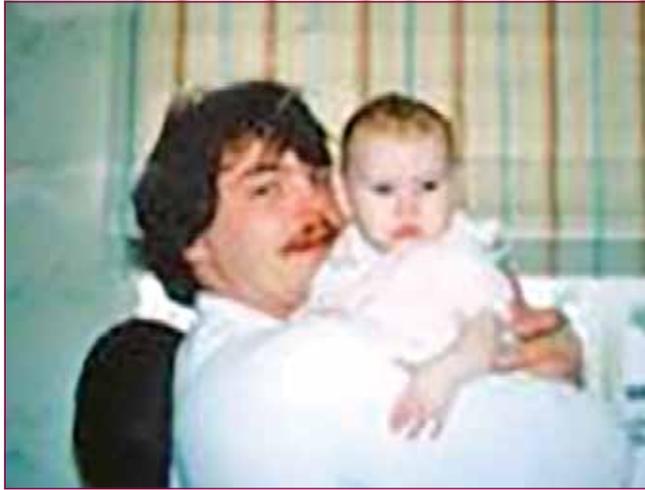




Join us to make a difference

*A non-profit, public benefits organization serving families and friends of homicide victims.*



## GERALD J. KEARNEY, JR.

*By his Sister: Kathleen (Kate) Kearney*

Jerry was born on February 10, 1965, at Frankford Memorial Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. He was a happy baby, although very independent, vivacious and curious; always getting into something. When he was just 7 years old, he climbed a tree and found a medicine bottle filled with bullets. He thought they were nails, so he took them and started pounding them with a hammer. One discharged, bouncing off the bricks on our home and then striking him between his thumb and index finger. It was the first time I saw my mother and father cry.

We came from an extremely abusive household; my father physically and verbally abused all of his kids. Jerry caught the brunt of Dad's tyrannical fits from the age of 2... until he married. Only then, did the physical beatings become verbal. Jerry was my protector, my best friend. We were just 3 days shy of a year apart in age; me being the eldest. Jerry would hide me from our father, diverting all his negative attention to himself.

Jerry never had peace in his life until he met his future wife. They married on June 9, 1984; Jerry was 19 years old. In April of 1985, their first child (a daughter) was born, followed by a son in June of 1987, and another daughter in October 1988. Jerry and his wife were expecting their fourth child (a daughter) at the time of his death. He loved his children with every fiber of his being and was so happy about the upcoming birth of his fourth child.

*—continued on page 4*

Our  
Next Meeting  
will be on  
Sunday,  
July 12,  
2015

## Inside This Issue

Words from Jan	2
Quote of the Month	3
Help Save the Next Girl	3
Commentary on Death of Gerald J. Kearney, Jr.	5
Upcoming Production	5
Killer of Postal Worker Again Denied Parole	6
Parole & Clemency Hearings	7
Janet Renee Field	8

**Become a CAH Member!**

# CITIZENS AGAINST HOMICIDE

## *Who We Are*

The majority of the board members of Citizens Against Homicide have had a family member murdered. They are surviving the devastating loss of a loved one and still suffer the continued emotional trauma of coping with our criminal justice system. We have joined together to create a voice for the survivors and friends of murder victims.

## *CAH Objectives*

- Assist families through the complicated criminal justice system.
- Provide trial and courtroom support to victims.
- Accompany victims to parole hearings in their endeavor to keep the convicted murderer in prison.
- Provide information on pending crime legislation.

## *Protecting Your Own Interests*

You can't prepare for the event that makes you a victim. You can only react. You need to know how to deal with the subsequent trial, sentencing and unavoidable parole hearings. CAH helps you take action to protect your own interests.

If you have friends or family who may be in need of our assistance, please pass along the information regarding our organization.

## *Location for Meetings*

We hold monthly meetings on the second Sunday of each month at 302 4th Street, San Rafael, CA. The monthly meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. We encourage anyone interested to attend meetings.

## A Few Words From Jan

May always seems like a busier than typical month; Mother's Day and my husband's birthday were on the same day this year. Then, we had the CAH Annual Meeting and luncheon. This is the month we conduct the interviews for the Veronica Perotti Scholarship awards and later in the month we attend the Senior Honors Ceremony to present the awards. Just how many emotions can be wrapped into one month? Mother's Day was wonderful sharing brunch with a number of the children and grandchildren; spending a perfect weather day at the Giants game and an exciting win in the 9th inning; rushing home to dinner with friends to celebrate my husbands' birthday. Of course, this was the third evening in a row celebrating his birthday. You just can't let Mother's Day overshadow a special birthday.

The CAH Annual meeting was sparsely attended compared to years prior, however, that did not hamper the enthusiasm nor the energy that emerged during the meeting. Our guest speaker was Courtney Elmore, Outreach Trainer from the CDCR Victim Services Unit. Courtney gave us

an overview of the recent and upcoming changes in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. There were a few times when we had to be reminded "*not to shoot the messenger*". After listening to the changes, it is clear that our Governor, Attorney General and the legislators overall have no concern for the public safety of the citizens of our state. They have shown a total disregard for victims, as well as the families and friends of victims. Much to our dismay, is the significant loss suffered by victims over the past several years. The reality is, it will be years before we regain these losses. We are in an uphill battle to bring, once again, public safety to our neighborhoods. Our battle involves demanding law enforcement agencies to solve crime and PUNISH those who commit crimes. We are in the process of putting into place a more effective system to learn more about upcoming legislation allowing us to better educate the public through our website and newsletter. We need everyone's commitment to pass information to others and to make a concerted effort to vet candidates for

—continued on page 3

### *Officers*

Jane Alexander	<i>Co-Founder Emeritus</i>
Jan Miller	<i>Co-Founder</i>
Gene & Shellie Cervantes	<i>Victim Advocates /Consultants</i>
Susan Fisher	<i>Legislative Consultant</i>
Angela Bushnell Gillam	<i>Victim Advocate</i>
Boni Driskill	<i>Victim Advocate</i>
Alice Ostergren	<i>Treasurer</i>
Carol Silveira	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
Anne Poverello	<i>Victim Representative</i>
Jacque MacDonald	<i>Victims Voice-Publicity</i>
Eryn Cervantes	<i>Special Assignment Consultant</i>
	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
Marilyn Day	<i>Communications</i>
Foothill Printing & Graphics	<i>Design &amp; Printing</i>

### *Advisory Board*

Jack Miller	Chuck Mitchell
Ora Knowell	Andi Jarmicki
Terri de la Cuesta	David Perotti

### *Citizens Against Homicide*

The UPS Store  
369-B Third Street, Box 303  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
Tel 415-455-5944 • Fax 415-721-0788  
E-Mail: [vctmsmurdr@aol.com](mailto:vctmsmurdr@aol.com)  
Website: [www.citizensagainsthomicide.org](http://www.citizensagainsthomicide.org)

### *CAH Victim Advocate:*

For advice regarding your individual murder case, 1-209-728-2873  
[cahadvocate@yahoo.com](mailto:cahadvocate@yahoo.com)

## A Few Words from Jan—*cont. from page 2*

public office and vote accordingly. Victim Rights must be on the forefront when casting your vote. Never allow anyone to characterize your vote as meaningless. Exercise your power and vote. We need elected officials who care about public safety and are supportive of Victim Rights.

### We Need Your Help!

You ask why and how did we reach this terrible state of affairs? To answer that question in as few words as possible, I will summarize the lively discussion we had after our annual meeting. First, you must understand that reducing serious crimes to lesser crimes or to no longer recognize the crime itself, only keeps the numbers looking good for the state. Coupled with the continued release of convicted felons, is a clear message that they can get away with crime, as they have learned there is little or no punishment for their criminal behavior.

Another problem is the emergence of “gangs” to our neighborhoods. Gangs have become “the family” to many of our young impressionable boys and girls. The nuclear family has broken down for many of our youth, which compounds the problem. The educational system, in many communities, has routinely failed our youth. Families in crisis must reestablish themselves as the primary focus for their children. Be it via the church and its leaders; bringing God into the lives of each family member just might solidify that broken family.

Many of our schools are nothing more than babysitters. Students receive free breakfast, lunch and there is now some discussion of providing take-home dinners. Every study conducted concludes immersion works and English as a Second Language (ESL) does not. The hundreds of thousands of dollars spent for ESL

would be better spent on providing evening classes for parents, which might help keep families together. Public schools can learn from private and charter schools. For instance, dress code: If not uniforms, then a dress code, i.e., clean, neat and colors free of any gang identification. Discipline should be logical and enforceable. Return to the teaching of the five Rs. . . Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Respect and Responsibility for their own actions or lack thereof.

Simply put, this may be an acceptable place to start.

I welcome you to attend our next CAH meeting and get involved. We want your thoughts and opinions.

In closing, mark your calendars for our Annual Golf Tournament Fund Raiser—August 7th. See you there!

—Jan

## Quote of the Month



“It takes strength to make your way through grief, to grab hold of life and let it pull you forward.”

—Patti Davis

## Help Save the Next Girl



Harrington, a 20-year-old Virginia Tech student who was abducted and murdered in 2009. Citizens Against Homicide featured Morgan’s story entitled the “Metallica Girl” in our July 2013 Newsletter. Thank you, Gil and Dan Harrington and Kenny Jerals for all you do to help save the next girl.

Citizens Against Homicide is pleased to announce a new segment to our monthly Newsletter. To help further public awareness/notification, our friends from Help Save the Next Girl will be featuring one of their missing person profiles. We are honored to assist in their relentless journey to assist families of the missing.

Help Save the Next Girl is a national non-profit organization formed in honor of Morgan Dana



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## Gerald J. Kearney, Jr.—*cont. from page 1*

Jerry was a good person, but certainly not an angel. During his younger years, he would, at times, use poor judgment and act out; mostly motor vehicle issues and some thefts. The local law enforcement quickly became aware of Jerry Kearney and then there were times some of the negative attention by law enforcement was unwarranted. I never condoned, and voiced my opinions to Jerry back then, about his actions, but he did not deserve unwarranted abuse by law enforcement. He did not deserve to die the way he did; no human being does!

Life was finally beginning to take a positive turn for Jerry. He had a wonderful family, a new baby on the way and he was completing the process of becoming self-employed. He had just received new invoices and business cards for his very own Landscaping business. He also wanted to give back; making himself available to anyone needing his help; for example, constructing ramps for the handicapped for free, providing food and shelter to some in need... even tending to sick or injured animals, only to release them after being healed and healthy. Jerry was a kind and giving man.

On February 23, 1990, Jerry called to ask if I would mind babysitting the kids; he and his wife wanted to go out for the evening. My last words to my brother were "Alright, Jer, I will see you in an hour. I love you." He said, "Thanks, Sis... I love you, too". Just prior to arriving at his house, I became overwhelmed with a sick feeling, deep in the pit of my stomach. I knew then, something was terribly wrong!

When I finally arrived at my brother's house, there were tiny droplets of blood on the steps; it was cold, drizzling and quiet. All the lights were out, blinds shut and dark, so very dark. When I knocked on the door, my 4-½ year-old niece peeked through the window and announced to her mother that it was me. When I walked in, it was immediately evident that Jerry was not there and his family had been traumatized. Between the time of my telephone conversation with Jerry and my arrival, the Paulsboro Police Department (Paulsboro, New Jersey) arrived at the residence and arrested Jerry for an apparent warrant for a \$25 traffic citation. There actually were no valid wants or warrants for Jerry. They proceeded to beat Jerry mercilessly, in front of his wife and children.

Soon an officer arrived at the door, who reassured us that charges were not being filed against Jerry and, as soon as the paperwork was complete, Jerry would be released. A short time later, we were informed Jerry had been discovered in his jail cell hanging and deceased. Note: The jail cell was only 16 feet from the officer at the dispatch desk. Our family was in complete shock! Jerry would never take his own life!

There are conflicting stories on how my brother died. When Jerry was pronounced dead on arrival, the attending physician refused to sign the death certificate. Because homicide was suspected, no one was allowed to see Jerry; not our parents or our priest. The responding and transporting EMTs did not believe Jerry hung himself, because of the extensive injuries, from physical beating, to his body. They

made statements pertaining to this. The Coroner on call that evening (from Burlington County) was not contacted. Instead, the Chief of Police contacted a different Coroner (an acquaintance) from Gloucester County, who happened to be attending a convention in Ohio. As a special favor, this Coroner (Dr. Speth) flew back the next day to conduct the autopsy.

When the autopsy of my brother was completed, Dr. Speth contacted my parents. He confirmed homicide was involved, however, he would need to speak with the police involved in this case before making a final decision. Soon after, his final decision was rendered... Suicide!

Reports state that Jerry "fell" down the steps. Witnesses say police grabbed him by the feet and dragged him down the steps; Jerry's head slamming each concrete step. His eyes were swollen and blackened, his lip was split and his larynx and thyroid glands hemorrhaged. Police claim while they were getting ready to release him, he simply "went quiet".

We know there are witnesses out there; some are frightened because of threats. My family has been threatened, too. We are asking anyone having information about my brother's death to please come forward. Please help me find answers and justice. Any and all information can be provided at <http://www.justiceforjerry.net>.

—*Thank you,*  
*Kate Kearney*

# 2015 Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Help CAH Make This Fundraiser a Success

*Remember together we CAN make a difference*

Make a copy and encourage a friend to buy tickets

## Win a one-week stay at one of these beautiful resorts:

- **SEDONA**—  
Villas of Sedona  
Sedona, AZ  
2 bedrooms, sleeps 6 privately,  
full kitchen, outdoor and indoor pool,  
fitness center, sauna and other  
amenities nearby.
- **HILTON HEAD**—  
Sea Crest Surf  
and Racquet Club  
Hilton Head Island, SC  
2 bedrooms, sleeps 8, 6 privately,  
full kitchen, tennis courts, 2 outdoor  
pools (one heated), an activities  
director for children and adults.
- **BREWSTER**—  
Brewster Green Resort  
Brewster, MA  
2 bedrooms, sleeps 6 privately,  
full kitchen, indoor and outdoor  
pools, sauna, tennis courts,  
racquetball courts, club house  
and much more.

### CAH GRAND PRIZE DRAWING AUGUST 7, 2015

Drawing to be held at our Charity  
Golf Tournament Awards Banquet.

**Note:** Date and location of these  
one-week vacations cannot be changed for  
any reason. All reservations are final.

*You need not be present to win.*

Suggested Donation \$5.00

#### CAH Special Grand Prize Drawing • August 7, 2015

SEDONA, AZ: 2/5/2016–2/12/2016 • HILTON HEAD, SC: 5/7/2016–5/14/2016  
BREWSTER, MA: 5/6/2016–5/13/2016

THESE DATES AND LOCATIONS CANNOT BE CHANGED

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Donation: \$5.00 each or 5 tickets for \$20.00

Tickets must be received at the CAH address by no later than August 1, 2015

Return tickets and/or donation to: CAH The UPS Store • 369-B Third Street, Box 303 • San Rafael, CA 94901

# Commentary on the Death of Gerald J. Kearney, Jr.

By Gene Cervantes

Gerald “Jerry” Kearney committed suicide by hanging himself. Medical records state that Jerry was found hanging in his cell at the Paulsboro Police Department jail. Jerry had been arrested for domestic violence and failure to pay outstanding warrants. There were no valid outstanding wants or warrants and after review of witness statements, the decision to charge Jerry with domestic violence was dropped.

Why did Jerry hang himself? How did this tragedy happen? Domestic violence was reported by a neighbor who heard shouting and arguing. She reported to police that Jerry was hitting his wife. Jerry’s wife reportedly told police Jerry did not hit her. Police reports state that Jerry fell down the steps when, in fact, witnesses state that police grabbed Jerry by the feet and dropped him down the steps. Jerry’s head was hitting the steps as he was being dropped. His 2-year-old son ran up to one of the officers; kicked his leg while shouting, “you don’t hurt my daddy”! The officer grabbed the child and threw him across the room. Jerry came to the aid of his son, yelling, “don’t you put your hands on my son.”

At the city jail, the family was told by Bruce Augustino, Police Officer, that Jerry would be released as soon as the paperwork was done. He also told Jerry of his pending release. The police say they went back to check on Jerry and found him hanging. I find it hard to believe that anyone who knows there are no pending arrest charges and release was imminent would hang themselves.

Throughout the investigation, there were numerous conflicting accounts of what happened, as well as outright lies. This applies to police officers, supervisors and medical examiners. The Paulsboro City Police Chief’s behavior can also be viewed as suspicious. Note... The Medical Examiner from Burlington County was on call and was supposed to receive Jerry’s body, however, the Chief of Police made a call to the Gloucester County Medical Examiner, who was at a convention, asking him to come back home and personally do this as a favor to him. Dr. Claus Speth flew back the next day and performed Jerry’s autopsy. Note... Dr. Speth has a history of making and/or changing decisions that satisfy law enforcement.

Adding insult to this tragic death is morbid to say the least. After Jerry’s autopsy, the family noticed that body parts were missing, including his larynx. They were told it was being preserved as evidence. Additionally, Jerry was missing a significant amount of skin; no explanation given. Fact... 3 years after Jerry’s death, Dr. Speth and his assistant were fired. Their dismissal was the result of them selling body parts in Philadelphia. The selling of body parts made national news.

Jerry’s death was not a suicide! Do not be fooled—FOUL PLAY resulted in Jerry’s death.

This case is shouting out for justice. Jerry’s family deserves justice and those involved in Jerry’s death must be held accountable for his death (murder).

## Upcoming Production

What wonderful emotions when you hear the jury foreman utter the words “guilty as charged”. Then the judge issues the sentence... “25 years to life”. Years later, you receive a notice in the mail... the murderer of your loved one is scheduled for a Parole Suitability Hearing. Your emotions take a turn south and you ask... how/why? You want to know where is the justice you once had? You want answers!

Soon, an intensive on-hour Crime and Justice series will air for national viewing. This program tells the story of the parole and release process (from start to finish) from the victim’s perspective once a survivor learns that the murderer of their loved one is up for parole.

Citizens Against Homicide has submitted several cases for possible inclusion consideration. All sides will be observed during the emotional time of transition, hearing from survivors, counselors, victim advocates and family members on how they might navigate this shift post-incarceration.

We will be giving updates on the production progress and date for airing.

# Killer of West Sacramento Postal Worker Again Denied Parole

Friday, May 8th, 2015 • Press Release

(Woodland, CA)—May 8, 2015—Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that the Board of Parole Hearings denied parole to 58-year-old convicted murderer Clifford Myelle at California State Prison, Solano in Vacaville.

On July 4, 1989, Myelle brutally murdered 40-year-old postal worker Richard Islas of West Sacramento. Islas had been allowing Myelle to live in his apartment. Police and coroner's reports state that on July 4, Myelle surprised Islas and hit him in the head with a claw hammer. Myelle proceeded for the next three hours to beat a stunned and defenseless Islas. He struck him 33 times with the claw hammer. Blood covered the walls and floors of the house which was evidence that the brutal beating occurred throughout the house as Islas

attempted to escape his attacker. Myelle stole Islas' car and his wallet and other items belonging to Islas. When Islas did not report to the Post Office for work, his supervisor contacted Islas' parents. On July 6, his parents entered Islas' house through a window and discovered their son, bloodied and dead. Myelle was arrested in Shasta County and denied involvement in the murder.

The parole hearing lasted over three hours. Chief District Attorney Jonathan Raven presented the case on behalf of the Yolo County District Attorney. Richard Islas' younger sister, Cynthia Islas-Duarte, spoke on behalf of Richard Islas and the family. This was Myelle's fifth parole hearing but the first hearing where he actually admitted to killing Islas.

Islas-Duarte made an impassioned statement asking the commissioners to

deny parole. She spoke about her brother and said he was "loved and respected by everyone." She continued, "I have my brother's wallet with me today and it has a fingerprint on it and guess whose it is. Not my brother. He taught me to throw a ball like an all-star, and I was." Islas-Duarte concluded, "I'm here today because I will forever be the voice of my brother and my family and I respectfully request that you deny parole for the longest period possible."

After statements from all parties, Commissioners Jack Peck and Steve Mahoney began deliberations. They returned after 20 minutes with a decision and Commissioner Peck stated that the inmate was not suitable for parole because he would present an unreasonable risk if released from prison. "Frankly sir, we were hoping to learn the truth and we were hoping to have some understanding of why and how this crime happened," Peck said. He continued, "I have no better understanding of why this crime happened than I did when we started." The Commissioners denied parole for a period of five years.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Raven was pleased with the decision. "This crime so deeply effected many generations of the Islas family including Richard's parents, sister, children, and grandchildren he never met. I'm pleased this office was able to assist in this just result." Raven continued, "Although the family thinks of Richard every day, I know they are pleased that they will not have to come back to this prison for another five years."

Myelle will be eligible for parole in May, 2021.



# Parole & Clemency Hearings

These parole hearings are imminent.  
Send letters in support of these families today.

The family of Nancy Heldt Geiger has requested CAH help in keeping convicted murderer, William Robert Geiger, behind bars. They are asking members to please write letters opposing his parole.

(DATE)

New Jersey State Parole Board  
P. O. Box 862  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

RE: William Robert Geiger—  
ID# 60423

Parole Hearing Date: July 2015

Dear Chairman  
and Parole Board Members:

Please DO NOT grant a parole date to convicted murderer, William Robert Geiger—ID# 60423. On December 25, 1976, William Geiger murdered Nancy Heldt Geiger, after six months of stalking, threatening and physically abusing her. He had been arrested and was out on bail for previously confronting Nancy with a loaded gun, as she sat in her car at her place of work. This occurred three weeks after Nancy left him for the third time in three years, August 1976.

On Christmas Eve, William Geiger again stalked and followed Nancy, her mother and grandmother from Midnight Mass to the family residence. Before Nancy could retreat from the car in the garage to the house, Geiger shot



her four (4) times in the torso, pulled her out onto the garage floor and then shot her two more times in the head, just to make sure she was dead. William Geiger was convicted of Premeditated First Degree Murder while using an unregistered firearm and was given a life sentence. However, he is again being considered for parole, even though he has been denied seven (7) times.

Because of his complete disregard for human life and lack of conscience and remorse, justice demands that this convicted murderer be denied parole. William Geiger made a personal choice to hunt down and then execute Nancy Heldt Geiger and must continue to accept the consequences of his actions. He must remain in prison so that he can never again harm another innocent human. Nancy Heldt Geiger does not get a second chance to live; she is gone

forever. Therefore, William Robert Geiger does not deserve a second chance or the privilege of freedom.

Please deny parole to convicted murderer, William Robert Geiger, for the maximum time allowed by State of New Jersey law.

Thank you for your consideration.

(Your Name)

*For your confidentiality, do NOT put your return address on the letter; only on the outer mailing envelope.*

Please send a copy of your letter to the victim's family at:

Heldt Family—353 S. Madison  
Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812

## How can you request compensation for travel costs to a parole hearing?

As of May 2010, the Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services has funds available through a federal grant which allows for reimbursement, up to \$200, to victims and next-of-kin for costs associated with travel to parole hearings. For information on how to apply for travel reimbursement contact OVSRS at 1-877-256-6877.

## Janet Renee Field

Janet Renee Field has been missing since July 2, 2014 in Fluvanna County, VA. She goes by the name Renee.

Age: 49  
Sex: Female  
Race: White  
Height/Weight: 5'7"/140 lbs.

Janet Renee Field, age 49, of Hickory Hill Drive in Scottsville, VA was last seen on July 2, 2014 by her husband at their dwelling. Renee's car was located July 4th. It is a 2010 burgundy Subaru Forrester, VA registration WNP259I, and it was located at the Zion's Crossroads Park & Ride. Anyone with information is asked to call the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office at 434-589-8211.

**MISSING**

**JANET RENEE FIELD**

www.websleuths.com/forums/showthread.php?248908-VA-Janet-Renee-Field-49-Fluvanna-2-July-2014

**Last Seen**  
**July 2, 2014**  
**Scottsville, VA**  
**Age: 49**  
**5 feet 7 inches**  
**130 pounds**  
**blonde hair-blue eyes**

Janet Renee Field was last seen on Wednesday, July 2, by her husband at their home in Scottsville when she left early in the afternoon and didn't return that evening. Her 2010 burgundy Subaru Forrester was found at the Park and Ride lot at Zion crossroads in Louisa County on July 4th.

Fluvanna Co. Sheriff's Office  
434-589-8211

**HELP**  
Save the Next Girl

Renee likes many crafts but has focused on crochet for the last several years. She also likes folksy craft painting and cross stitch. She frequents craft stores and gardening shops.

<https://www.facebook.com/SaveTheNextGirl>

<http://www.newsplex.com/home/headlines/Help-Save-the-Next-Girl-Supports-the-Family-of-Janet-Field-274231191.html>

<http://wina.com/podcasts/help-save-the-next-girl-kenny-jarels/>