

Independent Owens challenges Marsh for state senate

Dr. Robert Owens has announced his candidacy for the Virginia Senate in the 16th District as an Independent. Most of the district is in the city of Richmond where the incumbent is Democrat Henry Marsh.



Owens

Calling his campaign a "Crusade to Save Virginia," Owens is running on a platform of local control and protection of citizen's rights,

promising a return to constitutional government.

Owens is a historian, professor, consultant and author. He currently teaches history, political science, religion and leadership at Southside Virginia Community College. Owens was active in Republican politics until 1984 when he moved to Arizona and suspended political activity while in Christian ministry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In other announcements: **Midlothian Festival Shopping Center** has been sold to Vienna, Va.-based investor NHM Enterprises for \$3.4 million or \$87.42

per square foot. The center has 15 fully leased retail tenants with 38,893 square feet on 4.5 acres, located at 9550 Midlothian Tnpk. NHM usually buys centers in northern Virginia and suburban Washington.

Billy Berlin, 21, finished first in the Sixth Annual **Lucy Corr Foundation 5K Run for the Future**. His time was 15 minutes and 20 seconds. **Mariaelena Calle**, 31, was first for the women at 17:53 among a total of 182 runners. The youngest runner was 7-year-old **Ryder Sadler**, and the most seasoned runner was 70-year-old **James Farmer**. Sponsorships and registration fees netted over \$16,000 with proceeds going to support

services and projects for residents of Lucy Corr Village.

Sixty-year-old breast cancer survivor **Rita Boykin** has been selected as a model for the upcoming **Cure by Design**, a fashion show to be held at Toad's Place in Richmond on Aug. 18. The event benefits the American Cancer Society, and all models who walk the runway are cancer survivors.

The **Central Chesterfield Little League 10-year-old Invitational All-Star Team** recently won first place during a Little League series competition in Ashland. They swept through the competition undefeated, going 6-0 in pool and playoff play.

McHale withdraws from Bermuda supervisor race

Jack McHale, an Independent candidate for supervisor in the Bermuda District, has withdrawn from the race. McHale served as supervisor for the district for more than a decade prior to being defeated by current Supervisor Dickie King in 2003.

"It was a tremendous privilege to serve my community during my 12 years on the board. I looked forward to once again working with my fellow citizens of Bermuda District and Chesterfield County. However, I know the personal and financial costs of a campaign. Over the years, demands of a political campaign, especially funding, have increased tenfold. My wife Barbara and I have decided to leave campaigning to others, but remain committed to our community. We wish to especially thank those who supported me and worked in this

campaign." McHale's withdrawal leaves a three-way race in Bermuda among Democrat Ree Hart, Republican Dorothy Jaeckle and Independent Roy Wallace. King is not seeking reelection.

Fitness center sued for basketball injury
American Family Fitness Center is being sued by a 19-year-old for an injury he suffered almost four years ago while playing basketball at the company's Village at Swift Creek location. Brandon Lamont Hughes lives in Stafford, Va., but was visiting his grandmother in Midlothian at the time of the accident.

Filed in Chesterfield Circuit Court, the suit seeks \$1.45 million in actual and punitive damages plus court costs and attorney's fees. While playing basketball, Hughes says he ran into a steel bench sitting behind the basket on the court, suffering "a serious injury to his

right ankle." Hughes has undergone several operations and had pins inserted in his ankle, according to the suit.

Hughes' attorney is alleging negligence, saying the bench shouldn't have been near the playing court. The bench had previously been moved from the spot when someone else was injured, but had been moved back. A jury trial is requested.

Defense counsel Robert J. Kloeti of Florence Gordon Brown, PC did not return calls for comment on this story.

Mall case moved to Chesterfield
A lawsuit against the county's Economic Development Authority (EDA) over the purchase price of Cloverleaf Mall has been moved to Chesterfield Circuit Court. The suit was initially filed in Richmond.

The Millmar Partnership is suing the EDA,

questioning the formula used to arrive at a purchase price for the 46 acres underneath the mall. Chesterfield purchased the 83-acre Cloverleaf Mall site at Midlothian Turnpike and Chippenham Parkway in the fall of 2004 for \$9.2 million, but the sale did not include the land under the main mall, the former sites of Hecht's and JCPenney and their parking lots. Negotiations to buy that land led to the Millmar lawsuit.

During a hearing on July 27 in Richmond Circuit Court, Millmar's attorney argued the suit should remain in the city because that's where the original mall lease and later amendments were entered.

Suspect arrested for CVS robbery
Steven Velazquez Sr., 46, of the 13000

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NEWS BRIEFS

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