

Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes

WELLBEING

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'We Have Much To Learn from History'

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Wearing period dress for the remembrance ceremony at Ox Hill Battlefield Park are (from left) John Myers, Mario Lucero, Debbie and Mark Whinton, Drew Pallo, Patrick Sullivan and Jon Vrana.



New Water Facility Planned for Chantilly

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Architect Greg Lukmire with a map of the proposed site plan.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

The site layout of the new water-maintenance facility in Chantilly.

New Water Facility Planned for Chantilly

It's slated to be built on Willard Road.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax Water wants to build a new, water-maintenance facility at 14925 Willard Road in Chantilly. It would replace the existing one in the Sullyfield Business Park.

On Sept. 18, the Fairfax County Planning Commission approved the proposed facility's compatibility with its new location and with the county's Comprehensive Plan. It also recommended approval of the required, special-exception permit when the matter goes to the Board of Supervisors on Oct. 15.

First, though, the issue went before a joint meeting of the Sully District Council and West Fairfax County Citizens Assn. (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee. There, details about the proposal were revealed.

"This facility will be for maintenance of our water-distribution network in western Fairfax County, and we've been working on this plan with county staff," said

TRACY GOLDBERG with Fairfax Water. "In 2015, we began looking at our water-distribution needs, shortly after we acquired the City of Fairfax water system."

She said Fairfax Water acquired the proposed Chantilly site in 2017. "The facility will have six vehicle-maintenance bays and outdoor pipe storage," said Goldberg. "We've reached out to all the adjacent property owners and have heard no concerns from them." Steve Gleason, a planner with Gordon & Associates engineering firm, said it's a 10.8-acre, wooded site zoned for industrial use. "Access and frontage are on Willard Road, near the Bowl America site," he said. "There are three existing entrances, but we'll just use two of them. There's also



A detailed look at the water facility's site plan.

about 60 feet of grade change on the site."

The proposal shows 30 percent – 3.8 acres – of open space, which is twice what's required. And the building would be nearly 70,000 square feet, with 65 spaces in front for staff parking, plus some visitor parking for contractors. There would also be parking for fleet vehicles – some of which would be under a canopy.

The building would be multipurpose, with a warehouse and loading dock, administrative offices and a vehicle-repair/maintenance area. Storage of materials such as sand, salt, mulch and gravel would be outdoors, as would be a fuel island and vehicle-washing area.

"There's a sidewalk on one side and an 8-foot trail on the side closest to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," said Gleason. "The sidewalk would become a 10-foot-wide, asphalt, shared-use trail. There'll be a secure, perimeter fence around the entire site, but a more aesthetically pleas-

ing metal fence at the entrance on Willard. And there's a 50-foot, undisturbed area and a buffer between us and the church. Regarding stormwater management, there's an existing dry pond – and this, and other uses in that area, drain into it."

Architect Greg Lukmire said the warehouse portion of the one-story building would be some 35,000 square feet. The rest of the space would be used for vehicle maintenance, shop storage and incidentals.

"The building would be in the middle of the site and is designed to be upscale and blend in with its surroundings," he said. "It will be brick, with metal roofing, and landscaping in the front. And from the road and shared-use path, it would be set back and look like a brick building, so we think it'll fit in quite well with the area."

WFCCA'S Chris Terpak-Malm asked if the facility would be constructed in phases, but Lukmire said they'd prefer to do it all at once. Gleason said the site-plan process

should take until summer 2020. And, added Lukmire, "We hope to start construction in 2021 and be completed in 2022. Construction cost is an estimated \$32 million to \$35 million." "To me, you need to add more trees," said Terpak-Malm. "We're having problems with erosion, and this runoff goes into Cub Run – which goes into the Occoquan – which is our drinking-water supply." But Gleason said they believe the pond will be adequate to deal with it.

PANEL MEMBER Jay Johnston also suggested making the 65-space parking area a pervious surface, instead of impervious. "We're committed to making this a LEED or equivalent project, so that's one of our options," replied Lukmire. "We're also discussing having charging stations for electric vehicles."

Terpak-Malm asked what their peak vehicle times are, and Lukmire said workdays there would be from 6 a.m.-3 p.m., but there would be vehicle trips throughout the day. Terpak-Malm then cautioned the proponents to "just be aware of the [nearby Westfield] high-school schedule."

At-Large Planning Commissioner Jim Hart asked if they needed to put something underneath the piles of materials so wouldn't leech into the water system. Gleason replied that "The water will be conveyed into a pipe and into a special, hydrodynamic separator that removes some of the pollutants before they reach the pond."

Panel member Jeff Parnes asked if slow-moving traffic making a right turn from Stonecroft Boulevard onto Willard would have an adverse effect on traffic. Lukmire replied that county staff hasn't asked for a turning lane there, but that, ultimately, that decision is up to VDOT.

Parnes then told the applicants that the land-use committees had no objections or concerns about the project. But, he added, "If county staff does, then we'll ask you to come back again to address them."



The Ancient Order of Hibernians Color Guard.



Laying a wreath at the generals' markers are (from left) Dawn Roddy and Mary Concannon.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

'We Have Much to Learn from History'

Remembrance ceremony at Ox Hill Battlefield Park.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

The Battle of Ox Hill/Chantilly, on Sept. 1, 1862, was the only major Civil War battle fought in Fairfax County. It happened during a torrential rainstorm and, by the end, it took the lives of two, key Union generals and killed or wounded more than 1,500 soldiers.

Years later, the county preserved almost 5 acres of the 500-acre battlefield, creating Ox Hill Battlefield Park at the corner of West Ox Road and Monument Drive in Fair Lakes. And on Sept. 1, area residents and historians gathered there to commemorate the historic battle on its 157th anniversary.

"We ask Your blessing upon those who fell here," said the Rev. Robert Ruskamp during his invocation. "And let us continue the fight for freedom for all Americans."

The ceremony also included a description of the battle, the laying of a wreath at the Ox Hill monuments, presentation of the Colors, and Fairfax High band member Siobhan Murray playing "Taps" on the bugle. The event sponsors were the Ancient Order of Hibernians (Father William Corby Division), the Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT) and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum.

The battle took place on farmland and in woods on both sides of what's now West Ox Road between Route 50 and Fair Lakes Parkway, and between Fair Oaks Mall and the Fairfax County Parkway. It's sometimes called the Battle of Chantilly because the Northern army named battles after the nearest towns and the Southern army named them after prominent, geographic points.



Greg Wilson

THE FIGHTING was triggered by Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's attempt to outflank the retreating Union army. "Both Confederate and Union forces were moving east to Jermantown, just west of the Fairfax Courthouse," said Blake Myers, with the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. "The race was on to determine which force would first reach and gain control of the ridgeline at Ox Hill and the key crossroads at Jermantown."

En route, he said, "Union divisions commanded by Brigadier General Isaac Stevens and Major General Philip Kearny clashed with Stonewall Jackson's Confederate forces near Ox Hill. Some said the lightning flashes and continuous thunder drowned out the sounds of the battle."

Dry ammunition became soaked, and the soldiers eventually had to use their bayonets and musket clubs. The conflict lasted some two hours, ending as a stalemate, but both Stevens and Kearny were killed.

Ox Hill marked the end of the Second Manassas Campaign. Afterward, the Union Army retreated to fortifications around Washington, while the Confederates headed



Keynote speaker Ed Wenzel



Blake Myers

north and crossed the Potomac River into Maryland.

"From the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, a different war was waged to save and preserve this land," said Myers. "This park formally opened, Sept. 1, 2008, and its preservation was the impetus for the preservation of other Civil War battlefields."

Greg Wilson, with the Fairfax County History Commission, noted that his great-great-grandfather, Jonathan Roberts, was a scout for the Union Army and Fairfax County's sheriff when the battle was fought. Roberts also met Kearny a year before his death here. "We have much to learn from our common history – especially the local, regional and national conflicts that eventually erupted into the American Civil War," said Wilson. "In his message to Congress, Dec. 1, 1862 – exactly three months after the battle here – President Lincoln reminded us, 'We cannot escape history. The fiery trial through which we pass will light us, in honor or dishonor, down to the latest generation.'"

Wilson also said a Battle of Ox Hill/



Playing "Taps" is Fairfax High's Siobhan Murray.

SEE HISTORY, PAGE 8

No More Stonewalling on Gun Safety Legislation

To the Editor:
We have seen too many mass-shootings in America. Statistics show that compared to other high-income nations, the United States' gun-related murder rate is 25 times higher and accidental gun deaths is six times higher. Polls indicate a majority of Americans favor strong background checks and banning assault-style weapons.

And we have seen how Republicans in Virginia continue to stonewall gun safety issues, most recently when the Republican majority voted as a block to adjourn without debate the special assembly of the Virginia

General Assembly called to act on a series of gun safety bills.

We need representatives in the Virginia General Assembly who

are willing to pass gun safety legislation supported by the majority of its citizens. Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) has a track record of working on such legislation and sponsored bills such as preventing domestic abusers from obtaining or keeping guns. She also founded the Gun Violence Prevention Caucus. She supports enhanced background checks and closing the gun

show loophole, banning bump stocks and semi-automatic firearms with high capacity magazines. Her opponent in this year's election is currently silent on gun safety legislation. The citizens of Virginia deserve more than silence and stonewalling on a topic of such importance.

Jocelyn Brittin
McLean

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Virginia Is the Roadmap to Win in 2020

To the Editor:
The Washington Post's Sept. 15 article, It's on: VA. Voters flip switch for 'off-off-year' elections, well captured the enthusiasm among Democrats in this year's Virginia election. But the article overlooked how Democrats in this state have approached campaigning and governing since 2016 which will positively influence this year's races. Virginia will provide a roadmap for current Presidential candidates and other states to win in 2020.

Beyond turn-out and hatred for Donald Trump, Virginia Democrats have worked with Republicans and other progressives on issues important to voters and rallied to support candidates who won their primaries. In 2017, Tom Perriello lost the primary for the Governor but still pledged to elect Ralph Northam.

One of Northam's first accomplishments as governor was to

work with Republicans to expand Medicaid, which has enrolled 300,000 low-income Virginians. On gun safety, practical solutions moved forward by Del. Kathleen Murphy when in 2016 she helped pass a law, which prohibits people under a permanent protective order from possessing a firearm. Murphy accomplished this in a Republican-controlled legislature and didn't resort to dirty tactics such as when Republicans abruptly cut short a special session to pass gun legislation to quash debate.

Virginia Democrats are not perfect but bipartisan work and the party's cohesiveness helped them win big in 2018 despite gerrymandered districts. Let us hope other candidates learn valuable lessons from Virginia's election this November.

Kristin Battista-Fraze
McLean

Misrepresenting Plans For Boundary Changes

To the Editor:
Superintendent Dr. Brabrand of Fairfax County Public Schools issued a surprise message last week in response to growing outcry in the county about his and the School Board's efforts to redraw boundaries and implement forced busing. His message was positioned as an effort to clarify "misinformation". The problem is he failed to mention the central role of the radical One Fairfax policy in his plan to upend school pyramids.

Why did Dr. Brabrand fail to mention One Fairfax when he has consistently praised and promoted the radical policy in the past? One Fairfax has become toxic in the community as citizens learn more about the extreme and unnecessary disruption it requires. Citizens don't want our school pyramids and neighborhoods carved up, ripped apart and

reassembled to achieve Dr. Brabrand and the Board's ideal socioeconomic and/or racial composition of students.


The need to reconsider school boundaries is understandable since Fairfax county has experienced rapid growth and change over the years.

We all know overcrowding is a serious concern and boundary adjustments should be part of the discussion.

However, Dr. Brabrand and the Board's push to implement a social engineering experiment at the behest of outside special interests doesn't benefit taxpayers, homeowners or our children.

A change in leadership is desperately needed on the School Board to ensure accountability and to protect our most valuable assets.

Jeff Norris
Vienna



Public Meetings

2019 Fall Transportation Meetings

You are invited to participate in public meetings held by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. The meetings will begin with a brief open house followed by a public comment period. At the open house you can learn about various transportation initiatives, including:

- Adjustments to Virginia's project prioritization process (SMART SCALE)
- Virginia's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
- VTrans Draft Mid-term Transportation Needs (Virginia's Statewide Transportation Plan)
- Adjustments to the Highway Safety Improvement Program.

Representatives of the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) and Departments of Transportation and Rail and Public Transportation will be in attendance to highlight their transportation programs and discuss your ideas and concerns about Virginia's transportation network. The open house will be followed by a public comment period, during which you may provide comments about the various initiatives. Comments will be accepted at the meeting and may also be submitted via email or online at www.CTB.Virginia.gov.

Meeting Dates and Locations
Open House begins at 4 p.m. in each of the locations unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, October 15, 2019* Richmond District Richmond Marriott Short Pump 4240 Dominion Boulevard Glen Allen, VA 23060 *This meeting will also provide opportunity for comment on the I-95 Corridor Study Plan	Tuesday, October 22, 2019** Northern Virginia District Northern Virginia District Office Potomac Conference Room 4975 Alliance Drive Fairfax, VA 22030 **meeting begins at 6 p.m.	Monday, October 28, 2019*** Staunton District Doubletree Hotel Harrisonburg 1400 E. Market Street Harrisonburg, VA 22801 ***meeting begins at 3 p.m.
Wednesday, October 30, 2019 Salem District Holiday Inn Valley View 3315 Ordway Drive Roanoke, VA 24017	Monday, November 4, 2019 Lynchburg District Lynchburg District Complex Ramey Memorial Auditorium 4303 Campbell Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24501	Wednesday, November 6, 2019 Hampton Roads District Hampton Roads District Office 7511 Burbage Drive Suffolk, VA 23435
Thursday, November 7, 2019 Bristol District Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center One Partnership Circle Abingdon, VA 24210	Tuesday, November 12, 2019** Fredericksburg District James Monroe High School 2300 Washington Avenue Fredericksburg, VA 22401 **meeting begins at 6 p.m.	Wednesday, November 13, 2019 Culpeper District VDOT Culpeper District Office 1601 Orange Road Culpeper, VA 22701

Fall meeting materials will be available at <http://www.ctb.virginia.gov/planning/fallmeetings/> beginning October 15, 2019.

You may submit comments on any transportation projects and initiatives to OIPI Deputy Director Ronique Day, 1221 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219 or PublicComments@OIPI.Virginia.gov. **Comments will be accepted until November 30, 2019.**

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

WELLBEING

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FLORENCE MURRIAN



During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, survivors like Florence Murrian and mental health professionals share insight on offering support.



Breast cancer survivors Florence Murrian gets together with friends to volunteer for a supplies drive.

Supporting Friends and Loved Ones with Breast Cancer

Choosing words and actions that don't cause additional pain or anxiety.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Florence Murrian was diagnosed with stage two breast cancer last December, the treatment recommended by her oncologist was a lumpectomy and radiation. In an attempt to help, Murrian's sister urged her to seek multiple medical opinions and insisted she ask for a more aggressive treatment. Murrian, 54, felt overwhelmed by the barrage of advice.

"It was the friends who just listened to me as I sometimes rambled on and on that gave me comfort," she said. "There were times when I didn't want to talk about it or cry about it. I needed to feel normal and sometimes was in denial. What I didn't want is someone asking me why I wasn't acting a certain way."

When a close friend of loved one is diagnosed with breast cancer, the reaction can range from aggressive advice giving as in Murrian's case to excessive questioning to learning every detail. During October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, some survivors and mental health professionals share insight on offering support.

"Sometimes I had conversations with friends that made me feel worse that I already felt," said Murrian who lives in Arlington. "I was so overwhelmed that I didn't want advice and I didn't want to have to cheer up my friends."

Conversations designed to convey concern can go awry. "I recommend avoiding invalidating comments

like, 'Everything happens for a reason.' or forecasting comments such as 'Everything will be fine,'" said Joanne Bagshaw, PhD, Professor of Psychology at Montgomery College.

Though it is natural to be concerned and want specific details about a loved one's condition, sometimes the best words are no words at all, says Professor of Psychology at George Mason University. "There may be times to mostly listen and other times to joke around," said Short. "Plan to continue enjoyable activities together, but confirm whether your loved one wants to get together."

Avoid non-specific offers to help, says Short. "I recommend taking the perspective of your friend and loved one and imagining what she might like to hear," he said. "You should express empathy and support ... prepare small meals or snacks to share. Offer to help with household tasks, errands, or caring for family members or pets."

For those who are unsure, considering your loved the best source of information about her needs is more effective than making assumptions, suggests Bagshaw. "I do recommend asking how you can be of support," said she said. "One can simply say, 'Just let me know how I can help.'"

"It is good to be encouraging, but realistic," added Short. "Follow cues from your friend or loved one on how to interact."

Listening, validating and inquiring about her overall wellbeing can be more comforting than offering opinions or sharing stories about other women who've been diagnosed with breast cancer. "Everyone's situation and diagnosis is different," said Bagshaw.

"Avoid advice and assumptions unless you are asked for your opinion," added Short. "Some examples [of things] to say are, 'I am sorry that this happened to you. I want you to know that I care about you. How are you doing? I want to help'"

"Everyone's situation and diagnosis is different."

— Joanne Bagshaw, PhD, Professor of Psychology at Montgomery College

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SPORTS



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION

Alex Richards #15 crosses the goal line for a 62 yard touchdown reception.

Westfield Improves to 4-0

Bulldogs beat Stonewall Jackson, 23-7.

Stonewall Jackson and Westfield had met the previous two seasons during the regular season with each going to the Bulldogs 21-0 in 2017, 31-13 in 2018. This year both teams came into this game undefeated. Westfield came in beating previously unbeaten Lake Braddock in a thriller 40-34. In the first quarter the hometown Bulldogs used Noah Kim's leadership and a Virginia Tech signee to sneak in from 1 yard out. The PAT was unsuccessful and the Bulldogs were atop early 6-0.

In the 2nd quarter Bulldog wide receiver Alex Richards took a Noah Kim pass 62 yards for a touchdown. The PAT was successful by James Williams and Westfield now led 13-0, with 11:48 to play in the half. Later in the quarter the Red Raiders would get on the board after Elijah Reese secured a pass in the end zone between two Westfield defenders. The lead was now 13-7.

Noah Kim would rush in for his second touchdown with 2:36 to play in the 3rd quarter. Williams was again successful on the PAT giving Westfield a 20-7 lead with just over a quarter to play.

Later in the 4th quarter James Williams would add a 22 yard field goal with 7:46 to play and that would



Noah Kim #10 rushes in for the first of his two touchdowns.

be the final margin of 23-7.

Westfield improves to 4-0 and will play at WT Woodson (3-1). Stonewall Jackson falls to (3-1) and will host John Champe (3-1)

—WILL PALENSCAR



The dance team shows Westfield school spirit.

ROUNDUPS

Midday Stoppages Planned on I-66 and Route 28 in Centreville for About Two Months

Traffic stoppages of up to 15 minutes are planned in both directions of I-66 between Route 29 in Centreville and Stringfellow Road, and in both directions of Route 28 between Braddock Road and I-66 between the hours of 11 a.m. and noon on weekdays, starting Tuesday, Oct. 1 and continuing for approximately the next two months. These closures are needed to accommodate small charge blasting operations. Crews are blasting to break up rock along the outside shoulders of I-66 between Route 29 in Centreville and Route 28 where highway widening will occur for the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project. Residents and drivers in the area may hear loud noises and should expect travel delays. Prior to the blasting each day, police will pace traffic on I-66 and Route 28 to a slow roll to stop traffic. The ramp from Route 29 in Centreville to I-66 East will be blocked as part of the stoppages. All work is weather dependent and will be rescheduled if inclement conditions occur. The work is part of the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project, which is scheduled to be completed in December 2022. Sign up at Transform66.org for regular email updates on traffic impacts due to construction activities on the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project. On Twitter, follow VDOT Northern Virginia at @VaDOTNOVA.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY/NOW THRU OCT. 23

Community Emergency Response Team Training. 7-11 p.m. at the Fire and Rescue Academy, 4600 West Ox Road, Fairfax. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program trains county residents in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. Emphasis on hands-on skill development and Fairfax County protocols and procedures. Instructor will provide syllabus with class schedule at first session. This training does not require any special physical strength or agility. Visit volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/#/opp_details/184991 to register.

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

Mental Health and Wellness Conference. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fairfax High School. The morning will focus on social and emotional learning, with a keynote address given by Dr. Marc Brackett, founding director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. A special session for high school students, the Our Minds Matter Teen Summit, will take place in the morning as well. Attendees are encouraged to stay for Inova's Act on Addiction Summit, which will be held from 12:30-4 p.m. Breakout sessions, exhibit tables, and resources will be available to all attendees throughout the day. Lunch will be provided. Visit www.fcps.edu/resources/student-safety-and-wellness/mental-health-and-resiliency/mental-health-and-wellness to register.

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When Compounding isn't a Good Thing



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Dealing with a cancer diagnosis is one thing, and certainly a big thing, but I'm much better dealing with it when the 50 million other things we all have to deal with are not having to be dealt with (ending a sentence with a preposition notwithstanding) at the same time. And not that I'm the least bit unique in having all these other tasks and concerns or even the most bit interesting in that I have them. Hardly. They are simply the elements that sometimes make living more of a job and less of an adventure. That being said, when I am uncluttered by these mundane responsibilities and am able to focus on the things I want to do rather than the things I have to do, I am so much more able to fend off the inevitable demons that haunt any of us diagnosed with a serious/in my case "terminal," disease.

The last month was, and still is, such a month. It all started with my application for a reverse mortgage. After the first company I engaged gave up, I met another, local company who so far has exhibited the wherewithal to get the application approved. However, the structural integrity problem you regular readers know about has impeded the progress I was hoping to have made by now. Not knowing yet the estimate to right this wrong, I am twisting in a bit of an ill wind, and I assure you, it is not improving my demeanor.

Yes, "Medicare is in The House," but as of September 27, it's sort of a house divided. Because even though its effective date was September 1st, I've not received an invoice. And since I haven't paid for any new coverage, am I still supposed to cancel my old, in-force "Obama Care?" Moreover, if I don't know exactly what I have, am I supposed to buy a Medicare Supplement for coverage I don't know for sure even exists? I mean, it's not as if my medical welfare/financial future depends on it. So yes, I'm even more worried, and obviously confused.

If the unresolved reverse mortgage and health insurance situations weren't sufficient enough to stress over, consider my concern for the "Diabetic Duo," our two cats with diabetes. Other than the real possibility that either, if not both, of these cats will die on our watch, the expense of sustaining their lives is past adding up. Items include insulin, syringes, prescription wet food, prescription dry food, two sizes of pee pads (because the liter box has less interest to them or they can't quite see it) and since they're eating and drinking constantly, we're buying more liter than ever before, and vet bills: diabetic boarding when we've been away for a weekend or two and glucose monitoring every week to 10 days to check their sugar level, all times two. Can you say credit card?

Two other extremely mundane tasks have also fallen on me during this time line. Both involving the M.V.A., never an easy process: emissions inspection and a driver's license renewal. Again, not Herculean tasks, but in the middle of all this other stuff. The issue? More money and possibly more hassle to resolve their respective 'issues:' possibly replacing a catalytic converter in the 29 year-old Honda Accord, which has happened previously under identical circumstances, and renewing one's driver's license, which now comes with a host of never-before identification/security requirements which if I don't have/can't prove, present another slew of potential entanglements. And of course, the eye test. I don't wear glasses. What if I fail the test and they tell me I need glasses. Then I have to see my way through that morass, and delay resolving another task.

And just to complicate matters, I am waiting for results from my bi-monthly CT scan and my wife, Dina, is waiting for results from a scan she recently completed. Though neither one of us is the least bit symptomatic, we are hardly dealing in absolutes here. Absolutely though, I will say, I am thrilled to finally check a few boxes. Once I check the rest, I'll be back to abnormal and then I can plan for the future rather than plod through the present.

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

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

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

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

THURSDAY/OCT. 3

Think Pink Fundraiser. 6-9 p.m. At Centreville High School Field Hockey Field, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The Centreville Field Hockey Teams hosts a Think Pink Fundraiser in conjunction with the JV and Varsity Games against Westfield High School at 6:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. All monies raised will benefit the Play 4 The Cure National Foundation for Cancer Research. Free. Donations for Play 4 The Cure are appreciated. Visit <http://www.nfcr.org/p4tc/>.

FRIDAY/OCT. 4

OLGC Golf Classic. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. at Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. Join Vienna's Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church for a fun-filled day with contests, food and drink, and company to share it with. Register by Sept. 23. \$200. Visit www.olgcva.org/fellowship/golf-classic or call 703-896-7425.

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

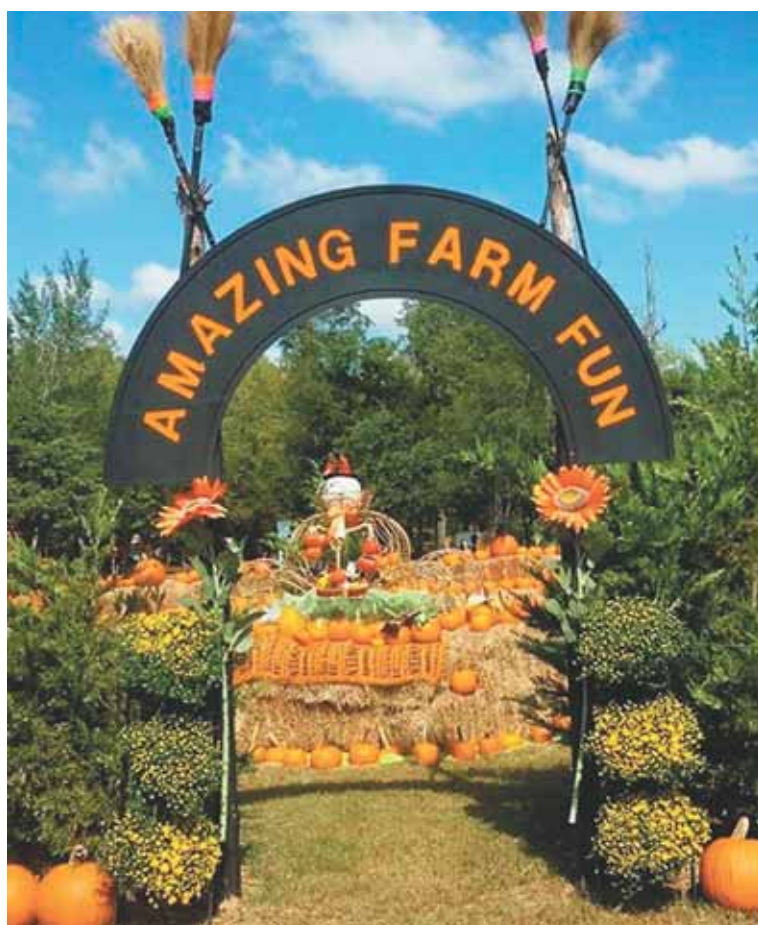
3rd annual DC-Metro Modern Home Tour. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. in areas including Arlington, Fairfax, and Great Falls. The DC-Metro Modern Home Tour, a self-guided event, provides a day of local sight-seeing and open-house-style visits for lovers of architecture, design, real estate, and anyone on the hunt for ideas and inspiration. \$20-\$50. Visit www.dcmetromodernhometour.com for tickets.

MONDAY/OCT. 7

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

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

Walk Like MADD 5K Dash/ Bark Like MADD. 9 a.m.-noon at



Fall Pumpkin Festival

Enjoy the changing of the leaves and the cool crisp air in the great outdoors at our Fall Pumpkin Festival. Sept. 21-Nov. 3, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Ticonderoga Farms, 26469 Ticonderoga Road, Chantilly. \$11-\$18. Visit www.ticonderoga.com.

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

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 12-13

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

SUNDAY/OCT. 13

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

ONGOING

Fitness for 50+. Daytime hours, Monday-Friday at Sully Senior Center, 14426 Albemarle Point Place, Chantilly. Jazzercise Lite, Zumba Gold, Hot Hula Fitness (dancing Polynesian style), Strength Training,

Qi Gong, Tai Chi and more. Membership is \$48 a year, and waivers are available. Email lynnelott@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-322-4475 for more.

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

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

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

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

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

LIBRARY FUN

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



Jon Vrana playing the mandolin.

BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Preserving History

FROM PAGE 3

Chantilly app is being developed, with the Bull Run Civil War Round Table leading the fundraising. It will enable people to have a virtual, real-time experience of the battle to appreciate and understand its full impact. After he spoke, a wreath was placed at Stevens's and Kearny's monuments in memory of all the soldiers, Union and Confederate, who fell during this battle.

The keynote speaker was Bull Run Civil War Round Table member Ed Wenzel, who gave a detailed description of the battle. When it ended, he said, the Union soldiers withdrew to the Fairfax-Centreville road, leaving the battlefield to the Rebels. The Union left behind 150-250 severely wounded men at a home which served as their field hospital. That site today is near the county's Fire Training Academy on West Ox Road. For more information on the Battle of Ox Hill, see "Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County," Part I, pages 320-394, published by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table.

Myers then read from the poem, "The Blue and the Gray," by Francis Miles Finch. "First published in 1867, it was written to honor the widespread grief and mourning experienced throughout the North and South in the years immediately preceding and following the war's end," said Myers. "This poem was published widely and – by acknowledging the mutual suffering and sacrifices on both sides – it served as a stepping-stone to a reunified nation."

He also noted that Ox Hill Battlefield Park is a continual work in progress. "It must be preserved, updated and continually maintained to ensure that it provides a welcoming setting in which to learn of, and

better understand, the history associated with the battle," explained Myers. "The park's master plan recognizes that, while Generals Kearny and Stevens have long been memorialized, the common soldiers who fought and who fell during the battle have not been so recognized. So, he said, the plan reserves historically oriented sites for two, yet-to-be-installed monuments commemorating those soldiers – a Union "Chantilly" monument and a Confederate "Ox Hill" monument. They've already been produced, have the same design and are inscribed with the respective military units that fought on this battlefield, plus a stanza from the poem, "The Blue and the Gray."

Myers said these monuments – historically oriented along the interpretive trail, together with the Kearny and Stevens monuments – "will help make Ox Hill a fully interpreted battlefield park and a premier county destination for all who are interested in Civil War history and Fairfax County history."

MARK RODDY, president of the Father William Corby Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, gave the closing remarks. He said it's important to commemorate this battle because, among the things it represents is "the failure of our American ancestors to peacefully resolve their significant, cultural and political differences some 160 or so years ago." Therefore, said Roddy, "Given the increasingly polarized opinions and attitudes we see and hear today, we must continue to conduct – and reflect upon – commemorations like this." Otherwise, he said, like philosopher George Santayana warned, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."