

Barista trainer Michael Brooks has been helping the Reston staff at Ted's Bulletin prepare for its Jan. 30 opening at Reston Town Center.

# Ted's Bulletin To Open at Reston Town Center

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Too Little Sleep

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WINTER FUN, FOOD  
& ENTERTAINMENT

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## Winter Fun for All in Reston

Keep all family members busy with variety of events around Herndon during the colder months.

BY ETHAN MCLEOD  
THE CONNECTION

Just because it's cold out doesn't mean residents have to stay indoors. Reston has much to offer for families during February and March, with everything from plays, musical performances and art workshops to new restaurants and wine tastings at Reston Town Center. Here are some ideas to get started:

**Greater Reston Arts Center** presents TGIF Free Friday on Feb. 7. Bring the whole family along for an evening of art and storytelling in the GRACE Gallery at 12001 Market St. in Reston Town Center from 5-7 p.m. Explore the gallery



Children enjoy some time off from school at the Reston Town Center Ice Skating Rink.

and see STITCH, a group exhibition showcasing trends of needlework in contemporary art that will be in the gallery until March 1.

Children can participate in arts workshops led by GRACE staff members; call 703-471-9242 for more information.

**Friday Night Rock n' Skate** at the Reston Town Center Ice Skating Pavilion. Come ice skating with family and friends at Reston Town Center on Friday nights and enjoy a DJ, games and prizes from 8-10 p.m. (rink open until 11 p.m.). Cost for entrance is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, plus \$5

for skate rentals. For more information call 703-709-6300.

**"Be Our Valentine"** on Saturday, Feb. 8. This event hosted by Reston Regional Library celebrating Valentine's Day is appropriate for all ages. Beginning at 11 a.m., children will enjoy a kazoo band and plenty of dancing, as well as Valentine's Day-themed fun and games. For more information call the library at 703-689-2700.

**"Calling all Poets"** Writers Group on Thursday, Feb. 27. What better time to brush up on your poetry for National Poetry Month in April than now? Unleash that inner poet or poetry lover and join the community in sharing poetry at the Reston Regional Library from 7-8:30 p.m. Coffee and light refreshments will be served; call the library at 703-689-2700 for more information.

**Reston Community Players** present "Xanadu" at RCC CenterStage. Come see this musical tale of a Greek goddess searching to bring the world its first ever roller disco. The Reston Community Players, directed by Joshua Redord and

SEE WINTER FUN, PAGE 3



Despite the cold weather, families emerged from indoors for an afternoon of fun at the Reston Ice Rink.

### Families Spend Snow Days Together

With Fairfax County Public School off for most of the week, residents skate at ice

Reston residents seemed to enjoy some time off after Northern Virginia was hit with about six inches of snow on Tuesday, Jan. 21. With Fairfax County Public Schools and many offices closed from Tuesday to Thursday, Fairfax County residents were able to take a few days off to rest. Most stayed in on Tuesday, as roughly six inches of snow

came down and covered the roads. Those needing to get outside for a few hours emerged from their homes for some family time while schools were closed. The Reston Ice Rink proved to be the right place to get out and enjoy an afternoon together. Children skated around the ice while parents watched from the sides, happy to enjoy a day off from work.

Fairfax County students were happy to be able to stay home and take a break from their midterms, which had been scheduled for that week. Despite the freezing temperatures, Reston Town Center was packed throughout the week as the county continued to clean up after the snow.

— ETHAN MCLEOD

### VIEWPOINTS

#### How did you spend your snow days?



**Robyn Hatanpaa, McLean resident**

"We cleaned the driveways, the kids watched too much TV. So this is just to get them outdoors, and after they ice skate a bit we'll go eat lunch."



**Karen Duncan, Reston resident**

"I'm out here with the kids having some fun and enjoying the down time, and it's really a nice day to skate."



**Jaqueline Schultz, FCPS Student**

"Hanging out with friends, avoiding school and homework — we have midterms, so it's been nice to have a break and sleep in."



**Keith Butler, Reston Ice Skating Rink Staff**

"Everyone seems to enjoy the experience of this being an outdoor rink, especially at night when we get the lights going. People like to get bundled up and skate out here in the outdoors."



**Joe Nocerino, CEO of Century Planning Associates, Inc.**

"We came out for the fun of skating and the challenge, and just the excitement of being here with other people in the cold weather. It's something fun you can't do in the summertime."

# Debate Over School Budget Continues

## Later start times, class size among topics at School Board Public Hearing.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE CONNECTION

Later start times, class size, and cuts to needs-based staffing were major themes of the testimony given at the Jan. 27 public hearing on Superintendent Karen Garza's proposed

budget.

Members and representatives of SLEEP in Fairfax, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Coalition of the Silence, and many other groups spoke at the public hearing.

Several SLEEP advocates at the hearing said that Fairfax County should follow the example of other school systems in the area and adjust middle and high school start times, beginning in Fall 2014.

Catherine Pournelle, an eighth-grader at Lake Braddock Secondary School, said most teenagers only get around seven hours a sleep per night, which leads to several problems while in school.

"I know from experience that this then

causes us all to feel drowsy and not pay attention as well during morning classes. It especially becomes hard when homework piles up, causing us all to get to bed later and creating a spiral of sleepiness until the weekend," Pournelle said. "Overall it does not create a healthy environment for leaning."

Stuart Orloff, a 10th-grader in Fairfax County Public Schools, agreed. "School is a great idea. Sure there are flaws, but it is an important part of growing up. The problem is, I'm only half awake to experience it. In class, I can hardly focus because I'm trying too hard to stay awake," Orloff said.

Another concern several speakers have

with the budget is the cuts to need-based staffing.

Coalition of the Silence co-founder and vice chair Dr. Lolita Mancheno-Smoak stressed the importance of closing the achievement gap in Fairfax County, which she said cannot be done with the proposed budget.

"We all accept the premise that education is the great equalizer. However, over the years, we keep seeing budget cuts that weaken the progress towards leveling the playing field for all children," Mancheno-Smoak said.

COTS co-founder Avis Catchings also

SEE SCHOOL BUDGET, PAGE 5

# Board Cites Lack of Funds for School Renovations

## Aging schools collide with increasing student enrollments.

BY LISA SPINELLI  
THE CONNECTION

While the 2015 to 2019 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) passed at the Fairfax County Public School Board meeting on Thursday, Jan. 3, many board members expressed concerns with the program.

"Our funding is inadequate and has been inadequate for many years," said Mount Vernon district school board member Dan Storck about the school's capital improvement budget — which has an annual cap of \$155 million by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. "This program takes us to the next step, but we still have a long way to go."

Fairfax County public schools are bursting at the seams. An influx of 20,000 school-aged children enrolled in the system within the last eight years and there is no end in sight to the growth rate. With many buildings reaching 50-plus years old and enrollment projected at 184,500 for next school year, overcrowded schools are becoming a mainstay.

The CIP five-year plan includes a queue of which schools have planning funds and construction funds approved, and includes the construction of two new elementary schools as well as one new high school. The total bill for this CIP is \$697.7 million, with \$371.7 million of that unfunded.

One of the major sticking points among board members was the treatment of legacy high schools: Falls Church, Herndon, Langley, Oakton and West Springfield. All these schools were built in the 1960s, and none have received a full renovation. Some are still not in the queue to receive funds for upgrades as of this CIP.

"We're stuck between a rock and a hard place," said Providence District Represent-

School Name	Rank	Score	School Name	Rank	Score	School Name	Rank	Score
Clermont ES***	1	52.23	Mount Vernon	24	63.81	Bren Mar Park ES	46	70.28
Terraset ES**	2	54.18	Woods ES*	24	63.81	Brookfield ES	47	71.29
Sunrise Valley ES**	3	56.77	Herndon HS*	25	63.84	Lees Corner ES	48	72.40
Garfield ES**	4	56.81	Rocky Run MS*	26	63.88	Armstrong ES	49	72.53
Terra Centre ES**	5	57.65	Belle View ES*	27	64.06	Willow Springs ES	50	73.33
Thoreau MS**	6	58.05	Annandale Terrace ES	28	64.19	Centreville HS	51	73.63
Westgate ES**	7	58.14	Clearview ES	29	64.21	Herndon ES	52	73.68
Haycock ES**	8	59.00	Oakton HS*	30	64.54	Dranesville ES	53	74.97
Langley HS**	9	59.14	Hughes MS	31	64.66	Cub Run ES	54	75.27
Ravensworth ES**	10	59.96	Silverbrook ES	32	64.83	Franklin MS	55	75.74
Woodlawn ES**	11	60.25	Hybla Valley ES	33	64.87	Union Mill ES	56	76.29
Forestville ES**	12	60.28	Cooper MS	34	65.90	Centre Ridge ES	57	76.64
North Springfield ES**	13	60.41	Frost MS	35	66.06	Poplar Tree ES	58	76.86
Springfield Estates ES**	14	60.88	Washington Mill ES	36	66.12	Waples Mill ES	59	77.30
Keene Mill ES**	15	60.89	Braddock ES	37	66.17	Sangster ES	60	77.39
Bucknell ES**	16	61.60	Fox Mill ES	38	66.51	Twain MS	61	78.38
Cherry Run ES*	17	61.78	Oak Hill ES	39	66.63	Saratoga ES	62	78.84
Waynewood ES*	18	62.17	Wakefield Forest ES	40	67.47	Virginia Run ES	63	83.13
Stratford Landing ES*	19	62.50	Louise Archer ES	41	68.24			
Newington Forest ES*	20	62.52	Crossfield ES	42	68.98			
Hollin Meadows ES*	21	62.59	Mosby Woods ES	43	69.96			
White Oaks ES*	22	62.70	Bonnie Brae ES	44	70.03			
West Springfield HS*	23	63.10	Falls Church HS	45	70.11			

Schools' final ranking for renovations

School Name	Capacity Utilization 2013-14	Capacity Utilization 2018-19	School Name	Capacity Utilization 2013-14	Capacity Utilization 2018-19	School Name	Capacity Utilization 2013-14	Capacity Utilization 2018-19
Bailey's	130%	154%	Forestdale	93%	131%	Lorton Station	122%	134%
Belvedere	99%	115%	Franconia	102%	128%	Lynbrook	92%	118%
Bren Mar Park	99%	151%	Freedom Hill	102%	134%	McNair	125%	166%
Cameron	76%	117%	Glen Forest	104%	132%	Mosby Woods	104%	116%
Cardinal Forest	94%	117%	Graham Road	107%	121%	Mount Eagle	95%	159%
Chesterbrook	109%	118%	Greenbriar West	121%	125%	Pine Spring	101%	133%
Coates	106%	181%	Groveton	96%	123%	Shreveewood	106%	125%
Columbia	102%	140%	Hybla Valley	124%	135%	Westlawn	101%	116%
Eagle View	87%	118%	Lake Anne	92%	136%	Willow Springs	107%	124%
Fairhill	98%	123%	Lane	91%	128%	Woodburn	111%	131%

Schools' capacity

tative Patty Reed citing not enough funding and too many schools in need. "And Falls Church is no further along than it was before."

The CIP did not list Falls Church in the queue for high schools needing renovation — which many members felt was a gross oversight since the school was built in 1967 and is without science and computer labs — putting its students at a severe disadvantage to remain competitive for jobs and acceptance into top colleges, said Reed.

overarching study on school boundaries and changing those boundaries by 2018 could help alleviate much of the overcrowding in schools across the county — especially high schools. With the current CIP Facilities Planning Advisory Committee wrote that in just five years 45,397 children will be attending schools at more than 115 percent of capacity — approximately one in four students. Currently, there are no ongoing or planned boundary studies in place, said John Torre, public information officer with FCPS.

Another measure At-Large Member

**"Our funding is inadequate and has been inadequate for many years."**

— Dan Storck, Mount Vernon district school board member

Ted Velkoff suggested to ensure schools were receiving a more adequate amount of capital improvement funds was to integrate the county government and the school's capital funding plans and have criteria set by both boards for which facilities would enter the list.

Currently government-related buildings — including fire departments, detention centers, courts etc. — receive 58 percent of the county's capital improvement funding while taking up 19 percent of the total county facilities square footage, whereas the school system receives 42 percent of the money with 81 percent of the square footage, cited Braddock District Representative Megan McLaughlin.

"I have grave concerns," said Mason District Representative Sandy Evans about the CIP.

"It's not just about needing a new funding stream, but how we approach it."

# EDUCATION



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

Janet Laubgross and Fairfax County Public Schools student Stuart Orloff spoke in support of later high school start times at the public hearing.

## School Budget

FROM PAGE 4

spoke, and said that while COTS supports some aspects of the budget, including the decision to pay teachers fairly, she is disappointed with some of its other aspects.

"This is about life choices for COTS kids. When COTS kids fail in school, too often they also fail in life," Catchings said. "Proposing any cuts to needs-based staffing when the FCPS student population has increased by the thousands, and when most of this growth is in our neediest communities, is just not a good choice. It means larger class sizes in needier schools and fewer teachers to give these children the extra help they need to transition successfully in school."

Several students also advocated for children who are underrepresented and disadvantaged. Alanna Brown, a ninth-grader at Lake Braddock Secondary School, spoke about the digital divide in Fairfax County.

Brown said she thinks that while digital textbooks are helpful, it is unfair for poorer students who don't have access to the internet at home.

"Although there are low-income students at Lake Braddock, I don't believe there are that many, but there are other places like Alexandria and other areas in Virginia that have many more poor students," Brown said. "Many of these students may not have access to the internet at home, and I don't believe it is fair that they may get bad grades because they can't do their homework because they don't have access to the internet at home."

Ryley Bendewald, a freshman at Langley High School, believes it is wrong to cut class sizes in one area of Fairfax County, but not in another.

"Every student in Fairfax County,

**"School is a great idea. Sure there are flaws, but it is an important part of growing up. The problem is, I'm only half awake to experience it. In class, I can hardly focus because I'm trying too hard to stay awake."**

— **Stuart Orloff, a tenth-grader in Fairfax County Public Schools**

no matter what their facial features, height, family, house size, or academic advancements, deserves the opportunity to learn and to better themselves in the public schools in this county," Bendewald said.

At the hearing, Steven Greenberg, president of the Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, praised Garza for her budget proposal.

"Dr. Garza's budget is the best lemonade anyone could possibly make, considering the rotten lemons we've been given," Greenberg said.

However, former school board member Tina Hone, a founder of Coalition of the Silence, said that the organization is struggling with the proposed cuts to need-based staffing.

"Even Jack didn't cut needs-based staffing," said Hone of the former Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Dale.

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# OPINION

## For Nonpartisan Redistricting

Virginia is a purple state, gerrymandered to bleed red.

Consider that in statewide elections, Virginia voters have chosen Democrats in the last two presidential elections, for U.S. Senate, for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

Almost none of these elections was by a wide margin, but it's clear that Virginia is a purple state leaning blue.

Here are the actual numbers:

**2013**  
McAuliffe (D) 1,069,789; Cuccinelli (R) 1,013,389  
Northam (D) 1,213,155; Jackson (R) 980,257  
Herring (D) 1,103,777; Obenshain (R) 1,103,612

**2012**

Obama (D) 1,971,820; Romney (R) 1,822,522  
Kaine (D) 2,010,067; Allen (R) 1,785,542

It's reasonable to assume that a state so evenly divided would be about evenly divided in political representation.

How is possible then that Virginia House of Delegates consists of 67 Republicans and 33 Democrats?

Why is it that Virginia's delegation to the U.S. House of Representatives consists of 11 Republicans and three Democrats?

The split in the Virginia Senate makes sense, a 20-20 split with a Republican Lieutenant Governor breaking tie votes the last four years and a Democratic Lieutenant Governor poised to break ties in the coming four years (pending this week's recount in the special election in District 6 to replace Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam).

Virginia's 11 Congressional districts should

be split about evenly. You could understand a split five Dems and six Republicans; or five Republicans and six Democrats. A four and seven split would smack of some unusual circumstance. But three and eight?

The answer is gerrymandering.

Both political parties have been guilty of this when in power, although new technology and better data have made the process more egregious, the effects more damaging.

Political parties should not control the drawing of political districts. Gerrymandering thwarts the will of the electorate. It is especially damaging in a Dillon rule state, like Virginia, where localities have only the power explicitly granted to them by the General Assembly,

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

### COMMENTARY

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

For the first time in a history that goes back to Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson, a Virginia governor has been indicted on federal corruption charges. Although information on the activities of the federal grand jury had been leaking out for many months, the former governor and his wife who was indicted with him and their stable of taxpayer-paid-for attorneys were able to stave off the formal indictment until he left office. But

the alleged wrong doing took place while he was in office during which time he and the first lady accepted at least \$165,000 in cash, loans and lavish gifts from the CEO of a diet supplement company. A review of the particulars of the indictment reveals a picture of a family that was in financial trouble with huge credit card debt but with a taste for designer clothing and accessories.

The former governor who worked as a criminal prosecutor, who served in the House of Del-

egates as a member of its Courts committee, and who was Attorney General of the state before becoming governor acknowledges the loans and money that he has paid back and the gifts he received, but he continues to maintain his innocence despite federal law that makes it illegal to use a public office to enrich oneself. The governor was clever in using his intimate knowledge of Virginia law to escape reporting the gifts by having them go to family members rather than to himself and by sell-

ing stock before the end of a reporting period and buying it back after the reporting deadline to escape disclosing it.

The entire episode is a huge tragedy for the McDonnell family and for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The former governor and his wife may go to jail. The "Virginia way" that has always prided itself on clean government has been sullied. Committees in the House and Senate are at work to tighten up ethics laws for the legislative and executive branches of government. I participated in a bipartisan panel to get the process underway. Reporting requirements for anything of value received will be expanded to include family members and will be required at least twice a year. An ethics commission is likely to be established to rule on the appropriateness of activities of members of state as well as local government. As part-time legislators who live in the local community much more time than in the capital city, legislators need to be able to participate in the activities of the local community as long as they do not conflict with their legislative duties. The new ethics rules and the commission should help clarify which activities and expenditures are acceptable.

The presence of laws does not completely stop wrong doing. It is up to individuals to first police themselves and to act in an ethical way. Ultimately it will be the voters who decide if their elected representatives are adhering to the common-sense ethical standards that they expect.

## Overdue Ethics Reform



STEVEN G. ARTLEY/THE CONNECTION

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## WINTER FUN, FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

# Ted's Bulletin To Open at Reston Town Center

Family-owned restaurant opens Jan. 30.

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

On Jan. 30, the restaurant Ted's Bulletin at 11948 Market Street will open at 7 a.m. to the public. "Ted's is going to be a favorite in Reston Town Center," said waitress Rachel Dillon. "We can modify any food order, and we are very customer friendly. It is a family-based business," said Dillon.

The restaurant is at the location of the former Uno Chicago Grill, and it is the first in Virginia. Owners Mark and Ty Neal, also behind DC's Matchbox restaurants, named the restaurant after their father, a West Virginian who was the unofficial "cook of the neighborhood." The restaurant chain, known for their comfort food and homemade pop tarts, will open another site in Merrifield.

"From the ownership perspective, the location in Reston was a perfect fit for Ted's," said John Donnelly, executive general manager with Matchbox Food Group. The restaurant's tomato soup recipe was featured in the New York Times, and in addi-



Barista trainer Michael Brooks prepares some of the equipment at the Reston Ted's Bulletin. "For our espresso we use a completely manual machine," said Brooks.

tion to lunchtime and supper menus, offers breakfast dishes anytime. Staff from out of the area has been traveling to the Reston site to prepare for the opening.

One of the staff traveling in from Washington, D.C. is barista trainer Michael Brooks. "I worked in coffee shops and restaurants before, it is a lot of work but a lot of fun," said Brooks. "For our espresso we use a completely manual machine, it is a

process that coincides with our value that the food is as only as good as the hands that prepare it. It is all made with care, and we work as a team."

Co-owner Ty Neal has been looking forward to the grand opening at Reston. "We have been looking for space in this area for about five years," said Neal. "This is my neighborhood, I live right down the street." The dining room features 151 seats, includ-



Ted's Bulletin co-owner Ty Neal has been looking forward to the grand opening at 11948 Market St. in Reston.

ing a semi-private meeting and event space in a sunken dining room. The location will also open a large patio in the spring.

The space has been outfitted with antique bulletin boards, and a projection screen that will show cartoons and family shows from the 1930s and '40s has been set up at one end of the restaurant.

"For the interior design, we used trapping and lights salvaged from the old Philadelphia Convention Center," said Special Events Project Manager Ashlie Levy.

Other signature items include milkshakes, prohibition cocktails and a variety of homemade baked goods. Friendly staff and the classy interior design make the restaurant a pleasurable experience. Ted's will be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week, beginning Jan. 30.

For more information on the restaurant, visit <http://tedsbulletinreston.com>.

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or complete our online form at [reston-connection.com](http://reston-connection.com)

Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and petas in photos. Submission deadline is February 20.

# WINTER FUN, FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

## Winter Fun Activities in Reston

FROM PAGE 3

Matt Jeffrey, will be performing this 1980s musical from March 7-29, with matinee options on March 6 and 23. Tickets cost \$23 for adults and \$20 for students and seniors. Go to [restonplayers.org](http://restonplayers.org) for more information.

**Freezin' for a Reason** at Lake Anne on Saturday, Feb. 1. Be part of the annual mid-winter event that defies rationality during the cold months by jumping into Lake Anne. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Freezin' for a Reason Polar Dip will aim to raise \$100,000 for Camp Sunshine, a year-round national retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses. The cost per person is \$100, and in addition to bragging rights, each participant will receive a commemorative "I Did It" shirt. Spectators are welcome to come and cheer.

**Parents' Night Out** at Walker Nature Center Feb. 14. Parents can have a chance to enjoy a romantic Valentine's Day by giving children ages 5-12 their own fun-filled day at the Walker Nature

Center, located at 11450 Glade Drive. Beginning at 6:45 p.m., youngsters can enjoy a night of nature games, a night hike (weather permitting), and a movie with popcorn. Cost is \$15 for Reston Association members, \$20 for non-members. For more information call 703-476-9689.

**Ted's Bulletin** Opening at Reston Town Center. Try the newest restaurant to come to Reston Town Center, Ted's Bulletin, opening Thursday, Jan. 30. In addition to a dining room that seats more than 150 patrons, a semi-private meeting and event space, and an oversized projection screen, Ted's Bulletin brings a vintage 1930s feel and classic American cooking to Market Street. Opens Thursday, Jan. 30; for more information visit [www.tedsbulletin.com](http://www.tedsbulletin.com) or contact the Ted's team at 703-417-2702.

**Jigsaw Puzzle Contest** on Tuesday, March 25. Join as either an individual or a couple for this timed contest, which will also include, lunch, cof-

fee and conversation from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Participants will complete as many Reston-themed puzzles as they can during the allotted time period. The contest will be held at the Reston Association's headquarters at 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive. Cost is \$9 for RA members, \$13 for non-members.

**Children's Pirate Party** at Reston Association. Give your child the chance to finally be a pirate at this Reston Association event Tuesday, March 4. Children ages 3-5 will be able to dress up in pirate gear and enjoy games, arts and crafts and other activities. Cost of registration is \$4 for Reston Association members, \$6 for non-members. Registration required; for more information visit the Reston Association at 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive or call 703-435-6577.

**Basilicata Wine Dinner** at Il F o r n i a o. Enjoy an evening of delicious food and fine wine at Il Fornaio of Reston Town Center. Starting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27,

guests will enjoy a five-course dinner paired with wine. Cost is \$65 (gratuity and tax not included). To make a reservation, call 703-437-5544 or visit [www.ilforniao.com](http://www.ilforniao.com).

**CASINO NIGHT** to benefit The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Fairfax County Region. The Ritz-Carlton of Tysons Corner is hosting a benefit on behalf of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Fairfax County Region, on Friday, March 7, from 6:30-11:30 p.m. The event is open to the public.

Casino night admission includes an open bar, dinner buffet, gaming, and dancing. Live and silent auction prizes include weekend get-a-ways, dinner at award-winning restaurants, hotel-dinner-limo packages, sporting event tickets and more. Guests receive funny money and a bidder number. Use the winnings from Black Jack, Texas Hold 'Em, Craps towards raffle tickets for prizes. Tickets are priced at \$95 per person or \$175 per couple. The Ritz-Carlton offers a Casino Night overnight room rate specially-priced at \$119.



Last year's Freezin' for a Reason Polar Dip at Lake Anne. This year the event is on Feb. 1 and will aim to raise \$100,000 for Camp Sunshine, a year-round national retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses.

CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

## STITCH Art Exhibit Opens at Reston GRACE

New exhibit displays the art of needlework.

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

"I am really thrilled with the level of artists we were able to bring to this exhibition," said Holly McCullough, executive director and curator of exhibitions at the Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE). "The work is such varied interpretations of needlework that it makes you rethink your preconceptions of what needlework is ... the artists reverse our expectations of the medium." The exhibit STITCH is a group exhibition of needlework and its incorporation into forms of contemporary art.

On Thursday, Jan. 16, an opening reception at the GRACE art gallery was attended by many of the exhibiting artists. "Negative space often plays a role in my

SEE STITCH. PAGE 10



Artist Stephanie Booth poses next to her piece "Reconstructed Memories", an embroidery and vellum on c-print. Some of Booth's work will be on exhibit at GRACE until March 1.

**Executive Director and Curator of Exhibitions at the Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) Holly McCullough greeted visitors to the evening reception of the art exhibit STITCH in January.**



PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN / THE CONNECTION

## Freezin' for a Reason Returns Feb. 1

It's time for the mid-winter tradition when hundreds of individuals dressed in crazy costumes will converge on Lake Anne Plaza in Reston for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Freezin' for a Reason Polar Dip on Saturday, Feb. 1. The event will kick off at 1 p.m. with family-friendly activities and warm-up — with the dip scheduled to take place starting at 2 p.m.

Each year the event draws record crowds of both spectators and jumpers raising more than \$70,000. Registered participants will take a chilly full dive or a "Chicken Dip" to raise funds for Camp Sunshine, a national year-round retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

The creation of the Virginia Polar Dip was started in 2008 by the Toth family after a long history with Camp Sunshine. They first attended Camp Sunshine as a participating family in 1996 when their daughter Jennifer was a cancer patient at age 3, and they have returned as volunteers every summer since. After Jennifer participated in a Camp Sunshine Polar Dip in N.J., her family decided to bring the event to Virginia to help

more local families.

Since 2008, 682 people have participated in the Virginia Polar Dip raising more than \$306,000 for the camp. The camp organizes 11 polar dips on the east coast each year. The event will be emceed for the fourth year in a row by 97.1 WASH-FM morning show radio personality Chilli Amar.

Camp Sunshine is nestled alongside the shores of Sebago Lake and



Daredevils prepare to dive into bone-chilling lake for children with life-threatening illnesses.

©DavidMadisonPhotography.com

provides respite, support, joy and hope to children with life-threatening illnesses and their immediate families through various stages of a child's illness.

This year's goal at Lake Anne is to raise \$100,000, which will allow 50 families from the Mid-Atlantic area to come to Camp Sunshine. The event is sponsored by Lake Anne, David Madison Photography, Reston Association, Reston

Community Center, Spotted MP Marketing & Public Relations, Jasmine Café, Fairfax Christian School, Tropical Smoothie Café, 97.1 WASH-FM, and Sheraton Reston Hotel. For more information about the event or to register to participate, visit [www.freezinforareason.com](http://www.freezinforareason.com) or become a Facebook Fan (Virginia Polar Dip) and view pictures from previous dips.



Adopt/Donate/Volunteer  
[www.lostdogandcatrescue.org](http://www.lostdogandcatrescue.org)

Save the Date  
A Casino Night to Benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Fairfax County Region

**Save the Date!**  
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CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

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Sun. Feb. 16 Al Petteway and Amy White: Grammy and Indie award winning duo bring their Appalachian flavored music to the Old Brogue. [www.alandamy.com](http://www.alandamy.com)

Sun. Feb. 23 Robin Bullock: Probably the foremost Celtic bouzouki/guitar and mandolin exponent in the nation! [www.robinbullock.com](http://www.robinbullock.com)

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# WINTER FUN, FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com). The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## TUESDAY /JAN. 28-SUNDAY/MARCH 2

**Something Blue.** ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Fine textile art is showcased in Something Blue by the Northern Virginia Quilters. 703-956-6590 or [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org).

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 29- WEDNESDAY/FEB. 19

**Art Explorers.** 10:30-11:30 a.m., ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Three sessions allow for a more in-depth introduction to the key concepts and will provide some good homework suggestions to help start and develop a habit of sketching. \$200. 703-956-6590 or [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org).

## SUNDAY/FEB. 2

**Groundhog's Day.** 2-3 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Find out if groundhog saw his shadow today and what it might mean for the winter days ahead. Test your groundhog knowledge and hear legends of these curious critters. Step into our colored shadow room and discover how to use your shadow to tell time. Reservations required by Jan. 30. Fee: \$5.00/person RA members, \$7.00/person Non-members. [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

## MONDAY/FEB. 3- TUESDAY/FEB. 4

**Captivating Colors.** 10-11 a.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Ages 18 months to 35 months. Discover the brilliant hues of animals in love, bright flowers attracting insects, and bold colors warning you not to touch. Play a game to find different colors, and take home a colorful craft. Reservations required by Jan. 29. Fee: \$7/child RA members, \$9/child Non-members. [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

## MONDAY/FEB. 3- THURSDAY/FEB. 27

**Celeste Friesen Nikkel Painting Exhibit.** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Reston Center One, 12001 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston. [www.leagueofrestonartists.org](http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org)

## MONDAY/FEB. 3- FRIDAY/APRIL 11

**Artists Honored at LRA's "Winter Dreams" Exhibit.** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Parkridge 5 Building, 10780 Parkridge Blvd., Reston. [www.leagueofrestonartists.org](http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org)

## TUESDAY/FEB. 4

**Reston Garden Club Goes to the Oscars.** 1 p.m. Lake Ann Community Center. Members will display their creative talents as they present

## Stitch

FROM PAGE 8

work," said Pam Rogers, a resident of Bethesda, Md. "I make my paint out of soil in minerals in my art work ... often I sew into the work, creating new planes, repairing embellishing the images."

The art show STITCH exhibits the work of eight artists, five from the northern Virginia and D.C. region, two from New York City, and one from Delaware. "This is my second time showing here at GRACE," said Kate Kretz who is showing some of her more recent work. These pieces include embroidery featuring the grey hair of dozens of women.

"They are all done by hand," said Kretz. "For me it is an act of defiance in the age we live in the way I am choosing to spend my time." Kretz avoids using sewing machines as much as possible when doing her artwork. "I use my work to help process



View Dana Scheurer's "Midtown Mural Study" at the Colorful Times Four Exhibit opening on Feb. 5 at Jo Ann's Rose Gallery.

floral or fruit interpretations of any of the nominated films from any category of this year's nominations for Oscar winner.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 5-SUNDAY/MARCH 2

**Colorful Times Four.** 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday - Sunday. Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609 Washington Plaza N, Reston. Four accomplished Reston artists - Ann Barbieri, Joan Kelly, Dana Scheurer and Connie Slack - present vibrant, dynamic works of art in their February exhibit, Colorful Times Four. 703-864-2588.

## THURSDAY/ FEB. 6

**"Divine Love" Opening Reception.** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 12005 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston. The League of Reston Artists (LRA) opens the new photography show, "Divine Love," at the Reston Center Two with a reception for the artist, Elizabeth Linares. The exhibit is free and open until Feb.27, Monday Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. [www.leagueofrestonartists.org](http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org)

## SUNDAY/FEB. 9

**Colorful Times Four Reception.** 2-4 p.m. Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609 Washington Plaza N, Reston. Four accomplished Reston artists - Ann

emotions," said Kretz.

Stephanie Booth, a resident of Alexandria, was also attending the reception. "I started embroidery on a limited basis when I was an undergraduate at Mary Washington College," said Booth. "For me, there is an undeniable urge to connect to the past and uncover my roots and origins." Included in Booth's display at GRACE is a set of self-photos taken wearing wigs that belonged to her grandmothers.

"I would say my work is about connections ... what we do with our hands connects us to other people," said Rania Hassan who resides in Washington, D.C. "This series started because of my fascination with knitting, love for painting, and intrigue in the community of knitters worldwide." Other artists who have their work on display at this Reston exhibit are Orly Cogan, Suzi Fox, Erin Endicott Sheldon, and Nathan Vincent.

During the evening reception, McCullough greeted everyone attending the



"Solace Outside My Window," by Gennara Moore, won first place in paintings for her evocative winter image at the League of Reston Artists' "Winter Dreams" exhibit, currently at the Parkridge 5 Building.

show, and spoke briefly about some of the exhibiting artists. McCullough also introduced Robert Goudie, chairman of the GRACE board of directors to the audience. Goudie announced GRACE had exceeded their fundraising goal, and with the help of GRACE board member Jim Cleveland, had raised \$250,000 which can be used to expand marketing efforts and grow the quality of exhibitions. "I think we have really innovative artists here," said Goudie. "We are really excited Holly is our new director as her presence will add depth to the gallery's messaging."

The group exhibit STITCH will continue to be on display at GRACE until March 1.

Barbieri, Joan Kelly, Dana Scheurer and Connie Slack - present vibrant, dynamic works of art in their February exhibit, Colorful Times Four. 703-864-2588.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 14

**Parents' Night Out.** 7-9:30 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Ages 5 to 12. Parents, this Valentine's Day enjoy the evening out while your children have a fun-filled night at the nature center. Kids, play nature games and weather permitting, go on a night hike. Drop off begins at 6:45 p.m. Reservations required by Feb. 11. Fee: \$15 RA members, \$20 Non-members. [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 20

**Flying Squirrels in February.** 10 a.m. OR 1:30 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Ages 3 to 5. Flying squirrels are rarely seen because they are nocturnal. Learn more about these fuzzy gliders, including what they eat, who eats them, and where they live. Make a flying squirrel craft that glides just like they do. Reservations required by Feb. 17. Fee: \$7/child RA members, \$9/child Non-members. Email [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 22

**Skull Lab.** 11 a.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. All ages. Join us in the "Skull Lab" to learn what teeth can tell us about an animal's diet. Discover how eye position reveals if an animal is predator or prey. Learn to use simple dichotomous keys with sample skulls to discover their identities. Reservations required by Feb. 19. Fee: \$5/person RA members, \$7/person Non-members. Email [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 8- SUNDAY/MARCH 30

**Pinochio.** Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. NextStop Family Theatre presents a new adaptation of Carlo Collodi's classic story. It is adapted and directed by Paul Reisman and co-produced by Faction of Fools. [www.eldenstreetplayers.org](http://www.eldenstreetplayers.org).

## 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](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) or 703-476-4500.

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 12

**Loenasa.** 8 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston  
SEE WINTER FUN, PAGE 11



Kate Kretz standing next to her piece "Your Fragility" which was completed in 2010 and is on display at the Reston GRACE until March 1.

Artists and art lovers founded GRACE in 1974 as a source of cultural enrichment for the new community of Reston. The gallery is located at 12001 Market St. #103 in Reston, and its website is [www.restonarts.org](http://www.restonarts.org).

# WINTER FUN, FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 10

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](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) or 703-476-4500.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 6

**Mr. Vaudeville and Friends with Mark Brutsch.** 3 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. Buddy Silver, and alter-ego Mark Brutsch, returns to top prove, once again, that nothing can take the place of live entertainment. \$5 Reston/\$10 Non-Reston. [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) or 703-476-4500.

## 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](http://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](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) or 703-476-4500.

## SATURDAY/MAY 31

**Raul Midón.** 8 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. Blind since infancy, Midón uses his songwriting and musical talents to shatter stereotypes while establishing himself as one of music's most distinctive and searching voices. \$20 Reston/



**Elizabeth Linares' "Healing Waters" is one of many photographs on display in her solo exhibit in the Reston Center Two.**

\$40 Non-Reston. [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) or 703-476-4500.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 8

**SpeakeasyDC's Born This Way: Stories About Queer Culture in America.** 3 p.m., at The Centerstage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods. One of the region's premiere storytelling theatres presents an adults only afternoon of entertaining and thought-provoking true stories that showcase a range of perspectives from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community. \$15 Reston/\$30 Non-Reston. [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) or 703-476-4500.

## BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com) by the Friday prior to the following week's paper.

### THURSDAY/ JAN. 30

**Paper Making.** 10:30-11:30 a.m., Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Discover how to make your own paper using a variety of materials and learn how to use it in future craft projects. Child Reston Association member: \$7; Non-members: \$9. [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org) or 703-476-9689.

### MONDAY/ FEB. 3

**Learn How to Use Photoshop.** 7-9 p.m. Room 6 at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Rd., Reston. Jeff Burton, president of the Reston Photographic Society (RPS) and digital imaging professional, gives an overview of Photoshop. RPS is a special interest group of the League of Reston Artists and holds meetings on the first Monday of the month, from January-May and September-November. Nonmembers are welcome to attend. Visit [www.leagueofrestonartists.org](http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org) for more information.

### FRIDAY/FEB. 7

**Syrian Crisis Discussion.** 7 p.m. United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Rev. Dr. Mary Mikhael, former president of the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, will discuss the crisis in Syria and the current situation of Syrian refugees. Free and open to all. [www.unitedchristianparish.org](http://www.unitedchristianparish.org).

### THURSDAY/FEB. 13

**Public Forum on Economic Equality.** 7:30

p.m. United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. A public forum on the growing problem of economic inequality in the United States - and the ethics and feasibility of proposed solutions. [www.unitedchristianparish.org](http://www.unitedchristianparish.org).

### THURSDAY/FEB. 20

**Women's Club of Greater Reston Meeting.** 10 a.m. Lake Anne Community Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. This meeting will be about shade gardening, container gardening and deer resistant plants. Free. [www.restonnewcomers.org](http://www.restonnewcomers.org).

### 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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults).

**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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadult) or [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Habitat Heroes Project.** The fourth Saturday of each month. Join the Habitat Heroes in protecting Reston's forests from aggressive plants and restoring them to their natural state. Wear long sleeves, long pants, and if possible, gardening gloves to protect from insects and dangerous plants. R.A. will provide tools, gloves, snacks, and water. To volunteer and find more information, contact [habrock@reston.org](mailto:habrock@reston.org) or 703-435-7986.

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# SPORTS

## Aggressive Auslander Leads Herndon Boys

Talented Hornets have state-title aspirations.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**A**t 6 feet 5, with long arms and an impressive vertical leap, Herndon senior Kent Auslander possesses the physical tools to play above the rim.

On Friday night against Oakton, Auslander showed his capabilities when combining an aggressive mentality with his ability to jump out of the gym.

Auslander dunked four times and scored 15 points as the Herndon boys' basketball team defeated the Oakton Cougars 81-66 on Jan. 24 at Herndon High School.

Hornets head coach Gary Hall said Auslander in the past shied away from finishing strong at the rim. Against Oakton, No. 23 dunked once in each quarter, each time throwing it down with one hand.

"Tonight, what I was happy about [was] so often he'll be right there with the ability to dunk and he'll lay it in or be a little bit softer and try to be a finesse player," Hall said. "It's like, 'Kent, just [dunk the basketball].' ... I just don't like him to be soft."

There was nothing soft about Auslander's emphatic, crowd-pleasing dunks. His fourth slam came during the final minute of the fourth quarter during a 12-2 Herndon run.

"My dad always told me [to] try to dunk everything and if you have to adjust it, then adjust it at the end," Auslander said. "If you go hard like that, you'll get a foul call a lot."

Along with two points, Auslander's dunks provided a spark for the Hornets.

"It definitely gives us energy, especially when our crowd is here — our hype squad," Herndon senior Dorian Johnson said. "It gives us a big boost."



Herndon boys' basketball coach Gary Hall said senior Deandre Thomas is thriving in his role as the Hornets' sixth man.



Herndon senior Dorian Johnson scored 15 points against Oakton on Jan. 24.

Auslander is one of many talented athletes on a Herndon team with state-title aspirations. Johnson, a 6-foot-4 senior, surpassed 1,000 career points this season. After combining with Will Ferguson to provide a 1-2 scoring punch last season, Johnson this year is part of a more well-rounded Hornets offense.

"Dorian is like an unassuming, quiet superstar," Hall said. "The thing about Dorian is we sort of take him for granted."

Johnson finished with 15 points against

PHOTOS BY  
CRAIG  
STERBUTZEL/  
THE  
CONNECTION



Herndon senior Kent Auslander prepares to throw down one of his four dunks during an 81-66 victory over Oakton on Jan. 24.

Oakton, including nine in the first quarter.

"We're trying to win a state championship," Johnson said. "...That's what our expectations are."

Seniors Delontae Wingfield and Deandre Thomas each scored 16 points for Herndon. Senior Malcolm McKenzie finished with nine.

Thomas, who transferred back to Herndon after playing his junior season at Potomac Falls in Loudoun County, is thriving in a reserve role. Hall praised No. 12 for his unselfishness.

"He could start for any team in Northern Virginia," Hall said. "He could start for us, but he's not only accepted his role coming off the bench as a sixth man, but he's embraced it."

A bucket by Wingfield gave Herndon a 59-46 lead early in the fourth quarter.

Oakton battled back to pull within five points on three occasions, but each time the Hornets found a way to maintain a two-possession lead.

"The one thing I like about this team is they're pretty talented, but they're a pretty tough group of kids," Hall said. "There's never a moment that's too big for them."

The already-talented Hornets could receive an additional boost from the arrival of 6-foot-5 senior Brandon Alston, a college-caliber transfer from New Jersey. Hall said he expected Alston to enroll in classes at Herndon High School on Monday, Jan. 27, and he will join the team if deemed eligible by the VHSL.

Herndon defeated Centreville 99-70 on Monday, improving its record to 14-1. The Hornets were scheduled to face Robinson on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

Herndon will host Chantilly at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 31.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### South Lakes Swimmers Fade Against Langley

South Lakes' swim and dive teams had strong performances by individual swimmers, but were unable to pull off a victory against Langley in a dual meet Jan. 17 at the Spring Hill RECenter.

South Lakes' Emily Landeryou



PHOTO BY DAVID CORDTS

South Lakes' Mac Sogandares finished first in the 100-yard breaststroke against Langley on Jan. 17.

achieved two regional-qualifying times with second-place finishes in the 200-yard individual medley and 500 freestyle.

Sabrina Groves achieved a regional-qualifying time with a second-place finish in the 100 butterfly.

Sasha Avilov (first) and Madeleine Daum finished one-two in the 50 Freestyle.

The 200 freestyle relay team of Groves, Avilov, Kaylyn Macaluso, and Malina Stassinis earned a win, as did the 200 medley relay team of Johnny Micka, Benjamin

Gryski, Mac Sogandares, and Tyler Hutson. Gryski also won the 200 individual medley.

Tyler Ellis (first) and Dylan Hawley finished one-two in the 100 butterfly. Mac Sogandares took first in the 100 freestyle and 100 breast stroke. Bradley Torrington (500 freestyle) and Johnny Micka (200 breaststroke) also won.

The girls lost with 140 points to Langley's 174. The boys scored 130 points against Langley's 164.

## NEWS

# New Leadership for Workhouse Arts Center

**Board of Supervisors continues to debate future success of center.**

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE CONNECTION

Laura McKie, a volunteer at the Prison Museum at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center, said she doesn't expect the museum's everyday operations to change too much as Fairfax County takes greater control over the center.

"I think everything will carry on as normal," McKie said.

McKie is referring to the Jan. 14 Board of Supervisors' decision, which will abolish the current Lorton Arts Foundation Board. Fairfax County will assume \$30 million in debt, settling the agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, which the Lorton Arts Foundation has entered into a debt of \$60 million.

Still, county officials such as Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity question the Jan. 14 Board of Supervisors' decision.

Herrity, who was the only Supervisor who dissented in the decision, said that foreclosure could have been avoided, even without Fairfax County assuming the Foundation's debt.

"We had more time and we didn't take it," Herrity said. "This wasn't our loan. We had no legal obligation to pay off this debt."

Braddock District Supervisor John Cook, however, said before the Board of Supervisors decision that if the decision to assume the loan was not made, foreclosure would have been inevitable.

"The fact of the matter is, if this deal was not made today, the bank was going to foreclose on that loan this month, and we had to act," Cook said.

Cook said before the Jan. 14 vote that the Lorton Arts Foundation failed, something Herrity disagrees with.

"The Lorton Arts Foundation didn't fail. They did the best they could with the situation," Herrity said.

Herrity said that circumstances were tough, however, especially considering the location of the arts center.

"Even the Torpedo Factory in Old Town Alexandria isn't surviving," Herrity said.

In 2002, Fairfax County purchased 2,440 acres of federal land, which was the site of the historic Occoquan Workhouse Prison, for \$4.2 million. In 2006, the Lorton Arts Foundation renovated the former prison into an arts center after approval from the Board of Supervisors.

Chairman Sharon Bulova has attended many events at the Workhouse Arts Center. McKie, who organized the "American Women: The Long and Winding Road" lecture series at the Prison Museum, said Bulova attended the first lecture and will



**The Board of Supervisors voted Jan. 14 to assume \$30 million of the Lorton Arts Foundation debt and to abolish the current board, although Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity said this could have been avoided.**

participate in the event in March.

"She is a big supporter of our program," McKie said.

Bulova issued a statement following the Board of Supervisors decision, stressing the economic difficulties faced by the Lorton Arts Foundation.

"However, like many nonprofits and businesses alike, the LAF has not been immune to the economic recession and slow recovery. Simply put, the past few years have proven an intensely difficult time to raise money for the arts, and the Workhouse Arts Center's operations have not generated enough revenue to cover expenses, especially debt it incurred for capital renovations," Bulova said in the statement.

Herrity said he is opposed to spending \$30 million of taxpayer's money, and believes Fairfax County should look at longer term solutions.

"We shouldn't be bailing out a bank because it made a bad loan," Herrity said. "We should be looking at monetizing the surrounding land."

Cook, however, said that nobody is being bailed out with this agreement, and that the agreement was necessary to avoid litigation.

"It is not true that there was no potential legal liability to the county. We own the land. We own the buildings," Cook said.

Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay supported the decision in order to protect the county's investment in the Workhouse, and suggested opportunities to make land use changes in the area to attract more people to the facility.

"This is a county with over a million people. We ought to have an arts center in this county, but we ought to have one that is fiscally well-managed and controlled, and one that we have some lever of oversight with," McKay said.



# Employment Expo

## for Veterans & Military

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## Confused and then Infused



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Since March 6, 2009, nearly five years now, save for nine months when I was taking an oral chemotherapy medication at home, every three weeks I have been infused with some sort of chemotherapy drug. In that time, I have certainly become familiar and fairly well-known to the various staff at The Infusion Center. What follows is the most recent exchange with the receptionist in Oncology, as best as I can recall it.

Receptionist: "Hello, Mr. Lourie. How are you?"

Me: "Lovely. Happy to be here."

Receptionist: "That's nice."

Me: "Actually, I'm not happy to be here. I mean I'd rather not be here. But since I'm here, it's better that I'm here than not here, as in unable to get here because I'm not here anymore."

Receptionist: "I understand."

Me: "Really? Because I'm not sure I understand. I know what I'm thinking, but...What I mean to say is that I don't want to be coming here to the Infusion Center, because that means I'm being treated for cancer. But if I do have cancer, I guess I'm happy to be still alive, in order to be able to get here for treatment."

Receptionist: "I understand."

Me: "I think I'm confused. I don't want to be coming here because I have cancer. I'd rather not be coming here at all. But since I have cancer, I suppose I'm glad I'm able to still get here. I think I'm going around in circles."

Receptionist: "No, you're fine. I understand completely."

Me: "Really. Cause I'm not sure I do. It seems like I'm talking to myself, repeating myself. I'm a writer and often I use double-entendres in my column, which seems sort of what I'm doing here. Although I'm not intending it. I was more realizing/thinking aloud as to why I was here, whether I wanted to be here and the reasons why I was fortunate – so to speak, to even still be here and/or how unfortunate I was to be here being treated for terminal lung cancer – as opposed to being healthy and not needing to be here. I feel as if I'm rambling here. Am I making any sense?"

Receptionist: "Not to worry. (Smiling, laughing.) I do understand exactly what you're saying."

Me: "I'm not sure I do. Maybe I should just stop talking and sit down and wait for Ron (my oncology nurse) to come and get me."

Receptionist: "Ron's running late. He's stuck in traffic. He'll be here soon."

Me (to myself): Great (chagrined.) I suppose I should probably stop pacing then and just sit down and try to relax. I'm here. I'm checked in. Besides, I have to be ready for my blood pressure check. If my vitals (and/or lab results, appearance, etc.) are not normal, protocols will prevent any infusion today (which has happened to me twice; very disappointing, especially considering that you think your life depends on receiving the treatment that day). If the patient doesn't pass muster, however, the oncology nurse has no choice: there will be, to invoke the "Soup Nazi" from "Seinfeld": "No chemo for you."

Fortunately, for this infusion, I have once again managed to "Pass the audition," as John Lennon so famously joked at the end of the live roof-top version of The Beatles' song "Get Back" at the end of the "Let It Be" album.

Life goes on though – for me, thank God!, despite my confusion. Thanks to the staff for continuing to take me in stride.

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

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##### OBITUARY

**Nathan F. (Red) Holeman**  
7/16/1925 – 12/19/2013

Survived by wife Lois; daughters, Joni, Kathy and Gayle; sisters, Janet Walker and Joyce Fowler; 8 grandchildren and a great grandson. At the time of his death he was living in Sterling, VA. Memorial service was held on February 8, 2014. Graveside service in July at Arlington National Cemetery. Contributions to Memorial Fund of CTK Lutheran, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066-2416. www.colonialfuneral-home.com.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEXTSTOP THEATRE

Lindsey D. Snyder, director of NextStop's "Richard III."

## Savor the Audacious

NextStop's unexpected take on Shakespeare's "Richard III."

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

A daring performance of Shakespeare's "Richard III" is coming to Herndon. "This is something that has never been done and an amazing opportunity to bring Shakespeare back to Herndon in a bold new way ... It will be an experience that is not to be missed," Evan Hoffman said, artistic director of NextStop Theatre's production of "Richard III." "Our work has so often been about pushing the envelope and being just as bold with the classics as we are with newer works," Hoffman said. In this instance, he is describing a production that will feature a deaf actor in the lead role of Richard, one of the Bard's most charming bad boy villains.

Richard is the fascinating character who kills off rivals to become king and serenades one of the widows. Ultimately he meets his fate on a field of battle. Ethan Sinnott, a deaf actor and chair of the theater department at Gallaudet, will play Richard. He and several other actors will use American Sign Language (ASL) that will be interpreted for the hearing audience and the hearing cast members.

"Richard III" will be directed by Dr. Lindsey Snyder who regularly works with the Kennedy Center, Ford's Theatre, and Faction of Fools, to name a few. She re-imagines the play from a Richard without a visible physical deformity but who is hard of hearing. Shakespeare characterized Richard as "Cheated of feature by dissembling nature, Deformed, unfinished..." Snyder's Richard is a deaf man driven by "an unsympathetic hearing world."

It is from "Richard III" that lines such as, "Now is the winter of our discontent, " or "Talkers are no good doers: be assur'd, We



Ethan Sinnott will be Richard III in NextStop's "Richard III."

### Where and When:

NextStop Theatre Company presents Shakespeare's "Richard III" at the Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Performances are Jan. 30 – Feb. 23. Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20-\$27. Visit [www.nextstoptheatre.org](http://www.nextstoptheatre.org) or call 866-811-4111.

go to use our hands, and not our tongues" come. In this approach, Shakespeare's rhetoric will be communicated in new-found manners.

Her concept will "present Richard as isolated. He is Hard of Hearing. He can't easily share thoughts with the other characters," said Snyder.

Richard will still be "the villain people love to hate. He will be villainous, scandalous, sneaky and charming," according to Snyder. He will give the audience a performance where the spoken word cannot be taken for granted in conveying actions or thoughts.

"This is not just an exercise or overlay. The clarity of Shakespeare's text will be there, just in a unique way," added Snyder. This is a singular opportunity to re-experience the richness of Shakespeare's storytelling.

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