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Centreville ❖ Little Rocky Run

CENTREVIEW

HomeLifeStyle

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APRIL 10-16, 2019

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Chad Lehman has been Centreville High's principal since mid-January, and he came with almost 18 years' experience as a teacher and administrator in Fairfax County schools and the FCPS central office.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMAS LOPEZ

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Artist's rendition of the Bull Run Farm Brewery in Centreville. A glass atrium is between the two buildings.



The Willcoxon Tavern in Fairfax was a place to gather and do business.

Making Beers with a Taste of History

Winery owner hopes to build a farm brewery in Centreville.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

The Winery at Bull Run was established in 2012 as a scenic working farm. On 225 acres adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park, it's at 15950 Lee Hwy. in Centreville, next to an equestrian farm.

Owner Jon Hickox crafts fine Virginia

wines while honoring the history and preservation of 19th century, pastoral, Fairfax County. And since opening, it's become immensely popular for tours, tastings and as a place to hold special events.

Now, though, Hickox is branching out. He's become involved with a new venture and has applied for a farm-brewery permit. "The inspiration for a farm brewery was our winery," he said. "Except we're going to be

making beer from hops, instead of wine from grapes."

He presented his idea, as well as an artist's rendition of the new facility, at a recent joint meeting of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee and the Sully District Council of Citizens Associations. The plan is to construct two, adjoining buildings – both with a nod to the area's history. One will pay homage to

Willcoxon Tavern, and the other will honor the Stone House.

"We want to create historic-looking structures that fit in with the landscape," explained Hickox. "[Built in the early 1800s], Willcoxon Tavern used to be behind the old courthouse in Fairfax City, and we're trying to revive that landmark for the brewery."

SEE WINERY, PAGE 9

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'Build a Strong Team and Stay Focused'

Meet Chad Lehman, Centreville High's new principal.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

Chad Lehman has been Centreville High's principal since mid-January, and he came with almost 18 years' experience as a teacher and administrator in Fairfax County schools and the FCPS central office. He's also delighted to be a Wildcat.

"I found out in December that I got the job and I was excited," he said. "It's a wonderful school in a fantastic community. And it's a great opportunity for me to return to high-school level."

Actually, growing up in central Pennsylvania, Lehman initially wanted to be a baseball player or a professional fisherman. Then he decided to become an athletic trainer and, in 1997, he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Sports Medicine from Penn State.

"But while in grad school at JMU, I was a teaching assistant and realized I enjoyed teaching," he said. So in 2000, he received a Master of Science in Health Science, plus a teaching license. Lehman then taught health and PE. at Harrisonburg High for a year.

Coming to Fairfax County in summer 2001, he taught those same subjects at Chantilly High – including a sports-medicine elective and a student-leadership class – until 2004, when he became the school's assistant director of student activities until February 2007.

"I liked the interaction with the students, plus the ability to help them learn and help guide their future," said Lehman. "And while there, I was always involved outside the classroom. As an athletic trainer, I took care of sports medicine for the athletes."

He coached wrestling and was the SGA sponsor at Chantilly. "I liked being involved in student life and supporting students, both in and out of the classroom," he explained. "And that's one thing I like about being a principal – you get to see students in many aspects of their lives."

IN EARLY 2007, Lehman became an instructional specialist for the school system's central office. "At the central office, I saw things through a countywide lens and had a larger impact," he said. "I learned a lot, but I missed being in a school. That's where the energy is, and you have a direct impact on kids and staff."

So in 2008, he obtained a Master of Education in Education Leadership from GMU. He wanted to lead, guide and serve a school at the administrative level; and in November 2009, he was named assistant principal at South Lakes High.

"One of the biggest things I learned there



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Centreville Principal Chad Lehman standing outside the school library.

was to never give up on students," said Lehman. "As an assistant principal, you're regularly working with students who need additional support – social, emotional and academic. They might have family struggles, have limited English and maybe have to work; they have so many challenges. You also learn how complex these large high schools are when you take on an administrative role." (Centreville's current enrollment is about 2,570 students).

Then in July 2014, he became principal of Luther Jackson Middle School. "I learned it takes a tremendous team effort to lead a school forward, and it's important to work collaboratively with the staff to see student growth," explained Lehman. "We made good progress there, and I was proud of the work we were doing."

But when former Centreville Principal Dave Jagels left to become FCPS Region 5 Executive Principal, Lehman applied for his post. "It was appealing because I had the itch to return to high-school level," he said. "What I love about Centreville is that this school serves a real mix of students. There's a high level of diversity – ethnically, economically and culturally."

And Lehman's "inspired and motivated" to work together with the staff for the good of all those students. "Centreville is a great school with a supportive community, and we're poised to take our programs to the next level," he said. "We have to continue working hard to keep moving forward because we want to be the best school in the area."

And while it wasn't an easy decision to leave Luther Jackson, helping was the fact that he and his family – wife Nikki, a Chantilly High English teacher, and sons Cameron, 6, and Alex, 4-1/2 – live in Centreville. So being the Wildcats' principal allows Lehman to serve his local community. And, he added, "The job is demand-

ing of your time – particularly with all the evening events – so living here allows me to strike that balance between home and work."

He said he received a "fantastic welcome," too. "This school has a caring culture and a hardworking staff that cares about meeting students' needs," said Lehman. "So I've enjoyed learning about the work happening here and meeting members of the community."

His three areas of focus are:

- * "Ensuring we have a positive, caring, school culture where people feel welcome and we're always respectful;

- * Having high-quality, tier-one instruction – the day-to-day classroom lessons to engage student learning; and

- * Encouraging teachers working together to plan instruction, do assessments and talk about student needs. That collaboration becomes part of our school culture and how we operate – and that makes us stronger as a staff."

SINCE COMING TO CENTREVILLE, he's been working on a "clear, instructional vision for the school." It's important, he said, because, "Next year, all students will have their own laptops. So we have to make sure

teachers feel prepared to adapt their instruction based upon the increasing technology."

Noting that he's had great mentors who've helped him improve his skills, Lehman wants "to establish a school environment where teachers feel inspired by the work happening in this school. And it's my job to make sure systems are in place to allow that work to happen effectively."

He said today's high schools are "like running a corporation – which also makes it exciting. On any day, you're dealing with discipline, human resources, instruction, budget, plus students' social and emotional wellness. So you have to build a strong team and stay focused on doing the right work for students."

"What I love about Centreville is that this school serves a real mix of students. There's a high level of diversity – ethnically, economically and culturally."

—Chad Lehman

Also tough, said Lehman, is balancing everything that must be accomplished for the school's betterment. "And not everyone agrees on them, so finding consensus on that is a challenge," he said.

Lehman's greatest satisfaction is "seeing students succeed in their own way, whatever that is. I love being at graduation, looking out and seeing that pride on the faces of students and their families. And knowing we were a big part of getting those grads to that point is very rewarding."

Additionally, he likes supporting teachers and other school leaders in their professional growth and development. After all, said Lehman, "We're educators, and we're in the business of continuous learning."

Write

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

Online: www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/
By email: editors@connectionnewspapers.com

The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314

OPINION

Empowering Victims of Sexual Assault

Sexual assault awareness and prevention in Fairfax County.

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN C. COOK
BRADDOCK DISTRICT



April is sexual assault awareness month. This awareness month is especially relevant with the recent high-profile cases of sexual assault. These stories have taught us that anyone can be a victim of sexual assault. The crime does not discriminate against race, education, status, age or gender. This has started an important conversation among all of us about sexual assault and listening to victims. Fairfax County seeks to empower victims of sexual assault, prevent sexual assault through education, and provide comprehensive services to survivors.

Statistics vary, but many studies show as many as 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will experience sexual violence in their lifetime. Sadly, only one third of these crimes are reported to law enforcement according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. While Fairfax County is the safest jurisdiction of its size in the country, sexual violence is still an issue we face. The Fairfax County Police Department re-

ceived 289 reports of sexual assault in 2017. Aside from prevention, Fairfax County is dedicated to encouraging victims to report the crimes committed against them so justice can be served.

The Department of Family Services' Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (DSVS) 24/7 Hotline (703-360-7273) is one of the resources that provides a safe place for victims of sexual assault. The confidential hotline connects victims or concerned bystanders with trained volunteers. The callers can speak openly to the volunteers who can give them crisis support and point them to the next best step. DSVS also provides counseling services, hospital accompaniment, advocacy services, housing and financial assistance. The hotline is separate from the police department, but they may encourage the victims to contact the police department and guide them through the process of reporting the crime.

The Fairfax County Police Department is highly trained to carefully interview victims and investigate the crime as thoroughly as

possible to help them get justice. In fact, the department is co-hosting the second annual Northern Virginia Sex Crimes Investigators Conference this year to offer additional specialized training in sexual assault cases to local officers. Victims services are also provided by department staff to give "immediate and direct support and assistance to crime victims, their families and witnesses suffering emotionally, financially and physically."

There are several programs geared toward education, awareness, and sexual assault prevention. The County's Community and Engagement Services team offers several different informational courses and presentations on sexual assault awareness and prevention. One of these classes, called the HYPE (Healthy Youth Prevention Education) Project, teaches teens about intimate partner violence, sexual assault prevention, and healthy relationship skills through hands-on activities, multimedia, role-play exercises and facilitated discussions. Through programs like these we can comprehensively address the issue of sexual assault and come closer to ridding it from our society for good.

Need for Affordable Housing: 'Raging Five-alarm Fire'

BY KOFI ANNAN
PRESIDENT, FAIRFAX COUNTY NAACP



Transcript of planned testimony before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at budget hearings.

Fairfax County is one of the most attractive places to live and work, not only in Northern Virginia, but throughout the region, and a big reason for that is our rich diversity. However, that diversity is being increasingly threatened by rising home prices and the lack of affordable housing in the region. The situation will be exacerbated by the arrival of Amazon, which is projected to bring an additional 25,000 employees — most of whom will make six-figure salaries. Demand is already increasing dramatically, which is pushing the almost 70,000 poor and working class people out of Fairfax County. According to the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, the number of homes under contract rose by 70 percent over the last year. This means that fewer and fewer of our teachers, county staff, hospitality industry workers, nurses, and public safety officials will be able to live in the communities they serve. This means that the fewer and fewer of our young people will be able to leave the nest once they graduate high school or college. That means that fewer and fewer of our elderly population will be able to age in place without having to make unconscionable choices of paying to keep a roof over their heads or paying to put food on the table or purchasing medication. Up to 20,000 senior households and 10,000 disabled households are making these choices everyday as we speak. And this means that many people of color will also be forced

to abandon their homes as our communities experience gentrification. Fifty percent of the county's African American community are currently categorized as housing insecure; and 50% of the County's homeless population are African American.

While the NAACP voted in favor of the Housing Commission's recommendation to add a minimum of 5,000 units over the next fifteen years, this problem cannot wait fifteen years, and 5,000 units would not come close to addressing the actual current need which is 30,000 units, much less the projected need fifteen years from now. The problem of affordable housing is becoming similar to a raging five-alarm fire, but unfortunately the county's approach has been to tackle it with a garden hose instead of giving it the priority attention it truly deserves.

Therefore, we strongly urges the Board of Supervisors to increase funding for the Housing Trust Fund in the 2020 Budget by exploring inefficiencies in other programs and/or include an additional half-penny real estate tax in this year's budget. These funds should be used to stimulate new investment in new market affordable units, and preserve existing ones. Also, beginning in FY2021, approve an annual appropriation of \$50 million for the County's Housing Trust Fund. The argument that there is already unused money in the Trust Fund is also unacceptable, and the county should address this immediately to encourage more private investment.

In a related matter, we applaud the county for funding efforts to investigate real estate steering and discrimination. The 2017 Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs report

found that because of past discriminatory practices in housing, Fairfax County does not have the racial distribution in housing that would be present in a free housing market. These studies should begin to address this issue.

Next we would like to revisit the issue of early childhood education. There are more than 17,000 children from low-income families eligible for county-subsidized pre-K education who are not receiving it with over 4,000 currently wait-listed. Last year the county only provided funding for an additional 36 children; but in response to our requests to do more, the county claimed it would conduct a study to learn the full scope of the problem and cost to implement universal pre-K. Unfortunately, as of today the county has neither followed-through with the promised study nor funded a meaningful increase for the known children. This year the county is funding the exact same increase as it did last year - 36. Therefore we are reiterating our call for the county to commit necessary resources to enroll at least 300 low-income children in pre-K in 2020 and to devise a long-term plan to provide for at least 2,000 children over the next five years.

We applaud and support the plan to fund the purchase and implementation of police body worn cameras using the funds that were set aside to implement the recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Police Practices and Review Commission. This would be a significant step towards bringing the Fairfax County Police Department on par with other local and regional departments. As one of the largest in the country, it's important that our department remains a leader in innovation, transparency, and public accountability.

CENTREVIEW

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LETTERS

Why I'm Running to Replace Hugo

To the Editor:

For decades, the interchange at Popes Head Road and the Fairfax County Parkway has been one of Virginia's deadliest. Among the longest holding signals in Virginia, the intersection combines with the gridlock throughout Northern Virginia to increase our commute times massively while making for a dangerous commute to work and school for our families.

The requirements for a solution are clear – new construction that allows northbound and southbound access to the Parkway from both the east and west sides of the Parkway, while not preventing neighbors from being able to get to one another. However, we have seen multiple proposals that include a \$25 Million connection to a non-existent, unwanted and unfunded Shirley Gate extension while simultaneously failing to meet the very basic requirements of our community.

Over the past year, I've had the opportunity to meet with community organizers like Jim Cullen and

Larry Hoss, attend multiple community meetings held by VDOT, and discuss the issues with local leaders such as State Sen. David Marsden, Chair Sharon Bulova, and Fairfax County Supervisor Jeff McKay. I've delivered a consistent message; it's time for a solution that addresses the needs of our community while not wasting taxpayer money.

We are finally seeing progress. After two decades of failing to address this dangerous intersection, Del. Tim Hugo this past week sent a letter that he finally opposes Shirley Gate.

As a leader in the Army and small business community, I wouldn't tolerate years of failure to address critical challenges within my command or business. We shouldn't have to tolerate it in our community either. I'm running to replace Hugo because we deserve leadership that prioritizes our time and the safety of our families.

Dan Helmer
Fairfax

BULLETIN BOARD

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

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Interested in local Civil War or Railroad History? Consider volunteering at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. The Museum offers a variety of volunteer opportunities in Museum events, programs and administration. The Museum is also seeking an individual to coordinate the scheduling of the volunteer staff. Training will be provided for all positions. Email volunteers@fairfax-station.org or call 703-945-7483 for 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. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

Volunteers Needed. The Shepherd's Center of Western Fairfax County needs volunteers to provide weekday rides to medical appointments for

residents 50 and older. Drivers can choose their rides and how often they want to volunteer. Office volunteers are needed and work from home or SCWFC office. The Shepherd Center office is located at 14426 Albemarle Point Place, Suite 119, Chantilly. Contact Travis White at scwfc.office@gmail.com or 703-246-5920.

THURSDAY/APRIL 11

Weekend Food for Kids. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Dominion Energy, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, invites community members to help pack food for its Weekend Food for Kids program. This critical program provides nonperishable food over the weekend

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE II



Public Meetings

Funding the Right Transportation Projects

You are invited to share comments on transportation projects that have been recommended for funding in the FY2020-2025 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). Additionally, pursuant to §33.2-202, comments will be accepted for new projects valued in excess of \$25 million. Hearings held in Northern Virginia and Fredericksburg will also provide opportunity for input on the I-95 Corridor Improvement Plan. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will consider your comments as it develops the FY2020-2025 Six-Year Improvement Program. The program allocates public funds to highway, road, bridge, rail, bicycle, pedestrian, and public transportation projects. All federally eligible projects in the SYIP will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to document how Virginia will obligate its federal funds. Meeting materials will be available at <http://www.ctb.virginia.gov/planning/springmeetings/default.asp> beginning April 11, 2019.

Public hearings begin at 4 p.m. in each of the locations except as noted below:
A formal comment period will be held at these meetings.

Thursday, April 11, 2019 Lynchburg District Holiday Inn Lynchburg 601 Main St. Lynchburg, VA 24504	Monday, April 15, 2019 Hampton Roads District Hampton Roads District Office Auditorium 7511 Burbage Drive Suffolk, VA 23435	Monday, April 22, 2019 Staunton District Blue Ridge Community College Plecker Center for Continuing Education One College Lane Weyers Cave, VA 24486
Tuesday, April 23, 2019 Bristol District Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center One Partnership Circle Abingdon, VA 24210	Thursday, April 25, 2019 Richmond District Richmond Marriott - Short Pump 4240 Dominion Boulevard Glen Allen, VA 23060	Monday, May 6, 2019 Culpeper District Culpeper District Auditorium 1601 Orange Road Culpeper, VA 22701
Tuesday, May 7, 2019 Salem District Holiday Inn Tanglewood 4468 Starkey Road Roanoke, VA 24018	Thursday, May 9, 2019 Fredericksburg District James Monroe High School 2300 Washington Avenue Fredericksburg, VA 22401 **meeting begins at 6 p.m.	Monday, May 13, 2019 NOVA District Northern Virginia District Office Potomac Conference Room 4975 Alliance Drive Fairfax, VA 22030 **meeting begins at 6 p.m.

*The Northern Virginia District meeting will serve as the required joint public meeting with the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the Virginia Railway Express, and the CTB per § 33.2-214.3 of the Code of Virginia.

Beginning at 3 p.m. (except in Northern Virginia and Fredericksburg, which will begin at 5 p.m.), there will also be an open house with information and opportunities for public feedback on the statewide, multimodal transportation plan, known as VTrans. This open house will be the first of four for the new plan update and will cover the vision and goals for the plan as well as information on the required statewide multimodal Needs Assessment. More information can be found at www.VTrans.org or via email at comment@vtrans.org. There is no formal hearing for the VTrans open house.

You can also submit your comments via email or mail by May 27, 2019, to:

For roads and highways: Six-YearProgram@VDOT.Virginia.gov, or Infrastructure Investment Director, Virginia Department of Transportation, 1401 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

For rail and public transportation: DRPTPR@drpt.virginia.gov, Public Information Office, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, 600 East Main Street, Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219.

The Commonwealth is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, its services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on these policies or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Compliance Officer at 804-786-2730 or the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation's Title VI Compliance Officer at 804-786-4440 (TTY users call 711).

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ConnectionNewspapers



PHOTOS BY GREG HADLEY

Even in cooler months, guests can find a warm spot outdoors — whether it's soaking in the sunken hot tub or cozying up to the wood burning fireplace flanked by gas torches.

Stylish Outdoor Living Wins 'Contractor of the Year'

Dreaming of making the most of outdoor living? Look at this.

BY JOHN BYRD

An outdoor living addition to Chateau-style residence in Oakton has won a "Contractor of the Year" grand award for Sun Design Remodeling Specialists.

The comprehensive design — which combines a screened porch, an outdoor kitchen and dining area, a hot tub and a stone fireplace in a cleverly integrated, multi-level layout— completes the rear elevation of the 9,500 square foot custom home the owners had built in 2001. The remodel to the home of Larry and Lisa Rice was named best "Residential Design/Outdoor Living Solution for \$60,000 and over" by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) metro DC chapter.

"We wanted an indoor/outdoor gathering place that would bring the whole family together," says Lisa, 56, a retired mother of teenage twins. "The rear of the house was originally conceived as a walk-out, but I realized later that I didn't want high decks. Once I saw the design problem more clearly, I was simply looking for a better set of options — albeit, ones I couldn't fully envision." Rice credits Craig Duroske, chairman and founder of Sun Design, with re-awakening her enthusiasm for the project by identifying and prioritizing its primary components.

"Craig got our vision" Lisa says. "It was his attention to our goals that revived my interest in moving forward."

In the end, the plan appreciably responds to the Rice family's passion for indoor-outdoor living.

❖ A 437-square-foot screened porch linked to the kitchen via a folding glass window provides a cozy, insect-free gathering spot. An eight-foot counter abut-



Best Outdoor Living Solution. A multi-component, multi-level rear elevation addition to a home in Oakton recently garnered a "Contractor of the Year" Grand Award for Sun Design Remodeling.

ting the "pass-thru" inside the porch facilitates service and dining. With a gas fireplace clad in stone and a flat screen TV, the porch can be fully used as an entertainment mecca nine months of the year;

❖ A formal dining area situated under a cedar pergola incorporates retractable awnings for shade;

❖ The 21-by-21-foot outdoor kitchen includes a built-in Wolf gas grill, a beverage center with refrigerator, an ice maker, a sink, and a stainless oval grill;

❖ Three steps down, the open air deck (22-by-28 feet) features a wood-burning hearth and a hot tub set-off by planters and gas torches — an inviting spot to deeply relax, even in cooler weather.

❖ A ground-level patio (16-by-19-feet) just outside the fully-appointed lower level family room offers a fire pit, and a quiet perch for stargazing.

"I always thought of the lower patio as a place where the kids could get away from the adults if they wanted," Lisa says. "On the other hand, Larry and I like it too."

Sun Design Remodeling is headquartered in Burke, Va. and also maintains an office in McLean. For More Information Visit: www.SunDesign.com or call 703-425-5588

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NEWS

Cutting the ribbon for the Little Free Library are (from left) MPO Sherry O'Brien, retired MPO Denny Vorbau, Kathy Smith, Southita Brower, PFC Meg Hawkins and Lt. Todd Billeb.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PFC MEG HAWKINS

'Take a Book, Share a Book'

Little Free Library opens in Sully District.

A Little Free Library is now available in the Sully District Governmental Center at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. It opened March 18 in the lobby there and offers free books for people of all ages.

People may take a book and/or leave a book for others, and the reading material is free to all members of the community to take home and enjoy for as long as they like. There are no deadlines, no overdue notices and no late fees.

The idea for the Little Free Library – which has become popular throughout the country – came from local resident Southita Brower. And since the Sully District Police Station is inside the governmental center, she contacted PFC Meg Hawkins, the station's Community Outreach Officer, about starting one there.

Hawkins then posed the suggestion to the Station Commander, Capt. Dean Lay, and Assistant Station Commander, Lt. Todd Billeb, plus Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully), and they all gave it an enthusiastic two thumbs up.

Following their approvals, Hawkins then reached out to retired police MPO Denny Vorbau, who owns his own company, Knock On Wood, and does wood-working. And he was the one who handmade the



Southita Brower pictured beside the Little Free Library in the Sully District Governmental Center.

library for the station's lobby.

In addition, MPO Sherry O'Brien combined with her daughter's Daisy troop, community members and officers from the Sully District Station to collect books to put into the library. Another community nonprofit, Making Everything Good, sponsored the library's charter, which is now on the world map at <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>.

The library is open 365 days a week and 24 hours a day and offers books for children, teens and adults. And in keeping with its mission, the Little Free Library's motto is "Take a Book, Share a Book."

— BONNIE HOBBS

ROUNDUPS

Community Sensory Day Planned

A Community Sensory Day will be held Saturday, April 13, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Fairfax County Public Safety headquarters, 12099 Government Center Pkwy. in Fair Oaks. It's a special event for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Meet police officers and enjoy touch-a-truck and a moonbounce. The goal is for police officers and members of the local, autistic community to learn from each other and grow.

Free Car Seat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety car seat inspections Tuesday, April 16, 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.

WFCM Looking for Volunteers

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM), a Chantilly-based non-profit serving local families in need with food and emergency financial services, is seeking volunteers to fill several positions. They are:

- ❖ Costco Food Pick-up (Chantilly), 8:30-9:30 a.m., every Tuesday;
- ❖ Harris Teeter Pick-up (Fair Oaks), 8:30-9:30 a.m., Thursdays;
- ❖ Admin., WFCM front desk, 10-2:30 p.m., every Friday (Will consider job sharing every other week);
- ❖ Admin., front desk, 2:30-4:30 p.m., every Tuesday;
- ❖ Admin., front desk, 2:30-4:30 p.m., every Thursday;
- ❖ Fill-In/Substitute Pantry Volunteers - Placed on an on-call list (Training will be provided); and
- ❖ Fill-In/Substitute Admin. Front desk - Placed on an on-call list (Training will be provided).

Those interested should contact Deb Culbertson at dculbertson@wfcma.org or 571-599-2871.

Drop Off Unused Medicine

Drug take-back boxes are now located at all eight of Fairfax County's police stations – including the Fair Oaks and Sully District stations. People may bring their unused or unneeded medications to their local police station for a safe, convenient and responsible way of disposing of drugs.

Boxes are in the lobby of each station and are accessible 24/7. The Fair Oaks District Station is at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. in Fair Oaks, and the Sully District Station is at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

Accepted items include:

- ❖ Prescription medication (schedule II-V controlled and non-controlled)
 - ❖ Prescription ointments
 - ❖ Over-the-counter medications
 - ❖ Medications for pets.
- Prohibited items include:
- ❖ No Needles (sharps)
 - ❖ No Liquids of any kind
 - ❖ No Illegal drugs
 - ❖ No Medications from businesses or clinics.
 - ❖ No non-prescription ointments
 - ❖ No lotions, aerosol cans or inhalers.

Meals on Wheels Drivers Sought

Meals on Wheels Drivers pick up meals and deliver them to individuals on a specific route. Routes take a maximum of two hours to deliver all meals. Deliveries are made midday Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. Deliveries can be made by an individual or as part of a volunteer group. Email volunteersolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Joy Prom Is Planned for Special-Needs

Centreville Baptist Church is partnering with local organizations and community members to host an "Enchanted Forest" Joy Prom for special-needs families in the area. It's set for Saturday, April 27, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The church is at 15100 Lee Hwy. in Centreville, at the Route 29/Pleasant Valley Road intersection. Helping it sponsor this event are the Chantilly and Fair Lakes Chick-fil-A and the Chantilly Wegmans.

This is a free event for all who register and is intended to be a night of fun for the special-needs community, as well as a time of respite for families and caregivers. Local youth are volunteering to be coupled with participants as "buddies" throughout the evening's activities.

Hundreds of participants will get to enjoy beautiful decorations, delicious food, a glamorous red-carpet walk in formal wear, a photo area, dancing and other activities for a night of memorable fun.

Registration to participate is open to ages 13 and up and is not limited to high school students. To attend, sponsor, or volunteer for the event, or for more information, go to www.cbcva.org/joyprom or call 703-830-3333 as soon as possible.



—BONNIE HOBBS

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: “Fifty Shades of Green.”

Through April 15, gallery hours at the Caton Merchant Family Gallery, 9419 Battle St., Manassas. Founded in 2016, Nova Plein Air Artists (NPAA) was initiated due to a shared desire to explore the idea of painting outdoors. Since then, NPAA has evolved into a creative, educational and social network of local artists committed to painting weekly at organized “paint-outs.” Shades of Green showcases artwork from 11 active, local artists. Visit center-for-the-arts.org or call 703-330-2787.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13

Hike & Tea. 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Frying Pan Farm Park joins in the National Cherry Blossom Festival this spring with a nature hike and Japanese tea. Begin the adventure at the Indoor Arena to pick up a map and instructions. Volunteers will guide participants to the starting point of the park’s nature trails. Follow the signs to visit stations where you can build a fairy house, help tally migratory and resident birds, and search for critters in the soil and water. End the journey at the 1790’s Meeting House to enjoy Japanese teas. Free. Open to all ages. Call 703-437-9101 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park.

Centreville International Showcase. 5:30-9 p.m. at the Korean Central Presbyterian Church, 15451 Lee Highway, Centreville. Sponsored by the Centreville Immigration Forum, the family-friendly event is free, with food available for purchase. Performing groups represent the many countries who live in the Northern Virginia community, including the McNeill-James School of Irish Dance, Kofi and Friends African Drumming, Washington Senior Korean Harmonica Players, Korean Women Autoharp Ensemble, and Nepalese Dancers. Visit www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 14

Model Trains. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Table top N Gauge (T-TRAK) model trains 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.

Live Music: Becky Buller Band. 7 p.m. (doors open at 6) at Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Make plans to “hitch up the team” and head to Frying Pan Farm Park this season for Bluegrass Barn. Food and beverages available for purchase. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. Purchase tickets online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/bluegrass-barn or by phone at 703-222-4664 or 703-437-9101.

MONDAY/APRIL 15

Centreville Garden Club Meeting. 7-9 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Monthly speaker: Backyard Habitats, Living with Nature in our Backyard. Meeting generally 3rd Monday each month. Visitors and new members welcome. Free. Learn more at CentrevilleGardenClub.blogspot.com or email centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 16

Seniors Book Club. 1-2:30 p.m. at Sully Senior Center, 14426 Albemarle Point Place, Chantilly. This month the book club will read A Higher Loyalty by James Comey. Join in to discuss it and share insights. The group welcomes new members 50 and older. Free. Call 703-322-4475 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs.

Film: Paris to Pittsburgh. 6:30 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St Germain Drive, Centreville. From coastal cities to America’s heartland, Paris to Pittsburgh celebrates how Americans are demanding and developing real solutions in the face of climate change. Part of a nationwide screening of this film. RSVP to 703-655-5069 or act.sierraclub.org/events.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 26-28

Rock of Ages: High School

Edition. Friday-Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at Westfield High School in Chantilly. As the sun sets on the LA strip, Rock ‘n’ Roll comes alive inside the doors of the Bourbon Room. With impending demolitions and the struggles of young love, the people of the strip are still “looking for nothin’ but a good time” in this electrifying tale of Rock of Ages. The cast and crew of Westfield Theatre’s Rock of Ages will be collecting donations for Shelter House at each performance. Visit shelterhouse.org for a list of needed items. Tickets are \$10 at westfieldtheatre.com or \$12 at the door.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Springfest 2019. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Springfest is a once a year, environmental festival that strives to educate Northern Virginia residents, businesses and students on the benefits of helping our planet. Springfest strives to celebrate our planet and participate in the observance of Earth Day. Email ayleah@cleanfairfax.org or visit Springfestfairfax.org for more.

Fundraiser: VFW Post 8469. 1-5 p.m. at Bowl America, 5615 Guinea Road, Burke. VFW Post 8469 will host a public bowling event to raise funds to help support veterans’ needs. The cost is \$20 for three games and shoes, plus a raffle ticket to win either a decorative Flags of Valor Flag, a guided day hike in the Shenandoah, two tickets to Amy Grant at the Birchmere or a bowling ball. There will also be a Certified Service Offices on site to help with Veteran benefit issues.

“Enchanted Forest” Joy Prom. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Centreville Baptist Church, 15100 Lee Hwy, Centreville. Similar to Tim Tebow’s “Night to Shine,” this is a free event for all who register and intended to be a night of fun for the special needs community as well as a time of respite for families and caregivers. Local youth are volunteering to be coupled with participants as “buddies” throughout the night’s activities. Registration to participate is open to all ages 13 and up, but not limited to high school students. Visit www.cbvva.org/joyprom.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27-FRIDAY/MAY 3

“7 Divine Laws for Happiness & Fulfillment.”

Saturday-Sunday; 4:30-7:30 p.m.; Monday-Friday, 6-9 p.m. at Rajdhani Mandir, 4525 Pleasant Valley Road, Chantilly. Swami Mukundananda is a renowned teacher of Spirituality, Yoga and Meditation. He is the founder of the yogic system JKYog also known as Yoga for Body, Mind and Soul. Free. Visit www.jkyog.org/events/7-divine-laws-happiness-fulfillment-chantilly-va or call 703-901-3731.

SUNDAY/APRIL 28

Ballet: Carmen. 3-4:30 at Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas. Virginia National Ballet presents the ballet Carmen and the premiere of Life In The Fast Lane, a rock ballet to the music of The Eagles. \$40. Call 703-753-5005 or visit hylton.calendar.gmu.edu/virginia-national-ballet-carmen-and-life-in-the-fast-lane.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 3-4

Rock of Ages: High School Edition.

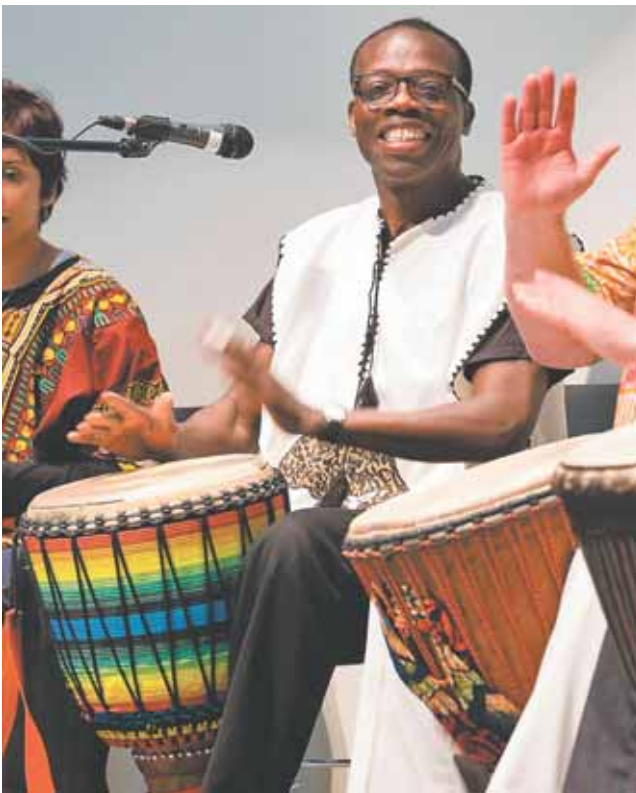
7 p.m. at Westfield High School in Chantilly. As the sun sets on the LA



Tranquility by Rachel Garcia Palmer, oil on canvas 16x20

‘Fifty Shades of Green’

Founded in 2016, Nova Plein Air Artists (NPAA) was initiated due to a shared desire to explore the idea of painting outdoors. Since then, NPAA has evolved into a creative, educational and social network of local artists committed to painting weekly at organized “paint-outs.” Shades of Green showcases artwork from 11 active, local artists. The exhibit runs through April 15 at the Caton Merchant Family Gallery, 9419 Battle St., Manassas. Visit center-for-the-arts.org or call 703-330-2787.



Kofi Dennis, international African drummer and storyteller, leads participants in drumming, singing, and moving.

Centreville International Showcase

Sponsored by the Centreville Immigration Forum, the family-friendly event is free, with food available for purchase. Performing groups represent the many countries who live in the Northern Virginia community, including the McNeill-James School of Irish Dance, Kofi and Friends African Drumming, Washington Senior Korean Harmonica Players, Korean Women Autoharp Ensemble, and Nepalese Dancers. Saturday, April 13, 5:30-9 p.m. at the Korean Central Presbyterian Church, 15451 Lee Highway, Centreville. Visit www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org for more.

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TUESDAYS STARTING MAY 7

Program for Homeschoolers. 1-2:30 p.m. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Learn a new skill with Homeschool Animal Vets. Students get hands-on experience caring for animals in the visitor center and park. They will explore the lives of birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. Feed and refresh tanks for exhibit animals and explore the park to see what staff does to assist wildlife. The program meets every Tuesday from 1 until 2:30 p.m. It is appropriate for youngsters ages 8 to 15. Call 703-631-0013 or visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence>

FRIDAY/MAY 17

Clifton Homes Tour and Silent Auction.

10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Clifton Community Woman’s Club hosts the 47th Annual Clifton Homes Tour and Silent Auction on Friday, May 17. Proceeds are distributed to local scholarships and charities. This Clifton tradition offers guided tours of four homes and two historic churches: Clifton Baptist Church (1910) and Clifton Primitive Baptist Church (1871). The silent auction (free admission) is from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Clifton Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$33 online, and \$35 the day of the tour; \$10 to tour a single home. Tour tickets may be purchased in advance at local shops, online at www.cliftoncwc.org, or purchased the day of the tour at the Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton.

SATURDAY/MAY 18

Historic Marker Unveiling: Mystery of the Centreville Six.

10 a.m. at McDonald’s Restaurant, 5931 Fort Drive, Centreville. Speakers include the Honorable Michael Frey, Sully District Supervisor at the time of discovery and excavation, and a keynote address by Kevin Ambrose, who discovered the first soldier.

SUNDAY/MAY 19

Red Shoe 5k. 7:30 a.m. (start 9 a.m.) at Bull Run Special Events Center, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. Proceeds support Ronald McDonald House. Competitive and non-competitive runners and walkers are welcome. All registrants will receive a t-shirt and Kid’s Fun Run participants will also receive a souvenir medal. Mixed gravel and pavement course. Strollers are welcome, but course may not be suitable for the average stroller. Children should always be supervised by parent or guardian. Dogs on leashes are welcome and free. \$25-\$40. Visit rmhcdc.org/red-shoe-5k/ for more.

Wine, Whiskers and Wags. 1-5 p.m. at Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Annual fundraising event for Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter will feature silent auction, adoptable pets and training demonstrations. Admission includes heavy hors d’oeuvres, beverages, a ticket for a glass of wine or a wine tasting, a keepsake wine glass, dog demonstrations, participation in the silent auction and access to exhibitors. Tickets are required and may be purchased in advance for \$45 at www.ffcas.org; tickets may also be purchased at the event for \$55.

Winery Owner Hopes to Build Farm Brewery

FROM PAGE 2

Throughout the 1830s, that tavern wasn't just somewhere to drink, but was also a neighborhood gathering place. People held meetings and public auctions there and conducted business, including taking depositions for court cases.

AS FOR THE STONE HOUSE, it's two stories at the intersection of Route 234 and Route 29 (Lee Highway) in Manassas National Battlefield Park. It was built in the 19th century and, during the Civil War, this stone structure sheltered wounded, Union soldiers during the two battles of Manassas.

In Hickox's vision for his farm brewery, an all-glass atrium will be the entrance between the two, new buildings based on the historic ones. To make it become a reality, Natasha Jimenez, the winery's special-events coordinator, said they're requesting from the county an amendment to the current special permit for the existing horse stables on that site.

"The stables will remain, but this [farm brewery] slightly encroaches on the pasture," she explained. "And we'll also need a special-exception permit for this new use."

The WFCCA's Chris Terpak-Malm said the biggest issue for her was "the access. Bull Run Post Office Road is not the best road." But Hickox reassured her that the new brewery would have its own, separate, access road off of Bull Run Post Office.

WFCCA's Steve Chulick also noted that, as it is now, "It's so difficult to make a left onto Lee Highway from the winery."

However, replied Hickox, "It's worked for six years. And I'd prefer to keep them as two, separate businesses – the farm brew-

ery and the winery – with their own entrances. And they're actually a half-mile apart."

He said, as well, that he has no plans to have a restaurant there, but he added that "We can have food trucks." When Terpak-Malm asked if weddings or other events could be held on the premises, Hickox answered, "We can have events on the weekends, with up to 300 people per event. They help our business, but they're not the main focus."

GETTING INTO SOME PARTICULARS, he said, "A lot of the pre-production of beer will be done off-site, so that will vastly reduce the amount of water we'll need. We'll have six beers; and only one, very special one will be made there, in a limited capacity."

Excited about the project, Jimenez added that, "There's an amazing view from the back." Agreeing, Hickox said, "You can actually see the Blue Ridge Mountains, on a clear day."

WFCCA Land-Use Chairman John Litzenberger said, "The plans look great, but we don't know what will happen after county staff analyzes them." So Hickox will return to this panel with another presentation after he's received some guidance and suggestions from the county.

Meanwhile, the special-exception permit request is scheduled to go before the county Planning Commission on July 17, and the county BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals) is slated to hear the request to amend the special permit on July 24. And Hickox is hopeful both actions will be successful.

"This isn't a massive, real-estate development," he said. "This is a passion I have."



The Stone House sheltered wounded soldiers in Manassas during the Civil War.



Site plan of the proposed Bull Run Farm Brewery, off Route 29.

ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 7

Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry needs donations of 1-2 pound bags of rice; fruit juice; jelly; red, white or black beans (can or bagged); canned vegetables (no green beans of corn needed); macaroni and cheese; can pasta; pasta sauce; and pasta (spaghetti, rotini, elbow, etc.).

Toiletries needed, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with SNAP benefits, include diapers, toothpaste, shampoo and solid deodorant.

Bring all items to WFCM's food pantry's location at 4511 Daly Dr. Suite J, Chantilly from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

Contact Terri Kelly at tkelly@wfcma.org if willing to coordinate a food drive.

Volunteer Drivers Are Needed

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406 or go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Long-Term Care Advocates

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities. Training is provided in September. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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Announcements

NEWS

Allstate Volunteers, Assistance League Join Forces to Provide Food for Kids

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Allstate Insurance Company recently held its first Capital Regional Advisory Board meeting of 2019. Assistance League of Northern Virginia was pleased that its Weekend Food for Kids program was once again featured as Allstate's volunteer service activity.

Lynn Barron and Karen Amster, board members from the Assistance League, an all-volunteer nonprofit, were invited to speak about Assistance League's program that decreases childhood hunger and other philanthropic programs that benefit low-income children in Northern Virginia. Sharee Merenov, Allstate Capital Region division manager, corporate relations, coordinated the resources and purchased the nonperishable food items to support The Allstate Foundation Helping Hands in the Community group activity.

A team of 40 Allstate volunteers and seven Assistance League volunteers packed nearly 500 bags of food for children who might otherwise go hungry on weekends.

Partnering with Allstate allowed Assistance League to satisfy an immediate need for food assistance at two Title I elementary schools not currently supported by the food program.

Thanks go to Shaundra Turner Jones, Allstate Capital Region senior corporate relations manager, Robert Becker, Allstate Capital Region field senior vice



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president and Christine Angles, Manassas Allstate exclusive agent, for supporting the Assistance League mission to transform the lives of children and strengthen community.

See www.alnv.org for further information on Assistance League programs.

Fairfax Parks Announce Poetry Contest Winners

Young poets will get their Game On with readings of their award-winning poetry during Springfest at Sully Historic Site on Saturday, April 27, 2019.

To honor National Poetry Month in April, the Park Authority asked young people in grades K-8 to submit poems inspired by the fun, joy and excitement found in Fairfax parks.

In response to an increase in submissions of outstanding poetry, the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax County Park Foundation awarded three winners in each category instead of two. The winners in each grade category of the poetry contest are:

- Grades K-2
- ❖ Emma Davis of Alexandria, a

kindergarten student at Mount Eagle Elementary School

- ❖ Lauren Miller of Chantilly, a first-grader at Lees Corner Elementary School

- ❖ Zoya Quraishi of Ashburn, a kindergarten homeschool student

Grades 3-5

- ❖ Elias Rhee of Fairfax, a fifth-grader at Mantua Elementary School

- ❖ Naomi Rucker of Springfield, a fifth-grader at West Springfield Elementary School

- ❖ Bianca Volociuc of Fairfax, a fourth-grader at Fairhill Elementary School

Grades 6-8

- ❖ Ashley Chon of Vienna, a sixth-grader at Colvin Run Elementary School

- ❖ Aabaq Gaffar of Vienna, a sixth-

grader at Mosby Woods Elementary School

- ❖ Betty Schlageter-Prettyman of Vienna, a sixth-grader at Fairhill Elementary School

Stop by to hear these poets share their works at the Springfest Poetry Showcase at 10:30 a.m. April 27. The award winners will receive a \$50 Park Authority gift card to allow them to continue exploring Fairfax parks all year long. This contest is sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax County Park Foundation. Sully Historic Site is located at 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. For more information, email parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or call the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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Announcements



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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 5

to children who receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year at area Title I schools. Free. Visit www.alnv.org for more.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/APRIL 11-12

Fairfax County Job Fair. 4-7 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Come attend the 2019 Fairfax County Job Fair. Learn about a variety of careers with various county agencies. Representatives of SkillsSource and DARS will also be on site. Free. Email Debra.Prica@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hr/sites/hr/files/assets/documents/jobfair2019flyer.pdf for more.

MONDAY/APRIL 15

Volunteer Reading Tutors. 10 a.m.-noon at Sully District Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, will hold its next monthly meeting on April 15, 2019. Individuals are invited to attend to learn more about the organization's programs. There are additional tutoring opportunities to improve reading skills for first graders through one on one tutoring or to help with food or other programs. Pre-meeting social starts at 9:30 a.m. Free. Visit www.alnv.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 17

Lenten Presentation. 6 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 5649 Mt. Gilead Road, Centreville. St. John's Episcopal Church will be holding special Lenten presentations Wednesdays March 20-April 17. A short prayer service will be followed by a light dinner and presentations from church members who recently returned from a pilgrimage to Israel. Visit www.stjohnscentreville.org for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 19

Application Deadline. Leadership Fairfax is now accepting applications for its premier professional leadership development programs – Leadership Fairfax Institute and Emerging Leaders Institute. The 10-month programs begin September 2019. Classes meet once a month and participants work outside of class with a cohort to plan and implement projects. The programs build participant knowledge of community topics, legislative processes, leadership assessments, and strategic interactions. Limited scholarships available. Applications are due April 19. Call 703-752-7555 or visit leadershipfairfax.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Volunteer Habitat Heroes. 10 a.m.-noon at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Volunteers will remove non-native invasive plants to protect native species and support wildlife habitat and will use tools to pull or cut invasive plants in the natural areas. Volunteers may take part in a small planting of native trees and shrubs to help the forest regenerate. Volunteers must be at least 13 years old, and those 15 years and younger must be with an adult. For more information or to volunteer, contact Kiersten Conley at 703-631-0013.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Public Information Meeting. 10-11:30 a.m. at Centreville Elementary School (cafeteria), 14330 Green Trails Blvd., Centreville. Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) will hold a public information meeting on the planning and implementation of the off-corridor portions of the I-66 Outside the Beltway Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail. Attendees will be asked to submit names and weigh in on a sampling of names that have been suggested. FCDOT will narrow the list and host an online survey of names and invite the public to vote for their choices. Visit outside.transform66.org/default.asp for more.

Volunteers Needed. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Springfest is a once a year, environmental festival. This day-long event attracts nearly 5,000 people from around the region, and help is needed with event set-up, parking and kid's activities. Volunteers can also fill roles as costumed characters, rovers and more. Email ayleah@cleanfairfax.org or visit Springfestfairfax.org for more.

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-Thomas Fuller

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As It Has So Happened



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

So far, four bi-weekly immunotherapy-infusions into my initial non-chemotherapy experience, per the encouraging results from my CT scan in mid March, I remain optimistic but cautiously neutral as I prepare to infuse three more times before my next scan in mid May.

However I feel, and however I've felt, ultimately the CT scan – and to a lesser degree – my lab results, will do the talking, so to speak. What it will say will be interpreted by my oncologist who in turn will explain/summarize it to us in person a week or so after the scan.

That's when I'll know how I'm doing. And how I'm doing of course means how much longer I'll be living. A more stressful appointment you can't imagine.

What I'm sure you can imagine is how high my blood pressure will be as we sit in the examining room waiting for my oncologist to knock on the door asking if it's OK to come in.

And when he comes in, he usually smiles and shakes our hands and then immediately sits behind the computer where he proceeds to ask the standard health- and fitness-type questions. Then he might even examine me (not all the time – as he has said, the scan tells him most of what he needs to know) before he addresses the elephant in the room (metaphorically speaking, although I have gained a few pounds).

Dina and I don't exactly hold hands but we are holding our collective breath as we prepare to hang on his every syllable. This exchange of pleasantries happens every eight weeks or so. In the interim, I am encouraged to email my oncologist with any questions or concerns, particularly if new symptoms develop and persist for two to three weeks.

Well, I did have something happening to me the other Saturday, the day after my last immunotherapy infusion which, treatment-to-date, had not happened.

When I awoke that morning, I was unable to summon up the strength/energy to get out of bed. It felt similar to my early days of heavy-duty chemotherapy, when due to the destruction of your red blood cells (and white cells, too), you can barely move. There was no pain, but neither was there any energy.

Simply put: the tank was empty. I could barely roll over in bed, let alone get up, walk downstairs and feed the cats. This kind of extreme post-immunotherapy fatigue was a first. All previous post-immunotherapy Saturdays were not the least bit similar or different than any other day. I did not, nor have I since, emailed my oncologist with any of these details. At this juncture, I consider it an aberration and not worthy of an overreaction. For all I know, to invoke an old punchline, my underwear was too tight.

As such, I will wait until my next infusions and see if the following morning follows an old or new pattern. If it's new, I will email my oncologist. It's ironic that this situation occurred a few days after last week's column "It's Not As If My Life Depends On It" published. The content of which was my anxiety concerning emailing my oncologist about new symptoms/side effects for fear that in so doing, my oncologist would be for stopping my treatment. And in stopping my treatment, there is then nothing stopping the cancer.

This is some of what I've heard over the years; it's not so much the cancer that gets you as it is the side effects which cause the treatment to have to stop which then enables the cancer to then do what it most horrifyingly does (you'll note I didn't say inevitably).

But I'm not an alarmist, nor an "overreactionist," (to make up a word as I so often do). I've survived 10+ years by being neither.

I try to go about my cancer business as any other and live life as normally – for me – as possible. I am not gloom and doom and for me, the glass is always half full. And even though I'm in the middle of a big negative, I'm still positive.

After all, I'm a member of Red Sox Nation; hope forever springs eternal.

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



CYALL teams are excited to kick off the new season.



The Chantilly American team shows off their championship banner.

Chantilly Little League Kicks Off New Season

Chantilly Youth Association Little League (CYALL) began its 50th season with an Opening Day ceremony on April 6 at Preston Pierce Field in Chantilly. Rob Fitzhugh, CYALL President, welcomed all the players, coaches, families and friends in attendance. Players from Chantilly and Oakton High Schools greeted the little leaguers as they paraded onto the field with their teams.

The Chantilly American team, managed by Tom Phillips and coached by Brandon Caywood and Drew Tilley, received special on-field recognition for winning the 2018 9-11 Year Old Virginia District 10 Championship last July.

Catie Kelley threw out the ceremonial first pitch to catcher Luke Tilley. The CYALL Vice Presidents selected the 12 year olds who are playing in their last little league season.

Opening Day game photos are from Coach Charles Shepherd's Machine Pitch (MP) Nationals as they took on Coach Greg Hessel's MP Nationals.



Benjamin Manning fields a ground ball at second base and prepares to throw it to first.



Tee ball coach Sean Niehoff with his twins Phil and Ella at the conclusion of the Opening Day ceremony at Preston Pierce Field on April 6.

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION



Chantilly HS Varsity baseball players stand at attention during the National Anthem.



Catie Kelley threw out the ceremonial first pitch.