

Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes



A Day Of Fun

Guevara, Smith
In Sully Supervisor Race
NEWS, PAGE 3

Election Q&As
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Join in
Goblin Gallop
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Visitors stroll through the Centreville
Historic District during Centreville
Day on Saturday, Oct. 17.

CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12

PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

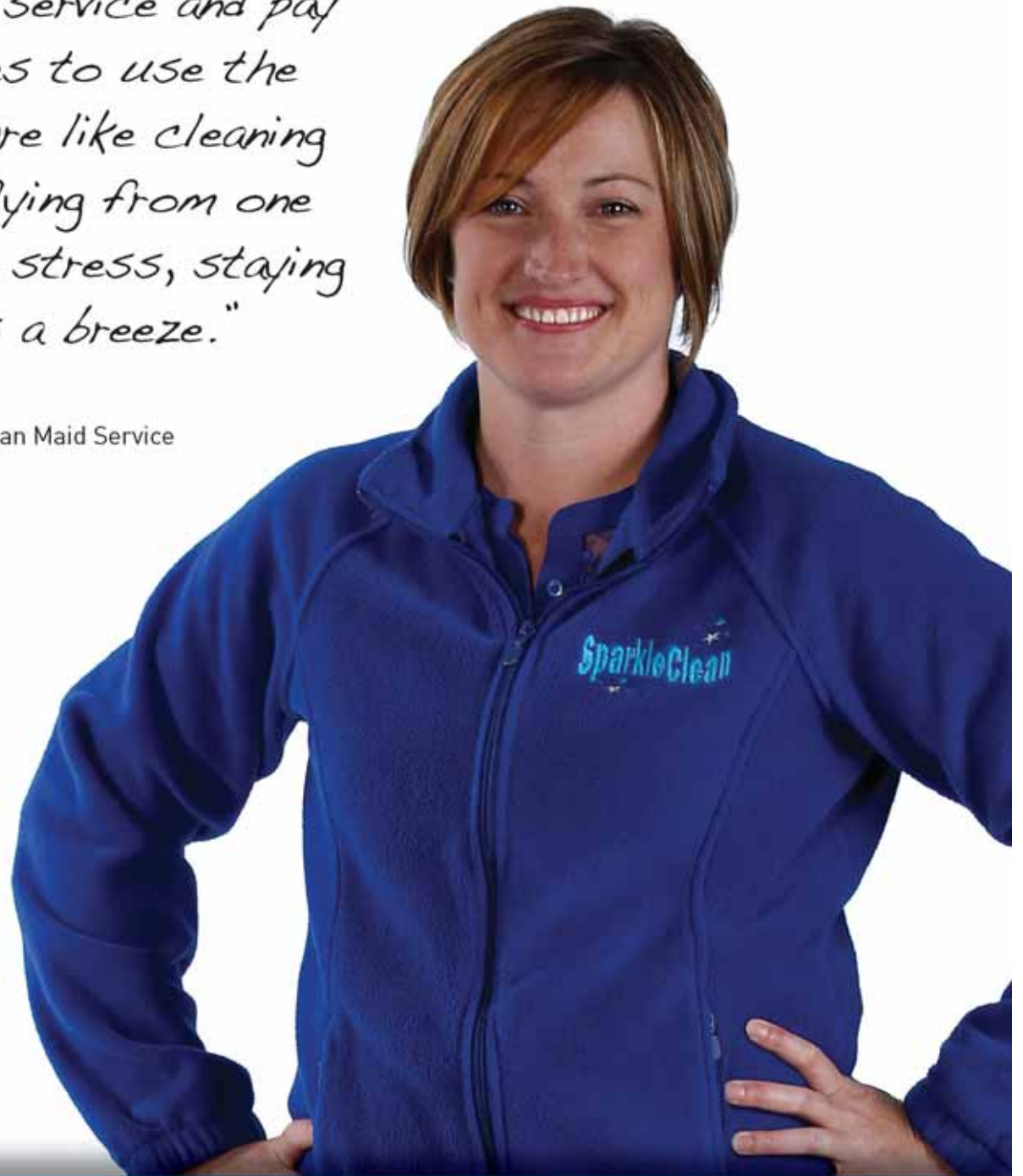
OCTOBER 21-27, 2015

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ELECTION '15

Candidates Pursue Sully District Supervisor Seat

Guevara: "Grow the economy through business."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

When asked why he's running for Sully District supervisor, Fair Oaks resident John Guevara says his entire life has been one of service. "I joined the Army at age 17 and served almost 15 years," he said. "My grandfather was a missionary and taught me the importance of serving others, so it was natural for me to give back."

A Republican, Guevara grew up in Los Angeles and moved here in 1990. He also started a scholarship, Junior Statesmen of America, at Georgetown University. A father of two sons, he was a PTO board member at Navy Elementary and a Cub Scout den leader.

"I see the needs of the community at different levels," he said. "For example, homeowners associations don't want clogged roads, speeding or increased taxes. And county government employees and teachers who come to WFCM because they need help need money."

Guevara said there's always room for improvement and more efficiency in Fairfax County government, "so the consolidation of resources is important. We shouldn't have two, different IT systems in the county. The county government and school systems need to consolidate their services for more energy efficiency and extreme savings in staff and operational costs."

He works for AT&T and has been endorsed by the League of Conservation Voters because of how he found cost efficiencies in the delivery of network services at the Pentagon. He says Fairfax County could also move rapidly to a wireless environment in its government buildings. "It's done in phases and is usually a three- to four-year return on investment."

Regarding transportation, Guevara calls the Route 28/I-66 Interchange "pivotal to development along Route 28 and to the residents living in that area." And in Chantilly, he said, "We have to look at how one project will affect another. So I don't want the Preserve at Westfields [residential community]



The Guevara family (from left): Nathan, 12; Marilyn and John; and Peter, 14.

JOHN GUEVARA

Neighborhood: Fair Oaks (Navy Precinct)

Education: Bachelor's in political science and American History from GWU.

Occupation: Manager, Professional Services, for AT&T.

Family information: He and his wife Marilyn have two sons, Peter, and Nathan.

Community Accomplishments: Guevara was on the PTO Board at Navy Elementary for two terms and was president of his HOA for several years. Recently, he was selected as vice president of the board for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries. He's also volunteered his time as a youth sports coach and Cub Scouts den leader.

Money raised: More than \$100,000.

Web Site: www.Johnforsupervisor.com. and Wegmans [grocery store] being done before this interchange is improved. They should be done in parallel so that congestion won't be a concern for these new developments."

He also says people should "fight hard to ensure that the state doesn't impose tolls on I-66 inside the Beltway because it'll hurt Sully District residents the most. They'll pay an estimated \$17 round trip to go to D.C."

As for education, Guevara believes schools "have to be funded properly so teachers get better pay. I don't think the School Board has done them well by not paying them adequately. The School Board's priorities are wrong; they gave themselves a raise, knowing that a deficit was coming up this year."

When the economy's in a recession, he said, "I want the budget prioritized so we can stick to the core services, pay teachers first and reduce class size. Then we should prioritize the rest to see what we can pay for and what we can't. The School Board has asked for unreasonable amounts in years the economy couldn't support it. People don't like the fight between the School Board and county government; so, if elected, I'd sit down with [the superintendent] and make sure we understand each other's priorities."

Guevara says he's asked the school system's Office of Program Evaluation for a list of what programs are working and what's not. That way, he said, "They could identify the costs to keep them running and then either close them or make changes. But I've gotten no response. When the budget is tight, you need to scrutinize every dollar. You have to see what programs need to grow and determine if they're worth it."

Regarding economic improvement, he said, "We've got to grow the economy through business — foster an environment for business in the county. It's important to diversify our revenue growth so we're not



John Guevara.

SEE JOHN GUEVARA, PAGE 4

Smith: "A proven record of leadership."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

After serving nearly 13 years on Fairfax County's School Board, Democrat Kathy Smith is vying for Sully District supervisor. And she and many others believe she's the best person for the job.

"I've lived in this community since 1984 and have seen the changes here," she said. "I have experience in the community and a proven record of leadership. Some 400 different people have donated to my campaign, and it's humbling seeing their support."

Smith's been endorsed by Firefighters Local 2068, Northern Virginia Board of Realtors, Fairfax Education Assn., Mid-Atlantic Laborers International Union of North America and Service Employees International Union — Local 512.

A resident of Chantilly's Poplar Tree Estates community, she taught elementary school, was president of the Poplar Tree, Rocky Run and Chantilly High PTAs and was an officer in the County Council of PTAs before being elected to the School Board in 2002 — and then three more times.

"I got an understanding of budgeting and staffing, served on school plan committees and found out what was happening across the system," said Smith. "I served three times as School Board chairman and, as a leader, I was able to pull the board together to move us forward."

"Over half the county's General Fund goes to the school system, and it's now up to \$2.6 billion," she continued. "Having experience working through large budgets — and balancing when to expand programs and when not to — helps me be a supervisor. And it's not always easy work because you've got to make tough decisions."

Smith said she and current Sully Supervisor Michael Frey worked well together, helping residents get involved in issues ranging from the budget to street lights near Centre Ridge Elementary. She also served on a joint School Board-Supervisors committee to examine capital spending and needs countywide.

"County schools, parks and transportation



Kathy and Steve Smith with their three granddaughters, (from left) Kathy Cate, Meredith and Caitlynn.

KATHY SMITH

Neighborhood: Poplar Tree Estates in Chantilly (Rocky Run Precinct)

Education: Bachelor's in sociology and elementary education from Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania.

Occupation: School Board Member, FCPS

Family: Married 36 years to husband, Steve; four children, Brian (wife Leah), Kyle, Andrew, Stephanie and three granddaughters.

Community Accomplishments: Since being elected to the School Board in 2002, she was elected its chairman for three years, vice chair for two years and chaired its Governance Committee, Administration and General Services Committee and the Instruction, Special Services and Youth Development Committee. She also co-chaired the School Board's joint Infrastructure Financing Committee with the Board of Supervisors. Previously, she was president of the Poplar Tree, Rocky Run and Chantilly PTAs, and she's also served in numerous leadership roles in various local youth sports.

Money Raised: About \$100,000.

Web site: www.kathysmith.org.

staff presented information on their needs, and I learned how capital needs are funded and about sound, financial planning," she said. "When you're an elected official, you're using people's hard-earned money and have limited resources to pay for [what's needed]. So you must find the best way to use them."

An example was changing high-school start time. "Not everyone wanted it to change," said Smith. "My biggest concern was teachers' salaries. So when I weighed the \$5 million cost of making the change with the fact that we're not paying our teachers enough, I voted no on the time change. I also voted no on the School Board raise for the same reason."

She's also knowledgeable about more than school issues. "When I decided to run for supervisor, I reached out to Planning Commissioner Jim Hart so I could understand land use and the processes associated with it," said Smith. "And as a School Board member, I was already familiar with developers' proffers."

She's met with Frey and his staff, as well, and learned about various land-use projects in the pipeline and about working with the community and developers on them.

Regarding transportation, said Smith, "Now that the NVT is providing state funding for transportation projects, we need to look at the congestion issues and where the next projects should be. Route 28's been improved, but it's still a mess when you get to Route 50. And since so many people in Sully work in D.C., what happens with the I-66 improvements is also important. So I've been asking people what they think about it and going to the meetings."

Noting how people's eyes light up when someone mentions the Mosaic District in



Kathy Smith.

SEE KATHY SMITH, PAGE 7

Thoughts from Guevara's Supporters

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Susan Chen, of Fair Woods, has known John Guevara for 10 years. "He led my eldest son's Cub Scout troop," she said. "And our kids went to school together at Navy Elementary and Hunters Woods."

"I've encouraged him to get more involved in our community because he gets things done and works well with others," she continued. "We need people like him on the board because he can reach across the aisle."

Noting that Guevara's worked hard on his campaign, knocking on doors and talking to people, Chen called him personable and easy to talk to, plus pragmatic and a hard worker.

"I'm Asian-American and I believe the Republican Party needs to be more diverse," she said. "John grew up in poverty and went to GWU — which is the epitome of the American dream. So he brings a different perspective to the position because there are underprivileged people in Fairfax County, and he understands where they're coming from and what they need."

FRANKLIN FARM'S Jennifer Busby met Guevara through church and has known him about five years. "He has a heart for service," she said. "He was involved in several ministries through our church. And we did a lot of programs for the community together. For example, we packed boxes to send to soldiers overseas, and he got children from the church in-

volved."

Describing Guevara as trustworthy, sincere, a great friend and a good teacher and mentor to children, Busby said "he'd give you the shirt off his back. He listens to people and is looking out for what we want in Fairfax County and our schools. He's a doer; he'll get in there and work for the people of Sully District."

Anoop Govil, of Fair Oaks, has known Guevara about 12 years, from the neighborhood and because their oldest children went to school together.

"He's an honest person, a good friend and helpful," said Govil. "He was in the school PTA and suggested after-school activities for the kids at Navy elementary."

Govil said Guevara "tried to do good things in the school and in our neighborhood. As our HOA president, he got the community together at block parties and cleanup days and listened to residents' issues. And he helped us get an ordinance for our main streets, preventing large, commercial vehicles and boats from parking there so the residents would have places to park."

He'd be a good supervisor, said Govil, because "he's got a lot of good ideas, is a family person and would use technology for the betterment of the community. And he'd work hard to come up with creative ideas to improve traffic in the area. We're longtime friends and, in the last two elections, I voted Democrat; but this time, I'm voting for him."

John Guevara

FROM PAGE 3

so dependent upon the federal government for jobs." That's why Guevara's happy that INOVA is bringing its medical-research complex to Merrifield.

"There's a huge push for technology, and we need to foster our relationship with organizations that encourage children to become involved with information technology at an early age," he said. "For example, we should set up a data system, like Amazon, in Fairfax County."

Guevara said small businesses want the BPOL tax to disappear "because they're hurt most. So we need to see whether it's the right time to reduce or eliminate it. But we'd need permission from the state to do it."

Also critical, he said, are the internal processes by which the county attracts businesses. "The developers have told me the 'culture of no' is prevalent in the county and it takes too long to get anything done," said Guevara. "So we need to streamline and improve the permitting processes and all the bureaucracy."

He said developers should be able to track their projects online so they can see how the county is working through the process. "I'm confident that we can do this so we can bring in new revenue in the county," said Guevara. "Businesses are our bread and butter, and we need to treat them well. And my job experience makes me better understand the needs of a business."

And while he intends to keep his own job, he said his work hours would be reduced and the supervisors would take precedence. Guevara also emphasized that his varied work experience as a military officer, in business and managing large budgets at the Pentagon make him the best candidate for Sully supervisor.

Besides that, he said, he'd be the first Hispanic on the board and would reflect the area's changing demographics.

"I can work collaboratively with people," said Guevara. And, he added, receiving outgoing Sully District Supervisor and fellow Republican Michael Frey's endorsement "says that I've gained his trust."



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Sign Up for Goblin Gallop

Benefits families of children with cancer.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Halloween will soon be here, and that means it's time for the 22nd annual Goblin Gallop. It's set for Sunday, Oct. 25, at the Fairfax Corner Shopping Center.

Many of the runners and walkers, plus those cheering them on, wear Halloween costumes. The festivities include live music, refreshments and a costume contest, so both participants and onlookers have a good time.

But the event has a serious purpose, too. All proceeds go to the John Quadrino Foundation to Benefit Children with Cancer. George Quadrino established it after his son John died of the disease in 1985 at age 7. And each year, money raised from the Goblin Gallop is used for several, small grants to help childhood cancer victims and their families.

"It's a fun event — a chance for people to get some exercise and enjoy the day with their families," said George Quadrino, who organizes the Goblin Gallop each year. "They can have an enjoyable morning at the race and then eat popcorn and watch their children play in the moonbounce. And at the same time, they're doing something good — helping the families of seriously ill children."

Rain or shine, the race begins and ends in front of

Coastal Flats restaurant. The 1K fun run starts at 8:30 a.m., followed by the 5K race and walk at 9 a.m. Entry fees through Oct. 22 are \$35 for the 5K run, \$27 for the 5K walk and \$18 for the 1K fun run. From Oct. 23 on, those fees, respectively, are \$38, \$30 and \$22.

Entrants should add \$5 to each amount if they'd like a long-sleeved, rather than a short-sleeved, T-shirt. Register at www.goblingallop.org. Online registration will remain open until midnight, Thursday, Oct. 22.

People may run individually or as part of 5K teams competing against each other. Participants may be on a coed team of at least four people; the categories are organizations, families and friends. The top team in each category will receive fun awards for best team costume, fastest team — adding up the four members' times, and for the team with the most members registered before packet pickup on Oct. 23.

People may also register during packet pickup at Potomac River Running, 11895 Grand Commons Ave. in Fairfax Corner. Hours are Friday, Oct. 23, from noon-7 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 24, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. On race day, it's at the registration table, 7-8:15 a.m.

Fairfax Station's Dixon Hemphill is the race director. Main sponsors include Don Beyer Volvo, the Shaffer Charitable Foundation and Glory Days Grill.

"We raised about \$35,000 last year," said Quadrino. "That funded a lot of help to over 250 families." Nearly 1,300 people participated in last year's Gob-

SEE GOBLIN GALLOP, PAGE 11

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OPINION

Election Coverage for an Informed Vote

Find stories, candidate questionnaires, and photos.

EDITORIAL

This week and next week are the last two publication dates before Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Our pages and website are full of coverage, letters, candidate questionnaires and photos of the campaign trail in an effort to help voters decide to vote and which candidates hold

views closest to their own.

Virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. Find previous coverage and complete coverage on our website www.connectionnewspapers.com, click on Elections. Because many districts in Virginia resemble spiky amoebas, it is sometimes diffi-

cult to include every race that might impact a town or community in the print editions.

Please take the time to vote, it matters. In Virginia, key races that have affected policy have been decided by fractions of one percent. Your vote can make a difference.

We will not be endorsing in any race this year.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Chantilly CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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Newspaper of
Chantilly
Fair Oaks / Fair Lakes
A Connection Newspaper

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9438
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor, 703-752-4013
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Karen Washburn
Display Advertising, 703-778-9422
kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey is named Citizen of the Year for Centreville Day. From left: Sheriff Stacey Kinkaid, Clerk of the Court John Frey, Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, David Bulova, Sully Supervisor Michael Frey, Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity, and School Board Representative Kathy Smith.



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

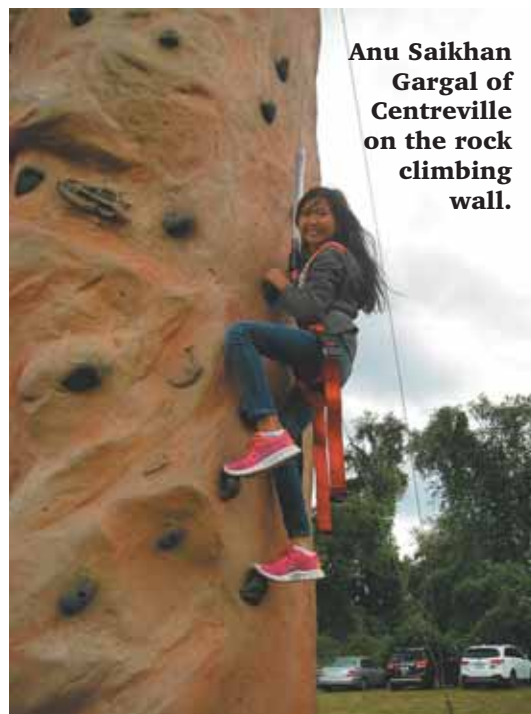
Sara Berrios sings the "National Anthem" as the Chantilly Junior ROTC Color Guard lines up in formation.

Celebrating Centreville Day 2015

The 23rd annual Centreville Day, held Sunday, Oct. 17, in Centreville's Historic District included a parade organized by American Legion Post 1995, a pet contest, a tightrope walker, booth exhibitors, a Trick-or-Treat Trail, a children's play area with rock climbing and inflatables, face painting and an awards ceremony. The Mount Gilead House offered tours, and pets were blessed at St. John's Church. And some shelter animals in need of a home greeted visitors at the Friends of the Animal Shelter tent.



Supervisor Michael Frey and Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova present Amelia Mitchell, principal of Stone Middle School, with the Community Partnership Award.



Anu Saikhan Gargal of Centreville on the rock climbing wall.

ROUNDUPS

Meet 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, as well as students and Scouts studying government or social science.

Fair Oaks CAC to Meet

The Citizens Advisory Council of the Fair Oaks District Police Station will meet Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m., in the roll-call room of the police station. Featured will be a presentation from the Street Crimes Unit. The station is at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly.

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.

Thoughts from Smith's Supporters

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Mark Hall, of Poplar Tree Estates, has known Kathy Smith 23 years, through the neighborhood and the schools. "Kathy is an outstanding public servant," he said. "I admire her for working so hard for little reward, in many instances. Being on the School Board is a tough job."

Describing her as of "high character," he said she's had to make some tough decisions that haven't always been popular. But in the long run, they've proven to be beneficial to the Sully District."

"She's always been supportive of all children, including those with disabilities, and disabled adults, too," said Hall, an executive with a nonprofit in Chantilly that serves people with disabilities. "And she's taken the time to learn about the services available to them in the community and ask questions so she can understand the challenges facing them."

He said Smith's gained the experience necessary to make difficult decisions dealing with budget issues and balancing the wishes of many, different constituencies. "Being on the School Board was excellent training," said Hall. "Kathy's learned how Fairfax County government works and has worked with it and formed wonderful relationships with the supervisors — and that's valuable. She's done the same with our state representatives and understands what it means to be bipartisan."

At-Large Planning Commissioner Jim Hart, of Centreville's Virginia Run community, has known Smith more than 10 years. "She's very civic-minded and has been involved with community activities as

long as I've known her," he said. "And in interactions between the Planning Commission and School Board, I've always been impressed with her abilities."

Hart said Smith is extremely familiar with the schools and has always taken the time to learn about problems and issues as they come up. He's also pleased that Smith plans to be a full-time supervisor. "There's no way the job can be done, otherwise," he said. "A supervisor has to meet with government officials and county employees every day, during normal work hours."

Noting that Smith has often expressed an interest in pending land-use cases, Hart said, "I think she'll be able to hit the ground running. She knows how the county works and has worked with both the Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors and Board Chairman Sharon Bulova for years, so becoming a supervisor would be a logical extension to what Kathy's been doing already."

Former 67th District Del. Chuck Caputo, of Oak Hill, also supports Smith. He's known her since 2002 and calls her personable and caring. "Her ethics are top-notch, and she's a loyal and sincere friend," he said. "She also knows what's important to the citizens of Sully District."

When times are tough, said Caputo, "You can always count on her to be a smooth, even-keeled person to discuss any issue. She also brings her experience and abilities to bear on any problem that needs solving." Besides that, he added, "She has the background necessary to do the job — the ability to analyze project and budget costs. For all these reasons, I feel that Sully citizens can entrust their best interests to her."

Kathy Smith

FROM PAGE 3

Merrifield, she said, "We need to talk about how we can combine land use, transportation and development to do the live, work, play piece in Sully District, too." Housing is also important, said Smith.

"When teachers, firefighters and police can't afford to live here, we've got a problem," she said. "So we need to have discussions now about how we develop these things smartly. We need to continue building that sense of community and think about the future so we don't become so clogged with traffic that we can't get around."

Strong schools are also needed, said Smith, because "that's why families and businesses move here and that's the core of the community. I also hold dear our strong libraries, human services and park systems and have worked with all of them. So my experience is relevant to being Sully District supervisor."

And unlike her opponent who, if elected, plans to keep his job while being supervisor, Smith would do it full time. "People have different schedules; you can't just do the work at night," she said. "Supervisors serve on various

boards and commissions, and Sully's used to having a supervisor available to the community full time. People don't realize how much work is involved."

A supervisor must be available to meet with homeowners associations and tell residents what's happening in their communities, she said. "You give them information, get their feedback and tell them how to get involved," said Smith. "That transparency is important. And since the salary's \$95,000, I believe that, for that kind of money, it should be full time."

She said Sully's supervisor must also understand what strong, community partners CYA and SYA are and the difference they've made to local youth, including her own, four children. "I want them to continue their success," said Smith. "And right now, we need to creatively find more indoor, athletic space for them."

The supervisor's job isn't partisan, she said. "It's to help people improve their lives — which is what I'm committed to doing. I'm thoughtful, I do my homework and I talk to people before making decisions. I have no agenda; I just want to make sure we hold onto the great community in which I raised my kids."

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Opening Remarks by
Fairfax County Supervisor
KAREN GARZA

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School Board Candidates At-Large

Omar Fateh

Town of residence: Annandale
Age: 25

Education: MPA from George Mason University

Occupation and relevant experience: Former Campaign Finance Analyst at FEC, Former Academic Advisor/Assistant Instructor at Northern Virginia Community College

Community involvement: Co-organize youth basketball league, Assist in developing tutoring programs at local mosques

Website: www.fatehforschoolboard.com

Email address: fateh4sb@gmail.com

Twitter handle: Fateh4sb

Name favorite endorsements: Fairfax Education Association

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The achievement gap. Our minority and economically disadvantaged students continually score 20-30 points below their peers on standardized tests. The dropout rate among economically disadvantaged students has nearly doubled in the last four years. First, standardized test scores should not be the main indicator of student progress or potential. Second, rather than having teachers teach to the tests, it is important for the School Board to give teachers the freedom to identify their students' strengths and interests. Finally, we must get parents involved, and to place responsibility on the students to succeed as well.

2. Why should voters choose you?

The qualities that separate me most from the other candidates for School Board include the perspective I bring as a member of some of the County's many underrepresented communities (including the Somali and Muslim communities), as a former Fairfax County Public Schools student, and also as a former advisor to countless area students at Northern Virginia Community College.

3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

Many parents in Fairfax County must work multiple jobs, and are not able to provide the full support needed by their children, such as attending school meetings and checking their children's work. It is critical for us to get parents as involved as we can, in part by meeting them on their terms and as much as possible. I will ensure that I am easily accessible to the entire community. Having worked with my local mosque to develop a tutoring program for our County's youth, many people within our community are willing to donate their time and efforts to help both academically, and in developing them as professionals.

Increased funding is necessary to meet the needs of an ever-expanding student body.

4. How to address the achievement gap?

To begin addressing the issue in earnest, the School Board first needs compassionate representatives willing to understand and serve the needs of the full range of County students with new energy and ability.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

Board members must also better engage their fellow elected officials to seek additional funding. The majority of the Board of Supervisors wants to fully fund our schools, but the dollars simply are not coming in from Richmond. We need to work with state representatives to bring back our tax dollars. We must work first and foremost to provide additional funding. We must get both Boards on the same page, and put education—in other words, our children—first in Fairfax County.



Jeanette Hough

Town of residence: Fairfax
Age: 36

Family: Husband, Charlie (Oakton graduate '97); Ryan (4th grade), Keri (2nd grade), Ethan (Kindergarten), Vader (rescue puppy)

Education: B.A. in Economics; University of Virginia, Masters in Physical Therapy; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Occupation and relevant experience: Physical Therapist (Senior Therapist – mentor and leader role)

Community involvement: Volunteer in children's elementary school, local homeless shelter, church, and with meals and holiday gifts through Our Daily Bread, volunteer with kid's sports and activities, Manna Meal coordinator, PTA member

Website: jeanetteforschoolboard.com

Email address: Jeanetteforschoolboard@gmail.com

Name three favorite endorsements: Class Size Counts, Former Congressman Tom Davis, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Responsibility to the community defines my call to serve. That responsibility comes with engaging the community members, being fiscally responsible and setting clear priorities. Authentic engagement includes holding office hours and citizen town halls throughout the year, not just showing up to ribbon cuttings and planned events. Our community deserves more transparency with FCPS' \$2.7 billion operating fund. I will prioritize reducing large class sizes, not with one-time fixes the way my opponents have, but with long-term planning. I will prioritize competitive teacher salaries. Our teachers' salaries have fallen behind compared to surrounding counties. Instead of making it a real priority, the Board raised their own salary by 60%.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponents, why should voters choose you?

My opponents either do not have children or have not had children in FCPS for a long time. As the mother of children in graduating classes of 2023, 2025, 2027, I bring a unique insight into our school system. I bring an Economics degree when we face a shortfall of over \$70 million for FY17 due to failing to enact budgeting best practices.

3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

Part of the growing divide comes from parallel decisions made by the Board of Supervisors. It is imperative to have a new School Board that can build trust with the Board of Supervisors. With a better relationship, the two Boards can work together for our community and all of our children.

4. How to address the achievement gap?

Under current leadership, the achievement gap continues to be substantial. We cannot keep electing the same people and expect a different result. We need to provide a rigorous curriculum to all students and allocate resources for objective gains. We need to work with the community to provide wraparound services and empower parents to help their children at home.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

FCPS' projected shortfall is 2.5% of the operating budget. The current School Board took five years to hire an auditor general and has refused to do a line of business review. My top priority is to ensure clear metrics and objectivity so we base cuts on educational impact and effectiveness, not on bias and popularity. We also need to look at FCPS' contract procurement practices. I will bring leadership to the Board so we cut waste and inefficiency, not proven programs.



Manar Jean-Jacques

Town of residence: Fairfax
Age: 31

Family: My family is originally from Egypt and my wonderful husband, Thierry, is from Haiti. We have been married for 7 years and we have two children, Thomas is 2 and Mary is 8 months.

Education: I hold a B.A. in Sociology from George Mason University

Occupation and relevant experience: I work at the Refugee Processing Center as a contractor for the Department of State. Since starting there 8 years ago, I have been known as a solution-driven, out-of-the box thinker with creative solutions. In addition to my analytical skills, I bring a parent's perspective to the board. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the best education for children in FCPS.

Community involvement: I participate in local volunteer opportunities though my church, I spent time on the ground in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina assisting in disaster relief efforts and I spent time helping at an orphanage in my husband's hometown of Port-au-Prince, Haiti after the devastating earthquake in 2010.

Website: www.ManarForFairfax.com

Email address: Manar@manarforfairfax.com

Twitter handle: @Manar4FFX

Name favorite endorsements: I have am officially endorsed by the GOP and Arab Community Radio.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

As a first generation American, I cherish the importance of a government that listens to its people. I feel called to serve in my local government because the current school board is unresponsive to its constituents. I plan on involving the community in all board-related matters through regular town halls, PTA meetings, setting special time aside to meet with teachers and making myself readily available to the residents of Fairfax County via office hours, email and phone.

2. Why should voters choose you?

The incumbent at-large candidates either have children that have already graduated from FCPS or do not have children at all, the only way they take their decisions home with them is in their pockets. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the highest quality education for FCPS students so that our children have the best opportunities to thrive and be successful. I understand the frustration parents have with class size disparity, the need for more rigor in the classroom and the need for parents of this next generation to be respected and recognized as the primary educators of their children ... that is a perspective needed on the school board and it is one that the incumbents cannot offer.

3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

It is important to keep rigor, class size disparity and staffing formulas at the heart of the conversation with the community. Working together, we can create solutions that address our county's challenges and needs. It is the responsibility of FCPS to educate all students in the county and shape them into productive members of the community.

4. How to address the achievement gap?

Coming from an immigrant family and working daily to bring refugees to the U.S., I understand what education means for those seeking a better future for themselves and their families in the U.S. I am very concerned that the needle hasn't moved on closing the minority achievement gap in years, despite \$65 million being poured into projects targeting the issue. The current board continually changes the name of these projects (Excel, PSI, Momentum, etc), making it nearly impossible to

SEE QUESTIONNAIRES, NEXT PAGE



Ryan McElveen

INCUMBENT
Town of residence: McLean

Age: 29

Family: Married
Education: M.A. in International Affairs, Columbia University; B.A. in Anthropology and East Asian Studies, The University of Virginia

Offices held, dates: School Board Member, At-large, January 2012-Present

Occupation and relevant experience: Assistant Director, John L. Thornton China Center, The Brookings Institution

Website: www.ryanforschoolboard.com

Email address: voteryanmc@gmail.com

Twitter handle: @RyanLMcElveen

Name three endorsements: Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax County Democratic Committee

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I will remain a voice for the voiceless who don't know how to best resolve their concerns with the school system. One of my first actions on the Board was to push for the creation of a system to allow community members to submit YouTube video testimonies to be shown at our meetings. We became the first public Board in the country to implement this kind of feedback mechanism. I will continue engaging with the community in a transparent manner and with an open mind while working to improve our communications.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have a track record of bringing significant and positive change to the school system in a short amount of time. I have focused on three major initiatives — improving school food (including the creation of a fresh food pilot kitchen and the system-wide study of our Food and Nutrition Services program), the internationalization working group (to help guide our work on implementing world languages and study-abroad opportunities), and the alumni networking action group (which has helped us map a path to create an FCPS alumni association). In my next term, I hope to see all of these efforts through to implementation.

3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

FCPS is a tale of two counties, and this unquestionably has emerged as one of our biggest challenges. In Fairfax, more than half of our elementary schools sit above the socio-economic tipping point, proving that Fairfax has moved beyond localized poverty. To address this divide, the School Board must maintain its long-standing practice of targeting these communities with needs-based funding. Co-location of school and human services facilities, as has been piloted in Mount Vernon, is another way to tackle this community issue without spending significant additional county resources.

4. How to address the achievement gap?

Our Board has remained steadfast in our support of needy students and those who speak other languages at home by directing budget resources to these at-risk populations. We have made expanding early childhood opportunities one of our priorities, because we know that investments in the education of students at an early age pay dividends later in their educational careers (thus saving our system money). We must continue working with the county to creatively fund and house these programs.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to

SEE QUESTIONNAIRES, NEXT PAGE



School Board Candidates At-Large

Ilryong Moon

INCUMBENT
Town of residence: Fairfax
Age: 58
Family: Father of 2 FCPS graduates
Education: Harvard, B.A.; William and Mary Law School, J.D.



Offices held, dates: At-Large School Board Member, 07/1995-12/1995 & 2004-present; Braddock District School Board Member 1996-1999; At-Large Planning Commissioner 2000-2003.

Occupation and relevant experience: Attorney since 1984; Member, Board of Directors, American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras, 2000-2010; Member, Board of Directors, Montessori School of Northern Virginia, 1994-1995

Community involvement: Youth soccer coaching, Fairfax-Falls Church Regional Council of the United Way, Police Chief's Diversity Council.

Website: www.moon4schools.com
Email address: moon@moon4schools.com
Twitter handle: @Moon4Schools

Name three favorite endorsements: My family, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, and Democratic Party

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

We should prepare our students for global competition. They will not only lead our country in the future, but must be able to compete with the students from the other nations. I want Fairfax County to be the best place to live, work, and raise children. We need good teachers and must support them. We should challenge our students to do their best, meet their individual needs, and provide them with a broad curriculum, including in STEM and foreign language education.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponents; why should voters choose you?

Experience and unique perspectives. I have served on the school board for 16 years, including 3 years as chairman and 2 years as vice chairman, and also chaired budget, governance, personnel, and policy committees. Furthermore, I bring unique perspectives as an immigrant grown up in poverty, an English language learner, an attorney, and a small business owner.

3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

All students should have resources per their needs. We should work more closely with the parents to help their children succeed. For the parents with language, cultural, or employment barriers, we should reach out to them more proactively. All students should have adequate access to digital devices and internet capability. We must also work with the County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission on housing issues not to concentrate high poverty students on certain areas.

4. How to address the achievement gap?

Adequate resources, closer work with families, and high expectations for all students are needed. I support needs-based staffing. Resources should follow students' needs whether in opportunities, special education, or learning English as a second language. We need to equip, train, and educate parents to help their children succeed. Also, everyone should have high expectations for all students. We should expand early childhood education opportunities, working with the County, State, private sector, and community organizations.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

A community consensus on the school funding level should be built. I support the superintendent's work with the budget task force to gather commu-

Burnette G. Scarboro

Town of residence: Alexandria (Fairfax County)
Age: Over 21
Family: Luther, husband; Children – Syreeta, Seneca and Stefanie



Education: Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, NC; NOVA Community College; and George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.

Offices held, dates: No elected office held
Occupation and relevant experience: Fairfax County Public Schools – Family Engagement Representative; African Heritage Early Literacy Project Leader. Co-founder South County Youth Network a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Member, Lt. Governor's Commonwealth Council for Childhood Success

Community involvement: Northern VA District PTA Director; Member, VA State PTA Board; Member, Chairman Bulova's Ad Hoc Police Review Committee; Coordinator, West Potomac-Mount Vernon School-Community Coalition

Website: www.burnette4schoolboard.com
Email address: friendsofburnette@gmail.com
Twitter handle:

Name three favorite endorsements: Dr. Larry Bussey; The Faith Community; and Mattie Palmore, Community Activist

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

My desire to have equitable education for all students drives me to run, along with character education in all school pyramids.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

Voters should choose me because I am embedded in the school system as an employee; family oriented and believe that students and families should not be judged by their geographical location.

3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

First, we need to address the increase in families placing their children in private schools or homeschooling; second, the economic divide is a direct correlation of the type of businesses in a community, i.e., fast food establishments vs. Fortune 500; and, third – work on changing the mindset of judging others by zip codes.

4. How will you address the achievement gap?

The achievement gap should not exist. The history of public education clearly shows that that public education was not designed for people of color. The achievement gap came on the scene when schools were integrated. I can only address the problem when all stakeholders understand why the problem exists.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

FCPS and the BOS must work together to develop strategies to bring more businesses into the area and reduce the reliance on real estate taxes. Teachers know where cuts can be made and that is the group that I would begin my inquiries.

6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?

A school system with a stellar reputation is sought by businesses and former school graduates to return and give back to the community. Taxpayers want to see "more bang for their bucks." Elect me to the school board and you'll see the plan in action!

Theodore J. "Ted" Velkoff

INCUMBENT
Town of Residence: Chantilly
Age: 61
Family: Wife, Dr. Patricia Velkoff;



Daughters Catherine (South Lakes H.S. 2007), Elizabeth (Chantilly H.S. 2009)

Offices held, dates: At-Large member of the Fairfax County School Board, January 2012 to present. Have served as Vice Chairman of the Board, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Budget Committee.

Occupation and relevant experience: Senior Software Architect at Integrity One Partners, Reston VA; previously with Lockheed Martin and IBM in Manassas, VA. M.A., Computer Science, Indiana University; M. Music, Conducting, Indiana University; B. Music, Composition, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

Community involvement: PTSA President, Chantilly H.S.; PTA Treasurer, Chantilly H.S., Rocky Run M.S., Poplar Tree E.S.; Treasurer, Pleasant Valley Preschool, Girl Scout Troup 2829. Volunteer, stage manager and occasional human prop, Fairfax Ballet.

Website: http://www.tv4sb.org
Email address: ted@tv4sb.org
Twitter handle: @TedVelkoff

Name three favorite endorsements: Supervisor John Foust, Senator Chap Petersen, Delegate Ken Plum.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Eliminate high stakes testing and replace with authentic assessments. We must restore the joy of teaching and learning that comes from projects, inquiry and communication. Recently inaugurated Portrait of a Graduate defines success not in terms of what students know, but what they can do with what they know.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponents and why should voters choose you?

I am proud of the work accomplished by the board of which I have been a member for the past four years. We hired a visionary and transformational leader in Dr. Karen Garza. We made much-needed changes to student discipline practices; solved the high school start time problem; and instituted full-day instruction in elementary schools on Mondays. My opponents have seldom, if ever, attended school board meetings or work sessions, and appear to have been motivated solely by disagreement with one action of the board last May. I have been an effective member of the school board by building relationships and brokering agreements on potentially contentious policy decisions.

3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

We need to expand innovative programs in schools throughout the county, especially those in economically challenged communities. We must insist on rigorous instruction for all children in all schools, whether wealthy or poor, gifted or disadvantaged. I am deeply opposed to the punitive accountability measures imposed by the state and federal government, which are counterproductive. I am just as deeply committed to the principle that we in FCPS must do everything we can to meet the needs of all children.

4. How to address the achievement gap?

The most important thing we can do is to achieve universal pre-school in Fairfax County. Nobel Prize economist James Heckman has demonstrated that high quality pre-school yields a 7 to 1 return on investment in less remediation and discipline issues over the career of a student.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS

QUESTIONNAIRES CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE AND THIS PAGE

Manar Jean-Jacques

evaluate the effectiveness of the programs. I would begin addressing the achievement gap by engaging teachers in the conversation and seeking their expertise.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

If elected, I would like to put a motion before the board to vote on giving back the 60% raise they voted themselves in the midst of this budget gap. I would also like to look at outsourcing FCPS jobs that do not directly impact the education of children inside the classroom. Outsourcing gives businesses in the community an opportunity to thrive and frees up money that we would have been paying into pensions to now be redirected back into the classroom.

Ryan McElveen

fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

FCPS cannot remain the system it is today at current levels of funding, and we won't realize that we've hit the breaking point until it's too late. It is well past time to diversify local revenue streams.

Beyond Fairfax, the School Board must take advocacy to the next level by coalition building with similar, like-minded districts and umbrella organizations throughout the state to push for a change to our state funding mechanisms. Additionally, both Boards need to continue exploring legal recourse to obtain the education funding guaranteed by the Virginia constitution.

Ilryong Moon

nity input. Both the School Board and the Board of Supervisors need to know where the community stands. We should also review our programs, practices, and operations to find savings. My priorities are to increase teacher salaries, lower class sizes, and challenge all students to do their best and prepare them for the postsecondary education and employment.

Ted Velkoff

and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

Because Virginia's antiquated form of government concentrates power in Richmond and marginalizes Fairfax County, the Board of Supervisors and School Board are pitted against each other by design. The Supervisors control school revenue; the School Board controls school spending. The County Executive proposes a revenue-based budget; the Superintendent proposes a needs-based budget.

The County Executive has told FCPS to "live within its means." In accordance with that budget guidance, the Superintendent will have to cut \$72M from the operating budget. The School Board has closed similar gaps by increasing class size and limiting employee compensation. This year I will not support a budget that is balanced on the backs of our employees.

Questionnaires have been edited for length. Full questionnaires are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com click on Elections.

Neither Peter Marchetti nor Robert Copeland, both candidates for Fairfax County School Board At Large, returned their questionnaires for publication.

Candidates for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Sharon Bulova (D)

Incumbent

Town of residence: Fairfax

Age: 67

Family: Married. Between my husband and I we have: four adult children and seven grandchildren.

Education: AAS Degree in Business Management from Northern VA Community College, attended business classes, UVA evening program, previously held Real Estate license

Offices held, dates: Elected Braddock (then called Annandale) District Supervisor in 1987. In February 2009 elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Re-elected in 2011.

Occupation and relevant experience: I am a full time Chairman. Prior to elected office I held positions in business.

Community involvement: I came to local government through my work as Civic Association president of Kings Park West. I have been a member of the Annandale Rotary, how serving as an honorary member. I am a founder of Faith Communities in Action and collaborated on two community history projects: A Look Back at Braddock and the Asian American History Project.

Website: <http://sharonbulova.com/>

Email address: sharonbulova@gmail.com

Twitter handle: twitter.com/sharonbulova

Name three favorite endorsements: FEA (Fairfax Education Association), Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Club



QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I love local government and feel strongly about community engagement. In my roles as Braddock Supervisor and now Chairman I have been committed to making sure our community is at the table with local government to participate in resolving issues and addressing our challenges. A major challenge right now is the sluggish recovery we are experiencing from the Great Recession. My goal is to strike the right balance between maintaining taxes that are affordable to our residents while investing what is needed to ensure a world class school system, safe streets and neighborhoods, compassionate human services, a clean environment and quality of life services like libraries and our fantastic park system.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have the experience, the commitment and the enthusiasm to serve as Fairfax County's chairman. I believe I have the collaborative skill set needed to lead our Board and our community on an even, positive course.

3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

Education continues to be my highest priority. It is however, not my only priority. It is critical that we continue to be the safest jurisdiction of our size in the U.S. and that we maintain the quality of life our residents value. Beginning in January our newly elected Board will engage in a multi-year Lines of Business process to examine all of our services in order to identify opportunities for efficiencies and savings. We have invited the School Board to participate with us in this process. I am hopeful that, working together, we will find new ways to economize on resources and improve on the delivery of services to families and students.

4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

I am a full time Chairman. I work well over 40 hours per week plus countless hours of community and regional activities.

Glenda Gail 'for Rail' Parker (I)

Town of residence:

Alexandria, Fairfax County

Age: 68

Family: Three grown children, four Grand-children

Education: MBA with a certificate in Software Engineering Administration

Offices held, dates: Elected to Vice- Chair, Independent Greens of Virginia (2007 to Present); elected to COG TPB CAC (2007-2010)

Occupation and relevant experience:

Governmental Budget Analyst, Businesswoman
Community involvement: Fairfax Federation Civic Association Committee, Public Safety Chair (approximately 2009-2010)

Website: www.GailParker.US

Email address: ggailparker@cox.net

Twitter handle: @ggailparker

Name three favorite endorsements: Independent Greens of Virginia



QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The Independent Green Party Green New Deal will get us on the right track. The Green New Deal means double- digit job growth in Eco jobs for the economy. Solar jobs. Wind jobs. Geothermal jobs. Rail jobs. The Green New Deal means Bike share for Fairfax County. Bikes, like rail, increase the value of our homes, businesses, and communities. The Green New Deal will bring Electronic VRE signs for commuters. The Green New Deal means New Tracks, More Trains, More often to More Places. The Green New Deal is solar panels, and geothermal heating and cooling for every public building. Renewable energy makes money for taxpayers.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

My advocacy for Rail and renewable energy. Investments in Green Energy make money. The solar age is here and we want on-board! It is past time to bring the Green Revolution to Fairfax County.

3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

The infrastructure budget has too many subsidies to big oil, big asphalt, big auto, fossil fuels. Giving a half a trillion dollars in taxpayer subsidies annually worldwide to big oil is fiscal lunacy. Cut and reprioritize the infrastructure budget to invest in free solar energy and geothermal energy. Work harmoniously with the School Board to place money where it will do the most good, fund education costs and teacher salaries rather than administration costs. Build Rail: Rail will grow revenues by growing the economy. Rail increases the value of our homes, businesses and communities. Every \$1 invested in Rail returns \$20 to the community!

4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

The new salary voted by the Board will allow me to devote full time to BOS duties.

Arthur Purves (R)

Town of residence: Vienna

Age: 66

Family: Married 42 years, two children, seven grandchildren

Education: BA, MS, MBA University of Pennsylvania

Offices held, dates: N/A

Occupation and relevant experience: Computer Programmer

Community involvement:

-President, Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance since 1996
-Member, Fairfax County Meals Tax Task Force (2014)
-Member, Hunter Mill Citizen Budget Committee (2013)
-Treasurer, Fairfax Committee 100
-Member Fairfax Branch, NAACP
-Past member of three Fairfax County Public Schools advisory committees
-Scoutmaster

Website: votepurves.org

Email address: Arthur@votepurves.org

Twitter handle: [agpurves](https://twitter.com/agpurves)

Name three favorite endorsements: Del. Tim Hugo and Loudoun Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio



QUESTIONS:

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Only 59% of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) seniors are prepared for college, and the percent prepared varies from 75% for Langley High School to 20% for Lee and Mt. Vernon High Schools. In a quarter of a century FCPS has made no progress in closing the minority student achievement gap: only 35% of Hispanic and 20% of African-American FCPS seniors are prepared for college. Even if you don't go to college, being prepared for college makes you better qualified for a good job. The solution is better instruction in the basics; not more money. As county chairman I would hold the school board accountable for achievement when the school board makes its annual \$2B budget request.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

The incumbent chairman:

For 16 years has raised real estate taxes three times faster than household income, which is unaffordable, especially for seniors;

Does not hold the schools accountable for achievement;

Is indifferent to the disproportionate incarceration of Hispanics and African-Americans in the county jail;

Sat silent for 17 months while the police department refused to disclose the details of the shooting of an unarmed civilian by a police officer on August 29, 2013;

Neglected maintenance of the now unsafe and unreliable Metrorail system to build the Silver Line;

Since 2000 cut staffing of libraries and parks by 112 positions while adding 145 clerks to handle public assistance applications, for a total of 354 public assistance positions.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics job growth in Fairfax County was close to last of the 342 largest U.S. counties last year. I will grow jobs by cutting taxes; using the chairman's pulpit to advocate for higher achievement, including Hispanic and African-American achievement, through better curricula; being transparent; and making Metrorail repairs my highest transportation priority.

3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

For FY2017 the county and schools want to increase spending by \$240M while revenues are projected to increase only \$20M without a real estate tax hike. This predicament demonstrates the need for new leadership. Seventy percent of the spending increase is for raises (3.5% for county and 4% for school employees), Cadillac health plans, and pensions with retirement at 55. My opponent would raise real estate taxes 9%, pushing the typical homeowner's real estate tax from \$5,700 to \$6,200. She raised real estate taxes 8% last year. For 16 years the supervisors have been increasing taxes three times faster than household income. Since 2000, while school enrollment has increased 22%, the school budget increased 100%. County and school spending for health and pension benefits increased \$700M since 2000; that is \$400M more than needed to keep up with inflation, population, and enrollment. For 16 years the average annual raise for 30,000 county and school employees has been 4%. To pay for these raises and benefits, the supervisors have been increasing real estate taxes three times faster than household income. The revenue from the tax hikes was not enough to pay for the raises and benefits, so park and library staffing was cut and class sizes increased. And now teachers and police cannot afford the \$6,000 real estate taxes that were increased to pay for their own raises and benefits. To make Fairfax County affordable again, we need to cut taxes by reducing benefits and giving smaller raises, as is the case with private-sector employees.

4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

I can retire and be a full-time chairman.

Sign Up for Goblin Gallop

FROM PAGE 5

lin Gallop. Usually, hundreds of people sign up on race day and, said Quadrino, "Computer registration only takes a moment."

The course is USATF-certified, and prizes valued at \$150, \$100 and \$50 are awarded to the top three, overall, male and female finishers. Prizes are also given to the top three overall finishers in various age categories, including a masters group for those over 40. Every child participating will get a runner's medal.

All competitors will receive a free, commemorative, glow-in-the-dark T-shirt. Decorated with the words, "Goblin Gallop," in white, the shirts are orange and black with a scene of a large pumpkin, a witch, ghosts, black cats and trick-or-treating children.

No dogs or headphones are allowed in the 5K events, but strollers are welcome in both the running and walking events. A computer chip in the runners' numbers will register their starting and finishing times.

The route's challenging, but fairly flat, with few hills and all right turns. Potomac River Running will handle scoring and results, and the awards ceremony will be on the stage in front of Coastal Flats. Results will be posted that afternoon at goblingallop.org and <http://potomacriverrunning.com/>.

After the race, the band Shaky Ground will perform classic rock on the stage, costumes will be judged and awarded prizes, and participants will enjoy hot dogs, popcorn, breakfast bars, fruit, cookies and beverages.

Because of the Goblin Gallop, the John Quadrino

Foundation is able to make more than 250 grants per year, totaling about \$75,000. The recipient families are referred by pediatric social workers at Inova Fairfax and Children's hospitals, and the grants are given directly to these families.

Since medical bills can be overwhelming, parents of seriously ill children often need help with rent, utility bills, vehicle insurance or car repairs. Often, one parent must quit a job to stay home and take care of the child. And a family with no prior financial problems suddenly finds itself in dire straits. That's where the Foundation comes in.

"It's so important because we meet the needs that other foundations don't," said Quadrino. "Last year's grants included a generator for a family who brought their child home from the hospital, but still on a ventilator. So they needed backup in case the electricity went out. And just last week, we had the lights turned back on for a family in Chantilly."

He said another family of a sick child was offered a cottage stay at Nags Head, N.C., but had no way to get there or any bathing suits, so the Foundation paid for their transportation and clothing. "We also keep cell phones on for hospitalized children so they can keep in touch with family and friends," said Quadrino. "And we bought laptops for children who'll be out of school quite a while. That enabled them to keep up with their studies."

To donate to the organization, send checks payable to The John Quadrino Foundation to P.O. Box 4614, Falls Church, VA 22044. Contributions are tax-deductible and may also be made via the Combined Federal Campaign by designating CFC No. 59426, or via the United Way by selecting No. 8931.

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SPORTS

Chantilly Football Improves to 5-2

The Chantilly Chargers defeated the Oakton Cougars 28-6 in a Conference 5 matchup on Oct. 16.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Chantilly, after falling behind in the first quarter, Chantilly countered with a touchdown run by quarterback David Tammaro. Chantilly would score four touchdowns, two in each of the second and third quarters and the Chantilly defense wreaked havoc on the Oakton offense all evening.

Chantilly (5-2, 2-1) will travel to Briar Woods (2-6) for a non-conference game at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23. Oakton fell to 3-4, 1-3 in Conference 5, and will travel to play a non-conference game with Broad Run on Oct. 23.

— WILL PALENSCAR



PHOTO BY WILL PALENSCAR

Quarterback David Tammaro (3) and the Chantilly football team defeated Oakton 28-6 on Oct. 16.

Julian Garrett carried 11 times for 133 yards and two touchdowns for Centreville. Kyle Richbourg rushed six times for 84 yards and a score. Quarterback Jameel Siler completed 9 of 13 passes for 193 yards and two touchdowns. Isaiah Culver caught three passes for 124 yards and two scores.

The Wildcats will host Westfield at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23.

Westfield Football Blanks Robinson

The Westfield football team improved to 6-1 overall and 2-0 in Conference 5 with a 3-0 road win over Robinson on Oct. 16.

Westfield will travel to face Centreville at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23.

Centreville Football Snaps 4-Game Losing Streak

The Centreville football team defeated Herndon 38-20 on Oct. 16, snapping a four-game losing streak. The Wildcats improved to 3-4, including 1-1 in Conference 5.

Westfield No. 3 in VHSL Football Power Rankings

The Westfield Bulldogs are No. 3 in the 6A North region in the latest VHSL football power rankings behind a pair of undefeated teams.

Westfield's rating of 30.14286 is behind only South County (32.42857) and Lake Braddock (31.85714). South County and Lake Braddock are both 7-0 and Westfield in 6-1.

Chantilly (5-2) is No. 11 with rating of 25.71429, and Centreville (3-4) is No. 13 with a rating of 24.28571.

The top 16 teams in the 6A North region qualify for the playoffs.



The Westfield field hockey team defeated Chantilly on Oct. 15 and went undefeated during regular-season Conference 5 play.

Westfield Field Hockey Earns Conference 5's Top Seed

The Westfield and Herndon field hockey teams entertained those in attendance on Oct. 16 for a makeup game originally scheduled for Oct. 2. Westfield was clad with white jerseys and pink writing as part of Cancer Awareness Night.

Mackenzie Karl's goal in the second half provided the only score of the game and Westfield held on to win 1-0 against visiting Herndon. Westfield improved to 14-2 and Herndon fell to 12-4.

The previous night, Westfield defeated Chantilly.

The Conference 5 tournament started Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The VHSL State Finals will be held in Virginia Beach at the National Training Center Nov. 13-14.

— WILL PALENSCAR



The Westfield field hockey team closed the regular season with 14-2 record and 13 consecutive victories.

Westfield concluded the regular season with a 1-0 win over Herndon on Oct. 16 in a rematch of last year's conference championship game.



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR

SYA 10U Mets Tournament Champions

The SYA Mets 10U Travel Baseball team won the Santa Maria Voyage 2015 tournament in Georgetown, Del., over the Columbus Day weekend. The Mets, coached by Ben Lorigo



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

dropped the first game of the tournament in pool play to the Jersey Brawlers, but rebounded with four straight wins to clinch the tournament. The championship game was a rematch of the first pool play game, with the Mets scoring a victory over the Brawlers 10-9 to clinch the tournament. The tournament was hosted by Sports at the Beach, a youth tournament baseball facility near Rehoboth Beach, Del. The players and coaches are, front row, from left, Landon Murphy, Trevor Lorigo, Luke Kudlacik, Aaron Lucas, Jackson Ford, Kevin Reno; second row, Logan Day, Matthew Jenks, Jackson Coughlin, TJ Holmberg, Keith Davis, Tony Soriano, and back row, Coaches Anthony Soriano, Ben Lorigo, Matt Murphy and Kevin Ford.

Getting In: The Private Schools Admissions Process

Navigating the application and increasing the chance of getting an acceptance letter.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Although the school year just started, the application process for the 2016-2017 school year is underway at more than 80 local independent schools. From open houses, school tours and applicant interviews to transcripts, essays and teacher recommendations, the process can be arduous, say parents, especially with application fees that can soar higher than \$100 a piece.

Making sure a child's abilities and interests are in line with a school's offerings and requirements can narrow down the list.

"Parents need to be realistic about their child's strengths and weaknesses and learning style," said Mimi Mulligan, assistant head and director of admission and enrollment management, Norwood School in Potomac, Md. "Have an open and honest conversation with schools during the application process. Schools will tell you whether they can or cannot meet any special needs your child might have."

ADMISSIONS DIRECTORS say that practical considerations of all sorts should help parents whittle down their list of schools. "Do they want a big or small school? How far are they willing to travel each day? Does the school offer academic support if their child needs it? Can they afford their tuition?" asks Mary Herridge, director of enrollment management, The Madeira School in McLean.

Getting to know a school's culture and paying attention to the school's mission can also help families choose a school.

"School structure, single sex versus co-ed, dress code, religious affiliation, teaching pedagogy and parent involvement all influence school culture," said Mulligan. "Each school has a distinct and intentional mission statement. Sometimes that distinctiveness may be subtle so parents should also look at school mottos, belief or promise statements and portraits of a graduate, too."

An example, says Herridge, is a parent who values being deeply involved in helping a child with their homework. "As a school we value the student doing their own homework, managing their homework and coming to the teacher and self advocating if they need help," she said. "We encourage parental participation, but in high school we wouldn't expect a parent to sit and help with every single aspect of their homework. We can have that conversation early on and decide that this is not a good fit."

"Nowadays, in school literature and marketing materials, all schools say they're good at certain things and offer certain things like small class sizes and low student teacher ratios, but nothing can replace going and sitting in a classroom and seeing how the teachers teach and how the students react with one another," said Herridge. "Talk to the math teacher. Have a conversation with the coach."

If a school boasts hands-on learning, are students engaged in experiments in a science class or are they



PHOTO COURTESY OF SSAS

Independent schools such as St. Stephen's & St. Agnes in Alexandria require an extensive application process aimed at familiarizing the applicant and the school with one another.

sitting behind desks and looking at a chalkboard?

A tour, Herridge said, is crucial for students and parents. "When they see other students and meet the teacher they'll be able to say, 'Yes this is a good place for me,' or '... we can take this school off our list because it doesn't make sense for our family.'"

"Most tours will give you an 'aha' moment that clarifies why independent education is worth the investment," added Benita Cathey, director of admissions, Grace Episcopal School in Alexandria.

Patti Culbreth, head of school, Grace Episcopal School, said, "A look at the curriculum to include the 'specials' offered will give you an overview of the opportunities for your child."

Delve deeper than a tour organized by the school, however. "Talk to parents [of students] who already attend the school," Mulligan. "If you don't know anyone, ask the admissions office to provide a few families you can contact."

EVEN AFTER A FAMILY has whittled down their list of potential schools, the road to admission can still be long. Competition can be fierce, with many schools receiving 10 applications for every available slot. Most require not only an application, but test scores, essays, interviews and letters of recommendation, a process that can baffle many parents.

In preparation for the interview, admissions officials suggest applicants think about their own interests and attitudes toward academics.

"It's a good idea for a student to reflect on what they love about school, what they like to do outside of the classroom and how they see themselves as part of the school community," said Jon Kunz, director of middle and upper school admission, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. "We don't approach it as an interview. It's more of a one-on-one conversation. We want them to be themselves and to be comfortable."

Students should use specific and concrete examples to demonstrate passions and talents. "For example, if a student is passionate about science they might say, 'I started this project on my own and created this amazing invention.' That helps us see their pas-



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SEE ADMISSIONS, PAGE 15

I'm Fine Until I'm Not

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



I title this column within the context of yours truly waiting for the results from my most recent diagnostic scan, a PET Scan in fact, a scan which offers more detail and clarity than the usual and customary CT Scan – without contrast (for those of you in the diagnostic loop) – that I have scheduled every three months going on nearly seven years now. I'm not stressing about it particularly, even though a post-scan (Wednesday appointment)/pre-weekend e-mail notification providing the results (especially the good kind) might have de-bumped the weekend road, but we've been down this dusty trail before so we (Team Lourie) will manage. Ergo the title.

My philosophy with respect to life in general and being a cancer patient in specific has been: "It's nothing until it's something." And if a follow-up explanation has been required, I've usually added something like: "It will be bad enough when it's actually bad, so I don't see the need to make it bad when so far as we know, it might be good." (Sounds like a mnemonic device trying to explain the difference between its and it's.) And continuing to be relatively/comparatively (speaking of grammatical/word usage; both apply here, I think) asymptomatic has certainly been a good/make-that-great thing; nevertheless, I can't help but remember that my original emergency room visit on January 1st, 2009 was precipitated by pain in my rib cage which had migrated from right to left and the associated shortness of breath. Three days later however, after being prescribed six pills to be taken over three days – for a possible pneumonia, my symptoms disappeared and remained so until I began chemotherapy a week after my diagnosis was confirmed on February 27th by my new best friend, my oncologist. That's when the fun really began: side effects of chemotherapy. But that's a whole 'nother series of stories, past and presumably future.

And since there's no guaranteeing one's future, all I can do, especially as a non-small cell lung cancer patient originally characterized as "terminal," with late/the latest stage – stage IV – is to minimize the complications I can control: diet, exercise, nutrition and stress, and accept the ones I can't. Stress is our four-letter word and maybe even a killer, too. And it serves no real purpose other than to create pain and suffering, when the complete opposite is what's needed and much preferred. Fortunately, my personality enables me to live life – emotionally – as if I'm not living on the precipice and about to be robbed of a reasonably normal senior circuit, given the fact that both my parents lived beyond their mid-eighties. (My limited knowledge and presumption of such lineage-related subjects was that as the son, I would likely have the same or better life expectancy.) Being told instead, at age 54 and a half, that I had "13 months to two years to live" was disappointing to say the least and downright dehumanizing to say the most.

It certainly becomes a not-merry-go-round existence on your date of diagnosis/prognosis and for the seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and even years ahead (if you're lucky?); but eventually one, at least this one, finds a level on which one can live, love and laugh and not be constantly overwhelmed by less-than-ideal medical circumstances. Am I pretending? Am I presuming? Am I hoping and praying? Am I fighting back my internal demons? Am I compartmentalizing? Yes! Yes! Yes! and Yes! Every chance I get. But as the doctor treating Capt. Augustus McRae in Miles City, near the end of part three of "Lonesome Dove" advised Gus to let the doctor amputate his remaining leg, Gus replied: "Sawbones, you can't have that other leg. Now how would I kick a pig?" To which the doctor responded: "I assure, sir, the alternative is gloomy."

Well, I don't want to be a gloomy Gus – which Augustus wasn't, any more that I want to be a dismal Jimmy, which I rarely am. However, this cancer diagnosis presents all sorts of challenges – some I can overcome, some I can't. Most of all though, I'm trying to stay in the present, and deal with my future one day/result at a time.

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

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Admissions Process

FROM PAGE 13

sion,” said Linda Stratton director of communications, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School.

“We’re looking for students who are intellectually curious and excited about taking advantage of the opportunities here,” Kunz added. “We’re looking for students who demonstrate a strong sense of character who are respectful and ... who care about the world around them.”

Admissions officials also want to evaluate whether applicants have the potential to meet the school’s expectations, and scrutinize scores on tests such as the SSAT (Secondary School Admissions Test) and ISEE (Independent School Entrance Examination) and transcripts, looking for strong and consistent academic achievement.

In the face of such a confusing and competitive process, many parents have turned to educational consultants for advice and assistance.

Getting to know the child helps educational consultants identify schools that are a good match. “Does the student do better in a hands-on environment or sitting at desk and the teacher writes on a blackboard?” said Leigh Ann Cahill of Independent School Options, an educational consulting firm in Alexandria. “We have so many wonderful schools in the area. We come up with five to seven schools that are the best fit for the family.”

AFTER HELPING families decide where to apply, education consultants sit down with families to review test scores, transcripts, teacher evaluations and other application requirements.

“It’s important to have an open and honest conversation with the parent,” said Cahill, a former teacher. She stressed that educational consultants cannot sway admissions decisions. Instead, “we look at the areas of strength. Rarely do you have a child who doesn’t have any areas of strength.”

She stressed that low test scores or blemishes on an academic transcript don’t mean automatic rejection by independent schools. “Maybe the art teacher or science teacher says really great things about the child. We try to build a realistic profile of who the child is as a learner and where they have a spark. If you’re a great photographer, let’s link up your website if you’ve been posing photographs or bring your portfolio.”

The essays are sometimes a bit daunting for parent and child, she added. “What do we say here? What do they mean when they ask this question? We don’t write essays, but talk through ideas with parents and student and help them figure out what the admissions offices are looking for.”

In the end, everyone’s goal is to find the best matches for both the students and the schools. “It’s something that the parents don’t have any control over,” said Cahill. “One thing we really try hard to work with the parent is seeing this as a learning adventure. ... Their child will end up in a school somewhere.”

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

“Julius Caesar.” Through Oct. 25, 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.

Cox Farms Fall Festival. Through, Nov. 3, 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 “Imaginature Trail,” hayrides, giant slides, rope swings, the Cornundrum Cornfield adventure and farm animals. Tickets are \$5-17. Visit www.coxfarms.com for more.

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.

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/parks/eclawrence for more.

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 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

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 Air & Space Museum, 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly. Children are invited to come in costume for indoor trick-or-treating, crafts, science experiments, free cartoons and other Halloween-themed activities. Free. Visit www.airandspace.si.edu.

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 Ellen Weeren at 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.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 30-31

Haunted Lab. 10 a.m. 8 p.m. at Children’s Science Center Lab–Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. The Haunted Lab is a family event with hands-on STEM activities. Also find the “Spooky Wind Tunnel,” “Mystery Slime,” and a Keva Plank Challenge. Also vote for a science-themed carved pumpkin, and take a Haunted Lab Memory Photo. Tickets are \$12 for visitor 2 and older, \$11 for seniors and military. Visit www.childsci.org for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 30

Scary Screen on the Green. 8 p.m. at the Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Watch a scary movie on a projection screen. Free to attend. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 31

Trunk or Treat. 6-8 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Find games, candy, and a “best decorated” car contest. Free. Call 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org to enter a vehicle.

FRIDAY/NOV. 6

Magic Show. 7 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Magician Cantori performs acts of hypnosis and other

demonstrations. Partial proceeds benefit the Meant to Live Foundation. Tickets are \$32 for members and \$40 for nonmembers. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com.

SATURDAY/NOV. 7

Holiday Bazaar. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville. More than 60 local craft vendors will be on hand selling handmade items. Also find a silent auction, bake sale, “book nook,” food, and more Free admission. Visit www.centreville-umc.org.

Slave Life at Sully. 1 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. At the slave quarters, guests are invited to learn about the lives and chores of slaves who lived at Sully. Make a hoe cake, card wool and fill a pin cushion, and use a draw knife to work with wood. Tour the slave quarter and original outbuildings. Tickets are \$10-12. Visit www.parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov.

HomeAid Northern Virginia Gala & Auction. 6 p.m. at Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles Hotel, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. Auction items include a hot air balloon ride, Wizards tickets, a back-of-house tour at the National Zoo and more. Proceeds benefit HomeAid Northern Virginia, a nonprofit that manages the renovations and construction of shelters for homeless families and individuals. Tickets are \$200. Visit www.homeaidnova.org for more.

Texas Hold’em Fundraiser. 7 p.m. at Prince William County Police Association Hall, 14288 Independent Hill Drive, Manassas. NOVEC HELPS is an employee volunteer non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that works together with family and friends to make positive contribution to their communities. Register to help by participating in the “Hands to Help” fundraiser. Registration starts at 6 p.m. The buy-in is \$50. Visit www.novechelps.org.

Harvest Wine Dinner. 8 p.m. at Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Celebrate the harvest season with a menu featuring butternut squash and apple soup, salade mimosas, rosemary grilled butcher’s cut steak and more — all paired with Paradise Springs wine. Tickets are \$119-139. Visit www.paradisepresswinery.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 7-8

Pumpkin Madness. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (5 p.m. in November) at Cox Family Farms, 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville. Find a new “Imaginature Trail,” hayrides, giant slides, rope swings, the Cornundrum Cornfield adventure and farm animals. Tickets are \$5-17. Visit www.coxfarms.com.

SUNDAY/NOV. 8

Jane Austen Tea. 1 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Learn about the roles of members of Jane Austen’s household, learn about fashion, medicine, and gardening in Austen’s era. Tea and refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$28-30. Visit www.parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax Station Railroad Museum Sale. 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Railroad collectibles, antiques, railroad memorabilia, toys and art will be available for purchase. All proceeds will help support the museum’s operations. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; children 5-15, \$2; adults 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org for more.

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