

Home LifeStyle

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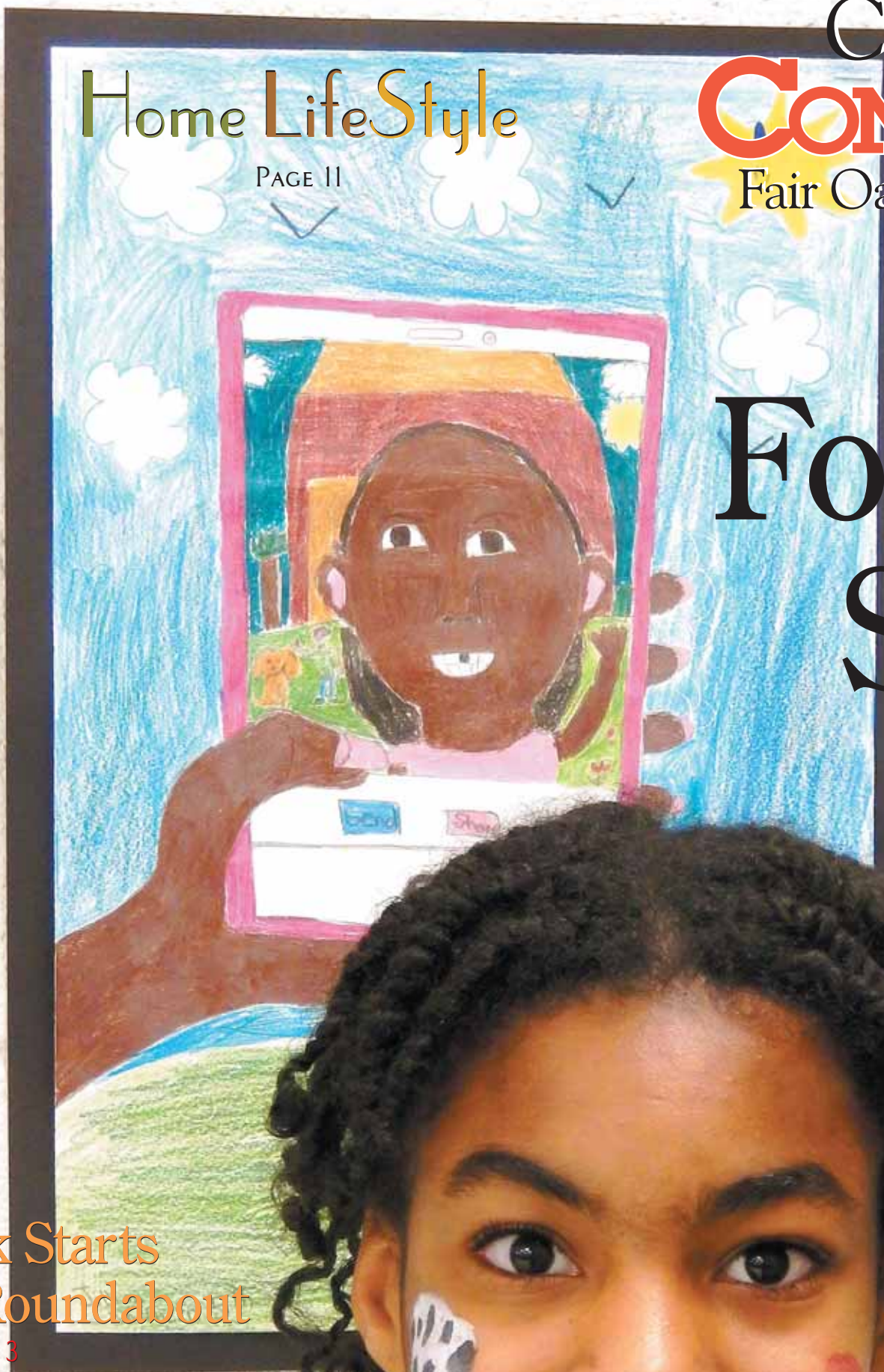
Chantilly  
**CONNECTION**

Fair Oaks ❖ Fair Lakes

# For Art's Sake

SCHOOLS, PAGE 2

**"Selfie" by Jillian Northern, Oak Hill Elementary, grade 5. The Chantilly High's Pyramid Art Show was held last month.**



Work Starts  
On Roundabout

NEWS, PAGE 3

Born to Run 5K  
Set for June 6

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The Importance of  
Including Everyone

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

SCHOOLS

# Chantilly Pyramid Art Show

Chantilly High's Pyramid Art Show was April 23.



Emily Secrest, Rocky Run Middle, grade 7.



Nadiya Vandrapu, Oak Hill Elementary, grade 1.



Mario Duran, Poplar Tree Elementary kindergarten, made his hat.



Owen Chambers, Greenbriar East Elementary, grade 5.



Selena Boulden Borda, Greenbriar East, grade 1, top picture.



Chantilly senior Shijia Zhao's "Friendship."



Han Nguyen, Oak Hill, grade 4.



Jimena Sosa-Chacon, Brookfield Elementary, grade 2.



Joaquin Patino Campoverde, Brookfield, grade 6, "Cupcake Man."

Kevin Hacker, Chantilly senior.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS THE CONNECTION

## SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

**Erica Spero** has been inducted into the Tau Chi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an International Honor Society. Spero attends Lycoming College (Williamsport, Pa.).

**Chantilly High School** students placed first in the 2015 Governor's Challenge in Economics and Personal Finance in the Adam Smith Division (advanced economics). Teacher **Joseph Clement** has been recognized as well.

"Odyssey," **Chantilly High School's** yearbook, has been recognized with a Pacemaker Award by the Journalism Education Association-National Scholastic Press Association for 2015. The yearbook placed sixth in the Best of Show Competition.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Easter

**Preschoolers, Danny Zuleta, Evelyn Mikes, and Gina Kim, from Elizabeth Byrns' Saint Timothy Catholic Preschool class in Chantilly** pause during their Easter celebration to pose for a picture.



Butterfly by Catie Kelley, Greenbriar East, grade 2.

## ROUNDUPS

### Final Surface Paving for Route 50

Shirley Contracting began a final phase of the Route 50 project on Monday, May 11, that will have an impact on evening traffic on Route 50 for about a month. The pavement on the ground on Route 50 is not the final surface for the road. Shirley Contracting will begin final surface paving and new permanent striping on both eastbound and westbound Route 50 between Poland Road and the Cub Run Bridge (bridge is located just east of Pleasant Valley Fairfax). Weather permitting, the work is scheduled to be finished by June 5.

Traffic will be reduced to one lane between the hours of 7 p.m. to 5:30 a.m., which could cause delays during these hours. Access to or from any of the side streets or entrances coming off of Route 50 will remain open.

### Meeting on I-66 Project

The Virginia Department of Transportation, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, will provide a project update and revised preliminary design concepts for the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project. Hosted by Supervisor Michael Frey (R-Sully), the community meeting will be held Monday, May 18, 6:30-9 p.m. at the Ormond Stone Middle School cafeteria.

For information on the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project, visit: <http://www.transform66.org>

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, May 21, from 5-8:30 p.m. at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. No appointment is necessary. But residents should install the child safety seats themselves so technicians may properly inspect and adjust them, as needed.

Because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. That way, inspectors may have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the correct use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

### Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry needs donations of Cooking oil, canned fruit (all types), sugar, canned meats (tuna, ham and chicken), hot cereals, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, flour, and canned or dry beans.

Toiletries needed, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with food stamps, include facial tissues, toothpaste, shampoo and solid deodorant.

Bring all items to WFCM'S food pantry, weekdays, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at 13888 Metrotech Drive, near Papa John's Pizza and Kumon Learning Center, in Chantilly's Sully Place Shopping Center. A volunteer stocker/bagger is needed Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. Contact Annette Bosley at 703-988-9656, ext. 110, or [abosley@wfcma.org](mailto:abosley@wfcma.org).

### Learn about Police Department

Throughout the year, the Fairfax County Police Department will host a series of lectures as part of its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

❖ May 22 – The Police Canine (K-9) Team, 1 p.m. at OSB <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-fcpd-canine-k-9-team-tickets-15373824523>

❖ May 25 - The Development of the FCPD Badge, noon at the Massey Building A Level small conference room <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-development-of-the-fcpd-badge-tickets-15373875676>

❖ June 11 – 2002 Washington area Sniper Task Force Investigation, 10 a.m. at the Massey Building A Level conference room <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2002-washington-area-sniper-task-force-investigation-tickets-15373977982>

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 8

## NEWS



VDOT's new map of the roundabout being built at the Braddock /Pleasant Valley roads intersection in Centreville.

## And So It Begins ...

### Work starts on controversial roundabout in Centreville.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Despite the objections of many local residents, work is now beginning on the roundabout at the Braddock /Pleasant Valley roads intersection beside Cox Farms in Centreville.

Near the Fairfax/Loudoun counties' border, that intersection regularly backs up at rush hour. So, at Loudoun's urging, VDOT's constructing a traffic circle there to move vehicles through more quickly.

Funded by a combination of Loudoun, state and federal money, the estimated project cost is \$5.8 million. Fort Myer Construction Corp. is doing the work and completion is expected by spring 2016.

Those living in homes along Braddock and Pleasant Valley say they won't be able to get out of their streets due to the steady stream of Loudoun drivers on both roads. They believe a roundabout will dramatically favor Loudoun residents, to the detriment of Fairfax drivers.

But according to Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully), other Sully District residents have wanted that intersection fixed for years. And ultimately, the decision was up to the Commonwealth Transportation Board, which green-lighted the project.

On April 14 at Stone Middle School, VDOT held a meeting to present information about the roundabout. Project representatives discussed the construction schedule and what residents may expect while the work is being done.

Steve Udzenski, with WBCM Highway Construction – Fort Myer's primary designer – explained each phase of the project. Phase one, he said, is "to do the drainage culvert and ditch off of the roadway, so it



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Tami Troscianeki (left) and Sandi Croan look at a diagram of the project area.

shouldn't impede traffic. We'll also do temporary paving along Braddock and Pleasant Valley roads to be able to later maintain two lanes of traffic on these roads in all directions."

During phase two, he said, "We'll maintain the existing traffic patterns north of Pleasant Valley Road." He also noted that some phases could take anywhere from a couple weeks to a couple months.

Udzinski said phase three will involve "switching traffic to other lanes, during nights and weekends, to the west side of Pleasant Valley Road while Braddock Road drivers use the temporary pavement. There'll also be right-turn construction, plus curb-and-gutter work along Pleasant Valley."

In phase four, Pleasant Valley traffic will be on a shifted alignment. But motorists on Braddock will have been shifted to the south. Phase five will feature the actual construction of the roundabout.

"Barrels will delineate the work-zone areas," said Udzenski. "We'll build the center island and then the splitter islands and then do the final pavement and markings. We're also doing a trail connection to the intersection. There'll be a crosswalk across Braddock Road and a sidewalk along the Cox Farms property."

He said some landscaping will be done in the cen

SEE ROUNDABOUT, PAGE 8

# Get Ready for Chantilly Day Fourth annual celebration is this Saturday, May 16.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**C**ome one, come all, to the fourth annual Chantilly Day. It'll be this Saturday, May 16, at the Sully Place Shopping Center, off Route 50 West in Chantilly.

On tap for people of all ages are live music and dancing, food, children's activities and even an astronaut. The extravaganza runs from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., rain or shine, in the Kmart and Babies R Us parking lots. Admission is free, as are all activities in the Kids Zone. And Western Fairfax Christian Ministries will be accepting food donations for local families in need.

Opening ceremonies and an awards presentation will kick off the day at 11 a.m. at the stage in the Kmart parking lot. Children's activities, rides and the Taste of Chantilly will begin at 11:15 a.m., with the stage entertainment following at noon.

The Chantilly Academy's Air Force JROTC Color Guard will present the colors, and then Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce President Eileen Fulton will recognize and introduce local dignitaries and guests. Then the Chantilly-Centreville Chamber (an offshoot of the Dulles Chamber) will give out various honors, including a Lifetime Achievement Award to Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully), who's retiring this year after serving 23 years in office.



**Creative Dance Center's performing troupe entertained last year and is returning.**

Entertainment will be provided by Creative Dance Center, the Chantilly High Jazz Ensemble, singer Tommy Gann, guitarist Matthew Mills and groups doing Latin, Hip Hop, Bollywood and Napalese dances.

Offering food during the Taste of Chantilly will be the Chantilly National Golf Club, Golly Waffles, Chick-fil-A, Paisano's, Bungalow Billiards, Tailgator Toby NOVA, and The Similans Thai Eatery.

Children's activities will feature a climbing wall, Space Shuttle moonbounce, a fire-and-rescue obstacle course and 16-person Mindwinder swings. The CYA Fun Zone will offer sports-related games such as basketball and Nerf soccer, plus carnival-type activities.

Kwon's Champion School and the Northern Virginia Volleyball Association will give exhibitions, and My Gym will have special activities for younger

children. G & C Automotive is providing an antique fire truck, and Chantilly High is bringing its popular robotics demonstration.

Former NASA astronaut Daniel Tani will be on hand to meet Chantilly Day attendees and sign autographs. Pets will be available for adoption, and Chantilly High Hispanic Leadership Club students will do face painting.

The Westfields Business Owners Association welcomes people to the Business Expo letting area residents see what's available in their community. And many businesses will offer giveaways and prizes to people visiting their tables.

Staybridge Suites will run a shuttle from the corner of Centreville Road and Skyhawk Drive to and from the festival throughout the day. The satellite parking lot will be at 3900 Skyhawk Drive, with shuttle service available every 15 minutes during the fes-

## Donate Food To WFCM

Chantilly Day also includes a food drive for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM). This Chantilly-based, nonprofit provides food, clothing and emergency financial aid to local families people in need.

But it needs help restocking its food pantry to gear up for summer when the need is greatest. That's when many children who depend on free and reduced-priced breakfasts and lunches in school no longer have food to eat.

So people attending Chantilly Day are asked to bring with them nonperishable food to donate to WFCM. For each food item they contribute, they'll receive a raffle ticket for prizes, so those bringing the most items to the table outside the Kmart entrance will have the best chance to win. Both food and personal-care items may be dropped off there from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Some of the most needed items are:

- \* Canned meat: chicken, beef, salmon, spam, sausages\* Peanut butter and jelly\* Cereal and oatmeal\* Pancake mix and syrup\* Canned fruit: peaches, pears, mixed fruit, mandarin oranges\* Vegetables: corn, carrots, peas, mixed vegetables, etc.\* Rice, 2 lb. bag, or seasoned boxed rice

- \* Hamburger Helper or macaroni and cheese\* Pasta and pasta sauce\* Canned ravioli \* Sugar, flour, and oil\* Fruit juice\* Toothpaste/toothbrushes\* Toilet paper\* Soap

For more information, contact Jennie Bush at [jbush@wfcmv.org](mailto:jbush@wfcmv.org).

tival. Festival visitors are asked to not park in front of Kmart and Babies R Us, since their limited parking is only for the use of store customers.

The Chantilly-Centreville Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Kaiser Permanente, is putting on the event. Host sponsor is the shopping-center owner, Beatty Management Co., and event chairman is Carl Brown, assistant general manager of Staybridge Suites.

Several volunteers are still needed. Contact Stephanie Barko at 517-323-5314 or [SBarko@DullesRegionalChamber.org](mailto:SBarko@DullesRegionalChamber.org).



**Shreeya Ligade with balloons and a painted face.**

## Sponsors

Presenting Sponsor: Kaiser Permanente  
 Host Sponsor: The Beatty Companies  
 Business Expo Sponsor: Westfields Business Owners Assn.  
 Chantilly High Sponsor: Blue Collar Objects  
 Fun Zone Area Sponsor: Chantilly Youth Assn.  
 Taste of Chantilly Sponsor: Chantilly National  
 Welcome Booth Sponsor: Cox Communications  
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 Business Award: Sandy Spring Bank  
 Community Awards: Western Federal Credit Union  
 Educators the Year Sponsor: Infinity QS  
 Signage Sponsor: Paisano's  
 Gold Sponsor: The Crossings at Chantilly  
 Design Sponsor 110 RPM  
 Shuttle Sponsor: Staybridge Suites Chantilly  
 First Aid Sponsor: HCA Reston Hospital Center



**Nargis Shafa hands a customer some Milwaukee Frozen Custard.**

# Shaving Heads in Solidarity

**T**ara Sankner is a 10-year-old Fairfax girl who's fighting Astrocytoma Grade 2 brain cancer. She had completed 70 weeks of chemotherapy treatment that ended July 2, 2014; but due to tumor growth, she's had to start a year-long, oral-chemo regime.

She's in fourth grade at Lees Corner Elementary and, during the first round of chemotherapy, Tara experienced hair loss. So school Principal Bob D'Amato and the then math resource teacher Josh Douds let Tara shave their heads during the school's morning news program to show their support for her and to let her know the whole school is supporting her through this battle. So, in with keeping with tradition, this time when Tara unexpectedly lost her hair, D'Amato contacted Douds, who's now vice principal at Union Mill Elementary, and asked if he'd shave his head again. He agreed and, on May 1, during the morning news program at Lees Corner, Tara got to shave both educators' heads. She had fun doing it and said it lets her know the school's still behind her as she again undergoes treatment.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TAMMY SANKNER

**In top photo are (from left) Josh Douds, Tara Sankner and Bob D'Amato before the head-shaving. The men switched places in the bottom photo, after being shaved.**

## BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

### FRIDAY/MAY 15

**Application Deadlines.** The Teen Police Academy and Future Women Leaders in Law Enforcement are currently accepting applications for their summer classes. Link for Police Academy: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/pdf/2015teenpoliceacademy.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/pdf/2015teenpoliceacademy.pdf). Link for Future Women Leaders: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/pdf/2015fwlle.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/pdf/2015fwlle.pdf).

### SATURDAY-MONDAY/MAY 16-18

**Call for Auditions.** Various times at Mountain View School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. The Alliance Theatre is seeking cast members for their upcoming production of "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." Visit [www.thealliancetheatre.org/auditions.html](http://www.thealliancetheatre.org/auditions.html) to learn more.

### MONDAY/MAY 18

**Financial Counseling Clinic.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Chantilly Computer Learning Center Partnerships, 4101 Elmwood St., Chantilly. Volunteer financial planners will help participants tackle pressing financial problems during a 45- to 60-minute session. A free credit report will be run, immediate financial situations considered, and a course of action recommended to address concerns. Free. Contact Lillian Diaz at [atLdiaz@wfcma.org](mailto:atLdiaz@wfcma.org) or 703-988-9656 x108.

### THURSDAY/MAY 21

**Liberty Republican Women's Club Meeting.** 6 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Donna Hamilton, Director of Research for Virginians for Quality Healthcare, will be the guest speaker. Free. Call 703-378-4190.

### SATURDAY/MAY 23

**Conversational English Class Interest Meeting.** 7 p.m. at Fairfax Church of Christ, 3901 Rugby Road, Fairfax. Sign up for a two week intensive course on conversational English May 25-June 5. Free. Contact [jerriharrington@gmail.com](mailto:jerriharrington@gmail.com).

### MONDAY/JUNE 22

**Financial Counseling Clinic.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Chantilly Computer Learning Center Partnerships, 4101 Elmwood St., Chantilly. Volunteer financial planners will help participants tackle pressing financial problems during a 45- to 60-minute session. A free credit report will be run, immediate financial situations considered, and a course of action recommended to address concerns. Free. Contact Lillian Diaz at [atLdiaz@wfcma.org](mailto:atLdiaz@wfcma.org) or 703-988-9656 x108.

### ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

**Residents Can "E-cycle"** at the I-66 transfer station. It is free but residents may be asked to show proof of residency. Personal waste only. The I-66 station is located at 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax and open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. from Monday-Saturday and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sundays. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm) for more.

### DONATIONS

**The student Auto Sales Program** operating from Centreville High School works in conjunction with the CVHS automotive technology classes to bring in donated automobiles, boats and motorcycles for students to work on. Some refurbished vehicles are sold, with 75 percent of the proceeds going back to the auto tech program. The program is in need of cars, trucks or motorcycles, which are fully tax deductible, for student training. Contact Lyman Rose at 703-802-5588 or by e-mail [lyman.rose@fcps.edu](mailto:lyman.rose@fcps.edu) for more.

### SUPPORT GROUP

**Telephone Support Group for Family Caregivers of Older Adults.** 7 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month. This telephone support group is designed to help caregivers of older adults share experiences, gain support and get important information without having to travel. These are one-hour free sessions. Find out more and register at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/) and click on Caregiver Telephone Support Group.

**Fair Oaks Parkinson's Support Group** for people living with Parkinson's disease, caregivers and family, meets on the fourth Saturday monthly, 10 a.m.-noon at Sunrise at Fair Oaks, 3750 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax. Call 703-378-7221 or visit [www.fairoaksparkinsons.com](http://www.fairoaksparkinsons.com) for more.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Shepherd's Center of Fairfax Burke** serves those 50+ and who no longer drive. Volunteer drivers are needed. SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7

**Gary Kramer, D.D.S.**  
**Sara Bunin, D.D.S.**  
 DIPLOMATES OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY  
 Dentistry for Children, Adolescents & Special Needs  
 703-978-0051 [KBPediatricSmiles.com](http://KBPediatricSmiles.com)

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## The Perils of the College Drinking Culture

Much has been in the news this past year in Virginia and across the country about the very real dangers and consequences of alcohol and binge drinking on college campuses – alcohol poisoning, sexual assault, injury, and even death.

The **Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County** invites you to join us for an award-winning film and discussion with an emergency room physician, the chief deputy for the Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County, a police officer, the GMU student wellness office director, a parent whose son died after drinking at a college party, and a college student. Information will be provided to help future college students make sound choices that will lead to positive academic experiences and enjoyment of college life without endangering themselves.

The HAZE documentary film contains graphic imagery but is a must-see for all parents, their college-bound teens, and anyone who is concerned about the dangers of underage and high-risk drinking.



**Wednesday, May 20, 2015**  
**7 to 9 p.m.**

Northern Virginia Community College  
 Ernst Community Cultural Center  
 8333 Little River Turnpike  
 Annandale, VA  
 Free parking in B lots only.

For more information, call  
**703-938-8723** or visit  
[www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org](http://www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org)



The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County is a non-profit organization working to prevent substance abuse by youth and young adults with partners at the local, state and national levels. This event is partially funded by a federal STOP grant. Funding for this ad is provided by the federal SAMHSA Virginia Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant.

# OPINION

## Public Comment at Police Commission

**Come out to testify before the commission on Monday, May 18.**

**J**ohn Geer was shot dead by Fairfax County Police Officer Adam Torres on Aug. 29, 2013, and the outrage over the quality and timing of the release of information about the shooting led to the formation of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, which will hold a public forum next Monday, May 18.

Geer was standing unarmed with his hands up inside the doorway to his home in Springfield when he was killed. Police had been called to the scene because of a domestic argument, and while Geer was a legal gun owner, as are one-third of all Virginia residents, no crime had been committed. Aside from the officer who shot Geer, four other officers on the scene told investigators that same day that they were shocked by the shot that killed Geer and thought the shooting was unnecessary. (One officer described his first reaction: "WTF.") Geer made great effort to be predictable in his actions, asking permission to scratch his nose, otherwise keeping his hands up on the doorframe.

Still it took a year and a half and a court order before police officials released the name of the officer who fired the shot and about

11,000 pages of documents related to the investigation. Reading the details of the investigation, it was easy to feel that the meager police statements in the meantime had been deliberately misleading.

In January 2015, just before the statements of the other officers were released because of the court order, Police Chief Edwin Roessler released this update with the name of the officer: "Geer was reported as having multiple firearms inside the home, displaying a firearm that he threatened to use against the police, and refused the officers' requests that he remain outside and speak to them. Officers, including a trained negotiator, attempted to peacefully resolve the situation. They spoke with Geer for more than 30 minutes as he stood in the doorway of his home. When Geer began lowering his hands at one point during the negotiations, PFC Adam Torres fired a single shot that struck Geer."

It was public concern about the huge delay

in any information released, and the inconsistencies between police releases and the investigative record that resulted in the Board of Supervisors forming the police review commission. The commission has undertaken a broad review of police policies and practices but will not report on the Geer shooting itself.

The Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission is holding a public forum on Monday, May 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fairfax County Government Center Board Auditorium. Members of the public may sign up to speak by filling out the online form, or by calling the Clerk to the Board's office at 703-324-3151. See [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker\\_bos.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm)

— MARY KIMM

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

*Mary Kimm is a member of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.*

### Call for Father's Day Photos

Father's Day is Sunday, June 21, and once again the Connection will publish a gallery of Father's Day photos: fathers and their children, grandfathers and their children and grandchildren.

Send in photos as soon as possible, with the following information: the town where you live, the names of everyone in the picture, the approximate date the picture was

taken, the ages of the children and a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to tell us your town name and neighborhood. Photos are due by June 15.

You can submit your photos online at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday). You can also email photos to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com).

## Rebuttal on School Funding

BY SHARON BULOVA  
CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**O**n April 28 the Board of Supervisors adopted the FY2016 Budget. Our board approved a total transfer to the schools of \$2.01 billion, an increase of \$66.7 million (an increase of 3.43 percent) over FY2015 and nearly two-thirds of all new revenue associated with increased property values. The total school budget, which is comprised of the county transfer, plus state and some federal funding, totals \$2.6 billion.

Education is our board's highest priority; it is not, however our only priority. The school transfer amounts to almost 53 percent of our General Fund Budget. Public safety, human services, parks and libraries all receive a fraction of what FCPS does and these services are also critical to making Fairfax County one of the best places in the country to live, work, raise a family and grow older comfortably. It is also important that real estate taxes are affordable to our

residents, many of whom are still struggling to get back on their feet following the recent recession.

Fairfax County's Direct General Fund Budget, services and programs, excluding the School Transfer is \$1.81 billion. This year the General County disbursements increased by only 2.06 percent, less than the increase in the School Transfer.

Fairfax County worked hard this year to advocate for a larger share of state funding for our schools, getting \$9.9 million more than anticipated through the state budget. With these funds, FCPS is within \$4.1 million of their total \$2.6 billion Advertised Budget proposal; a gap of just 0.16 percent (sixteen hundredths of a percent).

The superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools Karen Garza increased her request for a transfer after the state budget increase was announced and shortly before our budget adoption.

In her April 28 release, the superintendent indicated this figure is now \$7.6 million or 0.297 percent of FCPS Proposed Operating Budget. Enrollment estimates, and

the associated costs, can and do change as the school year approaches and FCPS staff refines their estimates. The gap, therefore, is somewhat of a moving target.

Our Board of Supervisors continues to be supportive of the school system and our partners on the School Board. When the Board of Supervisors adopted the FY2016 Budget, we also gave county staff Budget Guidance for FY2017 which provides a planning target for an additional increase of 3 percent next year.

As we look ahead at the fiscal outlook for next year, we know that we will continue to be affected by a sluggish economy and the effects of federal cutbacks and sequestration. Like the schools, the General County side of the ledger is projecting a budget shortfall for the next (2017) Fiscal Year. This will have to be resolved, as Fairfax



Sharon Bulova

## Schools have been county's top priority, receiving \$2 billion.

County is required to adopt and maintain a balanced budget.

This spring, the Board of Supervisors will lead the community in a Lines of Business review. This process will be a comprehensive review of all the programs and services the county provides. It will help the board to identify redundancies, establish further efficiencies, consider strategic changes to reach intended outcomes and make sure that the investments we make conform to the community's expectations. In our Budget Guidance, we invited our counterparts on the School Board to participate and we hope they will undertake a similar process for FCPS.

I also hope that the School Board is able to fill the vacant Auditor to the School Board position they created in October of 2014. The Board of Supervisors has had an Auditor to the Board since the 1990s. This independent, critical perspective on the budget and county programs can help elected leaders identify efficiencies and cost avoidance opportunities and has saved taxpayers millions of dollars.

## Chantilly CONNECTION

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# LETTER

## Shared Values

To the Editor:

The American public is still reeling from the after-shocks of the shooting in Garland, Texas last week. The occurrence took place during the event: "Draw the Prophet," orchestrated by the American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI), an organization that has been classified as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center. AFDI's president Pamela Geller accused Muslim leaders of not defending the First Amendment's freedom of speech, and blamed Islamic theology for the terrorist attacks on the Charlie Hebdo offices in Paris earlier this year. While many Americans across the country have expressed both their disapproval of Geller's anti-Islamic rhetoric and criticized "Draw the Prophet" as tasteless and hateful, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has remained a firm advocate of free speech. Immediately following the news of the shooting, Harris Zafar, a spokesman of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, ex-

plained: "We believe that everyone has a right to speak their words, and our faith actually backs that up — it champions free speech."

Ahmadi Muslims choose to defend such attacks on their beliefs through dialogue and communication. Ironically, while the community is a firm defender of the First Amendment rights, its members are unable to practice those freedoms in Pakistan, the country with the largest Ahmadi Muslim population in the world. Heavy persecution has been following the community since the government declared its members non-Muslims in 1984. May 2015 marks the fifth year anniversary of the 2010 Lahore, Pakistan massacre in which 86 Ahmadi Muslims were killed by terrorists as they were observing Prayer in their mosques. Despite the persecution, bigotry, and hatred they have faced, Ahmadi Muslims continue to defend the freedoms of the First Amendment.

**Shumaila Ahmad**  
Chantilly

### BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

needed for trips (Monday-Friday) to medical appointments and companion shopping within the Fairfax/Burke area. Contact Barry Wickersham at 703-359-2918 or aowbrw@verizon.net or contact John Taylor at 703-239-2898 or jajt7@verizon.net.

For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions:

❖ **The Sully Senior Center** in Centreville needs a certified personal trainer, preferably with experience

working with older adults.

❖ **Meals on Wheels** needs drivers in Chantilly and McLean. Substitute drivers needed throughout the county.

❖ **Korean Meals on Wheels** needs Korean-speaking volunteers to deliver meals in Centreville, Annandale and Falls Church.

**Homeless Animals Rescue Team** is looking for volunteers to hold dogs at adoption events, Saturdays noon-3 p.m. Volunteers must be 18 or older. Events will be held at Petsmart, 13866 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly. Call 703-691-HART or visit [www.hart90.org](http://www.hart90.org) for more.

**The Fairfax Station Railroad**

**Museum** needs volunteer docents on Sunday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. Greet museum visitors and tell them about the exhibits, the Museum and the its railroad and Civil War history. Docents should possess good people skills. Opportunity for those interested in railroads, the Civil War and Northern Virginia history. Training and orientation provided. Other volunteer opportunities are gardening, publicity and exhibit planning. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Stati or visit [Fairfaxstation.org](http://Fairfaxstation.org)

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# Born to Run 5K Set for June 6

Fundraiser honors deceased middle-school teacher.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Nothing can bring back Jannine Parisi. A well-respected Franklin Middle School teacher, she died in November 2013 at age 47 as a result of domestic violence.

But she left two teenage daughters and a school community who will always remember her. And each year, Franklin Middle holds a 5K race in her honor and to raise money for a worthy cause.



Jannine Parisi

Last year's proceeds went toward her children's education. And the majority of the funds raised from the second annual Born to Run 5K Memorial Race and Fun Run, set for Saturday, June 6, will be donated to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAME) of Northern Virginia.

"Jannine's past commitment to improving the physical and emotional wellbeing of the Chantilly community is the driving force behind this year's memorial event," said Franklin P.E. teacher Rob Gibbs. Parisi taught P.E. there for eight years and, according to Gibbs, was "a wonderful teacher, role model and friend to students, staff and our



Some of the participants in last year's 5K race.

school community."

Therefore, he said, "Born to Run participants will be honoring her spirit by coming together in a show of support for student quality of life and the need to create greater community awareness in the area of mental health. NAMI was chosen as this year's charitable recipient for its commitment to those individuals coping with family-related, mental-health concerns."

"Jannine was a devoted friend, colleague, teacher and member of our Franklin family that was admired and respected by all," said Principal Sharon Eisenberg. "We miss her presence, smile and contributions on a daily basis."

Parisi was also a big Bruce Springsteen fan, so the race was named after his iconic song. Sponsored by the Franklin Middle PTA, the event will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the school, 3300 Lees Corner Road in Chantilly. All participants will receive medals, and those registered by May 24 will receive commemorative T-shirts. For more information and to register, go to <https://pracing.enmotive.com>.

"We're putting it on as a celebration of Jannine's life," added Gibbs. "We hope for a great turnout at this community event."

Agreeing, seventh-grade health and P.E. teacher Emma Reese said, "Last year's event was a great success. We hope people con-



In happier times: Jannine Parisi having fun at school.

sider participating this year to continue to honor our dear friend and colleague."

Last year, 400 people registered for Born to Run, and their registration fees plus donations yielded nearly \$12,000. The 5K course is flat and goes through the Chantilly Highlands neighborhood, starting and ending at the school. The Family Fun Run is a 1K which will be run exclusively on the school grounds.

Registration for the 5K is \$30 through May 10, \$35 from May 11 until online registration closes on June 4, and \$40 on race day. The 1K registration is \$15 through May 10, and \$20 from May 11 through June 6.

Awards for the 5K will be given to the fastest overall male and female and the fastest overall male and female from the Chantilly Pyramid, as well as to the top finishers in various age groups. Awards for the 1K will go to the top girl and boy in age groups 5-7, 8-10 and 11-14. Packet pickup is Friday, June 5, from 3-6 p.m., and Saturday, June 6, from 7-8 a.m., at the school.

## ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 3

❖ July 23 – The Departments growth in relation to the county's development, 11 a.m. at the Criminal Justice Academy <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-departments-growth-in-relation-to-the-countys-development-tickets-15374059225>

❖ Aug. 10 – SWAT – Tools, Tactics, and Technology, 11 a.m. at the West Springfield District community room <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/swat-tools-tactics-and-technology-tickets-15374108372>

❖ Sept. 16 – Helicopter Division, 10 a.m. at the Criminal Justice Academy <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fcpd-helicopter-division-tickets-15374129435>

❖ Oct. 2 – Early days of Diversity, 11 a.m. at the Massey Building A Level conference room <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/early-days-of-diversity-tickets-15374156516>

❖ Nov. 4 – Criminal Justice Academy, 11 a.m. at the Criminal Justice Academy <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/criminal-justice-academy-tickets-15374248792>

❖ Dec. 14 – Crisis Negotiations Team, 11 a.m. at the Criminal Justice Academy <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fcpd-crisis-negotiations-team-tickets-15374274870>

## Work Starts on Roundabout in Centreville

FROM PAGE 3

ter island. And, added Udzenski, "Storm drains we'll build will carry the outfall to the east side of Pleasant Valley Road to a culvert we'll be constructing."

The roundabout, itself, will be just larger than a 90-foot circle. (It's measured from the outer third of one side of the intersection, through the center of the circle, to the outer third of the other side of the intersection).

Pleasant Valley runs north-south, and Braddock runs east-west. Virginia Run's Tami Trosciancki asked what the level of service will be for motorists after the roundabout's up and running. VDOT Project Manager Mark Gibney said it will be "mainly B, except for eastbound in the morning and southbound in the evening — both of which will be at level D. Now it's an F."

Since traffic movements inside a roundabout can be confusing, one woman suggested that VDOT make a You Tube video in different languages so people will know how to drive in a roundabout. Shirlene Cleveland, representing VDOT's design-build team, said they could put one on the project Web site, [http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/braddock_and_pleasant_valley.asp)

[braddock\\_and\\_pleasant\\_valley.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/braddock_and_pleasant_valley.asp).

She also said the roundabout work won't interfere with Cox Farms's daily operation or fall festival, which attracts thousands of people from throughout the Washington Metropolitan area.

Construction will occur Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.-5 a.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and 10 p.m.-8 a.m.; Saturday, 10 p.m.-8 a.m.; and Sunday, 10 p.m.-5 a.m. Work is not permitted on the weekends during the daytime.

Yet, even though the project's moving ahead, not everyone is happy about it.

"For 40 years, Fairfax County's policy was to take external commuter traffic from other jurisdictions and route it down arterial roads, such as I-66 and Routes 28, 29 and 50," said Sully District Planning Commissioner John Litzenberger. "But this sets a precedent by taking commuter traffic from Loudoun County and routing it through residential neighborhoods. My fear is that this will open Pandora's Box for Franklin Farm Road, Union Mill Road and others to be treated the same way."

Agreeing, Ted Trosciancki said, "Doing this project will push the problem east-bound during the morning rush. And what'll

be done about the dangerous S-Curve [just east of Braddock Road] to make it safer?" Terry Yates, VDOT's preliminary-engineering manager, said it'll be looked at.

Also concerned about the roundabout is Sandi Croan of Centreville's Pleasant Forest community. But she's willing to give it a chance. "I come home from work west on Braddock Road, and I live on Pleasant Forest Drive — the last left [turn] coming west before the intersection," she said. "So I'm directly affected by this project."

"Before the Route 50 widening was finished, traffic backed up to Old Lee Road at the evening rush, and it took 12 minutes to drive the 30 seconds to my street," she continued. "Route 50 has helped, so the traffic's not as bad now."

So, said Croan, "If this roundabout works, I'll be thrilled. But I would have preferred a traffic light, and I'm worried that the speed of the traffic will be increased. People turning right from Pleasant Valley Road and bypassing the roundabout will be driving faster because they'll no longer have to stop at a stop sign. So there'll be a steady stream of traffic going east on Braddock and I could have a hard time coming out of my street. But we'll see — the jury's still out."



# ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## ONGOING

### Family Fridays Movie Series.

Fridays at sunset through June 26, at The Manassas Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 6901 Sudley Road, Manassas. Admission is \$3, free with NOVA ID. Visit [www.novamanassas.wix.com/movies](http://www.novamanassas.wix.com/movies).

**Sully Historic Site.** 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Enjoy guided tours of the 1794 home of Northern Virginia's first Congressman, Richard Bland Lee. \$7/adult; \$6/student; \$5/senior and child. Hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 703-437-1794.

**Singing.** 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. The Fairfax Jubilaires rehearse every Wednesday which includes training by an award-winning director. Visit [www.fairfaxjubilaires.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaires.org) for more.

### "Creating Across the City."

Through June at Dulles International Airport. Three organizations; Critical Exposure, The National Building Museum and ARTLAB+ have teamed up for "Creating Across the City: A Teen Art Showcase," which provides an outlet through art and design for creative local teens.

## CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**Young Actors' Workshop.** Rising

students in grades 2-6 may participate in a workshop 9 a.m.-12 p.m., July 20-24 at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly. The fee is \$125. Visit [www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com](http://www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com).

### 2015 Summer Programs.

Registration is now open for the following Fairfax County Public Schools summer camps. Students should register for programs based on the grade they are in during the current 2014-15 school year. Visit [www.fcps.edu/is/summer/index.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/is/summer/index.shtml) for more.

❖ **Tech Adventure Camp** will be held July 20-31 at Robinson Secondary School from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. for students currently in grades 5-7. This camp allows students to explore careers and technology by rotating through eight areas including graphic design, automotive technology, culinary arts, television production, robotics, and computer technology.

❖ **STEM Camp.** Held in two sessions at Robinson Secondary School: July 6-10 and July 13-17 both from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., daily. STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Camp is a one-week camp for students currently in grades 3-5 to explore careers and technology as they rotate through activities focused on science.

❖ **Elementary Institute for the Arts.** Held July 13-24 at Robinson Secondary School from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday. Designed for students currently in grades 3-5, E-IFTA offers participants a total immersion in the arts as they rotate through classes in dance, drama, music, and visual art.

❖ **Institute for the Arts.** Held July 6-

30 at Robinson Secondary School from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday. Designed for students currently in grades 6-11, IFTA allows students to create, perform, experiment, and explore—all in various music, dance, visual art, and theatre venues.

### ❖ Robinson Extended Day Adult and Community Education Enrichment.

Programs will be held July 6-31 at Robinson Secondary School and will begin after Tech Adventure Camp, STEM Camp, IFTA and E-IFTA end. These programs are for students currently in grades 1-11 and will provide a continuum of activities for students who want additional programs and activities. Programs will include the Foreign Language Experience Program (FLEX), Culinary Adventure Camp, Language Immersion Camp, Creative Writing, Computer Graphics, and Chess.

❖ **Credit Recovery Academy.** This program will be held at Fairfax High School for students seeking credit for high school level courses. Students will be able to take one course during each of the two sessions from June 29-July 16 and July 20-Aug. 4.

❖ **Online Campus.** For credit recovery, acceleration, and enrichment for middle school and high school students. Health, Physical Education, and Geometry Honors run June 29-Aug. 4; all other courses run July 6-Aug. 4.

❖ **SOL Remediation.** For FCPS high school students who passed an SOL course but did not pass the SOL test. Held at Fairfax High School.

❖ **SOL Test Only.** This program is for FCPS seniors who plan to graduate



The Fairfax Ballet will perform "Alice in Wonderland" May 30-31. Visit [www.fairfaxballet.com](http://www.fairfaxballet.com) for more.

by Aug. 28 and passed an SOL course but failed the SOL test.

### ❖ ESOL Numeracy and Literacy.

The ESOL Numeracy and Literacy class provides currently enrolled FCPS high school ELP Level 1 students with the opportunity to

develop their numeracy and literacy skills. Students will meet face-to-face with their teachers daily. This is a noncredit class. Held at Fairfax High

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 16

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**2** 15629 Jillians Forest Way, Centreville — \$1,475,141



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PHOTOS BY DIMITRI CANAS

The new space plan to the Napolitano home called for an enclosed “bump out” off the home’s south-facing rear elevation. The added square footage accommodates a family entertainment zone in a newly formed great room.

# Adding On

“Bump-out” plus first floor reconfiguration meets family’s evolving space requirements.

BY JOHN BYRD

At what point does a house become “old”, which is to say — no longer a good fit for its usually adaptive occupants? Michael and Kim Napolitano of Reston pondered this question recently, deciding to investigate options for adding living space to their 33-year-old, 2,000-square-foot colonial.

“When we moved in 12 years ago,” Michael Napolitano said, “the kids were in grade school, Kim was working in an outside office, and our home’s first floor plan supported all our daily requirements. Also, we’ve always loved the beautiful setting — which is about an acre with many mature trees.”

About five years ago, though, Kim started working from home and quickly set up an office in the basement. An L-shaped work-station under a transom window, the arrangement was intended to be “a step” towards a more suitable accommodation.

Meanwhile, the three children entered high school. As they grew, so did the number and size of their friends — and the duration of their visits.

Gradually, the Napolitanos began to notice that their once ideal home was no longer meeting their changing needs. The front-to-back family room on the west side of the house, for instance, seemed “disconnected” from the rest of the house since one had to pass through the dining room or the foyer to get to the kitchen.

The dining room seemed smaller; ditto the upstairs master bedroom with its limited closet space and tiny master bath.

The formal living room, while fine for holidays, was gradually becoming under used. The breakfast area — a slight step down from the kitchen — was just too small.

In fact, the entire first level plan — about 1,200 square feet in all — seemed positively crowded when the family was entertaining.

**WHAT TO DO?** “When we reviewed the

Napolitano’s preferred improvements “wish list,” it was clear that the existing first floor footprint was really only about 400 feet short of a plan that would satisfy all the current requirements — including relocating Kim’s office to the first floor,” designer Suzanne Glatz said. “The real question was: could a slightly expanded first level be reconfigured in a way that would fulfill such a wide range of new needs.”

Glatz, of Foster Remodeling Solutions, had been hired last year by the Napolitanos to develop and supervise a budget-sensitive makeover. Trained as both a space planner and an interior designer, Glatz has been particularly strong in finding creative ways to add square footage to space-restricted older homes.

“Basically, Suzanne invited us to think about the floor plan differently,” Michael Napolitano said. “Once you recognize that you don’t have to live in conformity with the room-assignment template provided by the original builder, you start to see the possibilities.”

The first consideration: repurposing the 12-foot-by-35-foot family room — which segues from the front foyer — made perfect sense as a place for Kim’s office,” Michael Napolitano said. “But I hadn’t considered it’s possibilities as a master bedroom suite until Suzanne pointed it out.”

“Also, I was aware that newer homes often feature a kitchen that directly interacts with the family room,” he added. “I just didn’t see how we could accomplish that in this house.”

As this option became more compelling, Glatz sketched out a plan for a 360-square-foot “bump-out” extending from the home’s south-facing rear elevation.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY square feet of the newly enclosed space would be an open family entertainment zone within a 500-square-foot L-shaped

SEE ADDING ON, PAGE 15

## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

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# The Importance of Including Everyone

Hundreds turn out as School Board votes to add “gender identity” to nondiscrimination policy.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

Discrimination is bad, and every one should have a safe environment in which to learn. These sentiments were common to the Fairfax County School Board members and the hundreds of parents who packed the auditorium and front lobby of Luther Jackson Middle School for the board’s May 7 meeting.

But as the board convened to take action on adding the words “gender identity” to its nondiscrimination policy, there was significant, emotional discord in the audience and among several board members as to how the board had arrived at making this decision and what implementation of the policy update would ultimately look like.

Though signs and banners are typically allowed inside the school’s auditorium during School Board business meetings, additional security at the May 7 meeting prohibited those with signs from entering. Dozens of citizens therefore crowded around the open doors to the auditorium and periodically vocalized their opinions.

In November, the School Board voted to add sexual orientation to the list of categories for which a Fairfax County student, employee or applicant for employment should not be discriminated against. That list also includes age, race, color, sex, religion, national origin, marital status or disability.

At-large member Ryan McElveen introduced the gender identity update to the policy at a forum in March of this year. Then it came up as new business at the board’s April 23 regular meeting and was scheduled for a vote on May 7.

McElveen gave several reasons justifying the motion, beginning with a March opinion by Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring that local school boards do have authority under Virginia law to make such decisions.

Regarding the protection of transgender students and employees, he said, “The truth is we already do, but that protection has never been clearly outlined in our policies.”

Several public speakers at the beginning of the meeting voiced concerns that this policy change would make bathrooms and locker rooms unsafe by allowing members of one biological gender to use the opposite facility.

“Fears about this policy change are unfounded and need to be better understood,” McElveen said. “After we pass this policy tonight, nothing will change in how we handle cases of transgender and gender nonconforming students and employees.”



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

**Citizens were actively engaged in the discussion leading up to the Fairfax County School Board’s 10-1 vote in favor of adding gender identity to the district’s nondiscrimination policy.**

McElveen added that students and employees will continue to go through a thorough vetting process with regards to any gender-nonconformity, and that the board has “never received a concern regarding a bathroom incident of this nature.”

Another justification raised by McElveen was the board is being compelled by the U.S. Department of Education office of civil rights to amend its policy as part of a national gender identity protection rollout. “In this light, amending is non-negotiable,” he said, “unless we want the government to come after our federal funding.”

The School Board’s counsel John E. Foster confirmed McElveen’s statements, saying “the federal government has been very clear they expect local school divisions to amend their policies to include gender identity.”

**NOT ALL BOARD** members agreed with that interpretation, however.

“That the government could compel individual local school boards around the country or risk losing federal education money like Title IX funds is unconscionable,” said Elizabeth Schultz, representing the Springfield District.

“Is my federal government really threatening me, as a duly elected local official who has sworn an oath to the constitution of Virginia to run this school system, to do their bidding by inserting ‘gender identity’ or face taking our children’s lunch money?”

Schultz also voiced concerns that the board had not taken sufficient time to fully examine how it would implement the policy update and what the effects would be, both for staff workload and cost to the school system.

She motioned to postpone action on the policy until October, “so that the board can be provided the commensurate draft regulation and handbook language, and determine the overall impact of the proposed revision to Policy 1450.”

Patty Reed, representing Providence District, agreed with Schultz.

“This is about whether our board is being responsible or foolhardy,” she said.

“Frankly the process we’ve used to get to this point is troubling and embarrassing — so many fundamental questions that remain unanswered.

The board members, Reed continued, “clearly have caught the public by surprise and not done justice to our established public engagement process.”

Ultimately, Schultz and Reed were outvoted and the action moved forward, amid spontaneous outbursts from an increasingly boisterous audience.

The board finally voted 10-1 in favor of updating the policy to include “gender identity.” Schultz was the only dissenting vote, with Reed abstaining.

**IN CHAIRMAN** Tammy Derenak Kaufax’s statement regarding the decision, she said, “No decisions have yet been made regarding accommodations that will be provided under the revised policy. Our next step will be to hire a consultant to assist in developing appropriate regulations that protect the rights of all students and comply with state and federal law.”

Following the vote, citizens began filing out of the auditorium and lingered in the lobby and covered area leading into the school.

Josh Israel of Fairfax was one of the public speakers before the School Board, in support of the update. “This policy sends an important signal to all our teachers, staff and students — particularly those who are transgender — that they need not be afraid,” he said in his remarks.

After the vote, Israel said, “They demonstrated they understand the importance of including everyone.”

In response to Schultz’s comments during the meeting that Fairfax County policy should instead simply read “Don’t discriminate,” Israel said, “It still has to mean something; until these are enumerated, there isn’t any enforcement. It’s encouraging that 10 School Board members recognized that tonight.”

Devon Flynn of Centreville is a junior at George Mason University. He came out against the proposition. “I was hoping with

## The New Policy

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What Happens Next:

“No decisions have yet been made regarding accommodations that will be provided, under the new policy. FCPS will hire a consultant to assist in developing appropriate regulations that protect the rights of all students and to comply with state and federal law.”

SOURCE: [WWW.FCPS.EDU/NEWS/POLICY1450.SHTML](http://WWW.FCPS.EDU/NEWS/POLICY1450.SHTML)

the majority here opposing it, the board would see and respond to our opinions,” he said.

One big issue for Flynn is the “federal one size fits all” aspect of the policy update. “They have no place to tell a county, a school district,” what to do, he said. Another concern for him is bathrooms and locker rooms: Flynn said he would move his future children to another county if students are allowed to use facilities designated for the opposite sex.

“I think it’s a shame,” he said.

Dalia Palchik, an Annandale resident and teacher at Sheridan School in Washington, D.C. supports the policy update. “As a teacher, I’ve seen kids struggle,” she said afterwards. “It’s time we do everything we can to help everyone, including the most vulnerable.” Palchik is also running to represent Providence District on the School Board.

John Thom of Fairfax came to the meeting to get a sense of what was happening and how the public was feeling. “I didn’t see a need to change the policy, and why this inexplicable rush to pass it without analysis?”

“Proper deliberation is what I hear people asking for — did they collect all the information and have a substantial debate?”

**THESE QUESTIONS** were answered by School Board vice chairman Ted Velkoff: “The reason we that haven’t had a full-blown community engagement about this policy is because, frankly, nothing is changing,” he said during the meeting.

“The notion that outside agitators promote, that this policy change will cause a sudden massive upheaval, is not true,” Velkoff continued. “The proof is that we have been dealing with transgender persons in FCPS and none of these catastrophic consequences has ever materialized.”

Student representative to the School Board Harris LaTeef refrained from weighing in on the motion, other than to say the majority of students he talked to supported changing the policy. The Langley High School senior did, however, implore the audience for something else:

“Come budget time next year I want to see this passion, this vigor, this community involvement when it comes to funding our schools,” he said. “That is a true threat to our children, our community, the underfunding of our schools.”

# PEOPLE

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION



**The Rev. Dr. Eugene Johnson (left) is joined by Supervisor Michael Frey (Right) as he accepts his Community Champion award at the Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. Johnson has been responsible for numerous aid programs over 20 years at Mount Olive Baptist Church.**



**Carolina Sosa (center right) of Centreville received the award for Youth Volunteer. Sosa founded the mentoring program Scholar Society to help low income and first-generation students, and is president of the United Prevention Coalition Youth Council.**



**Pedro Velasco de Paz (center left) of Centreville receives the Integrate award for his volunteer work with the Centreville Labor Resource Center, including redesigning Green Garden Boxes and forming a drama group for young day workers.**

## Oh, The Impact They Make

### Dr. Seuss-themed 23rd Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards held in Springfield.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**W**esley Pan of Great Falls-based Boy Scouts of America Troop 55 was humble about receiving the Youth Volunteer Group award. “We’re just happy to help the community and make a difference,” he said.

His fellow scout Jeff Ye agreed that their organization is about “growing future leaders for our community and country.”

The Boy Scouts were among dozens of volunteers recognized at the 23rd annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards, held April 24 at the Waterford reception center in Springfield.

In the opening remarks, Volunteer Fairfax acting Executive Director Emily Swenson referenced a favorite saying of the organization’s retiring Executive Director Jeanne Sanders, that “Communities are supported by citizens helping citizens.”

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova commented that robust volunteerism has “become ingrained in our culture,” a quality that stands out to visitors from outside the county.

“This is normal, this is what we do,” she said.

The Lifetime Achievement award went to Alexandria resident Peggy Ferguson, who founded the Naomi Project to help young and struggling new mothers in 1995.

“I saw a need, an incredible need for pregnant women and new parents,” she said. “I envisioned an opportunity where one volunteer could work with one client.” With experience in public health nursing, hospital chaplaincy and raising five children of her own, Ferguson said she was well-prepared for forming the organization. But she added she’s grateful for “the incredible women I’ve worked with, down through the years, who’ve made this possible.”

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Gloria Sussman, Centreville  
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Pedro Velasco de Paz, Centreville  
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# Why Fi?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"That's the dream; to have Wi-Fi in the car." So says one of the focus group participants ("real people, not actors") in a recent television commercial from Chevrolet. The answer is to a question asked of five adults to identify which car brand: Mercedes, BMW, Chevrolet, Ford, or Toyota, includes "Built-in Wi-Fi" in their product line. Of course, to every one's surprise (presumably the viewers at home, too), Chevrolet is the only brand to include this answer to a prayer (dream, actually).

For whatever reason (guess: old school; try ancient school), I've never asked this question of a car dealer or of a higher power (not the same). I don't see the need. I don't understand the benefit. I don't want the distraction. If I have passengers in the car, I'm likely talking with them. And I'm probably also listening to and fussing with the radio at the same time. Maybe I'm even fidgeting with the on-board/in-dash GPS as well. And of course, my cell phone is always at the ready (sitting on the seat between my legs), set to vibrate so I won't miss any incoming calls which would likely take precedence over any and all other activities (God forbid I should miss an incoming call). How does yet another element, one that offers infinitely more access and possibilities than all the other devices combined, improve my driving experience? As one who more often than not drives alone, how does free Internet access (that's really what Wi-Fi is, right?) in the car enhance my life rather than complicate it?

Now that I have asked the question, do I care about the answer? My car gets me from a point "A" to point "B." Learning about points "C" through "Z" doesn't necessarily interest me - in the car. I'm not looking for adventure when I'm driving; safety, security, convenience, reliability, above-average gas mileage, I am. Nor am I looking for self-actualization or self-improvement, or given the potential uninterrupted flow of Internet information, self-sustainability; I should be looking in my side- and rear-view mirrors, windows, angles; for cars stopping and starting, turning and reversing (including my own), and at all other vehicles on the road: front and back, side to side, doing all the things I should be doing - other than focusing on Wi-Fi. Despite being told otherwise, my car is not my mobile office, nor is it a library; and it most certainly is not an entertainment center or a condensed version of my home's "great room" (which I don't have anyway, although many do). Despite what Cat Stevens sang way back when, I am not on the road to find. I'm simply on the road to get out - and go. I'm not looking to improve my mind ("what there is of it") when I'm driving, only to occupy it with the task/direction-I-need-to-go at hand; and not with questions and answers I'll be tested on later on my home/laptop computer as I cross-purpose myself on my multi-device "connectability." Sometimes when I'm driving in the car, I'm looking for peace and quiet, not answers to anything, prayers or otherwise.

Generally speaking, I want to drive to survive to arrive alive. I don't want to drive to thrive. I may want to drive too gently for some; but that's for another column. Does my being in the car have to be a learning experience - other than knowing the route to my destination? Can't we just leave well enough alone when I am alone. Sure I want to "live long and prosper," "think and grow rich" and continue to obliterate my original "13-month to two-year" stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer prognosis, so can't what happens on the Internet stay on the Internet and leave me in my car out if it?

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

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## Home LifeStyle



PHOTO BY DIMITRI CANAS

The rear half of the former first level family room — extended over 150 square feet — has been converted to Michael and Kim Napolitano's new master bedroom suite.

## Adding On

FROM PAGE 11

“great room” that would incorporate the kitchen, breakfast room and a new computer work station.

The new enclosure's remaining square footage would extend the former family room, which would now be converted into a first-level master bedroom suite.

The resulting accommodation features a 58-square-foot walk-in closet (more than triple the size of its predecessor), and a 190-square-foot luxury bath complete with glass-encased walk-in shower, soaking tub, and a his-and-her vanity.

One enters the new suite through a discrete foyer off the great room. Among its many visible charms, the new suite features glass-facing double French doors that swing open directly to the patio.

To engineer the enlargement, Glatz removed about half of the home's rear elevation, shoring up the existing second floor with a horizontal I-beam secured on vertical supports.

A sliding glass door on the east side of the new great room opens to a tree-lined side yard where the Napolitanos plans to add a patio.

“The great room is a perfect solution for us now,” Michael Napolitano said, “We can be together in the same place working on different projects — cooking, homework, television — without disrupting each other. It offers a nice balance of family time and independence.”

The first level interior design — a collaboration between Glatz and Kim Napolitano — explores “transitional”-style sensibilities.

Wide-plank provincial hickory flooring extends throughout the great room, new office and master suite, lending a unity that works well with existing furniture.

The tawny gold wall coloring in the great room, dining room and office in combination with white ceiling, likewise, confers warmth.

By contrast, the master bath unfolds in a restful taupe that complements the wood-grain porcelain flooring and silestone counter tops.

In short, a perfect setting for a white Jacuzzi holstered in a wood frame — and a few blissful moments all to one's self.

John Byrd (byrdmatx@comcast.net) has been writing about home improvement topics for 30 years.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 9  
School July 6-24.

- ❖ **Online ESOL.** Through this three-week class, students will continue developing their academic and reading and writing skills in an online discussion with an ESOL teacher. This is a noncredit class. Held July 6-24.
- ❖ **Extended School Year Learning Communities.** Services for identified students with disabilities in accordance with their individualized education programs.
- ❖ **Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Summer Technology Institute.** The Institute will be held July 13-Aug. 7 at Woodson High School. Students currently in grades 7 and 8 will be introduced to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through week-long sessions that allow them to explore a STEM topic of interest.
- ❖ **Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Academic Summer School.** This program will be held July 6-Aug. 6 at Woodson High School. Current TJHSST students and incoming freshmen choose from a variety of courses for academic credit.
- ❖ **Adult and Community Education.** Programs include Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology admissions test prep, SAT test prep, study skills, and driver education.
- ❖ **ACE Driver Education.** For students in grades 9-12.

## PET ADOPTIONS

**Adopt a Cat or Dog.** Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Visit

[www.lostdogrescue.org](http://www.lostdogrescue.org) for more.  
**Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit [hart90.org](http://hart90.org) for more.  
**Adopt a Dog.** Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit [aforeverhome.org](http://aforeverhome.org) for more.  
**Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit [www.lostdogrescue.org](http://www.lostdogrescue.org) for more.

## THURSDAY/MAY 14

**Civil War Lecture.** 7 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St Germain Dr. Author and historian Brian McEnany will discuss "The West Point Class of 1862." Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/)  
**Ladies of Craft Beer Night.** 7 p.m. at Dogfish Head Alehouse, 13041 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Find pink pints and live music by the Colin Thompson Band. No admission fee. Visit [www.dogfishalehouse.com](http://www.dogfishalehouse.com).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 15-17

**International Gem & Jewelry Show.** 12-6 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Diamonds and other gems from retailers from around the world. Children 8 and under are not permitted. Tickets are \$8. Visit [www.intergem.com](http://www.intergem.com).

## SATURDAY/MAY 16

**Call for Auditions.** 9 a.m. at Mountain View School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. Westfield Summer Stage is looking for students throughout the Northern Virginia

area to participate in their staging of "Mary Poppins." Students who choose to audition will be required to sing a song, dance, and perform a one-minute monologue of their choosing. Free to attend, but if accepted, there is a \$300 workshop fee. Call 484-574-8760 or visit [www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com](http://www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com) for more.

**Chantilly Day.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Sully Plaza Parking Lot, 13910 Metrotech Dr., Chantilly. Find a Business Expo, the Taste of Chantilly, Children's games, rides, stage performances by local groups, Educator of the Year awards and Pet adoptions. Free. See [www.chantillyday.com](http://www.chantillyday.com).

**Meritage Blending Class.** 1-3 p.m. at Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Learn to make your own 2014 Meritage. Tickets are \$55. Call 703-830-9463.  
**Clifton Caboose Twilight Run.** 6 p.m. at the Barn, 7139 Main St., Clifton. Participate in the 1-mile or 5K race. There will be a post-race party with food and live music. The 5K race has a \$24 registration fee, the 1-mile run has a \$20 fee.

## SATURDAY-MONDAY/MAY 16-18

**Call for Auditions.** Various times at Mountain View School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. The Alliance Theatre is seeking cast members for their upcoming production of "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." Visit [www.thealliancetheatre.org/auditions.html](http://www.thealliancetheatre.org/auditions.html) to learn more.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 16-17

**Off-Centered Music Festival.** 7 p.m. on Saturday and 9 p.m. on Sunday at Dogfish Head Alehouse, 13041 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax.

The Off-Centered festival is an outdoor festival with games, food and beer. Live music will be provided by Stegall Coleman Duo, Tender Poleman, Dr. Robinsons Fiasco and more. Admission is free. Visit [www.dogfishalehouse.com](http://www.dogfishalehouse.com).

## SUNDAY/MAY 17

**NTRAKScale Model Train Show.** 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold an N gauge model train show. Admission for museum members and children under 4 is free, \$4 for adults, and \$2 for youth. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org).

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 20

**"Target America: Why You Should Care About the Rise of ISIS."** 7 p.m. at Fairview Elementary School, 5815 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Investigative journalist and author Erick Stakelbeck will present a program on fundamentalist group ISIS. Free. Visit [www.cliftongop.com](http://www.cliftongop.com).

## SATURDAY/MAY 23

**Brain OlympicsRx.** 12-4 p.m. at LearningRx-Fairfax, 10513 Braddock Road, Suite C-D, Fairfax. As part of a national initiative to raise awareness about the brain's ability to change at any age, LearningRx brain training centers are holding a Brain OlympicsRx event. For every person who participates, LearningRx-Fairfax will donate \$10 to Brain Injury Services. Free. Contact Rebecca Oliver at [fairfax.va@learningrx.net](mailto:fairfax.va@learningrx.net).  
**"Cures for the Quarter"** 1, 2, and 3 p.m. at the Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Learn

how African-American slaves maintained their health. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and \$5 for seniors and children. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov).

## SUNDAY-MONDAY/MAY 24-25

**Art Guild Show and Sale.** 12-5 p.m., artists' reception 5-8 p.m. on Sunday, at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Artists will display and sell work from a variety of genres and styles. Admission is free for museum members and children 4 and under, \$2 for children 5-15, and \$4 for everyone else. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org).

## SUNDAY/MAY 24

**OAR Jazz and Wine Festival.** 2-5 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Nonprofit OAR is hosting a fundraiser will a catered dinner and live music. Visit [www.oarfairfax.org](http://www.oarfairfax.org).

## FRIDAY/MAY 29

**Jazz Concert.** 7-9 p.m. at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The JazzCats Café features Centreville High School JazzCats plus trumpeter Dave Detwiler and his "White House Band." Advance tickets are \$8. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Email [jazzcatstix@yahoo.com](mailto:jazzcatstix@yahoo.com).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 29-31

**Quilting Expo.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. More than 600 quilts and wearable art and clothing will be on display. Vendors will be offering fabric and other quilting needs. A one-day pass is \$10, three-day pass is \$15; children 12 and under are admitted at no cost. Visit [www.quiltersunlimited.org](http://www.quiltersunlimited.org).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 30-31

**Vintage Virginia Wine Festival.** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday. The 34th of its kind, the festival will feature food trucks, vintage cars, music and wine. \$30 in advance, \$35 at the gate. Visit [www.vintagevirginia.com](http://www.vintagevirginia.com).

**"Alice in Wonderland."** 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The Fairfax Ballet presents a full-length classical production of the classic tale. Tickets are \$22 for adults, and \$18 for children plus an additional service fee. Visit [www.fairfaxspringballet2015.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.fairfaxspringballet2015.brownpapertickets.com).

## SATURDAY/MAY 30

**Dairy Farming at Walney.** 2 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Taste hand churned butter and sample cheeses and learn more about the industry. Tour the dairy and milk a pretend cow. Admission is \$6-8. Visit [www.parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Wine Class.** 3-5 p.m. at Total Wine and More, 13055 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Take a seated class on the Rioja, a region in Spain famous for Tempranillo-based red wines. Admission is \$20. Visit [www.totalwine.com](http://www.totalwine.com).

## SUNDAY/MAY 31

**Book Signing.** 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Historian Mary Lipsey will be signing copies of her book, "A Christmas

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