



Westfield Bulldogs on Parade

This freshman float was in Westfield High's "Summer Nights"-themed Homecoming Parade.

MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 3.

Civilian Review Board Needed

Unanimous recommendations head to supervisors in wake of John Geer shooting, transparency missteps.

BY TIM PETERSON
CENTRE VIEW

After six months of meetings, the Ad Hoc commission created by Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova to review police practices has concluded its primary work. Chair of the commission's Independent Oversight and Investigations subcommittee Jack Johnson presented that group's final recommendations to the full commission on Oct. 8.

The subcommittee unanimously favored creating an Independent Police Auditor position that would "report directly to the Board of Supervisors and would provide oversight in cases of police use of force that lead to serious injury or death, including officer involved shootings," Johnson's letter to commission chairman Michael Hershman said.

The report also calls for establishing a seven-member Civilian Review Panel for cases of alleged police misconduct. The panelists are meant to work with the new auditor "as to serious use of force cases so that the panel can provide its views to the Board of Supervisors and the Chief of Police as to policy and practices changes that may be warranted," Johnson said in the letter.

"Oversight provides a meaningful voice or forum for the public and forms a crucial bridge between the public and the police," Johnson continued. "Increased transparency, trust, and communication between the police and the public can lead to greater community cooperation in achieving the ultimate goal of decreased crime and increased public safety."

It was the last full meeting of the ad hoc commission, and in addition to hearing from the independent oversight committee, the commission voted unanimously to support the recommendations of all five subcommittees and to forward the recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Recommendations from the Mental Health Subcommittee call for an overhaul of how the criminal justice system responds to people in mental health crisis.

Commission chairman Michael Hershman is scheduled to present the group's recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at its Oct. 20 regular meeting.

"It is Chairman Bulova's intention to move to accept the report and refer it to staff for discussion at the Public Safety Committee scheduled for Oct. 27 at 3 p.m.," said Bulova's chief of staff Clayton

SEE RECOMMENDATIONS,
PAGE 5

Stark Differences for Chairman

Anti-taxer Arthur Purves challenging incumbent Chairman Sharon Bulova.

BY KEN MOORE
CENTRE VIEW

Sharon Bulova is exactly where she wants to be. "I believe in local government. It's where the rubber hits the road, and where you're closest to your

constituents," said Bulova, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, the top elected official in Fairfax County.

"My priorities, the number one priority, is to strike a balance between keeping taxes affordable to our residents while also making sure that we are investing in the services and the programs that people in Fairfax County appreciate, rely upon and live here for."

Bulova, formerly the Braddock District Supervisor, took the helm of the county's board in a special election in 2009 after U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly was elected to Congress in 2008.

Arthur Purves (R) is Bulova's challenger in this November's general election.

"You have to understand that the economic situation in this county is not good," said Purves. "I already mentioned that we had close to the smallest job growth of any large county in the United States in the past year."

"We lost 14,000 jobs due to sequestration, we lost a lot of middle-income jobs after the housing bubble



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/CENTRE VIEW

Arthur Purves (R) and Sharon Bulova (D) listen to Ralph Appleton's question at a debate at the Great Falls Citizens Association. The chairman of the Board of Supervisors is the only position on the board elected at-large.

SEE CHAIRMAN, PAGE 13

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DRANESVILLE DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

Janie Strauss

HUNTER MILL DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

Pat Hynes

LEE DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

Tamara Derenak Kaufax

MASON DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

Sandy Evans

MT. VERNON DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

Karen Corbett Sanders

PROVIDENCE DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

Patty Reed

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

No endorsement

SULLY DISTRICT CANDIDATE:

Karen Keys-Gamarra



See more at:

fcft.va.aft.org/news/2015-fcft-school-board-candidate-endorsements

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Westfield High's Marching Band.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

The dance team does a routine.

Westfield Bulldogs on Parade

Westfield High's Homecoming Parade was Friday, Oct. 9, in Centreville.



The Senior Court.



The Junior Court.



The Freshman Court.



The sophomore float.



Junior Class float.



Seniors on parade.



Westfield volleyball players.



Varsity cheerleaders.



JV cheerleaders having fun.

ROUNDUPS

Meet the Local Candidates

At Candidates Night, residents will have a chance to meet their local candidates for Sully District Supervisor and School Board, plus Fairfax County Supervisors Chairman, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff and School Board members at-large. It's set for Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

The event is jointly sponsored by the Sully District Council of Citizens Associations, League of Woman Voters of the Fairfax Area, American Association of University Women of Virginia, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. and the Fairfax County Council of PTAs. All announced Sully District candidates running in Fairfax County have been invited to make brief statements and respond to questions. The community is welcome to attend, as well as students and Scouts studying government or social science.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Oct. 29, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. No appointment is necessary. But residents should install the child safety seats themselves so technicians may properly inspect and adjust them, as needed.

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

Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry needs donations of 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@wfcma.org.

Learn about Police Department

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

♦ 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>

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Fairfax County needs Meals on Wheels drivers in Chantilly and group Meals on Wheels coordinators in both Chantilly and Fairfax. Contact Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 711, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm.

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



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

The orphans give Miss Hannigan (in blue dress) a hard time. (Standing, from left) are Paayal Chandra, Caroline Woodson, Maggie Shircliff, Grace Mattes (as Hannigan), Emily Cason, Shannon Gaskins, Melissa Kapfer and Blen Yohannes. (Kneeling, from left) are Adriana Castillo and Caitlyn Valenza.

CHS Presents 'Annie, the Musical'

"The sun will come out tomorrow."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Complete with Daddy Warbucks, Sandy the dog and a certain red-haired orphan, Chantilly High is presenting "Annie, the Musical."

The curtain rises Thursday-Friday, Oct. 22-23, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 24, at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at the door or \$10 via www.chantillyhsdrama.com.

Director Shannon Khatcheressian cast the show last spring, so the 40 actors learned their lines and music over the summer. There's also a production team of 35 and a live orchestra directed by Laurelyn Morrison — whose husband Michael, a former Chantilly thespian, will be playing bass. Evan Ayars is the choral director.

"Things are going great," said Khatcheressian. "The students are making wonderful progress doing a full-scale musical in the six weeks since school started, so I'm excited about the final product. It's a really fun show for them to do. Ensemble members are playing three to five roles each, and we doubled the number of orphans so more students could perform."

She said the actors have embraced their characters and all their subtle nuances. "We're eager to bring a musical classic to the stage," said Khatcheressian. "It'll be enjoyed by all ages — children seeing this story for the first time and adults who grew up with it. It's a wonderfully timeless piece for a wide audience."

The story takes place in New York City in December 1935, with scenes in an orphanage, at the White House and in the heart of Times Square. And instead of having a traditional set, Chantilly will use an

artist's projections on stage and on the theater's side walls to illustrate the various locations.

Senior Hannah Warnick portrays Annie. "She's a 13-year-old orphan looking for her parents," said Warnick. "They left her at the orphanage with half of a locket and a note saying they'd come back for her. She's rambunctious, outgoing and a leader; all the other orphans look up to her. She's optimistic about her situation and tries to lift the orphans' spirits; she's also the one who stands up to the orphanage owner, Miss Hannigan."

Warnick loves playing a high-spirited, younger teen because "kids don't worry about how silly they look or if something's wrong; they just do it. And I get to interact with almost everyone in the cast and work with the dogs. It's really awesome playing a lead, especially in my senior year. It feels like all the hard work paid off, and Annie's such a classic show that I'm honored to play this role."

Her favorite song is "Hard Knock Life," which she sings with the orphans. "I love the aggressive and powerful choreography," said Warnick. "It shows how angry we are about our situation, and we use lots of props like buckets and scrub brushes."

This show contains all the iconic songs from the movie, plus extra numbers from the original musical. "So even those who know the show well will be surprised by something new," said Warnick. "People will leave appreciating what they have, their families and the relationships they've formed with people they love and those who love them."

The story's moral, she said, is that "no matter how hard things seem, don't be discouraged. Try to stay positive, hold your head up high and know that 'The sun will come out tomorrow.'"

Playing Hannigan is senior Grace Mattes. "She's a horrible, selfish person who's always drinking," said Mattes. "She doesn't like the orphans, but needs the money from her job because it's the Depression. She

SEE 'ANNIE', PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Michael Herschman, chairman of the police commission, with Sharon Bulova at the final meeting of the full commission before recommendations go to the Board of Supervisors on Oct. 20.

Recommendations for Police

FROM PAGE 1

Medford.

The Board of Supervisors launched the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission in response to public concern over the shooting death of John Geer by a Fairfax County police officer. On Aug. 17, 2015, former Fairfax County Police officer Adam Torres was charged with the second-degree murder of Geer, who was shot dead in the doorway to his own home on Aug. 29, 2013 after police were

called in a domestic dispute. Torres was fired in July 2015, almost two years later.

The commission has been meeting since March as a full commission and five subcommittees. Areas of focus by committee include Use of Force; Communications; Mental Health; Recruitment, Diversity and Vetting; and Independent Investigations and Oversight.

The final report from the Ad Hoc commission is available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/pdf/adhoc-final-10.8.15.pdf.

CRIME REPORT

The following incidents were reported by the Sully District Police Station.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY WITH APPREHENSION, 14100 block of Saint Germain Drive, Oct. 5, around 9:20 p.m. The victim was walking and was approached by a man. The man assaulted the victim and attempted to take property then fled. The suspect was located by responding officers. A 20-year-old Centreville man was charged with petit

larceny, two counts of failure to appear on a misdemeanor, and probation violation for a misdemeanor offense.

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OPINION

Closer Look at School Spending

Report: Local schools spend less to educate more challenging students.

Since Fiscal Year 2009, Alexandria Public Schools has reduced per pupil spending by 13.3 percent, adjusted for inflation. Arlington County Public Schools has reduced per pupil spending by 15.7 percent, but still spends the most per student of any school district in the state.

Fairfax County Public Schools has reduced per pupil spending by 6.5 percent over the same period, adjusted for inflation, but FCPS spends significantly less per student than either Alexandria or Arlington.

These numbers are from a draft report released last month by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission in a report on Efficiency and Effectiveness of K-12 Spending 2015. In FY 2014, the average Virginia school division spent 7 percent less to educate each student than it did in FY 2005.

EDITORIAL These numbers are critical to understand as local schools, Fairfax County in particular, face a looming budget gap in the coming budget cycle. It's easy to skip the specifics, look at a large overall budget number and conclude that surely there is plenty of room to cut the budget. These numbers show the problem with that approach.

Fairfax County was among the Virginia school divisions with a reduction in resources and numbers of teachers per student which also had a growing percentage of "resource-intensive" students.

More than 27 percent of Fairfax County Public Schools students were living in poverty in 2014; that's 49,895 students, up from about 18 percent or 28,527 poor students in 2005. Number and percent of students with limited English have also grown over the time period. In 2014, 49,442 students, or 27 percent, in FCPS are limited English proficient, up from 35,091 or 22 percent in 2005. The report calls these students "resource intensive," and what that means is that it costs more to effectively teach them.

The larger chart comes from a different source, the 2015 Washington Area Boards of Education Guide, and shows Fairfax County with far lower per pupil costs and teacher salaries than surrounding school districts.

Arlington and Alexandria school districts also have large percentages of poor students.

Alexandria had 6,160, or 58.8 percent of its students living in poverty in 2005, and in 2014, 7,443 poor students, 55 percent. Alexandria has also had an increase in limited English proficient students, 33.3 percent of 4,510 students in 2014, up from 22.7 percent in 2005.

In Arlington, 7,972 students, 33.9 percent were living in poverty in 2014, up from 6,373 students, 35.8 percent in 2005. Arlington has seen a drop in limited English students, from 35.5 percent (6,323 students) in 2005 to 28 percent in 2014 (6,591 students).

As the saying goes, if you think education is expensive, try ignorance. And if you think it's too expensive to effectively educate the population we have, consider the costs of services

Public Schools	Fairfax County	Montgomery County, MD	Arlington County	Alexandria City
FY 2015 Cost Per Pupil	\$13,519	\$15,351	\$19,040	\$17,041
Average Teacher Salary	\$66,782	\$75,452	\$76,892	\$73,612
2014 ACTUAL ENROLLMENT				
Total Enrollment	183,895	151,289	23,421	13,563
Percent ESOL Enrollment	17.0%	13.2%	17.4%	25.5%
Percent Free/Reduced Price Meal Eligible	27.5%	34.3%	31.8%	59.7%
Percent Special Education Enrollment	13.8%	11.7%	14.7%	12.6%
2015 APPROVED ENROLLMENT				
Number Increase/Decrease from 2014 Actual	2,890	2,889	792	548
Percent Increase/Decrease from 2014 Actual	1.6%	1.9%	3.4%	4.0%
SCHOOLS				
Elementary	139	133	22	12
Middle	23	38	5	2
Traditional (K-8)	0	0	0	1
Secondary and High Schools	25	26	5	1
Special Education	7	5	2	0
Alternative	2	0	3	2
SOURCES OF REVENUE				
Local	69.6%	66.6%	83.0%	79.3%
State	23.3%	27.9%	12.5%	14.9%
Other	7.2%	5.5%	4.6%	5.8%
AUTHORIZED POSITIONS				
School-Based	93.2%	91.2%	90.9%	89.7%
Nonschool-Based	6.8%	8.8%	9.1%	10.3%

SOURCE: 2015 Washington Area Boards of Education Guide

GRAPHIC BY LAURENCE FOONG/THE CONNECTION

Comparison of local school district finances and enrollment from the 2015 Washington Area Boards of Education Guide.

INFLATION ADJUSTED PER PUPIL SPENDING			
Division	FY 2009	FY 2014	% Change (FY 09-14)
Alexandria	\$20,323	\$17,622	"13.3%
Arlington	\$22,214	\$18,736	"15.7%
Fairfax	\$14,901	\$13,931	"6.5%

Inflation-adjusted to 2014 dollars.
SOURCE: Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission report on Efficiency and Effectiveness of K-12 Spending 2015 <http://jlarc.virginia.gov/pdfs/reports/Rpt472.pdf>

to people who don't have the education they need to live successfully later in life.

Effective leaders in Northern Virginia will have to lead the way to funding effective school systems in a challenging economic environment. But if you hear a candidate claim that schools can get by on less by being more efficient, ask if they have read this report.

According to the JLARC report: School districts reduced per-student spending on instruction through a combination of employing fewer teachers per student, limiting teacher salary growth, and requiring teachers to pay a higher

percentage of health insurance and retirement benefit costs. Divisions report that these spending reductions are hindering instructional effectiveness.

School divisions reduced instructional spending by less than one percent, and non-instructional spending by 10 percent, at the statewide level during the time period.

You can read the Virginia JLARC report here: <http://jlarc.virginia.gov/pdfs/reports/Rpt472.pdf>

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Write

Centre View 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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LETTERS

Full-Time Responsibilities

To the Editor:

On Nov. 3, the voters will elect the next Sully District supervisor. I write to endorse Kathy Smith, and ask you to support her.

One issue alone should be dispositive: Sully District needs another full-time supervisor. Kathy Smith has pledged to work full-time on our behalf, if elected. She will maintain office hours of at least 40 hours per week, and make herself available for evening and weekend constituent matters. Her tea party opponent instead has announced his intention to retain his full-time outside job, if elected, and work around his schedule conflicts. But the responsibilities and challenges of the position, and its

\$95,000 annual salary, demand a full time elected official. The job of Sully District supervisor is not a part time hobby, to be juggled with or subordinate to outside employment.

Michael Frey, for the past 24 years, served full-time as Sully District supervisor, recognizing the time commitment needed to represent the community. Our next supervisor must interact effectively and efficiently with county staff and other government officials during regular business hours, and must be on the job, full-time. The Sully District supervisor must devote the full-time hours needed to understand our complex issues of budgeting, land use applications, transportation improvements, education funding, environmental concerns, public response to emergencies, and many

other priorities on the Board of Supervisors' agenda. Our district supervisor also needs to meet first hand with constituents, and spend time in the community, consistently working on local issues, often on short notice.

Kathy Smith has already proven herself as a dedicated and responsible public official. She is highly qualified, having served the past 14 years as the Sully District member on the Fairfax County School Board, including three years as School Board chairman. She is a long-time resident, already well acquainted with the challenges facing Fairfax County. She is committed to devoting herself full-time to meeting the needs of Sully District residents. Kathy Smith deserves your vote for supervisor.

Jim Hart
Centreville

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to centreview@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.

THROUGH FEB. 20

Deer Management Archery

Program. Under the oversight of the Fairfax County Police Department the archery program is conducted in parks and other locations throughout Fairfax County. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/wildlife/archery/archery-program.htm.

THURSDAY/OCT. 15

Liberty Republican Women's Club

Anniversary. 6 p.m. social hour and 7 p.m. program at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. The club celebrates its fifth anniversary. Free, the public is welcome. Call 703-378-4190.

OCT. 15-NOV. 12

Fall Food Drive.

Drop off food at Sheehy Infiniti of Chantilly, 4145 Auto Park Circle, Chantilly. Sheehy Auto Stores will collect canned goods and non-perishable food as part of the company's annual Fall Food Drive to benefit Ashland Christian Emergency Services (ACES), the Capital Area Food Bank, Feeding America, the Oxon Hill Food Pantry and the Southern Maryland Food Bank. Visit www.sheehy.com.

SUNDAY AND TUESDAY/OCT 18 AND 20

Accepting Tag Sale Donations.

11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday and 3-5 p.m. on Tuesday at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

THURSDAY/OCT. 22

The Crossings at Chantilly

Information Session. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Have questions answered about senior living options. Free. Visit www.thecrossingsatchantilly.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 24

VolunteerFest. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at various locations. A region-wide day

of community service helps nonprofits accomplish tasks they would not have time or resources to do on their own. Registration ends on Oct. 22. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28

Meet The Candidates. 7-9 p.m. at the Sully District Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. The

candidates for district supervisor are Kathy L. Smith (D) and John P. Guevara (R). The candidates for district School Board representative are Karen A. Keys-Gamarra and Thomas A. Wilson. Candidates for other offices may be present at this event, though they will not have a speaking role. All certified candidates campaigning for office in their respective districts have been invited. Visit www.lwv-fairfax.org.

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VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Fairfax County and Prince William County Public Information Meetings

All meeting times are 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
A brief presentation at each meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Fairfax County

Monday, October 19, 2015

Oakton High School Cafeteria (Entrance #1 or #14)
2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA 22181

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

VDOT Northern Virginia District Office
4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

Visit Transform66.org to view a live stream of this meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Prince William County

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Piney Branch Elementary School Cafeteria/Gym (Entrance #1)
8301 Linton Hall Road, Bristow, VA 20136

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), will host meetings for the public to review and provide comments on the latest conceptual plans, which reflect the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway project's Preferred Alternative and proposed phasing. The Preferred Alternative involves the transformation of 25 miles of I-66 between U.S. Route 15 in Haymarket and I-495/the Capital Beltway. The project will provide congestion relief and enhanced safety, as well as new travel choices and reliability.

Stop by to learn more about the project, discuss your questions with VDOT staff, and attend the formal presentation.

Review the latest conceptual plans and project schedule at www.Transform66.org or at the meetings.

Give your written or oral comments at the meetings or submit them to Susan Shaw, Megaprojects Director, at the VDOT District Office address above. You may also e-mail comments at any time to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference "Transform 66 Outside the Beltway" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights Division at 800-367-7623 or TTY/TDD 711.

State Project: 0066-96A-297,P101 Federal Project: NH-066-1(300) UPC: 105500

Get Ready for Centreville Day

Annual event is this Saturday, Oct. 17.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Come one, come all to the 23rd annual Centreville Day celebration. It's this Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., in Historic Centreville Park, 5714 Mount Gilead Road (off Braddock Road, across Route 29 from the IHOP).

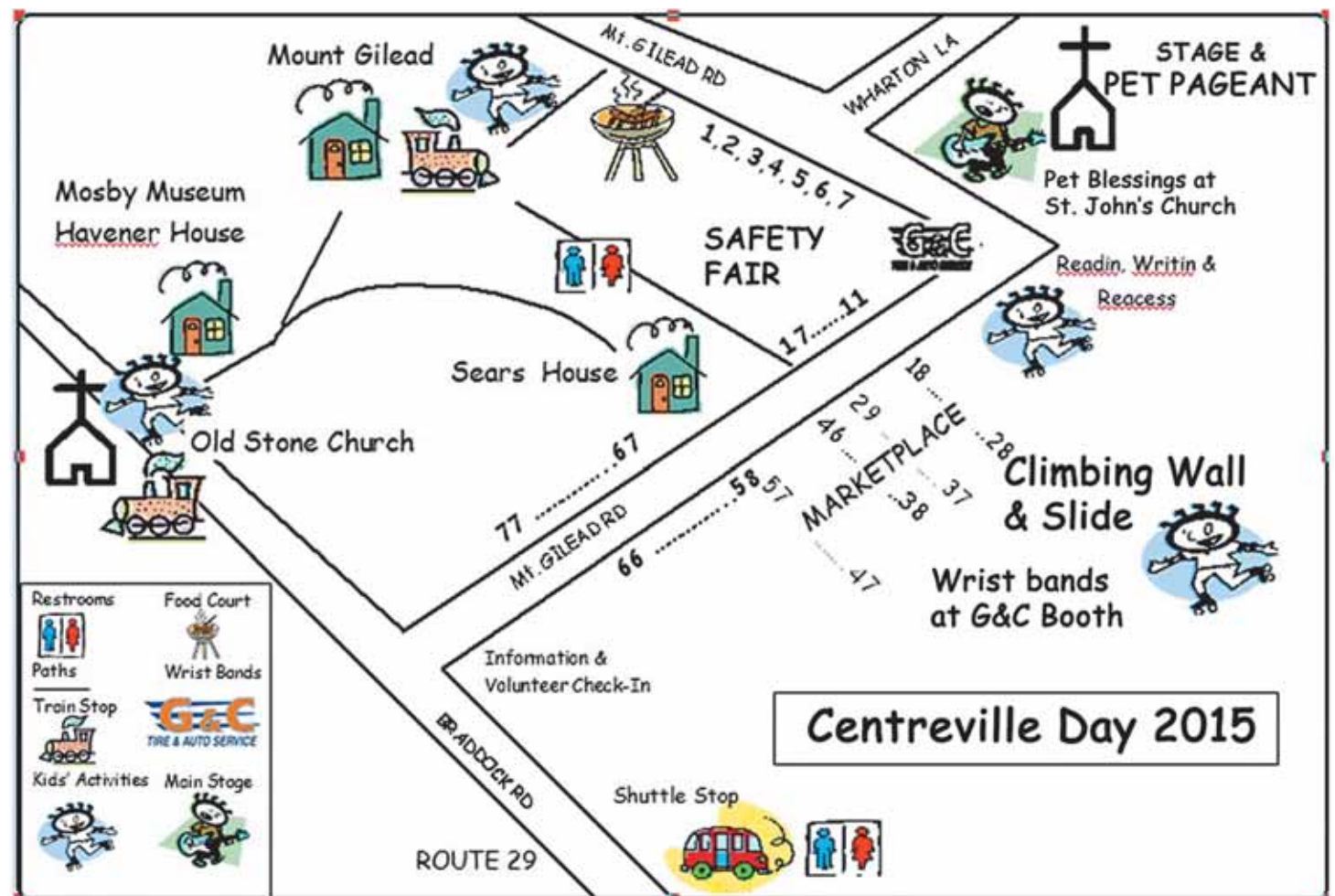
There'll be food, music and dancing, a pet pageant, children's games, crafts, face-painting, a Trick-or-Treat Trail, rock-climbing wall, swordsmen, a tightrope walker and a parade. All in all, it's a great way for neighbors to meet neighbors, and friends and families to enjoy a fun-filled day together outdoors.

Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) will welcome everyone to the 10:15 a.m. opening ceremonies on the Centreville Stage in front of St. John's Episcopal Church. Then the Centreville Citizen of the Year and sponsors' awards will be presented.

The Centreville-Chantilly Rotary Club is sponsoring a pet pageant for pets of all kinds. It starts at 10:45 a.m. at the stage; registration is \$10 per family, and families may bring more than one pet. Prizes will be awarded for Most Unusual Pet, Most Creative Costume and Best in Show.

Proceeds from the pet pageant will go to the Friends of Fairfax County Animal Shelter and to Rotary Foundation Scholarships. Registration forms are available at www.CentrevilleVA.org, or contact Adam Smith at asmith51@verizon.net or Cammy Gawlak at cgawlak@verizon.net.

Pets will also be welcomed and blessed at the tent on the lawn of historic St. John's



COURTESY OF CHERYL REPETTI

Map of this year's Centreville Day attractions.

church. The Rev. Carol Hancock will be blessing pets throughout the day while the church sells hot coffee. And some shelter animals in need of a home will greet visitors at the Friends of the Animal Shelter tent on the lawn beside the Sears House.

At noon is the Centreville Day parade, organized by American Legion Post 1995. There'll be sheriff's motorcycles, fire en-

gines, dancers, Scouts and much more. Those who just want to walk or bike along the route and wave to their neighbors are also welcome in the parade. Registration is free online via www.CentrevilleVA.org.

Participants will assemble at the end of Wharton Lane at 11:30 a.m. and pass by the reviewing stand in front of St John's around noon. The parade will travel through the heart of the Historic District along Mount Gilead and Braddock roads. Costumes, either historic or Halloween, are welcome. Prizes will be awarded. For more information, contact Steve Hunter at geoshunter@gmail.com.

Several children's activities, such as tug-of-war and sack races, will be held on Mount Gilead Road. And this year's Centreville Day theme, "Safe Homes and Families," features a safety fair on the lawn beside the Spindle Sears House.

A variety of local talent will be on stage, including Zumba and Hot Hula sessions, plus a performance by the Fairfax Choral Society. Featuring children ages 7-11, the West Campus Lyric Choir and Centreville's brand-new South Campus Pilot Choir will also entertain. The VaDeatles, a band comprised of Stone Middle School teachers, will join DJ Myra Flemister at 11:30 a.m. And the Korean Senior Center Chung-Choon Band will play tunes on their harmonicas.

There'll also be ballads and sea chanties from Pirates for Sail, as well as performances by the Centreville Dance Academy, Harmony Road Magic Hand Orchestra and

Creative Dance Center. And the Northern Virginia Wushu Academy of Chantilly and the Hallelujah Tae Kwon Do Demonstration Team will wow the crowd with their martial-arts abilities.

History will also come alive during Centreville Day. The Mount Gilead house will offer tours, and performing on its lawn will be tightrope walkers, swordsmen and carpenters. And the volunteers of Sully Historic Site, dressed in period costume, will help children dip candles and make simple toys. Visitors can also catch the History Train to the Old Stone Church where living-history performers Dean Howarth and students from McLean High will show off curiosities and demonstrations drawn from 18th-century science.

The Old Stone Church, which served as a Civil War hospital, will serve baked goods and a ploughman's lunch. And across the street, visitors may view the Havener House, plus the Stuart-Mosby Museum's collection of items related to cavalymen JEB Stuart and John Mosby. Historic tours will also be available at St. John's Episcopal Church. And an afternoon Ghost Tour will be offered for a nominal fee; go to www.FairfaxCounty.gov/parks/ecl.

The event benefits the Friends of Historic Centreville, a nonprofit organizing Centreville Day in partnership with the Fairfax County Park Authority. Free parking and shuttles will be available at The Trinity Centre, 5860 Trinity Parkway, off Route 29.



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/CENTRE VIEW

Booths line the Historic District during Centreville Day 2014.



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

From left are Adam LeKang, Hannah Warnick and Sydney Kendrick with Taggart, a wirehaired fox terrier, as Sandy.

‘Annie, the Musical’

FROM PAGE 4

thinks she’s awesome, but is actually sloppy, rude and mean, even when she’s not trying to be. This is my favorite part I’ve ever played because I can’t be like that in real life, so it’s great to do it onstage. Plus, I have some really funny lines.”

Mattes especially likes the song, “Easy Street,” which she sings with Hannigan’s brother, Rooster (Caleb Mitchell) and his friend Lily St. Regis (Becca Gustafson). “We’re the play’s three caricatures,” she said. “And this is a big, over-the-top, dance number.” Mattes said the audience will enjoy this musical since it’s a “family show with catchy songs and beloved characters that are easy to either love or hate.”

Junior Adam LeKang portrays Daddy Warbucks. “He’s a wealthy businessman who doesn’t share his feelings with anyone,” said LeKang. “He’s a doer, and it’s cool how he changes through the show. After Annie comes into his life, he starts to open up, show his feelings and accept her. It’s a fun role; I like getting to stretch my acting abilities. I normally play comic relief or a crazy person; but this time, I’m solemn and stone-faced.”

His favorite number is “We’d Like to Thank You, Herbert Hoover,” sung by the poor people living in a shantytown called Hooverville. “It’s a funny and sar-

castic song, as they jokingly show their ‘gratitude’ to Hoover, who’s responsible for them being there,” said LeKang.

He said the audience will love the real dog playing Sandy, which brings a new dimension to the stage. “The costumes are spectacular, too,” he added. “And the dancing has really cool choreography and dynamics.”

Playing Grace Farrell, Warbucks’ secretary, is junior Sydney Kendrick.

“She’s from a wealthy family and wants to be in the business world like her father,” said Kendrick. “She starts having feelings for Warbucks, but suppresses them because work comes first. She’s proper and confident, but also stands up for those she loves.”

Kendrick enjoys showing “the relationship between Annie and Grace.

I can direct the servants, but am also maternal toward Annie.” Kendrick likes the song, “I Think You’re Gonna Like It Here,” which she and the servants sing while showing Annie around Warbucks’ mansion.

“People will like the goofy faces the actors make in this show, and the projections will give a more intimate feel to what’s happening,” she said. “They’ll also enjoy seeing the orphans joke around, and the unscripted bits Mrs. K. added to the show make it hilarious.”

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CENTRE VIEW

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman's Club is selling 2015 White House Christmas ornaments. This year's ornament honors 30th President, Calvin Coolidge. The ornament cost \$20. Call 703-378-6216 for more.

THROUGH NOV. 3

Cox Farms Fall Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (5 p.m. in November) at Cox Family Farms, 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville. The Fall Festival features a new "Imagination Trail," hayrides, giant slides, rope swings, the Cornundrum Cornfield adventure and farm animals. Tickets are \$5-17. Visit www.coxfarms.com for more.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 15-18

Centreville Library Used Book Sale. 6-8 p.m. on Thursday (member preview sale), 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, 1-3 p.m. on Sunday at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive., Centreville. Free to attend. Call 703-830-2223.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 16-17

Haunted House and Carnival. 6-9 p.m. at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Tickets are \$6 for both the haunted house

and the carnival, \$3 for the carnival only. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 16-18

Craftmen's Classic Art & Craft Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Watch craftspeople and artists from across America at work on original designs including pieces that cater to every style, taste and budget during demonstrations. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$1 for children 6-12 years old, and free for children under 6 years old. Call 336-282-5550 or visit www.craftshow.com.

OCT. 16-25

"Julius Caesar." Various times at Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas. Set in the Soviet Union during the August Coup of 1991, Prince William Little Theatre's version of Shakespeare's tragedy highlights the beginning of the end of the Cold War as Communist Party leaders attempt to overthrow the reformist Soviet leadership. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and \$17 for students, seniors, and groups of 10 or more. Visit www.pwlt.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 17

Virginia Run Community Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. beginning at the corner of Pleasant Valley and Wetherburn Drive. A "treasure map" will be your guide for this community yard sale. Call 703-216-6730 or 703-402-3134.

K-9 Krawl 5K. 9 a.m. at the Fairfax

County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway. This annual event is held in observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month to help increase awareness between domestic violence and the link to animal cruelty. Also find pet portraits, face painting, goodie bags and more. Free. Call 703-814-7009 for more.

Centreville Day. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Centreville Historic District, 5714 Mt. Gilead Road. Find historic reenactors, food, children's rides, a parade, and more. Visit www.centrevilleday.com.

Oktoberfest. 2-6 p.m. at Sweetwater Tavern, 14250 Sweetwater Lane, Centreville. Enjoy a pig roast, brisket, bratwurst, burgers, hot dogs, beer cupcakes, and more. Entertainment will be provided by ska band Party Like It's. Tickets are \$25. Call 703-449-1100 for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 17-18

NOVA Brewfest. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. The fall brewfest will feature local breweries, food, entertainment, arts and crafts, and more. Tickets are \$25 in advance, and \$35 at the gate. Tickets for designated drivers are \$10 and admission for children is free. Visit www.novabrewfest.com/fall.

SUNDAY/OCT. 18

T-TRAK Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Tabletop N gauge model trains will be on display and running. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; children 5-15, \$2; adults 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org.

Book Release Party. 2-4 p.m. at Historic Blenheim/Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax. Centreville resident and author PJ Devlin is celebrating release of a second novel, "Becoming Jonika." Free. Visit www.possibilitiespublishingcompany.com.

Sully Fun Patch. 3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Visit the 1794 home of Richard Bland Lee and experience what life was like for the children who lived at Sully through hands-on activities such as storytelling, music, or games. Admission is \$5. Visit www.parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov.

MONDAY/OCT. 19

Centreville Garden Club Meeting. 7 p.m. at Centreville Presbyterian Church, 15450 Lee Hwy, Centreville. Patrice Martin, member of the North American Truffle Growers Association will present "Treasure in Truffles: History, Cultivation & Discovery." Free. Visit www.centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com.

WFCWC Host "Gentle Yoga." 7 p.m. at Cale Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Holly Ritland-Gaul is a registered Yoga teacher who has taught Gentle Yoga for four years at the Cub Run Recreation Center. She will lead attendees in a series of stretching, strengthening, energizing, and relaxation exercises. Wear comfortable, loose-fitting or stretchy clothing and non-slick shoes and bring a large towel or a yoga mat. Free. Visit www.wfcwc.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 23

Batty Campfire. 7-8 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road,

Chantilly. Use a bat detector to hear bats communicate and locate food, and learn about Fairfax County's native bats and their habitats. Then, sit by the campfire and make s'mores. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Comedy Show. 7 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Comedian Robert Mac has appeared on "Laugh Riots," "Last Comic Standing," and "Late Friday." General admission tickets are \$32 for members, \$40 for nonmembers and VIP tickets are \$49. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com/events.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 23-25

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and 1-4 p.m. on Sunday at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Find a selection of gently used books (including large collection of Korean and other languages) for children and adults, plus DVDs, CDs and audiobooks. Call the library at 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY/OCT. 24

Blood and Guts Run. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. The Blood and Guts Run is a 5K fun run for children and adults with zombie-themed obstacle. Runners will also have access to an after-party. Early bird tickets are \$25. Visit www.bloodandgutsrun.com.

"Walk Our Way" Family Fun Day. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Enjoy games, technology displays, vendor booths, receive vision and hearing screenings, walk a lap with visual simulators to raise awareness of vision impairments, and more. Free. Visit www.vdbvi.org.

Stretch & Sip. 11 a.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Take a yoga class followed by a wine social. Tickets are \$13.50-15. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com/events.

Tag Sale. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Free. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

Air & Scare. 2-7 p.m. at Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly. Children are invited to come in costume for indoor trick-or-treating, crafts, science experiments, cartoons and other Halloween-themed activities. Free. Visit www.airandspace.si.edu/events/air-and-scare.

Chantilly High School Haunted House. 1-5 p.m. and 6-10 p.m. at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Proceeds will benefit Chantilly High School field hockey and soccer programs. Tickets are \$10. Email ChantillyGSOC@gmail.com.

Fall Fun Fest. 1-5 p.m. at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. New Life is hosting activities, moon bounces, face painting, jugglers, crafts, and more. Free. Visit www.thezone.com.

All Hallows Eve Celebration. 4-7 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Get a glimpse of things that would have been done on All Hallows' Eve over the past millennium. Halloween, a shortened version of All Hallows' Eve, is typically linked to the Celtic festival of Samhain, ancient Roman festivals and All Saints Day that were a time for harvesting crops, a time of remembrance and a time when people took steps to protect themselves from harmful or evil spirits; family gatherings, special foods and entertainment were highlights of these fall events. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully.

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Taking Halloween Decor from Juvenile to Elegant

Local designer uses monochromatic color palate to keep things festive and tasteful.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
CENTRE VIEW

A local designer is proving that Halloween isn't just for children, creating grown-up, spooky-meets-glam designs for her clients to prove it.

Sallie Kjos, a Chantilly-based interior designer, offers alternatives to clients who enjoy the merriment of Halloween, but detest the traditional orange and black color combination.

"I am very much into working with Halloween decor that is more glamorous or toned down from the traditional orange and black," said Kjos. "Cream pumpkins are so elegant. I picked up these pumpkins on sale at a craft store."

The pumpkins provide a sharp contrast to terracotta flowerpots that she coats with black paint. She encourages her clients to "think clean décor," she said. "Use black and white or cream and only touches of the orange. This will set the decor apart."

Faux pumpkins don't have to be plain either. Think of them as a blank canvas. "The great thing about adding fake pumpkins is you can take upholstering tack and make a design in black or silver or bronze," said Kjos. "This makes it custom and more beautiful for years to come."

She created one display using a black feather wreath and also swapped out a grey lampshade for one in black. "It adds glamour and makes it festive," she said.

"I am also a fan of mercury glass pumpkins and putting together a collection together with candles," she said. "It's beautiful the way the light reflects off the glass."

Halloween decor featuring a black feather wreath and white faux pumpkins in black pots offers an alternative to a traditional orange and black color scheme.

PHOTO COURTESY OF
SALLIE KJOS



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A group of students from George Mason University participate in the Day to Serve.



The Rev. Richard Hardy (left), Mt. Olive Baptist Church, with Bishop Jake Seneca, Centreville 2nd Ward, of LDS Church.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Faith Groups Work Together for 'Day to Serve'

From early September through Oct. 11, hundreds of volunteers across the local communities have been uniting to help their neighbors. Known generically as a Day to Serve, it is an annual initiative that transcends political and religious differences with the shared goal of helping those in need and improving the communities.

Planning for the annual service began months earlier. Ken and Fran Gardner of the Mormon Centreville Stake were project managers for the 11 area Latter-day Saint congregations. "Although there are lots of details, the part I enjoy most is to be associated with the hundreds of volunteers,"

said Ken Gardner, adding that out of the planning, "some very meaningful projects emerged that benefited many needy families in our neighborhoods."

Joe E. Dionne, president of the Centreville Virginia Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints said, "To broaden our reach for good, we partnered with other faith-based groups. And we learned in the process that we have much in common, like the desire to do good deeds and help those in the most dire need."

The Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Centreville and the Centreville Second Ward of the LDS Church collaborated on assembling food packets for the needy.

Two Latter-day Saint congregations collaborated with the Cornerstone Baptist Church in Warrenton to put together 50,000 meals to be distributed to food relief organizations in Fauquier County.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community partnered with a Centreville congregation of the LDS Church to create 1,500 Power Packs for school children. These were donated to the nonprofit, Food For Others, who will make them available to Fairfax County Public Schools which distributes them to at-risk elementary schools throughout the school year.

Catholic Diocese of Arlington partnered with two Manassas Latter-day Saint congregations for a food drive that benefitted the St Lucy Project, headed by Catholic Charities.

Another was a project designed to help local food banks raise enough food to deliver 600 Thanksgiving dinners to families for this coming holiday.

"Often the giving is anonymous and we rarely get a chance to meet those in need," Ken Gardner said. "But today outside a local supermarket a man approached me who had been assisted by the donations we had facilitated in previous years. He thanked me saying he hoped to be in a position soon to help another in need to return the kindness."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Westfield Football Shuts Out Briar Woods

The Westfield football team shut out Briar Woods 36-0 on Oct. 9, improving the Bulldogs' record to 5-1.

Westfield, 1-0 in Conference 5, will return to conference action on Friday, Oct. 16 with a road game against Robinson.

Centreville Football Drops Conference Opener

The Centreville football team lost to Oakton 28-24 on Oct. 9 in Vienna.

The Wildcats (2-4, 0-1) will host Herndon at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 16.

Westfield Field Hockey Beats Fairfax

The Westfield field hockey team defeated defending region champion Fairfax 1-0 on Oct. 8 at Westfield High School, improving the Bulldogs' record to 11-2.

Westfield faced Centreville on Tuesday, after The Centre View's deadline. The Bulldogs will travel to face Chantilly at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 16. The following day, Westfield will wrap up the regular season with a home game against Herndon in a rematch of last year's Conference 5 championship game.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Victoria Iturbe and the Chantilly field hockey team lost to Oakton 2-1 in overtime on Monday night, dropping the Chargers' record to 4-9, including 0-4 in Conference 5. Chantilly will conclude the regular season with a home game against Westfield at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 15.

Chairman Candidates Offer Stark Differences

FROM PAGE 1

burst, the number of food stamps applications has doubled since 2008 and staffing for parks and libraries was cut by 100 staff members since 2008," he said.

"To me, it's crucial to cut taxes, not to prevent a tax increase, but to cut taxes."

That was the beginning of the difference between the two candidates' views about taxes at the Great Falls Citizens Association Candidates Debate held at The Great Falls Grange on Sept. 29.

Bulova said she works to "ensure that we continue to have an excellent school system and balancing that with public safety, human services, and great libraries," said Bulova. "Also parks, fire and rescue, all the services including public works making sure that we can have clean air, clean water. Those are priorities of local government."

About 200 people attended.

"LET ME POINT out that Virginia is one of seven states that still has the BPOL tax, the tax where business has to pay a tax even if it loses money," said Purves. "Virginia used

to be first, number one, in terms of being business friendly, in the nation and now we're number four."

"In Tysons Corner, all those new commercial office buildings going up, they aren't attracting new businesses, they are just drawing businesses away from other office buildings in the county. So we need to attract businesses and the way to do that is to be more competitive than our neighboring jurisdictions."

Bulova conceded that "these have not been easy times."

"I was elected chairman just exactly as the great recession happened," she said.

"I am a pro-business Democrat and one of my priorities is to stimulate our economy," she said. "Diversifying our industry sector is something that our board has been focusing on."

She pointed at the growing hospitality business with Cvent, an event planning company that moved its headquarters to Fairfax County, and the World Police and Fire Games held this year, an economic and cultural success.

The county needs to ensure that "we are not so reliant on the federal government

and defense-related programs and that we are diversifying our economy into different industry sectors such as medical research and translational medicine," Bulova said.

Revitalizing the older commercial and industrial sections of the county, including Tysons and Merrifield have been another priority, said Bulova.

"Transforming Tysons from what has been a highly successful commercial area into a mixed use walkable community that includes amenities and exciting programs for all of us to enjoy, and to make sure that is a walkable community that has the kind of bus service, transit as well as the Silver Line."

GREAT FALLS Citizens Association's Ralph Appleton asked the two candidates about transportation projects, including the toll roads.

"Are there inconsistencies between the board plan for I-66 and/or other toll roads inside the beltway and VDOT plans? If so, briefly highlight any differences and your positions on the differences and then, if you

want, your position on toll roads — Good, bad, or what?" said Appleton.

"Bad," said Purves.

He said Gov. Terry McAuliffe wants to toll I-66 inside the beltway for an extended period of time and then have HOT (High Occupancy Travel) lanes.

"These are tax hike lanes. That's a better name than HOT lanes," said Purves. "We really ought to understand why there is no money for transportation and infrastructure and it's not an easy thing to solve. At the federal level, all money is being taken up by Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. We need to fix our entitlement programs if we are to ever fix our transportation problem," he said.

Bulova is proud that she cut the opening ribbon for the Silver Line.

"There's something I agree with Mr. Purves on and that is there was a time when the federal government was the level of government that paid for large transportation projects," she said.

SEE CHAIRMAN, PAGE 15

"The economic situation in this county is not good."

— Arthur Purves (R), challenger for Chairman, Board of Supervisors

"We are investing in the services and the programs that people in Fairfax County appreciate, rely upon and live here for."

— Sharon Bulova (D), Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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It's Essential, Apparently

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



From what little I know, and even less from what I read, but mostly from what I hear – from Rebecca (my certified holistic health coach) – essential oils (lemon, lavender, peppermint, frankincense, to name a few) are the possible/potential answer to many questions and conditions: insomnia, indigestion, anxiety, stress, muscle tension, and even cancer and immune system health, among many others. Unfortunately, one never knows for sure of the outcomes because, other than The Ten Commandments, especially as it concerns science and medicine, very little is written in stone. In this context, if a patient wants to pursue alternatives to standard/a.k.a. Western medicine, there are ample avenues on which to travel. Information will flow freely on the Internet, and of course, numerous books have been written outlining non-conventional treatments for pretty much anything that ails you, especially cancer. Knowing what to do is difficult – to say the least; and impossible, to say the most.

Sifting through the many choices and filtering out the advertising and self-promotion are skills with which I was not blessed. I'm fairly gullible and inclined to accept and embrace a reasonable-sounding premise. My problem is that – other than sports and chocolate, writing a column, and selling a non-tangible – I know very little about a lot of things. As such, I am ill-equipped to deal with the many issues and decisions common – and recurring, in a cancer patient's life: life and death mostly; sustaining the former and avoiding the latter in particular. And in that struggle, one is faced with many challenges. Challenges which my heretofore normal/uneventful and healthy life did not and likely could not have prepared me for, beginning with the words I unexpectedly heard from an oncologist in February, 2009: "You have stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer. I can treat you but I cannot cure you. Your prognosis is 13 months to two years." Sentences which, almost seven years later, I can still see and hear. Try falling asleep every night with that advisory/scenario rolling around in your head.

But sleeping is a must, as is being open to new/non-traditional ideas/remedies. Standing pat and/or going along with the standard program has merit certainly, and decades of success way beyond this mortal man. However, when your doctor uses the "t" word (as in terminal), standing pat no longer seems prudent – at least it didn't for me.

The incredulity of it all is almost overwhelming. It's akin to being knocked off your feet, almost literally. Eventually though, you pick yourself up emotionally and begin to consider – not that day of course (you'll note I didn't say decide) – how you're going to live the rest of your life: as a victim or as a victor. Are you going to live and learn or just wait your turn? It's an extremely personal choice and one that didn't come easily or naturally for me. The process took/takes time and one size – so to speak, does not fit all. For all I know – and it's very little, actually – I'm still alive in spite of the alternatives I've incorporated into my routine. Nevertheless, life is still going on and I am still open to adding new anti-cancer-sounding products/pursuits. Essential oils are simply the most recent tool in this cancer patient's arsenal. Will its use matter? I can only hope. But as long as I'm still in the game, I'll continue to believe that "oil's well that ends well."

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

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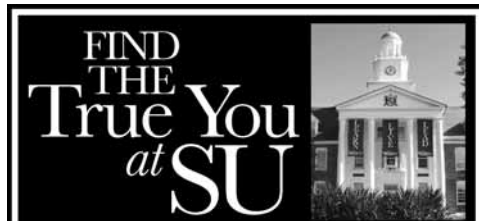
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NEWS

Chairman

FROM PAGE 13

“Regarding tolls, we’ve had, at least from my point of view, a relative positive experience with managed lanes, HOT lanes on the Beltway,” Bulova said.

Bulova said one approach to transportation problems could include creating a network of choices, including carpool lanes and toll lanes. “So this may be a viable transportation project but there are things we care about and want to see dealt with, especially the impacts of the toll lanes on the surrounding communities. Once you get inside the Beltway on I-66 you can’t get on it during peak hours, and this project would allow everybody to use it during peak hours.”

CONTROVERSY around the Fairfax County Police Department caused scrutiny and criticism of the board, especially since the shooting of John Geer.

“My boss has a great saying. The saying is, ‘Bad news does not improve with age,’” said Purves.

“John Geer was a civilian and he was unarmed and he was shot by a Fairfax County policeman, and for 17 months the [Board of Supervisors] stood silent while the police department refused to give the details of that shooting to the Commonwealth’s Attorney who is responsible for conducting that investigation,” Purves said. “And the trust between the community and the police is a fragile thing and it’s a very important thing and this 17-month delay, I think, endangered that trust.”

Bulova said the Geer case could offer a case study in “everything that could go wrong as far as transparency, sharing what happened with the public and providing the information that was requested and making sure that justice was timely served. And things did not go well in that case,” she said. Bulova created the Ad Hoc Police Practices Commission, which will report its recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on Oct. 20.

See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission

“You’ll see all the work we’re doing,” she said.

Purves brought up the in-custody death of Natasha McKenna, a woman with mental illness who died in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, after deputies used a taser on her four times while struggling to restrain her.

“It was a death that probably could have been avoided if the county had mental health court diversion program which it considered doing in 2004 and then abandoned,” said Purves. “Jails are the largest provider of care for mentally ill persons in the country.”

The county is working towards a “diversion first” program that could address some of those concerns. See <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/diversionfirst/>

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