

## News



The nine members of the Civilian Review Panel marked with \*: Gerarda Culipher, Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court; Randy Sayles,\* Oak Hill; Rhonda VanLowe,\* Reston; Kathleen Davis-Siudut,\* Springfield; Adrian Steel,\* McLean, chairman of the panel; Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Board of Supervisors; Judge William Webster; Supervisor John Cook, chairman of Public Safety Committee; Jean Senseman,\* Lorton; Douglas Kay, \* Fairfax; Hollye Doane, \* Oakton; Steve Descano, \* Springfield; and Hansel Aguilar, \* Fairfax.

## Inaugural meeting of the Fairfax Civilian Review Panel Sworn In County Civilian Review Panel

he nine members of the Fairfax County Civilian Review Panel were sworn in at the panel's inaugural meeting on Monday, March 20.

Judge William Webster, former director of the FBI and CIA, spoke on the importance of civilian oversight of law enforcement. "Civilian oversight is important in a country where we want people to feel safe," Webster said. He urged panel members to consider the promise he made when he joined the FBI: To do what the citizens expect in the way that the Constitution allows.

The nine members appointed by the Board of Supervisors are: Hansel Aguilar, Fairfax; Kathleen Davis-Siudut, Springfield; Steve Descano, Springfield; Hollye Doane, Oakton; Douglas Kay, Fairfax; Randy Sayles, Oak Hill; Jean Senseman, Lorton; Adrian



Judge William Webster and Adrian Steel, chairman of the inaugural Civilian Review Panel. Steel was special assistant to Webster at the FBI.

VanLowe, Reston. They were among more that it would help "build upon the trust the

than 140 applicants for the volunteer posi-

"This is historic," said Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Board of Supervisors. "The creation of this panel and the creation of the independent auditor position were two of the primary recommendations of the Ad Hoc Commission."

Bulova appointed the 30-member Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission in October 2015 in the wake of public concern after the police shooting death of John Geer in August 2013. The commission, which included full participation of the Fairfax County Police Department, made 140 recommendations, most either already implemented or in process.

FCPD Police Chief Edwin Roessler pledged Steel, McLean, chairman; and Rhonda his support to the panel on Monday, saying

public gives us."

The Civilian Review Panel will act as an independent avenue for residents to submit complaints concerning allegations of abuse of authority or misconduct by a FCPD officer. The panel will have the authority to request and review completed Police Department internal administrative investigations regarding a civilian complaint against an officer. The panel may hold public meetings to review police administrative investigations and walk through with members of the community how the investigation was conducted, including findings of fact, evidence collected and witness statements.

The Civilian Review Panel will not address use of force by police that results in serious injury or death; those will be monitored by the newly hired Police Auditor, Richard G.

# Connolly's 23rd St. Patrick's Day Fete Rallies Dems

## Northam, Fairfax winners in straw poll.

BY TIM PETERSON

nti-President Trump sentiment was strong among Democrats who packed the ballroom of Kena Shriners' Temple in Fairfax for U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's (D-11) 23rd annual St. Patrick's Day Fete on Friday, March 17.

Connolly began hosting a St. Patrick's Day event in 1995, when he was first elected to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. What began as a minor social affair at his home has grown into one of the largest gatherings of Democrats in the Common-

Walter Carlson of Mantua originally knew Connolly as a neighbor, and has been attending the Fetes since they were in Connolly's home.

"They're good for the party, for morale, to build up the team and talk to leaders," said Carlson, who particularly enjoys the baked salmon and corned beef served at the

Carlson said this year was as well-attended as he's seen at a Connolly Fete.

"Even more important in this political climate — this crowd, it's because of Trump."

The anti-Trump rhetoric was running hot, after the President announced in the past week a revised version of an executive order banning travel from several majority-Muslim countries and the refugee program, as well as proposed a budget that would make significant cuts to federal programs including the Environmental Protection Agency and State Department while increasing funding to U.S. defense and nuclear programs by \$54 billion.

Lt. Governor Ralph Northam, campaigning to replace Gov. Terry McAuliffe, called Trump a "narcissistic maniac," who they

SEE RALLIES, PAGE 12



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova (center) introduced local elected officials behind her - supervisors, delegates and senators, past and present — as "your team."

2 CHANTILLY CONNECTION March 22-28, 2017

# News



Crime Prevention Specialist Tara Gerhard



Lt. Andrew Wright is in charge of the station's bike and traffic-safety teams.



Lt. Todd Kinkead advises residents to lock their cars



Station Commander Dean Lay addresses the residents.

# You Really Live in a Safe Community'

## Sully Police discuss State of the Station.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

"We want to strengthen

positive relationships with

the community we serve by

partnerships, accountability

— Capt. Dean Lay, Station Commander

advancing collaboration,

ocal residents are safe and in good hands and has a police department that does all it can to protect their welfare. That was the message given by officers of the Sully District Station during a recent State of the Station presentation.

Crime Prevention Specialist Tara Gerhard started things off by relating some of the station's many crime-prevention initiatives during 2016. She noted Trash Talks in the

Virginia Run community, where police put stickers saying, "Keep kids alive – drive 25" on trash cans there to remind drivers to slow down.

They also encouraged neighborhood traffic safety via a program called Neighborhood partnerships, and outreach."

— Capt. Dean Lay

Beams and held safety seminars for senior citizens. And an Exchange Zone was established in the station's front parking lot so people buying or selling things online could make the monetary exchange in a safe environment.

A police cruiser was specially wrapped all over in messages telling people not to drink and drive. And on Bike to School Day, police bicycle officers rode to schools with children who were walking. Officers also held personal-safety seminars for residents and provided Neighborhood Watch training for various communities.

They held monthly Citizens Advisory Committee meetings on a variety of topics to keep local residents informed about what's happening in their local police station and in their communities. And they offered Worship Watch, advising churches how to remain safe and crime-free.

Sully police collected 1,000 pounds of prescription drugs in 24 hours during a Drug Take-Bake program, and they got to mingle and chat with residents during the annual National Night Out event last August. Other community-outreach initiatives included Scout safety talks, daycare-center and preschool visits, child car-seat installations, the car-fit program for seniors, Touch-A-Truck, a Pokéthon and home-security surveys.

They also held Coffee with a Cop, inviting residents to chat with them in front of

Starbucks. And during Pizza with a Cop, police visited areas where at-risk youth live to build better relationships with them and give them tips on staying safe. They spoke with kindergartners at Virginia Run Elementary, held a

ementary, held a enjor Bike Rodeo and went to Dulles Airport to

rean War veterans.

And during the Christmas holidays, Sully police collected food for more than 40 families in need in their district, shared crime-prevention information via the Holiday Cheer program and donated a bike to a boy whose own bicycle was stolen.

meet an honor flight carrying WWII and Ko-

**NEXT TO SPEAK** was Lt. Andrew Wright, in charge of the station's bike and traffic-safety teams. Their safety initiatives last year included Operation Safe Zone in school safety zones, Operation Big Rig doing truck inspections and assisting State Police in enforcing the move-over law.

They also participated in the anti-speeding campaign, "10 Over, Get Pulled Over;" Operation Family Safety and Click It or Ticket, both urging children and adults to wear their seat belts; plus a campaign telling people to drive 25 mph in neighborhoods because children's lives depend on them doing so.

The actions of the bike team/neighborhood patrol unit also led to arrests. In one of them, two bike officers in the Centrewood Plaza parking lot saw someone trying to sell several thousand dollars' worth of stolen merchandise out of the trunk of a car. In another incident, said Wright, "They followed up on a tip from our detectives that a vehicle was being driven to the home of a known drug dealer. They arrested the driver and charged him and seized drugs and drug money. In addition, a missing juvenile in the back seat was reunited with his family."

Giving a statistical crime overview, he said the Sully District Station had 84,990 calls for service in 2016, compared with 84,051 in 2015. In 2016, there were 1,132 accidents — 71 alcohol-related — compared to 1,315 in 2015; two in 2016 were fatal, compared to 25 traffic fatalities, countywide.

Wright said Sully police took 6,987 incident reports last year and made 2,327 arrests. "And we're down 4 percent [from 2015] in major crimes," he told residents. "So you really live in a safe community."

Regarding the types of criminal offenses police see here, he included forgery, such as checks stolen from envelopes in people's mailboxes, and people who put someone else's registration sticker onto another vehicle having an expired sticker. He also noted extortion, such as phone scams in which callers demanded money for supposedly kidnapped relatives.

**AS FOR ROBBERY**, Wright said one-third of offenders are known to their victims and some of the victims were intoxicated at the time. He said police also dealt with weapons violations, including people brandishing a gun after police traffic stops or dur-

ing road-rage incidents, and that 56 percent of these cases were successfully closed. Also last year, Sully police issued 15,170 traffic citations and 1,862 warning tickets.

Lt. Todd Kinkead, head of the station's Criminal Investigations Section, also presented information about 2016's criminal cases. "We've got some really good detectives," he said. "[Currently], we're working on tying one guy to 26 burglaries over four different jurisdictions. He was in debt, so he broke into houses and stole what he could. So lock up your homes, cars and valuables — and don't leave things such as guns and computers in plain sight in unlocked cars."

Kinkead said his office was assigned 219 cases in 2016, compared to 400, two years ago. "I have four criminal-investigation detectives, one domestic-violence detective and one forensic detective," he said. "And to have 37 percent of our cases cleared by arrest is phenomenal — and better than the national average. So we're doing a lot with limited [amounts of] people and resources. They're doing a great job and working long hours, and they love it."

He said most of the robberies in Sully are "strong-armed type," meaning a weapon was used, and some involve drug deals gone bad. Kinkead further noted that police here also have good working relationships with those in other jurisdictions, and they help each other with their criminal cases.

The station commander, Capt. Dean Lay, said he'd be happy to attend Sully communities' homeowners association meetings and talk to residents about whatever they want.

He then offered his 2017 strategic vision for the station.

"We want to strengthen positive relationships with the community we serve by advancing collaboration, partnerships, accountability and outreach," he said. "We also plan to promote public safety by reducing and preventing crime through proactive police service with absolute respect and fairness."

## LETTERS

## County Cannot Ignore Low Salaries of Police

To the Editor:

As we have heard for many years now, Fairfax County is once again in a budget crunch. Since the economic crisis of 2007 and 2008, like many people, Fairfax County employees have seen their buying power shrink substantially. Pay grades have been decimated by the county's inability to consistently pay market rate adjustments, and the scales are tipping with 26 percent of general county employees' salaries falling behind inflation. All of this could have been prevented if not for the insatiable appetite to grow county government beyond its revenue streams.

The County Executive proposed budget states in part; "\$2.71 million for pay scale leveling for uniformed police and sheriff pay scales." The unpleasant part of this statement is that many citizens and even board members do not know that the words "Pay Scale Leveling" do not describe what is actually about to occur. The Public Financial Management, Inc. (PFM) report is not published on the Police Chief's website or any site readily available to the public. The lack of transparency is a stark contrast to the reality that every other study completed in recent years is listed at the Chief's site, to include, PERF, CALEA, and the Ad-Hoc

This so called "leveling" is necessary, because for many years Fairfax County has avoided the growing problem of recruiting police officers. As the issue has become more acute in recent months, Chief Roessler stated at the December 2016 public safety meeting, "We're just keeping our heads above water right now." Fairfax County has realized that it can no

Save National Service

if they expect to hire individuals who have clean backgrounds, are able to perform under the pressures of the work environment, accept the danger, and maintain their integrity, while displaying professionalism in ever-evolving

Under the proposed budget, each police pay grade will be altered to provide even progression through pay steps. This change provides a small financial increase of less than \$700 for each rank, which is necessary. However, five new grades are being proposed that happen to fall within the range of command and administrative staff officers. These ranks will see raises as much as \$11,862.40. What does this do for recruiting? Absolutely nothing. Adding to the dismay of many, FCPD Majors and Captains have in recent years, already received large raises outside established Fairfax County human resources practices, all while the Fairfax County Police Department is unable to recruit a full academy class of new police officers. Every rank within the FCPD should be brought within Fairfax County's philosophy of market rate, just like any other county agency. The FCPD cannot boast about strong leadership while supporting a plan that favors 5 percent of the agency's employees and tells the other 95 percent, we'll get to you later. This rhetoric has become urban legend with FCPD officers, and this new strategy ignores the findings of the Ad Hoc sub-committee on recruitment, vetting, and diversity which found that there is currently no financial incentive to become a police Sergeant.

Policing has become extremely dangerous,

longer ignore the low salaries of its police force highly litigated, and requires technical skills and abilities. Because of these environmental issues, policing is quickly becoming a profession that demands higher pay. Without higher pay, many jurisdictions will continue to suffer from recruiting issues and worse yet, civil litigation due to poorly trained and/or underperforming officers. The inability to compete monetarily, has led to an ever increasing percentage of officers who live outside Fairfax County. Currently, just 25 percent of county police employees live in Fairfax County, which weakens the ability to have officers with a vested interest in their community.

> The FCPD "Pay Scale Leveling" is damaging cohesiveness within the ranks due to the history of the agency's selective pay raises. If you find this information as troubling as we do, we encourage you to contact the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and also validate this information by asking for a copy of the PFM study. These are serious public safety issues. The citizens of Fairfax County rightfully expect continued service by well trained, professional and ethical officers who have, and will always fulfill the duties they have sworn to uphold. Adoption of the proposed pay plan would represent selective treatment and would negatively impact morale among the rank and file who would feel resentment, frustration and a lack of support from Fairfax County adminis-

#### Joe Woloszyn

President. Virginia Police Benevolent Association

## Fairfax County Chapter

To the Editor:

As an active community volunteer as well as a member of the Governor's Advisory Board on Volunteerism and Service, I have collaborated with many organizations that match passionate volunteers with service projects designed to meet the needs of the community. One of these outstanding programs is AmeriCorps, a public service organization that employs over 80,000 members nationally in public service positions each year, including 5,600

AmeriCorps members are active across our Commonwealth, working to meet education, health, economic, environmental and other needs in local communities. Since the program's founding in 1994, AmeriCorps members have served an incredible 26 million hours in community service in Virginia. Those hours translate into dollars. AmeriCorps is partially funded by the federal government through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). Through public-private partnerships, grants and sponsors, CNCS leveraged \$1.2 billion nation-wide from outside resources in 2015.

Columbia University research estimates that every dollar invested in community service programs yields a \$3.95 return to society. AmeriCorps has become an investment in our communities, improving the quality of life for Virginians through civic engagement. Unfortunately, federal funding for AmeriCorps is threatened.

The latest White House budget proposal could eliminate funding for CNCS and AmeriCorps. During a time when communities in Virginia are benefiting from the much-needed services provided by AmeriCorps, cutting these investments would be detrimental to our neighborhoods and quality of life.

Please contact your member of Congress and ask that funding for AmeriCorps and CNCS not be cut from the federal budget.

Jessica Bowser

Governor's Advisory Board on Volunteerism and Service

**Eradicate Bigotry** 

As a Muslim American, I am shocked and horrified to learn of the

recent bomb threats aimed at Jewish community centers (JCC). Over 100 threats have been made against JCCs in several states since the beginning of this year, and the number only continues to increase.

Anti-Semitism has no place in the United States, a country built on religious freedom and diversity. As a Muslim, I strongly believe in everyone's right to freely practice their religion without the fear of

harm or prejudice. Islam's holy book, the Quran states: "For you your religion, and for me my religion" (Chapter 109, Verse 7), and inculcates that religious tolerance is a vital part of the Islamic faith. As I ponder over these words, I urge my fellow Americans to come together to build bridges through dialogue and acceptance to eradicate the bigotry that has no place in our country.

Shumaila Ahmad

Chantilly

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

> Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314 Call 703-917-6444 Email chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com



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# 'A Thoroughly Entertaining Production'

Liberty Middle presents "Singin' in the Rain."

BY BONNIE HOBBS

ike a colorful rainbow after a storm, "Singin' in the Rain Jr." is set to burst upon the Liberty Middle School stage. Show times are Thursday-Saturday, March 30-31 and April 1, at 7 p.m.; tickets are \$5 at the door.

The story's set in 1927 Los Angeles, during a movie production. It features a cast and crew of 55 who've rehearsed since early November, and Director Jody Scott says this musical will really be something special. "The audience is going to laugh hysterically and love all the dancing, singing, comedy and romance," she said. "It's a thoroughly entertaining production."

She's also pleased that, in this show's junior version, the ensemble is included in all the musical numbers people know from the movie. So, for example, in the iconic title number, 30 people sing and dance with 30 umbrellas.

Actually, said Scott, "There's a ton of dancing in this show; it's spirited and high-energy and will have the audience tapping their toes. There are also distinct characters, and I'm very proud of my talented actors. They've worked diligently at perfecting their roles to bring them to life." She praised Musical Director Gary Verhagen, too, saying he's "helped me tremendously. He's invaluable; whatever's needed, he steps right in."

She said Liberty's never done a show with so many costumes — each person has at least four. The girls wear velvet and satin

dresses, period jewelry, some flapper dresses and even fancy headpieces for a tango number. The boys sport everything from work clothes to sweater vests with trousers to tuxedos with bow ties. The scenes take place at a Hollywood movie premiere, a party, on a movie stage and outside of Hollywood

Playing the lead role of actor Don Lockwood is eighth-grader Adam Fritsche. "Don does silent films for Monumental Pictures; but now, he's doing the studio's first-ever 'talkie,' called 'The Dueling Cavalier," said Fritsche. "But the premiere gets bad reviews and Don thinks he's through as an actor. So his best friend Cosmo suggests they turn the movie into a musical."

Lockwood and actress Kathy Selden have an argument at the outset, followed by a love/hate relationship until he apologizes to her and a romance begins to bloom. They



The cast members who'll be performing in the show's title number, "Singin' in the Rain."

Photo by Bonnie Hobbs

can both sing and dance, but the movie's lead actress, Lina Lamont, can't because of her high-pitched voice. So Selden's voice is dubbed in for her to save the movie.

Fritsche describes Lockwood as a perfectionist and hard worker who cares about his career and "needs to get everything right. But he's not self-centered and is actually a sweet, good guy. He can take a joke and have fun, and he definitely cares about other people besides himself."

Excited about his role, Fritsche likes por-

"We're only seventh- and

eighth-graders, but this

production illustrates

schoolers can do when

we put our minds to it."

how much middle-

traying Lockwood's different moods. "It's fun being a romantic lead and nice having a responsibility like this," he said. "It helps my confidence. The whole cast is basically a family, so I get a lot of support from events the start of the support from events the support of support from events the support from events

— Adam Fritsche erybody."

His favorite number is "You Were

Meant for Me," in which his character serenades Selden. "I have to show my love for her by my singing, dancing and facial expressions," said Fritsche. "Ms. Scott always says 'acting is reacting,' and I demonstrate that in this song. I also get to climb on a ladder during this number."

He said the audience will love Lina's voice and character, Cosmo's jokes and a surprise near the end of the story. "There's so much to like about this show," said Fritsche. "The choreography is outstanding; Ms. Scott put a lot of work into it and it shows. And Mr. Verhagen makes sure the music is perfect.

We're only seventh- and eighth-graders, but this production illustrates how much middle-schoolers can do when we put our minds to it. But we wouldn't have as good a show without Mr. Verhagen and Ms. Scott"

Classmate Makayla Parker portrays aspiring actress Selden. "She's subtle and loud at the same time and gets her points across," said Parker. "She's friendly and people like her, but she can be a jerk sometimes. She has a crush on Don, who's more famous than her, but she doesn't tell him at first. She's a more fully developed character than my previous roles, so I have to mix opposing emotions. But it's fun playing a lead because I'm onstage a lot and I love acting."

Parker especially likes the song, "Moses Supposes," sung by Don, Cosmo, a diction teacher and the ensemble. "They turn a tongue-twister into a song," she said. "And it reminds me of 'They Both Reached for the Gun' in the musical, 'Chicago."

She said this show is like a Broadway musical, with something for everyone. "Musically, there are nice and pretty songs, but also some rougher around the edges and some that could come from off-Broadway," said Parker. "And the story is really funny."

Playing the show's most comic character, Cosmo Brown, is eighth-grader Zach Nofal. "Cosmo has all the quips and one-liners," said Nofal. "He's Don's best friend and plays the music for the movie studio. He's funny and smart, but doesn't quite get when he's being a third wheel and shouldn't be there. He's a little full of himself and is constantly making jokes."

Nofal loves his part because "It's always fun getting a ton of laughs. I get to be goofy

and weird and not as serious as some of the other characters, and I get to make people happy." In fact, his favorite song is one that he sings, appropriately called, "Make 'em Laugh." In this comic number, he said, "Don's feeling down, so I'm telling him to just be happy and make people laugh."

He said all the actors are really good and, since it's a romantic comedy, "There are several moments in the story that lots of people can relate to. And the audience will love the songs and choreography."

Classmate Lucy La Croix plays the show's unforgettable Lina Lamont. "To the max, she's the definition of a dumb blonde," said La Croix. "She's never happy, but is either angry or confused, throughout the whole play. She's the villain who causes problems for everybody.

She doesn't want Don and Kathy to get together because, according to the movie magazines, he's Lina's fiancé — and the movie studio likes the publicity."

La Croix called her character fun to play because "she has a really cool, high-pitched, squeaky, repulsive voice. And she's always in the center of trouble. Villains are interesting because they're examples of what not to do in life." La Croix also likes singing the song, "What's Wrong with Me?" in which she's perplexed: "She tells herself she's a beautiful, amazing woman with so many fans, and she wonders why Don won't kiss her."

Overall, she said, the audience should love this show. "They'll like the Broadway-type choreography, and the bright colors of the costumes really pop onstage," said La Croix. "The acting and singing are also very good – we've all worked really hard."

# Spring Fun, Food & Entertainment



Thursday, March 23, the Dulles Autobahn **Indoor Speedway** opens with a Go-Kart Benefit, 5 p.m. at 45448 East Severn Way, Suite #150, Sterling. First Autobahn Indoor Speedway in nation with Next Generation Karts 50 percent of the Thursday's sales will be donated to Special Olympics Virginia. Visit specialolympicsva.org or AutobahnSpeed.com for more.

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.fairfaxjubilairs.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 703-8883 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

**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-

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

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

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 for a full schedule.

Mondays are Family Night. 5-7 p.m. at Villagio, 7145 Main St. \$45 for a family of four. Call 703-543-2030 for

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 Fairfaxbased league is looking for enough players to form another team. Players must be at last 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. If interested, 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.

#### **THROUGH MARCH 31**

Slave Life Exhibit. Various times at the Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. \$7 adults, \$6 students, and \$5 seniors and children age 5-15. Artifacts excavated from around Sully's 18th-century slave cabins. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/sully-historic-site/ or call 703-437-1794 for more.

## **THURSDAY, MARCH 23**

Go-Kart Benefit. 11 a.m-10 p.m. at Dulles Autobahn Indoor Speedway, 45448 East Severn Way, Suite #150, Sterling. First Autobahn Indoor Speedway in nation with Next Generation Karts 50 percent of the day's sales will be donated to Special Olympics Virginia. Visit www.specialolympicsva.org or www.AutobahnSpeed.com for more.

## FRIDAY/MARCH 24

## **Chantilly Invitational Jazz**

Festival. 4-10 p.m. at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Featured artists this year are the United States Army Blues National Jazz Workshop All Star Jazz Orchestra featuring faculty from George Mason University, the James Madison University Faculty Jazz Combo and exhibition performances by Chantilly High School's own Chantilly Jazz and Workshop Jazz ensembles. Free. Visit www.chantillyband.org for more.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 25

## **Chantilly Invitational Jazz**

Festival. 8 a.m.-9 p.m. at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Featured artists this year are the United States Army Blues. National Jazz Workshop All Star Jazz Orchestra featuring faculty from George Mason University, the Jam Madison University Faculty Jazz Combo and exhibition performances by Chantilly High School's own Chantilly Jazz and Workshop Jazz ensembles. Free. Visit www.chantillyband.org for more.

**Purple Tie Bash.** 7:30 p.m. at the Fair Oaks Marriott, 11787 Lee Jackson

## Take a Hike

The Fairfax County Park Authority staff picked the 2-mile Cub Run Stream Valley Trail as a starter hike for those park users over age 50. And when they say hikes, they mean walking, jogging, biking, horseback riding, and scenery strolling.

The Cub Run Stream Valley Trail is located at 4630 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly. Parking is plentiful at Cub Run RECenter, located adjacent to Westfield High School. The trail is open daily sunrise

To start: Follow the woodchip path past the playground (to the right of the RECenter entrance) to the start of the trail. (For an ADA accessible option, go around the left side of the RECenter, past the water slide.) At the fork in the path, either choose left to go toward Old Lee Road, or right to go toward Stonecroft Boulevard. Either direction is a half mile out. Start out to the left and when approaching Old Lee Road, turn around to go back the way you came. Pass the path entrance and continue all the way down the path until approaching Stonecroft Boulevard. Turn around once again, to double back to the path entrance. That will cover the 2-mile distance.

The trail is paved — stroller, bike, and dog friendly. Wide paths accommodate trail users in both directions.

This path is paved, but not marked. Since both sides are downand-back, stay close to the point of entry at the Cub Run RECenter, which is convenient for bathroom and water stops.

Trail Buddy is a free GIS app that can be downloaded that will help get around Fairfax County's hundreds of miles of trails. View the app online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/trails/. One can also access the app from a Smartphone. No special app is needed to view the map. Go to http://bit.ly/fairfaxtrailbuddy.

Memorial Highway. This event is a fundraiser that benefits all Chantilly High School students and athletes through capital improvements such as facility upgrades and purchases of equipment, uniforms, and much more. Visit www.chantillysports.org for more.

## **SUNDAY/MARCH 26**

Hands On Activity Day. 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Railroading and/or historical crafts and activities will be offered for all ages although most are suited for ages 8 and above. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfaxstation.org, 703-425-9225 for more.

Wild the Waters Concert. 1-5 p.m. at the Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway (Rt. 29) Centreville. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for more.

## MONDAY/MARCH 27

Civil Rights Author. 2-4 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Meet Joan Trumpauer Mulholland, a freedom rights champion and participant in the 1963 civil rights sitin at the Jackson, Miss., Woolworths, and award-winning author on the subject, M.J. O'Brien. Viewing the film "An Ordinary Hero," the amazing true story of one woman's courage to help change the world. Copies of the film and O'Brien's book. "We Shall Not Be Moved" will be available for purchase. Light www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ branches/ce or call 703-831-2223.

## THURSDAY/MARCH 30

"Singin' in the Rain." 7 p.m. at Liberty Middle School, 6801 Union Mill Road. Visit www.fcps.edu/

LibertyMS/ or call 703-988-8100 for

## FRIDAY/MARCH 31

"Singin' in the Rain." 7 p.m. at Liberty Middle School, 6801 Union Mill Road. Visit www.fcps.edu/ LibertyMS/ or call 703-988-8100 for

Singing Bowl Sound Bath. 7:15 p.m. at WheelHouse Mind Body Studio, 12644 Chapel Road. Suites C,D, Clifton. Visit www.wheelhousemindbodystudio.com

## SATURDAY/APRIL 1

Watershed Clean-Up. 9-11:30 a.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Help remove bottles, cans, tires, and other carelessly dumped debris from local streams. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/

eclawrence for more. **Clifton STEM Fair**. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Lord of Life Preschool, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. A day of handson STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Math) activities including Minecraft modding, Lego robotics, math crafts, experiments and science magic show. Visit www.stemfairclifton.com for more. "Singin' in the Rain." 7 p.m. at

Liberty Middle School, 6801 Union Mill Road. Visit www.fcps.edu/ LibertyMS/ or call 703-988-8100 for

## SUNDAY/APRIL 2

12:30 p.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Discover varieties of green tea and sample Japanese sweets. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sullyhistoric-site for more.

## 2017 Spring Events



Virginia Ballet present "Sleeping Beauty," April 22-23 at the **Ernst Commu**nity Cultural Center Theater of NOVA Annandale, 8333 Little **River Turn**pike. Call 703-323-3000 for more.

#### **THURSDAY, MARCH 23**

Go-Kart Benefit. 11 a.m-10 p.m. at Dulles Autobahn Indoor Speedway, 45448 East Severn Way, Suite #150, Sterling. First Autobahn Indoor Speedway in nation with Next Generation Karts 50 percent of the day's sales will be donated to Special Olympics Virginia. Visit www.specialolympicsva.org or www.AutobahnSpeed.com for more.

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#### MONDAY/APRIL 3

Kindergarten Orientation. 4-5 p.m. at at Union Mill Elementary School, 13611 Springstone Drive, Clifton. Call 703-322-8500 or email sheri.brown@fcps.edu.

#### **SATURDAY/APRIL 8**

#### Easter Eggstravaganza Wagon Rides.

10:30 a.m. at Frying Pan Park, 2709 West Ox Road. Start with the egg hunt and then ride around the crop fields. \$2. Ages 2 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

## Calendar

## TUESDAY/APRIL 4

Annual Veterans Celebration. 5 p.m. at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Arranged by students from Chantilly High School and sponsored by the Chantilly National Honor Society. Email chsnhsveteranscelebration@gmail.com for

## **SATURDAY/APRIL 8**

Easter Eggstravaganza Wagon Rides. 10:30 a.m. at Frying Pan Park, 2709 West Ox Road. Start with the egg hunt and then ride around the crop fields. \$2. Ages 2 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

## APRIL 8-9

Mother's Day Art Show. 1-6 p.m. at 6540 Jerome Court, Manassas. Original paintings, photography, fused glass, prints, and handcrafted jewelry. Visit visitmanassas.org.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 22

Centreville International Showcase. At Korean Central Presbyterian Church, 15451 Lee Highway, Centreville. Sponsored by the Centreville Immigration Forum to celebrate the diversity of the community through music, dance, and food. Email showtimecentreville@gmail.com.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 22-23

"Sleeping Beauty." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 22, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 23. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Virginia Ballet Company presents the full-length ballet "Sleeping Beauty." Call 703-323-3000 for more.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 29

Fairfax County Anniversary. 8:30 a.m.-3

The Chantilly Boosters are raising funds at the Purple Tie Bash, Saturday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. at the Fair Oaks Marriott, 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway. This event is a fundraiser to benefit all **Chantilly High School students and** athletes through capital improvements such as facility upgrades and purchases of equipment, uniforms, and more. Visit www.chantillysports.org for more.

p.m., Virginia Room, City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-293-6227, ext. 6.

Virginia Touch-A-Truck. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Dominion High School, 21326 Augusta Drive, Sterling. Climb aboard a fire truck, concrete truck or tractor trailer at the Virginia Touch-A-Truck event held by Joshua's Hands, \$5. Children under 12 months free. Email elisabeth@joshuashands.org for more.





## BUSINESS

# Conducting Business in an 'Era of Uncertainty'

he Dulles Regional Cham ber of Commerce hosted a luncheon on March 8 during which three experts discussed their perspectives on how President Trump's policies may potentially impact the business community. More than 100 people attended the non-partisan discussion at the Holiday Inn Washington Dulles in Sterling.

At the event, entitled "Business Insights for Navigating the Trump Administration," experts Michael Pocalyko, Jeff W. Dick and Dr. Terry Clower presented their insights on formulating business strategies in an era of uncertainty at the beginning of a new presidential administration. Moderated by Doug Guernsey, EVP/COO at Guernsey Office Products, the panelists discussed how anticipated policy changes may potentially impact businesses from a global, national and regional perspective.

As the first speaker at the event, Michael Pocalyko, CEO of Monticello Capital, focused his remarks on providing a global perspective. "In order to understand President Trump, his administra-



From left are James Lawson, chairman of the board, Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce; Arsalan Lutfi, SVP, creative director, TriVision Creative; Jeff W. Dick, chairman and CEO of MainStreet Bancshares, Inc. and MainStreet Bank; Michael Pocalyko, CEO of Monticello Capital; Dr. Terry Clower, Northern Virginia chair and professor of public policy at George Mason University; Eileen Curtis, president/CEO of Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce; Praduman Jain, CEO, Vibrent Health; and Doug Guernsey, EVP/ **COO at Guernsey Office Products.** 

tion (and) the persons around him, three factors are very important," Pocalyko said. "Number one is what I call the 'Wharton factor'... that persons from Wharton have a conceptual series of values: the creation of enduring value; gaining an edge all the time and doing so entrepreneurially; enhancing of brand identification and brand equity; and using financial strategy as the primary driver of power

and growth."

But, secondly, Pocalyko said that it is important to understand that Trump is not a corporate leader, but instead runs a large and successful family businesses that has transplanted to the government. The third important factor is understanding Trump's "deep distrust of the political establish-

In terms of navigating for busi-

ness, Pocalyko advised: "Chaos is opportunity. Agile businesses are going to win — those that can change, pivot and change. This the rise of the American mittelstand, it's a German word that essentially means those companies that aren't real small and aren't real big."

Next, Dick, chairman and CEO of MainStreet Bancshares, Inc. and MainStreet Bank, focused on a national perspective on the topic.

He has worked at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and has served as an adviser to the U.K. Financial Services Authority. At the panel discussion Dick discussed how policy changes may impact the banking and regulation industry sectors. Dick provided a brief history of banking regulation and focused on the unintended consequences of Dodd-Frank et al, and how that might be positioned for change with the current Administration. Dick also discussed the potential for impact to small businesses if regulations are left unchanged.

Dick said, "Congress and the current administration has a golden opportunity to fix the inefficiencies of Dodd-Frank, the Volker Amendment and the Durbin Amendment. To do so will provide a terrific opportunity for the banking industry, with small business in general reaping the greatest rewards."

Following up, Clower, Northern Virginia chair and professor of public policy at George Mason University (GMU), talked about what the Trump administration means for the world of government contractors and business in general in Northern Virginia. Clower recently replaced Dr. Stephen Fuller as director of GMU's Center for Regional Analysis, which provides economic and public policy research services to sponsors in the private, non-profit and public sectors. Prior to joining GMU, he was director for the Center for Economic Development and Research at the University of North Texas.

Clower gave his input into how President Trump's policies will impact the regional Northern Virginia business climate. "We don't know which of (Trump's) policies are actually going to turn into law and which spending programs are going to happen yet," Clower said. 'What we have now is an era of uncertainty that we have not had since we were in the depths of the Great Recession."

Clower ended his talk with a prediction about federal spending. "OK I am going to step out way on the limb here. But it's a pretty thick limb. Federal spending is going to increase. We are going to have lots of teeth gnashing, we are going to have lots of stuff said back and forth, but the fact of the matter is that we are going to see federal spending increase," Clower said. "... because I can promise you that spending is going to continue to help to protect the political interests of the parties in place."

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## SCHOOLS



## 'Blizzard's Market'

The students at Lee's Corner Elementary School are part of an educational effort to run a market in the school called "Blizzard's Market," where their customers were other students. Through selling their wares, which included 225 class bears toys, they gained skills in kindness, respect and customer service as well as skills in counting money and the responsibility that comes with that.

## SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to chantilly@connection newspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon

one of 11 winners nationwide.

Chantilly High School has won its third consecutive First Amendment Press Freedom Award,

Brian Henry Pennell, of Chantilly, received a graduate degree in the fall 2016 from Fort Hays State University (Hays, Ks.).

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## 'Dunkin' for Dollars 3 on 3'

From left, Franklin Middle School eighth graders Zachary Levine, Spencer Schwartz, Nathan Reed, are joined by Alex Harris, owner of Evolution Basketball Training at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Dunkin' for Dollars 3 on 3" tournament. This year, the event was held at Evolution Basketball in Merrifield and raised \$1,300 for Peace Players International, a nonprofit that unites young people from divided communities through basketball. Evolution Basketball donated their court space and Shoppers Food Warehouse at Village Center at Dulles donated concessions.





## I Can't Forget What I Don't Remember

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I wouldn't say I'm forgetting things, but according to my wife, Dina, I certainly don't seem to be remembering them, at least as she does. Naturally, this "misremembering" could be attributed to the condition which likely affects many couples who have been over hill, over dale and over many dusty trails in nearly 39 years of marriage, as we have. Nevertheless, identifying the condition doesn't soothe the savage beast. Another possible/probable explanation is the ever-unpopular, recently-confirmed actual occurrence common to many cancer patients receiving chemotherapy: "chemo brain."

Even though I'm a veteran of these cancer/chemo wars apparently doesn't make me immune to its harmful effects. Quite the contrary in fact. Survival is wonderful, but yearslong treatment does take its toll. And for a cancer patient now in his ninth consecutive year of treatment, the bell tolls for me. Fortunately, I can still hear the bell. The question is: will I remember having heard it? I say, absolutely! My wife says: not so fast.

All kidding aside, I can see this difference of opinion becoming a problem. At present, I'm not the least bit (well, maybe a little bit, otherwise; why would I be droning on about it?) concerned about a few of our memories fading since I don't believe that they have. I'm inclined to invoke an opposite-George Costanza here and say it's her, not me. Not surprisingly, my wife will play the part of one of George's ex-girlfriends and say it's definitely me. So what else is new? Nothing. The question/worry is: will this become a chronic

Which in a way is what all us heretofore "terminal" cancer patients want. Obviously, a cure for what ails me/others similarly diagnosed would be ideal, but the more realistic scenario is that one day, cancer will treated as a chronic condition, like diabetes, not a terminal disease as my stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer was originally characterized by my oncologist on Feb. 27, 2009 (you bet I remember that date!). Oh ves, that is a date that will live in infamy. Unlike Pearl Harbor, however, where thousands died, and unlike the message delivered by Franklin Delano Roosevelt that same day, when the sober news was first heard by a nation then at war, only three people heard what my oncologist said to me that day, and only my life was at stake, though certainly my wife, Dina and my brother, Richard were impacted, even though they weren't he ones receiving a grim prognosis.

As Dina and I regularly reminisce about our life together, we regularly have different recollections. She's entitled. I'm entitled. There might be a right. There might be a wrong. But without Warner Wolf around to "go to the videotape," the chance that we'll remember a shared memory similarly or at all considering there's now almost four decades worth of stuff is unrealistic, isn't it? I mean, we're different people. We process and store information differently. In fact, I might say, it's likely a miracle if we did actually remember, identically, people, place and things.

The older one gets, the greater the cumulative information in our brains and apparently, the less chemical/muscular ability we have to access/retrieve all that information. Not remembering or remembering differently is nothing more than the passage of time rearing its ugly head. Now combine that inevitability with the toxicity of chemotherapy — and God knows what else my cancer is affecting, and what you have here is a sitting duck. If I were to believe totally in this inevitability or in my wife's assessment, I would say there's disintegrating hope for me. But I don't. I believe in the power of I believe in the power of positive thinking and in always seeing the bright side — and joking/laughing about all of it. So what if I don't remember or remember differently, it probably wasn't worth remembering anyway.

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

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## News



## Shabbat Shira Service

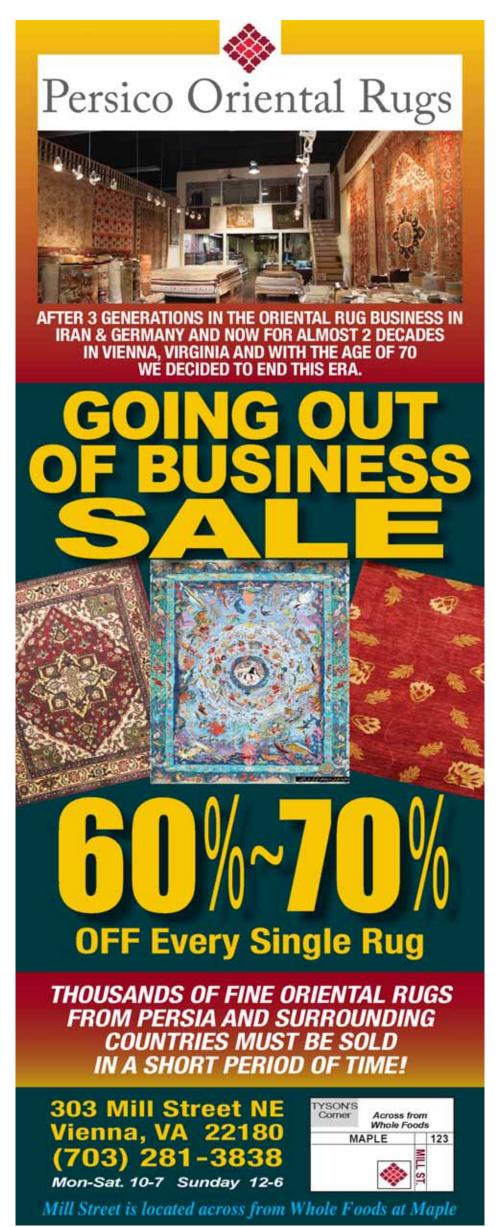
The cast and crew of "Fiddler on the Roof" take a final bow. Temple Beth Torah in Chantilly, performed several songs from the hit musical as part of the annual Shabbat Shira service. Produced and directed by Joanne Wertz, this was a light-hearted take on the music of "Fiddler." The cast were all Temple Beth Torah members.



Real-life "Tevye and Golde," Mike and Anne Beaudreau, contemplate the meaning of love after 25 years of marriage in "Do You Love Me?" in **Temple Beth** Torah's homage to "Fiddler on the Roof."



"Matchmaker," the story of three sisters, wondering the sort of husband their father will choose for each of them, is one of the hits from "Fiddler on the Roof." Here the song is performed at Temple Beth Torah's Shabbat Shira service. From left are Anna Kaplan, Leah Glicker and Lillie Jerome.



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Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (left) won the majority of votes for governor at the straw poll taken at U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's (D-11) 23rd annual St. Patrick's Day Fete on Friday, March 17.

## Rallying Dems Against Trump

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needed to keep "on the other side of the Potomac River."

Running to replace Northam as lieutenant governor, Justin Fairfax said after just 60 days in office, "Trump is the worst President we've had in history."

Connolly, acting as master of ceremonies between candidates' speeches, joked, "Boy, did you just make James Buchanan's night."

Norham and Fairfax were winners in the evening's straw polls for their respective hopeful offices, the former soundly beating Tom Perriello and the latter winning the majority of attendee votes over Susan Platt and Gene Rossi.

Fairfax was among the attorneys who volunteered to provide legal services to people being detained at Dulles Airport immediately following Trump's first executive order banning travel with seven majority-Muslim countries. He said the work was among his proudest moments.

"He doesn't know what he's touched off," Fairfax said. "The rebirth of activism ... we will resist, fight for each other."

Getting in the final words for the evening, Connolly referenced the Women's March on Washington following Trump's inauguration. He said it should not be a "one-day feel-good event."

The politicians conveyed messages of resistance and persistence.

State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37) said the full house was reminiscent of town hall meetings he attended during the recently concluded Virginia General Assembly session

"People are coming up to me like electrical plugs," he said, asking "where can you plug me in?"

More and more people want to do something, in what he called the "desperate situation the country is in," in fear of the President's "unstable behavior."

Marsden said he is still hoping for Trump to do well: "He's my President. Bull all signs point to him not being prepared to do this job."

The Virginia primaries will be held June 13. The deadline to register to vote or update an existing registration is May 22.



Donte Tanner of Centreville (left) talks with state Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37), right, at Connolly's Fete. Tanner is running against Republican Tim Hugo for the 40th district delegate seat.



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) held his 23rd annual St. Patrick's Day Fete and Democratic rally on March 17 at the Fairfax Kena Shriners' Temple.