

Home LifeStyle

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Chantilly
CONNECTION
Fair Oaks ❖ Fair Lakes

Planning Tomorrow's I-66

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From Mountain View To Centreville

NEWS, PAGE 2

Couples Who Work Together Stay Together

HOME LIFESTYLE, PAGE 7

Wayne Brim (in cap), who lives off I-66 near Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville, asks VDOT consultant Stuart Tyler how noise and air pollution will be abated near his home.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

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SHEET 9 OF 15

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NEWS

Jagels Leads Centreville High
From Mountain View to Centreville.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

As the leader of the Wildcats, Dave Jagels is a new face at Centreville High. But he's certainly no stranger to this part of the county, having been an administrator at both Westfield and Mountain View high schools.

He began his career with Fairfax County Public Schools 22 years ago, teaching students with learning disabilities at Fairfax High. He stayed seven years, transferring to Westfield as a special-projects teacher when the school opened in 2000. Jagels was there for more than a decade, also serving as a coach and a club sponsor before spending his last seven years as the school's lead assistant principal.

Then when former Mountain View Principal Jim Oliver retired, Jagels replaced him in March 2011. He was at the helm for almost four years. But when Centreville Principal Martin Grimm left his post in September 2014 to become principal of Hayfield Secondary, Jagels applied for the job at Centreville.

Mountain View's a small, alternative school with no extra-curricular activities. And in explaining why he left, Jagels said, "When you spend the majority of your life in a base-school setting, you miss all those activities and that interaction with the kids."

"Mountain View's an amazing place with phenom
SEE JAGELS, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Principal Dave Jagels in his office at Centreville High.

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- 2/11/2015 HomeLifeStyle
- 2/11/2015 Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
- Valentine's Day is Feb. 14 • Presidents Day is Feb. 16
- 2/18/2015 A+ Camps & Schools
- 2/25/2015 Pet Connection Pullout

MARCH

- 3/4/2015 Wellbeing
- 3/11/2015 HomeLifeStyle Real Estate Pullout
- 3/18/2015 A+ Camps & Schools
- 3/25/2015 Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment
- FCPS Spring Break 3/30-4/3

APRIL

- 4/1/2015 Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout
- Easter Sunday is April 5
- 4/8/2015 HomeLifeStyle
- 4/15/2015 A+ Camps & Schools
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From left: Doug Koelemay, Public-Private Partnerships director; Amy Inman, DRPT; Susan Shaw, VDOT Megaprojects director; Renee Hamilton, VDOT and Young Ho Chang, project manager, answer residents' questions.



Area residents listen to the I-66 improvements presentation.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Residents Hear About I-66 Corridor Plans

Express lanes would be HOV-3 at all times; others would pay tolls.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

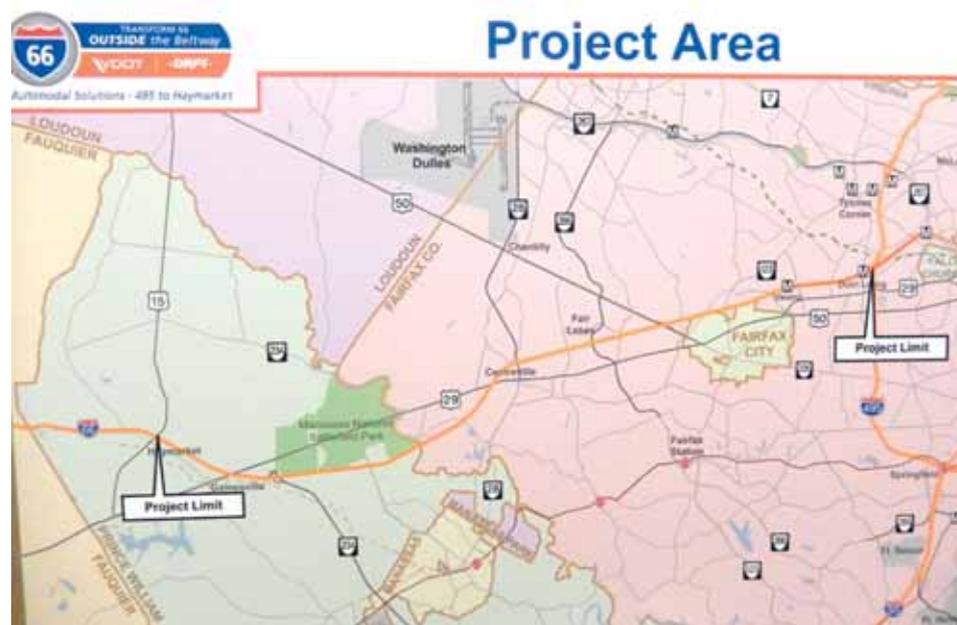
Anyone who's ever driven on I-66 knows how aggravating, irritating and downright unpleasant it can be — rush hour or not. So a slew of ideas are now being proposed to fix it.

VDOT and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) recently held a series of public-information meeting on plans to transform I-66 between U.S. Route 15 in Haymarket and the I-495/Capital Beltway. The preliminary price tag ranges from \$2 billion to \$3 billion, with construction expected to start in 2017.

On Jan. 29, a standing-room-only crowd of more than 300 people attended the meeting at VDOT's Northern Virginia headquarters in Fairfax. They looked at dozens of maps, wrote comments on sticky notes they then placed along the routes, spoke with transportation experts and listened to a presentation.

"I-66 has congestion today and it's expected to grow if we do nothing," said VDOT Deputy District Administrator Renee Hamilton. "And it doesn't have a transit element to accommodate demand. We're reviewing a 25-mile corridor, and the goal is to improve multimodal mobility along the I-66 Corridor from the Beltway to Route 15."

Giving a brief history of the project, she said that after the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Study (EIS) was done, VDOT developed 47 different scenarios and chose the top five that would perform best. "We also wanted to consider tolls as an option, maintain three regular lanes during rush hour



Map of the I-66 Corridor project area.

and study rapid bus service," said Hamilton. "It all needed to be done within a reasonable time frame, and it doesn't preclude Metro from happening [within the I-66 right-of-way] in the future."

Proposed are two express lanes and three regular lanes in each direction. The express lanes would be free to buses and HOV-3 (converted from HOV-2) vehicles. Non-HOV cars would pay tolls with dynamic pricing based on congestion. The regular lanes would be free and open to all traffic. There'd also be ramp-to-ramp connections to help drivers more safely enter and exit I-66.

THE PLAN also includes high-frequency, rapid bus service beyond peak traffic hours for more predictable travel times. And there'd be direct access between the express lanes and new or expanded commuter parking lots.

"We're looking at alternatives similar to I-495 now, with a wall between the express and regular lanes," said Hamilton. "And we're locating access points near key activ-

ity centers or park-and-ride lots. We want to improve the bottleneck between Routes 123 and 50, and we've identified locations for connections between the express and general lanes."

Existing interchanges will be studied, as well as the possibility of replacing or widening I-66 overpasses and bridges, where needed. Bicycle and pedestrian access will also be evaluated. Then, from all the information gathered — including public comments — VDOT will pull the best elements to develop a preferred plan.

"We've done preliminary designs and we're doing traffic assessments and analyses," added Hamilton. "We've collected data on environmental impacts to parks, water, and threatened and endangered species. And we'll also examine noise and air impacts. We'll have a draft EIS in early May and a public hearing on it, the end of May."

Noting that VDOT's "sensitive about impacting people's property, homes and businesses," she said it'll minimize the project's footprint while determining the most effective

To Provide Input

- ❖ Go to transform66.org for maps and further details.
- ❖ Mail written comments to Susan Shaw, VDOT Northern Virginia District, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.
- ❖ Email comments or questions to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov.
- ❖ Reference "I-66 Outside the Beltway Improvements" in the subject line of all correspondence.

and viable solutions for the I-66 Corridor. Between Routes 28 and 50 alone, said Hamilton, there are 108 parcels of land.

THE PROJECT is divided into three sections: From Routes 15 to 28, Routes 28 to 50, and Route 50 to the Beltway. And by this time next year, VDOT plans to hold the proposed-design public hearing.

"Since we're only adding one lane, commuter and rapid bus service will be critical," said Hamilton. "So we're proposing additional park-and-ride lots and a guaranteed speed of at least 45 mph for buses on the express lanes, as well as frequent and all-day bus service."

She said VDOT wants to encourage carpooling and public-transit use, ride-matching services, bicycling, etc. And, said Hamilton, "Our Active Transportation Management system will help us keep traffic moving."

This project is being advanced as a P3, or public-private partnership. The hope is that, when completed, a network of express lanes on I-495, I-95 and I-66 will provide a "seamless and connected HOV and transit system."

"There have been more than 60 briefings to date with key stakeholder groups," said Hamilton. "This is our first opportunity to introduce this to the public, and we'll also contact the impacted homeowners associations." The project Web site is transform66.org, where residents may chat directly with VDOT representatives.

Both the final request for proposals and final EIS should be issued by the end of this year. The contract awarding and funding are

SEE PLANNING, PAGE 5

Not the First or Only Time

Secrecy around police shootings has been a problem for at least a decade.

The official position of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on the need for changes in policy after the shooting of John Geer by police in Springfield in August of 2013 appears to be that this is the first time police policies have been a problem:

"Policies for handling police-involved incidents, which served us well for decades, were inadequate in this complicated situation."

Police-involved shootings have resulted in excruciating obfuscation and delay by Fairfax County Police dating back more than a decade. In this editorial, we refer

to two high-profile cases, but these are not the only cases where police secrecy had caused incalculable pain to families while damaging the credibility of the police and other county officials. And this issue is not limited to Fairfax County. Alexandria and Arlington use similar approaches to limit public access to information.

Most Northern Virginia residents think very highly of their police. We are very safe here. People understand that sometimes mistakes happen, that sometimes force is needed, and that sometimes police will exercise deadly force. What they are unlikely to accept is secrecy that shrouds mistakes, and failure to take responsibility for explaining events of deadly force.

We'll quote the father of David Masters who wrote a letter to the Mount Vernon Gazette (a Connection Newspaper) in June, 2013, two months before John Geer was shot:

"I am the father of David Masters. David was shot to death by a Fairfax County police officer on Nov. 13, 2009 while sitting in his truck at a stop at the intersection of Route 1 and Fort Hunt Road. I don't know any more about the circumstances of this grim fatality now than I did then and now, as then, the records of this tragedy are not available to anyone outside the police department. The officer who shot my

son was ultimately and I must say secretly fired by the then police chief, David Rohrer. But even that was done without any admission of culpability by anyone in the county. ... I don't understand why the Virginia Freedom of Information Act gives blanket exemption to police matters. ... As it is now, the police department can, and seemingly does, operate in a culture of complete autonomy without fear that its actions will be held up to any kind of scrutiny."

The Connection reported in 2006 about the accidental shooting of an unarmed Salvatore J. "Sal" Culosi Jr. during his arrest on gambling charges:

"With red-rimmed eyes and her voice cracking, Anita Culosi expressed outrage Thursday evening [March 30, 2006] that a Fairfax County police officer will not be charged with a crime for accidentally killing her 37-year-old son. 'My son is laying in a cemetery,' she said, surrounded by family members holding framed pictures of her son. 'That man pulled a trigger and shot my son dead.'"

Anita Culosi's son, Salvatore J. "Sal" Culosi Jr., was accidentally shot to death by a Fairfax County SWAT team officer on Jan. 24 outside his Fair Oaks townhouse. He had been under investigation for illegal sports gambling for the previous three months, accepting at least \$28,000 in bets from an undercover Fairfax County detective.

In July, 2012, more than a year before John Geer was shot and killed, a group of citizens identified four cases, including Masters and Culosi, where police secrecy continued to block questions about shooting deaths. Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability characterized "questionable circumstances" around the shootings, noted that no one, including the families of the deceased victims, had been able to obtain a police incident report despite the fact that the four cases are closed.

CCPA Executive Director Nicholas Beltrante sent letters asking for the release of documents, "to find out what happened in the shooting deaths, why deadly force was used instead of a taser gun or beanbag gun, and to find out if police misconduct took place."

Beltrante said: "Our letters will highlight to the public the importance of amending the Virginia FOIA to require the release of police incident reports, and the value of improving police accountability by creating an indepen-

dent police citizen oversight panel made up of Fairfax county citizens Unnecessary use of deadly force by the police, if it is occurring, will undermine the integrity and confidence of the public in our police and our elected officials." The revelations about the shooting of John Geer as a result of a civil lawsuit seriously undermine the credibility of the investigation process.

Aside from the officer who shot Geer, four other officers on the scene told investigators that same day that they were shocked by the shot that killed Geer and thought the shooting was unnecessary. (One officer described his first reaction: "WTF.") There was no weapon in view, although Geer was a gun owner and had a holstered gun nearby. There was no weapon in view, and Geer made great effort to be predictable in his actions, asking permission to scratch his nose, otherwise keeping his hands up on the doorframe.

But a day after the shooting, police released the following update:

"The preliminary investigation indicates that when officers arrived on the scene, they were met by an individual who displayed what appeared to be a weapon in a threatening manner and was subsequently shot."

And last month, before the statements of the other officers were released, the police released this update with the name of the officer:

"Geer was reported as having multiple firearms inside the home, displaying a firearm that he threatened to use against the police, and refused the officers' requests that he remain outside and speak to them. Officers, including a trained negotiator, attempted to peaceably resolve the situation. They spoke with Geer for more than 30 minutes as he stood in the doorway of his home. When Geer began lowering his hands at one point during the negotiations, PFC Adam Torres fired a single shot that struck Geer."

But investigators knew that the negotiator had not seen Geer holding a weapon.

We don't agree with this statement by Bulova: "The Board of Supervisors has taken the steps needed to ensure its policies allow for justice to be fairly and swiftly served."

This is not an isolated case. The Board of Supervisors must demand transparency from the police.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Failing in Their Duties

To the Editor:

I applaud your editorial on the Geer murder ("No Justification for Secrecy, Delay on Geer Shooting," Connection, February 4-10, 2015). The Connection has done yeoman's work in keeping this tragedy in front of the public, unlike other newspapers which are johnnie-come-latelies.

Our chairman and county Board of Su-

pervisors have failed in their duty to oversee the Fairfax County Police Department, except Pat Herry who seems to have spoken out against this scandal early. The "blanket approach" to deny FOIA requests you mention is simply a policy. Policies are guidelines for what should normally be done; they are not a legal requirement and can be changed with a stroke of the pen by the FCPD either on its own or at the direction of the Board of Supervisors.

I hope you will call for the resignation of the chief of FCPD; oppose re-election of the chairman and Board of Supervisors, less Herry;

oppose re-election of our Commonwealth's Attorney; and payment of the \$12M to Geer's estate. The chief has condoned a cover-up and our elected officials have failed in their duties. The \$12M should come from the budget of the FCPD and our Commonwealth's Attorney, and foreclose raising the pay of the chairman and Board of Supervisors based on their inexcusable handling of this affair.

Mike Shumaker
Fairfax





VDOT'S Renee Hamilton explains the project.



Centreville's Ted Trosciancki asks about the I-66/Route 28 Interchange.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Planning Tomorrow's I-66

FROM PAGE 3

slated for December 2016, with construction beginning in 2017 and ending in 2021. "But we can't do it in a vacuum," Hamilton told the crowd. "We need your input and involvement."

"Are we looking at a Mixing Bowl scenario at I-66 and Route 28?" asked Ted Trosciancki of Centreville's Virginia Run community. "And what's the timing of it within this whole project?"

"It's a challenging interchange and a safety hazard," replied Project Manager Young Ho Chang. "In the first phase, E.C. Lawrence Park, Poplar Tree, Braddock and Walney roads will be done separately. But the I-66/Route 28 Interchange will be done as part of the express lanes project."

An Oakton man asked about the Route 123 ramp and if VDOT would "do something about the noise." Chang said they'd provide that information later on, when they have it.

Another person asked about bike trails, and VDOT Megaprojects Director Susan Shaw said, "We're working on them with Fairfax County. We're trying to make room for Metrorail and other things, too."

A Fair Oaks man asked if the rush-hours restricted time on the express lanes would change, and Chang said the "HOV-3 requirement will be 24/7."

REGARDING the funding arrangement, Doug Koelemay, director of Virginia's Office of Public-Private Partnerships, said the P3 would probably last 50 years and the tolls are a crucial part of the project's success. "The express lanes make the rest of the project work because you need revenue streams," he said. "Right now, the private sector may chip in \$1 billion to \$2 billion — at least \$1 billion."

Altogether, he said, this project has four major components — construction, financial, operations and maintenance — and every detail is important. "We expect there'll be four teams that'll submit proposals [to do the work], and we'll pick the best one," said Koelemay. In the past, he said, "We connected tolls to [a road project's] construction cost. This time, it's a toll for a reliable trip. And the private sector takes on responsibility for the operation and maintenance for the life of the project."

"The public sector looks at citizens as voters and taxpayers," continued Koelemay. "The private sector looks at the public as consumers, so it wants to make a project worth their while so they'll keep using it for decades. The private sector has a vested interest in the long-term health and operation of the highways, just as the public does."

Jagels Leads Centreville High

FROM PAGE 2

enal teachers and the ability to have students realize their dreams," he continued. "But I'd heard great things about Centreville High and was excited to be part of this community — and they've welcomed me with open arms."

While at Mountain View, said Jagels, it was gratifying to be able to show students who've struggled for most of their lives that they can be successful with the right support. "And the staff there does a wonderful job connecting with the kids, building relationships and helping them overcome life's obstacles," he said.

So among his achievements at that school, said Jagels, was "making an emphasis on relationship-building paramount. We also did a lot of work with restorative justice and building community in the classroom. Restorative justice is allowing students a voice regarding how things are going within their classroom, and they did this every Tuesday and in each class to build communication."

He also helped foster executive functioning in the building. "A little over three years ago, teachers be-

gan helping the students recognize how to better use their thinking, processing and reasoning skills to become better students and better at life," said Jagels. "Special-ed teacher Tim McElroy is in charge of it there, and it's something the Centreville Pyramid will start eventually."

While noting how much he misses Mountain View's students and staff, Jagels said, "Change is always difficult; but with it come new opportunities." He took over at Centreville on Jan. 5 and describes the school as "fantastic — I'm blown away by the talent of the kids, the support of the community and the terrific teachers in the classrooms. It's a high-functioning school."

So does he plan any changes there? "First, I'm going to listen and learn about the culture at Centreville," said Jagels. "I want to be a positive influence and help to continue the school's success."

His philosophy of leadership is "to be accessible to all the stakeholders in the building and lead by example — I expect a lot from myself. But it's a great school and I'm excited to be here."

ROUNDUPS

Walmart Fire Intentionally Set

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a commercial building fire Wednesday, Feb. 4, at approximately 6:20 p.m. The commercial building, a Walmart, is located at 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center.

Firefighters encountered smoke and a small fire near a clothes display rack upon arrival, however, an employee had quickly extinguished the fire using a store fire extinguisher. The store was evacuated by store management. There were no injuries.

Damage is estimated at \$1,000.

According to fire investigators, the fire was intentionally set.

According to fire investigators, a photo of a potential witness may be forthcoming. If anyone has any information about this event, call Crime Solvers at 703-691-8888.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Feb. 12, from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. No appointment is necessary. But residents should install the child safety seats themselves so technicians may properly inspect and adjust them, as needed.

Because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. That way, inspectors may have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the correct use of the child seat. (The inspection may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather). Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Learn about Police Department

Throughout the year, the Fairfax County Police Department will host a series of lectures as part of its 75th anniversary.

- ❖ Feb. 20 – The FCPD Crime Scene Section, 1 p.m. at the DPSC Meeting Room followed by Crime Scene Facility tour.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/crime-scene-section-lecture-and-tour-tickets-15304580412>

- ❖ March 18 – FCPD Narcotics – Investigations, Trends, and Public Awareness, 1 p.m. at the Sully District community Room

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fcpd-narcotics-investigations-trends-and-public-awareness-tickets-15373711184>

- ❖ April 20 – Public Safety Communications – Call taking, Dispatching, and Technology, 2 p.m. at MPSTOC community room

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/public-safety-communications-call-taking-dispatching-and-technology-tickets-15373766349>

Help Re-stock Food Pantries

Local food pantries need help restocking after the holidays. For many of the local, non-profit pantries this is the time of year when their shelves are minimally stocked. The only collection location within the Sully District will take place on Saturday, Feb. 7 at the Clifton Giant, 5740 Union Mill Road between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Donations collected at this site will benefit the Western Fairfax Christian Ministries

For a list of all donation locations, collection dates and times go to:

<http://fairfaxcounty.gov/living/food/stuffthebus>

Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry needs donations of canned vegetables (except for green beans), canned pasta and pasta sauces, canned tomatoes, canned fruit, peanut butter, canned and dry beans, and granola bars. Also needed are toiletries, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with food stamps. Especially needed are shampoo, diapers sizes 4 and 5, deodorant, toothpaste and toilet paper.

Bring all items to WFCM'S food pantry, weekdays, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at 13888 Metrotech Drive, near Papa John's Pizza and Kumon Learning Center, in Chantilly's Sully Place Shopping Center. A volunteer stocker/bagger is needed Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. Contact Annette Bosley at 703-988-9656, ext. 110, or abosley@wfcma.org.

Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

December, 2014 Top Sales in Chantilly and Centreville



IN DECEMBER 2014, 16 HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$700,000-\$59,000 IN THE CHANTILLY AREA, AND 69 CENTREVILLE HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$1,050,000-\$175,000.

1 5205 Rosalie Ridge Drive, Centreville — \$1,050,000



2 6500 Fawn Hollow Place, Centreville — \$853,000



3 5520 Lavatera Court, Centreville — \$780,000



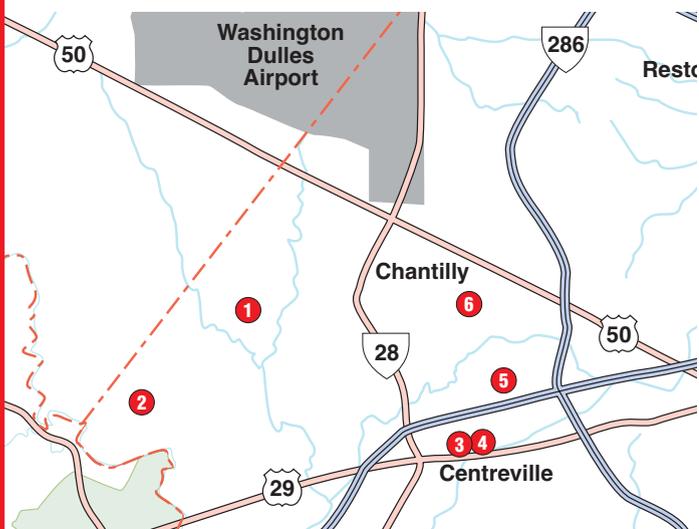
4 13483 Coneflower Court, Centreville — \$750,000



5 4738 Cochran Place, Centreville — \$715,000



6 4316 Hollowstone Court, Chantilly — \$700,000



| Address | BR | FB | HB | Postal City | Sold Price | Type | Lot AC | Postal Code | Subdivision | Date Sold |
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| 4 13483 CONEFLOWER CT | 5 | .. | 1 | CENTREVILLE | \$750,000 | Detached | 0.21 | 20120 | FAIRCREST SOUTH | 12/01/14 |
| 5 4738 COCHRAN PL | 4 | .. | 1 | CENTREVILLE | \$715,000 | Detached | 0.15 | 20120 | FAIRLAKES CROSSNG | 12/09/14 |
| 6 4316 HOLLOWSTONE CT | 5 | .. | 1 | CHANTILLY | \$700,000 | Detached | 0.21 | 20151 | MARIAN WOODS | 12/11/14 |

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MIN AND JIMMY O'BURNS

Reston-based real estate agents Min and Jimmy O'Burns of Long and Foster have been in business together for 15 years. They say one of the keys to their long-lasting business relationship is understanding each other's strengths.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBBIE AND DAMON NICHOLAS

Husband and wife real estate team Debbie and Damon Nicholas met while they were students at the University of Virginia.

Working Together Stay Together

Local couples offer advice about keeping a relationship healthy at home and on the job.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Going into business with one's spouse can bring both joy and challenges. As Valentine's Day approaches, three local husband and wife real estate partners share their experiences and offer advice to other couples.

Min and Jimmy O'Burns of Long and Foster in Reston, have been in business together for 15 years. The two met when they were neighbors with identical condos. They started dating after six months "and have been joined at the hip ever since," according to Min O'Burns.

"I burned out on selling new homes and wanted to join Jimmy," Min O'Burns, who originally worked for a builder, continued. "I had to convince him that I would be an asset rather than a ball and chain. Pretty soon we became what is our motto, 'The power of two.'"

Working as a team allows them to spend a significant amount of time together. "It's not suited for everyone," said Min O'Burns, adding that the nature of real estate makes it ideal for couples, with flexible appointments and the ability to enjoy lunch together. "You both need to be of the same kind of mindset. You have to have the same work ethic and diligence."

Understanding your own personality as well as your spouse's is key to working together successfully as a married couple. "You have to identify each other's strengths and figure out who's good at what," said Min O'Burns. "The two of us together make a pretty good team."

"Jimmy is a strong negotiator and strategist," she continued. "I'm a good writer, I'm organized and I'm good at marketing. I'm also a little bit of a hand holder." "We still enjoy it after all the years we've been in business together. In my mind there is no downside," added Jimmy O'Burns. "We're serious about our business and we think that business should come with a little bit of humor."

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

"You have to identify each other's strengths and figure out who's good at what."

— Min O'Burns of Long and Foster in Reston

Deborah and Lenny Manarin of the Arlington office of McEneaney Associates Inc, Realtors, have been married for 10 years. They met through their work in the real estate business. In fact, Deborah, an Alexandria native, has 25 years of experience and Lenny more than 40.

"We tell clients 'You're paying one commission, but you're getting the experience and knowledge of two people,'" said Deborah Manarin.

She added that one big asset of working with a spouse is a shared knowledge of the industry. "We both understand the business and the stresses of dealing with people 24-7. Each of us is a good sounding board for the other on issues you're dealing with," Deborah Manarin.

Debbie and Damon Nicholas of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Fairfax met as students at the University of Virginia and have been married for 32 years. Debbie was a real estate agent and Damon was a full-time federal employee when they had their first child, who was born with severe disabilities. Two other sons quickly followed.

"We found ourselves going to two to three doctor's appointments per week," said Debbie Nicholas.

After a promotion took away all of Damon Nicholas' flexibility, he switched to real estate full time. The move meant Debbie Nicholas could stay home, Damon could go to doctors' appointments and they could get more involved at school. The couple also developed a Special Olympics program at Willow Springs Elementary School in Fairfax and coached their younger sons in youth leagues.

Working together offers both pleasures and challenges.

"It's difficult and easy at the same time," said Damon Nicholas. "It's difficult to shut off work at times because we have a passion for helping our clients and we love what we do. The good news is that we see each other a lot more than other couples. And we like each other so that's good."

The Nicholas' three sons are now adults. In 2013, their middle son joined their real estate team.

Debbie and Damon Nicholas offer simple advice to other couples considering going into business together. "It's always important to respect your spouse," said Debbie Nicholas. "Above all we want to demonstrate to people that we love each other and respect each other. Working together is not something that you commit to if you can't respect each other in public and in private."

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PHOTO BY WILL PAENCSCAR

Seniors Honored

Eight senior members of the Westfield boys' basketball team were honored prior to their Feb. 3 contest against Herndon. From left: Zach Sheahan, Jacob Thibodeau, Patrick Lawless, Jacob Williams, Manav Sarkaria, Eli Shanks, Michael Scruggs and Cole Brown.

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Stephanie Feedback of Oak Hill has been named to president's honor roll for the fall 2014 semester at Oklahoma City University.

Patrick Kenna of Chantilly, a senior majoring in management, was named to the dean's list of Saint Vincent College (Latrobe, Pa.) for the fall 2014 semester.

Jeremy Carlin was named to Susquehanna University's (Selinsgrove, Pa.) dean's list for the fall 2014 semester. Carlin, a graphic design major, is a 2014 graduate of Chantilly High School, and is the son of Craig and Alice Carlin.

Katherine Ellinger of Chantilly, has been named to the dean's list at Youngstown State University (Youngstown, Ohio) for the fall 2014 semester. Ellinger is majoring in integrated social studies education.

Emily Rosenthal of Oak Hill, has been named to Millersville University of Pennsylvania's dean's list for the fall 2014 semester.

Erica Spero, a senior psychology major from Chantilly, was named to Lycoming College's (Williamsport, Pa.) dean's list for the fall 2014 semester.

Kimberly Edwards, of Herndon, was named to the fall 2014 dean's list at Mary Baldwin College (Staunton, Va.).

John Goins, of Herndon, was inducted into The Citadel's (Charleston, S.C.) Chapter of The National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

The James Madison University Marching Royal Dukes sent 227 members to Italy to participate in the 2014-15 New Year's Day Parade in Rome, including: **Kamille (Kami) Aiello**, of Herndon, a sophomore majoring in psychology who plays in the band's Clarinet section; **Holly Doherty**, of Herndon, a senior majoring in geology who is in the band's logistics crew; **Ryan Trexler**, of Chantilly, a junior majoring in communications who plays in the band's trumpet section; and **Kristin Zimney**, of Herndon, a freshman majoring in SMAD who is in the band's Dukettes.

The following students made the president's list at James Madison University for the fall 2014 semester: **Amanda Ault**, of Herndon, a senior majoring in interdisc. liberal studies - BS; **Katherine Bishop**, of Fairfax, a senior majoring in geographic science - BS; **Joseph Cooper**, of Oak Hill, a senior majoring in media arts and design - BS; **Victoria Dean**, of Oak Hill, a freshman majoring in interdisc liberal studies - BS; **Danielle Early**, of Chantilly, a freshman majoring in interdisc liberal studies - BS; **Samuel Fine**, of Oak Hill, a senior majoring in economics - BBA; **Lukas Foley**, of Chantilly, a freshman majoring in music - BM; **Jacqueline Herrick**, of Herndon, a sophomore majoring in hospitality management - BS; **Niti Jadhav**, of Chantilly, a freshman majoring in management - BBA; **Giuliana Macaluso**, of Herndon, a junior majoring in writing rhet and tech comm - BA; **Julianne Naquin**, of Herndon,

SEE SCHOOL NOTES, PAGE 11

Westfield gymnast Hannah Marker competes on floor during the Conference 5 championship meet on Feb. 5 at Centreville High School. Marker qualified for regionals on beam.



On to Regionals

Westfield, Chantilly, Centreville gymnastics send individuals to regionals.

The Westfield, Chantilly and Centreville gymnastics teams competed in the Conference 5 championship meet on Feb. 5 at Centreville High School.

Robinson repeated as conference champion with a score of 136.55, followed by Herndon (131.925), Oakton (130.225), Westfield (119.75), Chantilly (119.6) and Centreville (90.425).

The top two teams advance to the 6A North region championship meet, scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 11 at Lake Braddock.

Centreville's Lindsay Rogers, Westfield's Hannah Marker, and Chantilly's Elise Mazzone and Sara Laiti each qualified for regionals as an individual.

Rogers tied for third on vault with a score of 9.1. Marker placed second on beam with a score of 8.4. Mazzone tied for third on beam (8.35) and Laiti qualified on bars, placing fifth (8.3).

The top eight individuals in each of the four events, and the top four all-arounds qualify for regionals.

Herndon's Alexa Bradley won the all-around with a score of 36.175, followed by Robinson's Caroline Burda (34.05), Oakton's Natalie Weaver (34) and



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Shelby Knight and the Chantilly gymnastics team finished fifth at the Conference 5 championship meet on Feb. 5.

Robinson's Bailey Young (33.975).

Chantilly's Mazzone tied for fifth (32.65).

Bradley won the floor (9.575), bars (9) and beam (8.5) events. Young won vault (9.2).

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Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and pets in photos. Submission deadline is February 18.

ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

The Airbus IMAX Theater at National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway, is showing movies including "Interstellar", "D-Day: Normandy 1944", "Hubble", "Fighter Pilot" and "Hidden Universe". Visit airandspace.si.edu/udvarhazy or call 703-572-4118 for the movie schedule or to schedule an IMAX On Demand show for groups of 50 or more.

Sully Historic Site. 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Enjoy guided tours of the 1794 home of Northern Virginia's first Congressman, Richard Bland Lee. \$7/adult; \$6/student; \$5/senior and child. Hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 703-437-1794.

Singing. 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires rehearse every Wednesday which includes training by an award-winning director. Visit www.fairfaxjubilaires.org for more.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

2015 Summer Programs. Registration is now open for the following Fairfax County Public Schools summer camps. Students should register for programs based on the grade they are in during the current 2014-15 school year. Visit www.fcps.edu/is/summer/index.shtml for more.

PET ADOPTIONS

Adopt a Dog. Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

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

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 12

Author Event. Noon at the United States Navy Memorial, Naval Heritage Center, Presidents Room, 701 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. Centreville's Alan Rems, author of "South Pacific Cauldron: World War II's Great Forgotten Battlefields," will speak at the "Authors on Deck" book lecture series bringing often overlooked fighting in

World War II's South Pacific Theater to life. Free and open to the public. Call 202-737-2300 or visit navymemorial.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 13-15

Singing Valentines. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires will send a singing quartet of elegantly dressed gents to serenade a loved one at work or at home delivered with two songs, a message from the sender, a long-stemmed rose, and a mini box of candy. \$50 on Friday, Feb. 13 or Sunday, Feb. 15; \$70 on Saturday, Feb. 14. For \$30 a telephone singing Valentine will be delivered anywhere. Visit www.fairfaxjubilaires.org or call 571-418-3840.

Winter One Acts. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. at Westfield Theatre, Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd. Chantilly. \$10 at the door. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com for schedule.

SATURDAY/FEB. 14

It's All About the Birds and the Bees. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Flowers can be so much more than gifts for a Valentine. Find out how they use their shape, fragrance and color to attract the perfect partner for pollination and reproduction. Is it love, biology or both? Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or call 703-968-9600.

SUNDAY/FEB. 15

Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold an N gauge model train show. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free. Information on the museum and shows is at www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY/FEB. 17-18

Auditions. 6:30-9 p.m. at Mountain View High School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. Auditions for The Alliance Theatre's production of "Curtains." It's the brassy, bright, and promising year of 1959. Boston's Colonial Theatre is host to the opening night performance of a new musical. When the leading lady mysteriously dies on stage the entire cast and crew are suspects. Actors must be at least 17 to audition and come prepared to dance in comfortable clothing and shoes. Actors should prepare a 32 bar cut with own accompaniment or a cappella. Sides will be provided. Cold

readings will be done. Call backs Thursday Feb. 19, at 6:30 p.m. Rehearsals begin Feb. 23, 7 p.m. Performance dates are April 24-25, May 1-9. Register at www.thealliancetheatre.org/auditions.html.

SATURDAY/FEB. 21

Boxwood and Flowering Shrubs. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Discover the many new and different varieties of boxwood and discuss flowering shrubs to complement your boxwood. Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or call 703-968-9600.

SUNDAY/FEB. 22

Hands On Modeling Day. 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Learn how to paint and display model trains and scenery for your displays. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

FRIDAY/FEB. 27-MARCH 1

2015 Capital Remodel and Garden Show. Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. More than 375 companies will be on hand to showcase products and services in remodeling, home improvement, gardening, landscaping and home décor. Guests include Jeff Devlin, host of HGTV's I Hate My Bath and DIY's Good, Better ...Best; Chris Lambton, host of DIY's Yard Crashers and Going Yard; and Mike McGrath, WTOP's garden editor. Adults, \$6-\$10; children 6-12, \$3; children 5 and younger, free. Visit www.CapitalRemodelandGarden.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 28

Pruning Made Easy. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Understanding just a few techniques and principles will take pruning from a confusing chore to an enjoyable pastime. Bundle up and get ready to go outside (weather permitting) for a hands-on demonstration. Call 703-968-9600 or visit merrifieldgardencenter.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Grass Roots Initiative. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. The U.S. National Arboretum has studied the love affair that Americans have with their lawns. Call 703-968-9600 or visit merrifieldgardencenter.com.



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Friday, March 6, 2015

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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According to the Lease by and between (3112) Jennifer Johnson and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: furniture, boxes, totes, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday February 20, 2015 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

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but I never walk back.
-Abraham Lincoln

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PHOTO BY WILL PALENSCAR

Bulldogs Defeat Hornets

Westfield junior guard Blake Francis goes up for layup against Herndon on Feb. 3. The Bulldogs defeated the Hornets, 69-44. Three days later, Westfield beat Robinson 75-51 to improve to 19-1. The Bulldogs faced Chantilly on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Conference 5 tournament begins Feb. 13.

SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 8

a senior majoring in interdisc liberal studies - BS; **Melody Pham**, of Herndon, a junior majoring in nursing - BSN; **Paul Reevesman**, of Herndon, a senior majoring in Engineering - BS; **Heather Sasala**, of Oak Hill, a senior majoring in interdisc liberal studies - BS; **Christopher Shuping**, of Chantilly, a senior majoring in accounting - BBA; **Troy Thomas**, of Fairfax, a senior majoring in accounting - BBA; **Jennifer Urban**, of Fairfax, a senior majoring in comm sciences and disorders - BS; **Austin Vassallo**, of Chantilly, a freshman majoring in psychology - BA; and **Amanda Walker**, of Fairfax, a senior majoring in psychology - BA.

Kelsey King, of Oak Hill, achieved dean's list status at Belmont University (Nashville, Tn.) for the fall 2014 semester.

Jordan Dawson, of Oak Hill, was named to the University of New Hampshire dean's list with high honors for the fall 2014 semester.

Thomas Trivett, a Chantilly native, was recognized for his academic achievements at his recent graduation from Universal Technical Institute in Exton, Pa., a provider of post-secondary education for students seeking careers as professional automotive, diesel, collision repair, motorcycle and marine technicians.

Trivett graduated from UTI's Automotive Technology Program with Ford Accelerated Credential Training with a 3.95 GPA and 100 percent attendance. He received five "Student of the Course" awards (earning the highest grade of the course), as well as 13 Directors List Awards and was nominated into the Alpha Beta Kappa Honor Society. Upon graduating, Thomas will begin working at Mercedes Benz of Chantilly.

Robert John Smarrelli, of Oak Hill, a sophomore majoring in electrical engineering was named a presidential scholar for the fall 2014 semester at Clarkson University (Potsdam, NY).

David Salmon was named to the dean's list at Salisbury University (Salisbury, Md.) for the fall 2014 semester.

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The McLean Connection
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SCHOOLS

X-BOTS: Ready for FIRST Tech Challenge State Championship

FTC team 6700, the X-BOTS, a Robotics team of high-school and middle-school Fairfax County Public Schools students, is heading to FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) state championship after winning the Inspire Award at the Northern Virginia Qualifiers held on Dec 13, 2014.

The team consists of seven students from five FCPS schools: Nikhil Chintada and Sidharth Rampally (TJHSST), Satish Venkatesan (Chantilly HS), Ahan Shah & Nandin Padheriya (Fairfax HS), Shreya Menon (Robinson) and Anoushka Chintada (Rocky Run MS).

"This is a great honor. To be recognized as the top team among so many good teams is awesome. We were able to share some amazing experiences through the program that can possibly lead to a brighter future for the world," said Nikhil.

Shreya said, "FTC allowed me to learn CAD Design, and it was a thrill to be a finalist for Design Award. I've been with the FIRST family for four years and have cherished every moment."

"Learning new skills every day, and working with friends makes FTC fun and not work," said Nandin, who also excels in football and swimming. Team X-BOTS holds numerous workshops and demos through the season to help students interested in STEM and FIRST. X-BOTS also seeks to meet



Members of Team X-Bots are (from left): Sidharth Rampally (TJHSST, 9th grade), Satish Venkatesan (Chantilly HS, 10th grade), Nikhil Chintada (TJHSST, 10th grade), (in front) Ahan Shah (Fairfax HS, 10th grade), Anoushka Chintada (7th grade, Rocky Run Middle School), Shreya Menon (9th grade Robinson) and Nandin Padheriya (9th grade, Fairfax HS).

engineers in the community to learn from their real world experience in various fields such as mechanical engineering, CAD, programming as well as sponsors supporting STEM. Besides the community outreach through schools, X-BOTS also donates a portion of funds raised to under-privileged children to promote STEM education.

FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) is a program created by FIRST (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), a not-for-profit organization founded by Dean Kamen, that promotes STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) for students in grades 7-12.

FTC teams get to:

- ❖ Design, build, and program robots
- ❖ Apply real-world math and science concepts
- ❖ Develop problem-solving, organizational, and team-building skills
- ❖ Compete and cooperate in alliances and tournaments
- ❖ Compete for a spot in the World Championship
- ❖ Qualify for over \$13.5 million in college scholarships

This year's FTC challenge is called "Cascade Effect." More details can be found at <http://www3.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/ftc>. Contact team X-BOTS info@xbots.org or visit <http://xbots.org> for more information.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

SUPPORT NEEDED

Annual STEM-H Expo. The six high school academies in Fairfax County Public Schools are seeking sponsors, exhibitors, and presenters for their annual STEM-H (science, technology, engineering, math, and health and medical sciences) Expo, Saturday, Feb. 21, at Chantilly High School. Colleges, businesses, industries, and other organizations that educate for, do business in, or support the STEM-H fields are invited to submit proposals to present STEM-H focused breakout sessions, provide exhibits, and demonstrate STEM-H related business technologies to attract middle and high school students to careers in these fields. Exhibitor registration fees are \$25 for corporate organizations and \$15 for non-profit organizations to help cover event costs. There is no charge for FCPS groups. Contact Cara Kirby at 571-423-4502 or ckkirby@fcps.edu.

THROUGH APRIL 15

Free Tax Preparation. Tuesdays, 4-8:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1-5 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. For taxpayers with low and middle income. All ages, with special attention to seniors. Federal and Virginia tax returns prepared and electronically filed by IRS-certified volunteers. Tax questions can be answered. Bring your photo ID(s), Social Security Card(s), tax documents, and your prior year tax return.