



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Reston Community Center**

2310 Colts Neck Road

Reston, VA 20191

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restoncommunitycenter.com

September 23, 2008

### **2008 RCC PREFERENCE POLL OFFERS FOUR CANDIDATES**

RESTON, VA — The Reston Community Center Board of Governors announces four candidates for its 2008 Preference Poll. This year's candidates are Cathy Vivona, William Penniman, John Gasson and Clark Rumrill. This year's preference poll is underway to fill three positions on the RCC's Board of Governors. Board members serve three-year terms.

Board members work together to establish the overall policy for the Center and to oversee its programs and budget. Board members also represent the Community Center throughout the district at a variety of events and in collaboration with a variety of other community organizations.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors established the RCC Board of Governors to represent the interests of the residents of small tax district 5 on issues affecting the Community Center. Board appointments are actually made by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, by request from Hunter Mill District Supervisor, Catherine M. Hudgins, after residents of small tax district 5 have made their preferences known in the annual poll.

The Annual Candidates' Forum is scheduled on Tuesday, September 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Comcast Studio located at 12345-G Sunrise Valley Dr. Reston, VA 20191. The public may attend; plan on arriving by 7:15 p.m.

Walk-in/Mail-in voting officially begins on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Walk-in ballots must be received no later than 8:00 p.m. on Friday, October 17, and mail-in ballots must be postmarked by midnight on Thursday, October 16. Community Polling Day is on Saturday, October 18. Voting hours are between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Polling tents are conveniently located at six Reston Village Centers including: Hunters Woods, Lake Anne, Tall Oaks, North Point, South Lakes, and Harris Teeter at the Reston Spectrum Center.

To request this information in an alternate format, call BeBe Nguyen.

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[www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com)



For more information regarding the 2008 RCC Preference Poll, please contact Leila Gordon, RCC Executive Director, at (703) 390-6142.

## **2008 RCC Preference Poll Candidacy Statements**

### **John Gasson Statement of Candidacy**

**What previous experience or participation in civic activities would you bring to the RCC Board? (Do not exceed 100 words.)**

**Vice President, Sprint Nextel Corporation** (January 2007 – July 2008) – Led 2,000 team member organizations, managed \$700 million budgets and delivered \$2 billion projects on time with good quality.

**President and Board of Directors Member, Friends of Reston** (September 2005 to present) – Provided effective leadership and worked collaboratively with the FOR Board of Directors to raise the remaining funds needed to build Nature House.

**President Landscape Committee, Heather Knoll Home Owner Association** (1995 and 1996)

**Public Speaking, Montgomery High School Students, Career Day** (2006 and 2007)

**Greater Reston Arts Center Education Volunteer** (2006)

**Question B:** How would your leadership enhance RCC's vision to bring the community together by providing opportunities for enriching leisure experiences and connections that reach out to all and foster inclusiveness and a sense of belonging? [Do not exceed 150 words.]

As a homeowner, volunteer and having worked in Reston for over 15 years, I understand the importance to foster a strong community by maintaining fundamental core values, promoting community involvement and supporting Reston's founding principles. I will use my Civic and Corporate America experiences to provide effective leadership to enhance RCC's vision, enrich Reston leisure experiences, build a stronger inclusive community and transition Reston into its next phase of greatness.

As President of the Friends of Reston (FOR), I led FOR and worked collaboratively with the FOR Board members to raise the remaining funds needed to build Nature House. As a Fortune 40 company Vice President, I led 2,000 team member organizations, built organizational cultures based on inclusiveness, trust, respect and integrity, managed \$700 million budgets, planned and delivered \$2 billion projects on time with good quality



and maintained strong partnerships. I understand what it takes to define and communicate a clear vision, develop and deliver an effective plan, have each member understand their role and value member input while balancing decision making to get things done.

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**Bill Penniman  
Statement of Candidacy**

**What previous experience or participation in civic activities would you bring to the RCC Board? (Do not exceed 100 words.)**

I have served on the RCC Board of Governors for the past two years, during which time I have acted as the Treasurer, Chairman of the Finance Committee and a member of the Building Committee. During the year prior to that, I served as a Citizen Member of the RCC Boards' Program Policy Committee and Finance Committee, and I attended nearly every BOG meeting.

**How would your leadership enhance RCC's vision to bring the community together by providing opportunities for enriching leisure experiences and connections that reach out to all and foster inclusiveness and a sense of belonging? (Do not exceed 150 words.)**

Reston is uniquely fortunate in having a community center as vibrant as RCC. Some other Virginia communities with which I am familiar have community centers, but none rivals RCC. Since moving to Reston, I have been a frequent user of RCC's many wonderful classes and programs, and I am a strong supporter of RCC's community-building activities.

Based on my experience on the Board of Governors and as a user of RCC, I believe I can help RCC continue to fulfill its mission and to engage more members of the community. As one strategy, I would like to see RCC partner with more organizations in Reston and explore new ways to reach out to Reston's diverse community. My experience on the Building and Finance Committees will be useful in helping to assure that RCC's existing activities and new projects continue to be undertaken in a financially prudent manner.

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**Clark Rumrill  
Statement of Candidacy**

**What previous experience or participation in civic activities would you bring to the RCC Board? (Do not exceed 100 words.)**



I am retired from the Department of State after 30 years of service. Among my duties was the Planning and evaluation of a number of small (under \$10 million) projects, which should help in considering the activities of the Reston Community Center. I was also a member of the board of directors of the Hunter Air Force Base Credit Union.

**Question B:** How would your leadership enhance RCC’s vision to bring the community together by providing opportunities for enriching leisure experiences and connections that reach out to all and foster inclusiveness and a sense of belonging? [Do not exceed 150 words.]

I use the Reston Community Center about 200 days a year for both exercise and activities and am a firm supporter of the Center and the services it provides. My frequent presence at the Center may help provide something of a worm’s eye view of its operation; both strengths and some areas that might be improved. Although the Center has over 100,000 individual visits a year, at present only 18% of community households have a member registered in an RCC program. This rate could and should be improved. With a budget of about \$9 million for fiscal year 2009, \$2000 is the average expenditure for each family that has a member participating in registered programs. The RCC Board has a target of activities being funded 75% by taxes and 25% by the participants, a policy I support.

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**Cathy Vivona  
Statement of Candidacy**

**What previous experience or participation in civic activities would you bring to the RCC Board? (Do not exceed 100 words.)**

Currently, I serve our community as a member of the RCC Board of Governors. In this capacity, I am Chairperson for the Community Relations committee and liaison with GRACE. From 1997-2001, I served as RCC board member, Treasurer, and chair. I also proudly serve as a board member of the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia and teach ESOL. I have been a member of the Reston Lions and founding member of Marymount University MBA association. I was honored to provide pro bono financial services for servicemen returning for Iraq. I attend arts events and bridge at the RCC regularly.



**How would your leadership enhance RCC's vision to bring the community together by providing opportunities for enriching leisure experiences and connections that reach out to all and foster inclusiveness and a sense of belonging? (Do not exceed 150 words.)**

As a board member, I will contribute both interest and ability in financial management of RCC affairs. I was pleased to participate in the RCC outreach to other RCC groups and will look forward to enhancing these efforts through joint planning, projects, and programs. Additionally, I am passionate about addressing the leisure and educational needs of our multicultural community and enhancing programming which highlights the many wonders of other countries and cultures to all Restonians. Naturally, I would encourage continued dialog with the business community to determine how we could work together to offer programs which support their needs and interests. And lastly, I'd like to explore how we can ensure that new residents not only know of the RCC but use its services. I would lend my enthusiasm, energy, and expertise to these efforts.

About the Reston Community Center

Each year RCC offers more than 1,800 positive, self-development experiences that enhance the quality of life for all people living and working in Reston. RCC provides a wide range of programs in arts, aquatics, enrichment and life-long learning. We also create and sustain community traditions through special events, outreach activities and facility rentals. To find the programs or events that are right for you, visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.org](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.org) or call 703-476-4500.

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Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For further information, contact the Reston Community Center at (703) 476-4500, Virginia Relay (800) 828-1120 (TTY) or visit the website at <http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com>. The Reston Community Center is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191. The Reston Community Center is completely accessible to persons with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**So Close to You. So Much to Do.™**

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