

Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ❖ Fair Lakes

HomeLifeStyle

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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Rocky Road Ahead

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The road signs along the highway to the region's economic future are a bit difficult to read, sometimes pointing positively one way, and at other times seeming to indicate slow downs and hazards ahead, according to speakers and panelists at last week's regional economic conference.

"Mapping New Economic Opportunities" was the title of the 25th annual conference, hosted by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce (NVCC) in partnership with Cardinal Bank, George Mason University, and the Washington Business Journal, that played to a standing room only crowd on Feb. 1 at the Marriott Fairview Park in Falls Church.

Stephen S. Fuller, Ph.D. has been studying, analyzing and reporting on the region's economy for decades. A member of the faculty at George Mason University since 1994, from 2002 until May of 2015 he was the director of GMU's Center for Regional Analysis. After a brief retirement, Fuller is back as the Dwight Schar Faculty Chair and as the director of the university's Stephen S. Fuller Institute.

FULLER'S SESSION was billed as a "Progress Report" on the area's recent economic performance. He started with the "Downsides of Being a Company Town," noting the adverse effects that sequestration has had on the region. From the end of 2011 through 2014, sequestration and the reduction in Federal procurement and contracts has meant a loss of about \$2 billion in government wages and more than \$6 billion less in contract revenues.

Fuller and speaker Terry Clower, Ph.D. Northern Virginia chair and professor of Public Policy at GMU — and Fuller's suc-



Gov. Terry McAuliffe addresses the attendees at the 25th annual Northern Virginia Economic Conference, noting the Commonwealth's advancements in job growth and in certain segments of the state's economy. "We're number 5 in wine production. When I'm done, they'll think Napa is an auto parts store," he told the crowd. The governor also expressed his concerns about the new administration's immigration policies and the negative effects on business in Virginia and elsewhere.

cessor at the Center for Regional Analysis — agree that business in the region has done surprisingly well over the last two years, slowly pulling away from its dependency on the Federal Government. "2015 and 2016 were our third best two years in history," said Fuller, "and that without booming Federal spending."

"Despite all of the campaign rhetoric," the overall trend in job growth has been positive since 2010, with 14 million jobs added since then, and 2.2 million just in the last year," said Clower. It's been a steady, but not "spectacular" climb, according to Clower, but both experts detect potential threats ahead unless addressed promptly.

Clower provided a list of "look out" items. Related to the new administration, the factors that will impact the region — and the

Governor, business leaders and analysts offer insights on regional economy.



Stephen Fuller, former director of George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis, current head of the school's Stephen S. Fuller Institute, and an acknowledged expert on the region's economic history and prospects, delivered a cautionary session to the Northern Virginia Economic Conference attendees.

nation's — economic growth ("positively or negatively remains to be seen") included changes to the corporate tax rate, spending on infrastructure, changes in interest rates, the ratio of spending vs. revenues vs. debt and the potential for the rise of inflation and changes in immigration policy.

Among the speakers, Clower was not in the minority on the subject of immigration. "There is no doubt we need immigrants" particularly in the science, health and technology fields. Clower, Fuller and others among the speakers insist that educated immigrants are vital to the companies that currently employ them, and key to the future viability of the economy. In many industry sectors, "they don't take jobs away," said Clower. "They help create jobs with their work and innovations. And if we can't

attract them, someone else will."

In his remarks, Gov. Terry McAuliffe expressed his concerns that poorly crafted immigration policies can have disastrous effects, noting the recent cancellation of two foreign investor site visits to Virginia that had been in the works for months. "Businesses are afraid to take a chance that the people they need might not be able to get into the country."

While acknowledging the challenges and the uncertainties in navigating economic growth, McAuliffe, Clower, and panelists like Jennifer Aument, general manager, North America, Transurban Inc. and chair of the NVCC, Teresa Carlson, VP, Amazon Web Services Worldwide, S. Tien Wong, CEO, Tech 2000 & Appnetic, and chairman, Lore Systems, and Keynote Speaker Christopher Nassetta, president and CEO of McLean-based Hilton, offered positive comments on doing business in Northern Virginia.

Nassetta spoke about Hilton's decision to move its headquarters from Beverly Hills to McLean in 2009. "It was a major disruption and enormously expensive," but the benefits offered by the region, including a robust hospitality talent pool, lower cost of living, and the Eastern Time Zone that enhance global operations made sense to Hilton executives, and allowed the company to "accelerate cultural change."

THE GOVERNOR gave a high-speed update on achievements in job growth and business recruitment that have taken place during his administration, including the Commonwealth's surge to become the nation's leader in cybersecurity centers and the fact that the Port of Virginia now handles more cargo than any other in the country. He also informed the attendees that

SEE ECONOMY, PAGE 4

A Look Inside Police Diversity Training

Commanders hear speeches on openness, forgiveness, and professionalism.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

West Springfield District Police Commander Cpt. Gervais T. Reed said when police officers leave the profession, some are in good shape, others are bitter. In the course of carrying out their duty to protect and serve citizens, officers can be cursed at, assaulted and have projectiles hurled at them, he said.

That kind of backlash can wear a person down and stress them out, even make them feel victimized, Reed said. "But we have to forgive," he continued, "not take those things personally, to the extent that we can. We've got to be professional."

Heightened professionalism and forgiveness in law enforcement were part of the message delivered by Eric Broyles to a room full of Fairfax County police commanders, leaders from the Sheriff's Office and several other civilian leaders on Feb. 2.

Broyles is a Washington, D.C.-based attorney and co-author of the book "Encounters with Police: A Black Man's Guide to Survival." He said he wrote the book for a group of young men he was mentoring, preaching the concept of "comply now, contest later" in the event of a traffic stop or other interaction with police.

But speaking to the other side of that interaction, Broyles said he wanted to remind officers they "have a higher burden" when



Author and attorney Eric Broyles (right) said he wanted to remind officers they "have a higher burden" when it comes to meeting with citizens. "They're the professionals," he said. "They have to raise the standard. It's socially unacceptable to have officers operate with racial innuendo."

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to have officers operate with racial innu-

SEE INSIDE, PAGE 4

‘Desperate People Do Desperate Things’

Police give advice on burglary prevention.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Police officers come in handy after a criminal has broken into someone’s home and stolen things from inside it. The victim reports the incident and the police take down the information and start investigating.

But it would be even better if the crime had never happened. So toward that end, police from the Sully District Station recently advised residents attending a Citizens Advisory Committee meeting how best to prevent burglaries.

“Most of the time, a burglary is a crime of opportunity and is driven by narcotics addiction,” said Lt. Todd Kinkead, head of the station’s Criminal Investigations Section. “Desperate people do desperate things; they lose their jobs and their homes and then take from someone else.”

He said people need to look out for their neighbors. And to keep out intruders, they should always lock their doors — including the door between the garage and home. That’s important, said Kinkead, because “Once they’re in your garage, they’re in your house.”

“Darkness breeds evil, creating comfort and opportunity for burglars.”

— Tara Gerhard,
Crime Prevention Officer

In addition, he said, “Leave a light on; make it awkward for them to be there. Call us at 703-691-2131 if a neighbor’s not home and something doesn’t look right at their home. Or dial 911 if a crime’s in progress.”

Kinkead said some burglars have stolen as much as \$40,000 worth of items during a single burglary. And often, these things are pawned for quick cash. “Jewelry is an easy target to steal and fence, and it’s not always identifiable by the victim,” he said. “But if it’s electronics with serial numbers, then we have something to go on. Laptops and cell phones especially are hot items for thieves. It’s amazingly easy to resell a stolen iPhone.”

He said some people put everything about themselves on social media. “And that’s a great tool for us [to try to recover it],” said Kinkead. “But don’t overshare your personal information and photos.” Basically, he said, “Ninety percent of burglars don’t want to confront you; they want your stuff.

It’s your home — where you feel safe — so a burglary can be traumatic for you because it’s personal.”

However, he warned residents not to challenge burglars, themselves. “In Virginia, if



Crime Prevention Officer Tara Gerhard gives residents tips on preventing burglaries.

from your purse, come back [later] and burglarize your house.”

Furthermore, she said, “If you see a suspicious person in the neighborhood, call us. And document your belongings. You can etch a personal ID number on your items; and take photos of your valuables, including jewelry.”

Gerhard also warned people not to tell others on social media that they’re going to be away from home for any length of time, such as a business trip or vacation. Doing so advertises that their home will be unoccupied and can be an open invitation to burglars. Posting vacation pictures

while gone can be equally dangerous, for the same reason. So, said Gerhard, “Check your privacy settings. And don’t post your photos until you return.”

And as a general rule of thumb, she said, “Keep any bushes in front of your windows well-trimmed; and thorny bushes are also good. Keep your porch clear and well-lit and have a light over every door. Motion lights are very inexpensive, and lamp posts are also helpful, as are spotlights. Darkness breeds evil, creating comfort and opportunity for burglars.”

Gerhard said timers on room lights and TVs are also helpful because they “mimic that you’re home — and use them all the time. Keep your blinds drawn, if possible. You can even tint your windows so people can’t see inside. And pin your windows so

SEE PREVENTING. PAGE 5

Saffoori Honored as Officer of the Month

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

PFC Ramsy Saffoori has been selected as an Officer of the Month for the Sully District Police Station. He was honored at a recent meeting of the station’s Citizens Advisory Committee.

In nominating Saffoori for the award, Lt. Andrew Wright explained why the young officer deserves this honor. Wright noted that, while working on the station’s midnight A-shift squad, Saffoori initiated a traffic stop of a driver for having defective equipment.

“During his interaction with the driver, Saffoori observed marijuana in plain view,” wrote Wright. “The subsequent search of that vehicle revealed Xanax, hash oil and marijuana, with an additional quarter-pound of marijuana found in a secret compartment in the trunk.” Wright said narcotics detectives then re-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE ALEXANDER
Assistant Station Commander Alan Hanson (left) gives PFC Ramsy Saffoori his Officer of the Month certificate.

sponded and helped interview the subject, who revealed the names of other dealers.

And things didn’t end there. After being assigned to the Sully Neighborhood Patrol Unit (NPU), Saffoori continued working on the case, following up on those names. “Once again, a traffic stop was used to fur-

ther the investigation,” wrote Wright. “This vehicle was also found to contain marijuana, and PFC Saffoori was able to gain cooperation [from] the driver, who then spoke with detectives.”

“During the time that this informant was working with Narcotics, Saffoori maintained contact with the assigned detective,” continued Wright. “After multiple, successful controlled buys were completed with the illegal narcotics distributor, the assigned detective requested that Sully NPU attempt to stop the distributor on his way to the next deal and develop independent, probable cause for an arrest.”

Saffoori and PFC Matthew Bell were able to stop the subject for littering after he threw his cigarette on the ground. Once in close proximity to him, they detected the odor of marijuana from his person and performed a search.

As a result, Saffoori and Bell recovered a quarter-pound of marijuana, cocaine and more than \$1,200 cash from the subject.

The assigned narcotics detective then continued to work with this new informant until he lost contact with him in August 2016.

However, Saffoori followed up on his behalf and was able to reconnect with this person. Doing so enabled the narcotics unit to execute a search warrant which culminated in the recovery of 70 pounds of live marijuana plants, 30 pounds of dried marijuana ready for sale and approximately \$50,000 in cash.

“PFC Saffoori initiated this great police work through a simple traffic stop, and it shows how the patrol officer continues to be the backbone of the [police] department,” wrote Wright. “His perseverance is an example for all officers, [illustrating] the difference they can make for the community through the simple actions which patrol officers perform every day. Saffoori is a dedicated employee and is very deserving of the recognition.”

Gateway to Shopping Center and Seaboard

Supervisors approve Lidl grocery store.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

The German Lidl grocery chain chose Chantilly Crossing Shopping Center to expand its network up and down the eastern United States seaboard. Lidl currently operates nearly 10,000 stores in 26 countries throughout Europe and plans to open as many as 100 U.S. locations.

"This is an undeveloped parcel, it is really the last piece of the Chantilly Crossing Shopping Center, it is the gateway to the shopping center," said Matthew Allman, of Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley & Walsh, who represents Lidl.

"It's important for any new development on this site to do two things really well," Allman said. "One, to be very attractive and offer some amenities to the users and visitors of this site. Two, to be highly functional and coordinated from a logistical standpoint with the surrounding development."

On Tuesday, Jan. 24, The Board of Su-

pervisors approved Lidl U.S. Operations' proposal to build a 30,000-square-foot grocery store and 18,000-square-foot multi-tenant retail building on 5.09 acres on the 73-acre Chantilly Crossing Shopping Center at the intersection of Lee Road and Chantilly Crossing Lane.

"This is a very popular shopping center, we have a Costco and lots of other stores, I know because I use it myself," said Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith. "We have had a lot of discussion about the impact of traffic, people getting to the shopping center, and the applicant has been very responsive to those requests."

Sully's Supervisor said "the thing I most appreciate is the applicant has proffered \$100,000 for a traffic light" at Penrose Place and Lee Road. Sully District Planning Commissioner Karen Keys-Gamarra said Lidl made a commitment to "enhanced pedestrian crossing to the site" and a commitment to the maintenance and beautification of the stormwater management pond.

Joseph Gorney, of Planning Commission staff, also highlighted outdoor seating area, trails and the plan's high quality architecture in his presentation to the Board.

The German Lidl grocery chain has also offered to proffer \$250,000 for athletic

fields and recreational facilities in Chantilly.

Lidl's U.S. operations is headquartered in Arlington.

Changing Scary to Safe

Costco will also help with implementation of a traffic light at Penrose Place and Lee Road.

"I really have to thank the applicant for really looking at the health and welfare of the community in this area and taking the lead to put in the light," said Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith. "I think it will make a great difference."

"It is scary leaving, to turn and make a left turn to Lee Road from Penrose," said Smith, a Costco member.

The Board of Supervisors gave Costco its approval Tuesday, Jan. 24 to add a service station with eight fueling islands — 16 stations — at its 13.39-acre site in the Chantilly Crossing Shopping Center, 14390 Chantilly Crossing Lane.

The gas station will only be available to Costco members; two grades of gas will be available, payable only by Costco credit card

or debit. "It is the number one thing that our members have asked for at Costco," said David Gill, of Maguire Woods.

Chantilly Crossing Shopping Center is on 73 acres south of Route 50, east of Lee Road and west of Route 28. The center was approved by the Board of Supervisors in the summer of 1996.

The center also has two restaurants, two extended-day hotels, a drive-through bank, a Costco retail warehouse, a Target store, two retail buildings with multiple tenants and an additional service station with quick-service food store.

Formal Approval

Chick-fil-A, Inc. will enlarge the existing 2,932-square-foot, 64-seat KFC in Sully Plaza shopping center with a 142-seat, 4,792-square-foot restaurant and two-lane drive through.

"It will be a little bit larger but with this application also come significant site improvements that will help not only help the overall shopping center look better but function better as well," said Sheri Atkin, of Maguire Woods.

The Board of Supervisors approved the application on Tuesday, Jan. 24.

Economy Outlook

FROM PAGE 2

he was about to announce another major corporate relocation. After leaving the conference, the governor announced the upcoming relocation of Nestle, S.A. from Glendale, Calif. to Arlington.

While they agreed that Northern Virginia does have an enviable talent pool in some disciplines, and in general a well-educated population, the speakers and the governor all provided examples of difficulties in finding enough personnel with technology-specific knowledge and expertise.

McAuliffe said Virginia has about 36,000 openings for cyber-related jobs with starting salaries of \$80,000, and 149,000 vacancies in other tech fields. "This is our biggest roadblock. We need internships, externships, on the job training, and curriculums that are realistic."

"A Bachelor's Degree has been called the modern high school diploma," said Clower. To compete as a region, and for individuals to compete in the job market, Clower says there needs to be "continuous personal educational upgrades."

Using a series of statistical charts, Fuller showed the audience just where the growth in the region's economy has been coming from and explained why this

pattern is ultimately not sustainable. Dividing types of jobs into 11 main "clusters," he illustrated that professional and business services, retail, and leisure and hospitality were three of the top four clusters in growth from February 2010 through December 2016. Biomedical and health services was third on the list, but it's the smallest cluster in the region and the numbers don't compare with the other three.

Those three clusters are the most vulnerable to economic pressures in Fuller's estimation, and generally don't pay as well as jobs in clusters like "information services" — an area that has lost ground, in spite of the fact that Northern Virginia has earned a reputation as a cybersecurity hub. "We are basically selling services to ourselves, and that is still the wrong focus." Fuller's research indicates that a failure to refocus job creation direction will lead to compounding money lost to the region totaling an estimated \$177.9 billion by 2025.

"And the longer it takes to get off this slow track, the harder it is to do. Remember, many of our competitors are on that fast track right now," said Fuller. "It's going to take a true regional approach, real regional cooperation and a redoubling of our efforts to get us there."

Inside Police Diversity Training

FROM PAGE 2

endo."

Reed said he had already read Broyles' book, and that him coming to address the police commanders was a noble task. The author's statements about professionalism and forgiveness, Reed said, made the most impact, and are things he intends to take back to his station and share with his first line supervisor and other officers.

The commanders were receiving diversity training as part of a monthly meeting normally off-limits to the public and media.

On this occasion, however, Chief of Police Edwin Roessler wanted to include eyes from the outside as he continues to "re-engineer" the force in terms of communication, transparency and accountability.

Roessler said diversity training is required by the Commonwealth of Virginia to be administered every two years, but at the bare minimum that involves a mere computer course.

"We have to change the culture of policing," Roessler said, "this is about ethical leadership through engaging with the community."

To go above the requirement the day's training included three speakers, of which Broyles was third.

First was Genevieve Fine, board member of the Fairfax County Domestic Violence Prevention Policy and Coordinating Council. Though members of the media weren't able to see any of her presentation, Fine said afterward that she spoke to the commanders about Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender issues, educating them about terminology, how to best approach a situation involving someone from the LGBT community and



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Shirley Ginwright, chair of Fairfax County Communities of Trust Committee, took time with Chief Edwin Roessler following the presentations to sign a memorandum of understanding between the Communities of Trust and Fairfax County Police Department, formalizing the role her organization would play in preventing a social crisis like the one in Ferguson, Mo. following the shooting of Michael Brown in 2014.

ideas for avoiding escalating a potentially violent situation.

Fine said there is some fear among LGBT individuals, especially in young people, of being outed to their parents through an interaction with police.

"You have to be careful how you take care of that case," Fine said.

During a question-and-answer period, Fine said officers asked her about the always controversial issue of transgender people using bathrooms of

SEE DIVERSITY TRAINING, PAGE 11

Preventing Burglaries

FROM PAGE 3

they can only be opened so much. You can also put a product like ShatterGARD on your windows to prevent a baseball bat from breaking them.”

She said people should have a ladder handy in case of fire or for an escape route, but it shouldn't be in plain sight of a burglar. And she noted that break-sensor alarms will warn residents when their doors are opened.

“Solid-core doors are best, especially if you have a safe room in your house,” said Gerhard. “You should have 3-inch, wooden screws in the strike plate of your lock. And put a dial rod [or dowel] in the track of your sliding-glass door.”

She urged residents to “Make sure your door hinges aren't on the outside of your house. And peep holes can give you a panoramic view of what's on the other side of the door.” She also told them about the Ring Video Doorbell that lets people answer their front door from anywhere with their smartphone.

“It's a camera on your doorbell that allows you to have your phone ring when your doorbell rings,” said Gerhard. “Then you can talk to whoever's there. And some doors can only be opened by waving your phone in front of them.” Lastly, she added, “Know who you're giving your key to — and that you can trust them not to make a copy of it and break into your home.”

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FRIDAY/FEB. 17

Scholarship Application. Deadline for Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority scholarship applications. The application is available at www.fcacdst.org/applications.htm. The completed application must be postmarked no later than Feb. 17, 2017.

SUNDAY/FEB. 19

Celebrating 25 Years of Service. 11:02 a.m. in

the recreation and outreach center (Contemporary Worship & Praise with communion every Sunday); 8:15, 9:30 and 11 a.m. (traditional services) at Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road. Guest speaker and former pastor the Rev. Dr. Albert Sikkelee will be preaching. Visit www.centreville-umc.org or call 703-830-2684.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 22

Sully District Community Meeting. 7 p.m. at Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. Agenda includes Transform I-66 — developments inside and outside the beltway. 703-814-7100

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First Amendment Is Alive and Well

BY RONALD GOLDFARB

“Congress shall make no law ... abridging ... the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

Having worked in D.C. and lived in Alexandria since 1961 when I came to work for Robert Kennedy in the Justice Department, I’ve experienced the First Amendment in real time action, by assembling and petitioning my government for redress of grievances.

In 1963 my wife and I stood near the Lincoln Memorial where Martin Luther King, Jr. pleaded to the world for civil rights for all people, and delivered his immortal “I Have a Dream” speech. About 250,000 people — black and white — peacefully gathered in the nation’s capital to plead for President Kennedy to provide 19 million Afro-American descendants the right to vote, travel, and work.

Fears abounded. The D.C. police and FBI were present on the streets. There were altogether over 8,000 guardians of the peace. The federal government and many businesses were closed. Hospitals canceled elective surgery so all beds would be available for riot-related emergencies. Jails were emptied to provide room for predicted arrests. Judges were on around-the-clock standby.

These precautions were not necessary. The assembly was non-violent. People arrived from all over the world and marched with dignity. Many swarmed around the Reflecting Pool in

a field of humanity that ran all the way to the Washington Monument.

On that day we listened to the greatest orator of his time pleading for racial justice, claiming that the time had come “to lift our nation from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood,” calling for “the fierce urgency of now,” then urged on by Mahalia Jackson, departed from his prepared text and segued into his immortal plea, “I have a dream,” that reverberates still in the hearts and minds of all decent people.

The New York Times called the event “the most impressive assembly for a redress of grievances in America’s history.” The Washington Post reported that the assembly was a happy combination of prayer meeting, picnic, and political rally, a crowd “united in a sense of brotherhood and common humanity.” The next year, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed.

COMMENTARY

Unfortunately, many of the social injustices deplored on that summer day in Washington, D.C., have not yet been overcome. But Aug. 28, 1963, was a seminal moment in American history. It demonstrated the power and dignity of democracy in action.

In 1971, the scene was more fractious when my wife and I joined Vietnam War protests on the streets of Washington D.C., a gathering which was rougher and more proactive than the 1963 event. We were gassed, with many others, near Dupont Circle by police overreacting to the noisy protests. Eventually the public demonstrations worked. The war was ended, too late, but it might not have ended when it did without these public pro-

tests. Critics of the war hastened the end of it, and resulted in a president leaving politics.

❖ ❖ ❖

In 1986, my wife, daughter and two human rights activist friends, the late Pat Derian and Rose Styron and their daughters marched on a sunny day near Congress in a sea of women who came from across the country to support the ERA. But this time their pleas were not successful in terms of reaching the goal that gave rise to that march. But peace prevailed and eventually the goals they asserted then have been advanced in major ways.

❖ ❖ ❖

On Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017, an estimated half million Americans filled the streets of Washington, as did huge crowds in other cities in America and around the world to claim rights they felt were disparaged by the Trump campaign and election. The Saturday crowds far surpassed Friday’s relatively insignificant inaugural crowds. President Trump now argues about the relative size of his crowds — those applauding his election, and those crying out against it.

My children who attended here in D.C. and other locations reported a cheering good spirit, upbeat communal behavior, welcoming friendly law enforcement officials, filled bleachers, and an upbeat camaraderie.

Now what remains after people returned to their homes away from Washington, D.C. is the question: how does this experience change the future? Will the energy become harnessed into a movement that changes politics? We all ponder that question, bravo to the people who are trying.



Dale Terrier of Fairfax spends some time with Cleo a Pit Mix at the PetSmart in Fair Lakes.



Aaron and Mary Shivar of Fairfax with their newly adopted 18-week-old Shepherd Mix Bud.



Danielle Clark of Vienna holds her new Shepherd Hound mix, 18-week-old Ben.

Valentine Special

Lost Dog & Cat Rescue holds weekly pet adoptions in Fair Lakes and the Northern Virginia area. On Saturday, Feb. 4, at the PetSmart at 12971 Fair Lakes Parkway, seven dogs were adopted by local families, including 18-week-old Ben, a Shepherd Hound mix, and Bud another Shepherd Hound mix and

the brother of Ben. Danielle Clark, of Vienna, held Ben while her mother filled out the adoption papers. Mary and Aaron Shivar of Fairfax took home Bud. A \$14 adoption fee for selected cats and dogs is being offered by Lost Dog and Cat Rescue until Feb. 14. See www.lostdogrescue.org.



Leo is a 2-year-old Terrier Blend looking for a new home. More information on Leo can be found at <http://lostdogrescue.org/leo-2/>

PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR

SPORTS



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR

Two of the area's best players wear #44: Chantilly's Mary Clougherty and Oakton's Delaney Connolly.

Chantilly's Grace Rauch #15 goes between two Oakton defenders to avoid a block. More sports, page 12.

Oakton Girls Defeat Chantilly

The Chantilly and Oakton girls' varsity basketball teams battled each other for first place in the conference on Feb. 3 with Oakton triumphant 53-51.

Oakton would open the 1st quarter with an early 14-11 advantage.

In the 2nd quarter the Chargers would outscore the Cougars 10-7, to knot things up at halftime at 21.

Although the Cougars would allow 16 points in the 3rd quarter they would score 20 points to take a 41-37 advantage going into the 4th quarter.

The 4th quarter saw the Chargers score 14 and hold the home team Cougars to 12, but any chance of a Charger upset was extinguished by the Cougar trio of Delaney Connolly, Maddie Royle and Kaitlyn Fee. The trio combined to score 45 of Oakton's 53 points, led by Connolly's 19 points.

With the 53-51 win, Oakton improved to (19-2) (7-2) and will host Centreville in their regular season finale on Feb. 7.

Chantilly falls to (15-4) (6-3). The Chargers were led by Mary Clougherty's 27.



Chantilly's Claire Roberts #12 drives the ball against Oakton's Cameron Plater #23.

Hannah Reeves added 9 points and Claire Roberts added 7. Chantilly will play at Westfield on Feb. 7 in their finale.

— WILL PALENSCAR



Celebrating our 50th Anniversary

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

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

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

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

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.

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.

English Conversation Group. Selected Saturdays, 3 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-830-2223 for a list of dates.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Lego Block Party. Every other Tuesday, 3 p.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.

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

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.

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

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.

Over-40 Softball League. A Fairfax-based league is looking for enough players to form another team. Players must be at least 40 years of age to be eligible. All games are doubleheaders -played on Sundays at Bready Park in Herndon between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. If interested, email skeduman@aol.com for more.

PET ADOPTIONS

Adopt a Cat or Dog. Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. 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 aforeverhome.org for more.

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 9

Trummer's Le Grand Amour. 5 p.m. at Trummer's on Main, 7134 Main St. in Clifton. The fireplace-lit Loft dining room transforms into the Le Grand Amour, an all-dessert tasting menu pop-up filled with confections created by pastry chef Meagan Tighe and an abundance of Valentine's Day decor. \$33. Call 703-266-1623.

FEB. 9-12

"You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." Various times at the Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road. Theatre Centreville brings the Peanuts comic strip to the stage. \$12. Visit theatrecentreville.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Growing Orchids. 10 a.m. at Fair Oaks Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway. With Jonathan Kavalier, horticulturist and orchid enthusiast, to learn how to select a the proper conditions and the care techniques to make orchids flourish. Call 703-560-6222 for more.

Ping Pong Tournament. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road. Get Fit Clifton Presents the 3rd Annual Clifton Betterment Association Ping Pong Tournament. Email Lynne Strang at

lbstrang@gmail.com for more.

African American Walking Tour. 11:30 a.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road. Historian Alli Hartley will lead tour through over 200 years of African-American history in Fairfax County. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence/ or call 703-631-0013.

Virginia National Ballet. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10960 George Mason Circle. Bohemian Rhapsody to the music of Queen and La Boheme with the Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra. \$37 adult, \$17 children under 12. Visit www.gainesvilleballetcompany.org or call 703-753-5005 for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 12

Valentine Rose Design Workshop. 2-4 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway. Rose Foundation hosts award-winning floral designer, Lea Shuba, to share design principles and tips for hand-tied rose bouquets. Bring a medium tall vase and pruners. \$15 for non-members. Call or 703-371-9351 or email arfinformation@aol.com.

Tea, Cookies and Poetry. 3-4 p.m. at the Machen Farm at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road. A costumed interpreter will share a Walney mystery love poem before participants write poems, drink mint tea and eat sugar cookies. \$8. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

SATURDAY/FEB. 18

Mind Body and Spirit Open House. 5-7 p.m. at WheelHouse Mind Body and Spirit, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton. Refreshments and open house specials. Call 703-401-2627.

SUNDAY/FEB. 19

African American Walking Tour. 2 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road. Historian Alli Hartley will lead tour through over 200 years of African-American history in Fairfax County. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence/ or call 703-631-0013.

MONDAY/FEB. 20

Centreville Garden Club. 7 p.m. at the Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. "Designing with the Elements" presentation by landscape designer, Margaret Miley. Visit centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com, email centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com or call 703-830-3271.

BEGINNING FEB. 22


Art at the Library. 7-8:30 p.m. and continuing every fourth Wednesday each month at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Practice for beginners to expert artists. February theme: Sketching. Bring sketchbook and drawing materials. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/ or call 703-830-2223 to register.

FRIDAY/FEB. 24

Hot Dogs Over the Campfire. 5:30-7 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road. Enjoy a wagon ride through the Rocky Run stream valley and a hot dog dinner cooked over the campfire. Learn who Ellanor C. Lawrence was and hear about the area's local history. Hot dogs, buns, condiments and s'mores for dessert are provided, bring drinks and sides. \$10, and children must be accompanied by an adult registered for the program. Meet at Cabell's Mill. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence for more.

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HomeLifeStyle

Fireplace as Focal Point

A hearth is in demand for cold weather.

BY JOHN BYRD

“Fireplaces have never fallen out of favor,” said David Foster, president of Foster Remodeling Solutions. “We may be seeing a preference for gas over a traditional wood-burner, but the hearth itself is hugely popular — with homeowners continually seeking distinctions in style, building materials and, even, where it will be located.”

Foster says he’s currently working on several home remodeling projects that feature a fireplace as an interior focal point.

“A fireplace offers aesthetic and functional benefits at one price,” he said, “so it’s an attractive option.”

Fireplace-desire can also be a spur to creative thinking that stimulates a more engaging and original remodeling project.

Case in point, the new formal dining room created for Burke homeowners Dennis Perzanowski and Jack Ellison. The goal: convert a three season-room into a year-around dining room complete with a gas-fueled hearth on one elevation.

“We were looking for a mix of old and new styles,” said Perzanowski. “We wanted to feature a traditional dining room set with

sideboards, but there are modern touches such an industrial-style chandelier.”

In this context, a gas fireplace with an brushed steel frame was a perfect offset. Mounted on the east wall elevation and with an oil painting just above, the stacked geometrical shapes lend balance and symmetry to an otherwise blank wall between two floor-to-ceiling windows.

Chris Arnold, a Foster partner who managed the project, knew there would be challenges in adding a hearth in a somewhat restricted available space, but with a little research found a 42” x 38” gas insert that perfectly suits the spot allocated for an eye-catching focal point.

“This is something of a formal dining room,” Arnold notes, “yet the fireplace design is so understated it’s visually compatible the rest of the décor.”

RAISE THE ROOF

Meanwhile, not far away, the interior design solution to a Vienna great room also depended on profiling a new hearth.

Ted and Wanda Rogers had asked had Foster to renovate the circa-1960’s ranch they had occupied for 30 years.

The remodeler added more than 1,000



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Burke homeowners Dennis Perzanowski and Jack Ellison were looking for a mix of old and new styles in a porch conversion that is now their new dining room. A 42” x 38” gas insert with brushed steel frame suits the wall space between two floor-to-ceiling windows.

square feet of additional living space. But the question that generated really serious discussion was how best to introduce a new hearth.

Wanda Rogers wanted to eliminate the original builder-grade brick-facing fireplace, which was situated in the middle of the house and too drafty and cold.

Ted Rogers agreed in principal, but was attracted to a gas-fueled fireplace alternative, which offers considerable heating efficiencies.

As all soon learned, the existing 8-ft ceil-

ing to the Rogers home was too low to yield much design benefit. That’s when Foster proposed re-working the entire mid-house interior by opening sightlines out and up.

To implement changes that now called for connecting the new kitchen to a front-facing family room, the remodeler replaced an obstructive bearing wall with concealed structural supports.

Giving sightlines free-reign, likewise, meant removing the living room ceiling and

SEE FIREPLACE, PAGE 11

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Completely Off Topic

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



That topic not being cancer. The topic being candy, or rather the disappearance of candy, from my hiding place at home. The reason I'm even discussing/divulging this publicly is that I've been forced by circumstances beyond my control to already involve my wife, Dina, in the disappearance of said topic: my post-holiday purchase of 75-percent-off-the-regular-price of snack-size type candy, typically available the day after a holiday.

Before I proceed, let me provide a bit of context for some of you irregular readers: I love chocolate. I don't just have a sweet tooth, I have sweet teeth. However, given certain realities/habits in my life, I almost always (unless times/circumstances are desperate) only buy these delicacies when the items are on sale and even more so when the items are both on sale and I have coupons. Now add into that mix an extra \$5 off a \$15 purchase — or a percentage off \$20 or \$30 store-specific coupon, and I'm spending pennies (almost literally) on the dollar. On these occasions — and Rebecca, you should probably stop reading — I load up. ('Load up' for a typical person might mean months. For yours truly, honestly, it means weeks, sometimes even days.)

Now when I bring this much volume into the house, my wife, Dina, need not know anything about it. Generally, I will stash the non-cash in places where I'll doubt she'll look (and I'm not saying the oven; that's an old Henny Youngman joke), and when I do indulge, it won't be in her presence, nor will there be any sign that I've unwrapped anything.

One of my hiding places, which will now be changed, was downstairs in our cellar in a top drawer of an old bureau I use for collecting miscellaneous bank statements, credit card bills, insurance forms, etc., and for years, my candy and previously unmentioned consumables. On the particular day in question — a day now seared into my memory — as I am habitually wont to do, I went to my downstairs drawer to replenish my upstairs drawer (in yet another hiding place) and was shocked and awed to find my two remaining bags of Kisses and Rolos empty, both gutted like a fish, ripped along their sides with nary a wrapper to be seen, 40-50 bite-size pieces gone.

My first reaction was of course to accuse my wife. Doing so however, would have exposed my secret: I buy candy and hide it (although, she probably knows it, and since I'm not exactly losing any weight ...). But what other cause/culprit could be behind such a dastardly deed? A break-in? No. A ghost who loves chocolate? (We do live in a 250-year-old house.) Mice? Squirrels? It's possible. There are some animal-friendly access points under our foundation. And even though the bureau is flush up against a retaining wall/crawl space for critters, I did notice that the bureau drawer was open an inch or two. Barely enough access. Otherwise, there is no entry. But if critters were responsible, where are all the wrappers and/or feces or any other evidence of their transgression? There weren't any. If the candy was indeed pilfered, it was "The Great Escape" of candy heists. Forced with this dilemma and daring-do, I was forced to confront my wife with these facts and ask if she in fact was responsible. She denied everything and blamed either a ghost or an animal. She was surprised, or so she claimed, at where I had hid the candy, not that I hid candy, so we weren't breaking any new ground, but apparently, my secret had been safe.

It's been a few weeks since this non-insurance loss, and there's been no sign or evidence to indicate what happened to my chocolate. My wife seems to have forgotten the incident. As for me, I bought a 3.4-pound container of Kirkland-brand chocolate-covered raisins from Costco so my inventory is back where I want it to be. I just wish my Kisses and Rolos were back as well.

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

The Grems decide on a formal and traditional look for the fireplace in the family room. The half-brick floor-to-ceiling backwall was replaced by symmetrical built-ins, crown molding and an elevated hearth with a marble surround and an Edwardian-style mantle.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Fireplace as Focal Point

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shelling-in previously concealed roofing rafters.

An ascending vertical accent was now introduced: a floor-to-ceiling hearth constructed of dry stacked Ledgesstones.

The new hearth is designed for a gas-fueled insert equipped with blowers and remote control. Vents draw air in from the outside. The couple can adjust a thermostat for the desired temperature. This is a useful since, at full speed, the unit can generate 55,000 BTUs of heat — enough to keep the entire great room toasty and warm even during the dead of winter.

Foster's architect proposed a wood-trimmed ledge above the fireplace, a simple motif that draws the eye upwards to the accent-lighted vaulted ceiling.

As a housewarming gesture, Foster fashioned a rustic mantle from the rough-sawn oak previously deployed in the rafters of the original structure. It's a little keepsake of the old place.

Though higher interior ceilings, theoretically, make a room harder to heat, the remodeler re-insulated the ceiling and installed an eco-slate roofing, dramatically improving the thermal efficiency of the entire residence.

The new fireplace is flanked by arches: a recess for shelving and cabinetry on the left; a sympathetically curvilinear entry to the new master suite on the right.

"The effect in all directions is exciting," Wanda Rogers said. "Looking in from the

kitchen, the room opens out and up; it feels really warm."

The new vaulted wall expanse also doubles as display space for her private art collection, which is now illuminated by tract lights.

FAMILY-GATHERING PLACE

In nearby McLean, a Foster client was looking for a floorplan re-configuration that would include a front-facing family-gathering niche — with a window wall and a fireplace.

"We all saw the aesthetic opportunity," Foster said. "There would be larger windows on all sides. But also a new front-facing family room — with an 11' cathedral ceiling dominated by an extensive window wall, and an appropriately post-modern hearth as the central interior focal point."

The window wall would help to contextualize a more symmetrical front elevation — one defined by a processional entrance way with double French glass doors and sidelights.

Taken as a whole, however, the floor plan is functionally a "great room" formed by clever variances in room width and ceiling height differentiated as clearly identified "use" spaces.

"The slightly narrower width confers a degree of intimacy on the family room that suits its purpose," Foster observes. "The hearth, in particular, really defines this."

The stainless steel hearth features gas burner elements embedded in river rock and functions as both a heat source and an or-

namental focal point.

Flanked by open "cubbies" with glass display shelves, cherry wood cabinetry, and a wine rack abutting a wine refrigerator, the "built-ins" define a functionally separate family entertainment zone that includes a wide-screen plasma TV mounted above the fireplace.

A more congenial spot for holiday entertaining is hard to imagine.

FROM BRICK TO ELEVATED HEARTH

Ed and Kelly Grems of Vienna have worked with Foster on a number of projects over a decade, but held off on upgrading the family room because the family's design process was gestating slowly.

"We're particular; we let the look come to us piece by piece," Kelly Grems said.

One notable piece, was deciding on a formal and traditional look for the fireplace in the family room.

In the end, FRS designers created interior elevations that bear no resemblance to the excess of brick that came with the original circa-1990s house.

The earlier half-brick floor-to-ceiling backwall was replaced by symmetrical built-ins, crown molding and an elevated hearth with a marble surround and an Edwardian-style mantle.

"It's an entirely different mood from the sun room," Grems said, "and perfectly satisfies another dimension of our lifestyle."

Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offers workshops on home remodeling topics. For Information call: 703-550-1371, or www.fosterremodeling.com

John Byrd (byrdmatx@gmail.com) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.

Diversity Training

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the sex with which they identify.

"If they're called to a bathroom," Fine said, "it's likely there's something else going on," and not transgender people causing the problem. Most just want to get in and get out as quickly as possible, she said.

Second to speak was Shirley Ginwright, who until January was president of the Fairfax County NAACP. She addressed the commanders, however, as chairman of the Fairfax County Communities of Trust Committee. Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova created the committee in 2015 "to advance

collaboration, partnerships and outreach between public safety agencies and the communities they serve," according to the county's website.

Ginwright emphasized that in Fairfax County, police and communities are building on existing trust, not starting from square one.

But she also wanted to remind the commanders what the Communities of Trust can offer, what they're doing and what they're planning on doing.

"We have a lot of volunteers," Ginwright said, "and resources they haven't tapped into."

Ginwright took time with Roessler following the presentations to sign a memoran-

dum of understanding between the Communities of Trust and Fairfax County Police Department, formalizing the role her organization would play in preventing a social crisis like the one in Ferguson, Mo. following the shooting of Michael Brown in 2014.

Ginwright said the chief of police would contact the communities of trust committee in case of such an event, who would then communicate immediately with an array of community leaders to help organize citizens and maintain peace and order.

Roessler said this type of action is already part of his personal crisis protocol, but the memorandum established a standard to which future chiefs and committee chairs shall commit as well.

A Loss in Second Overtime

The Chantilly Chargers Boys Varsity basketball team traveled to Oakton to take on the Oakton Cougars on Feb. 3. The first 8 minutes saw Chantilly jump out to a 12-9 advantage.

Oakton would narrow the lead to 1, after outscoring Chantilly 18-16 in the 2nd quarter.

With the Chargers up 28-27 to start the 3rd quarter both teams struggled offensively. Chantilly would outscore the home team Cougars 8-6 taking a 37-33 heading into the 4th.

In the 4th quarter Chantilly would be held to just seven points while Oakton would add 10 forcing overtime. Jacob Posz's shot with time expiring forced OT.

In overtime Chantilly and Oakton remained knotted up after the additional 5 minutes and a 2nd overtime was needed to decide the outcome.

In the 2nd OT Oakton outlasted the Chargers scoring 13 and holding the Chargers to 5 points.

With the 64-56 win, Oakton improves to (13-7) (2-6), and Chantilly falls to (14-7) (6-3). Oakton will play their regular season final on Feb. 8, when they travel to Centreville. Chantilly will host Westfield. Both games will be at 7:30 p.m. Oakton was led by Braeden Johnson's 24 points and Jacob Posz's 14. Chantilly was led by Christian Parana's 13, Brett Caslavka's 12. Daniel Carmichael and Kendall McHugh added 11 and 10.

— WILL PALENSCAR



Chantilly's Kendall Mchugh #12 pulls up for a short jump shot.

PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR



Chantilly's Brett Caslavka #10 scored 12 points in a loss at Oakton on Feb. 3.



Marcus Mack #1 is defended by Jordan Hairston #12.

PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR



Taevon Chapman Greene guards Bryce Douglas.

Right to the End

Coming into their game with Centreville, many looking at Westfield's record of (3-13) would not realize how close many of their losses were. Six games were lost by 5 points or less. For Coach Doug Ewell and his team, seven of which played on last year's Virginia 6A State Championship team, they remain very competitive. Ewell realizes that there are still games on the table to be played and expects the efforts of each of his players to play like a championship team.

Fast forward to Jan. 31, the second meeting with crosstown rival Centreville this season. It was Senior night at Westfield. The 1st quarter did not start as anticipated for the Bulldogs. Westfield would be outscored 19-7.

In the 2nd quarter facing a double digit deficit, Westfield was able to cut into the Centreville lead, outscoring the Wildcats 13-9, but still down 28-20 at halftime.

In the 3rd quarter Centreville edged Westfield scoring 17, while Westfield scored 16.

In the 4th quarter Westfield eventually took their first lead of the game. DJ Gregory's drive to the paint gave Westfield a 51-50 lead with just 4.4 seconds to play. On the ensuing inbound Talon Murray passed the ball to Caleb Emeogo, who then passed the ball to a crossing Tyler Lohman. Lohman's jump shot from just inside the top of the key sailed through and Centreville escaped



Tyler Lohman #35 of Centreville is defended by Sean Eckert #2 of Westfield.

with a 52-51 victory.

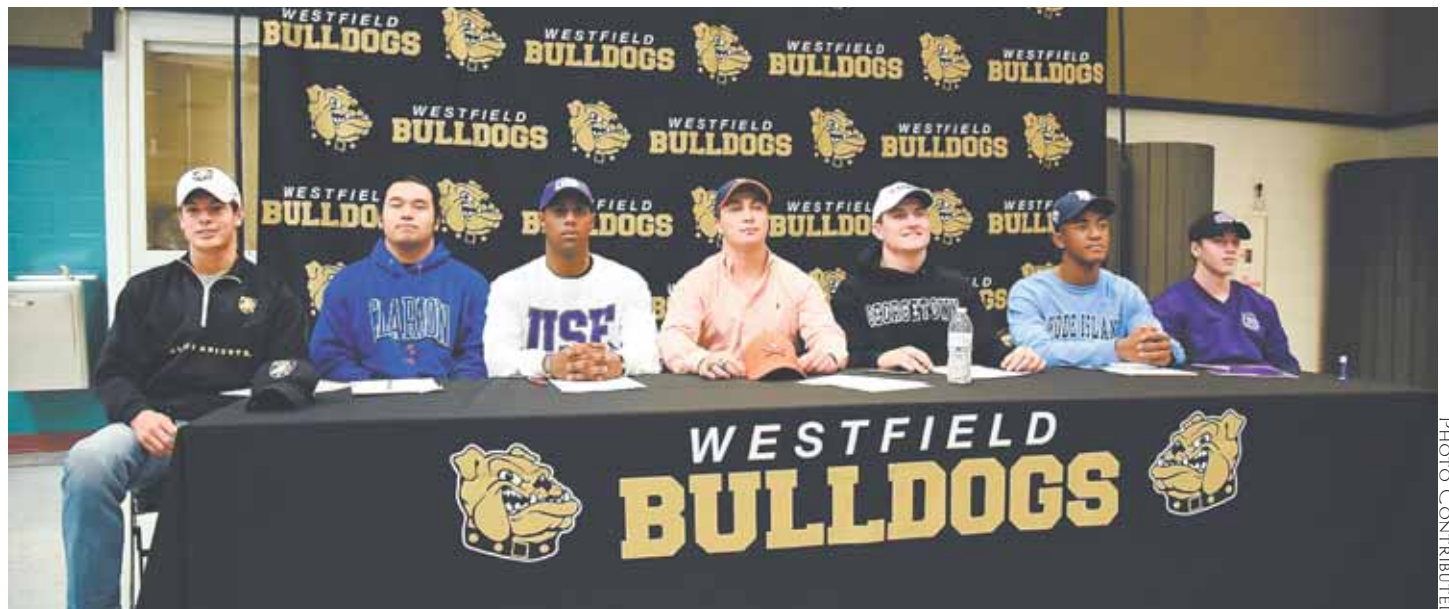
With the win Centreville improved to (13-7)(6-2) and Westfield falls to (3-14)(2-6). Centreville was led by Tyler Lohman's 18 points and Marcus Mack's 17. Westfield was led by DJ Gregory's 14 and Jordan Hairston's 12.

— WILL PALENSCAR

Signing Day

Westfield High School Football, which groomed NFL players like Eddie Royal, Mike Glennon and Evan Royster, is getting ready to send its largest group of players ever on to the next level. On Feb. 1, National Signing Day for college football, seven of Westfield's graduating seniors signed their National Letters of Intent and made commitments to their respective D1 and D2 college programs. While it is expected that at least several other players from this Back-to-Back State Championship team will receive and accept offers to D2 and D3 schools in the next few months, the athletes below made their official commitments on Feb. 1. Westfield Football is led by Head Coach Kyle Simmons.

- ❖ **Brian Delaney**, University of Virginia, Punter/Kicker
- ❖ **Sean Eckert**, US Military Academy at West Point, Wide receiver
- ❖ **Zach Jewell**, Georgetown, Defensive End
- ❖ **Ivory Frimpong**, University of Rhode Island, Wide Receiver
- ❖ **Rehman R Johnson**, University of Sioux Falls, Quarterback
- ❖ **Joey Free**, University of Sioux Falls, Defensive Back
- ❖ **Edward John Quitugua**, Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Offensive Lineman.



From left are Sean Eckert, Edward Quitugua, Rehman Johnson, Brian Delaney, Zach Jewell, Ivory Frimpong, and Joey Free.

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