

Chantilly ❖ Fair Oaks ❖ Fair Lakes ❖ Oak Hill

CENTRE VIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

A Day in the Life of Chantilly

PAGE 3

5:26 a.m.

Fernando Avila is a mechanic with American Disposal Services. He helps keep the trucks on the road. The amount of grease and grime in the workshop is so great the floors are washed twice a day.

Insiders Guide

PHOTO BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

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INSIDERS GUIDE

Residents Discuss Their Communities

What they enjoy about living here.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Below, some longtime residents explain what makes their, particular community — and the Chantilly/Oak Hill area in general — special. They also note some can't-miss places and events in the area and advise newcomers on how to get involved here.

SULLY DISTRICT'S representative to the Fairfax County Park Authority, Hal Strickland has lived in Greenbriar for 40 years. He also founded the Chantilly Youth Association.

"We were one of the pioneers of Greenbriar, and what happened early on set its tone. Then, we were kind of 'far out in the sticks,' so those who were first here bound together. It's a community where people have stepped up and served it.

"Our strong churches give a good sense of community and family, and we've always had good leadership and participation in the Greenbriar Civic Association (GCA) by the members of the community. We've strongly supported the county school system and PTAs; we have two elementary schools, a middle school and a high school right here, so we're proud of our schools.

"It's almost a small-town environment.

"We have great youth programs; we've had CYA since 1972 and people have supported it, and that, too, brought people together. They'd come out to the games and other community events and meet each other and become friends. And it's a safe and secure area to raise a family.

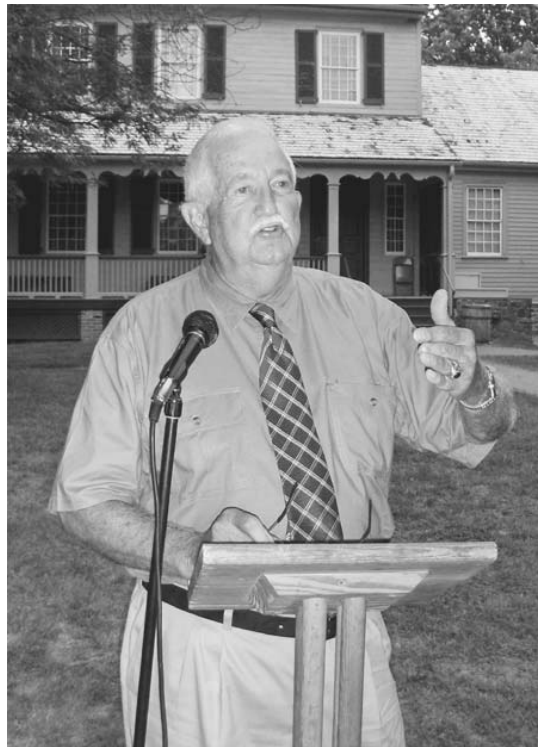
"People take pride in their community, and ownership in it, because they wanted Greenbriar to be a good place for their families to grow up. We've had three cycles of families and generations, and now we have lots of young families again. I see the kids of kids I coached in CYA. It's also a diverse community. I think it represents a place we're proud to live in and that we want to live in.

"We also have the convenience of all the shopping and great parks around us. We have Greenbriar, Poplar Tree and Arrowhead parks, plus the ballfields across from Chantilly High — and they have synthetic turf and lights. And now we have the Cub Run Rec Center, too, and Greenbriar sits right in the middle of all this good stuff.

"The GCA passes out a welcome kit to everyone with information about the community and Fairfax County about who to call, and how, to get involved in things. People can join their civic association, youth sports league, volunteer and take part in community activities. And if they volunteer, they become the community."

SULLY DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION Commissioner and chairman of the Sully District Council of Citizens Associations Land-Use Committee, Jeff Parnes, has lived in Oak Hill's Chantilly Highlands community for 25 years.

"It's the longest I've lived anywhere. Our neighborhood is self-reliant. We have a board, but no permanent, paid staff, so we run the neighborhood, ourselves. The neighbors are friendly, and they're not transient, but longtime residents. People maintain



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Strickland

their yards, and the community built its own community center and has a swim team. The children attend Oak Hill Elementary, Franklin Middle School and Chantilly High.

"Actually, Chantilly has pretensions of grandeur. It was named after a famous, French estate north of Paris, the Chateau du Chantilly. We took our kids there in 1995 and got them Chantilly t-shirts.

"But the people here are so integrated in different types of housing. It's now a nice, suburban area; the variety of people who've moved here have made this a better place by providing their culture to the mix of Americans.

"The Chantilly/Oak Hill area also has great food, shopping and transportation. Our major north-south roads have been made four lanes, and we have major east-west roads, too. Metro is nearby, Dulles Rail is coming and commuter buses and trains take us Downtown [to the District], so you don't have to take your private vehicle to work, if you don't want to.

"We've also got a great supervisor in Mike Frey. He's customer-driven and makes sure his residents are well-served by the county and its services. He appoints people to county boards, commissions, etc., based on their skill sets, not whether they're Democrats or Republicans. And he has the strength to stand on his positions.

"We have three high schools to serve us now, plus the Cub Run Rec Center and our large and very well-used regional libraries. When the libraries don't open 'til 1 p.m., there are large queues of people waiting to get in.

"We also have wonderful citizens organizations for people to join, whether it's Sully District Council, WFCCA, WFCM or religious organizations. Plus, the Sully District is a place where people of many different faiths feel comfortable building their houses of worship.

"Regarding local activities, there's the Sully Antique Car Show, the Labor Day Cruise-In in the Town of Clifton, the Sully Quilt Show and do-not-miss events, all the time, at Sully Plantation and the Dulles Expo



Parnes

SEE WHAT THEY ENJOY, PAGE 10

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From left are Michelle and Meghan Virostek with mom Tasha (far right) of Chantilly's Poplar Tree Estates community.



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What They Enjoy about Living Here

FROM PAGE 7

Center.”

TASHA VIROSTEK is a 12-year resident of Chantilly's Poplar Tree Estates community.

“There’s definitely a sense of community here. Our community pool brings a bond, and we have the elementary school in our community — which is a huge draw, bringing residents to its events.

“We have a Labor Day picnic every year for the entire community. People look forward to it, come out and schedule their vacations around it, and it’s become an annual tradition.

“The Angel Kisses 5K Run and 2K Walk, [raising money to fight childhood cancer], is held each year on Mother’s Day and is another huge event Poplar Tree Estates has. People have really embraced it and made it the success it is today.

“Good people befriend good people, and this community seems to draw great volunteers, great neighbors and great friends who look forward to seeing each other and working together.

“Fun events in this area include the annual airplane pull at Dulles airport, Civil War re-enactments at the Manassas National Battlefield Park and the Blue Bell Walk in Bull Run Regional Park.

“And here in Chantilly, we always look forward to the Chantilly High School Homecoming Parade in Greenbriar and Chantilly’s Jazz and Pizzazz and Holiday Spectacular shows. Actually, any of the plays and children’s shows at Rocky Run Middle School and Chantilly High are can’t-miss events.

“To become involved in their community, I’d advise people to volunteer for various groups, such as Neighborhood Watch and their community’s swim team, and to also participate in other events within their neighborhood.”

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CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Sully police department through Aug. 20.

BURGLARY/ ARREST

A man was arrested after allegedly breaking into a home in the 13900 block of Valley Country Drive around 1:55 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 17. A 19-year-old male of the 3900 block of Flagg Court in Chantilly, was taken to jail and charged with burglary. Nothing appeared to be missing from the home.

RABIES TESTING

Animal Control officers collected a fox for rabies testing from the 10900 block of Hunter Station Road around 1:33 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 12. Two dogs, a Blue Heeler and a Blue Heeler/Rottweiler mix, that came into contact with the fox were given a rabies booster and quarantined for 45 days.

LARCENIES

- 5700 block of Barrymore Road.** Tools stolen from vehicle.
- 14400 block of Black Horse Court.** Cash stolen from residence.
- 14900 block of Braddock Road.** Golf cart stolen from business.
- 4400 block of Brookfield Corporate Drive.** Laptop computer stolen from business.
- Darkwood Drive/Saint Timothy Lane.** Airbags and steering wheel stolen from vehicle.

4100 block of Gumwood Court.

Bicycle stolen from residence.

13900 block of Lee Jackson Memorial Highway.

Registration and license plate decal stolen from vehicle.

14000 block of Verona Lane.

Laptop computer stolen from residence.

VEHICLE THEFTS

14600 block of Creek Valley Court.

1997 Dodge Caravan.

6300 block of Drill Field Court.

1996 Chrysler Town and Country.

COMMERCIAL ROBBERY

A man robbed a pharmacist at Walgreens, located at 13926 Lee Highway, on Sunday, Aug. 8, at 10:44 p.m. The suspect reportedly passed a note to the employee implying a weapon and demanding Oxycodone. The employee complied and the suspect fled the store. The suspect was described as white, 22 to 27 years old. He was between 5 feet 6 inches and 5 feet 8 inches tall and weighed 130 to 150 pounds. He had brown hair. He was wearing a black motorcycle jacket with a white logo on the front and baggy, blue jeans.

UNLAWFUL ENTRY/TRESPASSING/ARREST

Police arrested a man on Friday, Aug. 6, after he reportedly entered an acquaintance’s home without permission. Police were called to the

home in the 4200 block of Airline Parkway, around 9:30 a.m. An investigation determined the man allegedly entered through a bathroom window and attempted to wake a 30-year-old woman in her bedroom. The man was previously barred from the community by property managers. A 20-year-old male of the 4200 block of Airline Parkway in Chantilly was charged with unlawful entry and trespassing.

ROBBERY

Two men, 23 and 24 years old, were robbed at gunpoint on Wednesday, Aug. 11 around 11:50 p.m. The two victims were getting into a vehicle in the area of Elmwood St. and Khalid Lane when they were approached by a man with a gun. The suspect brandished the gun and demanded property and money from the victims. The victims complied. They were able to return to their car and flee. They did not require medical attention. The suspect was described as Hispanic, in his early 20s. He was about 5 feet 6 inches tall and 180 pounds. He was wearing a black shirt over a white shirt and baggy jeans.

LARCENIES

- 14300 block of Chantilly Crossing Lane.** X-Box game system stolen from business.
- 14300 block of Chantilly Crossing Lane.** License plate stolen from vehicle.