

# Centreville ♦ Little Rocky Run CENTRE VIEW

WELLBEING  
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NOVEMBER 6-12, 2019

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

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Virginia Department  
of Transportation

Route 29 Northbound over Cub Run  
Bridge Rehabilitation  
Fairfax County  
Public Information Meeting

Thursday, November 7, 2019  
6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Presentation starts at 7 p.m.

Bull Run Elementary School  
15301 Lee Highway  
Centreville, VA 20121

**Find out** about plans to rehabilitate the northbound Route 29 (Lee Highway) bridge over Cub Run to improve safety and extend the overall life of the bridge. The bridge was built in 1954.

The planned improvements include replacing the concrete deck, installing steel beams, rebuilding the concrete pedestals, replacing the bridge bearings and repairing cracks.

**Stop by** between 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. A presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

**Review** project information at the VDOT project website ([www.virginiadot.org/projects](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects)), at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-2607 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

**Give your written comments** at the meeting, or submit them by **November 18, 2019** to Mr. Edwin Woo, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email [meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov](mailto:meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov). Please reference "Route 29 Northbound over Cub Run Bridge Rehabilitation" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775.

State Project: 0029-029-403, P101  
UPC: 112361  
Federal: STP-BR09 (297)

NEWS



From left —  
Marshall Keith,  
Events Manager,  
Kerry Kirk, Board  
Member, Eric  
Hanson, Volunteer.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Brewfest 2019 Drew Large Crowds

In September, the Northern Virginia Veterans Association with other vendors, breweries and hundreds of ticket holders participated in the fourth Annual Fairfax County Brewfest at Mustang Sally Brewing Company in Chantilly. The Brewfest was a huge success with large crowds of locals and families alike. It featured the best local craft beer from multiple breweries, savory and mouth-watering food from local vendors and live music. It was a family-friendly and dog-friendly event on a beautiful sunny day.

This event, put on by the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and Mustang Sally Brewing Company, benefited NOVA Veterans Association and its

mission to help local veterans by donating a portion of the proceeds to the organization.

Dr. Angela McConnell, CEO of NOVA Veterans Association said, "We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who contributed to our inclusion in this event, but especially John Boylan, President and CEO of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and Sean Hunt, owner of Mustang Sally Brewing Company.

The Northern Virginia Veterans Association is a one-stop nonprofit that at no cost provides direct personal support for most vulnerable veterans (elderly, low income, health challenged, verge of hopelessness) coordinating with best local community veteran service providers.

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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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# NEWS



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

**The Fairfax Choral Society Youth Choir performs the National Anthem during Centreville Day's opening ceremony.**



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

**From left are Thadius Palmer, Dennis Hogge and Thad Palmer.**

## Centreville Day Honorees: Hogge and Scout Troop

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

**T**he 27<sup>th</sup> annual Centreville Day celebration was Saturday, Oct. 19, in Historic Centreville Park. And, as always, the Centreville Day Planning Committee recognized those who've made a difference in Centreville.

Boy Scout Troop 1826 was honored as the Nonprofit Citizens of the Year, and community historian Dennis Hogge was honored as the Citizen of the Year. Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) made the award presentations during the event's opening ceremony.

She called Troop 1826, led by Scoutmaster Thad Palmer, a good steward of the Centreville Historic District. "Over the last

2-1/2 years, they've walked the district and kept it clean," she said. "They also improved it, with Eagle Scouts Nathan Palmer, Mitchell Palmer and Andrew Zanotti organizing more than 300 volunteer hours and materials to build picnic tables, benches and planters."

They also revitalized the "River Thames" by the Stuart-Mosby Cavalry Museum. "Thanks to [their efforts], visitors to this museum and to Historic Centreville Park can better enjoy their visit and recognize that this is a special place in our community," said Smith. "The Centreville Day Planning Committee and the Friends of Historic Centreville are pleased to celebrate Troop 1826's exemplary service to the Centreville community in the best tradition of Scouting."

As for Hogge, she said he's invested in Centreville's history, both "metaphorically and literally. Dennis's interest in local history led him to purchasing historic houses in Centreville. Rather than develop the land, he preserved these buildings."

Furthermore, said Smith, "He worked with other advocates of historical preservation to help establish the Centreville Historic Overlay District in 1986 and to expand the district in 2007. Dennis has gone to great lengths to preserve Centreville's history, including saving a small, stone gas station from demolition by moving it from Lee Highway to its present location off of Braddock Road."

She said he did so because the station was built out of stones salvaged from the Four

Chimney House built at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. And that building now houses the Stuart-Mosby Calvary Museum.

Smith noted, as well, Hogge's contributions to historical research, including assembling and researching Civil War photographs of Centreville and its surroundings taken by Mathew Brady studio photographers. They were placed into books which, said Smith, "enrich our understanding of Centreville during the Civil War and enhance public awareness of the role Centreville played in the war. The Centreville Day Planning Committee and the Friends of Historic Centreville are proud to present the 2019 Centreville Day Citizen of the Year and Honored Community Historian award to Dennis Hogge."

## Sully District Boy Scouts Hold 22nd Annual Golf Classic

The Boy Scouts of America held its 22nd Annual Sully District Golf Classic at the Twin Lakes Golf Course in Clifton. The Honorary golf tournament chair this year was CEO and President of the SYA, Gary Flather. He spoke a few words about supporting the youth in our area to the golfers just prior to the tournament starting.

The tournament was a scramble format and the winning team was VSE Capital Reality: Dave Vitalis (Captain), Dylan Crane, Shawn Sumrall, and Lee Boyle. The Second Place Team was The Gibbons Group - Jack Maestri, John Maestri, Bruno Maestri, and Michael Sorrell. The Third Place Team was The Fairfax County Police Officers - Officers Frank Allegro, Rick Cline, Jonathan Bryant, and Aaron Pfeiff. Closest to the pin was Tim Benz (Viasat), Longest Drive Women's was Mary Ellen Horn (playing for Viasat), and Longest Drive Men's was Jack Maestri (The Gibbons Group). Before the tournament there was a putting contest that was won by Michael Adere (playing for Viasat).



PHOTO BY SPENCER HORN

**22nd Annual Sully District Boy Scout Golf Classic: The Winning Team, VSE Capital, Carlos Vallejo (Committee Co-Chair), Dylan Crane, Shawn Sumrall, Dave Vitalis, Lee Boyle, Hondo Davids (Committee Co-Chair), and Gary Flather (Honorary Chair).**

At the end of the day there was a Parent / Child golf clinic provided by The Eisman Academy, located at the Twin Lakes Golf Course. Chris Upham was the golf pro and eight pairs of students enjoyed his lessons (especially the part where they got to "Drive" a water balloon, one of which was a direct hit on Chris!).

An evening meal was held at the Twin Lakes community Room where awards and prizes were handed out and winners of the raffles and silent auction items were claimed.

Supporting the charity golf tournament

were the following sponsors: Pruitt Foundation, WiSC Enterprises, Omni Systems, William A. Hazel, Technology Management Associates (TMA), TechTrend, Crown Consulting, Inc., Viasat, Seagate Government Solutions, VSE Capital Realty United Bank, NOVEC, Chantilly Crushed Stone, J. Ayers & Associates, Field of Dreams SUNOCO, Strategic Alliance Business Group, 29 Diner, National Realty Partners, LLC, Red Rocks Café & Tequila Bar, Metropolitan Bath and Tile,

Honor Brewing Company, Lobster Maine-ia, Chick-fil-A (Chantilly), and Jersey Mike's Subs (Chantilly). Many local businesses supported the tournament with auction items and raffle gifts.

A big thanks goes out to the Golf Committee for making it all happen - Honorary Chair Gary Flather, Co-Chairs Hondo Davids and Carlos Vallejo, and committee members Michael Adere, Aaron Bills, Doug Carlson, Dave Carmichael (Sully District Chair), Michael Groover, Matthew Hilly (Sully District Executive), Tom Korch, Dan Palenscar, Bill Schoonmaker, and Joe Swartz.

### AREA ROUNDUPS

## Volunteers Needed to Sort Food

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries is seeking volunteers to assist with the upcoming Boy Scout "Scouting for Food" drive at its sorting site in Chantilly on Saturday, Nov. 9. Volunteers need to be able to lift crates of food (up to 25 pounds). Shifts available include 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; and 1 - 4 p.m. To sign up individually or with a group, email dculbertson@wfcma.org using the subject line "Scouting for Food."<sup>o</sup>

## Boy Scout Collects Bikes for Charity

Trey Telleen is a Boy Scout with Life rank in Troop 1822 in Centreville.<sup>o</sup>For his Eagle Scout project, he'll be collecting bicycles to donate to the charity, Bikes for the World. The collection is set for Saturday, Nov. 16, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., in the parking lot of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 14150 Upperridge Drive in Centreville.

# OPINION

## Race Still Matters: An Apology and Notice

I am ashamed to admit that I was one of those race vs. class people. Perhaps this worldview was seeded by a junior paper at Princeton focused on public perceptions of Affirmative Action which became a chapter in *Race vs. Class: The New Affirmative Action Debate* (1996, University Press of America). Perhaps it was nurtured as I traveled the well-trod post-graduate path to a top management consulting firm where I made more in my first job out of college than either of my parents; seeming to confirm the dominant theory that socioeconomic mobility through educational pathways was working, even for me, an African-American first-generation college graduate. And perhaps it was cemented as I came of age in a time when, even on the left, a race-neutral social justice world view was more socially acceptable and therefore, less threatening, to my white colleagues, neighbors, and acquaintances.

Either way, I quickly began ascribing to the notion that socioeconomic mobility through improved educational opportunities could change the life trajectories of many economically vulnerable populations, including those who were racially marginalized. While tragic and all-too frequent national events provided sobering counterbalances to my wholehearted

embrace of socioeconomic mobility as a tool for racial equality, everything else in my life was pushing me to a race-neutral world view on which I doubled-down.

However, this race-neutral worldview is a lie. The fact is that as an African-American Ivy League-educated woman in the 97th income percentile with the privilege of living in one of the wealthiest neighborhoods in the suburbs of Northern Virginia and sending my children to the best public schools money can buy:

Persistent gender and race pay gaps mean I am undercompensated as compared to both white men and white women. (#EqualityCan'tWait)

I am still three times more likely to die in childbirth as a white woman, even after controlling for education and income. (#SerenaWilliams)

My beautiful elementary-aged brown boys are more likely to be mistaken for criminals holding real guns during an epic neighborhood nerf battle than their white age mates. (#TamirRice 5th Anniversary)

My strong, independent 4th grade brown girl is more likely to be adultified by society and disproportionately disciplined or even criminalized in school. (#Girlhood Interrupted)

In my idyllic Great Falls neighborhood, if one of our wonderful neighbors calls the police to

conduct a welfare check on us because the front door is open or something else is askew, any member of my family might pay the ultimate price. (#AtatianaJefferson)

And even though our first gift to our children was strong, distinguished (and not coincidentally) race-neutral names to limit the impact of explicit and implicit bias in their life aspirations, IF my boys make it to adulthood, they will have a 50-50 chance of falling from the top income quintile to the bottom income quintile, compared with white kids who grow up wealthy and are five times more likely to stay wealthy than to become poor. (#OpportunityInsights)

All of these experiences rest upon my race, and not my socioeconomic status. In 2019, in America, no factor, not my Ivy League education, advanced degree, career as a foundation executive, or 401k balance can mitigate the burden of living black in a society built for white people.

The fact is: Race STILL Matters.

So, consider this both an apology for ever discounting the role of race in the social justice fight and official notice that I will no longer stand by and watch others discount race either.

RICSHAWN ADKINS ROANE  
GREAT FALLS

## A Retrospective on this Election Cycle

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

The outcomes of the election on Nov. 5 are not known as I write this column. (The Reston Connection will go to press before the polls close.) I will no doubt have much to say about the results in future writings as this election is going to be pivotal for the Commonwealth's history regardless of who turns out to be the winners. What I was able to observe in the weeks and days leading up to election day was the highest level of people willing to help throughout the state in knocking on doors, making phone calls, writing postcards, and otherwise willing to chip in for their favorite candidates. If the level of activity leading up to election day is any indication, the turnout of voters should have been record breaking. "When we vote, we win" became the mantra of campaigns hoping to hold onto power or to transfer it to a more progressive legislature. As I traveled around the state, I became aware that while I had focused on state legislative contests there were many local elections that were critical to the future of local boards of supervisors and school boards.

What is known before the first vote was cast is that these elections were the most expensive ever seen in off-year elections in Virginia. When the total expenses of both candidates in many legislative elections are added together,



### COMMENTARY

it will not be unusual that the total exceeds a million dollars. For some highly contentious races the totals exceed three million dollars. I have never seen the generosity of individuals to contribute to elections in other parts of the state as great as it was this year. There is a growing recognition that while

it is important who your elected official is, there is an equal importance to who holds the majority in the legislative body. You not only work to get your representatives elected, you also need to help the campaigns of those with whom he or she will have to work. Political contributions from out-of-state individuals and organizations poured into the state in record amounts.

Also interesting in this election cycle is the amazing transformation that occurred in some incumbent legislators. It took Virginia more than four years to approve Medicaid expansion in the state. Yet, if you listened to television commercials downstate you would not be able to find anyone who opposed the expansion. To the contrary, there were claims on the part of some incumbents who had voted against the expansion who in the campaign claimed credit for passing it. It is amazing what a refreshment with voters can do to some legislators' point of view and memories.

To analyze state and local election returns I

recommend that you go to the website of the State Board of Elections at [www.elections.virginia.gov/resultsreports](http://www.elections.virginia.gov/resultsreports) to see actual voting results. For more information on who the candidates were and how much they spent I suggest a visit to the Virginia Public Access Project, [www.vpap.org/elections](http://www.vpap.org/elections). In future columns I will provide my take on what the election results mean for the future of the Commonwealth.

A special shout out of recognition and thank you goes to all who worked so hard this election cycle. You are what makes the system work. Thank you!

### Write

The Connection welcomes 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 length, libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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A Connection Newspaper



# Diffusing Holiday Drama

Sanity-saving strategies to get us through the not-so-silent holiday nights.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Later this month, Thanksgiving will usher in the holiday season, family gatherings and expectations of celebrations that are reminiscent of Currier and Ives-type scenes. For those who deal with difficult family members be they cousins, siblings, in-laws or outlaws, the most wonderful time of year can be met with dread. Having a few sanity-saving strategies can help get us through the not-so-silent holiday nights.

"Often, those closest to us can unfortunately spark the most amount of stress" said Nathan Leslie, Professor of Creative Writing at Northern Virginia Community College and author of the book "Hurry Up and Relax."

Focusing on one's own behaviors and responses rather than those we find difficult can offer a sense of empowerment "That's because in the end you cannot control how anyone else acts during this time, or ever," said Lorente. "The only thing that you really can control is how you react and respond to different people and situations. Being aware of your behavior and changing your mindset might be the best — and only way to survive the holiday drama this season."

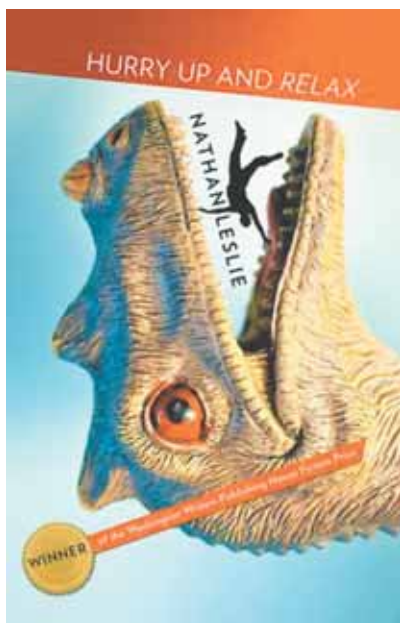
Whether it's a feeling of obligation or hope for holiday cheer, before you head over the river and through the woods, know the reason for your trip. "First know why you are choosing to be around family members who might be difficult," said Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College. "This helps you to take ownership and control of the situation. I think that a lot of the negative feelings stem from feeling out of control, obligated, and frustrated."

Setting boundaries and having an exit strategy can be sanity-saving. "[For example,] 'when we start talking about topics such as my parenting style, or my politics, or my hair, I will leave the room,'" said Lorente. "Not with anger but with a sense that I am control of me not of my family member."

A family ally can offer support or an exit strategy if family gatherings turn sour. "You can even develop a code word or phrase you can say to prompt your ally to intervene, politely interrupt, or help you get out of the situation promptly," said Joanne Bagshaw, PhD, Professor of Psychology at Montgomery College. "A family ally is also a good person to have for support."

For those who know that difficult family situations are unavoidable, set time limits. "Plan ahead to organize your time spent in this situation, and avoid staying at family members' homes if your relationship is challenging," said Bagshaw. "Also, structure your time, make sure there's not a lot of downtime that can lead to awkward conversations."

Choosing to give attention to the positive aspects of one's familial relationships can help diffuse tension, suggests Lorente. "Focus on gratitude, fun, and the good things that this time may bring," she said. "You and your Mom may not agree on certain adult issues but look at what a great grandmother she is to your children."



COURTESY OF NATHAN LESLIE

**Nathan Leslie, author of the book, "Hurry Up and Relax," says journaling can help relieve stress during the holidays.**

**"Focus on gratitude, fun, and the good things that this time may bring."**

**— Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D Northern Virginia Community College**

**"First know why you are choosing to be around family members who might be difficult. This helps you to take ownership and control of the situation."**

**— Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D Northern Virginia Community College**

Putting pen to paper can help relieve stress. "Journaling is an excellent way to relieve stress and make sense out of chaos," said Leslie. "Writing...can be useful in giving mental order to the disorientation that the holidays might bring."

Visualize family events going well. Positive thoughts lead to positive feelings, advises Jerome Short, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychology at George Mason University. "Be curious instead of critical," he said. "Wonder how others are thinking and feeling, and why," said Short. "Give others the benefit of the doubt."

"Wait before speaking if you have negative thoughts," continued Short. "Take a deep breath, visualize a favorite place, or walk away if you might regret what you say in the moment."

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Announcements

**NOTICE OF OLD DOMINION ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE AND ITS MEMBER DISTRIBUTION COOPERATIVES TO SEEK WAIVER OF CERTAIN PURPA OBLIGATIONS FROM THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Take notice that on or after December 2, 2019, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC) intends to file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) a Petition requesting waiver of certain obligations in FERC's rules implementing Section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA), on behalf of itself and the following ODEC member distribution cooperatives which are regulated by the Virginia State Corporation Commission (VSCC): A&N Electric Cooperative, BARC Electric Cooperative, Community Electric Cooperative, Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative, Northern Neck Electric Cooperative, Prince George Electric Cooperative, Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative, and Southside Electric Cooperative (collectively, the "Members").

The Petition will request waiver of FERC's regulations to allow ODEC and the Members to jointly implement their respective obligations under Section 210 of PURPA and under Part 292 of the FERC's regulations, 18 C.F.R. Part 292, as set forth in the PURPA Implementation Plan between ODEC and its member distribution cooperatives. PURPA Section 210 was enacted to encourage production of electric energy by qualifying cogeneration and small power production facilities (QFs). Part 292 of FERC's Regulations sets forth the requirements regarding arrangements between electric utilities and QFs. Part 292 requires electric utilities to purchase and sell energy and capacity from and to QFs. The PURPA Implementation Plan provides that (1) any QF may interconnect with the electric distribution systems of ODEC's Members or to ODEC's transmission system to the extent such QF is entitled to interconnection under Part 292 of the Commission's Regulations; (2) ODEC will purchase capacity and energy from QFs with a net capacity in excess of 100 kW and up to 20 MW as made available by such QFs, at ODEC's avoided cost; (3) each of the Members will sell supplementary, back-up and maintenance power to QFs on a firm or interruptible basis, upon request, at rates that are non-discriminatory, just and reasonable, and in the public interest; and (4) no QF will be subject to duplicative charges for interconnection or wheeling as a result of selling to ODEC and buying from a Member. By Order issued on August 9, 2019, in its Case No. PUR-2019-0047, the VSCC granted ODEC's motion for authorization to state that the VSCC endorses the Petition with respect to the Members.

Copies of the PURPA Implementation Plan will be sent to interested parties upon request. FERC will publish notice of the Petition in the Federal Register following receipt of the filing. That notice will specify that any person desiring to be heard in this matter can make the appropriate filing with the FERC.

Inquiries or comments concerning this matter should be addressed to:  
Old Dominion Electric Cooperative • 4201 Dominion Boulevard •  
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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.  
-Werner Heisenberg

## ENTERTAINMENT

# A Message of Family, Love and Laughter

Centreville High presents 'You Can't Take It with You.'

By BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

First a Broadway show and then a movie starring Jimmy Stewart, "You Can't Take It with You" is one of the most-produced plays in American high-school theater. It will also soon take the stage at Centreville High.

The curtain rises Friday, Nov. 15, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 16, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 17, at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door or via [www.theatrecentreville.com](http://www.theatrecentreville.com).

The story takes place in 1930s New York City. "It's about a bizarre family, the Vanderhofs and Sycamores, that definitely dances to its own tune," said Director Mike Hudson. "The mother, Penny Sycamore, writes plays as a hobby, and the dad manufactures fireworks in the basement. And the family collects misfits who appear to live with them, so they're rubbing elbows with a Russian grand duchess and various members of high society."

"One daughter plans to be a ballerina, but has no talent," continued Hudson. "And another daughter falls in love with Tony Kirby Jr., the son of a Wall Street giant – with hilarity ensuing when his parents show up for dinner on the wrong night."

**FEATURING A CAST AND CREW OF 25**, this play is suitable for all ages. The set will be the interior of the Vanderhoffs's house, and the actors will wear period dress of the 1930s. Looking forward to opening night, Hudson says the audience will have a great time watching this show.

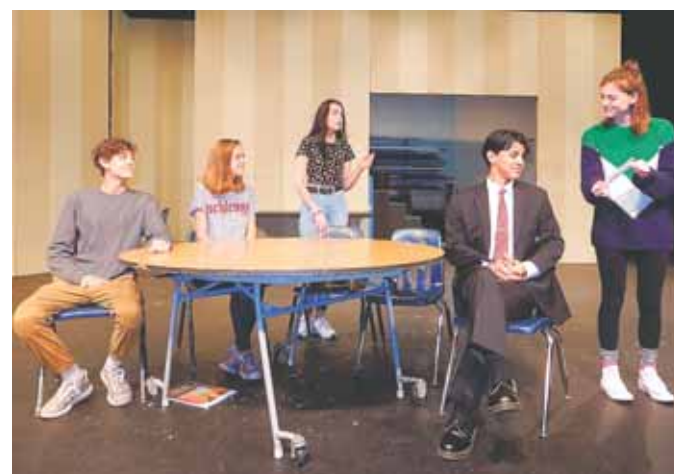
"We have a lot of fresh talent coming up, plus juniors coming into their own, this year," he said. "The family is so dysfunctional – but in such a pleasant, goodhearted sort of way – that the audience will thoroughly enjoy laughing at their antics."

Junior Danny Villalobos portrays Tony's dad, Anthony Kirby. "He's a straightforward businessman, always thinking about business," said Villalobos. "He also cares about his family, but in his own way. He's the head of the house, and his family has to listen to him. He's prideful and subtly bigheaded, as well as very focused and determined, and he perseveres through any obstacles in his way."

Villalobos said it's interesting playing Kirby because "He's about 45 and a company CEO, and I'm 17, so I have to make him believable. I also show the social mannerisms of that time through the way he speaks and interacts with others, especially women. He's polite, but just for his image. He's engaging to play, and this role lets me test and push my acting range. It's nice to be challenged and do the part justice."

Villalobos said attendees will appreciate the play's message of family and love conquering all. "Despite where you come from and who you are, it's your family – and that's what's important," he explained. "And the performances will live up to or exceed expectations. People will especially like Jules Hoffman – a girl playing a Russian man named Kollenkov – because her character is a contrast to everyone else in the show. Kollenkov is funny without knowing it."

Playing Grandpa Vanderhof is sophomore Joseph



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Rehearsing a scene from the show are (from left) Joseph Buono, Caroline Jareb (Mrs. Kirby), Abbie Bailey, Danny Villalobos and Lydia Buono.

Buono. "He's very happy and is the heart of the family and the glue that holds it together," said Buono. "He retired 35 years ago and is serious, but also friendly. He's also eccentric, plus protective over his daughter Penny, who's married to Paul Sycamore. And their daughter Alice is the one bringing her boyfriend Tony and his parents over to meet her family."

Calling it a fun part to play, Buono said Grandpa "has so many lines that I can really portray his depth of character. He's funny and relaxed, and it's one of the biggest roles in this show." As for the audience, Buono said people will like the play because "It's so funny – kind of like an '80s sitcom – about a big family and their relationships. And there are lots of things to pay attention to onstage, at the same time."

**SPEAKING OF FAMILIES**, Buono's real-life sister, Lydia, a junior, portrays Penny Sycamore. "She's not the typical, 1930s housewife, cooking and cleaning," said Lydia. "She just writes plays all day, and her life constantly revolves around whatever hobby she's into at the moment. She's a warm, welcoming woman, but isn't afraid to speak her mind. She adores Tony, who becomes Alice's fiancé, and is also pleased that he's a company vice president, because she knows her daughter will be taken care of."

"I love this role because Penny has so many different sides and so much to her character," continued Lydia. "And it's fun to play such a bubbly, comedic person. They're a crazy, unique family. But at the end of the day, they really love each other, and that love shows in how connected they are. I think the audience will really enjoy going on their journey with them and seeing how the story unfolds."

Junior Ysanne Sterling is the assistant director, guiding the actors "to make sure they do what needs to be done. I work with them individually on their characters and how they fit into the play as a whole. I have to know the show like the back of my hand so I can immediately fix anything wrong."

Overall, she said, "I have a big family that's also crazy like this one, and this is a funny, upbeat show. Everyone in the audience will appreciate how each member loves and supports each other, no matter what. And they're just lovable characters, despite the fact that they're so frickin' crazy."



# BULLETIN BOARD

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

## Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Meetings in 2019

12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035  
**Nov. 19, 2019 9:30 a.m. - Full Board of Supervisors Meeting**  
Nov. 26 Committee Meetings  
❖ 9:30 a.m. - Economic Advisory Commission  
❖ 11 a.m. - Personnel Committee  
❖ 1:30 p.m. - Legislative Committee  
❖ 3 p.m. - Budget Committee  
❖ 5 p.m. - Audit Committee  
**Dec. 3, 2019 9:30 a.m. - Full Board of Supervisors Meeting**  
Dec. 10 Committee Meetings  
❖ 9:30 a.m. - Health, Housing and Human Services Committee  
❖ 11 a.m. - Development Process Committee  
❖ 1:30 p.m. - Transportation Committee  
❖ 3 p.m. - General Assembly Annual Reception and Work Session

### THURSDAY/NOV 7

**Bridge Meeting.** 6:30-8 p.m. At Bull Run Elementary School, 15301 Lee Highway, Centreville. The Virginia Department of Transportation invites residents to a public information meeting on plans to rehabilitate the northbound Route 29 (Lee Highway) bridge over Cub Run to improve safety and extend the overall life of the bridge. The bridge was built in 1954. View displays and learn more about the project and its preliminary design. VDOT staff will be available to answer questions. A presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Provide comments at the meeting, or send them to VDOT by Nov. 18, 2019. Email or mail comments to Mr. Edwin Woo, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Visit <http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northern-virginia/rt-29-nb-over-cub-run.asp>

### TUESDAY/NOV. 12

**Car Seat Safety Check.** 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sully District police station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. Fairfax County Police Department offers free safety check and install events throughout the year to ensure children travel safely. In preparation for inspection, install the seat using the instructions that came with the car seat. Trained officers will review the car seat instructions and car owner's manual to be certain that they are being followed as they should.

**American Legion Meeting.** 7:30-9 p.m. at Sully District Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. American Legion Post 1995 Centreville and its Auxiliary Unit meet separately the second Tuesday of each month.. All veterans and spouses interested learning more about how the Legion supports veterans and impacts the Centreville-Chantilly communities are welcome to attend. Free. Contact Steve Hunter at [geoshunter@aol.com](mailto:geoshunter@aol.com) or 703-314-3795.

### FRIDAY/NOV. 15

**Construction Career Fair.** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Dulles Expo Center, North Hall, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Interested in a career in building America's infrastructure? Employers will be collecting resumes, discussing current openings, and interview applicants on site. Industry employers are seeking new employees at all levels, from laborers to engineers. This event is free to all job seekers. Visit the website <http://www.nuca.com/careerfair>.

### MONDAY/NOV. 18

**Joint Sully District Land use and Transportation Committee Meeting.** 7 p.m. Topics: Comprehensive Sign Plan and Comprehensive Sign Plan Amendment to accompany the recently-approved K. Hovnanian at Pender Oaks (Postponed from October).

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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## Please Relief Me



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Or let me go. So sang Engelbert Humperdink way back in 1967 about having lost that loving feeling. His lost loving feeling was not about his mortgage. The lyrics: "I have found a new love dear" imply if not clearly state that there's a woman involved. My lost loving feeling is about my mortgage. And contrary to Engelbert, I can't leave it, and believe me, I've tried, though I've never sung about it, only droned on about it in print. To invoke the legendary Ricky Ricardo, aka Desi Arnaz, from "I Love Lucy," originally broadcast in the mid- to late-50s: Let me 'splain.

It's been over 15 years since my last successful refinance. Twice in the intervening years I've tried to refinance. In each case, I've been denied even though I've had upwards of 50 percent equity and an 800 or so credit rating.

Between multiple problems with the house (lead paint on the exterior, broken windows, etc.) and less than ideal income documentation, debt to income ratio, yada, yada, yada, we've regularly been kicked to the curb, which we also don't have, so I gave up; and have proceeded over the years to fix some of the problems mentioned which unfortunately has not led to an acceptable resolution.

Time has passed, and after years of television advertisements by Henry Winkler, Fred Thompson and most recently, Thomas Magnum himself: Tom Selleck, promoting reverse mortgages for those nearing retirement, I buckled under the pressure of these years of paid celebrity endorsements and made a few inquiries. It turns out that given my age — and circumstances semi-unique to us (no kids, lots of equity, need the money), we're perfect candidates. So we applied to company number one (denied) which led to company number two: denied. The second time the denial was not about income documentation and so forth as it was with the first "reverse-mortgager." No. It wasn't even about the house. This time it was about an out-building on our property, specifically the foundation of a "shed"/stable standing derelict in its duties and of no use to anyone. Not however of 'no use' to the appraiser, apparently, who mentioned its condition in his report to the mortgage underwriter who now has because of those findings, slam-dunked us (put our application on hold) pending the shed's disposition.

To summarize and recall another legendary figure from the 50s: author Joseph Heller, I'm in a bit of a "Catch-22." I can't refinance the house and get access to its equity because I can't meet the financial qualifications. And I can't reverse-mortgage the house — to gain access to the equity I need to live on, because the out-building on my property ("Belly Acres" as I call it) is a shell of its former self, so to speak, and needs upwards of \$100,000 of repairs (I've gotten an estimate), money that if I had/could even get to, I'd need to live on, not spend on a building I'll never use/don't need. And neither can I sell the house (nor do we want to quite frankly) because the "shed" would be part of any deal, which means its repair would still be required. And one more thing, because the house is registered with the Federal Government as "Historic," we can't demolish this out-building either. In effect, we are stuck between a rock — as in those missing and cracked in the 100 year-old shed's foundation — and a hard place: the underwriter's intransigence and the Historic Preservation's rules. Let's call it a Catch-22 "A."

At this point, I don't really know which way to turn. I'm not exactly damned if I do, I'm more damned because I can't. I don't think I'm asking for any kind of special dispensation. I'm not involving the Pope. I just want, to quote singer/songwriter Nick Lowe from his 1974 song, ("What's So Funny 'Bout) Peace, Love and Understanding," some 'peace, love and understanding.' I'm not looking to make any trouble. In fact, I'm looking for the opposite: serenity, now and forever, with or without Seinfeld reruns. And I can afford it if the powers that be, won't be less omnipotent and help a fella out. I swear I won't bother them if they won't bother me. Make the approval a Festivus-type occasion except it won't be for the rest of us, it will be just for me and my wife. I promise I won't tell a soul.

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



# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING

**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](http://www.community-foodworks.org/chantilly) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 6

**Nature Program.** 9:45-10:30 a.m. and 11-11:45 a.m. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Bring your toddler and explore nature through sight, sound, smell and touch in the monthly “Nature Tots-Fall” program. These programs are designed for youngsters age 1 to 3 and include indoor and outdoor activities. Topics vary with the seasons. The topic will be “fall colors.” The cost is \$8 per child. An adult must be able to participate with children. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

## SATURDAY/NOV. 9

**Stargaze or Search for Animals.** 4-5:30 p.m. At Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Join a naturalist for a night hike to learn about the different owls that can be found in the park. Listen for calls and learn how owls navigate the night. Then, enjoy s'mores at a campfire. The program is designed for participants age 8 to adult, and the cost is \$8 per person. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

**“Ties that Bound: Founding First Ladies and Slaves.”** 4-6 p.m. At Sully Historic Site, Chantilly. Maria Schwartz will be discussing her book, “Ties that Bound,” which is an exploration of the relationships between the first ladies and the enslaved people who served them. Schwartz is the Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Rhode Island and the author of multiple books on the history of enslaved individuals in America. Her most recent book goes beyond the image of first ladies as glamorous hostesses to shed light on the often-overlooked relationship they had with slaveholding culture in early America. Limited seating is available and advance registration is required to reserve a seat. The cost of each program is \$35 per person, which includes wine. Call 703-437-1794 to make a reservation, or book online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully). Call 703-324-8662 or at [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## SUNDAY/NOV. 10

**SYA Soccer Tournament.** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Centreville High School Stadium, Union Mill Road, Clifton. SYA Soccer will be hosting a free U8 Soccer tournament for clubs throughout Northern Virginia. Limited to 22 boys and 22 girls teams. Four games per team; 30-minute games (running clock). 5v5 games (4v4+GK). Additional activities to include: a full festival environment with moon bounces, face painting, soccer skills games, food trucks, local business participants. D.C. United will be coming out to participate with players and mascot. Visit the website: <https://syasports.org/soccer/program-information/travel-soccer/u8-academy/u8-scrimagefest>

**Nature Photography.** 1-2:30 p.m. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Learn to make your pictures their best with a nature photography class at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Join a nature photographer and learn some photography basics while exploring the park. Practice your skills by experimenting with landscapes, critter close-ups and aquatic abstracts. Cost is \$10 per person. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

**Top Secret Pilots.** 2-5 p.m. At Old Bust Brewery, 1734 Farm Station Road, Vint Hill. Who was better than Top Gun? The Top Secret Red Eagles, flying MiGs against our best pilots. Including a female flight instructor. Cost is \$35. Visit the website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/being-the-bad-guys-the-top-secret-red-eagles->

## Chantilly High presents ‘Almost, Maine’ and ‘Love/Sick’

Chantilly High is performing two plays this week – “Almost, Maine” and “Love/Sick,” – both by playwright John Cariani. “Almost, Maine” explores love and loss in a remote, almost-town in winter, and “Love/Sick” hilariously delves into the pain and joy of being in love.

Showtimes for “Almost, Maine” are Wednesday and Friday, Nov. 6 and 8, at 7 p.m.; and “Love/Sick” takes the stage Thursday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 9, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8, students; \$10, general admission, at the door or via [www.chantillyhsdrama.com](http://www.chantillyhsdrama.com).

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**Sideline at Bluegrass Barn.** 7 p.m. At Bluegrass Barn, Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Doors open at 6 p.m., show time is 7 p.m. The Bluegrass Barn series at the park's Visitor Center is sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Friends of Frying Pan Park. Food and drinks available for purchase. Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door.

## MONDAY/NOV. 11

**Used Bicycle Collection.** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 14150 Upperridge Drive, Centreville. Support a bicycle collection for Eagle Scout candidate Trey Telleen of Troop 1822. The charity Bikes for the World will send donated bicycles to disadvantaged communities in the U.S. and Globally. Bikes For the World requests a tax-deductible \$10 donation per bicycle to help with shipping costs. Call Erik Telleen (Trey's father) 202-647-9995.

## TUESDAY/NOV. 12

**Chantilly Honors Veterans.** 6 p.m. At Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. All FCPS schools in the Chantilly High School pyramid will host a special event to honor local veterans and active-duty military personnel. Organized by the Chantilly Pyramid and the non-profit group iWitnessed-i Remember, the evening celebration will feature a series of special musical performances from Chantilly ensembles, a dessert reception supported by Mission B-B-Q, Wegmans, and other local businesses, and a focus on the service of World War II veterans as we prepare for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II. All veterans and active-duty service personnel who live or work in western Fairfax County are invited to attend and may sign up here: [chantilly-thanks-our-veterans.eventbrite.com](http://chantilly-thanks-our-veterans.eventbrite.com).

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 13

**Wagon Ride and Campfire Meal.** 5:30-7 p.m. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Enjoy a night under the stars with the “Hot Dog, Smores! Wagon Ride & Campfire” program. Dine on a turkey hot dog supper roasted over the campfire and take a brisk wagon ride through the Rocky Run Stream Valley. Learn about the park's namesake, Ellanor C. Lawrence, and discover some of the area's local and natural history. Hot dogs, buns, condiments, and s'mores will be provided. Feel free to bring your own drinks and sides. Cost is \$10 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Meet at Cabell's Mill. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 29

**The Nutcracker.** At Hylton Performing Arts Center, Merchant Hall, 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Presented by the Virginia National Ballet. Treat



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANNON SPICER

**Jenna Antonacci and Cullen Kendrick rehearse a scene from Chantilly High's “Almost, Maine.”**

yourself to Virginia National Ballet's full-length, traditional production of The Nutcracker. Featuring gorgeous scenery, costumes, and choreography, enjoy world-class professional, international dancers accompanied by the students of Virginia National Ballet School. VNB is led by Artistic Director Rafik Hegab, 2019 Winner of the Seefeldt Award for Outstanding Individual Artist. Tickets: \$37 adults, \$25 children (ages 17 and under). Visit [www.virginiannationalballet.org](http://www.virginiannationalballet.org).

## MONDAY/DEC. 2

**African-American Genealogy.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. An African-American Genealogy study group meets the first Monday of the month (except September and November). Participation in the study group is free but registration is requested. To register, or for more information, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/events](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/events) or call 703-830-2223.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:volunteers@fairfax-station.org) or call 703-945-7483 to explore opportunities. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. It is open every Sunday, except holidays, from 1-4 p.m. [www.fairfax-station.org](http://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](http://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.fairfaxjubilairs.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilairs.org) 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](http://www.wineryatbullrun.com) for a full schedule.

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

## LIBRARY FUN

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

**Storytime for Three to Fives.** Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Stories and activities for children age 3-5 with caregiver. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

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

**Lego Block Party.** Every other Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Legos will be provided for an afternoon of building. Grades 3-6. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

**Duplo Storytime.** Every other Wednesday, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Develop and reinforce early literacy skills for reading success. Ages 1-3 with adult. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

**Legos Kids Club.** Every other Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Thousands of Legos for children to play with. Ages 6-12. Free. Call 703-830-2223 to reserve a space.

**Starlight Storytime.** Every other Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Stories under the stars for ages 4-8. Wear pajamas and bring stuffed friends. Free. Call 703-830-2223 to reserve a space.

## IMPROVING ENGLISH

**One-on-One English Conversation.** Various times at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Spend an hour with a volunteer tutor to practice conversing in English. Various times and days. Reservations are required. Call the library at 703-830-2223 to make a reservation.

**ESL Book Club.** Mondays, 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Meet and discuss a book chosen by group. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

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

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

**English Conversation Group.** Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

**Farsi Conversation Group.** Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Practice speaking Farsi with native speakers in this weekly drop-in conversation group. No registration required. Adults. Call 703-830-2223 for more.

**English Conversation Group.** Thursdays, 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

**Practice English Conversation Group.** Saturdays, 3-5 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Drop in and enjoy casual conversation and learning for adult learners of English. Volunteer led program. Call 703-830-2223 for more.

**ESL Book Club.** Every other Saturday, 11 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults learning English are welcome to meet and discuss a book chosen by the group. To find out book title, call 703-502-3883.