

Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes

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Charlie Parsons (left) interviews Drew Tobin during a play rehearsal for Westfield High's "The Laramie Project."

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News

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At right, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) was able to get one pair of detainees released Saturday evening with the help of immigration attorneys: Fairfax County resident and green card holder Ahmed Mohedian, 71, who had been held with his wife after returning from Iran.



Anti-Immigration Ban Rallies Held at Dulles

Demonstrators, volunteer attorneys and elected officials welcome travelers, extend help to detainees.

By TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Del. Marcus Simon (D-53) brought his two children, 13 and 11, to Dulles International Airport Jan. 28, not to fly, but to witness and learn.

Demonstrations sprang up at airports around the United States over the weekend, following an Executive Order by President Donald Trump that blocks travelers from seven largely Muslim countries — Iraq, Iran, Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Libya and Somalia — in the interests of more significant vetting and preventing would-be terrorists from entering the country.

Simon's wasn't the only family in attendance. Many had brought their children to the demonstration.

"You show them this is what you do, how you protest, be patriotic," Simon said, "when the government does something you don't agree with. You expose them to something positive."

THE BAN was announced Friday and offi-

cially at airports began enforcing it immediately. Travelers from the seven countries are blocked from entering the U.S. for 90 days, and new refugee admissions from the same nations blocked for 120 days. Syrian refugees are blocked indefinitely, according to the ban.

Some individuals who hold valid visas were impacted by the ban, and others with legal status and green cards have been detained at airports. A federal judge in Brooklyn passed a ruling over the weekend that blocked part of Trump's action, and Judge Leonie M. Brinkema of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia issued a temporary restraining order Saturday night specifically for those detained at Dulles.

Brinkema ordered airport authorities to grant lawyers access to detainees who are permanent legal residents, and that permanent residents not be removed for seven days.

Simon was at Dulles Saturday and Sunday, as well as state Sen. Jennifer Wexton

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Other Local leaders Weigh In

On her Facebook page Monday, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova said:

"The Executive Order issued on Friday is offensive and counter to what defines this country. We are a nation of immigrants committed to religious freedom. I am committed to keeping Fairfax County a safe and welcoming place. When I was sworn in as chairman, I swore to support the Constitution. I believe this ban on travel is unconstitutional and I urge the judiciary to continue to exercise its role in preventing further damage to our country's values and our reputation around the world."

U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner (D), released a statement Friday, the same day as the Ex-

ecutive Order was announced. Warner is vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence:

"The Trump Administration Executive Order that indefinitely suspends the Syrian refugee program and pauses visas from Muslim countries runs counter to our American values. While I have always been open to a pause on our refugee program to ensure appropriate time for intelligence and law enforcement experts to ensure we protect our national security, these actions by the President presume the solution before the review is complete. It is a policy targeting Muslims that national security experts have testified

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'It's Sadly Still Very Relevant'

Westfield High
presents "The
Laramie Project."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

In October 1998 in a prairie outside Laramie, Wy., college student Matthew Shepard, 21, was tied to a fence and beaten because he was gay. He died five days later, and this hate crime drew worldwide attention, spurring conversations about sexual discrimination and violence.

It also led Tectonic Theater Project members and their founder Moisés Kaufman to go to Laramie and interview more than 200 residents about it. Their reactions led to the play, "The Laramie Project," being presented next week by Westfield High.

The curtain rises Friday-Saturday, Feb. 10-11, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 12, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 for students, or \$10 in advance via www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com. This play is recommended for ages 13 and older; and before the show and during intermission a silent art auction will raise funds for the Matthew Shepard Foundation.

"The Laramie Project" features a cast and crew of 30, and Director Rachel Harrington calls it "an important narrative for our time. I tell the kids that it's looking at a specific hate crime, but we could take anyone in that situation and ask how we could spread more love and not hate."

"We've had a lot of open and honest conversations, and it's opened up a dialogue for them to talk about the hard stuff. They've taken on a really tough show and turned it into a beautiful performance that makes me immensely proud of them."

The play's themes were also incorporated into the advanced theater class's curriculum. "Because it encompasses social issues, we've had the chance to talk to students about them, plus history and legislation in the 1990s," said Harrington.

In the show, each actor plays multiple characters, and Harrington said the audience will appreciate that it deals with real, modern-day people that "you'd meet in your own community and live next door to. And even through the dark, there's light, and this play is uplifting. It handles the themes of grace, justice and love, and the kids give really awesome performances."

The sets and costumes are minimal, because the main focus is on the story. And, said Harrington, "I hope people walk away seeing that, really, we're all the same. We all have pain and we all love — we're not as different as we seem."

Senior Aubrey Cervarich plays five roles,



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

The townspeople hold a vigil for Matthew Shepard during Westfield High's production of "The Laramie Project."

including a local police officer's wife. "She thinks what happened is terrible, but that Matthew shouldn't be portrayed as a martyr or a saint. A fellow police officer was also killed recently, and she thinks his death is being overshadowed by Matthew's. Her view is similar to today's 'All Lives Matter,' and she sees all crimes as hate crimes."

Cervarich doesn't agree with her personally, but said, "I've encountered people like her who don't understand the significance of hate crimes and making sure people aren't persecuted for who they are. She's lived a privileged life, so she doesn't understand other people's challenges."

"It's sadly still a very relevant topic and something that needs to be discussed, and I hope this play enlightens the audience," continued Cervarich. "I hope it's eye-opening to them to realize this really happened — and not long ago — and we're in jeopardy of repeating this [tragedy] in the upcoming years."

Among senior Charlie Parsons's four characters is Greg Pierotti, one of the theater-company members interviewing Laramie residents. "He has a sense of humor, but is also a sensitive person, and he's trying to get a

better understanding of the way people think in Laramie," said Parsons. "A lot of his colleagues expected the townspeople wouldn't be receptive to their interviews. But as they stayed in the town longer — about a year — they formed personal friendships with them. Although, not all of them were welcoming."

Since some of the theater-company members are gay, said Parsons, it makes the way they cover the aftermath of Shepard's death much more personal for them. "I like that they all hear a variety of views from every-

one in the town," he said. "My character tries to be a welcoming presence to make the townspeople comfortable talking with him." Parsons finds it interesting playing multiple characters — sometimes within the same scene — because "you really have to differentiate them. The audience will appreciate how human the show is because almost all the lines are taken from what people actually said. And while it is a sad and heavy play, it has a subtext of hope and love."

Junior Marty Bernier narrates and plays five characters, including a Laramie college student, a Baptist minister who's against homosexuality, a friend of Matthew's, and a 52-year-old Laramie resident who doesn't come out as gay until a theater member interviews him. His favorite is the college student, Jedadiah Schultz.

"At first, Jedadiah thinks the incident is being blown out of proportion and doesn't think he knows enough about homosexuality to determine whether it's right or wrong," said Bernier. "He was raised to believe it's wrong, but is unsure of his own opinion. But he eventually accepts gay people, so he's an interesting character to play because of the personal changes he goes through."

And despite the story's central tragedy, said Bernier, an undeniable ray of light still shines through. The message, he said, is that "love triumphs hate."

Senior Maya Hossain's main role is Islamic feminist Zubaida Ula. "She lives in Laramie and is passionate about feminism and educating people about Islam, which definitely reverberates with me," said Hossain. "After the trial of Aaron McKinney, the young man who killed Shepard, she's conflicted. Even though she supports gay rights, she went to school with McKinney and wonders how the community could put him to death. It shows that, no matter your views, you can still be sympathetic."

"I absolutely love this part," continued Hossain. "When I got it, I was over the moon because I'm a Muslim, too, and a feminist, and I haven't played a character before as similar to me. What's neat about her is that she's also Bengali, and you don't usually see a person represented in a show with such a specific heritage. And it's the first time at Westfield that I've portrayed a Muslim character. Zubaida has important monologues, and you fall in love with her because she's such an authentic human being."

Noting that many other characters aren't as hopeful as hers, Hossain said, "Those ones may be even more relatable to the audience. And when they're juxtaposed against hope, this show feels all the more genuine; you feel grounded in these characters. The most important message is that, no matter what your beliefs are, everyone deserves human respect; everyone has a different perspective that colors their world differently from your own."

Among senior Ruby Tippl's four roles is Dr. Cantway, an emergency-room doctor who's the first one to see Shepard when, clinging to life, he's brought into the hospital. "She's a compassionate person who cares about her patients," said Tippl. "Twenty minutes earlier, she also treated McKinney for a broken hand. And she's struck by how fate made one person hurt another for something inconsequential, in the bigger picture. She's also amazed that, when she treated them, she didn't know their connection."

Tippl likes her character because she's so objective and "looks on from afar at what's happened and its effect on these two people. This is an important story and I feel lucky to be part of it. It was almost 20 years ago, and we still see reflections of the hatred that brought about this crime, today. Understanding everyone's situation is the first step toward fixing the problem."

Peanuts Characters Come to Life

CVHS presents
“You’re a Good Man,
Charlie Brown.”

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The characters in cartoonist Charles Schultz’s “Peanuts” comic strip have delighted fans for decades. So it’s a good bet that Centreville High’s production of “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,” will resonate with children and adults alike.

Show times are Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Feb. 9, 10 and 11, at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 11-12, at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at the door. The musical features a cast and crew of nearly 30, plus a live combo including the school’s director of guitar studies, Bill Burke.

“We’re doing the original-release version from the 1960s,” said Theater Director Mike Hudson. “It’s appropriate for children; but since ‘Peanuts’ was intended as a satire on adult life, the humor will appeal to all ages. The show was written for six people, but we added 13 more for an ensemble to portray the other kids from school.”

Choral Director Lynne Babcock is the musical’s choral director, too, and former Lake Braddock Secondary Music Director Suzie McCarthy choreographed the dances and will conduct the combo. And three Wildcat Music Department members are joining Centreville’s theater students to sing some of the songs.

Hudson said rehearsals are going well, and he’s extremely proud of his actors. “It’s been a surprising cast because we thought we were casting the best actors we possibly could,” he said. “But we didn’t realize how truly talented they were until they got on the stage.”

A professional costumer is designing the costumes so the actors will look like their counterparts in the comic strip. And the set will be decorated in bright, primary colors. “We’re bracket-

“Snoopy’s so over-the-top, I can do whatever I want and am not bound by what a human would be.”

— Peter Waldmiller

ing the action onstage with two, giant, comic-strip blocks,” said Hudson. “And, of course, there’ll be Snoopy’s doghouse, trees and Lucy’s psychiatry stand. The scenes take place in summer and early fall in the neighborhood and at school.”

“The characters are identifiable to multiple generations, so we hope for a good community turnout,” he continued. “Children will enjoy the characters, and teens and adults will remember the actions in the story taking place in their own lives or watching Charlie Brown and his friends on TV or in the movies.”

Playing the title role is junior Andrew Lindgren. “Charlie Brown is very sincere,

socially awkward and not confident,” said Lindgren. “But he has good intentions and always tries his hardest to do what’s right. Things don’t always turn out well for him, but he keeps going.”

Excited about his part, Lindgren said, “Most of my characters have been angry or shady ones, so it’s cool to try a new style of acting. It’s a lot of work, but fun, being the lead. And I like playing a character who feels so human.” His favorite song is “The Doctor is In,” sung by Lucy, because “It’s an emotional moment when Charlie’s telling all his problems and learning to deal with them.”

Lindgren said the show’s relatable to the audience because it’s a “down-to-earth slice of life” – a series of vignettes of the characters going through everyday situations, conflicts and problems [common to everybody]. So, he said, “Everyone will find a kid they connect with and a problem they identify with, themselves.”

Senior Kourtnei McNeil portrays Lucy. “She’s very crabby, strong-willed and opinionated,” said McNeil. “She thinks she knows everything and says things with confidence, even if she knows she’s wrong. She’s also bossy and gives advice to all her friends and tells people what to do.”

“She reminds me of myself when I was a kid,” continued McNeil. “I talked that way to my brother and told people what to do. And I was a loud child, too.” She likes the “Book Report” number because “it has so many layers of harmony and the entire cast sings it together. The kids are making excuses why they shouldn’t do their book re-

ports.”

Saying all the characters are easily recognizable as particular types of children — such as the rule-follower, the mopey one and the person who overthinks everything — McNeil said the audience will also enjoy how the show makes fun of adults. “The set’s going to be really cool, fun and colorful,” she added. “And people will love the upbeat songs and dances.”

Playing Patty is junior Margot Vanyan. “She’s naïve and energetic and represents the show’s innocence,” said Vanyan. “But she’s also sassy, funny, cute and bubbly and a girly-girl.”

She enjoys this character because it lets her pretend she’s back in fourth grade. “Patty’s hilarious and says all these really random things,” said Vanyan. “And she’s Lucy’s best friend so I get to interact with Kourtnei a lot.”

She said the show’s clean humor and family-friendly appeal will resonate with the audience. And, added Vanyan, “They’ll especially enjoy our Snoopy because he’s portrayed as a charming character in a humorous way.”

Playing Charlie Brown’s dog Snoopy is senior Peter Waldmiller. “He’s an overdramatic dog who acts like a sophisticated human,” said Waldmiller. “He has an interesting view of life and is very imaginative. And he doesn’t have any responsibilities, so he just lives life as it comes.”

He played this role in two other school productions and said it’s fun because “Snoopy’s so over-the-top, I can do whatever I want and am not bound by what a human would be. He’s hyper and all over the place. I’m also a dog-lover in real life and can howl pretty well.”

Waldmiller’s favorite song is “Suppertime,” sung by Snoopy and the ensemble. “It’s a lot of fun because Snoopy

goes crazy about food and creates an entire, Broadway-musical-like song around suppertime,” he said; the audience will like the shows energy and “lighthearted innocence” because all the characters are 5-6 years old. “There are many funny moments,” said Waldmiller. “And the show offers a whole lot of laughs for all age ranges.”

Senior Kyree Parker portrays Linus. “He’s intelligent, but doesn’t know it, so he just acts like the other kids,” said Parker. “He loves his blanket and can’t live without it. He’s also a deep thinker, is courteous, follows rules and doesn’t like upsetting people.”

Parker carried a blanket around school for two weeks to get into character and said this part makes him think on a whole, different level and be more inquisitive. He said the show’s so funny that “I laugh all the time, even though I know all the lines. And the unique and creative dances are a blast to do, so they’ll look fantastic to the audience.”

Playing Schroeder is sophomore Ben Stallard, who’s in both the Theater and Choral departments. “Schroeder’s full of himself and thinks everything he does is the most important thing ever done,” said Stallard. “The world’s a stage and everything is art to him. He takes his piano-playing seriously and hates being interrupted by Lucy.”

Stallard especially likes his character’s monologue where he insults Lucy for two minutes straight. “I also get to do some physical comedy,” he said. “And in the ‘Book Report’ song, I get to sing really low bass notes.”

“The show’s choreography is amazing, the songs are entertaining and some are very funny,” he continued. “There are so many touching moments, and the show leaves you with a warm, fuzzy feeling that makes you remember what’s good about the world.”



The cast of Centreville High’s “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,” gathers around a piano.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS / THE CONNECTION

NEWS

Dalia Palchik of Providence District praised the FCPS facilities staff that produced the 2018-2022 FCPS Capital Improvement Program.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FCPS



Springfield District School Board representative Elizabeth Schultz said “there is work yet to be done” when it comes to showing work over time with regards to enrollment growth projections.

Board Approves 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Program

Five-year plan includes three new elementary schools and one new high school.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

This year, Fairfax County Public Schools experienced one of the smallest annual enrollment increases in nearly a decade: 1,368 students, compared to the average of 2,400 since the 2008-09 school year, bringing the total to 187,202.

By far the lowest was a growth of only 223 in the 2015-16 school year.

Interim FCPS Superintendent Dr. Steven Lockard attributed the slowed growth to decreases in those entering kindergarten cohorts and net migration. The five-year forecast of enrollment growth, he said in an introduction to the latest Capital Improvement Program information document, has FCPS reaching 190,600 students by the 2021-22 school year.

“These new trends of growth are inconsistent across the county and continue to present a facilities capacity challenge,” Lockard said. “The school system struggles to provide sufficient capacity in our schools. Despite the planned additional capacity intended to address projected needs, uneven membership growth throughout the county will necessitate the continuation of small- and large-scale boundary adjustments to take advantage of available capacity whenever it is practicable to do so.”

The FCPS School Board unanimously approved a new Capital Improvement Program covering FY2018-2022 at the business meeting Jan. 26. The five-year program is updated annually with enrollment projections and capacity calculations, and lays out plans for new construction, renovations and other capacity-increasing work to accommodate the growing student body.

“It has evolved over the past several years and become very responsive to input from the school board and from the community,” said Mount Vernon District representative to the board Karen Corbett Sanders. “It’s a great tool for identifying both the opportunities to better serve our students through facilities but also to set a framework on when we need to start talking about how to best provide capacity and programming at each of our schools.”

The capacity enhancements in this latest approved CIP include construction of new schools, additions to existing schools and other renovations, with a total price tag

of \$824 million.

FCPS said a little less than half of that, \$385 million, will be covered by funds approved in the 2015 school bond referendum and previous referenda, and the remaining \$439 million is currently unfunded.

Some of the projects already funded by that first figure include a new elementary school in the Route 1 area and additions to South Lakes High School in Reston.

Unfunded projects in the program include a new elementary school in northwest Fairfax County, another in the Fairfax-Oakton area, a high school in western Fairfax County and additions to three other high schools.

The new high school is intended to bring down capacity stress in the Centreville, Chantilly, Herndon, Oakton, South Lakes and Westfield areas.

Renovations are planned for 32 elementary schools as part of the CIP, as well as five middle schools.

Springfield District School Board representative Elizabeth Schultz praised the FCPS facilities staff that produced the CIP, along with Dalia Palchik of Providence District who introduced the motion to approve it, and Corbett Sanders who seconded the motion.

But Schultz also said there’s room for improvement with showing their work over time, looking back in two to three years and assessing the accuracy of these enrollment growth projections.

“That’s the space where we still need to do some work for the overall health of the division,” Schultz said.

“Everything else after the numbers, whether it’s desks, books, buses, teachers — it doesn’t matter if we don’t get those numbers right,” Schultz continued. “It all stems from how accurate we are with our projections.”

Schultz said she looked forward to working with facilities staff to achieve that objective and “improve transparency of the numbers.”

In the next two months, the adopted FCPS CIP should be incorporated into the Fairfax County CIP and presented to the county’s Planning Commission.

More information about the Capital Improvement Program (and previous years’ programs) is available online here: www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/facilities-planning-future/capital-improvement-program.



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OPINION

So Much Happening, Don't Blink

Demonstrations at Dulles in reaction to travel ban; fast moving General Assembly lacks transparency; other key issues.

There is so much going on this week: Locally, the effects of a travel ban at odds with American values played out at Dulles International Airport, but stimulated a heartening response, with volunteer attorneys offering help, local, state and federal elected officials demanding accountability and peaceful demonstrators protesting the un-American assault on travel from particular Muslim-majority countries.

EDITORIAL "I was just amazed at the number of people, the energy, the spirit, the spontaneity," said Del. Marcus Simon, who used FaceBook Live to share the scene over several days. "In some ways, it was heartening, to see so many Northern Virginians reacting."

See reporter Tim Peterson's story in this paper.

CROSSOVER is Feb. 7; that's when only bills that have passed either the House of Delegates or the Virginia Senate can move forward.

As this date approaches, the General Assembly has a serious transparency issue, as it continues to kill most proposed legislation with unrecorded voice votes in subcommittee, with no accountability or record of how members voted.

This was raised to new heights earlier this week, when a House of Delegates subcommittee killed proposed constitutional amendments including non-partisan redistricting and restoring voting rights of felons, along with more than 20 proposed amendments, in a single vote.

John Horejsi of Vienna, who heads the organization Social Action Linking Together, notes that his organization is unable to track what

happens to legislation they support. This headline, which ran last week on www.roanoke.com, says it all: "Bill to require recorded votes dies on an unrecorded vote, again."

State Sen. Creigh Deeds continues important work on mental health reform, citing three priorities this year, requiring most of Community Services Boards around the state to provide same-day service and certain outpatient services; to assess and provide care for inmates who have mental health needs; and long-term supportive housing to help avoid repeated mental health crises.

About 200,000 people in Virginia have had their motor vehicle licenses suspended for a legal infraction that has nothing to do with a driving offense. And 650,000 people in Virginia have a suspended license for failing to pay court costs. This is an obstacle to holding a job and being able to meet other obligations, and legislation to stop this counter-productive practice is still alive in the Virginia Senate.

The sale of high-proof grain alcohol in Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control stores passed the House of Delegates earlier in the session, and is just foolish.

EFFORTS by state Sen. Adam P. Ebbin and others, supporting repeal of the Virginia constitutional amendment approved by voters in 2006 forbidding gay marriage should move forward. The 2006 amendment is no longer valid because the U.S. Supreme Court in 2015 legalized same-sex marriage.

State Sen. Chap Petersen introduced a doomed bill to ban contributions from public utilities. "Monopolies like Dominion or Appalachian Power have an undue influence on the political process. That leads to legislation

which has a direct cost to Virginia consumers, both residents and small businesses," Petersen said. It looks like the felony threshold will increase to \$500 from \$200, an important distinction championed by Petersen and state Sen. Scott Surovell.

While the constitutional amendment to address voting rights for felons who have served their sentences died in the above action, Gov. Terry McAuliffe should be commended for restoring the civic rights of more than 128,000 Virginians, and his plans to restore rights for any remaining Virginia citizens who lost their rights. This has been a laborious and worthy process, adapted as needed to meet legal challenges and court rulings.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Submit Photos to Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of February, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Feb. 15.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

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Stand with Us in Challenging Times

BY THERESA ANGELOTTI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CENTREVILLE IMMIGRATION FORUM

The mission of the Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF) is to build community acceptance and economic opportunity for new immigrants in Centreville. We envision a community where all are welcome, without regard to race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, education level or economic status. We believe in the inscription, mounted inside the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty, that says: "Give me your tired, your poor, your

COMMENTARY huddled masses yearning to breathe free." This quote from a sonnet by Emma Lazarus articulates that the United States does not just welcome educated, wealthy immigrants, but all who seek a better life here.

Because of our mission, the Centreville Immigration Forum must reject the Trump administration's recent executive orders to



ban all refugees for the next 120 days and refugees fleeing war-torn Syria indefinitely. The full scope and implementation of these directives are not clear, but already they have created fear and disruption in many lives.

These policies will not make our country safer, our economy stronger, or our communities more cohesive. Instead, they will divide families and communities and create an atmosphere of fear and hate. CIF urges our government to act with compassion and open our country to peaceful immigrants from all nations.

We know that immigrants, whether documented or not, make the U.S. prosperous, lively

and strong. They contribute not only work, but also strong family and religious values, and wonderful culture and music. And they are our friends.

The Centreville Immigration Forum will continue to serve all those in need of services — immigrant and native-born alike — and to stand up against unfair policies at the national level. We will continue to inform participants at our Labor Resource Center of their rights, and we will continue to support them in the search for work and fair treatment. We appreciate the contributions of our volunteers, who also come from many different nations, including Muslim nations. Our volunteers, workers and staff create a cross-cultural space that demonstrates the power and richness of working together.

The support of the local community has been strong during the past five years, and we are grateful. We invite our neighbors in Centreville to stand with us during these challenging times and to take advantage of the community resource we offer.

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OPINION

Votes Show Bipartisanship

BY JIM LEMUNYON
DELEGATE (R-67)

The pace of work in the General Assembly has accelerated this week. The House of Delegates has passed 184 bills since the start of the session on Jan. 11. Many more have been approved in committees and are headed to the House floor. While it's common for the news to report partisan differences and acrimony in politics, especially in Washington, the vast majority of the bills passed by the House so far passed unanimously or nearly so. You can review my votes on the House floor and in committee at <http://services.dlas.virginia.gov/web/services/frmLISVotIng1.aspx>. Be sure to select my name from the drop down menu.

RICHMOND REPORT

As you may remember from my message last week, I introduced 15 bills for the 2017 session. Several are advancing in different committees.

HB 2136, introduced at the request of Governor McAuliffe, would establish a federally-mandated interstate compact with Washington, D.C. and Maryland, which would provide for safety oversight of the Washington Metrorail system. This bill was approved in a transportation subcommittee and will be considered by the full Transportation Committee next week. HJ 617 was also approved by a subcommittee and will go to the full committee. It calls for significant revisions to the legal arrangement that governs Metro, to provide for needed financial stability, better safety and other operational improvements.

HB 2139 was referred to the Joint Commission on

Transportation Accountability. I am a member of this commission. The bill would require VDOT to discuss information regarding how well variable price tolling is reducing congestion on the Beltway and I-95. It became clear from testimony on the bill that VDOT might not have much to report. This revelation was rather surprising, and the commission will take a more detailed look into the issue. Variable toll pricing has been promoted as a way to add capacity and reduce congestion on interstate highways. It's important that data be available to verify how well (or not so well) variable price tolling is working.

HB 1498 reduces the maximum allowable class size for students in elementary schools to 29 or fewer students anywhere in Virginia. It was approved by the Education Committee, and is now pending in the Appropriations Committee to determine how the related requirement for additional teachers can be funded. I'd like to thank the many parents in our area who are lobbying in favor of this bill.

Another education bill, HB 2140, was approved in subcommittee.

This bill would establish a pilot program in five school divisions to provide an exit questionnaire for teachers who leave their school division. There is a concern by many in the General Assembly about the rate of teacher turnover, but little quantitative evidence to aid in understanding the reasons. This pilot program would be a first step in providing needed information.

Five bills I introduced related to expanding public access to government records and meetings through the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were approved in a subcommittee. These are HB 1539, HB 1540, HB 2143, HB 2144, and HB 2146.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A Plea To Listen

To the Editor:

"Disgusted and disappointed" are probably an understatement to how I feel. But the fact that the Trump administration believes that certain people don't belong here just because they're Muslims is not only un-American but inhumane. There was no right for our president to instate a "Muslim ban."

The seven countries which he banned Muslims from entering are people who are leaving countries

of hardship, poverty and war like Syria. Even more appalling was Dulles Airport's harsh treatment of people who had entered the country over the weekend by detaining them and separating them from their families and holding them for up to 20 hours without food or water. Slate even called Dulles' treatment of those detained "particularly cruel."

Customs and Border Protection agents failed to comply with a federal court order which allowed "all legal permanent residents" detained access to legal aid and representation.

Even when congressmen Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Don Beyer (D-VA), Jamie Raskin (D-MD), John Delaney (D-MD), and Bobby Scott (D-VA) tried reasoning with CBP agents, their calls went on deaf ears. New Jersey's Sen. Cory Booker also came in to demand to speak with detainees. We can see through condemnations from protestors to the CEOs of Starbucks and Apple that this is wrong. Will the administration do their duty and listen to their people?

Saira Bhatti/Centreville

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Publishes: Feb 22, 2017 • Ads close: Wed, Feb 16, 2017

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets. Reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention.

The Pet Connection will publish on February 22, 2017, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by February 16. We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

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 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 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 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 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 the 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 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 for a spot.

Live After Five. Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee



Orchids

Horticulturist and Orchid Enthusiast Jonathan Kavalier, will explain how to select a the proper conditions and the care techniques to make orchids flourish. Saturday, Feb. 11. 10 a.m. at Fair Oaks Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway. Call 703-560-6222.

Highway. Every Friday night a band plays on the patio of the winery. Free to attend. Visit 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 for more.

Mondays are Family Night. 5-7 p.m.

at Villaggio, 7145 Main St. \$45 for a family of four. Call 703-543-2030.

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.

Over-40 Softball League. A Fairfax-based league is looking for enough players to form another team. Players must be at least 40 years of age to be eligible. All games are doubleheaders -played on Sundays at Bready Park in Herndon between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Email skeduman@aol.com for more.

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 for more.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit 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 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 for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 4

Gardening Q&A. 10 a.m. at Fair Oaks Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway. Merrifield plant specialists David

Yost, Paul McLane and Louis Ratchford will answer questions on everything and anything gardening. Call 703-560-6222 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.

MONDAY/FEB. 6

Meet Author M.J. O'Brien. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Author Michael O'Brien provides a detailed account of the Jackson Woolworth's civil rights sit-in of 1963, the events leading up to it and what followed. Book sale and signing. Call 703-502-3883 for more.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 8

Olympic Gold Medalist. 6:30 p.m. at the Better Sports Club, 2700-2800 Clarendon Blvd. Tom Dolan, a two-time Olympic gold medal winner and founder of the Tom Dolan Swim School in Chantilly, will be the featured speaker. \$25. Email BSCRSVP@gmail.com or call 703-241-0390 for more.

THURSDAY/FEB. 9

Trummer's Le Grand Amour. 5 p.m. at Trummer's on Main, 7134 Main St. in Clifton. The fireplace-lit Loft dining room transforms into the Le Grand Amour, an all-dessert tasting menu pop-up filled with confections created by pastry chef Meagan Tighe and an abundance of Valentine's Day decor. \$33. Call 703-266-1623.

FEB. 9-12

"You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." Various times at the Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road. Theatre Centreville brings the Peanuts comic strip to the stage. \$12. Visit theatrecentreville.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Growing Orchids. 10 a.m. at Fair Oaks Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway. With Jonathan Kavalier, horticulturist and orchid enthusiast, to learn how to select a the proper conditions and the care techniques to make orchids flourish. Call 703-560-6222 for more.

Ping Pong Tournament. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road. Get Fit Clifton Presents the 3rd Annual Clifton Betterment Association Ping Pong Tournament. Email LynneStrang@gmail.com for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 12

Valentine Rose Design Workshop. 2-4 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway. Rose Foundation hosts award-winning floral designer, Lea Shuba, to share design principles and tips for hand-tied rose bouquets. Bring a medium tall vase and pruners. \$15 for non-members. Call or 703-371-9351 or email arfinformation@aol.com.

Tea, Cookies and Poetry. 3-4 p.m. at the Machen Farm at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road. A costumed interpreter will share a Walney mystery love poem before participants write poems, drink mint tea and eat sugar cookies. \$8. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

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WELLBEING

To Move Or Not To Move

Local family moves mother into newly opened Kensington Falls Church.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

One of the most heart-wrenching decisions that Denise Schossler, her two siblings and her 95-year-old mother had to make was whether or not to move her into an assisted living facility, leaving the home where she's lived since 1954. Physical limitations and a need for social interaction drove the decision to relocate to the newly opened Kensington Falls Church.

"My mother has managed to stay in her home all this time with the help of an aide who comes every day, but she realized that it just couldn't continue. One of the main things is the isolation and the loneliness," said Schossler. "She needs more social interaction than she gets alone in her home. She's someone who's had an active social life, but now it's just television and books."

A dearth of social interaction is one of the factors that can lead seniors into assisted living facilities. In fact, a recent study published in the Journal of Gerontology shows that seniors living in assisted living facilities have fewer unmet needs such as companionship, help with cooking, bathing and doing laundry than those who live independently. However, the survey of more than 4,000 people over the age of 65 shows that even in such retirement communities, unmet needs still exist. To address this challenge, local gerontology experts say that families must determine whether a loved one's needs meet the criteria for assisted living candidacy and once placed, work to ensure that those needs are being met.

"In counseling families making this difficult decision, I focus on safety factors for the patient and other family members," said Maureen Moriarty, D.N.P., assistant professor of nursing at Marymount University in Arlington. "Often cognitive impairment is the reason for assisted living. Perhaps memory is affected so the patient can no longer safely drive or remember the steps in carrying out activities of daily living such as cooking, bathing or management of finances."

In making this decision, an evaluation by an objective gerontology expert can be necessary, says Patrice Winter, DPT, assistant professor at George Mason University in the Department of Global and Community Health. "They come out and evaluate the house and the person as well," she said. "You have an objective, unemotional person instead of an

adult child going, 'Mom you can't live here anymore.' and the mom saying, 'Stay out of my business.'"

Such an evaluation will show that there are times when a lifestyle adjustment is all that is needed. "Sometimes they can offer simple solutions that can make huge changes," said Winter. "Could it be that they need their eyesight and hearing checked? Or the washing machine moved upstairs" so they can do laundry more frequently?

When seeking an evaluation, Winter recommends local social service agencies such as the Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging. "The issue may not be cognitive, but the need for a living environment with more support may be triggered by physical limitations," added Moriarty. "Perhaps a chronic degenerative illness such as Parkinson's Disease has left the patient with physical care needs beyond the scope of family members."

Safety can become an issue when family members' physical limitations restrict the quality of care they are able to offer. "This opens issues not only to patient safety but also the family member may be frail or have their own physical limitations that limit their capacity to assist someone who, for instance, has balance loss," said Moriarty. "The key assessment as a clinician for me is that the family no longer has the resources to care safely for this individual in a home environment."

"If there is any question at all, the person should have a medical evaluation," added Winter. "There could be an imbalance in the system that could cause changes so a really good physical by a geriatric internist would be paramount before any drastic actions are taken."

Once a senior has moved

into an assisted living facility, they often need someone to advocate on their behalf. Regular visits and telephone calls to both the family member and the staff are necessary. "You need to make sure you know what's going on," said Thompson, who recently moved her own mother into an assisted living facility. "It's OK to be a pest. I communicate with the staff at my mother's facility. She complains to me about things that she won't complain to the staff about so I have to complain on her behalf."

Even in the best of facilities, a person's needs can be inadvertently overlooked, says Thompson, so a family member's presence is necessary. "Walk around, pay attention to how other residents seem," she said. "Are they happy and engaged or are there signs of neglect?"

"Establish a relationship with those providers who will be involved in the care of your family member," added Moriarty. "Become part of the team by attending regular team meetings. Make them aware of your loved one's special needs. For example, if your family member always had tea in the morning, request that this continues."

Schossler says that her proximity to the Kensington Falls Church will allow her to be in regular contact with both her mother and the staff.

"My mother has grandchildren and great-grandchildren and we can visit her because the Kensington is just a few minutes away from where I live," she said. "My mother has already made connections with three people who will be there, so she's looking forward to moving. We happened to find the right fit at the right time."

"She needs more social interaction than she gets alone in her home. She's someone who's had an active social life, but now it's just television and books."

— Denise Schossler

Local Resources

- ♦ Alexandria Area Agency on Aging
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/Aging>
- ♦ Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/>
- ♦ Arlington Aging and Disability Services Division
<https://aging-disability.arlingtonva.us/>
- ♦ Kensington Falls Church Open House
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And So It Begins — Again



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Thank God! Another three months, (13 weeks actually) of wedded-type bliss until my next scan scheduled for mid April. Save for four weeks of pre- and post-chemotherapy-infusion non-bliss in the interim when the effects of the before, during, after treatment will make me feel less like the person I will otherwise be — for the nine or so other weeks, I am indeed lucky to be “stable” and looking forward.

However, I will be off to a bit of a bumpy start as a result of the timing of my most recent chemotherapy infusion and its negative side effects coming so soon on the heels of the previous week’s positive scan news. Not that the negative overwhelms the positive in the slightest, it’s more that it slows down my progression from feeling abnormal to feeling normal; well, as much as one diagnosed and living with a “terminal” disease, non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, can. Which, as you regular readers know, I’m generally able to do, except when there a blips, and for the next week, I’ll be “blipped.” Having considered the inevitable taste and eating issues I typically face post infusion, I spoke with a nutritionist this past week to see if I’ve been missing a boat somewhere. Unfortunately, other than remaining well-hydrated, it seems there’s very little I can do other than to endure the post-chemotherapy weak.

But of course, it’s the big picture (no tumor progression, no fluid build up) that matters most, not the small picture (the pre- and post-scan anxiety and the post-chemotherapy eating issues). And of course, it’s nothing new. I’ve been through variations of this routine going on nearly eight years now, since the diagnostic process began on Jan. 1, 2009, when I first visited the Emergency Room. Pain in my rib cage had migrated from one side to the other and simultaneously I was having difficulty catching my breath. Then, even I knew, I needed some medical attention. Two and a half months later after the usual schedule of tests, interpretations and more tests, I received my diagnosis with which you are all so familiar.

Amazingly, life has gone on and fallen into a sort of routine. The most recent one, going back approximately three and a half years, began with my first and only hospitalization followed up a month or so later with the beginning of my Alimta infusion. For the most part, the infusion/experience has been quite manageable, and according to my oncologist, “great.” So “great,” in fact, that we have been extending the interval of my infusions from three weeks originally to four weeks to four/five weeks to now infusing forward, every five weeks. This will give my body more time to recuperate between chemotherapy and give me more quality-weeks of life (always a concern of my oncologist); minimizing eating and anxiety issues.

For the moment, we’re keeping the scan schedule to every three months. As to our concern about trying to limit the exposure to radiation — per scan; as my oncologist sort of joked, it’s the toxins from the chemotherapy that are more harmful (it’s akin to the line from the movie “Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid” when Paul Newman snickered at Robert Redford’s concern about not being able to swim — should they in fact jump off the cliff into the raging river below, to escape Joe Lefors and the Indian tracker, Lord Baltimore: “Swim? Are you crazy? The fall will probably kill you.”)

So by the time you all are reading this column, Thursday-ish, I’ll be mostly back to eating normally — well, normal for me. It’s a routine I’ve become accustomed to and one with which I can live, live being the operable word. Certainly not a life without some hardships and difficulties, but still a life worth living; with some weeks harder than others; this week certainly being one of them. It won’t be pretty but soon enough it will have passed with clear sailing ahead for the next four weeks until you-know-what.

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

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21 Announcements

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NEWS

Anti-Immigration Ban Rallies Held at Dulles

FROM PAGE 2

(D-33), U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) and U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), asking that some of the more than 20 lawyers present be given that opportunity to meet with the detainees.

The scenes were intense and a little chaotic, Simon said, but the demonstrators were nonviolent and positive.

"I was just amazed at the number of people, the energy, the spirit, the spontaneity," said Simon. "In some ways, it was heartening, to see so many Northern Virginians reacting to [the ban]."

Gov. Terry McAuliffe appeared and spoke at the airport Saturday. U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D) visited the ongoing demonstration Monday afternoon.

Connolly was able to get one pair of detainees released Saturday evening with the help of immigration attorneys: Fairfax County resident and green card holder Ahmed Mohedian, 71, who had been held with his wife after returning from Iran. He was in that country receiving medical treatment, Connolly's office said.

"America has always stood for being a beacon of hope," Connolly said in a statement reacting to the ban. "Donald Trump would paint over Emma Lazarus's words on the Statue of Liberty. There are millions of us willing to stand with immigrants coming into our country. There are millions of us willing to insist that America's doors remain open to those fleeing injury, violence or persecution. This order was not thought through and must be rescinded. We will fight this illegal Executive Order."

Simon said airport security officials and border control told them they weren't allowed to say anything. One of the concerns, he said the legislators had heard, was that individuals arriving from the ban-affected countries were being met once they got off the plane and asked to sign a document that essentially forfeited their green card.

"If that's what's going to happen," Simon

said, "it shouldn't be."

If he had just landed in a foreign country and was met by men with guns when getting off the plane, said Simon, "I'd sign anything that was stuck in front of me." That's why it was important for the lawyers to meet with these people and explain their rights to them, he added.

Another issue Simon raised was the apparent lack of information and clarity on the details of the ban — airport officials seemed unprepared for enforcing it.

"The rank and file employees, they were stuck between a rock and a hard place, a really difficult position," Simon said. Typically with a ban like this, he continued, "you'd expect there to be some more coordination with agencies, planning, and information."

In the press conference Saturday, Beyer referenced his Freedom of Religion Act he introduced in 2016, which stated that no one would be denied entry to the United States based on their religion.

"It's so ironic that President Trump came out and said that we're going to give special preference to Christians who are refugees because so many of them are being killed," Beyer said. "Well I'm a Christian, but I respect that there are many more Muslims being killed right now, many more who are refugees."

IN A STATEMENT released through her Twitter account on Jan. 29, U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) said she supports increased vetting based on national security concerns. However, Comstock said she has consistently asserted: "I don't believe it is constitutional to ban people from our country on the basis of religion."

"The President's Executive Order issued yesterday went beyond the increased vetting actions that Congress has supported on a bipartisan basis and inexplicably applied to green card holders," Comstock continued, "people who are legally within our country who have followed the rules."

Other Local leaders Weigh In

FROM PAGE 2

would harm, not help, our national security interests. I join the interfaith community in Virginia and around the country in objecting to these moves, and I will work in Congress to block an effort which trades dubious increases in U.S. security for certain alienation of partners with whom we must cooperate to address terrorism."

The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington, released a statement as well, expressing solidarity with refugees:

"In his statement on the Executive Order halting refugee admissions, Bishop Joe Vasquez, chair of the Committee of Migration and Bishop of the Diocese of Austin, highlighted our nation's long and proud tradition of welcoming newcomers and refugees

in a humane manner, even as we have pursued a strong vetting system to ensure our safety and security. Together with Bishop Vasquez and my brother bishops, I encourage Catholics to contact our elected officials to make our voices heard: Our communities have been and will continue to be hospitable to refugees, in keeping with our legacy of welcoming the stranger. Together, we also pray for comprehensive immigration reform and for peace, safety and harmony within our nation and throughout the world."

The full text of the Jan. 27 Executive Order is available online here:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/27/executive-order-protecting-nation-foreign-terrorist-entry-united-states>.

SPORTS

Centreville Defeats Chantilly, 44-41

BY WILL PALENSCAR

The Centreville girls varsity basketball team won a conference game against the Chantilly Chargers in Chantilly on Jan. 24. With just over a minute to play in OT and the score knotted up at 38, Camryn Conklin added two free throws to give the Wildcats the lead for good 40-38.

After Centreville added two more to the score, Chantilly's Mary Clougherty converted on 3 free throws after being fouled behind the arch, pulling Chantilly to within 1.

However, Centreville's Ruth Axton would ice the game with a couple free throws 44-41. Centreville would convert on 11-19 free throws for the game while Chantilly converted on 4 of 9.

Centreville ended the first eight minutes with a slight 12-10 advantage.

Chantilly responded in the 2nd quarter scoring 11 points and holding Centreville to just 8 points to give the home team a 21-20 advantage at half.

In the 3rd quarter, Centreville would return the favor outscoring the Chargers 13-8 to take a 4 point advantage heading into the 4th quarter.

Chantilly fought back yet again, scoring 7 and holding the Wildcats to only 3 points in the 4th quarter. Even with that the game would need overtime to decide the winner as things were tied up at 36. Centreville was led by Aleigh Gambone's 11 points and Ruth Axton's 10. Chantilly's Mary Clougherty led all scorers with 17 points including 3 three-pointers. Grace Rauch added 9 for the Chargers.

With the win Centreville improved to (10-6) (1-3), and Chantilly fell to (13-3) (4-2). Both teams would win games on Jan. 27, Chantilly defeating Robinson 64-44, and Centreville defeating Herndon 42-41.



Chantilly's Mary Clougherty # 44 led all scorers with 17 points.



Centreville's Aleigh Gambone # 12 defends Chantilly's Hannah Reeves #5.

PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR



Westfield's Kirah Johnson #4 has two Oakton defenders' attention.

Westfield Girls Varsity Falls to Oakton, 54-44

BY WILL PALENSCAR

The Westfield Bulldogs girls varsity basketball team traveled to Oakton to take on #11 Oakton on Jan. 27.

Oakton would start out with an early 18-11 advantage after playing the first eight minutes.

In the 2nd quarter Westfield held Oakton to 6 points and scored 13 to tie things up at 24 going into halftime.

In the 3rd quarter Oakton scored 14 points and held Westfield to 6 points, putting Oakton up 38-29.

In the 4th quarter Oakton and Westfield combined for 31 points, Oakton scoring 16 and Westfield 15, giving Oakton a 54-44 win.

Oakton improved to (17-2) (5-2) and Westfield falls to (9-10) (3-4). Oakton had three scorers in double figures, Delaney Connolly 16, Maddie Royle 13, and Kailyn Free 10. Westfield's Nicki McNamara led all scorers with 17, teammate Kirah Johnson had 9, Kelly Mackmin added 5. Oakton will play at Robinson on Jan. 31, Westfield will play at Centreville.



Tori Martin #44 launches a 3 pointer against Oakton.

PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR