

# Biking to Work Despite Rain

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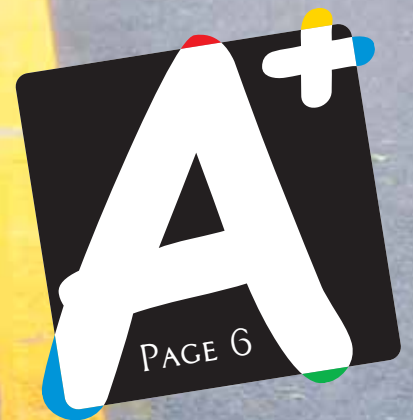
Michael Johnson bikes down the W&OD trail bike path during Bike To Work Day. The bike path will have approximately 39 light posts installed along the trail in downtown Herndon.

Protecting Children  
from Trafficking

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Giving Circle of Hope Honors  
2013 Nonprofit Partners

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## National Merit Scholarship Winners

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) has named 31 Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students winners of \$2,500 National Merit Scholarships. The students are part of a group of approximately 2,500 National Merit finalists chosen to receive scholarships primarily financed by the NMSC.

Winners of the scholarships, with their probable career fields in parentheses, are:

- ❖ Emily Schaal of Herndon High School (economics).
- ❖ Tae-Jung Yang of Herndon High School (chemical engineering).
- ❖ Nathaniel Speiser of Langley High School (physics).
- ❖ Leah Surratt of Langley High School

(engineering).

- ❖ Katherine Tan of Langley High School (undecided).

- ❖ Matthew Cohen of Madison High School (history).

- ❖ Paul Burke of Oakton High School (nuclear engineering).

- ❖ Monica Hanratty of Oakton High School (economics).

- ❖ Ajay Mehta of Oakton High School (medicine).

- ❖ Rhea Singh of Oakton High School (surgical medicine).

- ❖ Sreenath Are of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) (computer science). Hometown: Herndon

- ❖ Rohan Banerjee of TJHSST (aerospace engineering). Hometown: Oak Hill

- ❖ Owen Gray of TJHSST (biotechnology). Hometown: McLean

- ❖ Veronica Lee of TJHSST (electrical engineering). Hometown: McLean

- ❖ TJHSST (biological engineering). Hometown: Vienna

- ❖ Ivy Ren of TJHSST (physics). Hometown: Springfield

- ❖ Emily Schneider of TJHSST (medical research). Hometown: Fairfax.

- ❖ Joseph Valery of TJHSST (physics). Hometown: Great Falls

- ❖ Victoria Xia of TJHSST (computer science). Hometown: Vienna

- ❖ Jennifer Yin of TJHSST (finance). Hometown: McLean

- ❖ Kelly Giddens of West Springfield High School (international relations).

- ❖ Isabella Brahm of Woodson High School (engineering).


- ❖ Chloe Yun of Woodson High School (medicine).

Each scholarship winner was evaluated on his or her academic record, including difficulty level of subjects studied and grades earned; scores from two standardized tests; contributions and leadership in school and community activities; an essay describing interests and goals; and a recommendation from a high school official. The number of winners named in a state is in proportion to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating high school seniors.

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# Biking to Work Despite Rain

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n Friday morning rainy weather hit Northern Virginia, yet volunteers at 14 bike stations throughout Fairfax County still assisted bicyclists for the annual Bike To Work Day. Coordinated by Commuter Connections and Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA), the Bike to Work Day event attracts participants from around the Washington metropolitan region. This year's theme was "Get your work out before you get your work in."

The number of persons that pedal to work is up 60 percent over the past decade according to a report from the Census Bureau. And with new metro stations preparing for activation along the Silver Line, organizations such as the Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling (FABB) hope events like Bike To Work day will build greater appreciation for bike lanes and alternate methods of transportation. In Washington, D.C. another 14 miles of bike lanes will be added this year to the 50 already in place.

"It is a great event, it brings some people out to work who have thought about it but not tried it," said Bruce Wright, Chairman of FABB. Wright helped form the Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling in 2005. "Fairfax County needs to keep up with its neighbors," stated Wright. "Arlington County, with one-fifth our population, has six full time people devoted to building bike facilities, encouraging people to bike, and educating cyclists and motorists. Because we haven't invested in a fully funded bicycle program, our bike coordinator doesn't have the funds to do the job." According to a demographics report published in January 2014 with the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, Fairfax County has forecasted 2014 population of over one million residents with an average annual increase of 4,700 persons.

At a meeting in January this year the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved approximately \$40 million in funding for bike projects over six years as part of a major six-year transportation funding package. Fairfax County has a Bicycle Master Plan that has been in draft form for nearly two years with public hearings postponed until September. A version of the plan is expected to be available sometime soon. "We think it

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**At Reston, the Bike To Work pit stop was held at the plaza of the new silver line metro stop at the Reston East Metro station.**



**Reston residents John and Kelley Westenhoff and Amy Shaw. Westenhoff was at the Reston Station representing the Reston Pedestrian and Bicycling Advisory Committee for the Bike To Work Day event.**

has taken so long because the county has not devoted enough resources to a county bike program," said Wright. On Wednesday, May 21 Fairfax County bike coordinator Charlie Strunk will present a final draft of Bicycle Master Plan to Fairfax County Planning Commission's Transportation Committee at the Fairfax County Government Center. This will initiate the Commission's review process.

"In spite of the torrential rain and winds, we still had bikers, both seasoned commuters as well as some new riders trying biking to work for the first time," said Charlie Strunk, bicycle coordinator for the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. "Overall in Fairfax County at our pit stops, we saw about 20 percent of the registered riders participating. Considering the weather, I thought this was impressive. You also have to be appreciative of all the volunteers who man the pit stops." Some volunteers were out as early as 4:30 a.m. setting up in the rain. According to Strunk, the biggest bike station stops in Fairfax County for Bike To Work Day are at Herndon, Reston, and Vienna.

**IN RESTON**, the pit stop was held

at the plaza of the new silver line metro stop at the Reston East Metro station. Comstock Partners opened the lobby of one of the buildings on the development, which was used by the event guests throughout the morning. "It was unfortunate that it rained, but Comstock was great to provide us with this space," said Larry Butler, Senior Director of Parks Recreation and Community Resources with Reston Association. Approximately 483 persons had preregistered to come to the Reston Station, but due to the rain under 200 checked in.

The new Reston-Wiehle East Station will feature Fairfax County's first enclosed, secure bicycle parking facility with a capacity for over 200 bicycles.

At the Reston Station, Reston Association President Ken Knueven, Del. Ken Plum (D-36) and Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) stopped by to say a few words and thank volunteers for their services. "Bike to Work Day emphasizes what Reston residents already know, whether it's walking, riding a bike, catching a bus or the Metro, or sharing a ride in the carpool, multi-modal transportation is critical to our future way of life," said

## Bike To Work Day highlights alternative travel in Fairfax County.



**Green Lizard Cycling employee Brad Kendall was at the Herndon pit stop to assist anyone who needed bike service on Bike To Work Day.**



**Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority representatives Karl Mohle and Andrew Kaganowich were both at the Herndon pit stop the morning of Bike To Work Day. The W&OD trail is classified as a regional park, and is maintained by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.**

Knueven. "Reston is ripe with enthusiasm to make it work." Friday's event typifies what two of Reston Association's committees, the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Pedestrian and Bicycling Advisory Committee (PBAC), focus on everyday representing and sharing the community's interests in improving the area's transportation needs. "We thank the sponsors and volunteers who were on the planning committee and everyone who came out despite the weather," said Reston Association special events coordinator Ashleigh Soloff.

"I saw more women bicyclists than in previous years, even with the rain," remarked Kelley Westenhoff. Westenhoff was at the Reston Station with her son John, representing the Reston Pedestrian and Bicycling Advisory Committee.

"It was awesome and cool to see the space at the new metro station," said Reston resident Amy Shaw who was volunteering with the event along with Brian Jacoby.

As part of National Bike to Work Day, 79 pit stops were set up throughout the D.C. area, up from 70 last year. Approximately 14,000 registered to make a pit stop along

their commute Friday. Much of the D.C. metro area has invested heavily in its bike infrastructure for two-wheeled commuters. In the Town of Herndon, plans are underway to light a 3,800 foot section of the W&OD Trail with R.E. Lee as contractor for the project. Approximately 39 light posts will be installed along the trail, as well as necessary above ground transformers.

**IN DOWNTOWN HERNDON** by the W&OD trail there was a pit stop from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. compliments of A-1 Cycling. "It was slow, but we had people coming in," said David Meyer, owner of Green Lizard Cycling, which hosted a booth at the Herndon station.

"We had a number of bike adjustments for folks. Spirits were high, people had a good time." At the Herndon stop, set up began at 5 a.m. with the first rider arriving at 5:44 a.m. "This event is a great way to learn about biking to work and alternate exercise," said Alex Rekas, representing the Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department.

To learn more about Bike To Work Day, visit [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org).



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## NEWS



PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Students sing for residents at Herndon Harbor House for their annual sing-a-long.

# Cross-generational Sing-along

Montessori Peace School has annual event at senior home.

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

A cross-generational jam-boree lifted spirits last week.

Students from Montessori Peace School sang songs they learned all year to a small group of seniors at Herndon Harbor House on May 13.

"This is an annual event for us, part of our community month," said Sunder Cheng, one of the school's founders.

The students also visited local restaurant Angeethi for a traditional Indian meal and were visited by local firefighters and their firetruck as a part of learning about their community.

The first mission of Montessori Peace School, according to the website, is "to promote a culturally diverse, purposeful, and peaceful educational environment of excellence that nurtures the development of children through compassion, respect and imagination."

The songs were in multiple languages. Some involved a guitar, egg shaped maracas and even their hands. The songs were lead by music teacher Jennifer Nickl, who sat with the students on the floor and guided them through each one.

Many of the students did not realize the effect they had on the residents, some of whom were clapping to the beat of the music and smiling.



Montessori Peace School students Eva Canay, Christian Thomas and Fiona Shaw sing with school founder Sunder Cheng at Herndon Harbor House.

Shy Fiona Shaw, 6, said she loved singing "When the saints go marching in," a song they got to make faux instrument noises with.

"I liked that, and I like singing," she said.

Kielan O'Brian, 6, was one of the few students who had been to Herndon Harbor House three times. She was enthusiastically clapping and singing for the entire 30-minute music session.

"I enjoyed coming to share our music," she said.

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## Remembering on Memorial Day

**Fewer deaths as military operations wind down, but 22 veterans a day die of suicide.**

In Arlington over the coming Memorial Day weekend, the organization TAPS, or Tragedy Assistance for Survivors, will hold its 20th annual Military Survivor seminar and Good Grief camp for young survivors, children of all ages. TAPS offers support to anyone who is grieving the death of someone who died in the military, whether from combat, suicide, terrorism, homicide, negligence, accidents or illness. <http://www.taps.org/>

One veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan recently related that he had lost more of his military family to suicide post-deployment than he did from combat. Reports by the Veterans Administration set the number of suicides among veterans nationwide at about 22 per day.

On Memorial Day, we remember all of those who have died in military service, more than 400,000 in World War II, more than 30,000 in Korea, more than 50,000 in Vietnam.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 6,400 U.S. military service men and women have died in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Nearly 50,000 U.S. military service members have been wounded, although that number is likely to be revised upward. Last year, the military confirmed traumatic brain injury in more than 220,000 of the more than 2.3 million troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. The long-term consequences of many of these injuries are unknown, but they will require a national commitment to excellence in health care and services for both active duty military personnel and veterans. Virginia's U.S. Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine continue to advocate for better service from the Veterans Administration.

Since Memorial Day 2013, with military operations winding down in Afghanistan, the Department of Defense announced the deaths of two military service members from Virginia. Army Sgt. Lyle D. Turnbull, 31, of Norfolk, died Oct. 18, 2013 in Kuwait, from a medical emergency. Capt. Brandon L. Cyr, 28, of Woodbridge, was one of four airmen who died April 27, 2013, near Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, in the crash of an MC-12 aircraft.

1st Lt. Robert J. Hess, 26, of the Kings Park West neighborhood of Fairfax, was killed by enemy fire on April 23, 2013, Afghanistan. Hess was known as "RJ" and graduated from Robinson Secondary School in 2005, where he played football, lacrosse and was the captain of the swim team. He was a U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopter pilot who deployed to Afghanistan on April 11, 2013. His family remembers his sense of humor and his natural leadership ability.

Lance Cpl. Niall W. Coti-Sears, 23, of Arlington, died June 23, 2012, while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Coti-Sears loved music, played the guitar, composed songs and entertained family and friends at holiday gatherings. Niall was very close to his grandfather, William Coti, who was a Marine. "He was always my protege," William Coti told the Arlington Connection. "He always wanted to be a Marine and he followed my example. It weighs heavily on me that this had to happen."

Chief Warrant Officer Five John C. Pratt, 51, of Springfield, died May 28, 2012 in Kabul, Afghanistan, when his helicopter crashed. Staff Sgt. Jessica M. Wing, 42, of Alexandria, Va., died Aug. 27, 2012 in Kuwait City, Kuwait.

In February, 2012, Brig. Gen. Terence J. Hildner, 49, of Fairfax, was the highest ranking military officer to die in the war. Hildner died Feb. 3, 2012 in Kabul province, Afghanistan.

**OTHER VIRGINIA DEATHS** in Afghanistan in the year before Memorial Day 2013: Sgt. Aaron X. Wittman, 28, of Chester, Va., died Jan. 10, 2013 from small arms fire. Sgt. David J. Chambers, 25, of Hampton, Va., died Jan. 16, 2013 from a roadside bomb. Sgt. Robert J. Billings, 30, of Clarksville, Va., died Oct. 13, 2012 when enemy forces attacked with an improvised explosive device. Staff Sgt. Jonathan P. Schmidt, 28, of Petersburg, Va., died Sept. 1, 2012 from enemy small arms fire. 1st Lt. Stephen C. Prasnicky, 24, of Lexington, Va., died June 27, 2012, from a roadside bomb.

Here we remember the local men and women who have died since Sept. 11, 2001 in the wars that resulted from that day:

Aaron Carson Vaughn, 30, was one of 30 American service members and 22 Navy SEALs killed Aug. 6, 2011 when their Chinook helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan. Vaughn's family has ties to McLean and Burke. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly, and their two children.

Spc. Douglas Jay Green, 23 of Sterling, died Aug. 28, 2011, when insurgents attacked his unit using a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. Green enlisted in 2007, after attending Potomac Falls High School.

Pfc. Benjamin J. Park, 25, of Fairfax Station, died June 18, 2010 at Zhari district, Kandahar, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

May 12, 2010, Donald J. Lamar II, 23 of Fredericksburg, was killed in Afghanistan. Christopher D. Worrell, 35 of Virginia Beach, was killed in Iraq on April 22, 2010. Steven J. Bishop, 29 of Christianburg, was killed March 13, 2010 in Iraq. Kielin T. Dunn, 19 of Chesapeake, was killed Feb. 18, 2010 in Afghanistan. Brandon T. Islip, 23 of Richmond, was killed Nov. 29, 2009, in Afghanistan.

Stephan L. Mace, 21 of Lovettsville, died Oct. 3, 2009 in Afghanistan.

Bill Cahir, 40 of Alexandria, died Aug. 13, 2009 of a gunshot wound while conducting combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. After 9/11, Cahir decided to leave his career as a journalist and join the Marine Corps. His application to become a Marine was denied because of his age, but he lobbied members of Congress to get a special exemption.

Lance Cpl. Daniel Ryan Bennett, 23 of Clifton died Jan. 11, 2009, in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

2nd Lt. Sean P. O'Connor of Burke died Oct. 19, 2008 while stationed at Hunter Army Air Field, Savannah, Ga. O'Connor was an athlete in soccer, baseball and football who attended Fairfax County Public Schools and was a 1999 graduate of Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School in Arlington.

Pfc. David Sharrett II, 27 of Oakton, died Jan. 16, 2008 in Iraq. On Oct. 24, 2008, his father, David H. Sharrett, was on hand as the Oakton Post Office on White Granite Drive was renamed to honor his son. But the senior Sharrett has battled to learn the truth about his son's death, that he was killed by his lieutenant in the confusion of a firefight. In, April, 2012, Sharrett Sr. obtained documents confirming some of the details

of his son's death and a subsequent cover-up.

Army 1st Lt. Thomas J. Brown, a George Mason University graduate and Burke resident, died on Sept. 23, 2008, while serving in Iraq. His unit came under small arms fire, and Brown, 26, died from his wounds.

Sgt. Scott Kirkpatrick, 26, died on Aug. 11, 2007, in Arab Jabour, Iraq. Kirkpatrick, who graduated from Park View High School in Sterling, and also considered Herndon and Reston as his hometowns, was a champion slam poet. His father, Ed Kirkpatrick, calls him the "warrior poet," and he and his wife help injured vets at Walter Reed through the Yellow Ribbon fund ([www.yellowribbonfund.org](http://www.yellowribbonfund.org)).

Ami Neiberger-Miller of Sterling lost her brother, U.S. Army Spc. Christopher Neiberger, in August 2007 when he was killed by a roadside bomb in Iraq. He was 22.

Staff Sgt. Jesse G. Clowers Jr., 27, of Herndon, died when an improvised bomb exploded near his vehicle in Afghanistan on Aug. 12, 2007. Jonathan D. Winterbottom, 21, of Falls Church, died in Iraq on May 23, 2007, when an IED exploded near his vehicle.

Nicholas Rapavi, 22, of Springfield, died Nov. 24, 2006, during combat in Anbar province in Iraq. Army Cpl. Andy D. Anderson, 24, was killed by enemy fire in Ar Ramadi, Iraq on Tuesday, June 6, 2006.

Spc. Robert Drawl Jr., 21, a 2003 graduate of T.C. Williams High School, was killed by a bomb in Kunar, Afghanistan, on Aug. 19, 2006.

U.S. Army Specialist Felipe J. Garcia Villareal, 26 of Burke, was injured in Iraq and flown to Washington Hospital Center, where he died Feb. 12, 2006. He was a graduate of Herndon High School.

Capt. Shane R. M. Mahaffee, 36, a 1987 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, died May 15, 2006. He was a lawyer, married, with two children. His parents live in Alexandria.

U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Nicholas Kirven, 21, was killed in Afghanistan in 2005 during a firefight in a cave with insurgents. He enlisted while still in high school after 9/11.

Fairfax Station resident Pfc. Dillon Jutras, 20, was killed in combat operations in Al Anbar Province of Iraq on Oct. 29, 2005.

Maj. William F. Hecker III, a 1987 graduate of McLean High School, was killed in action in Iraq, Jan. 5, 2005. Staff Sgt. Ayman Taha, 31, of Vienna, was killed Dec. 30, 2005, when an enemy munitions cache he was prepping for demolition exploded. Army Capt. Chris Petty of Vienna was killed Jan. 5, 2006.

Staff Sgt. George T. Alexander Jr., the 2,000th soldier to be killed in Iraq, was literally born into the Army here in Northern Virginia, at DeWitt Army Hospital at Fort Belvoir. Alexander died at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 22, 2005, of injuries sustained in Iraq five days earlier.

Fairfax Station resident Pfc. Dillon Jutras, 20, was killed in combat operations in Al Anbar Province of Iraq on Oct. 29, 2005.

Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wren, 44, of Lorton, died in Tallil, Iraq on Nov. 5, 2005. Marine Capt. Michael Martino, 32 of the City of Fairfax, died Nov. 2, 2005, when his helicopter was brought down in Iraq.

1st Lt. Laura M. Walker of Oakton was killed on Aug. 18, 2005, in Kandahar, Afghanistan. CW4 Matthew S. Lourey of Lorton died from injuries sustained on May 26, 2005 in Buhriz, Iraq. Operations Officer Helge Boes of Fairfax was killed on Feb. 5, 2003, while participating in counterterrorism efforts in eastern Afghanistan.

Among other local lives lost: Lance Cpl. Tavon Lee Hubbard, 24, of Reston; 1st Lt. Alexander Wetherbee, 27, of McLean; 1st Lt. Jeff Kaylor, 25, of Clifton; Coast Guard Petty Officer Nathan B. Bruckenthal, 24, of Herndon; Army Chief Warrant Officer Sharon T. Swartworth, 43, of Mount Vernon; Command Sgt. Maj. James D. Blankenbecler, 40, of Mount Vernon; Capt. James F. Adamowski, 29, of Springfield; Sgt. DeForest L. Talbert, 22, of Alexandria; Marine Cpl. Binh N. Le, 20, of Alexandria; Staff Sgt. Russell Verdugo, 34, of Alexandria. Army Capt. Mark N. Stubenhofer, 30, from Springfield; Marine Gunnery Sgt. Javier Obleas-Prado Pena, 36, from Falls Church; Marine Sgt. Krisna Nachampassak, 27, from Burke; Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren, 31, from Reston; Marine Lance Cpl. Tenzin Dengkhim, 19, from Falls Church, Navy Chief Joel Egan Baldwin, 37, from Arlington; Maj. Joseph McCloud, of Alexandria, and Major Gloria D. Davis, 47 of Lorton.

**OTHER VIRGINIA** service members lost:

SEE REMEMBER, PAGE 8

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# You're Never Too Young for Poetry

Local educators say exposing children and even babies to rhyme and rhythm can help develop reading and language skills.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

**Students at Norwood School participate in Poetry Day, an annual event at the school. Poetry is a way to help children develop essential skills while having fun.**

Though Keith Ward's son is still a baby, the young child is already being exposed to exposed to not just silly stories, but poetry, and a variety of poetic forms at that. "My son is only 6 months old, but soon I will be challenging him to find, for example, just the right word for the shade of green he is trying to describe — or imagine," said Ward, who is head of the English department at the Madeira School in McLean. "Maybe it's a word and a color we have yet to discover. He's working on it, though."

Local researchers and educators say that young children enjoy poetry. In fact, hearing rhythms, sounds and language patterns play important roles in a child's literacy development.

"Rhythm and rhyme are some key factors in early literacy, and even something as simple as reading and memorizing nursery rhymes with your children can have a huge impact on their later development as readers," said Holly Karapetkova, an associate professor of literature at Marymount University in Arlington. "One research study found that the 3-year-olds who knew eight nursery rhymes were the best readers in third grade. Hearing rhyme and rhythm in language can help children develop phonological awareness and predict word patterns and sounds."

"Without realizing it, students hear poetry and think deeply about sounds and structures in sentences. As a result, they become better readers, thinkers, and writers," said Blake Howard, an English teacher at The Potomac School in McLean.

Howard's students recently studied structural elements, "Such as stanza formations, meter and rhyme, and sound devices like consonance and assonance in poems by Shelley, Keats, Dickinson and Frost," he said. "They practiced scansion of evident rhythms in metrical poems. They learned how and why those devices enhance tone and thematic purpose in the selected poems. Next, they wrote original poems. Some students crafted sonnets with meter and rhyme. They admitted — some reluctantly — that the exercise of reading and writing poetry has made them appreciate the value of precise word choice and balanced syntax." Ward also encourages the exploration of a variety of poetic forms. "Many students enjoy haiku, too, which are fun and approachable," he said. "They often reward the young poet with a profoundly beautiful result, which builds confidence and appreciation."

**THE TYPE OF RHYME** doesn't matter, however. Young students at Grace Episcopal School, in Alexandria, explore a different nursery rhyme each month as part of their Music and Performing Arts class.

"We repeat the verses out loud week after week to internalize the cadence, define any challenging words, pair motions with phrases, and culminate the whole affair by acting out each month's poem — complete with props and costumes," said Penelope Fleming, the school's librarian. This [emphasizes] the notion that language has rhythm and also expands students' vocabulary."

"A good poem really comes alive when it is read aloud," said Barbara Vaughan, a sixth grade teacher

at Norwood School, in Potomac, Md. "There is such variety in form, length, and subject. Poetry can help readers pause and look at the world in a different way."

**READING POETRY TOGETHER**, especially funny poems, and asking a child to guess the rhyming word is a way of reinforcing phonemic awareness and introducing letter patterns, said Mandov. "Playing rhyming games is another fun way for preschool and kindergarten children to reinforce these skills. While driving in the car, try a rhyme chain. Ask your child for a word that rhymes with cat. Perhaps your child will say 'bat.' Then you give a word that rhymes with bat and continue rhyming back and forth. See how many rhymes you can make."

"A good way to encourage children to create their own poetry is to devise alternate lyrics to the tunes of familiar songs, an easy activity that can be incorporated into bath time, car trips or even a way to pass the time while waiting in line," said Fleming.

Karapetkova played similar games with her children. "These games are a favorite way to pass our time waiting in line or sitting in the car," said the Arlington mother of two. "We start with a word — simple words with lots of rhymes for younger children and more complex words for older children — and see how many rhyming words we can come up with. We might also start with a word on a billboard or a word from a product while we're shopping at the supermarket." Poetry games that give children an opportunity to fill in the blank with a rhyming word are another way for parents to bring out their children's inner poets. "You start a poem and let them fill in the rhyming word," said Karapetkova. "For example, 'Star light, star bright, first star I see \_\_\_.' Both of my children also enjoy memorizing nursery rhymes and poems, and these nurture a deep appreciation of language and meaning."

Karapetkova says two of her family's favorite poets are Shel Silverstein and Langston Hughes. She encourages her children to try writing their own poems as well. "We often collaborate and write them together," she said. "I might give a suggestion about how to start a poem, or about a topic to write on, and I might also suggest possible rhymes if they get stuck. My daughter, who is 4, makes up nonsensical rhymes about random things that come into her mind and my son, at 9, likes to write poems that are playful and humorous. I let their interests guide what they write."



Individuals who organized the Herndon High presentation on Human Trafficking assemble for a photo. In the center is social worker Heather Coleman.



Ed Ryan, coordinator of Fairfax Gang Prevention with Detective William Woolf, lead investigator of the Fairfax County Police Department's human trafficking unit and Deepa Patel, director of the Sexual Exploration and Gang Intervention Program.

# Protecting Children from Trafficking

Speakers at Herndon High event discuss human trafficking and answer questions.

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/ THE CONNECTION



PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/ THE CONNECTION

**Herndon High School Principal William Bates with Heather Coleman, a social worker for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS).**

On Thursday, May 15, representatives and staff throughout the Herndon school pyramid went to Herndon High auditorium for an evening presentation on Teen Sex Trafficking. The purpose of the event was to help parents understand the risks their children face, and how to help keep them safe. "This is the first time we are doing this presentation in Herndon," said Heather Coleman, a social worker with Fairfax County Public Schools. Based on the success of this event, the Herndon schools are considering making this an annual event.

Teen sex trafficking is identified as "the act of manipulating or forcing anyone under the age of 18 to engage in a sex act in exchange for anything of value (money, drugs, shelter, food, clothes, etc.)," Police identify an average of two new potential victims per week. According to police reports traffickers often keep young girls in the cycle of violence and make them feel like they have no escape, which is why awareness is important. In 2013, the Fairfax County Police Department counted 129 charges of prostitution.

"We all realize that there is significant concern in the Herndon community about this topic," said Herndon Principal William Bates. "Between the schools, churches, and businesses, we need to partner together not just to speak about this issue but look at ways to address it." In 2013, an Atlanta man pleaded guilty to trafficking underage girls in Virginia and several other states. According to court documents, the girls

were sold for sex at several hotels in the Northern Virginia area, including Homestead Studio Suites in Sterling, Aloft Hotel in Ashburn, and the Holiday Inn Express, Washington Dulles Marriott Suites, and the Hyatt House Hotel, all located in Herndon.

**THE EVENT** was promoted primarily within the parent community. "I think it is really important to make sure our children are protected," said Jennifer Boysko, who has an 11th grade daughter attending Herndon High. Boysko is a member of Herndon High PTA. Kate Reen, an employee of Northern Virginia Family Services (NVFS) had a stand with information about the organization. "We have a gang prevention program, the IPE program (Intervention, Prevention and Education)," said Reen. This program was designed to reduce violence and counteract the appeal of gang membership among language and ethnic minority children, ages 12 to 21, in the Northern Virginia area.

Other resource organizations were also present to provide information about keeping loved ones

safe. The event was translated live in Arabic, Spanish, and Urdu and childcare was provided for school aged children. Heather Coleman introduced the speakers at the event, Deepa Patel, Director of the Sexual Exploration and Gang Intervention Program and Ed Ryan, Coordinator of Fairfax Gang Prevention.

"I have been in this position for four years," said Ryan. "I am interested in helping kids who are involved in gangs get out." Ryan explained some gangs use human trafficking as means of accruing money. "This can happen anywhere," said Ryan. Ryan went through a slideshow on human trafficking, explaining that it is an issue that all races and all classes face. "I say gang member, and an image pops into peoples' minds," said Ryan.

Ryan reviewed the criminal activities of Justin Strom of Lorton, a gang member who in 2012 admitted to running a prostitution ring that recruited high school girls in Northern Virginia for paid sex acts and threatened those who refused to participate. Strom ran the ring and recruited at least eight

girls to participate over a six-year period, pleading guilty in U.S. District Court to sex trafficking of a child. Ryan explained Strom used social media tools including Facebook to find potential targets for his prostitution ring. Ryan emphasized parents should be aware of the social media activities of their children.

"We do the treatment side of things," said Patel. Patel explained various scenarios in which a person may be exploited for sex trafficking. "Many pimps use social media, fake accounts, and mass messaging," said Patel. "To be a part of something that is huge, gangs offer kids a sense of identity and belonging."

**TO GANGS** trafficking children is a low cost, high payoff enterprises with less risks than illegal drugs. Nearly 100,000 American children are being exploited for pornography and prostitution every year.

Detective William Woolf, lead investigator of the Fairfax County Police Department's human trafficking unit, highlighted the "Just Ask" Prevention Project, a new public awareness campaign addressing the increasing prevalence of Teen Sex Trafficking in the region. The goal of the effort is to inspire residents to get involved with prevention and encourage them to learn more about spotting and reporting manipulative recruiters. After the presentations were concluded, the guest speakers answered questions. "I think the event was great, all the resources are great for parents and schools," said Laura Janelle, a gym teacher at Clearview Elementary. For information about the "Just Ask" Prevention Project, visit justaskva.org.

**PHOTO GALLERY!**

## "Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail photos, send to: herndon@connectionnews.com

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# CALENDAR

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

[www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org).

Tickets: \$18. [www.raveldance.com](http://www.raveldance.com)

information or to register, email [Ashleigh@reston.org](mailto:Ashleigh@reston.org) or 703-435-6530.

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## WEDNESDAY/MAY 21-SUNDAY, MAY 25

**Far & Wide: Travel as Muse. - In Far and Wide.** ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Join artist Trisha Adams on a journey where unique architecture and distinctive trees offer interesting new shapes, where plants, earth, and buildings present novel color palettes, where each painting imparts a part of itself to the next as the viewer circles the gallery.

## THURSDAY/MAY 22

**Calling All Poets.** 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. An open mic evening for all poetry lovers, writers and readers. Share your favorite poems - your own, or a work by a favorite poet. May's featured poet is Emily Dickinson. Adults. Free.

## FRIDAY/MAY 23-SATURDAY/MAY 24

**"Swan Lake."** Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 2 p.m. Reston Community Center. Engage in this tragic love story ballet performance.

## FRIDAY/MAY 23

**Friday Night Live! The Reagan Years + Six to Midnight.** 6:30 - 10 p.m. Town Green Herndon, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. A band recreates the music of the 1980s with a party atmosphere. 703-481-6133.

## 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 Rebolgar - 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.

**Reston at 50: Looking Back at Forward Thinking" Symposium.** 7-9:30 p.m. The Reston Community Center, at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston.

## FRIDAY, MAY 30

**Wine Tasting.** 4 - 6 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Adults 55 and older. Enjoy an evening of wine tasting in a beautiful setting. Sample red and white wines along with a variety of cheese and crackers. The evening includes a tour of the nature center's gardens and ADA accessible trail. Look for spring wildflowers, as well as birds and insects that are sampling their own sweet "ambrosia". Reservations required by May 27. Fee: \$10/person RA members · \$14/person non-members. For more

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

## Jimmy Gaudreau & Moondi Klein.

7:30 p.m. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. Jimmy Gaudreau & Moondi Klein have been a part of the bluegrass music scene for several decades and have played individually, and together, in some of the very top bands of the genre. Admission: \$15. <http://www.jimmyandmoondi.com/>

**Food Wars.** 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 W Ox Road, Herndon. Come to Frying Pan Farm Park to catch and identify animals that help plants grow and discover how plants dominate their territory. The cost is \$20 with a kit and \$6 without one. Register online. For information, call 703-437-9101. [http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov/rev1\\_quickresult.asp?category2=9999&subject=Food+Wars&facility2=M282&age=9999&day=9999](http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov/rev1_quickresult.asp?category2=9999&subject=Food+Wars&facility2=M282&age=9999&day=9999)

**The Self-Sustaining Gardener.** 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 W Ox Road, Herndon. Join us at Frying Pan Farm Park and learn the holistic approach to growing healthy and productive food plants year after year. The cost is \$20 with a

## SATURDAY/JUNE 7

**D-DAY 70th Anniversary: From Normandy to the Battle of the Bulge.** 2 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Relive the Normandy Campaign and the Battle of the Bulge in this slide presentation narrated by local historian Jim Lewis. Teens and adults. Free.

## 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.

## ONGOING

**Free Comedy Showcase.** Thursdays 8:30 p.m., at Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Lake Anne Village Center, Reston. Kalypso's hosts weekly comedy shows that feature some of the best national touring and local comedians in the

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**Don't miss Ravel Dance Studio's upcoming production of "Swan Lake," playing May 23-24 at the Reston Community Center Stage. Audiences will be captivated by this romantic yet tragic classical ballet performance.**

## OPINION

# Remembering on Memorial Day

FROM PAGE 5

Capt. Jesse A. Ozbat, 28 of Prince George, Va., died on May 20, 2012 in Afghanistan from a roadside bomb. Constructionman Trevor J. Stanley, 22, of Virginia Beach, Va., died April 7, 2012 while deployed to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. Pfc. Michael W. Pyron, 30, of Hopewell, Va., died Jan. 10, 2012 in Afghanistan. Maj. Samuel M. Griffith, 36, of Virginia Beach, Va., died Dec. 14, 2011 in Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. James Ronald Leep Jr., 44 of Richmond, died Oct. 17, 2011 at Forward Operating Base Kalsu in Iraq. Spc. Levi Efrain Nuncio, 24 of Harrisonburg, died June 22, 2011 in Afghanistan. Capt. Michael Wray Newton, 30 of Newport News, died June 11, 2011 in Afghanistan. Capt. Charles A. Ransom, 31, of Midlothian was one of eight airmen who died April 27, 2011, at the Kabul International Airport, Afghanistan, from gunfire.

Sgt. Sean T. Callahan, 23, of Warrenton died April 23, 2011 in combat in Afghanistan.

Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Venetz Jr., 30, of Prince William died Jan. 28, 2011 in Afghanistan, after being seriously wounded months before.

Spc. Sean R. Cutsforth, 22, of Radford, died Dec. 15, 2010 in Afghanistan. Spc. William K. Middleton, 26, of Norfolk died Nov. 22, 2010 in Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. Christopher F. Cabacoy, 30, of Virginia Beach died July 5, 2010, in Afghanistan.

If you know of someone who should be included in this list, or if you would like to share how you are honoring the memory of a family member or friend lost, or about the progress of someone injured, please let us know.

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



# South Lakes' Second-Half Turnaround Ends Against McLean

**Seahawks earned No. 2 seed in Conference 6 after 1-7 start.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

The South Lakes baseball team started the 2014 season by dropping seven of its first eight games. One month later, the Seahawks had earned the No. 2 seed in the Conference 6 tournament and were playing on their home field with a chance to qualify for regionals.

Unfortunately for the Seahawks, their second-half turnaround ended at the hands of a McLean team with a pitcher bound for Virginia Tech and a cleanup hitter who had a doozy of a day.

McLean senior Joey Sullivan pitched a three-hit shutout and left fielder Grady Paine went 4-for-4 with a home run and five RBIs as the No. 7 Highlanders defeated No. 2 South Lakes 5-0 on May 17 during the Conference 6 quarterfinals at South Lakes High School. With the win, McLean secured a berth in the regional tournament and advanced to the conference semifinals. Meanwhile, South Lakes' season came to an end.

**AFTER STARTING 1-7**, South Lakes closed the regular season by winning eight of 10 and posting a 5-2 record against conference opponents. The Seahawks received the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament, but fell short against McLean. South Lakes finished with a 9-10 record.

"It's been a huge turnaround, as you can tell," South Lakes pitcher Matt Wojciechowski said. "I'm a junior. The past three years I've been here, we've just been getting stepped on every game. Nobody takes us seriously. Then, [we] come back the second half from spring break and we started playing like we know we can."

How did the Seahawks turn things around?

"I think mindset and coaching," Wojciechowski said. "Our mindset completely changed as we started winning and we knew we could hang with anybody. When you start playing with confidence, the whole game changes for you."

Wojciechowski suffered the loss against McLean, allowing five runs



**Junior pitcher Matt Wojciechowski was a key contributor to the South Lakes baseball team earning the No. 2 seed in the Conference 6 tournament.**

— four earned — and seven hits in seven innings. He walked three, hit one batter and struck out seven. The right-handed hurler produced the South Lakes highlight of the afternoon when he struck out the side in nine pitches, the minimum needed to do so, during the top of the fourth.

Wojciechowski said he enjoyed pitching against McLean's Sullivan, who signed with Virginia Tech, and wants to one day play college baseball himself. However, before he plays at the college level, Wojciechowski will have a chance to help South Lakes improve during his senior season in 2015.

"He's the reason we were here this year," South Lakes head coach Galvin Morris said. "He's taking this hard, but I told him, if it wasn't for him, we wouldn't be here. We wouldn't have finished second without him on the mound. ... He was our leader on the mound, he was our guy, so he's going to come back even stronger next year, more competitive next year, he's going

to be our guy next year."

Sophomore shortstop Marty Gryski went 2-for-3 with a pair of singles against the Highlanders.

**THE SEAHAWKS** will return their infield next season, which includes Gryski, Wojciechowski (plays second base when he's not pitching), junior third baseman Jesse True, junior first baseman Kyle King, and junior catcher Jared Abelson.

Senior left fielder JoJo Lear led off the bottom of the first with a single against McLean, finishing with one of three Seahawk hits on the afternoon.

"Like I told the five seniors that we had, they left a legacy," Morris said.

"They started something. I told the young guys, now it's something you've got to continue. We finished 2, now our goal is to finish 1 [so] we [receive a first-round bye and] don't have to worry about having to win a game to get into the next tournament."



**South Lakes junior Jesse True runs down the first-base line as McLean pitcher Joey Sullivan prepares to field a ground ball during the teams' May 17 matchup at South Lakes High School.**

**"It's been a huge turnaround, as you can tell. I'm a junior. The past three years I've been here, we've just been getting stepped on every game. Nobody takes us seriously. Then, [we] come back the second half from spring break and we started playing like we know we can."**

— South Lakes junior Matt Wojciechowski

## SPORTS ROUNDUPS

### South Lakes Girls', Boys' Soccer Teams Advance

The South Lakes girls' and boys' soccer teams each won their respective Conference 6 tournament quarterfinal matchups on May 16. Each team advanced to the semifinals and secured a regional tournament berth. The No. 3 girls' team defeated No. 6 Langley 3-0, improving their record to 9-2-2. The Seahawks faced No. 2 Washington-Lee in the semifinals on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The No. 5 South Lakes boys' team beat No. 4 Fairfax 2-1. The Seahawks faced No. 1 Washington-Lee on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

### Langley Crew Produces Six State Champions

The Langley crew team won gold with six of the seven boats which entered events during the state championships on May 10.

The Langley men's varsity 4, women's varsity 4, men's lightweight 4, men's junior varsity 8, women's junior varsity 4, and men's second four each took first place.

### Langley Baseball Earns Regional Berth

The No. 3 Langley baseball team defeated No. 6 Hayfield 7-1 on May 17 during the Conference 6 tournament quarterfinals at Langley High School. With the win, the Saxons advanced to the semifinals and secured a berth in the region tournament. Langley faced No. 7 McLean in the semifinals on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



# Too Patient a Patient



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Since I'm in the honesty business (as you regular readers know; and based on many of the e-mails I receive, commended on being so), if I were to admit anything concerning my behavior during these last five-plus years as a lung cancer survivor, it would have to be my continual tendency to minimize new symptoms, and in turn, not contact my oncologist (which from the very beginning is the exact opposite of what we are told to do). Stupid, stubborn, scared, naive, in denial; you pick.

I mention this subject/behavior because over the last month or so, I've noticed some changes in my breathing. Not characteristic of or similar at all to the symptoms I experienced last July - which led to an eight-day, seven-night stay at a local hospital during which 4.5 liters of fluid were drained from my left lung - still, there have been some challenges/abnormalities of which I have been aware. Challenges which, when they involve your breathing AND YOU HAVE LUNG CANCER, are probably best NOT IGNORED. And certainly I didn't ignore them. I acknowledged them; I simply neglected to do anything about them (now I have, but that's not the point of this column).

Now before you ask the obvious rhetorical question: "How could you (meaning me) be so stupid?" let me try to explain, or for those who know me: rationalize my behavior. I am not assigning any blame here whatsoever. This is my doing, or rather not doing; hopefully which won't lead to my undoing. To invoke and quote Moe Howard from a Three Stooges episode where The Stooges were thought to have kidnapped a baby: "It was my idea and I don't think much of it." The decision (or non decision), the responsibility and/or the consequences fall on me.

As to the specific reasons how I could be so stupid, considering my circumstances, read on, McDuff. It's easy when you're scared. Part of my irrational thinking is (A) these new symptoms are much different from and somewhat less obvious (ergo, easier to dismiss) than those I experienced last August. So maybe it's not as serious? Maybe it's the pollen count? Maybe, maybe maybe. Now before you even think it, obviously I know that there are many cancer-related symptoms and not having a recurrence of one certainly doesn't (shouldn't) minimize or marginalize the others. But from the date of diagnosis, you're in a sort of self-preservation mode; this is yet another example. As George Costanza advised Jerry Seinfeld on how to beat a lie detector test: "It's not a lie, if you don't believe it." So I try not to believe the symptoms are relevant. And (B) if I don't tell the oncologist about these new symptoms, then he can't tell me that my cancer - which has already metastasized and is inoperable (stage IV), has reasserted itself and I really am terminal and really should get my things in order. Similar to what he initially advised Team Lourie back on February 27, 2009.

Thinking "(A)" and behaving like "(B)" has finally brought me to "(C)." I am now seeing doctors for an evaluation/assessment, completing lab work and taking diagnostic tests, and waiting for further instructions. And though I may have been late to this party, hopefully, it will have been fashionable, not fatal.

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

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-Abraham Lincoln

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The Station LLC, trading as The Station at Dulles, 2333 Dulles Station Blvd Unit I-145, Herndon (Fairfax County), VA 20171-6398. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine & Beer off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Ashraf Aly, member NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered to www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

## 4 RE for Sale

The Fairfax County Water Authority ("Fairfax Water") will be accepting bids from prospective purchasers for the Sale of Property (0.86 acres) "Hallowing Point Well 2 Site-Lot 19" located at 6037 Chapman Road (IFB 14-05). Interested parties may obtain a copy of IFB 14-05 by contacting the Procurement Department Fax: 703-289-6262, or E-mail: procpu@fairfax water.org.

Bids will be accepted in the office of Fairfax Water's Procurement Department until 2:00 p.m., July 9, 2014.

## 4 RE for Sale

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The Fairfax County Water Authority ("Fairfax Water") will be accepting bids from prospective purchasers for the Sale of Property (0.92 acres) "Gunston Manor Well Site-Lot 53" located at 6055 Honeysuckle Trail (IFB 14-06). Interested parties may obtain a copy of IFB 14-06 by contacting the Procurement Department Fax: 703-289-6262, or E-mail: procpu@fairfax water.org.

Bids will be accepted in the office of Fairfax Water's Procurement Department until 2:00 p.m., July 9, 2014.

## 4 RE for Sale

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### Public Notice

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT GENERAL CONFORMITY DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED COVE POINT LIQUEFACTION PROJECT

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) published a Notice of Availability of the environmental assessment (EA) and Draft General Conformity Determination (DGCD) for the Cove Point Liquefaction Project (Project) proposed by Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP (DCP). DCP requests authorization to construct and operate facilities to process and export domestically sourced liquefied natural gas (LNG) at the existing Cove Point LNG Terminal in Calvert County, Maryland. The Project would enable DCP to export approximately 5.75 million metric tons per annum of LNG via LNG marine carriers that would dock at the existing offshore pier.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The DGCD was prepared pursuant to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's General Conformity Regulations (40 CFR Part 93, Subpart B), and addresses air emission impacts associated with the Project.

The EA and DGCD are available for review and comment. The FERC staff mailed copies of the EA with the DGCD to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; libraries in the Project area; and parties to this proceeding. In addition, the EA with the DGCD has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public viewing on the FERC's website at www.ferc.gov using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies of the EA and DGCD are also available for distribution and public inspection at:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Public Reference Room  
888 First Street NE, Room 2A  
Washington, DC 20426  
(202) 502-8371

Any person wishing to comment on the EA or DGCD may do so. To ensure that your comments are properly recorded and considered prior to a Final General Conformity Determination and Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that the FERC receives your comments in Washington, DC on or before June 16, 2014.

For your convenience, there are four methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances please reference the Project docket number (CP13-113-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or efile@ferc.gov.

1. To submit brief, text-only comments, you can file your comments electronically by using the eComment feature on the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov, under the link to Documents and Filings.

2. To submit comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file, you can file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature on the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov under the link to Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You must select the type of filing you are making. A comment on a particular project is considered a "Comment on a Filing;" or

3. You may file a paper copy of your comments at the following address:  
Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
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4. In lieu of sending written or electronic comments, the Commission invites you to attend a public comment meeting in the Project area. We encourage interested groups and individuals to attend and present oral comments on the EA and DGCD. The meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date and Time Location  
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Patuxent High School  
12485 Southern Connector Boulevard  
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Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208-FERC, or on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link.

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From left, the founders of Giving Circle of Hope, Diana Katz, Mary Narayan, Joan Kasprovicz and Linda Strup.



Co-founder Diana Katz does the honors, presenting the Giving Circle of Hope's first ever Impact Grant Award of \$25,000 to Connections for Hope Partnership of Herndon.



Del. Ken Plum (D-36) was recognized as the Giving Circle of Hope's first Community Partner for his decades of service and commitment to the people of the area. Plum accepted the award from Giving Circle of Hope co-founder Linda Strup.

# Giving Circle of Hope Honors 2013 Nonprofit Partners

## Connections for Hope Partnership of Herndon receives first ever Impact Grant Award of \$25,000.

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

**H**idden Creek Country Club in Reston was the venue on May 14 for the Giving Circle of Hope's annual gathering to showcase the nonprofit partners to whom the organization's members have chosen to award grants for the coming year. Each fall, eligible members of the Circle – persons who have contributed at least \$1 per day for the year to the Grant Fund – review applications and vote to award grants for specific projects that help people in need in Northern Virginia.

The Circle began more like a square when four local women got together after a community garage sale and decided to take their involvement to the next level. Diana



Representatives of the nonprofits that were awarded 2013 Giving Circle of Hope Grants.

Katz, Mary Narayan, Joan Kasprovicz and Linda Strup met around the kitchen table to create “fun with a purpose,” as Strup described their initial goal. “We had a manic spirit of energy and an abundance of passion and compassion,” said Strup as she welcomed the attendees. “But there was lot we didn't know when we started...like why was giving away money so difficult?” she asked with a laugh. She says the group also didn't know that they would become an award winning service organization, that they would help launch other Circles of Giving, or

that they would ultimately develop a number of their own ongoing service programs like the Kids' Club which provides enrichment and recreation for homeless children, or Helping Hungry Kids which distributes weekend food for needy K-6 graders.

**OVER THE YEARS**, the four have grown to over a hundred and more than \$400,000 has been granted to dozens of nonprofits providing services to people of all ages and covering a wide variety of needs. The Circle continues to live by its founding principles of

“doing more than giving money” and instead, seeks to partner with the nonprofits to “learn about the local needs and together find creative, effective solutions for resolving them.” This year the cocktails and hors d'oeuvres reception honored not only the 2013 Grantees, but doubled as a Tenth Birthday Party for the Circle. To celebrate that milestone, the members decided to award a special 10th Anniversary Impact grant. Circle Co-founder Diana Katz explained that 28 members came forward, donating \$1000 each to provide an amount far above than usually awarded. After a recruiting and selection process that included concept papers and presentations by the applicants, three were chosen as finalists, and at the event Connections for Hope Partnership of Herndon was officially announced as the Impact Grant Winner, receiving \$25,000 toward their work in bringing together nonprofits, county services, community leadership and service providers to more effectively integrate services for low-income and vulnerable citizens.

**ANOTHER FIRST** for the Circle this year was the presentations of Community Partner and Corporate Community Partner Awards. Del. Kenneth Plum (D-36) was recognized as the organization's inau-

## The 2013 Giving Circle of Hope Nonprofit Partners

- ❖ All Ages Read Together
- ❖ Computer Core
- ❖ Empowered Women International
- ❖ Friends of Guest House
- ❖ Greenbriar Learning Center
- ❖ Literacy Council of NoVa
- ❖ Stroke Comeback Center
- ❖ The Arc of Northern Virginia
- ❖ The David H. Lawson Foundation

## Tenth Anniversary Impact Grant Awards

- ❖ Connections for Hope - \$25k
- ❖ The Arc of Northern Virginia
- ❖ Centreville Labor Resource Center

gural Community Partner, while Upper Quadrant, Inc., a cloud-based workflow technology business (and long-time supporter of the Giving Circle of Hope) was named the Corporate Community Partner. This year's official recognition event may be over, but the Giving Circle of Hope already has plans afoot to keep the circle widening. Information on how to join, either as a voting or a service member, and to read more about their programs and services can be found at [www.givingcircleofhope.org](http://www.givingcircleofhope.org).

## Herndon Guitar Students Earn Top Honors

**H**erndon High School's Guitar 3 and Guitar 4 Ensemble earned top awards and distinguished recognition at the Festivals of Music competition in Virginia Beach on April 25. Both ensembles outscored all other participating music ensembles including all choirs, bands, and orchestras. Guitar 4 was the only ensemble to earn the coveted “superior” rating with a score of 93 and won first place. Guitar 3 earned the second highest score of 89 and a rating of “excellent”, taking the second place award. This is the 10th consecutive year that Herndon's top ensemble has earned Superior ratings since its first

competition in 2005. After the competition, one judge remarked that the HHS students are achieving near perfection on most complex music and that he knows of no high school or college guitar program that would attempt this literature. Under the direction of HHS Guitar Studies Director Christopher Cunningham, the Guitar 4 students performed Hungarian Rhapsody #2 by Franz Liszt and arranged specifically for the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet—the premier professional guitar ensemble today. Herndon Guitar Ensembles were also graced with the sole Esprit de Corps award for professionalism, class, appearance and decorum, and spirit.



Herndon High School's Guitar 3 and 4 Ensemble students.