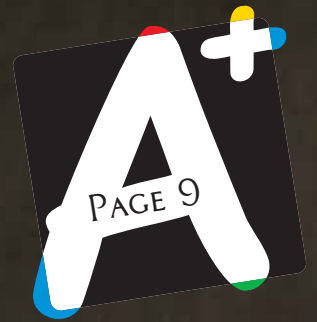


# Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes



During Chantilly High's "Goldilocks on Trial," Goldilocks (Megan Dinneen) and her attorney, Wombat (Alex Yee), are confident she'll be found innocent.

## Children's Show with Attitude

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Lockard Proposes  
\$2.8 Billion FCPS Budget

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Senate Panel Cracks Down  
On Internet Lending

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CALENDAR, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

JANUARY 18-24, 2017

ONLINE AT [WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



# Partnering to Reduce Congestion

Legislators tour past, present and future transportation projects.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he blessing of traffic, Martin Nohe said, is that “there’s lots of great transportation projects to choose from.” Nohe is chairman of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, which is responsible for long-range planning for regional transportation projects.

Drivers sitting in that traffic may not agree with Nohe. But on a bus tour of completed, pending and future projects hosted by state Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37), a group of legislators and transportation organization leaders explained how thanks to a landmark bill that passed out of the General Assembly three years ago, there is hope for a more effective transportation network.

Marsden is the ranking member of the NOVA delegation on the Senate Transportation Committee.

Del. Vivian Watts (D-39) is former Virginia Secretary of Transportation and Public Safety. She was the first one to take the microphone on the rolling press conference.

Since July, 2013, Watts said, HB2313 has produced more than 1.25 billion new dollars that were raised, controlled by and ultimately used in northern Virginia for transportation improvements.

“Getting the best return on the dollar to move people, support Northern Virginia’s dynamic economy and reduce pollution demands that state, federal and local governments work together,” Watts said. “The more we know about specific needs, the better we can shape win-win solutions.”

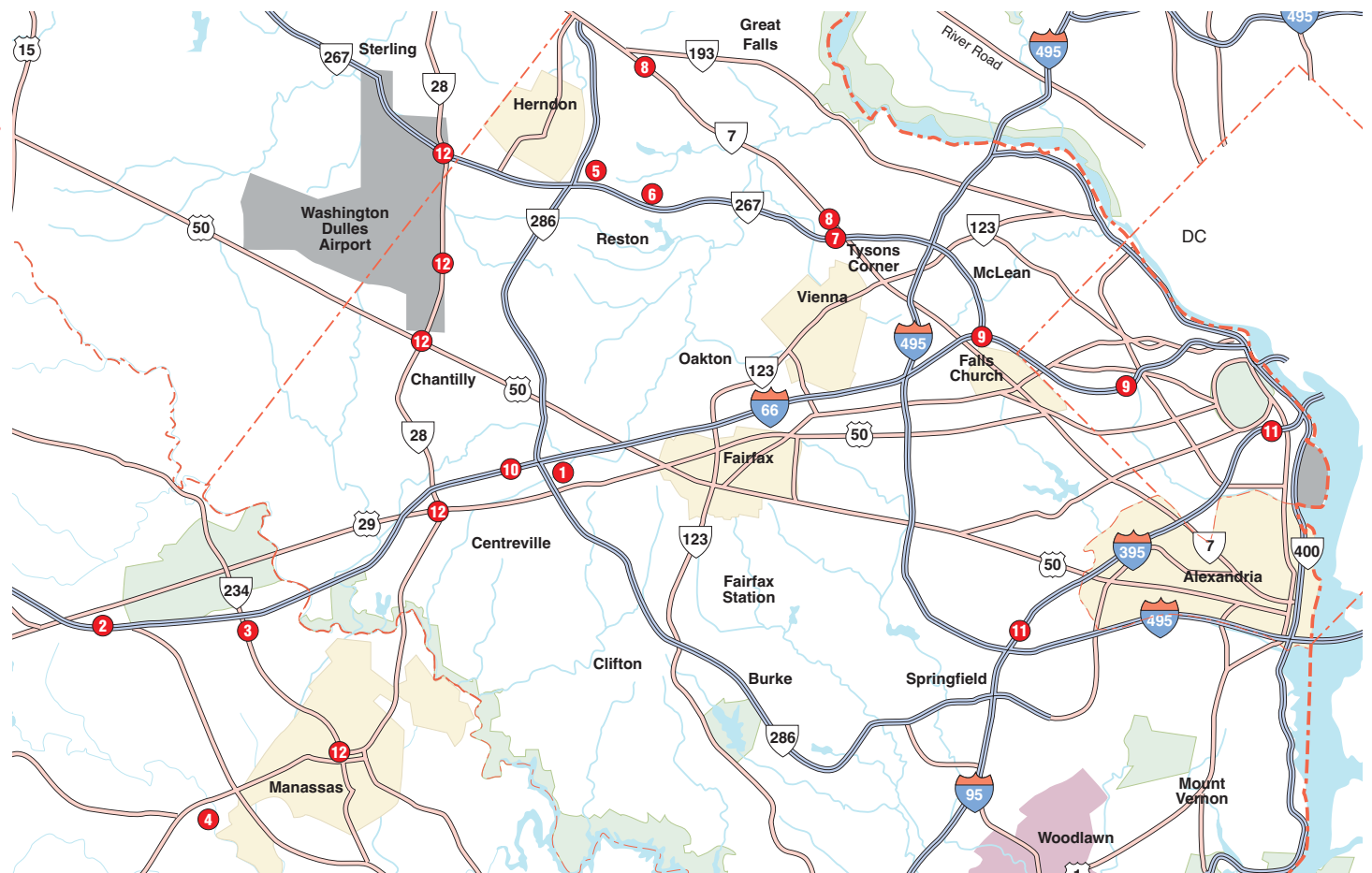
The projects on the bus tour, from an expanded bus garage at the West Ox transportation facility to the Wiehle Reston East Metro station, span Fairfax County and parts of Prince William, Loudoun and Arlington.

Watts and the other leaders took turns explaining how money from the 2013 bill has been utilized by numerous entities — including Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the Department of Public Rail and Public Transportation, The Northern Virginia Regional Transportation Authority, and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation — partnering to chase the collective goal of reducing traffic congestion.

“Great strides have been made in moving people throughout Northern Virginia but there is much more work to be done,” Marsden said.

Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86), whose district includes the town of Herndon and features two new planned Metro stations, said she enjoyed hearing background on other communities.

“It’s been a great opportunity to learn about other areas,” Boysko said.



## PROJECT LOCATIONS

- 1 **West Ox Complex Bus Garage**, 4970 Alliance Drive, Fairfax
- 2 **I66 Outside the Beltway**, I-495 to Gainesville (University Boulevard)
- 3 **PRTC West Bus Maintenance and Storage Facility**, Balls Ford Road and Prince William Parkway, Manassas
- 4 **VRE Broad Run Station**, 10637 Piper Lane, Bristow
- 5 **Innovation Center Metro Station**, Dulles Toll Road, Herndon, just east of intersection with Route 28
- 6 **Wiehle Reston East Metro Station**, just northeast of Dulles Toll Road and Wiehle Avenue intersection, Reston
- 7 **Route 7 Bridge Expansion over Dulles Toll Road**, Dranesville
- 8 **Route 7 Widening**, between Reston Avenue and Jarrett Valley Drive
- 9 **I66 Inside the Beltway**, widening from Dulles Connector Road to Fairfax Drive, exit 71
- 10 **Stringfellow Park and Ride**, Stringfellow Road & I66
- 11 **I-395 Express Lanes Northern Extension**, Edsall Road to Eads Street near the Pentagon
- 12 **Route 28 Corridor Improvements**, In Fairfax: widening from Route 50 to Dulles Toll Road and DTR to McLearen Road, and from Prince William County Line to Route 29.

## Area Projects



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

❖ **West Ox Complex Bus Garage**, 4970 Alliance Drive, Fairfax

This \$23.5 million project will add nine bus maintenance bays in order to manage an additional 135 buses for increased Fairfax Connector bus service. Funding includes \$20 million from NVTA regional revenue and \$3.5 million for project design from commercial and industrial property tax revenue. The estimated completion date is spring 2019.

❖ **I-66 Outside the Beltway**, I-495 to

Gainesville (University Boulevard)

Improvements for multiple modes of transportation are planned for 22.5 miles of the I-66 corridor, including two express lanes in each direction, three general purpose lanes in each direction, safety and operational improvements, expanded carpooling alternatives and new and upgraded bike and walking paths. The \$2.3 billion project is expected to begin construction in the fall this year and be completed by August 2022.

❖ **PRTC West Bus Maintenance and Storage Facility**, Balls Ford Road and Prince William Parkway, Manassas

The new facility cost of \$38,688,050 is being funded by the NVTA from regional revenues and DRPT from state grant funding. It will help with overcrowding at the PRTC Transit Center in Woodbridge and house commuter buses that are part of the I-66 Outside the Beltway project. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2017 and be completed by spring 2019.

❖ **Stringfellow Park and Ride**, Stringfellow Road & I66

\$7.2 million project to expand the commuter park and ride facility was completed May 11, 2016.

❖ **I-395 Express Lanes Northern Extension**, Edsall Road to Eads Street near the Pentagon

The plan is to expand and convert two existing two-way HOV lanes to three High Occupancy Toll or Express Lanes for eight miles from Edsall Road to Eads Street. Construction is expected to begin this year and be completed in 2019.

❖ **Route 28 Corridor Improvements**, In Fairfax: widening from Route 50 to Dulles Toll Road and DTR to McLearen Road, and from Prince William County Line to Route 29.

Approximately \$113,994,000 has been funded by the NVTA for improvements along Route 28 in Fairfax, Prince William and Loudoun counties, and the City of Manassas. Construction is underway widening three lanes to four, and is expected to be completed beginning in summer 2017.

❖ **Planned Road Paving (Virginia Department of Transportation)**

In FY 2017, 1,086 miles are planned for paving, including 28 interstate, 137 primary and 921 secondary roads. The secondary roads are divided nearly evenly among Prince William, Fairfax and Loudoun counties.

# Children's Show with Attitude Chantilly High presents "Goldilocks on Trial."

BY BONNIE HOBBS

**P**icture Goldilocks and Baby Bear as a teenager and a preteen, respectively, and imagine Goldilocks being prosecuted for breaking into the three bears' house. That's the premise of Chantilly High's upcoming children's show, "Goldilocks on Trial."

It takes the stage Friday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 28, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 29, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Featuring a cast and crew of more than 45, it was written by the school's former theater director, Ed Monk. And although he retired last June, he's returned to direct this show.

"We held auditions in early November and rehearsals began in December," he said. "I agreed to do this before an assistant director was hired, and it's a nice way for me to transition into retirement."

"The kids have been doing great, and they really stepped up under unusual circumstances," continued Monk. "We have a strong cast; and, as always, we're pleased to have a really talented and nice bunch of kids."

Playing the title role is senior Megan Dinneen. "In this show, Goldilocks is 15 or 16 and very cunning," said Dinneen. "She knows how to play 'innocent' to her advantage so she can manipulate people. She's also loud and doesn't really care a lot about what happens to anyone else, as long as she gets her way. She'll ruin anyone else's life, as long as she doesn't have to suffer, herself. So this is definitely a twist on her usual, fairytale character."

Dinneen loves her role because it's so high-energy and because her character is "all over the place emotionally since she's desperate to convince everyone she's innocent. It's fun to play an evil-like twist on something we all read growing up. And Goldilocks is so loud, out there and expressive that I don't need to hold back on anything."

And that's why children's shows are such



**From left: Papa Bear (Jared Belsky) and Baby Bear (Zoe Hutcheson) point accusing fingers at Goldilocks (Megan Dinneen) while attorney Wombat (Alex Yee) looks on.**

fun, said Dinneen. "All the characters are larger-than-life and not normal," she said. "You can shout and use big motions and gestures to make your point."

She said both children and adults will like the humor, and parents will "get to see their kids enjoy the same characters they experienced when they were young. And all the characters are so over-the-top that kids of all ages will like them."

Sophomore Zoe Hutcheson plays Baby Bear.

"She's a sassy, grumpy preteen who wants to do her own thing and wear her own style of clothes," said Hutcheson. "She's also a vegetarian, which most bears aren't, so that can cause problems, too. She just wants to be herself and not have her parents tell her what to do."

Since this part is larger than her previous roles and is so much fun to play, Hutcheson's

having a good time portraying Baby Bear. "As an exasperated, eye-rolling preteen, she's full of emotions and unintentional jokes," said Hutcheson. "And it's fun to play off Jared Belsky [Papa Bear] and Anna Rhodes [Mama Bear] because their personalities are so opposite to Baby Bear's."

In a children's show, she said, "You can be exaggerated and take things to an extreme. And you can be as ridiculous as you want because kids love slapstick humor."

Hutcheson said the show has the basic elements of the classic story of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," but with different twists. "Some characters aren't who you expect them to be," she said. "For example, Baby Bear is a preteen and there are new, fun characters not in the original story, such as Merwin, the Big, Bad Wolf. There's also the third Little Piggie and a porridge analyst called Dr. Cantaloupe."

Sophomore Jared Belsky said that, at times, Papa Bear is the strict dad. "But it's funny when he's yelling at his daughter and she's complaining and not taking him seriously," he said. "He pretends to be the head of the house; but when his wife steps up, he backs down. And each of the three bears has a different view of what happened. He thinks everything was fine in their house before then, but it wasn't."

Belsky likes playing Papa Bear because "he's a fun character and I get to interact with both Mama and Baby Bear. He's big and goofy — a combination of the jokes he makes and his personality." He also said children's shows are fun for the audience because everyone onstage is having such a good time.

"This is a funny show, and both children and adults will find a lot to laugh at," he added. "And it's really high-energy and never skips a beat."

Portraying a person named Wombat, who's Goldilocks's defense attorney, is freshman Alex Yee. "She's accused of breaking and entering into the bears' house and eating some of their porridge, so she's on trial," he said. "He's loud and vocal and really believes he can win every case he has, so he's pretty arrogant. He also likes to be nice to his defense witnesses, but vicious to the others."

Enjoying his role, Yee said, "I have some great lines I can do a lot with. Wombat believes he's serious; but to the audience, he's funny."

He interacts with all the witnesses, but differently with each one. He eventually reaches his wit's end, and almost every line he says is overdramatic because he believes this is the case of his life."

Yee said children's shows allow actors to be over-the-top all the time. "You engage the audience and make them laugh, and it's like you're a child again," he said.

"People will like how all the jokes come one after the other, and the actors are great at keeping the fun going all the way through."

## ROUNDUPS

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Jan. 19, 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.

In 2016, police inspected 418 carseats in 25 sessions at Sully District Police Station.

### Dulles Suburban Center Meetings

As the Dulles Suburban Center Study enters into its second phase, the Advisory Group has set its schedule for the next several months. Residents are invited to attend the meetings and hear what the group is discussing regarding land use in the Dulles Suburban Center. The upcoming meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, on Feb. 6, Feb. 21, March 6, and March 21.

Specific meeting topics will be posted on the Dulles Suburban Study website <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/dullessuburbancenter/meetings.htm> closer to the date of each meeting.

### Apply for Civilian Review Panel

Residents are invited to apply to serve on the Civilian Review Panel. This panel was established by the Board of Supervisors to review complaints concerning alleged misconduct by Fairfax County police officers. The panel will have jurisdiction to review complaints of abuse of authority and serious misconduct by a Fairfax County Police officer.

The Board of Supervisors seeks to create an independent and fair body for the panel. The board will consider the following factors, among others it may choose, in appointing members of the panel: community and civic involvement; diversity; law enforcement and/or criminal investigative experience; reputation in the community; geographical representation and other factors.

To apply to serve on the committee, submit a resume and a 1-2 page cover letter explaining how one fits the criteria to [clerktothebos@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:clerktothebos@fairfaxcounty.gov). Or mail the information to the Clerk to the Board of Supervisor at ATTN: Catherine Chianese, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 533, Fairfax, VA 22035.



# 'They Rise to Another Level'

Centreville High guitarists, performers present 30th Gumbo Concert.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

**T**ake some talented guitarists, add other musicians and singers and stir well, and the result is a Centreville High tradition: The school's annual Gumbo Concert. And this one is extra-special because it's the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Under the guidance of guitar teacher and Performing Arts Department Chair Bill Burke — himself a noted guitarist and Centreville's director of guitar studies — the show is set for Friday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m., in the school theater. Tickets are \$5, students; and \$10, families, at the door.

"I'm really proud of the way the kids step up to the plate for this show," said Burke. "Sometimes they come into an audition pretty raw; but when they step onto the stage and get that audience feedback they rise to another level."

He puts on two Gumbo shows a year — one in winter and one in spring. "I wanted to have a concert inclusive to everyone in the school, even if they weren't a guitar student," he said. "Students could come and audition and play whatever instrument they wanted. Or they could sing or even do comedy."

And since gumbo is made with a mixture of ingredients, that name also describes this show that offers a variety of acts and types of music. After coming up with the name, said Burke, "I decided how cool it would be to serve gumbo afterward to the performers and their families. So we do it in the hallway backstage; my wife Naila makes it and I'm her sous chef. Then we bring it to school and heat it up in crock pots."

This year's Gumbo Concert features about 20 acts and will have both professional sound and lighting. "So it's like going to a professional concert without leaving



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BILL BURKE

**From left: Maddy Lee, Francis Swinson and Sophie Lee will all participate in the upcoming Gumbo Concert.**

Centreville," said Burke. "It's difficult to produce because each act goes back to back, with different sound requirements, and no lulls in the show's pace. So while one act is performing on one side of the stage, another one is setting up in the darkness on the other side of the stage."

Most involve some sort of guitar and piano performance, plus singing. And the winter Gumbo generally showcases students doing solos or entertaining in small groups. And, said Burke, "The most gratifying part is that the audience is always very attentive to the performers, who get good feedback from the applause."

Francis Swinson is emceeding, and those taking the stage will include ESOL student Ricardo Avalos. He'll sing "Hasta mi Final" (Until the Day) in Spanish, accompanied by senior Olivia Yslas on guitar and junior Daniel Levin on piano.

"Ricardo has only been in the country a

year, but he auditioned and has a beautiful singing voice," said Burke. "So I hooked him up with Olivia and Daniel. They didn't know Ricardo beforehand, but volunteered to learn his song and perform with him."

Students Saptarshi Biswas and Iman Sanie, a guitar/vocal duo, will make their Gumbo debut. Sanie is in Burke's guitar class and will perform "Chains" by Nick Jonas with Biswas. And Maddy Lee and Sophie Lee, billing themselves the Little Duo, will be performing Paramore's tune, "Let the Flames Begin."

The Led Zeppelin song, "Dazed and Confused," will be done by power trio the Geddysburg Address, featuring senior Noah Dail (nicknamed Geddy). Dail, who recently performed in Cuba with a community jazz band, will also accompany Victoria Magory on Elvis Presley's "Can't Help Falling in Love."

"Noah is a phenomenal guitarist/singer," said Burke. "And he's been in my guitar program all four years."

Another special performer will be sophomore violinist Michelle Li, who recently won the Music Teachers National Association concerto competition for the Commonwealth of Virginia. She'll compete next for the Southeastern Region of the U.S. title.

The Multi-muses, comprised of Cindy Tran, Kavya Iyappan and Sophie Lee, will entertain the crowd with a mash-up of Beyonce's "Halo" and Passion Pit's "Carried Away." And a new, heavy-metal drum/guitar duo called Wings of the Fallen, featuring Aidan Reeves and Nicolas Bettger, will offer a song by Avenged Sevenfold.

In addition, Ian Kelly, Sarah Naimy, Olivia Yslas, Maddy Lee, Denny Jeong and Thomas Cummings have united to create a group called "Whitney Houston, We Have a Problem." Together, they'll sing "Golden Days" by Houston.

"This group is an example of the spirit of Gumbo," said Burke. "Ian, Sarah and Olivia are upper-level, guitar-program students, Denny and Thomas are members of Centreville's band program, and Maddy is a member of the choir program."

An accomplished musician, Burke has released four CDs; and on the most recent two, "December Skies" and "Shelter No. 3," he plays all the instruments. His author wife, who wrote a book, "Under the Magnolia Tree," is also an artist and created the cover art for his CDs.

So besides the show's student acts featuring an array of musical styles and genres, Burke will also perform an original song he wrote, "You Are My Country," accompanied by percussionists Jose Oquendo and Ron Goad, a former Centreville High English teacher.

"And because it's my 30<sup>th</sup> Gumbo Concert, I'm also going to have some guest performers, Helton Pereria and Jacob Walker," said Burke. "They both went through my guitar program, performed on the Gumbo stage and graduated from Centreville in 2005. Helton is now a firefighter in Northern Vir

SEE CVHS, PAGE 5



**From left: Noah Dail, Thomas Cummings and Lauren King entertain the crowd at last winter's Gumbo Concert.**



**Guitar students jamming at the end of last winter's Gumbo. After the coming concert, more than 600 acts and 2,200 students will have performed in 30 shows.**



# CVHS Guitarists, Performers Present Gumbo Concert

FROM PAGE 4

ginia and Jacob is the guitar director at Falls Church High."

Gumbo is also a real family affair. Since there's no Wildcat Guitar Booster organization, each act provides a parent to help with the tickets, door, concessions, security, stage set-up, break down and cleanup.

Burke started Centreville's guitar program in the 1999-2000 school year, working part time and teaching 50 students. He became

full-time the next year and now teaches four guitar classes to more than 100 students.

Pleased with the program's growth, he said his greatest satisfaction is "When I've really taught a good lesson and the students run with it. I give them the opportunity to experiment creatively. And from time to time, I've also tried to instill in them some kind of civic responsibility. One year, we donated our show profits for a guitar student at another school who died, and we did a Thanksgiving food drive for families

in need."

After the earthquake in Nepal, the Gumbo show profits were donated to help the victims. And at the next concert, a Nepalese choir student gave Burke an award for doing that. "Teachers give a lot and don't often get positive feedback," he said. "But every so often, you get a shining moment that validates what you do. And it's a reminder that what you do can make a difference in people's lives."

Looking forward to the upcoming show,

Burke said, "Throughout my tenure at Centreville, the administration has been supportive of my guitar program and performing arts, in general. A Gumbo icon is even painted on a wall in the school. You say, 'Gumbo,' and everyone here knows what you're talking about."

Calling the event "an opportunity to hear young, raw talent in a professional concert atmosphere," he said, "You come to the concert, you're going to hear some good music that'll surprise you."

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# OPINION

## Counting on Our Reps in Congress

Sound the call to action; resist changes that are against the values and beliefs of most Virginia voters.

While most voters in the United States did not vote for Donald Trump for president, it was all the more so here in Northern Virginia. Hillary Clinton won the popular vote nationwide by 2.9 million votes.

In Virginia, Clinton won 49.75 percent to 44.43 percent over Trump; 1,981,473 votes for Clinton to 1,769,443 votes for Trump.

In the City of Alexandria, Clinton won 75.56 percent of the vote, with 17.54 percent voting for Trump; 57,242 to 13,285 votes.

In Arlington, Clinton won 75.83 percent of the vote, with 16.64 percent voting for Trump; 92,016 to 20,186 votes.

In Fairfax County, Clinton won 64.43 percent of the vote, with 28.61 percent voting for Trump; 355,133 to 157,710 votes.

Most people in this area didn't vote for the

kind of changes that might be coming with this change of administration and party. They didn't vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act. They didn't vote to give massive tax breaks to the nation's wealthiest families, in many cases millions of dollars per family. Certainly they didn't vote for broadside attacks on Medicare, or to undo progress on climate change. This list could go on for some time.

### EDITORIAL

With all of this and much more under consideration, we rely on our members of Congress, including our two U.S. senators, to fight, to stand up and resist changes that are against the values and beliefs of most Virginia voters, to sound the call to action in every case it is needed.

U.S. Rep. Don Beyer says he will not attend the inauguration.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly and U.S. Sen. Mark Warner rallied with thousands in Alexandria

last weekend to oppose the repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

Even the one Republican member of Congress from the region, U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10), spoke out against Trump during the election.

Comstock could play an important role standing up for the values of voters in her district, and will play an important role in representing the interests of the region.

Call your representatives and tell them what matters to you. Every Virginia resident is represented by Virginia's two U.S. senators and one member of Congress. Of course this pertains to those who supported Trump as well.

Beyer: 202-225-4376

Connolly: 202-225-1492

Comstock: 202-225-5136

Warner: 202-224-2023

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine: 202-224-4024

We welcome your letters to the editor; submit at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

#### ROTARY CLUB

**Chantilly/Centreville Rotary Club,** 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. every Tuesday at Eggspectation Restaurant, 5009 Westone Plaza, Chantilly. Join the men and women of the Rotary Club for their weekly luncheon meeting and meal. Rotary is a service club actively involved in the community. Email [Charles@keenerinsurance.com](mailto:Charles@keenerinsurance.com) to join the group as their guest.

#### MONDAY/JAN. 23

**Free Financial Counseling Clinic.** 6-9 p.m. at Chantilly Computer Learning Center Partnerships, 4101 Elmwood St., Fairfax-based non-profit Britepaths offers free sessions at various locations in the Fairfax County area to low- and middle-income adults who reside throughout Northern Virginia. The offerings are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. [ldiaz@wfcma.org](mailto:ldiaz@wfcma.org) or 703-988-9656 x108

#### THROUGH JAN. 31

**Fairfax County Civilian Review Panel.** Seeking applications from members of the community for this nine-person panel. To apply, submit a resume and 1-2 page cover letter explaining how the nominee fits the criteria set forth by the Board for the Panel to Clerk to the Board of Supervisors, Attn: Catherine Chianese, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 533, Fairfax, VA 22035, or email [ClerktotheBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ClerktotheBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov). The Board hopes to make selections in February. 703-324-2321.

#### THROUGH FEB. 3

**25th Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Award Nominations.** Now open for the 2017 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. The awards celebration on Friday, April 21 from

8-10 a.m. at the Waterford, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. [www.volunteerfairfax.org/](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/)

#### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 22

**Sully District Community Meeting.** 7 p.m. at Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. Agenda includes Transform I-66 — developments inside and outside the beltway. 703-814-7100

#### MONDAY/FEB 27

**Free Financial Counseling Clinic.** 6-9 p.m. at Chantilly Computer Learning Center Partnerships, 4101 Elmwood St. Fairfax-based non-profit Britepaths offers free sessions at various locations in the Fairfax County area to low- and middle-income adults who reside throughout Northern Virginia. The offerings are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. [ldiaz@wfcma.org](mailto:ldiaz@wfcma.org) or 703-988-9656 x108

#### MONDAY/MARCH 6

**Emergency Response Team Training.** 7-11 p.m. at Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy 4600 West Ox Road. For the Community Emergency Response Team to help families and neighbors in the event of a disaster in their community. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert/> or call 703-246-3926.

#### MONDAY/MARCH 8

**Emergency Response Team Training.** 7-11 p.m. at Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy 4600 West Ox Road. For the Community Emergency Response Team to help families and neighbors in the event of a disaster in their community. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert/> or call 703-246-3926.

#### MONDAY/MARCH 13

**Emergency Response Team Training.** 7-11 p.m. at Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy 4600 West Ox Road. For the

Community Emergency Response Team to help families and neighbors in the event of a disaster in their community. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert/> or call 703-246-3926.

#### THURSDAY/MARCH 16

**Free Financial Counseling Clinic.** 7-9 p.m. at Chantilly High School 4201 Stringfellow Road. Fairfax-based non-profit Britepaths offers free sessions at various locations in the Fairfax County area to low- and middle-income adults who reside throughout Northern Virginia. The offerings are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. [ldiaz@wfcma.org](mailto:ldiaz@wfcma.org) or 703-988-9656 x108

#### ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

**Residents Can "E-cycle"** at the I-66 transfer station. It is free but residents may be asked to show proof of residency. Personal waste only. The I-66 station is located at 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax and open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. from Monday-Saturday and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sundays. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm) for more.

#### DONATIONS

The **Student Auto Sales Program** operating from Centreville High School works in conjunction with the CVHS automotive technology classes to bring in donated automobiles, boats and motorcycles for students to work on. Some refurbished vehicles are sold, with 75 percent of the proceeds going back to the auto tech program. The program is in need of cars, trucks or motorcycles, which are fully tax deductible, for student training. Contact Lyman Rose at 703-802-5588 or by e-mail [lyman.rose@fcps.edu](mailto:lyman.rose@fcps.edu) for more.

**Cell Phones for Soldiers** is accepting donations of old cellphones so that troops can call home. Patrons may drop off donations at 14215E Centreville Square, Centreville.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 12



In March, the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy is offering training for the county Community Emergency Response Team, various days from 7-11 p.m. at Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy 4600 West Ox Road. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert/> or call 703-246-3926.

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steven Mauren**  
Editor, 703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mike Salmon**  
Assistant Editor  
[msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Bonnie Hobbs**  
Community Reporter, 703-778-9415  
[bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411  
[asmith@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:asmith@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

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**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh  
**Production Manager:**  
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**Special Assistant to the Publisher**  
Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
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### All About Wellness

The Chantilly High School Leadership held a ZUMBA class on Friday, Jan. 13 as part of their Wellness Week. Dawne LeKang, owner of Not Just Dance, and certified ZUMBA instructor, led the class as part of the Not Just Dance Community Outreach program. Other recent outreach programs included teaching a ZUMBA class for Fairfax County Department of Family Services and providing face painting for the Brookfield Elementary School PTA sponsored Winter Carnival.

### PEOPLE NOTES

Email announcements to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com). Photos welcome.

Children's Science Center elected new officers on its board of directors. The new officers include Amy Burke, chair, from Chantilly.



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# Lockard Channels Garza, Proposes \$2.8 Billion Budget

FY2018 focuses on employee compensation and classroom resources.

BY TIM PETERSON

**F**airfax County Public Schools interim superintendent Steve Lockard is asking for \$130.4 million more for the school system's FY2018 operating budget than the previous year, a 4.9 percent increase, to a total of \$2.8 billion.

Lockard spoke at the school board's regular business meeting, announcing the budget, on Jan. 12.

"This really is a basic needs budget," Lockard said in an interview. He stressed that two key priorities of the proposed budget are employee compensation and classroom resources.

"Our programs are what separate Fairfax County from other school systems," he said. "We're only as good as the people we have leading them."

Fairfax County Public Schools' population has eclipsed 188,000 students at around 200 schools and centers. The staff is nearly 28,000 employees, 90 percent based in the schools.

In 2016, former superintendent Dr. Karen Garza led a charge for increasing teacher salaries, which she said have been lagging behind the market average and are causing Fairfax County to lose teachers to surrounding jurisdictions as well as fail to attract high quality new instructors.

Last year's approved budget managed a step increase for employees and began a four-year plan for bringing salaries to the market average.

"We really started in earnest last year," Lockard said, "the biggest part of the budget proposal continues that work."

The FY2018 proposed budget includes \$44 million for an average step increase of 2.5 percent for all eligible employees, including teachers and non-teachers. As part of that multi-year market average-matching plan, there's also a \$33.2 million invest-



**Fairfax County Public Schools interim superintendent Steve Lockard spoke at the FCPS school board regular business meeting, announcing the budget, on Jan. 12.**

ment for teacher pay.

Another \$41.2 million covers "anticipated increases in health insurance and contributions to the retirement systems," according to a release from FCPS.

Kimberly Adams is president of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs. She's also a librarian at Mantua Elementary School.

"The most encouraging thing is the superintendent kept class size and teacher compensation at the forefront," she said.

But getting a 5.7 percent raise over FY2017 in the transfer from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors "is going to be a struggle," said Adams.

Lockard said the FCPS budget requires 72.2 percent of the total revenue from the county.

"We're so appreciative of our funding partners at the Board of Supervisors for the collaborative work last year," he said. "We wanted to advocate for the needs that we have, but we need to be prepared should the funding not occur. We recognize the challenging fiscal times."

Pre-empting the school board's adoption of this budget and an advertised transfer from the supervisors, Lockard has already reconvened a budget task force that spent six months combing through the budget last year looking for inefficiencies and oppor-

tunities to trim.

"The group will examine work from last year, but also, any additional things we haven't considered," Lockard said, adding that the group is already at work.

One added stress contributing to what Lockard anticipates will be a \$90 million shortfall is a change in the schedule for paying into the Virginia Retirement System. An earlier plan had the school system paying a \$25 million obligation in FY2019, however that has been pushed up to FY2018. "We've been actively lobbying to see if there's any way that can get moved back," Lockard said.

FCPS had also hoped to benefit from a meals tax that was on the ballot last November and could have contributed an estimated \$70 million to the school system. The measure was voted down, much to the dismay of teachers like Precious Crabtree, who teaches K-6 art at Deer Park Elementary School in Centreville.

"I was devastated as an employee," Crabtree said. And looking at the FY2018 budget, she acknowledged, "the reality is we're not going to get all of it."

But Crabtree added that she and other teachers are still hopeful, encouraged by the ambitious proposal.

"If you don't ask, say what you need, you

don't get anything," she said.

Lockard is continuing Garza's work, she said, though the school board hopes to have a new superintendent in place by the end of the current school year.

"We need someone who is strong," Crabtree said, "who isn't going to back down. It's frustrating that every year is a struggle, that you have to fight."

Lockard said since 2008, FCPS has cut half a billion dollars from the operating budget, including 2,200 positions.

"We're constantly peeling back the layers of the onion to try to continue to become as efficient as possible," he said. "There comes a point where you begin to impact services you can provide."

Part of the proposed budget includes preliminary changes to the ERSC local retirement fund. Though perhaps not as visceral of a threat as cutting fourth grade strings, Fairfax Education Association president Kevin Hickerson said that potential change stops short of providing more competitive compensation overall.

"We cannot provide the level of education our students deserve if we are short staffed, stretched thin and losing employees to surrounding areas," Hickerson said in a statement.

Lockard emphasized that this proposed budget is just the beginning of a long budget process, and that the Commonwealth of Virginia has yet to sign into law its budget, which will have an impact on that FCPS shortfall. "We remain hopeful and recognize the challenge," he said.

"We're preparing ourselves to roll up our sleeves, figure out how to best meet our budgetary needs and continue to provide excellent services students deserve and have come to expect in FCPS."

A public hearing on the proposed budget is scheduled for Jan. 30. For more information, visit [www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget/FY2018](http://www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget/FY2018).

## Brewery Changes on Tap Planning drafts zoning amendment.

BY KEN MOORE

**T**here is increasing interest in Fairfax County in opening breweries for craft beer that might also serve beer and food.

For example, Scott Adams, of Maguire Woods, has a client interested in potentially expanding and operating a craft-brew pub and tasting room out of former cell blocks or buildings of the D.C. Department of Corrections' Lorton Prison.

The county is currently stirring the perfect mix for its new proposed zoning ordinance amendment on craft beverage production establishments; debating such issues as whether 15,000 or 20,000 barrels of beer can be brewed on site, or whether on-site tasting rooms can be included to production activities or whether "production activities shall be the accessory to the onsite tasting room."

Because of increased interest from businesses seeking opportunities in Fairfax County, the Board of Supervisors directed planning staff to research and prepared the zoning amendment that "adds food and beverage manufacturing, production and processing establishments" as a by right use in industrial zoning districts.

The Planning Commission will hold a decision-only hearing on the amendment on Jan. 26.

"The amendment itself is rather easy," said At-large Planning Commissioner James Hart. "The decisions on the options are more difficult."

The Board of Supervisors is currently scheduled to hold a public hearing on Feb. 28 at 4 p.m.

"Despite the relatively low number of existing breweries within the county, staff has received inquiries from small-scale breweries considering locations within the

county," said Andrew Hashour of the Department of Planning and Zoning, who prepared the report for the commission's public hearing on Jan. 12.

"According to the ABC's license database, there are currently seven establishments with active brewery licenses within the county. Three of these are operating as eating establishments with accessory brewing.

"Of the four breweries that are not associated with an eating establishment, one is operating at the lowest level production license from the ABC (a maximum of 500 barrels annually) and three are operating at the mid-level license (501-10,000 barrels annually)."

Adams' client believes it needs to operate at the highest producing license in the long-run to be successful.

**LORTON PRISON** was rezoned so the reformatory portion (buildings, dormitories)

can be used for the development of 352-364 dwelling units.

The former penitentiary portion, 15.99 acres, was rezoned to use up to 110,000 square feet for new and adaptive reuse development, according to Planning Commission documents.

"The penitentiary portion includes 15 structures including cell blocks, towers and a dining hall. Most of the structures are proposed to remain on-site and to be adaptively reused," according to Planning Commission documents.

"This is a public private partnership between Fairfax County and the applicant," said Adams, who requested a slight amendment for minimum required yard setbacks to the Final Development Plan for the 74.41-acre Laurel Hill Adaptive Reuse Development before the Planning Commission on Wednesday, Jan. 11.





PHOTO COURTESY OF KIDS4PEACE

The Kids4Peace Interfaith Summer Camp is aimed at helping to break down religious stereotypes.

# Planning for Summer Camp

Local camp fairs help families navigate the maze of summer camp offerings.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

In an effort to confront religious intolerance, a group of local middle school students will attend a camp aimed at bringing together children from different religions and giving them the chance to come together, make new friendships, visit houses of worship, learn about other traditions and practice dialogue to confront Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism.

"Campers will get experiences in synagogues, mosques and churches," said Shoshana Abrams of Kids4Peace. "They'll see how others pray, how they celebrate and what they believe. It's helping to break down stereotypes. A lot of interfaith action is needed to combat Islamophobia and bring together people of different faiths."

Kids4Peace's Interfaith Day Camp is one of a diverse variety of summer camps available to local children. From performing arts, wilderness adventures and sports to language immersion, standardized test prep and community service, the summer offerings in the Washington region are plentiful. Though warm weather is months away, this is the time to start planning for camp and finding the best fit, say child development experts. "You want to include your child from the beginning of the process," said Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria. "Explore options by following their interests. I like to ask kids 'What problem would you like to solve?' For instance, would

## For More Information

### 2017 CAMP & SUMMER FUN EXPOS

**Sunday, Jan. 29:** The Montgomery County Camp & Summer Fun Expo/Hilton Hotel & Executive Meeting Center/Rockville, Md.

**Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 25-26:** The Northern Virginia Camp & Summer Fun Expo/Dulles Town Center Mall, Dulles, VA.

[www.washingtonparent.com/](http://www.washingtonparent.com/)

**Kids4Peace Camp:** <http://www.k4p.org/chapters/washington-dc/>

**Tips on Trips and Camps:** (Feb. 12, 1-3:30 p.m.), Walt Whitman High School, 7100 Whittier Blvd. Bethesda, Md., 301-881-0547 or <http://tipsontripsandcamps.com/dc/>

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they like to learn how to play basketball, how to make a rocket, how to see other galaxies, how to paint with acrylics, how to star in a play? These [questions] will point you in a direction that is good for both you and your child."

Local camps fairs such as the Northern Virginia Camp & Summer Fun Expo, offer access to a variety of both day and overnight options in one location. "We want parents to know that there are many different options out there, and they're going to find out all the specifics about many camps," said Jacky Dooly, of Northern Virginia Camp & Summer Fun Expo and Washington Parent in Bethesda, Maryland. "There will be specific sports camps like swimming and martial arts. Maybe child has academic issues and they need to get caught up. If so, there are academic programs."

Before attending a camp fair, Dooly suggests that families prepare themselves, and there are questions that she recommends parents ask prospective camp officials. "Does the camp offer early morning care as well as later evening care?" she asks. "Find out information about the

food that is offered at the camp. How much activity will your child get during the day? If you're interested in a particular camp, find out if it fits within your budget."

"I'd also want to know how they are going to keep your child safe, how they encourage participation, and the percentage of returning camp counselors and campers," added Lorente. "If you have a camp with high return rates that indicates that it is a place where people want to be."

Mandarin immersion, public speaking and science exploration are among the choices that will be available this summer at BASIS Independent Summer McLean. Noting that this will be the camp's inaugural summer, Asha Bruot, spokeswoman for McLean BASIS, says that there will also be "a traditional day camp for students in first through fifth [grades] with thematically-linked activities, classroom projects, outdoor games, drama, music, and art."

"Summer camp should be a place for your child to explore, play [and] become," said Lorente. "The school year has become so structured. I would want a camp that has embedded in it time for child-directed exploration [and] free-time."

**"We want parents to know that there are many different camp options out there."**

— Jacky Dooly,  
Northern Virginia Camp &  
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## I Think Therefore I'm Not

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



As much as I write a good game, and talk a good game, I don't think as good a game as I write and talk. As I sit and write this column, on Saturday, January 14, I am four days away from my regular, recurring, quarterly CT Scan, scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, followed up almost immediately by my normal post-scan, face-to-face appointment (I have had telephone appointments) with my oncologist two days later on Friday, January 20. As you all are reading this column, it's almost like real time, except you only know my feelings and some dates, but not the results/facts.

Nor do I, of course, as of this column's publication and of your reading it, and therein lies the reason for this column. Waiting, wondering, worrying and hoping is what I/Team Lourie will be doing for the next six days. And though we've all been through it before (nearly eight years of 'it'), enduring 'it' never gets any easier. In fact, it gets more difficult in a way. Partially because, given my original "13 month to two-year prognosis, this waiting for scan results shouldn't be happening. I can't help thinking that I'm borrowing time. I wasn't diagnosed as "terminal" for nothing. I was/am a stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer, meaning the cancer had (1) metastasized (spread) which is never good and (2) was inoperable, which is self-explanatory. Both of which determine a stage IV diagnosis thereby minimizing one's options. Ergo, my prognosis. Yet here I am, nearly eight years later, anticipating the results of my next CT Scan to learn whether I've been given another reprieve or another reminder of why I was diagnosed stage IV in the first place: tumor growth and/or movement.

Somehow, I must ignore the facts and the statistics, ignore the reality; and as Andy Dufresne said to "Red" in "The Shawshank Redemption:" Get busy living or get busy dying." Which as you regular readers know is what I try to do, or at least write like I try to do. And to friends and family, it appears to be what I'm doing. However, in my head, six days away from learning my fate (at least for the next three months until my next CT Scan/brain MRI), I am not exactly 'living' it. I'm stuck, more or less, between "why worry" and "what if?" As a consequence, I can't get out of my own way, sort of; heck, I can barely get out of other people's way.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not moping around "woeing-is-me;" that's not my nature. But I am having some difficulty deluding myself into thinking (living) that the next few days are somehow a random-type meaningless occurrence that will have no bearing on my life. Quite the contrary, it's everything. There's no more important time in my life than waiting for the results of the varying diagnostic tests that I have. And though I remain mostly asymptomatic now, (last week's column: "Slippery Hope" notwithstanding), I was also asymptomatic (generally speaking) when I was first diagnosed in February 2009. Consequently, feeling nothing does not provide the same comfort and joy as you might think. Granted, feeling symptoms would be worse. But considering that over the years feeling/not feeling symptoms have both lead to encouraging and discouraging results, I'm not comforted by anything until after my oncologist tells me if my warranty has been extended.

Feeling something, feeling nothing; I never know what to feel except fear — of the unknown, and for the next few days, my future is what's unknown. Living through that is always a challenge. If I've convinced readers and friends and family otherwise, all the better. Personally speaking, it's only easy writing and talking about it. Living it is another story entirely.

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

# Senate Panel Cracks Down on Internet Lending

Bill would subject unregulated loans to rules that apply to consumer-finance loans.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE

The Wild West of online lending might be about to become a little tamer. That's because a state Senate panel narrowly approved a bill that would subject internet loans to the same restrictions that currently exist for consumer finance loans, a move that would cramp the anything-goes culture of online loans in Virginia.

"These international companies and Indian tribes shouldn't be able to run around and do things that companies here in Virginia are not allowed to do," said state Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36), who introduced Senate Bill 1126. "This bill would basically make it clear that Virginia's Consumer Finance Act does apply to companies who make loans over the internet, and it would make it clear that State Corporation Commission has the authority to license them."

The shadowy world of internet lending allows companies from all over the world to offer loans at interest rates from 600 percent to 5,000 percent. Recent years have seen a proliferation of Indian tribes also getting into the act, taking advantage of the uncertainty of a law that crafted regulations in 1918. Surovell's bill would make the companies apply for the same kind of license that other consumer-finance companies.

"This will provide for a level playing field," said Dave Irvin, manager of the Predatory Lending Unit at the Office of Attorney General. "They will be subject to the same limits on their rates under existing law."

Consumer-finance loans are currently subject to an annual limit on the amount of interest that can be charged, 36 percent for loans that are worth less than \$2,500. A separate bill introduced by Senate Demo-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE

State Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36) presents his bill regulating internet lending to the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee.

cratic Leader Dick Saslaw increases that threshold to \$4,000, although that has not yet been considered in committee. If successful, that bill would mean all consumer-finance loans offered over the internet would be subject to a 36 percent limit on the annual interest rate if the loan was for less than \$4,000.

"In the absence of action, the internet becomes a lawless place that plays by different rules than traditional commerce," said Kevin Mauer, associate director of the Virginia Catholic Conference. "Without protective regulation, the commonwealth's vulnerable consumers may fall prey to more and more opportunistic lenders."

Nobody spoke in opposition to Surovell's bill, which passed the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee with an eight-to-five vote. "I just think it's helpful to make sure we regulate the internet like we do Virginia companies," said state Sen. Steve Newman (R-23), who made the motion to report the bill out of the committee to the Senate floor.

**LAST YEAR**, lawmakers considered and ultimately rejected a bill that would have legalized online lending in Virginia. It was an effort pushed by an Indiana-based company known as OneMain Financial. Company officials approached Del. Terry Kilgore (R-1) about legalizing internet lending in Virginia, and Kilgore agreed and introduced legislation to do just that.

"I don't want to get between somebody and their money and somebody and what

they want to do," said Kilgore at the time. "That's something that, as far as payday or title loans, I've not done that. If you want to borrow the money and that's the last person you can borrow it from then, you know, you may be in a position where you can borrow the money."

When Kilgore's bill was considered in House committee, Ken Kinion of OneMain disagreed with the idea that his company should have a physical location in Virginia.

"When you're making loans over the internet for synergy purposes, it's better to be done at a central location because it just comes through a wire in your home," said Kinion. "So it would be prohibitively expensive for us to set up an internet location in each state."

Del. Greg Habeeb (R-8) took issue with that.

"I find it frankly a little bit suspicious that somebody says well we don't want to set up an office in Virginia because man that's cheap to do," said Habeeb.

In the end, the committee killed the bill. Democratic Del. Mark Keam was happy the bill died but displeased at what the episode represented. "This is a classic example of how in Virginia at the state General Assembly unfortunately lobbyists and special interests come up with a business plan for themselves. They come to the government to get the government to endorse and approve their business plan and then they go out and do what they want to do."

## IN SESSION

### Gun Battle

The celebration of **Martin Luther King Day** in Richmond is known as "Lobby Day," a time when people use their day off to travel to the Capitol and lobby about everything from education funding to disability awareness. One particular issue always steals the spotlight: guns. Every year, MLK Day provides a backdrop for a pro-gun rally and anti-gun rally.

This year is an election year, though, which means the pro-gun rally included some not-so-subtle politics. Most Republican candidates for statewide office spoke at the pro-gun rally, although there was one conspicuous absence: former Republican National Committee Chairman **Ed Gillespie**. Prince William County Board of

Supervisors Chairman **Corey Stewart** took the opportunity to go on the offensive.

"You know he's here today. I just saw him up there in the General Assembly Building," Stewart told the crowd. "But did he even bother to show up and address you? He didn't. He sent somebody else, another politician to come and talk to you. The guy's afraid of his own shadow. He doesn't do anything unless his consultants approve of it. Everything is poll driven. Folks, that's not leadership. It's cowardice."

A spokesman for Gillespie says he sent Del. Scott Lingamfelter (R-31) to speak on his behalf because he had a scheduling conflict, a Martin Luther King Memorial Day event at Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Richmond.

### Heart Stopping Moment

Longtime Dominion lobbyist **Bill Thomas** was testifying against a bill introduced by state Sen. **Chap Petersen** (D-34) about carbon emissions when a sudden beeping sound flooded the committee room. Thomas stopped speaking and started fiddling with a machine at his side.

"I'm wearing a heart monitor, and it seems to want to tell me that my heart is beating a little rapidly," said Thomas, prompting nervous laughter from the other lobbyists in the room. "Some would say they weren't sure that I had a heart, but we'll blame that on Senator Petersen."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



# ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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

**Art Guild of Clifton Exhibit.** 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Clifton Wine Shop, 7145 Main St., Clifton. Includes oil paintings of European settings; doors, windows, and flower shops. Free. Call 703-409-0919 for more.

**Carolina Shag Dance.** Wednesdays, 6:30-10 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m.; no partners needed; dinner menu at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$8. Visit [www.nvshag.org](http://www.nvshag.org) for more.

**Open Rehearsal.** Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Centreville. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires barbershop chorus invites men of all ages who enjoy singing. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxjubilaire.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaire.org) for more.

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

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

**English Conversation Group.** Thursdays, 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with a group of

students and adults. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

**English Conversation Group.** Selected Saturdays, 3 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-830-2223 for a list of dates.

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

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

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

**ESL Book Club.** Every other Saturday, 11 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults learning English are welcome to meet and discuss a book chosen by the group. To find out book title, call 703-502-3883.

**Lego Block Party.** Every other Tuesday, 3 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Legos will be provided for an afternoon of building. Grades 3-6. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

**Duplo Storytime.** Every other Wednesday, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Develop and reinforce early literacy skills for reading success. Ages 1-3 with adult.

Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

**Live After Five.** Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway. Every Friday night a band plays on the patio of the winery. Free to attend. Visit [www.wineryatbullrun.com](http://www.wineryatbullrun.com) for a full schedule.

**Singing.** 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires rehearse every Wednesday which includes training by an award-winning director. Visit [www.fairfaxjubilaire.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaire.org) for more.

**Legos Kids Club.** Every other Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Thousands of Legos for children to play with. Ages 6-12. Free. Call 703-830-2223 to reserve a space.

**Starlight Storytime.** Every other Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Stories under the stars for ages 4-8. Wear pajamas and bring stuffed friends. Free. Call 703-830-2223 to reserve a space.

## PET ADOPTIONS

**Adopt a Cat or Dog.** Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Visit [www.lostdogrescue.org](http://www.lostdogrescue.org) for more.

**Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit [hart90.org](http://hart90.org) for more.

**Adopt a Dog.** Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit [aforeverhome.org](http://aforeverhome.org) for more.

**Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit [www.lostdogrescue.org](http://www.lostdogrescue.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 21

**Let Them Eat Cake at a Birthday Party at Sully Historic Site.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way. Richard Bland Lee represented Northern Virginia in the first congress of the United States, and Sully was his country home. Learn about Lee's political career and how he demonstrated his concern for the future of the nation. \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and \$5 for seniors and children, weather dependent. Call 703-437-1794 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/) for more.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 27

**Hot Dogs Over the Campfire.** 5:30-7 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Enjoy a wagon ride through the Rocky Run stream valley and a hot dog dinner cooked over the campfire. Learn who Ellanor C. Lawrence was and hear about the area's local history. Hot dogs, buns, condiments and s'mores for dessert are provided, bring drinks and sides. \$10 per person, and children must be accompanied by an adult registered for the program. Meet at Cabell's Mill. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence) for more.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 28

**Preschool Open House.** 10 a.m.-noon at The Learning Experience of Chantilly / South Riding, 4150 Pleasant Valley Road. The Learning Experience in Chantilly, winner of National "Center of Excellence"

Distinction award, is hosting an open house. Call 703-378-7391 or email [chantilly@TLEchildcare.com](mailto:chantilly@TLEchildcare.com) for more.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 29

**DanceFest 2017.** 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Ernst Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Master classes, performances, wellness seminars presented by Virginia Dance Coalition. Registration is \$110-\$155, observation packages available. Call 703-409-7988 or visit [www.VirginiaDanceCoalition.org](http://www.VirginiaDanceCoalition.org) for more.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 5

**Historic Valentine's Day Gifts.** 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Make your own Valentine's Day gift with special railroad and historic themes at the Valentine's Day event. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; 5-15, \$2; 16 and older, \$4. Call 703-425-9225 or visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org) for more.

## BULLETIN BOARD

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## SUPPORT GROUP

**Support Groups.** Jubilee Christian Center of Fairfax is having its "Living Free" support groups for the spring on Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m. The support groups are free, and will cover "Stepping into Freedom," "Concerned Persons Group" (for family and friends of addicts), "The Image of God in You," and "Handling Loss and Grief." There are also support groups on Sundays, 10:10 a.m. 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. For information or to register, call 703-383-1170, email [livingfree@jccag.org](mailto:livingfree@jccag.org) or see [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

**Telephone Support Group for Family Caregivers of Older Adults.** 7 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month. This telephone support group is designed to help caregivers of older adults share experiences, gain support and get important information without having to travel. These are one-hour free sessions. Find out more and register at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/) and click on Caregiver Telephone Support Group.

**Fair Oaks Parkinson's Support Group** for people living with Parkinson's disease, caregivers and family, meets on the fourth Saturday monthly, 10 a.m.-noon at Sunrise at Fair Oaks, 3750 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax. Call 703-378-7221 or visit [www.fairoaksparkinsons.com](http://www.fairoaksparkinsons.com) for more.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Volunteers Needed as Bird Counters.** Volunteers are needed in the field and as feeder watchers. The count circle includes Manassas National Battlefield, Bull Run Regional Park, undeveloped areas south of Dulles Airport, and many other locations. 703-438-6008 [info@audubonva.org](mailto:info@audubonva.org)

**Respite Care volunteers** give family caregivers of a frail older adult a break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or [Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov).

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