

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Officers Recognized at 40th Annual Valor Awards

About 70 members of the Fairfax County Police Department were recently recognized by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce at the 40th annual Valor Awards. These officers are among first responders from across the region being honored for heroic actions they displayed both on and off-duty last year. Here are some of the awards presented to the officers. The following list is not comprehensive:

Police Officer First Class Morgan N. Blumer and **PFC Montwill** from the Mount Vernon Police District were nominated for a Life Saving Award after responding to an assault with weapon call last April. Blumer and Montwill were among the first officers on scene and found a man on the sidewalk bleeding profusely from a gunshot wound to the lower body. The two officers worked together to assess the victim. They applied a tourniquet and stabilized him until rescue arrived and transported him to the hospital. Medical professionals later said the officers' actions likely saved the man's life. Their supervisor also noted that while providing live saving aid to the victim, they also performed their investigative duties and were able to gather vital information regarding the location of the crime scene, and possible suspect information. Officers responded to that location and were able to identify and take the shooter into custody without incident.

Detective Brian C. Christian was nominated for heroic actions he displayed while off-duty. He was coaching a basketball team at a school in neighboring county when he noticed a player was unconscious. The detective immediately attended to the player and assessed his medical condition. The youth did not have a pulse. The detective called for medical personnel, asked someone to bring over an AED, and immediately began administering CPR. When the AED arrived, two electrical shocks were administered to the patient without success. Christian continued to administer CPR to the player for over 12 minutes until relieved by medics. The patient was taken to the hospital and expected to make a full recovery. It was determined the player had a previously undiagnosed heart condition and medical personnel stated the youth would not have survived if it weren't for the immediate response and actions taken by the detective.

Auxiliary Police Officer Dennis M. Staten was also honored. Last spring, Staten was the first on scene of a call regarding an unconscious man behind the wheel of a car at the intersection of Bluemont Way and Reston Parkway. Moments after he arrived, the unconscious man's foot slipped off the brakes and the SUV he was in began to roll into the busy intersection. APO Staten immediately activated his full emergency equipment to warn other drivers on the road and to prevent a disas-

Nolan Fitzsimmons, McLean High School.

Helen Ganley, McLean High School.

Maggie Kirtley, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST).

Carmen Mazyck, Hayfield Secondary School.

From Virginia's 10th Congressional District:

Neil Kothari, TJHSST.

Artemis Veizi, TJHSST.

Andrew Zhao, TJHSST.

The Congressional Award challenges students to set goals in four program areas: voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness, and expedition-exploration. Participants earn gold, silver, and bronze Congressional Award medals and certificates. Students register for the program when they turn 13½ and must complete their activities by their 24th birthday.

Gold Medalists will be honored at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C., in June.

21 RSVP Northern Virginia Volunteers Honored with President's Volunteer Service Awards



PHOTO BY ROB PAINE/RSVP NORTHERN VIRGINIA

RSVP Northern Virginia's **Shelley Brosnan** of Fairfax, recorded more than 500 volunteer hours in 2017, the most hours of any of the 21 RSVP Northern Virginia volunteers honored with President's Volunteer Service Awards, March 7, at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna.

RSVP Northern Virginia bestowed the President's Volunteer Service Award upon 21 of its volunteers, March 7, during a recognition event at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna.

The 2017 honorees volunteered a combined total in excess of 4,000 hours in 2017.

To qualify for a President's Volunteer Service Award one must volunteer a minimum of 100 hours in a calendar year. **Shelley Brosnan** of Fairfax, recorded the highest number of hours among RSVP volunteers, clocking more than 540 hours. City of Fairfax resident **Martin Siskin** completed 329 hours of service while **Ken Kozloff** of Springfield contributed 310 hours of his time to the community through his RSVP work.

RSVP Northern Virginia, the largest senior volunteer group in the region, provides support to 30 nonprofits in Fairfax and Arlington counties and in the City of Alexandria. To become an RSVP volunteer, one must be 55 years old or better.

Church, 245 hours (Capital Caring, Literacy Council of Northern Virginia); **Michael McCormick**, Arlington, 231 hours (VITA program); **Celia Boertlein**, Fairfax County, 229 hours (Huntley Meadows, New Hope Housing); **Janet Dwire**, Fairfax County, 216 hours (Fairfax County Park Authority); **Rose Haldeman**, Fairfax County, 200 hours (INOVA volunteer); **Louise Williams**, Fairfax County, 197 hours (Volunteer Alexandria); **Miguelina Leon**, Fairfax County, 186 hours (United Community Ministries); **Jeanine Lauth**, Fairfax County, 169 hours (Volunteer Fairfax); **Denise Mackie-Smith**, Alexandria, 160 hours (New Hope Housing, Volunteer Fairfax); **Carol Bracey**, Fairfax, 158 hours (FACETS); **Debbie Williams**, Fairfax County, 153 hours (Vinson Hall Treasure Shop); **John Reshore**, Clifton, 132 hours (Northern Virginia Family Services); **Ellen Alvino**, Fairfax, 124 hours (Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic and Sexual Violence); **Cynthia Cadden**, Vienna, 119 hours (Capital Caring); **Kenneth Mass**, Falls Church, 107 hours (Computer Core) and **Loren Brandman**, Fairfax, 106 hours (Volunteer Solutions/Meals on Wheels).

RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group service projects and social gatherings. RSVP offers its members more than 200 volunteer opportunities. To sign up for RSVP's next orientation scheduled for March 22 in Fairfax, please call 703-403-5360.

Two Schools Win 2018 First Amendment Press Freedom Award

Chantilly High School and **McLean High School** are among 11 schools nationwide—and the only schools from Virginia—selected as recipients of the 2018 First Amendment Press Freedom Award.

This is the fourth consecutive award for Chantilly High, and the second award for McLean High.

The award is bestowed by the Journalism Education Association, the National Scholastic Press Association, and Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society. Chantilly High and McLean High are Fairfax County public schools.



PHOTO BY ROB PAINE/RSVP NORTHERN VIRGINIA

McLean High School Chamber Wind Ensemble in clockwise order: **Sidnea Strelser**, **Caroline Brunner**, **Emily Simons**, **Anna Gamboa**, **Stephanie Manning**, **Christina Savory**, **Sohee Kim**, **Jessie Friedman**, **Ryan Woody**, **Sarah Bonforte**, **Kevin Jiang**, **Reagan Lumme**, **Jaeson Jun**, **Nathan Zhu**, **Sarah Levy**, **Maia Williams**.

The First Amendment Press Freedom Award recognizes private and public high schools that actively support, teach, and protect First Amendment rights and responsibilities of students and teachers, with an emphasis on student-run media where students make all final decisions of content.

McLean High principal **Ellen Reilly** stated in the school's application, "I don't always agree with what they publish, but I wholeheartedly support their right to publish their opinions. Students frequently interview me about a wide range of topics, and I always do my best to talk to them in a frank and honest way. I trust that our journalism teachers are able to guide their students to make responsible and ethical decisions."

Winning schools will be honored at the opening ceremony of the JEA-NSPA spring National High School Journalism Convention in April in San Francisco.

Langley High Captures First Place in Regional Science Olympiad



PHOTO BY ROB PAINE/RSVP NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Langley High School's team at the Virginia Science Olympiad Regional Competition.

Langley High School took first place in the Fairfax Regional Virginia Science Olympiad (VASO) competition February 24.

Thirty-two teams competed overall. Langley sent three teams and came in first, second and seventh at the team level and first place overall.

The VASO competition tests knowledge across 21 categories, including engineering build events. Non-engineering events cover a range of topics including genetics, earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physics and geology. Langley's Science Olympiad team is coached by **Leah Puhlick** and **Kenny Torres** and has students from all grades competing.

Langley's top-level awards are: **Dynamic Planet**: First Place **Jayeesh Chennupati**, **Jason Jin**; Second Place **Victoria Li**, **Katie Shvodian**; and Third Place **Patrick Marschoun**, **Rupa Siva**.

Helicopters: First Place **Kimberly Han**, **Katie Shvodian** and Third Place **Selena Bao**, **Alice Liu**; **Rocks & Minerals**: First Place **Dan Ni**, **Reva Siva** and Second Place **Luke Flaxman**, **Eileen Wen**; **Remote Sensing**: First Place **Patrick Marschoun**, **Chenming Wang** and Second Place **Ashley Zhang**, **Daum Song**.

Herpetology: First Place: **Kyle Cheng**, **Reva Siva** and Second Place **Kelly Ho**, **Arshan Goudarzi**.

Optics: First Place **Emma Ritchie**, **Grace Shvodian** and Second Place **Kimberly Han**, **Katie Shvodian**.

Mission Possible: First Place **Alex Aue**, **Patrick Corrigan** and Third Place **Camden Hao**, **Alex Surratt**; **Hovercraft**: First Place **Alex Surratt**, **Chenming Wang**; **Material Science**: First Place **Daniel Mousavi**, **Dan Ni** and Third

Place **Arshan Goudarzi**, **Kelly Ho**; **Thermodynamics**: First Place **Casey Crawford**, **Belinda Xi**.

Microbe Mission: First Place

Reva Siva, **Rupa Siva**.

Anatomy & Physiology: First Place

Kyle Cheng, **Daniel Mousavi**.

Chemistry Lab: First Place

Dan Ni, **Emma Ritchie**.

Experimental Design: Second Place

Casey Crawford, **Camden Hao**, **Rupa Siva**.

Fermi Questions: First Place

Luke Flaxman, **Ari Tretiak**.

Ecology: Second Place **Alice Liu**, **Daniel Mousavi**.

Code Analysis: Third Place

Camden Hao, **Chenming Wang**.

Write It / Do It: Third Place

Emma Ritchie, **Rupa Siva**.

Several other area schools sent one team or more to the competition.

To see a complete listing and their ranking, visit <https://virginiaso.org/pdf/results/2018FairfaxRev.pdf>.

Learn to Ride with RCC Cycles Classes

Ready to get on your bike this spring? Reston Community Center is offering RCC Cycles, a program that helps riders of all ages learn – or re-learn – cycling fundamentals.

Reston resident and certified cycling instructor **Kelley West-**

enhoff will teach four sessions of Learn to Bike this spring: adult (ages 13 and up) April 8 and 29 and youth (ages 6 to 12) April 21 and May 5.

Each class is one three-hour session. The cost is \$65 for Reston patrons/\$98 for non-Reston. The fee includes bike rental and use of a helmet. Class size is limited to 10 students.

Topics addressed in class will be basic braking, steering and balance. Westenhoff is a cycling advocate and serves as vice chair of the Reston Bicycle Club. Her technique, certified by the League of American Cyclists, is intuitive and will take students through a progression of skills to launch participants on their way to riding with confidence.

RCC Leisure and Learning Director **Eileen Boone** said RCC Cycles was started last year in order to support Reston's growing cycling opportunities, including the many miles of bike trails and the new Capital Bikeshare stations.

"For those who haven't had the opportunity to learn, this class is a great start down the healthy road of cycling for fun and transportation," said Boone.

For more information, visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.

NORTH RESTON BARBER SHOP

\$1.00 OFF ALL HAIRCUTS!

Walk Ins Welcome
703-707-0040
1675 C Reston Parkway
Reston, VA 20194
Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM to 8PM
Saturday 8AM to 6PM, Sunday 9AM to 6PM

Located in Reston Home Depot Center

Obituaries

In Memoriam
Sheila Collins Drew
1943 - 2018

Sheila Collins Drew passed away on February 22, 2018, in Aldie, VA at the age of 74, succumbing to cancer. Sheila leaves behind her husband Lawrence and son Michael.

Sheila was born on June 7, 1943, in Philadelphia, PA to mother Hellen and father Hugh Collins. She grew up in Philadelphia with her sister Barbara. Sheila graduated from Olney High School, and studied elementary education at Penn State University where she met her future

trous collision in the intersection. Thinking quickly, and putting the safety of others before his own, the auxiliary police officer tactfully positioned his police car in front of the runaway SUV allowing it to strike the rear of his cruiser. This action successfully and safely brought the SUV to a stop. Had Staten not acted so quickly and tactfully, the SUV would have continued through the intersection onto a busy pedestrian pathway and into an adjacent apartment building. It was later determined the unconscious driver had passed out from alcohol consumption and had a blood alcohol content of more than twice the legal limit. His quick actions and thinking prevented serious injury or death, not only to members of the public, but to the unconscious man behind the wheel of the car.

The FCPD is proud of the officers and congratulate all of them being honored for their awards.

Seven Students Receive Congressional Awards

Seven Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students have been named recipients of the Congressional Award's Gold Medal, the U.S. Congress's award for young Americans. Recipients include:

From Virginia's 8th Congressional District:

"We are so proud, not only of our President's Volunteer Service Award winners, but of all our volunteers for the incredible work they did this past year," said Carly Hubicki, RSVP's volunteer specialist and interim program manager. "Our volunteers bring such a high level of experience and expertise to their volunteer work every day. They are truly incredible," Hubicki said.

The 2017 honorees' hours spread across more than two dozen nonprofits and agencies, ranging from staffing the front desk of Capital Caring's Halquist Center in Arlington, to teaching children with disabilities how to swim, part of the Fairfax County Park Authority's Adapted Aquatics Program.

Below is a complete list of 2017 RSVP Northern Virginia President's Volunteer Service Award honorees including where they are from and how many volunteer hours they recorded with

RSVP NOVA including at least one of the RSVP nonprofits they volunteer for:

Brosnan, Fairfax, 540 hours (Volunteer Fairfax); Siskin, Fairfax, 329 hours

(Volunteer Solutions/Lincolnia Senior Center); Kozloff, Springfield, 310 hours (Junior

Achievement, Fairfax County Park Authority, Northern Virginia Senior Olympics); **Kristin Ramsey**, Falls Church, 261 hours (Volunteer Fairfax, PRS); **Betty Gentile**, Alexandria, 256 hours (Volunteer Alexandria); **Gordon Hay**, Falls

Obituaries



Anne MacDevitt Purcell, 94, a devoted wife and mother and a lifelong Washington DC area resident died March 7, 2018, due to natural causes, in Herndon, Virginia. Mrs. Purcell was born September 25, 1923 in Washington D. C. She graduated from St. Patrick's Catholic High School in 1942. During World War II she was active in the USO stateside.



She married Edward E. Purcell, Jr. in 1951 and they moved to Vienna in 1960 to raise their six children. Anne was active in the Catholic community as well as the Ladies Auxiliary of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Mrs. Purcell held positions at the Social Security Administration and the family owned business PTI Communications.

She was predeceased by her husband, her daughter Dr. Rita Purcell-Robertson of Clifton, Va., and her grandson, Patrick R. Purcell of Herndon, VA. She is survived by a son Edward E. Purcell, III, of Hollywood, Maryland; a daughter Anne P. Clark (John) of Burke, Va.; a son Patrick J. Purcell (Janita), of Oakton, Virginia; a son Daniel F. Purcell, Sr., (Jennifer) of Stafford, Va.; a son Michael E. Purcell, (Margaret) of Ashburn, Va., 11 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, son-in-law Norman L. Robertson of Clifton, Va. and sister-in-law, Margaret Greenwell of Washington, D. C.

Visitation to be held on Friday, April 6th at 11:00am at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Rd, Reston, VA 20191, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 12:00pm. Interment at Quantico National Cemetery, 18424 Joplin Rd, Triangle, VA 22172 at 2:00pm. Online condolences and fond memories of Anne may be offered to the family at www.moneyandking.com

husband Lawrence (Larry) Drew.

After marrying Larry in the fall of 1966, Larry's career brought them out west to Denver, CO, and Tulsa, OK, but they eventually settled back east in the Washington D.C. suburbs. There, Sheila worked as a school teacher, but also pursued interests and education as varied as restaurant management and business accounting. She was an avid reader, with a special interest in history and politics. Never afraid to express herself, she would often submit op-ed pieces to the paper and would contribute to historical society events at her husband's small New England home town of Lempster, NH.

Sheila felt that she had been blessed in life, and always had an implicit sense of virtue. So later in life, she volunteered her time at her church, taught ESL classes, and always took a special interest in friends who needed a helping hand. One of Sheila's greatest loves was animals, whom she saw as being innocent souls, and her house was always shared with several cats and dogs over which she doted.

Sheila is survived by her husband and son, as well as her daughter-in-law Michelle Drew, and granddaughters Cassidy and Rebecca Drew. She is preceded in death by her sister Barbara Weimert.

There is a memorial service planned for Monday, March 12 at 11 am at the Adams-Green funeral home at 721 Elden Street, Herndon VA, 20170. A reception will follow at 12:30 pm at the Amphora restaurant at 1151 Elden Street, Herndon, VA 20171.

In honor of Sheila's love for animals, please consider donating to your local animal shelter in lieu of flowers.