

From left, in middle: Doug Wood of Cabell's Mill and Jerome Vitner of Newgate examine a map of the I-66/Route 28 interchange improvement project area.

Looking at the Alternatives

'These People Inspire You'

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'These People Inspire You' Chantilly Relay for Life is June 6.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The annual Relay for Life raises money for the American Cancer Society. And for Erin Hamm, of Centreville's Manorgate community, it's personal.

"I started participating a few years ago," she said "My husband had cancer and a friend of mine needed more teammates for her Relay team. So I dragged my husband along and he loved it, and we've been doing it ever since."

Then last year, she was diagnosed with cancer. But, said Hamm, "You hear stories like this all the time. And we want to tell people that cancer's not a death sentence, anymore — and this event is one thing we can do to help."

The Relay for Life is held throughout the U.S. Locally, it was in Centreville from 2008-11; and this year's eighth annual event will be held for the fourth time at the nZone, 14550 Lee Road in Chantilly. It's set for Saturday, June 6, from 2 p.m.-midnight. For

more information, to donate or participate, go to www.RelayForLife.org/ChantillyVA.

So far, 16 teams are signed up, but the organizers hope to eventually have 21 teams total. Reston's Mary Saunders is the community manager for the Chantilly event, and Little Rocky Run's Marion Rantis is its co-leader with Larry Goldberg.

"People can join an existing team or form one of their own," said Hamm. "And any number of team members is fine. It's a walking event, and the goal is to have at least one person from each team doing a lap at all times."

And, said Rantis, "Each team has a campsite where they can hang out, rest and socialize when they're not walking." This year's theme is "Lights, Camera, Cure" so, she said, "There'll be movie-themed decorations and

trivia games, plus movie-themed laps where people will walk dressed as movie stars."

And as cancer survivors enter a special reception for them and their caregivers, said Saunders, "A Girl Scout troop will take their photos like paparazzi." Hamm will be the

SEE 'THESE PEOPLE', PAGE 5

"You're hugging people you don't even know and crying with friends, family and cancer survivors."

— Mary Saunders



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACKIE KATOUNAS

Last year's opening survivor lap with Girl Scout Troop 3194.

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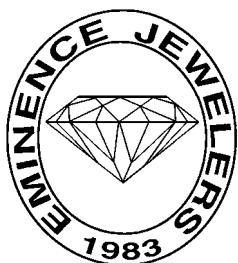
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Looking at the Alternatives

Information presented on I-66/Route 28 interchange improvement.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

One day, in the not-too-distant future, the I-66/Route 28 interchange in Centreville will be improved to reduce congestion and make life easier for every driver using it. But first, VDOT and area residents are deciding how best to proceed.

Toward that end, Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) hosted a VDOT informational meeting on Monday, May 18, at Stone Middle School. Attendees learned about three alternatives and saw maps illustrating each one.

“Early last spring, we had a public-information meeting about I-66/Route 28 and got good feedback,” said Frey. “I-66 is also being looked at, and both projects were merged. VDOT’s worked with Fairfax County staff and my office, and I wanted communities living near the interchange to learn about the project before [VDOT’s upcoming I-66] public hearings.”

“We all want transportation improvements, but with no impact to our communities,” he continued. “We want change — but to the other guy. But change is going to happen in Centreville, and I believe it’ll be positive if it moves traffic and lets our communities continue to function as they do.”

VDOT Project Manager Susan Shaw said I-66 improvements are needed because this heavily used thoroughfare is constantly plagued with congestion issues and accidents. “We want people to have more mode [of travel] choices,” she said. “And we want to reduce cut-through traffic when I-66 is clogged and enhance transportation safety and travel reliability.”

In VDOT’s Tier 1 environmental-impact study, she said, engineers examined 10 possible improvement concepts, as well as spot improvements and chokepoints, such as I-66/Route 28. They then decided I-66 should have two express lanes and three regular lanes in each direction. The express lanes would be free to buses and HOV-3 vehicles. Non-HOV cars would pay tolls based on congestion. The regular lanes would be free



Jerry Foltz (left), of Centreville’s Country Club Manor community, and VDOT engineer Mitch Ball discuss the I-66/Route 28 project.



VDOT Project Manager Susan Shaw.

and open to all traffic. There’d be ramp-to-ramp connections of auxiliary lanes, plus rapid bus service and other multimodal improvements.

VDOT ultimately created two alternatives — one including Metro extension and one without it. Also being considered is a bike trail along I-66. “Since the last meetings in January, we’ve reduced the number of residential relocations from about 35 to 11-15,” said Shaw. “And noise walls are now shown on the plans online.”

For the I-66/Route 28 Interchange, three alternatives are proposed:

- ❖ Alternate 2A provides direct access to and from the I-66 express lanes between Route 28 north and I-66 east/west. There’s also direct access between the express lanes east of Route 28 and Route 28 south. But drivers can’t go to and from Route 28 south and I-66 west.

- ❖ Alternate 2B offers direct access between Route 28 north and I-66 east/west.

- ❖ Alternate 2C has the smallest footprint, minimizing the impact to E.C. Lawrence Park. It has the same travel movements as Alternate 2A, as well as access between the I-66 express lanes west and Braddock and Walney roads in Centreville. It also extends Poplar Tree Road to the park.

Regarding the I-66 outside the Beltway project as a whole, VDOT will hold a public

hearing Wednesday, June 3, from 5:30-9 p.m., in the cafeteria of Bull Run Elementary, 15301 Lee Hwy. in Centreville. Residents may view project maps, listen to a presentation at 7 p.m. and provide their comments on what’s proposed.

“During the summer, we’ll look at the EIS results, gather public input and develop the proposed alternative,” said Shaw. “And next year, we’ll have another meeting on the proposed design. We’d like construction to begin in 2017; it should take four to five years and be completed in 2021.”

She said VDOT representatives have been meeting with various homeowners associations and will be glad to speak to more. She also noted that people may post comments on the website, Transform66.org, through June 18.

The entire project is estimated to cost \$2.1 billion, with the I-66/Route 28 interchange alone anticipated to have a price tag in the hundreds of millions. Shaw said the I-66 construction project is not yet funded, but toll revenues are expected to yield about \$1 billion toward its funding.

“We know this Route 28 Interchange is an important project, so we’ll have the contractor meet some early improvement goals,” she said. “[The work] also could move forward in a phased approach. There’s nothing precluding the Route 28 project

from being done first — especially in the area of Braddock and Walney.”

A female resident told Shaw the “quality of life in Centreville has gone down in the past 10 years because people build first and add roads later. Drivers cut through on Braddock and Stone roads and the traffic is frustrating.”

Agreeing, Joann Townsend of Sequoia Farms said, “I work seven miles from home, and the last two-and-a-half miles on Route 28 take 30 minutes. I could get out and walk faster.”

However, Rob Prunty, with VDOT’s I-66 team, said, “Our studies show that the volumes of cut-through traffic will decrease if the project is built. We’re forecasting noticeable changes in your travel times.”

And local residents are hoping that proves true. “I call Centreville ‘U-turn-ville’ because now people are making illegal U-turns at the Route 28/Braddock Road intersection — where there are four, ‘No U-turn’ signs,” said Sharon Vitner of the Newgate community. “And they’re impeding traffic making right turns [from Route 28] onto Braddock.”

Sully District Transportation Commissioner Jeff Parnes also has some concerns. “Northbound Route 28 traffic should be able to get on I-66 westbound without having to cut through Centreville on Route 29 or other streets, as it does now,” he said. “And eastbound I-66 traffic should be able to get onto southbound Route 28 at the interchange, instead of taking Route 29 and going through all the [traffic] lights.”

Furthermore, said Parnes, “They’re trying to minimize the impact on E.C. Lawrence Park. But I think they should condemn some of the park, if necessary, and provide it with land elsewhere so this interchange can be built to maximize its use.”

As for rapid transit, he said VDOT is showing transit lanes west from Vienna on I-66 in the median. “I recommend that, until rail is built, they use bus rapid transit that runs on a regular schedule so there are always buses going east and west to and from the subdivisions,” said Parnes. “That way, people could always have a ride and the buses wouldn’t be just partially full.”

ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, June 4, 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.

Learn about Police Department

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

- ❖ 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>

- ❖ 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>

School Board Passes \$2.6 Billion Budget for 2016

Employees receive step pay increase but lose portion of planned market scale adjustment.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

\$ 7.6 million: That's how much Fairfax County Public Schools said the School Board needed to cut to meet the goals set out in its Fiscal Year 2016 Advertised Budget.

When the board voted 10-2 on May 21 in approval of next year's budget, covering that gap brought the step pay increase for employees down from a market scale adjustment of one percent to 0.62 percent.

More than 70 percent of the total budget of \$2.6 billion comes from Fairfax County. The total transfer of \$2.01 billion to the school system's operating and debt service is over 52 percent of the county's general fund disbursement. That rate has been "consistent" for several years, according to the Fiscal Year 2016 Advertised Budget Plan.

The county transfer is a 3.4 percent rise from the Fiscal Year 2015 adopted budget plan, a difference of \$66.7 million. \$1.83 billion of that goes to school operations, \$187 million is the school debt service transfer.

In their Advertised Budget Plan, however, the School Board requested a \$1.84 billion transfer for operations. They asked for a \$70.6 million increase and got \$56.6 million.

Some additional money from the Virginia General Assembly and a decrease in employer contributions to the Virginia Retirement system helped reduce that \$14 million to \$7.6 million.

The School Board's Approved 2016 budget is a 2.2 percent increase over 2015, or \$53.9 million. Though the budget team made \$61.4 million in reductions, pushing back school start times, adding full-day Mondays for elementary schools, enrollment increases and reducing class size in certain elementary schools were all factors contributing to the increase from 2015.

For the 2014-2015 school year, enrollment was 186,785, up from 183,895 the



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

The Fiscal Year 2016 Approved Budget for Fairfax County Public Schools passed by a 10-2 vote.

previous year. That increase cost the school system an additional \$19.5 million. For 2015-2016, the projection is a \$21.3 million increase to cover enrollment growth.

COMING IN UNDER the market scale adjustment and its effect on employees, particularly teachers, was a main subject of discussion during the meeting.

"It all comes down to our credibility," said Megan McLaughlin, representing the Braddock District. "Employee compensation is a top priority. Tonight, we're taking one of our most important priorities and short-changing it."

McLaughlin introduced two variations on a similar amendment to the budget that would each restore the full market scale adjustment. She proposed cutting the recurring funding that allows students to take Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests for free, saving \$5 million.

To buy time for additional community discussion and problem-solving, her amendments also called for Superintendent Karen Garza to set aside one-time funding to con-

tinue paying for students' test fees in the 2015-2016 school year.

One of her proposed sources of that one-time funding was drawing from the school system's flexible reserve fund of \$8 million. That notion was an unpopular one among the majority of other board members.

Sully District representative Kathy Smith said drawing from the emergency fund as a one-time solution was "just not a fiscally responsible decision. You pray that you don't need it."

Elizabeth Schultz, representing the Springfield District, had prepared an amendment that proposed reversing the board's recent decision to raise future members' salaries in order to offset some of the budget reductions.

But after both of McLaughlin's amendments failed, she said, "It's clear we're not getting any traction." Schultz then rescinded her amendment, calling it "shameful."

During the discussion, board members voiced frustration with the Board of Supervisors for not fully funding their request.

"I'm very disappointed," said vice chairman Ted Velkoff. "I feel like the supervisors have unwittingly validated the cynics — you'll never be able to work with them."

Velkoff said more help could come from the General Assembly. "The focus needs to shift to Richmond," he said, where representatives are "failing to fund localities in the commonwealth. Frankly your Board of Supervisors and School Board don't have the tools they need in order to solve these problems."

At-large member Ryan McElveen acknowledged there are "always tensions between our two boards at budget time," but that "none of us wants to make enemies of the Board of Supervisors."

McElveen said John Foust (D-Dranesville) and other supervisors did "what they could for us." But, he said, "We're entering a new normal and unfortunately it's pitiful, absolutely pitiful."

IN HER STATEMENT announcing the vote, chairman Tammy Derenak Kaufax said, "We recognize that the Board of Supervisors cares about our great schools and shares our vision to make education our community's top priority. We also recognize that there are no easy answers to our budget challenges. We will continue to work with the Board of Supervisors, along with state and federal representatives, to find solutions that support our students, families, teachers and staff, maintaining FCPS' reputation for excellence."

But acknowledging the projected \$100 million deficit for the schools' 2017 budget, she said, "Tomorrow we know the even harder work begins." Referencing Garza's publicly shared concerns over the future shortfalls, the chairman added, "Our ability to best serve our children is in jeopardy now."

More information and resources about the FY2016 and FY2017 budgets are available online at www.fcps.edu/news/fy2016.shtml.

Rules on Noisy Neighborhoods Set To Change

Board of Supervisors scheduled to resume discussion and vote on proposed Noise Ordinance on June 23.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust asked to defer a proposal to adopt a new chapter of the county's noise ordinance to September so the board could have more time to weigh testimony of more than 30 speakers at the public hearing, May 12.

Instead, the vote was delayed until June 23.

"You have a big challenge ahead of you, but peace and quiet in our neighborhoods is an important commodity to have," said Robert Winer, of Clifton.

"More effort is needed to resolve the issue," said Joyce Harris, a 31-year resident of McLean. "Protecting the rights of residents in a residential neighborhood should be a primary goal of the ordinance. Please defer your vote and allow more time to develop a solution that works for this issue."

MORE THAN 30 speakers testified including: Greg Budnik who discussed helicopter noise from training runs at Fort Belvoir; Mark Grove of Fairfax whose wife was recuperating from cancer treatment and had to contend with music from a supermarket across the street that had permits to play music until 11 p.m.; Keith Elgin, worship director of Vine Church in Dunn Loring, who wants to create events such as outdoor movies and concerts during the summer

months; to neighbors in Reston who say they can not get relief from noise of nearby dog parks; to those who take their dogs to dog parks to spare neighbors from noise.

Sheila Casey, of Reston, said she can hear mowers on a nearby golf course before dawn with maintenance crews sometimes using headlights on lawnmowers before 5 a.m. "All I know is when those lawn mowers are running, I can turn on my air conditioning, I can put in my earplugs, and I still hear the noise," she said.

Issues don't seem as simple when engaging with the details.

SEE NOISE, PAGE 9

‘These People Inspire You’

FROM PAGE 2

reception’s guest speaker, talking about her own experiences. Ford’s Fish Shack and Rosemary’s Thyme Bistro are donating the food, with the Girl Scouts providing cookies.

But the event includes more than the walk and reception. It also features vendors, food and children’s activities, plus a luminaria ceremony, and everyone is welcome.

“We’d love people to just come out and see this event — check it out,” said Rantis. “And attendees’ food-purchase proceeds and anything they buy from the teams that day goes toward the fundraising, too. We hope to raise \$60,000 at this event.”

There’s no registration fee, but the money comes from the fundraisers each team or individual does. They include things such as car washes, emails to friends and families, restaurant fundraisers and silent auctions.

“And our event gets fundraising credit through Aug. 31,” added Rantis. “So people can still hold fundraisers and make donations to the event via the Website through August.” Or to volunteer, email ChantillyRelay@gmail.com.

Heart 2 Heart Catering will offer sandwiches and snacks in the afternoon, and El Fresco will offer food such as bowls and tacos from 4:30-7:30 p.m. And after the luminaria ceremony, New Life Christian Church will sponsor a concession stand. Throughout the day, popcorn and snow cones will be available in the children’s area. The church is also sponsoring the children’s activities, including moonbounces, carnival games, Legos and crafts.

Westfield High choral students will sing the National Anthem to begin the 2 p.m. opening ceremony in the main gym. Keynote speaker is Fair Lakes resident BethAnn Telford. She’s particularly inspirational because — while battling brain cancer, herself — she participates in marathons and endurance events to raise money for others, especially children, who also have brain cancer.

Next will come the survivor/caregiver reception and music by the New Life band. Then various contests and activities will occur while the walkers are doing their laps. There’ll be a musical chairs scavenger hunt, judging for the most creatively decorated campsite and music by the Rapid Fire Radio Band (formerly called Flock of Eagles and comprised of Centreville Elementary staff members).

Also on tap are a Zumba demonstration, a talent show and a Minute to Win It game, as well as a cake walk and a show-tunes performance by the McLean Community Players. In addition, participants will compete in “Project Relay Runway,” during which they must design a red-carpet-ready outfit using only duct tape, newspaper and scissors.



From left are Erin Hamm, Marion Rantis and Mary Saunders.

But perhaps the most memorable part of each Relay for Life is the luminaria ceremony. “It’s where we honor the survivors and the memory of those who’ve passed, and it’s very moving,” said Hamm. It includes a slide show of people’s loved ones called “Cancer Has a Face.”

“Hundreds of luminaria bags are set around the gym,” said Rantis. “Each has the name of someone who’s had or has cancer, and we turn off the lights and the candles inside the bags are lit. A bagpiper plays as we walk around the bags several times, contemplating our loved ones, sometimes pausing to cry.”

Saunders said it’s “so striking to see the number of bags because there are also some for people who have cancer, but can’t attend.”

People can buy bags, even that day, in honor of their loved ones and can decorate them any way they want. They may even place notes under the bags, if they’d like.

“We also have the word ‘Hope’ spelled out on a back wall with the luminaria bags,” said Rantis. “And while people are walking, they’re changed into the word, ‘Cure,’ to illustrate our goal.”

Hamm’s team is called Still Alive & Kickin,’ and Rantis and Saunders are on team For Our Future. Rantis started doing the relay in 2009. “It was 20 years since my mother died of cancer, and I wanted to do something in her memory,” she said.

Noting that Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society’s biggest fundraiser, Saunders said Dr. Gordon Klatt started it in 1985 to make people more aware of cancer. “Now there are 5,000 relays across the U.S. each year and we’re in 20 countries,” she said. “The money raised goes toward research grants, educational and patient services, plus Hope Lodge which provides free lodging near hospitals for cancer patients and their families.”

Her favorite part is the luminaria ceremony. “You’re hugging people you don’t even know and crying with friends, family and cancer survivors,” said Saunders. “And the bagpipe music makes it so poignant.”

For Rantis, it’s the people she’s met through Relay for Life. “It’s community-based, and these people inspire you when you hear about their cancer struggles and see them giving back at the event; it’s very meaningful.”

Hamm said the speakers have had a “huge impact on me and my husband. They make you feel like you’re not alone. They’re real people; and you feel, if they can do it, you can do it.”

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Luminarias create the word, “Hope,” during last year’s event.

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Do you know a teen or young adult who has struggled with alcohol or drug abuse? The most recent Fairfax County Youth Survey shows that more than 40% of students report using alcohol, more than 20% marijuana, and more than 9% painkillers without a doctor’s order.

The Unified Prevention Coalition (UPC) works with people like you and organizations across Fairfax County to reduce these numbers. UPC works to prevent underage drinking, binge drinking, prescription drug abuse, and use of heroin and other drugs. UPC’s prevention programs save lives as well as money: \$10 is saved for every \$1 spent on prevention.

Give Where You Live Do More 24 on June 4!

Do More 24 is a one-day movement powered by United Way of the National Capital Area that encourages donors to contribute to local non-profits. **UPC asks for your support** to enable us to continue our prevention work in Fairfax County.

Support These Fairfax County Restaurants on June 4

A percentage of their June 4 proceeds will go to the Unified Prevention Coalition (UPC):

Glory Days Grill
 (locations in Burke, Centreville, Fairfax, Herndon, Lorton and Reston from 5 p.m. to midnight)

The Auld Shebeen
 (from 4 to 10 p.m.)

O'Sullivan's Irish Pub
 (all day)

For the latest list of supporting restaurants and to make your personal donation, visit www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org.

Join the Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County in creating a community where youth grow up safe and drug free.

For more information or to get involved, call 703-938-8723 or visit www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org.

Funding for this ad is provided by the federal SAMHSA Virginia Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant.

Special thanks to **THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPER**

OPINION

Voting, June 9

No, not for Hillary or Jeb or Carly.
Locally, June 9, 2015 is an Election
Day that counts.

To listen to the national news, one would think that the next Presidential election is in November. But no. That's November 2016. In the meantime, every year is an Election year in Virginia, and in 2015, virtually every state and local office is on the ballot.

In heavily Democratic districts (or any district that is solidly one party or the other), any real competition comes in the primary.

That's June 9 in parts of Fairfax County in the Mount Vernon magisterial district, and in House of Delegates Districts 44 and 45.

Four Democrats are on the June 9 ballot seeking to be the Democratic nominee to replace retiring Gerry Hyland as the Mount Vernon representative to the Board of Supervisors. Hyland has represented Mount Vernon since 1988.

Two Democrats are seeking to be the party nominee for House of Delegates District 44. Scott Surovell is giving up the seat he has held since 2009 to run for State Senate to replace retiring Sen. Toddy Puller (D-36).

Five Democrats are on the ballot on June 9 for House of Delegates District 45, to replace Del. Rob Krupicka who is stepping down.

If you live in one of the affected districts, you will vote on June 9 at your usual polling place. Be sure to bring photo identification.

IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, in November, all 10 members of the Board of Supervisors are on the ballot including district members and the chairman.

Also on the ballot: all members of the School Board including district members and three at-large members.

Fairfax County's Constitutional Officers, Sheriff, Clerk of Court and Commonwealth's Attorney are on the ballot in November, as are

three members of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Board Directors.

Every seat in the Virginia General Assembly will be on the ballot, including all State Senate and House of Delegates seats. So every Fairfax County voter will face a variety of critically important choices in November. But first, consider the options June 9.

EDITORIAL

On the Ballot June 9: Democratic Primary, Fairfax County

MORE ON Fairfax County voting: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

Member Board of Supervisors, Mount Vernon District, Democratic Primary

Four Democrats vie to replace retiring Gerry Hyland

- ❖ Daniel G. "Dan" Storck, email: danforsupervisor@gmail.com, website: www.danstorck.org/
- ❖ Candice L. Bennett, email: candice@electcandicebennett.com, website: www.electcandicebennett.com
- ❖ Timothy J. Sargeant, email: timmtvernon@gmail.com, website: www.timsargeant.com
- ❖ John R. "Jack" Dobbyn Jr., email: info@jackdobbyn.com, Website: www.jackdobbyn.com

Mount Vernon Gazette/Connection coverage of the Mount Vernon Supervisor race: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/may/20/mount-vernon-candidates-look-for-primary-victory/ or www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/apr/16/democrats-debate-district-supervisor/

Member House of Delegates, 44th District, Democratic Primary

Two Democrats compete for the nomination to replace Scott Surovell who is running for Virginia Senate

District 36, to replace retiring Toddy Puller

- ❖ Paul E. Krizek, email: paul@paulkrizek.com, website: www.paulkrizek.com
- ❖ Justin M. Brown, email: justin4va@gmail.com, website: www.brown4delegate.com

Member House of Delegates, 45th District, Democratic Primary

Five Democrats vie to replace Rob Krupicka who is stepping down.

- ❖ Mark Levine, email: mark@markfordelegate.com, website: www.markfordelegate.com
- ❖ Julie Jakopic, email: juliejakopic@gmail.com, website: www.juliefordelagate.com
- ❖ Clarence Tong, email: clarence.tong@gmail.com, website: <http://clarencetong.com/>
- ❖ L.M. "Larry" Altenburg II, email: larry@larryaltenburg.net, website: <http://altenburgfordelegate.net/>
- ❖ Craig Fifer, email: craig@fiferfordelegate.com, website: www.fiferfordelegate.com

Connection coverage of the race for the 45th: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/may/19/fight-45th/

Member Board of Supervisors, Mason District, Democratic Primary

Incumbent Penny Gross is facing her first primary challenge

- ❖ Penelope A. "Penny" Gross, email: gross.penny@gmail.com, website: www.pennygross.com
- ❖ Jessica M. Swanson, email: swanson.jessica@gmail.com, website: www.swansonforfairfax.com

Republicans, Party Canvass, June 4. Republicans in the 44th and 45th House District and 30th Senate District will choose candidates at a Party Canvass (sometimes called a firehouse primary) on Thursday, June 4, 6:30-8 p.m., at Minnie Howard Campus, 3801 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria.

There are no other Republican canvasses scheduled in any other state or local race in Fairfax County. The Sully district GOP Canvass for member of the Board of Supervisors was held in April. See fairfaxgop.org/

Time to Re-think 'LEOBR'

BY BURTON JAY RUBIN

Some 20 months on, the Fairfax County police officer who shot and killed John Geer remains on "paid administrative duty," despite the \$2.95 million settlement the county has agreed to pay his family. The Commonwealth's Attorney is also seeking to empanel a grand jury to consider criminal charges.

Officer Adam Torres' continued tenure on the Fairfax County Police Force is due to something often referred to as "LEOBR," "Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights," a law in effect in Virginia that provides police officers with special job security protections unavailable to other workers.

Most members of the workforce, in contrast, are subject to the "employment-at-will" legal doctrine, under which they may be fired for any reason or no reason at all, except for certain very limited discriminatory reasons. Under Virginia's LEOBR, if you are a police officer, you cannot be discharged, even if you

hurt someone, disobeyed orders, abused your office, or even broke the law, without first being notified in writing of the basis for your dismissal, given an opportunity to respond orally and in writing, with the assistance of a lawyer if you wish, and then, after all that, given the right to file a grievance under state or local procedures, your choice.

There were no LEOBR laws for most of our nation's history. They came into effect in the early 1970s as a result of a campaign by police special interest groups. Prior to that time, police were actually held to a higher standard of conduct than citizens generally.

In New York City, for example, police officers were required to cooperate fully with criminal investigations to the point of waiving their constitutional privilege against self incrimination or lose their jobs. That requirement was found to be unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in a 1968 decision called *Gardner v. Broderick*. Even though the officer in that case actually won, police interest organizations pressed the issue, resulting in what might be

COMMENTARY

regarding as a "second helping" of employment rights reflected in LEOBR laws today.

It is sometimes said that the extraordinary job security accorded to police officers is justified by the dangerous nature of their work. Just what the connection is between how dangerous a job is and the special job security provided to people in that job is not explained. At any rate, the fundamental premise is false. The average police officer serves his entire career without ever firing his weapon in defense of himself or anybody else.

According to Time.com, law enforcement is not even among the 10 most dangerous jobs in the United States. Logging and roofing are and we don't provide workers in those occupations with special job security rights. According to figures from the FBI, the number of officers killed by criminals has declined since the '70s when LEOBR laws came into effect, and now stands at its lowest point. Unfortunately, the number of citizens killed by police has increased during that same period and now stands at its highest point.

SEE TIME, PAGE 10

Chantilly CONNECTION

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SUMMER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Email community announcements to 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.

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 Jubil-Aires rehearse every Wednesday which includes training by an award-winning director. Visit 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.

Young Actors Workshop. July 20-24 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Students will participate in theatre games, improvisation, acting exercises, songs, and dances. The week culminates with a show for friends and family featuring songs and scenes from musical comedy classics. The workshop fee is \$125. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

❖ **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 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 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

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 12

SUMMER STARTS HERE!

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SPORTS

Chantilly Beats Oakton for Conference 5 Championship

DiCesare drives in winning run, earns victory on mound.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

After driving in the go-ahead run in the bottom of the fifth inning, Chantilly's Jared DiCesare stepped on the mound and ensured there would be no three-peat for the Oakton baseball team.

DiCesare gave the Chargers the lead with an RBI single down the third-base line and the junior right-hander pitched three innings of scoreless relief as Chantilly defeated Oakton 2-1 in the Conference 5 championship game on May 22 at Westfield High School.

Facing the Cougars in the conference/district final for the third straight year, the Chargers fell behind 1-0 after Oakton short-stop Joe Rizzo blasted a solo homer in the third inning. The Cougars remained in front until the bottom of the fifth, when Chantilly senior Kordell Hutzell tied the score with an RBI double off Oakton pitcher Toma Shigaki-Tham. Three batters later, DiCesare snuck a grounder down the third-base line, giving the Chargers a 2-1 lead.

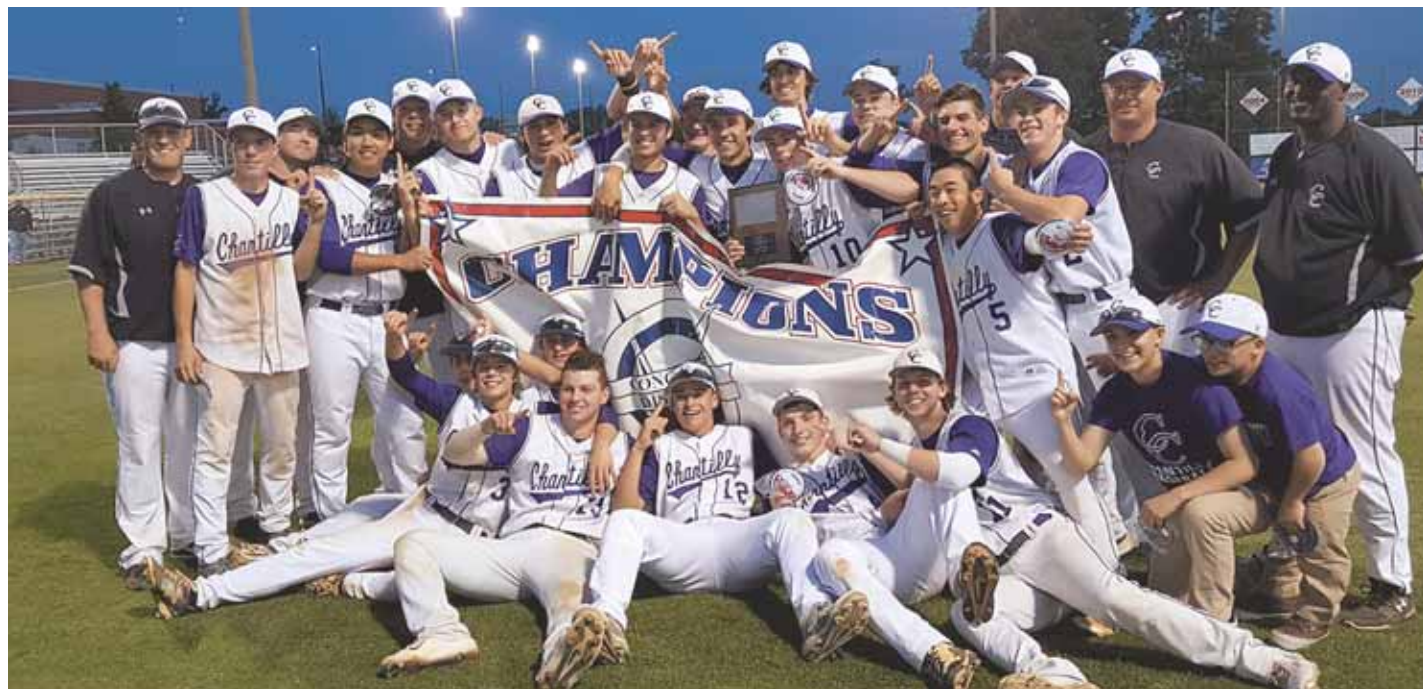
"[Shigaki-Tham] located [the pitch] perfectly, but I know I just didn't want to get behind in the count, so I wanted to see if I could drive something," DiCesare said. "Thankfully, I found a little hole down third-base line."

DiCesare, who came on in relief in the top of the fifth inning, retired six of the final seven batters he faced to secure the win.

"Payback," DiCesare said, "feels great."

DiCesare allowed two hits, walked one and struck out one in three shutout innings.

"He's been consistent for us," Chantilly head coach Kevin Ford said about DiCesare. "He's our third baseman [and he] might be our best pitcher. As we've moved more and more into the postseason, we've looked to go to him more. He's just really tough on the mound. He throws strikes. He just



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

The Chantilly baseball team won the Conference 5 championship with a 2-1 victory over Oakton on May 22 at Westfield High School.

throws strike after strike after strike."

Chantilly will be Conference 5's No. 1 seed in the 6A North region tournament and will host Stonewall Jackson at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 29. Oakton will be the conference's No. 2 seed and will host Battlefield.

Oakton defeated Chantilly in the 2013 and 2014 conference/district championship games. Last year, the Chargers won both regular-season matchups before losing to the Cougars 5-1 in the conference final. Chantilly would bounce back, however, winning the region championship and advancing to the state championship game.

This season, Chantilly again won both regular-season meetings with Oakton, but this time found a way to win a third time.

The Chargers' last district championship came in 2008, when Chantilly beat Oakton at Westfield High School.

"It means a lot," Ford said. "This is the third time in a row it's been Chantilly and Oakton and we finally had to go to a neutral site to win one. ... Maybe Westfield is our lucky place."

DiCesare finished 2-for-3 at the plate. Hutzell and Brady Ryan each had a hit for the Chargers. Shigaki-Tham suffered the loss for Oakton. The sophomore right-hander allowed two runs on four hits over six in-

nings. He walked two and struck out eight.

"I thought he was really good tonight," Oakton head coach Justin Janis said. "... He mixed all his pitches. He really didn't give up a lot of hard-hit balls."



Chantilly junior Jared DiCesare pitched three innings in relief and earned the win during the Conference 5 championship game on May 22.

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

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.

Leana Norman has graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Coastal Carolina Univer-

sity (Conway, S.C.).

Torrian Pace has been inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at Youngstown State University (Youngstown, Ohio).

Ali Salih has graduated from Hampden-Sydney College (Farmville, Va.) with a degree in history.

So Choi has been inducted into the Gold Key Honor Society. Choi attends Emerson College (Boston, Mass.).

Timothy Ostlund has graduated from Susquehanna University (Selinsgrove, Pa.) with a Bachelor of Science in biology. Ostlund is a 2011 graduate of Westfield High School.

Patrick Michael Kenna, has graduated from Saint Vincent College (Latrobe, Pa.) with a degree in Management and an Award for Academic Excellence in Management.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Defeating Robinson

Colin Meehan, left, and the Chantilly boys' lacrosse team defeated Robinson 10-7 in the Conference 5 championship game on May 22 at Westfield High School. The Chargers entered the 6A North region tournament on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline, as Conference 5's No. 1 seed.

NEWS

Joyce Harris, of McLean, testifies before the Board of Supervisors on the mandated rewrite of the county's noise ordinance.



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Rules on Noise Set To Change

FROM PAGE 4

"When babies cannot sleep, when the elderly cannot rest, when a voice teacher cannot instruct, when a family cannot share a meal together on their patio, when a homeowner has to close her windows and move to another part of the house just to make a telephone call, when a cancer patient cannot recuperate and rest in her yard because music is amplified in the neighborhood at intrusive levels, then we know something is not right with life in Fairfax County," said Harris.

FAIRFAX AND OTHER Virginia governments have to rewrite their noise ordinance as a result of a Virginia Supreme Court decision overturning the ordinance in Virginia Beach, according to county documents.

The overall goals of the proposed Noise Ordinance is to recognize that there will always be certain levels of noise that occur in the normal course of daily living; to allow certain levels of daytime noise so that people can live, work and play during the day; and to minimize noise at night so residents have an appropriate quiet environment in their homes at night.

This would involve prohibiting certain activities, excluding certain activities from the Noise Ordinance, and other activities or sources of sound would be subject to maximum decibel levels, qualified by time, location and duration limitations.

Supervisors will also engage the School Board on the

issue of amplified sound from high school campuses.

The noise ordinance covers everything from lawn mowers, barking dogs, loudspeakers at athletic fields and industrial operations.

For example, the noise of barking, howling, meowing, squawking or quacking animals that could be heard in a home with its windows closed is prohibited between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., according to county documents.

Other noise-makers that are specifically addressed, according to county documents:

- ❖ Using a loudspeaker or amplifier outside Sunday through Thursday between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., and between 10 p.m. and 9 a.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and the day before a federal holiday.

- ❖ Many specifics of operating power lawn equipment, including lawn mowers; on all properties, the operation of leaf blowers is prohibited between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.

- ❖ Fixing cars or mechanical devices outside between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.

- ❖ Collecting trash or recycling within 100 yards of a residence between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

- ❖ Loading or unloading trucks outside within 100 yards of a residence between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

- ❖ Using dog parks Sunday through Thursday between dusk and 7 a.m. or on Fridays, Saturday or the day before a federal holiday between dusk and 8 a.m.

For more, see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoning/noiseordinance/>

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Test Drive Giveaway

The Ted Britt Auto Group awarded \$1,000 to Thelma Petraglia, the first winner of its monthly \$1,000 Test Drive Giveaway. This was the culmination of the first month of the giveaway, where anyone who test-drove a vehicle at any of the Ted Britt Auto Group locations during the month of April was entered into a drawing to win \$1,000. From left are Gardner Britt III, general manager, Chantilly; Al Garcia, operations director; Philip Trankovich, salesperson; Patrick Prendergast, general sales manager Chantilly; Thelma Petraglia, customer; and Thad Nowak, chief operating officer. The Ted Britt Auto Group includes Ted Britt Chevrolet of Sterling, Ted Britt Ford of Fairfax, Ted Britt Ford Lincoln of Chantilly, and the Smart Wheels location in Fairfax.

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Time to Re-think 'LEOBR'

FROM PAGE 6

Sometimes, it is said that special job protection rights for police officers are justified because they are the targets for unjustified charges of wrongdoing. That police officers may be falsely accused of misconduct is undoubtedly the case, as it is for University of Virginia frat boys, Duke University La Crosse players and child care workers, yet none of these groups is accorded special legal protections unavailable to the general public.

Let's be very clear, we are not talking about punishing someone or in any way short circuiting the process to which everyone is entitled before being found guilty of a crime and possibly sent to jail. We are talking only about how long a community must keep a police officer on the job, paying him,

after that community has lost all confidence in that officer and the officer has lost his ability to serve in the position for which he was hired.

No one has the right to be employed as a police officer.

It is a privilege conferred by the community upon those who meet the requirements and are worthy of the public's confidence and trust. A finding of criminal liability is far too low a standard by which to decide if someone should remain a police officer. When an officer has lost his community's confidence and trust, that community should be able to ask that individual to find employment elsewhere. We need to rethink our LEOBR laws.

The writer is an attorney and civic activist in Northern Virginia.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to 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.

SATURDAY/MAY 30

"Don't Let a Tick Make You Sick!" 3-4 p.m. at Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, Centreville. Attend a Lyme disease awareness presentation. Free. Call 703-222-3534.

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@wfcmv.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 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 for more.

Cell Phones for Soldiers is accepting donations of old cellphones so that troops can call home. Patrons may drop off donations at 14215E Centreville Square, Centreville.

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/ 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 for more.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax Burke serves those 50+ and who no longer drive. Volunteer drivers are 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 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 for more.

Sully Historic Site needs volunteers to help plan and present programs. Volunteers who enjoy gardening, working with children, learning new recipes and cooking methods, or just like to be around interesting people are needed both weekdays and weekends. Sully is a historic house museum owned and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority. Volunteer at Sully can choose an aspect of historic interpretation, event support or any other area to make a difference for visitors. Call 703-437-1794 for an interview. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site 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 Station. Call Michael at 703-945-7483 for more information, or visit Fairfaxstation.org

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Chasin' Tails 2, LLC trading as Chasin' Tails, 5815 Trinity Parkway, Centreville, VA 20120. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off & Mixed Beverage Restaurant (seating capacity over 150) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Au Van-Hoang Dang, Member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion.
-Ethiopian Proverb

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Mad Man



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Really, Matthew Weiner; on the penultimate episode of "Mad Men," Betty Draper/Francis had to be diagnosed with lung cancer with her life expectancy said to be "nine months," with nothing more than "palliative care" available? Weren't there any other suitable diseases appropriate from which to choose? I realize it was the 70s, but...? Was her diagnosis for dramatic effect because lung cancer has been and is such a scourge and its mere mention will elicit the desired viewer reaction? Or were you trying to draw attention to a terrible disease, the research for which is woefully underfunded while it continues to kill more people than the next four cancer diagnoses combined, including breast cancer?

As a lung cancer survivor, I get tired of lung cancer being the go-to disease when entertainment writers want to gasp their audience into emotional submission. When in doubt...actually, you're never in doubt if a character is diagnosed with lung cancer. That diagnosis will definitely shake up your audience. Everyone knows that a diagnosis of lung cancer is not for the faint of heart (and weak of mind) and that its indication, confirmation and association will strike the kind of fear and loathing Hunter S. Thompson never really addressed.

It's a fine line between hope and prayer, and living and enduring for those of us afflicted with this very-often terminal disease. Ergo, we don't need any negative publicity, especially when the context is one that heightens the severity of the diagnosis and increases the anxiety and inevitability of its presumptive outcome. Certainly, increasing awareness helps, but I'd rather it not always be in a negative light to make people feel bad - or is it badly, or both? It's bad enough already; it doesn't need to be made worse, just for ratings.

Granted, in the time frame of these last episodes (the late 60s, Richard Nixon has just been elected), when Betty was diagnosed, palliative care apparently was all that was available for late-stage lung cancer (did they even have stages then?), so her prognosis was pretty grim. And I realize her diagnosis was one of many story lines that had to be wrapped up - or not, in the final episodes, and wasn't necessarily a main focus. But that's not the point I'm addressing. Hearing the words "lung cancer" in yet another tear-jerking semi-send-off scene with Henry Francis crying into Sally's lap in her dorm room after telling her about her mother's condition, and later showing Sally - the former brat, home unexpectedly from boarding school, dutifully hand-washing the dishes in the kitchen sink, while her mother sits wistfully at the kitchen table, was almost too much: showing a family uncharacteristically coping - and not coping, because of this death-sentence diagnosis/prognosis.

It's almost as if lung cancer is a prop; to be used whenever news needs to be shockingly, horribly bad. Well, a diagnosis of lung cancer isn't so bad, not so bad as it used to be, anyway. Sure, "lung cancer" are not exactly words you want said in your direction, but six-plus years later, I'm living proof that indeed it's not as bad as Mad Men dramatized. Cancer is hardly a chronic-type disease yet, but its patients are not without many treatment options. Moreover, research and clinical studies across the world show great promise and continue to evolve. I only wish the writers who continue to invoke lung cancer in their scripts might evolve a little bit too.

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

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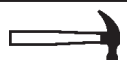
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SUMMER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 7

- students with the opportunity to develop their numeracy and literacy skills. This is a noncredit class. Held at Fairfax High 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.

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Adopt a Cat or Dog. Fridays, 6:30-

8:30 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit 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 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 for more.

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.

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 for more.

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.

“Alice in Wonderland.” 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 4 p.m. on Sunday at Centerville 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.fairfaxspringballet.com for more.

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.

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.

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 Flight: Aviation Pioneer, Dr. William Christmas.” Admission for museum members and children 4 and under is free, \$2 for children 5-15, and \$4 for all else. Visit www.fairfax-station.org.

Public Concert-Summer Concert Series. 5 p.m. at Steven F. Udvar-

Hazy Center 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly. The United States Air Force Band- Singing Sergeants will be holding a public concert. Free admission. For more call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 3

Civil War Forum. 7:30 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. “Southern Civilians in Southern Prisons” is a program presented by Burke Historical Society President Jon Vrana, who will give a first-person soliloquy of local civilians from Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties who were arrested during the Civil War. Free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 6

Born to Run Memorial 5K and Fun Run. 8:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Highlands neighborhood. Franklin Middle School will dedicate this race to Jannine Parisi who died on Nov. 20, 2013 as the result of a domestic incident. Registration starts at \$15. Visit www.prracing.enmotive.com.

Relay for Life. 2 p.m.-12 a.m. at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. A fundraiser featuring games, prizes music and other opportunities to gain awareness and help support The American Cancer Society. Contact Mary Saunders at mary.saunders@cancer.org to register.

“The Homegrown Medicine Chest.” 1-4 p.m. at the Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Learn about the preparation of home remedies and

their uses. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 6-7

Arlington Rose Foundation’s 59th Rose Show. 1-6 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks location, 8132 Lee Highway. The Rose Show includes more than 50 categories of rose including photography, fragrance and a silent auction. Show is open to public. Free admission. Contact 703-371-9351.

SATURDAY/JUNE 7

Wine, Whiskers and Wags. 1-5 p.m. at Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. A wine tasting, food, silent auction and other events will benefit the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. Visit www.fccas.org.

THURSDAY/JUNE 11

The Second Annual Juried Exhibition Reception. 6-8 p.m. at the Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas. The winners, including Best of Show, Best Runner-Up and Honorable Mention recipients, will be honored at a reception. Free. RSVP is required. Contact Hylton@gmu.edu to RSVP. Visit HyltonCenter.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 13

Touch a Truck. 2-5 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Vehicles will be available for children and adults to learn about. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

THURSDAY/JUNE 18

“Indoor Picnic.” 6 p.m. at the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. Liberty Republican Women’s Club hold their annual “Indoor Picnic” with Linda Bartlett, President of the VFRW as guest speaker. Everyone welcome. Admission is free. Contact 703-378-4190.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 20-21

NoVa Summer Brewfest. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. Find seasonal craft beer from local and regional breweries alongside vendors, exhibitors, music, and food. Tickets are \$35 for adults on the day of the event, \$25 in advance and \$10 for designated drivers. Children under 16 may attend at no cost. Visit www.novabrewfest.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 21

Antique Car Show. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Celebrate Father’s Day at Sully’s 42nd Annual Antique Car Show co-sponsored by the FCPA and The Model A Ford Club of America. Find 400 antique and classic cars, cars for sale, a flea market, food and music. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$7 for children. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY/JUNE 27

The Ice Cream Race. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Bull Run Regional Park Special Events Center, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. The Ice Cream Race is a fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in the form of an ice cream-themed obstacle course. Find Chocolate Syrup Water Slide, Whipped Cream Foam, Sticky Steeplechases and more. Registration starts at \$49 for individuals. Visit www.theicecreamrace.com for more.

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