

Parks and Recreation Activities Brochure Inside!

STAFFORD *Virginia*

Honoring Our
Heroes

Stafford County's
News & Information
Magazine
Summer 2016



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On the Cover

Some Stafford armed services members and a daughter of a Marine are featured on the front of this issue. Back row, left to right: Army veteran and Stafford County Sheriff's Office 1st Sgt. Nancy Morin; Marine Cpl. Jhon Espinal, assigned to duty at the National Museum of the Marine Corps; and Coast Guard veteran Todd Eichberg.

Middle row, left to right: Air Force veteran Sue Henderson; and Stafford High School Naval ROTC member Hannah Lansford. In front is Aubrey Jones, a second-grader at Winding Creek Elementary, and the daughter of Elizabeth and 1st Lt. Matthew Davis. 1st Lt. Davis (in the photo at right) was killed while serving on active duty. Aubrey's mother, Elizabeth, serves on the Stafford Armed Services Memorial Working Group, helping to plan the memorial.





A Message from the Chairman

With Quantico in our backyard and many other military installations close by, veterans and active duty service members and their families are integral parts of our community. Military families come from all around our country and enrich our community's schools, churches, workplaces and civic organizations. I am a Marine Corps veteran and I am very proud that Stafford County is building an Armed Services Memorial that will honor our active duty service members, veterans and especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Our Board of Supervisors has appropriated \$225,000 towards the estimated \$662,500 needed to build the memorial and our memorial commission is working hard to raise the rest of the funds. I look forward to its completion.

In other news, Stafford County has experienced several achievements since the last *Stafford* magazine was published in February. We celebrated Black History Month by unveiling a historic highway marker in memory of Anthony Burns, a Stafford native whose story of escaping slavery helped inspire the abolitionist movement.

Two Stafford efforts were highlighted in national magazines. First, an internal employee demographic study was featured in the March edition of the International City/County Management Association's *Public Management* magazine. Second, Stafford performed a study documenting 30 slavery-related buildings and sites in the hopes of preserving them. This study was mentioned in the spring 2016 edition of the National Trust's magazine *Preservation*.

Our Purchase of Development Rights Program acquires conservation easements offered by citizens that limit future residential development. We recently added more land to the program, bringing the total number of acres in the program to 347 acres and retiring a total of 90 development rights. If you include Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve, Wide-water State Park, Chichester and Duff Green county parks, Stafford has saved more than 4,710 acres from development.

You've probably noticed we installed trailblazing signs this spring with the County's logo and colors to identify Stafford's many visitor attractions such as Potomac Winery, Belmont and Curtis Park. The

signs are in addition to the previously installed gateway signs which welcome visitors into Stafford County. The official signs are easy to spot and make it easier for visitors to navigate, aiding our tourism efforts.

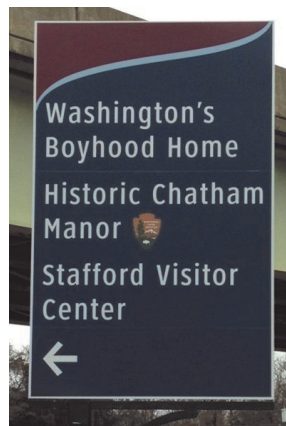
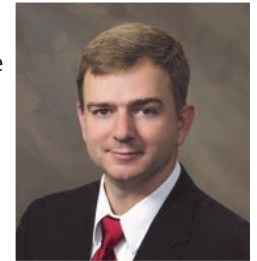
We held a ribbon cutting for the opening of the rectangular fields at Embrey Mill Park. 170 teams and more than 2,700 players participated in a St. Paddy's Day tournament held at Embrey Mill Park and throughout the county, boosting sports tourism and the local economy. The Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center at Embrey Mill Park will open this spring and will feature three pools, exercise rooms, basketball courts and much more. Lastly, we worked with Stafford County Public Schools to negotiate a joint contract with a health insurance provider to save taxpayer dollars on administrative costs while also being able to offer the same plans to all Stafford employees, whether they are County or school employees.

There's more good news on the horizon. We will open our newest park facility at Lake Mooney on Saturday, May 28. Facilities include a boat launch and restrooms and once the fish stock has matured, fishing will be allowed. Plans are also in place to build Stafford's first universally accessible playground at Chichester Park and the playground is scheduled to open later this year.

Our Board of Supervisors worked with the Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Virginia Department of Transportation to fund improvements to I-95.

The HOT lanes are going to be extended; a fourth lane is being added south of Exit 140; and extra lanes and a new bridge will be added between I-95 between U.S. Route 17 and U.S. Route 3. We are confident this will relieve congestion, reduce commute times and give our citizens more time with their families.

As always, it's a great time to be a citizen of Stafford County. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your family.



*Robert "Bob" Thomas
Chairman, Stafford Board of Supervisors*



New Memorial Will Honor Armed Services

Donald Lamar asked Stafford County if his son, Marine Sgt. Donald Lamar, II, a Stafford High School graduate who was killed in Afghanistan in 2010, could be recognized for his service. Lamar, age 23, left behind a wife, Stephanie, and a daughter, Madison. Lamar's request inspired Stafford's Board of Supervisors to appoint an Armed Services Memorial Commission to create a memorial to honor the fallen, those who have served and those who are currently serving.

A commission of three citizens was selected to plan the memorial: Lieutenant General Ron Christmas, a retired Marine and founder of the National Museum of the Marine Corps; Mark Dudenhefer, also a retired Marine; and Gary Snellings, an Air Force veteran.

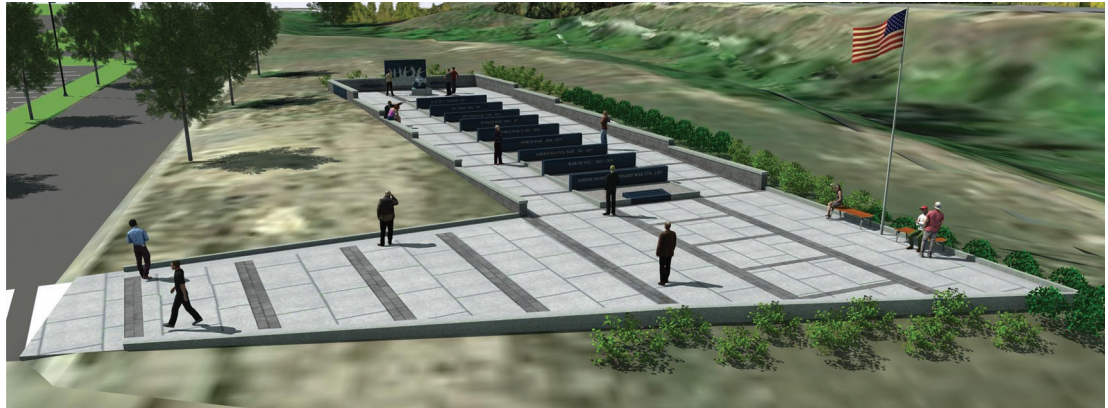
The commission decided to hold a memorial design competition among Stafford's high school students as a way to involve the future of Stafford County in its past. Five designs were selected to serve as the inspiration and to be included in the final design for the memorial.

Kline Memorials was selected to design the memorial, which will be located to the rear of the Stafford County Government Center and Stafford Courthouse. The memorial and plaza will provide a stand-alone location to hold ceremonies, special events, and be a quiet spot for contemplation. It will be a lasting tribute in a location that will be easily accessible to citizens and visitors for years to come, on a scale the County has not undertaken before.

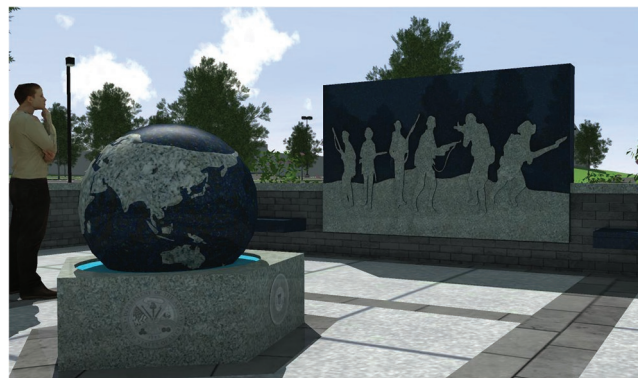
One of the key features of the memorial will be bricks that line the edges of the walkways. Citizens may buy bricks to honor their family or friends who served or are serving in the armed services. Bricks may be purchased at the Stafford County Treasurer's Office or through the mail, using the brick form

included in this magazine or online.

A working group of citizen volunteers has been established to raise funds to build the memorial which has an estimated cost of \$675,000. The Stafford County Board of Supervisors voted to appropriate \$225,000 towards that amount.



A bird's eye view of the plaza



Plans call for an artist to design the etching on the wall at the end of the plaza.

The working group will be kicking off their fundraising in May 2016, reaching out to businesses, individuals and community leaders to help support the memorial.

Members of the working group include: Chairman Daniel Chichester; Vice Chairman Mark Osborn; Billy Shelton; Edward Wallace; Elizabeth Davis; Sue Henderson; Frank White; former Sheriff Charlie Jett; James Brown and John Cox.

For more information or to purchase bricks online, please visit www.StaffordArmedServicesMemorial.weebly.com.



Stafford County's Armed Services Memorial Buy-a-Brick Campaign

Your donation of \$200.00 will help support the construction of the Stafford County Armed Services Memorial that will honor those who have served honorably since the Revolutionary War, paid the ultimate sacrifice, or are currently serving in our Armed Services. To commemorate your gift, a personalized engraved brick will be installed at the Memorial to be located on the Stafford County Government campus.*

Please print the following information and return this completed form with your donation:

Donator Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Instructions:

1. Use the boxes below for your personalized message on your brick.
2. Include an empty box for spaces between words.
3. Spaces, commas, and periods count towards the maximum number of characters (20 characters across for three rows).
4. ALL bricks will be engraved in all capital letters and centered.

Veteran's Name/Family

Donations may be tax deductible and should be made payable to:

Stafford County Armed Services Memorial Fund

Please return this form with your accompanying check to:

Stafford County Armed Services Memorial
P.O. Box 1777
Stafford, VA 22555

***Thank you again for your generous donation and continued support of the
Stafford County Armed Services Memorial!***

www.StaffordArmedServicesMemorial.weebly.com



Find Us Online and by Phone

- Sign up for Stafford's emergency alert system by visiting www.staffordalert.com.
- Find us on Facebook at: **Stafford County Government, Office of Stafford County Sheriff, Stafford County Animal Control, Stafford County Crime Solvers, Stafford County Fire and Rescue, Stafford County, VA, Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities, Stafford County Utilities, Stafford, VA, Economic Development, and TourStaffordVA.**
- Look for us on Twitter: **@staffordvagov, @SCFR, @staffcosheriff, @StaffordParks, @VoteStaffordVA, @TourStaffordVA, and @SCCrimeSolvers.**
- View videos on YouTube on our **Stafford County Channel.**
- Dial 911 for emergencies; (540) 658-4400 for the Sheriff's non-emergency line.
- Dial 311 on a landline or (540) 658-5311 or (540) 658-4311 for information.



Action at Embrey Mill Park's Opening Day



*Remarkable Americans.
Remarkable museum.*





**FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS
OF MARINES AT THE NATIONAL
MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS**

The National Museum of the Marine Corps celebrates over 240 years of United States Marine Corps history. Come follow in the footsteps of Marines; from boot camp to the boot prints left in the sands of the Pacific Islands, in the snow of the Chosin Reservoir, on Vietnam's Hill 881, and the continued global fight against terror.

18900 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY ★ QUANTICO, VA ★ FREE PARKING & ADMISSION ★ WWW.USMCMUSEUM.COM



Stafford Hospital



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In the heart of Stafford County, we continue to expand services to meet the needs of our growing community. Along with the quality you expect from Mary Washington Healthcare, you'll also find soothing amenities, easy access to the services you need, and a patient-first experience.

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- Leading-edge cardiac care including Cardiovascular Interventional Radiology Lab (CAIR)
- Radiation oncology
- Advanced minimally invasive surgery and COEMIG Accreditation
- Women's services including boutique-style labor and delivery as well as postpartum care and Level II Nursery
- Physical medicine and rehabilitation
- State-of-the-art imaging
- Outpatient laboratory and blood draw
- Outpatient Infusion Center
- Inpatient care units with compassionate service

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Stafford Hospital

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Lil' Kickers **Stafford County**

The Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center is now offering Lil' Kickers!

Classes are available to children ages 18 months to 9 years. The Lil' Kickers curriculum was developed using renowned child development theory, so classes are tailored to specific ages and abilities, and can accommodate most children. Lil' Kickers coaches are trained in child development theory so they incorporate a developmental perspective when approaching children.

Hurry, Enrollment is limited and going fast!

Email Seth Perdue at sperdue@rousecenter.com or call the center at (540) 318-6332 to reserve your spot!



www.rousecenter.com

A Public Private Partnership with Stafford County