Update on Middle Ridge Traffic-calming Initiative

by Steven Smith

Middle Ridge Drive is the main north-south road on the east side of Greenbriar, with almost 100 homes along it between Melville Lane and Route 50. The number of drivers who roar up and down at well above the speed limit is a serious — indeed, dangerous — problem. This article will provide proof, in the form of both data and anecdotal evidence, of this and describe the solution proposed by the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT).

A shorter version of this article appeared last year in the Greenbriar Flyer. I know that what you’re about to read is quite long, but I wanted to get all of the details in one place for you to be able to refer to, since this is going to require the support of the community.

I am so glad that I moved with my family to Greenbriar a couple of years ago, but I soon noticed how many speeders there were on Middle Ridge Drive. I live on Middle Ridge, about a dozen houses north of Greenbriar East Elementary School. It turns out that other residents shared my concerns and, in fact, they had requested that FCDOT conduct a traffic study using recording sensors on the road. During 24 hours on a typical weekday, 3,231 cars traveled on Middle Ridge. Eighty percent of them were speeding — that is, going faster than 25 mph. Of those, 166 of them were driving 47 mph or faster!

If you don’t live on Middle Ridge, imagine having dozens of legally speaking, reckless drivers going past your house every day. The FCDOT representative said it was one of the worst combinations of volume and speed he’d ever seen on a road with a 25 mph speed limit!

Those are the cold, hard numbers. As for experiences involving these drivers, first, it makes living on Middle Ridge less pleasant than it could be. The noise of vehicles going 45 mph just 30 feet from our living rooms is awful. More importantly, it’s dangerous to have drivers going that fast on a street not designed for it. Several parked cars have been hit in the last couple of years, and some residents can tell about cars ending up on their lawns. A few houses north of me, the road begins a gentle curve, and it’s amazing to see all the brake lights go on every morning as drivers slam on their brakes when they get to the curve to make sure they stay on the road.

But, as many of you have experienced first-hand, these speeders don’t just endanger Middle Ridge residents. Law-abiding drivers know what it’s like to have a speeder tailgate them as if the speeder is trying to ram you from behind. Many of them, I’ve seen one car coming down the street at about 30 mph with a half-dozen other cars piled up behind so closely it looks like they’re being towed!

And, crazily, more and more speeders have taken to crossing the double yellow line and passing anyone who dares to drive close to the speed limit. People post about this happening to them on the Facebook page of Middle Ridge Drive. I’ve witnessed it several times while walking my dog — one such driver missed hitting me by a few seconds after I’d crossed the street. Just last month, my next-door neighbor was broadsided when he was trying to turn right into his driveway and someone tried to ram him from behind.

I’ll mention at this point that I’ve heard some people think that those of us working to limit speeding on Middle Ridge are busybodies just trying to create a problem where none exists. Believe me, I would love not to be taking the time to work on this. But I am, because I truly believe, given the above information, that if we don’t do something to slow the traffic down it’s just a matter of time before a speeder crosses the line to pass someone and collides head-on with someone on the other side of the road. Or a Greenbriar resident may park her car on the street after a hard day at work, get out, and is hit by someone going 50 mph. That’s not being alarmist; the speeding and passing is happening so often that eventually someone is going to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

While it doesn’t really matter who is speeding, the fact that so many of the speeders are commuters from outside Greenbriar cutting through our neighborhood does add insult to injury. Several things indicate that this is the case. For example, during the weekend, not only is the traffic volume way down, but the people who are driving are less likely to be speeding. Also, at a meeting last year about this problem, a Greenbriar resident said that when he drives home after work, he turns from Route 50 onto Middle Ridge. A few times, out of curiosity, instead of stopping at his house, he has followed packs of cars as they drove down Middle Ridge and turned right on Melville Lane. He has seen most of those drivers turn left on Stringfellow Road to continue their commute to their own neighborhoods.

The proposed solution is not an instant miracle cure. But it is something that, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, will make reckless driving almost impossible and will remind people to check their speed.

FCDOT offered several methods for slowing down (technically called “calming”) the traffic. You might have seen painted on the street next to the pool, for example, the markings for a “choker” that narrows the roadway. The neighborhood representatives at the meeting decided to recommend the least obtrusive of all the methods: “speed tables,” which are, basically, extra-wide speed humps. They’re the same height (three inches) as the speed humps that are already on Poplar Tree and Point Pleasant roads, but are 22-feet wide compared to the 12 feet on the speed humps. This more-gradual rise and fall makes them easier to go over. If you are driving anywhere near the speed limit, you’ll have no problem.

The effort to get these placed has been going on for a while. Showing FCDOT and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors that we have the support of the community is a long and involved process. But once the placement of these speed tables has been finalized, there will be a well-publicized community meeting in April. Volunteers (like me) will present the information (mostly what I just wrote above) and hear comments.

Hopefully, we’ll also get some volunteers to help with the next step: ballots need to be passed out to the 692 homes that FCDOT has determined use Middle Ridge the most. FCDOT is very strict about the voting procedures: ballots can’t be handed out at meetings, and voting can’t be done online or in person by someone coming around and asking. Volunteers will need to leave a mail-in ballot (with a stamp already on it, thanks to funding by the Greenbriar Civic Association) at each of the 692 houses.

At least 50 percent of those ballots will need to be mailed in to FCDOT for the results to count. This article is the first request to mail the ballot in (hopefully, marked “yes”) when you get it. There will also be reminders on Facebook and even signs along Middle Ridge. Of those mailed-in ballots, at least 60% must approve the traffic calming. After that, it’s out of our hands. The last step is endorsement by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

Whew. That was quite an epic story about something I’d like to think is common sense. This will be a little change that will make a big improvement on the safety of our neighborhood. I hope that if you live in the eastern part of Greenbriar, we can count on your support when the ballots are distributed.
Welcome to the onset of, hopefully, a soon-to-arrive spring season in Greenbriar. Thank goodness the snow shovel has been largely laid to rest this winter season. The winter has certainly been a busy period for both the GCA board and me. I have a host of information and important updates to pass on this month. Your feedback and comments in regards to what processes are in place has been noted and, as always, sincerely appreciated.

**Condolences.** I was very saddened to hear of the sudden passing last month of James “Jimmy” Walker, a longtime Greenbriar resident who lived on Marsala Glen Way with his wife, Linda. I never had the pleasure of meeting Jimmy, but I got to know him through a series of phone conversations. He was a delightful guy, and I always looked forward to hearing from him. I offer my respects on behalf of the community to his family.

**New Greenbriar Directory Correction.** I hope all GCA members have received their new directory by this time. On the plus side, my fervent “step up” campaign has been generating results. Fresh and exciting new talent has stepped up to benefit the community. On the negative side, I was notified of a mistake in the listing that needs to be corrected: Page 14 — should read: Baxter, Mark & Robin, 13211 Parson Lane, 703-502-3139

Page 45 — should read: Price, David & Lois, 13209 Parson Lane, 703-378-6216

The names for the above addresses were mistakenly switched in the directory. I do my best to proof the directories carefully before actual print, but mistakes inevitably occur. Contact me if you find your address information is printed incorrectly in the directory.

**New District Rep/Block Captains.** I am pleased to announce that Joseph Marr of 4218 Penner Drive has accepted the position of district 3B rep to replace David Medinets. He is eminently qualified, having been president of a local community homeowners association for several years. GCA is excited to work with him on issues in his district. Speaking of stepping up, his wife, Mufarrah, has also taken over as block captain for C29 in his district. Talk about teamwork and commitment! Also, Matt Digaudio on Minstrel Lane has agreed to take over as block captain for district 1B-A04. Also a shout out to Brian Jarvis, a fairly new Greenbriar resident, who attended the February board meeting and expressed interest in succeeding John Hefferan as district 4A rep.

**GCA Treasurer.** The most critical replacement in the next term is that of Doug Sommer who is retiring as GCA treasurer. Doug’s dedication, expertise and general wisdom is unique and will be extremely hard to replace. His rock steady demeanor and consistency in the face of pressure, above all else, are the qualities I most respect in him. He’s become my friend and ally in the pursuit of all the initiatives GCA has undertaken over the past years working with Emerson Cale and, most recently, me. If you feel you meet the standards required in this position, please contact me. We need a quality individual with the time and commitment to step into his shoes and hit the ground running.

**Middle Ridge Traffic-calming Update.** Please see the article by Steve Smith, our task force leader, regarding the traffic-calming initiative on page 1. Some recent and unexpected developments override the status report that appeared in my column last month’s issue of the _Flyer_. The biggest being that, although Steve obtained all the necessary signatures for a redeployment of the traffic-calming devices, one of the signatures was from a renter rather than the actual owner of the home. We commend Steve for hanging in there given all the obstacles he’s faced in making this happen.

**Free Smoke Alarms.** I confess to not being aware, until reading of it in a post on the NextDoor Greenbriar Web site, of the availability of free smoke alarm detectors through the Fairfax County Fire Department. If not aware of this, all you have to do is call the fire station for Greenbriar is Station 21 Fair Oaks whose number is 703-691-2131. I called and, later that afternoon, the fire truck pulled up and installed two First Alert fire detectors with 10-year lithium batteries. They also installed new batteries in my carbon monoxide detectors and performed a safety check on my furnace. What’s not to like in that? All for free!

**Shepherd’s Center Update.** The new Shepherd’s Center of Western Fairfax County is now up and running in Centreville, albeit with a skeletal staff and a great need for more volunteer drivers. Look on page 6 of this issue for more details.

**Kudos to the Flyer.** I was super impressed — and you should be, too — at inclusion of the Fairfax County codes in last month’s issue. Great job! This is vital information that all Greenbriar residents should save and keep as a resource. Why didn’t I suggest doing this in an earlier issue? This is just one more reason to monitor closely all activities within Greenbriar through the _Flyer_.

**Picnic Pavilion Referendum.** As I’m submitting this column, Simply Voting is tabulating the votes in the pavilion referendum. As of last month, all resident homes were able to vote. And since we do not yet have a complete collection of resident e-mail addresses necessary to assign a PIN to each resident, we had to use an outside vendor. Enough said on this for now.

Be safe, slow down, respect your neighbors and your own properties, and step up! See you around Greenbriar.

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*Free to all residents of the Greenbriar subdivision of Fairfax County. Inquiries should be addressed to:* 4615 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151

*Ads, articles and supporting digital photographs may be submitted to our e-mail address at greenbriarflyer@hotmail.com*
Greenbriar Civic Association Board Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2015

President Vince Krevinas called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Treasurer Doug Sommer reviewed the December 31, 2014, financial report, and the board accepted the financials as presented. The board approved the minutes of the December 2, 2014, meeting as written and distributed.

Vince reported that he had received the 2014-2015 Greenbriar Directories from the printer, and that they will be ready for pickup by the district reps within the next few days. Membership dues continue to trickle in.

Cale Community Center manager Chad Smillie reported that he had to replace the garbage disposal at the center, and he thanked Vice President Joe Dettor for plowing the parking area after today’s snowfall, which saved the GCA several hundred dollars. Chad said that he had e-mailed VDOT to ask when the overflow parking area will be available. There are two functions at the community center during the week of January 18-24 that will require access to additional parking.

Vince thanked Joe for handling the logistics with Simply Voting for the February referendum on the picnic pavilion. The board reviewed the article and informational flyer that Secretary Barbara Levermann had drafted and agreed that the actual ballot question should read, “Do you support the idea of a picnic pavilion in Greenbriar Commons Park?” The board asked Barbara to draft an introductory paragraph for the ballot to provide a brief overview of the pavilion initiative.

District 4A Representative John Hefferan addressed the proposal for reassigning some of the annual membership drive responsibilities from the president to other board members. John proposed meeting with Peter Roth, the membership database manager, and David Medinet, former District 3B representative who created the new database, to determine best practices for future membership drives and maintaining an accurate database. The board acknowledged the need for additional neighborhood volunteers to assist with maintaining the membership database and agreed that, on a case-by-case basis, GCA would be prepared to subsidize such services.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Thank a Neighbor — Greenbriar Gratitude

To Derick Rinehart, Mount Carriage Lane
Our thanks to Derick, a Greenbriar block captain. He saw us in the Walmart parking lot in early February with a dead car battery. With his help, we were able to start our car and motor on to buy a new battery. Thanks, Derick!
Submitted by John and Barbara Hefferan

To Mike McGinnis, Moss Ranch Lane
Thanks so much for shoveling my driveway and sidewalks after the snowfall in early February. What a pleasant surprise to look out my window and see all the snow cleared away. Thanks, Mike!
Submitted by Barbara Levermann

To Joe Doherty, Point Hollow Lane
I love Greenbriar! As I was opening my garage door on Tuesday morning, February 17, I found my neighbor, Joe Doherty, snow blowing my driveway. He had done the whole sidewalk on my side of Point Hollow Lane! This is why I love my “hood”!
Submitted by Judy Hollar

To Dave and Joan Dufitt, Moss Ranch Lane
Thank you both for snow blowing my driveway and shoveling the sidewalks after the February 17 snowfall… just one of many occasions you’ve done the same thing over the past few years. Thanks also for all the times you’ve come to my rescue to help with small repairs, water leaks, etc. — way too many to list! Simply could not ask for better neighbors or friends.
Submitted by Barbara Levermann

Natalie Scholberg and Sharif Gray Engaged

Anne and Rick Scholberg of Greenbriar announce the engagement of their daughter, Natalie, to Sharif Gray, son of Anthony Gray and Heba El-Shazli also of Greenbriar. Natalie and Sharif both graduated from Chantilly High School but didn’t meet until 2011 at the Greenbriar Pool.

Natalie graduated cum laude from James Madison University in 2014 and will complete a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in 2015. Sharif graduated valedictorian of the Virginia Military Institute in 2011. He received his Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from the University of Virginia Law School in 2014. He’s a First Lieutenant in the United States Army and will serve in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps. No date has been set for the wedding.

GCA Calendar of Events
Contact: Sandy Williams 703-378-6984

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Event &amp; Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 3</td>
<td>GCA Meeting</td>
<td>Pres. Vince Krevinas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Cale Community Center</td>
<td>703-818-1225</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 5</td>
<td>Easter Egg Hunt</td>
<td>Sandy Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 p.m. SHARP to 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Greenbriar Commons Park</td>
<td>703-378-6984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 11</td>
<td>Spring Clean-Up</td>
<td>Sandy Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m. - 12 p.m.</td>
<td>Meet at Greenbriar Commons Park</td>
<td>703-378-6984</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GCA Committees and Activities

- Community Events: Sandy Williams 703-378-6984
- Membership Database: Peter Roth N/A
- Welcome Kits: Janet Goedigion 703-968-7384
- Community Center Rentals: Chad Smillie 703-378-6911
- Greenbriar Community Center Chair: Vince Levermann 703-818-1225
- Greenbriar Flyer: Leona (Lee) Conley greenbriarflyer@hotmail.com
WFCWC Presents Feng Shui Program on March 16

GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman’s Club (WFCWC) will host a presentation on Feng Shui on Monday, March 16, at 7 p.m. at the Cale Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road. Guest speaker Pamila Faye will discuss how classical feng shui can help us achieve balance in our everyday lives. Ms. Faye believes feng shui provides reference and understanding about one’s self, home, wealth, relationships, health and career.

Ms. Faye, mother of three, was a flight attendant, librarian, nutritional and herbal consultant, and professional organizer before engaging in extensive study and the practice of feng shui. In 2010, she completed the fourth and final level of the study of feng shui with distinction from the Mastery Academy of Chinese Metaphysics in Kuala Lumpur, Malasia, and she is continuing her studies with Master Joey Yap in China and Tibet.

WFCWC is affiliated with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC), a unifying force bringing together local women’s clubs, with members dedicated to strengthening their communities and enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. With 100,000 members in affiliated clubs in every state and more than a dozen countries, GFWC members are community leaders who work locally to create global change by supporting the arts, preserving natural resources, advancing education, promoting healthy lifestyles, encouraging civic involvement, and working toward world peace and understanding. For more information, please visit www.GFWC.org.

WFCWC usually meets at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of the month, September through May. Guests are welcome, and admission is free. For more information about WFCWC, please visit our Web site at www.wfcwc.org or call Marion Brown at 703-631-7093.

AARP Home Fit Workshop

Thursday, April 30, 2015, 7 p.m.
Chantilly Regional Library
4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151

Attend this free workshop to see how small changes in your home can make a big difference in your life. You will learn about home updates to make it easier to stay comfortable, independent and injury-free in your home, practical tips to minimize the financial costs, and how to avoid frauds and scams. Refreshments will be served.

Space is limited; registration is required. Please contact Mary Jane at 703-378-4250 or mjasse331@verizon.net.

Co-sponsored by
Western Fairfax County Woman’s Club
Chantilly Regional Library
HelpingYouHome.com

In affiliation with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs and GFWC Virginia, WFCWC is dedicated to the betterment of our community. WFCWC is an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.wfcwc.org.

Woman’s Club Celebrates Mardi Gras

GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman’s Club (WFCWC) held its regular monthly meeting on February 17. Because that date was also Mardi Gras, the club decided to enjoy a Mardi Gras theme. Members dressed in costumes and wore masks, and the refreshments featured a King’s Cake and other New Orleans-type appetizers. The refreshment committee, led by Barbara Levermann and with help from Marion Brown, Joyce Brotton and Iryna Harvey, produced a colorful, festive table in Mardi Gras style.

Guest speaker Barbara Kiker, former GFWC Virginia Northern District president, gave an entertaining talk on the history and importance of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC), with anecdotes about the activities of the federation from its founding in 1898 to the present. She told us how the clubs promoted child labor laws. Not only did the clubs work to pass laws requiring children to be in school until the age of sixteen, but before the laws passed, individual clubs would identify families whose children were working in factories or sweat shops and offer to pay them what their children were earning so the children could go to school. She also reminded us that 70 percent of the public libraries in the United States were established because of the federated women’s clubs. Everyone learned something about GFWC that they did not know before Barbara’s talk.

After the presentation, the members enjoyed refreshments and socializing before the business meeting. The costumes were judged, and the wearers of the two best — guests Inna Huberbatarava and Natasha Poyarkova — received crowns to add to their costumes.

WFCWC meets monthly from September through May, usually at the Cale Community Center at 4615 Stringfellow Road. All women over the age of 18 who live in western Fairfax County or the surrounding area are eligible to belong to the club and are welcome to join us at any of our meetings. You can learn the date and place of each month’s meeting by checking the calendar on our Web site, www.wfcwc.org.
Five Things to Know About Your 2015 Real Estate Assessment Notice

1. The Fairfax County 2015 Real Estate Assessment notices were mailed to taxpayers starting on Tuesday, February 17.

2. The real estate assessment notice is not a bill. Most homeowners pay Fairfax County’s Real Estate Tax as part of a monthly mortgage payment. Your mortgage company then sends the taxes directly to the county. However, some homeowners pay their real estate taxes directly (due July 28 and December 5). Contact your mortgage company if you are not sure how your tax bill is paid.

3. The 2015 estimated tax levy shown on your assessment is just that — an estimate. The “levy,” or tax, is a combination of your current assessment and the current adopted tax rates. Based on a state code change, this year’s notice also shows the taxes you were actually charged in 2013 and 2014 (if applicable). The notice includes your estimated tax for 2015 based on the 2015 assessment and the county’s 2014 tax rates. This is an estimate because the Board of Supervisors has not yet adopted tax rates for 2015. The 2015 tax rates will be determined by the board through the FY 2016 budget process and approved on April 28, 2015. More information on the budget and opportunities to provide input will be available beginning February 17 at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget.

4. Important note for participants in the county’s Tax Relief Program for seniors and people with disabilities. The 2015 tax estimate shown on your notice does not reflect your 2015 tax relief benefit. The filing deadline for your tax relief application is April 1, 2015. You will be notified about your tax relief status by June 30, 2015. The notice does reflect any tax relief exemptions you may have received in tax years 2013 and 2014.

5. For more information about your 2015 Real Estate Assessment, contact the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) by calling 703-222-8234 (TTY 703-222-7594), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Additional information is online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta.
COMMUNITY COMMENT

What Do You Think, Greenbriar? “Ask Penny!”

by Penny M. Lane

Last Month’s Issue: Do you use the comforter while staying in hotels or stow it away during your stay?

Dear Brrr-ty:

While staying at a Hampton Inn in Hershey, Pennsylvania, this past January, I was surprised to see a “Post-it note” attached to the headboard of the bed. The pre-printed note, which was made to look like it was hand written, read “Duvet Covers and Sheets are Clean for Your Arrival.” That night, for one of the first times in my life, I was so excited to snuggle into a hotel bed with a nice, big, clean, comfy comforter to keep me warm. After we returned home and I shared my experience, this one little message sparked a lively debate among my friends and family. So that comforter was clean, but what about other hotels that don’t leave you a note? Was this a new practice? Had they never cleaned the comforter before but had now started to wash them and wanted you to know? As usual, I was confused.

I did a little research and found that while this particular hotel recently started leaving the notes, it has actually been washing comforters in between every guest since 2005. Around that same timeframe, many other hotels switched from comforters to duvet covers so they could easily launder the covers frequently. The Hampton Inn wants to make sure you know that its comforters are clean, hence the “Post-it note project,” while others have chosen not to send the same message. While the Hampton Inn has been laundering comforters regularly for more than 10 years, it is reluctant to communicate this because it does not want guests to think this is a new practice.

But, as we all know, not all hotels are created equal. High-end hotels might be washing the comforters between each guest, while other hotels only wash them once a month or, even worse, only four times a year.

So how do you know what has and has not been cleaned in your hotel room? Many seasoned travelers don’t assume and, instead, have rituals they perform each time they arrive for a hotel stay. Whether you travel all the time, or just a couple times a year, I think these are some really helpful hints for everyone:

Check or Remove the Comforter — If you aren’t lucky enough to find a Post-it note on your bed, a quick call to the front desk can let you know how often it is washed. Then you can use it or remove it as you see fit.

Check for Bedbugs — A quick check of the corner of your mattress (yes, lift up the sheets and the mattress pad) can help you sleep with confidence. While the bugs themselves are hard to see, they leave behind these little brown marks to let you know they are there.

Clean the Remote — While hotels work hard to make sure your bathroom is clean, they do not clean items like the remote and light switches as often. A quick wipe down can go a long way to keeping you healthy!

Make Sure the Thermostat Works — And make sure it’s not too loud!

Unplug or Reset the Alarm Clock — Nothing is worse than waking up too early, or too late, while staying in a hotel. If you have nowhere to be the next day, then simply unplug it altogether. But if you need to wake up for an early-morning flight, you should check to make sure it is working, that the volume for the alarm is up, and that it represents the correct time. And as Penny reader Jimmy learned the hard way, always be sure to check the AM/PM setting!

Study the Fire Escape Route — While it is unlikely that you will ever need it, you will be thankful that you familiarized yourself with how to find the nearest staircase or exit should there be an emergency.

Follow these simple steps, and you will have a good night-night; you will definitely sleep tight; and you won’t let the beg bugs bite!

Dear Penny:

By this time of year, houses should be decorated with hearts or shamrocks. Yet, I still see many houses with Christmas lights up and Santa Clauses in their front yards.

How long is too long to keep your decorations up?

Signed,
No Christmas in March

So, Greenbriar. How long is too long to keep up your Christmas decorations? E-mail your anonymous response to gbthinks@hotmail.com.

Have a question? Have an answer? E-mail Penny at gbthinks@hotmail.com.

New Shepherd’s Center Opens in Western Fairfax County

The new Shepherd’s Center of Western Fairfax County (SCWFC) is now open and providing volunteer-assisted drives for seniors to access medical appointments and the Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) food pantry. Round-trip rides for medical appointments, prescription pickups and visits to the WFCM food bank are available to adults over the age of 50 who live in the Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton and surrounding areas of western Fairfax County and do not drive. Clients must call the SCWFC office at 703-266-3548 to register with the service and again at least five working days prior to any medical- or food bank-related drive requests. When you call to request a ride, be sure to have all the information pertaining to your appointment, such as doctor’s name, address, phone number, emergency contact, and the appointment date and time.

The evolution of this new Shepherd’s Center from a strategic plan by the Shepherd’s Center of Fairfax-Burke to the actual start of operations has been underway since last summer. Mark Fitzpatrick, the volunteer director, is leading a team of more than 20 community-minded and concerned volunteers in the startup of this new Shepherd’s Center.

The SCWFC office — located inside the county’s Sully Senior Center at 5690 Sully Road in Centreville — can be reached at 703-266-3548; the Web site is www.SCWFC.org.

SCWFC can always use more volunteer drivers and office workers. If you live in western Fairfax County and want to help, call the office number above. SCWFC expects to expand the services and programs it offers to older residents of western Fairfax County in the coming months, so please enroll as a client or volunteer to keep aware of this important service to our residents.


March 2015
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Spring Ahead

Daylight Savings Time (DST) begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 8, 2015. Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday. During DST, clocks are turned forward an hour, effectively moving an hour of daylight from the morning to the evening.

Chantilly High School Wins 2015 JEA First Amendment Press Freedom Award

Chantilly High School is one of seven high schools from across the United States — and the only school in Virginia — to be named a winner of the 2015 First Amendment Press Freedom Award by the Journalism Education Association (JEA).

The award recognizes public and private high schools that actively support, teach and protect First Amendment rights and responsibilities of both students and teachers, with an emphasis on student-run media where students are responsible for all final decisions of content.

This is the first time Chantilly High School has won the First Amendment Press Freedom Award.

Winners were chosen by a committee made up of representatives from JEA, the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) and Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society.

Recipients will be recognized April 16 at the JEA-NSPA national high school journalism convention in Denver.

Police Blotter for Greenbriar and Surrounds

Sexual Battery: 2/18/15, 2:03 p.m. 13900 block of Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Sully Place Shopping Center. The victim was in a store and was approached by a man. The suspect grabbed the victim’s buttocks area, then fled on foot. There were no injuries. The suspect was described as Hispanic, in his 20s, about 5 feet 6 inches to 5 feet 8 inches tall, between 150 and 180 pounds, and wearing black pants and a camouflage vest or jacket.

Larcenies:
2/3/15, 12800 block of Point Pleasant Drive. Property from residence.
2/12/15, 13100 block of Melville Lane. Bicycle from residence.

Burglary:
2/4/15, 4300 block of Markwood Lane. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

“Change your clocks, change your batteries.” Daylight Savings Time is a good opportunity to check your smoke alarms.

Next Greenbriar Flyer Deadline
March 13, 2015, 7 P.M.

Chantilly High School Wins 2015 JEA First Amendment Press Freedom Award

Chantilly High School is one of seven high schools from across the United States — and the only school in Virginia — to be named a winner of the 2015 First Amendment Press Freedom Award by the Journalism Education Association (JEA).

The award recognizes public and private high schools that actively support, teach and protect First Amendment rights and responsibilities of both students and teachers, with an emphasis on student-run media where students are responsible for all final decisions of content.

This is the first time Chantilly High School has won the First Amendment Press Freedom Award.

Winners were chosen by a committee made up of representatives from JEA, the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) and Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society.

Recipients will be recognized April 16 at the JEA-NSPA national high school journalism convention in Denver.

“Change your clocks, change your batteries.”
Daylight Savings Time is a good opportunity to check your smoke alarms.

References for over 30 years in
Greenbriar & Brookfield
I remember a cat named Buttons and two birds I named Bill and Coo. These were just three of the many pets my parents invited home to live with us in Charleston, South Carolina. My first pet was a cocker spaniel I named Blackie because his color matched his name; not very creative, but that dog was the first real pet I had.

Mom never smiled when Dad brought a live critter home, and I wondered why. I figured out why much later in life when my husband brought home a dog. The majority of the care of any pet rests mainly with the mom, and Mom knew that. Although Blackie was my dog, Mom handled most of the care.

Bill and Coo were blue lovebirds that Dad brought home one day, along with a cage and food for them. Mom did not smile at the two birds Dad brought into our home, and I wondered why. I figured out why much later in life when my husband brought home a dog. The majority of the care of any pet rests mainly with the mom, and Mom knew that. Although Blackie was my dog, Mom handled most of the care.

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The Greenbriar Real Estate Specialist

I have been a resident of Greenbriar for 22 years. My kids have attended Greenbriar East Elementary, Rocky Run Middle, and Chantilly High School. I am a full time realtor who is very responsive and works hard for my clients. You should allow an expert on the neighborhood to help you sell or buy a home in Greenbriar. Proven Results!!

Ask me about the Greenbriar Listing special!

Joe Dettor
REALTOR®
Cell – 571-283-5412
jdettor@kw.com
www.joedettor.com

I live here – I work here
Next Greenbriar Flyer Deadline
March 13, 2015, 7 P.M.

Tutoring Available for Elementary School Students
Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn. — Benjamin Franklin

Seventh and eighth grade students from Rocky Run Middle School made up the Rocky Run Homework Helpers providing peer mentoring to students in the Chantilly Pyramid's elementary schools for the past year. Each Tuesday and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., the PTA-sponsored tutoring program takes place in the Rocky Run media center. This program is part of the school’s community outreach initiative and is designed to develop and enrich elementary school students in areas of need. It also serves as a role-modeling tool and produces positive outcomes for both older peer tutors and the younger students.

The program begins in January 4 with Brookfield Elementary. This year, it expanded to Poplar Tree Elementary, Greenbriar East Elementary and Greenbriar West Elementary. The program emphasizes the five Cs of confidence, collaboration, connection, character and caring. Mentors work with the younger students in areas such as reading, math concepts, SOL preparation, grammar and spelling. Tutors and the younger students are paired up in the beginning of the year to develop positive bonds, not only to help the youth improve academically but to develop feelings of belonging in school.

Contact event liaison Meera at rameera@hotmail.com for more information.
Local Students’ Robotics Team Heading to State Championships

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

The team consists of seven students from five FCPS schools: Nikhil Chintada and Sidharth Rampally, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST); Satish Venkatesan, Chantilly High School (CHS); Ahan Shah and Nandin Padheriya, Fairfax High School (FHS); Shreya Menon, Robinson High School (RHS) and Anoushka Chintada, Rocky Run Middle School (RRMS).

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

Shreya Menon of RHS said, “FTC allowed me to learn CAD design, and it was a thrill to be a finalist for Design Award.”

“I’ve been with the FIRST family for four years and have cherished every moment. Learning new skills every day and working with friends makes FTC fun and not work,” said Nandin, who also excels in football and swimming.

Team X-BOTS holds numerous workshops and demos through the season to help students interested in STEM and FIRST. X-BOTS are also eager to meet engineers in the community to learn from their real world experience in various fields, such as mechanical engineering, CAD and programming, as well as sponsors supporting STEM. Besides the community outreach through schools, such as RRMS and various local events, X-BOTS also donates a portion of funds raised to under-privileged children to promote STEM education.

About FTC

FTC is a program created by F.I.R.S.T (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), a not-for-profit organization founded by Dean Kamen that promotes STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) for students in grades 7-12. Team X-BOTS is actively involved in promoting FTC, FLL and the idea of “gracious professionalism” in the community.

FTC teams get to:
- Design, build and program robots
- Apply real-world math and science concepts
- Develop problem-solving, organizational and team-building skills
- Compete and cooperate in alliances and tournaments
- Compete for a spot in the World Championships
- Qualify for more than $13.5 million in college scholarships

This year’s FTC challenge is called Cascade Effect. More details can be found at www3.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/ftc. Contact team X-BOTS at info@xbots.org or visit http://xbots.org for more information.
Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby — A Day of Fun for All!

On Saturday, February 7, Cub Scout Pack 1863 held its annual Pinewood Derby. Scouts and their parents gathered in the Greenbriar East Elementary School cafeteria to watch cars race down the track.

What is the Pinewood Derby you ask? And why do Scouts participate in this event? I think Cubmaster Donald Murphy, who created the Derby in 1953, put it best when he said it was created because he “wanted to devise a wholesome, constructive activity that would foster a closer father-son relationship and promote craftsmanship and good sportsmanship through competition.”

While this is a Cub Scout event, Girl Scouts, friends and family are also welcome to participate. Each racer starts with the same block of wood. But when they are finished, no two are alike. Scouts and their parents spend many hours designing the shape of the car, cutting down the wood, painting the car, weighing it, refining the design, and then finally getting to race it! Naming the car is also lots of fun. Take one look at this list of car names, and it is obvious just how creative these kids are. And while each car spends little more than three seconds on the track, it is abundantly clear that the success and popularity of the event isn’t in the race itself but in the preparation for it and the lifelong memories it creates.

Big congratulations to all the winners! The top three from each den will race on behalf of their pack in the next level of competition. Good luck!

**Bear Den**
First Place: Grant Stables
Second Place: Noah Yager
Third Place: Sebastian Nowicki

**Friends**
First Place: Jamie Nowicki
Second Place: Skyler Stables
Third Place: Helen Nowicki

**Girl Scouts**
First Place: Reva Sathe
Second Place: Kyra Oh
Third Place: Olivia Fitzgibbons
Fourth Place: Nura Patel

**Tiger Den**
First Place: Ethan Oh
Second Place: Julian Laurence
Third Place: Charlie Lobasso

**Webelo 1 Den**
First Place: Aidan Bonanno
Second Place: Zachary Kim
Third Place: Anesh Venana

**Webelo 2 Den**
First Place: Colin Stables
Second Place: CJ Tyrrell
Third Place: James Subia

**Wolf Den**
First Place: Nathan Montano
Second Place: Jacob Vieira
Third Place: Yanni Patel

**Overall Winners**
First Place: Grant Stables, Bear Den
Second Place: Nathan Montano, Wolf Den
Third Place: Ethan Oh, Tiger Den

---

**Derby Car Names**

| Army Cam    | Miami Heat          |
| Bat Mobile  | Minion Cart         |
| Batmobile   | NCB                 |
| Black Knight| Peace Forever!      |
| Blue Lightning| Pikachu 3000     |
| Blue Ribbon | Pink Maniac         |
| Boss        | Purple Engines      |
| Bruiser     | Red Racer           |
| Cheetah of Doom | Rocket of Awesomeness |
| Chik-fil-a To Go | Roadrunner        |
| Color Bomb  | Sky Blue            |
| Cyber X     | Speedster           |
| Dr. Creeper Dude 3 | Speedy 4         |
| Dragon Ballzee| Steve              |
| Enderman    | Super Spinbrush     |
| Fast and Dash Sonic | Tasty Victory    |
| Fire Truck  | The Bumblebee       |
| Flaming Racer| The Coolest Batmobile |
| Flower Car  | The Creeper Cart    |
| Freddy      | The Eagle           |
| Glitter Engine| The Green Machine  |
| Golden Lightning Bolt | The Mini Van Around the Corner |
| Green Machine| The Ranger          |
| Hatchet     | The Super Awesome   |
| Huflepuff   | Wheel Melting Car   |
| Lego Racer  | Thunder Bolt        |
| Light Racer | Tigerlily           |
| Light Razor | Turtle Mobile       |
| Limbo       | XLR8                |
| Lotus       | YOLO Fire Phoenix   |
| Lucky Dice  |                    |
KIDS’ KORNER

Board Game Directions

Find something small to be your game piece — pennies and dimes work great!

Use one die to roll and move your game piece accordingly.

Follow the directions on each space.

Get creative ... add your own directions to any blank space!

Have FUN!
Chantilly Regional Library
4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly
Mon.-Thurs. 10-9, Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 1-5

Registration required unless otherwise noted. Call 703-502-3883, visit the library or log on to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events up to two weeks before the event to register. Arrange for sign language interpreters, listening systems or real-time captioning when you register.

Adventures in Art. Explore the exciting world of art through a combination of stories and art projects. Come dressed to get messy! Ages 4-7 with caregiver. Wednesday, March 11, 7 p.m.

Basic Internet and Microsoft Office Tutoring. Get one-on-one help with computers, basic Microsoft Office applications and navigating the Internet. Call or visit the library to schedule an appointment. Adults.

Book a Librarian. Reserve a free 30-minute session with a professional librarian for personalized research help. Call or visit the library to request an appointment. All ages.

Book and Magazine Sales. Visit for our ongoing sale of used books, magazines, DVDs and VHS tapes.


Bookalicious. Book discussion group for students in grades 3-4. Ask for title. Monday, March 2, 4:30 p.m.

Bouncin’ Babies. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for you and your baby. Build an early literacy foundation for your child while enjoying your time together. Birth-11 months with caregiver. Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 10:30 a.m.; Fridays, March 13 and 27, 3 p.m.; Thursday, March 19, 3 and 4 p.m.

Chantilly Book Discussion Group. Ask for title. Adults. No registration required. Wednesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.

eBook Help. Get your eBook questions answered. No prior experience required. Please bring your tablet or e-reader and library card. Adults. Thursday, March 5, 5 p.m.; Wednesday, March 25, 1 p.m.; Saturday, March 28, 2 p.m.

English Conversation Group. Practice your English with an ESL volunteer. Register in person only. Call library for details. Adults.

Pajama Party. Bring your favorite cuddly friend and a blanket. Wear your pajamas and get ready for a rockin’ good time. Ages 3-5 with caregiver. Tuesdays, March 3 and 24, 7 p.m.

Paws for Reading. Read aloud for a 15-minute session with one of our therapy dogs. Bring your own book or choose a book from the library. Ages 5-12. Saturday, March 21, 3 p.m.

Peaceful Paws. Children on the autism spectrum or with other developmental challenges meet and read to a trained therapy dog. Dakota, a gentle giant Bernese Mountain dog, is an ideal reading buddy for children with special needs. Bring your own book or choose a book from the library; however, reading is not required. Dakota is a perfect companion to sit with and spend special time together. Parents and siblings are welcome to join us. Call or sign up online for a 15-minute session. All ages. Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m.

PJ Book Buddies Storytime. All moms, dads, grandparents, caregivers and children who love books are welcome to join us for stories and fun that relate to Jewish culture, traditions and holidays. Enjoy movement and crafts, along with stories. Ages 2 1/2-5 with caregiver. Siblings welcome. Contact Jennifer. DeAngelis@jccnv.org of the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia for more information. Thursday, March 5, 10:30 a.m.

Read! Build! Play! Duplo Storytime. Duplo play and storytime help develop and reinforce early literacy skills. Have fun with your little one while building an early literacy foundation for reading success. Ages 18-35 months with adult. Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25, 10:30 a.m.

Read! Build! Play! Duplo Storytime. Duplo play and storytime help develop and reinforce early literacy skills. Have fun with your little one while building an early literacy foundation for reading success. Ages 3-5 with adult. Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25, 11:30 a.m.

Ready for School Storytime. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for you and your baby. Build an early literacy foundation for your child while enjoying your time together. Ages 12-23 months with caregiver. Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 11:30 a.m.; Thursdays, March 5 and 26, 3 and 4 p.m.; Fridays, March 13 and 27, 4 p.m.

Storytime for Three to Fives. Early literacy program with stories and activities. Ages 3-5 with caregiver. Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 1:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 19, 11 a.m.


Teen Advisory Board Meeting. A meeting of the Chantilly Regional Teen Advisory Board. For students in grades 7-12. Saturday, March 14, 1 p.m.

The End (or is it?) Book Club. A book discussion group for children in grades 5-6. Call for title. Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.

Toddlin’ Tweens. Early literacy storytime with stories, songs and activities. Age 2 with caregiver. Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.

VITA Tax Assistance. IRS-certified volunteers help taxpayers who earned up to $52,000 last year prepare their taxes. Adults. No registration required. Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26, 6 p.m.; Saturdays, March 7, 14, 21 and 28, 10 a.m.

Writers of Chantilly. Share your work, give and receive feedback in a supportive setting. Adults. No registration required. Mondays, March 9 and 23, 6:45 p.m.

Riya’s wRiTings
by Riya Jones, Age 10

Snowflakes
Snowflakes clashing together, changing their twirling swords
Drifting in pale white armor
Riding into battle on a warhorse of a snowdrift
Sliding across the sky, lethal, dangerous
Deadly
Merging together to form one massive army
One glorious minute of violent insanity
For each snowflake
Before being struck down and falling
With a fierce battle cry
Spilling their bodies into the mass of snow
Join the army, to benefit their brothers
To prove that they are valiant enough to give up their lives
For the greater good
Aware of the melt that is soon to come
As they sink into the earth
To await the next battle against the wind
Against the sky
Against the ground
Against the world that they will once more be a part of

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One teenager who attempted suicide revealed that if anyone had asked him beforehand whether he was thinking of hurting himself, he would have said yes. That message rang loud and clear to Teresa Gallahan, school nurse at a Catholic school in Chantilly. The teen was part of a training video for a course on Youth Mental Health First Aid, offered by the Fairfax-Falls Church CSB.

Gallahan was impressed that the instructor urged her to enter the phone number for the CSB Crisis Hotline into her cell phone on the spot. “I’m trained to look for resources,” said Gallahan, a Herndon resident, who has worked at St. Veronica School for approximately seven years. Gallahan and her principal have now organized all the teachers and staff to take the CSB training. “Most parents appreciate that we keep an eye on their children,” Gallahan said. Since 2012, 1,750 have taken the CSB First Aid Mental Health Training. More than 10,000 people have taken the CSB online youth suicide prevention program.

Mental Health First Aid is one of the ways the CSB serves all residents in the community. Tracey Phillips was 24 weeks pregnant when her labor began. She had three premature triplets; her second baby didn’t survive, and her surviving son and daughter spent five and four months respectively in the neonatal intensive care unit. “I had to recover from a C-section, we had to plan for my son’s funeral, and we had two very sick children in the NICU,” she said. “The human spirit finds a way.”

Phillips’ family was immediately helped by the CSB’s Infant and Toddler Connection, which provides evaluations and early intervention services for infants and toddlers who might have developmental or intellectual disabilities or developmental delays. “We would be looking at a very different picture had my family not been given early intervention,” Phillips said. “When my daughter started to walk, I was sure she was on the right track.” Phillips’ children, now aged six, both have special needs. Phillips now works for the Infant and Toddler program and is grateful she can give back to other families who are beginning their special needs journeys.

“There’s a whole movement of people with lived experience who have something to offer,” said CSB Executive Director Tisha Deeghan on hiring people like Phillips. “That voice is absolutely magical in helping.” “Even with all that has to do with us, I have found other families that have been through much worse,” Phillips said. “We have been through the worst of it; we can see a future.” During FY 2014, the CSB served 3,164 children through the Infant and Toddler Connection.

The Community Services Board plans, organizes and provides services for people who have mental illness, substance use disorders and intellectual disabilities. The CSB served 21,249 residents during last year’s fiscal year. Most CSB services are primarily for people whose conditions seriously impact their daily functioning. But anyone with a related concern may contact the CSB for help in finding appropriate treatment and resources. “We are here for everybody,” said Deeghan, who moved to Fairfax for her new job in September. “We are the agency that deals with the most difficult and complex situations.”

Deeghan took the helm at the CSB in September 2014, coming from Michigan with 33 years of experience in mental health and substance use disorder treatment and prevention. Most recently, Deeghan was the senior vice president and chief operating officer for Genesee Health System in Michigan for 13 years.

Deeghan replaces George Braustein, who retired in 2014 after serving as executive director since 2008. “I’m leaving the michigan, the virginia way. There is so much wealth here, but there are two Fairfaxes,” said Deeghan of her new home. “There is the wealth and the resources and the tremendous support from the Board of Supervisors. But there’s another Fairfax, where people are very vulnerable, people who cannot find jobs, people who can’t access services.”

CSB’s new Merrifield Center opened late last month at 8221 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive. It offers an integrated system of care, allowing people who are receiving services for mental health or substance abuse issues to receive other medical care at the same time.

“It’s state of the art,” Deeghan said. “It’s the best example that I know of as an opportunity to bring integrated-care services to people.” Primary health care, a pharmacy and a dental clinic are available at the same location, as well as emergency services, entry and referral services, and more.

As one example, having a pharmacy onsite so patients can receive their medications as soon as they are prescribed is a major advantage. “It’s exciting to me to see this system and all the creative community-based services in place,” said Deeghan. “We’re seeing much less need for high-end or restrictive services, such as hospitalization or residential placement, because we are getting so good at providing community-based services.”

Providing integrated services is a national movement, Deeghan said. She cited a study a few years ago that showed that people with serious mental health issues often die 25 years or more earlier than others from treatable illnesses, because they didn’t have access to health care. Of the people served at the CSB last year, only 40 percent said they had a primary health care provider.

One in every five people lives with a mental health problem, according to CSB documents. Two-thirds go without treatment. “Mental illness and substance abuse disorders impact every single layer of economics,” said Belinda Buescher of the CSB.

For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb. You can sign up for Mental Health First Aid at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/events/mentalhealth-first-aid.

* Reprinted with permission from Fairfax Station/Chilton/Lorton Connection, February 12-18, 2015, issue.

Police Warn About “Pay or Lose Power” Scam

Police are warning residents, particularly in view of this winter’s frigid temperatures, of a scam that has re-surfaced in Fairfax County neighborhoods this winter. Victims report that someone claiming to be a power company employee contacts them and states their power will be cut off if they do not pay their “overdue” bill immediately.

A woman who owns a business in the Springfield area received a phone call advising that her electric bill was overdue. The caller demanded that she “go to a CVS or a 7-Eleven” to purchase a green DOT card in the amount of $499.98, which allegedly was the amount of the bill. The victim had recently paid her power bill. She checked with her bank, contacted Dominion Power and verified the payment. When she called the suspect back, he became mad and yelled at her. Fortunately, this victim wasn’t fooled, hurt or financially victimized.

Please help make others aware of this scam. Suspects can be convincing, and people often fall for this scam in fear of being cold and without power.

More information on reporting financial crimes, common scams and how to prevent becoming a victim may be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/financialcrimes.

More information on reporting financial crimes, common scams and how to prevent becoming a victim may be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/financialcrimes.

Who to call for help:

Emergency Situations (24/7)

Call 911 for a life-threatening emergency!

CSB Emergency Services — 703-573-5679, TTY 711

Fairfax Detoxification Center — 703-502-7000, TTY 703-322-9800

CrisisLink suicide hotline — 703-527-4077

CrisisLink suicide text hotline — 703-940-0888

During Business Hours

CSB Entry and Referral Services — 703-383-8500, TTY 711

Infant & Toddler Connection — 703-246-7121, TTY 703-324-4495

For basic needs (food, housing, medical care, etc.) — 703-222-0880, TTY 711

Staff at all of the numbers listed above can take calls in English and Spanish and can access other languages when needed.

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CELL: 703 887 8146

OFFICE: 703 368 1146

EMAIL: Line.Kerr@LNF.com
Do You Remember These Parking Taboos?

It may have been awhile since you passed your written driver’s test, so you may well have forgotten some of the parking regulations in residential areas. Or, at least, when I walk or drive around Greenbriar — particularly around school drop-off and pickup times — it would certainly appear that many folks have forgotten most parking taboos. So, to refresh your memory, all of the following are illegal on residential streets:

- Parking within 10 feet of a driveway [Fairfax County Code 82-5-1(a)(2)]
- Parking on a sidewalk [Fairfax County Code 82-5-1(a)(1)]
- Parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant [Fairfax County Code 82-5-1(a)(4)]
- Parking within 30 feet of a stop sign [Fairfax County Code 82-5-1(a)(7)]
- Parking within 20 feet of an intersection [Fairfax County Code 82-5-1(a)(3)]
- Parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk [Fairfax County Code 82-5-1(a)(5)]
- Parking on the wrong side of a two-way street (Cars must be parked in the direction of the travel lane in which they are parked.) [Virginia Code 46.2-889]

The Fairfax County Police Department is responsible for enforcing these regulations. Yes, I know, the police probably have more important things to do with their time. And it would be nice if the police spent more time in our neighborhood enforcing speed limits and ticketing those who think it’s perfectly acceptable to ignore stop signs and pedestrians at crosswalks. However, many of these violations create line-of-sight hazards when you try to back out of your driveway or turn left or right from a side street. So, if you have a complaint about someone routinely breaking these parking regulations, you can call the police non-emergency number at 703-691-2131 and ask them to investigate the situation.

For more information about parking regulations, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/parking_restrictions.htm.

HOW FAR WILL DALE GO TO SELL A HOME? ITALY?

The Challenge: Getting your home sold fast and for top dollar!
On a recent listing I told the sellers “We only need one buyer! We are up against three other listings in the neighborhood and two have dropped their price. Getting full value and finding that buyer would mean marketing your home locally, nationally and internationally.” We needed a big net to find that one buyer who is looking or relocating.

The Result: A couple was on their Honeymoon in Italy when they decided to go online to search for a home. They found the professionally narrated video tour of the home, that my team produced, and couldn’t stop talking about it. They called their agent to set up a showing when they returned. The couple wrote the offer and have since moved into their wonderful home! Now that’s marketing! Are you ready to have that kind of power behind the marketing for YOUR home? The Fine Print (it did not cost the seller’s any more than a normal listing)

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Adopt-A-Shelf Volunteer
Chantilly Regional Library
4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact:
Mary Selden
703-502-3883
mary.selden@fairfaxcounty.gov

Requirements:
Minimum Age to Volunteer – 17
Time Commitment – 4 hours per month for 6 months

Description:
Maintains order, accessibility, and appearance of assigned section of shelving.

Duties:
Identifies books requiring mending. Reads spine labels and re-shelves books that are not in proper order. Shifts books as necessary. Removes all bookmarks, paper and litter from books and shelves. Reports volunteer hours promptly and accurately.

Qualifications:
Knowledge of alpha/numeric order. Ability to reach top shelves and bend to bottom shelves. Ability to lift heavy books and stand for up to two hours at a time.

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Sports Report by Colin Barthel

Chantilly Swim and Dive Finish Third in Conference Championship

Chantilly won both the boys and girls 200-meter individual medley at Oak Marr RECenter on January 31. Lea Gwennap and Dennis Lai contributed 20 points for each win to the Chantilly team total. Chantilly finished with a combined team score of 636. Unfortunately, it was not enough, as Oakton edged out Robinson by a score of 991 to 979 for the team victory.

Chantilly finished in the middle of the pack in the 6A North Regional Final with a combined team score of 130. The February 7 meet was, once again, a battle between Oakton and Robinson. Oakton finished victorious again with a team score of 494.

Weather Wreaks Havoc on Chantilly Basketball Schedule

The conference tournament for both the boys and girls basketball teams took place during the week of February 16. Fairfax County Public Schools held classes only once during that week. Classes were on holiday for Presidents Day on February 16, then closed for combinations of snow and cold on the 17th, 18th and 20th. The basketball teams played the first round of the conference 5 tournament on Thursday, February 19.

The Chantilly boys lost to Westfield by a score of 58-48 after Westfield scored 20 points to Chantilly’s 11 in the fourth quarter. The Charger girls defeated Westfield by a score of 58-39. Grace Rauch put up 15 points, including three 3-pointers, to help her team avenge the regular season loss to Westfield last week. The girls will advance to play the winner of Robinson vs. Herndon.

Chantilly Winter Sports Wrap Up Season as Spring Sports Start

As we all look forward to spring, Chantilly athletes are seeing their spring season rapidly approach. Baseball, lacrosse, soccer, softball, track and field, and tennis all had their pre-season team meetings in February. Baseball is scheduled to have its final roster on Friday, February 27, after a week of tryouts. First pitch will be in the Ice Breaker Tournament at McLean High School on March 16. The track team will start practice on March 3 as it prepares for its first meet at Westfield on March 25. Boys and girls soccer teams both kick off their seasons with games against Stone Bridge.

Come out and welcome the arrival of spring and cheer on your Chantilly Chargers!

If you would like Colin to report on your team, please contact him at greenbriarflyer@hotmail.com.

Thank-a-Neighbor — Greenbriar Gratitudes

Is there someone you would like to thank publicly for a kind or noteworthy act? This is your opportunity! Submit your gratitude with the name of the person(s), Greenbriar street name and a description of the act. Submissions do not have to be fancy — follow the KISS principle (Keep It Simply Simple). As with all submissions to the Flyer, your name, address and phone number are required.

DO YOU FANCY YOURSELF A WRITER? GREENBRIAR FLYER NEEDS YOU!

Contact us at:
greenbriarflyer@hotmail.com.

Send us a proposal of an article or series of articles you have written or would like to write that you think might be of interest to our community.

Thank you!
Fairfax County Park Authority
Calendar of Events
March 2015

Sunday, March 1
Speak for the Trees
Come celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday with a reading of The Lorax at E.C. Lawrence Park from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Make a Lorax craft and learn how trees help people. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is $5 per child. For information, call 703-631-0013.

Maple Syrup Boil-Down
Watch as sap is boiled down into sweet syrup over an open fire at Colvin Run Mill from noon to 2 p.m. Sample the delicious combination of maple syrup over fresh baked cornbread, while supplies last. Price of $5 includes pre-season mill open-house admission. Call 703-759-2771.

Saturday, March 7
Wake Up Sleepy Heads! Puppet Show & Wagon Ride
Join us in getting our winter-sleeping puppet animals to rise and shine for springtime at E.C. Lawrence Park from 1 to 2 p.m. Springtime is really just around the corner and animals in the wild will be waking up! Make a simple craft and enjoy a refreshing wagon ride through the meadow. The cost is $10. For more information, call 703-631-0013.

Sunday, March 8
Reptile & Amphibian Club
Join the RAC and explore the amazing world of turtles, snakes, lizards, frogs and salamanders at E.C. Lawrence Park from 3 to 4 p.m. Learn new facts, encounter live animals and discover their habitats in the park. The cost is $5 per child. For information, call 703-631-0013.

Sunday, March 8 and 15 & Saturday, March 28
Wagon Ride to Poohsticks Bridge
Journey through the woods to Poohsticks Bridge at Riverbend Park from 10 to 11 a.m. Listen to Winnie the Pooh’s story and play Poohsticks on the bridge. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. The cost is $5. For information, call 703-759-9018.

Wednesday, March 11, Thursday, March 12, Tuesday, March 17 & Thursday, March 19
Putting the Animals to Bed
When evening shadows spread over Kidwell Farm, it is time to put the animals to bed. Bring your flashlight or lantern for this twilight tour and learn how our farm animals settle down for the night at Frying Pan Farm Park from 7 to 8 p.m. Dress for the weather. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. The cost is $8. For information, call 703-437-9101.

Thursday, March 12 & Saturday, March 14
Kids’ Korner: Winter
Preschool children ages four to six explore nature or history at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. An outdoor activity and craft included. The topic for March is wind. This one-hour program is offered at 1 p.m. on March 12 and 10 a.m. on March 14. The cost is $5 per child. For information, call 703-631-0013.

Friday, March 13 & 27
Campfire Fridays: Winter
Come along for a night of campfire, s’mores, animals, and so much more! Each night features a different topic and different areas of the park that we visit at Hidden Pond at 7 p.m. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. The cost is $7. For information, call 703-451-9588.

Saturday, March 14
Watershed Clean-Up Day
Join individuals, students, families, scouts and other community groups from 9 a.m. to noon as they remove rubbish from creeks and streams In the Potomac River Watershed. Collect tires, bed springs, bottles, cans and other debris from local waterways. Wear boots and old clothes and bring gloves. Trash bags and appreciation provided. Call to reserve a section of the watershed.
Cub Run RECenter: 703-817-9407
E.C. Lawrence Park: 703-631-0013

Easter Events in the Parks

Saturday, March 21
Easter Eggstravaganza: Enjoy the Fun at Frying Pan Farm Park
Children ages one to six can hunt for eggs full of treats and prizes starting at 10 a.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park. Weather decisions will be made by 8 a.m. and a rain date is set on March 22. The cost is just $6 per child. Call 703-437-2771.

Saturday, March 28
Easter Egg Hunt: Sully
Children ages two to seven can hunt for Easter eggs at Sully Historic Site starting at noon. Join the egg roll, visit baby animals, see the Easter Bunny and make a craft. Bring your own basket. The cost is $6 per child. The rain date is March 29. For information, call 703-437-1794.

Sunday, March 29
Easter Egg Hunt at Lake Fairfax Park
Children one to seven years old can hunt for eggs filled with treats and treasures at Lake Fairfax Park starting at 11 a.m. Pre-paid reservations are required. The cost is $6 per child. For more information, call 703-471-5414.

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Long & Foster in the Greenbriar Shopping Center: 13135 Lee Jackson Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22033 - 703-968-7000
Long & Foster In South Riding: 43114 Peacock Market Plaza, Suite F-100, Chantilly, VA 20152 - 703-327-2621
Who you gonna call …?

Is there a pothole or dead animal in the street?
Do you have a complaint about snow removal on your street?
Call VDOT at 1-800-367-7623.

Is a streetlight out of order?
Call Dominion Virginia Power at 1-866-366-4357 and provide the number on the pole and the street address.

Is your street sign missing or damaged?
Call Fairfax County at 703-877-2800.

Is there a stray dog or wild animal running around?
Call Animal Control Services at 703-691-2131.

Do you smell gas?
Call 911 or Washington Gas at 703-750-1400.

Do you want to disconnect the gas line to your gas lamp? Do you want to remove the lamp entirely?
Call Washington Gas at 703-750-4314.

Next Greenbriar Flyer Deadline
March 13, 2015, 7 P.M.

Donate Unwanted Items
Pender Regift Thrift Store
4447C Brookfield Corp. Drive
Chantilly VA 20151
703 378-7374
regift@penderumc.org
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays – Saturdays
Distributing goods to the poor.

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Finding a Park on the Go Just Got Easier Than Ever

The Fairfax County Park Authority has added a new mobile-friendly search tool to our Web site that provides access to park locations, facilities, Parktakes classes and reservable picnic sites through your favorite smartphone or tablet while on the go. Use the Park Locator Map feature to display a map of nearby parks, soccer fields, playgrounds and tennis courts. Choose a mileage radius from your current location or a designated address. Tapping the map icon of a listed park shows you details of the park, including address, acreage and facility listings. Driving directions are also included via Google Maps.

With the Parktakes Program Search, users can view a map of nearby facilities that offer aquatics, exercise and fitness, camps, or any of the other 20 plus program categories that are offered. Find what you want, then register with Parktakes Online Mobile. Already registered? Use the Parktakes Program Search to get driving directions as well.

The new mobile Picnic Search lets you specify facility type, capacity, fee and a variety of options to find that perfect picnic park in your neighborhood quickly.

There is no “app” to download, install and constantly update. Just go to the Park Authority Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks on your smartphone Web browser and tap “Park Search.” Finding a park on the go just got easier and more fun.

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www.ppmlandscapes.com

Rejoice!
Easter Celebrations at Ox Hill Baptist Church

March 29 Palm Sunday Service
11:00 AM

April 2 Maundy Thursday Service
7:30 PM

April 4 Egg Hunt for Kids!
10:30 AM (for 6th graders and under)
Register at www.oxhillbaptist.org/egghunt

April 5 Easter Morning Services
Sunrise Service at 7:00 AM
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Ox Hill Baptist Church
4101 Elmwood Street • Chantilly, VA • 703-378-5555 • www.oxhillbaptist.org

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March 2015
Park Events continued from page 19.

Sunday, March 15
Wear Green Campfire
Meet at Cabell’s Mill wearing your best green this Saint Patrick’s Day at E.C. Lawrence Park from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and help find all things wearing green in the meadow. Return to a campfire to toast marshmallows. Please be sure to register an adult with your child. The cost is $6. For information, call 703-631-0013.

Wednesday, March 18
Nature Tots at Walney
Bring your toddler to explore nature through the sight, sound, smell and touch of spring at E.C. Lawrence Park from 10:15 to 11 a.m. Program includes both indoor and outdoor activities. Adult must be able to participate with children. The cost is $4 per child. For information, call 703-631-0013.

Friday, March 20
S’more Wagon Ride & Campfire
Enjoy a brisk wagon ride through the Rocky Run Stream Valley at E.C. Lawrence Park from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Discover who Ellanor C. Lawrence was and learn about other aspects of the areas’ local and natural history. Return to a warming campfire and make a sweet chocolate treat to eat. Meet at Cabell’s Mill. The cost is $7. For information, call 703-631-0013.

Jr. Naturalists
Children explore the park’s habitats, wildlife, and history at E.C. Lawrence Park from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Adults are welcome to attend without registering. An outdoor activity and craft is included. Winter topics can be found online. The cost is $5 per child. Call 703-631-0013.

Saturday, March 21
Life in the Leaf Litter
Join a naturalist for a hike. You can explore the forest floor at E.C. Lawrence Park from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Uncover the diversity of soil organisms and the crucial role that invertebrates play in helping forests to stay healthy. The cost is $10. For information, call 703-631-0013.

Campfire with the Constellations
Meet at Cabell’s Mill and talk about stars around a warm campfire from 8 to 9 p.m. Then head out into the meadow with a naturalist to learn how to identify the early summer constellations. Please be sure to register an adult with your child. The cost is $6. For information, call Ellanor C. Lawrence Park 703-631-0013.

Saturday March 21, Sunday, March 22, & Wednesday, March 25
Wagon Ride-Birds, Butterflies & Blossoms
Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Take a wagon ride scavenger hunt through the meadow at Riverbend Park from 10 to 11 a.m. on March 21 and 25 and from 11 a.m. to noon on March 22. Search for birds and butterflies and meet a friendly animal up close. The cost is $5. For more information, call 703-759-9018.

Friday, March 27
Barred Owls Campfire
Enjoy an evening hike and campfire to learn about owls at E.C. Lawrence Park from 6 to 7 p.m. Meet our resident barred owl. Then return to a warm campfire to roast marshmallows. Meet at Cabell’s Mill. The cost is $7. For information, call 703-631-0013.

*This is an excerpt of park events. To view the full Calendar of Events, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

Next Greenbriar Flyer Deadline is March 13, 2015, 7 P.M.
CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED AD RULES:
1. All non-business ads (For Sale, Garage Sales, Wanted, etc.) are free to Greenbriar residents.
2. All business type ads (Products & Services, For Rent, Child Care Providers, etc.) cost $5 each for both residents and non-residents. Fee must be submitted with ad.
3. Ads are limited to 5 lines, longer ads will be edited to fit.
4. Instead of submitting monthly ads and payment, advertisers may pay for classified ads in advance.
5. The deadline for classified ads is the second Friday of each month (first Friday in November).
6. Your name, home address and phone number must be included with the ad for our records.
7. Non-business ads by Greenbriar residents may be e-mailed to: greenbriarflyer@hotmail.com. All other ads must be dropped off at the flyer drop box or mailed to: Greenbriar Flyer, 4615 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151.
8. All classified ads are free to the volunteers of the Greenbriar Flyer.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Please be advised, the Flyer does not personally endorse anyone’s classified ad.

POOL MEMBERSHIP
WANTED – Schoolteacher and family of three would like to purchase a pool membership. Just moved in last year and enjoyed renting the first year. Please contact Mark at mawhalley@cox.net or call/text 703-625-5234.

WANTED – New family hoping to join the pool community and sign children up for swim team once old enough. Parents are avid swimmers. Willing to pay above average cost. Call Kelly or Jack at 703-906-6927.

WANTED – Greenbriar family with three kids is looking to buy pool membership. Please contact Kalle at 703-975-3752.

RENT – I am renting my pool membership for this summer. The cost is $800. Please contact me at mruddy@c-o-r.com if you are interested.

FOR SALE
BAR STOOLS – Two stools, Windsor style, medium brown in color. Very good condition, asking $40 for both. Call Mark or Tatiana at 703-817-9864 or email ktm@si.edu.

PRODUCTS & SERVICES
HOUSECLEANING – Weekly, bi-weekly, every three weeks, monthly, periodically, move in/out. I am licensed, bonded and insured. I am a Greenbriar resident with good references. I have 9 years experience and low rates. Please call Maria Barreda at 703-378-4059 or 703-856-2512.

SMALL ENGINE/LAWN MOWER REPAIR – GB resident/expert mechanic for small engine repair needs. Will come to you. Tune-ups and repairs on lawnmowers, tractors, generators, snow blowers and all outdoor power equipment. Call 703-395-4954 or Greenbriarmechanic@gmail.com.


JOANNE’S PET CARE – Loving care for your pets in your home and mid-day dog walks. Many references. Reduced rates for Greenbriar residents. Licensed and insured. Please call Joanne Woodward at 703-434-9162 or email jowoodward@gmail.com.


DOORS AND LOCKS – Door locks and light door work. Over 30 years experience. Call Ron at 540-687-5975.

LAWN MOWING – Every two weeks, $30 each mow. Call Garcia at 703-400-4260 to schedule your mowing.

ACCOUNTING SERVICES – Tax preparation, tax planning, estate and trust taxes, bookkeeping and more. Years of experience and e-filing authorization from IRS. Contact Mel Kollander at 703-642-8079 or mellj@jcom.com.

PIANO LESSONS – Learn to play the piano at Rebecca’s Piano Studio in Greenbriar. Ages 6 to adult. Call Miss Becky at 703-307-4967 or email beckydixius@aol.com for more information.

TOP QUALITY LICENSED IMPROVEMENTS – Over 30 years experience, 25 in Greenbriar. No one knows these homes better. Kitchens, baths, additions, windows, roofing and siding. Call S. Dockweiler a GB resident at 703-968-3362.


HOUSE CLEANING – A Better Cleaning Services Inc. serving the community for 20 years. Licensed, bonded and insured. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly; move in, move out. Washington Check Book rated and BBB member. Call 703-802-3439 for a free estimate.

CHILD CARE
OPENING – Twenty-one years experienced provider with state license, CPR, MAT and First Aid trained. Loving home, preschool founded in 1977. We are fully licensed by the State of Virginia and members of the Virginia Coop Preschool Council.

Pleasant Valley Preschool is a non-profit cooperative preschool founded in 1977. We are located in the Cale Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road in Fairfax. We are fully licensed by the State of Virginia and members of the Virginia Coop Preschool Council.

CALLING ALL MOTHERS – Busy mother of two seeking other homemakers who are interested in fellowship on weekdays for lunches, play groups, etc. Interested? Call Virginia at 703-606-8393.

EVENTS

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION – Greenbriar West Elementary School is now accepting information for next year’s Kindergarten classes. If you live within our boundaries and have a child who will turn 5 years of age by September 30, 2015, please call the school office at 703-633-6700 ASAP.

CLIFTON/FAIRFAX STATION HOMES TOUR – and Silent Auction, hosted by the Clifton Community Woman’s Club, Thurs., May 21, 9:30 am-4 pm. Tour 3 homes & garden of another. Tickets: $25 in advance, $30 day of the tour. Learn more at www.cliftoncw.org or call 703-830-9161.

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Pleasant Valley Preschool is a non-profit cooperative preschool founded in 1977. We are located in the Cale Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road in Fairfax. We are fully licensed by the State of Virginia and members of the Virginia Coop Preschool Council.

703-378-6911 www.pleasantvalleypreschool.com
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GREENBRIAR 20TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT AT GREENBRIAR COMMONS PARK (Next to Greenbriar Pool)

SPONSORED BY GREENBRIAR CIVIC ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2015
1 p.m. (sharp) – 2:30 p.m.
RAIN OR SHINE

CHILDREN AGE 2 THROUGH 3RD GRADE AND THEIR PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO COME AND HUNT WITH US.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR SET UP (HIDING EGGS) AND CLEAN UP. CALL SANDY AT 703-378-6984.

GREENBRIAR COMMUNITY SPRING CLEAN UP
Saturday, April 11, 2015
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Volunteers meet at Greenbriar Commons Park
Rain date: April 5
Reminder: Bring hat, gloves and sunscreen
Contact: Sandy William (703-378-6984)