

September 17-23, 2015

NNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

# The City Will Be Better Off' Council approves project to build 80 condos.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

Ithough there were problems along the way, the Fairfax City Council last week gave the go-ahead for a residential development called The Enclave to be built at the Mantua Professional Center on Pickett Road. It consists of 80 condos in two, four-story buildings, each above a one-level parking garage.

"This will develop an under-used parcel of land," said Councilwoman Janice Miller. "Our long-time residents are looking for this type of product so they can continue living here."

Some office buildings, the New School of Northern Virginia and 181 parking spaces are there currently, and IDI-RJL Development LLC wants to construct The Enclave there, too. But to do so, it needed the site's designation changed from business-commercial to mixed use.

Although the City's Comprehensive Plan earmarked five more office buildings for that site, they're no longer economically feasible in today's market. So the applicant plans to replace them with condos; 16 of the units will be one-bedroom; 48, two-bedroom; and 16, three-bedroom.

**THE CONDO BUILDINGS** will be constructed on 3.8 wooded acres, off Silver King Court, in the area formerly envisioned for three of the office buildings. The land on which the other two office buildings would have been built will, instead, be preserved as open space for a village green used by the residents, school and existing office community.

At the June 23 public hearing, residents had complaints about parking, traffic and safety, building height, water runoff and affordable housing. The Council members were concerned about architectural quality, too, so they continued the hearing and their decision until last Tuesday, Sept. 8.

At that time, Paul Nabti, the City's senior planner, detailed the most recent changes the applicant had made to the proposal. One was an amend-

ment allowing residential, off-site parking – 32 spaces to be used by the condo owners during the adjacent office uses' non-peak hours. Another was the addition of three more surface-parking spaces, for 128 total, and a ratio of 1.6 spaces/unit.

Regarding stormwater management, the developer proposed modifying two inlets directing water flow away from the Mantua community and the channel adjacent to Thaiss Park.

The City building height limit is 60 feet \$27 and, initially, IDI-RJL wanted to have a maximum building height of 75 feet. But it's since reduced that number to 68 feet by enhancing and refining the design. And in 2 SALAREAL CONNECTION SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2015



NORTH BLDG - FRONT - SOUTH



The north condo building: (top) view from the front; (bottom) view from the rear.





The south condo building: (top) view from the front; (bottom) view from the rear.

response to residents' requests, it flew balloons in August to show how high the condo buildings would be and how visible they'd be from Mantua. However, noted Nabti, "Some balloons couldn't be seen because of vegetation, and they weren't visible from Thaiss Park."

The applicant will donate \$40,000 to public schools and \$30,240 to parks and recreation. And it's increased its contribution to affordable housing from \$216,960 to \$275,000. In addition, more masonry will be added to both buildings' facades. And either a digital, speed-control, traffic sign will be installed, if approved by Council, or the developer will give \$6,000 for safety improvements to Pickett Road.

"We've worked hard in the 10 weeks since the public hearing," said attorney David Houston, representing the applicant. "We've greatly improved the buildings' architecture by adding brick, stone and high-quality window [design]. And stormwater runoff will go in a channel adjacent to the park and eventually into the county and Accotink Creek. Some will also go underground. We'll also divert some of Mantua's runoff into our system, so there'll be 30-percent less runoff into the Mantua community."

However, not all the residents were pleased. Jan Harrod, president of the Mantua Citizens Assn., said they wanted the balloons placed at the buildings' corners and at their tallest height, "not 8 feet less, as was actually done. And we want them flown at the 68-foot height, too."

She also wanted a developer-funded traffic system at the Silver King Court/ Pickett Road intersection, plus a proffer stating IDI-RJL will maintain the stormwater-management system. The association's secretary, Allison Ingram, wanted the left turn at that intersection to be made safer before the project's built because "about 200 more people will be accessing Pickett from Silver King."

**AGREEING**, Councilman Michael DeMarco urged the developer to look at safety there for pedestrians, too.

Resident Brian McNeill feared accidents could happen at the non-signalized, Silver King/Pickett intersection. But City traffic engineer Curt McCullough said the traffic volume and accident statistics there don't warrant a signal. And Mantua's Tom Hoffman said it's not a real, mixeduse because "there's no Chipotle's or Peet's Coffee there for the residents to go to."

But Sharon Stahl recently moved from Mantua and would "like to stay in the neighborhood, but there's no place to move. So I support this project." Meanwhile, Jon Buttram, on the City's Environmental Sustainability Committee, said the members want native plants used and some trails connected. They also want The Enclave's LEED checklist expanded. Councilwoman Nancy Loftus said the condos would result in less tree loss than the previously approved offices. And, she added, "I appreciate the changes the developer made in response to City and residents' concerns."

Councilman David Meyer still worried about fully loaded fuel trucks heading toward that intersection, but said the Mantua residents' overall input "helped make this a better project."

"This type of housing is in demand in the City right now," noted Council-

woman Ellie Schmidt. "There are many positives to this project, but I encourage [the developer] to use low-impact, development techniques."

"In June, there weren't enough Council votes to enable this project to move forward," said Councilman Jeff Greenfield. "But the developer has moved the needle far enough in the right direction so that we can approve this tonight."

Finally, calling IDI a "well-respected, development group in the Mid-Atlantic region," Mayor Scott Silverthorne said, "We don't get that many developers of that caliber in the City, and I think the City will be better off because of this project." The Council members then approved it unanimously. www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# NEWS



Members of the Fairfax County ad hoc police policies review commission and Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova (center) hold a public forum at Walt Whitman Middle School on Sept. 14.

## 'Reports and Tears Are Not Enough'

Protesters demonstrate for Natasha McKenna, social justice and improved mental health services at ad hoc police review commission public hearing.

> By Tim Peterson The Connection

ayce Utley of Centreville said Natasha McKenna, the 37-yearold African American woman with mental illness who died in the Sheriff's Office custody in February, must be "more than just a mistake, more than an accident. Black women aren't your 'Oops,' they aren't your teachable moments.'

Utley was one of nearly 30 individuals and organization representatives who spoke at the Sept. 14 public forum for the Fairfax County ad hoc commission to review police policies.

Though the work of the commission is focused mainly on the Police Department and came about largely as a result of the way the county handled the 2013 officerinvolved shooting death of Springfield man John Geer, the forum provided residents with an opportunity to both hear the final recommendation report from the commission's Use of Force subcommittee and voice their frustration about McKenna's death and the lack of services for individuals with mental illness.

When Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid released footage last week of McKenna being forced to the ground outside her cell in the Adult Detention Center by six male deputies, then restrained, shocked with an electricity conduction de-

vice or "taser," and later losing consciousness and a heartbeat, it sparked outrage in the community.

**RESIDENTS** from all over Fairfax County, as well as Maryland and Washington, DC, filled the auditorium at Walt Whitman Middle School to capacity. Many were holding signs they had brought to demonstrate for McKenna in front of the school prior to the meeting.

Throughout the forum, several demonstrators cried out "Say Her Name!" ("Natasha McKenna!") and other exclamations condemning the graphic scenes from the video, continued violent treatment of people of color by law enforcement and asking what was being done about it.

Erika Totten of Alexandria compared McKenna's death to the "casual slave killing" act in the Virginia code from 1669. "This is what we're dealing with today," she said. "Her death was ruled as an accident. I have a problem with that. Natasha is me. Your reports and tears are not enough."

"Their anger is understandable," said Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) who attended the meeting but did not speak publicly. "You can't look at the video without saying this could have, should have been avoided.

"The fact they're here, expressing angst over the case and how we deal with mental illness, is something the community needed See Protest, Page 19



Members of the audience at the Fairfax County police policies review commission public forum raise signs protesting in the name of Natasha McKenna, who died while in the custody of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office.

### Video of McKenna Incident Released

Three days after Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrow announced he had concluded his investigation of Natasha McKenna's death while in the custody of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Stacey Kincaid released the video of the incident. Her justification for not releasing it sooner was that it had previously been evidence in an ongoing investigation.

The 48-minute video, available to stream on YouTube at www.youtube.com/ watch?v=jVs8B2Nmo5k&feature=youtu.be, begins with a message from the Sheriff: "I



Fairfax County Sheriff's deputies, wearing protective suits, can be seen forcing Natasha McKenna to the ground outside her cell at the **Fairfax County Adult Detention** Center in the video released by Sheriff Stacey Kincaid.



After being restrained with upper and lower body cuffs, and a spit hood, and receiving shock from four applications of a conducted electricity weapon or "taser," a medical team checked Natasha McKenna's (center, seated) vital signs prior to her being taken from her cell to a van bound for Alexandria.

want all of you to know this tragic incident has been ingrained in my mind from the day that it occurred. There is no better way for me to share what actually occurred than to make this video available for the community to review it in its entirety.'

As of publication, the video had over 400,000 views.

The graphic footage shows McKenna being removed from her cell and forced to the ground as she struggles against six Sheriff's deputies who are telling her, "Stop resisting," and "Ma'am, if you do not stop resisting, you will be tased, do you understand?'

While being moved from the ground to a chair and restrained, McKenna received four shocks from an electricity conducting device or "taser" wielded by one of the deputies. He applied the taser twice in her lower body, twice her upper body, one of the deputies explains on the tape.

A medical team was called to check McKenna's vital signs. In the hallway outside her cell, she was deemed stable enough to transport. When the team that was moving her reached the van waiting to take her to Alexandria, another check showed she no longer had a pulse. Deputies began performing CPR on her and were eventually relieved by Fairfax County Fire & Rescue.

McKenna's body was put on a gurney and taken away in an ambulance, at which point the video ends.

TIM PETERSON





Before being loaded onto a van to be transported to the Alexandria Sheriff's Office, medical officials determined Natasha McKenna no longer had a pulse. Sheriff's Office deputies began performing CPR and were replaced by Fairfax County Fire & Rescue, who then took McKenna to the hospital.

# 'Hidden Fairfax' Needs Urgent Attention

### Elected officials discuss ways to support county's residents in need.

By Andrea Worker The Connection

e can't do enough to spread the word that in the midst of affluent Fairfax County there is another, 'hidden Fairfax' that needs our urgent attention." That was her response when Margery Leveen Sher, executive director of the Medical Care for Children Partnership (MCCP) Foundation, was asked what was the organization's goal for the Business Leaders' Breakfast hosted by MCCP on Tuesday, Sept. 15. Held in the offices of McGuireWoods Consulting in Tysons, the "Hidden Fairfax" gathering featured discussions on the topic by elected officials U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) and State Sen. George Barker (D-39). MCCP board member, and president of Madison Services Group Ann Sullivan, served as MC and moderator.

After welcoming remarks by MCCP Board of Directors president Penny Bladich and an introduction by Sher, Sullivan prompted the panelists to start with their views on the needs in the community and to talk of past and current efforts to provide services, particularly health-related, to the children of the region. Rep. Connolly went straight to the heart of the matter as the opening panelist speaker.

"When I was elected to Congress in 2008...Fairfax was the wealthiest county in the country as defined

by median household income," said Connolly. "Today, Fairfax is number three or four, with a median income of \$110,000. Poverty for a family of three is defined at about \$25,000. Guess what? About 6 percent of our population meets that criterion. That may not seem like a high percentage, but when you take the base, about 1.1 million, that's a lot of people."

ACCORDING TO CONNOLLY, another indicator that there are Fairfax residents in need "below the surface and often out of sight" is the fact that 29 percent of the county's school children are availing of free or reduced-cost school lunches. "The need is real," added Connolly, "and sometimes masked by low percentages."

Connolly praised the work of MCCP in spearheading a public-private partnership to bring medical and dental assistance to the children of those families struggling in our midst, and paid tribute to the medical institutions and the individual physicians and dentists and other medical profession-



From left — Moderator Ann Sullivan, MCCP board member, with elected officials and event panelists Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) and state Sen. George Barker (D-39).



Margery Leveen Sher, executive director of MCCP, welcomes the gathering to the "Hidden Fairfax" discussion.

als who provided their services for free or at greatly reduced prices.

As for current efforts to alleviate these needs, "Let me put in one plug for the federal level," Connolly requested. "Passing the Affordable Health Care Act was one of the most significant things Congress has ever done in terms of health care." What he believes is critical to effect a better health care outcome for the citizens of Virginia and a financial advantage to the taxpayers is to implement the expansion of Medicaid as available under the Act. Connolly says that key element is being stalled by partisanship and "a political problem in Richmond. Four hundred thousand of our fellow citizens would benefit...68,000 of them right here in Northern Virginia." Under the rules, 100 percent of the monies spent under the expansion in the first three years would be federal dollars, and 90 percent thereafter. Connolly also reminded the attendees that if the federal government doesn't keep up its end of the bargain, "we are not committed, we can get out at any time."



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova was last up on the agenda, citing statistics about the county's residents in need and efforts to address those needs through public-private partnerships.

Rep. Comstock also acknowledged the needs of "Hidden Fairfax." The congresswoman appreciates the MCCP model because "it is a great community solution, incorporating all aspects of the community...doing what the government alone cannot."

Comstock also supports the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act, passed this summer by the House. She sees the bill, which promises significant additional funding for the National Institutes of Health and the FDA and reform to bring treatments to market more quickly, as a way of ultimately freeing up more funds to apply to other healthcare issues. Calling on her experiences as Chair of the subcommittee on Research and Technology and past work on technology issues as a delegate in the Virginia Legislature, Comstock also places a lot of faith in technological solutions that would bring more health care options more quickly to more people in "our on-demand demand society." The third panelist, Virginia Senator

George Barker, pointed out that the "Hidden Fairfax" residents are not just those below the designated poverty line. "There are many others [15 percent of the population, 172,000 people] in the category of 200 percent above the line who still qualify for some assistance in some cases, and are definitely struggling."

Barker has degrees in Economics and Public Health from Harvard. He also earned a master's in Health Policy and Management and worked for three decades for the Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia. In his expert opinion, people need a medical "home" versus the emergency waystation. The current situation of medically underserved county residents "has real implications. People suffer in two ways: their health status is generally much worse than what you and I enjoy, and their life expectancies are much shorter." Barker supports further integrating Medicaid and Medicare as "good for people and for taxpayers."

Moderator Sullivan next steered the conversation toward what she called "the elephant in the room." Should medical and dental assistance such as provided through MCCP include undocumented children?

"These are innocent kids. Health needs to be addressed, period," replied Connolly. "And remember, disease doesn't check your status. It's to everyone's benefit to help keep people healthy." Barker, also supporting assistance regardless of immigration status, shared statistics showing that 18 percent of immigrants fall below the poverty line for the first three years of their

residency. By 10 years, the numbers show that they have "caught up with the rest of us." After 20 years, the majority have improved their status to be "better than the people born here – mostly hard-working people who deserve good health and a chance at the same life expectancy that we have."

Rep. Comstock sees the "faith-based community, the entire community" as important to bringing aid to this sector of our population, without having to question status or "fill out forms." She also cited a program in the Loudoun County portions of her district that sends mobile health vans into the community, "bringing medical services to the people who need it most." Comstock acknowledged that these solutions don't address the underlying problem, but suggested that a Medicaid overhaul similar to Welfare

SEE FOCUS, PAGE 5



From left — Ian Thomas with Cardinal Bank; Penny Bladich, president of the MCCP Board of Directors and SVP with Cardinal Bank; and Patricia Stevens with the Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships, do a bit of catching up before the start of the agenda at the Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation leadership breakfast.

# Focus on 'Hidden Fairfax'

### From Page 4

reform might be a longer-term solution, giving money to the states in "block grants" and to let them decide how to use the funds to address the issues. Channeling funds in this manner would encourage more creative public-private solutions, "more targeted resources, versus a one-sizefits-all solution," in Comstock's opinion.

"Poverty for a family of three is defined at about \$25,000. Guess what? About 6 percent of our population meets that criterion. That may not seem like a high percentage, but when you take the base, about 1.1 million, that's a lot of people."

Connolly, who feels that when block grants go directly to Richmond, Northern Virginia cannot be sure to receive its fair share, met this idea with skepticism. "I can tell you from my time on the Board of Supervisors, as can Sharon Bulova (Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors) time after time when this was the case." Referring back to his earlier remarks, Connolly responded that the real elephant in

the room was the Commonwealth's failure to enact Medicaid expansion to bring needed funds to bear on the situation.

IN THEIR CLOSING RE-**MARKS**, the panelists were more aligned, each expressing their belief that that the Northern Virginia

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- U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) business community was instrumental in addressing the problems to date, and that their continued support and creative problem-solving would be required going for-

ward to leave no child in the "Hidden Fairfax" zone. MCCP began as a project of the Fairfax County government. By 2007 the organization had proven a successful public-private partnership model and plans began to see MCCP become a separate, 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Margery Sher came onboard at the start of the new organization in 2009, and continues to direct its efforts with her staff of two – that includes herself. Current website improvements works may cause some inconvenience, but for more information on MCCP visit www.mccpfoundation.org. or call 703-286-0881/0882.



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# 'Hot, Fresh and Delicious' Duck Donuts opens in the City of Fairfax.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

t first glance, Duck Donuts seems like a funny name for a doughnut shop. But those familiar with the legendary doughnut store in Duck, N.C. – from which it gets its name – know it's the real deal. And now, area residents do, too,

since Duck Donuts brought its business to the City of Fairfax. Although the official, grand opening was Aug. 29, the shop actually opened in July - and since then, it's been a huge hit.

"My family vacations a lot in the Outer Banks [where Duck, N.C. is], so I thought it was cool that they expanded here," said Joel Helmick, JV soccer coach at Paul VI High. "So for me, it's like a taste of the beach up north."

He was there grabbing a quick snack of one doughnut topped with peanut-butter frosting and bacon, plus another iced with vanilla frosting and coconut. "For cake doughnuts, they're really light and fresh," he said. "And if you get a dozen, you don't eat today."



**Doughnut topper Anna** Morillo displays a box of doughnuts she just frosted and decorated.

them all at once. But then you can microwave them and they're hot and fresh again."

Meanwhile, Becky Lewis was bringing her children there for the first time. "We've been waiting for the lines to die down to come," she said. "This was our special outing



**Siblings Bo and Emma** Lewis show off their doughnuts - strawberryfrosted with rainbow sprinkles, vanilla with chocolate sprinkles and lemon with coconut.

"The doughnuts are good and they're hot," said son Bo. "And you get to create your own."

And, added his sister Emma, "The frosting is creamier than at other doughnut shops."

ALVIN BARNUEVO is general manager of this store and the one

in Herndon, which opened in May. They're the first two Duck Donuts outside North Carolina and a third will open in Arlington in October. This shop is in the Fairfax Boulevard Shopping Center at 10694 Fairfax Blvd., and is open daily from 6 a.m.-7 p.m. (To order or for general information, call 571-297-2298).

"We thought this location was great because it's central and visible, on a main road with several access points, across the street from Paul VI and a half-mile from Fairfax High," said Barnuevo.

Rue Rusike, operations manager for all the Virginia stores, said they offer dense cake doughnuts, 11 coating choices and five toppings. People may have their doughnuts dipped into cinnamon-sugar or powdered sugar or the following frostings: Chocolate, vanilla, strawberry, lemon, orange, maple or peanut butter. They may also be glazed or served plain. Topping choices are shredded coconut, chocolate or rainbow sprinkles, chopped peanuts and bacon pieces.

"I like the lemon frosting and

cinnamon-sugar best," said Rusike. "And for people with peanut allergies, we make their doughnuts separately in the back for no crosscontamination. We also offer a make-your-own doughnut sundae with ice cream, whipped cream and your choice of doughnut toppings."

"People used to think of doughnuts as breakfast items," said Barnuevo. "But now, they're eating them throughout the day and night."

"Even people who've never heard of us before come in," said Rusike. "For example, for a date night, they get two doughnuts for \$2.60 total.'

Rusike said business has been really good. Besides walk-in customers, they also get orders for weddings, barbecues and parties. Barnuevo noted the new trend in parties is doughnut "cakes" shaped like pyramids.

AT THE SHOP, customers usually get their doughnuts within 5-10 minutes. But on weekends, they may wait up to 30 minutes. "And See Duck Donuts. Page 7



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way to a world without Alzheimer's

## NEWS

## **Duck** Donuts Comes to Fairfax

From Page 6

they don't mind because they like our doughnuts so much and they enjoy their experience here," said Barnuevo. "They get good customer service and have fun watching the doughnuts being made through the glass. We even have a ledge for kids to stand on so they can see better."

The store gets many repeat customers. "I see some people every day, and they already know what they want when they come in," said Rusike. "Some get doughnuts twice a day – in the morning for their office and in the evening to take home."

Barnuevo said Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne texts him to let him know he was there and liked the doughnuts. "He especially likes the chocolate ones," said Rusike. They also sell coffee and espresso drinks, iced tea, hot chocolate, muffins, fresh fruit and yogurt, as well as Duck Donuts T-shirts,

mugs, frisbees and key chains.

And special orders are fine. "The other day, a customer came in and wanted a dozen doughnuts - but with each half different - and we did it for her," said Barnuevo. "Our doughnut toppers took it as a challenge and wanted to do it."

Duck Donuts also does catering; a minimum of four dozen doughnuts and 24 hours' notice are required. It delivers within five miles, but will exceed that for a delivery fee. "We've delivered to a GMU fundraiser and to birthday and employee parties," said Rusike. "And a chiropractor's office wants them every Wednesday for their patients."

Recently, Virgil Swartz brought his daughter Alice, a Providence Elementary fourth-grader, to the shop. "I like watching them make the doughnuts and picking my frosting and topping," she said. "My favorite's chocolate with rainbow sprinkles. And since it's always busy here, it gives me time to talk with my dad."





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# OPINION **Treatment Denied Syndrome**

## Natasha McKenna's blood is on all of our hands.

BY PETE EARLEY

atasha McKenna did not die from excited delirium. She died from Treatment Denied Syndrome.\* Commonwealth Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh's 51-page investigative report about the death of the 37-year-old woman contains a horrifying litany

of attempts by McKenna to seek help for her mental illness only to be met with ineptness and indifference.

Rather than being welcomed when she appeared in area emergency rooms, she either was shown the door without receiving help or was discharged before being stabilized. In one instance, she was stuffed into a cab less than four days after being so violent that she needed to be restrained to prevent her from harming herself or others. In another, a police officer and magistrate overruled a doctor who twice tried to get McKenna hospitalized. In a third, she was discharged from one INOVA hospital at 12:30 p.m., only to reappear at another INOVA emergency room at 10 p.m. on the same day. The medical personnel's solution was not to help her but to call the police and have her arrested. Taken to jail, she was stripped naked, held in solitary and stuck in bureaucratic limbo for several days. When it came time to move her, she was stunned with a taser four

By John C. Cook

TRICT)

Supervisor (R-Braddock Dis-

ack to school month is a

great time to talk with chil-

dren about important is-

sues that develop during a typical

school year. Of the many issues

that students will face, bullying is

a topic that warrants a serious dis-

cussion. While bullying may be

viewed as merely a childhood is-

sue, it can have lasting effects on

children long after the bullying subsides. Child victims of chronic

bullying are at increased risk for

both poor physical and mental

health, as well as poor academic

success, which may continue as

they grow and develop into young

Bullying can take many forms,

but Fairfax County Public Schools

(FCPS) defines bullying as any

unwanted or aggressive behavior

that is intended to harm, intimi-

date, or humiliate another stu-

dent. This includes actions such as

adults.

times and died.

If the lack of treatment McKenna received while she was alive was not enough, she was further abused in death. Relying on "junk science," Medical Examiner Dr. Jocelyn Posthumus declared the cause of McKenna's death to be excited delirium — a make-believe syndrome not recognized as real by the American Psychiatric Association, American Medical Association or the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9) of the World Health Organization.

No matter, that diagnosis allowed Fairfax Prosecutor Morrogh to drive in the final nail. Declaring at a press conference that McKenna

possessed super-human strength and quoting a deputy who described COMMENTARY McKenna as being demonically possessed, the Commonwealth Attorney

stripped away what little dignity was left for this woman whose only real crime was that she got sick.

The release of a sheriff's video of McKenna being removed from her cell - naked and afraid — visually disputed Morrogh's characterizations. McKenna walked from her cell in handcuffs and was knocked to the floor by a squad of men who never showed any signs of losing control of her or of having their lives threatened.

This week, two important meetings could help set the agenda for change. On Monday Sept. 14, the Ad Hoc Police Practices Commission was scheduled to discuss the use of force by law enforcement in Fairfax. On Tuesday night, Sept. 15, community leaders planned to meet to discuss how to create a jail diversion system to keep individuals such as

Helping Create Safe School Environment

McKenna from being incarcerated. Nearly 50 community leaders attended the inaugural Diversion First meeting last month. (Morrogh did not.)

The ideas being suggested by Diversion First are not new. They were first brought to the attention of Fairfax officials more than a decade ago but were never implemented because of a lack of funding, a lack of interest and a lack of leadership.

Natasha McKenna paid with her life because of that. Who's to blame?

Like the biblical Pontius Pilate washing his hands of Christ's blood, nearly everyone who crossed paths with McKenna during the last month of her life can claim blamelessness. Thanks to Dr. Posthumus and Prosector Morrogh, McKenna is not only the victim but perpetrator of her own death.

The unanswered question is whether Fairfax County - its leaders and its citizens - have learned anything from this tragedy or if they will continue washing their hands and reassuring themselves that there was nothing any of them could do - after all, Natasha McKenna was mentally ill.

\* Treatment Denied Syndrome is a term first used by a long time National Alliance on Mental Illness advocate to describe our nation's lack of mental health services and callous disregard for persons with mental disorders.

Pete Earley is author of 13 books including the New York Times bestseller 'The Hot House" and the 2007 Pulitzer Prize finalist "Crazy: A Father's Search Through America's Mental Health Madness;" former Washington Post reporter, a resident of Fairfax, and a member of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.



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Newspaper

abuse, and purposeful exclusion. Recent studies have found bullying to be an increasingly larger issue faced by more students than ever before. A recent survey of our own FCPS students found that over 50 percent of students in grades 8-12 reported being bullied by someone at some point during the school year, and nearly 45 percent of students reported being the aggressor in a bullying situation. Bullying doesn't simply involve

COMMENTARY threats, rumors, physical or verbal a bully and victim. Kids may play multiple roles in bullying such as assisting in bullying by encouraging the behavior or reinforcing the bullying by acting as an audience. Some children may act as onlookers by neither reinforcing the bullying behavior nor defending it, while others may come to another child's defense when bullying occurs. Any one of these roles can negatively affect a child.

Many children simply don't know how to handle a bullying situation, and FCPS is committed to fostering a safe school environment to prevent and address bullying for all students. To accomplish this, FCPS has developed a county-wide positive behavior approach to teach children how to respect one another and to resolve conflicts in positive ways. The goal is to enhance the FCPS capacity to educate children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom discipline systems. This will also include the development of school-wide procedures for all

students and staff, and will cover all settings both inside and outside of the classroom.

Students are also taught about bullying through the health and counseling curriculum. The curriculum focuses on teaching students how to recognize bullying and harassment, as well as teaching students how to report these behaviors. The lessons are tailored to the age of the students, and the curriculum expands as children grow and mature.

When it comes to bullying, creating a safe school and neighborhood community is the first priority. It begins by talking with our children, and helping them to understand appropriate behavior. It also includes teaching them what to do when they are a victim of or witness to bullying. Practicing what to do in different scenarios helps students become more confident in these intimidating situations. To learn about other resources, please visit http:// www.stopbullying.gov.

## Week in Fairfax

## Davis and Frost to Discuss 'Congress in Crisis'

The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia is hosting The Partisan Divide: Congress in Crisis, presented by authors Tom Davis and Martin Frost, on Sunday, Sept. 20 at 2:30 p.m. Admission \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door. 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, jccnv.org.

According to Frost and Davis, Congress is incapable of reforming itself without a good kick in the seat from the American public.

Frost and Davis, with great insight and skill, along with a wealth of entertaining anecdotes and photos, dissect the causes of legislative gridlock and offer a commonsense, bipartisan plan for making the Congress function again. Dessert reception following program.

Davis served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for 15 years, three as the Chairman (elected countywide), and went on to win seven terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. Frost represented the Dallas–Ft. Worth area in North Texas in Congress for 26 years.

Area Roundups -

## Saturday Morning Coffee with Delegate David Bulova

This Saturday, Sept. 19, Del. David Bulova (D-37) will continue a tradition started in 2006 by holding the first in a series of informal office hours to take place from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Constituents are invited to talk about issues of interest and to ask questions about legislation affecting our community. The format is casual and no appointment is needed.

Sept. 19 at Main Street Bagel,
10268 Main Street, City of Fairfax.
Oct. 17 at Jireh Cafe, 13848
Lee Highway, Centreville.

Del. Bulova is also happy to arrange individual appointments on specific issues or concerns.

Del. Bulova serves on the General Laws, Education, and Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources committees. He is also a member of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, the State Water Commission, the Joint Commission on Health Care, and the Housing Commission. For more information about Del. Bulova visit www.davidbulova.com.

## Preparation Underway for Complete the Circle FoodRaiser

Our Daily Bread and Lorton Community Action Center are holding a Complete the Circle FoodRaiser on Sunday, Nov. 8, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Practice Field at Fairfax High School. Admission: \$5 for T-Shirt (\$10 for XXL) and a food or grocery gift card donation. In order to reserve T-shirts, register by Oct. 9. As a part of this heartwarming community service project and fun gathering for people of all ages an Art for the Sky picture will be taken, photographed from high in the sky by artist Daniel Dancer and there will be a live performance by School of Rock Vienna, food and children's activities and entertainment. Bring your friends and family or organize a group of friends and colleagues from your office, church, neighborhood or community group. Great for scouts and youth groups — patches available. To learn more, visit Complete the Circle Event and FoodRaiser page or contact Jennifer Rose at 703-273-8829.

### MEDICAL WEIGHT LOSS





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## Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout on Sept. 26

Dispose of old, unused, or expired medications at any Fairfax County Police station on Saturday, Sept. 26. Help keep your community safe and drug-free. The police department is partnering with the Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County on the Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout program, a national effort that takes place each year. Safe handling and disposal of unused or expired medications prevents abuse, accidental poisonings and helps protect the environment.

Drop-Off sites include: Fair Oaks District Station; 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, 22033

Franconia District Station; 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, 22310 West Springfield District Station;

6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, 22152 Mason District Station; 6507 Co-

lumbia Pike, Annandale, 22003 McLean District Station; 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean, 22101

Sully District Station; 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, 20151

Reston District Station; 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, 20190 Mount Vernon District Station; 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306

Learn more at http://unifiedpreventioncoalition.org/.

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# Education Learning Fun **Ending Bullying**

Back to School: Local educators offer advice for parents on how to deal with bullying as school resumes.

> By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

hen Carol Baker cried, no one heard her. She and a classmate were alone in the girls locker room, and as Baker, then an eighth grade student, tried to leave, her classmate grabbed her gym shirt and

pushed her into a locker. They weren't fighting over anything in particular and Baker didn't sustain any physical injuries.

"I was awkward and easily intimidated," said Baker. "I was an easy target for someone who got pleasure out of scaring other people.'

As she describes her pubescent encounter, Baker is still visibly shaken, even though the encounter happened more than 30 years ago. It could just as easily happen to her two children — a daughter in fifth grade and son in eighth grade — today. Bullying remains a real issue in schools, and from smart phone apps to in-school programs, there are a plethora of initiatives to address and prevent it.

"Most researchers agree that bullying is an intent to cause harm," said Michele Garofalo, Ed.D., chair

of the Department of Counseling and school counseling program director at Marymount University in Arlington. She is an expert in bullying, adolescent stress and character education.

Educators describe bullying as unwanted, aggressive behavior that is repeated and occurs where there is an imbalance of power, either real or perceived.

However, it's important to know the difference between teasing, exchanges between two people who simply don't like each other, and outright bullying.

"Teasing can be hurtful, but the intention may not be to cause harm and an imbalance of power might not be there," said Garofalo, who also has a private therapy practice.

When offering in-the-moment strategies for addressing bullies, Garofalo says children's well-being comes first. "Most importantly, students should consider their safety," she said. "If they feel they are in danger, they should quickly leave the area and go to a safe place and tell an adult — school counselor, teacher, administrator, parent. Students should not stay and fight back."

Bullying is most likely to peak in sixth through



Photo by Marilyn Campbell/The Connection A new phone app called Know Bullying offers prompts for starting conversations about bullying, as well as warning signs and tips

on dealing with the issue.

ninth grades. "The early teen years is when it emerges, when there is a lot of identity development," said Amy Best, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University in Fairfax. Her research focuses on the study of youth identity formation, youth well-being and social inequalities. "Peer groups assume much greater importance for kids and kids are more self aware than they had

been previously.

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sections, the

race bullying.<sup>3</sup> If parents suspect a child has fallen victim to bullying, it helps if they already have open lines of communication and their kids feel comfortable talking to them. An effective dialogue is crucial when it comes to addressing the problem.



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Learning, Fun pages, the third week of every month. Questions? E-mail newspapers.com or call



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There's not a lot of cross-gender or cross-

"If parents suspect a child has fallen victim to bullying, it helps if they already have open lines of communication and their kids feel comfortable talking to them." - Amy Best, chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology,

"The hard part is when kids don't want on-going conversations with their kids," said Best. "It's useful to be able to create spaces where kids feel comfortable sharing."

**George Mason University** 

**ONE ROADBLOCK** to assessing a potential bullying situation is when a child is reluctant to share or talk. Unfortunately, this is particularly common among the same age group most susceptible to bullying. "Yes and no questions won't glean the best information," said Lauren Keller, Lower and Middle School counselor at Bullis School in Potomac, Md. "Instead, parents should ask questions about relationships and times of day, such as: 'Who did you sit with at lunch? What did you do during recess and who were you with?

### **Bullying Resources**

**Know Bullying phone app:** http://store.samhsa.gov/apps/knowbullying/index.html http://www.stopbullying.gov/ http://www.stopcyberbullying.org/ http://www.tolerance.org/ http://character.org/key-topics/bullying-prevention/

### **Fairfax County Public Schools:**

http://www.fcps.edu/dss/ips/ssaw/violenceprevention/bullyinginfo/definition.shtml

### **Virginia Department of Education:**

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/prevention/bullying/

Is there anyone you would like to make plans with for this weekend?"

A new phone app comes to the aid of parents who might find initiating a conversation with their children daunting. It's called to talk about it, but parents should have Know Bullying, and it offers conversation prompts, tips for preventing bullying and warning signs that a child might be a victim or a bully

> Local school districts and private schools have anti-bullying policies and plans in should immediately contact a mental health place. St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in professional for assessment and counseling. Alexandria hosts groups such as Lunch Bunch and Courageous Conversations, which are forums where "students can talk candidly ... about their daily hopes and challenges," said Linda Stratton, director of Parents and other adults would do well to communications at the school. "These address the behavior in front of them," said groups also take leadership in fostering a Peter Braverman, founder of the education community of respect."

Experts also urge parents to contact Bethesda, Md. school counselors, administrators and classroom teachers to report bullying and to

obtain more information. "If parents believe their child is a victim, they should consult the school counselor or mental health professional who can work with the child to examine feelings and come up with strategies to help the child cope," said Garofalo, who also advises parents to be vigilant for signs of depression, anxiety and suicidal ide-

If any of those danger signs appear, they

If parents find it necessary to contact their child's school, the approach is important, and experts suggest sticking with specifics. "Labels are often unhealthy in some cases. group ARC Professional Development in

See Ending Bullying, Page 12



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## Education Learning Fun Ending Bullying

From Page 11

"As a teacher or administrator, if you say, 'Josh is a bully,' I can't do anything about it, but if you say, 'Every time my son walks into Spanish class, Josh dumps his notebook on the floor,"" then I can address it."

**AVOIDING LABELS** also helps when confronting the child who is suspected of bullying. "One of the first things we hear from students is that they shut off when they hear the word 'bully," said Erin O'Malley, dean of student services at Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington. "And we want the students to listen to us."

"Most kids don't want to be bullies," added Braverman. "Addressing specific actions and behaviors allows the kid to think, 'I'm a good person and I can modify these behaviors.' As an administrator, I have no problem calling your parents at work and telling them to come and pick you up. I'll help you change your behavior in any way I can, but if you do it again, you're going home." Additionally, it is good for adults to focus on all parties involved in bullying. "There are three actors: the bully, the victim and the bystanders," Braverman continued. "The great irony is the bystanders are the ones who hold all the power."

Braverman knows this from experience. "The best class I ever graduated in 8th grade was the worst class I had in 6th grade. There were two boys in the class and for years one bullied the other, and one day one it stopped when [the victim] stood up to [the bully]. He got other kids to stand with him while he did it. If a powerful bystander stands next to the victim, the problem would stop immediately."

Garofalo is about to embark on a research project to study the role of bystanders in bullying situations.

Parents can also turn bullying situations into teaching opportunities, says Best. "Learning to deal with conflict and confronting problems are important life skills. Listen to kids first and then map out a plan of action."



Krazy for K9s is a dog training club.

### Join the Club

### To the Editor:

Summer's over, school beginning ... So begins another 4H year! With all these groups starting up again, it sure is chaotic ... But if you register now you can get ahead of the game. If you don't already know what clubs to join, and your child is ages 9-19, has a dog and is free on Friday or Thursday nights, then I have the perfect club for you.

Krazy for K9s is a dog training club that involves basic obedience, advanced obedience, rally obedience, agility, showmanship and many other fun activities for you and your dog! We participate in the Fairfax County 4H Fair, 4H Va State Dog Show, 4H Va State Agility Trials and many, many volunteer opportunities. Our basic obedience class isn't filling up as fast as we would hope, and any signs of interest are great news.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Sheila Baugh at sbaugh2005@yahoo.com.

Thanks in advance for your interest in 4H and our dog club, Krazy for K9s.

**Becky Randolph**, seventh grade Lanier Middle School - Fairfax

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## Entertainment



George Mason University ARTS by George! venue, de Laski Performing Arts Building.

## "ARTS by George!" Gala Features Broadway Superstar Bernadette Peters

By David Siegel The Connection

here is nothing like it anywhere else in the region," said Rick Davis, dean, George Mason University, College of Visual and Performing Arts describing the upcoming ARTS by George! Gala evening.

With great art, great student performances, and "a headliner performance in the Concert Hall by one

of the great musical theater artists of our time, Bernadette Peters, there is nothing like it anywhere else in the region," added Davis.

The Gala funds scholarships and provides enhanced funding for the entire Great Performances season at Mason; full of eye-opening entertainment and inspiration for audiences.



**Bernadette Peters** 

"ARTS by George! scholarships help Mason students create as they learn," said Ángel Cabrera, Mason president. "These students flourish at Mason and go on to contribute to their field nationally and internationally."

This year's event is co-chaired by Joseph Catalano, vice president of Sandy Spring Bank. Catalano noted that "ARTS by George!" is "a big part of the fabric of Northern Virginia, providing not only an opportunity for people to see the treasure we have in Mason but for our very talented, dedicated students to perform before audiences in a special evening." He invited first-timers to join the festivities.

The funds raised for scholarships give Mason students opportunities that might not be otherwise available. "The scholarship made my return to school possible for my degree in arts management," said graduate student Megan Merchant. "I have received practical experiences and an understanding of what 14 FAIRFAX CONNECTION SEPYEMBER 17-23, 2015

### Where and When

"ARTS by George!" at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Gala is Sept. 26, starting at 5 p.m. Events and performances at Center for the Arts and de Laski Performing Arts Building and the "ARTS by George!" tent located next to the performing arts building. Tickets for "ARTS by George!" (includes student showcases, food, beverages, Bernadette Peters gala concert; with champagne and dessert reception onstage) are \$250/person. Call 703-993-4188 or visit www.artsbygeorge.gmu.edu to order tickets and/or inquire about sponsorship opportunities and benefits. Tickets only for the performance by Bernadette Peters in the Concert Hall are \$60-\$100. Visit www.cfa.gmu.edu or call 703-993-2797.

### "ARTS by George!" Schedule

- 5 -7:30 p.m. Showcases in visual arts, music, dance, theater, computer game design, film and video studies, arts management throughout the de Laski Performing Arts Building.
- 5 7:30 p.m. Creative cuisine and fine wine bars
  5 7:30 p.m. Silent auction of unique arts-related items and experiences

 9.45 p.m. - Concert Hall performance by Bernadette Peters
 9.45 p.m. - Champagne and dessert reception with Bernadette Peters

leadership in the arts requires," noted Merchant. In an interview, multi-Tony Award recipient Bernadette Peters spoke of the importance and value of supporting the arts and students through events such as "ARTS by George!"

"We want to encourage young people to be creative." She promised "an evening's journey to be entertained" as she "expresses the emotions in each song; capturing the moment" with a wide range of numbers written by Rodgers and Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim and many more. And perhaps some unexpected sultry songs that will flood the audience with fond memories.

Peters will be accompanied by members of the renowned U.S. Marine Band for some of her numbers. Peters may also chat about matters beyond music. She is an author of children's books including the recent "Stella and Charlie: Friends Forever," a tale about two shelter dogs who become "BFFs."



Learn about new roses and the best sources for ordering roses that are hard to find, full of form or fragrant at Merrifield Garden Center in Fairfax on Sept. 27.

### CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

- Mother Goose Storytime. 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Come enjoy stories, songs and fingerplays and lay a foundation of early literacy skills for your baby. Birth to 23 months with adult.
- Magic Tree House Club. 4:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Read and talk about Tigers at Twilight, number 19 in the series. Having used their magic tree house to travel to India, where they must get a gift to help free the dog Teddy from a spell. Springfield Writers' Group. 7
- Springfield Writers' Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Share your work, give and receive feedback in a supportive setting. Adults

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

- Best of FAVS Showcase. 3 p.m. Harris Theatre, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Best of FAVS Showcase will be highlighting
- award winning student films. **Movie Night in the Campground.** 7-9 p.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Join in the fun of Movie Night by watching The Goonies at the Campground at Burke Lake Park this fall.
- Alphabet Soup. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Join for stories and activities about letters in the
- alphabet. Ages 3-5 with adult. **Reinventing Your Home.** 1 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn how assistive technology, adaptive devices, easy home modifications, and design features can create an environment for senior homes

where everyone is comfortable and safe.

- SATURDAY/SEPT. 19 Beethoven's 5th with Alon
- **Goldstein.** 8 p.m. GMU Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets: www.fairfaxsymphony.org.
- Raise a Glass of Hope. 4-7 p.m. Private residence in Mason Neck. A wine tasting to benefit the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC). Tickets are \$50/person
- (\$35 tax deductible) and \$75/ couple (\$45 tax deductible. **Mosby Fall Bus Tour.** 8 a.m. 10520 Main Street, Fairfax. Visit the Hibbs Bridge, North Fork Church (the formation of Company H), the scene of the Harmony Fight in Hamilton, Ebenezer Church and Harry Hatcher's House. To sign-up for
- the tour call Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984 or email: dhakenson@verizon.net. Fashion Show. 2-4 p.m. The
- Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. Fashion show, silent auction and dessert. A Gogo Grandmothers benefit helping African grandmothers raising orphans of AIDS. Fashions by Stein Mart. \$15. To register go to burkecommunity.com/adults/ women.
- **Children's Book Sale.** 10 a.m. 3 p.m. Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Thousands of gently-read books and nonbook media organized into categories including picture books, early readers, nonfiction, holiday, chapter books and more.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

**Doggie Splashdown.** 7 p.m. Fairfax Swimming Pool, 4200 Roberts Road, Fairfax. Bring your canine for a chance to romp in the pool. A \$5 cash donation per dog is suggested, with all proceeds going to the Humane Society of Fairfax County.

See Calendar, Page 15

## CALENDAR

#### From Page 14

#### MONDAY/SEPT. 21

**PJ Library Book Buddies.** 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Enjoy Jewish storybooks from the PJ Library and make a craft.

### TUESDAY/SEPT. 22

**Storytime at Old Town Square.** 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Come across the street to Old Town Square to hear some stories, weather permitting. Age 2-5 with adult.

### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 23

**Tales to Tails.** 4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Children ages 6-12 read to a trained therapy dog. With adult.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 25

- A Taste of the Vine. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Blenheim Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Historic Fairfax City, Inc. is sponsoring a Wine Tasting Fundraiser o benefit the historic Blenheim Civil War Interpretive Center. Sample wines from local vineyards paired with hors d'oeuvres. Silent Auction. Tour the Historic Mansion. Free parking. \$55 per person. For reservations contact Hildie Carney at 703-591-5305 or visit the website at
- www.historicfairfax.org. **TGIFairfax Rock the Block: Almost Journey/U2.** 6-9 p.m. Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The second best U2 show in the world and the complete Journey experience. www.fairfaxva.gov/ RockTheBlock

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

20th Annual CCÉ Irish Folk Festival. Noon-7:30 p.m. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax and The Auld Shebeen Irish Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. All are invited to enjoy, free of charge, the "pure drop" - the beauty and depth of Irish music, dance, language and sport as it has taken root and come into full flower in our community. V

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 27

**The Best Roses for Your Garden.** 2-4 p.m. Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Learn new roses and the best sources for ordering roses that are hard to find, full of form or fragrant.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 27 - SATURDAY/OCT. 3

Annual Fall for the Book Festival. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A weeklong, multiple-venue, regional festival that brings together people of all ages and interests. Featured authors are National Book Award winner Tim O'Brien and "Outlander" author Diana Gabaldon. Visit www.fallforthebook.org.

#### MONDAY/SEPT. 28

- Music and Movin' with Miss Susan. 11:15 a.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Miss Susan for singing and moving to music with your little ones.
- Animal Decomposers. 4:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn about the hidden insects that can be found in decomposing logs that you dissect yourself with the help of staff from Hidden Pond Nature Center.

#### TUESDAY/SEPT. 29

**Storytime at Old Town Square.** www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



The Fairfax Ballet has trained exceptional dancers, who have gone on to study and perform at some of the finest ballet companies.

### Fairfax Ballet Celebrates 50 Years of Training Dancers

elebrating its 50th year of performances, the Fairfax Ballet Company is one of the longestrunning ballet companies in Northern Virginia. Over the years, The Fairfax Ballet has trained exceptional dancers, who have gone on to study and

trained exceptional dancers, who have gone on to study and perform at some of the finest ballet companies, including the New York City Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, Basel Ballet, and Monte Carlo Ballet.

"The Fairfax Ballet considers itself very fortunate to have contributed to the cultural enrichment of our community for more than four decades," said Fairfax Ballet artistic director, Margaret Virkus. "We are proud of the wonderful reputation we've built for the quality of our performances, as well as our performers."

Notable alumni include: Teresa Reichlen (New York City Ballet principal), Carrie Ellmore-Tallitsch (Martha Graham Dance Company principal), and Ian Thatcher (for-

10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Come across the street to Old Town Square to hear some stories, weather permitting. Age 2-5 with adult.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 30

elebrating its 50th merly with San Francisco Balyear of performances, let, Pacific Northwest Ballet the Fairfax Ballet and Monte Carlo Ballet).

"Discipline, drive and focus are the biggest things I was able to bring from the classroom into the working world. I'm currently working on Broadway in New York City, and without those things, I know I wouldn't be here," said Khori Michelle (Rogers) Petinaud, an alumna of Fairfax Ballet and cast member of Aladdin, the hit Broadway musical. "Also, because of my love for dance and my training at the Fairfax Ballet Company, it doesn't feel like a chore."

The Fairfax Ballet, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit performing arts organization, was founded by Ilona and Thomas Russell, who served as artistic directors from 1971-2011.

The Fairfax Ballet's next scheduled performance is The<sup>o</sup>Nutcracker, Nov. 28-29, 2015, at WT Woodson High School, Fairfax. For more information, visit www.fairfaxballet.com

Meet Author Mark Tooley. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Meet Mark Tooley, author of The Peace That Almost Was: The Forgotten Story of the 1861 Washington Peace Conference and the Final Attempt to Avert the Civil War.



## Sports



Sophomore outside hitter Katie Hibner led Lake Braddock with 13 kills during the Bruins' match against Chantilly on Sept. 10.



Lake Braddock senior Faith Briden looks for a kill against two Chantilly blockers.

## Lake Braddock Volleyball Falls Short Against Chantilly

Sophomore Hibner leads Bruins with 13 kills.

> By Jon Roetman The Connection

fter falling behind multiple times in the first set, the Chantilly volleyball team scored five of the final six points to win the opener against Lake Braddock on Sept. 10.

With Chantilly having grabbed momentum, junior Julia Recto did her part to ensure the Chargers remained undefeated.

Chantilly won the first two sets, Recto totaled 21 kills and the Chargers cruised to a 3-1 (25-23, 25-14, 18-25, 25-16) victory at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

**BOTH TEAMS** entered Thursday's action unbeaten in best-of-five matches. It was Chantilly that emerged with a 4-0 record, thanks in part to the performance of Recto, who put away eight kills in the fourth and final set.

"Julia is one of our go-to players," Chantilly head coach Charles Ezigbo said. "She's one of those quiet people who just does what you tell her all the time. As a player, she's really good, the girls respond to her and [she is] very coachable. I'm really happy to have her."

Lake Braddock fell to 3-1.

Standing 5 feet 9, Recto is not exceptionally tall, but Ezigbo said her timing and fast arm swing help her to be a dangerous hitter.

"It's more technique than anything," he said.

With Chantilly leading 14-13 in the fourth set, Recto put down three consecutive kills to help the Chargers pull away.

"I really make sure that I get my timing right," said Recto, a third-year varsity player, "and I do a lot of conditioning to make sure that I can out-jump the other blockers and make sure I can get there fast enough and beat them to the net."

Chantilly junior Milleysha Molina finished with seven kills and junior Brynn Feighery

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Lake Braddock's Miranda Cortez Verano (11) and Hannah Arthur (10) attempt to block Chantilly's Milleysha Molina.

had four. Sophomores Alexa Carlisle and Katerina Bagatska each had two blocks, and Feighery and Recto each had one. Senior Emily Sciorra had three aces, and Molina, Recto and junior Julia Kim each had one.

"I think we're doing really well," Recto said about Chantilly's 4-0 start. "We still have a lot of work to do but we have a lot of potential to be even better than we were tonight."

Thursday's match might have had a different outcome if Lake Braddock was able to close out the opening set. The Bruins led 22-20, but scored just one of the final six points.

After a Lake Braddock attack error brought Chantilly within one, Bagatska produced a kill and a block to give the Chargers a 23-22 lead. A Chantilly service error tied the score at 23, but the Chargers secured the set with a kill by Feighery and an ace from Molina.

"This game is all about momentum and when that happened I think we started feeling a little bit more within our game," Ezigbo said. "We just weren't playing really well earlier. ... They basically took us out of our game so we had to get back into the game and I think that run kind of gave us our confidence back a little bit."

Lake Braddock head coach Aubrey Eaton said the Bruins' miscues played a significant role in the outcome.

"I don't think Chantilly did anything, I think we did it to ourselves," Eaton said. "Give them all the credit, of course, because they won that set, but I really believe that was on us, that we just basically allowed Chantilly to get back in the match. Maybe it did swing momentum that way, but I felt like we had control and then we let them get control again."

Katie Hibner, a 5-foot-8 sophomore outside hitter, led Lake Braddock with 13 kills, including 10 in the third and fourth sets.

"Katie Hibner was excellent tonight," Eaton said. "She always takes a little while to warm up to the game and you just have to go through that ... but once she gets go-

ing, she really does get going." Senior middle blocker Faith Briden had five kills, two blocks, one block assist and two aces. Senior right side Miranda Cortez Verano had five kills, one solo block and one block assist. Junior defensive specialist Danielle Beirman had two aces.

Eaton said senior libero Tara Wulf, and junior setters Grace Bergan and Maddy Sita played well for the Bruins.

Chantilly will travel to face defending 6A North region champion Madison at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17.

**LAKE BRADDOCK** will travel to face Fairfax at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 21.

"I think that what we showed today was that we could play with the big girls and I'm looking forward to more of that," Eaton said. "I think we'll be real contenders in our conference and then also in the region, as well."

### Fairfax Connection Sports Editor Jon Roetman 703-752-4031 or jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com



Chantilly junior Julia Recto tallied 21 kills during the Chargers' 3-1 victory over Lake Braddock on Sept. 10.

"Katie Hibner was excellent tonight. She always takes a little while to warm up to the game and you just have to go through that ... but once she gets going, she really does get going." — Lake Braddock volleyball coach Aubrey Eaton



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## **Investigation Continues for** Dead Body in Fairfax Station

arly on Sept. 9, Fairfax County Police announced through Twitter that officers had responded to the report of a dead body on the 9500 block of Crosspointe Drive.

A 60-year-old dead man was located and an investigation started.

In their statement, police said that while the investigation is continuing, they haven't seen anything suspicious about the incident or have to think there's a public safety threat.

— Тім Peterson

A dead man was found early in the morning on **Crosspointe Drive in Fairfax** Station on Sept. 9.

Photo courtesy of FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

### BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

Prospective Members Meeting. 7 p.m. GlowGolf, 8430 Old Keene Mill Court, Springfield. All members of the community age 18 or older are invited to attend these events; children are also welcome when accompanied by a parent or guardian. Kiwanis International is a global organization of members dedicated to serving the children of the world. Kiwanis and its family of clubs at all age levels -nearly 600,000 members strong—annually raise more than \$100 million and dedicate more than 18 million volunteer hours to strengthen communities and serve children.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

Homicidal Holidays. 2 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Ever feel homicidal at the holidays? Several authors from the multiple award-nominated mystery anthology Chesapeake Crimes: Homicidal

### Protest From Page 3

to hear, they needed to be listened to," Hyland continued.

Before beginning the forum, commission chairman Michael Hershman called on Use of Force subcommittee chairman Phil Niedzielski-Eichner to review the group's final recommendations to the full commission.

Niedzielski-Eichner explained that the subcommittee's work was "substantially augmented and facilitated" by a June 2015 report from the Police Executive Research Forum that included 71 recommendations for policy changes.

Among its 40 recommendations, the subcommittee called for a more clear and concise use of force policy, the collection and maintenance of "robust demographic data on all detentions and use of force," limiting the use of SWAT "and other advanced tactics," the employment of body cameras to



Holidays will appear on a panel to discuss the craft of writing crime short stories and how they use holidays in their writing.

- Saturday Morning Coffee with Del. David Bulova. 8:30-10 a.m. Main Street Bagel, 10268 Main Street, Fairfax. Constituents are invited to talk about issues of interest and to ask questions about legislation affecting our community. The format is casual and no appointment is needed.
- **EKG Screenings.** 9 a.m. 3 p.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free EKG screenings to area teens at the Recreation and Athletic Complex (RAC). These screenings are a vital and free precaution that can help protect Fairfax's students and athletes

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

The 32<sup>st</sup> Annual Infant Toddler Family Day **Care Provider Appreciation Celebration.** 1-3 p.m. PJ Skidoos Restaurant, 9908 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Infant Toddler Family Day Care (ITFDC), a non-profit organization providing child care resource and referral services in Northern Virginia, will celebrate its 32nd anniversary. ITFDC services and supports early child care educators who provide high quality child care throughout Northern Virginia.

record interactions with the public and establishing independent oversight of the police department.

Another recommendation proposed that Mobile Crisis Units for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis be expanded with three additional units.

SPEAKERS at the public forum who addressed the report were generally supportive of its recommendations, with the exception of its additional item that all police officers carry tasers on their person while on duty.

More information and materials from the police practices review commission are available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ policecommission.

The next meeting will be held Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.

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