Jim Dillard first ran to represent Fairfax County in the House of Delegates in 1965, the Republican Party of Virginia was a different animal. Recalling that race on Election Night 2013, Dillard said that was a time when the party welcomed diversity between moderates and conservatives. He lost that first race, but went on to serve in the House of Delegates for more than 30 years. This year, though, he worked for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe in a fierce race for governor against Republican Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli.

"The party has gone so far to the right, and they are trying to shove all these social issues down everybody's throat," said Dillard, who represented House District 41. "That's turned off an awful lot of Republicans who used to vote for me."

Although polls leading up to Election Day showed McAuliffe with an average lead of six percentage points, the actual vote was much closer. McAuliffe narrowly edged out Cuccinelli 48 percent to 45 percent. State Sen. Ralph Northam (D-6) enjoyed a more comfortable lead against Republican E.W. Jackson, 55 percent to 45 percent. That means Northam will resign his state Senate seat, upsetting the balance between 20 Republicans and 20 Democrats. The special election for Northam's seat is expected to become a hotly contested race because the stakes of the outcome could determine which party controls the state Senate.

"That's a seat that has a split between Norfolk and the Eastern Shore," said Clark Mercer, political director of the Democratic Party of Virginia. "So the key to winning that election will be having a candidate that can draw votes from both of those regions."

IN MANY WAYS, the results of the election have yet to play out. Aside from the special election for Northam's seat, the race for attorney general appears to be headed to a recount. Late Tuesday night, state Sen. Mark Obenshain (R-26) had a very narrow lead and Republican Party Chairman Pat Mullins issued a statement congratulating him on winning the election. State Sen. Mark Herring (D-33) appeared before reporters to say he was not conceding the race.

"Right now, it's basically 50-50 and the numbers have been moving in our direction all night," said Herring. "The race is far from over."

The numbers were, in fact, moving in Herring's direction as votes continued to be tallied. By Wednesday morning, Herring had a very narrow lead over Obenshain. Because the margin of victory is likely to be less than 1 percent, a recount in that race seems likely. For many Democrats who gathered at the Sheraton Premiere in Tysons Corner, it was yet another indication that election 2013 turned out to be much closer than many people had anticipated.

"It turned out to be a race that was so close that in the annals of Virginia history it's going to go down as one of the closest races of all time," said Pat McCune of Centerville, saying the race was closer than expected.

ELECTION 2013 was a long and bitter slog for candidates, who spent much of the campaign hurling accusations and counter-accusations. Cuccinelli was dogged by his association with a wealthy businessman who made lavish gifts to the governor and attorney general that went unreported on disclosure forms. McAuliffe was haunted by accusations about his relationship to a troubled green-car company. As the race unfolded, it became increasingly negative — especially in television ads that dominated screens across Northern Virginia.

"Election nights are emotional times," said Gov. Bob McDonnell in a written statement. "For the winner there is the thrill of victory, combined with the recognition that the hard work preceding this moment is but a prelude to the tremendous effort yet to come."

Comstock, Rust In Tight Races

Competitive state races gave voters more choices, but they stick with incumbents.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Every two years, Virginia holds all of its statewide elections. When it's time to elect a new Governor, every member of the Virginia House of Delegates, a 100-seat body currently held by a GOP majority (67 Republicans – 32 Democrats and 1 Independent), is also up for re-election.

While downballot races got the spotlight, Northern Virginia actually saw the most competitive two-party races this year, with 57 contested House seats. This marks only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats had more than one name on the ballot.

"So what?" voters seemed to declare when casting their ballots.

Despite more choices, voters stuck with the politician they knew, giving incumbents in nearly every Fairfax County district a decisive victory.

District 34

Incumbent: Barbara Comstock (R) narrowly wins over Democratic challenger Kathleen Murphy with 50.66 percent of the vote (14,935 votes) over Murphy's 49.20 percent (14,504 votes).

District link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/ Localities: Fairfax County (69 percent), Loudoun County (31 percent); 2012 elections: Obama 49 percent/Romney 49 percent, Kaine 52 percent/Allen 47 percent

This district tilts Republican.

District 35

Incumbent: Mark Keam (D) won overwhelmingly with 66 percent of



Comstock



Rust

the vote (14,591 votes) over GOP challenger Leiann Luse with 34 percent of the vote (7,513 votes).

District link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/ Locality: Fairfax County 2012 elections: Obama 59 percent/Romney 39 percent, Kaine 61 percent/Allen 39 percent

This district remains deep blue.

District 36

Incumbent: Kenneth Plum (D) District Link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/ Locality: Fairfax County; 2012 elections: Obama 63 percent/Romney 35 percent, Kaine 65 percent/Allen 34 percent

Plum is one of two Democrats in a deep blue district that doesn't have an opponent.

District 86

Incumbent: Tom Rust (R) edged out Democratic challenger Jennifer Boysko by just 56 votes. The final unofficial SBE results, with all precincts reporting, had Rust with 50.02 percent of the vote (10,383 votes) over Boysko's 49.75 percent of the vote (10,327).

District link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/ Localities: Fairfax County (87 percent), Loudoun County (13 percent). 2012 elections: Obama 60 percent/Romney 39 percent, Kaine 61 percent/Allen 39 percent.

This race is still undecided: Del. Tom Rust (R-86) leads Jennifer Boysko by 57 votes, provisional ballots and recount are likely to come.

Voters Pass \$250 Million School Bond

Fairfax County voters overwhelmingly supported a \$250 million school bond. With 239 (100 percent) precincts reporting, the bonds passed with 214,171 yes votes (73.89 percent) over 75,677 no votes (26.11 percent). In a news release, Fairfax County Public School officials said the money will be used to:

- ❖ Build two new elementary schools
- ❖ Help renovate 22 schools
- ❖ 17 elementary schools
- ❖ 2 middle schools
- ❖ 3 high schools

- ❖ Buy land for the South West County High School
- ❖ Enhance the capacity of one elementary school and one high school
- ❖ Replace or improve infrastructure, such as roofs, major mechanical systems, and parking lots.

For more information, visit the Fairfax County Public Schools 2013 bond referendum web page at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>

The site includes bond referendum fact booklet, maps and project details, as well as materials printed in Spanish and Korean.

RCA Gives 'D' To Reston Plan

Citizens Association cites numerous failures with master plan.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

As Reston prepares for its future, the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force recently voted to send their work onto the Fairfax County Planning Commission for consideration.

One of the dissenting votes against the task force's report came from the Reston Citizens Association, who panned the recommendation and gave them a "D" grade.

"I'd hoped by now we'd have something we could all be proud of. But we've got to call it like we see it, and there are major issues that haven't been addressed yet," said Colin Mills, president of the RCA, in a statement. "We need a plan that meets our community's expectations for the future."

The RCA gave its highest marks, a "B" to the plan's overview, urban design and placemaking and environmental stewardship. In those instances, those categories are criticized for leaving many specifics, such as information on how to implement the urban design.

Other areas received failing grades, such as the urban parks, recreation and culture section.

"[It] abandons approved countywide standards, provides too little parks and rec space for new residents, increases burdens on existing [Reston Association] facilities and limits the county's contribution to new park facilities," the comments for the section read.

"C" grades were given to the public facilities, and "D" grades were given to areawide recommendations, transportation and district recommendations.

"Restonians deserve a draft plan that is much more responsive for their needs now and into the future," said Terry Maynard, co-chair of the Reston 2020 committee and member of the task force representing

Prepared by RCA Reston 2020 Committee for
The RCA Board of Directors

Section	Grade	Comments
Overview	B	Generally consistent with Bob Simon's original vision and planning principles, but doesn't identify "sustaining Reston's quality of life" as a key principle and allows redevelopment in residential areas that aren't "stable," an undefined term.
Areawide Recommendations	D	Calls for mix of uses and keeps transit-related development with 1/2 mile of stations, but allows too much commercial development, too much flexibility, and sticks RA with the bill for parks & rec.
Urban Design & Placemaking	B	Provides detailed design guidance that promises attractive and walkable environment, but doesn't provide any process for implementation.
Transportation	D	Encourages bike transit and "grid of streets" to relieve congestion, but overall traffic goals won't prevent massive gridlock on key through streets, and no guidance on acquiring funding is provided.
Environmental Stewardship	B	Generally comprehensive in scope and detail and addresses RA's key role, but could incorporate better LEED's Neighborhood Development standard.
Urban Parks, Recreation, Culture	F	Abandons approved countywide standards, provides too little parks and rec space for new residents, increases burden on existing RA facilities, and limits County's contribution to new park facilities.
Public Facilities	C	Provides generally reasonable recommendations for developing public services, but calls for a second elementary school near Dogwood, not Wiehle area.
Implementation	F	Provides no guidance on implementing any of the plan's goals or objectives, or assuring compliance with plan's constraints.
District Recommendations	D	Calls for a rec center at Town Center North, but provides no details on location and type of park facilities in station areas. Calls for only 3 athletic fields for 49,000 people in station areas.
Overall	D	

CONTRIBUTED

The "report card" given by the Reston Citizens Association on the draft Reston Master plan.

the RCA. "This draft plan generally focuses on the needs of developers and the county, although we appreciate its relative strength in environmental stewardship, an important concern to Restonians."

Tammi Petrine, the other co-chair of Reston 2020, says that there is little in the plan that Restonians should be enthusiastic about.

"The draft plan guarantees massive gridlock for Restonians using Reston Parkway and Wiehle most of the day and the parks and recreation portion promises overcrowded athletic fields that will force Reston to absorb the costs, space, areas and facilities to meet the needs of 49,000 people who will live in its station areas," she said.

The Fairfax County Planning commission will hold a public hearing on the plan on Wednesday, Nov. 13, and the Board of Supervisors will hold their public hearing on Tuesday, Dec. 3.



PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

The crowd at the last year's Reston Holiday Parade watches a Bolivian dance troupe at Reston Town Center.

Reston Holiday Parade Returns Nov. 29

Reston Town Center presents the 23rd annual Reston Holiday Parade on Friday, Nov. 29 at 11 a.m. to launch the festive season with Macy's-style balloons, musicians, dancers, antique cars, and more. This one-of-a-kind, one-hour parade along Market Street will also welcome the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus in a horse-drawn carriage. The Reston Holiday Parade is held rain or shine, and since 1991 it has been an annual tradition on the day after Thanksgiving at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston.

In recognition of the Metrorail Silver Line arrival this winter, "Destination: Reston!" is the parade theme for 2013 with huge balloons, floats, and costumes inspired by modes of transportation – walking, cycling, trains, planes and automobiles, and more. The Reston Holiday Parade attracts approximately 10,000 spectators from near and far to see at least 50 groups, amounting to approximately 500 participants in the procession. Special guest emcees will announce the parade from two VIP grandstand locations on Market Street.

Grand Marshal for the 2013 is Joe Ritchey, who was selected for his many levels of long term dedication to the Reston community. This year, a Junior Grand Marshal will also lead the parade, honoring Lauren Spar of Langston Hughes Middle School. VIPs and dignitaries will also take part in leading the parade. One exception this year is Reston founder, Robert E. Simon, Jr. who will be on a trip to India at the time. Continuing another tradition, prior to 11 a.m. start, thousands of commemorative Reston Town Center jingle bells will be handed out to children along the route as they wait for the parade to begin.

After the parade, Santa and Mrs. Claus will stay for visits and photos until 4:30 p.m. and will return to light up the huge Christmas tree at 6 p.m. The tree lighting attracts a gathering of approximately 5,000 people to Fountain Square for a half-hour Sing Along of traditional Christmas songs. Horse-drawn carriage rides begin at 6:30 p.m.

For more information visit, www.restontowncenter.com/holidays.

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Stacey Kincaid Elected First Female Sheriff

Kincaid pledges commitment to diversity, department's employees, community outreach.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Democrat Stacey Kincaid, a 26-year-veteran of the sheriff's department, made local history Tuesday by becoming Fairfax County's first female sheriff.

Kincaid, 48, won in a four-way race with 53.74 percent of the vote against Bryan Wolfe, the GOP candidate, and independents Chris DeCarlo and Robert Rivera.

The contest was the only county-wide office on the ballot this year, a special election to fill the post held by Democrat Stan Barry, who retired midway through his fourth term last July.

Kincaid's decisive victory ends a race that became increasingly rancorous in the past several weeks, with near daily attacks from the Wolfe camp alleging intimidation, vandalism and "hypocrisy" over Kincaid's purchase of firearms.

Kincaid said she would rather focus on the positive aspects of campaigning.

"The way that I've looked at this race, it's a bonus that I've had this opportunity to talk about the department. So many people don't know what sheriff's office does, so it's been a chance to talk about the department and the community outreach programs we have," Kincaid said.

The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, the largest in the state with more than 600 employees and a \$63 million budget, has three primary functions: operating the Adult Detention Center, providing security in the courthouse, and serving civil papers, such as eviction notices, child protective orders and subpoenas.

THE SIGNIFICANCE of being the first woman in the county's history to serve as sheriff — succeeding 76 men in the



Capt. Stacey Kincaid, a 26-year veteran with the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department, stands outside the Fairfax County Democratic Committee Headquarters in October.

department's 271-year history — is not lost on Kincaid.

She began her career with the sheriff's office in 1987 as a summer intern. As she rose through the ranks in the male-dominated profession, Kincaid said she often took inspiration from her mother, who died in 2003 after a long battle with breast cancer.

During an interview in October, Kincaid said her mother was often her biggest cheerleader and her hero.

"I saw the fight she had with breast cancer, the obstacles she overcame. She was my hero," Kincaid said. "And from the beginning, she would say 'you could be the



During the sheriff's race, Stacey Kincaid, attended the Jeans Day 2013 Challenge Breakfast at Herndon's Delttek. Kincaid (right), is standing with Sharon Bulova (D-at-large), chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

first female sheriff."

In 2008, Kincaid received the Distinguished Service Award, the agency's highest honor. In 2011, she was eligible to retire, but chose to continue her career.

"Throughout the years, my mom's words had been on my mind," Kincaid said. "I never thought the race was about me. I wanted to run for this office because I care about our 600 employees and the community we serve."

Kincaid, who has worked all four divisions of the department, said her first order of business will be to sign the civil service protection agreement which guarantees due process for department employees.

The Unofficial Results

Bryan "B.A." Wolfe: 98,686; 39.24 percent
Stacey Kincaid: 135,142; 53.74 percent
Christopher DeCarlo: 7,463; 2.97 percent
Robert Rivera: 8,704; 3.46 percent

"I've been on record and said countless times that the primary thing it does it prevents any employee for being fired without just cause and prevents any political retaliation," Kincaid said.

Kincaid also said she was "passionate about collaboration with the community," and enhancing services of the sheriff's department, particularly in the areas of mental health and programs aimed at reducing recidivism.

She said she'd like to expand one of the programs called Project Lifesaver, a program that provides tracking devices for people who tend to wander, such as the elderly with Alzheimer's or children on the autism spectrum.

Kincaid also made diversity a key issue of her campaign, and said she was "deeply committed to equal protection of the rights of all members of our community."

"Diversity is as important to me as it is to the citizens that I will serve. When I became a deputy sheriff in 1987, women were underrepresented in policing. The same can be said of many other underrepresented groups as well," she said, adding that the office must "face up to the evolving needs of the community and the expectations placed upon its top leadership."

TO RELIEVE THE STRESS of an intense job, Kincaid said she enjoys working out, watching NFL football and making jewelry that she donates to charities.

"One of my proudest moments was running in the Ovarian Cancer 5K. I had made 112 pairs of earrings with silver and teal. When we started the race, I could see all these silver and teal earrings. That was such a gift to me, to see these courageous women wearing my earrings," Kincaid said.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY-MONDAY/ NOV. 13-DEC. 16

Toys for Tots Drop-off. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, at National Realty, located at the corner of Reston Parkway and Sunrise Valley Drive, 11890 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Drop a new, unwrapped toy in the donation box in the lobby. All toys will be distributed to needy children within Loudoun County and to Herndon & Reston children via the non-profit Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc. "Newborn to 1-Year Old" and the "Teens" age groups are particularly needed. 703-860-4600.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 13

Nature at Night. 6-7:30 p.m., at the Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Grandparents bring grandchildren out for an evening hike to see what animals are still awake in the woods after dark (owls, flying squirrels and other nocturnal creatures); the evening ends at the Nature House with some warm refreshments. Reservations by Nov. 8. \$5/child for Reston Association

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

members; \$8/child non-members. naturecenter@reston.org, or 703-476-9689 and press 5.

FRIDAY/NOV. 15

Environmental Film: In Organic We Trust. 7-9 p.m., at the Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Filmmaker Kip Pastor investigates the organic food industry, arguing that the label has been cheapened by large corporations cashing in on a trend. His documentary examines other alternatives for consumers, like farmer's markets and school gardens. \$5. naturecenter@reston.org, or 703-476-9689 and press 5.

MONDAY/NOV. 18

Caregiving 101. 7-8:30 p.m., at Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Learn about resources and get useful information to help begin caregiving. https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/

EReg/Registration.aspx?groupID=1.
Park and Leister Exhibit. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, at GRACE, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. Leister's sculptural installations and Park's mixed media works are on exhibit. 703-471-9242 or www.restonarts.org

THURSDAY, NOV. 21

Politics & the Media. 8 p.m., at the Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, 1441 Wiehle Ave, Reston. New York Times Reporter Sheryl Gay Stolberg will discuss the relationship between politics and the media as well as her coverage of the 2012 presidential election. The event is free and open to all. 703-437-7733

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project. 1 p.m., at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. A program on Korean culture which

includes films, a re-enactment of a Korean wedding ceremony and traditional foods. Register. 703-689-2700 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/.

TUESDAY/DEC. 10

Discover Graphics. At ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Exhibiting the work of printmakers for the past 30 years.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 11

Business Education Workshop: Learn to Enjoy Tax Time. 8:30-10 a.m., at Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, 1763 Fountain Drive, Reston. The cost is \$10. Register at https://restonvacoc.wliinc25.com/. More info: call 703-707-9045.

ONGOING

Fairfax County's Meals on Wheels urgently needs drivers in the Annandale, Franconia/Kingstowne,

Reston, Mount Vernon and McLean areas. 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults.

Herndon Senior Center seeks a knitting enthusiast to teach basic procedures. Class meets Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon and musicians to play soothing music on weekend mornings. 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults.

AWANA Club for Christian Children. 7-8:30 p.m., at MLK Christian Church, 11400 North Shore Drive, Reston. Awana helps churches and parents work together to develop spiritually strong youth who faithfully follow Jesus Christ. 703-709-3641.

Knitting Enthusiasts, Musicians Needed. 10:30 a.m.-noon, at Herndon Senior Center. Herndon Senior Center seeks a knitting enthusiast to teach basic procedures. Musicians to play soothing music on weekend mornings also needed. 703-324-5406, TTY 711, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadult or VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

OPINION

Proof Every Vote Matters

Elections have consequences, including very close races.

EDITORIAL

Tuesday morning, a full week after an Election Day that included races that were more suspenseful than anticipated (and also many races that were foregone conclusions), we are probably more than a month away from certifying the winner of the Virginia Attorney General race.

At press time, the State Board of Elections reported, unofficially, that Mark Herring (D) had 1,103,610 votes with 49.89 percent of the vote; Mark Obenshain (R) had 1,103,493 votes with 49.88 percent of the vote. The 5,152 write-in votes are huge in a race that at one point had Obenshain ahead by 15 votes.

The process of canvassing or verifying the

vote has been revealing, including a malfunctioning voting machine that had more than 2,000 votes uncounted in Fairfax County, a voting machine in Richmond that hadn't been counted at all and many smaller errors. Human error and computer error are to be expected.

It will make a difference which man is elected as Attorney General. The current Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli, demonstrated the influence that office can exert on many fronts, from academic freedom and scrutiny to the challenge of health care reform to implementation of environmental regulations to investigations of the household staff of the Governor's mansion.

Del. Tom Rust (R) won reelection by just 57 votes, with 50.1 percent of the vote over Jennifer Boysko with 49.74 percent. Del. Barbara Comstock (R) won reelection with 50.64 percent of the vote over Kathleen Murphy (D) who received 49.19 percent, a margin of less than 500 votes. All results are still unofficial.

Consider another close race, in November 2007: then state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) won re-election by less than one-half of a percentage point, with an edge of just 92 votes out of 37,185 ballots cast, beating Democrat Janet Oleszek. Approximately 32 percent of registered voters in the 37th District cast ballots at the polls in that election.

Retiring Del. Jim Scott was elected in 1991 with a margin of a single vote.

Just a few of many examples that prove that every vote really does matter.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Library Reorganization Deserves More Work

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN/FAIRFAX
COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



In September, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors called for the suspension of a major reorganization proposed to our Fairfax County Public Library system. The suspension was requested in order to provide more opportunity for outreach to concerned library employees and patrons so that proposed changes could be explained, evaluated and vetted among stakeholders. The Connection Newspaper has covered this issue.

As our nation and Fairfax County have struggled with the effects of the Great Recession and its lengthy aftermath, we have needed to make reductions to the many services and programs the county provides. Throughout this time, our Board has sought to maintain taxes at a level that is affordable for our community. I applaud our County staff for proposing efficiencies and reorganizations during this time that have helped us maintain high quality services that also save taxpayers money.

Over the past few months, I have received a number of letters, emails and phone calls regarding the proposed library reorganization as well as the "floating collection" and issues around the discarding of books. I believe, based

on the feedback I have received, that the reorganization as proposed was too much for the organization to absorb. Many of the ideas contained within the plan, however, have value and should continue to be explored. Our shared goal is to

make sure our libraries continue to be the vital and vibrant places that our community can enjoy and rely upon well into the future. The quality of our collection and the services we offer should reflect the standards Fairfax County residents expect.

I would like to thank members of the Library Board of Trustees and library staff for their efforts during the past few months as they have conducted a series of discussion forums on the proposed changes. I understand the meetings have been constructive and have included some spirited debate. I especially want to thank Deputy County Executive Dave Molchany for his personal investment of time and energy to assist library staff with ensuring a thoughtful and insightful process. Our Board has asked for a progress report from the Library Board of Trustees to be presented at our Board meeting on Nov. 19 and I am looking forward to hearing directly from them.

During these recession years, library systems around the country

SEE BULOVA, PAGE 7

The Nature of Virginia

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



Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe hit the ground running when the day after his election he announced his transition team and a webpage at which he solicits ideas and suggestions and invites resumes from those who want to work in his administration: <http://action.terrymcauliffe.com/page/s/transition>. His approach of assembling a bipartisan transitional team, moving quickly and seeking input are crucial for Virginia at an important transitional time. Last week I talked about many of the issues like Medicaid expansion that were debated during the campaign and need immediate attention. There are many other issues that do not get as bright a spotlight but deserve serious attention. One is the natural landscape of Virginia and the quality of its air and water.

More than a month ago VIRGINIAforever, a coalition of concerned businesses, environmental organizations and outdoor enthusiasts, presented to the gubernatorial candidates a five-year plan, "Investing in the Commonwealth's Land and Water," (<http://www.virginiaforever.org/20130916/VF5YearPlanFINALRGB.pdf>). As the report points out, Virginia's population has doubled in the last 50 years putting great stress on our land and water. The Commonwealth has a constitutional requirement unique among the states "to protect its atmosphere, lands and

water from pollution, impairment, or destruction, for the benefit, enjoyment and general welfare of the people of the Commonwealth." Virginia currently spends just over 1 percent of its budget on land conservation and water quality improvements. As the title of the report suggests, it will be necessary to "invest" more greatly if the goals of the report are to be met. But investing also suggests that there is an expected return.

Part of the changing landscape of Virginia is the loss of farmland. Since 1997 nearly 150,000 acres of farmland have been converted to other uses. A drive through the Shenandoah Valley can provide immediate visual evidence of the change. While the new use is justified in economic terms, it needs to be recognized that farming and forestry has nearly a \$100 billion impact on Virginia's economy. The report calls for Virginia to protect 120,000 acres of farmland over the next five years through the use of tax credits. And, in order to meet the growing demand for state parks at a recommended level of 10 acres of park per 1,000 Virginians it will be necessary to conserve an additional 18,000 acres by 2020.

Only about one-third of Virginia's 52,255 miles of rivers have been assessed for impairment, and of those assessed waters 71 percent are impaired for one or more uses as are over 80

SEE PLUM, PAGE 7

Reston
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OPINION

Bulova

FROM PAGE 6

have had to reduce hours, cut services or even close library branches; Fairfax County is not alone in this struggle. Libraries across the country have also been exploring innovative ways to contain costs while at the same time maintaining or even improving

services to meet the needs of their residents. I am confident that Fairfax County will prove to be a leader in achieving this goal.

This issue has served to energize those in our Fairfax County community who appreciate the value our outstanding library system affords us. Thank you for rallying to support our libraries!

Plum

FROM PAGE 6

percent of Virginia's lakes and the Chesapeake Bay, according to the VIRGINIAforever report. One of the most important statements in the report is that "concerns about cleaning up our polluted waters often fall back on predictions of negative consequences for the economy. Experience has not just disproven the con-

cern that environmental restoration threatens economic prosperity, it has demonstrated just the opposite—economies cannot thrive in a world of depleted and degraded natural resources, and in fact, innovation, investment, and competition have spurred job growth in new sectors just when traditional sectors were faltering."

The nature of Virginia must be a priority of the new administration!

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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The kindergarten class took an opportunity to bond with dad while playing with pumpkins. Anthony, in orange, with his dad and his little sister work together.

Hanging Out With Dad

Dads, grandpas, uncles and school Dads Day enlists the help of male mentors all came to school with their sons and daughters Wednesday, Oct. 30 at Lake Anne Elementary School. LADS Day, or Lake Anne Elementary

School Dads Day enlists the help of male mentors in the classrooms, library, café, and any other location where the school/staff needs help and the children need their pal along for the day.



Several dads and grandfathers ate lunch with their students on Wednesday, Oct. 30, Lake Anne ES Dads Day. Pictured are Avery with her dad and Damian with his grandpa.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUE GARRISON/LAKE ANNE ES



Grace and Abigail help get the pond ready for the new pump being donated by the fifth grade during Dads Day at Lake Anne, held Wednesday, Oct. 30.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Children posing with some of the candy collected at the 8th Annual Halloween Candy Buy-Back event.

Halloween Candy Used for a Good Cause

Dr. Tisseront's 8th Annual Halloween Candy Buy-Back event benefiting Children's National Medical Center and Troops overseas was held on Monday Nov. 4. Over half a ton of leftover Halloween candy was collected. Tisseront donated \$2 per pound of candy-\$1 per pound went to Children's, and \$1 went to the

child/family donating. Many families chose to donate their dollar as well. The official tally was 1,575 pounds of candy collected in all, with all candy being shipped overseas to troops. Oak Hill Elementary brought 397 pounds of that total from their school alone.



Del. Plum Visits Aldrin Elementary

Del. Ken Plum (D-36) visited Aldrin Elementary's fourth grade classrooms and answered questions for Bring Your Legislator To Work Day.

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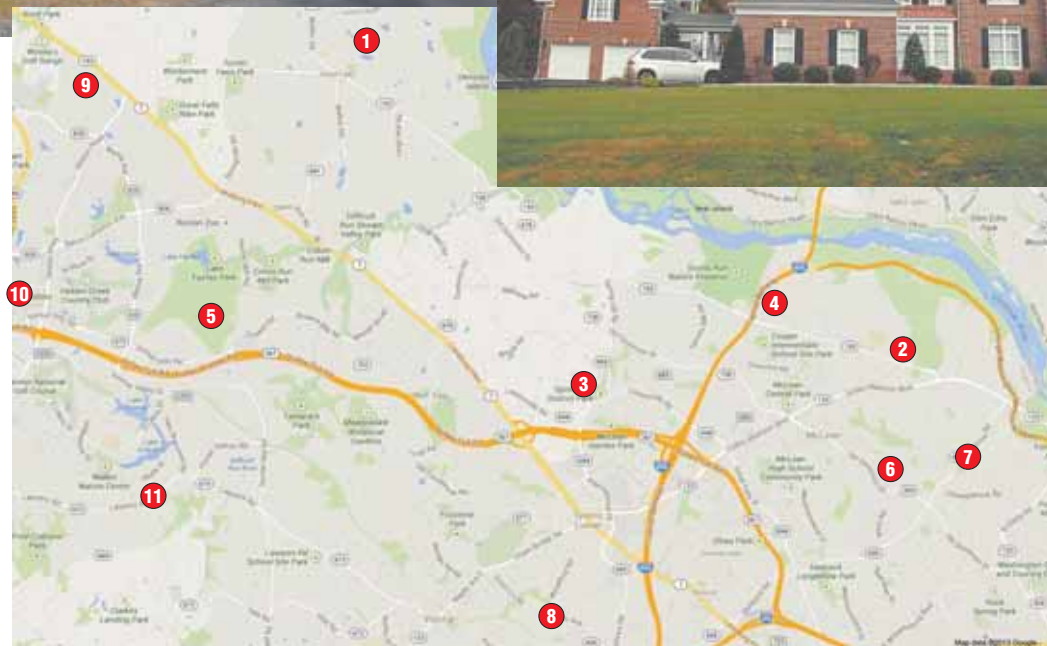
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3 8304 FOX HAVEN DR	5	5	2	...	MCLEAN	\$2,700,000	Detached	0.83	22102	FOXHALL OF MCLEAN	09/05/13	
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8 8514 ELECTRIC AVE	9	8	1	...	VIENNA	\$1,595,000	Detached	0.57	22182	ALAN CAVACAS PROPERTY	09/16/13	
9 11602 TORI GLEN CT	7	6	1	...	HERNDON	\$1,365,000	Detached	0.90	20170	OAK CREST ESTATES	09/12/13	
10 11990 MARKET ST #1815	3	2	1	...	RESTON	\$1,165,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	20190	MIDTOWN AT RESTON TOWN	09/27/13		
11 11111 LAWYERS RD	5	4	1	...	RESTON	\$1,045,000	Detached	2.09	20191	LAWYERS CREST	09/30/13	

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Home LifeStyle



Dave and Nancy Mulligan, who have occupied their spacious Oak Hill Colonial for more than 20 years, wanted their kitchen to better accommodate daily needs and social gatherings. Dave, who is passionate about cooking, worked closely with an interior designer at Sun Design Remodeling.

Home for the Holidays

Amateur chef Dave Mulligan gets the kitchen of his dreams...just in time for Thanksgiving.

BY JOHN BYRD

As Dave Mulligan tells it, he owes the long-coveted “blue eyes” granite countertops now in his kitchen to events that started with a leaking shower one floor above.

“From a few drops a mighty torrent ensued,” Mulligan chuckles, referring to the flood of creativity that eventually transformed his entire house from top to bottom.

But to begin at the beginning...

In the early 1990s, Mulligan and wife Nancy purchased the spacious Oak Hill colonial they still occupy. The house was 2 years old and completely up-to-date in every respect. Moreover, with four bedrooms, a 500-square-foot kitchen with breakfast

zone, a family room, and a 1,500-square-foot lower level, there was more than adequate space for two people.

“About my only peeve was that I *hated* the tile countertops in the kitchen,” Mulligan said. “Otherwise, I saw the interior as completely in vogue...even when friends began telling me it wasn’t.”

The leak, however, was a sign that the house now needed attention — which, in turn, prompted Mulligan to call Sun Design Remodeling, the firm that had executed an award-winning whole house makeover for his brother, Bob, a few years ago.

It is at this point that Craig Durosko, Sun Design’s founder, enters the story.

SEE CHEF, PAGE 12

To make en suite dining more inviting, seats at the counter are slightly lower than standard height. Mulligan calls this a great spot to sample his dishes.



PHOTOS BY
BRYAN BURRIS

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Amateur Chef Gets His ‘Dream Kitchen’

FROM PAGE 11

“As we talked out our visions for a new master bath,” Dave Mulligan said, “I realized that Nancy and I had a lot of ideas for improving the house we’d just been putting off.”

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, Nancy Mulligan and Sun Design’s Christy Doebel took charge — completely renovating the master bathroom, then the guest bath; then adding a full bath to the lower level.

For Dave Mulligan, who is the family’s passionate cook, the makeover agenda didn’t become really personal until conversation shifted to the kitchen.

“With the holidays coming up, I suddenly saw that our kitchen was stuck in the 1980s,” Mulligan says. “For people who like to entertain as much as we do, the old plan didn’t make much sense.”

Indeed, with its U-shaped counter surfaces, 30-inch cooktop range, limited storage and drab



PHOTO BY BRYAN BURRIS

lighting, the existing kitchen was a kind of cockpit in which the cook toiled away in self-imposed isolation.

When there was a party underway, it was also up to the Mulligans to regularly convey

edibles between the kitchen and the formal entertainment areas.

“I understood what an open kitchen-centric plan had to offer,” Dave Mulligan said. “But it’s the details that make it work.”

So the question that really un-

leashed Dave Mulligan’s involvement was: “how do you want the new kitchen to feel?”

“I pictured a gathering place,” he said. “A lively hub where the entertaining occurs.”

That said, new ovens and cut-

Details

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors tours of recently remodeled homes as well as workshops on home remodeling topics. Headquartered in Burke, the firm recently opened a second office in McLean. Call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignInc.com.

Oak Hill Kitchen full view

lery drawers were less important than welcoming ambiance and uncluttered traffic patterns.

To create continuity with the rest of the house, Durosco and team relocated an obtrusive hall closet, widening an archway so that the kitchen would be in view from the front foyer. Sightlines being critical, ceiling-flush HVAC bulkheads were re-routed to make way for tall cabinets trimmed in crown molding. Other finishwork details — cherrywood cabinet facings, stainless steel appliances, textured marble backsplashes — converge to present a warmly textured, yet visually neutral surface.

All of which inspired kitchen’s *piece d’ resistance*: a custom-designed coffered ceiling.

“I knew right away that this was the magic I’d been looking for,” Dave Mulligan said. “I wanted the ceiling to be just as eye-catching as the walls and counters.”

On the other hand, there’s much to be said for the custom-designed food preparation island and dining counter. With its 6-foot by 6-foot by 8-foot triangular surface, the configuration supports food preparation and clean-up tasks while accommodating place settings for five.

To make the island still more inviting, seats at the counter are slightly lower than standard height, a psychological invitation to join the party reinforced by the soft-leather chairs.

“You’re dining in the chef’s kitchen now,” Dave Mulligan said. “To sample dishes, sip wine...and enjoy.”

On the more functional side of the equation, the new kitchen is also equipped with two microwave ovens, two refrigerators, a convection steam oven and a 48-inch gas range with six burners. With the addition of a walk-in pantry, storage capacity has been increased by 50 percent.

Better yet, the space makes entertaining “pure pleasure,” Mulligan said. “We’re hosting Thanksgiving this season for the first time in years — and it’s wonderful to be so thoroughly prepared.”

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SPORTS

Oakton Wins Individual, Team Region Cross Country Titles

Stoney wins boys' title, Oakton girls win team championship.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Oakton senior John Stoney said he won't be concerned about his time while running in the VHSL state cross country meet on Nov. 15 at Great Meadow. All that matters is the place in which he finishes.

During the 6A North regional meet, Stoney earned the best of both worlds.

Stoney won the boys' individual 6A North regional championship while achieving his goal of a sub-15-minute time on Nov. 6 at Burke Lake Park. Stoney produced a time of 14 minutes, 54 seconds, finishing 11 seconds ahead of Osbourn Park senior Nick Causey.

"This one was more definitely about time," said Stoney, who also won the Conference 5 title a week earlier. "I definitely wanted to go under 15. But next week is just going to be about winning, [not] time. Time doesn't really matter next week."

Stoney's effort helped the Cougars place sixth as a team and earn a berth to the state meet (top six teams advance to states). Stoney, Simon Iyob (33rd, 15:50), Matt McKew (39th, 16:02), Isamu Hosokawa (41st, 16:09) and David Atkinson (44th, 16:14) were Oakton's top five finishers.

"The boys, we definitely want to improve from where we were last year [during the state meet]," Oakton head coach Alisa Byers said. "Last year, we were second in the region and then we went to the state meet and we kind of pooped our pants a bit and we came in eighth, so they want to improve upon that."

Oakton finished with a total of 142 at regionals.

Chantilly won the region title with a total of 100, followed by Battlefield (107), Osbourn Park (111), Robinson (136) and Lake Braddock (138).

Lake Braddock's Alex Corbett placed third among individuals with a time of 15:09, followed by Chantilly teammates Ryan McGorty (15:13) and Dakota Lange (15:21).



The Oakton girls' cross country team won the 6A North region championship on Nov. 6.

PHOTOS BY ED LULL



Oakton senior John Stoney won the individual 6A North regional cross country championship on Nov. 6.



Oakton junior Allie Klimkiewicz finished third at the 6A North regional cross country championship on Nov. 6.

Madison's Matthew Calem finished ninth with a time of 15:26. The top 15 finishers earned all-region honors.

In girls' action, Oakton won the team championship with a total of 66. Washington-Lee placed second (92), followed by West Springfield (113), Lake Braddock (118), Robinson (148) and Battlefield (192).

The Cougars' performance came one week after winning the Conference 5 championship.

"The goal is always to make it to the next level," Byers said. "The northern region is a tough group of kids with a scrappy bunch of coaches. With the girls' performance last week, I knew there was a good chance that we could win,

but I never sell any of the other teams short because everyone's conferences are small and once you get extra people in there, it really motivates people to run fast."

Allie Klimkiewicz, a junior, led Oakton with a third-place finish. She recorded a time of 17:21, 50 seconds behind meet-winner Caroline Alcorta of West Springfield, whose time of 16:31 was the third-fastest in the history of the Burke Lake Park course.

Hailey Dougherty (17:47), a senior, placed eighth for Oakton. Freshmen Casey Kendall (18:03) and Leya Salis (18:09) finished 15th and 16th, respectively, for the Cougars, and junior Kara Kendall (18:42) finished 26th.

The Oakton girls' team placed second at states last year. Klimkiewicz finished fifth as a freshman and ninth last year as a sophomore.

"Hopefully as a team we can improve from last year," Klimkiewicz said. "We got second, so hopefully we can improve. As an individual, I really hope to PR on [the state] course and place higher up than I have in the past."

South Lakes Football Qualifies for Playoffs

The South Lakes football team is in the playoffs, but it needed some help along the way.

South Lakes lost its regular-season finale against Fairfax, 24-7, on Nov. 8, meaning the Seahawks, now 5-5, would need some help to get into the postseason. Langley beating McLean on Friday helped South Lakes' cause, but the Seahawks would also need T.C. Williams to beat West Potomac the following afternoon in order to get in the playoffs.

South Lakes head coach Marvin Wooten was in Maryland during the time of the TC-West Po game, so he followed the action on Twitter.

"It was exciting," Wooten said, "just because you knew, looking at those updates, [when] you reloaded you were hoping to see something you wanted."

T.C. Williams jumped out to a 14-0 lead. West Potomac battled back to tie the score at 14-all entering halftime. Then, T.C. Williams scored the only 10 points of the second half and won, 24-14, sending South Lakes to the playoffs.

"It was definitely an exciting feeling," Wooten said. "I was happy we had the opportunity to play another game, happy we had the opportunity to get better and happy just to work with the kids."

It's South Lakes' first trip to the playoffs since 2010, third trip in the last 12 years and first at the 6A level. The Seahawks enter the 6A North region playoffs as the No. 16 seed and will travel to face top seed and undefeated Centreville at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15. The Wildcats have won each of their 10 games by at least 21 points.

While South Lakes is a heavy underdog, Wooten said that's nothing new to the Seahawks.

"We just approach it like the way we approached the first 10 games," Wooten said. "... We've been the underdog in most of the games we've played this year. We understand how to fight through that adversity. Centreville is rated by many to be the best, definitely in this area, if not the entire state. It's definitely going to be an experience to get out there and play with a team of that caliber."

— JON ROETMAN

SPORTS

Reston United Blue Wins State Finals

The Reston United Blue (u12) competed in the National President's Cup Tournament Saturday, Oct. 26, led by coach Kamal Ismail. The team, which has been together for almost four years, beat FCSC United 01B Black (Fauquier County) 2 to 1. The next day they went to Richmond to play in the State Finals where they beat PWSI Courage 01' Boys White (Prince William County) 8 to 3. They will now represent Virginia in the Eastern Regionals in the spring in Slippery Rock, Pa.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Reston United Blue (u12) team players are Lucas Banerji, William Burnett, Jackson Cooley, Bryan DeLaine, Amadou Diagne, Yaseen Elagazy, Xavier Kresslein, Jorge Manzano Garcia, Steven Otwell, Ulices Sanche, Sandro Welt and Topher Whomsley. The team is pictured with coach Kamal Ismail.











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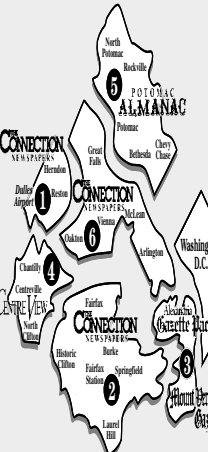

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

Fairfax Water
NOTICE OF WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING
At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.
The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2014, include the following:
1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,850 to \$3,950.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,500 to \$9,750.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,050 to \$1,090.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$35 to \$36.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$9.20 to \$9.80.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.29 to \$2.42 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.45 to \$3.55 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
9. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$44 to \$45.
10. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$17 to \$20.
A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:
Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
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All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 to be included in the record of the public hearing.
†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

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It Wasn't Fun While It Lasted



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

But it was only a week, and I was able to leave under my own power, assisted by a wheelchair, which is of course standard procedure when leaving a hospital after an admission, so it wasn't a total loss. It was three months ago today, Friday, August 2nd that I was "ambulanced" to Holy Cross Hospital where I spent the beginning of my seven, first-ever nights in a hospital; pretty fortunate track record for someone my age. Now, however, with a terminal cancer diagnosis, the tables may have slightly turned (you think?) and hospital admissions may not be so few and far between. Hopefully not, but appointments with oncologists in chemotherapy infusion centers while being I.V.-injected with cancer-fighting drugs have a way of cutting all other extraneous interruptions to the quick. When that needle goes in, the light definitely goes on: pay attention, your life is officially at stake.

Oddly though, this three-month anniversary seemed to grab my attention/focus more than my usual 27th-of-the-month anniversary – of my original diagnosis, always does. The 27th is the anniversary (some anniversary) of when I first met my oncologist and received confirmation that I had a malignant growth in my lungs that had metastasized and when I was given my 13-month to two-year prognosis. That was four years and eight months ago, I'm proud to say. And as such, I note it every month. Not exactly another "notch on my lipstick case" but an acknowledgment nonetheless of how well I've done and how lucky I am. With the help of friends, family and health care professionals, I have survived, mostly even thrived, under these most unfortunate of circumstances. But I digress.

The point of this column was/is that this most recent hospital anniversary completely overshadowed/took mental precedence over my still-being-alive-nearly-five-years-later anniversary on the 27th, which rarely happens. In fact, I completely forgot about it; didn't even note it on the calendar or mention it to my wife, Dina or my brother, Richard – which I always do. It wasn't until a few days later that I realized I had not made my usual reinforcing mention of my status still being quo. Unusual, in that a terminal diagnosis tends to stick with you and occupy lots of mental space, so forgetting about the circumstances that are likely shortening your presumptive, normal life expectancy is perplexing. These circumstances would seem to be a front and center, dominant part of your day that you NEVER forget.

But I did. And I don't know if that's healthy, a sense of accomplishment, a sense of enlightenment, naiveté, delusions of a grander future, mental gymnastics, compartmentalization at work or just plain forgetfulness; as in, even for a cancer patients: life can still be normal. Or maybe, after four and a half years, this whole cancer thing has become sort of ho-hum. Not exactly passé, but certainly familiar and part of my daily routine. But a hospital stay, that was different, that was traumatic, that was scary. The cancer used to be scary. But I've been there and have done that for a while now. I had not been previously hospitalized, however. That may have been when my circumstances again reared their ugly, realistic head. Just another reminder that I didn't really need.

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

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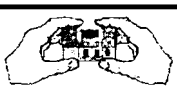
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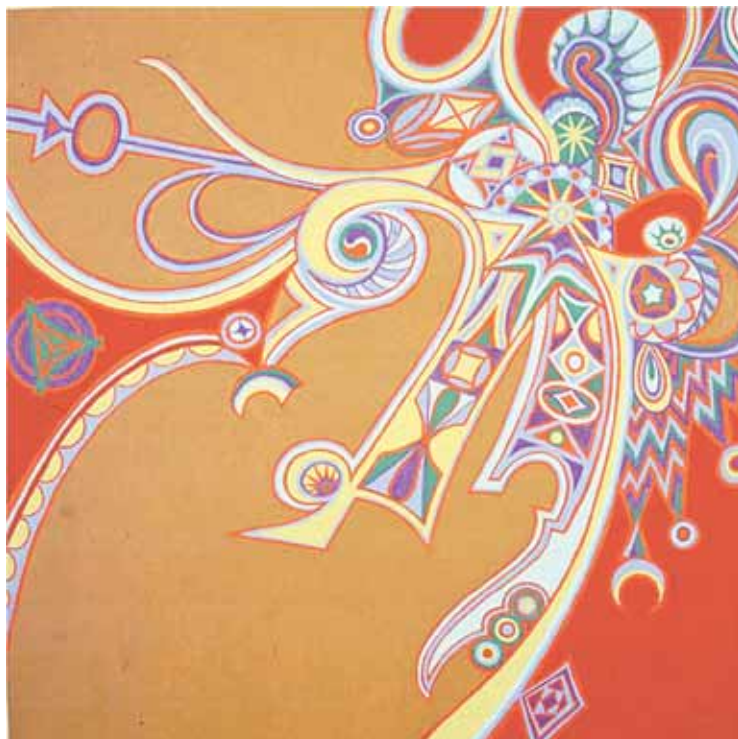
Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/sep/26/fairfax-county-calendar/>.

WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY/ NOV. 13-30

Ventures and Puzzles. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday, at Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Abstract oil paintings by Frank Eifert, in an exhibit in which "Half-Reflections" accompany each picture to metaphorically suggest some of the intentions, surprises and significances encountered in the creation of the picture. In this series of paintings, Frank developed a "multi-directional" style, painting from all four sides and four corners (for square pictures), essentially providing up to eight distinct pictures, the multiple options of viewing reflecting the ambivalence and ambiguity of our time. 703-467-4500 or www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/ NOV. 13-DEC. 9

The Artists of Montorno. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Montorno painting workshops in Seravezza, Italy, have been a refuge for artists to study with famous painters and sculptors for almost two decades. The exhibit features the work of Montorno instructors Danni Dawson, Mike Francis, Trisha Adams, Mary Del Popolo, Peggy Feerick, Gavin Glakas and Kurt Schwarz—locally



"Prospect," abstract oil, by Frank Eifert. See his work any day 9 a.m.-9 p.m., except Sundays (9 a.m.-8 p.m.) at Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston.

and internationally known artists. Portraits, landscapes, still life paintings, drawings, pastels, printmaking and photography are featured. 703-956-6590 or www.artspaceherndon.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16

The Rite of Spring Double Feature. 8 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The CenterStage celebrates the 100th anniversary of Stravinsky's ballet and orchestral concert piece with

performances by the Bowen McCauley Dance Ensemble and Darryl Brenzel and the Bohemian Caverns Jazz Orchestra. \$25 Reston, \$50 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.
Ed Levin Jewelry Trunk Show at Reston Town Center, 11877 Market Street, Reston. Ed Levin 2013 jewelry collection of over 200 different designs.

SUNDAY/NOV. 17

Dabbling in Magic. 4 p.m., at Hunters

Woods, Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The first concert of the 26th season of the Reston Community Orchestra directed by Dingwall Fleary, featuring guest Cheryl Roeske on the harp. Admission is anon-perishable good to support Reston's annual Thanksgiving food drive. www.restoncommunityorchestra.org.

MONDAY/NOV. 18

Park and Leister Exhibit. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, at GRACE, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. Leister's sculptural installations and Park's mixed media works are on exhibit. 703-471-9242 or www.restonarts.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project. 1 p.m., at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. A program on Korean culture which includes films, a re-enactment of a Korean wedding ceremony and traditional foods. Register. 703-689-2700 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/.
Gustafer Yellowgold. 3 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Morgan Taylor brings his character to life in a child-friendly performance featuring live music, animated illustrations, and storytelling. \$5 Reston, \$10 Non-Reston; register for a pancake breakfast before the show. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.
The Churchmen. 7:30 p.m., at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road (one block off Elden Street), Herndon. The bluegrass gospel group plays Southern, traditional music

with harmonies and elaborate instrumentation. \$15; free for children under 12. 703-435-8377, www.thechurchmen.com or http://www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net/?page_id=18.

TUESDAY/NOV. 19

Design and Wine. 7-9 p.m., at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Join for "Design and Wine: Zinfandel and Zentangles," with guest artist Keith Naquin. Zentangles is a purposeful doodling art form that's a cross between meditation and graphic design. \$30. 703-956-6590 or artspaceherndon.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Politicians and the Press. 8 p.m., at Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, 1441 Wiehle Ave., Reston. Washington correspondent for The New York Times Sheryl Gay Stolberg shares insight on the interplay between politicians and the press, sharing examples from reporting during the George W. Bush and Obama administrations.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

"Black 'n Blue Boys" by Dael Orlandersmith. 8 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Orlandersmith performs her original piece about seven male victims of abuse. Adults only. \$20 Reston, \$40 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 18

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Reston Association will be holding a *public hearing* at **6 p.m., Thursday, November 21st at the RA Conference Center (12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20191)** on the following items:

- Proposed land exchange with Lake Anne Development Partners
- Proposed 2014/2015 budget and 2014 Reston Association Assessment amount

More information on both topics can be found on www.reston.org prior to the meeting. For more information, contact 703-435-6530.



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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 17

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

New York Festival of Song: Cubans in Paris, Cubans in Havana. 8 p.m., Cubans in Paris, Cubans in Havana features Cuban music that took the world by storm in the 1920s and 30s and found a special welcome in Paris. \$20 Reston/\$40 Non-Reston.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

First Fridays. 7 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Join ArtSpace Herndon for Art House Cinema and Brew. The first Friday of the month, watch an important piece of art film history by the finest producers and directors in the world. 21+, \$10 for the movie and two microbrews. Reservations required artspaceherndon.org.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Jingle on Lake Anne. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at Lake Anne Plaza (Waterfront), 609 Washington Plaza, Reston. A variety of festive activities ranging from a special visit from Santa, strolling carolers, a petting zoo, music, wine tastings, merchant specials, children's crafts, cookie decorating, holiday arts & crafts market, holiday entertainment and much more. Free, rain or shine. www.lakeanneplaza.com

Lights, Camera, Christmas. 2 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. The Towne Square Singers will give two performances of their winter concert Lights, Camera, Christmas featuring music of the holidays from TV and Movies. Tickets: \$12. Register at



Quarry Panorama photography by Judy Morse. Featured at the Artists of Montorno exhibit at Artspace Herndon. For almost two decades, Montorno studio in Seravezza, Italy has been a refuge for artists to study the arts with famous painters and sculptors.

www.herndon-va.gov/webtrac

TUESDAY/DEC. 10

Discover Graphics. At ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Exhibiting the work of printmakers for the past 30 years.

SATURDAY/DEC. 14

Opening Reception for Discover Graphics. 4-7 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Exhibiting the work of printmakers for the past 30 years.

SATURDAY/DEC. 21

The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged) 8 p.m., at The Reduced Shakespeare Company. It's festive, funny, physical family fun as the Three Wise Guys send up and

celebrate your favorite winter holiday traditions. \$25 Reston/\$50 Non-Reston.

ONGOING

League of Reston Featured Artists Exhibit. Every Monday-Friday through Dec. 31, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., the Reston Association office, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. The League of Reston Artists invites art lovers to a series of rotating painting and photography exhibits featuring a new artist each month. www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

SUNDAY, JAN. 19

Sweet Honey In The Rock. 8 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. Five women provide unique perspective in their traditional gospel

hymns, rap, reggae, African chants, hip hop, ancient lullabies and jazz improvisation; with sign language interpretation. \$25 Reston/\$50 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com or 703-476-4500.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

Rennie Harris' RHAW 8 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. RHAW will showcase Dr. Rennie Harris' newest and brightest street dancers as they bring hip hop back to basics. \$15 Reston/\$30 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com or 703-476-4500.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Lúnasa. 8 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters

Woods. This group of Irishmen continues its 20-year tradition of famed Celtic music. \$20 Reston/\$40 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com or 703-476-4500.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

Mr. Vaudeville and Friends with Mark Brutsché. 3 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. Buddy Silver, and alter-ego Mark Brutsché, returns to to prove, once again, that nothing can take the place of live entertainment. \$5 Reston/\$10 Non-Reston.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Trout Fishing in America. 3 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. This Grammy Award nominated duo's infectious mix of folk/pop and family music is enriched by the diverse influences of reggae, Latin, blues, jazz and classical music. \$15 Reston/\$30 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com or 703-476-4500.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 28

Modern Moves, in partnership with Dance Place. 8 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. Three of D.C.'s most prominent choreographers – Daniel Burkholder, Daniel Phoenix Singh and Erica Rebollar – come together to create an eclectic evening of thrilling modern dance. \$15 Reston/\$30 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com or 703-476-4500.

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On Nov. 9, runners in the male elite or men's competitive mile group begin their race.

PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN / THE CONNECTION

Nearly Naked Mile Held at Reston Town Center

Fundraiser for Medstar Washington Hospital Center draws crowds.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

On Saturday, Nov. 9, Reston Town Center was filled with visitors who came to participate in the Nearly Naked Mile. Kelly Kavanaugh, a head coach at Potomac River Running, was emceeding the race. "It is a great race that benefits burn victims at Medstar Washington Hospital Center," said Kavanaugh. The event had a total of 560 people registered to participate, with a registration fee of \$30.

Runners were welcomed to dress in attire that made them feel comfortable. Among those participating in this year's race was Rudy Arca who suffered from 2nd and 3rd degree burns in October 2012 and was transported to Medstar Washington Hospital Center. The Burn Center at MedStar Washington Hospital Center is the only adult burn treatment center in the Washington metropolitan area. "I have benefited from the burn unit and now am racing this year," said Arca.

The event was presented by the Northern Virginia FOOLS and Potomac River Running. Dan Keyes, firefighter at Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and resident of Ashburn was representing the Northern Virginia FOOLS at the beer garden set up near the Reston Town Center pavilion. "This is our biggest event... I helped organize this event for three years," said Keyes. He is the Vice President of the Northern Virginia FOOLS, which comprises firefighters of all ranks from Fairfax County, Arlington, Alexandria, Prince William County, Loudoun County, Fairfax City, Manassas City, and Manassas Park. It includes career, part-time, volunteer and retired firefighters.

"This is my first time running this race," said Kristin Swisher. "It turned out to be nice weather, and there was a great crowd out as well." Swisher and her husband Benjamin Swisher joined in from old town Alexandria.

Moise Joseph, a Haitian middle-distance runner who competed in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, ran in the men's competitive mile or male elite race. "It is a great race," said Joseph. "The environ-



Runners in the male elite or men's competitive mile group finish the race in the Nearly Naked Mile event at Reston Town Center.

ment is wonderful." The Northern Virginia Firefighters Emerald Society Pipeband also attended and performed as runners completed their races.

The Nearly Naked Mile race was split into five categories or heats: male elite, female elite, 6-8 minute division, 8-10 minute division, and the 10 minute or more division. Each race is electronically timed using the IPICO tag system. For the Male Elite, open winners were 1st place Moise Joseph with a chip time of 4:20, 2nd place Baisa Ktesa with a chip time of 4:21, and 3rd place Kevin McNab with 4:22.

For the Female Elite, first to cross the finish was Silver Spring resident Tadesse Desta with a chip time of 5:00. Second place went to Kristin Swisher with a time of 5:00, and third place went to Susanna Sullivan of Falls Church with a chip time of 5:01.

For more information on the Nearly Naked Mile, visit <http://www.prraces.com/naked>

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