

# FISH Holds Fling Fundraiser

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Real Estate  
2013  
"Sell. Buy and Sell."

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PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

## Herndon High Presents 'Cheaper By The Dozen'

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## Autism Speaks Volumes For Student Volunteers

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From left, Claire Dessart, Kay Walter, Peggy LeReche, Lisa Kelley and Sarah Bermingham are named Star Fish for their volunteer efforts to support Herndon-Reston FISH Saturday, April 20.



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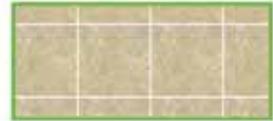
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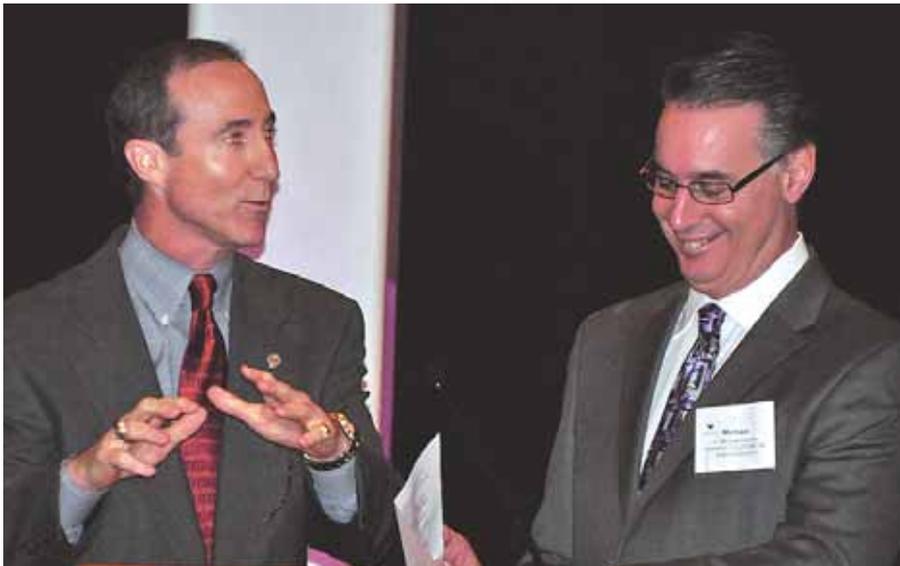
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**From left, Mark Ingrao, president and CEO of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and C. Michael Ferraro, chairman of the chamber board, welcome visitors to the chamber's annual Virtual Realty Tour Friday, April 19.**



PHOTOS BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

## Chamber Examines Future of Corridor Annual Virtual Realty Tour addresses coming of Metrorail.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce hosted their annual Virtual Realty Tour of the Dulles Corridor Friday, April 19, at the Dulles Westin in Herndon. The annual event, which examines present and future development and other opportunities along the Silver Line, was especially notable this year, given that Phase One of the Silver Line will be open in less than nine months.

"By the end of the year, rail will be in this corridor and in operation," said Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), who also just concluded her term as chair of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority board. "And when you look at what Metro brings, over \$200 million is generated around each station as it's built."

**THE RESTON STATION DEVELOPMENT**, adjacent to the Wiehle Avenue station, is currently under construction to provide a focal transit point for traffic heading to the new station.

"It's going to be a major transit center, incorporating 2,300 spaces dedicated to Metro parking, they've also included a bus transfer facility for 10 buses, three layover bays, a large park and ride structure and a secure bike room for storage," said Maggie Parker of Comstock Partners. "That serves as a platform for a plaza that provides direct access to the Wiehle Station that sits in the middle of the toll road, and it also serves as the base for five buildings going up.

These include two residential buildings and three office buildings.

Gerald Gordon, president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, said that while the county hasn't been immune to the recession and the threat of sequestration, he believes the area's economy is sufficiently diverse.

"Even if the Federal Government cuts back 5 percent every year for the next 10 years, they will still be the largest buyer of goods and services anywhere in the world and we are right in its backyard," he said. "We start this potential impact on government con-



**Gerald Gordon, president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, speaks at the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce's Virtual Realty Tour to discuss the future of Fairfax County's economy Friday, April 19.**

tracting from a position of strength. The unemployment rate in Fairfax County right now is just over 4 percent. If [employment] increases by 25 percent, we will reach what the President's Council of Economic Advisors call 'full employment.'"

He noted that Fairfax County has long been working on diversifying its economy.

"The first element of that was 35 years ago when the then-Mobil Corporation came out of New York down to Fairfax County," he said. "We've been diversifying away from federal contracting. In recent years we've done this by adding companies like Hilton Worldwide in Tysons Corner, Bechtel, or Volkswagen North America. There are more coming."

He said that factors that led to the county's initial success, like access to a talented workforce and accessibility throughout the capital area, will only be enhanced by the coming of Metro.

There are several proposals underway that would add additional connectivity between areas south and north of the Dulles Toll Road. Currently the only cross streets over the Dulles Toll Road are Hunter Mill Road, Wiehle Avenue, Reston Parkway and Fairfax County Parkway.

Mark Looney of Cooley LLP says there are several possibilities for new connections across the toll road.

**"ONE PLAN**, tentatively titled the 'Soapstone extension,' is to build a bridge over top of the toll road somewhere between Plaza America and Wiehle Avenue," he said. "There have been about eight or 10 different alignments reviewed by county transportation staff, they're in the process of narrowing down potential alignments, and coming up with one to send to the Board of Supervisors."

Cooley said there is also a subterranean option.

"Similarly, the transportation staff has been analyzing potential tunnel connections under the toll road that would extend Town Center Parkway, which is west of Reston Parkway, under the toll road and connect it with Sunrise Valley Drive," he said. "This is needed to facilitate movement internally within Reston, as opposed to a thoroughfare moving people through Reston."



PHOTO BY ELLEN FALCI

**Robin Falci, pictured with Sue Reilly, the St. Thomas á Becket Catholic Church director of religious education, was recognized with a Fairfax County Volunteer Service Award Thursday, April 18. Falci, a graduate of Herndon High School, currently attends James Madison University.**

## Graduate Honored

**Robin Falci recognized for volunteer efforts with Northern Virginia Family Service.**

BY ALEX MCVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards recognized two Herndon residents for their volunteerism across the community Thursday, April 18. Robin Falci, Herndon High School graduate and freshman at James Madison University, was given an Adult Volunteer Award for her efforts with Northern Virginia Family Service.

For more than 85 years, NVFS has served people in need across the region by helping secure affordable housing, offer job training and education, provide access to health care and serve preschool children.

Falci started volunteering with NVFS after last year's graduation, and quickly became an asset in the office and in the community as well.

"Robin was a gift to the NVFS development department and to me," said Colleen Ross, community engagement specialist at NVFS. "She is smart, hardworking, thoughtful and funny and I quickly came to trust and count on her. She is wise beyond her years and her contributions to our agency could never be qualified in words or numbers."

Falci helped coordinate the nonprofit's annual Help the Homeless event, as well as support their Back to School initiative by tracking donations, creating spreadsheets and coordinating drop off dates. The initiative helped almost 1,600 students receive backpacks before the start of the school year.

She came back during her holiday break to help with NVFS's Holiday Gifting drive, which provides meals, gift cards and toys for families and children.

# Autism Speaks Volumes for Student Volunteers

**Fairfax County Public Schools use latest techniques to teach autistic students.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**I**n many ways, the three best friends—Anna Kate Martin, Devin Martin and Sarah Carmen—are typical sixth-grade girls.

They listen to Taylor Swift, play soccer, and enjoy sleepovers and shopping.

They can tell you what's cool (Dance Moms) and what's so over (Gangnam Style).

But when most of their classmates at Oakton Elementary School are outside during recess, the girls are inside doing something not so typical: volunteering with the school's 20-plus autistic students.

"I love the kids. I love interacting with them and all the special bonds that we've formed," said Anna Kate Martin, who began working with autistic students when she was in the fourth grade. Devin Martin (no relation to Anna Kate) began working with autism students this year, and they recruited Carmen, a new OES student who previously attended Louise Archer Elementary School in Vienna.

"When I first started volunteering, I was worried they wouldn't like me. But I'm happy they gave me a chance," Anna Kate said. "Now, when they see us, they smile and get excited, and it makes your day."

On April 2, OES participated in "Light It Up Blue Day," a national day of awareness and acceptance of people who are affected by "Autism Spectrum Disorder" (ASD). According to Autism Speaks, one of the leading autism advocacy, awareness and research organizations, ASD is characterized by difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors.

Children on the autism spectrum are making the kind of progress previously thought impossible. "I think when people hear the word autism, they automatically think of the character from 'Rain Man,'" said Jonelle Shipley, the school's speech-language pathologist, who works closely with the school's autism teachers. "What's important to know is not all autistic children are the same. They have various strengths and weaknesses and sometimes they just need a chance to be good at something."

**THE YOUNG VOLUNTEERS** do a number of activities with the autistic students, who are in the school's enhanced autism classes with special education teachers Anna Siller and Mary Lou Marcantuono. Some days the girls help them read; other days they blow bubbles or play Bingo. The goal is to give the students a chance to engage with their peers, and make them feel



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

**On April 2nd, Oakton Elementary School participated in "Light it up Blue Day," a national day of awareness and acceptance of people affected by autism. Sixth-grader volunteers Devin Martin, 12, Anna Kate Martin, 12, and Sarah Carmen, 11, have given up recess to volunteer with autistic students.**

## Did you know...

### AUTISM

- ❖ is a developmental disability that can significantly impact communication, social skills and behavior;
- ❖ is four times more likely to occur in boys than in girls;
- ❖ affects 1 in 50 children in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control;
- ❖ is considered an urgent public health concern by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

### What works:

- ❖ Early identification and treatment can significantly improve long term outlook;
- ❖ Intensive intervention using the scientific principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) is effective in teaching adaptive and academic skills;
- ❖ FCPS serves students with autism using ABA at the preschool, elementary and secondary levels.

### Information provided by Fairfax County Public Schools

- ❖ The FY 2013 budget for the ABA program is \$3,246,836, which includes funding school-based positions, professional development, support positions and allocation of instructional resources. A detailed description of budget allocations for this program can be found at <http://www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/documents/approved/FY13/FY2013ProgramBudget.pdf>

For more information about Fairfax County Public School's autism services, go to the following sites:

<http://www.fcps.edu/dss/sei/ABA/FAQs.shtml>

<http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/newsletter/docs/AutismAwarenessResources.pdf>

comfortable in the social, school setting.

"The students really teach you not to judge a book by its cover," said Devin Martin. "I've learned you have to be a little more patient, and maybe go over things a few extra times, but it helps them stay focused."

"I think they show you that they may do things in a different way, but that's okay," said Sarah Carmen. "It's really cool to see the students do things people thought they couldn't do."

The girls agreed that interacting with someone with special needs has taught them to have more patience and respect for anyone who is "different."

"What's great about Oakton is that the kids here are very accepting," Anna Kate Martin said. "They will go up to kids with autism and say hi. It makes them feel welcome."

"Our students gain so much from being around these girls. They have more self-assurance, and they learn different ways of communicating," said Marcantuono.

Although the three girls volunteer every school day, a number of OES students participate in other related activities, such as P.E. buddies, where a student volunteers to pair up with an autistic student during gym



**Drama teachers Bernie DeLeo (Thoreau Middle School and West Springfield High School) and Stacey Jones (Luther Jackson Middle School) have produced plays and school news spots for Autism Awareness Month.**

class.

"We teach the children we receive, whether it's autism, shyness or whatever," said kindergarten teacher Julia Rastelli, who produces a popular annual kindergarten musical that includes autistic students.

"Our school has a culture of compassion and acceptance, and these girls really take that to heart," Shipley said. "We're lucky to be in Fairfax County, where we have programs that students can benefit from at a very early age. No child is hopeless, and that's reflected in the way we teach."

## April is Autism Awareness Month

As autism awareness has skyrocketed, the disability—which experts are now calling an "epidemic"—has become a national priority.

The latest report, co-authored by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, found autism spectrum disorder affects one in 50 children, well above the one in 88 number that had been used by the CDC just last year, and three times the rate the CDC found a decade ago.

According to a recent survey by the Florida Institute of Technology, nearly two-thirds of young moms and dads are concerned their child will be diagnosed with ASD.

"Since the average school bus holds 50 to 55 children, that means, statistically speaking, on average there is one child with parent-reported ASD on every school bus in America," reported the National Institute of Mental Health.

The increase, experts say, is largely due to improved diagnosis of ASD by doctors or other health professional in recent years, especially when the symptoms were mild.

Along with increased awareness, the social landscape has changed dramatically for students diagnosed with autism.

Politically, autism is a hot-button issue that's on the agenda of many lawmakers, who advocate a range of services, from respite services to mandated health insurance coverage for various therapies like applied behavior analysis (ABA).

Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), whose brother-in-law has autism, has been a long-standing advocate for expanded health insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorder, and co-patroned several bills that address the issue.

Politics aside, most parents want to know what education services are available for their autistic child.

"Because of the size of Fairfax County, we are able to offer programs that few schools districts in the nation can provide, which help guide both students and parents through the education process," said Fairfax County School Board member Ryan McElveen. "Fairfax County uses Applied Behavioral Analysis with Pre K-12 students. The primary objective of ABA is to prepare students with autism and related disorders to function as independently as possible," said McElveen.

**THE APPROACH** emphasizes the importance of looking at the ABC's (antecedents, behaviors, and consequences) of behaviors and teaching new skills and behaviors.

New skills are taught through techniques such as reinforcement, shaping, prompting, and data is analyzed to measure progress on the acquisition of new behaviors and new skills.

"When you hear the 'A' word dropped, you think the worst, that your child won't be able to communicate and will never live an independent life," said Bernie DeLeo, a former special education teacher and drama teacher at Thoreau Middle School, who now teaches drama at West Springfield High School.

He said he and his wife, who grew up in McLean, moved back to Fairfax County from New York City in 2002 because of the programs and services offered by Fairfax County Public Schools.

"It's important for parents to be advocates, and to keep their expectation levels high. My wife and I were very hands on with our son. We expected more out of him, and he's surprised us at every turn."



David Kirby, C. Melissa Jonas, Chris Griffin, Don Owens, Robin Carroll, Rudy Tassara, Mayor Merkel, Kyle Alger, Ivan Young, Sheila Olem.



C. Melissa Jonas, Chris Griffin, Don Owens, Robin Carroll, Rudy Tassara, Mayor Merkel, Julie Carey.



Robin Carroll holds her Distinguished Service Award.

# Herndon Volunteers Honored

## Town of Herndon celebrates Volunteer Appreciation Night.

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n Sunday, April 27, the Town of Herndon held their 29th annual Mayor's Volunteer Appreciation Night.

"Here in Herndon, 447 people were nominated by more than 38 groups as Outstanding Volunteers. Their contributions range from youth sports and scouting to community service and civic activities," said Mayor Lisa C. Merkel.

"National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate people doing extraordinary things through service," said Merkel. "This year's theme, 'Celebrate Service,' captures the meaning of this signature week, honoring the people who dedicate themselves to taking action and solving problems in their communities."

Merkel referenced the community response in Massachusetts after the Boston bombing. "I am confident we would equally rise to the occasion whenever a neighbor is in need. ... We celebrate the profound impact of volunteers."

**GUEST SPEAKER** Julie Carey, News4 reporter and Northern Virginia bureau chief, recounted times when she had been a part of volunteer activity in her commu-

nity. Carey brought up a quote used by the Herndon Rotary Club, "We may do something to help others but in return we get something back."

Mayor Merkel presented the Distinguished Service Awards and Distinguished Corporate Service Award.

"The Distinguished Corporate Service Award was added last year to honor a business or corporation that has contributed to the town through outstanding commitment to or promotion of the town for the greater good of Herndon," said Merkel. This was year the award was presented to Griffin Owens Insurance and its owners Chris Griffin and Don Owens.

The Distinguished Volunteer is the highest level of recognition awarded in the Town of Herndon, presented to individuals who have demonstrated levels of service over several years or in projects requiring leadership, service and effort.

The first awardee was Ivan Young. A volunteer at the Herndon Enrichment Program, Young has spent over ten years assisting Reston Interfaith and helping the food pantry staff with the Thanksgiving food drive. "We are grateful for Ivan," said Abby Kimble, director of communications and outreach for Reston Interfaith.

The second Distinguished Service Award was presented to a Herndon Rotary club member Rudy Tassara who raised almost \$10,000 for the club's youth scholarship funds. He then helped raise an additional \$4,000 for scholarships awarded to Herndon youth.

The third award was presented to Robin Carroll for her work as president and executive director of the Herndon Foundation for the Cultural Arts. "I am hopeful that

people will learn more about art activity in Herndon and the ArtSpace as well as our process of moving towards an official center for the performing and visual arts," said Carroll.

**MAYOR MERKEL** continued the presentation for one more Distinguished Service recipient, Kyle Alger. "It is a rare occasion that we receive a nomination for a teen to be selected as a Distinguished Ser-

vice recipient," said Merkel.

"As a 17 year old junior at Herndon High School, this gentleman had years of volunteer experience to his credit. ... When the Friends of Runnymede Park chose not to hold Naturefest last fall, he [Alger] took it upon himself to ensure that an event happened in the park." Alger's work helped nearly 4,000 people enjoy a day of hands on activity and education regarding wildlife and the natural world.

### SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to north@connectionnewspapers.com by Friday.

Achievement Scholar awardees are the finalist candidates judged to have the strongest record of accomplishments and greatest potential for academic success in college. The 2013 National Achievement Scholarship Winners are: **Kenyah T. Calhoun** of South Lakes High School; **Kyannah C. Calhoun** of South Lakes High School; and **Howard A. Small, Jr.**, of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

**Elizabeth Scarry**, of Herndon, has been named to the Dean's List at Waynesburg University for the fall 2012

semester. Scarry is a graduate of Oakton High School and a junior pursuing a degree in psychology.

Freshman **Josh Schow** of Herndon recently completed the 2012 football season at Guilford College.

**Schow**, a 5-8, 180-pound running back, played in eight games for the Quakers this season. He accumulated 74 all purpose yards during the season on 13 attempts and also saw significant time on special teams. **Schow's** best game came against Emory & Henry College on Nov. 12, when he rushed for 13 yards on two carries and caught two passes for 48 yards.

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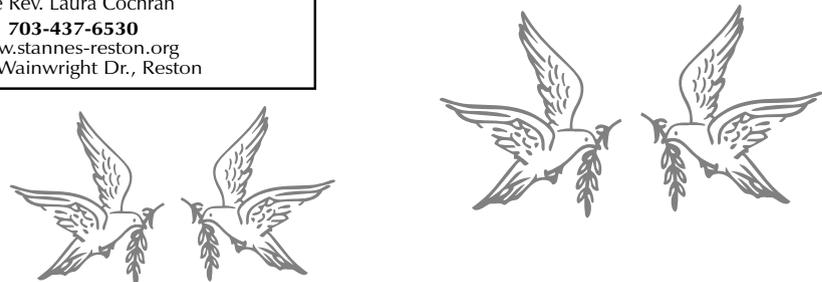
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# OPINION

## Connection Guide to Parks Wins 'Best in Show'

Investigative reporting, in depth coverage, education writing, photography, art, design, sports, garner Virginia Press Association honors.

The Connection Newspapers won dozens of awards from the Virginia Press Association, with winners announced on Saturday, April 20, in Norfolk.

The Connection project, *Insiders Guide to the Parks of Fairfax County*, published in our *Newcomers and Community Guides*, won a top honor of Best in Show for Art. The project also won first place for informational graphics. Spearheaded and researched by Jean Card, who also designed the pages, with photography by Craig Sterbutzel and map design by Laurence Foong, *Insiders Guide to the Parks* led judges to say: "This is chock-full of information. It probably leaves readers with no unanswered questions. Colors and typography work well together. The down-page photo and text wrap features are nice touches."

A multi-part series on immigration spearheaded by Victoria Ross won first place for in-depth or investigative writing. The Connection devoted multiple pages in multiple editions for multiple weeks to exhaustive reporting on immigration. "This entry clearly stood out above the rest in this category," said judges of Ross's work. "The author portrayed an excellent mix of data and human stories in covering all of the facets of this topic. It was obvious she spent a great deal of time working on this in-depth series. This was extremely comprehensive, well rounded and objective. This was not just reports, numbers and data but a terrific compilation of human stories, personal experiences, challenges and a great deal of hope." See the entire immigration package at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/Immigration/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/Immigration/).

Alexandria Gazette Packet reporters took all three awards for In-depth or Investigative Reporting in their division, one circulation category above the Connection papers. Nicholas Horrock won first place, In-depth or investigative reporting, for a multi-part series on Potomac Yard. "Great reporting job and extremely thorough," said judges.

Montie Martin, Alexandria Gazette Packet, won second place also for In-depth or investigative reporting for *Guns From the South*. Michael Lee Pope, won third place in the same category, for *Looking Behind the Numbers*.

Kenneth Lourie won first place for Column Writing. Judge's comment: "An exceptionally friendly, down-home writing style. The best of the group without a doubt."

Laurence Foong and Michael Lee Pope, first place, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Informational Graphics.

Nikki Cheshire, an intern for the Great Falls Connection, garnered a first place award for her dramatic breaking news photo, a helicopter rescue at Great Falls Park. See the award winning photo at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/photos/2012/jun/11/18271/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/photos/2012/jun/11/18271/).

Bonnie Hobbs won first place for public safety writing in the Centre View and sec-

ond place for public safety writing in the Fairfax Connection. Judges said: "Although the cases featured in these entries were sensational, which made them interesting in and of themselves, the writer maintained the readers' interest by her excellent storytelling ability. The stories not only conveyed facts but also emotion. The coverage was comprehensive and thorough with no questions left unanswered."

Alex McVeigh won first place for Education Writing, first published in the Oak Hill-Herndon Connection.

Photographer Deb Cobb won first place for an online slide show of coverage of daily patrols on the water in the Mount Vernon Gazette. See it at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/photos/galleries](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/photos/galleries) and search for Daily Marine Patrols. Cobb also won first place for general news photo for her photo of "Freezin' for a Reason," the polar bear plunge into Lake Anne.

Mike Pope won first place for breaking news for coverage of "New Leadership at Gunston Hall."

Pope also won third place for continuing coverage for "Horses and Graves Versus Road Widening" in the Mount Vernon Gazette, and third place for Mount Vernon Health, Science and Environmental Writing Portfolio.

The staff of Great Falls Connection won second place for overall excellence (general makeup). Judges said: "Although the tabloid format and general design has a 'features' feel, this is a beautiful paper. The text, use of color and section delineation makes it very easy to read and follow both news and features. All cover selections draw you in."

Louise Krafft and Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Combination Picture and Story for Memorial Day. Judge's comment: "A variety of great photos neatly presented helps tell the story of this important day."

Craig Sterbutzel, Burke Connection: Sports News Photo \* Santiago Valdez. Judge's comment: "Great Exposure."

Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Headline Writing. Judge's comment: "Think you can't say much in two words? This entry disproves that. I particularly like 'Bovine Intervention' with the subhead 'Del Ray's Holy Cow, ACT partner for local charities."

Louise Krafft won second place for picture story or essay for her coverage of the Mount Vernon High School graduation.

Jean Card won second place for page design in the Mount Vernon Gazette.

The Mount Vernon Gazette won second place for special section for the August *Insiders Edition*, *Community and Newcomers Guide*; and third place for special edition for the *Children's Gazette*.

Mary Kimm, third place, editorial writing for a package of education-related editorials.

Find all of the award-winning coverage at [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com), under Awards.

### AWARD WINNERS

#### SPECIAL AWARD: BEST IN SHOW, NON-DAILY ARTWORK

❖ Jean Card, Laurence Foong and Craig Sterbutzel, Fairfax Connection: Informational Graphics, Parks in Fairfax County.

#### FIRST PLACE WINNERS

- ❖ Victoria Ross, Springfield Connection: In-depth or Investigative Reporting, Immigration
- ❖ Nicholas Horrock, Alexandria Gazette Packet: In-depth or investigative reporting, Potomac Yard
- ❖ Jean Card, Laurence Foong and Craig Sterbutzel, Fairfax Connection: Informational Graphics, Parks in Fairfax County
- ❖ Nikki Cheshire, Great Falls Connection: Breaking News Photo, Rescue at Great Falls
- ❖ Deb Cobb, Mount Vernon Gazette: Online Slideshow, Daily Patrols Take to the Water
- ❖ Deb Cobb, Reston Connection: General news photo, Freezin' for a Reason
- ❖ Laurence Foong and Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Informational Graphics
- ❖ Bonnie Hobbs, Centre View North: Public Safety Writing
- ❖ Kenneth Lourie, Arlington Connection: Column Writing
- ❖ Alex McVeigh, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection: Education Writing, The Human Element of Learning
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Arlington Connection: Multimedia News Report, Secret Police
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Business and Financial Writing
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Breaking News Writing

#### SECOND PLACE WINNERS

- ❖ Montie Martin, Alexandria Gazette Packet: In-depth or investigative reporting, Guns From the South
- ❖ Jean Card, Mount Vernon Gazette: Page Design
- ❖ Bonnie Hobbs, Fairfax Connection: Public Safety Writing
- ❖ Louise Krafft, Mount Vernon Gazette: Picture Story or Essay, Mount Vernon Graduation 2012
- ❖ Louise Krafft and Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Combination Picture and Story, Memorial Day
- ❖ Craig Sterbutzel, Burke Connection: Sports News Photo, Santiago Valdez
- ❖ Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Headline Writing
- ❖ Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Column Writing
- ❖ Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Stuart Moll, Laurence Foong and Jean Card, Mount Vernon Gazette: Special Sections or Special Editions: Insider's Guide.
- ❖ Kemal Kurspahic, Amna Rehmatulla, Chelsea Bryan, Laurence Foong, Stuart Moll and Geovani Flores, Great Falls Connection: General Makeup.

#### THIRD PLACE WINNERS

- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: In-depth or investigative reporting: Looking Behind the Numbers
- ❖ Laurence Foong, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Page Design
- ❖ Laurence Foong, The Fairfax Connection: Informational Graphics
- ❖ Mary Kimm, Fairfax Connection: Editorial Writing; five editorials about education
- ❖ Louise Krafft, Arlington Connection: Sports Feature Photo. Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Picture Story or Essay, Celebrating the Irish.
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Multimedia News Report, Schools in Crisis
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Feature Series or Continuing Story, Horses and Graves Versus Road Widening
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Health, Science and Environmental Writing.
- ❖ Jon Roetman, Arlington Connection: Sports Writing.
- ❖ Steven Mauren, Jean Card, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong and Stuart Moll, Alexandria Gazette Packet: General Makeup.
- ❖ Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Stuart Moll, Laurence Foong and Jean Card, Mount Vernon Gazette: Special Sections or Special Editions, Children's Edition.

#### MDDC

The Potomac Almanac, a Connection Newspaper located in Potomac, Md., competes in the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association, and won at least six press association awards, which will be formally announced on May 17 at the MDDC Press awards luncheon. Susan Belford, John Byrd, Laurence Foong, Ken Moore (2) and Staff were named as winners.

## Oak Hill & Herndon CONNECTION

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# NEWS

## Herndon High Cadets Win Spicer Cup, Set League Record

After four months of intense competition, Herndon High School's Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps' (NJROTC) Rifle Team has won the coveted Spicer Cup. The four-person team consisting of Cadets Zach Taylor (senior), Alastair Young (senior), Marshall Wilkins (junior), and Allison Maxwell (freshman) defeated finalist West Potomac High School in the Championship Match, 913 to 859.

Regionally ranked Cadet Zach Taylor took top honors for shooting the leading score, and he led his team to a 911 point average, the highest in the tournament's history. This is the eighth year that Herndon has won since the inception of the competition 11 years ago.

Formed in 2003 by the late LTC Joe Spicer, US Army, retired, of Hayfield High School, the Fairfax County-wide JROTC Rifle League and its tournament include six high schools—Edison (Army), Hayfield (Army), Herndon (Navy),



The four Rifle Team members focus on their targets.



Cadet Zach Taylor (left) and Cadet Alastair Young regularly lead their team to victory. Both are seniors this year.

Mount Vernon (Marines), South Lakes (Army), and West Potomac (Army). After shooting single matches against each other, each school receives a tournament seeding. The top four ranked schools then compete in a semi-final/final format.

The Herndon team is coached by CDR Rick Cassara (US Navy, retired) and LTC Kris Young (US Army, retired).

For more information about Herndon High's outstanding NJROTC program, visit <http://www.herndonjrotc.com/>.

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## WEEK IN HERNDON

### Local Design Center to Award Straight-A Students

Abbey Design Center will honor three students for earning straight-As (or grading equivalent) on their final report card. All students in grades 1-12 attending Fairfax or Loudoun County Schools are eligible. Students must complete an entry form posted on the Abbey Home Design website during the month of June after receiving their final grades. All entries must be submitted by midnight on June 30, 2013. Three winners will be selected—one each from elementary school, middle school and high school.

Winners can choose their favorite carpet color from a palette of 36 colors for their bedroom, for a space of up to 200 square feet. All carpeting is made in the U.S.A. The prize includes carpet, padding, and tear up and haul away of existing carpeting.

The owner of Abbey Design Center, Shiva Etesam, has awarded this prize to students in the community for 13 consecutive years. Abbey Design Center was founded as Mida, Inc. in 1989 in Sterling. In 1995, it joined the national cooperative, Abbey Carpet & Floor. For details, go to [www.AbbeyDesignCenter.com](http://www.AbbeyDesignCenter.com).

### Yard of the Month Season Underway

Springtime's rejuvenating spirit is in the air—and the Town of Herndon's Yard of the Month award season is officially underway.

Yard of the Month is an opportunity to recognize the efforts of town residents whose yards contribute to the beautification of the town and its neighborhoods. Citizens may nominate their own or their neighbors' yards for the award. Winners receive gift certificates from Meadows Farms and are recognized by the mayor and town council at public meetings.

The criteria for Yard of the Month Award selection includes the following: yards are generally free of trash and clutter; grass, trees, shrubs and plants are well-cared for and aesthetically pleasing; rocks, logs,

SEE WEEK IN HERNDON, PAGE 9



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## WEEK IN HERNDON

FROM PAGE 8

short fences or other decorative elements are in good condition and neatly placed; and flowers and other vegetation are well-landscaped and make good use of color.

Nominations for the June Yard of the Month Award are due May 15. Nominations are due June 15 for the July award and September 15 for the October award (no awards given in August and September).

Judges for the Yard of the Month Awards program are members of the Town of Herndon's Cultivating Community committee, a group of citizen volunteers formed to encourage beautification and to enrich the quality of life in the town's neighborhoods.

Nomination forms for the Yard of the Month Awards are available on the "Cultivating Community" page of the town's website, herndonva.gov; see the link on the homepage. Forms are also available at the Herndon Municipal Center and the Herndon Community Center. For more information, call 703/435-6800 ext. 2084 or email information@herndonva.gov.

## "Big Truck Days" in the Town of Herndon

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

Big Truck Days will take place Thursday, May 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Friday, May 3, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at the Public Works Maintenance Complex, 1479 Sterling Road. The event is free; however, attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food donations for the needy. Large groups should call ahead.

For more information, contact the Public Works Maintenance Complex at 703-435-6860 or via email at public.works@herndonva.gov.

## Floris United Methodist Church Hosts World Malaria Day Event

On Friday, April 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Floris United Methodist Church will hold a family event to spotlight World Malaria Day and raise money for malaria test kits and treatment, as well as mosquito bed nets. The evening will feature African food, music, drumming, crafts and games. Everyone is welcome and no RSVP is necessary. There is no set ticket price; a voluntary offering will be taken and the proceeds will go to the prevention and treatment of malaria.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, malaria is a mosquito-borne disease caused by a parasite. People with malaria often experience fever, chills, and flu-like illness. Left untreated, they may develop severe complica-

tions and die. In 2010, an estimated 216 million cases of malaria occurred worldwide and 655,000 people died, most (91 percent) in the African region. The World Malaria Report 2011, published by the World Health Organization, estimates that malaria claims a life every 60 seconds.

In addition to hands-on crafts and activities, interactive computer games, puzzles, and brainteasers, attendees at this entertaining and educational event will be treated to authentic African food. The menu will include peanut butter, chicken soup, jollof rice, gari foto, fried plantains, bean stew, grilled chicken and noodles. For more information, go to [www.florisumc.org/nomalaria](http://www.florisumc.org/nomalaria) or call the church office at 703-793-0026.

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From left, Claire Dessart, Kay Walter, Peggy LeReche, Lisa Kelley and Sarah Bermingham are recognized for their efforts in supporting Herndon-Reston FISH Saturday, April 20.



Guests at the annual FISH Fling fundraiser dance to the sounds of Free Tom Saturday, April 20.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

# FISH Holds Fling Fundraiser

## Annual event supports Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

**A** Herndon couple had lost their daughter to brain cancer. She was in a coma for the last six weeks of her life, and her father stayed by her side to the end, which cost him his job. This caused the family to miss paying their bills and were in danger of having their utilities cut off, before they contacted Herndon-Reston FISH, who were able to make their payment.

Hundreds of stories like this are why supporters of FISH gathered Saturday, April 20, at the Crowne Plaza Dulles, site of the annual FISH Fling. FISH stands for Friendly, Instant, Sympathetic Help, and the funds raised at the annual fling went directly to providing that help.

"This event is a chance to bring together people who know how important it is to support safety net organizations like FISH that assist our neighbors," said Janet Hyman, president of FISH.

**FISH SUPPORTS** those in need by providing emergency rent or utility payments, transportation to medical appointments, furniture and other essentials.

"The concept of Friendly, Instant, Sympathetic Help speaks for itself, and carries with it the thought, there but for the grace of God go I," said Don Owens, a FISH volunteer. "I teach a budget class for FISH, and I've had students who have PhDs, or have had great jobs, but they just need a little help, maybe a few hundred dollars to meet their rent, money for a prescription or just a tank of gas to get to work. In this economy, there are all kinds of people that need help, and FISH can provide it."

Since the start of this fiscal year on July 1, 2012, FISH has paid out more than \$220,000 to more than 200 clients, with no individual receiving more than \$600.

The event also recognized several new Star Fish honorees, supporters of FISH that have earned

special recognition for their efforts. Claire Dessart, Kay Walter, Peggy LeReche and organizers of the Bradley Farm Haunted House were honored this year.

Dessart has been a volunteer at FISH's thrift store, The Bargain Loft, since 2009. She works two to three shifts per week, and is known as one of the store's most reliable volunteers.

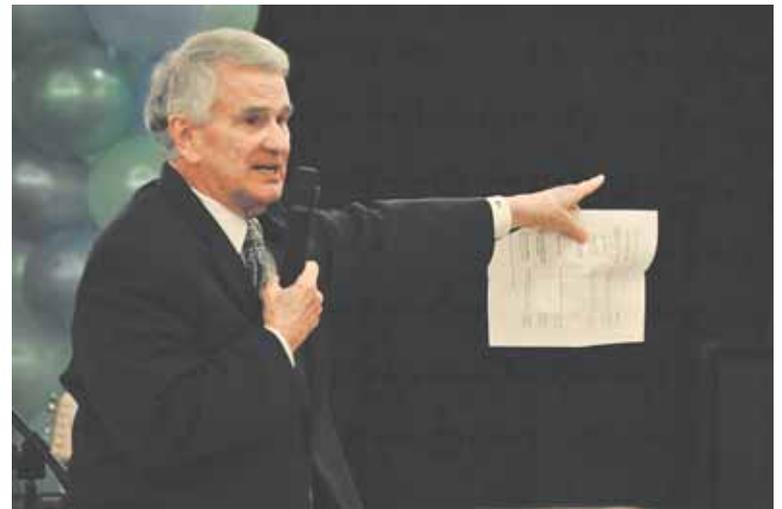
"She is always willing to come in as a sub, even at the last minute," said Gale Napoliello, executive director of FISH. "She loves working for FISH and is always encouraging people to shop at The Bargain Loft."

Walter volunteers for the FISH Assistance Program and also provides transportation to medical appointments.

"She has volunteered for FISH for five years, and is always ready to help when called by the coordinators," Napoliello said.

Walter says she loves the way FISH provides such unique assistance to those in need.

"FISH is a perfect volunteer opportunity for me because I can do my phone assistance from home," she said. "The relief I hear in the voices of the people we help is enough to keep you doing this for-



Del. Tom Rust (R-86) serves as auctioneer during a fundraising auction at the FISH Fling, which raised money for Herndon-Reston FISH Saturday, April 20.

ever.

LeReche has served with FISH for the past five years, and serves on the board of directors and coordinates the FISH Financial Workshops.

"Her mother volunteered years ago at The Bargain Loft, and her volunteer work is one way Peggy continues her legacy," Napoliello said. "Even though she works full time for Dominion Power, she always finds time to help our neighbors in need."

**THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF BRADLEY FARM** was recognized

for their annual Haunted House, the proceeds of which are donated to FISH. Since 2009, more than 30 residents of the neighborhood plan and construct a themed haunted house in the neighborhood's pool house.

"It is the largest charity haunted house in Northern Virginia, and last year they added the Spooky Sprint Fun Run and Walk, another fundraiser event for children," Napoliello said. "Last year they raised \$8,000 for FISH."

More information on FISH can be found at [www.herndonrestonfish.org](http://www.herndonrestonfish.org).



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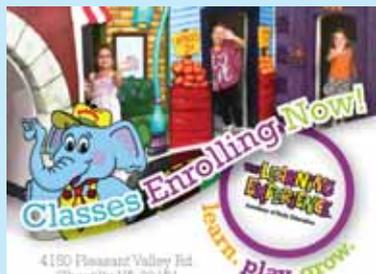
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## REAL ESTATE



PHOTO BY ANGLE SECKINGER

Bethesda, Md., based interior designer Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Interior Design decorated a luxury condominium for a retired couple who wanted to downsize after selling their suburban home. Real estate experts say high-end condominium sales are on the rise.

# OPEN HOUSES

## SATURDAY/SUNDAY, APRIL 27 & 28

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) and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

### Chantilly

42344 Astors Beachwood...\$800,000....Sun 1-4.....Chris Pezzana.....Weichert.. 703-447-1662

### Clifton

7242 Archlaw Dr.....\$1,075,000....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX.. 703-503-4365

### Fairfax Station

7612 Rustle Ridge Ct.....\$849,950....Sun 1-4..Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert.. 703-862-8808

### Herndon

1141 Bandy Run Rd.....\$800,000....Sun 12-3.....Leslie Thurman...Long & Foster.. 703-895-6000

12200 Meadowstream Ct...\$615,000....Sun 1-4.....Suzanne Gaibler.....Weichert.. 703-851-5600

1530 Hiddenbrook Dr.....\$385,000....Sun 1-4.....Pat Orend...Long & Foster.. 703-407-3300

12913 Alton Sq.....\$1,600/mo....Sun 1-4.....Chris Pezzana.....Weichert.. 703-447-1662

### Lorton

9040 Swans Creek Way...\$1,050,000....Sun 1-4.....Dane Work.....RE/MAX.. 703-869-4567

### McLean

1332 Skipwith Rd.....\$1,475,000....Sun 1-4.....Jane Price.....Weichert.. 703-628-0470

### Reston

11016 Solaridge Dr.....\$595,000....Sun 1-4.....Suzanne Gaibler.....Weichert.. 703-851-5600

1445 Park Garden Ln.....\$559,900....Sun 1-4..Cristina Dougherty...Long & Foster.. 703-969-0471

11500 Fairway Dr #506.....\$400,000....Sun 1-4.....Peter Burke...Long & Foster.. 703-786-3334

### Vienna

107 Melody Lane, SE.....\$1,398,900....Sun 1-4.....Lynne DePaso...Land & Homes.. 703-927-3090

9501 Clarks Crossing.....\$719,000....Sat 12-3.....Leslie Thurman...Long & Foster.. 703-895-6000

9501 Clarks Crossing.....\$719,000....Sun 1-4.....Leslie Thurman...Long & Foster.. 703-895-6000

**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.**

# What Housing Slump?

Real estate experts explain the rise in luxury condominium sales.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

When a retired couple decided it was time to leave their sprawling suburban home, they wanted to downsize without giving up luxury. As a result, they purchased a high-end condominium and hired Bethesda, Md., based interior designer Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Interior Design to create a serene and sophisticated space.

"The couple are retired professionals, empty nesters who lead active lives and didn't want the maintenance of a single family home," said Proxmire. "[They] wanted to blend the furniture, accessories and mementoes they had each collected. ... They wanted a home that was elegant, comfortable, and that also allowed them to lock and leave on a moment's notice."

Proxmire's clients are part of rebound in the high-end condominium market. The National Association of Realtors reports that condominium purchases are on the rise, and says that sales are

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GOODHART GROUP OF McEARNNEY ASSOCIATES, INC.



Alexandria-based realtor Allison Goodhart says sales of high-end real estate in the City of Alexandria, such as this property, have increased over the past year.

13.9 percent higher than they were at the same time last year.

David DeSantis, a partner at TTR | Sotheby's International Realty says his company has seen an increase in luxury condominium sales in the Washington region in recent months. "In the past several months we have broken records for high-end condo prices, and we recently sold the most expensive condo ever sold in the Washington region, which was \$7.5 million," he said. "We sold a number of condos at Turnberry Tower in Rosslyn [Arlington]."

**COMMUNITIES LIKE** the Oronoco in Old Town Alexandria; Market Street at Town Center in Reston, and Quarry Springs in

Bethesda attract those who want both luxury and convenience. "The appeal of these buildings is the fact that you've got these large apartments that are like homes except with a health club and concierge service," said DeSantis. "The close-in suburbs are good places to live. There are good stores, good restaurants and you don't have the issue of a long commute to work."

Realtors say that properties close to public transportation are in demand. "Reston is on fire. The condos are turning very quickly there because the Metro is coming," said Great Falls-based realtor Dianne Van Volkenburg of Long & Foster Companies. "Reston is one of the places where inventory is ex

SEE CONDOS, PAGE 13

# REAL ESTATE



PHOTO COURTESY OF TTR SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Sales of condominiums built with luxurious materials, such as those used in the bathroom of this condominium at Turnberry Tower in the Rosslyn neighborhood of Arlington, are on the rise.

## Luxury Condos in Demand

FROM PAGE 12  
tremely limited, so you're getting multiples offers over list price."

Alexandria-based realtor Allison Goodhart of The Goodhart Group of McEneaney Associates, Inc. said, "Sales and showings for properties have really picked up across the board in Alexandria City. The Oronoco is all high-end, one-level condos near the Old Town [Alexandria] waterfront and those are selling very well."

Bob Wulff, Ph.D., director of the Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship and the master's in real estate development program at George Mason University in Fairfax, says there are two primary types of buyers who are drawn to condominiums. "There are first time homebuyers and move-down homebuyers who've sold their large suburban homes," said Wulff. "Move-down buyers are looking for luxury in a walk-able neighborhood that is near mass transit."

DeSantis agrees. "A big portion

of those clients are the empty-nester crowd," he said. "Their kids have graduated from college and

**"In the past several months we have broken records for high-end condo prices, and we recently sold the most expensive condo ever sold in the Washington region, which was \$7.5 million."**

— David DeSantis, partner, TTR | Sotheby's International Realty

they are looking for a lifestyle change. These people were not pinched by the recession, but it also wasn't a good time to sell their big house in suburbs."

In addition to empty nesters, DeSantis says that high-income professional singles and couples often choose luxury condominiums. "Those two groups are leading to the up-tick in sales," he said.

Walter Molony, economic issues media manager for the National Association of Realtors, says the

boost in condominium sales is the result of a stronger economy. "It is part of the rising tide that is floating all boats," he said. "After four years of a sluggish economy that impacted people's confidence, affordability conditions have improved and people have the wherewithal and the confidence to buy. There is less inventory in the low-end market, and there are more buyers than sellers, which is driving demand up."

DeSantis said, "For the most part, the Washington, D.C., area was not hit as hard, so we're coming back faster. One of the things that we've seen in the real estate industry is that there's no shortage of people in this market who have the resources to buy high-end housing. They held off on buying while the direction of the economy ... was unclear, but people are now willing to spend the money that they've had all along."



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## REAL ESTATE

# Viewpoints: Housing Market Blossoms in Area



### Andy Krum

ABR, GRI, CDPE/Keller Williams Realty – Reston, 703-679-1700

“This past February, the market bloomed well in advance of the cherry blossoms! Sellers are more than likely dancing on their roofs. With low inventory, prices have been climbing. Not only are most homes selling fast, lucky sellers may see multiple offers—some including escalation clauses as well. For the Reston market, the long-awaited opening of the Wiehle Avenue Metro stop later this year has not escaped notice. More buyers are looking here knowing they can avoid the Rt. 7 traffic or the toll road. Interest rates are still good, but there is competition. Buyers need to do their research and be ready to act when the right home becomes available.”



### Andrea Karalyos

Realtor, REP Coordinator, Prudential PenFed Realty – Reston, 703-716-2900

“Right now is the best time to sell or buy real estate in the Reston area. With the opening of the new Silver Line Metro approaching, we have seen an enormous increase in sales. The median sales price is up by 7.4 percent compared to last year. If your home is priced well and shows nicely you will have no problem selling. Reston is focused on the future yet still manages to stay true to its core principles of “Live, Work, Play and Get Involved.”



### Leslie Kaplan Thurman

Long & Foster – Thurman & Assocs. Herndon/Reston, 703-439-1921

“Overall, I would call the market ‘great.’ It’s the resurgence we’ve been waiting for. Houses are selling in a much shorter time. I deal with a lot of higher priced homes, \$800k and above, and some of those sellers do get frustrated when they see how quickly other homes go under contract, and they are still waiting to make their sale. But even in that upper tier market, the houses that used to take six months or a year or more, are going much more quickly. We help our sellers by developing a marketing plan that includes realistic pricing strategies taking into account their needs and their situation. One concern in this revitalized market is in regards to appraisals. I have run into appraisal problems recently, with just \$5k-\$6k gap. And there is no oversight or appeals process. We want solid steady growth in the market, but oversensitive appraisals could hold the market back.”



### Chris Pezzana

Managing broker, Weichert Realtors – Reston/Herndon, 703-264-0000

“There are fewer homes to sell and that means if it’s priced right and in good shape, they are getting sold quickly. So far we have not seen any negative impact from sequestration. One barometer of the market is the absorption rate. The Northern Virginia Assoc. of Realtors (NVAR), which includes Fairfax, Arlington, and Alexandria, currently have less than a two-month supply of homes in inventory. In our area, I would say we have even less. In Reston, we are also looking at a lot of new condos coming on the market, fairly soon right in the heart of Town Center and later at ParcReston, also currently under construction. Developers are banking on the arrival of the new Silver Line Metro stop. So far, interest has been really strong in that area and the impact on detached and town houses should also be positive.”

—ANDREA WORKER

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## Conflicted, Times Two



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

About what I'm feeling and whether I should even be writing about it. Obviously, the "it" ("confliction," one of my father's many made-up words), has to do with yours truly having stage IV lung cancer (duh!). Specifically, it has to do with the feedback I received today from my nephrologist (kidney specialist), an appointment I have scheduled every four to six months. The ongoing concern being, that the toxicity of my previous three years of infused chemotherapy has caused collateral damage (internally for sure, externally, not so much), especially since I have lived longer than the standard treatment protocols anticipated/have been studied. Over this time, lab work and patient observation has indicated that something not totally unexpected has happened (other than my still being alive that is): damage to internal organs not directly related to the underlying cancer diagnosis. And what has been happening is that my creatinine levels (likely a side effect of my previous 18-month-long Avastin infusion) and bilirubin (likely a side effect of the - at present, nine months-long and counting, daily dose of tarceva, a targeted treatment/pill I take daily), are reaching new highs. Elevated levels of which are hardly grist for the rumor mill. In fact, it's quite the opposite: cause for concern.

The problem is that neither chemotherapy nor targeted treatment have been - heretofore, considered long-term treatment options for stage IV lung cancer patients because long-term survivors are rare. As such, studies determining such multi-year protocols have been equally rare, given the minimal patient population. And since I now fall into this "rare" population, how to treat me is more feel than established fact. The book hasn't been written, so to speak, because I'm the "book."

That being said, what the nephrologist said to me was: "You look great. Are you in remission?" (Not that I have been told.) "No one could tell by looking at you that you're not healthy." All of which I was grateful to hear, but hesitant to embrace. Ergo, the first "confliction." All of a sudden (four-plus years, actually), I'm not terminal? Given that I'm now living year five post-diagnosis, the chance, statistically speaking, that I'll be alive in year six is only 14.8 percent (see previous column of the same name). So, am I closer to the end of my life or the end of the cancer? That's a fairly wide disparity between fact and fiction. Am I living longer or dying sooner?

"Confliction" number two: What's the benefit to me, in even writing about what the nephrologist said? It feels as if I'm putting the proverbial cart before the horse. I'm not cured. There is no cure (as my oncologist clearly advised Team Lourie back in February, '09: "I can treat you, but I can't cure you." Hard words to live by). To the point then, what advantage, what purpose does discussing being cured (in remission) serve? My "CT" scan next week will tell me what I should be feeling; that's when the diagnostic rubber really hits the road. It doesn't matter what I think or feel - or write about - now, the tale of the tape will be in the "computerized topography." Until the radiologist completes his analysis and my oncologist communicates those findings to me, embracing what the nephrologist said to me or even writing about my reaction to it seems counterproductive somehow. I can't believe in miracles. I have to believe in myself. However, believing in one without the other is perhaps the reason I'm so conflicted. Or, I just think too much.

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

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but I never walk back.  
-Abraham Lincoln

# SPORTS

## Madison Girls' Lax Beats McLean

**Nine Warhawks score at least one goal.**

By JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**A**fter falling behind McLean during an April 18 matchup, Madison girls' lacrosse coach Amanda Counts had a message for the Warhawks during a timeout.

"[I told them] that they need to have pride in how they play," said Counts, whose Warhawks defeated 2012 state runner-up Langley six days prior. "Coming off a big win last week, where they were super excited, it seemed like they were resting on that and they need to recognize that we have a long season ahead of us and accomplishing our interim goals as we go does not mean we get to slack off at any point."

"We have to be prepared for what's coming down the line."

While Madison stumbled during the first eight minutes, the Warhawks proved prepared to dominate the remainder of the contest.

Madison outscored McLean 20-5 during a 36-minute stretch and defeated the Highlanders 21-11 at McLean High School. Madison trailed 4-1 early, but the Warhawks responded with four straight goals and 11 of the next 14 en route to a 12-7 halftime lead. Madison scored nine of the first 11 second-half goals and cruised to victory.

"I think we started working together as a team," Madison junior Alex Condon said in regard to the Warhawks overcoming their slow start. "I feel like the first few minutes, everyone was playing as an individual. I feel like after that, we came out, we got focused and we did what we needed to do to get it together."

**NINE DIFFERENT WARHAWKS** scored at least one goal and seven scored at least two. Senior attack Carly Frederick led the way with four goals. Condon, junior Katie Kerrigan and senior Melissa Kellan each had three goals and sophomore Kierra Sweeney,



**Madison senior midfielder Melissa Kellan shoots during a game against McLean on April 18.**

junior Sam Babbitt and senior Erin Callahan each had two. Juniors Maddie Renshaw and Rachel Brennan each added one.

On April 22, Madison beat South Lakes 17-6, improving the Warhawks' record to 7-1, including 4-0 in the Liberty District.

Many of Madison's juniors and seniors were members of the program's 2011 undefeated state championship team. The Warhawks have also won each of the last two Liberty District titles. This season, Madison has a greater dependence on its elder athletes to provide leadership and on-field production as the younger Warhawks don't possess as much experience as in previous years.

"This is a whole new team," said Frederick, who was a sophomore on the 2011 state title team. "We're not used to this kind of team at all. It's definitely a challenge, but one that we're all taking optimistically. There are times where it's very frustrating. I've never been on a team like this. Being a senior and being a captain, I really enjoy trying to help the other players and trying to get everyone on the same page. I don't think captains in previous years that I've played have ever had to have that much responsibility. It's a lot of pressure."

How have the Warhawks remained successful?

"We hold [younger players] accountable

to the level that our coaches expect us to be playing at," Frederick said. "It's definitely tough. There have been a lot of emotions throughout the season, but everyone is starting to really come together and I don't think that anyone has really seen the best of Madison yet and I'm excited for that game to come."

Condon was a freshman on the 2011 team.

"When I was a freshman, we had great seniors that helped everyone," said Condon, now a junior. "They were always willing to stay after practice with you and help you out and spend extra time with you and I [looked] up to them and try to do that with the young girls here."

Counts said the elder Warhawks need to have athletes of all ages playing well in order for the team to be successful.

"They have a lot to accomplish," she said. "There are girls who are experienced here and have been in the program and have been with us through successes, but we have a lot of new girls, so that's not something every single person has in their back pocket. They need to bring everybody up to the same level. We have to play together to get anything done."

After losing to Madison, McLean defeated Marshall 16-12 on Monday, improving the Highlanders' record to 4-5, including 2-3



**McLean senior Ava Mirzadegan scored three goals against Madison on April 18.**

in the Liberty District.

**AGAINST MADISON**, senior attack Ava Mirzadegan and freshman midfielder Alessandra Pelliccia each scored three goals. Junior midfielder Nikki Lind finished with two goals, and sophomore attack Grace Tiernan, senior attack Sibylle Miller and sophomore midfielder Elise Koehl each finished with one.

Mirzadegan and Lind scored the first two goals of the April 18 contest against the Warhawks. After Frederick put Madison on the board, Pelliccia and Lind scored, giving McLean a 4-1 lead. Pelliccia scored from free position with 9:27 remaining in the first half, giving the Highlanders their final lead of the night at 6-5.

"I think our girls played hard the entire time," McLean head coach Alexandra Whitworth said. "They were fired up the whole time for this game. This is always a big rivalry that we have against Madison. I think [the Warhawks] just kind of capitalized on their shots. Our shooting kind of went downhill as the game went on. Their goalie had some really good saves."

McLean will travel to face Fairfax at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 29.

Madison will host Fairfax at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 26.

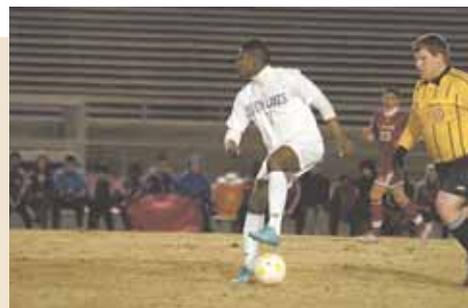
### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### South Lakes Boys' Soccer Wins Seven Straight

The South Lakes boys' soccer team responded to its season-opening loss to T.C. Williams on March 14 with seven consecutive victories. During the winning streak, the Seahawks have outscored opponents 11-3.

As of Tuesday morning, South Lakes was ranked No. 3 in the Washington Post's top 10.

South Lakes faced McLean on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The



**Suliman Dainkeh and the South Lakes boys' soccer team won seven of their first eight games.**

Seahawks will travel to face Thomas Jefferson at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 25.

#### Herndon Boys' Soccer Ties Oakton

The Herndon boys' soccer team played to a 2-2 tie with Oakton on Monday, moving the Hornets' record to 6-1-3 overall and 1-0-2 in the Concorde District.

Herndon will travel to face Centreville at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 25.

#### Northern Region Baseball Top 10

The Madison baseball team remained atop the Northern Region top 10 and Vienna rival Oakton is ranked No. 2 in this week's

coaches poll.

Defending state champion Lake Braddock is ranked No. 3, followed by Centreville (4), Robinson (5), Yorktown (6), Chantilly (7), West Potomac (8), Langley (9) and South County (10).

T.C. Williams, Stone Bridge, McLean, Westfield and Fairfax also received votes.

The Concorde District has four teams in the top 10, most among the four districts in the Northern Region. The Patriot District has three teams in the top 10, the Liberty has two and the National has one.

# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## THURSDAY/APRIL 25

**Carlos Ibay.** 2:15-3:30 p.m., at Center Stage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The blind pianist and tenor who has performed on five continents plays the sixth in a series of seven free Thursday afternoon "Meet the Artists" concerts. 703-503-3384 or [www.ulli.gmu.edu](http://www.ulli.gmu.edu).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 27

**Paul's Ride for Life.** 7-11:30 a.m., Reston Town Center, 1825 Library St., Reston. A 10 and 20-miler bike ride to raise money for the Washington Regional Transplant Community (WRTC). \$30. [http://paulsrideforlife.org/?page\\_id=3](http://paulsrideforlife.org/?page_id=3).

**Bike Riding Class for Kids.** 1-2 p.m., at Reston Association, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. This class provides a hands-on, educational way for children to master the art of bicycle riding. Reston Association members: \$80; non-members: \$90. [Ashleigh@reston.org](mailto:Ashleigh@reston.org) or 703-435-6577.

**Global Camps Africa HIV Dinner and Auction.** 6-9 p.m., Oracle Headquarters, 1900 Oracle Way, Reston. The proceeds of the event will allow Global Camps Africa to continue sending HIV/AIDS affected youth to Camp Sizanani where they learn life skills, awareness and HIV-prevention; event will include dinner, South African wine, and live and silent auctions with prizes. 703-437-



"Foot Prints of Ladies," by My Phoung Nguyen

## Fine Art Photography Competition Showcases Finalists

The work of 35 finalists in the 2013 Fine Art Photography Competition goes up in the Fine Art Photography exhibit, open through May 26. The 35 were selected from 76 photographers submitting over 200 entries; juror Barry Schmetter announces winners during the Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 27, from 7 to 9 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. [www.artspaceherndon.com](http://www.artspaceherndon.com).

0808 or [www.globalcampsafrika.org](http://www.globalcampsafrika.org).  
**2013 Fine Arts Photography: Open Reception and Awards Ceremony.** 7-9 p.m., at ArtSpace Herndon in the Post Gallery, 750 Center St., Herndon. Regional photographers' work featured in a juried exhibit; the winner will be announced at the reception. Artomatic Event Director and Washington, D.C., based

photographer and artist Barry Schmetter is the judge. 703-956-6590 or [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 28

**39th Annual Walk On the Hill.** 2-5 p.m., W&OD Trail and Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Using self-guided walking tour maps, you may browse throughout the lawns and gardens of

homes marked with special "welcome" signs. 703-938-5187 or [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org).

**"Harriet."** 3 p.m., at Martin Luther King, Jr. Christian Church, 11400 North Shore Drive, Reston. A one-woman play about the life of Harriet Tubman, will be performed by Marlene G. Stevens. [www.mlchristianchurch.org](http://www.mlchristianchurch.org).

## THURSDAY/MAY 2

**Chamasyan Sisters: 20th Century Russian Greats.** 2:15-3:30 p.m., at Center Stage, Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. International competition winners and sisters Monika Chamasyan, violin, and Marina Chamasyan, piano, play works by Shostakovich, Rachmaninoff and Babajanyan in the last of a series of seven free Thursday afternoon "Meet the Artists" concerts. 703-503-3384 or [www.ulli.gmu.edu](http://www.ulli.gmu.edu).

**Patty Larkin at Wolf Trap.** 8 p.m., at the Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Songstress and master guitarist Parry Larkin brings her bluesy jazz-infused urban sound to the Barns at Wolf Trap. \$22. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## FRIDAY/MAY 3

**Sun, Sand, Surf and Song.** 7:30 p.m., at the Elden Street Player's Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The music of the islands as sung by the Herndon Town Square Singers, with selections from "South Pacific," "The Little Mermaid," the Beach Boys and other favorites. \$12. 703-787-7300.

**26th Annual Evening of Comedy.** 8 p.m., at the Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635

Trap Road, Vienna. Comedians Jimmie "JJ" Walker, Kelly Monteith, Mitchell Walters bring their stand-up performances to the Barns of Wolf Trap. \$25. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## SATURDAY/MAY 4

**Fourth Annual Courtney Schilling Memorial 5K.** 8 a.m., at Forest Edge Elementary School, 1501 Becontree Lane, Reston. Race in memory of a teacher who died of cancer, with proceeds going to educational programs at the school. [JFKennedy@fcps.edu](mailto:JFKennedy@fcps.edu), [mmalone@fcps.edu](mailto:mmalone@fcps.edu) or [www.courtneyschilling5k.com](http://www.courtneyschilling5k.com).

**Reston Farmers Market Opening Day.** 8 a.m.-noon, at Lake Anne, 1609 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Fresh vegetables and fruits from local farmers, meats, baked goods, kettle corn, soft ice cream, fresh milk, honey, flowers and fresh seafood from the Chesapeake Bay. [www.restonfarmersmarket.com](http://www.restonfarmersmarket.com).

**Pet Fiesta and Tails on Trails Dog Walk.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Metro DC dog lovers can spend a spring day walking their pooches in a scenic area while raising money for homeless dogs while an adoption event goes on concurrently at Reston Town Center all day. \$20 registration; \$5 per additional dog. [mark@gooddogz.org](mailto:mark@gooddogz.org).

**Denim Recycling.** 1-5 p.m., at the Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Reston Environmental Action collects used denim and sends it to the organization Cotton. From Blue to Green, which recycles fabric into environmentally-safe insulation for building homes. [www.restonenvironmentalaction.org](http://www.restonenvironmentalaction.org).

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Cast for "Cheaper by the Dozen" assembled for a group photo.

# Herndon High Presents 'Cheaper By The Dozen'

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

When Herndon High School theatre director Zoe Dillard was selecting plays for the 2012-2013 theatre season, she did not expect she would choose "Cheaper By the Dozen." "It was a shift for us," said Dillard. "It was an alternative to Thornton Wilder's 'Our Town.'"

The plays share some similarities. They are both set in 1920s America, and are "straight plays," not musicals.

Dramatized by Christopher Sergel, "Cheaper by the Dozen" is the story of the Gilbreth family and how they cope with some changes familiar to many families. "I think it is a heartwarming, humorous family production, people will often recognize some part of their family in it," said Dillard. "This was a memory play, and an American story, very nostalgic. It fit in with this season's theme, a season of reflection."

"There was a lot of hard work put into this production," said Alissa Clayton, Herndon High student and lighting technician for the show. "I think it really helped the show go smoothly."

From Thursday, April 18, to Saturday, April 20, the Herndon High School Theatre team produced the play before audiences at Herndon High School. The role of Mr. Gilbreth was played by Chris Hrozencik with Paul Morgan as understudy. "I thought of the play as a dense comedy," said Hrozencik. "I have been in theatre productions since third grade, and in high school, plays since freshman year," said Hrozencik. "My character, Mr. Gilbreth, just wants to convey the idea of being a good parent, not breaking down and just staying strong."

Megan Overton played Anne, one of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbreth's daughters. "I identified a lot with Anne from my personal experience," said Overton. "The play is a drama, it has its funny parts but it is kind of sad." Overton, now a senior in high school, has par-



Standing, from left, Chris Hrozencik, Hunter Robinson; seated, Cassie Sezymeck and Sarah Overton in Herndon High's production of "Cheaper By The Dozen."



Actresses Sarah Overton, Megan Overton and Jean Jeon.

icipated in high school theatre since her freshman year. "I hope to go into musical theatre."

The next and final production of the year for Herndon High School Theatre will be William Shakespeare's final masterpiece, "The Tempest." Play dates are May 31 and June 1.



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