

Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes



JP Vaughan was one of the students at Chesterbrook Academy Preschool in Centreville helping raise money through a Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Murder Case Mistrial After Jurors Deadlock

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CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY PHOTO

JULY 19-25, 2017

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Students at Chesterbrook Academy Preschool in Centreville raised more than \$800 on Friday, July 14 at their Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Since the beginning of July, students worked together to raise money to help save the lives of children battling childhood cancer and other deadly diseases. During the event, students rode tricycles around the school grounds to raise awareness and support for the cause. Leading up to the event, students are learning about bike safety. This is the second year Chesterbrook Academy has hosted a trike-a-thon to raise money for St. Jude. See www.ChesterbrookAcademy.com.



From left: Gavin Cable, Julia Girardin, and Lia Cavaluzzi



Imani Dakes-Good



Julia Girardin

CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY PHOTOS

Community Invited to 'Stock Our Shelves' for WFCM's Food Pantry

WFCM is organizing a community-wide food drive to help replenish and restock the shelves of Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) food pantry which serves hungry individuals and families in western Fairfax County. Keeping the food pantry shelves stocked during the summer months is a challenge — particularly with children out of school and unable to access free or reduced price meals daily at their school. Additionally, with many regular donors on vacation during the summer, donations to the food pantry drop during a heavy-use time. WFCM needs the community's help to serve those struggling with food insecurity and needs.

WFCM invites residents to shop

and donate food and monetary donations at three "Stock the Shelves" locations, on Saturday, July 29, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Food drives will be held at Centreville Giant Grocery Store, 14125 St Germain Drive, Centreville; Chantilly Walmart, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly; and Greenbriar Giant Grocery Store, 13043 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy., Fairfax. At each grocery store location, volunteers will distribute a most-needed food list to encourage shoppers to purchase items needed to restock WFCM's pantry shelves.

Some of the items most needed at WFCM's Food Pantry include: canned fruit, canned meats, rice, dry or canned beans, oatmeal or cereal, cooking oil, sugar, juice boxes, dry pasta and sauce, and

canned vegetables (other than green beans). Personal hygiene items are also needed and clients are unable to purchase these items with food stamps: small dish soap, laundry detergent, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, diapers (size 4, 5, and 6) and feminine care items.

Volunteers are also needed to help with the food collection effort between 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the various locations. Duties will include handing out flyers, collecting donations from customers, and weighing, sorting, and organizing food items. Volunteers are also needed between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. at WFCM's food pantry, located at 4511 Daly Drive, Chantilly, to help accept food donations as they come in from the grocery store locations that will be a part of the community-wide effort. To volunteer, contact Jennie Bush at



Volunteers helped collect food at past grocery store food drive.

jbush@wfcmvva.org or 703-988-9656, ext. 107.

Financial gifts to assist with pantry needs are also accepted. Write

a check payable to WFCM and mail to WFCM, attn.: Stock Our Shelves, PO Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.



ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, July 20, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

No appointment is necessary. But residents should install the child safety seats themselves so technicians may properly inspect and adjust them, as needed.

Because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. That way, inspectors may have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the correct use of the child

seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

'Beauty and the Beast'

Westfield Summer Stage's upcoming musical is "Beauty and the Beast." It'll be presented at Westfield High, Friday-Saturday, July 21-22 and July 28-29, at 7 p.m., with matinees Sunday, July 23, and Saturday, July 29, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 via www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com and \$15 at the door; all seats are reserved. In addition, a children's tea with Belle and her friends will be offered July 22 at noon.

Murder Case Mistrial after Jurors Deadlock

Case involves post-wedding stabbing at Cabell's Mill.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

The criminal case against Kempton Bonds involved anger and hostilities at a wedding reception. Those two elements derailed his murder trial, too — but this time, the unpleasanties were among the jurors.

Bonds, of Clifton, is accused of the Aug. 6, 2016 stabbing death of Tyonne Johns at Cabell's Mill in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. But after hearing hours and hours of testimony during his five-day trial, July 11-14, in Fairfax County Circuit Court, his jurors hopelessly deadlocked Friday night and a mistrial was declared.

Johns, of Washington, D.C., was 35 and the wedding's caterer at the time of the tragedy; Bonds was 19. A 2015 Robinson Secondary School graduate, he was a seasonal employee of the county Park Authority. According to the wedding party, he was such a stickler for the rules that he and they clashed throughout the evening.

Bonds took down decorations not allowed to be taped to the walls of the historic building and removed fake rose petals from the grounds outside because they weren't biodegradable. He also turned off the music at 9 p.m. when, according to the contract, it had to stop — an hour before the event ended at 10 p.m.

He and Johns never argued until it was cleanup time and her folding chairs were being separated from those provided by the Park Authority. But during the course of the wedding, Bonds felt so threatened by the others that he began taping them on his phone. He even called his supervisor for advice, as well as the police, saying he feared for his wellbeing.

Bonds videotaped the eight minutes before and after the stabbing, and the court watched that tape several times and heard what was said by everyone — including the threats and cursing of the wedding party and Johns toward Bonds. The bride, Camellia Sutherland, testified that she normally didn't talk that way, but did so "after five hours of frustration."

When Bonds told her the music had to stop at 9 p.m., she said, "He was sarcastic and rude to me and asked if I wanted to see a copy of the contract." And, she added, "My dad was upset we couldn't have our father-daughter dance because the music had been turned off."

Johns's chairs were being loaded



Chef Tyonne Johns

into a U-Haul around 10:35 p.m. Until then, asked defense attorney Peter Greenspun, "Had you ever heard Bonds raise his voice or threaten anybody? Was he cursing, assaulting or touching anyone?" Sutherland said no.

"Johns said [to him], 'I'll smack you, I don't care. I have bail money, I don't give a f—,'" said Greenspun. "Did he say anything?"

"No," replied Sutherland. "He just stood there with a smirk on his face. I was angry." Sutherland also acknowledged that, as heard on the tape, she, too, was cursing at and threatening Bonds.

"You called him a 'f—ing idiot,' right?" asked Greenspun. Yes, she replied. "And your husband said he was going to mess him up next time he saw him at Bull Run Park?" Yes, answered Sutherland. "You said, 'Boy, I'm about to f— you up — and on my wedding day — I swear to God.'" Again, she said yes.

"Who said he was going to follow [Bonds] home — your father?" asked Greenspun. "Yes," said Sutherland. She also admitted that she and her husband threatened Bonds that they'd file a lawsuit against him and get him fired.

Sutherland is white and her husband is black and, on the tape, her husband calls Bonds a racist. Sutherland said they'd reached that conclusion because they saw Trump bumper stickers on a vehicle they thought was Bonds' car. But they had the



Historic Cabell's Mill is in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park.



The Cabell's Mill patio.

wrong car and both Bonds and his mother later testified that — not only isn't he racist — but he's mixed-race, himself, half white and a quarter each black and Cherokee Indian.

Tensions boiled over when, on the patio, someone asked how many chairs the Park Authority provided and Bonds said, "80." Johns reacted by walking swiftly toward Bonds and telling him to "Shut the f— up." Both Sutherland and another guest testified that they never saw Johns touch him or pin him against the patio railing.

But during his four hours of testimony, Bonds said Johns grabbed him around the neck and was choking him. He said he only stabbed her to get her off him and save his life.

Police Officer David Stewart testified that he responded to the venue after Bonds's non-emergency call to police, around 9:20 p.m., about disorderly conduct there. "He stated he was being harassed by two of the wedding guests," said Stewart. "It was clear there'd been an argument ... I told Bonds to just stay away from the wedding party until it was over."

Stewart also said he'd told the teen the police would stay there, just out of sight. But when they had to respond to a traffic accident on Route 50, they left suddenly without telling him. This fact became critical later on when, after the altercation with Johns — not realizing he'd stabbed her fatally and believing himself to be the victim of an attack by her — he shouted for the police, and they weren't there.

Medical examiner, Dr. Meghan Kessler, performed the autopsy on Johns. She said Johns sustained two, quick, stab wounds to the left chest. "Both contributed to her death," said Kessler. "One went into the left lung and heart."

Bonds's mother, Madeline Smith, testified that Bonds's father was a custom-knife maker and had made that folding knife. When he died, three years ago, she gave it to their son as a keepsake. But since they also had horses on their property, she said Kempton used that knife regularly to make repairs and cut open bales of

hay or boxes. She also noted that, on July 16, 1994, she was married at Cabell's Mill.

Bonds testified that, when he went there that day, he was excited because it was his last day of work before vacation and the start of college at VCU. He also said that, in the 35 other events he'd handled for the Park Authority, he'd never had any problems and no one had complained about him.

Explaining how he was threatened that night, Bonds said one person said he was going to wait until everybody was gone and follow him home. He said another one picked him up from behind. Bonds called his supervisor, Zane Stivers, and told him he was going to call the police "because I didn't feel safe there by myself." But no one from the Park Authority came to his aid in person, and the police who responded left.

Later, while the chairs were being loaded, Bonds was leaning against the patio railing with his arms behind him, cell phone in left hand. He said he was standing where the police had earlier told him to stand, while people were "yelling at me about how awful I was and how I'd ruined the evening." Noting that the bride and groom had been the most verbally abusive toward him all night, he said he was surprised when the 60-pound-heavier Johns suddenly joined in and walked quickly toward him saying, "Boy, I'm gonna knock you out."

"I was confused — it wasn't her wedding," said Bonds. "And as a caterer, she knew what it was like to deal with a bad wedding party. Her hands go up around my throat, she's pushed me and I can't breathe, I can't move. I could feel her thumb digging into my neck. I open the knife in my pocket and stab her to get her off me. The phone falls to the ground and I scream for the police and yell for the others to stay away from me."

He then called 911 to say he'd been attacked and asked police to come quickly. Bonds said he hadn't realized he'd wounded Johns fatally until he heard it over the police radio in the squad car following his arrest. When Greenspun asked him why he'd stabbed her, he replied, "Because she was trying to kill me."

Judge Daniel Ortiz told the jurors they could either find Bonds guilty of second-

SEE MISTRIAL, PAGE 7

OPINION

Help Prepare Children in Need for School

Many opportunities to contribute; tax-free back-to-school shopping is Aug. 5-7 across Virginia.

We live in an area where many, if not most, families have the means and desire to do almost whatever it takes to give their children the best chances for success.

But for thousands of students, families lack the financial resources to equip them for success on the first day of school and beyond.

In our affluent area, there are many poor families, families who are barely making it, families who are not able to indulge their children in a shopping spree before school begins, families who are already having trouble making up for the meals their children would be getting at school.

EDITORIAL

In Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 27 percent of more than 184,000 students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized meals. That's more than 50,000 children in Fairfax County who are going through the summer without their usual access to breakfast and lunch. In some schools, volunteers pack snacks for the students to take home on weekends. For many of those children, having a fully equipped backpack on the first day of school is out of reach.

In the City of Alexandria, about 60 percent of the Alexandria Public Schools students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized meals. That's more than 8,000 of the city's 13,000-plus students.

In Arlington, more than 32 percent of the county's 23,000-plus students are poor enough to receive subsidized meals; more than 7,000 students.

Help these students get started on the right foot by contributing to one of the many local backpack drives.

The Virginia sales tax holiday for school supplies and clothing (and preparedness and energy savers) is Aug. 4-6. This is a little extra savings that could be paid forward to students in need.

The three-day sales tax holiday starts the first Friday in August at 12:01 a.m. and ends the following Sunday at 11:59 p.m. During the sales tax holiday, you can buy qualifying school supplies, clothing, footwear; hurricane and emergency preparedness items; Energy Star and WaterSense products without paying sales tax.

Each eligible individual school supply item must be priced at \$20 or less, and each eligible article of clothing and footwear must be priced at \$100 or less. For other details see www.tax.virginia.gov/virginia-sales-tax-holiday

Where To Give in Fairfax County

❖ **Fairfax County Collect for Kids** is a public private partnership that provides local children from economically challenged families with the school supplies they need to begin the school year, and has provided more than 100,000 supply kits and backpacks since

2010. Collect for Kids is made possible through a partnership with Kids R First, Fairfax County Public Schools, the Fairfax County Office of Public and Private Partnerships, Apple Federal Credit Union and numerous community-based organizations (some listed here) and businesses in the Fairfax County area who are working together to provide supplies in a more cost-effective and efficient way. See collectforkids.org/resources.

❖ **Cornerstones** will work to provide backpacks and other necessities to 3,000 Reston and Herndon area students. You can buy backpacks and other items online and have them delivered to Cornerstones. Or deliver the backpacks to Cornerstones Administrative Office Aug. 7-11, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston. In addition to backpacks, Cornerstones also requests donations of new underwear for elementary school age children, and Payless gift card donations (\$25) so young clients can get a new pair of shoes. Contact Cornerstones at 571-323-9568 or volunteer@cornerstonesva.org. Visit www.cornerstonesva.org/donations/drives/back-to-school/

❖ **United Community Ministries** annual Back to School campaign is underway. Donations are needed by Friday, Aug. 4. A gift of \$40 completely outfits one student. Please drop checks and backpacks off at UCM's main office (7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306) weekdays from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Emily Griffin at emily.griffin@ucmagency.org or by 571-255-8973 or visit www.ucmagency.org/back-to-school-2017.html.

❖ **Britepaths**, participates in the Collect for Kids Back to School Program each summer and is working to help more than 2,500 students in central Fairfax have everything they need to succeed this fall. Cash donations help purchase supplies at a steep discount. Donate backpacks or calculators by Aug. 5. Larger size backpacks especially needed. Donate cash through Aug. 31. Checks are welcome. Make checks payable to "Britepaths," write BTS in the memo line of the check. Mail to: Britepaths 4080 Chain Bridge Road, 2nd Floor, Fairfax, VA 22030. If delivering in person, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., except for holidays. Call 703-273-8829. Visit www.britepaths.org.

Drop-off sites until Aug. 5:

— Cinema Arts Theatre At Fair City Mall, 9650-14 Main St, Fairfax, VA 22031

— Cox Farms 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville, VA 20120

— Del. Kathleen Murphy Constituent Office, 6888 Elm St., Ste 1C, McLean, VA 22101

— GAP Solutions, Inc. 205 Van Buren St, Herndon, VA 20170; Drop off in Suite 205

— Gathering Grounds Cafe At University Mall, 10637 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

— Dr. Gene Sweetnam, OD 5204A Rolling Road, Burke, VA 22015

— Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031

— Pure Performance 3805 Pickett Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

— Quest Diagnostics 14225 Newbrook Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151

— Solaris Laser and Skin Care 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna, VA 22180

— Spine and Joint Institute 9990 Fairfax Blvd. #115, Fairfax, VA 22030

— STEM exCEL 4010 University Drive, #104, Fairfax, VA 22030

— Sugar Mama's Ice Cream 11208 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030

— Union Bank Burke 6050 Burke Commons Road, Suite A, Burke, VA 22015

— University Mall Theatre At University Mall, 10659 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

— Westminster School's Camp Griffin 3819 Gallows Road, Annandale, VA 22003

❖ **FACETS** is seeking to equip more than 300 students in need with backpacks filled with supplies. Use the checklist at the link below as a guide for purchasing backpacks and supplies. Place purchased supplies in backpacks or other bags and deliver to FACETS. Drop off supplies through Aug. 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, 10640 Page Ave., Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030. Contact FACETS at 703-272-3710 or visit facetscares.org/summerbacktoschooldrive/

❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service** is able to buy supplies at a value that beats retail price. Every \$1 donated by July 27 can purchase \$2 worth of school supplies. Mail checks (payable to NVFS, with BTS in the memo line) to: Northern Virginia Family Service, Attn: Back to School, 10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124. Donations of new backpacks and new school supplies will be accepted on Friday, July 28, and Monday, July 31, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 13868 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151 (between Lotus Vegetarian and PetSmart – our storefront has white-washed windows). www.nvfs.org/support/back-to-school/

❖ **Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools** www.fcpsfoundation.org/donate.html accepts online donations only – to purchase school supplies in bulk quantity

❖ **Apple Federal Credit Union** www.applefcu.org/appleweb/collectforkids accepts online donations and backpack donations at local branches.

❖ **Fairfax County Board of Supervisors** Offices will be collecting backpacks during the month of August. See website for office locations and hours of operation. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/about-the-board-of-supervisors.htm

❖ **Fairfax County Public Schools** Backpack donations at the Gatehouse and Willow Oaks Administrative office locations. www.fcps.edu/

❖ **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries** accepts online donations and backpack donations. Check website for more details. Deliver Backpacks to WFCM (July 17-Aug. 11, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.) to WFCM's Office at 4511 Daly Drive, Suite J, Chantilly, VA 20151. Please bring backpacks to the back door of the Food Pantry. wfcmv.org/how-you-can-help/annual-backpack-program/

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Mike Salmon
Assistant Editor
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9415
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

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

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

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
[@MaryKimm](https://www.facebook.com/MaryKimm)

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
[@TheismannMedia](https://www.facebook.com/TheismannMedia)

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427
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Summer Book Clubs for Children

Ideal time to instill a love of reading, say experts.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Encouraging children to read during summer months can be challenging for some parents, but worth the effort, say local educators, because diving into books offers students an opportunity to boost their reading skills before the start of the next school year. Book clubs with their peers allows children to read in a relaxed, informal setting.

"Book groups during summer vacation are the perfect time for friends to gather and share the love of reading," said Julie M. Esanu, lower school librarian, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. "The summer is a perfect time for readers to explore and enjoy a variety of books across different genres and formats, including ebooks, audiobooks, and graphic novels."

While parents must provide a basic structure for the book club, Esanu says that allowing children to be involved in the planning and book selection, will cultivate a positive attitude toward books and reading.

"Summer reading is all about exploration and inspiration, so let the readers take charge," said Esanu. "Consider the members of the book group and their various interests when selecting titles and let the members have a say in what they're reading."

Allow for organic discussions inspired by the readers rather than formal discussions that require too much preparation, advises Esanu. "[Formality] feels too much like homework for students and we want them to dive into books during summer," she said. "Kids have a lot to say about the books that they read and that can lead to fabulous conversations. It is important for children to select the books that they read, especially over the summer."

In her role as the lower and middle school librarian at Bullis School in Potomac, Katherine Brewer helps students make book selections by asking them about the last book they read and enjoyed. "This helps me find out what types of books they are into and suggest other titles they might like," she said. "I might ask what about the book they liked. Then I will give several suggestions."

Preparing and organizing the book club session without over planning, avoids chaos and leads to success, advises Laura Maffei, humanities teacher at BASIS Independent School McLean. "Set the stage by helping the children to understand the setting and any unfamiliar events or vocabulary they might encounter," she said. "For example, before reading 'Misty of Chincoteague' learn about Virginia, specifically Assateague and Chincoteague Islands, watch a documentary on the round up, make a craft that teaches the parts of a horse and its riding equipment, look at examples of life in the 1950s to see how it differs from today."

WHEN THE MEMBERS of the book group are not all at the same reading level, as can be the case with children, reading the same book can be pose a challenge, says Maffei. "... An option would be to read the same content, but each reader gets a book at their reading level," she said. "I've done this with



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Studies show that reading self-selected books cultivates positive attitudes towards books and reading, says librarian Julie M. Esanu.

Shakespeare, Greek Mythology, and classics like 'Peter Pan' that come in a variety of book types from picture to early reader to original text."

"If the children aren't around the same age [and] reading level or have varying interests, I would select a topic and suggest books that they could read and share," added Brewer. "Students can have the book read to them or listen to an audio version if they prefer."

Book club activities are an important tool in helping children develop a love of reading, says Tom Longano a third grade teacher at the Heights School, an all boys school in Potomac. "With most of our books I will invent a quick game that includes acting out the characters or key events from the story," he said. "I have found this to be an excellent way for the boys, who often have a very concrete approach to the world yet boundless imaginations ... to enter into the stories and feel them as actually real. This generates a love for the books that goes beyond just reading them, because they have in a sense lived them as well, acted them out."

Longano says that this excitement about books can also be achieved with dramatic readings and assigning children characters from the book and having them act them out. "Anything to bring the text off the page and into their direct environment," he said.

"The activity should be fun and hands on, with the children taking the lead on the project," said Brewer.

Summer book club activity ideas include visiting local public libraries or bookstores and browsing the shelves for ideas, says Esanu. "Visit the Alexandria or Arlington Public Library or an independent bookstore, such as Hooray for Books! in Alexandria or One More Page Books in Arlington, and browse the shelves for ideas," she said. "Each book club member could choose a book that catches their eye and then the group could vote on which book they want to read."

Reading a book and taking a field trip that is related to the book is another activity that Esanu recommends. "For example, Tonya Bolden's award-winning book, 'How to Build a Museum' shares a behind-the-scenes look into Smithsonian's National Museum for American History and Culture," she said. "This is a great way to explore the museum before a visit."

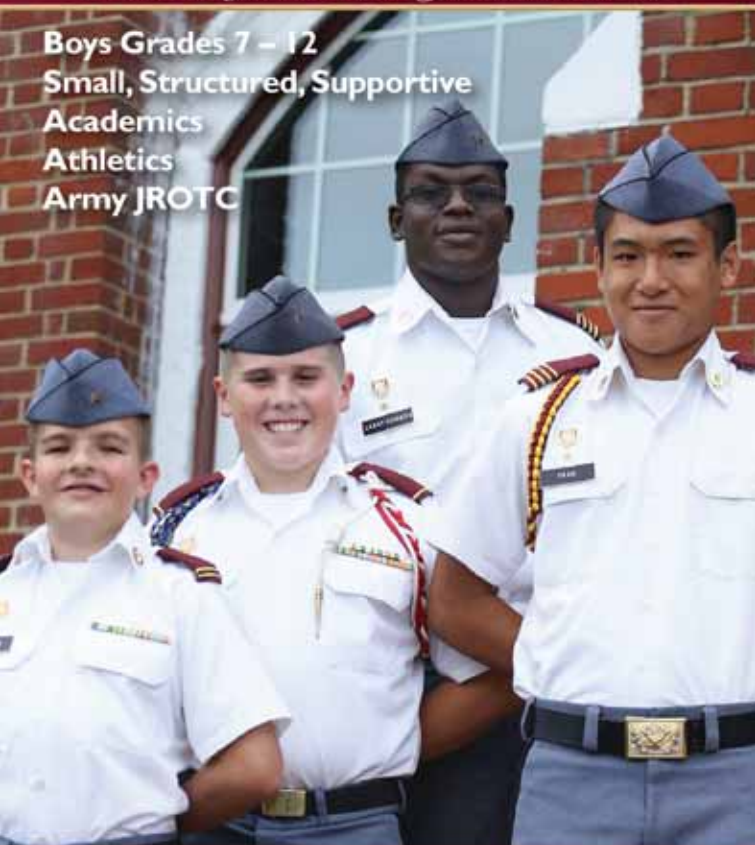
Guiding a discussion by asking questions that connect the book to current or personal events, playing games such as Charades, 20 Questions or Pictionary can help spark a lively discussion of the book, says Maffei.

"If the book has a movie version, watch the movie after reading the book," she said. "Look for differences in plot, how the characters and setting look compared to how you thought they'd look."

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SPORTS

Riptide's Record-Setting Teams

Virginia Run Riptide's Busy Week Traffic at the intersection of Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road was worse than usual on a recent Wednesday evening as Virginia Run hosted the NVSL Division 4 Relay Carnival with more than 300 swimmers from six teams. On that day, nine new team records were set with five of these new records belonging to the Virginia Run Riptide.

The 15-18 Boys 200 Medley and 200 Freestyle Relay team of Anthony Arcomona, Leo Wang, Nick McGrath and Geoffrey Eisenhart demolished two team records taking 3-plus seconds off of the medley relay record posting a 1:53.39 and 2-plus seconds off of an 11-year-old free relay record swimming a 1:43.71. The Girls Mixed Age 200 Freestyle Relay of Isabelle Cogan, Charis Roundtree, Maddie Whitton, and Sarah Boyle set a new team mark of 2:02.93. The Super 8's took multiple seconds off team Medley records with the Boys 8&U Medley Relay of Ethan O'Connor, Mason Conlon, Nick Harris and Christopher Thomson swimming a 1:35.69 and the Girls 8&U team of Anna Kelliher, Jenna Van Buren, Caroline Friess and Charis Roundtree swimming a 1:31.08. The 9-10 Boys 100 Meter Medley Relay of Ryan Friess, Davis Collinsworth, Christopher Lee, and Ryder Hicks and the Boys Mixed Age Relay of Jackson Blansett, Davis Collinsworth, Jason Cheifetz, and Nick McGrath as well as the 15-18 Girls Medley and Freestyle teams of Sarah Boyle, Meredith Matz, Didi Pace, Chanel Cogan, and Lauren Stovall will have the honor of joining their record setting teammates at the NVSL All-Star Relays.

Virginia Run took a short trip to Chantilly to swim against the Poplar Tree Pirates on Saturday, July 15. In a nail biter of a meet the Riptide edged the Pirates 217 to 198.

Riptide freestylers swam for first in six of the 10 races: for the boys Ethan O'Connor (8&U), Jackson Blansett (11-12), Nick McGrath (15-18) and for the girls Caitlin Kelliher (11-12), Maddie Whitton (13-14) and Didi Pace (15-18). Three swimmers captured second place: Anna Kelliher (8&U), Ryan Friess and Megan Marco (9-10). Six competitors won third place points: for the boys Ryder Hicks (9-10), Charles Beamon (11-12), and Jack Liskey (13-14) and for the girls Lauren Fitch (8&U), Ali Harkins (9-10), and Chelsea Nguyen (13-14).

With the meet tied 45-45, the backstrokers pushed back in their lanes. For the 8&U 25 Meter Backstroke Nick Harris was first and Ethan O'Connor third and for the girls Charis Roundtree took first with a new team record of 19.03 while Anna Kelliher was third. For the 50 Meter Backstroke 9-10's Davis Collinsworth was second, Ewan McDonough was third for the boys and Laney Zimmerman third for the girls. Isabelle Cogan was first, Samuel Roundtree was second, and Tommy Vu was third for the 11-12 age group. Chelsea Nguyen swam for first, Catie Gunn for third, and Andrew Boyle for second for the 13-14's. Sarah Boyle was first, Chanel Cogan third and



Boys 15-18 Medley and Free Relay records-setting Team: A. Arcomona, L. Wang, N. McGrath, and G. Eisenhart.



Girls Mixed Age Relay record-setting team: I. Cogan, C. Roundtree, M. Whitton, and S. Boyle.

Anthony Arcomona was second for the 15-18's.

As the breaststrokers started their events, the Pirates had grabbed a two-point lead 91-89, but then the Riptide frog kickers asserted themselves. Eight & Unders Mason Conlon took second and Christopher Thomson third for the boys, results that

SEE RIPTIDE, PAGE 8

Sully Station II in Relay Carnival

The Sully Station II Piranhas enjoyed a busy week beginning with their final B meet of the season on Monday, July 10 followed by the Relay Carnival two days later. The 15-18 girls squad of Carly Logan, Georgia Stamper, Delaney Kennedy and Karenn Hall led the way with dominating wins by over 8 seconds in the medley and more than 4 seconds in the freestyle relay. The 11-12 girls combined the talents of Caroline Li, Cecilia Alquinta, Callie Ver Planck, Angela Cai, and Hayley Norris to claim first in the free and second in the medley.

Strong 8&U girls turned in two second place finishes with Grace Ver Planck, Mary Campbell, Alyssa Seng, and Payton Susko. The mixed age girls free relay finished second by .55 seconds with teammates Cai, Ehma Stalfort, Faith Alston, and Hall. The 15-18 boys relay of Harmon Saint Germain, Max Morris, Brody Campbell and Kellen Campbell touched second in free and third in medley. Additional third place finishers included 9-10 girls Keilyn Argueta, Ella Ammons, Hannah Kang, and Ehma Stalfort as well as 8&U boys Gabriel Alquinta, Mark McLendon, Michael Zhang, and Zacchaeus Post.

SS2 hosted their first home A meet of the season on Saturday, July 15 against Canterbury Woods. In their most competitive matchup of the season, the Piranhas counted seven double event winners including Jason Li, Caroline Li, Angela Cai, Madison Stalfort, Faith Alston, Delaney Kennedy and Georgia Stamper. Stamper led the sweep of the 15-18 girls breaststroke along with Ally Introne and Hope Alston. The 9-10 boys similarly swept the butterfly with Li, Emerson Saint Germain, and Bryan Kim.

Piranhas ruled the freestyle events, as Michael Zhang, Collin West and Harrison Saint Germain all brought home additional wins. Kellen Campbell secured first in backstroke and individual points were also added by Zacchaeus Post, Payton Susko, Ehma Stalfort, Ella Ammons, Cecilia Alquinta, Mark McLendon, Caden Seng, Elijah Post, Lilly Wilson, Simon Campbell, Charles Tai, Callie Ver Planck, Carly Logan, Carson Saint Germain, Alyssa Seng, Hannah Kang, Hayley Norris, Harmon Saint Germain, Brody Campbell, Collin West, Grace Ver Planck, and Max Morris. Special highlights of the meet were Jason Li's performance in winning breaststroke by .4



Piranhas had a successful Relay Carnival. Pictured are 15-18 girls Karenn Hall, Delaney Kennedy, Georgia Stamper, Carly Logan and 11-12 girls Callie Ver Planck, Hayley Norris, Angela Cai and Caroline Li.

seconds and SuperTeam swimmer Connor Pond who came through with a best time in freestyle in his first A meet appearance. The 5-year old earned some of the biggest cheers of the morning with his effort.

The special week concluded with Family Fun Night, featuring the watermelon races, diving for quarters, and belly flop contest. The Piranhas will host Rolling Forest on Saturday, July 22 for the final A meet of the season where Sully II seniors will be honored.

News Mistrial

FROM PAGE 3

degree murder or voluntary or involuntary manslaughter and explained the differences between each offense. He also said they could find him not guilty if they believed the incident was self-defense.

In his closing argument on Friday, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Brandon Shapiro said Bonds talked to the wedding party in a disrespectful, not-intimidated manner and antagonized, taunted and baited the bride and groom on their special day. He also said the wedding guests weren't attacking Bonds, despite what he told the police.

Noting that second-degree murder is an intentional act done with malice by someone under the control of reason, Shapiro said, "Malice is taking that knife out of his pocket, jabbing twice and twisting up. [Bonds] never shoved, punched or kicked Johns; his first move was to go for a deadly weapon. He never stopped to see what would happen [after the first wound] — he went for death."

Regarding Bonds not being able to breathe, Shapiro said he was able to shout, "Get the f— off me." For self-defense, said the prosecutor, Bonds had to "reasonably fear for his life or believe he's in danger of great, bodily harm. No one's yelling for her to get him and there's no evidence that she had a weapon. This is not a situation where deadly force is appropriate. It was not an accident — he did this with malice, and that's murder in the second degree."

But Greenspun said it was everyone else who was "vile and disrespectful" to Bonds. "They called him 'Boy,' in a condescending, verbally assaultive manner, but he never once raises his voice at them," said Greenspun. "[Yet] he had no reason to believe he'd be attacked by Johns."

"She launched herself at him with her arms up and going for his throat. Otherwise, her arm would have blocked the knife and she'd have been stabbed in the arm — and the medical examiner agreed. Johns is dead and that's a tragedy, but she brought the fray on, herself, and [the others] and their vile language incited her actions. What's recorded on the phone tells the facts of what happened, contrary to what the others testified."

But Shapiro said the others were telling Johns, "Ty, no," not egging her on. "At no time was Bonds significantly intimidated by these people," said Shapiro. "He had a knife on him, and that made him 7 feet tall."

The jurors deliberated six hours, but sent word at 7:45 p.m. that they couldn't reach a consensus and, therefore, any verdict. In fact, said the judge, there was so much animosity among them that "They're already no longer speaking to each other." He then had the jury brought into the courtroom, where the foreman said they'd "reached an impasse" they couldn't overcome.

Ortiz then declared a mistrial and Shapiro said the Commonwealth would retry Bonds, who remains on \$250,000 bond plus house arrest. A new trial date will be set in August.

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And So It Begins



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

For the first time in almost exactly 25 years: bathroom demolition, times two. With financial assistance from my father-in-law, along with use of our home equity line, we have committed to and contracted for, a complete renovation of our two full bathrooms ('full' meaning: tub/shower, commode, sink, vanity, mirror, shelves, lights/fixtures, counter top, floor and shower tile, and paint). Ergo, over the next eight to 12 weeks, our house will officially become a construction site.

Never having experienced this level of upheaval and chaos in any of our previous homes before, we are looking forward since we have no reference looking backward.

We know one thing for sure: our five indoor cats will be miserable and scared and likely hiding for days on end. Considering that the workers will be in our home from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., I don't know when the cats are going to feel like eating since their routine will have been completely thrown off having so many new people in the house for so many hours per day. (I don't even want to think about the litter box implications.)

Nevertheless, time marches forward, and given that our home is historic/over 250 years old, its bathrooms, though not exactly pre-Colonial, definitely are showing their age. Their design, form, function, efficiency and attractiveness barely blip the radar. Both bathrooms are old, and that's the only compliment I can give them.

I imagine the next two to three months will likely be a journey of discovery; Columbus-like in that we will be discovering a new world with modern bathroom amenities and conveniences, color coordination and functionality, many of which we've not been the beneficiaries of in over 25 years.

Our kitchen remains as it has been all those years ago: large but clearly deficient in many ways compared to modern kitchens. As a matter of fact, as the designer, project manager and I walked into the kitchen looking for the access panel to the adjacent bathroom, I said, "As you can see, our kitchen needs work, too. Any chance you all offer a 'BOGO? Buy one, get one free?" Of course, they both laughed and shook their head. They didn't have to say "No." It was more a rhetorical question anyway.

Considering the time we've all had together, we have no doubt the contractor and his workers know what they're doing. We're not sure however, as homeowners that we know what we're doing. From our first meeting, a few months back, the process has seemed clear enough as do the drawings/design ideas we've now seen/decided upon do. Still, when it goes from their paper to our property, how will it all transfer? They seem confident and complimentary which certainly has been reassuring but we're novices in this transformation.

For us each step forward is yet another step into the great unknown. And since we can only take it one step at a time, we have no choice but to live and learn and hopefully not regret and decisions we've already made (although changes can still be made).

So far — and it's not very far — so good. However, it's the process of starting and ultimately finishing that worries me. Not that I run on a schedule (heck, I can barely walk), but my wife, Dina, sort of does; and it seems as if she and the workers might be occupying the same space at the same time.

I suppose the timing and all eventually works itself out but it's the interim with which I'm concerned. I realize there are no guarantees in any of this.

I guess I just have to deal with it as I do with my having cancer: take the bad with the good, keep a sense of humor and try to remain positive. Doing so has kept me alive for eight years and four months. I'd like to think I can manage for another eight to 12 weeks.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. 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.

English as Second Language Book Club. Mondays, 7-9 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Adults learning English meet to discuss a book chosen by the group. Call the library 703-830-2223 for book title.

Advanced English Conversation Group. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Drop-in conversation group for adult English as Second Language speakers who want to improve their skills. Call 703-830-2223 for more.

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

ESL Book Club. 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-



Model Train Show

PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/CONNECTION

Model railroads will be the center of attention at the **Z Scale Model Train Show, Sunday, July 23, 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Z scale is the smallest mass-marketed model train available anywhere. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, or call 703-425-9225 for more.**

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

Duplo Storytime. Every other Wednesday, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Develop and

reinforce early literacy skills for reading success. Ages 1-3 with adult. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve.

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.

Mondays are Family Night. 5-7 p.m. at Villagio, 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.

SATURDAY/JULY 22

Arts in the Parks. 10-11 a.m. at E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Musician 123 Andrés performing children songs. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks or call 703-631-0013 for more.

Live Music by Ken Fischer. 1-5 p.m. at the Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for more.

SUNDAY/JULY 23

Z Scale Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Z scale is the smallest mass-marketed model train available anywhere. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, or call 703-425-9225 for more.

Cancer Fundraiser. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the Dolce Vita Restaurant, 10824 Fairfax Blvd. Supporting Team Kristen Strong in the 192 mile Pan-Mass Challenge, proceeds of the night will go to Team Kristen Strong, as they raise money for The Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Call 703-385-1530 or email Info@DolceVitaFairfax.com.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 26

Art at the Library. 7-8:30 p.m. at the

Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. A lesson about different approaches to making a collage. Magazines, gluesticks and paper provided. Bring scissors. Teens and adults. Call 703-831-2223 for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 29

Arts in the Parks. 10-11 a.m. at E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Mad Science preschool science show. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks or call 703-631-0013 for more.

Live Music by Buddy Cosmo. 1-5 p.m. at the Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for more.

SUNDAY/JULY 30

Sipping and Painting. 11:30-1:30 p.m. at the Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. \$45 Ticket price includes painting supplies and instruction Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 5

Arts in the Parks. 10-11 a.m. at E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Blue Sky Puppet Theater. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks or call 703-631-0013 for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 12

Arts in the Parks. 10-11 a.m. at E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Musicians "The Grandsons, jr." performing children's songs. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks.

Riptide

FROM PAGE 6

were mirrored by the girls with Caroline Friess second and Carson Coughlin third. The 9-10's replicated these results with Davis Collinsworth second and Kevin O'Connor third with Angela Thomson second and Ginny Fitch third. The 11-12 boys swept their race with Charles Beamon first, Griffin Osterhout second and Nathan Ryman third, while Isabelle Cogan was first and Allison Nguyen third for the girls. Jack Liskey swam for first, Michael Hart for second, while Alana Turflinger swam for second and Gabriella Borsato third for the 13-14's. Leo Wang was first, William Beamon third, Sarah Boyle second and Lauren Stovall third for the 15-18 group.

Entering the butterfly competition, the Riptide had established a 14-point edge and the fliers swam determined to maintain this lead. Five swimmers claimed firsts: Nick Harris (8&UB), Jackson Blansett (11-12B), Caitlin Kelliher (11-12G), Maddie Whitton (13-14G), and Didi Pace (15-18G). Second place finishes were won by Charis Roundtree (8&UG), Ryan Friess (9-10B), Andrew Boyle (13-14B), and Anthony Arcomona (15-18B). Eight swimmers claimed critical third place points: 8&Us Aidan Bange and Carolyn Friess, 9-10's Ryder Hicks and Megan Marco, 11-12's Sean Gunn, 13-14's Andrew Van Lahr and Catie Gunn and 15-18's Chanel Cogan.

Entering the relay portion of the meet, the Riptide needed only five wins to record a meet victory and when the 13-14 Ladies won their race, the win was secured.

With a developmental meet vs. Little Rocky Run, the NVSL All-Star Relay Meet, Coach Appreciation Week, Shadowland Laser Tag, and the Final A Meet of the 2017 season, the Riptide are finishing the summer on a busy note.

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