

Chantilly CONNECTION Fair Oaks ❖ Fair Lakes

Scholarship winners are (from left) Malaz Namir, Chantilly High; Madeline Naa-Koshie Powell, Westfield High; Lawrence Wright, Centreville High; Morgan Carson, Chantilly High; and Arica Jackson, Westfield High. (Not pictured: Rachel Jacobs, Chantilly High).

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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Gary Kramer, D.D.S.
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NEWS

Cappies Awards Honors High School Theater

The 16th Annual Cappies Gala honoring high school theater was held Sunday, June 7 at The Kennedy Center. Of the 39 awards, winning the top prizes were Robinson Secondary School for the Best Play Award for “Neverwhere,” and McLean High School for the Best Musical Award for “Big Fish.” This year’s Masters of Ceremony were Judy Bowns, Janie Strauss and Ed Monk.

This year’s show included 58 public and private high schools in Fairfax County, Arlington, Fauquier, Loudoun, Montgomery, and Prince William counties, and the cities of Falls Church, Alexandria, Manassas and Washington, D.C. The Cappies season extended from October to May.

The Cappies program was launched in the summer of 1999 by Bowns, the theatre arts resource teacher with FCPS, and the late Bill Strauss (director, Capitol Steps), in cooperation with area theater teachers, for the purpose of celebrating and bringing public acclaim to high school theater.



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD

The Female Dancer Award went to Meredith Mehegan for “Pajama Game” at Westfield High School.

— STEVE HIBBARD



PHOTO GALLERY!
“Me and My Dad”

To honor dad on Father’s Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father’s Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what’s going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail photos, send to:

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ROUNDUPS

Reema’s Remembrance Cabaret at Westfield HS

Each year, a cabaret is held in honor of Westfield High grad and Virginia Tech victim Reema Samaha. And the 8th Annual Remembrance Cabaret is this Saturday, June 13, in Westfield’s theater. It begins with a silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by a variety show at 7 p.m.


Besides providing entertainment, it’s also a fundraiser. The event is free, but all donations, plus the proceeds from T-shirt and baked-goods sales, will help deserving students attend college via the Reema J. Samaha Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Touch A Truck June 13

The Sully District Police Station and the Chantilly Regional Library present the Third Annual Touch A Truck, this Saturday, June 13, from 2-5 p.m., at the library, 4000 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly. Forget toy trucks and cars; children will be able to get an up-close look at the real thing.

There’ll be lots of big trucks on site for kids and adults alike to learn about, explore and discover. There will also be events for kids, balloon artists, live music and much more during this free, fun-filled day for the whole family. Park at Chantilly High, and police will be directing traffic to safely get pedestrians across Stringfellow Road to the library.

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 6/24/2015...Professional Profiles & Business in the Community

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A Time for Celebration

CPMSAC honors high school students' academic achievements.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

It was a time to celebrate. And that's just what happened at the Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee's (CPMSAC) 30th Annual Youth Motivation and Academic Awards program.

It was held Saturday, June 6, at Chantilly High, and the gym bleachers were packed with cheering and appreciative friends and family members there to see area high-school students be honored and recognized for their academic accomplishments.

"This year, we had the largest number of people receiving awards in 30 years, so you're making history," CPMSAC President Johnny Nelson told the students. "And we're celebrating you for the job you've done."



The Rev. Eugene Johnson

Kicking off the program by presenting the colors were the Junior Buffalo Soldiers of Mount Olive Baptist Church. Then Colleen Howard sang the National Anthem and, later, sang the senior tribute song, "Hero (Wind beneath My Wings)."

Six students received scholarships from CPMSAC and were specially acknowledged during the ceremony. Lawrence Wright, Centreville High, and Rachel Jacobs, Chantilly High, were awarded the Shirley O. Nelson Memorial Scholarship. And Cameron Guy Dudley Book Scholarship Awards went to Malaz Namir, Chantilly High; Madeline Naa-Koshie Powell, Westfield High; Morgan Carson, Chantilly



Johnny Nelson

High; and Arica Jackson, Westfield High.

Wright will attend Case Western Reserve University to major in electrical engineering; Jacobs, GMU, law; Namir, Virginia Tech, human development; Powell, GMU, communications; Carson, VCU, exercise science; and Jackson, Hampton University, nursing.

Saying CPMSAC's motto is "Only Excellence is Good Enough," master of ceremonies Chuck Coffin encouraged the students there to continue working hard and to be role models for their peers. He also acknowledged all the school administrators, staff members and facilities personnel for everything they do. And, he added, "Parents, continue to be involved in your child's education and provide a positive environment for them, because it makes a difference when you care."

Chantilly High Assistant Principal Karla Hogan and Sully District School Board member Kathy Smith also congratulated the students and wished them well. And Frances Ivey, FCPS assistant superintendent, Region 5, said three things were responsible for the students' success.

"You did the hard work, made wise choices along the way and excelled in the classroom," said Ivey. "And all the adults involved are very, very proud of you. To CPMSAC, thank you for 30 years of support and service to our schools. You've served as a model to our schools, community, state and, really, the nation, of how our students can succeed."

The Rev. Eugene Johnson, of Mount Olive Baptist Church, said June 6 is a national day of remembrance of the losses during D Day. "But today is also about young people who've strived, met challenges and took the opportunities to excel," he said.

"Looking back over 31 years [of CPMSAC], I remember the vision we had for this day. Congratulations on your accomplishments and on what you will do — for you are a lamp that shines forward to a more perfect day. Keep that lamp burning."

The keynote speaker was former CPMSAC participant Janelle Greene Alabi, a 2003 Chantilly High grad and a member of its



Keynote speaker Janelle Alabi tells students they need to have grit to succeed.

Presenting the colors are the Junior Buffalo Soldiers of Mount Olive Baptist Church.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



2001 state championship gymnastics team. She later obtained a bachelor's in sociology and a master's in education and is now a wife, mother and a first-grade teacher at London Towne Elementary.

"Those of you here have already achieved some level of academic excellence," she said. "When I was here, I planned to go to business school, get a job and make lots of

money." But then she changed her mind and worked hard to instead become a teacher.

"It's easy to set goals, but it takes a great deal to reach them, including grit — which involves determination, passion, perseverance and stamina," said Alabi. "It's sticking with your vision, year in and year out. For example, Walt Disney was fired by a newspaper editor because he 'lacked imagination and had no good ideas.' But he knew life was a marathon, not a sprint."

She said people like him, who have grit, don't let setbacks discourage them. "Grit has even been found to be more important than intelligence," said Alabi. "Students not as smart as others work harder. Do you have grit? Find your passion, work toward it and stick with it." Alabi said the five characteristics of grit are courage, conscientiousness, follow-through, resilience and excellence, and she explained what it means to possess each one. She also said she dropped her business major when she realized she hated her classes pertaining to it. Instead, she became a teacher and, she said, "I love it."

"Life may knock you down through circumstances you can't control," said Alabi. "But it's OK to struggle and feel confused. Don't give up, but know that you're on your way to accomplishing your goals."



Colleen Howard sings "Hero (Wind beneath My Wings)" to the graduating seniors.



Master of Ceremonies, CPMSAC's Chuck Coffin

‘Diverse Travel Choices’ for I-66?

Residents hear improvement plans, give opinions.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

VDOT plans to improve travel on the 25 miles of I-66 between Route 15 in Haymarket and the I-495/Capital Beltway. So it's created three alternatives and will take the best elements from each — tempered by residents' comments from several public hearings — and develop the final design.

Currently proposed are two express lanes and three regular lanes in each direction. The express lanes would be free to buses and HOV-3 (converted from HOV-2) vehicles. Non-HOV cars would pay tolls with pricing based on congestion. The regular lanes would be free and open to all traffic. There'd also be ramp-to-ramp connections to help drivers more safely enter and exit I-66.

The plan includes high-frequency, rapid bus service beyond peak traffic hours for more predictable travel times. And there'd be direct access between the express lanes and new or expanded commuter parking lots. Existing interchanges will be studied, plus the feasibility of replacing or widening I-66 overpasses and bridges, where needed.

Bicycle and pedestrian access parallel to the highway is also being evaluated, as is the possibility of having Metro within the I-66 right-of-way. The financing method will be determined later, but the project cost is expected to exceed \$2 billion. Design public hearings will be held in 2016, with construction earmarked to begin in 2017 and end in 2021.

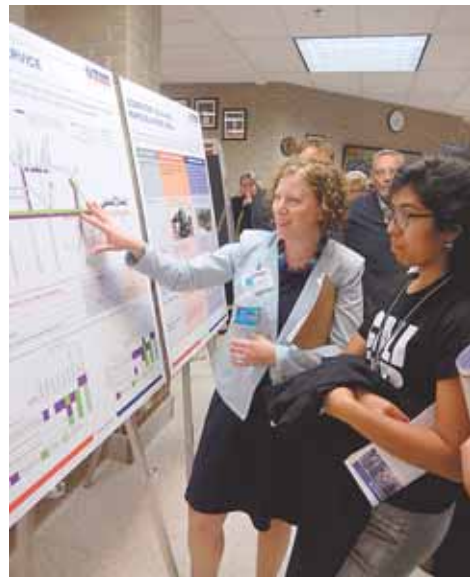
"I-66 today carries over 200,000 vehicles a day in the most congested sections," said VDOT Deputy District Administrator Renee Hamilton. "We want to reduce neighborhood cut-through traffic by having people stay on I-66. And we want to provide diverse travel choices in a cost-effective manner."

She was speaking on Wednesday night, June 3, before hundreds of people in Bull Run Elementary's cafeteria. Ringing the room were dozens of maps showing the project area and possible traffic changes; and outside in the hallway before the meeting, people were able to see more maps and charts and speak with VDOT representatives and consultants.

"It's a multimodal solution, not a road-widening project, and transit is integral to its success," Hamilton told the crowd.



VDOT's Renee Hamilton.



Lora Byala, with the consultant team, explains proposed I-66 bus-service options with area residents.



Rocky Run resident John Kuchenbrod points to a current traffic bottleneck in Centreville.

"And your input is very important." With future traffic only expected to increase, she said studies show something must be done to fix I-66. "The build alternative can move 35-85 percent more people in the morning peak period than if we did nothing; and in the afternoon peak, 40-90 percent."

She said the goals are to reduce the hours of congestion, move more travelers during rush hours and improve people's speeds. Another aim, said Hamilton, is to decrease traffic on parallel roads, such as Routes 29 and 50, that people often use now to avoid the gridlocked I-66.

"This project will have new transit services and more park-and-ride lots," she said. "An additional 4,000 spaces are planned by 2025. We'll also use transportation demand-management strategies to promote the use of carpools, transit services and park-and-ride lots."

Another critical component will be a new, commuter-bus service into major destinations, plus new rapid bus service that'll run all day and portions of the weekend for reliable travel time.



The crowd at Bull Run Elementary listens to the speakers.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

To Provide Input

❖ Go to transform66.org for maps and further details.

❖ Mail written comments to Susan Shaw, VDOT Northern Virginia District, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.

❖ Email comments or questions to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Or comment online via Transform66.org.

❖ Reference "I-66 Outside the Beltway Public Hearing" in the subject line of all correspondence.

"We've held more than 119 meetings on the project, to date, and we've received over 1,000 emails, and we answer them," said Hamilton. "We'll assess all the comments and present our recommendation to the Commonwealth Transportation Board. To be included in the record, we must receive public comments by June 18."

State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37) told those attending, "We're going to have to come up with some creative solutions here. But we need to hear from you to make this work because you are the users."

"We'll keep working with people to minimize impacts, but this is a major project," said Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully). "This will change the area, but it's got to be done. We've got one chance to improve east-west transportation in Northern Virginia. This is the corridor we have to fix to move the most traffic."

"This is our one shot, so we need to do it right," he continued. "I strongly believe this is the most important project we have for Northern Virginia. We want this to be complementary to and compatible with our community."

Various area residents also spoke. "One of the four lanes along 12 miles of I-66 would be converted to HOV, thereby reducing the number of lanes," said Phil Hargis of Chantilly's Franklin Glen community. "How will that improve congestion? Does it make sense to build something like this? Instead, have four general-purpose lanes, extend Metro and fix the interchanges."

Vienna's Mike Herka said 150 acres of trees would be cut down and VDOT should, instead, "use the shoulder lanes for through travel to increase capacity without widening." And Fionnuala Quinn of FABB (Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling) was concerned about biking and walking access — and especially safety — at the ramps and roads crossing under I-66.

David Wagner bikes to work in Fair Oaks from Annandale, but called it "dangerous. Our community is a nightmarish, traffic dystopia, so there should be some kind of protected bike lane."

Representing the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, Jeff Parnes said, "Although building light rail from Haymarket to the Vienna Metro station would provide somewhat better congestion relief at a much lower price than

extending the Orange line, light rail does nothing to alleviate the Rosslyn tunnel choke point. We prefer the implementation of a true, bus rapid transit system (BRT) in the interim."

"[It] would allow buses to use the HOV lanes inside the beltway and significantly increase the capacity of the corridor," he

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Reviewing I-66 Improvement Plans

FROM PAGE 4

continued. “The project should be designed with future extension of the rail in mind. BRT stations should be built in the middle of I-66 with pedestrian bridges and escalators similar to the Orange and Silver lines.”

Next, Bill Niedringhaus of the Potomac Heritage Trail Association recommended direct, natural-surface trail access to the Big Rocky Run Stream Valley from Braddock Road at Route 28 in Centreville. He also urged VDOT not to miss a “once-in-a-generation opportunity” to build a trail along Route 123 linking the City of Fairfax and Oakton.

Meanwhile, Alicia Coleman of Cabell’s Mill feared history would repeat itself. “Twenty-one years ago, I-66 was widened and I asked, ‘Where’s the rail?’” she said. “HOT lanes are under-utilized and only cause more congestion; rail is needed.” Furthermore, she warned attendees, “My neighborhood had to build its own sound barriers. So just because sound walls are on the plan as ‘proposed’ doesn’t mean VDOT will really build them.”

In addition, Centreville’s John Kuchenbrod of the Rocky Run community wanted shoulders on both sides of the road because, “when there’s an accident in the fast lane, traffic is stopped while it’s cleared away. And, because it’ll still be a bottleneck, separate the people on I-66 east trying to get to Route 28 north from the people getting on I-66 east from Route 29.”

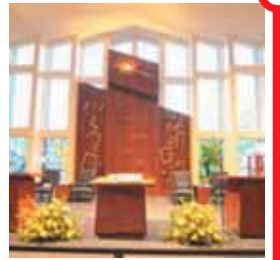


Cathy and Rick Rooney of Centreville’s Newgate community examine the bicycle/pedestrian map.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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Chantilly Baseball Falls to Madison

Chargers will face Western Branch on June 12 in state semifinals.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Matt Favero stood on the Madison High School baseball field following Friday's 6A North region championship game and recalled the mellow mindset he possessed while returning to the mound for the top of the fourth inning.

Madison's starting pitcher had held Chantilly without a hit for the first three innings. In the bottom of the third, Favero stepped to the plate and gave himself some breathing room, crushing a three-run homer.

"I was relaxed going back out [to the mound]," Favero recalled. "I knew I had some run support out there, so I could just pound the [strike] zone and keep doing my thing."

With Favero back on the hill, his teammates could have relaxed, as well.

The junior left-hander allowed just three hits in 6-plus shutout innings and the Madison baseball team captured its first region championship since 2003 with a 9-0 victory over the Chantilly Chargers.

Favero took a no-hitter into the sixth inning before surrendering a one-out infield single to Chantilly catcher Grant Bain. Designated hitter Matt Padeway followed with a clean single to right before Favero got out of trouble with back-to-back fly-ball outs.

Favero was pulled after he allowed a leadoff single to Chargers second baseman Kordell Hutzell in the top of the seventh. Favero fin-

Members of the Chantilly baseball team watch from the dugout during the 6A North region championship game on June 5 at Madison High School.



PHOTOS BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

ished with five walks and three strikeouts, and did not allow a Chantilly runner to reach third base.

Junior right-hander Pete Nielsen got the final three outs in relief.

"Matt was awesome," said Nielsen, the Warhawks' shortstop and leadoff hitter. "He's my cousin, so it's awesome to have family do that. He just pounded the zone and did his thing."

"That's why he's all-region."

Chantilly starting pitcher Forrest Wagner suffered the loss, allowing five earned runs on three hits in three innings. The junior left-hander walked four, hit one batter and struck out five.

Nielsen led off the bottom of the third inning with a solo home run to left field, giving the Warhawks a 1-0 lead. Madison then loaded the bases with one out, and left fielder Bryan Harthun extended the lead to 2-0 with a sacrifice fly.

That's when Favero stepped to the plate and launched a three-run homer to right-center, boosting the Warhawks' advantage to 5-0.

Favero finished 2-for-3 with a double. Senior right fielder Owen Socher went 1-for-4 with an RBI. Junior first baseman Jimmy Goldsmith had a two-run single, and junior third baseman Carlo Alfano was 1-for-3.

"Our goal this year was to win the region," said Mark Gjormand, who is in his 20th season as Madison head coach. "Typically, we say let's win a state championship, but this year [the goal] was to win the region, so it's nice to accomplish a goal this year."

Madison has had strong teams in recent years but failed to advance past the region semifinals.

In 2010, Madison lost to eventual state champion West Springfield in the region semifinals. The Warhawks returned to the region semis in 2011, but fell short against a South County team that won its first 28 games before losing to Great Bridge in the state final.

Madison won 22 straight games in 2013 before losing to Lake Braddock in the region quarterfinals, and won 21 of 22 in 2014, but ended its season with a loss to McLean in the region semifinals.

What is different about this team?

"I think it was the adversity we faced early," Nielsen said. "[We] lost a couple games; we



Chantilly's Forrest Wagner pitches against Madison in the 6A North region championship game June 5.

had to kind of find ourselves, our identity. We just found it and now we're just rolling."

After a 6-0 start, Madison dropped three of four, including an 11-3 loss to Vienna foe Oakton on April 11. On May 8, a 4-0 loss to McLean cost the Warhawks the No. 1 seed in the Conference 6 tournament.

Madison would bounce back, winning conference and region titles. Friday's win was the Warhawks' eighth in a row and improved their record to 22-5.

"Right now, we're playing our best baseball at the right time," Gjormand said. "Last couple years we've won 22 in a row, [21 of 22], and I was worried [because] sometimes you can get stagnant. I think right now, it feels like they've caught fire and they're playing their best."

Madison will face 6A South region runner-up First Colonial in the state semifinals at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 12 at Robinson Secondary School. Chantilly (20-6) will face 6A South champion Western Branch at 7 p.m. on Friday at Robinson.

Madison has three state championships in program history, the last coming in 2002. Chantilly won the 2014 6A North region championship and advanced to the state final, where the Chargers lost to Western Branch 6-4.

Socher, Favero and senior pitcher Brian Eckert received first-team all-region honors for Madison. Chantilly shortstop Brett Norwood and pitcher Matt Hogle were also on the first team. Chantilly head coach Kevin Ford was selected Coach of the Year.



SPORTS BRIEFS

Chantilly Girls' Soccer to Face Frank W. Cox

The Chantilly girls' soccer team will face Frank W. Cox in the 6A state semifinals at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 12 at Robinson Secondary School.

The Chargers finished runner-up in the 6A North region, losing to Battlefield in penalty kicks in the championship match.

Chantilly Boys' Lacrosse Competes at States

The Chantilly boys' lacrosse team faced Langley in the 6A state semifinals on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

The winner advanced to the state final to face the winner of Robinson and Patrick Henry (Roanoke) at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 13 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

ENTERTAINMENT

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.

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.

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.

Art Exhibit.

Through June 30, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Clifton Wine Shop, 7145 Main St., Clifton. Art Guild of Clifton presents Davi D'Agostino, Artist of the Month Exhibit. Includes classic fine art oil paintings of European settings; doors, windows, and flower shops. Free. Call 703-830-8466 for more.

"Creating Across the City."

Through July 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.

FCPS 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.

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

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 12

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Nearly Half a Billion for Schools, Fire, Police

New police station in South County area could mean faster response times in a growing area.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Voters will decide in November on nearly half a billion dollars in bond sales for schools and public safety projects. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized the referendum on the two possible bond issues at its last Board meeting, Tuesday, June 2.

If approved by Fairfax County voters, \$151 million would be available to renovate five fire stations, build a new police station and animal shelter in the south county area, plus renovate several police facilities.

The \$310 million school bond would renovate nine elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools, along with funding an addition to South Lakes High School and plan a new Northwest County area elementary school.

The Fairfax County School Board adopted its own resolution on May 7, urging the Board of Supervisors to authorize the bonds.

FIVE AGING fire stations, Merrifield, Reston, Penn Daw, Woodlawn and Edsall, would be renovated with \$51 million. The stations range in age from 36 to 48 years, and require the replacement of major systems “which have reached the end of their useful lives,” according to Fairfax County documents.

“These stations do not meet the current operational requirements of the Fire and Rescue Department.”

Renovations will expand equipment bays to provide adequate space for current apparatus and current station staffing requirements, including bunk rooms and locker facilities for male and female personnel.

THE POLICE would use \$100 million to build a new animal shelter and police station in the South County area; renovate Franconia District Police station; do construction and renovation for the police heliport, K9 Center and several other facilities.

The new police station would create smaller coverage areas.

“This is a critical need given the significant current and future population growth in the area,” according to county documents. “A new station will allow the department to organize smaller patrol areas and decrease response times throughout the county.”

Fairfax County has highest credit rating possible for any government, and this means bonds sell at low interest rates.



The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognized the Fairfax County Police Department for its 75th anniversary.



Next week, June 14-20, is Fire and Emergency Medical Services Safety and Survival Week in Fairfax County.



The Board of Supervisors recognized the Fort Belvoir and Fairfax County fire and rescue departments for their mutual aid agreement and joint training efforts.

This plan, including the proposed fall 2015 referendum was approved as part of the FY 2016 – FY 2020 Adopted Capital

Improvement Program.

The school bond sales will be maintained in the annual amount of \$155 million.

The county will issue a pamphlet about the bonds to be mailed to all county households in the fall.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Colorful blooms can help create an elegant summer landscape.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Hydrangeas are a low-maintenance, flowering shrub.

Trending in the Garden

Local landscape architects offer suggestions for updating.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As summer gets underway, so does time spent outside. The American Society of Landscape Architects recently released the results of its 2015 Residential Landscape Architecture Survey, a list of trends in outdoor design that yields a bounty of backyard design ideas. From adding a pond to planting a garden, local landscape gurus explain how these trends can be used to transform an outdoor space into a favorite escape.

The top landscape and garden elements include native plants, vegetable gardens and low-maintenance landscapes. "Since native trees and shrubs are meant to grow here, they're easier to take care of and they're lower maintenance," said Janet Darab of Cravens Nursery in Fairfax.

"I think there is an increased awareness of the benefit in planting native," said Patrick Lawver of Nature By Design in Alexandria. "If you are planting natives, they should be able to maintain themselves. If they are planted in the right area and planted correctly, you don't have to water them once they get established, so you won't have to rely on water that much."

Dogwoods, redbuds and magnolias are native trees that Lawver says are among the most popular in the Washington, D.C., region. Iris, milkweed and butterfly weed are some of the most popular native flowers. "A lot of people are liking butterfly weed because it's great for attracting monarch butterflies."

Experts also recommend amateur gardeners think

about what type of plants are appropriate for their yards. "For example, if someone has a small backyard garden, there are some plants that grow aggressively that we don't recommend because you'd have to constantly cut them back to keep them under control," said Lawver. "There are some plants that grow better if you have wet soil and some that do better in dryer soil. The bottom line is that they're all low maintenance as long as you're planting them into the right situation."

Raised garden beds are also popular. "One of the advantages of raised beds is that they discourage critters like rabbits from getting in and digging stuff," said Lawver. "Raised beds often hold moisture really so well there is not as much maintenance with the plant."

Among the most popular outdoor design elements, as reported in the American Society of Landscape Architects survey, are fire pits and fireplaces, lighting and grills. One pavilion, built by Rill Architects for a Potomac, Md., home, incorporates the three elements and can serve as inspiration for those who want to create an outdoor oasis.

The space was created as a place to enjoy nature while relishing the comforts of home. "[It] creates a seamless transition between the house and yard," said James F. Rill, AIA of Rill Architects.

A ceiling fan cools the space during warm weather and a stone fireplace warms it when the temperature drops. A mahogany pergola hovers above the terrace. Outdoor chairs, along with low walls that are made of stone, provide seating for entertaining. The floor of the pavilion is made of flagstone.

The pavilion offers a view of the home's English garden, including a pond and walking bridge, and its terrace overlooks a saltwater pool. A gatehouse connects the updated rear porch to the expanded garage. "Now the outbuildings offer an oasis to enjoy nature from both inside and outside the home," said Rill.



PHOTO BY MELISSA MAILLETT PHOTOGRAPHY

One of the top landscaping trends is an interest in native plants.



PHOTO BY MELISSA MAILLETT PHOTOGRAPHY

The 2015 Residential Landscape Architecture Survey can offer inspiration for creating an elegant summer outdoor space.

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Philosophically Speaking



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently I attended a "Celebration of Life" event, sponsored by Kaiser Permanente, created to bring attention to, and educate the public on, cancer. As a long-time cancer survivor, nearly six and a half years now – and one treated by doctors at Kaiser, I was asked, along with a cervical cancer survivor, to sit on a "survivor panel"; to share our cancer experiences, and offer, along with two oncologists and a pulmonologist, our respective insights as "treater" and "treatee."

As you regular readers know, my story, based on the available statistical indicators at the time, is a miracle. Lung cancer is a killer, almost always. Survivors who live beyond two years are rare enough; beyond five years, rarer still. However, given the evolution of the research and new drugs brought to market, there are more lung cancer survivors than ever before. And the more survivors I meet, the more empowered I become regarding my own life expectancy. Which, if a cancer patient thinks too much about, the shorter – in my opinion, it will be. As a practical consideration though, how do you not focus on the most important thing in your life; that thing being your lung cancer diagnosis. A diagnosis your oncologist has advised you will likely result in a rather disappointing prognosis. But somehow, from my perspective anyhow, that's exactly what patients/survivors have to do; agree and proceed, sort of.

Moreover, how does one make light of something (your "terminal" disease/ "13-month to two-year prognosis") which is incredibly heavy? And how does one not get depressed about something (again, your diagnosis) which is terribly depressing? And finally, how does one stay positive and find humor/balance, when cancer is the definition of negative and imbalance, and is, as the old expression says: "Funny as a heart attack"? It all seems and feels counter-intuitive. It reminds me of the Seinfeld episode when, out of desperation, George decided to act opposite to his instincts: "My name is George. I'm unemployed and I live with my parents;" which resulted in his meeting an attractive woman at the diner and getting his Assistant-to-the-Travelling-Secretary job with the New York Yankees. Yet somehow, following this path of least resistance has worked – for me. Inexplicable. Random? Lucky? Misguided? Inadvisable? Rhyme or reason? If I think too much about it, I'm afraid I'll weaken the nation. All I know is: since it ain't broke, I'm not looking to fix it.

Certainly there have been struggles: I'm not going to pretend otherwise. Still, living is its own reward, and having survived now way beyond my initial prognosis, I'd like to think that I'm further from the beginning than I am closer to the end. But who knows, really? And what good comes from asking myself that question anyway? I can't get an answer, obviously; and of course, any guarantees are long gone. Somehow I have to continue to trick myself into not caring: the opposite of all my instincts. It worked for George and so far, it's worked for me. Now, if I can only leave well enough alone. That would truly be a miracle.

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

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 7
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 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 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.

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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.
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THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 11-14
White Elephant Sale. 5-8 p.m. on

Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. on Saturday and 8 a.m.-12 p.m. on Sunday at St. Mary's, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. A white elephant sale features used items of special interest to collectors. There is a \$5 fee to attend the preview sale on Thursday, but is free all other days. Call 703-978-4141 for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 11

Art Walk. 5 p.m. at Virginia Run Elementary, 15450 Martins Hundred Drive, Centreville. Virginia Run Elementary PTA will be hosting its annual art walk which will include a display of artwork by 5th grade students. There will also be ice cream, a PTA election and more. Free. Call 703-988-8900.

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 for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 12-13

Scrapbook Expo. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Find all of the essentials for a scrapbooking hobbyist. Also participate in a "Mega Make and Take Extravaganza," workshops and more. Admission is \$10 for adults and free for children under 12. Visit www.scrapbookexpo.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 13

Black Fig Pizza Oven. 1 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Mobile pizza caterer visits the winery. Free to attend. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for more.

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.

Remembrance Cabaret. 6-7 p.m. at Westfield High School Auditorium, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. This event is fundraiser for the Reema J. Samaha Scholarship Fund which provides scholarships to local students. Find music, dance, art, a silent auction, and a bake sale. Admission to the event is free. All proceeds from bake sale and silent auction will benefit the scholarship fund. Call 703-919-2941 or email janetkohler@cox.net.

MONDAY/JUNE 15

Writers Group. 6:45-8:45 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Join fellow writers to discuss work, share, and receive feedback. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

TUESDAY/JUNE 16

Magic and Mayhem. 4:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Middle school students are invited to a discussion on sci-fi books. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.
"Mission to Tokyo." 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000

Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. World War II historian and author Robert F. Dorr discusses the experiences of American airmen in the Pacific. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

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/JUNE 20

Clifton Wine Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at 7150 Main St., Clifton. Local wineries will bring their goods to the festival. Also find a wide variety of arts and crafts vendors and live entertainment. General admission to the festival is \$15 at the gate. The "Taster Ticket," for attendees 21 and older includes admission, a souvenir wine glass and choices to sample is \$25. A children's ticket is \$5. Visit www.cliftonwine.com.

Battle of the Beers. 3-5 p.m. at Total Wine, Greenbriar Shopping Center, 13055 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Compare "Old World" beer to "New World" beer and learn about beer history. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.totalwine.com.

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.

SUNDAY/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.

Father's Day in Paradise. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Paradise Spring Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Dads are invited for a pig roast, live music pop-up barber shop and a swagger and cigar bar. An adult ticket to the pig roast is \$75, and a child's ticket is \$45. Other prices vary. Visit www.paradisepingwinery.com for more.

Father's Day at the Winery. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Dads and families are invited to celebrate Father's Day with live music, barbeque, cigar rolling and a photobooth. Free to attend. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for more.

Dinosaur Babies. 2:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. DinoRock performs a musical puppet show. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

TUESDAY/JUNE 23

Father's Day Beer Dinner. 7 p.m. at Dogfish Alehouse, 13041 Lee Jackson Highway, Fairfax. A special five-course menu will be available. Each course will be paired with a different beer. Tickets are \$60. Visit www.dogfishalehouse.com.

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