

Members of the Jewish and Muslim communities participate in a Passover Seder at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society Saturday night.

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## WEEK IN HERNDON

### Reston Man Dies in Crash

Police are investigating a fatal crash that occurred in the early morning hours of Sunday, April 24. Around 1:50 a.m. police were called to the Fairfax County Parkway near West Ox Road for a reported crash. Officers located a 1988 Oldsmobile Bravada in the backyard of a home in the 13100 block of Lou Alice Way.

An investigation determined the vehicle was traveling north on the Fairfax County Parkway, just past the intersection of West Ox Road, when the driver lost control of the vehicle. The Bravada went off the left side of the road and rotated counter-clockwise. It traveled across the grass median and the southbound lanes of the Parkway then began to roll as it reached the shoulder of the road. It continued up the embankment, took out some trees and crashed through a wooden fence. The Bravada came to rest on its roof in the backyard of the home.

The driver, Arturo Cruz Zaldivar, 22, of Cocquina Drive in Reston, was pronounced dead at the scene. A 20-year-old male passenger was treated for minor injuries. Zaldivar was not wearing a seatbelt; the passenger was. This crash investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text “TIP187” plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

### Herndon Farmers’ Market Opens May 5

Herndon Farmers’ Market, a weekly marketplace that showcases a variety of seasonal fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers, meats, eggs, jams, jellies, plants and home baked goods, opens Thursday, May 5, 8 a.m. until noon and runs every Thursday morning through October. All items are homegrown or baked by the vendors at the market.

The market is located at Lynn Street in downtown Herndon, in front of the red caboose.

More information at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov) or call 703-787-7380.

The Frying Pan Farmers’ Market opens on May 4 with hours from 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. The market is located in front of the Country Store in Frying Pan Farm Park at 2709 West Ox Road in Herndon.

### Senior Senior Prom Set for May 22

The Rotary clubs of Herndon and Reston will once again present what many local residents view as the area’s premier social event for all the young in heart who remember what kicking up their heels is all about – the Senior Senior Prom. The event will take place on Saturday, May 22, 2 - 4 p.m., at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church (750 Peachtree Street, Herndon), located near the Herndon Community Center. Dance music and entertainment will be provided by the Loudoun Jazz Ensemble and The 8-Week Wonders Swing Dancers.

All residents of the Dulles area—Herndon, Reston and adjacent communities—age 50 and over are invited to attend, free of charge. Prom/formal attire (or beach/Hawaiian attire, as an alternative) is requested. All ladies and gentlemen who attend the event receive a corsage or a boutonniere, as well as a souvenir card with their prom picture.

At the close of the event, awards and crowns are given for Prom King and Queen, Best Dressed, Best Dancer, and the winners of other distinctive honors. Many familiar with the event will remember that several years ago the Prom King honor was conferred upon a 101-year-old gentleman who distinguished himself by dancing to every number the band played.

For reservations, call Chris Oliver at 703-904-8528.

### ‘Big Truck Days’ Return on May 5-6

The Town of Herndon’s Department of Public Works hosts its annual “Big Truck Days,” an opportunity for children – and their parents – to see the town’s big trucks and heavy equipment on display. A two-day event will be held on Thursday, May 5, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Friday, May 6, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. at the Public Works complex, 1479 Sterling Road, Herndon.

Light refreshments will be served and souvenirs will be provided to children.

town is collecting non-perishable food donations for the needy; Big Truck Days attendees are encouraged to bring donations.

Contact: Public Works Maintenance Complex, 703-435-6860.

[Public.works@herndon-va.gov](mailto:Public.works@herndon-va.gov)

More than two dozen members of the local Jewish and Muslim communities take part in a Passover Seder at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society Saturday, April 23.



PHOTOS BY  
ALEX McVEIGH/  
THE CONNECTION

## Faiths Break Bread Together

Muslim, Jewish communities come together for Passover Seder.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

A Passover Seder in a mosque might sound like a contradiction in terms, but that's exactly what happened Saturday night at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society. Almost two dozen representatives from the Muslim and Jewish communities sat down, broke bread and discussed ways their two faiths could peacefully exist in the future.

Andrea Barron, an adjunct professor at George Mason University and a member of Washington Area Jews for Jewish-Muslim Understanding, was one of the event's organizers. She started participating in interfaith events in 2002, with an Arab-Jewish meal, and in 2006 they expanded their focus to a Jewish-Muslim Seder.

"Passover is a time when Jews celebrate freedom from slavery in Egypt over 3,000 years ago, but it is also an opportunity for Jews to share the Passover Seder, and the universal desire for freedom, with others, especially Muslims and Arabs," Barron said. "We see ourselves making history tonight."

**THE SEDER** was the only one in the country being held in a mosque, Barron said, and the traditional four cups stood for the universal values of understanding, freedom, justice and peace.

The event blended both traditions, replacing the cups of wine with grape juice and allowing breaks in the meal for the Muslim calls to prayer. The discussions centered around international topics, but Barron said they tried not to make anything political.

"We don't have political discussions, those tend to be divisive, so we talk in a respectful way," Barron said. "It's an open dialogue for Jews who want to open up to the Muslim community, and vice-versa."

Rizwan Jaka, a board member at ADAMS, recalled how just a few weeks ago, Boy Scouts from both faiths came together to hold a Pinewood Derby.



**Andrea Barron, one of the coordinators of the Muslim-Jewish Passover Seder at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society, holds the glass of grape juice (symbolizing wine) for the prophet Elijah.**



**Tarek Khalil, one of the organizers of an interfaith Passover Seder at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society, opens the door to invite the prophet Elijah in.**

"A local Jewish Congregation asked for our assistance, so we brought our ramp and our timing computer, and helped them out," Jaka said. "And of course when they were racing cars it was competitive, but afterward you could see the Jewish and Muslim children playing together, checking out their cars, racing them and having a great time. That's the model of how it should be."

**JUSTICE** was a prevailing theme throughout the evening. Steve Silverberg, an attorney from Washington, D.C., said that his Jewish faith taught him to always seek justice.

"Growing up as a Jew meant learning to seek justice wherever it can be found," he said. "The Jewish tradition is to care about the hungry, the poor, and we're proud of our community's involvement in fighting for civil rights."

Tarek Khalil, one of the organizers of the event, said that scriptures in any faith can be used for good or bad, and it was up to the communities to glean the peaceful meaning.

"If you look at the scriptures for peace, it's easy to

SEE SEDER, PAGE 5

## Free College Classes for Senior Citizens

Little known "old" law is waiting for "old" folks.

BY MICHAEL MCMORROW  
THE CONNECTION

If your 60th birthday cake is eaten and if residing in Virginia for at least one year, you can attend courses at any state institution of higher education without paying tuition and fees, such as parking. However, you must pay fees covering course materials.

Any course the senior applicant qualifies to attend on a paying basis may be attended on the non-paying basis. Traditional courses and special courses (such as "adult education" and "continuing education") are included.

Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC), George Mason University (GMU) and all other state institutions of higher education conduct this free tuition program for senior citizens. Graduate and professional schools are not excluded.

A couple of general restrictions apply. The non-tuition senior can take no more than three courses each term. Tuition-paying students must be accommodated before the non-paying senior is admitted to the course; in other words, there must be space in class for the senior citizen.

In some cases, academic credit toward a degree can be earned. One of those situations is where the senior had \$15,000 or less in Virginia taxable income during the preceding year. The Social Security Administration reports the average monthly retirement benefit currently is \$1,178. Factor in the personal exemption and deductions to reach "taxable income" and the potential pool of eligible seniors is sizeable.

Participating seniors often do not seek a degree. They "audit" courses on a part-time basis for personal reasons. These include the pure enjoyment of studying a subject of interest such as art or history, the challenge of learning to converse in a foreign language, and improvement in self-skills (e.g., time management). The attraction for those re-entering the job market



MICHAEL MCMORROW/THE CONNECTION

**Under a 1974 law, senior citizens may attend state institutions of higher learning such as George Mason University without paying tuition.**

### More

**Law:** Virginia Code Sec. 23-38.54 through .60.

**Regulations:** The State Council for Higher Education published rules in the Virginia Administrative Code at 8 VAC 40-20-20 and -30.

**To Start:** Contact the Student Services Center or Registrar at the campus of choice and obtain a catalogue.

might be a course titled Preparation for Employment.

According to Jessica M. Baxter, NVCC's public affairs officer, available data for recent years show total student headcounts at about 70,000. Yet, the numbers of free-tuition senior citizens in the current year's fall and spring semesters are 514 and 612, respectively, says Michael A. Blackwell, the NVCC business manager responsible for such filings.

Senior citizen attendees at GMU present a similar picture. Current student enrollment is 32,562, according to Daniel Walsch, press officer. Of the 418 students age 60 or older, he notes that only 185 claim tuition-free attendance.

Although the law has been on the books for more than 35 years, these figures suggest that benefits of the Senior Citizens Higher Education Act of 1974 are underused. The law itself requires that the program be displayed "prominently" in every college and university catalogue; yet, school staff admit to being unfamiliar with the statute.

SEE FREE CLASSES, PAGE 5



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## THE COUNTY LINE

# New Law Helps Protect Victims of Dating Violence

**Sen. George Barker's expanded protective order bill signed into law.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen Sen. George Barker (D-39) originally introduced legislation in 2010 that would allow anyone in an abusive relationship, regardless of family relationship, to get a protective order, the bill was shunted to the Virginia Crime Commission for review.

But interest in the bill was renewed May 2010 when University of Virginia lacrosse player, Yeadley Love, died of severe head trauma, after her boyfriend allegedly slammed her head into a wall.

According to news reports, Love's friends and family said Love and her boyfriend cycled through violent periods during their turbulent relationship. On Monday, April 18, a Charlottesville Circuit Court grand jury indicted the 23-year-old fellow lacrosse player on first-degree murder charges.

"[The murder] certainly helped galvanize interest in this legislation and get people focused on this bill. It was not a matter of should we do it anymore, but what and when should we do," said Barker. Renewed interest in the issue led to reintroduction of the bill, and unanimous passage in both chambers of the General Assembly in February.

At a ceremony in Richmond on Friday, April 15, Gov. Robert



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTHONY KUSICH

**Gov. Bob McDonnell (R), sitting, shakes hands with Sen. George Barker (D-39) on Friday, April 15, after signing into law SB 1222. Also on hand for the ceremony are Del. Rob Bell (R-58) and Sen. Janet Howell (D-32). Bell carried the bill in the House of Delegates.**

McDonnell (R) signed into law SB 1222, Barker's comprehensive legislation that expands the safety net for those requesting protective orders against a physical abuser. Beginning July 1, men and women in dating relationships, as well as extended family members and other individuals, can acquire a protective order when the threat of violence or force places them in fear of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury.

"Virginia was one of a handful of states that only allowed people in the same family, or living in the same house, to get a protective order," Barker said, adding that an e-mail from a constituent led him to draft the original legislation.

"This legislation will be helpful to anyone in an abusive relationship, but it will have a tremendous impact for young women who are exposed to violence and threats from boyfriends," Barker said.

"This law will help us turn more

victims into survivors," said Gena Boyle, a domestic violence advocacy manager for the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, a statewide coalition that includes several Northern Virginia shelters and domestic violence agencies.

"The Action Alliance strongly supports the new law which, for the first time in Virginia history, treats all victims of sexual and domestic violence equally in terms of access and enforcement of protective orders," Boyle said.

Barker said The Virginia Crime Commission studied the issue, and determined that expanding the class of plaintiffs to whom a protective order is an option clearly reduced the incidence of violence and death.

"A protective order can be very effective in preventing further acts of violence when it is properly enforced," Boyle said.

According to Boyle, the new law

**"This legislation will be helpful to anyone in an abusive relationship, but it will have a tremendous impact for young women who are exposed to violence and threats from boyfriends."**

**— Sen. George Barker (D-39)**

allows victims of stalking, dating violence and sexual assault to petition for protective orders and be treated the same way in the petition process as people who are family or spouses under the law.

"Currently, these victims are required to obtain a criminal warrant just to be eligible for a civil order of protection. The new law also makes changes to how law enforcement responds to violations of protective orders issued for non-family members, requiring them to make an arrest for violations, which they are currently required to do for violations of protective orders issued to family and spouses."

Barker said the legislation would help citizens "remain safe at school, in their homes, and wherever they may be at risk."

At the Friday signing were several advocates to end domestic violence, as well as Del. Rob Bell (R-58), who carried the bill in the House of Delegates.

### BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [herndon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:herndon@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

#### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

**MOMS Club of Herndon.** 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Spring open house, with medical writer and speaker Kimberly Day on limiting stress and enhancing mental well-being. Refreshments, door prizes and more. [herndon\\_moms\\_info@yahoo.com](mailto:herndon_moms_info@yahoo.com).

#### THURSDAY/APRIL 28

**Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mixer.** 5:30 p.m. Frying Pan Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Members \$15-\$20, non-members \$20-\$25. [info@dullesregionalchamber.org](mailto:info@dullesregionalchamber.org).  
**Lupus Support Group.** 12 p.m. at Reston Hospital Center, The West Wing, 1850 Town Center Parkway,

Reston. [lh@ascendcomm.com](mailto:lh@ascendcomm.com) or [www.lupusgw.org](http://www.lupusgw.org).

**Alzheimer's Memory Care Support Groups.** 11 a.m. Great Falls Assisted Living, 1121 Reston Ave., Herndon. Give and receive both emotional and practical support and exchange information. The Group is for caregivers, those newly diagnosed and those making the journey with a friend or loved one. Free and open to the public. [sfields@greatfallsassistedliving.com](mailto:sfields@greatfallsassistedliving.com) or [www.greatfallsassistedliving.com](http://www.greatfallsassistedliving.com).

#### SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**The Human Side of Dementia: Maintaining Dignity, Making the Transition through the Disease Progress.** 10 a.m. Great Falls Assisted Living, 1121 Reston Ave., Herndon. Steve Simmons, MD, a dementia specialist, on dementia and caregivers navigating memory loss in a loved one. Medications, behaviors, depression, end of life and caregiver stress. Free. Reserve at 703-421-0690 or

[sfields@greatfallsassistedliving.com](mailto:sfields@greatfallsassistedliving.com).

#### WEDNESDAY/MAY 4

**Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce Newsmaker Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sheraton Reston, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Va. Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling will speak on the Creation of Jobs in Virginia. Member \$45, non-members \$60. [info@dullesregionalchamber.org](mailto:info@dullesregionalchamber.org).  
**Screening of "Race to Nowhere: the Dark Side of America's Achievement Culture."** 7 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Exploration of the stresses students are under. \$10. [rtmrestoncommunitycenter.eventbrite.com](http://rtmrestoncommunitycenter.eventbrite.com).

#### THURSDAY/MAY 5

**Herndon Farmer's Market Season Opening.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Lynn Street in downtown Herndon. Thursdays through Oct. Seasonal fruits, vegetables, flowers, meats,

eggs, jams, plants and baked goods. All items are homegrown or baked by the vendors at the market. [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov) or 703-787-7380.

#### SATURDAY/MAY 7

**Small Secondary School Symposium.** 11 a.m. Auburn School, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite 101, Herndon. Presentations by small schools and educational professionals, individual meetings with representatives from local small secondary schools and more. [www.smallschoolsbigminds.org](http://www.smallschoolsbigminds.org).  
**Reston Farmers Market Season Opening.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Lake Anne Village Center, Reston. Open Saturdays through Oct. Vegetable farmers and fruit orchards, baked goods, homemade sausages and soups, goat and cow cheeses, honey, kettle corn, ice cream and more. [www.restonfarmersmarket.com](http://www.restonfarmersmarket.com) or 703-318-9628.

# NEWS

## Seder at Mosque

FROM PAGE 3

find the peaceful verses about how to maintain peace," Khalil said. "But if you want war bad enough, you can find those verses as well."

"The Koran and the Torah both teach justice, and you cannot have justice when one group is occupying another," said Joel Segal. "If you look at history, occupations only end in civil disobedience or bloodshed."

Segal, who is the vice chair of the Global Campaign for Middle East Peace, a multicultural inter-faith organization, says the time is now to end the Muslim-Israeli violence.

"We have a chance to build a grassroots civil society movement through political and spiritual goals," he said. "Anytime you want to resolve conflict, there are always a small minority of people who want to get in the way. It's like if someone is driving drunk, you take away their keys. We've got to take away the keys of the people who want to fight."

Barron said the themes for this year's event was Israeli-Palestinian peace, Jewish-Muslim relations and support for the people in countries like Tunisia and Egypt, who she said seem to be starting down a path of a democratic future.

She also said she hoped that interfaith events like the Seder at ADAMS would set an example that the world can follow.

"I hope everyone who attended here tells people that they went to a Passover Seder in a mosque," Barron said. "We can use tonight as an example of progress and peace, which is what we all should believe in."

## Free Classes for Seniors

FROM PAGE 3

This general lack of awareness could explain why so few take advantage of the opportunities offered at Virginia's colleges and universities.

*The writer has participated in the tuition-free program since 2002, and courses range from "introductory" at NVCC to "graduate" at GMU's School of Law.*



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# OPINION

# Tolls, Rail, Ridership

## Why do private companies collect biggest tolls?

**\$** 34.50: That's what I estimate I spent this past weekend on five full trips the entire length of the Dulles Toll Road and the Greenway, plus an additional trip on the Dulles Toll from the Beltway to Hunter Mill Road and back. (Remember when you could buy a tank of gas for that?)

### EDITORIALS

Almost all of that money, at least \$22.50, went to the private owners of the Greenway, contributing not one penny to rail or any other local infrastructure. I don't mind the \$12 that might help pay for rail nearly as much.

How will the design of the Metro stop at Dulles Airport affect its use?

Research demonstrates, along with common sense, that the more convenient transit is, (frequency, proximity, continuity) the more people use it. It also has to be clean and safe, but we're going to assume those features will be included.

We've planned for decades (Dulles opened in 1962) not for rail to Tysons or for rail to Reston, but for rail to Dulles, to serve a portion of the 24 million passengers a year that fly through the airport; eventually the number of passengers could more than double.

Saving \$330 million is a worthy goal, the amount extra that putting the Dulles stop underground would cost. Making the rail easy to use is also important. The fact that drivers on the Dulles Toll Road pay for a significant por-

tion of construction of the rail line adds to the controversy.

There might be more than one way to shorten the walk from getting off Metro to the terminal (where we know that there are more trains, shuttles, corridors and escalators waiting). Perhaps an above ground station could be designed on the current hourly parking lot, conveniently a hop, skip and a jump into the terminal. Let the people who drive walk a few extra minutes instead.

Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, demonstrated that the walk from the above ground station to the terminal would be four-to-seven minutes. We know that navigating once inside the terminal also takes time.

Meanwhile, we need more scrutiny and intellectual power on the tolls we already pay and the tolls that are coming, and how those could be used to advance transportation for everyone.

No entity, private or government, should collect tolls without displaying clearly how much they are charging. It's not easy to figure out what you spend using your EasyPass transponder. At least on the Dulles Toll Road, there are signs letting you know what you are paying. No such luck on the Greenway. It might be good for everyone who uses it to have one day a year (not the same day please) when

they must pay by cash, just as a reminder of how much money it is.

Construction continues on the high occupancy toll lanes on the Beltway, where again, a private company will collect 100 percent of the tolls for at least 50 years, and the cost of one trip from near the American Legion Bridge to the Mixing Bowl in the HOT-lanes (remember, T for toll) could be as much as \$12. This is for infrastructure built on public property.

There are benefits to the construction of the HOT-lanes including rebuilding dozens of aging bridges over and around the Beltway. But the state could have paid for the project with bonds based on tolls. Or the contract could have required revenue sharing.

As Virginia seems intent on going forward with HOT-lanes on 395-95, public officials owe Northern Virginia commuters better representation.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM; ON

TWITTER, @MARYKIMM

## Send in Mother's Day Photos

The Connection will print a gallery of Mother's Day photos, email in your pictures to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com). Be sure to identify everyone in the photo and let us know when and where it was taken.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Walking to Dulles – Not Long, Not Hard

To the Editor:

How much walking is worth \$330 million? On Tuesday of this week, I walked from the North Garage to the terminal at Dulles International Airport, the distance an air traveler would walk if the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority made the sensible decision to build the Metro station at Dulles above ground at that location.

The entire walk is within an underground, climate-controlled walkway. The total distance is about 1,150 feet and took 4-7 minutes depending on if my group walked or stood on the moving sidewalks.

The distance between the proposed underground station (MWAA's preference) and the aerial station includes 250 feet of unassisted (without moving sidewalks) walking. That's \$1.3 million per foot. It took me 2 minutes and 39 seconds to get from the area proposed for an underground station to the aerial alternative. That's \$2.07 million per second.

Not only is the underground station within an easy walking distance from the aerial station, it's actually farther away from the destination of most of the future Silver line Dulles rail riders. A majority of Metro riders arriving at the airport station will use it to get to work at nearby businesses that are closer to the North Garage and farther from the terminal.

These are the facts the MWAA board had before it when it chose an underground station against the recommendation of its own staff and its funding partners: Fairfax County, Loudoun County and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Simply put, MWAA chose a station that is more expensive, will take six months longer to build and is less convenient for the majority of future Metro riders.

Misinformation is being circulated that the above ground station would ruin the beauty of Dulles and that passengers would have to pull luggage along long distances exposed to the elements. Neither is true and should not be used to make the case for an underground station. Additionally, MWAA should not expect the higher (\$330 million) cost to be

covered by the jurisdictions that have rejected it.

I am confident that good sense and facts will prevail. I am looking forward to a discussion with members of the MWAA board so that an agreement can be reached regarding the most logical, cost effective and convenient choice for a station at the airport. Rail to Dulles is Fairfax County's highest transportation priority and it must not be delayed.

**Sharon Bulova**

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

## Providing Food for Others

To the Editor:

Friends and neighbors of all ages - teens to retirees - came together again for the fourth consecutive year to support a local fundraiser. It's a small, but significant indication that Reston is and continues to be a community of givers. According to Wikipedia, Reston is listed 13th on the 100 highest-income places with a population of at least 50,000 (ahead of San

Francisco, Calif. - ranked at 46).

Despite the area's affluence, there are still large numbers of people who continue to struggle to feed their families. These are people who have lost their jobs, had their hours cut back or who work more than one job but still can't make enough to feed their families properly. The neighbors of Aintree Lane in Reston didn't just collect cans of food, they put their creative skills to good use by making practical but beautiful baskets filled with food items to be used as table centers at the upcoming Empty Bowls event.

The Empty Bowls Fundraiser hosted by a local group - Giving Circle of HOPE - is being held for the benefit of "Food for Others" and hunger relief in Northern Virginia on Friday, April 29, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston, Virginia 20191. [emptybowls@givingcircleofhope.org](mailto:emptybowls@givingcircleofhope.org).

All proceeds raised will be donated to Food for Others, the largest distributor of free food to the hungry in Northern Virginia.

**Vivian Kelly**  
Reston

## THE CONNECTION

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# FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to [herndon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:herndon@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday.

**The Vajrayogini Buddhist Center** will offer a Monthly Meditation Class at 1 p.m. on May 7 and May 14 at Brown's Chapel, 11450 Baron Cameron Ave. in Reston. Weekly Meditation Classes are 7 p.m. at The Griffin Center, Suite 5, 3800 Fairfax Drive in Arlington. Classes are free to members, \$12 non-members. [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org) or 202-331-1790.

**The Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation** celebrates Its 45th Anniversary on Sunday, May 8 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Lake Anne Village Center, Washington Plaza W., Reston. It will include Buddha's birthday ceremony, a green/veggie expo to promote environmental sustainability strategies and healthy lifestyles and activities to celebrate Mother's Day. Light vegetarian refreshments will be served. In case of inclement weather, the celebration will be indoors at 1516 Moorings Drive, Reston. 703-707-8606 or [www.us.tzuchi.org](http://www.us.tzuchi.org).

**Hope Fellowship Church** will temporarily be meeting at Woody's Golf Range, 11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Sunday Worship Services for this new Southern Baptist church are at 10:45 a.m. The public is invited to join a growing Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or [www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org](http://www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org).

Knitters needed the first and third Wednesdays of the month, at 7 p.m., at **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. E-mail [shawl@saint-timothys.org](mailto:shawl@saint-timothys.org) or visit the Pastoral Care page at [www.saint-timothys.org](http://www.saint-timothys.org).

Nondenominational **Christian businessmen** meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship 7 p.m. Fridays at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and 12 p.m. Thursdays at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.

**Adult Sunday school** will be held

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

**HAVEN of Northern Virginia** offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) for schedules and registration information.

**Vajrayogini Buddhist Center** offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org).

**The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington** and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. [ShalomDC.org](http://ShalomDC.org).



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Or to mail photo prints, send to:  
 The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, "Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"  
 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

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Send announcements to [herndon@connectionnewsletters.com](mailto:herndon@connectionnewsletters.com). Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit [www.connectionnewsletters.com](http://www.connectionnewsletters.com).

### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

**Thirty Seconds To Mars.** 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. \$32.50-\$39.50, available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available at 703-993-3035. [www.thirtysecondstomars.com](http://www.thirtysecondstomars.com) or [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com).

**Advanced Birding Course: Bird Biology and Natural History.** 7 p.m. National Wildlife Federation, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston. Major habitat types, migration, reproduction, plumage variations and more. \$10-\$45. 703-438-6008 or [info@audubonva.org](mailto:info@audubonva.org).

### THURSDAY/APRIL 28

**Plein-Air/Impressionist Flower Workshop.** 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Tree Frog Nursery, McLean. Two-day workshop taught by artist Christine Lashley. In case of rain, the workshop will be held indoors at ArtSpace Herndon. \$190. [www.ArtSpaceHerndon.org](http://www.ArtSpaceHerndon.org).

**Bedtime Storytime.** 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Stories and songs. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-242-4020.

### FRIDAY/APRIL 29

**"Fascinating Rhythm" with the Herndon Towne Square Singers.** 7:30 p.m. Elden Street Player's Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$12. 703-787-7300.

**Empty Bowls Fundraiser.** 5:30-8 p.m. St. John Neumann, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. Hosted by the Giving Circle of Hope. All proceeds are donated to Food for Others, distributing free food to the hungry in Northern Virginia. \$20 includes meal and handcrafted bowl that you get to keep. All contributions are tax-deductible. Order tickets at [emptybowls@givingcircleofhope.org](mailto:emptybowls@givingcircleofhope.org) or 703-608-2231.

**United States Navy Band.** 7:30 p.m. Herndon High School, 700 Bennett Street, Herndon. The premier wind ensemble of the U.S. Navy, featuring marches, patriotic selections, orchestral transcriptions and modern wind ensemble repertoire. Free. [kamecanany@yahoo.com](mailto:kamecanany@yahoo.com).

### SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**8th Annual Nature House 5K Run.** 8 a.m. Walker Nature Education Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Pre-register online or register the morning of the event beginning at 7 a.m. [www.active.com/running/reston-va](http://www.active.com/running/reston-va)

**Kylie Minogue.** 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$55-\$125, available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or 703-573-SEAT. [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com).

**Fairfax CASA Run for the Children.** 8:30 a.m. Fairfax Courthouse, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. 10K and 3k. Food, prizes and entertainment for runners and spectators. Runners will help raise awareness for the CASA program while also raising money to support the recruitment, training, and supervision of volunteers from the community to serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates. \$25-\$30. Register at [www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com](http://www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com) or 301-871-0400.

**A Night of Arresting Comedy.** 8 p.m. Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor's Center,

2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Hosted by Fairfax County Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association to benefit the Fairfax County Police Department Canteen program, with comedians Mike Larsen, John Betz Jr. and Mark Matusof. Family-friendly show. \$25. Ticket information at [anightoffarrestingcomedy@cox.net](mailto:anightoffarrestingcomedy@cox.net), [www.iccpaaa.net](http://www.iccpaaa.net) or 703-732-1385.

**The Reston Chorale with The Amadeus Orchestra.** 7:30 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. "King David", music, narration and media in the biblical story of King David's life. Tickets available at the door or [www.restonchorale.org](http://www.restonchorale.org).

**Cyclefest and Paul's Ride for Life.** Reston Town Center, Market St., Reston. Ride begins at 7:30 a.m., Cyclefest 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Ride fee \$25-\$30, proceeds benefit the Washington Regional Transplant Community; register at [www.paulsrideforlife.org](http://www.paulsrideforlife.org). Cyclefest information at [www.thebikelane.com](http://www.thebikelane.com).

**Fistula Foundation Fundraiser: Dinner and Dance Performance.** 7 p.m. United Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Four-course dinner with dance performance by Jane Franklin Dance Co. Tickets \$60, available at 703-425-9712 or [carmelask@msn.com](mailto:carmelask@msn.com). [www.thefistulafoundation.org](http://www.thefistulafoundation.org).

**Spring Festival.** 1-5 p.m. Walker Nature Education Center, 1450 Glade Drive, Reston. Activities and entertainment for all ages, live animals, craft making for children, displays and information from environmental groups as well as fishing and canoe/kayak rentals on Lake Audubon. Free. 703-476-9689.

**Climax Change Seminar.** 10 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center Street, Herndon. With Marc Morano of [climatedepot.com](http://climatedepot.com). Free and open to the public. [www.NoVA-TEA.com](http://www.NoVA-TEA.com).

**"Fascinating Rhythm" with the Herndon Towne Square Singers.** 7:30 p.m. Elden Street Player's Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$12. 703-787-7300.

**Opening Reception and Artists' Talk.** 5-7 p.m. Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St. Suite 103, Reston. With videographer Carolina Mayorga, painter Heidi Neff and photographer Andrew Zimmermann. 703-471-9242 or [www.restonarts.org](http://www.restonarts.org).

### SUNDAY/MAY 1

**"Places."** 12 p.m. Celebrate Great Falls Festival, Great Falls Village Center, Georgetown Pike and Walker Road, Great Falls. Dodgeball Theatre's Teen Ensemble original production, written and performed by the actors. \$10. [www.dodgeballtheatre.com](http://www.dodgeballtheatre.com).

**Arc of Northern Virginia 33rd annual Patriots' Cup Corporate Challenge 8K Race.** 9 a.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Proceeds benefit people with disabilities in Northern Virginia. [www.thearcnofva.org/events/patscup/](http://www.thearcnofva.org/events/patscup/).

**"From Video Gaming to Negotiation in Far Away Lands."** 5 p.m. Sunset Hills Montessori, 11180 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. Chez Nous Reston Salon with Skip Cole, Project Director, US Institute of Peace on scenario playing technology, used to support communications challenges around the world. Full buffet served. \$35 by PayPal to [ChezNousReston@gmail.com](mailto:ChezNousReston@gmail.com) or \$45 at the door. 571-235-3556.

**"Fascinating Rhythm" with the Herndon Towne Square Singers.** 2 p.m. Elden Street Player's Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. \$12. 703-787-7300.



Lorenzo Alexander of the Washington Redskins signs the jersey of Fairfax' Desiree Sedgwick.



Beatriz Meltzer of Reston won the pre-ride raffle as Lorenzo Alexander's 35-mile ride parter.

## 'Ride to Provide' Raises \$10,300

The second Annual "Ride to Provide" charity bike race took place in Reston Town Center on Saturday, April 23. The host, Lorenzo Alexander of the Washington Redskins and several of his teammates, joined 130 riders as they raised

\$10,300 for the ACES Foundation, which stands for accountability, community, education, sports. The foundation was created by Alexander and aims to raise funds for impoverished and abandoned children in Africa and disaster relief efforts in Japan following the March 11 tsunami.

Participants signed up for the 10-, 20- and 35-mile bike rides from Reston Town Center through the scenic W&OD trail and back into town again. The predicted rain held off for the entire event, and all of the participants had finished

their rides by 11.30 a.m. The post ride activities included raffle drawings, autographs signings by Alexander and fellow Redskins' players Kedric Goldston and Rocky McIntosh.

— GRAEME JENNINGS



Frank Grant of Reston sits down to enjoy the food and drink provided after he completed the 35-mile ride.



Ride participants Michael and Rachel Blumberg of Sterling, Washington Redskins player Rocky McIntosh, Sarah and Mark Gallagher of Centerville, and Washington Redskins player Anthony Armstrong.

### THURSDAY/MAY 5

**Big Truck Days in Herndon.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Public Works Complex, 1479 Sterling Road, Herndon. An annual opportunity to see the town's big trucks and heavy equipment on display. Light refreshments will be served and souvenirs provided to children. The town is collecting non-perishable food donations for the needy; Big Truck Days attendees are encouraged to bring donations. 703-435-6860 or [Public.works@herndon-va.gov](mailto:Public.works@herndon-va.gov).

**Charity Raffle.** 5 p.m. Ned Devine's Pub, 2365 Centerville Road, Herndon. Celebrate surviving breast cancer with Molly's Mob, a Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Team. Art, restaurant meals, wine, jewelry and more. 571-239-9996.

**Chamber Music Recital.** 6:30 p.m. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Children's entertainment, crafts, shopping, silent auction, raffles, Pony To Go Petting Zoo with over a dozen animals and more. Create a Mother's Day gift. All proceeds will benefit Artemis House, Fairfax County's Domestic Violence Shelter. [www.wsonline.org](http://www.wsonline.org).

**Women Supporting Women Family Fun Fest.** 1-5 p.m. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Children's entertainment, crafts, shopping, silent auction, raffles, Pony To Go Petting Zoo with over a dozen animals and more. Create a Mother's Day gift. All proceeds will benefit Artemis House, Fairfax County's Domestic Violence Shelter. [www.wsonline.org](http://www.wsonline.org).

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- Saturday, 4/30/11: Oren Polak 9:30am-1:30pm
- Thursday, 5/12/11: Rod Sebastian 8:30-12:30
- Friday, 5/13/11: Pete Baker 9:30-1:30

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**Art & Design Senior Show Reception.** 6-10:30 p.m. George Mason University School of Art, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Over 90 artists and performances by The Attractions, Ketura, Solace Sovay, Jolly Gums, Atlas and Stanley Cooley. Complimentary refreshments and food. Free admission and parking. [dmos@gmu.edu](mailto:dmos@gmu.edu).

**SATURDAY/MAY 14**  
**Weekend Bluegrass Concert**  
**Series: Mill Run.** 7:30 p.m. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. A traditional bluegrass band. \$12. <http://millrunbluegrass.intuitivewebsites.com>.

**FRIDAY/MAY 13**  
**Two Artists in France: 30 Days in Dinan.** 2-4 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston. Artists' reception with Cheryl Parsons and Chris Appleton's drawings and paintings from Brittany. 202-607-6223

**FRIDAY/MAY 13**  
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**SATURDAY/MAY 14**  
**Weekend Bluegrass Concert**  
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11:00 AM the Garden, Traditional Worship Service

**other weekly services**  
5:30 PM Saturdays: Relax & Renew, Casual Worship Service  
6:30 PM Wednesdays: Chapel, Prayer Service

**Holy Week and Easter Services:**  
4/21-Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service at 7:30pm  
4/22-Good Friday Service at 7:30pm  
4/23- Saturday Easter Vigil Service at 5:30pm  
4/24- Easter Sunday Traditional Worship at 8:30 and 11am  
Contemporary Worship at 11 a.m.

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## THE COUNTY LINE

# Free College Classes for Senior Citizens

Little known "old" law is waiting for "old" folks.

BY MICHAEL MCMORROW  
THE CONNECTION

If your 60th birthday cake is eaten and if residing in Virginia for at least one year, you can attend courses at any state institution of higher education without paying tuition and fees, such as parking. However, you must pay fees covering course materials.

Any course the senior applicant qualifies to attend on a paying basis may be attended on the non-paying basis. Traditional courses and special courses (such as "adult education" and "continuing education") are included.

Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC), George Mason University (GMU) and all other state institutions of higher education conduct this free tuition program for senior citizens. Graduate and professional schools are not excluded.

A couple of general restrictions apply. The non-tuition senior can take no more than three courses each term. Tuition-paying students must be accommodated before the non-paying senior is admitted to the course; in other words, there must be space in class for the senior citizen.

In some cases, academic credit toward a degree can be earned. One of those situations is where the senior had \$15,000 or less in Virginia taxable income during the preceding year. The Social Security Administration reports the average monthly retirement benefit currently is \$1,178. Factor in the personal exemption and deductions to reach "taxable income" and the potential pool of eligible seniors is sizeable.

Participating seniors often do not seek a degree. They "audit" courses on a part-time basis for personal reasons. These include the pure enjoyment of studying a subject of interest such as art or history, the challenge of learning to converse in a foreign language, and improvement in self-skills (e.g., time



PHOTO BY MICHAEL MCMORROW/THE CONNECTION

**Under a 1974 law, senior citizens may attend state institutions of higher learning such as George Mason University without paying tuition.**

### More

**Law:** Virginia Code Sec. 23-38.54 through .60.

**Regulations:** The State Council for Higher Education published rules in the Virginia Administrative Code at 8 VAC 40-20-20 and -30.

**To Start:** Contact the Student Services Center or Registrar at the campus of choice and obtain a catalogue.

management). The attraction for those re-entering the job market might be a course titled Preparation for Employment.

According to Jessica M. Baxter, NVCC's public affairs officer, available data for recent years show total student headcounts at about 70,000. Yet, the numbers of free-tuition senior citizens in the cur-

rent year's fall and spring semesters are 514 and 612, respectively, says Michael A. Blackwell, the NVCC business manager responsible for such filings.

Senior citizen attendees at GMU present a similar picture. Current student enrollment is 32,562, according to Daniel Walsch, press officer. Of the 418 students age 60 or older, he notes that only 185 claim tuition-free attendance.

Although the law has been on the books for more than 35 years, these figures suggest that benefits of the Senior Citizens Higher Education Act of 1974 are underused. The law itself requires that the program be displayed "prominently" in every college and university catalogue; yet, school staff admit to being unfamiliar with the statute.

This general lack of awareness could explain why so few take advantage of the opportunities offered at Virginia's colleges and universities.

*The writer has participated in the tuition-free program since 2002, and courses range from "introductory" at NVCC to "graduate" at GMU's School of Law.*

### SCHOOL NOTES

**Katherine Diemer** of Oak Hill was named to the fall 2010 president's list at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg.

Oak Hill residents **Alex Harper** and **Jodi Lebolt** have been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Washington and Lee University of Lexington, Va.

**Taylor Malone** of Herndon was named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Washington and Lee University of Lexington, Va.

**Kevin Wright** of Oak Hill was named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Frostburg State University of Frostburg, Md.

**David Wheeler** of Herndon has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Berklee College Of Music of Boston, Mass.

**Miranda Smith** of Herndon has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Roger Williams University of Bristol, R.I.

**Genevieve Freeman** of Oak Hill has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Loyola University Maryland in Baltimore.

**Alexandra Ross Ruth** of Herndon has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

**Ashley Jensen** of Herndon has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Marist College of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

**Michelle LoRusso**, a rising senior at Oakton High School has been selected to represent Virginia as a National Youth Correspondent to the 2011 Washington Journalism and Media Conference at George Mason University. LoRusso was chosen based on academic accomplishments and a demonstrated interest and excellence in journalism and media studies.

**Rohun Gujral** of Herndon has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at the Villanova School of Business in Villanova, Pa. Gujral is a freshman.



### ALNV Holds Spring Luncheon

Assistance League of Northern Virginia held the 2nd Annual Spring Luncheon at Chantilly National Golf and Country Club to benefit Operation School Bell Weekend Food for Kids Program and New Clothing for Kids Program. NBC 4's Emmy Award-winning consumer reporter Liz Crenshaw was the guest speaker and offered many tips and answered questions from the audience. To find out more about Assistance League of Northern Virginia, visit [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org).

### Herndon Student Receives Law Journal Award

D. Eric Schieffer (middle), a Herndon native and a third year law student at the University of Mississippi School of Law, was awarded the Mississippi Law Journal Award. The University of Mississippi School of Law held its annual Awards Day event March 25 and recognized 47 students.



### Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia Launches A Brush with Kindness Program

Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia (Habitat NoVa) broadens its portfolio of services to low-income homeowners by adopting an exterior renovation program: A Brush with Kindness.

Habitat for Humanity's A Brush with Kindness is a nation-wide effort that serves low-income homeowners who struggle to maintain the exterior of their homes.

"We are happy to start engaging with homeowners and revitalizing neighborhoods," says Frank Lucician, President of Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia. The core Habitat model focuses on new homeownership, while A Brush with Kindness focuses on homeowners and also helps a neighborhood's appearance.

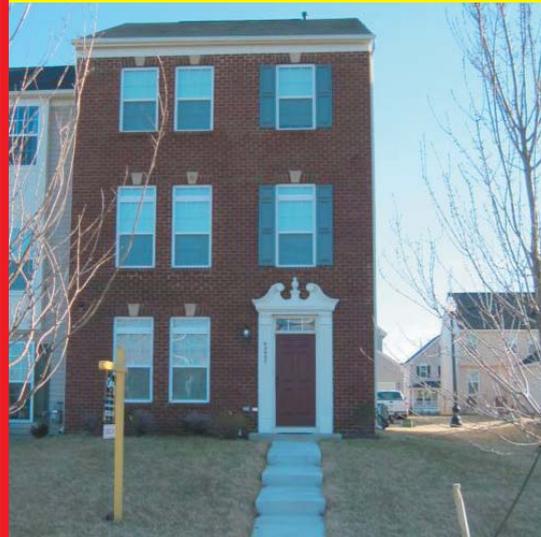
Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia received its first donation to A Brush with Kindness from devoted volunteer and donor, Richard Semmler. This donation brings Semmler's total donation to Habitat NoVa and Habitat International in Tanzania to \$270,750. Habitat NoVa is grateful for Semmler's contribution and continues to seek additional funding.

Participating homeowners with A Brush with Kindness follow Habitat's basic tenets for eligibility: need, ability to pay, and willingness to partner. A Brush with Kindness uses volunteers, donated materials and no interest loans to make repairs affordable. Able-bodied homeowners are encouraged to work alongside the volunteers in a cooperative effort. Common repairs may include painting, minor exterior repairs, landscaping, and exterior clean-up.

Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. The mission of Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia is to build safe, decent, affordable homes in partnership with local families in need. The Northern Virginia affiliate serves families in Arlington and Fairfax Counties, Falls Church, Alexandria, and the City of Fairfax. Since its founding in 1990, Habitat Northern Virginia has built or renovated 78 homes, giving almost 400 individuals a hand up out of poverty housing. For more information, visit [www.habitatnova.org](http://www.habitatnova.org).

# OPEN HOUSES

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, APRIL 30/MAY 1



**South Riding**  
42937  
Edgewater St.  
**\$389,900**  
Sat. 1-4/  
Sun. 1-4  
**Diana**  
**LeFrancois/**  
**Suzanne**  
**Burch**  
**Century 21**  
**703-930-6682/**  
**703-328-5606**

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) & click the Real Estate links on the right side.



Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.



## Reston

2301 Emerald Heights Ct.....\$349,900.....Sun 1-4.....Ellen Moyer.....Re/Max.....703-298-6444  
11200 Center Post Ct.....\$835,000.....Sun 1-4.....Marnie Schaar.....Long & Foster.....703-435-4900

## Herndon

11992 Star Ct.....\$719,900.....Sun 1-4.....Pat Stack.....Weichert.....703-597-9373  
13428 Burrough Farm Dr.....\$524,500.....Sun 1-4.....Mark Wilson.....Long & Foster.....703-668-8364  
3012 Lee field Dr.....\$720,000.....Sun 1-4.....Teresa Kidwell.....Century 21.....703-818-0111

## Vienna

1620 Montmorency.....\$874,900.....Sun 1-5.....Ann Romer.....Weichert.....703-597-4289  
2701 Bellforest Ct #402.....\$409,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ron Fowler.....Weichert.....703-598-0511  
2701 Bellforest Ct #409.....\$330,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ron Fowler.....Weichert.....703-598-0511  
1959 Limb Tree Ln.....\$919,000.....Sun 1-4.....Cindy Marcum.....McEneaney.....703-585-1115  
9500 Liberty Tree Ln.....\$699,900.....Sun 1-4.....Mary Farrell.....McEneaney.....703-969-5522  
9638 Cinnamon Creek Dr.....\$624,900.....Sun 1-4.....John Holler, Jr.....Carter Braxton.....703-851-1296

## McLean

1719 Valley Ave.....\$759,000.....Sun 1-4.....Cecelia A. Lofton.....Weichert.....703-508-3968  
7322 Churchill Rd.....\$850,000.....Sat 2-4.....Cecelia A. Lofton.....Weichert.....703-508-3968  
1008 Eaton Dr.....\$1,499,000.....Sun 1-4.....Jane Price.....Weichert.....703-628-0470  
1517 Pathfinder Ln.....\$1,299,000.....Sun 1-4.....Lyons & McGuire Team.....Keller Williams.....703 406 9009

## Great Falls

1011 Cup Leaf Holly Ct.....\$719,000.....Sun 1-4.....Lyons & McGuire Team.....Keller Williams.....703 406 9009  
10520 Brevity Dr.....\$773,000.....Sun 1-4.....Marc Cormier.....Keller Williams.....703-679-1754  
509 Raccoon Tr.....\$1,400,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Ellickson.....Weichert.....703-862-2135  
904 Holly Creek Dr.....\$899,900.....Sun 1-4.....Lyons & McGuire Team.....Keller Williams.....703 406 9009  
905 Falls Bridge Ln.....\$915,000.....Sun 1-4.....Marc Cormier.....Keller Williams.....703-679-1754

## Dunn Loring

7950 Parsons Grove.....\$748,500.....Sun 2-4.....Hal Logsdon.....McEneaney.....202-372-6273

## Fairfax

4480 Market Commons Dr#501..\$348,975.....Sun 1-4.....Carol G. Ford.....Long & Foster.....703-304-3507

## South Riding

42937 Edgewater St.....\$389,900.....Sat 1-4.....Diana LeFrancois.....Century 21.....703-930-6682  
42937 Edgewater St.....\$389,900.....Sun 1-4.....Suzanne Burch.....Century 21.....703-328-5606

## Sterling

21457 Tamarack Ridge Sq.....\$419,900.....Sun 1-4.....Ron Layton.....Re/Max Premier.....703-625-5586  
46793 Trailwood Pl.....\$549,900.....Sun 1-4.....Debbie Melia.....Re/Max Select.....703-220-8864  
47716 Bowline Terr.....\$429,500.....Sun 1-3:30.....Mary Wisker.....Long & Foster.....703-577-6015  
21152 Angel Sq.....\$399,900.....Sun 1-4.....Linda Vane.....DLP Realty.....703-819-1035

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Pechacek-Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-Mail the info to [kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com) All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.

# Local Luthier Strives for Perfect Sound

Graham Drew's custom guitars bring imagination to life.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

The basement of Graham Drew's Herndon residence looks relatively normal. There's a couch, table and television, but around one corner, rows of guitars and amps line the walls. This is where Drew creates, repairs and builds. Upon first glance the guitars resemble standard Fender models, but they're far from it. They're Drew and Sebastian guitars, custom-made by Drew in his shop, and named after him and his wife.

Working mostly from the Fender designs he's played his whole life, Drew's work consists of making the sound a guitarist hears in his mind a reality.

After playing guitar most of his life, his journey in the guitar business began about 10 years ago. As a musician and also a trained carpenter, it was only natural that he started to play around with the pieces of wood he had been playing most of his life.

**HE MOVED** to America from England in 1999, and started repairing guitars shortly after that. After going back to England for a few months in 2000, he met a luthier, Bernie Goodfellow, a world-renowned guitar maker.

"I got a lot of knowledge from him, and more confidence in my ability to work with guitars," Drew said. "As a career, it's something I've wanted to do my whole life. I've always been the kind to look around and see what I could tinker with."

Drew says he comes from a family of drummers, and that his father was always the type to fix things himself.

He moved to Herndon in 2008, and initially began looking for a small office space to rent.

"When we were looking at houses, I saw one with a great basement, and a light bulb went off," he said. "I run a small shop, and I don't need much more space than I already have."

After getting authorized to repair brands such as Fender, Taylor, Washburn and more, he began to stretch out. His first custom guitar was modeled after the se-



Graham Drew runs a guitar repair shop and custom guitar shop in Herndon.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



The Europa Special guitar was commissioned by local session musician Zach Cutler, who called it his "dream instrument."

rial number 0001 Stratocaster owned by his favorite player, David Gilmour of Pink Floyd.

Drew says creating model names for his custom guitars was a journey in and of itself.

"I was sitting with my son going through a book of planets, and we came upon Europa, which is one of Jupiter's moons. It also reminded me of the Lotus Europa sports car, which I remember from when I was a kid," he said.

Other names, such as the Rialto and the Avenger, also come from cars Drew remembers as a youth.

Zachary Cutler, a Washington, D.C. based musician, came to Drew with an idea: he wanted his guitar to look like a Fender Telecaster, but due to his numerous playing styles, it had to do a lot more. Cutler, who plays a lot of funk, R&B and soul, needed a versatile instrument.

"Having a guitar built for you is a frightening prospect, especially when you want some unusual options on the instrument. The reality is you're paying for something in advance that you won't be able to play or hear until you have al-

ready spent the money, so you have to have complete trust in the luthier," Cutler said. "Even when I began asking for things that are considered heretical on a Telecaster-style instrument, Graham didn't bat an eye, and even seemed excited to take on the challenges."

Drew says it's not uncommon for people to come in with a sound they want to hear, and it's his job to make it a reality.

"A lot of people come in and want an ultimate version of a guitar they've been playing their whole life," he said. "It's like being a chef, people come in knowing what they want something to taste like, and you've got to figure out the right ingredients to do that."

**DENNY BEGLE**, who plays in the Deja Blues Band, had a custom bass made by Drew. While he originally wanted a replica of a Fender Jazzmaster, Drew posed a question: "You already have a Jazzmaster, what do you really want?"

Begle said he'd had always liked Paul McCartney's famous

"As a career, it's something I've wanted to do my whole life."

— Graham Drew

hollowbody violin-shaped bass, so they tinkered, making it a hollow body, including the f-hole.

"I have been playing bass in the D.C. area since the 1960s, and have owned many vintage and high quality instruments. I would have to place the Drew and Sebastian bass on the top of the list," Begle said. "The first time I played this bass it felt like an old friend."

Matt Waller, a touring musician, purchased an Avatar from Drew. He says it embodies everything he loved about the guitars he had growing up.

"My Avatar embodies all the things I grew up loving about my... guitars with little nuances that let me know this guitar was made for me," Waller said. "When I need to grab a guitar that can do it all, with the feel of playability I need, I grab my Avatar, end of story."

Cutler says the entire process was great, with Drew giving him detailed breakdowns on the tonal qualities of various woods and other materials. And when the guitar was finally finished, Cutler was extremely satisfied.

"When I saw the finished product, it was love at first sight. Amazingly enough, I had sketched a design of my dream guitar before I met with Graham, and the finished product looked as if the sketch had come to life," Cutler said.

Drew remembers making Cutler's guitar, and even more, he remembers the difficulty that came with saying goodbye to the finished piece.

"That was one of the hardest ones I've given to the owner," Drew said with a laugh. "That's the curse. The best part is making a guitar that sounds like what the customer wants it to, but sometimes it's very hard to give it back."

Drew's maintenance and repair business is called Jade Guitars, and can be found online at [www.jadeguitars.com](http://www.jadeguitars.com). His custom work can be found at [www.drewandsebastian.com](http://www.drewandsebastian.com).

## ArtSpace Presents Herndon Calendar Photo Exhibit

The first May exhibit at ArtSpace Herndon will feature the finalists of the 2012 Herndon Town Calendar Photography Competition. The exhibit will include a wide variety of works featuring places, events, and activities in Herndon by talented local photographers.

The following photographers were selected as finalists:

◆ George Billman, Meg Carroll, Robert Carroll, Kile Casey, Thuy Dong, Brian Gilleran, Barbara Glakas, May Goren, Ann Marie Heiser, David Kirby, Leah M. Kosin, Miesha Mason, Charles Mauro, Linda Pesce, Michele Reyzer, E Jo Russell.

Photographs submitted to the competition were evaluated by a panel of three jurors: Jim Kirby, the "At Home in Herndon" Calendar photographer for more than 20 years; Erik Patten, photography instructor at the Art Institute of Northern Virginia; and Scott Zetlan, a photographer who has also judged the Digital Photography category of the Technology in the Arts Competition sponsored by the Council for the Arts of Herndon.

The exhibit runs from Tuesday, May 3, through Sunday, May 15, in the Post Gallery at ArtSpace Herndon. The opening reception and awards ceremony will be held Saturday, May 7, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The exhibit and the opening reception are free and open to the public.

## Herndon Elementary Students Join Nature Nuts

On the eve of Earth Day week (April 22), The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) and its Foundation formally kicked off its newest program, Nature Nuts, at Hemlock Overlook Regional Park on Friday, April 15. Over 100 fifth graders from Herndon Elementary School joined NVRPA, the Foundation, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and Dominion Virginia Power to kick-off this program, which focuses on engaging children with nature. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Foundation subsidized the trip for Herndon Elementary as part of the Nature Nuts program, and each child received a Nature Nuts t-shirt.

# Herndon Baseball Beats Westfield

**Hornets hand defending Concorde champs their first district loss of season.**

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Herndon High baseball team has utilized small ball strategy - stealing bases, putting down bunts, hitting and running - to generate runs this season. The strategy has well paid off as the Hornets have been winning with regularity.

But Herndon, under second year head coach Greg Miller, utilized a different offensive strategy on Monday night - the long ball.

Herndon batters smacked three home runs on way to a 9-4 home win over Westfield, the defending Concorde District champions who lost for just the second time this season and the first time against a Northern Region opponent.

It marked the first time Herndon has beaten Westfield, perennially one of the region's top teams, since the 2004 season, according to Miller.

"Westfield is a very good team and has one of the best coaching staffs in the region," said Miller, of a Westfield squad, under head coach Chuck Welch, which saw its record go to 11-2 following the road loss to the Hornets (9-2). "I told our guys I was proud of them. But we go into every game expecting to win. This win cannot make our season. We still have a lot to do."

Herndon hit just three home runs all last season during Miller's first year at the helm. The 2010 Hornets had a winning record but did not qualify for the 16-team region playoffs as a result of a first round district tournament loss to Oakton.

This year, going into Monday's game with Westfield, Herndon had hit three home runs all season. But they doubled that total against the Bulldogs. Westfield led 2-0 in the early innings before Herndon got solo homers by both Dylan Garten and Austin Schnarrs to tie the game. Later in that same stanza, the Hornets got an RBI triple from Matt Smith, who wound up scoring on the extra base hit as a result of a fielding error. So Herndon led 4-2.

The Hornets broke through for five more runs in the bottom of the fourth inning. The big hit came on a three-run home run off the bat of left-handed hitting Ky Parrott, who pulled the ball well over the right field fence.

"We're hitting homers a little more often [than last year]," said Miller. "But at the end of the day, that's not who we are. We like to run, hit and run, bunt, and steal bases."



PHOTO BY CAREY MITCHELL

## Seahawks at McLean on Friday

Ryan Forrest of the South Lakes High baseball team slides back into first base safely during the Seahawks' recent Liberty District 11-10 loss at Marshall High. More recently, South Lakes competed at the McLean/W.T. Woodson Spring Break Tournament where they lost games to Robinson and West Potomac, but defeated Wakefield High. This week, the Seahawks (5-9) were scheduled to resume their district schedule with a home game versus Stone Bridge on Tuesday, April 26, and a road game at McLean this Friday night, April 29 at 6:30.

The winning pitcher for Herndon in Monday's win was Addison Wright, a junior who gave his team a solid 5-1/3 innings of work. David Sablosky worked 1-2/3 innings of scoreless relief.

Of Wright's outing, Miller said, "He didn't have his best stuff, but did a good job battling and keeping us in the game."

Herndon improved to 3-1 in district play with the win. The Hornets were scheduled to play another district game at Chantilly the following night (Tuesday, April 26). This Friday night at 6:30, Herndon will host district foe Oakton, which handed Herndon its lone district defeat on April 6, a 12-6 road loss.

**HERNDON** spent spring break week competing at the Myrtle Beach Tournament in South Carolina. The Hornets, on the trip, won two of three games. They also spent time during the brilliant week of fine weather and sunshine practicing on the pristine fields at the Ripken Experience ball field complex. Games were also played at the spectacular facility, run and owned by Cal and Billy Ripken.

Herndon won its first game of the trip over Lower Cape May, a team from New Jersey, 9-3. The Hornets then lost to Liverpool, a New York state school located outside of Syracuse, 5-2. But they won their final game of the trip in dramatic fashion, 9-8 in extra innings, over Victor High, the No. 2 ranked baseball team in the state.

Herndon spent Sunday of its trip at the beach and in the pool. Miller said the weather was spectacular all week. On top of that, the Ripken complex was super.

"Unbelievable," he said. "Every field is a turf field. Everything there is first class. You have the three main fields and seven or eight mini fields."

# Herndon Girls' Softball Takes Second at T.C.

**Hornets edged by rival Robinson in spring break finals.**

**O**ver Spring Break Week, the Herndon High girls' softball team finished in second place at the T.C. Williams Invitational Tournament. The Hornets took runner-up in the tournament by beating teams from Maryland, Virginia and New York before losing to local rival Robinson in the finals.

In Herndon's first game, pitcher Michele Le earned the victory on the mound in the Hornets' 10-7 win over the St. Mary's Ryken Knights (Md.).

The Hornets were paced by the steady pitching of Le as she worked out of several jams created by fielding struggles. She struck out six Knights en-route to the complete game victory.

On offense, Herndon was led by numerous hitters who attacked St. Mary's Ryken pitching with enthusiasm. Sarah Kurtz blasted a grand slam home run to put the game out of reach. Teammates Heather Ferguson, Michele Le and Katie Thomas each chipped in with RBIs of their own.

In its next tournament contest, Herndon enjoyed a great game at the plate in a 17-4 win over George Mason High School. Herndon's Katherine Milazzo, a freshman and a recent call-up to the varsity, got her first varsity pitching start and baffled the Mustangs for over two innings of work to earn her first-ever varsity pitching softball victory. She was relieved by Michele Le, who was equally strong.

The potent Hornet attack was paced by Ferguson and Lindsay Goff, who both had 3 RBI games, as well as Kurtz and Katie Thomas (2 RBIs each), and Michele Le and Leta Kent (1 RBI each).

In its next outing, Herndon met a team from New York - the Franklin Delano Roosevelt High Presidents - in a tournament semi-finals game. In a closely contested game, the Hornets won a hard-fought 4-3 decision with Kurtz earning the win on the mound.

Herndon had to come from behind to defeat the squad from New York. After spotting the Presidents a 3-0 lead, the Hornets calmly worked their way back into the game with consistent offense, lock down defense and solid pitching to secure a spot in the tournament finals. Kurtz went the distance to earn the win for the Hornets. The defense settled down behind her

to shut down the Presidents' attack from the second through seventh innings. Katie Thomas and Heather Ferguson each chipped in with key RBI base hits to complete the comeback win.

**IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP,** Herndon went up against Concorde District rival Robinson. The Rams came away with a one-run victory. But it took extra innings as Robinson won in eight innings, 3-2.

Good pitching and defense dominated the game throughout. However, in response to a Robinson first inning run, Heather in the regulation seven innings when the Rams had Herndon down to its final out and final strike. But Ferguson knocked in Sarah Kurtz with a game-tying, 2-out single. The Rams, on the Ferguson hit, threw out the potential go-ahead runner at the plate. So through seven, the game was dead-locked at 2-2.

Finally, in the bottom of the eighth, Kelsey Rooney knocked in Haley Garner to score the winning run and send the Rams home as the tournament champions.

In recent pre-spring break action, the Herndon girls' softball team lost a 6-2 game to the home team Oakton Cougars in Herndon's first Concorde District matchup of the season on April 11. Traveling to Oakton after nearly 10 days off because of rain, the Lady Hornets jumped to a quick 2-0 lead in the first inning, featuring an RBI single from freshman catcher Morgan Fries that scored teammate Sarah Kurtz, who had singled earlier. The Hornets held the lead for two and half innings before the Cougar offense came alive, scoring three runs on five singles to take the lead, 3-2, after three innings.

The Herndon offense was not its usual self, as the Lady Hornets struggled at the plate against Oakton freshman pitcher Allison Davis. Oakton added an unearned run in the fourth, and after a quiet fifth inning for both teams, the Cougars padded their lead with a big two-run home run from sophomore Emily Krisanda, making the score 6-2 after six innings. The Hornets were unable to rally in the final inning.

—JIM KENT

# EMPLOYMENT

703-917-6464

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TUESDAY 4 P.M.

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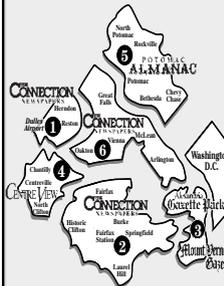
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**21 Announcements**  
**ABC LICENSE**  
Toan Vu, trading as Reston  
Mercado, LLC, 1611 Washing-  
ton Plaza N., Reston, VA  
20190. The above establish-  
ment is applying to the  
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE  
CONTROL for a Wine and  
Beer off Premises license to  
sell or manufacture alcoholic  
beverages. Tuan Vu, owner

**21 Announcements**  
**ABC LICENSE**  
BRBTH, LLC trading as Be  
Right Burgers, 1820 Discovery  
Street, Reston, VA 20190. The  
above establishment is apply-  
ing to the VIRGINIA DEPART-  
MENT OF ALCOHOLIC  
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ZONE I AD DEADLINE:  
MONDAY NOON

## Daze of this Particular Week



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Here it is: April 3, 2011, three months since my last diagnostic scans, the exact week in fact when typically – per doctor's orders for the last two years, I would be waiting out (sweating out is more accurate) the findings from the previous week's scans, hoping for a good result. Trying to pretend that I was still in control of my emotions/life. Trying not to worry my wife, Dina. Trying to put my best face forward; until the call came or we arrived at my doctor's office for the usual post-scan appointment/assessment to discuss and/or "strategize" about what medical treatment/frequency happens next.

And what change occurred, what change Team Lourie agreed on was, twofold: to reschedule my every-three-week chemotherapy to four, and to change the frequency of my quarterly scans. The CT scan will now occur every four months. The MRI of the brain and the Bone scan will now occur every six months. (Minimizing exposure to harmful radiation and poisonous chemotherapy was our intent.) What it all means is, right now I am emotionally over-extended, sort of. Right now – exactly, I am living the month between the old – and familiar – cycle of being scanned quarterly and then being updated by my oncologist accordingly and now (subject to reevaluation anytime; it's up to me, my doctor has assured me), adding a month's time to that assessment because of my relative good health and previous "partial stable remission" status and desire to moderate, if possible, the collateral damage caused by my ongoing treatment. Good news, all the way around; except...

It's sort of uncharted territory, though. It's the longest interval between scans – and certainly appointments with my oncologist, since I got on this cancer train in late Feb., 2009. Don't get me wrong. I'm thrilled to be here. (Heck, I'm thrilled to be anywhere; let's be honest.) And according to my oncologist's initial diagnosis and prognosis: "13 months to two years," I shouldn't be here. Yet, here I am; living proof of a patient who has outlived his prognosis and has jokingly been called "the poster child for Avastin." I have now survived longer on this chemotherapy drug than any other of my oncologist's previous patients.

However, I am not cured. I am only continuing to respond well to treatment. But nothing is forever. There were few guarantees given at the beginning of my diagnosis and there's been even fewer offered now, 25 months post-diagnosis. And it's during these atypical intervals of time or changes in treatment, or living beyond dates when I was told how statistically unlikely it would be for a stage IV lung cancer patient to survive, when I have extra anxiety about the jackpot in which I find myself immersed.

And the reason I feel this way is that part of my coping mechanism, diagnosis-to-date, has been denial: trying not to focus or concern myself – or others, too much, with the underlying problem (as I euphemistically refer to my diagnosis). Even though there were (are) constant reminders, I have deluded myself, somehow and assimilated and compartmentalized the cancer stuff into a "Seinfeldian" type of vault. A vault to which only I have the key and for which I maintain control – responsibly.

But new-and-different causes problems for old-and-familiar me. This one month extension, to which doctor and patient agreed, is "new and different." Soon it won't be. Soon I'll get my scan results and things will go on as they now will have become: familiar. That's my hope anyway. And if not, you'll read about it here because I'll need your thoughts and prayers even more.

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

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