

Centreville ♦ Little Rocky Run CENTRE VIEW

FALL FUN &
ENTERTAINMENT
Inside

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 4, 2016

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

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Cancer survivor
Aiden Lipscomb, 6,
smiles during pre-
game football festivi-
ties honoring pedi-
atric cancer patients.



OUR CONGRESSWOMAN
BARBARA COMSTOCK

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Keeping us Safe from Terrorism.**



The world is as dangerous as any time since 9-11. Terrorism threatens us here and abroad and there are ISIS investigations in all 50 states – including our area. Barbara Comstock, a former senior official at the Justice Department post 9-11, understands and has worked with our defense and national security leaders and she knows our national security and defense must be increased and strengthened.



- › Supported the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) increasing defense spending by \$40 billion and stopping the devastating defense sequester cuts.
- › Voted for a pay increase for military personnel and voted to extend special pay and bonuses for active-duty and reserves.
- › Increased funds for training, readiness and modernization to keep our troops safe and prepared.
- › Voted for funding counter-terrorism operations against al-Qaeda, ISIS and other international terror threats.
- › Worked to increase cyber-security to protect our most vital national security assets.
- › Worked with our Joint Terrorism Task Force and law enforcement on addressing ISIS and terrorism threats.

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ROUNDUPS

Underaged Alcohol Sales Charged

Officers from the Sully District Station and members of the Traffic Division conducted alcohol beverage control (ABC) compliance checks at stores in the Sully District on Thursday, Sept. 22. This operation was part of an ongoing alcohol beverage control (ABC) enforcement campaign. Fairfax County Police Department cadets, dressed in plain clothes and under 21 years old, entered ABC licensed stores without identification and attempted to purchase alcoholic beverages. The cadets were instructed ahead of time to provide his true age to any cashier who inquired. If the illegal sale of alcoholic beverages took place, a uniformed officer would place the appropriate charge.

Fourteen stores were checked. Two charges were made at the following locations: 7-Eleven, 14515 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, in Chantilly; and Tio's Market, 14215Q Centreville Square, in Centreville.

In addition to those arrests, a man outside a business in the 14200 block of Centreville Square offered to buy a cadet alcohol after the clerk refused to do so. The man was charged with purchasing alcoholic beverages for a person not entitled to possess.

Free Carseat Inspections

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

Learn about Trees

"Sully District Tree Forum: Everything You Wanted To Know About Trees But Were Afraid To Ask" will be held Thursday, Oct. 6, from 7:30-9 p.m. at the Fair Oaks District Police Department, 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax.

Topics to be covered include the importance of a healthy urban forest; how to maintain healthy trees; who to replace damaged trees; and how to maintain common area.

This program is free and open to the public, however, space is limited, so RSVP to 703-324-1770 or TTY 711.

Food Donations For WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry needs donations of 1-2 pound bags of rice; fruit juice; jelly; red, white or black beans (can or bagged); canned vegetables (no green beans of corn needed); macaroni and cheese; can pasta; pasta sauce; and pasta (spaghetti, rotini, elbow, etc.).

Toiletries needed, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with food stamps, include diapers, toothpaste, shampoo and solid deodorant.

Bring all items to WFCM's food pantry's new location at 4511 Daly Dr. Suite J, Chantilly from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Contact Terri Kelly at tkelly@wfcmvva.org if willing to coordinate a food drive.

Volunteer Drivers Are Needed

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406 or go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

FUN FALL



PHOTO BY ARON COX-LEOW

Cornnightmare at Cox Farms will be part of its Fall Festival and Fields of Fear.

Fall Festival for All

90-acre autumn wonderland at Cox Farms.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
CENTRE VIEW

The 90-acre autumn wonderland that is Cox Farms is holding its 44th annual Fall Festival. The festival is open daily through Oct. 31 and Nov. 4-8 at 15621 Braddock Road, off Pleasant Valley Road in Centreville. I

What's new to explore this year? "For 2016, TreeTops is really exciting," said Aaron Cox-Leow, co-farmer-in-chief, who lives on the farm in Centreville with his partner and four kids. "We also replaced our well-loved wooden boat, plus we got another one that's twice as big."

Treetop is Cox Farms' take on a tree house: a series of connected, raised platforms to explore, with giant bark-covered utility pole "trunks" as their bases. Treetops visitors can take in the 360-degree views of the festival grounds from above, and enjoy interactive features including flag-raising and noise-making. Treetops also features two slides, one fully covered tube slide and one open slide.

In addition to the new TreeTops, the Fall Festival features hayrides, giant slides, rope swings, the Cornundrum Cornfield adventure, the Imaginature Trail, and all sorts of farm animals and their babies. Friendly goats welcome visitors to their redesigned Billy Goat Village, where they can visit and feed them. Each slide is themed differently, so visitors will fly out of castles, barns, and volcanos, exploring everything from dinosaur digs to mining towns to giant beanstalks.

"While the parent of the kid spending two hours digging for coins in the Penny Pit may disagree, there's really no wrong way to 'do' the Fall Festival," said Cox-Leow. "I love seeing parents follow their child's lead about where to go and what to do next. There's always something new to explore."

Cox-Leow said for Pokemon Go players, the farm happens to be somewhat of a PokeMecca. "We've got more than 20 Pokestops and three gyms, and just for fun, we'll

be luring at least a dozen stops for an hour every Wednesday afternoon," he added.

On Wednesday afternoons in October, they'll be luring at least a dozen Pokestops around the festival grounds and along the hayride route. Visitors can take advantage of discounted "Last Call" tickets starting at 4 p.m. to "catch 'em all" while also enjoying hayrides, slides, and all the fun of the Fall Festival, hatching eggs along the way, he added.

To support local public servants, Cox Farms offers a \$5 discount on up to four Fall Festival tickets to public servants during Pumpkin Madness Weekend (Nov. 5-6). Government employees, educators, first responders, law enforcement, nurses and members of the military can save \$5 by presenting a valid badge or identification.

Back by popular demand this year are two Fall Festival weekday "value visit" options introduced in 2015. There will be "Discount Weekdays" during the 2016 season (Sept. 29 and Oct. 3, 4, and 5), during which admission will be \$6 all day. On October weekdays (not including Indigenous People's Day, Monday, Oct. 10) after 4 p.m., there are \$5 "Last Call" tickets.

Cox Farms members and Fear Fanatics receive additional discounts and offers. Sign-up is available through the website as is additional information about perks of the program.

When night falls on the farm, it's time for Fields of Fear! Friday and Saturday nights through Nov. 5, plus "Bonus Night" Sunday, Oct. 9. The friendly Imaginature Trail takes a dark turn for Fields of Fear, transforming into The Forest: Back 40. The Forest has doubled in length for 2016, and now consists of half a mile of fear. The Forest joins two other haunted attractions at Fields of Fear, the Dark Side Hayride and the Cornnightmare. The Firegrounds feature several bonfires, a six-lane slide, music, entertainment, tasty treats, and Fear Games, including the dark maze, Nyctophobia (which means "Fear of the dark").

Details

Fall Festival Schedule
Daily: Now through Oct. 31 and Nov. 4-8

Pumpkin Madness: Nov. 5-6
Hours: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (closing at 5 p.m. in November); last admission one hour before closing.

Fields of Fear Schedule
Friday and Saturday Nights: Now through Nov. 5

Bonus Night: Sunday, Oct. 9
Hours: 7:30 – 11 p.m.; last admission at 10 p.m. (some attractions may sell out earlier)

FALL FUN

Got a Hankering for Craft Beer?

Chantilly's first annual BrewFest will quench that thirst.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Take six breweries, four bands, four food trucks, add a large dash of fun and the result is Fairfax County's first-ever Craft BrewFest. It's set for Saturday, Oct. 1, from noon-6 p.m., at Mustang Sally Brewing Co., 14140 Parke Long Court, Suites A-C, in Chantilly's Sullyfield Circle area (near the Routes 50/28 intersection).

It's jointly sponsored by the brewery and the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and will be held, rain or shine. Events will take place outside in the parking lot, as well as inside Mustang Sally's more than 4,000-square-foot tasting room and 10,000-square foot brewery.

"It'll have all the traditional aspects of an outdoor fest, while allowing people to experience the brewery, itself," said Mustang Sally's founder, Sean Hunt. "We're holding it in an operating brewery and will give tours throughout the day."

His business has been open five months, and he's pleased with the support he's received from the Chamber of Commerce, Fairfax County and the community. "We produce our own label, currently in drafts, but will eventually do bottles and cans," said Hunt. "Both our head brewers were the last two head brewers for Old Dominion Brewing Co., which was the original, regional, craft brewery in the area."

So the upcoming event, he explained, is to "bring all the Fairfax County breweries together to celebrate craft beer and craft breweries opening up in this county. Up until the last two years, you had to leave Fairfax County to experience quality, craft brews. There are now six breweries here, and we're one of only two large ones."

All six breweries will be at the festival. Besides Mustang Sally, they are: Fair Winds Brewing Co., Caboose Brewing Co., Forge



Sean Hunt with a glass of beer from his Mustang Sally Brewing Co.

Brew Works, Lake Anne Brew House and Mad Fox Brewing Co.

"This industry is very young and is still more collaborative than competitive," said Hunt. "This event will be fun because we'll have a different format. Each brewery will bring three beers and will offer them both outdoors and indoors on tap."

Admission is \$25 in advance via www.msbrewing.com or \$35 at the gate. For designated drivers — who'll receive different-colored wristbands — admission is \$10. Each drinking attendee will receive four tickets for beer tastings, plus a logo tasting glass and brewery tour. They may also purchase \$2 tickets on site for additional tastings. And people need not be 21 to attend; children 12 and under are free.

Part of the proceeds will benefit local charities for veterans, #22KILL and K9s For Warriors. #22KILL's mission is to raise awareness of veteran suicide and mental-health issues such as post-traumatic stress, as well as educate the public about current veteran-related issues. K9s For Warriors provides service canines to veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress, traumatic



Mustang Sally Brewing Co.'s head brewer, Kenny Allen (left), and General Manager Dave Hennessey stand in front of the facility's brewhouse, with the grist hopper and mash tun in the background.

brain injury and/or military sexual trauma as a result of military service post 9/11.

Also at BrewFest, a quartet of food trucks will be on hand to sell food to the hungry crowd. On tap are S&D BBQ, offering barbecue and grilled, American fare; TurCuisine, Mediterranean grilled food; The Inside Scoop, ice cream; and Weird Brothers Coffee, coffee and bakery items.

Four bands will perform live: Scott Kurt & Memphis 59 will play a mix of country and rock music; Phil Kominski, rock and roll; FXBG All Stars, funky soul and R&B; and Daniel Warren Hill, alternative rock. There'll also be a few arts-and-crafts vendors, plus corn-hole games.

Three tours of the Mustang Sally production brewery will be given during the day. They'll be every two hours and will last 20-30 minutes. Also planned is a "Meet the Breweries" area where the participating brewers and brewery owners will be on hand to answer people's questions. They'll

present details about what it takes to open up a microbrewery.

Hunt said his brewery values old-world tradition and, so far, business has been good. "We truly are a distributing company, we produce quality beer and we really believe it's as good as anybody's," he said. "We distribute through Hop and Wine Beverage to restaurants and other venues — to anyone serving draft beers."

Locally, Mustang Sally craft beer may be found at Whole Foods and restaurants including Glory Days Grill, PF Chang's, Red Robin, Foster's Grille and Eggspectations. "Within five months, we've gotten into 200 places," said Hunt. "It's been really great, and we don't take it for granted."

Now, he's excited about and looking forward to BrewFest and is hoping for a good turnout. "It'll showcase what's going on in the county [in the realm of craft beer]," he said. "And it's a fun way for people to meet all the breweries in one location."

BULLETIN BOARD

DISPLACED ITT TECH STUDENTS

Northern Virginia Community College has been working to create a pathway for ITT Technical College students who were displaced when their college suddenly closed earlier this month. NOVA offers staggered course start dates, which may help ITT Tech students get back on track quickly. The next eight-week session begins Oct. 19, 2016 and the spring semester begins Jan. 9, 2017. For details on where to start, ITT Tech students should visit www.nvcc.edu/itttech/ where there are links and contact information available. Just follow the steps to transfer. Once students have researched the website, they can contact the NOVA campus nearest them by calling 703-323-3000.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is seeking volunteers to participate in a free, non-profit program, offered in conjunction with the IRS,

that provides tax filing assistance to people of low- and middle-income, with special attention paid to those aged 60-plus. Training will be available in December and January to help taxpayers Feb. 1-April 18, 2017. Visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 28

ESL & Citizenship Classes. 7 p.m. at Fairfax Church of Christ, 3901 Rugby Road, Fairfax. Adults may register for beginning to advanced level ESL classes, citizenship, and Bible study classes. Classes meet every Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. beginning Oct. 12. Childcare is provided. Student fee for materials is \$30. Call 703-631-2100.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 30

Flu Shot Express Clinics. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at MinuteClinic (inside CVS Pharmacy), 24795 Pinebrook Road, Chantilly. MinuteClinic will

hold Flu Shot Express Clinics at the Pinebrook Road location in Chantilly. Additional providers will be on hand to administer flu shots and to expedite the patient vaccination process. Flu vaccinations, including the standard season vaccine and the high-dose versions for seniors, are offered seven days a week, including evenings and weekends at MinuteClinic locations nationwide with no appointment needed. Available at no cost through most insurance plans.

SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Virginia Run Community Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Treasure Maps will be given out on the corner of Pleasant Valley and Wetherburn Dr. the morning of the sale
Yard Sales will be held at individual residences within the community. Held rain or shine.
Union Mill ES Anniversary. 9-11 a.m. at 13611 Springstone Drive, Clifton. Union Mill is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. All

former students, staff members, and families are encouraged to come by and see how the school has changed and grown since its opening in 1986. Call Ami Schroder at 703-322-8522 for more.

TUESDAY/OCT. 4

Field Hockey Pink Out. 5 p.m. at Chantilly High School Stadium. Chantilly's Field Hockey teams will host the fourth annual PINK OUT for breast cancer awareness at their home games. The Freshman team takes on Woodson at 5 p.m. JV plays at 6:15 p.m. and varsity at 7:30 p.m., both vs. Herndon. The teams will be hosting a bake sale with lots of sweet treats and cash donations will be accepted. All funds from the PINK OUT go to support Amy's Army, a team of northern Virginia women working together in the fight against cancer.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Talk on Addiction

On Saturday, the Chris Atwood Foundation conducted an educational program at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Centreville about substance mis-use and Addiction. Ginny Atwood, the founder, provided videos on the neuroscience of addiction, the shame that prevents people from seeking help, ways to spot problem behavior, personal stories, and information on the resources that are available to families to combat addiction and pre-addiction behavior. The program will be given again for the community at the church at 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 3. Prescription Drug disposal packages will be given to attendees.

PEOPLE NOTES

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos welcome.

William "Bill" Shackelford of Centreville was re-elected to a two-year term on the National Executive Board of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) at its 34th Biennial National Convention in Reno, Nev., Aug. 28-Sept. 1.

Delegates of the 220,000 member-strong organization determined NARFE's direction for the next two years and set goals for the Association's legislative program, including preserving the earned benefits of federal employees and retirees. Shackelford will represent NARFE Region X, which includes Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina. He was first elected to the post in 2014.

Shackelford served with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for more than 34 years, retiring in 2006.

Shackelford has been the president and first and second vice president of the Virginia Federation and has served as the service officer, newsletter editor, vice president and president of Fairfax Chapter 0737.

Shackelford has long been active as a coach and referee for Fairfax County public schools and Northern Virginia youth athletic association sports teams.

Shackelford holds a Bachelor of Science degree in judicial administration from American University and an Associate degree in law enforcement science from Northern Virginia Community College.



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OPINION

Independent Police Auditor Marks History

Kudos to Board of Supervisors for unanimous approval of independent police auditor; now on to the Civilian Review Panel.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to create the position and office of independent police auditor on Tuesday, Sept. 20, creating the first civilian, independent oversight of law enforcement in Fairfax County. The unanimous vote demonstrated the board's commitment to the ongoing process that began early in 2015 when Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova established the 32-member Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

Police Chief Edwin Roessler expressed strong support for two key-stone recommendations of the Ad Hoc Commission, the auditor and the Civilian Review Panel, next up for consideration and implementation by the Board of Supervisors.

Many commission recommendations have already been approved, including the establishment of the Diversion First program providing treatment rather than jail for people in mental health crisis, development of an overriding use of force policy, and more transparency in police communications.

Independent oversight and civilian participation in reviewing police use of force, officer-involved shootings and citizen complaints will play a vital role in maintaining Fairfax County

Police Department's reputation as being one of the very best law enforcement organizations in the nation.

Some critics complain that the final language approving the auditor limits the independence of the office, but the auditor will be briefed on investigations contemporaneously, providing a window of oversight and sunshine not previously in place. There are more than 200 different civilian oversight structures around the country. While civilian oversight is a national best practice, the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing recommends that every community

have community oversight of police, with each community developing the model that is best locally.

Public Safety Committee chair John Cook (R-Braddock) is tasked with shepherding major recommendations through the Board of Supervisors. He pointed out that the specifics of the approval for the auditor are not locked in stone; revisions after a period of experience would not be surprising.

Recommendations by the Independent Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee for the Fairfax County model included establishing the Independent Police Auditor and establishing a Civilian Review Panel to respond to commu-

nity concerns or complaints about alleged incidents of abuse of authority by the FCPD.

The panel as proposed would not conduct investigations and would not be involved in the disciplinary process for any officer, but would review select investigations after they are complete. The panel would also not overlap duties with the auditor.

The panel could issue public reports, and meet with the auditor periodically, providing its views to the Board of Supervisors and the chief of police as to policy and practices changes that may be warranted. The panel could also hold periodic public forums around the county to gather information and suggestions about the FCPD, public perceptions and recommendations for policy and procedure, involving other police advisory committees and members of the Board of Supervisors as appropriate.

Indications are that there will be some modifications to the proposal for the Civilian Review Panel over the coming weeks. It's a good time for those with interest to tune in.

The board's Public Safety Committee will discuss the creation of a Civilian Review Panel at its next meeting, scheduled for Oct. 25 at 1 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center.

Read more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/pdf/adhoc-final-10.8.15.pdf

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mary Kimm served on the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission and continues to advocate for implementation of commission recommendations.

EDITORIAL

LETTER

Importance of Veterans ID Card

To the Editor:

Our veterans have sacrificed much to protect us. It is only fitting that we help protect them as best we can on the home front. That is why I write today about a bill that was signed into law and was co-sponsored in the House by Congresswoman Barbara Comstock: the Veterans ID Card Act. This legislation allows for a universal ID card that proves military service, allowing veterans easier access to the services and resources they need after leaving the military. We owe them that much.

One of the most important goals of the bill is a reduction in identity theft for veterans. Our vets will no longer have to carry around multiple documents and forms of identification to verify their veteran status which can often subject those documents to duplication, misplacement or theft. Identity theft is a problem all too many of us face these days, but before this legislation our veterans were placed unnecessarily at higher risk.

My father was a veteran, of World War II and of Korea. His veterans' benefits were important to him and to my

mother. And I have to report, there were on occasion problems with arranging for the benefits. The problems eventually were resolved, but through a lot of trouble and hassle. This ID Card can help make access to earned benefits easier.

This ID Card is especially important to veterans because they are sometimes denied benefits because carrying around complete military records and paperwork is no simple task. This law streamlines the process of receiving what our honorable veterans have earned.

This veteran ID card is long overdue. The benefits rightfully provided to veterans are numerous, but unfortunately many have a difficult time getting access to them. This card streamlines these processes, reducing the hassle and difficulties many veterans face in their daily lives. Congresswoman Comstock's co-sponsorship of this legislation is yet another example of our results-oriented congresswoman doing her job, as was her support of the National Defense Authorization Act. These common-sense solutions are proof that Barbara Comstock works for us.

Wayne Abernathy
Fairfax



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

For Combat Wounded

Peterson Companies has partnered with Wounded Warriors Family Support, a national non-profit veterans' organization, and are implementing the organization's national parking program (Combat Wounded signs) at several of their shopping centers including Fairfax Corner, East Market, and Fair Lakes Center. Wounded Warriors Family Support (not affiliated with Wounded Warriors) was founded by Colonel John Folsom USMCR (above with Kelly Price, vice president, asset management for the Peterson Companies), who spent 29 years in commissioned service including his deployment to Iraq. Folsom founded the organization to provide assistance to the families of those who have been wounded or killed during combat.

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A Connection Newspaper

Forum To Chew on Meals Tax Referendum

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) will sponsor a Meals Tax Forum at the auditorium of Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church, on Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. The forum will feature panelists on both sides of the issue. The panel will also take written questions from the audience. Questions may also be submitted in advance by writing to

league@lwv-fairfax.org. On the ballot, Fairfax County voters will choose whether to levy a meals' tax. State law authorizes counties, cities, and towns to levy a tax on prepared food and beverages, commonly called a "meals tax," subject to certain restrictions. Most counties, including Fairfax County, may levy a meals tax only if the voters approve the tax by referendum.

If approved, the revenues generated will

be dedicated to the following purposes:

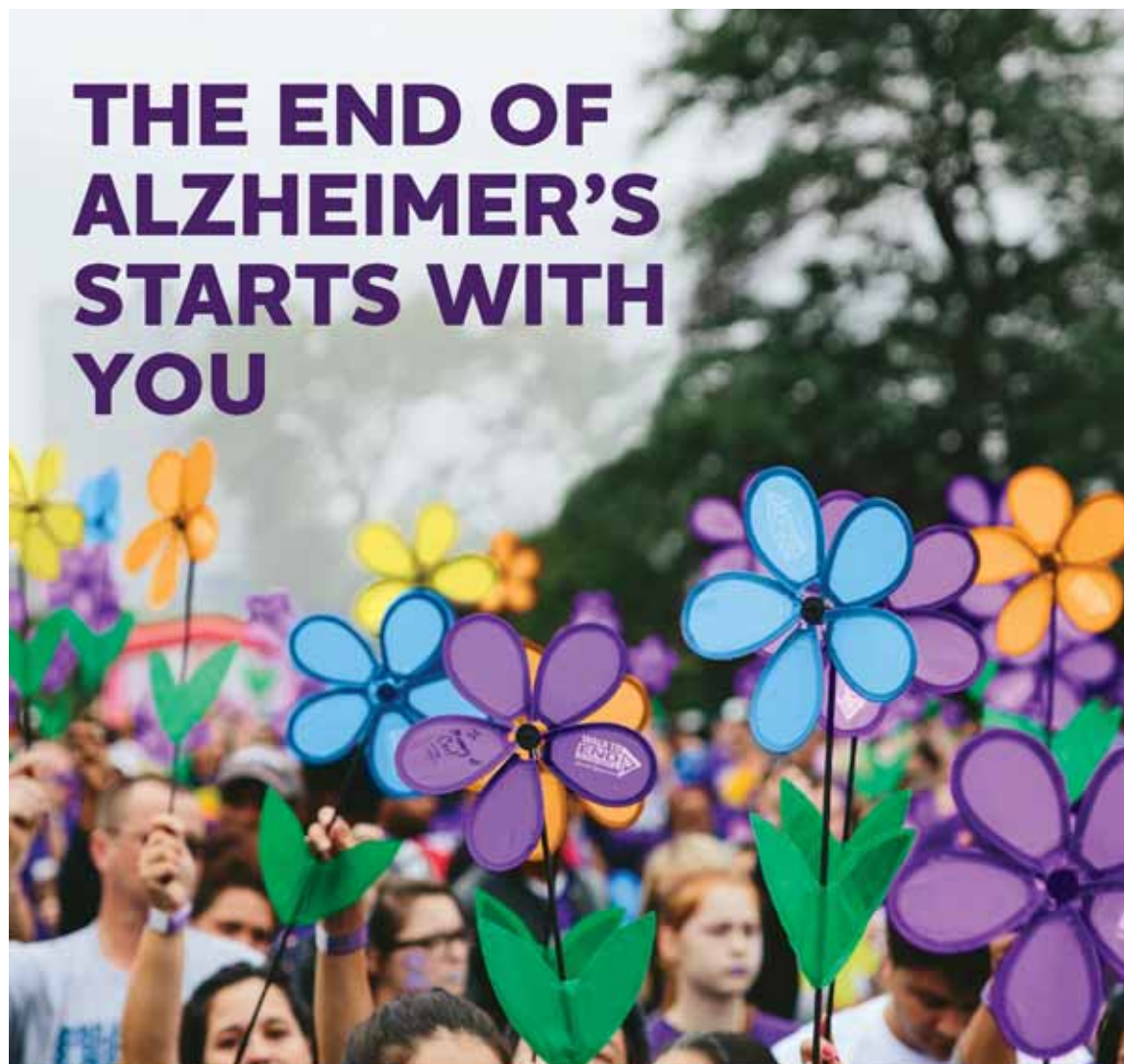
- ❖ 70 percent of the net revenues to Fairfax County Public Schools.

- ❖ 30 percent of the net revenues to county services, capital improvements and property tax relief.

A meals tax is a tax on all ready-to-eat prepared food and beverages at restaurants, as well as grocery stores, convenience stores and delicatessens. It would not apply to

groceries nor to vending machines. It does, however, include ready-to-eat foods, such as food from the deli counter or salad bar at a supermarket/grocery store. It does include alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages served with a meal. It does apply to prepared foods served at food trucks.

For more about what's on the ballot, visit <http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/Ballot2016.html>.



Alzheimer's is an epidemic devastating our families, our finances and our future. The disease is all around us — but the power to stop it is within us. Join us for the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's and be inspired by all the footsteps that fall into place behind yours. Together, we can end Alzheimer's.



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www.foha.org

FALL FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Fall for the Book Festival at GMU.

Through Sept. 30, times vary. Select locations throughout Northern Virginia, D.C., and Maryland. This week long regional celebration of literature and the arts, connects readers and authors at all levels. Offering bookworms the chance to meet their favorite writers. Free and open to the public. Visit www.fallforthebook.org.

Government Center Farmers Market.

Thursdays through Oct. 27, 3-7 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

Cox Farms Fall Festival. Through Oct. 31, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 16521 Braddock Road, Centreville. The Fall Festival features hayrides, giant slides, rope swings, the Cornundrum Cornfield adventure, the Imaginature Trail, and all sorts of farm animals and their babies. Tickets are \$6-17. Visit www.coxfarms.com for more.

Fields of Fear. Through Nov. 5, 7:30-11 p.m. at Cox Farms, 16521 Braddock Road, Centreville. The friendly Imaginature Trail takes a dark turn for Fields of Fear, transforming into The Forest: Back 40. The Forest has doubled in length for 2016, and now consists of half a mile of fear. The Forest joins two other haunted attractions at Fields of

Fear, the Dark Side Hayride and the Cornnightmare. The Firegrounds feature several bonfires, a six-lane slide, music, entertainment, tasty treats, and Fear Games, including the dark maze, Nyctophobia. Tickets are \$6-17. Visit www.coxfarms.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 28

Book Talk: Fred Bowen. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Children's author Fred Bowen discusses picture-book biography of Ted Williams titled "No Easy Way: The story of Ted Williams." Free. Visit www.fallforthebook.org.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY/SEPT. 28-29

Uniform and Shoe Sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday at INOVA Fair Oaks Hospital Auxiliary, 3600 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax. Free. Visit www.inova.org for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Virginia Run Community Yard Sale.

8 a.m.-2 p.m. at private residences throughout the community. Treasure Maps will be given out on the corner of Pleasant Valley and Wetherburn Drive the morning of the sale. Free. Call 703-216-6730 or 703-402-3134.

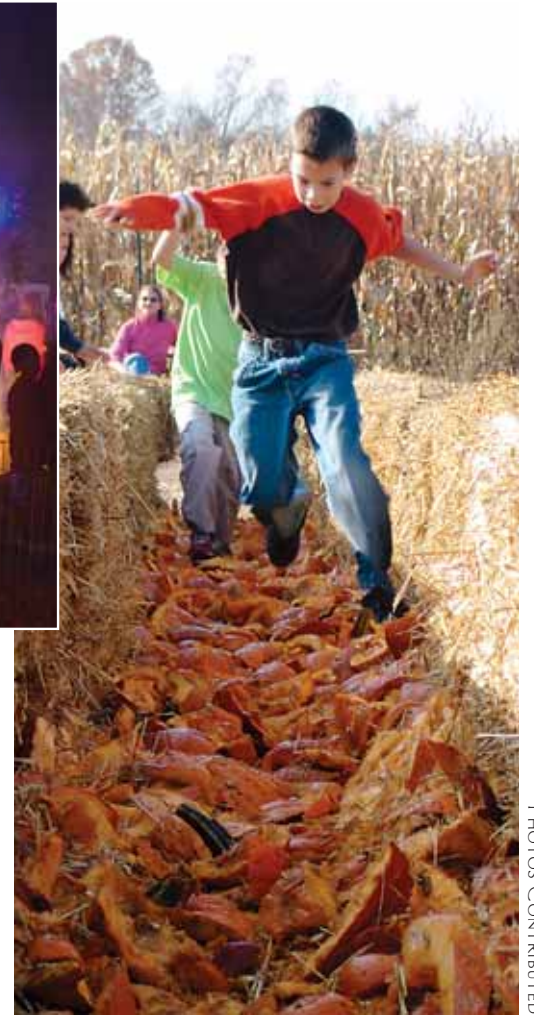
International Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at St. Timothy Catholic Church, 13807 Poplar Tree Road, Chantilly. The 4th Annual International Festival celebrates the multi-cultural spirit of St. Timothy parish. Free. Visit www.sttimothyfestival.org or www.sttimothyparish.org for more.

Book Talk: "The Boys of Dunbar." 2 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair



Fall Fun at Cox Farms

The Cox Farms Fall Festival features hayrides, giant slides, rope swings, the Cornundrum Cornfield adventure, the Imaginature Trail, and all sorts of farm animals and their babies. Friendly goats welcome you to their redesigned Billy Goat Village, where you can visit and feed them. Each slide is themed differently, so you'll fly out of castles, barns, and volcanos, exploring everything from dinosaur digs to mining towns to giant beanstalks. The Fall Festival will continue through Nov. 8. Also visit Fields of Fear (Through Nov. 5) and Pumpkin Madness (Nov. 5-6). Visit www.coxfarm.com for more.



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CENTRE VIEW

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FALL FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 8

Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Alejandro Danois, author of "The Boys of Dunbar," discusses the story of a high school basketball team that overcame desperate circumstances in 1980's Baltimore to produce four NBA players and give hope to a neighborhood and a city. Free. Call 793-278-0300 for more.

Lego Star Wars Rogue One Build Event. 4 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Participants will build designs from the new film coming out later this year. Free. Call 793-278-0300 for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 1-2

Colonial District Rose Fest. 1-6 p.m. Saturday, 12-4 p.m. Sunday at Hyatt Regency, 12777 Fair Lakes Circle, Fairfax. View roses, designs and collections from rose growers in the area. Attend workshops and seminars on rose designs, hybridizing new rose introductions, photography, gardens of the world, and fragrance. Free. Call 703-371-9351 or visit www.eventbrite.com/d/va-fairfax-arlington-rose.

SUNDAY/OCT. 2

Book Talk: "The Founding of Notaviva Vineyards." 4 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Stephen Mackey, along with wife Shannon, launched a winery on a whim. Now one of NOVA's favorite spots, Notaviva Vineyards is celebrating great success and telling its story. Free. Call 793-278-0300 for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 8

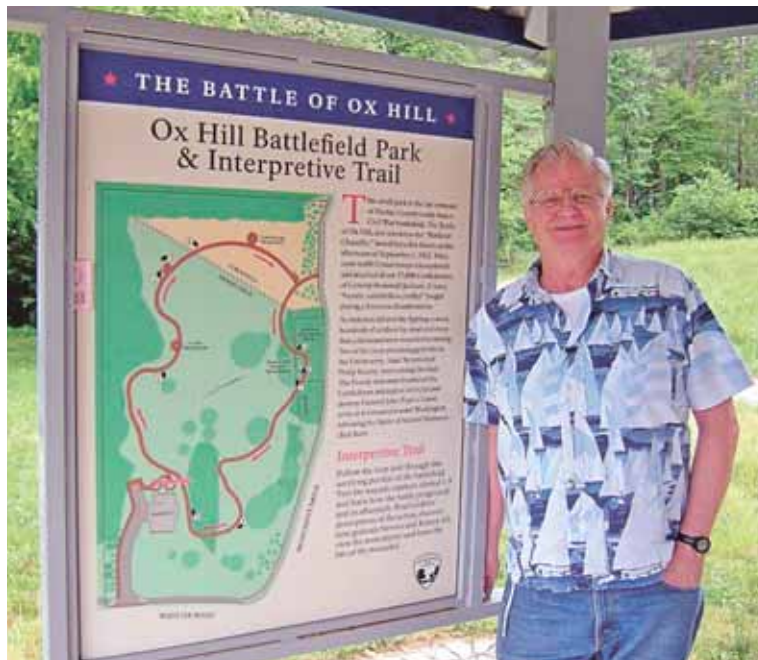
Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Deepwood Veterinary Clinic, 7300 Ordway Road, Centreville. Find books, toys, household items, furniture and more. All yard sale proceeds go directly to medical care of abandoned and abused animals in need. Call 703-631-9133.

RESET Bookfair. 1 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Welcome RESET (Raising Excitement for Science, Engineering & Technology) for the launch of Educator Appreciation Week. Generate excitement in the classroom by learning new experiments and hands on learning opportunities for students. Bookfair proceeds to benefit RESET school field trips, which are used to introduce students to the joys of math and science. Free. Call 793-278-0300 for more.

Book Talk: "Master of Ceremonies." 5 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Educator Jonathan Harris has seen opportunities squandered. With a desire to help teens, Harris has set out to craft a roadmap to success. Tackling today's tough topics – how to improve self-esteem, embracing spirituality, crafting unbreakable bonds with loved ones and the practical matters of life such as job hunting, finances and handling emergencies – Harris shares how to become the Master of Ceremonies of your life. Free. Call 793-278-0300 for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 15

10th Annual K-9 Krawl 5K. 8:30 a.m. at Fairfax County Government Center - 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. This dog walk was created to raise awareness of the link between domestic violence and pet abuse. Pets are part of the family and oftentimes abusive partners use the bond between victims and their companions to control, manipulate, and isolate them. Registration is free.



Preservationist and former topographer, Ed Wenzel, will discuss his recent book, "Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County, Part I" on Wednesday, Nov. 2, at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum (11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station). Forum begins at 7:30 p.m. Copies of Wenzel's book will be available for purchase and signing. Free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org.

Visit www.fcpdnews.wordpress.com/2016/08/25/10th-annual-k-9-krawl-5k.

Breakfast with Cat in the Hat. 10 a.m. at Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Breakfast specials, Cat appearances, crafts and more. Free to attend. Call 793-278-0300 for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 16

N Gauge Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

SATURDAY/OCT. 22

VolunteerFest. A region-wide day of community service helps nonprofits accomplish tasks they would not have time or resources to do on their own. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php.

Blood and Guts Run. 9:30 a.m. at Bull Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. A zombie-themed 5K. Registration is \$35. Visit www.bloodandgutsrun.com for more.

Historic All Hallows Eve. 4 p.m. Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Experience the traditions of Virginians in the 18th and 19th centuries by celebrating All Hallows Eve with story telling, fortune telling, fall foods and family gatherings. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

SUNDAY/OCT. 23

Fall Festival at Deepwood Veterinary Clinic. 12-5 p.m. at Deepwood Veterinary Clinic, 7300 Ordway Road, Centreville. Find games, pet adoption and more. Free. Call 703-631-9133.

Lecture: "Learn to Pray and Heal." 2 p.m. at Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Find out how you can "Learn to Pray and Heal" at this talk sponsored by the Christian Science Church. Free. Visit www.thinkdifferentlyfairfax.com.

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY/OCT. 25-26

Handbag and Luggage Sale. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at INOVA Fair Oaks Hospital Auxiliary, 3600 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax. Free. Visit www.inova.org for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 29

Clifton Haunted Trail. 7-10 p.m. at Chapel Road, Clifton. This annual event winds through Clifton's 8 Acre Park. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Visit cliftonhauntedtrail.com.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 2

Civil War Forum. 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Preservationist and former Topographer, Ed Wenzel, will discuss his recent book, "Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County, Part I." Free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org.

FRIDAY-TUESDAY/NOV. 4-8

Cox Farms Fall Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 16521 Braddock Road, Centreville. The Fall Festival features hayrides, giant slides, rope swings, the Cornudrum Cornfield adventure, the Imaginature Trail, and all sorts of farm animals and their babies. Tickets are \$6-17. Visit www.coxfarms.com for more.

SATURDAY/NOV. 5

15th Anniversary HomeAid Northern Virginia Gala & Auction. 6:30-8 p.m. at Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles Hotel, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. HomeAid Northern Virginia celebrates its 15th Anniversary. Tickets are \$200. Visit www.homeaidnova.org for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 5-6

Cox Farms Pumpkin Madness. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 16521 Braddock Road, Centreville. Bring an old Jack-O-Lantern and destroy it by using the high drop, squisher, smasher, or stomping ground. Tickets are \$6-17. Visit www.coxfarms.com for more.

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Sunday, October 2 8:00 PM–10:00 PM
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Morning service, Tashlich service immediately following

Kol Nidre/Yom Kippur
Tuesday, October 11 8:00 PM–10:00 PM
Wednesday, Oct. 12 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Kol Nidre service
Yom Kippur Children's service (ages 5-8), Complimentary to families with children!
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SCHOOLS

Centreville's Jesse Kraft Leads Coates Elementary

With 21 years in education, former Providence Elementary principal moves into new role.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
CENTRE VIEW

With 21 years in education, Jesse Kraft, age 42, of Centreville was named the new principal of Lutie Lewis Coates Elementary School on River Birch Road in Herndon, on July 7. He is replacing former principal Toni Rose who moved into administration with Fairfax County Public Schools. He will be overseeing 740 students with a staff of about 95, including five full-time ESOL teachers. Coates is a part of the Westfield Pyramid.

"I truly believe that when you work in public school you make a difference to every person who works there," Kraft said. "The principal is especially lucky because, No. 1, if I'm doing my job well, I can be part of the reason why great teachers get better every year. Another good thing is I can actually see kids improve over time. I can literally be in a front row seat to watch the magic happen."

The ethnic breakdown of Coates Elementary is: 28.8 percent Asian; 37.3 percent Hispanic; 18.2 percent black; 12.08 percent white; and 3.49 percent other, according to the school's website. Some 49 percent of the students are on free or reduced lunches and 11.81 percent require special education services.

"The Coates community is ethnically diverse and I'm finding pretty involved, and I think supportive of the school overall. I've had multiple opportunities to meet with families ... People had a lot of pride in the school and people were extremely welcoming to me. Once school started, it became clear that that kind of warmth is reflective of everybody overall. It's a really happy place," said Kraft.

What's new this year is more advanced academic numbers, he said. "We're in the beginning years of FCPS having local Level IV Advanced Academic classrooms. What that means is we have one classroom at third, fourth, and fifth grade that the teacher is teaching the same curriculum as the Advanced Academics Program Centers in FCPS. And we will have a sixth-grade Level IV next year."

He added: "So this means we are retaining more of our students who require daily enrichment and who are eligible to go to an Advanced Academic Center site."

With Coates being a Title One school, it allows some federal funds that translate to



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/CENTRE VIEW

Jesse Kraft of Centreville is the new principal of Lutie Lewis Coates Elementary School in Herndon.

more staffing, he said. For example, Title One funds provide an extra reading and math specialist to the staff. "When you have those extra specialists in the building, they can support not just the students who need extra help but they can develop the teachers in the building. So I've always kind of seen the positive side of being in a Title One school, where you have extra resources, and if you use them, it benefits all students," he said.

He said he is most impressed so far by the dedication of the staff. "I've been a building administrator for 11 years and I've been lucky to work in positive environments and I know this is a very positive environment. We're going to accomplish a lot because of clearly the right attitude, and the willingness to do whatever it takes," he said.

For personal goals, he said, he wants to work with staff and families to cultivate a stellar reputation for the school by promoting all of the good things that are already happening there, along with strengthening some instructional plans. "Another goal is to develop some kind of unique program that really goes beyond the curriculum and teaches critical and creative thinking," he said.

"I think there's a lot of potential to develop something amazing given the character of the school we already have."

As far as challenges, he said, "First, like



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

New Coates Elementary School Principal Jesse Kraft interacts with students.

any new principal coming to a school, there's going to be some changes, and it will take time to work with families and staff to implement the right changes and to make sure they are right for our school."

He added: "Just being a Title One school, increasing student performance, particularly in reading and math, and this will require everything from implementing the right professional development for our staff, engaging parents so that they can do their part, and using our human resources as effectively as possible to challenge students appropriately and close achievement gaps."

Kraft said the school has a team of teachers called the Positive Behavior Support Team, whose task is to figure out ways to promote a positive culture among the students. "This year they've decided they want to work to instill empathy in all students There's research out there to say kids lack empathy compared to previous generations. So the idea that other people matter or the idea of thinking of things through others' perspectives is something we want to explore this year with our students," he said.

According to Dan Phillips, principal of Providence Elementary School, "Jesse Kraft is a great principal because he values the limited time we have in school with our students. He works to help teachers maximize their effectiveness and their impact on stu-

dent learning. He has a sharp focus on instruction and a unending dedication to helping each student succeed. He was an incredible leader for our school, and the Coates community is very fortunate to have him as their principal."

Kraft grew up in the Philadelphia area and attended North Catholic High School, graduating in 1991. He received an undergraduate degree in English from the University of Pittsburgh, and completed licensure requirements for education, graduating in 1996.

He started his career at Newington Forest Elementary in Springfield, teaching 3rd, 4th, and 6th grade. He was a coach for the Great Beginnings Program, a program for first-year teachers in FCPS, and he also earned National Board Certification.

In 2004, he received his master's degree in administration from George Mason University, and then went into school administration. He then worked as an assistant principal at Westlawn Elementary in Falls Church; then assistant principal of Oak Hill Elementary in Herndon; followed by principal of Providence Elementary in Fairfax City in 2009. From there, he moved onto Coates Elementary.

Jesse Kraft is married to wife Susan; the couple has a daughter named Molly, age 10; a son named Will, age 8; and a son named Ian, age 3. They reside in Centreville.

CRIME REPORT

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

BURGLARY: 12800 block of Knight Arch Road, Sept. 19, 3:30 p.m. A landscaping employee reported a suspicious event at the residence. The residence had been entered and property was taken.

OBSCENE SEXUAL DISPLAY: 5900 block of Stone Road, Sept. 14 around 4:15 p.m. Police were called for a report of a sex offense. An investiga-

tion determined a 49-year-old woman observe the suspect press himself against a store window and simulate touching himself inappropriately over his clothing. Police searched the area but did not locate the suspect. He was described as white, in his early 20s, about 5 feet 11 inches tall and 180 pounds, with blond hair and a scruffy beard. He was wearing a gray T-shirt and black shorts.

ROBBERY: Centreville Drive/Old

Centreville Road, Sept. 13, 10:58 p.m. A 25-year-old man was riding his bicycle on a path adjacent to Old Centreville Road. As he approached the intersection of Centreville Drive, a man jumped out from the wood line, displayed a knife and demanded money from the cyclist. The victim fought off his attacker and rode his bicycle away. He was not injured. The suspect was described as black, 20-30 years old, 5 feet 9 inches to 6 feet tall. He was wearing a black

turtleneck, black pants and a black cloth partially covering his face.

ATTEMPTED CARJACKING: Cool Oak Lane/Saint Germain Drive, Sept. 9, 12:29 p.m. A woman reported that a man approached her while she was in her car, allegedly brandished a handgun, and demanded her vehicle. She drove away and the suspect fled on foot. The suspect was described as white, approximately 20 to 25 years old, with long brown hair, acne on his face, and

wore a dark sweatshirt and jeans. The victim did not require medical attention.

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY: 14500 block of Lee Road, Sept. 7, 6:55 a.m. An employee reported that someone broke into the business and took a large quantity of refrigerant. No suspect information.

SEPT. 23-25 LARCENIES 6200 block of Multiplex Drive, cell phone from residence

SPORTS



Westfield's Hunter Lydic #36, Zach Jewell #93 and Kevin Petrillo #32 team up on Stone Bridge's Bradley Block #4.



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR/CENTRE VIEW

Westfield's Taylor Morin #20 picks off the Stone Bridge QB on one of his three interceptions

Stone Bridge Lands on Westfield, 34-16

The Westfield Bulldogs traveled to Ashburn to face the Stone Bridge Bulldogs in a non-conference game in Ashburn, on Friday, Sept. 23. Westfield came in riding a 16-game win streak, their last loss coming in the second week of the 2015 season to South County. Stone Bridge was the 2015 5A state runner-up after losing to Highland Springs 27-7 at UVA.

Stone Bridge's Bradley Block scored 3 touchdowns on runs of 38, 4 and 65 yards as Stone Bridge took a 19-0 lead into the 4th quarter.

Westfield still had fight in them, despite being without RB Nathaniel Chung, who was sidelined due to an injury. Westfield's Taylor Morin #20 intercepted the Stone Bridge quarterback three times. Westfield QB Rehman Johnson completed 8-19 passes

for 149 and 2TDs, the first a 6-yard pass to Ivory Frimpong, with 9:56 to go in the 4th. However 22 seconds later Stone Bridge answered with a 65-yard run from Eugene Block putting Stone Bridge up 26-7. On the ensuing drive, Westfield's Sean Eckert #2 took a Johnson pass 55 yards 24 seconds later for Westfield's second touchdown in 46 seconds. Eckert tallied three receptions for 105 yards and a touchdown. Westfield's

defense would then add two more points after stopping Stone Bridge in the end zone for a safety.

With the loss, 34-16, Westfield falls to (3-1) and will play their homecoming game on Friday against Oakton (2-2). Stone Bridge improves to (3-1) and will face West Springfield High School.

— WILL PALENSCAR

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos are welcome.

Goalkeeper **Lauren Saltus**, a native of Centreville, is a member of the 2016 Hofstra University (Hempstead, N.Y.) field hockey team.

The **Deer Park Elementary School PTA** has a program called Pass Along Knowledge, welcoming senior citizens from nearby Forest Glen to Deer Park on Wednesday mornings. Seniors assist in the production center cutting,

gluing, working on projects, preparing material to go home in the Thursday folders, etc. It is a fantastic program that allows these very valuable volunteers to assist the teachers at Deer Park in so many ways. Volunteer drivers are needed to commit to one or two Wednesdays a month picking up at 9 a.m. at Forest Glen (behind Ace Hardware and the Dollar Tree) and taking them home at noon. Contact Cathy Roberson at the Deer Park Office at 703-802-5000 or at coroberson@fcps.edu and include your contact information and availability.

Nora Raheer, of Centreville, has earned a spot on the 2016 James Madison University varsity cross country roster. The Dukes opened the season by splitting the U.Va. Duals with a 15-40 win over Liberty and an 18-40 loss to Virginia.

Maren Elizabeth Berg, of Centreville, was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree from Denison University (Granville, Ohio) in communication and a minor in psychology and in dance. Berg was a recipient of the Denison Alumni Award.

Two hundred thirteen Fairfax County Public Schools students from 21 high schools have been named semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for 2017. All semifinalists are eligible to compete for 7,500 National Merit Scholarship awards worth \$33 million, to be awarded in spring 2017. Local semifinalists include:


❖ Centreville High School: **Alexander Kim, Sarah Lim, and Connor O'Brien.**

❖ Westfield High School: **Daniel Park, Celina Paudel, and Lucinda Zhu.**

Andrew Kapinos, of Centreville, was named to the dean's List at Delaware Valley University (Doylestown, Pa.) for the spring 2016 semester.

Reagan Newell, of Centreville, is a varsity member of the 2017 James Madison University women's lacrosse team, which is a Division I program in the Colonial Athletic Association.

Jordan Brooks, of Centreville, is a member of the James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Va.) varsity football team.



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PEOPLE

A Tribute along with Raising Awareness

Wildcats vs Cancer Club honors pediatric cancer patients.

In observance of childhood cancer month, the Centreville High School's Wildcats vs Cancer Club honored pediatric cancer patients along with their families at the Friday, Sept. 23 football game where they joined the CVHS football, dance, and cheer teams on the field.



PHOTOS BY
TOM MANNING
CENTRE VIEW



Honorary Captain and cancer survivor, 6-year-old Aiden Lipscomb is given the honors of carrying the game ball as he waits to take the field for the coin toss.

Honorary Captain

Aiden Lipscomb was diagnosed with a very rare case of cancer when he was 5-and-a-half months old. He has been in remission for 5 years now. His dad Chris said, "Aiden is a fighter and any time Leslie [mom] and I have the opportunity to share his story, we do. What we as a family went through is unimaginable. Ups and downs, good and bad but what pushed us along as a family was seeing our boy fight and succeed. Friday night to us was completely amazing. To be able to put Aiden in the spotlight and to be able to share his story was amazing. The more we spread the word about pediatric cancer, the more attention it gets and these kids deserve it. They know no different when they are going through their treatment yet they take nothing for granted. If there's one thing I've learned during Aiden's journey it's that life has challenges and the little things in life are what's important. Little things, like giving you son or daughter a hug before you leave."

Centreville football players stand with pediatric cancer patients: (Back row, from left) Seniors Kobie Turner, Carter Egbers, Dylan Cooper, (front row, from left) Pediatric Cancer Patients Tara Sankner from Fairfax, Aiden Lipscomb from Fairfax, and Ben Delafield from Burke.



Senior Deonte Edmonds walks off the field with Honorary Captain Aiden Lipscomb, after the coin toss.



Cancer Club members (from left) Jennifer Meara, Abby Mayer, Tori Judd, Cameron Stewart, Angela Higbee, Denisa Fernandez, and Anna Toy.



From left: Katherin Strobl, teacher sponsor; Valerie Nguyen, CVHS Wildcats vs. Cancer Club founder; Gianna Cooper, club member; and Rebecca Pioso, club member.



Centreville students come together, wearing neon, to show their support for Centreville High School's Wildcats VS Cancer Club.

PEOPLE



PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/CENTRE VIEW

Aiden Lipscomb, 6, leads his dad, Chris, and mom, Leslie, who's a Centreville graduate, along with the rest of the pediatric cancer patients and their families past the cheerleaders during a pregame ceremony honoring them.



Valerie Nguyen, CVHS Wildcats vs. Cancer Club founder, and cancer survivor Aiden Lipscomb.

Wildcats vs Cancer

Valerie Nguyen helped organize the first Centreville football game dedicated to childhood cancer: "This event means the world to me. For the longest time, childhood cancer has taken over my life and it still does today as a sibling. That football game meant the world to me because it showed me that support was out there and I had a whole community to fall back on as well as such a supportive school who help me put together this event. The turnout was amazing. I still get emails from the families of how much that they enjoyed it and how they are looking forward to next year's game. This is one of the greatest accomplishments of my entire life so far, and I'm thankful that my community was able to be a part of it all. I hope to inspire other siblings of childhood cancer patients to be able to stand up and use their experiences to give back to the childhood cancer community. That football game taught me what an honor and privilege it is to be a Centreville Wildcat. I could not have done it without the support of my friends, family, community, and most importantly my sister who has been my inspiration for my club — who put this event together — as well as to be a strong advocate for siblings and childhood cancer patients."

Time To Plan Ahead

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



In consideration of the future, I have to plan in the present. Random and/or spontaneous actions/commitments are allowed, even encouraged, but given the recurring nature of chemotherapy infusions and the week-long side effects that follow, are not very practical.

As an example: Thanksgiving, Nov. 24 and Christmas Eve/Christmas Day, Dec. 24²⁵. According to my 'present' infusion schedule: four weeks, then five weeks, then four weeks, etc., barring semi-foreseen abnormal lab work results, which I will only find out the Thursday immediately preceding the Friday infusion, my next treatment will occur on Friday, Oct. 14. In and of itself, not a problem, other than the usual — with which I am, and perhaps you regular readers, too, are familiar. However, five weeks later my infusion occurs on Friday, Nov. 18 meaning I'll be miserable, not-eating-wise the following Thursday, Thanksgiving (which if I had my druthers, I'd rather not be). Now should I pretend that's not a problem for me? No. Following that potential holiday impact, my next alternating scheduled infusion occurs four weeks hence on Friday, Dec. 16, the week/Friday before Christmas Eve/Christmas. Now if these holidays didn't involve travelling, eating and socializing, and generally trying to be on my best behavior, maybe I could manage. Unfortunately, nothing could be further from the reality.

Presuming/pretending that this schedule is not a problem is naive at best and extremely poor planning at worst. So what are my options? Well, I could always stop my chemotherapy infusions entirely until January, a "quality of life" alternative my oncologist has regularly encouraged. However, given the severity of my diagnosis/prognosis, I have always felt uncomfortable stopping treatment and as such, have never taken a break/brake. (Now, either I'm still alive because of it, or in spite of.)

Perhaps the solution is simply to reschedule my infusion intervals and still get treatment while manipulating my side effects/circumstances? If I reschedule my November infusion to occur four weeks after my October infusion (instead of five weeks), the date of that infusion would be Friday, Nov. 11, allowing more than enough time, nearly two weeks, to recover before Thanksgiving. However, switching my previous/original four-week interval to five weeks causes that December infusion to occur on Friday, December 23; not good timing at all. Worse in fact than my current schedule. But if I don't alternate intervals and repeat that four-week infusion schedule (unfortunately losing a "quality of life" week in the process, a process that was intended to increase my "quality of life" weeks), then my December infusion would occur on Friday, Dec. 9, two weeks out from Christmas; perfect timing to allow for a semi-normal fortnight.

The net result is peace and relative quite. And by that I mean, other than advancing and increasing the number weeks when I'll feel miserable (and won't be eating), I won't feel miserable for two of the most significant, positive-reinforcing, feel-good weeks of the year. And if there's one, two or three things a cancer patient/survivor can't get enough of, it's days when you're not in a daze and weeks when you're not feeling weak. And after writing this column, and perhaps righting this ship, I feel pretty good about the next few months. It might not be ideal, but 'ideal' left the building a long time ago, on Feb. 27, 2009, the date of my original diagnosis.

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

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WEDNESDAY/OCT. 5

ESL & Citizenship Classes. 7 p.m. at Fairfax Church of Christ, 3901 Rugby Road, Fairfax. Adults may register for beginning to advanced level ESL classes, citizenship, and Bible study classes. Classes meet every Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. beginning Oct. 12. Childcare is provided. Student fee for materials is \$30. Call 703-631-2100.

THURSDAY/OCT. 6

Flatlick Branch Stream Restoration

Projects. 6-7 p.m. at Rocky Run Middle School Cafeteria, 4400 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. The Fairfax County Department of Public Works is holding a public meeting to discuss design and construction of the Flatlick Branch Phase II and III Stream Restoration Projects, answer questions and gather feedback. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/stormwater/projects/flatlick-branch-stream-restoration.htm.
Sully District Tree Forum. 7:30-9 p.m. at Fair Oaks District Police Department, 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. "Afraid To Ask" will cover topics including: the importance of a healthy urban forest; how to maintain healthy trees; replacing damaged trees; and how to maintain common area. Free and open to the public. Space is limited, RSVP to 703-324-1770 or TTY 711.

FRIDAY/OCT. 7

Venture Into Volunteering Fair. 10 a.m.-noon at the Mott Community Center, 12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Boomers, retirees and older adults are invited to the Venture Into Volunteering Fair. Discuss volunteer opportunities with representatives from county and nonprofit organizations. Find out more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm.

FRIDAY/OCT. 14

Annual Fellowship Dinner. 6 p.m. Attend WFCM's 9th Annual Neighbors Helping Neighbors Dinner as they celebrate our work together and give back. Doors will open with a reception and silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and a program at 7 p.m. All proceeds will help those in need in the community. To register, email registration@wfcma.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 15

Crafters and Businesses Wanted. Vendor spaces and sponsorships are still available for Centreville Day. A one-day, outdoor festival that attracts some 3,000 people, Centreville Day celebrates the past, present, and future Centreville in a pleasant, park setting located near the intersections of Rt 28, Rt 29 and 166. Centreville Day feature free admission and lots of free activities that keep customers happy and pricing low for vendor spaces. Visit www.CentrevilleDay.org or email jim@centrevilleday.org.

SALT Fall Conference. 9-11:30 a.m. at Virginia International University (VIU), Conference Room (VD-102), 4401 Village Drive, Fairfax. Social Action Linking Together (SALT) will sponsor the SALT Fall Advocacy Training Conference. Mark Shriver, President of Save the Children Action Network, will be the keynote speaker. There will be additional presentations by Virginia Del. Alfonso Lopez ("Tools for Effective Advocacy in the State Legislature") and by Michelle Kroker, Executive Director, Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance ("Addressing the Commonwealth's Unmet Housing Needs for Low-Income Households") and state Sen. Barbara Favola, 31st Senate District, Arlington, (Report on the Commission on Youth, TANF Subcommittee) and Debbie Weinstein, Executive Director, Coalition for Human Needs, "Making TANF Work for Poor Families." Free. All are welcome. Contact John Horejsi at jhorejsi@cox.net or 703-819-0479 or visit www.s-a-l-t.org/upcoming-events.html for more.

TUESDAY/OCT. 11

Telephone Support Group. 7-8 p.m. Fairfax County's free Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group meets by phone. The discussion is The Elephant in the Room: Difficult Topics in Caregiving You Need to Talk About. Register beforehand at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Telephone Caregiver Support Group. Call 703-324-5484, TTY 711.

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The One to Watch

National political and media attention focus on race for Virginia's 10th Congressional District.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
CENTRE VIEW

As LuAnn Bennett, the Democratic challenger for Virginia's 10th Congressional District seat, spoke to supporters at a political "house party" in Herndon, a New York Times reporter stood to one side, taking notes.

Last week, Barbara Comstock, the 10th District's freshman Republican, was shadowed by a reporter from The Wall Street Journal as she met with constituents during several campaign events.

The national media attention is just one indication of how the 10th District is being

STATE OF THE RACE: 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

tracked as a crucial battleground race in a "bellwether" district. In the 2014 midterms, Comstock easily

retained the seat of her GOP predecessor and mentor, U.S. Rep. Frank R. Wolf. When Wolf announced his retirement in 2013, ending a distinctive three-decade career in Congress, the seat instantly became battleground territory.

The race has even attracted attention outside the United States. In August, the BBC featured a story about the negative impact Donald Trump, the GOP's controversial presidential nominee, may have on "down-ticker" Republican candidates.

While Comstock has repeatedly declined



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/CENTRE VIEW

LuAnn Bennett, the Democratic candidate for Virginia's 10th Congressional District, chats with Anne Alston, a former teacher, during a political "House Party" in Herndon on Saturday, Aug. 27. Bennett, a real estate executive who is trying to unseat freshman Republican Barbara Comstock, spoke to nearly 100 supporters at the event.

to say if she supports the man at the top of the GOP's ticket, Democrats have repeatedly tried to tie Comstock to Trump.

Money

Top Democratic leaders consider the 10th district one of a dozen prime pick-ups in their path to regaining a majority in the House. Earlier this month, the Democratic



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) poses with Jennifer Siciliano (left), vice president of government relations for Inova Health Systems, and McLean bioengineer Catherine Ross (right) during one of Comstock's Young Women Leadership programs in June that focused on local leaders in science and technology.

National Committee (DNC) signaled its support for targeted House races by transferring \$2.5 million to help them out.

In Washington's costly media market, each candidate has been modest in purchasing air time.

So far, Bennett has released two ads: her first ad was a biographical spot, featuring the candidate at work and with her family. Her second ad highlights the gender wage

gap in the district, and her support for equal pay for women.

Comstock released her first general election ad last week, a spot that features her daughter Caity speaking about her mother's legislative accomplishments.

Bennett is one of three Virginia Democratic Congressional candidates included in the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's "Red to Blue" program, which offers targeted campaigns "financial, communications, grassroots, and strategic support."

Comstock appears prepared for the battle, as she has raised well over twice as much money as her opponent's campaign.

Through June — the last Federal Election Commission reporting date — Comstock's campaign had total receipts of \$3,246,229, and was still holding \$2,256,612 in hand. The Bennett campaign had raised \$1,207,309, and had \$871,830 remaining.

Debates

In the fight for votes, the two McLean residents are preparing for their first debate, sponsored by the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, which will be held Oct. 6 at the National Conference Center in Lansdowne. Comstock and Bennett will clash again on Oct. 19, at a second debate, at the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce in Tysons.

The 10th congressional district includes Chantilly and Centreville.

Call for Civility in Schools' LGBTQ Discussion

Board also receives Opening of Schools report, votes on challenged materials review committee.

BY TIM PETERSON
CENTRE VIEW

Robert Rigby stood before the Fairfax County School Board on Sept. 22 wearing a red polo shirt, typically a sign of unity at board meetings among parents and community members who have opposed recent policy updates in the school system surrounding students who identify as transgender.

However Rigby, a Latin teacher at West Potomac High School, has been an advocate for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer issues. He's president of FCPS Pride, a faculty and employee organization promoting LGBTQ rights, and a frequent speaker at School Board meetings.

By his side was Meredith Blankenstein, who described herself as a conservative



PHOTO COURTESY OF FCPS

LGBTQ rights advocate Robert Rigby (right) and conservative Christian Meredith Blankenstein (left) address some of the heated and negative interactions between members of the sides with which they're affiliated.

Christian and mother to two FCPS elementary school students. She was wearing a dark purple-colored shirt.

As the board was considering renewing the Challenged Materials Interdepartmental Review Committee, the pair decided to take that consent agenda item as an opportunity to address some of the heated and negative interactions between members of

the sides with which they're affiliated.

"We rise today to remind the public of the necessity of civility while discussing these topics before this board," Rigby said. "It's crucial we recognize and acknowledge the good faith and valid concerns of those with whom we disagree, even though we may work to refute those concerns. Bigotry, hate, phobia and intolerance are not helpful."

"No matter what we argue about — gender identity, JEB Stuart, bathroom rights — we are all formed in the image of God," Blankenstein said. "We all hurt. We all cry. We all care and we all feel. Just like everybody else, we all struggle with brokenness. And none of us is worthy of judging others."

Blankenstein acknowledged "students who identify as transgender struggle with so much, they do not need additional stress. So many of our LGBT children are hurting and we need not make it worse."

Similarly, she said, "students, parents, faculty who disagree with policies, regulations, curricula and controversial material should not have to face demonization and name-calling by others."

The pair were speaking as a precursor to the board voting on Regulation 3009, which establishes an Interdepartmental Review

Committee to look at challenged library and instructional materials. It came up during the board's consent agenda.

For 2016-2017 school year, board members Tammy Derenak Kaufax (Lee), Sandy Evans (Mason), Elizabeth Schultz (Springfield), Ryan McElveen (At Large), Illyong Moon (At Large) and Jeanette Hough (At Large) each will appoint an individual to serve a one-year term on the committee. Two appointees will serve on the committee reviewing materials in elementary, middle and high schools.

The consent agenda containing this item was passed by the board.

Earlier in the meeting, FCPS superintendent Dr. Karen Garza presented the Opening of Schools report for the 2016-2017 school year. Garza, who announced Monday, Sept. 19 she would be resigning on or before Dec. 16 of this year, highlighted the more than 186,000 students now enrolled in FCPS and the more than 1,800 new teachers added to the system. She also called out several new and developing initiatives in the system including project- and problem-based learning. School Board members say they have just begun to discuss an interim superintendent, but that it's very preliminary at this time.