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## R

## PEOPLE

## Washington Plaza Baptist Church to **Install New Pastor**

Reverend Michelle L. Nickens will be formally installed as the fifth pastor of Washington Plaza Baptist Church (WPBC) on Sunday, Oct. 9, during a special 4 p.m. service. A reception will follow in the Plaza Room on the lower level.

Reverend Nickens, who received her B.A. in television and film production from Howard University and her M. Div. in theology and the arts from Union Theological Seminary, began her ministry with WPBC in February 2016. In addition to her pastoral ministry, Michelle Nickens is an author, educator and dramatic artist. Prior to her call to Reston she was Associate Minister and Director of Community Adult Education Programs at Metro Baptist Church/ Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries in New York City. She coordinated and facilitated Life Skills Empowerment Programs for domestic and sexual violence survivors and for homeless veterans, using the liberating power of storytelling, drama and the creative imagination as instruments of healing and empowerment. For several years she also served as a Teaching Fellow in the In-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Reverend Michelle L. Nickens** 

tegrative and Field-Based Education Program at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York.

WPBC is a growing, multicultural, intergenerational congregation that welcomes all, regardless of age, race, gender identity or sexual orientation. WPBC is affiliated nationally with the American Baptist Churches, USA; the Alliance of Baptists and the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists. Locally they are affiliated with the NorthStar Church Network and the District of Columbia Baptist Convention. They are located on Lake Anne Plaza in Reston.

find Yo 11 more can www.washingtonplazachurch.com

## Maya Callahan Wins Award in **Lonely Planet Kids Poetry Competition**

Maya Callahan, 11, a home schooled Reston resident, was selected by Lonely Planet's Kids Poetry Competition for a runner-up award for her poem "Camping." The poem was written after a camping trip with her Girl Scout troop last year.

> Maya Callahan is holding her prize, a copy of the **Lonely Planet Travel** Book for Kids.

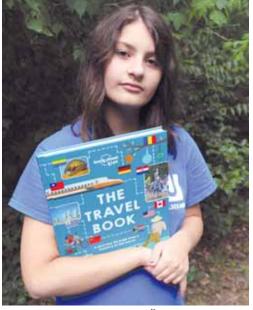


Photo contributed

## Bright Horizons to Hold Grand Opening Celebration

Bright Horizons opened a new early education and preschool center on Tuesday, Sept. 6, in Reston. The new center's opening allows parents the opportunity to balance their work life and family life while providing high-quality education for their children. Bright Horizons at Commerce Metro Center has capacity for 164 children with Infant, Toddler, Twos, Preschool, and Kindergarten Prep programs as well as drop-in care. Bright open Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., year-round.

On Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., community families are invited to Bright Horizons at Commerce Metro Center's Grand Opening Celebration. Event highlights include: musical puppet show by Carousel Puppets, interactive musical performance by Cody & Bj, fall-themed children's activities, face painting, refreshments, and more.

Center Director, Jyotsna Awasthi, is hosting this event to introduce the community to Bright Horizons. The event is open to the public and free to attend. Horizons at Commerce Metro Center is Bright Horizons at Commerce Metro Center 11400 Commerce Park Drive, Suite R140, Reston. 703-774-3211 or www.brighthorizons.com/ commercemetro

## The Path Toward Tomorrow

## Giving Circle of Hope hosts County needs assessment reporting.

By Andrea Worker THE CONNECTION

ccording to Michelle Gregory, Division Director from the Countywide Service Integration and Planning Management department, it's probably been more than a decade since Fairfax County conducted a human services needs assessment for the residents of the region. In the summer of 2015, the County decided it was more than time to take a detailed look at how things have changed since the last official recording and to see who most needed what in

"The Path Toward Tomorrow: The 2016 Fairfax County Human Services Needs Assessment" was completed in May of 2016 after almost a year of exhaustive public outreach, meetings with public and private groups and nonprofits, boards, authorities, commissions and faith-based organization, focus groups and meetings in several languages, and even an on-line survey that gathered about 1,300 responses asking residents to identify the human services needs and populations most affected by the issues being raised. Quantitative measurements from a variety of sources like the U.S. Census Bureau and the county's economic and demographic statistics were added to the qualitative data to produce the most comprehensive analysis possible.

After internal review and discussion, it was time to disseminate the information to a wider pool and look for collaborative solutions and the best use of resources to address the needs uncovered.

That's where non-profit Giving Circle of Hope (GCoH) stepped in, organizing a series of open forums where the report could be summarized for the education of local service organizations and members of the public. Originally started to financially aid a local family affected by tragedy in 2003, GCoH formed a permanent philanthropic society in 2004. With more than 100 members, Giving Circle of Hope uses its membership dues and other fundraising efforts to provide grants to mostly small local "organizations that create positive change in Northern Virginia by improving the lives of people in need."

THE FIRST OF THE MEETINGS took place on Sept. 20, at the Volunteer Fire Department's conference room in Vienna. with Vienna Mayor Laurie DiRocco offering opening remarks and introducing the

Fairfax County's Gregory and her colleague Linda Hoffman tag-teamed to cover the highlights of the report for an audience that included other members of the Giving Circle of Hope, representatives from other charitable organizations, and concerned county residents.

"As involved as we are with helping those in need in our community," said one attendee, "this [report] is still re-



Vienna Mayor Laurie DiRocco welcomes the public and introduces the speakers at the forum to discuss human services needs in Fairfax County, sponsored by the non-profit Giving Circle of Hope.)



Cyndi Shanahan is the co-chair of the Governance Committee for the Giving Circle of Hope, the Restonbased nonprofit that provides grants for organizations helping Northern Virginians. The group also engages in direct service projects and educational and networking activities for the betterment of area residents.

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



Holly Seibold attended the "Path Toward Tomorrow" presentation and discussion. Seibold represented the non-profit group BRAWS - "Bringing Resources to Aid Women's Shelters." BRAWS has a website at www.braws.org, and can be found on Facebook.

ally eye-opening."

of the highlights that seemed to make the most impact concerned the increasing number of area citizens who just can't make ends meet, or get ahead while trying to provide for basic necessities.

With the county rapidly changing from a slower-paced Washington bedroom commu-

nity to a semi-urban environment, the popu-The published report is 57 pages in length lation has dramatically increased and be-– no way to detail it in this format, but some come more dense, evolving from primarily single-family dwellings to a heavier presence of multi-family complexes. Fairfax County did not suffer as deeply as other parts of the country during the worst of the economic downturn, but by all indicators, local economic recovery has not kept pace with other parts of the country.

Gregory noted that the findings show "an increase in higher paying jobs and in the lower paying wage sectors," but that the workforce in the middle has not benefited from either more employment opportunities or from adequate wage increases. This gap puts pressure on the majority of county residents and on the agencies and organizations that seek to assist them. "And it's not healthy for the county in general."

The "Key Human Services Needs" that are highlighted in the report fall into four categories:

- \* Housing Affordable Housing in general, Accessible Housing for the Disabled and Older Adults, Services to support independent living for both groups
- \* Financial Assistance Particularly child care and early education opportunities
- \* Affordable Health Care Insurance, Behavioral and Mental Health Services for all age groups, and assistance for victims of domestic violence
- \* Transportation Affordable and accessible public transportation, with particular emphasis on the "first and last miles" that often make public transportation difficult to use.

IN THE PAST it seemed most individuals or families needed assistance in only one area of need, or less assistance in order to meet basic standards of living. The findings of the study indicate that needs are now overlapping, and that more persons are further behind and in greater need to rise to that level.

After the presentation, the attendees had an opportunity to ask questions and to network, agreeing that it would "take a village" to make the most significant and positive impact. The Needs Assessment was seen as an important tool to focus limited resources and energy to where it is most needed.

Before the meeting ended, Cyndi Shanahan, Governance co-chair for Giving Circle of Hope, took a few minutes to explain more about the organization. "We are really proud to say that we are about to go over the \$1million mark with our grants programs." In addition to providing these grants, GCoH also performs service projects like their "Empty Bowls" dinners, where to date they have raised \$182,000 and 10,000 pounds of food donated directly to Food for Others. Members also visit the Embry Rucker Shelter in Reston twice a month to engage the children there in creative activities.

To view the report go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov and type in "Path Toward Tomorrow." Click on the link for "Human Services Needs Assessment." The full report, a summary and an on-line version of their presentation are available. The members of the Giving Circle of Hope invite you to learn more about their organization and consider becoming a member by visiting their website at www.givingcircleofhope.org.



The public was invited to comment on or ask questions about the plan, or any other project.



Reston Association president Ellen Graves and vice president Michael Sanio take notes as residents offer their feedback in opposition to the St. John's Wood Apartments redevelopment plans.

## RA Board Opposes St. John's Wood Project

By Andrea Worker
The Connection

n Wednesday, Sept. 14, during a special meeting of the Reston Association Board to discuss land use and zoning matters in the community, the directors voted unanimously to oppose the application for the redevelopment of the St. John's Wood Apartments. The complex, part of the Bozzuto Group, is located at 11555 Old Tiverton Circle, near the intersection of Reston Parkway and Center Harbor Rd. Bozzuto has submitted plans that would more than double the size of the current campus, from 250 units to 511 apartments and 51 townhomes.

In a statement released shortly after the meeting concluded, the Association said they "Move to oppose the current...application for the following reasons related to its consistency with the County Comprehensive Plan with specific focus on:

- ❖ Environmental impacts, including...such impacts of RA common area and natural areas.
- ❖ Transportation impacts and parking/ overflow.
- Density and intensity of redevelopment proposal.
- ❖ Mitigation of impacts to RA community amenities/facilities.
  - Impacts to county schools.

According to the release, Reston Association does not believe that the application "has met the express conditions required in the Comprehensive Plan to justify the medium density, multi-family residential use option" – an opinion that left attendee Hank Schonzeit, a board member of the Reston Citizens Association, wondering how then did the plan receive the approval of the Reston Design Review Board at their meeting on July 19. "How could the Reston DRB pass it when so many others say it doesn't meet the standards?"

**THE SPECIAL SESSION** was held to inform board members, as well as the public, on the history of land use in Reston, the process by which applications are made,



John McBride, RA land use counsel, was the main speaker for the special meeting of the Reston Association on land use projects in the area. McBride provided information in 23 projects being applied for in the community. His advice to opponents of development plans; "Come out in force and make your views known to all parties involved."

reviewed and accepted, and to discuss the projects currently in the process. John McBride, Esq., Odin Feldman Pittleman, RA's land use counsel, led this portion of the meeting. After he and RA president Ellen Graves both made clear to the audience that land use applications are ultimately in the domain of Fairfax County and not Reston Association, McBride proceeded to provide an update on 23 projects currently in some stage of the application cycle, from first filing to already "out of the ground."

McBride used a series of PowerPoint slides to highlight each project, the majority of which are within the zone designated as the Dulles Corridor and therefore not subject to all of the same density and population restrictions as developments within the greater community of Reston or Reston Town Center as per the amended Comprehensive Plan. McBride referred the directors and the residents to the Area III Plan of Fairfax County, Reston Chapter. "It's important," he stated. "It's the guide for future development" in the area.

In all, the projects that McBride spoke of could add more than 9,000 new residential

units to the immediate combined Reston region. "It's a testament to the popularity of Reston," he said, and indicated that the applications for new properties and for the redevelopment of existing structures just keep coming.

At this point in the meeting, McBride touched on what for many of the attendees was the "elephant in the room" - the redevelopment plans for the St. John's Wood apartments. According to McBride, the application is about "half way through the process." Bozzuto has yet to resubmit the application with potential additional traffic-related and operational revisions. He advised anyone in opposition to the plan to address their remarks and concerns directly to the developer "for the record," and to the Reston Planning and Zoning Commission, to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County Planning Commission, Reston Association DRB, Hunter Mill District Planning Commission and to Cathy Hudgins, Supervisor for the Hunter Mill District.

Ken Chadwick, Esq., Chadwick, Washington Moriarty & Bunn PC, RA legal counsel, reinforced that message. "I applaud all of



Susanne Andersson-Tosado is opposed to the project as it stands – so much so that she created a petition, gathered more than 750 signatures, attends most of the meetings related to the project and speaks at them, often reading from a lengthy letter outlining the concerns of herself and many others regarding the St. John's Wood plan proposed by the Bozzuto Group.

you for coming out," he said to the crowd, who filled the joined conference spaces at the RA offices. To be heard, he said, "You need bodies, so they know." "Normally you will not win the fight," warned McBride, but he reiterated that a show of force in numbers and contacting all parties involved were key components to any winning strategy in a war of opposition.

Before McBride could continue discussing the St. John's Wood application in comparison to the Comprehensive Plan, the meeting was disrupted by a member of the audience who shouted out "Do you take me for a fool? You just keep going forward line by line instead of getting to the point" [of what we are all here for tonight]."

RA president Graves, with the help of other members of the audience who called for the gentleman to allow the meeting and Mr. McBride to continue, eventually got the session back on track. Graves assured all in attendance that ample time would be allowed for comments and questions.

Almost the next two hours of the 4.5 hourlong meeting were soon devoted to those comments, beginning with resident

SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 5

## Residents Rally Against St. John's Wood Project

From Page 4

Susanne Andersson-Tosado. Andersson-Tosado read from a letter she has sent to all of the parties (and then some) that McBride advised should be contacted. She also represented a petition opposing the St. John's Wood plan with more than 470 signatures garnered to date.

Speaker after speaker took to the podium to protest the project for a variety of reasons, including increased traffic, safety on Center Harbor Rd. and for the children at Buzz Aldrin Elementary School, the increased pressure on services and infrastructure, and even the appearance of the proposed structures, citing that they do not fit in with the garden-style homes that surround the complex.

AT THE END of the public feedback session, the opponents won the first round in their battle to stop the project in its current form, by gaining the support of the full Reston Association Board. Prior to the vote, At-large Director Ray Wedell, who had voiced his own objections to the plan before a vocal crowd of opponents at the RA Governance Board meeting last month, urged his colleagues to unite behind the residents. Calling the meeting and the decisions before the RA Board a "watershed"

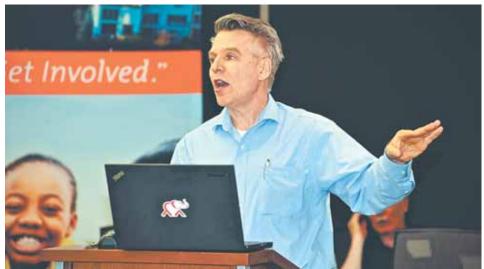


Photo by Andrea Worker/The Connection

Peter. R, a current resident of the St. John's Wood apartments, has his say. He stated that he felt that the management of St. John's Wood had an obligation to inform the residents about this meeting and others about where they live, and that they failed to do so.

moment," Wedell stated that "the people have done the work for us...the research. We need to make the Reston Association an instrument of the people." Referencing Andersson-Tosado's petition, Wedell added, "We should add our signatures."

Before the meeting was adjourned, the board also voted to approve another reso-

lution that would give residents more advance notice regarding proposed development projects. "Resolution 11" would require developers to give 21 days notice on both new and redevelopment information sessions. The notice requirement would also pertain to applications including conceptual plan applications. Members of "Reclaim

Reston" and other opponents of the St. John's Wood project applauded the passage of Resolution 11. Many of them had complained to board members and county officials that there had been insufficient notice of meetings and information sessions about the St. John's Wood plan, leaving little time to study proposals and to prepare responses if they should so desire.

More information about the St. John's Wood redevelopment proposal, as well as other projects in the pipeline can be found at Reston Association's website, www.reston.org. The Hunter Mill District page of the Fairfax County Planning Commission section of the County's website also highlights details of that plan, and others proposed for the area. "Reclaim Reston" has a Facebook page with additional information. As of publication, no comment was obtained from Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins office in regards to the Board's opposition, and it is not known if the passage of the opposing motion had any precedent in the Association's history. Further meetings on the fate of St. John's Wood are upcoming, and interested parties are urged to keep informed via the Reston and the County's website, or to contact the Hunter Mill District office at 703-478-0283. A video of the special meeting of the RA Board is available in its entirety on YouTube.

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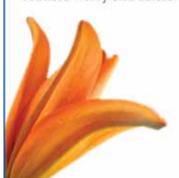
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# **OPINION**

## Independent Police Auditor Marks History

## Kudos to Board of Supervisors for unanimous approval of independent police auditor; now on to the Civilian Review Panel.

he Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to create the position and office of independent police auditor on Tuesday, Sept. 20, creating the first civilian, independent oversight of law enforcement in Fairfax County. The unanimous vote demonstrated the board's commitment to the ongoing process that began early in 2015 when Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova established the 32member Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

EDITORIAL Police Chief Edwin Roessler expressed strong support for two keystone recommendations of the Ad Hoc Commission, the auditor and the Civilian Review Panel, next up for consideration and implementation by the Board of Supervisors.

Many commission recommendations have already been approved, including the establishment of the Diversion First program providing treatment rather than jail for people in mental health crisis, development of an overriding use of force policy, and more transparency in police communications.

Independent oversight and civilian participation in reviewing police use of force, officerinvolved shootings and citizen complaints will play a vital role in maintaining Fairfax County Police Department's reputation as being one of the very best law enforcement organizations in the nation.

Some critics complain that the final language approving the auditor limits the independence of the office, but the auditor will be briefed on investigations contemporaneously, providing a window of oversight and sunshine not previously in place. There are more than 200 different civilian oversight structures around the

country. While civilian oversight is a national best practice, the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing recommends that every community have community oversight of police, with each community developing the model that is best

Public Safety Committee chair John Cook (R-Braddock) is tasked with shepherding major recommendations through the Board of Supervisors. He pointed out that the specifics of the approval for the auditor are not locked in stone; revisions after a period of experience would not be surprising.

Recommendations by the Independent Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee for the Fairfax County model included establishing the Independent Police Auditor and establishing a Civilian Review Panel to respond to community concerns or complaints about alleged incidents of abuse of authority by the FCPD.

The panel as proposed would not conduct investigations and would not be involved in the disciplinary process for any officer, but would review select investigations after they are complete. The panel would also not overlap duties with the auditor.

The panel could issue public reports, and meet with the auditor periodically, providing its views to the Board of Supervisors and the chief of police as to policy and practices changes that may be warranted. The panel could also hold periodic public forums around the county to gather information and suggestions about the FCPD, public perceptions and recommendations for policy and procedure, involving other police advisory committees and members of the Board of Supervisors as appropriate.

Indications are that there will be some modifications to the proposal for the Civilian Review Panel over the coming weeks. It's a good time for those with interest to tune in.

The board's Public Safety Committee will discuss the creation of a Civilian Review Panel at its next meeting, scheduled for Oct. 25 at 1 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Cen-

Read more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/pdf/adhoc-final-10.8.15.pdf

– Mary Kimm

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mary Kimm served on the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission and continues to advocate for implementation of commission recommendations.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Tall Oaks: More Than Just a Village Center

To the Editor:

The Fairfax County Planning Commission clearly showed that unless a court tells them differently, they can dictate Reston's future. Robert Simon's vision, decades of planning and careful growth have now been taken over by Fairfax County. They know what's best for Reston.

It appears that if any item in the Reston deed cannot be defended in court, then it is fair game for the Fairfax County commission to do as they please. Tall Oaks is a Village Center as described in the Reston deed, yet despite the interpretation and desire of the Reston Association, including the Design Review Board, the majority of the site will become homes. I wonder what they will call this new addition? A few possibilities come to mind, such as "The Homes at Tall Oaks," or "Tall Oaks Cluster." Who knows?

Here are some things I found out about the development of the final plans at Tall Oaks. During one desires along with business real-

of the last community meetings, I asked a couple of questions that I thought might be relevant to keeping the Tall Oaks Village Center

Did the firm conducting the market study contact VDOT regarding new access to Wiehle Ave.? The answer was no. I checked with VDOT and no one contacted them. Gee, one of the biggest causes for the failure of Tall Oaks (flaunted for years) was restricted access to Tall Oaks Village Center. When I contacted VDOT some time ago, they stated they would "consider" a new access point on Wiehle Ave.

I asked if the developer's consultant considered or contacted smaller grocery stores or markets (Aldi, Walmart shop/stop) to see if they were interested in moving to Tall Oaks? The answer was no, they only contacted mainstream grocers. I wonder why.

What was really surprising was the initial interest people like Supervisor Catherine Hudgins and the planning commission staff showed. Early on, everybody attended the community meetings: drawing up ideas and prioritizing

ity checks. I wonder which trash these ideas ended up in. We never saw the results of the community input clearly pointed out in the approved plan. I wish I could have recorded all the supportive comments made to the community by Hudgins. It was a wakeup call when we heard that she along with the county supported the developer's plans.

It just goes to show that the county pretty much runs things the way they want without much regard for the Reston deed and the Reston Association, the largest homeowners' association in the country. Take this to heart if your HOA has to go through this pro-

I guess things really haven't changed that much since the '80s and '90s. The same factors tend to lead to the same results as in the

These factors are developers, elected officials, proffers, community input and more. You figure out how much each of these keeps the same old development process running.

**Bill Woloch** 

Reston

## **Limiting Powers** of 'Independent Police Auditor'

To the Editor:

I am a member and participant with the UU Church in Reston's Social Justice Committee who has been closely watching the activities of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors as it adopts provisions for the establishment of an "Independent Police Auditor".

On Sept. 8, Supervisor Cathy Hudgins held a Community Forum at the Church in Reston where we heard how the Ad Hoc Commission Oversight Recommendation established an Independent Auditor. The purpose of establishing an independent auditor was to review death or serious injury cases and use of force cases that are subject to a citizen's complaint. The Auditor was to participate and monitor IAB investigations of such cases and determine the thoroughness, completeness, accuracy, objectivity and impartiality of each investigation and issue a public report.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7

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## Virginia's Extremes

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

ative Virginian and long-time advocate August Wallmeyer is providing a real service to the people the Common wealth and its public policy with his forthcoming book The Extremes of Virginia. Recently the Richmond Times Dispatch included a four-part series from it available at http://www.richmond.com/opinion/their-opinion/. The extremes to which he refers are the Southwest, Southside and the Eastern Shore parts of Virginia that are geographically on the outer bounds of the state but more importantly are largely unknown to many including policy makers. They are "separated by distance, culture and economics, and unequal in opportunity and education."

The evidence of the extremes of these regions is overwhelming. As he explains, the people in these extreme regions earn about two-thirds of what Virginians statewide do and are poorer with an average poverty rate 67 percent higher than the rest of the state. Fewer of the people in these areas have graduated from high school and fewer go to college. The people there are older with the young people fleeing the regions; Virginia's population grew 4.1 percent while in the extremes population declined by 2.3 percent in the last decade.

While the economic decline in these parts of the state has become increasingly well known, the proud history of the regions is often overlooked. Southwest Virginia was wealthy when coal was king, and

Southside was thriving before furniture making and textiles moved out. The Eastern Shore still raises tomatoes, potatoes and green beans by the acre in season, but mechanization has replaced many jobs even on the farms.

Unfortunately, economic challenges are not the only ones faced in the extremes. Wallmeyer found that since at least 2007 prescription opioids have been responsible for more than half of all fatal drug overdoses in Virginia, mostly in the far western and eastern reaches of the state. In these areas, the rate of fatal drug overdoses is among the highest in the state particularly among males aged 25-55. Beyond the problem of drugs, people living in the extreme regions of the state are poorer in health than the rest of the state with a premature death rate more than double the statewide average as is the infant mortality rate and the percentage of children born with low birth weight. Interestingly, Auggie Wallmeyer shared a copy of his forthcoming book with me when we were both volunteering at the Remote Area Medical Clinic in Wise County in Southwest Virginia where thousands of local residents get their health care at the fairgrounds once a year.

Ironically Virginia was dubbed as a "commonwealth" in its earliest history, but that word does not seem appropriate for the range of haves and havenots that exist in the state today. Wallmeyer recommended in the newspaper series that an outside consulting firm be employed to recommend ways that the seventh wealthiest state in the Union could ensure that all regions benefit from its largess.

#### LETTERS

From Page 6

During each investigation the Auditor has the authority to request additional investigation or conduct its own investigation.

As you may know, the BOS staff put out a draft Action for the Sept. 20 Board Agenda Item just before the Sept. 13 BOS meeting of the Public Safety Committee. After the meeting, the staff put out a revised Action-15 document that included a few more amendments not in the draft action.

After reading the revised Action-15 document, the UU CR SJC put together this letter to Supervisor John Cook and the rest of the BOS. The UUCR SJC expressed our concern and we do not agree with the amendments that severely limit the powers and the independence of the "Independent Police Auditor." It will constitute a significant departure from the intended purpose of the Commission's recommendations for the independence of the Office of Independent Police Auditor. The revised Action—15 document has excised key revisions to the Commission's recommendations that essentially guts the independence and the effective administration of the IA. The Letter concludes that the BOS should adopt the unanimous recommendations of the Ad Hoc Commission without amendment.

The UUCR Social Justice Committee spent time in the text of the letter to assessing the deficiencies of the amendments of the revised Action–15 document before this response letter was signed by Lee Norrgard, the Chair of the UUCR

**Steve Ewart, UUCR SJC**Reston

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:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.
By e-mail: reston@connectionnewspapers.com



## FALL FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

#### **ONGOING**

#### Meadow Farms Fall Festival Great Falls Oct.

3 - Oct. 31 Monday through Friday 8 - 7 p.m. Saturday 8 - 6 p.m. Sunday 9 - 6 p.m. 10618 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. We have pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks, mums, pansies, star bales, and everything else you need for the fall look. A huge selection of pumpkins. We will also have moon bounces, giant scarecrows, haunted buses and pipes for the kids to go through, weekend concessions and much more. Let your kids have a blast while you pick out your pumpkins and all your fall needs. www.meadowsfarms.com

The Pumpkin Patch beginning Monday Oct. 10 4 -7 p.m. then open daily Sunday - Friday 11 - 7 p.m. and 10 - 6 p.m. on Saturdays through Oct. 31. at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church 8991 Brook Rd McLean. All of the money raised by our pumpkin patch is donated to support local charities. 703-442-0330.

Vienna Farmers Market at Faith Baptist Church 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturdays through Oct. 29. 301 Center Street South, Vienna, VA 22180. Sponsored by the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, the certified Vienna Farmers Market features more than 30 vendors from across the region as well as entertainment.

McLean Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon. Fridays from May 6-Nov. 18. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market provides area residents an opportunity to purchase locally grown or produced products. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets.

Great Falls Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 a.m. 1 p.m., 778 Walker Road Great Falls. http:// greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/ ValeArts Fall Show "Artful Aspirations" Sept

30 through Oct. 2 at 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Saturday & Sunday at the Vale Schoolhouse 3124 Fox Mill Rd. ValeArts welcomes Reston artist Betsey Mulloy to the fall show "Artful Aspirations". Contact: Diana Eichler or visit valearts.com

Visitor Center Museum 9200 Old Dominion Dr, McLean. Everyday through Oct. 10 - 5 p.m. Museum exhibits include the Patowmack Canal, Ecology of the Falls, American Indians, Potomac Watershed, Kayaking and a Kids room. Two audiovisual presentations play on the quarter hour: Film - George Washington Visualizing a Nation, and park slideshow – History of Great

Falls. www.nps.gov/grfa

Canoe and Kayak Rentals at Riverbend Park 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls.

May 20 through Oct. 14. Boating Hours are Friday to Sunday 9 - 5 p.m., and holidays May through October. The river is wide and relatively relaxed in this section, so it's a great place for new kayakers. 703-759-9018 for boat rental and ramp openings. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ riverbend-park/

Fishing Rod Rentals 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2hr max). Valid driver's license required. Our rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for persons 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/ **Colvin Run Mill** open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed

Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Rd, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors, Winter Hours: January & February 11am-4pm, last tour 3pm. Admission to park is FREE except for some special events.

The Freeman Store & Museum Wednesday through Sunday noon - 4 p.m. 131 Church Street NE Vienna. The Freeman Store & Museum is dedicated to Preserving and promoting Vienna's heritage through the identification preservation, and interpretation of historically significant places, events, and persons. historicviennainc.org/

Lobby Hero 1st Stage Tysons Sept. 8 - Oct. 9 Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. What does it truly mean to be a hero? While struggling with a world of conflicting truths, the characters grapple with their own realities and those of the people around them. www.1ststagetysons.org or 703-854-1856.

**Art Walk in the Village: First Fridays** beginning Sept. 9, 6 - 9 p.m. through Dec.31 at 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Admission free and open to the public. Visit: http:// www.greatfallsart.org/artwalk/

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 1

OktoBrewFest. 12-10 p.m. 777 Lynn St. Herndon, Virginia. Food, beer, music, art, health. Visit http://jambrew.com/

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Light the Night Walk for Leukemia and

Lymphoma. Starts at 5:00 pm. 11900 Market Street, Reston. Nationwide evening walk to celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer and to raise funds for treatments that are saving the lives of many patients today. There will be children's games, food from local restaurants, live music, and entertainment until the 2-mile walk begins. pages.lightthenight.org/ nca/Reston16. 703-399-2941.

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 2

HernDOG Bark Bash 12-3 p.m. Bready Park, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. An event for dog lovers. Featuring agility demonstrations, owner and dog team contests, adoptions, an off leash area and dog themed

vendors. Entry: Free. Friendly leashed and vaccinated dogs, and their owners, are welcome.

#### **SATURDAY/OCT. 8** Oktoberfest Reston.

noon-11 p.m. Sunday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston, Food and drinks. live entertainment, a carnival and a chili cookoff at Northern Virginia's largest fall festival. www.oktoberfestreston.com

## SUNDAY/OCT. 9

#### Pumpkin 5k and Kids Pumpkin Dash. 5k

begins at 8:15 am. Pumpkin Dash begins at 9:30 am. Participants are encouraged to debut their Halloween costumes or to rock their Oktoberfest Lederhosen and join in the fun with the whole family. Adult admission: \$30, ages 14 and under: \$20, and Pumpkin Dash admission: \$10. oktoberfestreston.com/ reston-pumpkin-5k

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 15 Pumpkin Preparedness

Race 8 a.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department 400 Center St S, Vienna. Inaugural 5k road race to support first responders across Northern Virginia. Brand new course across quiet Vienna streets. All proceeds benefit the

Northern Virginia

**Emergancy Response** System. Register at www.preparedness5k.com Halstead Square Festival 11 - 4 p.m. Halstead Square Dunn Loring Metro 2750 Gallows Road Vienna. Celebrate Northern Virginia's culinary and visual arts when Halstead Square Dunn Loring Metro hosts its first Food, Wine & Art Festival to benefit the Workhouse Arts Center.

### **FRIDAY/OCT. 14-16**

Great Falls Studios Art Tour. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cost: Free, www.halsteadsquare.com

## SUNDAY/OCT. 16

The Crohn's & Colitis Take Steps Walk.

Registration opens 3 p.m. Walk begins 4 p.m. Reston Town Center 11900 Market Street



Photo courtesy of Herndon Community Center

The Town of Herndon invites children and parents to Spooktacular. Friday Oct. 28 from 6:30-8 p.m. Enjoy ghoulish games, crafts and a children's show at Herndon Community Center. Fee covers all activities, show and a treat bag.



PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

**Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy** Hudgins rode an antique fire truck in the 2014 Reston Holiday Parade at Reston Town Center. The parade has been an annual Reston tradition on the day after Thanksgiving. This years' event will take place at 11 a.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St.

> Reston, Virginia, 20190. One of Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America's CCFA largest events committed to finding cures for digestive diseases. Admission: Free. Visit:

#### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 19-25

Washington West Film Festival. Reston Town Center 11900 Market Street Reston, Virginia 20190.A cinematic experience presenting independent films. Three in-competition categories: dramatic features, documentary features, and short films. Schedules and tickets:



Photo by Ryan Dunn/The Connection

**Bryce Cohen helps Herndon Community** Center employee Trish Wood build a papermache turkey. Get ready for the 2016 Turkey Trot 5k Race. Registration is from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Herndon Community Center Gym 814 Ferndale Ave, Herndon. The race begins at 4 p.m. Runners and walkers get ready for a 5K trail course at the Herndon Centennial Golf Course.

#### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 26

70th Annual Halloween Parade. Starts: 7 p.m. Maple Avenue, Vienna. One of Vienna's most popular community events, October's Halloween parade is held the Wednesday evening before Halloween each year. In addition to marching bands, floats, and other entries, children are invited to walk in the parade in their Halloween costumes. viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=951

### FRIDAY/OCT. 28

Spooktacular. 6:30-8 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Enjoy ghoulish games, a spooky craft and a children's show. Fee: \$10/child in advance or \$15/child on day of event. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

## Calendar

**ONGOING** 

Meadow Farms Fall Festival Great Falls Oct. 3 - Oct. 31 Monday through Friday 8 - 7 p.m. Saturday 8 - 6 p.m. Sunday 9 - 6 p.m. 10618 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. We have pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks, mums, pansies, star bales, and everything else you need for the fall look. A huge selection of pumpkins. We will also have moon bounces, giant scarecrows, haunted buses and pipes for the kids to go through, weekend concessions and much more. Let your kids have a blast while you pick out your pumpkins and all your fall needs. www.meadowsfarms.com

The Pumpkin Patch beginning
Monday Oct. 10 4 -7 p.m. then open
daily Sunday - Friday 11 - 7 p.m. and
10 - 6 p.m. on Saturdays through
Oct. 31. at St. Thomas' Episcopal
Church 8991 Brook Rd McLean. All
of the money raised by our pumpkin
patch is donated to support local
charities. 703-442-0330.

"The Way I See It" Exhibit. Aug. 2-Oct. 1. Vienna Arts Society Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna. Reston resident Bob Kaminski will showcase his work in abstract and representational styles. ViennaArtsSociety. org. 703-319-3971.

**Team Trivia at Kalypso's.** Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Bring your friend and join the challenge. 703-707-0660.

www.kalypsossportstavern.com. Open Mic Night at Kalypso's.

Mondays, 7-10 p.m. Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Musicians and singerscome out and perform. 703-707-0660. www.kalypsossportstavern.com.

Karaoke at Kalypso's. Wednesdays, 9:30 p.m. Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Come to Kalypso's and sing your hearts out! 703-707-0660. www.kalypsossportstavern.com.

Mr. Knick Knack. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Mondays through October. Reston Town Center Pavilion. Unique, heartcentered music for kids and their grown-ups. Free.

restontowncenter.com. 703-579-6720 **All-comers' Group Fun Run at** 

Potomac River Running.
Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reston
Town Center, 11900 Market Street,
Reston. For beginners or competitive
runners, come out for a fun, low-key
run that is safe and social. For more
information, call 703-689-0999 or
visit https://

potomacriverrunning.com.

Send announcements to www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

LINES, CURVES AND COLORS On exhibit Aug. 31- Oct. 2. At ArtSpace Herndon 750 Center St, Herndon. "Lines, Curves, and Colors" will present the talents of four artists working in different mediums. The show features one photographer and three sculpture artists. For more

information call 703-956-9560. **Reston Photographic Society** 

Meetings from 7:30–9:30 p.m.Room 6 at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Rd., Reston on the third Monday of each month through Nov. 31, the meeting date is changed if the third Monday falls on a holiday. Photographers of all skill levels are invited to share information and enjoy guest speakers, workshops and group critiques. Nonmembers are welcome. Visit the LRA website at www.leagueofrestonartists.org

Beginning / Intermediate Oil
Painting – Vicki Blum Thursdays 7 - 10 p.m. Sept. 15 – Nov. 10, 2016.
ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center
Street, Herndon. Learn contemporary and classical methods of painting.
Recommended for artists who want to improve the realistic appearance of their work.
www.artspaceherndon.com 703-956-9560

Herndon Regional Ensemble
Practice. Every Tuesday 7-9 p.m.
through May. Herndon Middle
School, 901 Locust St., Herndon. For
advanced high school students,
college students, and adults who play
a brass, woodwind or percussion
instrument. 703-904-4800
HerndonRegionalWindEnsemble@gmail.com
Cost: Free

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 30

Reston Station Music. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Reston Station, 1904 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston. Moonshine Society. Blue and rock. 703-230-1985.

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Light the Night Walk for Leukemia and Lymphoma. Starts at 5:00 pm. 11900 Market Street, Reston. Nationwide evening walk to celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer and to raise funds for treatments that are saving the lives of many patients today. There will be children's games, food from local restaurants, live music, and entertainment until the 2-mile walk begins. pages.lightthenight.org/nca/Reston16. 703-399-2941.

OktoBrewFest 12-10 p.m. 777 Lynn e St. Herndon, Virginia. Food, beer, music, art, health. Visit http:// jambrew.com/

Tap Kids 8 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Avenue McLean. Featuring eight young tap dancers, "Schooldayz" tells the story of the arrival of a new kid that disrupts the equilibrium of a group of teenagers during their last months of high school. \$20/\$15 MCC tax district residents. http://mcleancenter.org/

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 1 - 2

**Fall Book Sale** Saturday 10 - 4 p.m. Sunday 11 - 2 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Fill a BIG shopping bag with books, movies, CDs for only \$5.00. Free parking and admission.

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 2, 2016

HernDOG Bark Bash 12-3 p.m.
Bready Park, 814 Ferndale Ave.,
Herndon. An event for dog lovers.
Featuring agility demonstrations,
owner and dog team contests,
adoptions, an off leash area and dog
themed vendors. Entry: Free.
Friendly, leashed, and vaccinated
dogs, and their owners, are welcome

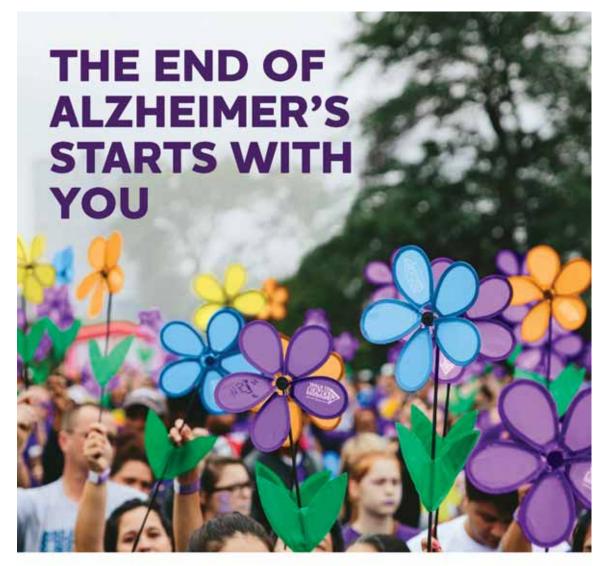
dogs, and their owners, are welcome. **Inside the Community**: A discussion with TCG Rising Leader of Color and Connectivity, Kristen Jackson. Following the 2pm performance. 1st

Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$30 admission, \$27 seniors (65+), \$15 students and military. www.1ststagetysons.org

#### MONDAY/OCT. 3

### Rescue Reston 2nd Annual Golf

Tournament 1 p.m. Reston National Golf Course 11875 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Come out and support Rescue Reston at our Second Annual Golf Classic event. Enjoy 9 holes of golf, dinner, awards, and prizes. Contributions are tax deductible. Fees: Individual Player \$85 Foursome \$340. www.rescuereston.org/golf/



Alzheimer's is an epidemic devastating our families, our finances and our future. The disease is all around us — but the power to stop it is within us. Join us for the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's and be inspired by all the footsteps that fall into place behind yours. Together, we can end Alzheimer's.



## START A TEAM.

October 8 | The National Mall | 9:30am

alz.org/walk | 800.272.3900



Photo courtesy of Washington West Film Festival

Washington West Film Festival volunteers provide information about the upcoming festival. This year's festival begins Wednesday Oct. 19 and runs through Saturday Oct. 25.



The Billy McComiskey National Heritage Fellow Irish Music group performs Irish tunes.



Members of the Mark H. Taiko School of Takoma Park, Md., perform Taiko Drums, a form of Japanese drumming.

## Reston Multicultural Festival Draws

## Thousands

# People turn out to celebrate their diversity at Lake Anne Plaza.

housands of people celebrated their diversity at the annual Reston Multicultural Festival held Saturday, Sept. 24 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. The event honors the diversity of Reston and brings to life the vision that founder Robert E. Simon had for the community. The day featured a Naturalization Ceremony where citizens took the Oath of Allegiance and international performers entertained the crowd with singing, dancing and drumming from three stages. In addition, the event included a book fair, family arts and crafts activities, a beading demonstration, global cafe food vendors, global market vendors and local community organizations. The event was presented by the Reston Community Center, hosted by Lake Anne Plaza, and co-sponsored by Reston Association, with partners from a variety of Reston-based organizations.

— Steve Hibbard



Indian dancers from the Kalavaridhi Center for the Performing Arts of Herndon show their dance moves at the Reston Multicultural Festival on Saturday, Sept. 24 at Lake Anne in Reston.



Members of Furia Flamenca perform Flamenco Dances from Southern Spain at the Reston Multicultural Festival on Saturday, Sept. 24 at Lake Anne in Reston.







Natalie Prykanowski, age 11, and her sister Emma, age 9, of Reston show off Henna designs on their hands.

## FALL FUN & ENTERTAINMENT



fill the air with traditional **German tunes** from various bands.

## Oktoberfest Returns to Reston on Oct. 8

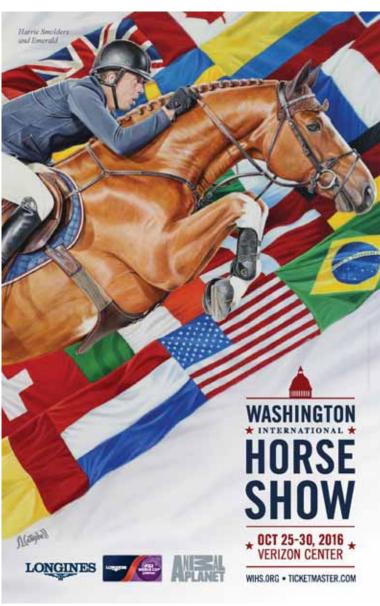
The beer and wine will be flowing at Oktoberfest Reston produced by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce. Oktoberfest Reston is one of the largest fall festivals in Northern Virginia, drawing crowds up to 35,000. This event features the best in fall and German brews with traditional Oktoberfest fare from area restaurants.

Beginning on Saturday, Oct. 8, at noon, restaurants and vendors will line the streets of the Reston Town Center. Live music will fill the air with traditional German tunes from various bands and the Reston community will come alive. On Sunday, Oct. 9, at

8:15 a.m. get off the couch and get ready for the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce's Reston Pumpkin 5K and Kids' Pumpkin Dash. Participants are encouraged to debut their Halloween costumes and join in the fall fun with the whole family.

Oktoberfest Reston event admission is free. Food tickets are \$1 per ticket or \$20 for 24 tickets. You can purchase advance tickets on sale online at

www.OktoberfestReston.com. For more information about Oktoberfest Reston and Reston Pumpkin Pumpkin Dash, and Kids' www.oktoberfestreston.com.









More than 1,000 walkers took part in the 2016 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Northern Virginia at Reston Town Center on Sunday, Sept. 25, 2016.

> STEVE HIBBARD The Connectio





U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) addresses the crowd.



**Master of Ceremonies Kimberly Suiters of ABC-7** television.

## Walk to End Alzheimer's in Reston

## 1,000 walkers raise \$177,061 in one- and two-mile walk around Reston Town Center.

ore than 1,000 walkers took part in the Alzheimer's Association. the 2016 Walk to End Alzheimer's in one-mile and two-mile walks around Reston Town Cen-

ter generated \$177,061 in revenue. It's part of seven walks throughout the metropolitan region over the month, raising a combined total of \$1.6 million for Alzheimer's disease, which affects 5 million people in the U.S. The other walks are taking place in Bowie, LaPlata, Manassas, Solomons, Md., Washington, D.C., and Winchester.

"It was a big success; we had 20 percent more walkers than last year. More and more people are becoming more aware of Alzheimer's because more people are talking about it. Our local chapter works to raise money to do research for a cure. And we offer care and support for people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers," said John Christopher Broullire, Chapter President of the National Capital Area Chapter of

"The walk is our biggest fundraiser of the year to Northern Virginia at Reston Town raise awareness and to raise funds for Alzheimer's Center on Sunday, Sept. 25, 2016. The research," said Ana Nelson, Vice President of Programs and Services for the National Capital Area

> Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. "The Alzheimer's Association has invested \$375 million in more than 2,400 investigations in the life of our grants program. Since August of 2015, the association's active investments of \$90 million have enabled 350 investigations in 18 countries."

> The top three individual fundraisers for the Reston walk were: 1) Patty Schuebel with \$7,720; 2) Brittany Bower with \$3,875; and, 3) Nancy Rose with \$3,175. The top three teams were: 1) Steps for Dad with \$11,275; 2) Walkers for Miriam and Anita with \$5,895; and, 3) Sterling Area Alzheimer's Support Group with \$6,185.

> > — STEVE HIBBARD



Walkers hold their Promise Flowers during the 2016 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Northern Virginia at Reston Town Center on Sunday, Sept. 25, 2016.



The Unforgettables Team from the Loudoun Elks: Justin, Anne, and Mark Meyers, Jerry and Michelle Zgone, Stephanie LaLumiere and Sherry Poland.



Leanna Schreiber, age 3, of **Reston with Elroy the Elk** during the Alzheimer's Walk at Reston Town Center.



## ST. ANNE'S **EPISCOPAL CHURCH • Reston**

**7:45 a.m.** Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II Sunday School: preschool - grade 2 Music: grades 3 - 7 10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6 Music 4 years to 2nd grade

11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

> The Rev. John C. N. Hall, Rector The Rev. Laura Cochran 703-437-6530 www.stannes-reston.org 1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston

Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service

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# Fortune 100 Company's Jewel Box in Woods

By Ken Moore The Connection

or its new headquarters, General Dynam ics Corporation executives wanted a "jewel box in the woods," said attorney Mark Looney.

They examined sites across the country before deciding upon a 21.69 acre property in Reston for its new home. "They wanted the environment to be private," he said, "and want to be the sole occupier and owner."

Looney said they intend to keep the site on Sunset Hills Road 84 percent open space, with trees preserved even to keep the parking area forested.

Fairfax County Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the project at its public hearing on Wednesday, Sept. 14.

The Board of Supervisors approved the application after its public hearing on Sept. 20, 2016.

In 1991, The Board of Supervisors had originally approved the site for an office development on 15.76 acres, and the remaining 7.7 acres was to be dedicated to the county for an 850 space park and ride facility. In 1992, the Board determined the park and ride facility would not be needed with the construction of the Wiehle Avenue Park and Ride Facility.

"This is really an improvement over what zoning would have allowed," said Hunter Mill Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins at the Board of Supevisors hearing.

**IN 1999**, the Board approved "development of three office buildings containing a total of 357,694 square feet and associated surface and structured parking, none of which have been constructed," according to Planning Commission documents.,

Instead, General Dynamics Corporation seeks to build one single office building to developed in two phases on a secure site." Instead of a total of 1,187 parking spaces permitted currently, General Dynamics seeks a total of 250 spaces.

Instead of the three office buildings containing a total of 357,694 square feet that the Board approved in 1999, General Dynamic plans a 160,000 square foot building for its headquarters to accommodate 175 employees; a second phase could add a 30,000 square-foot addition, but General Dynamics only plans for a total of 200 employees.

"The redesign of the site at a lower intensity provides for a significant increase in open space and tree preservation with a decrease in vehicular traffic through the accompanying parking reduction request. In staff's opinion, such proposal is an improvement over the current approvals," said staff planner Mary Ann Tsai.

General Dynamics, a defense contractor, had been located in a multi-tenant building in Fairview Park.

"We don't want to be visible from Sunset Hills Road, and want to be as unobtrusive for people who live across the site or are driving by," said Looney at the Planning Commission hearing. "We want to try to hide that area as much as we can."

Looney received chuckles from the Board of Supervisors a week later when he said, "They don't want to be seen and they don't want to see other people."

"We're trying to nestle this into the woods," he said. At the Planning Commission the week before, Dranesville Planning Commissioner John Ulfelder asked what would happen should General Dynamics seek to move in the future, such as Exxon Mobil.

Exxon Mobil left its 117-acre property in Merrifield for Houston by the end of 2015, but leased the property to Inova Health System Hospital.

Like Exxon, "this is being designed for a unique user," acknowledged Looney. "The decision of General Dynamics is to establish permanent roots in the county."

"Thank you for choosing Fairfax," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova.

**HUNTER MILL** Planning Commissioner Frank de la Fe referenced testimony of neighbors, who said they bought their dream homes unaware that a major corporation would be moving across the street.

"I appreciate the neighbors that came in and expressed their concerns, which primarily deal with concerns over increased traffic," said de la Fe.

"Given what is currently approved, this is a much better plan for traffic, for preservation of trees, vegetation, so it is a preferable application that we have lived with for a long period of time," he said. "It is certainly a heck of a lot better than the parking, park and ride, building that was originally proposed."

The Park Authority is to conduct an archeological analysis of the property, according to proffered conditions agreed upon.

## 54 Townhouses Approved on 3.45 Acres

By Ken Moore The Connection

here can pizza delivers or other delivery drivers park their cars or trucks? That was part of Planning Commission deliberations on July 28, 2016 regarding a hearing on RP 11720, LLC's application to permit construction of 54 single family attached dwelling units on 3.45 acres at the northwest quadrant of Sunrise Valley Drive and Roland Clarke Place.

That's 15.65 dwelling units per acre.

"The Planning Commission had a couple of issues that were raised at that point and that's why we deferred the decision," said Hunter Mill Planning Commissioner Frank de la Fe.

"The Planning Commission raised the issue," according to planning documents "since most driveways were not long enough to accommodate a car and there were

limited number of surface parking spaces available. On Wednesday, Sept. 14, the Planning Commission approved the amendments and the plan which includes five workforce dwelling units.

"The plan has been revised and the applicant has identified a place where such delivery, you know, delivery vehicles could be parked," he said.

Length of urban townhome driveways, and width of urban townhouse garages, has been discussed at numerous recent applications before Planning Commission regarding the development of townhomes.

"The applicant added a delivery parking space and added proffers related to Transportation Demand Management, interparcel access and the disclosure of the garage dimensions to future homeowners," according to Planning Commission staff documents. "The Planning Commission requested that the applicant revise the proffers to provide disclosure on the size of garages in the HOTA documents."



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## Time To Plan Ahead

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

In consideration of the future, I have to plan in the present. Random and/or spontaneous actions/commitments are allowed, even encouraged, but given the recurring nature of chemotherapy infusions and the week-long side effects that follow, are not very practical.

As an example: Thanksgiving, Nov. 24 and Christmas Eve/Christmas Day, Dec. 24/25. According to my 'present' infusion schedule: four weeks, then five weeks, then four weeks, etc., barring semi-foreseen abnormal lab work results, which I will only find out the Thursday immediately preceding the Friday infusion, my next treatment will occur on Friday, Oct. 14. In and of itself, not a problem, other than the usual — with which I am, and perhaps you regular readers, too, are familiar. However, five weeks later my infusion occurs on Friday, Nov. 18 meaning I'll be miserable, not-eating-wise the following Thursday, Thanksgiving (which if I had my druthers, I'd rather not be). Now should I pretend that's not a problem for me? No. Following that potential holiday impact, my next alternating scheduled infusion occurs four weeks hence on Friday, Dec. 16, the week/Friday before Christmas Eve/ Christmas. Now if these holidays didn't involve travelling, eating and socializing, and generally trying to be on my best behavior, maybe I could manage. Unfortunately, nothing could be further from the reality.

Presuming/pretending that this schedule is not a problem is naive at best and extremely poor planning at worst. So what are my options? Well, I could always stop my chemotherapy infusions entirely until January, a "quality of life" alternative my oncologist has regularly encouraged. However, given the severity of my diagnosis/prognosis, I have always felt uncomfortable stopping treatment and as such, have never taken a break/brake. (Now, either I'm still alive because of it, or in spite of.)

Perhaps the solution is simply to reschedule my infusion intervals and still get treatment while manipulating my side effects/circumstances? If I reschedule my November infusion to occur four weeks after my October infusion (instead of five weeks), the date of that infusion would be Friday, Nov. 11, allowing more than enough time, nearly two weeks, to recover before Thanksgiving. However, switching my previous/original four-week interval to five weeks causes that December infusion to occur on Friday, December 23; not good timing at all Worse in fact than my current schedule. But if I don't alternate intervals and repeat that four-week infusion schedule (unfortunately losing a "quality of life" week in the process, a process that was intended to increase my "quality of life" weeks), then my December infusion would occur on Friday, Dec. 9, two weeks out from Christmas; perfect timing to allow for a semi-normal fortnight.

The net result is peace and relative quite. And by that I mean, other than advancing and increasing the number weeks when I'll feel miserable (and won't be eating), I won't feel miserable for two of the most significant, positive-reinforcing, feel-good weeks of the year. And if there's one, two or three things a cancer patient/survivor can't get enough of, it's days when you're not in a daze and weeks when you're not feeling weak. And after writing this column, an perhaps righting this ship, I feel pretty good about the next few months. It might not be ideal, but 'ideal' left the building a long time ago, on Feb. 27, 2009, the date of my original diagnosis.

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

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

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Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. during the summer. Nursery and childcare are provided starting at 8 a.m. until the end of the service. 703-437-5500 or www.trinityherndon.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds weekly classes starting Sept. 12, Thursdays 7:30-8:30 p.m., for the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. \$12 or \$6 for students, seniors and unemployed. 202-986-2257 or www.meditation-dc.org

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 1700 Wainwright Drive in Reston, holds Sunday services at 8 10 a.m. and contemporary service at during the summer. Nursery, Sunday school and adult education available. 703-437-6530 or www.stannes-reston.org.

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

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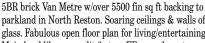
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