

and Oakton  
**Vienna CONNECTION**

# Vienna Public Works Day Draws Crowds

NEWS, PAGE 16



Everyone wonders how many kids fit in the cup of a front-loader? Well, it's, at least, 10...particularly if one of you is hugging your little brother close to you. Town of Vienna hosted its annual Public Works Day open house on May 15.

## Trained in Prison, Healing in N. Virginia

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## Helping the Earth and Having Fun

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# Creating a Community in Tysons

Plethora of events this year in Tysons Corner.

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

**M**ichael Caplin is helping to turn Tysons Corner into a community. Caplin, the executive director of Tysons Partnership, has a long list of ideas to create a new image for Tysons - many of which include events that will pull people back into the area on weekends.

"Tysons is an anomaly because people have lived here for 100, 200 years, but the modern Tysons is more of a work destination than a home destination," he said. "We have 100,000 people who work here during the day. Only 19,000 people stay here at night."

By creating the farmer's market - which started Sunday - and a long list of inaugural events the same year the McLean stop on the Silver Line is expected to open, he hopes people from Washington D.C. and all over Northern Virginia sees Tysons as a different place than it has been perceived. The Tysons that is a business park and

nothing more. The Tysons that is difficult to get to on the beltway. "You can ride your bike anywhere on Sundays," said Caplin, talking about how Tysons Corner turns into a ghost town on the weekends. "It looks like a Hollywood stage set, because no one is here."

**THE POPULATION** is expected to reach 100,000 in the next 35 years, and new construction will double the square footage that exists vertically to accommodate for them. To get a head start, a new logo for Tysons Partnership was created and banners will be added to light poles throughout the urban center. Additionally, the water tower will be emblazoned with the name in the near future. "We're spending a lot of time creating a sense of place," he said.

All of the festivals are going to be annual. More are expected to be added next year.

These events include:

❖ May 31 to June 1 — Great Tastes of Tysons from 1 to 6 p.m. The two day festival features tastes

from restaurants throughout town, music and art. Lerner Town Square.

❖ June 1 — Tysons Farmer's Market grand opening from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fairfax County Police Bicycle Unit Bicycle Rodeo from 10 to 11 a.m. The Farmer's Market officially opens on May 18, but the celebratory kick-off is on the 1st. Nearly 20 vendors selling produce, bakery items and chocolate will set up their tents at Greensboro Drive and Westpark Drive. The Farmer's Market runs until Nov. 18.

❖ June 29 — Second Annual Tour de Tysons bicycle race. Nearly 300 cyclists will race downtown from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Food trucks selling crepes lend to the French ambiance. 1800 Tysons Blvd.

❖ Sept. 13 — Tysons world Music Festival. Local and national musicians will perform from noon to 10 p.m. All proceeds will go to Spirit of Hope Children's Foundation. Lerner Town Square.

❖ Sept. 20 — Tysons BBQ, Bour-



Michael Caplin looks over the part of Tysons Corner he wants to expand - the community aspect.

bon and Beer Festival. The cost of admission gets visitors a commemorative sample glass for all-you-can-drink craft beer and small-batch bourbon. There will be live music while the festival is running from noon to 6 p.m. Lerner Town Square.

❖ Oct. 16 to Nov. 1 — Great Pumpkin Gathering. Artists will create a wall of intricately carved pumpkins for the display, which changes daily. Viewing times are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

❖ Oct. 18—19 Tysons Harvest Festival. There will be craft vendors and beer and wine tastings for the adults and rides and special activities for children from noon to 6 p.m. Artists will have

demonstrations while preparing for the daily Great Pumpkin Gathering display change. Lerner Town Square. Additionally, The Meridian Group is creating a pop-up park at Greensboro Drive and Solutions Drive that is expected to open in mid-June.

"We are working hard to change to rhythm of life in Tysons, adding reasons to linger and visit with colleagues and neighbors," said Caplin. "It'll be an opportunity for people to see an event in their neighborhood and bump into each other."

**THE OPENING OF THE SILVER LINE** is expected to draw crowds from all over the D.C. metro area in time for the BBQ, Bourbon and Beer Festival. As more people come to the urban center for these events, he hopes they will apply for the plethora of jobs in the area or even find an apartment to live in downtown.

Lerner Enterprises is allowing Tysons Partnership to use their 10 acre lot for events all year long.

National Automotive Dealership Association is donating their lot for 27 Sundays for the Farmer's Market.

"These businesses are doing more than they have to for the common good," said Caplin. "They're doing it anyway because it will make Tysons a better place."

NADA Executive Vice President Joseph Cowden said he jumped at the chance to have the company be involved when Caplin asked.

"NADA has been in the Tysons ecosystem for a long time," Cowden said. "We made a big investment back in the day when people probably laughed at us for it." He and the company have seen the changes Tysons has gone through first hand.

"We just think Tysons has become a model community," he said. "As all these apartment units are being built and more and more people move in, we don't want people to think it's a cold office park where people go home at five."

For more information, visit <http://tysonspartnership.org/>



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Dennis Dineen with his electric-hybrid Chevy Volt.



Diego Paldao sits beside the control screen in his all-electric Tesla.



Irene Lane of Greenloons told people about her eco-adventure company.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

# Helping the Earth and Having Fun

## Visitors flock to Vienna's sixth annual Green Expo.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Vienna Community Center recently hosted the sixth annual Green Expo, in which some three dozen, earth-friendly exhibitors showed those attending how to achieve a green lifestyle.

There were spiffy cars that use alternative fuel, plus people providing information about everything from water conservation to ways to protect the environment, how to recycle and even opportunities to go on eco-adventures.

Dennis Dineen showed visitors his 2011 Chevy Volt, which cost \$28,000 after a \$7,500 tax credit. He plugs it in at night to charge. "It goes 40 miles on an electric charge and then switches to gasoline," he said. "But the car has no range limit. So far, I've gone 29,000 miles and only used 78.6 gallons of gas."

He doesn't have a garage, but that's no problem because the car draws power from a standard, 110-volt outlet in the house. No special wiring or installation is required, and the charger comes with the car.

"Electricity is much cheaper than gasoline and, when I charge my car at night, I get a discounted electric rate," said Dineen. "And it's a powerful car – a sport sedan similar in ride and handling to a BMW or Audi. It's a fun car to drive."

Also there was Diego Paldao who brought his \$68,000 Tesla, all-electric car. "Depending on how fast you drive, how much weight's



Fairfax County Park Authority ecologist Justin Roberson teaches Kate Bellamy, 9, of Girl Scout Troop 1178, about invasive plants.

in the car, if the air conditioning's on and the road conditions, it can go 140 miles on a full battery charge," he said.

**ALL THE LIGHTS** are LED and a computer screen by the steering wheel lets the driver control the doors, windows, lights, sunroof, air conditioning and heater with a touch of the fingertips. It also enables the driver to raise the car's suspension to glide over potholes, adjust the steering, play regular or Internet 3G radio.

In addition, the screen will connect to a phone hot spot and aid in navigation and even functions as a rear camera. Describing himself as "environmentally conscious," Paldao said he bought this vehicle so he could "get ahead of the curve technologically. I now drive slower because I want to drive more efficiently."

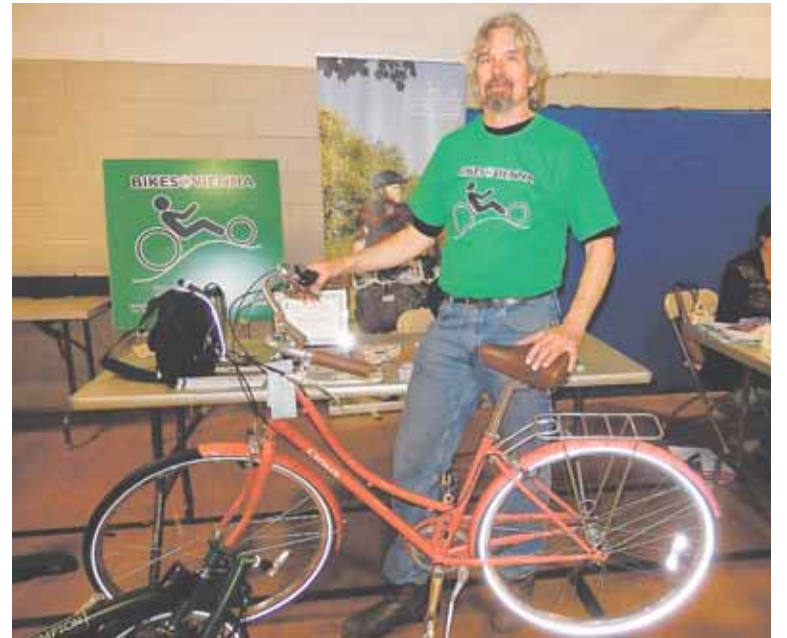
Inside the community center, at the Fairfax County Park Authority's table, ecologist Justin Roberson educated the public on some un-

welcome plants in the local forests. "It's for concerned citizens wanting to volunteer to remove invasive plants from the county's parks," he said.

Pleased to participate in the Green Expo, Roberson said it's "a way to connect with the citizens. It's a good outreach and education opportunity and allows us to explain why we do what we do and why it's important to be good stewards of our natural area."

Representing the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District was Lily Whitesell. She stood by a display showing ways people may get involved in environmental activities. She also presented information about the county's watersheds, some upcoming rain-barrel workshops and how residents may build their own rain gardens. For more information, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd).

Vienna's Irene Lane promoted her eco-adventure company, Greenloons. She organizes trips



Tim Fricker of Bikes@Vienna says this Linus Dutchi bike is for "stylish transportation while doing errands or just riding."

throughout the world that benefit communities socially, economically and environmentally. "People stay in locally owned accommodations that are energy-efficient and eat food that's locally sourced," she explained.

"And activities are led by guides certified in some type of environmental science."

For example, said Lane, "They'd teach people about wildlife conservation, the area's environmental challenges and what people can do at home to help the environment. The adventures can include anything from kayaking, biking and hiking to cooking with locally-sourced ingredients." For more information, go to [www.greenloons.com](http://www.greenloons.com).

Also participating in the event was Tim Fricker, owner of Bikes@Vienna on Church Street. He displayed folding, transportation and recumbent bicycles, and the Vienna Town/Business Liaison Committee selected him as the recipient of the first annual Vienna

Green Business Recognition Award.

**THE HONOR** acknowledges local businesses and nonprofits that have adopted sustainable and environmentally friendly business practices.

Mayor Laurie DiRocco and the committee members presented Fricker with the award during the Green Expo.

Happy with the recognition, he detailed some of the ways his business supports the environment. "We recycle used bikes and give them to Bikes for the World which then distributes them to people in developing countries," he said. "We also give bikes to a local group, the Committee for Helping Others, that collects bicycles for needy children at Christmas."

"In addition, we recycle all our scrap metal when we do bike repairs," continued Fricker. "And we help maintain the W&OD trail and work with the town's Bicycle Advisory Committee."



# 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

**T**hough 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



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 become develop essential skills while having fun.**

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."



**Enjoying the Day Prom are Kathleen Melendez and senior Devin Burgess from the Kilmer Center.**

## 'Look Around and See the Smiles'

Special-ed students enjoy Day Prom at the Waterford.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**L**ast Thursday, May 8, some 400 students got all dressed up and went to their prom at the Waterford in Fair Oaks. Once there, they had professional photos taken, ate pizza, sang karaoke, laughed and hung out with their friends. And when the music played their favorite songs, they filled the dance floor and showed off their coolest moves.

The only difference between this prom and others is that it happened during the daytime and the participants were special-ed students and their teachers. In fact, it was the 13th annual Day Prom, and students from 11 different schools attended.

"It's good because, not only do they get to socialize in an environment that's open and friendly, but they get to experience one of the rights of passage that all high-school students should experience," said Centreville High instructional assistant Kate Leimkuhler. "It's great to be able to relate to them, not necessarily as an authority figure, but just as a friend who cares. And it's really enjoyable watching them just cut loose and have a good time."

"All you have to do is look around and see the smiles, and you can tell how much fun they're having," said special-ed teacher Vicki Hudson, head of

Centreville's Best Buddies program which pairs general-ed and special-ed students for friendship and shared activities.

"We added more schools to the Day Prom this year," she said. "We couldn't bring as many general-ed kids, as usual, because of it. But it's great that so many schools want to do this. The staff here is really spectacular to work with, and the folks from LifeTouch are donating their time and services to take the photos. They'll put the pictures on a disc and Target will print them for us."

Among those attending were students from the Kilmer Center in Vienna. Kathleen Melendez, a public-health training assistant, kept senior Devin Burgess company while he snacked on pizza, fruit and chocolate cake.

At the Day Prom, said Melendez, "The students get to express themselves however they want and enjoy themselves. They know all the other kids from the other schools, so it's fun for them to do things together. And they love getting out of school and eating all the food, dressing up and dancing. It makes them feel special — in a good way."

Her school brought six students to the prom, including Burgess. "He's nonverbal, but he's in heaven around all this food," said Melendez. So when she asked him if he was having fun, he gave her a big smile and a hearty thumbs-up.



## NEWS

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



With the help of Whole Foods in Idylwood Plaza and the Kilmer community, the event raised close to \$10,000 for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

### Kilmer Community Supports Juvenile Diabetes Research

**K**ilmer Middle School partnered with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and 24 Hour/Fitness Sports Club/Tysons and held its first charity drive on Wednesday, April 30. The JDRF Kids Walk to Cure diabetes service program is an educational, in school fundraising program that has two goals—to educate students about Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes and good health habits and to provide children with an opportunity to make a difference by raising money for Type 1 diabetes research. Educators from JDRF visited all physical education classes earlier in the month to discuss healthy living and diabetes. With the help of Whole Foods in Idylwood Plaza and the

Kilmer community, this event raised close to \$10,000.00 for JDRF.

Kilmer parent Alvin Walcott, manager of 24 Hour Fitness Sports Club-Tysons, came to school with his team of nine certified trainers to celebrate the end of our JDRF charity drive. The slogan of Walcott's team was "We've got your back". At the circuit stations set up in the gym, Walcott explained there are no bullies in our house. While teaching Muay Thai moves, Walcott explained the importance of strength conditioning, self-defense, muscular and cardio-respiratory endurance. Every Kilmer family received a pass to go work out together in the spacious 50,000 square feet facility located at 1500 Cornerside Blvd.

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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.

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SEE REMEMBERING, PAGE 11



# Vienna Man Going to Federal Prison

Given nearly seven years for McLean teen's death.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**K**yle Alifom, 20, of Vienna was sentenced last Friday to nearly seven years in federal prison in connection with the death of a 16-year-old McLean girl. The victim was Emylee Lonczak, a McLean High student whose body he hid after she overdosed on heroin.

Charged with tampering with evidence, Alifom was convicted of that offense Feb. 10 in U.S. District Court in Alexandria. A statement of facts filed with his plea made it clear that – not only did he try to prevent anyone from finding Lonczak – he also did nothing to obtain medical help for her while she was still alive.

In that document, he admitted that, on Aug. 21, 2013, he and three other people – two friends plus Lonczak – drove from Virginia into Washington, D.C., to buy heroin. Each of them then used it via injections from separate hypodermic needles, each containing about 30cc of the narcotic.

“Lonczak, who wasn’t a heroin user, was unable to administer the heroin to herself intravenously because she couldn’t find a vein,” the document stated. So the person who’d made the drug buy “injected her.”

They then headed back to Virginia and, during the drive, Alifom and the others noticed Lonczak was

unconscious. They dropped off the drug buyer at his home and the other friend dropped off Alifom and Lonczak, who remained unconscious, at Alifom’s home in Vienna.

According to the statement, Alifom and the friend placed Lonczak in a bed in a basement bedroom and the friend left. The following morning, Alifom discovered that Lonczak had died.

The document further states that Alifom “dragged Lonczak’s body through the grass behind his residence to an area of shrubbery behind a neighbor’s house. [He] covered [her] body with an abandoned screen window in an attempt to conceal [it].”

Meanwhile, the teen had been reported missing, Aug. 21, when she failed to return home. Using a bloodhound, Fairfax County police discovered Lonczak’s body, Aug. 23, 2013, after the dog tracked her scent to a wooded area. An autopsy and toxicology report confirmed she had a fatal level of heroin in her system and that heroin use had caused her death.

The statement concluded that Alifom’s actions in connection with this tragedy were, “in all respects, knowing and deliberate.” Following his conviction, he returned to court last Friday, May 16, to learn his punishment from Judge Claude M. Hilton. Alifom apologized for what he’d done and Hilton then sentenced him to six years, eight months in prison.

This case was investigated by the Fairfax County police and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael P. Ben’Ary, formerly a commonwealth’s attorney in Fairfax County, was the prosecutor.



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Nicholas Harrelson, formerly of Centreville and McLean, suffered a traumatic brain injury from an IED in Iraq.



Veteran John Flanagan, with MAGNOLIA, who will be his psychiatric assistance dog.



Sabrina Rigney of Lorton, ex-Air Force with NOEL, who will help her with her PTSD.



Trish, at podium, tells her emotional story for the first time; sharing the past is part of the healing process in the paws4prisons program.

HEALING POWER



paws4people

## Paws4potential

**Disconnected Youth: young people between 16 and 24 who are neither in school nor employed**

“Disconnected Youth” is a population identified by the June 2012 Youth Leadership Institute's report to the White House. The group is comprised of young people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are not in school or employed.

More likely to end up living on the streets, becoming parents before they are ready and/or in our jails and prisons, these young people cost society \$4.7 trillion, according to the Economic Value of Disconnected Youth researchers.

We simply cannot afford to continue to ignore this growing portion of our population.

Paws4people.org, an organization with a successful track record for creating successful rehabilitation and redemption programs for federal and state criminals, believes they can change the statistics. And I believe them.

The new program, paws4potential will combine housing, employment and a supportive environment that includes the healing power of dogs.

Paws4people.org is currently seeking funding for this exciting program.

To learn more about paws4people and the new program, paws4potential, visit [paws4people.org](http://paws4people.org) and click on the program: paws4potential, or contact me directly at [joan@joanbradyphotography.com](mailto:joan@joanbradyphotography.com) or 202-256-1311.

— Joan Brady

HEALING POWER



paws4people

BY JOAN BRADY

Rebecca, a pretty blonde in her mid-40s, is holding Ziva, the puppy she is currently training. We might have been two strangers at a local dog park, caught up in a conversation that could have gone on for hours.

But we weren't at a dog park. We were sitting inside Lakin, an all-women correctional facility in West Virginia. And Rebecca, an assistance dog trainer for paws4people.org's in-prison training program, paws4prisons, is serving a sentence of life without parole for a murder committed 21 years ago.

And that comfortable scene on April 4, 2014 was a far cry from how I felt on my first prison shoot, over four years ago.

When I first started going inside prisons for paws4people.org, my job was three-fold: to capture, through photography, the connection between the dogs and their inmate trainers, to provide images that reflected the accomplishments of months of training and to document the moment that veterans, children and young adults were matched with their assistance dogs.

On my first visit, I was scared. No open-toed shoes. No open-heeled shoes. No jewelry. No underwire bra. No khaki clothing. Cell phone and drivers license were left



Tiffany, an inmate at Lakin Correctional serving a 15-year-to-life sentence, is training TANNEN.



Rebecca, an inmate at Lakin Correctional serving a sentence of life without parole, is training ZIVA.

to show you how to work through ... the mistakes you make in life In order to be a better person.” Rebecca adds that, for her, it's been “life-changing.”

One of the tools is mutual sharing. Stories of isolation, drugs and alcohol, abuse, fear and loneliness are the rivers that have carried each speaker to this day.

Hyper-vigilant veterans wrestling symptoms of PTSD anxiously wait to share their stories with inmate trainers, prison officials and paws4people staff and volunteers. Only after that do they get a turn to meet the dogs one at a time in a ritual called a “bump” where paws4people staff determine if there is a match. Before and after each person shares, soft, cuddly puppies are passed around to help calm nerves.

For the trainers, it's more complicated. In addition to sharing their stories publicly, their skills as trainers will be on display. They are as anxious as parents that their dogs do well during demonstrations and the matching process. They will be proud if their dog is matched, but they know that a match today will bring them one step closer to losing their canine companion.

The room set-up is reminiscent of an old-fashioned wedding, with an inmate-trainer side and a free-civilians side. Thirty dogs, mostly golden retrievers, rest quietly on both sides of the aisle.

**SNIFFLING CAN BE HEARD** quietly echoing off the cement walls as Melissa, an inmate trainer, stands at the podium to share her story. She tells of a happy childhood ending when an uncle took her to a secluded woods and raped her so violently that she had to have a full hysterectomy, at

age eight. No charges were filed.

Years later, grief stricken by the loss of her grandfather, Melissa started taking drugs to numb the pain of her loneliness and she began breaking into houses to pay for the drugs. She had several stints in rehab, but none took. Looking back, “[I] just wasn't ready. [paws4prisons] has been the best rehab... Sometimes I wonder if [the paws4prisons staff] know how big an effect this has on us.”

That's a refrain I've often heard from veterans, trainers, parents of children and volunteers. For many of the inmate trainers, the caring from the paws4people team is remarkable.

“To have people that don't even really know you ... care, even though you are in prison and you have made all of those mistakes. [It's] an amazing feeling,” explains Tiffany.

Dogs can make a difference that people can't. Air Force veteran Sabrina Rigney of Lorton, looks forward to having a companion who will be persistent about getting her

out of bed in the morning. “I can't get mad at her for pulling the covers off me, because I've really got to get up and feed her and take her out.”

When paws4prisons inmate trainers are released from prison, they have marketable skills. They are highly effective dog trainers. In fact, four former inmate trainers are now paid employees with the organization and two more volunteer.

On this day, David Burry, managing director of the paws4people for-profit training arm, Paws Training Centers, is on hand to encourage and inspire trainers. “As a result of my greed and pride, I lost everything,” he tells the group. “I pled guilty to bank fraud, wire fraud and money laundering and I was sentenced to 151 months in prison. I now owe the government \$41 million dollars in restitution and the IRS \$12 million. I know that all sounds pretty grim, but in fact I've never been happier.”

Since serving his sentence, Burry, formerly an inmate trainer, has teamed up with his daughter, Ashley O'Hara, to train privately

owned dogs as assistance dogs for qualified owners as well as to provide basic obedience and behavior modification for pet dogs in West Chester, PA. “It's amazing to know that I'm making difference and helping others.”

Last year, Paws Training Centers were opened at locations across the country. These for-profit training centers provide employment for ex-inmate trainers and others and help to fund the work of the non-profit. One paws trainer is in Leesburg.

Trish, from the inmate side of the aisle, steps up to the podium and reveals a lifetime punctuated by abuse, rape and trauma perpetrated by family and foster care. It's impossible not to want to reach out and give Trish a hug as she tells her story. But there is no touching at Lakin. A fellow trainer stands with her, but cannot comfort her. She appears relieved to return to her seat where she is surrounded by her four-legged support system.

Carol Hancock is the Veteran Client Advocate for paws4people's “paws4vets” pro-

gram. She became aware of paws4people when her son, who has Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, became a client. As veterans shift uncomfortably in their seats, Carol tells the story of her own family's sadness and desperation before Tazie, a mixed breed dog rescued from Afghanistan and trained by paws4people, entered their lives. “Tazie is the difference between life and death for Jeff. Without Tazie, he would not have survived his darkest days with PTSD. Nothing was helping - not medication, not therapy, not our love. Nothing was breaking through that barrier of PTSD. Tazie has given him hope and laughter. She has given him a purpose in life.”

Sabrina Rigney of Lorton, a veteran, is at

SEE HEALING POWER. PAGE 11



FINLEY, third dog from left, is the mother of eight puppies who arrived at Lakin Correctional at the age of four months to begin training.



# 'You Are Not Your Mistakes'

BY JOAN BRADY

"S he was one of the most disagreeable people I had ever met," says paws4people Chairman and COO, Terry Henry, remembering his reaction to meeting Rebecca at Lakin Correctional Center, more than three years ago.

Seeing her now with her earnest smile and a well-behaved puppy happily nestled in her lap, it's hard to imagine the Rebecca he describes.

The old Rebecca had a nickname she chooses not to explain, because it reflects a part of the past that she doesn't want to talk about. And it was the old Rebecca who committed murder during a roadside altercation. That same bad attitude she had in her early 20s got her kicked out of the "paws4prisons" assistant dog training program in her 40s, three years ago.

Rebecca's childhood is devoid of memories of birthday parties, school concerts and family trips. The second of four children, what Rebecca recalls is abuse, as far back as she can remember, the only one of her siblings, she says, to suffer at the hand of her mother.

It's hard not to feel the pain with her as she recalls how she felt when she was fired from the paws4prisons program. "[I was] embarrassed, ashamed and hurt." And then she adds, "It was life changing though and now



**Harper, a labradoodle trained at Lakin Correctional, with Julia, 14. "Wherever Julia needs extra supervision, companionship, responsibility or a bridge to human connection, Harper is there," says Julia's mother.**

I'm thankful for it."

After 19 years in prison, she had a goal. She was determined to get back into the assistance dog training program. Rebecca is serving a life sentence, without the possibility of parole. She wanted her time to mean something. After a year of continu-

ous re-application, Rebecca was conditionally reinstated.

She describes how it felt to come back, now two years ago. "I was still embarrassed. ... I felt like I was still being judged." But then she realized, not only was she not being judged, but "they were trying to help

HEALING POWER



paws4people

me to understand myself. ... They wanted to show me how to change."

This support was new for Rebecca, "It was the first time I felt like someone cared about me. It's not easy to feel deserving, when no one had ever cared before."

Learning to accept caring support was just one of her challenges. Cece Miller, Director of the paws4prisons program, really pushed her to grow; trainers have to pass a rigorous academic curriculum that includes tests and essays. They must become proficient public speakers. And they must be able to take direction and correction and work with others.

Two years after that reinstatement, Rebecca has earned her role as a leader in the program says Cece Miller, Director, paws4prisons. "I am very proud of her and I have loved watching her grow."

Rebecca relishes the opportunity to help others. "They have a story. They have prob-

SEE REBECCA, PAGE 11

## Sharing Burden of PTSD

BY JOAN BRADY

Paws4people assistance dogs sprinkle the country, matched with children and veterans whose lives have been forever changed. More than ten of those dogs have benefited from Tiffany's loving training at Lakin Correctional Center in West Virginia.

While paws4people breeds dogs with specific qualities to help ensure more successful assistance dogs, the organization also rescues dogs domestically and even some from Afghanistan.

Tiffany says her biggest challenges have come working with dogs who have been traumatized. It's difficult, when they can't talk to you about what happened, "to reprogram a scared dog to letting him know that the world is ok and people are ok."

The work that Tiffany does is as healing for her as it is for the dogs she trains and the clients who are matched with her dogs.

She describes a challenging childhood in which her parents split up when she was five. When her mother remarried and started a second family, Tiffany moved in with her beloved grandmother and was raised jointly by her grandmother and her father.

Her voice cracks a little when she talks about feelings of isolation and not fitting in at school. By 13, she was acting out and turning to drugs and alcohol that she felt allowed her to fit in somewhere.

At 14, her grandmother and father agreed that a change of scenery might help. What followed was a wrenching move to South

Carolina to live with her dad. But Tiffany didn't find it any easier to fit in in South Carolina, especially, she remembers with a wry smile, with her blue hair. From that point, she was passed back and forth between grandmother's home and father's home whenever she got into trouble.

"I felt like nobody really cared what happened to me... I just acted crazy and acted out and rebelled... I made bad choices and mistakes and ended up here."

Tiffany's life stopped when her fiancé died of a drug overdose. Suffering from PTSD herself, it's important to Tiffany that she is able to help the paws4people veteran clients with their PTSD by training dogs that will allow them to resume normal activities like going into a grocery store and getting gas.

Sabrina Rigney, ex-Air Force, was thankful to meet Tiffany and to learn more about NOEL, who will become her assistance dog.

"It was really great to meet someone who has had a chance to get to know and love NOEL. And she didn't mind me pestering her with questions about what NOEL likes, what she doesn't like." The nuggets shared by Tiffany will help Sabrina get through the long months of training both she and NOEL will go through before NOEL can join her permanently at home.

Tiffany gives her all to the dogs she trains, the clients who get matched with them, and her two half-brothers. She especially worries about the brothers, aged 17 and 19, with whom she speaks daily.

"I try to stay so close to them to keep them from turning out like [me] ... I ask them



**Veteran Sabrina Rigney, right, was matched with NOEL, trained by Tiffany, serving 15 years to life at Lakin Correctional in West Virginia.**

about their day. Every day. I try to relate to them ... because I just wish that I would have had somebody doing that for me."

She thinks that if there had been a program with dogs for her when she was younger, one where she could get the caring support and job training she is now get-

ting, "things would have been completely different."

And completely different would mean that Tiffany's fiancé was still alive and she, not serving a sentence of 15 years to life in prison, for providing the drugs that killed him.



# Dogs' Unconditional Love

FROM PAGE 9

Lakin hoping to be matched with a psychiatric assistance dog. As a medic, she did one tour in Kuwait and then another in Baghdad. She described tending to a 19-year-old soldier as he begged her not to let him die. "You pretty much know that when they say that, they're gone. I'll never forget that," she tells her audience.

After her third tour, back in Northern Virginia, Sabrina was scheduled to be a living kidney donor for a close friend, when her orders to redeploy for the fourth time came in. She declined redeployment in order to move forward with the kidney donation and was later denied the opportunity to re-enlist, after eight years of service.

Her pain is palpable as she describes what it felt like to lose her military family.

Sabrina suffers from PTSD. While she is employed as a paramedic, she often finds it difficult to be around people. Some days she can't bring herself to leave her home. There are 22 suicides of veterans every day, she tells her audience. And three times, she was almost one of them.

When she began working with a therapist who included a therapy dog in their sessions, tiny pieces began to heal. Today she hopes that she will be matched with an assistance dog who will help her to get her life back.

Those listening to Sabrina on both sides of the aisle nod in sympathy and wipe away tears.

Two other veterans with PTSD tell their stories. All have military friends who have committed suicide. One says he lost more of his fellow soldiers to suicide after deployment than during combat.

By the end of the day, each veteran has been joyfully matched with a dog and train-

## HEALING POWER



## paws4people

*If you would like to learn more about paws4people and its programs visit [paws4people.org](http://paws4people.org) or contact Joan Brady at [joan@joanbradyphotography.com](mailto:joan@joanbradyphotography.com) or call 202-256-1311.*

ers stand by proudly while pictures are taken. Later, there is time to socialize.

"It was really great to meet someone that has had a chance to get to know and love NOEL," says Sabrina of Tiffany, one of the trainers of the golden retriever Sabrina has been matched with today.

Many of the trainers have had little encouragement in their lives. And it's isolating to be in jail where inmates share stories of being abandoned by friends and family. But today, they bask in the applause for the difference they are making.

This is a three-legged stool of inmate trainers, dogs and clients – with the paws4people organization creating the right environment for each group to thrive as they travel their personal journeys of redemption and healing accompanied by the caring support of others and the unconditional love of dogs.

As trainers file out and the civilians behind them, there is a connection between those who sat on either side of the aisle that will remain forever unbroken.

ably still be closed up. And now... she is so outgoing, happy and confident. [she has] self respect and self esteem... [it] touches your heart."

And Rebecca herself has touched the heart of Terry Henry.

"I have never witnessed a more dramatic change in a person than the change I have witnessed in Rebecca. ... The world is now a much better place and Rebecca has only begun to have an effect."

With the caring motivation of paws4people, Rebecca has learned a critical lesson: "You are not your mistakes."



PHOTOS BY JOAN BRADY

# Rebecca

FROM PAGE 10

lems. [I can] help to teach them to be better people."

For her, it's not as much about the dogs she trains, although that's very important. What touches her the most is "watching the other girls' faces... watching them grow and heal [because of the dogs they have trained.]"

Julia, 14, is on hand to show the trainers how well she is doing with Harper, a Labradoodle who was trained at Lakin. Julia has a genetic disorder which causes abnormal blood vessel malformations to grow in her brain. She has been through four surgeries to date, to stop brain hemorrhages.

"Harper fills the holes in Julia's life," Julia's mother says. "Wherever Julia needs extra supervision, companionship, responsibility or a bridge to human connection, Harper is there."

Julia would not speak to the audience, but happily took center stage to show off her assistance dog, Harper.

Rebecca, who met Julia before she was matched with Harper, describes how she felt when Julia began demonstrating. "At that moment, you are thinking, well just think if she didn't have that dog, she would prob-

## REMEMBERING

# Honoring Those Who Have Died in Military Service

FROM PAGE 6

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:

Capt. Jesse A. Ozbab, 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)

## 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:  
[vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com)

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## Madison Boys' Soccer Falls to Yorktown in Conference 6 Semifinals

The Madison boys' soccer team entered the Conference 6 tournament facing the difficult task of taking on Yorktown in the quarterfinals.

The Patriots were seeded No. 3 with a record of 10-2-1 and had held 10 of their opponents scoreless. Meanwhile, the Warhawks were seeded No. 6, had a record of 6-5-2 and lost two of their final three regular-season matches.

While the odds were stacked against them, the Warhawks gave the Patriots everything they could handle.

Trailing 1-0 in the second half, Madison junior midfielder Max Dudenhoeffer netted the equalizer in the 53rd minute. Regulation ended in a 1-all tie, and after two 5-minute overtime periods, Yorktown's Michael Monahan scored the golden goal in sudden death, sending the Patriots to the semifinals and securing them a berth in the region tournament with a 2-1 victory on May 16 at Greenbrier Stadium in Arlington.

"I thought Madison played very well," Yorktown head coach David Wood said. "Their coach set them up very well and they were ready to play. They were very tough for us to break down."

Madison, led by head coach Matt Griep, finished the season with a 6-6-2 record. After opening the season with losses to Herndon and Oakton, the Warhawks went 4-0-1 during their next five matches.

— JON ROETMAN

## Madison Girls' Soccer Secures Regional Berth

The Madison girls' soccer team defeated McLean 1-1 (5-4) in a penalty-kick shootout during the Conference 6 tournament quarterfinals on May 16, earning the Warhawks regional berth and sending them to the conference semifinals.

McLean defeated Madison during the regular season, 2-1 in overtime, on April 28. This time, it was the Warhawks coming out on top during the teams' second meeting of the year at Madison High School. The victory improved the No. 4-seed Warhawks' record to 9-2-3. No. 5 McLean ended the year with a 7-3-4 record.

No. 4 Madison faced No. 1 Yorktown in the semifinals on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

## Madison Softball Advances

The No. 3 Madison softball team defeated No. 6 Hayfield 10-0 in the Conference 6 tournament quarterfinals on May 16.

The Warhawks advanced to the semi-



**Madison captain Cody Gardiner (5) goes for a header against Yorktown's Keith Witherell during the Conference 6 quarterfinals on May 16.**



**Madison's Theo Philus, right, fights for the ball against Yorktown's Steven Valdes on May 16.**



**Madison's John Dyson (25) and the Warhawks went to overtime against Yorktown in the Conference 6 quarterfinals on May 16, losing 2-1.**

nals and earned a regional tournament berth. Madison improved to 17-4.

Madison faced No. 2 Langley in the semifinals on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

## Marshall Baseball Wins 10th Straight

The Marshall baseball team extended its

win streak to 10 games, beating Wakefield 8-1 in the Conference 13 tournament quarterfinals on May 19.

The victory improved the Statesmen's record to 12-6, advanced them to the semifinals and secured them a regional berth.

Marshall will host Stuart in the semifinals on Wednesday.

## Marshall Hires Volleyball Coach

George C. Marshall High School has hired of Elijah Porr as its new head volleyball coach.

Porr has worked at the youth, high school and collegiate levels. Since 2005 he has worked with club teams in Pennsylvania and Florida. At the high school level, he has been a head or assistant coach at two schools in Pennsylvania, one in Illinois and one in Florida. Collegiately, Porr has assisted the men's program at Eastern Illinois University in 2011 and Millersville University in 2012. Currently, he is an assistant for the men's program at George Mason University.

## 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.

## 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.



# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## THURSDAY MAY 22-SATURDAY/MAY 31

**Book Sales.** Ongoing book sales at all libraries except George Mason, Tysons-Pimmit and Woodrow Wilson.

## THURSDAY/MAY 22

**Great Falls Writer's Group Meeting.** 12-1:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Kemal Kurspahic, editor of the Great Falls Connection, will address the group on "Life on Deadline—From the Frontline Sarajevo Daily to the Great Falls Connection," in which he will talk about his years as a foreign correspondent and international journalist, and his role at The Connection. Potluck lunch will be served. Writers of all levels are welcome, no registration necessary. Call 703-926-7457 for more information.

**DMVLIFE.com Spotlight Concert.** 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Lobby bar opens at 6 p.m. with a full dinner and drink menu. Concert featuring various DMV artists. Admission: \$10-\$20. <https://jamminjava.com/events/dmvlife>. 703-255-1566.

## FRIDAY/MAY 23

**Patriotic Campfire.** 7 - 8:30 p.m. WNC Campfire Ring - On Soapstone Drive, between Glade Drive and Lawyers Road. All ages. Celebrate Memorial Day by singing patriotic songs around a campfire. Roast a hot dog on a stick and make a yummy marshmallow treat. Play old-fashioned games and get a fun start to your holiday weekend.

**"A Prairie Home Companion"** with Garrison Keillor. 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Radio host Garrison Keillor leads a cast through his weekly variety show featuring musical guests and a monologue, "The News from Lake Wobegon." Admission: \$25-\$65. 703-255-1900.

**Drop-In Chess.** 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. All ages and skills levels welcome!

**Pokemon League.** 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave East, Vienna. Learn and play! Ages 5-8.

## FRIDAY/MAY 23 - SUNDAY/JUNE 22

**"Bat Boy: The Musical."** Check website for times. 1st Stage Theatre in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. A musical comedy/horror spoof and satire on American prejudice featuring a half-boy, half-bat creature a the main character. Admission: \$15-\$32. <http://www.1stStageTysons.org/>. 703-854-1856.

## SATURDAY/MAY 24 - SUNDAY/ MAY 25

**Model Trains at Open House.** 1-5 p.m. 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose. 703-938-5157. [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org).

## SATURDAY/MAY 24- MONDAY/MAY 26

**ViVa! Vienna!** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Rides, food, entertainment, kids' activities and Memorial Day tribute celebrate community spirit. [www.vivavienna.org](http://www.vivavienna.org).

## SATURDAY/MAY 24

**"A Prairie Home Companion"** with Garrison Keillor. 5:45 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Radio host Garrison Keillor leads a cast through his weekly variety show featuring musical guests and a monologue, "The News from Lake Wobegon." Admission: \$25-\$65. 703-255-1900.

**An Evening with The Kruger Brothers.** 7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. The Kruger Brothers perform a mix of jazz, classical and bluegrass music and are



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Teens scream on the major rides at ViVa! Vienna! last year. Join in on the fun at this year's Viva! Vienna! taking place this Memorial Day weekend, May 24-26.**

originally from Europe, now living in North Carolina. Admission: \$25. <https://jamminjava.com/events/kruger-brothers>. 703-255-1566.

**Electric Love Bash w/ELM + Hubble Bash.** 10:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. ELM (formerly Segway) is a quartet that combines electronica, dance, rock, soul and funk into high-energy music. Admission: \$10. <https://jamminjava.com/events/elm-hubblebash>. 703-255-1566.

**Maria Spearman (Tai-Chi and Stretch).** 8-9 a.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

**Four Star Combo (Rock/Honky Tonk).** 5-7 p.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

## SUNDAY/MAY 25

**Music Friends Concerts:** Young Soloists Recital. 3 p.m. The Alden 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Four internationally-recognized students perform solos on violin and piano. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events/aldenconcerts>.

**Wolf Trap Summer Blast Off!** 8 p.m. The Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The U.S. Marine Band will perform followed by fireworks. [http://www.wolftrap.org/Home/Find\\_Performances\\_and\\_Events/Event/blastoff.aspx](http://www.wolftrap.org/Home/Find_Performances_and_Events/Event/blastoff.aspx). 703-255-1868.

## TUESDAY/MAY 27

**James Madison High School Jazz Band.** 7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. The nationally-recognized jazz band performs a wide range of repertoire. Admission: \$5-\$10. <https://jamminjava.com/events/james-madison-high-school-jazz-band>. 703-255-1566.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

## A Year-end Performance

Monica Brown of Chantilly High School, Bennett Green of Fairfax High School, Allison Maebius of Langley High School, Allie Smith of Lake Braddock Secondary School and Brittany Summers of Chantilly High School perform in Act 1: New York State of Mind to the music Johann Sebastian Bach in the 1st section of Preludium in the Fairfax Academy of the Arts year-end performance at Fairfax High School last weekend.

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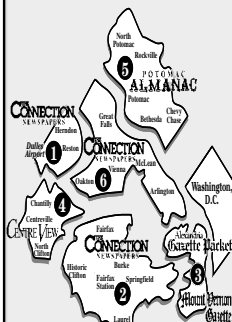
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### 4 RE for Sale

**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@fairfaxwater.org](mailto:procpu@fairfaxwater.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

### 21 Announcements

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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](http://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 [efiling@ferc.gov](mailto:efiling@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](http://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](http://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  
Washington, DC 20426

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  
Saturday, May 31, 2014  
1:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
Patuxent High School  
12485 Southern Connector Boulevard  
Lusby, MD 20657  
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](http://www.ferc.gov)) using the eLibrary link.

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### 4 RE for Sale

**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@fairfaxwater.org](mailto:procpu@fairfaxwater.org).

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

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## 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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**Public Works Day, Town of Vienna-style, means examining the interior of construction equipment.**



# Vienna Public Works Day Draws Crowds

**Preschoolers have opportunity to climb on heavy equipment.**

To a young child, there's no question — the bigger, the better. Witness the euphoria and unbridled enthusiasm of hundreds of preschoolers who climbed onboard heavy equipment, from front-loaders to ditch-diggers, at the Town of Vienna's annual (and very popular) Public Works Day open house on May 15. Kids had the opportunity to sit in police vehicles, crawl into the animal compartment of the police department's animal control truck, get tattoos, and grab loads of complimentary packaged snacks, as well. The congenial staff of the Public Works Department was there on-hand to boost the children into equipment cabs and ensure their safety.

Some kids sat in cabs trying to move levers; others, such as 4-1/2-year-old Seth Miller, thought it was fun to pretend to be arrested. "I really like to see the big trucks and the police cars," said Seth. "I want to break out of jail."

Inside the public works building, a garbage truck stood tall on a lift. The Town of Vienna provided bags of savory and sweet treats for its guests, as well as cold drinks. A highlight of Public Works Day is the free raffle where kids had the chance to win models of construction equipment. Freshly-popped popcorn was handed out, too.

When queried, most of the preschoolers responded in a like-minded manner. They really liked climbing



**The big fire engine is always a big hit with the preschoolers no matter where it is. Career first-responders explained apparatus to the kids.**

on the big trucks and equipment. Five-year-old Priya Robbins had her own perspective. "I like the fire truck the best."

— DONNA MANZ

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



**Four-and-a-half year-old Seth Miller told his dad he wanted to break out of jail. No matter that it's a police vehicle he's sitting in.**



**First, you have to tug at the levers ... then, you climb over the seat. These children mastered the heavy equipment climb-over technique.**