

Oak Hill Herndon CONNECTION

Herndon High Drama Presents 'Legally Blonde' Musical

A+, PAGE 6

The Herndon Drama team prepares for their April production of the "Legally Blonde" musical. In the photo, Herndon High School sophomore Allie Lytle with Mini LaRe.



How to Spend \$55 Million

NEWS, PAGE 3

Student Teacher Returns To Herndon, Arrested

NEWS, PAGE 3

MIDDLEBURG
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ATOKA PROPERTIES



MARIES RD, STERLING - Ten acres, close to route 7 & route 28. Currently zoned residential as a working nursery. The property includes glass-houses, buildings and horse barns - sold as is. Commercial zoning is possible. The purchaser pays roll back taxes. By appointment only. **\$5,000,000**

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Space is limited so please
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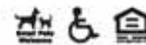
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Student Teacher Returns to Herndon, Arrested

Former Coates Elementary teacher arrested after attempting to have sexual activity with a 13-year-old boy.

Kathleen Antonina Capitano, 24, arrived at a hotel in Herndon Saturday, April 16, to have sex with a 13-year-old boy she met while student teaching last year at Coates Elementary School, according to Fairfax County Police.

Fairfax County Police charged Capitano, of Shallotte, N.C., with four felony counts

of "use of communication systems to facilitate certain offenses involving children under 15 years of age," according to police documents.

Law enforcement authorities had been alerted to her online activity and were waiting for her when she arrived in Herndon, accord-



POLICE PHOTO

Kathleen Antonina Capitano

ing to police.

"Detectives met with the child and his parents prior to Capitano's arrival in Fairfax County," according to police documents.

The initial investigation began five days before on Monday, April 11. Detectives with the county police department's Major Crimes Division worked with agents from the FBI's Washington Field Office's Child Exploitation Task Force. Detectives determined that Capitano met the victim while

she was a student teacher at Coates Elementary School in Herndon in 2015.

The case is still under investigation and additional charges are possible, according to police.

Anyone with information should contact Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131, Crime Solvers by visiting <http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org> or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES(274637)** or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477).

KEN MOORE,
THE CONNECTION

How to Spend \$55 Million

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Town Manager Arthur A. Anselene presented the Proposed FY 2017 Herndon Budget to the Town Council Tuesday night, April 12.

"What's more fun than for me to tell you how to spend \$55 million," said Anselene. "I think it's a lot of money and a lot of work goes into it."

"The \$55 million budget continues the town's focus on the development of the downtown, planning for the transit-oriented development near Metrorail's Herndon Station and maintenance of the quality of our town," according to Anselene.

The Town Council will hold a public meeting on April 26 to give the opportunity for the public to voice feedback on the proposed budget.

"We've heard from quite a few of you," said Mayor Lisa Merkel. "I do encourage all interested residents to provide your input

to us. We want to hear how you would like us to spend your tax dollars.

The Town Council hopes to adopt the 2017 Budget on April 26. It must be completed by June 30, according to Town's spokesperson Anne Curtis.

The budget serves four key roles for the Town, Anselene said before the Council.

"First of all, it is a planning document of what we are going to do in the upcoming year. It serves as your blueprint of what we do and how we evaluate our strategic goals and what we accomplish," he said.

"It's a financial document that defines the costs necessary to achieve all the initiatives and goals you undertake in the next year; it's an operation document that our staff use throughout the year as they implement the budget and realize your goals and objectives; and it's a community document for what your intent is and how we extend to our residents the Town's resources for the upcoming year."

Herndon Town Council will hold a public meeting on budget on April 26.

THE PROPOSED BUDGET maintains the current real estate tax of 26.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value, Herndon last increased the real estate tax in 2011 and reduced slightly in 2013.

The Town will continue its progress toward undergrounding of utilities in the downtown, spending \$2.9 million on downtown utility relocation.

"It will be a dramatic change to the skyline," said Anselene.

The Town will also eliminate the vehicle decal requirement and change it to a vehicle registration fee to eliminate the need for residents to obtain vehicle decals.

The Town will also begin the second phase of its future automated trash collection system to include purchase of a refuse truck and collection containers.

UNLIKE FAIRFAX COUNTY, Herndon does not have a meals tax which will remain at 2.5 percent.

The cigarette tax remains at 75 cents

per pack.

The sewer service base rate at \$5.05 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption and sewer availability remains at \$7,490 for new, single-family homes. Water availability remains at \$4,863 for new, single-family homes and the base rate remains at \$2.90 per 1,000 gallons consumed.

Recycling remains at \$16 per year.

Herndon's average residential property is projected to be \$365,430.

The average residential real estate tax bill is \$968.39.

The total budget is \$55,486,261 for all funds, including the general fund, water and sewer fund, golf course fund, Chestnut Grove Cemetery Fund, Downtown Enterprise Fund and the Capital Projects Fund.

See more at www.herndon-va.gov.

Comments

See www.herndon-va.gov. Submit comments online at herndon-va.gov or via email at budget@herndon-va.gov.

Scouts Doing a Good Turn

On Saturday, April 2, Scouts from several area scouting units assisted with the Town of Herndon's Parks and Recreation Department volunteer cleanup day at Runnymede Park in Herndon. The effort was supported by Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts from troops throughout the Powhatan District, which is defined by units based in Herndon, Reston, Oakton and Great Falls, Virginia. To find a troop near you visit PowhatanDistrict.com.

Cub Scouts Pack 913 collect trash during a cleanup day at Runnymede Park in Herndon on Saturday, April 2. Front row: Alex J., Logan E., Harrison R., Ryan T., Sai B., and Seth T. Back row: David Rockwell, Ramana Kumar Bandreddi, Mark Esposito, Bob Johnson, Paul Theriot and Trent Tebbe



OPINION

On the Guilty Plea of Adam Torres

Geer's death exposed "obfuscation ... and a lack of public accountability."

Adam Torres, charged with murder in the death of Springfield resident John Geer, was the first Fairfax County Police officer in the history of the department to be charged in such a death. Monday, Torres entered a guilty plea to involuntary manslaughter, with a likely sentence of 12 months, most of that already served. He has been in jail for eight months.

Geer was a Springfield resident, a remodeling contractor and an involved father, always on the sidelines of his daughters' sports games. He was unarmed, standing in the doorway of his own home with his hands raised at the time he was killed.

The police and Fairfax County refused to release any information on the case for more than a year, and only then after repeated court orders. Public outrage over Geer's death was compounded by obfuscation and silence, the failure to communicate, and a lack of public accountability. Change is in the works, but there is much work to do.

There is still much to say about the death of John Geer and its aftermath.

EDITORIAL

But today, the wisdom of his two teenage daughters is well worth reading and sharing:

APRIL 18, 2016 STATEMENT BY THE DAUGHTERS OF JOHN GEER

"Justice is rarely a simple matter, and it would be easy to vent our anger, our outrage, our sorrow, and voice opposition to the plea bargain struck between Adam Torres and the Commonwealth. Nobody would question the rawness of our emotions and our response to it; we have lost a father, and there can be no substitute, no future moment of affection, no further opportunities to be close the man who should be present as our greatest supporter. Torres took that away from us, the Fairfax Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County Police Department hid the truth of what happened to our dad for over a year, and there is no going back. ...

"Much like Dad's murder has repercussions for his family and the community, locking Torres in a cell will have an effect on others. Whatever his faults, Torres' wife and children did not murder our father, and it would be wrong to hurt them just to allay our own anger and pain. Robbing other children of time with their father would only make us complicit in another wrong. ...

"Where Torres failed to show prudence and mercy, we will show him and his family both.

"As for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Police Department, we remain appalled by their actions in cover-

ing up the truth and putting Torres in the position to decide life and death given what they knew about his background. Until such time that the ad hoc committee's recommendations are adopted and the policies of the FCPD are changed, we fear that these tragic events can occur again with different victims and different officers. We call upon the Board to immediately adopt and implement the Committee's recommendations without delay for the good of the FCPD and the citizens of Fairfax County.

"No family should have to suffer the loss of a mother, a father, or a loved one under circumstances like ours."

Send in Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 8 this year and every year at this time this newspaper calls for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery.

Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children in the photos. Please name everyone in the photo, ages of children, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your contact information, just names and town of residence.) You can upload photos and information directly to www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/ or email to north@connectionnewspapers.com.

A Bipartisan Compromise To Unclog the Region

BY JIM CORCORAN,
PRESIDENT AND CEO,
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

COMMENTARY

Northern Virginia's transportation crisis maintains a stranglehold on our regional economy and quality of life. It costs our region \$4.5 billion annually due to the countless hours we waste sitting in traffic, and has earned our region the dubious distinction as one of the most congested areas in the country. The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce has long believed that unclogging our region's transportation grid requires a strategic, regional approach. We cannot expect to retain and attract business without implementing a 21st Century transportation infrastructure.

Thankfully, however, a significant compromise struck during the 2016 Virginia General Assembly Session has the potential to address the most serious choke point in our region: I-66 inside the Beltway. Improving travel along this important economic corridor is critical to maintaining our economic competitiveness and getting our region moving again.

The bipartisan compromise plan is the result of collaboration between the Commonwealth and localities that takes into account various jurisdictional transportation interests, creating a regionally balanced solution. Combined with the existing express lane network on I-495 and I-95 and in conjunction with new improvements to I-66 outside the Beltway, this project will provide reliable, enhanced travel options throughout the region by car, carpool, and transit. Each of these modes of travel will play a critical part in moving goods, services, and people to and from our region's key assets.

For those traveling along I-66 from points west of I-495, the scheduled improvements will contain enhancements and options including additional lanes, new bus service, and new commuter lots. Key to the plan is the ability of single-occupant drivers to use I-66 inside the Beltway during peak times for the first time in the road's history.

For those who reside inside of the Capital Beltway, this project will provide enhanced bus service, enhancements on parallel roads to

better protect neighborhoods, pedestrian access, and Metro station access improvements all geared toward providing more transportation options for residents and businesses along I-66.

Addressing much needed congestion relief on I-66 by adding an additional eastbound lane has been a priority for the Northern Virginia Chamber and the Northern Virginia business community for decades. The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce congratulates Governor McAuliffe and lead-

ers in the General Assembly for working across party lines to achieve this historic victory for the residents of the Commonwealth.

We will continue to advocate for dynamic, regional projects like this as the business community looks to maintain our status as the economic engine of the Commonwealth and a cradle of innovation in the United States. We look forward to more bipartisan successes in the years to come as we work together to enhance our regional transportation network.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Inappropriate Use of FEMA Relief Funds

To the Editor

Your recent article "Fairfax County Schools to Apply for FEMA Relief Funds" is another example of attempting to exploit the American taxpayers.

I visualize the typical American taxpayer as a middle class couple living in the heartland of our country. They have two children. They go to church every week. They don't smoke, don't use illegal drugs, and use alcohol in moderation. Their children go to school each school day. They vote in ev-

ery election. They must struggle financially even when the economy is strong, but they pay their bills, and they pay their taxes. They pay for their children's education, and they save for their retirement.

I don't feel that it is appropriate for the Federal government, which consists of millions of such middle class families, to pay for the removal of snow at Fairfax County Public Schools.

Dave Elmore
Great Falls

Oak Hill & Herndon
CONNECTION

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BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com by noon on the Friday prior to the following week's paper.

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Healthy at 100! 10 a.m.-noon. Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Giant's (McLean) in-store nutritionist, Amanda Barnes, RDN, will share tips and tricks to be healthier. Free. 703-430-7872.

FRIDAY/APRIL 29

Annual Spring Event: Luncheon & Silent Auction. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. International Country Club, 13200 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Hosted by Assistance League of Northern Virginia to benefit its Operation School Bell programs. Event will feature a presentation on Identity Theft and Personal Safety. \$65, \$30 is tax deductible. lindamshilts@gmail.com or 703-424-6652.

www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

Understanding Mood

Dysregulation in Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. 10 a.m.-noon. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, Entrance 1, Room 100, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. Dr. Sajjad Khan, an experienced clinician and researcher at NeuroScience Inc., will cover assessment, and treatment of mood dysregulation in students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Register at 703-204-3941 or http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/resources/events/documents/UnderstandingMoodDysregulationinASD.pdf.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 18

Annual Blood Drive. 1-6:30 p.m. Home Suites Dulles International Airport, 13460 Sunrise Valley Drive, Herndon. Special appearance will be

made by "Lewis the Duck." 703-793-1700 ext. 7815.

ONGOING

Computer Classes for Seniors. 11 a.m.-noon. Wednesdays. April 6-May 4. Tysons Corner Microsoft Store, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Free. Register by calling Shepherds Center of Oakton/Vienna at 703-281-0538.

The **Herndon Adult Day Health Care Center** needs a bingo caller and an art therapy assistant. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Herndon Senior Center** needs a volunteer trained in taking blood pressure, Social Visitors and a Baked Goods Table Manager. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/lombudsman/.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery and childcare are provided and youth and adult Sunday school classes are held prior, from 9:40-10:45 a.m. 703-437-5500 or www.trinityherndon.org.

Epiphany United Methodist Preschool, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is now enrolling 3- to 4-year-old students. 703-938-2391 or www.epiphanypreschool.com.

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

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

WEEK IN HERNDON

ADAMS Receives Community Leadership Award

All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) received the Community Leadership Award presented on Friday, April 15 by FBI National Director James B. Comey and FBI WFO Assistant Director in Charge Paul M. Abbate. Fifty-six community organizations and leaders from every State across America were recognized including a total

of 4 Muslim Organization/Leaders from Washington Field Office (ADAMS), Boston, Memphis, and Los Angeles.

Since 2002, ADAMS has been a key member of the FBI Washington Field Office (WFO) Arab, Muslim and Sikh Advisory Committee and National Community Outreach Partner with FBI HQ and they continue to partner together to protect the nation's safety, responding to hate crimes, and safeguarding civil rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

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FAIRFAX
CORNER

Herndon High Drama Presents “Legally Blonde” Musical

Students engaged in arts productions.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

Herndon High School continues its tradition of having a student body engaged in the performing arts. The Herndon High School marching band performed in the Saturday April 16, 2016 Cherry Blossom Parade in D.C. The band has been part of the Herndon community since 1947. The Herndon High School Marching Band was one of 14 bands selected to play in the parade presented by Events D.C. On April 10, there was a joint senior recital at Herndon United Methodist Church by seniors Jacob Reeves and Aimee Toner, accompanied by Jenny Kong. A school Pyramid Concert will be held on April 26.

The Herndon Drama team prepares for their April production of the “Legally Blonde” musical. This production is based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture, and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This show will be entered as a contestant for this year’s Cappies (Critics and Awards Pro-

gram). The Cappies is a program for celebrating and providing learning experiences for high school theater. The Cappies was created in 1999 by Bill Strauss, founder of the Capitol Steps, and Judy Bowns, a Fairfax County Public Schools theatre resource teacher. “This play will bring lots of laughs,” said sophomore Kishan Rao, who plays Warner Huntington.

In the musical, Elle Woods is suddenly dumped by her boyfriend when he leaves to attend Harvard Law. To win him back, Elle enrolls into Harvard Law, and struggles with peers and professors. With the help of her friends Paulette and Emmett, Elle realizes her potential and sets out to prove herself. “It is a very fun and upbeat musical which promotes girls being themselves and succeeding,” said Becca Wichman, a senior who is playing the role of Paulette Bonafonté.

“The show is fast paced and funny, but there is real emotion behind the lines,” said senior Nathan Burns who plays Emmett. Playing character Elle Woods is sophomore Allie Lytle. “The progression of character is what makes this show special,” said Lytle.

Lucas Lauber, the production’s lighting designer, has been making sure all goes according to plan. Also, this musical has three dogs which make appearances on the stage. “We have some really talented singers and



Herndon High Drama team is producing the “Legally Blonde” musical on April 22, 23, and 24. Senior Nathan Burns plays Emmett, and playing Elle Woods is sophomore Allie Lytle.



Herndon High School students in the April production of the “Legally Blonde” musical smile for photo. From left, Kishan Rao, Jessie Jorgensen, Becca Wichman, Nathan Burns, and Annie Taylor.

dancers in this production,” said senior Annie Taylor. Unlike previous shows, members of the orchestra will also be playing onstage during the production. Tickets for

the show are \$10 with online reservation or \$12 at the door. Show dates will be April 22 at 7:30 p.m., April 23 at 7:30 .p.m., and April 24 at 2 p.m.

Removing a Barrier to Pomp and Circumstance

Gowns for Grads program at George Mason provides regalia for needy graduates.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Muntaha Choudhary walks across the stage during George Mason University’s graduation ceremony this May she will celebrate not only her bachelor’s degree, which has been eight years in the making, but also the fact that she is the first person in her family to graduate from college.

Her financial circumstances could have put a damper on her graduation plans, however. She was not sure that she could afford the cost of purchasing a cap and gown, a requirement to participate in the graduation ceremony.

“Some people might say, ‘\$67, that’s not a big deal,’ but it is in my family,” said Choudhary. “We’re always on edge when it comes to money. My dad is a four-time heart attack survivor, and any money that my family saves goes to medical bills or something. That’s why it has taken me so long to graduate. I’ve had to pay my own tuition and help my family pay bills.”

Choudhary and many other George Mason University graduates in need will have one less barrier to their graduation ceremony thanks to a new program at the university called Gowns for Grads.



Amanda Myers started a program to provide donated caps and gowns to George Mason graduates who cannot afford them.

PHOTO COURTESY OF
GEORGE MASON
UNIVERSITY

Through the program, recent Mason alumni donate caps and gowns to students who can’t afford the \$60-\$120 price tag for graduation regalia. The program was founded by Amanda Myers, a Mason alumna and an academic adviser in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The idea for the program was sparked when Myers was counseling a student who was nearing graduation, and had tapped out all of her financial resources to buy textbooks to complete her last semester. In fact, says Myers, the student’s situation was so dire that she was on the brink of homelessness, and wasn’t planning to par-

ticipate in the graduation ceremony because she didn’t have money to spend on the required clothing for graduation.

“I waited until the student left my office, and then I started crying,” said Myers. “It was heartbreaking that something like not being able to afford a cap and gown would stand in the way of her graduation. When students have worked so hard to graduate, they deserve to be cut a break.”

Since the program’s inception in February, Myers has been able to meet the cap and gown needs of nearly 150 students through the generosity of Mason alumni from Northern Virginia but as far away as North Carolina and New Jersey.

Jumana Kamal graduated last year with a master’s degree in Middle East and Islamic Studies. She chose to donate her graduation wear to the Gowns for Grads program.

“I very simply wanted to make it easier for at least one person who worked really hard to get to this one day,” said Kamal. “If you’re wondering about sentimental value, making someone else’s day is much more rewarding to me than holding on to something for a keepsake.”

After receiving her master’s degree in Emergency Management and Homeland Security in 2013, Regina Yun kept her cap and gown and looked for a way to donate it, but didn’t find one until she learned about Gowns for Grads. “I’m saving the environment by recycling and reusing and helping out a fellow student,” said Yun. “I had my cap and gown packed up and ready

to go. I hope a few students can get a few uses out of it.”

Students who want to be considered for a cap and gown donation must complete an application and describe their financial constraints.

“Their stories are compelling,” said Myers. “One student wrote, ‘Eventually I became the first person in the family to earn a college degree; however, I have never been able to participate in any of the graduation ceremonies for the various levels of my academic journey due to financial constraints. I would humbly like to impress on your good offices to grant me the opportunity to rent a cap and gown to enable me to finally participate in my first ever graduation ceremony.’”

“Another student stated, ‘I have had to pay for school out of my own pocket for years. Graduating will be the happiest day of my life, not only because I will no longer have to pay an arm and a leg, but also because I will be able to devote more time and money to helping my parents.’”

Myers designed the program to make it as easy as possible for alumni to donate. “All they have to do is send it to me and I can take care of the rest,” she said. “I de-wrinkle them and use a cleaning spray to get them ready to be worn.”

Mason alumni who are interested in donating and graduating students who would like to borrow a cap and gown are encouraged to send an email to Gowns4grad@gmail.com or visit: [Facebook.com/GMUcapandgown](https://www.facebook.com/GMUcapandgown).

NEWS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Stop Hunger Now volunteers packed foods and meals for developing countries.

Packing Meals for Across the Globe

Dranesville United Methodist Church, Boy Scout Troop 1018, American Heritage Girls and other volunteers packed 11,880 nutritious meals for distribution in developing countries across the globe. They packed protein rich, dehydrated meals, such as soy,

rice, vegetables and vitamins. The meal packing event is in its third year. The church is located at 1018 Liberty Meeting Court, Herndon. For more information about Stop Hunger now, go to stophungernow.org.



Fifth- and sixth-graders from Terraset Elementary visit U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's office in Washington, D.C.

Terraset Ambassadors Visit Congress

Terraset's Ambassadors visited U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's (D-11) office in Washington, D.C. on Friday April 1. District 11 covers the area in which Terraset Elementary is located.

The Terraset Ambassadors toured the

the Capitol and the Capitol Visitor Center with staff members from Connolly's staff. For some of these students it was their first visit to the U.S. Capitol. The Ambassadors are studying and practicing leadership skills in their weekly classes.

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CALENDAR

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is noon on the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Wells and Barnes: Seats of Power. April 21-June 18. Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. Collaborative exhibition featuring artists Gayle Wells Mandle and her daughter, Julia Barnes Mandle. Gayle and Julia use the motif of chairs as a vehicle to examine society's eternal power struggle. 703-471-9242. restonarts.org.

Charlene Fuhrman Schulz Exhibit. May 3-22. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. "Unlimited" is an exhibit that celebrates the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death. www.artspaceherndon.com. 703-956-9560.

ARTrageous Exhibit. Through May 1. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday. Unitarian United Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston. Works by Canadian artist Celeste Friesen. artworksbyceleste.com. 703-956-9155.

Founder's Day Exhibit. Through April 25. JoAnne Rose Gallery, Reston Community Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. In honor of League of Reston Artists founder Patricia MacIntyre. Free. leagueofrestonartists.org.

New Forms and Horizons: Abstract Art and Sculpture. April 5-May 1. ArtSpace, 750 Center St., Herndon. Featuring contemporary landscape artist Jorge Luis Bernal and sculptor Eric Garner. artspaceherndon.com. 703-956-9560.

Joyful Color in Reston. April 7-May 5. Reston Art Gallery and Studio, 11400 Washington Plaza W, Reston. Joan Kelly's colorful acrylic paintings of Reston scenes will be on exhibit in unison with Founder's Week, a celebration of the life of Reston founder, Robert E. Simon, Jr. RestonArtGallery.com.

Herndon Town Calendar Photography Competition. Deadline June 7 at 2 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon and the Council for the Arts of Herndon present the Sixth Annual Herndon Town Calendar Photography Competition. Professional and amateur photographers are invited to submit entries to the Herndon Town Calendar Photo Competition. Subjects for all entries must be located within the corporate limits of the Town of Herndon. artspaceherndon.com. 703-956-9560.

Volunteers. The McLean Community Players seeks volunteers, preferably retirees who can work during the day on weekdays as well as weekends, to build scenery for MCP productions. No experience is required. Training provided. Call the scene shop manager at 703-304-3176 to schedule a visit and talk. www.McLeanPlayers.org.

Integral Tai Chi. 12:30-2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays through March 30. Herndon Senior Center, 873 Grace St., Herndon. Integral Tai Chi is a combination of traditional Chinese Tai Chi and Qi Kong. The movements come from both forms of practice, in addition to yoga movements in the warm up section. Students need to bring their own yoga mat, a towel and water. Free-\$5. 703-464-6200.

All-comers' Group Fun Run at Potomac River Running. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. For beginners or competitive runners,



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Encore Chorale will perform romantic pieces, blues and Broadway favorites on Saturday, May 14 at United Christian Parish in Reston.

come out for a fun, low-key run that is safe and social. For more information, call 703-689-0999 or visit <https://potomacriverrunning.com>.

Patrick Dougherty Public Art Installation. Through 2017. Reston Town Square Park, 11900 Market Street, Reston. See and explore "A Bird in the Hand," a monumental public art sculpture made from tree saplings. The event is presented by GRACE in collaboration with IPAR. For more information, call 703-471-9242 or visit <http://restontowncenter.com/index.php>.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 20-24

Reston Friends Big Spring Book Sale. Call for times. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Browse thousands upon thousands of great books in great condition. 703-689-2700.

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Healthy at 100! 10 a.m.-noon. Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Giant's (McLean) in-store nutritionist, Amanda Barnes, RDN, will share tips and tricks to be healthier. Free. 703-430-7872.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 22-24

"Legally Blonde - The Musical." Check for showtimes. Herndon High School, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. Ages 13+. \$12. www.herndonrama.org. 703-810-2341.

SATURDAY/APRIL 23

B.B. King Tribute Concert. 7:30-10 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Featuring "Slam" Allen. \$20. Free to children under 12. artspaceherndon.com. 703-956-9560.

FISH Fling Gala and Fundraiser. 6-11 p.m. Hyatt Dulles Hotel, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon. Festive music, dancing, games and prizes, auctions, dinner, dessert and wine. For

more information, contact fling@HerndonRestonFISH.org.

The Celebration of Women Who Impact Our Community. 10 a.m.-noon. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2200 Centreville Road, Herndon. Hosted by Women Impact Now. Celebrating and honoring 4 women who are making a difference in the community. \$30. 571-244-6808. womenimpactnow.com.

Pet Photography Classes. 3-6 p.m. 433-B Carlisle Drive, Herndon. Love taking pictures of your pets but wish they would turn out better? Learn tips and tricks from professional pet photographer Terry Wingfield of Wingfield Photography. Bring your dog and your camera to this exciting interactive class. \$45/\$65. Register at novadomagazine.com/events.

SUNDAY/APRIL 24

Pets and Claws Pet Resource Expo. Noon-2 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Information on pet care, training, nutrition, emergency situations, day care, and more will be available from local businesses. This Expo will take place inside RCC Hunters Woods. Pets, other than service animals, are not allowed inside the building. Free. restoncommunitycenter.com.

Mutts Gone Nuts. 11 a.m. 3 p.m. CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Disorderly duo Scott and Joan Houghton and their hilarious pack of pooches have created a comedy dog thrill show like no other. \$5/\$10. restoncommunitycenter.com.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

The Big Read Herndon, Writing the American Familia. 6-10 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Meg Medina with Special Guest Kwame Alexander. Mayan dancer Acoatzin Torres will perform. Free. 703-956-9560. www.artspaceherndon.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 28

Dollars and Sense. 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. A monthly book discussion group that focuses on business leaders and markets. April's title is "A Random Walk Down Wall Street" by Burton Malkiel. 703-689-2700.

SATURDAY/APRIL 30

Classic Cinema Series: "Rashomon." 2 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Akira Kurosawa's masterful period drama. Japanese with English subtitle. Adults. 703-689-2700.

2016 Reston Home and Garden Expo. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Reston Association Headquarters, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. How-to workshops and much more will be offered throughout the day. Free. 703-435-6530.

Bicycle Safety Rodeo. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Reston YMCA, 12196 Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Children will complete 8 safety stations and earn their bicyclist's license. Children must bring their own bicycles and helmets. The Reston Bike Club will also be doing bicycle & helmet inspections. Contact Ashleigh@reston.org or 703-435-6577 for details.

SUNDAY/MAY 1

March for Babies. 10 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Sign up to walk and fundraise at marchforbabies.org or call 1-800-525-9255. Follow on www.facebook.com/marchofdimensmdnca and www.twitter.com/MODMDNCA.

FRIDAY/MAY 6

PACodc Season Finale. 7:30-9 p.m. United Christian Parish of Reston, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Pro Arte Chamber of Orchestra of Greater Washington's final concert. Free-\$25. www.PACodc.org. 571-483-8444.

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"Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To send digital photos, go to: www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday

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. ~Reminder: Father's Day is June 19~

SPORTS



Herndon sophomore Renee Kohler converted a penalty kick late in Monday's match to give the Hornets a 1-0 victory over Chantilly.



Head coach Nick Stames and the Herndon girls' soccer team picked up their first win of the season Monday.

Kohler's PK Gives Herndon Girls' Soccer First Win

Hornets beat Chantilly, snap seven-match losing streak.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

After finding different ways to lose seven straight matches, the Herndon girls' soccer team capitalized Monday when it had the chance to win one.

After a Herndon player was fouled in the box in the 78th minute, sophomore Renee Kohler converted the ensuing penalty kick and the Hornets held on for a 1-0 victory over Chantilly at Herndon High School.

It was the Hornets' first win of the season after an 0-7 start, which included a 1-0 loss to Potomac Falls on April 11 that ended with a Herndon own goal in double overtime. Herndon hadn't lost a match by more than two goals, but the Hornets had yet to win until knocking off a Chantilly program that reached the state tournament last season.

It was Herndon's first win over Chantilly in more than a decade.

"In regards to the season, we're [0-7] coming in, but we'd never been blown out in any game," Herndon head coach Nick Stames said. "We've been right there. We've been talking to the girls; I think we've lost a game just about every way you could lose it coming in. We told them to be patient, stay with the system. We're telling you the right things to do but you need to stay with it. They did tonight and got a great result."

"What can this do? Certainly it builds some confidence in knowing, OK, we are



Herndon's Caroline Glazier, left, and Chantilly's Sofia Oliveira go for the ball during Monday's match at Herndon High School.

doing the right thing. We just beat a really, really good team. I told them to enjoy the win but we've got to come back tomorrow and go to practice because we have a game on Wednesday. I told them ... we're taking baby steps, but this was a huge step right now."

Kohler, whose converted PK accounted for the only goal of Monday's match, said the victory can be a turning point for Herndon's season.

"I knew, because we only had about 2 minutes left, I'm like, this is our game," Kohler said. "We're breaking the curse of

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

all the losses. Push it out of the way — we're starting new. ... I think that this will turn it around. We're finally motivated. We're more confident that we actually came back from all these losses. Now, I think this is the start of our season."

Kohler is one of Herndon's top offensive threats.

"We initially had her as an attacking center-mid, but now I think she's going to stay as a winger," Stames said. "We've tinkered with a lineup and I think right now we've found the combinations that we want and her being wide left seems to be one of the

combinations we've found because we found some other girls I think we can fit into the middle of the field and do very well in there."

Sophomore forward Olivia Duston can impact a match with her speed.

"She gives us some length because now we don't have to worry about finding her feet underneath," Stames said. "We can go over the top and she's got the speed to beat and she can run with anybody."

The loss dropped Chantilly's record to 3-4-2, including 1-2-1 in Conference 5.

"Herndon is a very feisty, hard-working group, and they always play hard against us," Chantilly head coach Melissa Bibbee wrote in an email. "They had played a tough schedule prior to last night, so their record meant nothing."

What did Bibbee tell the Chargers after Monday's loss?

"We just need to move on and get better on the offensive end," she wrote. "It's unfortunate that a very questionable PK had to decide the game."

Herndon, which improved to 1-3 in Conference 5, will travel to face Hylton at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20. The Hornets will host Marshall on Monday, April 25 before closing conference play with a road match against Robinson on April 27.

Chantilly will travel to take on Edison at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

"I couldn't be more proud of these girls," Stames said. "It's awesome. Just a great win. It feels good to win a game. A little sigh of relief comes out. Now, we've got to get back to work and figure out next game."

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Oakton Boys' Soccer Improves to 7-0-1

The Oakton boys' soccer team defeated Robinson 4-1 on Monday, improving its record to 7-0-1 overall and 4-0 in Conference 5.

The Cougars will host Briar Woods at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20 and will close conference play with a home match against Westfield at 7:15 p.m. on

Thursday, April 28.

Oakton Girls' Soccer Wins Seventh Straight

After opening the season with a 1-0 loss to Madison, the Oakton girls' soccer team has yet to lose.

The Cougars improved to 7-1 with a 4-2 win over Robinson on Monday. Oakton is

4-0 in Conference 5.

The Cougars will host Briar Woods at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20.

Madison Girls' Soccer Remains Undefeated

The Madison girls' soccer team defeated Yorktown 1-0 on Monday, improving its record to 7-0-1.

The Warhawks will host McLean at 7:15 p.m. on Monday, April 25.

Madison Girls' Lax Improves to 7-1

The Madison girls' lacrosse team defeated McLean 10-9 in overtime on April 15, improving its record to 7-1.

The Warhawks' lone loss came against Oakton on April 2.

Madison, which improved to 5-0 in Conference 6, will host Langley at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26. The Saxons won their first 11 games.

Comparatively Speaking, It's All Relative

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Not quite admitting to being any more of a drag than I already am, but having had cancer now for seven years and nearly two months, has been hard to ignore (believe me, I've tried), but easy to embrace. What I mean by that is: There seems to be a subconscious "governor" (have you ever rented a U-Haul? A "governor" is a device that keeps the engine under control, thereby preventing miles-per-hour from exceeding a certain speed) that keeps my emotions from bursting any seams. As much as I try to attempt it, I just don't/can't/won't get as excited and/or as passionate about things as I used to, pre-cancer. Oh, I still want the Red Sox to win and for Duke to lose, but I don't suffer as much when neither scenario plays out.

And while I'm admitting things, it's not only my subconscious that is acting out/controlling my behavior, it's also my conscious mind, as in when I'm in touch/aware of my emotions/actions (or lack thereof). As my oncologist once said to me about cancer, in reply to a question I asked him about blaming it for my hair turning prematurely gray: "You can blame the cancer for anything," he said, and so I shall. Nevertheless, having an extraordinarily convenient excuse: cancer, might explain most (but not all) of my behavior, and it doesn't bring me much comfort. And so I rationalize some of that unexplained behavior as self-preservation. It doesn't make me particularly proud, however. Still, having survived cancer for as long as I have certainly does, but it's not enough to put a bounce in my step. (Or maybe that's merely the neuropathy in my feet flattening my gait?)

But it's probably not my actual steps that matter. It's more likely my attitude while I'm stepping. And though I'd much rather my feet not hurt, my reality is: I'm alive, quite unexpectedly (based on my original prognosis), so damn the neuropathy and full speed (more like half speed) ahead. And though I may not move as fast as I used to (who among us actually can?), I am still moving and breathing. I'm just not the man I used to be, and I can live with that because I'm still living. I just wish I could exercise a bit more control. But if I've learned anything during this cancer experience, it's that ceding control and accepting certain realities – within reason, and without giving in or giving up too much – is a prudent course of reaction to an incredibly difficult set of circumstances: diagnosed with a "terminal" form of cancer at age 54 and a half; and one for which there is no right or wrong pursuit. Any port in a storm I say, and stage IV non-small cell lung cancer certainly qualifies as a storm, as challenging as any Mother Nature could muster. The difference being, this storm never ends, it only changes in severity and frequency. Right now, the storm is constant. Either I learn to live with it or I die trying. And minimizing the bad and maximizing the good is part of that process.

If only there was a way to find some place (like "the vault" from "Seinfeld") where I could store my cancer diagnosis and only acknowledge it when absolutely necessary. Wishful thinking, but hardly rational. But what choice does one have, really? Unless you think outside the box, it may very well be a box (more like a rectangle, actually) where you'll soon find yourself not thinking at all.

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

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Eight students from Fairfax County Public Schools — all attending Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) — have been named semi-finalists in the 2016 Intel Science Talent Search. The students, with their project names, are:

- ❖ Jake Cui, A Machine Learning Approach to Identifying Ordered Binding Regions on Order-disorder Protein Interfaces.
- ❖ Tarun Kamath, Marked Decreases in Pediatric and Young Adult Solid Organ Cancer Mortality in the United States Since 1940: Analysis and Hypotheses.

- ❖ Ava Lakmazaheri, Brain-actuated Robotics: A Logic-based Approach for Multimodal Programming and Operation of Assistive Humanoid Robots.

- ❖ Austin Mills, Demonstrating the Development of Heavy Metal Resistance in Non-tolerant Multigenerational Brassica rapa.

- ❖ Kunal Shroff, The Relationship Between Lethality and Genomic Instability in Euploid and Aneuploid Yeast Cells Expressing Pathological Huntingtin.

- ❖ Matthew Sun, Hyperacute Temporal Resolution with a Neural Population for Biologically Plausible Firing Rate Change Detection.

- ❖ Jason Wei, Improving Lateral Flow Immunoassay Sensitivity by a Palladium-catalyzed Dye Reaction.

- ❖ Michael You, Two-degree-of-freedom Bubble Oscillations in Elastic Vessels and its Application in Sonar-induced Marine Mammal Injuries.

The 300 semifinalists were chosen from more than 1,750 entrants and will receive matching awards of \$1,000 along with their school.

This is the 75th year of the Science Talent Search, which Intel has sponsored since 1998, providing \$1.6 million in awards and scholarships to contestants.

Michaela Gaughan of Oak Hill has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2015 semester at St. Mary's College in Indiana.

Herndon residents on the Dean's List at Washington University in St. Louis for fall 2015 include **Azeez Abdikarim**, School of Engineering and Applied Science; **Kate Hao**, College of Arts and Sciences; **Snigdha Srivastava**, College of Arts & Sciences,

Abdulaziz Nabil Alshenaiber of Reston graduated from the University of New Haven with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from Tagliatela College of Engineering.

Micaela Sturm, of Oak Hill, has been named to the dean's list at Quinnipiac University for the fall 2015 semester

Ryan Gulledege, of Herndon, been named to the University at Albany Dean's List of Distinguished Students for fall 2015

Brenda Kamga, of Reston, is on the Dean's List for the Fall 2015 semester at Mars Hill University in North Carolina.

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