

Touring Criminal Justice Academy

NEWS, PAGE 3

Lt. Mike Shamblin
with a dummy that
police practice tack-
ling and subduing.

Wynton Marsalis
Mentors
Westfield Student

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Artist's rendition of the Trinity Centre east façade of the apartments.

The Trinity Centre Meadow Way view of the entrance.

Homes Are Planned Instead of Offices

Developer wants to build 355 apartments at the Trinity Centre.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

As the area office market continues to stall, more and more land-use applications are proposing to replace planned office uses with residential communities. One of the latest proposals is at the Trinity Centre, off Route 29, in Centreville.

Representing JLB Partners, attorney Mark Looney presented details of the plan during the June 16 meeting of the West Fairfax County Citizens Assn. (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee.

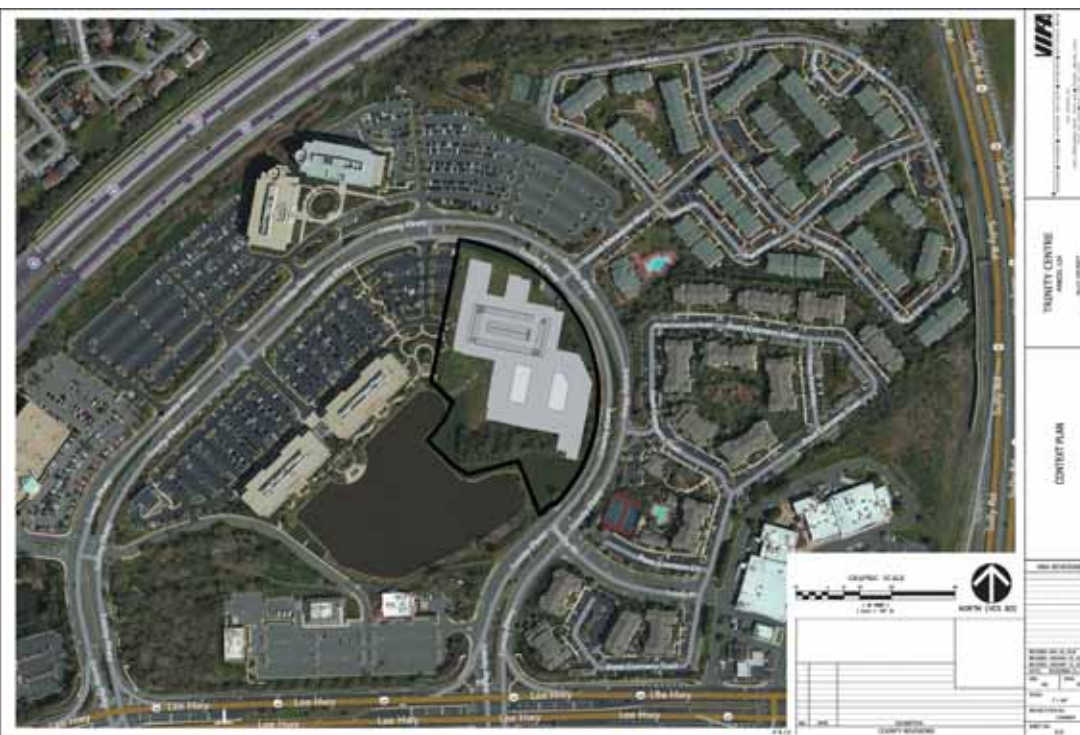
“Our rezoning application goes before the [Fairfax County] Planning Commission on Sept. 16,” he said. “So we’ll probably return here [to the WFCCA] in September.”

Once envisioned as the heart of Centreville — a place where people would gather for various events and special occasions — Trinity Centre was originally planned for 1.8 million square feet of office space. Also there would be 250,000 square feet of retail uses, plus 336 homes.

But what’s actually been built there so far are two office buildings totaling 576,000 square feet, three restaurants totaling about 19,000 square feet, a 75,000-square-foot hotel, the Life Time Fitness center (90,000 square feet), another office building of 11,000 square feet and the 336 homes.

“Since the area was rezoned in 1987, just one-third of the approved offices were developed,” said Looney. “It’s now approved for two office buildings of 536,000 square feet total — or one 120,000-square-foot office building and 10,000 square feet of retail services.”

So, he said, JLB would replace the two office buildings (within what’s called Land Unit J) with a residential project of 355 apartments. Also included would be a six-story parking structure in the middle. The



The Trinity Centre site plan showing the proposed new apartments.

units would be within a building that’s four stories in front and five stories in back, because of the topography of the site.

The building would be constructed adjacent to the existing lake and would have two internal courtyards. There’d be an outdoor pool, and the lower-level units would be walk-outs. In addition, the builder would

seek LEED certification, and the lake would be an integral part of the project.

“The idea is to amenitize the lake and provide more opportunities for people in nearby communities to use the lake for fishing or passive recreation, without feeling like they were intruding on a private residential project,” said Looney. “And, of

course, it’s also for the [enjoyment of] the people living there.”

He said the amenities by the lake would be a fenced-in, off-leash, dog area; benches, chairs and “climbable landscape installations” for young children. Planned, as well, is an outdoor area for senior citizens to use for games such as chess and bocce ball. “There’ll be trails connecting it to the office development,” said Looney. “We’ll also be improving the trail and pedestrian connections to this area.” Sully District Planning Commissioner John Litzenger said the applicant met with him and Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully), plus county staff, and “staff liked it.” Looney noted that some workforce-priced housing will be available, and there’ll be an electric charging station. He also said all the apartments will be rentals.

“I think it’s a great plan,” said WFCCA’s Chris Terpak-Malm. “There are already restaurants there and a shopping center [Centreville Square across Route 29] people can walk to.”

“This is significantly lower [density] than the two office buildings would have been, so that’s good,” said At-Large Planning Commissioner Jim Hart. “But is there school capacity, if we add all these units?”

Looney didn’t know, offhand, but said he’d look into it and get him the answer.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

MONDAY-THURSDAY/AUG. 10-13
Vacation Bible School. 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Oakton Baptist Church, 14001 Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly.

The presentation is titled “Unknown to us, known to Him.” Call 703-631-1799.

SATURDAY/AUG. 29
“Navigating the Caregivers Maze: Finding Support and Planning for Your Caregiving Journey.” 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Fairfax County Government

Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway. AARP and the Philippine American Foundation for Charities will present a program geared toward educating people about options for senior caregiving. Listen to a lecture, participate in a discussion and have questions answered by experts from Fairfax County Services for Older Adults. Free. RSVP requested but not required. Call 1-877-926-8300 or sign up online at aarp.cvent.com/

Fairfax829VA.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 10
Registration For ESL Classes. 7 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Fairfax Campus, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax; or Clifton Campus, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. Register for

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 8

ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, July 30, 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.

CLRC Seeks Fall Interns

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) is currently seeking bi-lingual (English/Spanish) fall interns to help with the daily operations of the worker center, its new labor-justice projects and with producing a worker-created community newsletter. Contact CLRC Director Molly Maddra-Santiago at director@centrevillelrc.org for more details.

In addition, CLRC is holding a volunteer orientation on Friday, July 31, from 6:30-9 p.m. at the center, 5956 Centreville Crest Lane in Centreville. Said Maddra-Santiago: "This is a great way to learn more about us, even if you aren't thinking about volunteering – yet."

Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry needs donations of 1-2 pound bags of rice, canned fruit (all types), canned pastas, canned meats (tuna, ham, chicken), cold and hot cereals, spaghetti and sauces, peanut butter, canned vegetables (including spinach, collar greens, beets) and cooking oil.

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@wfcmv.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.

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

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

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

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

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

Give Caregivers a Break

Fairfax County needs Respite Care volunteers throughout the county to give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break.

Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Volunteers are matched with families in or near their own neighborhoods. Support and training is provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

NEWS



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Lt. Todd Kinkead (on left) and Mountain View grad Leo Becerra (on right) listen to Lt. Mike Shamblin discuss how officers train in the gym.

A Look at Officer Training

Residents tour county's Criminal Justice Academy.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

About 30 local residents recently got a behind-the-scenes look at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy. They learned what recruits go through to become police officers and participated in a training scenario.

Held June 10, it was sponsored by the Sully District Police Station and its Citizens Advisory Committee. "Tonight is to let you see what we, as police officers, deal with," said the station's assistant commander, Lt. Matt Owens.

The Criminal Justice Academy opened in 1985 in an elementary school in Annandale. Then in 1996, officers began using their current, more modern facility in Chantilly. Lt. Mike Shamblin, a supervisor in the Law Enforcement Training Unit, has worked in the academy for more than 22 years.

"We train officers for the Fairfax County Police Department, Sheriff's Office, the towns of Herndon

and Vienna, the Fire Marshal's Office and Animal Control," he said. "This facility is dually run by police and sheriff personnel. We do basic training for all recruits. The Law Enforcement Training Unit trains the entire Police Department, and the Sheriff's Office runs in-service training and keeps track of everyone's certifications."

Normally, about 40 people are in a recruit class. But in-service training for topics such as first aid and CPR is also held at the academy. Officers attend, as well, to requalify for skills such as handcuffing and using a baton, Taser and pistol; some are also rifle- or shotgun-qualified there.

"The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services [DCJS], headquartered in Richmond, is responsible for the standards of training within the state," said Shamblin. "It certifies and [confirms] police powers on the officers and maintains all training records."

All officers must meet 1,370 DCJS training objectives dealing with professional and legal matters, communications, patrol, investigations, defensive tactics, weapons use, plus driver, physical and field training. And it involves both written and practical-

SEE RESIDENTS TOUR, PAGE 5



Lt. Mike Shamblin talks to visitors touring the academy's gym.



Lt. Todd Kinkead poses inside the bank replica within the training academy.

Scrap Toll Plan for I-66 Inside the Beltway

BY DEL. JIM LEMUNYON
STATE DELEGATE (R-67)



The following letter was addressed to Aubrey Layne, Virginia Secretary of Transportation.

This letter [dated July 21] is to respectfully request that you terminate plans to place a toll on I-66 inside the Beltway to fund the walking trails, bike paths and other multi-modal projects inside the Beltway described in your March 12, 2015 public presentation on this subject. Instead, I request these plans be replaced with different and much improved plans to address the chronic congestion problems on this corridor. I hope the creation of new and improved plans would include substantial interaction with members of the General Assembly from Northern Virginia, not just local government officials.

VDOT's own figures show approximately 900,000 hours of time is wasted by Northern Virginians every business day due to traffic congestion. Governor McAuliffe speaks often about the "New Virginia Economy." An essential element of improving economic growth in Virginia is to reduce the 900,000 figure as rap-

COMMENTARY

idly as possible, so that more of the people's time might be spent on economic activity among other things. Ensuring that transportation projects in Northern Virginia would be selected on the basis of merit, and congestion reduction in particular, is why I thought the General Assembly enacted H.B. 599 (2012) and H.B. 2 (2014) with strong bipartisan votes. It is therefore surprising that the Administration's plans for I-66 inside the Beltway were not evaluated to determine the expected congestion reduction impact, if any, prior to making a public announcement in March. You may recall that I recommended doing do in my June 24, 2014 memo to you.

As you may know, the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance, which consists of leading business organizations, has characterized the McAuliffe Administration's plans for I-66 inside the Beltway as "Fire! Aim! Ready!" noting a lack of analysis and data to support key assumptions. Also, as you know, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors recently voted unanimously to oppose the plans.

I share these sentiments, and my concerns about the plans include but are not limited to the following three issues. I would appreciate and value a response to the questions and requests for information that are presented in this letter, and the alternative concepts recommended at the conclusion.

Additional Capacity Is Needed Now on I-66 Inside the Beltway, Not Decades from Now

The need to widen I-66 inside the Beltway now, not in 10 to 25 years as the McAuliffe Administration has proposed, is intuitively obvious to all but the congestion-deniers. Tolling without expanding capacity on a road so badly in need of capacity improvements is an idea that is way out of step with public sentiment. Tolls have been established on I-495, I-95, and are planned for I-66 outside the Beltway, all coincident with vehicle capacity expansion. It seems peculiar, to say the least, that tolls would be added to I-66 inside the Beltway without additional vehicle capacity. Keep in mind this corridor has significant congestion regularly on weekends and mid-day on weekdays, not just during traditional weekday peak periods. By putting off the issue of widening the road, the Administration's proposal ignores the congestion problem outside of peak periods. The plans are so far afield that not even fixing the chronically congested intersection of the Dulles Toll Road Connector (east-bound) and I-66 is included in the plans.

Moreover, making it easy for traffic to travel a mile or so eastbound inside the Beltway in the morning and westbound in the evening to park and ride at the West Falls Church Metro station (which has plenty of available parking), without being subjected to HOV restrictions or a future toll, is one of the most obvious and least expensive ways to promote the use of transit in Northern Virginia. But this is also not part of the Administration's plan. Calls for more multi-modal options along the I-66 corridor ring rather hollow by ignoring this opportunity.

Coincidentally, as I am sure you know, mismanagement at the Washington Area Metropolitan Transit Authority has led to a very recent proposal to reduce service on the Orange Line, which parallels I-66. This comes after peak period weekday service was already reduced by 42 percent a year ago to accommodate the transfer of train cars to the Silver Line. Any additional reduction in service on the Orange Line will likely result in more traffic congestion on I-66, making vehicle capacity expansion even more necessary.

The Plan Lacks Transparency and the Facts Necessary to Evaluate its Merits or Lack Thereof

Information about key toll and congestion impact parameters was not presented at the March kickoff meeting. These include the price range of proposed tolls, the impact of tolls on traffic volume and congestion on I-66 and the Northern Virginia transportation system as a whole, the specific times of day that tolls would be imposed, and the number and cost of the projects that would be funded with the toll revenue and the amount of expected revenue. Public information meetings have been held about the project, but the public is being kept in the dark without this essential information.

Assuming the Administration believes there are projects that should be funded by the toll, what happens when these projects are completed and the toll revenue keeps flowing?

Given the nature of the proposal, I am concerned that, depending on yet unknown toll pricing and timing, the plans might create rather than reduce congestion by diverting traffic to U.S. 50, U.S. 29, Rt. 7, I-495, or neighborhood streets in Arlington, McLean, and Falls Church. After all, if it is assumed that tolling would reduce congestion on I-66, but no additional road capacity would be added, then this can only mean that some existing traffic would no longer use I-66 and go elsewhere instead. Does the

Administration believe that the traffic that would no longer use I-66 inside the Beltway would convert to carpooling, transit or bicycles? If not, the plans would not reduce congestion, only re-arrange it.

You, I and many others have worked hard to end "politics as usual" with respect to transportation policy and bring more transparency and accountability to the process of selecting and funding transportation projects with the people's money. A key element of this process is to ensure that projects are selected based on merit according to objective criteria. The plans for I-66 inside the Beltway presented so far don't do this. Regrettably, this project looks a lot like politics as usual.

With respect to H.B. 2, I'm told there is an opinion shared by some in the McAuliffe Administration that the nature of this project somehow exempts it from the requirements of H.B. 2. If this is the Administration's position, I would appreciate and value a legal analysis on this point. Even if this were true, the McAuliffe Administration should want to score this proposal according to H.B. 2 anyway as a demonstration of its commitment to the prin-

SEE SCRAP TOLL PLAN, PAGE 11

LETTER

'Is Nothing Sacred?'

To the Editor:

The massacre of nine African-Americans in Charleston, S.C., by a suspected domestic terrorist has left the entire nation shell-shocked and horrified. The deadly shooting took place at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church during a Bible Study session. It is terrifying to think that these nine individuals were murdered while praying and studying scripture in a place of worship and brings this phrase to the forefront of my mind: "Is nothing sacred?"

Unfortunately, over the past few years, this phrase has become more and more relevant, whether it be in regards to the Wisconsin Sikh Temple Shooting in 2012 or the mass murder of 86 Ahmadi Muslims in their mosque in Lahore, Pakistan in 2010. These tragedies force us to examine the racial and religious relations and tensions that not only exist throughout the world, but have become a motivation for violence in our own nation. In his Farewell Sermon, the Prophet Muhammad advised his followers with these words: "A white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over a white except by piety and good action." As Americans, we can take into account this timeless advice as we remember the brave men and women who lost their lives in this horrific tragedy.

Shumaila Ahmad
Chantilly

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Residents Tour County's Criminal Justice Academy

FROM PAGE 3

experience tests.

Fairfax County officers also receive training beyond what the state mandates. Those attending the academy must learn and master an additional 172 Criminal Justice Academy training objectives, for a total of nearly 1,550 objectives. These extra objectives include, for example, completing a half-mile timed run in less than 4 minutes and running an obstacle course in 1 minute, 20 seconds. Both these skills are related to finding and apprehending a suspect.

"We do 26 weeks of training, including legal exams, spelling tests and a DCJS final exam," said Shamblin. "Officers also receive two weeks each pistol and firearms training — both night and day — plus driver training. They learn defensive tactics with their bodies. They're also exposed to pepper spray — and then have to talk on the police radio and run through an obstacle course to show you can run through the spray. We do this because, when police use it, some of it blows back on them, too."

Physical fitness includes running and strength training. Driver training includes practical exercises, such as driving on slippery surfaces and correcting a vehicle after driving off the road. And on the driving track, officers learn how to handle their cars



Lt. Mike Shamblin in the black room with visitors Eileen Mackrell and Jack Spencer.

and not lose control even when traveling at speeds up to 107 mph.

"We also require on-the-job field training, running through various scenarios an officer could face," added Lt. Todd Kinhead, who heads the Sully District Station's Criminal Investigations Section. And every two years, the state requires officers to be retrained to maintain their certification.

"Some people wash out," said Shamblin. "It's a reality check when you get outside and realize people actually want to hurt you."

The residents then toured the facility, in-

cluding the gym. Painted in large letters on the walls are the words, "Police, don't move" and "Training is everything." And on staff is a physical therapist to rehabilitate officers who've been injured. "She's rehabbed me several times," said Kinhead. "She's a phenomenal resource."

There's a black-walled room where officers can get used to being outside at night with their blue, cruiser lights flashing. And another room has mats on the floor and a dummy for police to tackle and subdue with their weak hands — i.e., their left hands, if they're right-handed.

In a room called the "maze," officers practice clearing a room and searching a building without getting shot. There's also an area set up like an apartment, also for searching, with doors on each side of a long hall. "It's an absolutely miserable place to search," said Shamblin. "It's horrible because there are so many doors."

In addition, there's a practical-exercise area resembling a section of a town where officers may run different scenarios. In it, they respond to pretend calls for help at various businesses, such as a bank, restaurant, pizza parlor, bar, sporting-goods store, quick mart and a thrift shop, plus a park.

And during the tour, residents who wanted to get a better idea of the danger officers face every day got to participate in

several, different scenarios in the "bar." Individually, volunteers assumed the role of a police officer responding to a call for a "disturbance," but received no other information before heading inside. So they had no idea how many people were involved, exactly what led up to the incident and whether anyone had a weapon.

Armed with a pretend gun in a holster, the "officer" entered the "bar" and encountered two men fighting. The "officer" then had to quickly assess the situation, decide what was going on and whether or not to draw his or her weapon before the "officer" or someone else got hurt or "killed."

After each scenario, MPO Nancy Cottrell explained to the volunteers what they should or shouldn't have done in each scenario, and why. "We appreciate you guys coming out and learning," she said. "You can be a big help by getting involved [when you see something amiss] by calling us and providing us with good information."

June Mountain View High grad Leo Becerra — who hopes to eventually attend that academy and become a police officer, himself — then expressed gratitude on behalf of the residents. "Thank you, guys, for giving us this opportunity and opening up our eyes to what you do every day," he said. "I know we don't thank you enough, but we really do appreciate it."

Summer of Science Celebration

Sunday, August 2

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Fair Oaks Mall, Grand Court

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- Entertainment by Ryan Buckle "Science you can Sing to"
- Meet Celebrity Scientist: Erica Grow, WUSA-TV Meteorologist

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LAB

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Contact Sandra Fields today to RSVP or schedule an appointment. **(571) 982-7214** or sfields@thecrossingsatchantilly.com

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A Harmony Senior Services Community



PHOTO BY PAT RAYERMANN

The Scouts tested their knots and lashing skills with Huckfin days of constructing bamboo rafts and floating down the Potomac River in Paw Paw, W.Va.



PHOTO BY DAVE MOWBRAY

Troop 1548 with the cairn marking Baden Powell's thinking spot.

Troop 1548: Through All Kinds of Weather

Troop 1548, led by Scoutmaster Phil Quinn, is known as the All Weather Troop. They concluded this year's activities with a splash in the mud during the Marine Corps Marathon' Run A-Muck. Held each year at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Scouts braved the four miles of mud and obstacles dressed as super heroes, while the adults came out as super villains.

The year started off with younger scouts attending Tuckahoe Summer Camp as the Venture Patrol departed for England to begin their 85-mile coast-to-coast hike of Hadrian's Wall. Based out of Dilston Scout Camp, the Venture Patrol made daily treks along the 1900-year-old wall. Local British Scouts created nightly opportunities for fellowship around the campfire and lasting friendship. Besides witnessing ancient artifacts being uncovered, the Patrol made the historical journey of Lord Baden Powell to

the first official Scout Camp, Camp Look Wide, reaffirming their Scout Oath at the cairn marking the spot where Powell finalized the creation of the Boy Scouts.

After returning from these experiences, the Scouts gathered for their Annual Planning Meeting in August. Some events in their plan for the year included the Troop's 12th annual Iron Chef Competition (Cooking Merit Badge), Paul Bunyan Days (Wilderness Survival, Rifle, Shotgun, and Archery Merit Badges), and the Annual Naval (American Heritage, Radio and Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge) weekend. This year's trip included cake with Benjamin Franklin on his birthday. The Troop's Scouts also affirmed their annual trek to New York to retrieve the Light of Peace and participate as Messengers of Peace by bringing this eternal flame to Virginia, sharing it with Troops in the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia area, and arranging to relay it on to other Troops across the

United States. This year's cold weather did not hold the Scout's back as they planned and prepared for a winter backpack in a blanket of snow and the weather did not fail to deliver. The term All Weather Troop symbolizes the Scout Motto to always be prepared, for any kind of weather, providing Scouts with challenging growth experiences balanced with prudence and planning to assure success in their adventures — the Scouts backpacked through 8 to 12 inches of snow and learned the difficulties and fine art of trekking through a foot of snow.

Spring Break is generally the Troop's Triathlon of Backpacking, Canoeing and Cycling over six days and 100 miles. This year the Scout chose to ride the entire length of the C&O Canal — a distance of 184 miles. With snow, wind, rain and sunshine, the older Scouts were joined on the last two days by the two new joining Patrols. The Troop finished in front of the Lincoln Memorial.



PHOTO BY PAT RAYERMANN

Backpacking the Appalachian Trail in a foot of snow.



PHOTO BY PHIL QUINN

After riding length of C&O canal, Scouts finish at Lincoln Memorial.



PHOTO BY STEVE KLOSKY

The Scouts leave their Camporee Camp Site for the challenge course.

Mentored by Wynton Marsalis

Westfield student participates in Summer Jazz Academy.

BY MIKE ASHENFELDER
THE CONNECTION

Dylan Cooper, a jazz pianist from Centreville, will perform with the Summer Jazz Academy, directed by Wynton Marsalis, at the Castleton Festival this weekend.

Cooper, 17, joins 42 other gifted U.S. high school jazz students selected by Jazz at Lincoln Center to participate in the new advanced training program.

This is the first year for the Summer Jazz Academy, Jazz at Lincoln Center's first music education and performance high school summer program. It is also the Castleton Festival's first all-jazz endeavor.

The Summer Jazz Academy is hosted by the Castleton Festival, a not-for-profit performance series and training program for young artists, founded by conductor-violinist-composer Lorin Maazel and his wife, Dietlinde Turban Maazel, to mentor talented young professional musicians in a harmonious, supportive setting. Lorin Maazel and Marsalis announced their partnership shortly before Maazel's death in July 2014.

"At Jazz at Lincoln Center, we believe in a holistic education," Marsalis said. "We believe in a 'hands-on' approach to education. We will teach kids to play



Dylan Cooper

By Victor O'Neill Studios

at the highest level, but we also want the Jazz at Lincoln Center Summer Jazz Academy experience at Castleton to be transformative and to invite young people into the feeling of jazz."

The two-week institute is designed and instructed by Marsalis and an elite faculty. Students study

jazz aesthetics, culture, and history, and they perform in big bands and small combos. The curriculum and format are based on Jazz at Lincoln Center's 27-year history of education in jazz performance and appreciation. The students will be on the bill this Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 1 and 2, with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. Marsalis will headline both shows. Cooper, who performs during the school year with the Westfield High School Jazz Band, said that the Summer Jazz Academy has been "intense" and invaluable for his growth as a musician. He describes, for example, the pianist/instructor, Helen Sung, demonstrating a mambo style on the piano for the ensemble. "Just from watching her I learned how to play the style and how to keep a repeated accompaniment interesting," said Cooper. "She would play the pattern, then throw in a run up the scale and then hit a chord and go right back to the pattern again. She is pushing me out of my comfort zone, which is great."

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Westfield Grad Wants to Bring Back Girls' Golf Team

Kara Moore
recalls the benefits.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

High school was a difficult time for Kara Moore. Whether it was medical issues or problems fitting in socially, Moore was plagued by stress for much of her four years at Westfield.

She was diagnosed with a panic disorder at the age of 10. As she got older, she experienced seemingly random illnesses. She underwent 12 surgeries in high school. She would eventually be diagnosed with Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome: Hypermobility and Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome after collapsing during a college basketball practice.

While much of high school was hard on Moore, the golf course was her sanctuary. In 2007, she was the only freshman to make the girls' golf team. Moore ended up a four-time regional qualifier for the Bulldogs, but golf at Westfield was about more than birdies and pars for the shy, slender girl who stood 6 feet tall.

Golf gave Moore a place to get away from the stress of everyday life.

"When things were on the golf course, things were significantly different," Moore said. "... I didn't have any panic attacks or anxiety on the golf course."

Moore's teammates were also her friends. "It was light-hearted," she said. "... They were really accepting. ... That was some-

thing I was searching for since I wasn't good socially. When I did get sick, they were the ones to check in on me."

Moore, now 22, graduated from Westfield in 2011 and attended Marymount University in Arlington. At the time, Marymount offered men's golf but did not have a women's team. After joining the men's team for one season, Moore helped create a women's program.

"With the help and support of President Dr. Matthew Shank and the Washington Golf & Country Club community, I spent Summer 2014 creating the team I promised," Moore wrote in an email. "The true test was practice in August 2014. We needed at least six players to be a team and 11 showed up ready to play."

"Marymount Women's Golf played its inaugural season in 2014-2015. None of the schools in our conference had golf teams so we played anyone and everyone who would play us. I travelled up and down the mid-Atlantic coast with my team having the time of my life. We were not first-place winners every match, but the creation of the team was a championship of its own."

While golfing was the most enjoyable activity of Moore's high school experience, interest in the sport dwindled at after she graduated. Golf is now a co-ed sport at



PHOTO BY MEGAN STOLMACK

Kara Moore, pictured in 2009, has fond memories of her time with the Westfield girls' golf team.

Westfield, and Moore is focused on trying to bring back a girls' team.

For a girls' team to exist, Westfield would need at least four golfers — a number Moore doesn't see as a problem.

A low interest level and financial restraints make it unlikely for Westfield to field a girls' team this fall, but Moore said she's dedicated to making it happen in the future, and would like to help as a volunteer assistant coach.

"I would tell [any interested girls] that

they don't need to have swung a golf club in their life as long as they're interested in playing," said Moore, who volunteers with The First Tee of Greater Washington, D.C. "I was not confident in myself at all going into high school. I didn't think I was going to make the team, at all."

Moore said those girls interested in playing golf should come to tryouts for the Westfield co-ed team on Aug. 3 and 4 at Chantilly National Country Club.

"It may take a year, it may take two years to separate the [the boys' and girls' teams]," Moore said. "... I would like to see girls' varsity golf with its own tab on the [Westfield athletics] Web site again."

Moore has experienced additional hardships of late after graduating from Marymount with a bachelor's degree, in-

cluding job-related struggles and graduate school rejections. She's currently back home in Centreville working in the golf department at Dick's Sporting Goods.

While times can be tough, Moore can still focus on golf.

"I owe it to [girls interested in golf] to try and get this back up and running because it meant so much to me and I feel it might change the life of somebody else," Moore said. "I would love to be around Westfield girls' golf again."

SWIM NOTES

Poplar Tree Competes in NVSL Division 4 Individual Championships

The third time was the charm this year at Virginia Run for a beautiful sunny day.

In the Battle Royale of NVSL Division 4, the Pirates showed they belonged with 60 best times and two records set.

In the 8 and under boys, Blake Madsen bested his records with a

breaststroke time of 21.90 and a 17.96 in the fly.

Eight Pirates qualified for the All-star meet on July 30: Neha Balaji (9-10 girls' breaststroke (10th)); Mary Kominski (13-14 girls' breaststroke (10th)); Julia Young (girls' 13-14 backstroke (6th), girls' 13-14 100 IM (19th)); Lauren Young (girls' 13-14 freestyle (3rd), girls' 13-14 butterfly (1st)); Lauren Hensley (15-18 girls' backstroke (5th), 15-18 girls' 100 IM (6th)); Ben Farelo 8&U boys' freestyle (10th), 8&U boys' butterfly (3rd)); Blake Madsen (8&U boys' breaststroke (2nd), 8&U boys' butterfly (1st)); and Kai Taft (9-10 boys' butterfly (16th)).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Poplar Tree Pirate all-stars: (from left) Mary Kominski, Lauren Young, Julia Young, Lauren Hensley, Neha Balaji, Kai Taft, (front) Blake Madsen, and Ben Farelo.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 2

beginning, intermediate or advanced ESL classes starting on Sept. 15 and running through Nov. 19. Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. There is a \$15 registration fee and the textbook costs \$25. Visit www.lordoflifeva.org.

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.

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

share experiences, gain support without having to travel. These are one-hour free sessions. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices.

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.

‘Trying to Find the Best Footing’

School Board honors retiring leadership team members, adopts budget review and audit plan.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

In their last meeting of the summer, Fairfax County School Board members began by remembering former superintendent Dr. Robert Spillane, who recently died, and recognizing outgoing members of the school system’s leadership team.

“He was one of the first people to reach out to me as I came on as superintendent,” said Dr. Karen Garza. The current superintendent called him “a gracious and impressive gentleman,” adding: “He’s a person who’s had a tremendous impact on this system.” Assistant superintendent of human resources Dr. Phyllis Pajardo and Dr. Kim Dockery, chief academic officer, each received resolutions honoring their years of work and service in Fairfax County Public Schools.

Pajardo’s career with Fairfax County spanned 34 years and included positions of teacher, assistant principal, principal and cluster leadership roles. In 20 years, Dockery was also an assistant and principal, as well as assistant superintendent of special services, before reaching her final position as chief academic officer.

During citizen participation, several speakers also praised Dockery. Sheree

Brown-Kaplan, founder and chair of the Fairfax Alliance for Appropriate Public Education, said, “Through my personal experience as a parent and as a special education advocate, I have observed Kim bring substantive change toward a problem-solving approach to special education disputes.”

TAKING HER TURN at the microphone, Dockery thanked the board for the honor and closed by saying, “The classroom is where everything happens and we have to make sure that politics doesn’t overshadow the quality of the teacher in the classroom and the great administrators — those two things are the most important things to our success.”

Two of the main items the board took action on were the Fiscal Year 2015 final budget review and Fiscal Year 2016 Audit Plan.

Providence representative Patty Reed made the motion to pass the final budget review, which included revenue and expenditure changes versus the Fiscal Year 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review.

“It reflects hard work and prudent spending,” Reed said. “It funds Strategic Plan priorities,” she added and “sets aside money for Fiscal Year 2017, when we’re going to need every penny we can get. It’s responsible action.”

The variances between the Third Quarter and Final reviews amounted to \$33.2 million in funds available.

Of those, this final budget review includes \$23.9 million that’s set aside, along with \$4 million already earmarked from the Fiscal Year 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review, for a total of \$27.8 million as a total beginning balance for Fiscal Year 2017.

“Given what we know the county is facing in 2017,” said Braddock representative



Kim Dockery



Dr. Phyllis Pajardo

Megan McLaughlin, referring to a projected \$100 million shortfall, “I believe my colleagues are truly trying to help this school system find the best footing possible.”

Kimberly Adams, president of the Fairfax Education Association teachers’ union, praised past budget work for funding the on-time full-step increase in teacher compensation, and making “good on the promise of turf fields.”

“We appreciate work that started weeks ago, with joint board committees,” Adams said. “We need to see more work by both boards, more quickly. Our quality of life depends on it.”

When called to a vote, the board unanimously passed the review.

At-large member Ilryong Moon next motioned for approving the Fiscal Year 2016 audit plan, intended to improve the efficiency and efficacy of the school system. Moon explained that in addition to carryovers from the Fiscal Year 2015 audit, new components for 2016 would include performance audits of the online campus, homebound and home-based instruction, and business process and turnover audits.

Garza commended the work of the audit committee, which most recently held a work

session July 13.

“It’s a good approach to include the comprehensive evaluations,” Garza said, that will have “a significant impact throughout the system.”

The audit plan also passed unanimously.

AS A FOLLOW-UP, the board then voted to approve the process by which community members can apply to be part of the audit committee, as well as a timeline for how and when that group will operate. The committee comprises four School Board members and two appointed representatives from the community. Those two serve staggered two-year terms.

The request for community member applications began July 24 and will last until Aug. 21, with the first meeting scheduled to be held in October.

“We clearly will, with the addition of community members, accomplish our goals of many years ago,” said Mount Vernon representative Dan Storck, “to have a highly functional, independent audit process.”

During new business, School Board members received information about the future of the Family Life Education Curriculum Advisory Committee, which is made up of community members, teachers, administrators and members of the central office staff.

As of the meeting, two School Board appointments to the committee were unfilled, along with four student representative appointments, a physician and a middle and elementary school administrator. The remainder of the committee members’ term lasts until June 30, 2016.

The Family Life Education Curriculum Advisory Committee meets twice yet this year — Oct. 8 and Nov. 12 — at the Gatehouse Administration Center from 7-9 p.m.



Campers in the Fairfax County Park Authority’s REC-Pac summer program gather to break into the Guinness Book of World Records.



Crime Prevention Officer Michelle Alexander and School Resource Officers Joe Woloszyn and Josh Kennon.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF REC-PAC

Gathering to Break into Guinness Book of World Records

Crime Prevention Officer Michelle Alexander and School Resource Officers Joe Woloszyn and Josh Kennon helped break a world record on Thursday, July 23 at the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum.

Along with more than 1,200 REC-Pac

campers, officers highlighted the bullying issue by striving to break into the Guinness Book of World Records.

The group stood in front of the museum and formed a shape of a heart with their hands for two minutes.

Previously, the record holder in this cat-

egory stood at 554 youths. If approved, the campers and all in attendance will make the 2016 record book.

The campers were assisted by 42 volunteer stewards from Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue along with

local residents. REC-Pac, which stands for “Pretty Awesome Children,” is operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority and is a summer program for Fairfax County children. The campers range from 1st graders to rising 7th graders. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec-pac/>.

On A Tagent

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Not that I live day-to-day or even month-to-month, but I do live – in my head anyway – quarter-to-quarter; that interval representing the usual and customary time between my recurring diagnostic scans. The time when the rubber hits my road. The time when push comes to shove. The time when my oncologist tells me whether my warranty has been extended for the next three months or not. Not that I anticipate that my time will run out that quickly after a disappointing scan result; still, bad news seems to travel faster and cause adverse consequences quicker than good news causes relief, a sort of “disharmony,” to quote James Cagney from the movie, “Mister Roberts.”

But what else is new? Nothing, really. Because to live the life of a cancer survivor is way better than not living, or casting yourself as a victim, which, for those who know me, know I never do. Where’s the future in that? Blaming, “woeing-is-meing,” “self-dissatisfying?” To what end? Misery might like company but it’s boring to be around miserable people. And to survive a potentially devastating and depressing set of circumstances – expected or not – associating and/or being exposed to/subjected to people who look at life through black-rose-colored glasses provides no help whatsoever.

I don’t want to feel better about myself by being around people who feel worse about themselves. I want to feel better by being around people who feel good and act/behave positively. Strength may indeed come from numbers, as they say; but when you’re a cancer patient/survivor, strength comes from attitude: yours, your fellow cancer survivors and the people with whom you surround yourself. I don’t want to have overcome someone else’s negativity. I want to be overcome by their positivity. I want/need to feel good about everything I do/attempt to do. I don’t want/definitely don’t need to feel/be made to feel bad about anything. Granted, it’s a subtle line between encouragement and disappointment where you might be suggesting one thing and minimizing another. Yet, finding a middle ground becomes imperative. Not that cancer patients’ psyches are fragile and easily affected by the words and deeds of others; however, cancer does exert some subconscious and even unconscious control and consequently, you might end up feeling/emoting/reacting differently than you ever have or ever anticipated. As an example: I tear up regularly while watching television, and not just at “tear-jerkers,” either: news, weather, sports, comedies, dramas, fiction, non-fiction; anything, everything.

Mastering one’s domain, in a non-Seinfeld-type context is crucial to surviving a cancer ordeal. Taking the ups and downs and all-arounds in some sort of stride, even two steps forward and one step backward isn’t so bad. At least your net movement is forward. And forward is the goal. Certainly I’m not looking forward to my next scan in October but it is something to look forward to; it’s progress, sort of; it means that life is still being lived. It’s not ideal, but ideal left the building on February 27, 2009 when I received my initial face-to-face diagnosis/prognosis. Nevertheless, I remain positive about my negative. In my opinion, the alternative serves no purpose.

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

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The reward of a thing
well done, is to have done it.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Scrap I-66 Toll Plan

FROM PAGE 4

ciple of project selection based on merit.

Please allow me to call attention to the fact that the provisions of H.B. 599 apply to "all significant transportation projects" in Northern Virginia. This legislation was not amended or superseded by H.B. 2; I would appreciate and value an explanation regarding why the Administration is proceeding with plans for I-66 inside the Beltway without having first performed an analysis pursuant to H.B. 599 as required by law. If there is some ambiguity about this provision of law, please let me know,

The Administration's proposal also ignores the fact that 30 percent of the portion of H.B. 2313 (2013) tax revenue dedicated to Northern Virginia is allocated to localities for transportation and can be used at their discretion, including for walkways, bike paths, and multi-modal options. On top of this, Fairfax County approved \$100 million in bonding authority in 2014, misnamed "transportation," of which \$86 million is dedicated to walkways and bike paths. I would appreciate and value an explanation regarding why the revenue already available to localities in Northern Virginia for walkways, bike paths, and other multi-modal options is not sufficient, and that toll revenue is needed.

Similarly, 70 percent of the portion of H.B. 2313 tax revenue is allocated to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, which can fund roadway and multi-modal projects along the I-66 corridor inside the Beltway. Why is this existing tax revenue, plus the revenue collected by the state from H.B. 2313 and prior legislation, not sufficient and toll revenue necessary?

A related issue is who would pay the toll and who would benefit from it. While I will await the completion of the appropriate analysis, it would seem likely that many, if not most of the expected toll payers live outside the Beltway, while the projects that would be funded by the toll would benefit mostly those living inside the Beltway, if true, this raises a fundamental issue of fairness. Likewise, it is unfair for motorists to pay a toll to drive on a road that tax dollars have already paid to build and maintain.

Assigning the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and not the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority or the CTB to Spend Toll Revenue Doesn't Make Sense

After years of having no money to spend on transportation projects, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority was put into business with a portion of the tax revenue from H.B. 2313. While the Authority still has significant progress to make in order to meet the expectations of H.B. 2313, it has established a project selection process that is funding all modes of transportation in Northern Virginia, including along the I-66 corridor, and has established processes to facilitate project implementation. NVTC has none of this in place, but has a

substantially overlapping membership of localities including certain elected officials who attend both NVTC and NVTB meetings. (Disclosure: I am a member of the NVTC).

So I'm sure you can understand why I'm surprised by your willingness to give the NVTC, and not the NVTB or the Commonwealth Transportation Board, the role of spending toll revenue as noted in your March 25, 2015 letter to the heads of government in Arlington, Fairfax County, and Falls Church. Choosing NVTC would create a redundant and unnecessary local government bureaucracy at the NVTC to do what the NVTB and the CTB are already doing. No well-run business would organize its decision making processes in this way. Decision making with public money should not be designed to a lower standard. My concern is amplified by the fact that the NVTC is not subject to the project selection-by-merit approach used by the NVTB and the CTB. I would appreciate and value your explanation of why the NVTC was chosen among the alternatives.

In conclusion, I would be happy to work with you and your team to develop new plans for I-66 inside the Beltway. Rating project options according to H.B. 599 and H.B. 2 should be among the first steps taken, so that state and local decision makers, as well as the public, can evaluate the options based on expected congestion reduction relative to cost. Options for evaluation should include several scenarios, such as widening I-66 inside the Beltway by one or two lanes in each direction, all the way to the Potomac River, as well as part of the way through Arlington. The analysis should also include the congestion reduction impact of fixing the I-66/Dulles Connector intersection, and removing HOV restrictions between the West Falls Church Metro station and the Beltway, with direct access to the station from I-66.

Given the proximity of I-66 to Washington, D.C. and important national security assets in Northern Virginia, the analysis should also examine the degree to which different scenarios would be expected to improve regional mobility and save lives in the event of a homeland security emergency in Washington or Northern Virginia, as specifically referenced in H.B. 599.

If our collective purpose is to put merit and objectivity ahead of politics as usual, then we should neither hesitate to evaluate these kinds of options pursuant to H.B. 599 and H.B. 2, nor fear the results.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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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

“Evenings on the Ellipse” Concert Series. Thursdays, 5:30-7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center Ellipse (Backyard), 12000 Government Center Parkway. Chairman Sharon Bulova of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors hosts weekly live music events. Relax to the music and enjoy complimentary samples of local wines. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Summer Reading Program. Through Sept. 5 at all regional libraries. Come to the library for books and other fun events. All ages welcome. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ for locations and information.

Toddlin’ Twos. Tuesdays, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Early literacy storytime with songs and activities included. Age 2 with caregiver, free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

Storytime for Three to Fives. Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Stories and activities for children age 3-5 with caregiver. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

English Conversation Group. Thursdays, 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-

502-3883 to reserve a space.
English Conversation Group. Saturdays, 3 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-830-2223 for more.

English Conversation Group. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

Plant Clinic. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. A neighborhood plant clinic with horticultural tips, information, techniques, and advice. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

ESL Book Club. Mondays, 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Meet and discuss a book chosen by group. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

THURSDAY/JULY 30-SUNDAY/AUG.

Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival. 9 a.m.-10 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Rd, Herndon. Carnival rides, fair food, animal shows, stage entertainment, exhibits, competitions, tractor pull and more. Free admission. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/fryingpanpark/4-h-fair.htm.

THURSDAY/JULY 30

Silly Sleuths Day. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Learn history and make a craft. The topic will be “Weather-Wise.” There is a \$10 fee. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Around the World Musical

Adventure. 10:30 a.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Music and Movement for Ages 3-7. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

Ask an Expert Series: Pave Knife Pod. 12:30-12:45 p.m. at Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly. Learn about laser-guided bombs in the Vietnam War from Air and Space Museum staff member Roger Connor. Free admission. \$15 parking. Visit airandspace.si.edu/events/

Networking Event. 4-6 p.m. at the Washington Intelligence Bureau, 4128 Pepsi Place, Chantilly. Attend a casual summer event designed to give nonprofit leaders and organizers tools to better their work. Free. Visit www.wibmail.com/event.

Teen Creative Writing Workshop. 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Mentors from the Writers of Chantilly help take teen’s creative writing to the next level. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

FRIDAY/JULY 31

Ready For School Storytime. 2 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Get preschool-aged children ready to be on their own with this early literacy storytime program. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

SATURDAY/AUG. 1

Crime Solvers 5K. 8 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway. The Fairfax County Crime Solvers host the annual “Race Against Crime” sponsored by Investigation Discovery’s “Homicide Hunter” host

Lt. Joe Kenda. Registration is \$30 through July 31 at 9 a.m. and \$35 on the day of the race. Visit www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org/5K for more.

Thriving Three to Fives. 10:30 a.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Stories and activities for those aged 3-5 with an adult. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

“With the Help of a Physick.” 1-2 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Learn about 18th century diseases and why these illnesses were frightening mysteries for most people. Learn about smallpox inoculation and the 1793 yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia. There is a \$8 fee. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 1-2

BrickFair. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Center, Chantilly. Satisfy a love for Legos at this Lego festival and expo that feature displays, vendors and games. \$15-\$20 admission. Visit www.brickfair.com.

MONDAY/AUG. 3

Uno, Dos, Tres Sing and Dance. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Sing and move with music and dance with Andres Salguero. All ages. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

Writers Workshop. 6:45 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Share writing, as well as give and receive feedback in a supportive setting. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

TUESDAY/AUG. 4

Thriving Three to Fives. 11 a.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Stories and activities for those aged 3-5 with an adult. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

Teen Book Club. 4:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Book discussion group for teens in grades 7-10. Free. Call 703-502-3883 with questions, to find out book title, and to reserve a space.

Star Wars Celebration. 7:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Celebrate Star Wars Universe with John Jackson Miller, author of Star Wars comics. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 5

Balloon Sculpting. 2 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Learn the art of balloon twisting and make cool creations. Ages 12-18. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

Mystery Book Club. 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Book discussion group focused on a mystery novel. Free. Call 703-502-3883 with questions, to learn title, and to reserve a spot.

THURSDAY/AUG. 6

The Living Rainforest. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Meet animals from the rainforest. Ages 6-12. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

Small Wonders. 11 a.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Rhymes, songs, stories, and other activities for 2 year olds and caregiver to help build an early literacy foundation. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

Ask an Expert Series: 70 Years Ago. 12:30-12:45 p.m. at Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly. Learn about the flight of the B-29 Enola Gay from Air and Space Museum staff member Jeremy Kinney. Free admission. \$15 parking. Visit airandspace.si.edu/events/

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 7-9

Super Smash Con. Friday, 3-8 p.m., Saturday, 10-8 p.m., and Sunday, 10-6 p.m. at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. All ages are welcome to attend this video-game convention featuring vendors, exhibits, competitions, music and more. Admission is \$25-34. Visit supersmashcon.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 8

Book Swap and Board Games. 3 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Swap out unwanted books and challenge others to a favorite board game. Light snacks provided. Rising grades 7-12. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/AUG. 10-14

All-American Girl Living Dolls Camp. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Children are invited to bring a doll friend and experience the life of an American girl growing up in the most interesting eras in history. They will practice the life skills girls needed in the past and relate them to the present. Attendees will find activities, costumes, crafts and themed games. The camp will cost \$190. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

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