

CENTREVIEW

Centreville ♦ Little Rocky Run

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25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTREVIEW

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'I Never Expected Uriel to Shoot Him'

Details revealed about local student's murder.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

The 18-year-old boy took the stand in court, Friday afternoon, and calmly implicated himself in major crimes including robbery, accessory to murder and obstruction of justice. But – thanks to a deal he made with the prosecutor – he won't be punished.

That's because Enrique Rivera agreed to testify against Fairfax City's Uriel Josaphat Espinosa Cruz, who's charged with killing Centreville High student Matthew Ortega. And that's just what Rivera did, July 27, in Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

"Matthew put up his hands in front of him and said, 'Stop, chill, chill,'" said Rivera. "That's when Uriel shot Matthew in the head."

Just 17, Ortega was murdered Feb. 13. At 5:17 a.m. the next day, a delivery driver discovered his body lying in the road in the 13000 block of Jeb Stuart Square in Centreville. Police were called, and medics pronounced Ortega dead at the scene.

Detectives initially sought the public's help to identify him and also asked anyone to contact them with information that could possibly lead to his killer. The trail led to Cruz, 18, and officers arrested him March 13. Charged with murder and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, he's being held without bond in the Adult Detention Center.

But last Friday, he was in court for his preliminary hearing before Judge John Kassabian. Friends and relatives of both Ortega and Cruz filled the courtroom, while a Spanish-language interpreter translated the proceedings to them.

Testifying first was county police Det. Aaron Spooner. He'd responded to the crime scene and said he saw blood near, around and on the body. He also identified the au-



Uriel Espinosa Cruz



The victim, Matthew Ortega

topsy and toxicology reports that were done on Ortega. He said no weapons were found at the scene, but "Marijuana was collected in a prescription bottle in a pocket of the victim's pants."

Defense attorney Kasey McNamara asked if any "money, scales or anything else that could be related to the marijuana" were found on Ortega's person, and Spooner said no. She then called Rivera to the stand.

"I used to live in Centreville, so I knew Matthew from there, and we went to school together," said Rivera. "I knew Uriel since I was a kid in Fairfax." He then identified Espinosa Cruz, sitting at the defense table in a green, jail jumpsuit. Rivera said that, on Feb. 13, he was driving around in his mother's car, smoking marijuana with Espinosa Cruz and a friend nicknamed Peanut before meeting with Ortega.

"It was Uriel's idea," said Rivera. "He said he wanted to rob somebody who had weed; he said it would be easy. [Peanut] contacted Matthew through Snapchat. Matthew sent the address where he was, in Centreville, and I drove there and parked."

Rivera said Peanut was in the front passenger seat, with Espinosa Cruz in the back seat, behind him. Ortega came inside, sitting behind Rivera. "There were people around, so I drove across the street because I knew Uriel was going to rob Matthew," said Rivera. He said the motor was running, and he identified a photo of the neighbor-

hood and showed where he'd parked.

"Uriel pulled out a gun and pointed it near Matthew's chest," said Rivera. "I saw it in the rearview mirror." He said that's when Ortega put his hands, palms out, in front of him and told Espinosa Cruz to stop and chill. Instead, said Rivera, Espinosa Cruz fired the gun.

"After that, [Espinosa Cruz] said, 'He's bleeding, he's bleeding,'" testified Rivera. "Uriel grabbed [Ortega's] feet and I grabbed him, too, and we pulled him out of the car and put him on the ground." Then, he said, they left Ortega lying on the pavement and headed to Safeway to buy cleaning supplies – "Baby Wipes and stuff" – to erase the evidence of the crime inside the car. Said Rivera: "We all cleaned the blood off the backseat and the floor."

"From the time you drove across the street, how long were you there until Uriel took out the gun and shot him?" asked Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kathleen Bilton. Rivera said it was maybe a minute or two. She also asked if he knew, before driving to meet Ortega, that Espinosa Cruz had a gun. "Yes, he told us," replied Rivera.

"Did he tell you why he had it or what he intended to do with it?" asked Bilton. Rivera said no. Then defense attorney Andy Elders questioned him. He asked if there was a plan to buy additional marijuana that night from Ortega, and Rivera said there wasn't. "You were aware you were going to help someone carry out an armed robbery?" asked Elders. "Yes," answered Rivera.

"So you didn't care what happened to Matthew Ortega?" asked Elders.

"I did care about Matthew," replied Rivera. "But I never expected Uriel to shoot him."

"And you were going to get a little free weed out of the robbery and gain some direct benefit from it?" asked Elders. Rivera answered affirmatively. "Did [Espinosa Cruz] ever say he was going to shoot Matthew or that he didn't like him?" asked Elders. Rivera said no.

Elders then asked if, during the ride from

Fairfax to Centreville to meet Ortega, those in the car had discussed the robbery. "Uriel told me and Peanut that he was going to use the gun to rob Matthew," replied Rivera. "Uriel expected him to hand [the marijuana] over. I asked him, 'Why are you going to rob him for so little?' because Peanut said Matthew didn't have much weed on him. Uriel just said, 'It'll be fine.'"

Rivera also said neither he nor Peanut asked if the gun was loaded. Elders asked if Rivera's earlier time estimate of the shooting included the drive across the street with Ortega in the car, and Rivera said it did. "So he got shot about 30 seconds later?" asked Elders.

"Yes," said Rivera. "Uriel pulled out the gun from his waistband." He also said Espinosa Cruz never explained to Ortega why he was pointing a gun at him or said anything to him, at all, before shooting him at point-blank range. But, said Rivera, "I saw and heard the gun shoot."

Rivera said he then opened the car door and helped pull Ortega's body outside. "Uriel helped me with the bottom half," he said. "I grabbed the top half, under his arms."

"You just dumped him on the ground and drove off?" asked Elders.

Replied Rivera: "We laid him down gently."

"Did you try to stop the bleeding or call 911 or yell for help?" asked the attorney.

"No," answered Rivera. "What was I supposed to do? Uriel shot him in the head. How was I going to save him?"

Rivera also noted that he'd accidentally dropped his cell phone on the ground, near the body and – worried that it would link him to the crime – he drove back there and retrieved it, after first getting gas for the car at a station in Fair Lakes. "We were all scared, but we had to go back," he said. Rivera said about 20 minutes passed between the shooting and when they returned. He said they cleaned the car on a gravel

SEE MURDER, PAGE 7

Gregory Honored as Sully Officer of Month

BY BONNIE HOBBS

For his efforts that helped save a baby's life, MPO Jeffrey Gregory was selected as the Sully District Police Station's Officer of the Month for May. He was honored at the June 13 meeting of the station's Citizens Advisory Committee.

In his letter nominating Gregory for this award, 2nd Lt. Tim Burgess wrote that police officers were recently dispatched to a home in response to the possible death of a 1-year-old infant.

"A distressed, home-daycare provider had contacted 911 and stated that a child in her care suddenly went limp and was unresponsive," said Burgess. "Officers hurried to the Centreville residence as the panicked,



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS

From left: MPO Jeffrey Gregory receives his Officer of the Month certificate from Sully District Station Assistant Commander Ryan Morgan.

daycare provider initiated CPR."

Gregory, a 26-year veteran of the Fairfax County Police Department, was in the area and was the first to arrive at the address. He entered the home, quickly assessed the situation and realized that the childcare provider was both frightened and physically exhausted.

"Without hesitation, MPO Gregory continued emergency, lifesaving efforts," wrote Burgess. "Once paramedics arrived, they assumed advanced life-support efforts and hurried the child to the hospital in serious condition. Miraculously, the baby maintained a pulse throughout the ordeal and – despite emergency surgery to treat an underlying medical condition – survived."

Burgess noted that Gregory has provided "over two decades of commendable service

to the citizens of Fairfax County." Furthermore, he added, "As Gregory approaches the end of his exceptional career, he remains committed to the service of others and remains a role model, mentor and exceptional example to younger police officers."

Referring to the above incident, Burgess said Gregory's actions on that date were "commendable and indicative of the values and professionalism of the Fairfax County Police Department. His training and expertise – as well as his ability to take command of a situation and make split-second decisions under extreme stress – helped to save the life of an innocent child. Therefore, it is my honor to select Master Police Officer Jeffrey Gregory as the Sully District Station Officer of the Month for May 2018."

Music, Lights, Games, Food and Fun

The Field at Commonwealth unveils community amenities.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

Sure, area residents know about the new Wegmans that opened recently in Chantilly. But the shopping center it's in, The Field at Commonwealth, offers restaurants and other businesses, as well, plus unique amenities.

And on July 18, local dignitaries and representatives from the developer, Regency Centers, gathered for the official ribbon-cutting. They also got their first look at a new, interactive, dance and light floor built into the community courtyard between Mellow Mushroom and a future restaurant there.

"Fairfax County is one of the most vibrant and diverse markets," said Nathan Bath, Regency Centers' senior manager of investments. He also stressed how grateful the developer was for the county's support of this new shopping center. And he thanked Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) for her longtime, "community care and stewardship."

Stepping to the podium, Smith said, "It's so exciting to be here on such a beautiful day. This is a great space for the community. There really is no gathering place for people in the Sully District, so this creates that space."

Furthermore, she said, "There are great restaurants here with outdoor seating." She also noted that the under-construction Preserve at Westfields — which will contain 155 townhouses and 650 apartments — will also bring residential units nearby in the future.

"Wegman has been a great, community partner already," said Smith. "When we had the devastating fires in Centreville, they donated food and water. And I look forward to people in Sully coming here [to the Field at Commonwealth] and having a great time."

She gave credit, as well, to former Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey, who also attended the ribbon-cutting. Said Smith:



Cutting the ribbon on The Field at Commonwealth are (from left) Michael Frey, Kathy Smith, Nathan Bath and Charlene Jones.

"Michael was the supervisor when we went through the Comprehensive Plan change that allowed this to be built here."

The Field at Commonwealth is geographically in the Dulles Suburban Center. So during the ceremony, Bath presented a check for \$2,000 to Charlene Jones of the Dulles South Food Pantry, on behalf of Regency Centers.

He also noted some of the new businesses that will eventually join the Wegmans, Chipotle, Cava Grill, Mellow Mushroom, My Eye Dr. and Chantilly Modern Dentistry already open in the shopping center off Westfields Boulevard and Newbrook Drive. On the horizon are Habit Burger, a fast-food restaurant; Gusto Farm to Street, offering fresh salads, pizza and flatbreads; and Bella Nail Salon. "And we just signed Fearsome Yoga," said Bath. "It'll be next to Chipotle."

As for the public amenities in the courtyard, one is a Theremin Bollard — a short, thick, silver pole which is actually a kinetic sound sculpture. This interactive, sonic device creates sound from people's physical

movements. All ages and abilities can interact with it, and their motions will be translated back to them as music.

"You can play it with your hands, like a musical instrument," said Bath. "It makes sounds when someone breaks the magnetic field. The closer your hands get to the music bollard, the higher the pitch. There are only four of these installed in the world — and this one in Chantilly is the only one in the U.S."

The other courtyard amenity is an interactive light floor. It contains several squares that light up and change colors when stepped on. They're also programmed to play games and respond to music levels and beats. We designed it from scratch, and it's something different and unique."

Amanda Kircher of Pixelumen Lab and Ray Jewell of CMI Companies built the floor. Kircher did the programming and Jewell did the installation. Pixelumen Creative Director Robbie Hayes designed the floor's controls and storyboard.

"This is the first one of its kind that's fully



Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith after the ribbon-cutting.

waterproof and functional," said Hayes. "And because of the software we're using, we're only limited by our imaginations in what we can offer. I can program it to react differently to varying pressures from children and adults." He can also program it to three, different, frequency bands of music or make it play the game, Simon Says. "There'll be a QR code of instructions," said Hayes. "But the hope is that, as kids play, they'll discover what they can do, themselves, on this floor."

"We're really excited about the neat features we have here," added Bath. "We're creating a sense of place where people will want to come and play. And with restaurants on each side of the community courtyard, parents can sit outside and eat while watching their children play."

Overall, the 167,000-square-foot development includes 37,000 square feet of retail space and 8,200 square feet dedicated to a full-service restaurant. It also contains walking trails and an exercise park and will feature work from local artists.

The 122,000-square-foot Wegmans food store anchoring this center opened in June. Besides The Field at Commonwealth, Regency owns 32 centers in the Washington Metropolitan area and 422 retail properties nationwide.

Teacher Charged with Attempted Indecent Liberties

Formerly taught at Westfield and Chantilly high schools.

Fairfax County police have charged a former teacher at both Westfield and Chantilly high schools with attempting to solicit a minor online. He is Norman Achin, 50, of Woodbridge.

He was arrested last Monday, July 23, following an investigation by the Police Department's Child Exploitation Unit. According to police, a detective hoping to catch predators of children was posing online as a teenager when a stranger contacted the officer through a social-media app.

Police say that person reportedly initiated

a conversation and solicited sexual contact with the detective. They say he also allegedly sent the detective a sexually explicit image, presumably of himself.

Police spokesman Christopher Sharp said the alleged online conversations and solicitation occurred throughout July. However, he did not know whether the suspect believed he was reportedly interacting with a young male or a female.

Detectives later identified Achin, of Woodbridge, as the man who'd made the online contact. Police then arrested him and

charged him with two felonies — attempted indecent liberties of a child under age 15 and use of a communication device to solicit a minor. He was held without bond at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and has a Sept. 5 court date.

During the 2017-2018 winter school year, Achin taught Latin at both Westfield and West Springfield high schools. Prior to



Norman Achin

that time, he was also a Latin teacher at Chantilly and McLean high schools. After his arrest, Achin was suspended from FCPS without pay.

Meanwhile, detectives are looking into the possibility there may be additional victims. They are asking for anyone with information or who experienced a similar incident with Achin to contact them at 703-246-7800. Tips may also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by going to <http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org>. Or people may text their information to "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES (274637).

— BONNIE HOBBS

OPINION

Do Not Separate Children and Families

What we have learned.

BY DAVE MARSDEN,
STATE SENATOR (D-37)

The cruelty enacted by the Trump Administration in separating minor children from their parents is egregious on its face. What concerns me even more is that the science around the detention of young people is available and widely understood.

The science is clear, unless a child poses an imminent public safety risk or an imminent risk to themselves, alternatives to detention and separation from family should be pursued.

I spent part of my career as a probation officer making decisions around whether to remove young people from their families for their criminal behavior. Fortunately, in 1974, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act prohibited the detention of status offenders — runaways, truants, incorrigibles — in secure, locked facilities. The rest of my career was spent as superintendent of Fairfax County's Juvenile Detention Center and a 2-and-half-year stint in Richmond as chief deputy and acting director of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) — which operated probation, parole, and confinement for 1,200 incarcerated delinquents convicted of criminal offenses. In the Fairfax Detention Center, I had as many as 137 children and 55 beds. We had to sleep kids on mattresses on the floor. Today we average 30-40 kids in the Fairfax Detention Center and have fewer than 300 in the DJJ. Why has the dramatic drop in populations occurred?

One factor for the dramatic drop in juvenile incarceration is that we now know better and

only detain or incarcerate those who are an imminent public safety risk. We now know that detained kids who are not public safety risks are only made worse by the experience. Children who are unnecessarily detained fall victim to the principle of “the self-fulfilling prophecy.” What this means is that children we thought we were teaching a lesson to were not learning how to behave but were rather having their worst feelings about themselves confirmed by the juvenile justice system — ultimately making them more likely to live a delinquent lifestyle.

In 2001, as acting director of the Department of Juvenile Justice, we initiated a best practice of creating structured decision-making or risk instruments to determine, on a more scientific basis, whether youngsters should be detained in local juvenile detention centers or could be released to their families on outreach detention or electronic monitoring pending their court dates.

We are making better decisions today because in the past we did not know the impact of our actions on these children and their families. We thought we were helping by teaching them a lesson but we were actually making things worse.

All of this is background for what is happening at the border and the damage that can be done to children in this thoughtless and ill-informed policy of separating these children and their families.

In 1997, the Adverse Child Experience Study (ACE) was completed by Kaiser Permanente and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). What this study demonstrated for us is how critical a decision it is to separate a child from their family and the damage that is perpetrated on that child. All of us have the capacity to overcome a temporary negative experience.

What children often do not have the capacity to overcome is prolonged trauma that this separation inflicts on them. Detention itself can have traumatic impact even if families are together. Younger children who witness or experience abuse, violence, emotional mistreatment, and privation can fundamentally be psychologically rewired in ways that hinder their ability to handle normal life situations. The best example of this is a parable told by a psychiatrist from San Francisco I heard at a conference. She said, “Imagine yourself a child walking alone in the woods and coming across a bear. The child runs from the bear and is terrified but in the normal course of events, with comfort from the family, the frightening episode can be overcome and life can move on without permanent adverse impact. Now, imagine that you live with the bear.” Clearly, it is not only the separation from family itself but the duration of the separation that has dramatic impact on children.

This is the science and what we know about thoughtless interventions that may appear to solve our problems but rather damage others irrevocably. While some children are dangerous and do require confinement and treatment, almost no child taken from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border fits this category.

Whether they are our children or children seeking asylum from another country, our obligations as people who know better, are clear. These children may end up staying in the United States under our asylum laws. Do we want them healthy and capable of contributing to society or traumatized and unable to function appropriately? This is an easy choice no matter how you feel about immigration. The science and our experience tells us not to separate children from their families. The unintended consequences can be serious.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Demand End to Gerrymandering

To the Editor:

No matter where we stand on the political spectrum, the possibility that anyone interferes or tampers in our elections is unacceptable. Meanwhile, gerrymandering continues to mess with all our elections.

Gerrymandering is drawing voting districts to expand the impact of some votes and shrink others. In 2019, Virginians will elect 100 state delegates and 40 state senators. In 2020 another national census will be taken, and in 2021 the incumbents elected in 2019 (with more influence from the majority party) will draw voting maps that favor their own re-election. Having incumbents draw their own districts is a serious conflict of interest. Unless we find a fairer way, this process will be repeated in 2029, 2031, and so on.

You can help by identifying which candidates favor fair redistricting, voting for them, and checking out OneVirginia2021.org, where you (like more than 80,000 other Virginians) can send a message to your representatives demanding an independent commission to apportion districts fairly.

Karen Scarfone
Clifton

A True Leader

To the Editor:

State Sen. Jennifer Wexton is challenging our Congresswoman Barbara Comstock in November. But Wexton's partisan record and the overtly partisan attacks she is already waging in this race are not the right fit for our community.

The 10th Congressional District doesn't need a partisan. We need an independent voice with a track record of getting things done. Fortunately, we already have Congresswoman Comstock. Comstock's focus on domestic violence, drug trafficking, and opioid abuse shows that she wants to solve problems — not wage political fights.

Comstock's willingness to speak out on any issue, and to buck her party leadership on regional priorities like Metro funding, demonstrates she is a true leader.

And Comstock's tireless activity at community events across the region shows that she has a work ethic that cannot be matched.

We have a strong leader in Comstock. We don't need a partisan squabbler like Wexton.

Renato Olfato
Centreville

CENTREVIEW

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Newspaper of
Centreville
Little Rocky Run
A Connection Newspaper

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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WELLBEING

Required Vaccinations for School

Local clinics offer free immunizations.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As parents compile back-to-school task lists, health officials say that along with backpacks, notebooks and pencils, parents add the vaccinations that are required by Maryland and Virginia state laws in order for students to attend school. Now is the time to get those immunizations to avoid the back to school rush.

"We have free, walk-in clinics where you can get vaccines between now and the beginning of the school year," said Mary Anderson, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. "We urge parents to go now and not wait. We offer vaccines at clinics every day of the week at four different locations."

Appointments are not required for immunization visits in Montgomery, Arlington and Fairfax counties. The Alexandria Health Department, however offers services by appointment only.

"We would certainly encourage parents to make an appointment now," added John Silcox, Fairfax County Health Department. "Appointments fill up quickly, and there are some walk-in appointments, but the closer you get to school the more crowded our clinics get."

Fairfax County has five clinics which offer vaccines. "School-required immunizations are always free at our clinics, whether a person has insurance or not," said Silcox. "We highly encourage parents to call the clinic that is most conveniently located to them so that they have you vaccines in time for school."

Parents must bring a copy of the child's existing immunization record. "A parent or designated adult must be with the child when they go to get vaccines," said Anderson. "If a parent doesn't have or can't find their child's record, we can try to reconstruct it."

As recently as May, the Washington, D.C. region saw a case of a vaccine preventable disease, says Anderson. "There was a case of measles that this particular individual had contracted outside of the country," she said. "But this is a reminder about the importance of vaccinations because if you had come in contact with this individual and hadn't been vaccinated you could have gotten sick."

Local Health Departments Offer Free Vaccines

ALEXANDRIA

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/health/info/default.aspx?id=11444>

ARLINGTON COUNTY

<https://health.arlingtonva.us/public-health/health-clinics-services/immunization-clinic/>

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

FAIRFAX COUNTY

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/immunization/school>

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/SeventhGradeImmunizations.html>



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

Parents are encouraged to get required vaccines now to avoid the back-to-school rush.

"We have free, walk-in clinics where you can get vaccines between now and the beginning of the school year. We urge parents to go now and not wait."

— Mary Anderson, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

Immunization Requirements

MARYLAND

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/immunizations/>

VIRGINIA

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/requirements/>

Some students may be granted an exemption from the Virginia and Maryland state requirements for religious or medical reasons. "There is an exemption form that people would need to get filled out and turn into their school in order to be exempt from the state requirement."

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August 22, 2018

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Including the history, schools, parks, libraries, local people, elected officials, county/city offices, how decisions are made, a calendar of events and other vital community information.

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Obituary



Gwynneth Dolores Harris 88, of Clifton VA passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on Wednesday, June 27, 2018. Born on January 3, 1930 in March, England she was the daughter of the late John Rogers and Elizabeth Rogers. Gwynneth was the beloved wife of the late Charles Edward Harris who passed away on October 22, 2001. Gwynneth and her family moved around as Charles was enlisted in the Air Force before settling in Fairfax County, VA in 1969. Gwynneth was strong in her faith and attended church regularly. She had a love for the arts; including poetry and painting. Known as the Queen of the family, she enjoyed sipping English tea while telling stories about growing up in England at family gatherings. She was a devoted and loving mother to five children, Steven Harris, Shirley Mastria, Beverly Hicks, Lynne Johnson, and Roger Harris. She is also survived by her brother Irving Rogers of England, seven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, and Vitas Healthcare.

Obituary

SPORTS



PHOTO BY JOSE BANZON

The Riptide will send eight swimmers to All Stars in 11 events.

'Divisionals' Lead to All Stars

BY SARAH BLANSETT

The Virginia Run Riptide hosted the Northern Virginia Swim League Division Four swim meet, known as "Divisionals" on Saturday, resulting in 79 swimmers from across the division earning a spot to compete at the upcoming All Stars meet.

The Riptide will be sending eight swimmers to 11 events at All Stars. The meet on Saturday saw 47 Riptide swimmers earn 70 personal bests. Records across the division fell fast and often during the meet due to exceptional swimming and what was described as a "very fast pool."

The 15-18 Riptide girls will be well represented at All Stars. Sarah Boyle broke the team 100 Meter Individual Medley record with a time of 1:05.96, beating Mia Newkirk's record of 1:06.67 set in 2016. Boyle also swam a personal best in backstroke winning the event with a time of 29.70. Boyle is seeded first in the IM and second in the backstroke at All Stars. Allie Hickey, new to the team this year, placed second in the 50 Meter Freestyle with a new personal best time of 28.06 earning her a 13th-place seed at All Stars. Didi Pace swam for fourth place in the 50 Meter Butterfly with a time of 30.83 earning her a new personal best time in that event and a 19th seed at All Stars.

On the other end of the age groups, the Riptide's 8 & Under swimmers will also be well represented at All Stars. Nicholas Harris broke his own 25 Meter Butterfly record of 17.49 by swimming for first place with a new record of 17.26; he also placed first in backstroke with a time of 19.95. His brother Tyler Harris, who is 6, swam in the same backstroke heat

and beat his brother's 6 & Under Backstroke record with a time of 22.80. Nicholas is seeded second in the butterfly and second in the backstroke at All Stars. Ethan O'Connor took home first place in the 8 & Under 25 Meter Freestyle with a new personal best time of 17.37 which means he is seeded ninth going into the event at All Stars. Ryan Garcia placed first in the 8 & Under 25 Meter Breaststroke with a new personal best of 23.96 making him the eighth seed in that event at All Stars.

Charis Roundtree will represent the 9-10 Riptide girls group at All Stars having placed first in both freestyle and backstroke at Divisionals with two new personal best times of 31.57 in the free and 36.53 in the backstroke. Roundtree broke her own freestyle record at the meet besting her time of 32.34 set earlier in July of this year by .77 seconds. Roundtree is seeded second in the freestyle and third in the backstroke for All Stars.

Kevin O'Connor will represent the Boys 9-10 group in the 50 Meter Breaststroke at All Stars. He is seeded 10th in the event after taking third at Divisionals in an extremely close finish that saw four of the six swimmers in that heat making the cut time for All Stars.

The Riptide also won the Division Four Sportsmanship Award, the honor being award to the team who consistently demonstrates the elements of the NVSL Code of Conduct displaying, "Respect, courtesy, and good manners toward athletes, coaches, team representatives, and spectators."

The Riptide celebrated their season with a banquet on Sunday and will return to the pool next spring for practices for the 2019 season.



Sarah Boyle broke a team record in the Individual Medley and is seeded first in the event at All Stars.



Nicholas Harris placed first in butterfly and backstroke at Divisionals and is seeded second in both at All Stars.

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Murder Case

FROM PAGE 2

road near Peanut's house and he threw the cleaning supplies in a trash can at his own home.

"You knew, at the time, that – even though you were just the driver – you could be implicated in a robbery resulting in a murder?" asked Elders. Yes, said Rivera. He also said he worried constantly about the police questioning him. When they finally did, he said he lied to them and said he didn't know Espinosa Cruz had a gun and was going to rob Ortega. But a month later, Rivera told them the truth.

"And you didn't lie to the prosecutor because you cut a deal so you wouldn't be charged with murder or anything?" asked Elders.

"Yes, and also because I felt guilty," answered Rivera. "And I didn't want to be in jail for something I didn't know was going to happen. I didn't know Uriel was going to shoot him." Bilton asked if he'd testified truthfully in court, and he said yes.

"After the robbery and shooting, did Uriel take any marijuana from Matthew?" asked Elders. Rivera said no. The judge then found probable cause to believe Espinosa Cruz committed the crime for which he's accused and certified his case to the grand jury for possible indictment.

ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Aug. 2, 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.

National Night Out Campfire

Help build a spirit of community with local law enforcement officers by coming to Ellanor C. Lawrence Park for the "National Night Out Campfire" on Saturday, Aug. 4. The country's official celebration of National Night Out falls on Aug. 2, but the Fairfax County Park Authority will honor the law-enforcement community with this free event on Saturday evening.

Sully District police officers will be on hand with squad cars and safety demonstrations from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Attendees may also enjoy some family time by the campfire. E.C. Lawrence Park is at 5040 Walney Road in Chantilly.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg			

Fortitude For a Fortnight



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Intestinal or otherwise. "All hands to the pump," (Downton Abbey), emotionally speaking. The weight of it all is not too much to bear, but it is pretty close to it:

- ❖ 24-hour urine collection on Tuesday;
- ❖ Pre-chemotherapy lab work and quarterly CT Scan on Wednesday (not often occurring on the same day but this cycle unfortunately they did);
- ❖ Balance of Wednesday and Thursday waiting for lab results which ultimately determine whether I'm approved for chemotherapy on FRIDAY;
- ❖ Thursday through Monday (or longer): waiting for scan results from previous Wednesday (my life doesn't hang in the balance exactly, but it's definitely hanging somewhere);
- ❖ Friday: my actual chemotherapy;
- ❖ Sunday through Thursday (post chemotherapy): feeling lousy, hardly eating, irregular sleep, tired all the time (typical post-chemotherapy side effects)
- ❖ And finally, per my July 25 column entitled "Phoning It In," talking with my oncologist over the phone to discuss my scan, my treatment going forward, my life, etc.

In summary: Tuesday, July 24 to Monday, Aug. 6, two weeks of cancer "centricity."

Considering this first paragraph, no wonder I used the word hope and expressed per pen the written emotion so much in my previous two columns. When cancer or any other treatment for a serious disease, operation, recuperation, physical therapy and so forth is concerned, ultimately, what else is there?

Whether you're following doctor's orders and/or supplementing it with non-Western, holistic-type alternatives, rarely are there any guarantees other than as they say "death and taxes" and for a time was said in the 1940s and 50s: "The Washington Senators finishing last in The American League."

Nevertheless, hope springs eternal, as a formerly long-suffering life-long member of Red Sox Nation can attest: three World Series Championships since 2004 after breaking/braking the "Curse of the Bambino," (the 86-year drought since the Red Sox had last won the World Series in 1918 – Babe Ruth's last season playing for the Red Sox).

And as I live on/write on nine years and nearly eight months past a "13-month to two-year" prognosis diagnosed back in late February 2009, I am eternally hopeful – and always forever grateful.

And in spite of my amazing, miraculous good fortune, the last thing I do, and I mean the absolute last thing I do, is take any of it for granted. That is why the emotion so often expressed in pen and in person is hope. I am never going to betray/dismiss who and/or what has power over my outcome/life expectancy.

I mean, at the end of the day (heck, at the beginning of the day), I am a mere mortal and don't presume for a minute (or even a second) that living in the "Kenny lane" is sufficient to defeat the greatest advisory mankind has ever known: cancer. And though I am generally positive and optimistic, I am cautiously so.

After all, I'm just not supposed to blow by (live through) my original prognosis as if it was an arbitrary statement. It was the real deal, and when you first hear it, it's a surreal one at that. But here we are, late July, 2018.

At this actual real-time Friday-morning moment, I am on hold with oncology confirming that my pre-chemotherapy lab results are acceptable for today's infusion. (Otherwise, this fortnight will be extended by seven days.) As any cancer patient under treatment knows, one's presence is never really confirmed until the medical staff advises you. Soon, I will be advised.

In all the intervening moments, I am still waiting to hear back concerning the results from my CT Scan on Wednesday. Hopefully (there's that word again), we will hear before the weekend. It's so much easier to suffer through/anticipate the fortnight when news is known sooner rather than later.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Fitness for 50+. Daytime hours, Monday-Friday at Sully Senior Center, 14426 Albemarle Point Place, Chantilly. Jazzercise Lite, Zumba Gold, Hot Hula Fitness (dancing Polynesian style), Strength Training, Qi Gong, Tai Chi and more. Membership is \$48 a year, and waivers are available. Email lynne.lott@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-322-4475.

History Volunteers Needed. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum needs history buffs. The Museum offers a variety of volunteer opportunities in Museum events, programs and administration. Email volunteers@fairfax-station.org or call 703-945-7483 to explore opportunities. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. It is open every Sunday, except holidays, from 1-4 p.m. www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-9225.

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.

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.

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.

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

PET ADOPTIONS

Adopt a Dog. Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit hart90.org.

Adopt a Dog. Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit aforeverhome.org.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org.

LIBRARY FUN

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.

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



Get your picture taken with Moose.

Meet Moose

Meet Moose and be in the next #MondayswithMoosepost. Give favorite furry K9 a big hug, belly rub, and a treat – and get to chat and hang out with officers. Open to Moose fans of all ages. Sunday, Aug. 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the McDonnell Room at the Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly. Contact Officer Meg Hawkins at megan.hawkins@fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

space.
Lego Block Party. Every other Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Legos will be provided for an afternoon of building. Grades 3-6. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.
Duplo Storytime. Every other Wednesday, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Develop and reinforce early literacy skills for reading success. Ages 1-3 with adult. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.
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.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 2-5

70th Annual Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival. At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Enjoy old-fashioned family fun with carnival games, rides and tempting foods. Friday features the free Big Truck Night event from 5-7:30 p.m. “No Horn” hour is from 5-6 p.m. Tractor Pull at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Stop by the 4-H Fair throughout the weekend as exhibitors display their winning entries and get their farm animals ready to show. Try a turn at farm chores, watch stage entertainment and enjoy horse and livestock shows. Thursday and Friday – free parking and discount tickets for unlimited rides. Admission to the 4-H Fair and Carnival is free; \$10 per car parking fee on Saturday and Sunday. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/4-h-fair for details.

SATURDAY/AUG. 4

Starlight Cinema: Little Mermaid. Gates open at 6 p.m.; movie starts at dark at Trinity Centre, 5860 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Starlight Drive-

in Cinema brings the community together with features that appeal to both children and adults. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and FM radio if you wish to sit outside. Children's games and rides. Free. To volunteer, call 703-814-7100.

National Night Out. 7-8:30 p.m. at E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Gather with police officers at a campfire in recognition of National Night Out. Sully District police officers will be on hand with squad cars and safety demonstrations. Enjoy some family time by the campfire. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

SUNDAY/AUG. 5

Dairy Days. 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Cost is \$7. Learn to churn butter, crank ice cream, milk a fake cow and play 18th century games at Sully Historic Site's celebration of “Dairy Days” in August. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

History Challenge Day. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Choose from a selection of quizzes on a variety of topics for a chance to win a prize. Different versions will be available for all ages and groups and interests. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

AUG. 6-10

Girls in STEM Camp. Chantilly Academy offers a new Girls in STEM camp, providing girls with an opportunity to experience the world of STEM with plenty of hands-on activities. For girls new to STEM, summer programs provide a fun way to explore unfamiliar subjects, and for girls already interested in STEM, these camps build on existing interests or knowledge. The camp is open to rising 5th-8th graders. \$225 for the week. Visit chantillyacademy.fcps.edu/announcements/summer-camps-

chantilly-academy.

SATURDAY/AUG. 11

Peaches & Cream Event. 1-3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. In the 18th century, Sully was home to more than 1,000 peach trees. Learn about the history of peaches and their uses in this program at Sully. Cook in the historic kitchen using peaches, and hand-crank peach ice cream. Program for family members age 6 to adult. \$15 per person. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

Starlight Cinema: Early Man. Gates open at 6 p.m.; movie starts at dark at Trinity Centre, 5860 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Starlight Drive-in Cinema brings the community together with features that appeal to both children and adults. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and FM radio if you wish to sit outside. Children's games and rides. Free. To volunteer, call 703-814-7100.

SUNDAY/AUG. 12

N Gauge Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a N gauge model train show at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

SATURDAY/AUG. 18

Dairy Farming at Walney: Ice Cream. 2-3:30 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Explore Walney's dairy farm history while touring the ice house and dairy. Try ice-making tools and picking up an ice block, and make and eat hand-cranked ice cream. \$10 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

Starlight Cinema: Lego Batman Movie. Gates open at 6 p.m.; movie starts at dark at Trinity Centre, 5860

Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Starlight Drive-in Cinema brings the community together with features that appeal to both children and adults. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and FM radio if you wish to sit outside. Children's games and rides. Free. To volunteer, call 703-814-7100.

SUNDAY/AUG. 19

Tea Time with a Furry Friend. 1-3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Sample tea and tasty treats at “Tea Time with a Furry Friend.” This isn't a typical afternoon tea. Stuffed friends are invited, too. Learn about the Lee family's special furry friend who brought “great care and amusement” to Sully in the 18th century. For participants age 6-adult. \$15 per person. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

Table Top N Gauge Model Train Display. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Table Top N Gauge Model Trains (TTRAK) will be on display and running. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

FRIDAY/AUG. 24

Dairy Days. 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Cost is \$7. Learn to churn butter, crank ice cream, milk a fake cow and play 18th century games at Sully Historic Site's celebration of “Dairy Days” in August. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

SATURDAY/AUG. 25

Dairy Days. 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Cost is \$7. Learn to churn butter, crank ice cream, milk a fake cow and play 18th century games at Sully Historic Site's celebration of “Dairy Days” in August. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

Starlight Cinema: Coco. Gates open at 6 p.m.; movie starts at dark at Trinity Centre, 5860 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Starlight Drive-in Cinema brings the community together with features that appeal to both children and adults. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and FM radio if you wish to sit outside. Children's games and rides. Free. To volunteer, call 703-814-7100.

SUNDAY/AUG. 26

Meet Moose. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the McDonnell Room at the Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly. Meet Moose and be in the next #MondayswithMoosepost. Give favorite furry K9 a big hug, belly rub, and a treat – and get to chat and hang out with officers. Open to Moose fans of all ages. Contact Officer Meg Hawkins at megan.hawkins@fairfaxcounty.gov.

First Responders Day. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Volunteer Fire and Rescue personnel as well as Fairfax County Police Officers will bring emergency vehicles for display and offer hands-on activities to demonstrate the critical role played by modern day first responders. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.