

# Centreville ♦ Little Rocky Run CENTRE VIEW



DECEMBER 19-25, 2018

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

Splunk employees pose with some of the toys they'll be packing into bags for Our Neighbor's Child Christmas-gift recipients.

## Bringing Holiday Joy

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Asking questions in class is advice that David S. Torain II, Ph.D., professor of mathematics and statistics at Montgomery College would offer new students.

# Advice from Professors

Sharing things they wish they could tell their prospective students.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Many high school seniors will spend their holiday break working on college applications or making visits to perspective university campuses. As the excitement builds over the new collegiate experience that lies ahead, local professors offer advice on the things they wish they could share with new college students.

Avoid seeing college as simply a means to end or a pathway to a career and instead take advantage of the multitude of learning experiences available to students.

From football games and art exhibitions to student debates and faculty recitals, there are opportunities gain a vast amount of knowledge in four years.

Use that time to discover one's interests, says Vincent Intondi, Ph.D., professor of history at Montgomery College. "Do not come to college simply for financial gain," he said. "Study what you are most passionate about. Study what you love. The jobs will be there."

In an effort to encourage students to move outside of their comfort zone, Linda Gulyn suggests that they, "Learn, have new experiences, but do well academically," she said. "Socialize and engage in activities across your major or regular crowd."

"Read and always do your homework," said David S. Torain II, Ph.D., professor of mathematics and statistics at Montgomery College.

"If you read slowly, don't sweat it, just read," he said. "If you get bored, break your reading in to short sessions, but come back to it. If you can't make sense of it all, make sense of as much of it as you can, then talk to a classmate and ask a question in class."

Use college as an opportunity to build skills that will be necessary after college, says Jerome Short, Ph. D. "Students should choose courses and experiences to build their oral and written communication skills to better express themselves persuasively and concisely," he said.

Practice self-care and recognize stress and anxiety that a new college experience might bring. When those feelings arise, avoid negative coping mechanisms and instead focus on those which are healthy, advises Short.

"College is a time to dramatically grow your brain," he said. "Scientific research shows that exercise grows brain cells, learning connects cells, and sleep consolidates memories in cells. Do plenty of each of them every day."

For some professors, one of the best parts of their job is getting

to know and share knowledge with their students even on subjects that are not related to the course, says Joanne Bagshaw, PhD, professor of psychology at Montgomery College.

"Get to know your professors, and make sure they get to know you," she said. "Visit your professors during office hours and use the time to ask questions about the course and even chat about topics interesting to you."

**"Do not come to college simply for financial gain. Study what you are most passionate about. Study what you love."**

— Vincent Intondi, Ph.D.,  
professor of history,  
Montgomery College.

**"College is a time to dramatically grow your brain. Scientific research shows that exercise grows brain cells, learning connects cells, and sleep consolidates memories in cells. Do plenty of each of them every day."**

— Jerome Short, Ph. D.





Eager to fill gift packages with these new toys are (from left) Robinson junior Karla Romero, Westfield juniors Gwenyth Coulter and Bella Rubijono, Robinson freshman Ashley Romero and Meybel Ostorga, Karla and Ashley's mom.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

Ready to pack up these gifts are members of dentist Bill Crutchfield's Chantilly office. Back row, from left, are Donna Giavasis, Kerri Morrisroe, Dr. Crutchfield, Tim Sievers, Laura Cashman and Mike Kinney; and, front row, from left, Jennifer Nguyen and Isabelle Garcia.

# Our Neighbor's Child Brings Holiday Joy



Holding some toys are National Honor Society members from Centreville High (from left) Kyle Foster, Ariana Guillen and Jessica Hong.

Local students, residents and business employees "shopped" last week from toys donated by the community to fill gift bags for the more than 600 families receiving Christmas presents from Our Neighbor's Child (ONC). More photos, page 4.



Choosing a basketball to fulfill a child's Christmas wish is Mike Henryhand, with the Aston Carter division of Aerotek.



Standing by some of the bicycles that children will receive from ONC are Aerotek employees (from left) A.J. Firestone, Matt Cunningham, Joe Callas, Joanna Li, Ashley Pak, Maxine Johnson and Alex Hernandez.

Lending a hand are Metronome employees (from left) Ever Cerritos, Logan Douglas, Chris Demarest and Shane Johnson.



Showing their Christmas spirit on packaging day are Metronome employees (standing, from left) Rebecca Woolson, Sam Sanders (posing as the Grinch), Sarah George and Sarah Soltis, and (kneeling) Lauren MacPherson.



Waiting to check in to help package gifts are Chantilly High National Honor Society members (from left) Numya Menon, Melody Crawford and Natalie Loeffler.



# OPINION

# Merry Christmas

**“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”**

**T**he pages of the Connection Newspapers (including the Alexandria Gazette Packet, the Mount Vernon Gazette, the Potomac Almanac and the Centre View) have been full of holiday spirit, beginning before Thanksgiving. Group and individual efforts to help the needy, holiday parades, Santa arriving by boat, Santa arriving by horse-drawn carriage, Santa arriving by tractor-pulled hayride, Santa arriving at the Malls, tree lightings, Menorah lightings, stories of giving, secular celebrations, religious celebrations. Shopping locally. Giving locally.

Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you believe the Christmas story literally or in spirit, you know it is the story of joy, hope and love, with the promise of redemption.

It is also about embracing the teachings of Jesus: to love thy neighbor as thyself; to help the needy; to feed the hungry and clothe the poor; to care for those who are sick; to invite and welcome strangers; to treat others as you would have them treat you.

#### Matthew 7:12:

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.”

#### Matthew 25:35-40:

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

**SO LET US SHARE** the verse relating the birth of Jesus from the Bible, Luke 2: 4-19:

“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out

of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David.) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. “And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. “And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

“And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.”

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Editor's Note

## About the Rest of 2018

This is our last regular edition of 2018. Next week, after Christmas, we will publish our annual Children's Issue, devoted entirely to the artwork and writing of local students. You'll be able to find this online at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/> Scroll down to Children's.

Our next regular edition will publish Jan. 2-3, 2019, with deadline for content and advertising of Dec. 28 (late ads accepted).

In the meantime you can email the editors at [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com). You can reach sales/marketing/advertising at [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com).

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PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

## Holiday Joy

**Selecting gifts for local children are (from left) Chantilly High junior Sarah MacNamara and Westfield High junior Noelle Hale, both members of Girl Scout Troop 3486.**



**Two ONC volunteers who organized the toy tables are Sue Harpe (left) and Cindy Kanode.**

## POETRY

This poem is a tribute to my 93-year-old grandma who is passionate about knitting. Sadly, now she had to lay down her needles and yarn because of her failing vision and health. Not a single day would go by without her taking up her yarn to knit a sweater, a shawl, a poncho, or a scarf. This poem is my thank you to her for all of her handmade precious & priceless gifts to me.

— ANITA R MOHAN OF FAIRFAX

## A Tribute to my Grandmother

She sits in her room  
near the window,  
her eyes now weak  
but focused on the yarn,

as the needles move  
like magic in rhythmically.

Her hands now weak and red,  
swollen, painful at times  
and her grasp not as good,  
yet her frail & delicate  
fingers still deft and swift  
make beautiful patterns.

As the yarn takes form,  
she holds it up lovingly  
against her heart,  
her weary eyes lighting up  
at the beautiful cardigan  
she has just done knitting.

~ Copyright © Anita R Mohan

# CENTREVIEW

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A Connection Newspaper



# From Amazon to Shutdown

**Kaine and Warner comment on the topics of the day at Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce roundtable.**

BY ANDREA WORKER  
CENTRE VIEW

**I**'ve been wrong before, so who knows? But I don't think we will see a government shutdown over this budget and the border wall."

That was U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine's opinion at a roundtable discussion with his colleague U.S. Sen. Mark Warner. The event was hosted by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, held at the Arlington campus of George Mason University, and moderated by NBC4 News Northern Virginia Bureau Chief, Julie Carey.

The question of a possible government shutdown with its disproportionate effect on Northern Virginia was one that the audience of area businesses, nonprofits and local government representatives were anxious to hear.

"There are two bipartisan options on the table for the President to choose from," added Kaine, and if neither is to his liking, Kaine said that Congress could still move forward and "kick the can" with one or more Continuing Resolutions. "We can write the checks two months at a time."

Warner agrees, while noting the situation is somewhat better than it has been during past similar circumstances.

"There are seven appropriation bills ready for signing," he said. "Seventy-five percent of the needs are already funded through the regular rules of order."

Border security is the last piece, with the president threatening the shutdown if Congress doesn't provide him with the \$5 billion he's asking to build the border wall. "We're still waiting for that check from Mexico [that Trump keeps promising]," Warner joked.

Warner is not opposed to spending on border security.

He just doesn't see the value in massive spending on a wall or fence that would also require maintenance and manning. Spending on drones and other proven technologies would garner his support, "and would be more effective and cost a lot less now and in the future."

The same applies when it comes to defense spending, which the senators say that the President wants to increase.

"Virginia would certainly benefit from more defense spending," said Kaine, but he doesn't think it's really a good idea or the right answer.

**WARNER WORRIES** that this administration is going all in "to buy the best of 20<sup>th</sup>



**U.S. Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine and NBC4 News Virginia Bureau Chief Julie Carey trade questions and answers at a discussion hosted by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.**

century stuff" instead of focusing on what's needed to fight the "real battles of today."

Both men see that fight as cyber wars and attacks of misinformation — "taking place daily" declared Warner — and the surpassing of the United States in technology and trade by China, Russia and others. None of these "real, modern threats" will be won by the addition of another battleship or even more troops.

Calling the government's lack of preparedness and outdated networks and devices "stupid on steroids," Warner gave examples of continuing purchases of devices without even the most basic of safeguards. "We are literally adding to our own vulnerability."

Warner will be pushing for a cohesive "cyber strategy" going forward and thinks that Virginia could become the Cyber Capital, since no one else has yet laid claim to that title and role.

**WHAT ABOUT** the addition of Amazon in the senator's own backyard?

"It's a game-changer for the region," in Warner's view, praising Gov. Ralph Northam and the many others who worked on the deal to make it possible. Warner also sees the Amazon addition as another building block to the growth of a local economy that he says has continued to experience "real weakness" and a "level of vulnerability" post-sequestration. He also hopes that Amazon and the support services that will follow in its wake will help stem the decline of millennials in the region.

Risking what he said might be considered a "little bit of heresy to say with an Arlington crowd," Warner has his fingers crossed, and will do what he can to encourage some "down-state" job benefits from those support services.



**Fairfax County Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) meets with U.S. Sen. Mark Warner after the discussion. McKay says he agrees that the Amazon deal was an affirmation of Virginia and its workforce. The supervisor also said he and the board were willing to participate in any way necessary to continue the press for affordable housing and to invest in workforce development.**

Kaine noted that the Amazon move, while fairly well accepted throughout the Commonwealth, received a resounding 90 percent approval rating from Virginians in the Appalachians.

"They see the connection with our shared successes."

Both Kaine and Warner agree that the arrival of Amazon poses challenges, but provides the best opportunity to add impetus to working on two of the region's biggest problems: affordable housing and workforce development.

Kaine sees Amazon's choice of Virginia as one of their new headquarters as an affir-

mation of the workforce quality that the state can offer, but warns that it is critical to work toward producing that workforce, rather than allowing local companies to merely "cannibalize each others' best workers."

Work has already begun to update and re-write the "Higher Education Act" and Virginia is the chair of that taskforce. Kaine says there is plenty that can be done at the federal level to encourage employers to "treat their employees like the assets they say they are" with tax incentives, changes to accounting rules, re-do's of laws that hinder continuing education, and more emphasis on all forms of education, not just four-year college schooling.

On the subject of affordable housing, both men have ideas that they will support.

Kaine believes that Congress can assist by expanding the Low-income Housing Tax Credit. "It's already a good program" and is a good place to start, rather than trying to "recreate the wheel," but admits that to date, it's been a tough sell.

Warner called for a regional housing authority to tackle the issue. The state already has a housing development division and will soon have millions to develop housing initiatives as part of the Amazon deal, but to deal with the problem locally requires local thinking and collaboration in his view.

**QUESTIONS ABOUT METRO**, transportation and infrastructure were also on the table.

Working together, Virginia, Maryland and the District helped the rail service gain its first dedicated revenue stream this year, but the additional federal \$150 million per year is not guaranteed year over year. Kaine and Warner are hopeful, with a Democrat-controlled House to be seated in January, but it's still but something to count on, "but if we can get the \$150 million again, we'll take the money and run," said Warner.

The two senators lamented the fact that the anticipated "Infrastructure Bill" is nowhere in sight, with Warner going to so far as to label the Trump Plan "a scam extraordinaire, a shell game ... stealing money from the highways departments and projects" and leaving them unable to repair the country's crumbling infrastructure. With a "builder President in the White House," Warner thought that infrastructure work would have been easy for both sides of the aisle and all levels of the government to connect, but sees nothing of consequence taking place.

And the last question that Carey posed to the senators? After the midterm elections, would they now categorize Virginia as a "Blue State?"

Warner wouldn't say specifically, but he does think that the Northern Virginia delegation to the General Assembly being all Democrats will be a benefit.

Kaine still sees Virginia as "battleground trending Blue," but if the GOP "keeps putting up cultural warriors and ideologues as their candidates, if that's the match up — we're Blue!"

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER



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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



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# HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX STATION RAILROAD MUSEUM

## Fairfax Station Railroad Museum

The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum holds events most Sundays, 1-4 p.m. January activities include a Winter Make and Take craft, a game day/scavenger hunt and a G-Scale model train show. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org), [www.facebook.com/FFXSRR](http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR), or call 703-425-9225.

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 22

**Caroling Wagon Ride & Campfire.** 4-5:30 p.m. at the Walney Visitor Center in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Join in song and exploration on a wagon ride, and then warm up with s'mores around the campfire. For participants age 4-adult. \$8 per person. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

### FRIDAY/DEC. 28

**IONA Brings Music to Sully Historic Site.** 1 and 2 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Each year, IONA performs for sell-out crowds at Sully. The musical program is designed for audience members age 5-adult. \$15 per person. Prepaid reservations are required. Limited seating is offered on a first come first serve basis. An optional house tour is included. Refreshments will be served in the original 18th century kitchen. Register at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully/).

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 2

**First Hike Fairfax 2019.** Visit any Fairfax County Park Authority trail on Jan. 1, 2019. Take lots of photos. Pick a favorite photo to enter into the Fairfax County Park Authority's First Hike Photo Contest by Jan. 2. The contest is open to amateur and professional photographers. Limit one photo entry per person. Visit the First Hike Fairfax at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/first-hike](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/first-hike) for more info.

### SATURDAY/JAN. 5

**RECenter Swim Classes Start.** The Fairfax County Park Authority offers youth swim instruction for babies to teens at nine RECenters throughout the county. Adults join their children in the pool in the early years. Kids go

solo and advance through different instruction levels as they get older. For more information about the Park Authority's swim programs, call 703-222-4664 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/recenter/swimming](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/recenter/swimming).

### SUNDAY/JAN. 6

**Winter Make 'n Take.** 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will celebrate the New Year with a Make 'n Take craft event. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org), [www.facebook.com/FFXSRR](http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR), or call 703-425-9225.

### SUNDAY/JAN. 13

**Game Day/Scavenger Hunt.** 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Come to the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum and play a Train Game or History Game as well as working on a Scavenger Hunt. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org), [www.facebook.com/FFXSRR](http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR), or call 703-425-9225.

**Winter Fun Days.** 2-4 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Register children for "Winter Fun Days" at Sully Historic Site and find ways to keep everyone entertained when going outside isn't a great option. During the program, children age 6-12 will discover fun games and learning activities they can do at home the next time everyone is snowed in. Participants will make a historic craft to take with them and warm up with hot cider. \$8 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-437-1794 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site).

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 18-20

**Home + Remodeling Show.** Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. More than 300 companies

will be on hand to showcase the latest products and services in home remodeling, renovation, home décor and redesign. TLC's Trading Spaces' John Gidding and HGTV Design Star's Tyler Wisler will headline the event. \$12 at box office; \$9 online, \$3 children 6-12, free for 5 and younger. Purchase tickets at [homeandremodelingshow.com/show-features](http://homeandremodelingshow.com/show-features).

### SUNDAY/JAN. 20

**Garden Gauge (G Scale) Model Train Show.** 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington, Virginia, and Maryland Garden Railway Society will hold their annual Garden 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](http://www.fairfax-station.org), [www.facebook.com/FFXSRR](http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR), or call 703-425-9225.

### PET ADOPTIONS

**Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit [hart90.org](http://hart90.org) for more.  
**Adopt a Dog.** Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit [aforeverhome.org](http://aforeverhome.org) for more.  
**Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit [www.lostdogrescue.org](http://www.lostdogrescue.org) for more.

### 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 [lynnelott@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:lynnelott@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-322-4475 for more.  
**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.



# CRIME

The following incidents were reported by the Sully District Police Station.

**ROBBERY (CARJACKING):** 14120A Lee Highway (United States Postal Service), Dec. 3, 1:49 a.m. The victim was seated in her car in the post office parking lot. A man entered the passenger side of the car, displayed a gun, and demanded that she begin driving. The woman got out and the man drove off in her car. The suspect was described as a black man, 20 years of age, 5'4" to 5'6", average build, and wearing dark clothing. The victim was not injured.

**BURGLARY OCCUPIED DWELLING:** 6000 block of Summer Pond Drive, Nov. 28, 1:25 a.m. A man entered the victim's home through a rear door and rummaged through his belongings. Nothing was stolen.

## DEC. 14 LARCENIES

14100 block of Saint Germain Drive, merchandise from business

## DEC. 12 LARCENIES

5800 block of Post Corners Trail, property from vehicle

## STOLEN VEHICLES

6300 block of Paddington Lane, 1997 Dodge Grand Caravan

## DEC. 10 LARCENIES

13700 block of Cabells Mill Drive, license plate from vehicle

14700 block of Lee Highway, beer from business

5600 block of Ox Road, cash from business

5600 block of Stone Road, purse from location

## DEC. 7 LARCENIES

11900 block of Fair Oaks Shopping Center, merchandise from business

3300 block of Hill Haven Court, packages from residence

12000 block of Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, property from residence

12300 block of Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, ring from location

3000 block of Summershade Court, wallet from residence

## DEC. 5 LARCENIES

14800 block of Maidstone Court, cash from vehicle

4900 block of Stonecroft Boulevard, property from vehicle

## BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## SOBER-RIDE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**Free Sober Rides.** 8 p.m.-4 a.m. daily, Dec. 14-Jan. 1. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a code in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home (limited quantities available). WRAP's Holiday SoberRide promo code will be posted at [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

## WHITE HOUSE ORNAMENTS

**GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman's Club** is selling 2018 White House Christmas ornaments. This year's ornament honors the 33rd President, Harry Truman. The two-sided ornament illustrates changes to the White House during the Truman administration, the Truman balcony, Presidential Seal and renovation of the Blue Room. 2018 ornaments cost \$22. Proceeds benefit charity. Order now by calling 703-378-6841 or 703-378-6216. It is possible to order previous years' ornaments.

## WEBINAR

**Online Salary Negotiation Workshop.** AAUW (American Association of University Women) Work Smart is free online for anyone looking to learn how to negotiate a salary increase or promotion. Why is negotiation so important? AAUW's research on the gender pay gap shows that, one year out of college, women are already paid significantly less than men. Visit [salary.aauw.org](http://salary.aauw.org).

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## Stepping Back From the Precipice



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not so bad, even though it's been nearly 10 years on the cancer trail – and two columns, recently, courting my imminent demise.

The appointment with the otolaryngologist to assess the presumptive damage/my decline was instead wonderfully uplifting: “nothing worrisome in the throat.” What symptoms I was experiencing (basically seasonal-type cold and flu to go along with a scratchy and extremely hoarse voice) had nothing to do with cancer and more so to do with the time of the year.

Meaning I wasn't going to die as a result; just sneeze, cough and so forth like everyone else, which as I've been told, repeatedly, I'm not.

Cancer patients might not have the benefit of doubt or delay like the rest of you. Time may not be of the essence, but one never knows. Cancer cells sort of have a mind/process of their own.

It's not so much a lesson learned as it has been a lesson reminded.

My oncologist has frequently advised me that should a new symptom appear and persist for two to three weeks, I should email him and alert him to my status/situation. I might have been a week or so late this time, but fortunately not too many dollars short.

My oncologist responded immediately as did my primary care physician. Each doctor making arrangements for me within a matter of hours: a face-to-face appointment with my internal medicine doctor – which led to the referral for the otolaryngologist (who called to schedule an appointment before I even got a chance to); and a referral as well by my oncologist for a CT scan of my neck.

Having now been examined and results interpreted, I am glad to report that as scared as I have been for the past two columns, my symptoms were not indicative of my lung cancer progressing. Rather it was more indicative of a cancer patient being stupid and stubborn.

Not wanting to ever believe that my life hangs in the balance and could be severely endangered by my neglect, I tend to go about my health-related business as I would guess the rest of you who are healthy and not cancer-diagnosed: I wait out the symptoms and try not to go negative.

As has been said recently – to me, nothing could be less appropriate given my stage IV, lung cancer. Being negative might actually save my life.

The reality is: I am compromised and subject to risks and complications many of you are not. My immune system has likely been weakened by this most recent every-three-week infusion interval recommended to shrink a relatively new tumor – and in so treating, hopefully will not have allowed any existing cancer cells to trigger and mutate and cause even more trouble.

After all, cancer is likely in control here and giving them an inch, so to speak, has never been part of our plan.

Even though my cancer had already metastasized in 2009, its movement seems to have been confined to my lungs and amazingly has remained there ever since. Still, if I've finally learned anything with this most recent scare, it is that I can't turn a blind eye or a deaf ear, metaphorically writing, to common sense or doctor's orders.

I'm not supposed to wait for the ambulance, if you know what I mean? I'm supposed to be smarter than that and act like my life matters: making arrangements much sooner rather than way later. Denying, pretending and hoping that new symptoms are benign because many other people experience them is, for a cancer patient, as foolish as it gets.

The last, and I mean the absolute last thing a cancer patient should think is that they are like everybody else. They are not. We are not. I am not.

You get it, Kenny?

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



# Bulova Will Not Seek Re-election

**O**n Thursday, Dec. 6, Chairman Sharon Bulova of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors announced that she will not be seeking re-election in 2019.

"It has been an honor to serve the Fairfax County community," Chairman Bulova said. "During these past 30 years, I have been privileged to work alongside dedicated elected officials at every level of government, with talented, caring county staff and a county full of enthusiastic community volunteers. While I will not be running for re-election in 2019 I sure do have a lot to look back on with great satisfaction."

Bulova served as the Braddock District Supervisor on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors from 1988 - 2009, and was elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in a special election in 2009. She was re-elected Chairman in 2011 and again in 2015. The year 2019 will mark her 10th year as Chairman and her 31st year as a member of the Board of Supervisors.

During her career, Chairman Bulova is proud of her role in founding the VRE commuter rail system, piloting Metro's Silver Line Phase 1 over the finish line, navigating through the Great Recession and fed-

eral sequestration while retaining Fairfax County's triple A Bond rating, founding Faith Communities in Action, initiating Communities of Trust, convening the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, helping launch Diversion First, facilitating the new vision and plan for Tysons, and spearheading numerous environmental, historical and cultural initiatives on behalf of the residents of Fairfax County.

"There is still much to do and contribute," Chairman Bulova said. "My term does not end until the end of next year. I look forward to working with you during these months ahead and thank you for your engagement, support and participation in your community."

The upcoming election for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will take place on Nov. 5, 2019, and the new Board will begin its work on Jan. 1, 2020.

**IN OTHER NEWS,** more change is coming to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock)

has announced he will not seek re-election in 2019.

Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) has also announced that she will not seek re-

election in 2019.

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D) has announced that he will run for Chairman in 2019, vacating his Lee District seat.



Sharon Bulova with the Board of Supervisors.

## Sharon Bulova Reflects on Getting Started

**M**emory is funny. If you asked me what I did last Tuesday I would be hard pressed to fill in the details. Some things, however, remain frozen in time, down to seemingly insignificant details.



Chairman Sharon Bulova

Lunch at Hunan West on Jan. 11, 1987 is one of those memories. I was working as an Aide to Annandale District Supervisor Audrey Moore. She had pretty much made up her mind to run for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors against incumbent Jack Herry. My co-workers, Florence, Carolyn and Janet, and I had escaped the office for lunch in the Kings Park Shopping Center.

We began discussing Audrey's plans, then the subject shifted to who would run for the open Annandale District seat. "Sharon Bulova," announced Florence Naeve. I looked up from my Sweet and Sour Pork laughing, thinking that she was joking. To my horror, my friends' expressions were electrified.

They excitedly began listing all the reasons why this was a good idea. I countered with a list of my shortcomings, why I couldn't possibly run for office, starting with a phobia about speaking in public. Carolyn smiled broadly and exclaimed, "And see! You're so modest and organized!"

Sometimes routine events like lunch with friends can prove pivotal. Despite all my doubts and misgivings, I did, indeed run for

office, and went on to serve as Annandale - later renamed Braddock - District Supervisor for the next twenty years. When then-Chairman Gerry Connolly was elected to Congress in 2008, I ran for his open seat in a special election on February 3, 2009. This coming February will mark ten years since I have served as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

Local government is an awesome place to be. It's the level of government closest to the people you represent. It's the place where you can truly make a tangible difference, touch lives, and engage with the community in a personal, positive way. Deciding when to stop is just as hard as making the decision to start down the road of elective office. For me, however, that time has come.

When questioned by Tony Olivo of the Washington Post about my plans for running, I told him I was going to use the Thanksgiving holiday to think about it, and to talk to my family and friends. On Thanksgiving Day my son David arrived for dinner equipped with a large flip chart and colored stickies for voting. He titled the Chart "Family Decision Making Matrix" and separated it into "Pros" and "Cons." It was a fun, light-hearted after dinner activity. Many of the items listed on the "Pro" side of the chart were some of the reasons that had already persuaded me to not seek another four-year term. More time with family and grandchildren, time for travel, to entertain, to smell the roses.

It has been an honor to serve the Fairfax County community on the Board of Supervisors. During these past thirty years, I have

### REACTIONS

#### Ensuring Prosperity, Quality of Life

**U.S. Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA):**

"As former mayor to a city of 200,000 people, I have enormous respect for Sharon Bulova's leadership of a county of 1.1 million. Over the past 30 years, Fairfax County's population has grown by nearly half, and Sharon's service during that time has played a major role in ensuring the prosperity and quality of life accompanying that growth. Congratulations, Sharon, on a job well done."

#### A True Community Treasure

**U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), former Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors:**

"I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Sharon Bulova for more than 20 years and she is a true community treasure. Under her leadership, she turned the idea of the Virginia Railway Express into a reality. As Chairman, she

guided the County through the worst of the Great Recession, while still maintaining the critical investments and services that Fairfax residents have come to expect.

And over her years of public service, she has helped transform our community into one that is envied by all others.

"Sharon's time on the Board will be remembered for her decency and commitment to collegiality, her willingness to listen to her constituents and bring people together, and her drive to leave Fairfax a better place for future generations. I want to thank my dear friend for her lifetime of service and the undeniable mark she has left on our community."

#### Gold Standard

**State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34)**

"I first met Sharon Bulova in 1996 when I was a young lawyer entering the political world. She was (and is) the gold standard by which local officials can be measured. Her retirement marks the end of an era in Fairfax County which history will remember as one of prosperity and good will."

been privileged to work alongside dedicated elected officials at every level of government, with talented, caring county staff and a county full of enthusiastic community volunteers. While I will not be running for re-election in 2019 I sure do have a lot to look back on with satisfaction.

My term does not end until the end of next year. Between now and then there is still much to do and to contribute. I look forward to working with you during these months ahead and thank you for your engagement and participation in your community.