

OCTOBER 9-15, 2019

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE



PHOTO BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION

Junior Class of 2021 students before the start of Centreville High's Homecoming Parade.

Centreville High Holds Homecoming Parade

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Centreville High's Marching Band.



Senior Court Prince and Princess: Luca Brennan and Gabi Aves.

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION

Centreville High Holds Homecoming Parade

Centreville High's Homecoming Parade was on Friday, Oct. 4 in Little Rocky Run.

Senior Court Princesses: (from left) Emma Holiencheck, Leah Powell, and Gabi Aves.



Nathan Jewel (center) with Cub Scout Pack 1860.



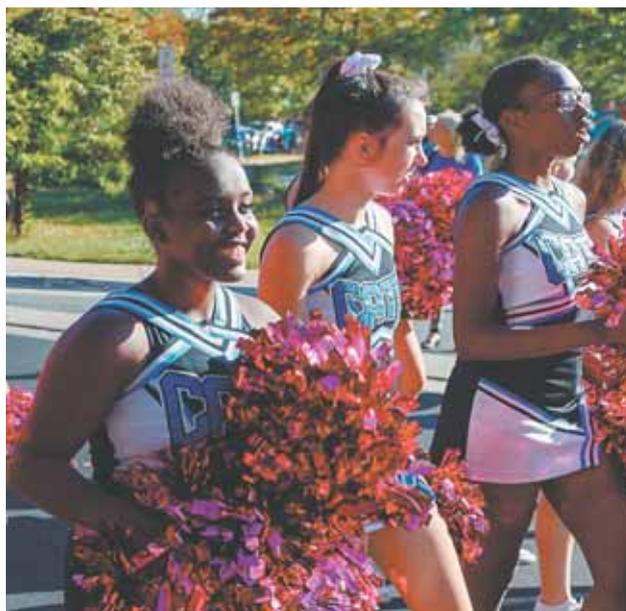
Thespian Honor Society



Theatre Centreville promotes upcoming performances of "You Can't Take It With You" and "Once Upon a Mattress."



The Centreville Wildcat mascot waves to the crowd.



Wildcat Cheerleaders.



Junior Court Prince and Princess: Joseph Lee and Aubrey Grecco..

NEWS

Almost Time for Centreville Day

27th annual celebration is
Saturday, Oct. 19

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fun and games, history and a chance to enjoy a fall day outdoors with friends and family – that’s the 27th annual Centreville Day celebration. It’s slated for Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., in Historic Centreville Park, 5714 Mount Gilead Road (off Braddock Road, across Route 29 from the IHOP).

The festivities include a parade, live music, children’s activities, food, crafts, a pet pageant, dancing, martial arts and swordsmen, plus opportunities to learn about Centreville’s history. Admission is free, as are parking and shuttles available at The Trinity Centre, 5860 Trinity Parkway, off Route 29.

Friends of Historic Centreville puts on Centreville Day in partnership with the Fairfax County Park Authority, with the Centreville Day Planning Committee handling the details.

“We’re very excited about Centreville Day this year,” said event organizer Cheryl Repetti. “The Safety Expo, organized by Steve Hunter, has really taken off and become something special. We get truly outstanding support from the Sully District police and local fire stations, but there’s also Washington Gas, Waste Management and organizations concerned with seniors or domestic violence. It’s a wide variety of community services that people should know about.”

Besides that, she said, “The Rotary Club Pet Pageant is celebrating its fifth year. It’s so much fun to see folks in matching costumes with their pets, but it isn’t required. You could walk with your goldfish, if you want.”

Opening ceremonies are at 10 a.m. at the main stage near St. John’s Episcopal Church, 5649 Mount Gilead Road. The Fairfax Choral Society Youth Choir will sing the National Anthem and Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) will present the Centreville Day Citizens of the Year awards.

Parade, Food, Children’s Games

Organized by American Legion Post 1995, the parade assembles near Wharton Park Court at 10:30 a.m. It’ll kick off from Wharton Lane at 11 a.m., passing the stage shortly before noon and continuing along Mt. Gilead Road to Braddock Road.

The Chantilly Academy’s Air Force JROTC



Map of Centreville Day 2019 attractions and activities.



Children try their luck at the climbing wall.

will lead it; among the participants are fire and police, Girl Scouts and the Fairfax Choral Society. Individuals and families are welcome to join; costumes are encouraged, and prizes will be awarded. Groups should register in advance at www.CentrevilleDay.org.

Food Court offerings include barbecue, pulled pork, seafood, shawarmas, baklava, Thai food and macaroni-and-cheese bowls. In addition, the Korean Central Presbyterian Church will give out free popcorn.

The Marketplace will feature jewelry, bath

items, pet crafts and services, health and home businesses, churches and nonprofits. And children may break out their Halloween costumes and collect candy along the trick-or-treat trail at locations displaying pumpkin signs.

Other free, children’s activities include a climbing wall and inflatable obstacle course sponsored by Wegmans, plus history-train rides sponsored by Sandy Spring Bank. Also planned are rolling hoops, a tug-of-war and a maze on the lawn at Mount Gilead.

Children and adults will enjoy hands-on history at Mount Gilead, built as a tavern in 1785. It’s open for guided tours and, on its lawn, people may try their hand at colonial woodworking or work with volunteers from Ellanor C. Lawrence Park to transform humble corn stalks into dolls. Centreville Day’s perennial swashbuckler, Charlie Anderson, will return to delight the crowd with his swordplay, and the organizers are also hoping to add a blacksmith at work.

For free face-painting, families may take the train and stroll down Braddock Road to the Old Stone Church. Also there will be a 19th-century philosopher with amazing curiosities and wonders, as well as a bake sale and ploughman’s lunch offered by the church.

Onstage Performers, Safety Expo

New on the Goodwill Stage this year will be Bach2Rock, a school for talented, young

people who will be the event deejays and will also perform. At 10:30 a.m. will be dance group, Sunday on Tap, followed by performers from the Harmony Roads school.

After the parade, Bach2Rock will take the stage at 11:45 a.m. Next will come the Centreville Dance Academy at 12:30 p.m. Also entertaining will be Harmonica and autoharp players from the Korean Senior Center, plus martial artists from the Northern Virginia Wu Shu Academy. Capping off the entertainment will be a hula-hoop endurance contest. For more information, go to www.CentrevilleDay.org.

At the Safety Expo, attendees will meet first responders and other public-safety personnel, learn about the services they provide and how to handle emergencies. Sheriff’s Office members will make child I.D.s, and police and fire-and-rescue vehicles will be on display, along with trucks from Washington Gas.

Pet Pageant, Historical Tours

The Rotary Club Pet Pageant is at 2 p.m. on the main stage; pets should be registered at the stage beginning at 1:30 p.m. Families may bring more than one pet; prizes will be awarded, and pets may be photographed with McGruff the Crime Dog and Sandy Dog from Sandy Spring Bank. The Rev. Carol Hancock will bless pets on the lawn of St. John’s Episcopal Church, before and after the pageant. A brief presentation by Paws4Vets will precede the pageant.

St. John’s Church will be open for tours. And down the street, people may visit the Spindle Sears House, purchased in 1933 from a Sears catalog and shipped here by train. E.C. Lawrence Park staff will share its story. Tours will also be available at the Old Stone Church, Havener House, Stuart-Mosby Calvary Museum and the Mount Gilead house.

The history train, driven by Sully Historic Site’s Matt McNeal, will transport people between sites; stations will be on the lawn at Mount Gilead and on Braddock Road. Visitors may disembark at the Braddock Road stop and stroll downhill to the Old Stone Church (Church of the Ascension). or visit Havener House and the museum – which features a reconstruction of a Civil War winter cabin. Afterward, visitors may follow the trail behind the museum back to Mount Gilead or walk up Braddock Road to return by train.

Looking forward to the event, Repetti said, “We have such a dedicated planning committee and supportive sponsors. Everyone works hard to make each Centreville Day a bit different and a bit better, and we just hope that everyone comes out to celebrate Centreville.”

OPINION

Capstone to Four-Years of Police Reform

BY PHIL NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER AND
ADRIAN L. STEEL JR.

Just in time for the Oct. 8 fourth anniversary of the 2015 release of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission Final Report, the Board of Supervisors approved full implementation of body worn cameras (BWC) by the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD). This is one of the Commission's most significant and consequential recommendations. While a potential aid to criminal prosecution, the body worn camera's equally important contribution is to foster greater transparency and accountability of all parties during the interactions of the police with the public. Full implementation will begin in May 2020 and take three years to phase in countywide.

The Board's decision followed the completion of a 2018 pilot study chartered by Police Chief Edwin C. Roessler Jr. and conducted by the American University, which found that there was "...overwhelming support among community members for the widespread adoption of body worn cameras..." and "...consensus among the officers involved in the pilot that body worn cameras will increase the gathering of evidence and help settle complaints against officers."

The Board's decision is a fitting capstone to a four-year successful effort by the Board to oversee the transformation of the Police Department from one that was excellent to now being on a clear path to becoming "best in class."

The Commission's formation by the Board of Supervisors followed a few high-profile po-

lice use of force incidents, with the ultimate catalyst being the August 2013 shooting death of unarmed Springfield resident John Geer in his doorway.

Board Chair Bulova formed the Ad Hoc Commission and her office closely oversaw the Commission's work over an intensive five-month period in 2015. Charged with "...assessing the (Fairfax County) Police Department's performance against national best practices," the Commission made more than 200 recommendations for strengthening the public's trust and confidence in the Department.

Public Safety Committee Chair Supervisor John Cook combined forces with Board Chair Bulova and Chief Roessler to drive the Board and Police Department to embrace the Ad Hoc Commission's recommendations. As they complete their many years of service to our community, Bulova's and Cook's police-reform efforts will certainly be a key legacy.

The significant reforms for which all can be proud will increase police accountability, divert those who suffer from mental illness into treatment rather than incarceration, reduce use-of-force injuries and deaths, open public access to incident information, and engender public confidence.

Body worn cameras will now complement the dashboard cameras mounted in each FCPD patrol vehicle. The Department's policy enshrines sanctity of human life as an organizing principle, with de-escalation as the strategy of first resort when confronted with a threat rather than the use of force. Constraints and strengthened supervisory oversight are now in place on police use of vehicle pursuit.

"Diversion First" offers alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities.

An Independent Police Auditor (IPA) automatically reviews investigations of death or serious injury cases as well as uses of force when a citizen complaint is filed. A Civilian Review Panel reviews investigations of civilian complaints regarding "abuse of authority" or "serious misconduct" by an FCPD officer and holds public forums to hear from the community. Policies regarding release of information provide for increased public visibility into the Department's daily activities and performance, with a predisposition to disclose information, regardless of incident controversy. Intense efforts are underway to recruit talented personnel that better reflect Fairfax County's population diversity.

Sustained effort and energy are still required to move decades-old engrained practices into a "new normal." Further, those who are "best-in-class" constantly seek to improve.

Tough questions still need to be asked as the County implements body worn cameras. Should an agency other than the Department, for example, control access to the massive amount of data to be collected? Should the IPA or an independent third party audit the program? Heightened expectations alone should give our policymakers pause, particularly when we know that no technology deployment is mistake and error free. Not collecting video data during a controversial use of force incident is bad, missing video data under the Department's control is worse.

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Evolution of American Democracy

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

Four hundred years ago is a long time, but what happened four centuries ago has implications for us today. Virginia is in the midst of a year-long series of programs and experiences based on events that happened a dozen years after the first permanent English colony was settled at Jamestown in 1607. All the activities taken together are referred to as American Evolution 1619-2019. There are many events scheduled for the remainder of this year. (americanevolution2019.com).

The planners of the commemoration are to be commended for recognizing that while the historic events that occurred are noteworthy and interesting, the real lessons to be learned come after the actual dates of historic events as we discuss and consider their resulting impact. Many references are made to America's beginning as being 1776, but it can be argued that the beginning of America as a representative democracy began in the Virginia colony with the meeting



COMMENTARY

of the first representative body meeting in Jamestown in 1619. Remembering that date in 1619 should cause us to reflect all that has happened after that date that led us to the society and government we have evolved into today.

Similarly, the arrival of 20 or so Africans at Old Point Comfort just down the James River from Jamestown Island four hundred years ago in August of 1619 must be noted. They came not with steamer trunks of fancy dress; they came in shackles having been captured in Africa and brought here at the beginning of a slave trade that would fuel the economy of the colony and then the Commonwealth of Virginia for the next 250 years. To look at African Americans then and now without an examination of what happened in between is to miss a tragic part of our evolving history—the racism that gripped our country for its entire history and is still with us today.

Those Africans who arrived in 1619 were slaves. Soon after their arrival that first legis-

lative body passed laws that defined their enslavement and the limitations on their very existence. The few efforts like Nat Turner's rebellion that attempted to gain freedom for slaves were put down harshly with further slave codes being passed to limit them from being taught how to read and write and allow for more cruel punishments to keep them in line. When the constitution was written for the new country after the Revolution, slaves were to be counted as three-fifths of a person, despite Jefferson's words in the Declaration of Independence proclaiming that "all men are created equal." It was not until the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s that the descendants of the slaves of 1619 could claim anything close to equality.

We did not start with a perfect union; we have not achieved one today. We have been on an arc of history that in another context suggests that it is bent towards justice. The American Evolution 1619-2019 program is providing an important context for understanding the stream of history that is our past and upon which we must strive to build a more perfect union.

CENTREVIEW

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PHOTOS BY STACY ZARN GOLDBERG

Alexandria based designer Quintece Hill-Mattauszek designed this “Boys Club” space using vintage finds.

Local Designers Create Dream Home for Charity

Proceeds will help preserve historic sites such as an Underground Railroad stop and one of the first public schools for African Americans.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

A few of the area’s top interior designers were tapped to transform a grand home into a showcase house to raise money for charity. Designers Quintece Hill-Mattauszek of Studio Q Designs, Rhonald Angelo of Rhonald Angelo Interiors and Sheryl McLean of McLean and Tircuit Designs will unleash their collective creative talent to create a library, a teenage girl’s bedroom and a lounge space for a family of six.

“I envision this to be a sophisticated ... entertaining space, but not necessarily a man-cave,” said Alexandria-based Hill-Mattauszek, who used vintage finds to bring-to life ‘The Boys’ Club,’ the space she was tasked with transforming. “I envision poker nights [and] Oscar parties.”

“I designed the library for how a family of six will actually function within it,” said Angelo. “New walnut flooring and paint changed the look. The room felt unbalanced beforehand, which I corrected in the final design.”

Sheryl McLean of Bethesda, Md. added bold artwork and vibrant colors to the home’s sitting room.

Interior design aficionados who are up for a short road trip can see the creations of the three local designers and others during the Historic Ellicott City, Inc.’s 33rd Annual Decorator Show House. Proceeds go toward preserving historic sites including a stop along the Underground Railroad and one of the first public schools for African Americans.

Twenty-one designers decorated 24 rooms and spaces in the stately French Provincial private home that is the future home to a couple with four young children.

The house will be open to visitors through Oct.



Bethesda-based designer Sheryl McLean, of McLean and Tircuit Designs, created this sitting room.

20, 2019 with hours Wednesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sundays from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$35 at the door or online are available online at <http://historicec.com/show-houses/>



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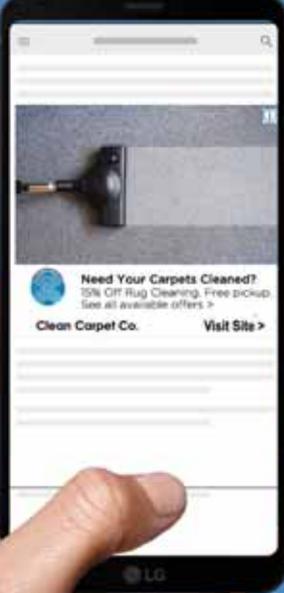
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Comedy with ‘Lots of Swashbuckling Fun’

Westfield High presents ‘Peter and the Starcatcher.’

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

A comedy with music and a love story, “Peter and the Starcatcher” is the prequel to “Peter Pan” and is Westfield High’s up-coming play. It also marks the debut of Enza Giannone-Hosig as the school’s new theater director.

Show times are Friday-Saturday, Oct. 18-19, at 7 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 20, at 2 p.m.; and Friday-Saturday, Oct. 25-26, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at the door, or \$10 with a student I.D. or via www.westfieldtheatre.com.

In the story, Peter and two other orphans, Prentiss and Ted, are sold into slavery on a pirate ship called the Neverland. Meanwhile, Lord Aster is on a ship called the Wasp. His goal is to collect and destroy starstuff because it’s so powerful; it lets people be whatever they want and can cause evil and destruction. His daughter, Molly, is on Peter’s ship. After a hurricane and a battle, Peter is thrown overboard, and the other boys and Molly follow him to an island later named Neverland, and adventures ensue.

“There’s lots of swashbuckling fun and a gentle love story,” said Giannone-Hosig. “It’s true to those first feelings of love, when you’re 12 or 13 and realize someone could be more than a friend, and you’re thinking of someone else’s needs.” She explained that starstuff are magic particles that fall from the stars and become stardust – or what Molly calls “star stuff.” Molly’s father is a starcatcher and she’s a starcatcher in training.

She said audiences will love the show’s “playful nature. They’ll never stop laughing and will connect to their inner child as they watch it. Peter says, ‘Guys, this is gonna be one, awfully big adventure’ – and the play really is. It’ll take the audience on an adventure, from the time the lights go down, until they come up again.”

THE PLAY features a cast and crew of 45, and Giannone-Hosig called them “committed and dedicated.” And, she said, “It’s a great show because it’s an ensemble piece and I was able to cast students from every grade, representing many parts of the Theater Department. I’m so excited to be working with teens passionate about theater and willing to take risks in their performances.”

This show is in the style of story theater, where the actors narrate the story as it’s unfolding. So, said Giannone-Hosig, “They’re jumping in and out of many, different characters. They also become parts of the set – which lends itself to playful, physical acting. And I’m hoping this play connects us all to the joy of childhood, when children can see things and turn them into something else in their minds.”

Sophomore Jason Tongarm portrays Peter, 13. “He’s shy, doesn’t even have a name and doesn’t know much,” said Tongarm. “He doesn’t even know what a bedtime story is. He goes through hardships and eventually realizes there are other people to care about besides himself. And by the end of the story, he becomes a hero.”

Tongarm likes his role because “Peter’s in the same



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAT THOMAS

Performing in Westfield High’s “Peter and the Starcatcher” are (top row, from left) Matthew Krelovich (Black Stache) and Beverly D’Andrea (Smee); (middle) Kylee Weimeister (Molly); and (bottom row, from left) Julia Manser (Ted), Jason Tongarm (Peter) and Cassandra White (Prentiss).

situation as Prentiss and Ted – and in real life, they’re some of my closest friends. It’s my first lead role, so it’s both interesting and scary, but I’m excited and thankful to perform in this show. It’s fun playing someone so different from me; he lashes out a lot because he has lots of pent-up anger, so I get to go off on people and be angry.”

He said people will enjoy “the sense of friendship among the main characters, the heroism that comes with each character and how they grow up and mature throughout the play.”

Playing Molly, 13, is freshman Kylee Weimeister. “Molly’s headstrong, knows what she wants, is passionate and dedicated,” said Weimeister. “She changes during the show and becomes more of a mother figure to the Lost Boys and starts to develop feelings for Peter.”

Weimeister also loves her part. “It’s incredible to get such a large role, my freshman year,” she said. “She’s similar to me in her dedication and passion, but different in her stubbornness. And I get to have a British accent and go up gangways and through tunnels and interact with the ensemble.”

She said the audience “will love how Neverland is an inclusive community where everyone can feel like a child, whether they are or not. They’ll also like the show’s comedic edge, stunts and swordfighting.”

SOPHOMORE Chloe Jornales is part of the ensemble of mollusks and sailors. “We’re shells in the mermaid song and back up the pirate, Fighting Prawn, in a fight scene,” she explained. “We sing, ‘Mermaid Outta Me,’ and I enjoy it because I’m singing the melody. But for the majority of the show, I’m a sailor on the Neverland. We clean the ship, hoist the sails and try to keep the ship together because it’s old and rundown.”

She likes her roles because “We get to highlight the leads and help make the story run. And we use

SEE PLAY, PAGE 7



PHOTOS BY CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

A fawn crosses the road earlier this summer.

More than Half Deer-Vehicle Crashes Occur October to December

Fall is breeding season for deer and you can expect to see more of them on our roads. Please be aware that deer are unpredictable and crashes with them are a safety concern.

From 2015 through 2018, there have been 244 deer involved car accidents in Fairfax County. Over half of those crashes occurred during the months of October, November and December. Deer are most active before sunrise to mid-morning, as well as dusk to early evening. This is also the time when many of us are headed to and from work or school.

WATCH: Deer Safety in Fairfax County https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=86&v=2sPa65OFd1Q

We urge motorists to pay attention, drive carefully and remember these safety tips:

- ❖ Always wear your seat belt
- ❖ Drive the speed limit.
- ❖ Do not text and drive.

Avoid distractions!

❖ Watch for eyes shine along roadsides. If you see one deer, it is likely that there are others nearby.

❖ Use high beams as traffic allows to spot deer further away. Be careful not to disrupt

oncoming cars.

❖ If a deer is stopped in the roadway, slow down and flash your headlights. Deer can become mesmerized or blinded by bright steady lights.

❖ Slow down or stop if necessary to avoid hitting a deer but you should never swerve out of the lane to miss one. A crash with another car or anything along the roadside is likely to be more serious.

❖ Take your foot off the brake at the time of a crash. This reduces the chance of a deer crashing through a windshield or windows when hit.

❖ If you get into a crash with a deer, try to move your car off the road and out of traffic.

❖ If your car is immobilized in the roadway, turn on your flashers and immediately call police. Try to wait at a safe spot off the road.

❖ Rely on your own senses. Never depend on hood whistles, car horns or other devices to scare deer out of your path.

❖ Pay attention to deer crossing signs and be careful in areas where deer are known to travel.

If a deer is injured or killed, immediately report the crash to us on our non-emergency line at 703-691-2131.



Fall is breeding season for deer, and a buck like this could be unpredictable in crossing the road.

Play

FROM PAGE 6

our bodies to create the passageways and tunnels on the ship. And it fits well with the play because all the characters are children creating a story.”

It’s a fun-filled show, said Jorales, because “The comedy is hilarious, and not only will children love it, but adults, as well. It’ll take them back to when they were children using their own imaginations. And the sets are awesome because they’ll look like playgrounds that the children turn into pirate ships.”

Portraying Black Stache is junior Matthew Krelovich. His character is the Wasp’s pirate leader and eventually becomes Capt. Hook. “He’s flamboyant,” said Krelovich. “He tries to be as serious and scary as possible but doesn’t always come across that way. His righthand man, Smee, is constantly correcting all the words he messes up.”

It’s a fun role, said Krelovich, because “I get to explore different types of acting and go from serious and scary, one minute, to comical, the next. It’s physically challenging since he’s so animated and moves around a lot. But he’s unique, and it’s always fun to play a comedic part where I get to add my own charm and character voice.”

“Overall, this show is just a good time,” he added. “It’s fast-paced, with something always going on. There are lots of references to pop culture and it’s really entertaining.”

Police Reform

FROM PAGE 4

As to the revised vehicular pursuit and stopping policies, it will be important for the FCPD to provide a detailed report to the Board and the public in early 2020 as to the effects of the revised policies, details of 2019 pursuits and vehicle stops, and whether any further changes are needed. It will also be important for the Board to monitor and take any appropriate action with respect to the racial disparity study underway by the Independent Police Auditor.

On this fourth anniversary of the Ad Hoc Commission Report, Fairfax County and its Police Department have achieved many reforms of which to be proud. The temptation will be to declare the mission accomplished. This would be a mistake. The new Board of Supervisors come January must provide vigilant monitoring through performance expectations and progress reports. Not because enough has not been accomplished, though more improvements are needed, but because that’s the norm for best-in-class police departments.

Niedzielski-Eichner and Steel were chair and vice-chair of the Ad Hoc Commission’s Use of Force Subcommittee and spent many hours with a small, loosely configured group of former Commission members dedicated to implementing Commission recommendations, working with FCPD leadership. Steel oversaw as chair the formation of the Civilian Review Panel.

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Apparently, Not a Stable Genius



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Let me get this out of my system because until I do, I won’t be able to write about anything else. Not to worry. This is not a cancer column. I am fine until they tell me otherwise which occurs every eight weeks after my bi-monthly CT scan tells the tale of the tape.

No, this column is about my lack of understanding and business acumen which twice has led me down the garden path only to be asked to leave before I got to smell any of the pretty flowers. Once (twice, actually) had to do with attempts at refinancing this old house (carbon dated to approximately 1750, according to a plaque the previous owner hung to the right of the front door), and most recently (also twice) to do with reverse-mortgage financing this same now older house.

With respect to the attempts at refinancing, I will make this short and not particularly sweet. Without getting into the lead paint, bathrooms, roof, door and window issues, it always perplexed me that if I could afford to pay \$1800 per month at 6.75% interest, I could probably afford to pay \$1400 per month at 3.75% interest. However, and this is where my lack of common banking sense manifests itself; my presumptive inability to pay \$400 less per month was problematic for the lenders to be. And an over 800 credit rating did nothing to dissuade the lender’s notion that whatever financial wherewithal I had exhibited over the previous 30-plus years was irrelevant borrowing forward.

As concerns the current issue: the reverse mortgage. To say my financial life depends on its approval might be a bit of an exaggeration, but not if you’re in my shoes, even occasionally. I can understand the need for the installation of safety rails on the left and right side of the staircase going down to the basement. And grudgingly, I can understand the need for the structural integrity fix relating to the five wooden pillars sitting atop the cracked concrete slab which floors our front porch and apparently prevents the house from falling forward. But I can’t understand why the old stable matters so much to the appraiser/underwriter.

It is not used or functional in any way other than as a repository for junk and as a landing spot/vantage point for the Turkey Vultures who nest there. This building is approximately 50 yards from our house and 10 to 15 yards from our neighbor’s house. If it fell, like our barn did years ago, it would land on part of our two acres. Given its age, likely over 100 years, it was not, nor has it ever been covered by our home owner’s insurance. “Too old,” they said. The structural engineer who submitted the report about our house did a-walk-around the stable with me and made note of its peculiar structural fixes which included cinder blocks and some rocks. However, in response to my “What do I do?” question; his answer: “We don’t certify the structural integrity of 100 year-old buildings.” Now I’m being told by my reverse-mortgage banker that I have to fix/secure the foundation of the stable or else the deal is likely dead. Dead over an out-building that nobody uses and was likely built before two century’s turned?

The whole point of this application was to spend nothing and get something. It was not to spend something and get nothing. This stable, either structurally sound or not provides me nothing as a living benefit. We’re not moving into it. Nor are we selling the property. We’re here for the duration. The stable, if it matters at all, will matter to whomever sifts through our financial remains, and since we have no children, those ‘remains’ are not really our concern. Yet according to the most recent email I received, either I make it my concern or stew in my own juices and slowly wither away.

When I began this process, I had hoped there would be an end in sight. I didn’t realize it would be my own.

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

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Crafters Wanted for 2nd Annual Fall Craft Show. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will hold its 2nd Annual Fall Craft Show and LEGO (TM) Train Show on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For crafters interested in joining the event, booth space is enough room for a 10x10 canopy and cost is \$50 per space. Email dmueller@fairfax-station.org for an application and further information. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

Chantilly Farmers Market.

Thursdays, 3:30-7 p.m., through Nov. 11 in the parking lot at St. Veronica Catholic Church, 3460 Centreville Road, Chantilly. The farmers market is a family-friendly weekly event where everyone can access local foods around, and build connections with local farmers, small business owners, and their neighbors. Farmers and vendors bring locally raised fruits, vegetables, breads and baked goods, meats and eggs, local honey, wine, soaps, prepared foods, and more each week. Free admission. Visit www.community-foodworks.org/chantilly for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

Walk Like MADD 5K Dash/ Bark Like MADD.

9 a.m.-noon at Herndon Police Department, 397 Herndon Parkway, #300, Herndon. Walk Like MADD is MADD's signature fundraising event to help us raise both awareness and funds to eliminate drunk and drugged driving. \$25. Email Jennifer.Hamilton@madd.org or visit www.walklikemadd.org.

Book Release and Signing.

1-3 p.m. At Centreville Library, Centreville. Centreville author/illustrator Missy Sheldrake announces the upcoming release of Mya, book one of His Majesty's Elite, prequel series to her award-winning Keepers of the Wellsprings series.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 12-13

Model Train Show and Craft Fair.

Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area LEGO (R) Train Club (Wamal TC) will hold a two-day display at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. In addition, Saturday will feature a Craft Fair with local artisans displaying and selling their crafts. Bring any unwanted LEGO pieces and sets for donation. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/OCT. 13

Clifton Day Festival. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Town of Clifton, 7144 Main St., Clifton. The 2019 Clifton Day Festival will feature a marketplace with around 150 vendors. Live music, train rides, children's activities and delicious food and beverages will add to the fun. Clifton Day is the only day of the year when the train stops in the town. Admission is free. Parking starts at \$5 per car. Call 703-968-0740 or visit www.cliftonday.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 19

1940s Hangar Dance Fundraiser.

6-11 p.m. At the Freedom Museum, Manassas Regional Airport, 10600 Harry Parrish Blvd., Manassas. The evening includes dinner and dancing



Railroad Museum

The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum holds events most Sundays, 1-4 p.m. 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, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

to the music of the 1940s and 1950s with the big band Swing Machine, a short swing dance lesson, as well as live and silent auctions for one-of-a-kind treasures. Vintage aircraft and vehicles will be on display. Admission is \$125 for a single ticket and \$200 per couple. Tickets and sponsor information are at freedommuseum.org and the Facebook page.

SUNDAY/OCT. 20

Secret Mission Vietnam. 2-5 p.m. At Old Bust Head Brewery, 7134 Farm Station Road, Vint Hill. Cost is \$35. Discussion on the Army Security Agency's Secret War in Vietnam 1961-1973. Presenters Lonnie Long and Gary Blackburn, former intelligence professionals, will draw from their book to tell the story of a secret, ongoing intelligence mission during the Vietnam War. Visit the website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/by-order-of-the-president-the-army-security-agencys-secret-war-in-vietnam-1961-1973-tickets-67896055931>

MONDAY/OCT. 21

Centreville Garden Club Meets. 7-9 p.m. At Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Centreville Garden Club monthly meeting with guest speaker David Yost, "Putting Our Gardens To Sleep." Come learn some helpful tips to prepare your garden for winter. Meeting generally third Monday each month. Learn more at CentrevilleGardenClub.blogspot.com. Visitors and new members welcome. Email: centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 26

Chantilly High Haunted House. 1-5 p.m. (less scary) and 6-10 p.m. (for braver goblins). At Chantilly High School, Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. The fun includes chills and thrills, games/crafts, a hypnotist, hot food and a bake sale. Fundraiser for girls' soccer and field hockey teams. Tickets are \$10 in advance from any CHS girls' soccer or field hockey player or via www.chshauntedhouse.com. A limited amount of tickets will be sold at the door for \$12.

Family Costume Party. 6:30-8:30 p.m. At the Children's Science Center Lab in Fair Oaks Mall. Join in a frightfully good time. Enjoy the Haunted Lab after hours and wear your favorite costume. Prizes will be awarded for creative and original ideas. Your family will engage in

multiple not-so-spooky science activities including Boo Bubbles and Cob Web Slime. Eat, drink and be scary! Light refreshments will be served.

ONGOING

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

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

Art Guild of Clifton Exhibit. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Clifton Wine Shop, 7145 Main St., Clifton. Includes oil paintings of European settings; doors, windows, and flower shops. Free. Call 703-409-0919 for more.

Carolina Shag Dance. Wednesdays, 6:30-10 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m.; no partners needed; dinner menu at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$8. Visit www.nvshag.org for more.

Open Rehearsal. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Centreville. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires barbershop chorus invites men of all ages who enjoy singing. Free. Visit www.fairfaxjubilaire.org for more.

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

Live After Five. Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Every Friday night a band plays on the patio of the winery. Free to attend. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for a full schedule.

LIBRARY FUN

Toddlin' Twos. Tuesdays, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Early literacy storytime with songs and activities included. Age 2 with caregiver, free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION

Mikal Legall #28 runs the ball for Westfield.

Westfield Beats Woodson, 53-3

The Westfield Bulldogs (4-0) travelled to Fairfax to take on WT Woodson (3-1) on Oct. 4.

The Bulldogs started early when Mikall Legall rushed in from 2 yards out. A missed extra point left the score at 6-0. Later in the 1st Noah Kim would find wide receiver Avery Howard for an 88-yard TD, adding to the Westfield lead 13-0.

In the 2nd quarter Kim again hit the speedy Howard for a 30-yard TD. The PAT was successful, and Westfield was now 20-0. Isaiah Daniels would run in from a few yards out, PAT was again successful, and the Bulldogs were up 27-0. With 2:01 left until half the Cavaliers would get on the board when Kyle Garvis kicked a 42-yard field goal, the scoreboard now

reading 27-3. However, Westfield was not done they would score twice on touchdowns. The first was ET Bushra, who took the ball 85 yards with 1:46 to play in the half, the Bulldogs now up 34-3. Westfield's Eli Soto would score on a short touchdown pass giving them a 40-3 advantage.

Westfield would add two more scores in the 3rd quarter. ET Bushra had another long kickoff return to start the 3rd quarter giving the Bulldogs a 47-3 lead. Then Mikal Legall scored from 3 yards out to cap game scoring at 53-3.

Westfield (5-0) will face Madison (4-2). WT Woodson (3-2) will travel to South County (5-0).

—WILL PALENSCAR



Richie Aguilar #99 and Abdul Montoya #71