

CENTRE VIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION



Students from the Expressive Therapeutic Movement program will be performing at the May 2 benefit at Centreville Presbyterian Church.

Hearts N' Motion To Raise Funds

Expressive Therapeutic Movement will benefit, along with Western Fairfax Christian Ministries.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Hearts N' Motion, a special program including dancers and a silent auction, will be held Saturday, May 2, at Centreville Presbyterian Church, 15450 Lee Highway in Centreville.

Besides being an evening of fun and entertainment, it will benefit Expressive Therapeutic Move-

ment (ETM), plus Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM).

With classes in both Springfield and Oakton — and students from throughout Fairfax County, including Centreville, Chantilly and Fairfax — ETM uses music, dance, art and movement to work with people, ages 6-25, with developmental delays. These include Down Syndrome, au-

SEE HEARTS, PAGE 5

Community Mourns Debbie Foster, 47

She received county award posthumously.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW



Debbie Foster

Debbie Foster couldn't be there to accept her award Saturday from the Fairfax County Tree Commission but, with a mixture of pride and grief, her husband Steve did. Debbie, 47, of Centreville's Gate Post Estates community, died last Wednesday, April 22, at home after a two-year battle with ovarian cancer.

"It's hard," said Steve Foster. "She really thought she was going to beat it, and I think that's why she held on so long."

She was well-known in the local area, combining forces with others in the community to campaign against Bull Run Regional Park being decimated by the Tri-County Parkway when that was considered a possible route. She also worked to preserve that park's bluebells, her favorite wildflower, and served as vice president of the Gate Post Estates Homeowners Association, dealing with environmental issues.

"She was a human resources manager by profession, but her real passion was protecting wildlife and the environment," said

Foster. "Debbie was appointed as Sully District representative to the Fairfax County Tree Commission by Supervisor Michael Frey and served as a Tree Commissioner for several years."

The group recommended to the county Board of Supervisors what trees should be planted on government property and reviewed the county's plans for a 9/11 memorial. And she was delighted to be part of it.

THIS YEAR, the commission selected her to receive a "Friend of Trees" award for her enthusiasm,

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 2

Swain Sentenced to Nearly Four Years

Convicted of gang, wounding charges.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

In December 2008, the jury that had just convicted Centreville's Brian Swain of gang and wounding charges recommended he spend five years in prison for his deeds. On April 17, Judge Stanley Klein imposed that sentence, but suspended one year, three months, giving Swain three years, nine months to serve.

The crime occurred in May 2007, when a group

of males in Reston beat up a teen-age boy who they believed was a member of an opposing gang. Swain, 22, of the Singleton's Grove community, was charged with malicious or unlawful wounding by mob and participation in a criminal street gang, knowing one of its members is a minor.

The first person to testify during Swain's trial, Dec. 15-16, in Fairfax County Circuit Court, was the victim. He and two friends had just walked outside the Burger King in Hunters Woods Plaza, May 12, 2007, around 7 p.m., when they were confronted. He was then 16 and was wearing a blue shirt.

Speaking via a Spanish-language interpreter, he said, "A group of guys came and asked us if

we were in a gang. About seven approached us. They wore black and asked if we were in MS-13 or Crips. We said no, and one asked what we'd do if one of them hit me. I said, 'We don't want any problems.' Then one hit me in the face, and then they all did."

He said he tried to run, but couldn't, because they got in front of him and cut him off. They circled around him, and he pointed to Swain in court as being one of the members of the circle. But at the time of the incident, said the victim, Swain's hair was "bigger and [braided]."

While on the ground, he said, they struck him several times.

SEE SWAIN, PAGE 7



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NEWS

Community Mourns Debbie Foster

FROM PAGE 1
devotion to the organization's goals and for being such a true "friend of trees" in the public forum. The award was presented, April 25, at the Arbor Day Festival at NOVAS Annandale campus, and Foster accepted it in his wife's memory.

He said she was also honored, a few years ago, when Bull Run Elementary asked her to lead a group of students on a nature hike at Camp Highroad. "She met with the naturalist there and learned about all the plants and trees, and then she explained it to the kids," said Foster. "She just loved that."

The couple had no children, but May 23 would have been their 11th anniversary. "Debbie was beautiful and extremely friendly and outgoing," he said. "We spent a lot of time camping and hiking. We took trips to Yosemite Nation Park in California and camped at Cranberry Lake in the Adirondacks — that was one of our favorite trips."

Another of Foster's special memories is of their honeymoon in Hawaii. "We stayed at The Four Seasons in Maui, rented a convert-

ible and drove around the island. It was a magical time."

BUT IN FEBRUARY 2007, Debbie was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. It was initially confined to one ovary, and doctors thought an operation got it all. But in August, they realized it had spread to her lymph nodes.

"Altogether, she had nine chemotherapies, and only one worked for a little while," said Foster. "She

"Her drive and determination infused everything she did."

— Steve Foster, Debbie Foster's husband

really went through the mill and suffered so much." So he and Debbie's father made it their mission to research the disease and consult with doctors at Johns Hopkins.

Foster does independent consulting, but left his full-time job in October 2007 to care for his wife. Through it all, Debbie remained positive and upbeat, with a strong will to live. "Her passion for nature and the environment also kept her going," he said. "Her drive

and determination infused everything she did. She was determined to fight this disease, and she went down fighting, to her last breath."

In January 2008, she got into a clinical trial at Weinberg Cancer Institute in Baltimore for a new drug recommended by Dr. William McGuire, "the leading person for ovarian cancer," said Foster. "Thirty-five people were being helped by it, but she was one of three that weren't."

She then received treatment from a doctor in Bethesda, but her cancer was particularly resistant and, at the end of March, she stopped treatment. She then received care from Capital Hospice and, said Foster, "They were wonderful." She died April 22, shortly after 5 p.m., with her husband at her side.

SINCE THEN, he's been busy with funeral arrangements and says the full impact of her death "hasn't hit me, yet." He and Debbie met at work and dated five years before marrying, so they knew each other 16 years.

"What's hard is finding the right person [to love], doing everything in your power to save them — and failing," said Foster. "But the best thing I've ever done was take care of her." Besides her husband, she's survived by her parents, Roy and Dorothy Gumpert of Centreville's Green Trails community, and sisters, Alicia Shiels of Warrenton and Kathy Buckley of Mechanicsburg.

Funeral services were held Monday morning, April 27, at St. Mark Orthodox Church in Bethesda, Md., with burial at Fairfax Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Fairfax ReLeaf, 12055 Government Center Parkway., Suite 703, Fairfax, VA 22035, www.fairfaxreleaf.org; Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, 910 17th Street, NW, Suite 1190, Washington, D.C. 20036, www.ovariancancer.org; or to the Rappahannock Animal Welfare League, P.O. Box 396, Amissville, VA 20106, www.rawldogs.org.

Furthermore, a group of Gate Post Estates neighbors and former neighbors have formed a team in Debbie's memory to walk in the upcoming Centreville Relay for Life. Since Debbie loved walking the Bluebell trail in Bull Run Regional Park each spring, they call their team the "Bluebells." To donate to cancer research, see their team page: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=team&fr_id=13066&team_id=482402.

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ROUNDUP

Penney's Store Clerk Robbed

Fairfax County police are looking for whoever robbed a store clerk last week at the JC Penney store in Fair Oaks Mall. The incident occurred Tuesday, April 14, at 9:10 p.m. A 42-year-old Herndon woman was working behind the counter when she was approached by a woman who stood behind her, placed an object against her back and demanded the register be opened. The clerk complied and the robber removed an undisclosed amount of cash before fleeing on foot.

The suspect is described as black, about 50, and 5 feet 9 inches with a heavy build. She wore a pink cap, red hooded sweatshirt, gray sweatpants and white shoes. Police are continuing to investigate. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

Robber Strikes Chantilly Quiznos

A 23-year-old Fairfax woman was robbed recently while working at the Quiznos Sub restaurant at 13661 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly. The incident occurred on March 28. Fairfax County police say a man approached the employee at the counter, around 8:15 p.m., and ordered a sandwich. When the employee rang up the order, the man produced a knife.

The suspect then removed an undisclosed amount of cash from the register and fled out the front door with the sandwich and the money. The victim was not injured. The robber was described as black, 25 to 30 years old and about 6 feet and 180 pounds. He was clean-shaven and wore a black jacket.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections, Thursday, April 30, and May 7, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. No appointment is necessary. But residents should install the child safety seats themselves so technicians may properly inspect and adjust them, as needed. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140 to confirm dates and times.

Westfield Community Coalition

The Westfield Community Coalition will meet Monday, May 4, at 3:30 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Contact Jennifer Cooper at 703-966-8304 or jalcooper@aol.com.

Foreclosure Prevention Forum

A foreclosure prevention forum will be held Tuesday, May 5, from 7-9 p.m., at Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road (off New Braddock Road) in Centreville. Residents may also learn their rights as renters. Information will be provided by the Homeownership Division of the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Also participating will be the Consumer Affairs Branch of the Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection, and Legal Services of Northern Virginia which will provide Korean and Spanish translation. Seating is limited, so residents are encouraged to register early. Call the Department of Housing and Community Development at 703-246-5264.

WFCCA Land-Use Elections

Members of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee were re-elected last week to serve another year on the panel. They are: Carol Hawn, At-Large; Judy Heisinger, Bull Run; Jim Katcham, Centre Ridge Regent; Mark McConnell, At-Large; Jim Neighbors, Sully Station I; Dorothy Steranka, Willoughby's Ridge; and Chris Terpak-Malm, At-Large. Katcham was also re-elected land-use chairman. Other committee chairmen are: McConnell, education; Terpak-Malm, parks and recreation; Steranka, social services and outreach; and Heisinger, transportation.

NEWS



Jeffrey Virostek's cousins Luke, Meghan, Beth, Tim, the poster showing the organizations that have benefited from the Angel Kisses 5K, Amy, Erin, Katie, Angela, and Michelle at last year's race.

Angel Kisses on Mother's Day

5K/2K event helps families with childhood cancer.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Nearly six years have passed since Chantilly's Jeffrey Virostek died at age 4 of acute myelogenous leukemia [AML]. But he's not been forgotten, and an annual fund-raiser in his honor helps other children battling cancer.

His family still lives in Chantilly's Poplar Tree Estates community, and on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, at 8 a.m., they'll hold the sixth annual Angel Kisses 5K run and 2K walk. It starts and ends at the Poplar Tree Estates Swim and Racquet Club, 13516 Point Pleasant Drive.

"I'm truly honored that this event continues to happen annually in Jeffrey's memory," said his mother, Tasha Virostek. "We're proud that we've been able to give to other families at this tumultuous time in their lives."

Capital Running will officiate the race, and a new technology — a disposable "D" tag attached to the participants' shoelaces — will capture the results. For more information and to register, see www.AngelKisses-5k.org. Online registration is: 5K, \$20; 2K, \$15, by May 7.

Afterward, it's \$25 and \$20. Walk-in registration and packet pickup are Friday, May 8, from 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and race day, from 6:30-7:30 a.m., at the Poplar Tree Community Center.

After Jeffrey's death in September 2003, his parents, Tasha and Stephen Virostek, established the Jeffrey Virostek Memorial Fund. And over the past five years, this race has raised more than \$75,000 for it.

The fund donates to organizations and charities including Life with Cancer counseling services, The Red Apple Clown Care Ministry, Colors of Love, CaringBridge, Special Love, Candlelighters and Tears to Rainbows.

Those unable to be in the race, but wishing to make a contribution, may send checks payable to Angel Kisses 5K to 13445 Marble Rock Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151.

Since the Virosteks know firsthand what families go through when their children have cancer, they want to give them the same strength and support they received from their own community when Jeffrey was ill. His four siblings, ages 1-14, participate in the race each year and, said Tasha Virostek, "They have a wonderful time. They're very proud to be a part of this event."

More than 650 people were in last year's race, and she's delighted with the great turnout. "Many people have benefited from the race's proceeds," she said. "We're humbled by the support of the community."

Four Years, Four Months for Robbery

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

A Centreville man who robbed a fellow resident at gunpoint last summer has now been sentenced to more than four years in prison. He is Taurus Finley Dean Jr., 19, of 14626 Outpost Court in Centre Ridge.

The crime happened in the early-morning hours

of July 10, 2008, when a man walking near London Towne Elementary in Centreville was accosted by three people. They threatened him with a semi-automatic handgun and a baseball bat and stole his belongings.

Now, two of the assailants have been sentenced in court. Legally certified as an adult, Julio Cesar

SEE SENTENCED. PAGE 11

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries Expands Its Space

Increased demand, need for revenue are fueling change.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

At Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) in Chantilly, last week, employees were busy setting up a section with baby equipment. They were also creating furniture arrangements, organizing household items and electronics and planning to add more shelving for food.

That's because this group that helps out local residents in need is expanding its physical space by 6,000 square feet. The existing building at 13981 Metrotech Drive is just 4,850 square feet, but the expansion into the adjacent storefront will provide 10,500 square feet total.

"The purpose is twofold — to serve more clients because the demand is so huge, and to generate additional revenue to support the food pantry and other assistance we give," said WCM Executive Director Melissa Jansen. "First, we'll expand our thrift store and then we'll expand the food pantry."

The more income WFCM receives, she explained, the more programs and services it can offer for those in need in western Fairfax County — Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fairfax Station and Fair Oaks. And in these tough, economic times, an increasing number of people are seeking help.

Jansen said the demand for food has skyrocketed 64 percent since last year at this time, and proceeds from the thrift store help keep the food pantry afloat and allow WFCM to keep providing clothing, plus financial aid for rent and utilities. The additional space will also enable WFCM to offer its 13-week, budgeting classes on site, instead of at Ox Hill Baptist Church where they're held now.

"The food pantry will double in size, af-



From left, WFCM's Lillian Diaz, Andrea Novotny and Marcie Schoonmaker organize baby equipment.

fording us more space for shoppers and volunteers, as well as food storage," said Jansen. "Now, part of it's stored off-site, which we pay for."

The thrift store is currently open 39 hours/week, with varying hours. But the revamped, enlarged one will be open six days a week, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. And donations will be accepted every day, not just certain days and hours, as is the case now.

"The store will have a new look, with all new merchandise and some higher-end items, too," said Jansen. "There'll be furniture, electronics, household goods, china, silver and premium clothing — including never-worn, designer clothing, still tagged."

FOOD-PANTRY customers must be referred by county agencies, but the thrift shop is open to everyone. And with the downturn in the economy, Jansen believes

"it's a perfect time to have a larger thrift store because more people are shopping in [them] now. The perception of the thrift store is that it's only open to serve needy clients. But that's not true; we're here to help people, no matter their socio-economic status."

No demolition was involved, but the project included painting, carpeting, electrical work and lots of "elbow grease" from the volunteers, moving merchandise into the new space. Quality of Life Remodeling, owned by WFCM board member Dan Whitaker, did the remodeling of the previously vacant storefront. There's even a new sign outside, and WFCM expects the freshly refurbished and restocked thrift shop to be open for business by this Friday, May 1.

"Because of the generosity of our landlord, Beatty Management, we were able to negotiate the additional space," said Jansen. "They're making it possible for us to better

serve more clients in western Fairfax, and this is their way of giving back to the community, too."

The existing building will then be used only for the food pantry and WFCM offices, but it'll be redesigned to make it more efficient for shoppers. And Jansen expects it to be busier than ever.

"In all of 2008, we served 2,400 families with food and assistance," she said. "We gave out more than 24,000 bags of food, and we had 4,000 client appointments for help." But this year's numbers are outpacing last year's, at this time.

From January through March 2008, WFCM served 581 families with food and financial assistance and gave out 5,903 bags of food. From January through March 2009, WFCM assisted 882 families and gave out 9,068 bags of food.

"The demand is higher because more people are in need," said Jansen. "They're losing jobs or homes, are on the verge of foreclosure and aren't able to pay their monthly rent, mortgage or utility bills."

IN ADDITION, she said, "The fact that we're able to offer our thrift store clothing and other items below market price, and at or below other area thrift stores, should be more attractive to new shoppers looking for a bargain. And now, donors will have a large, local charity to which they may donate their larger furniture and household items."

Regarding WFCM's larger, improved digs, Jansen said, "We're elated; it's really exciting for us. We feel like the timing and the new opportunity for space is perfect to let us better carry out our mission. Our store manager and volunteers have moved everything into the new store and did the decorating and pricing. Our volunteers are wonderful — they're the backbone of WFCM."



WFCM executive director Melissa Jansen

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Clem, Blankenship Engaged

Mr. David Alan Clem and Mrs. Tari Tabb Clem of Catharpin, Va. and Mr. Andrew Jonathan Greenfield and Mrs. Laurell Anne Greenfield of Vienna, Va. are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Judith Anne Clem to James Thomas Blankenship, son of Mr. James William Blankenship III and Mrs. Cynthia Lyon Blankenship of Virginia Beach, Va.

Judi is a 2004 graduate of Westfield High School in Chantilly, Va. She graduated magna cum laude from Radford University in 2008 where she studied Elementary Education. Judi is now a fifth grade teacher in Falls Church, Va.

Jimmy is a 2002 graduate of Kempsville High School in Virginia Beach, VA. He graduated from Radford University in 2006 where he studied marketing and economics. Jimmy now works as an outside salesman for Commercial Lighting Sales in the Washington D.C. area.

A December wedding is planned at Bristow Manor Golf Club in Bristow, Virginia. The couple plan to reside in Centreville, Va.



Judith Anne Clem and James Thomas Blankenship

Walstrom, Crossett Engaged

Jim and Meg Crossett of Centreville announce the engagement of their son, Andrew Peter, to Andrea Rae Walstrom, daughter of Glenn and Darlene Walstrom of Houtzdale, Pa.

Andrew is a 2000 graduate of Centreville High School and a 2004 graduate of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business management. He is employed as a consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton in Herndon.

Andrea is a 1998 graduate of Moshannon Valley High School in Pennsylvania and a 2004 graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture with honors. She is employed as a planner/landscape architect at Dewberry in Fairfax.

Andrew is the grandson of Marjorie Crossett and the late James Crossett of Chantilly, and Patricia Lawless and the late



Andrew Peter Crossett and Andrea Rae Walstrom

Andrew Lawless of Centreville. Andrea is the granddaughter of Verna Walstrom and the late Ben Walstrom of Houtzdale Pa., and the late Joseph and Anna Hansel of Morann, Pa. The couple plans a September 2009 wedding in Altoona, Pa.

Hearts N' Motion To Raise Funds

FROM PAGE 1

tism and other learning, emotional or physical delays.

"Proceeds will go toward scholarships to subsidize tuition [to ETM] for people in need," said Lynne Bauer, who teaches classes and runs the program. "Many also have physical and speech therapy classes [elsewhere], and their parents need some help financially."

For more information about ETM, plus a detailed list of the silent-auction items, see www.heartsnmotion.org.

"The silent auction is from 4-6 p.m., and we've got some really good stuff," said Pam McCormick of Centreville Dance Theatre, which will be performing. "We have over 100 items."

The goodies include airline tickets, a beach-house vacation, designer sunglasses, spa packages and an ice-hockey stick signed by the Washington Capitals team, including star player Alexander Ovechkin.

"There's a wide variety of items to bid on at all prices, such as birthday parties, wine, cheese pizzas, ballroom dance lessons, gift baskets, original artwork, restaurant gift certificates and even a life-coaching session," said McCormick.

"If desired, people can come just for the auction, for free," she continued. "However, the show starts at 6 p.m. and will feature some wonderful performances. Tickets are \$15, tax-deductible donations, available at the door or on the Web site. Those not staying for the show can find out immediately if they've won anything. Or they can check during in-

termission."

Two dozen of Bauer's students will perform, along with students from Centreville Dance Theatre, plus guest performers Michele Kearney and Dave Ambrose from The Ballroom, another dance studio in Centreville. The program will feature tap, ballet, jazz and ballroom numbers.

One ETM student will read two, original poems; others will do solo dancing or small, group numbers. Bauer and long-time student Jordan Payne, 13, of Alexandria, will perform a lyrical, interpretive dance called "I Can Only be Me," which, said Bauer, "I thought was very appropriate."

CENTREVILLE PRESBYTERIAN became involved after Bauer met Kathy Taylor, Centreville Dance Theatre's director. Taylor currently teaches three of Bauer's former students — all of whom have Down Syndrome — in her regular classes, and Bauer came to Taylor's studio to see them perform.

"Kathy knew Lisa and Don Halterman, of Centreville Presbyterian, and their daughter Gretchen is in Centreville Dance Theatre," said Bauer. "And that's how the church came to offer to host the event — which is phenomenal."

"This show is really about celebrating the joy of dance, for people of all abilities," said Bauer. "We're hoping for a good turnout to help us raise money for scholarships and community workshops to bring this program to students in their schools and homes. We also want to show school professionals how dance can be integrated into the curriculum to enhance learning."

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OPINION

Call for Mother's Day Photos — and Fathers Too

Also inviting contributions of photos and stories from the community from any local event.

Every year at this time, Centre View puts out the call for photographs of mothers and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10, and once again Centre View will publish a gallery of Mother's Day photos.

Send in photos as soon as possible, including names of everyone in the picture, the date the picture was taken, the ages of the children, a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to include your town name and neighborhood.

We prefer digital photos, but we also accept prints. We will do our best to return hard copies of photos that include a self-addressed-stamped envelope for that purpose, but please do not send us any photos that cannot be replaced.

Email photos to [centreview@](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Send photos to Centre View, Mother's Day Photo Gallery, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102.

Father's Day, Sunday, June 21, will be here by the time we blink, and we will also accept Father's Day photos, with the same guidelines.

EDITORIAL

CENTRE VIEW'S photographers, Robbie Hammer and Louise Krafft, won almost every possible award this year in the Virginia Press Association news contest. But they cannot attend even a significant fraction of the many newsworthy, photographic events that occur every week.

Many of our readers are accomplished photographers, and many more perfectly competent with their point and shoot digital camera. We invite you to send us photos and a short write-up of any local event you think might interest us.

Some examples: events, awards or other

happenings at schools; fairs, charity events or any other gathering at a house of worship; a photo celebrating the anniversary of a business; a photo celebrating a local couple's milestone anniversary; engagement and wedding announcements; graduations; Eagle Scout projects and ceremonies; youth sports teams with trophies; community service projects by families, individuals or teams of employees; almost anything else you can imagine.

We prefer digital photos emailed along with the write-up. Be sure to include the name of everyone in the photo including where they live; we will almost certainly not use a photo if people are not identified. Please include age, grade and school for young people. And a paragraph or two that says where and when the event took place and what is happening. Include a phone number in case we have any questions.

Email photos to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS

Voice of Reason

To the Editor:

This is to extend my sincere thanks to Joe Samaha for converting his unimaginable grief into courageous community activism. Ever since his daughter died in the Virginia Tech shootings, Mr. Samaha and his family have steadfastly devoted themselves to efforts that would help prevent criminals and the mentally ill from purchasing lethal weapons. Most recently, Mr. Samaha has called for the rule of law in closing the gun show loophole in Virginia, a major source of illegally trafficked guns. He has effectively countered extremist arguments that doing so would undermine Second Amendment rights, and that his role in this mission suggests he has somehow permitted himself to be exploited by the enemies of freedom.

As a teacher at Westfield High School, I never had the privilege of knowing Rema Samaha. But I have heard countless reminiscences about her by those who did. By all accounts, Rema was a young woman of extraordinary talent and character.

Notwithstanding the magnitude of Mr. Samaha's loss, Virginia lawmakers should recognize that his words are not merely those of a grieving parent. He speaks in the voice of reason, and his he is backed by a majority of citizens likewise demanding the rule of law.

Helen Mondloch
Fairfax

— BONNIE HOBBS



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Striking a pose are (from left) Becca Lamb, Danielle Cuppan, Emily Otis, Emma Van Lahr, Catherine Crossett, Emily Schwab, Reilly Tweddle, Maddie Walsh and Katie Lamb.

Modeling for a Good Cause

Girl Scouts and Brownies from Centreville, Chantilly, Vienna and McLean gathered Sunday afternoon at the Sully District Governmental Center in Chantilly for Rachel's Tea Party.

They modeled both dressy and casual spring outfits for their families and earned tea party patches or badges after receiving lessons in manners, etiquette, personal hygiene, modeling, looking one's best and choosing healthy snacks. They also did some aerobic dancing and enjoyed refreshments.

This annual event is held in honor of Centreville's Rachel Crossett who died of cancer

in July 2001 at age 6. Her mother, Meg Crossett, later established the local chapter of the D.C. Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation for parents of cancer survivors and those who've lost children to the disease.

The tea party raised funds for the organization by collecting money from the parents of the young models. D.C. Candlelighters serves families in the Washington Metropolitan area; it sponsors monthly, parent-support meetings and offers small grants to families in need who are living with cancer.

CENTREVIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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A Connection Newspaper

Swain Punished for 2007 Crime

FROM PAGE 1

Calling it a "senseless, malicious act of violence," Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Casey Lingan said it happened simply because of the color the victim was wearing and because of continuing gang rivalry in the county. Furthermore, he said, Swain was "openly a member of the 18th Street gang and admitted it to the detective; 18th Street has an ongoing hatred for MS-13, whose members wear blue colors."

Disagreeing, defense attorney Karen Kirkpatrick said, "It's true, these people attacked the victim. But Swain was standing apart from the group and never approached the victim or spoke to him."

Federal law-enforcement officer Serge Potopov told the court that he saw the assault and called police. "I saw a mob running down approximately two young gentle-

men," he said. "There were 10-15 people, and they caught up with [the victims] in the parking lot." Potopov said Swain was one of the assailants, but had "poofier" hair then.

Also testifying was an undercover detective with the county police department's Gang Investigation Unit. He said he's known Swain since 2005 or 2006 and "he admitted to being an active member of 18th Street."

The detective said Swain told him a particular juvenile was a member. And he showed photos of specific, 18th Street, identifying marks and of the gang paraphernalia found in Swain's room at home.

Police executed a search warrant there, Nov. 28, 2007, and seized items including 10 black bandanas, a black flag with a skull, a foam skull with 666 on the forehead and 10 white bandanas with black printing.

The detective further stated that Swain told him he went by the nickname, "8-Ball," and "we found items with this name on them in his house."

On the stand, Swain denied be-

"A senseless, malicious act of violence."

— Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Casey Lingan

ing part of the beating or belonging to 18th Street at the time of the offense. He said he'd left the gang lifestyle because of his young son; however, he then admitted being stopped by police with members of that gang within the past six months.

He also told Lingan that the assailants ran to his friend, Mike Green's, house after the attack on the victim. But, said the prosecutor, "The only way Swain could have known [that] is if he's a part of them."

In the end, the jury agreed with Lingan and found Swain guilty. And on April 17, Judge Klein sentenced him to three years, nine months in prison for the wounding charge and two years for gang-participation. He then ran the sentences concurrently and placed Swain on three years probation following his release.

MILITARY NOTE



PFC Peter Joseph Kirschner graduated from Army basic training and 21B combat engineer school at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri April 24, 2009.

During the 14 weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, combat lifesaver course, foot marches, and field training exercises. PFC Kirschner was further trained in explosive ordinances, will be posted to Hawaii, and deploy to Afghanistan late summer.

He is the son of Joe and Brenda Kirschner of Centreville.



Public Information Meetings I-66 Transit/ Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Study

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is studying potential short- and medium-term transit and TDM enhancements to increase mobility in the I-66 corridor between Washington D.C., and Haymarket, Virginia. Improvements could include new bus services such as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and commuter choices such as carpooling, vanpooling and park and ride lots.

Public information meetings will include a continuous open house with representatives available to provide information on the study corridor and alternatives under consideration. In addition, a presentation will be given twice (at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.) with an opportunity for questions and answers afterward.

Meeting Dates and Locations

Tuesday, May 12, 2009	Thursday, May 14, 2009
Williamsburg Middle School Auditorium 3600 N Harrison St. Arlington, VA 22207	Oakton High School Auditorium 2900 Sutton Rd. Vienna, VA 22181
Wednesday, May 13, 2009	Schedule for all Meetings:
Battlefield High School Auditorium 15000 Graduation Dr. Haymarket, VA 20169	6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. - Open House 7:00 p.m. - Presentation and Q&A 8:00 p.m. - Presentation and Q&A

For more information on the study, visit www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/I66study.aspx.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, comments on the study may be sent to Public Information Office, DRPT, 1313 E. Main St., Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219, or DRPTPR@DRPT.Virginia.gov. Comments will be accepted until May 22, 2009.

DRPT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs, services and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For special assistance or information, call (804) 786-4440 or TDD 711 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting date.

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 8:15 AM
 9:30 AM
 11:00 AM
 Contemporary Service in the ROC
 11:02 AM



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COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY KATHY KINTER

Entertainers perform for young attendees at KidFest 2008.

Kidfest, Spring Festival in Clifton

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

The Town of Clifton is the place to be, Saturday, May 9, with not just one — but two — springtime events. From 10 a.m.-4 p.m., the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA) is hosting the fourth annual KidFest in the Clifton Town Park. And from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., the Acacia Masonic Lodge No. 16 will hold a Spring Festival at the lodge, CBA barn and the Clifton Presbyterian Church parking lot.

"It's an awesome time and a happy, festive event for families and children," said Kathy Kinter, organizing KidFest 2009. "There's a lot of excitement and it's always a fun-filled day."

KidFest entertainment includes live musical acts, roving clowns, a 27-foot inflatable slide, moonbounces, carnival games and children's arts and crafts. Eggspectations will have food items for sale, and hot dogs, hamburgers, cotton candy, salad and beverages will also be available.

Vendors will offer items such as children's books, T-shirts and wooden toys. The T-shirts are from the company, Girls Like Math, which presents positive messages for girls. Girl Scouts will have a recycling booth with information and games. Other activities include spin art, face painting, colored hairspray and a children's yoga demonstration. Local police will do child fingerprinting for parents, and the Clifton Fire Station on Chapel Road will be open for tours.

Admission to KidFest is \$5 for anyone who can walk, with all proceeds supporting CBA events for

children and raising money for Shelter House, Moms For A Cure and the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program. Each attendee will also receive two, \$1 tickets toward any activity requiring tickets.

And the Bryce Foundation will raffle off a gift certificate of at least \$500 to a local bike shop. This organization supports pediatric-cancer research, plus parental education, advocacy and financial assistance to families.

THE ACACIA LODGE'S Spring Festival also offers fun for all ages. Clowns from the Kena Shriners in Fairfax will be on hand, and the Kena 500 — people driving miniature Corvettes — will perform several times a day in front of the fire station.

From noon-3 p.m., One Night Stand — a five-piece blues band — will entertain on a stage in front of the CBA barn. Then from 3-5 p.m., Wild Card Band will play classic rock. Food and beverages, including adult beverages, will be offered near the barn, and vendors will sell flowers, plants and shrubs, as well as antiques.

The Academy of Dance and the Bull Run Cloggers will give dance exhibitions. The Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program will staff pony rides, and the Appalachian Bowhunter's Association will conduct a taxidermy exhibit.

Admission is free, but there's a \$5 charge for parking. Proceeds will benefit restoration of the historic Acacia Lodge building, which suffered severe flood damage, a few years ago, and needs other repairs, too. Work has already begun and, during the Spring Festival, the building will be open for tours.

WORTH NOTING

To have community events listed in *Centre View*, e-mail to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407.

ONGOING

The **Centreville Farmers Market** will start May 15 and will be operating every Friday until Oct. 30 from 3:30-6 p.m. at 5885 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Vendors will change throughout the season.

FRIDAY/APRIL 29

Scoop Night. 5-10 p.m. at Baskin

Robbins in Centreville. Get scoops of ice cream for \$.31. Hear music from local singers. 703-314-8467

MAY 1-3

The **Sugarloaf Crafts Festival** will be held Friday, May 1 through Sunday, May 3 at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly. More than 225 of the nation's most accomplished fine artists and craft designers will present their wares. Located at 4320 Chantilly Place Center, Chantilly. Hours are: Friday, May 1 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, May

3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adult admission is \$7 through online purchase, \$8 for adults at the door, free for children under 12. Admission is good for all three days. Free parking is available. Visit www.SugarloafCrafts.com or call 800-210-9900.

FRIDAY/MAY 1

Dancing. 8:30-midnight at Dulles Hilton Swing Dance. \$15/person. Dance to live music. Visit www.gottaswing.com for more.

SEE WORTH, PAGE 10

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MAY 1, 2, 3, 2009

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Pre-Mothers Day Celebration
3 course meal with a bottle of wine.
\$60 per couple.
Featuring The Jamie Leigh Band!

WORTH NOTING

FROM PAGE 9

Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike. The Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents "The Little Mermaid." \$15/adult; \$10/child. 703-815-7558 for tickets.

Performance. 7 p.m. at Pacino Ristorante, 5653 Stone Road, Centreville. Hear Peter Douskalis, WHS graduate. Reservations recommended, 703-222-5885.

SATURDAY/MAY 2

Hearts 'N Motion. Enjoy a dance concert and silent auction to benefit children with special needs and area homeless starting at 4 p.m. and performance at 6 p.m. at Centreville Presbyterian Church, 15450 Lee Highway. Free, but donation of \$15 suggested. 703-218-0751.

Can't Sit Still Story Time. 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children 2-4 enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

Teen Advisory Meeting. 2 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Teens 12-18 can join the board and help influence what goes on at the library. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

SUNDAY/MAY 3

Historic Fashionista. 2-4:30 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way. Ladies of all ages can decorate hats, see a fashion show and more. Reservations required, 703-437-1794. \$20/person.

Performance. 3 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike. The Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents "The

Little Mermaid." \$15/adult; \$10/child. 703-815-7558 for tickets.

MONDAY/MAY 4

Golf Tournament. Take part in a charity golf tournament for Erin Peterson Fund at Chantilly National Golf & Country Club. Visit www.erinpeterpersonfund.org for more.

Time for Tots. 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children 2-3 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

Frying Pan Farm Park. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children 6-11 can meet a goat, do a craft and more. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Discuss "Fairy Tale Detectives" by Michael Buckley. Free. Ages 9-12. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

TUESDAY/MAY 5

How's the Weather. 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children 2-5 enjoy craft, stories. Free. 703-830-2223.

THURSDAY/MAY 7

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children up to age 23 months can enjoy rhymes and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children ages 13-23 months. Stories and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

FRIDAY/MAY 8

Dancing. 8:30-midnight at Dulles Hilton Swing Dance. \$15/person. Dance to live music. Visit www.gottaswing.com for more.

Plant Sale. 2-7 p.m. at Westfield High School. Browse through herbs, perennials, annuals and more. Proceeds benefit the Visual Art Department.

Strategy Games. 2:30 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-18 can play board games. Free. 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY/MAY 9

TAG Sale. Boy Scout Troop 893 will hold its Annual TAG (totally awesome garage) sale from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Tax-deductible donations are also appreciated. The Chantilly/Centreville pickup hotline is 703-222-2333. Drop-offs are welcome Saturday, April 25 and May 2, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday, April 26 and May 3, from noon - 4 p.m. Proceeds from sale fund Troop activities. For more information, go to www.Troop893.org.

Fund-raising Event. 6 p.m. at South Riding Golf Club. Enjoy a beer tasting with 12 varieties, buffet, dessert and auction. \$50/person. Donations benefit Assistance League of Northern Virginia. 703-860-8670 by April 24.

Puma Pounce. 8 a.m. at Colin Powell Elementary School. Enjoy a 5k or 1.5 mile fun run. Benefits the Powell Playground Fund. Visit www.cpespta.org for more.

5k Run/Walk. 8 a.m. at Westfield High School. Walk or run through Westfield Business Park. \$15/FCPS student; \$25/others. Visit pta.westfieldhs.org/race/index.htm or 703-222-4382.

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Two dates...two locations...choose the location that works for you!

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Arden Courts 
Alzheimer's Assisted Living

12469 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy.
Fairfax, VA 22033

Thursday, May 7, 2009

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Arden Courts 
Alzheimer's Assisted Living

7104 Braddock Road
Annandale, VA 22003

Please RSVP by May 1st

A complimentary lunch will be provided at both events.

Call 703-383-0060 for reservations.

Call 703-256-0882 for reservations.

NEWS

Sentenced For Robbery

FROM PAGE 3

Montenegro, 16, of 14119 Honey Hill Court in Centreville, pleaded guilty Dec. 17, 2008 to robbery and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. Then on March 6 in Fairfax County Circuit Court, Judge David Schell gave Montenegro a suspended commitment and ordered him to complete the rehabilitative program at the Boys Probation House.

It was Montenegro's first offense, he cooperated with the authorities after his arrest and he'd already served five months incarceration total in both the Juvenile and Adult detention centers. He also told police the identity of the third person involved and said he went along with the robbery because he was afraid of the two adult assailants.

In addition, Montenegro said he'd held the bat during the offense, and Dean admitted to being the man who'd held the gun. Police retrieved it from Dean's home and, although it turned out to be a bb pistol, it had been fitted with a cartridge from a real, 9 mm gun.

Dean pleaded guilty, Feb. 4, to the same two offenses as Montenegro, returning April 16 for sentencing before Judge Gaylord Finch. At that time, Finch sentenced Dean to 10 years in prison for the robbery, suspending eight years, eight months.

He also gave Dean three years imprisonment for the firearm charge and ran the sentences consecutively, for a total of four years, four months to serve. Once he's released, the judge placed him on five years active, supervised probation and ordered him to maintain full-time employment, get his GED and complete the recidivist-prevention program.

BULLETIN BOARD

Craft Vendors are needed for Centreville United Methodist Women's Bazaar scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 6400 Old Centreville Road; contact psbyers@verizon.net.

The WABC - Westfield Athletic Booster Club is currently accepting nominations for the 2009-2010 Executive board. The following board positions are open for nomination: President, Vice president, treasurer, recording secretary and correspondence secretary. The election will be held at the board meeting on Monday, May 4 at 7 p.m. To make an inquiry or nomination, contact John Cleveland at gorebels1@verizon.net 703-816-9440.


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—Montenegrin proverb



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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

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14708 FLAGLER CT	\$499,900 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Long & Foster Amy Trumbull 703-929-3009
12400 HENDERSON RD	\$899,900 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Long & Foster Ann Grainger (703) 503-1870
14513 SYDELL LN	\$339,900 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM RE/MAX Regency Mary McCarty 703-850-6231
7701 ROSE GATE COURT	\$1,099,000 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Keller Williams Realty Diane Lenahan 703-283-7328
Fairfax	
12708 DOGWOOD HILLS LN	\$410,000 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Enviran Dawn Goldstein 571-274-4145
5309 RICHARDSON DR	\$549,900 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Long & Foster Joyce Perl (703) 905-7250
9108 MURDOCK RD	\$565,000 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Long & Foster Ron Malota 703-283-7222
5134 1ST RD	\$1,195,000 May 17th, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Weichert Ann Petree 703-280-5050
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10417 FYFE CT	\$464,900 May 2nd, 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM ERA Elite Kathleen Stafford-Walter 703-629-8091
3712 FARR AVE	\$875,000 May 3rd, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Long & Foster Jim Fox 703-898-6717
10101 DANIELS RUN WAY	\$999,000 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM McEneaney Karen Martins 703-568-6268
11152 GARDEN PATH LN	\$670,000 May 1st, 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM Christopher Maureen Simpson 571-221-8720
10706 Orchard St	\$499,000 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Weichert Ron Fowler 703-598-0511
3114 Plantation Pkwy	\$479,900 May 3rd, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Weichert Ron Fowler 703-598-0511
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Herndon	
103 ADELE GARDEN WAY	\$699,000 Sunday May 3rd from 1-4 Long & Foster Kirkland Harper (703)904-3700

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Contact: Karen Washburn
kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com
All listings due by **Mon. at 3 p.m.**

'A Whole New Sort of Vision'

After slow start, Centreville baseball finds groove during season's second half.

By JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

Centreville's Andy Viands thought his job was to move the runner over. Teammate J.P. Nicholas led off the third inning Monday night in a home game against Herndon with a double, and Viands, crossed up on a sign, squared around to bunt.

Viands' ill-fated attempt rolled foul, putting the junior second baseman in an 0-1 hole.

But what happened next may well be the sort of cosmic redemption that Centreville's baseball team has been enjoying during the second half of the 2009 season. The second pitch that Viands saw landed over the Merrifield Garden Center sign in right field, pushing the Wildcats' lead to 3-0.

Two hours and four minutes later, Viands' homer was one of several key ingredients in a 10-4 win for Centreville, which erased an 0-7 start by winning six of its next eight games. Four of those victories came against Concorde District opponents.

"I knew the situation was probably a bunt situation, and I guess it just paid off that I didn't bunt," said Viands, who entered Monday's game hitting .391 and upped that a bit by going 2-for-4 with three RBIs and pair of runs scored. "[Herndon pitcher Nick



PHOTOS BY JULIA NGUYEN/FRAGMENTPHOTOS.COM

With a career-best 13 strikeouts, junior pitcher Ryan Ashooh earned his fourth victory of the year against Herndon. The Virginia-bound lefty now has 59 strikeouts in 40.1 innings of work.

Impellizzeri] gave me a pitch I could drive, and I just happened to hit it hard."

"I'm glad he didn't get that down," said second-year coach Morgan Spencer. "He's been swinging the bat very well, and for a little guy he's got a lot of juice in his bat."

ONLY ONE of Centreville's first seven losses was by more than three runs, but that doesn't make any of them hurt less. The Wildcats were still very much in every game they played; they simply weren't getting that timely hit, or, worse, they would make a fielding error at precisely the most inopportune time.

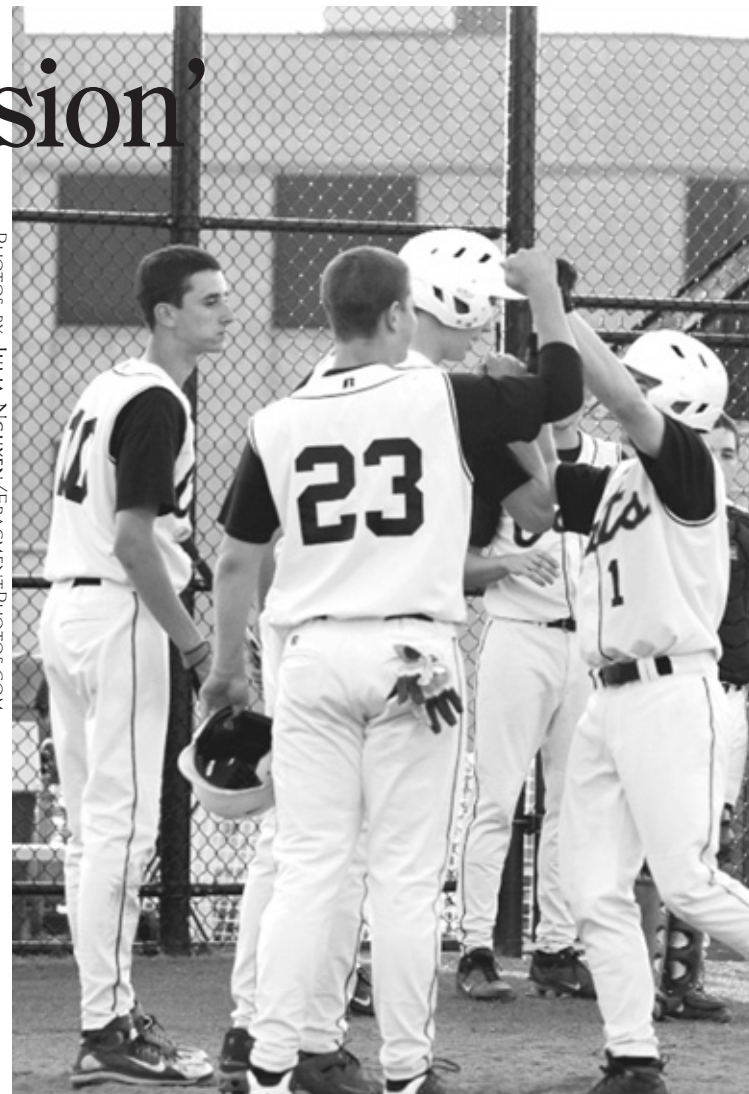
The turning point, Viands said, came on April 7 with a 6-0 win — the first of the season — over Fort Dorchester during the team's Spring Break trip to South Carolina

when Ryan Ashooh, a senior left-handed pitcher who has verbally committed to play baseball at the University of Virginia, tossed a complete-game gem.

Ashooh was at it again Monday night against Herndon. In a complete-game six-hitter, Ashooh recorded a career high 13 strikeouts to improve to 4-1 on the season. Of his 13 strikeouts, six came on called third strikes.

"I just tried to work ahead and finish with

the breaking ball, mixing it in and out," said Ashooh, who throws in the upper-80s with a knee-buckling curveball and an effective changeup. "I just wanted to let the game



Andy Viands, right, and his Centreville teammates celebrate the second baseman's third inning home run Monday against Herndon when the Wildcats walked away with a 10-4 win.

SEE AFTER, PAGE 15

WEEK IN SPORTS

Westfield Crew Enjoys Best Day Ever

The Westfield crew team reached another milestone this past Saturday by having 10 boats — the most ever — competing against its most challenging competition of the season. Nineteen schools participated in the Al Urquia Regatta on the Occoquan Reservoir, and, when it was done, every one of Westfield's boats had finished in the top four places of their respective events. Of the five men's boats, the top varsity boat finished second. Meanwhile, first-place finishes were recorded by the second and third boats, and fourth-place finishes were produced by the fourth and fifth boats. On the women's side, the top varsity boat finished in third place in a close race; the second through fifth boats took fourth, second, second and third places, respectively. Over the next two Saturdays, each of these boats will compete in state championship regattas with the fourth and fifth boats competing this Saturday in the Ted Phoenix Lower Boat Championship Regatta at Sandy Run Regional Park on the Occoquan with the upper boats competing at the same location on the following Saturday, May 9, in the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association Championship Regatta to determine which boats qualify to row at the Scholastic Rowing Association

of America Regatta at Mercer Lake in Princeton, N.J. on May 22-23.

Kearney, Scanlon Commit

Chris Kearney and Peter Scanlon, two seniors on the Westfield boys' basketball team, recently made college commitments. Kearney, a post player who averaged 19.9 points and 11.6 rebounds per game, will play for Catholic University, while Scanlon, a guard who averaged 11.4 points and 4.3 rebounds per contest, will suit up for Johns Hopkins University.

Spees To Head West

Late last week, Westfield senior Sammy Spees made her collegiate decision final, choosing to play at Division-I Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. According to head coach Jim Bour, Spees will try to compete for playing time at libero. A first team All-Concorde District, All-Northern Region and All-State selection, Spees led Westfield to the Virginia AAA state title match — a 3-1 loss to Albemarle — by averaging 4.35 kills per game (439 total) and totaling 314 digs.

SEE WEEK, PAGE 15



PHOTO COURTESY OF DON CERVA

The Southwestern Youth Association Xplosion, a U-12 travel softball team, won the USSSA fastpitch tournament, which was held during the weekend of April 17-19. The Xplosion now qualifies for the USSSA World Series at the Disney Sports Complex. Team members include (back row, from left): assistant coach Paul Jones, Ashley Wark, head coach Mark Greenfelder, Natalie Hopkins, Megan Toth, coach Bill Toth, Gretchen Kernbach, Kasey Marley, assistant coach Bob Marley and assistant coach Roger Noel; (front row, from left) Maddi Noel, Kelcie Greenfelder, Carley Ferrington, Becky Cerva and Lauren Jones.

Comfort and Joy



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

We've had the "Buff Boys," (sandy, beige, frothy white color; and brothers, too), a.k.a. Cappuccino and Biscuit, almost two years. We "rescued" them from Castle Cat Rescue, a cat rescuer of devoted proportions when the boys were about 7 months old. We cat-cornered them home on a Saturday afternoon and upon entering their new home (ours), of course scattered every which way looking for someplace familiar. Finding only unfamiliar places (and no familiar scents), they eventually found refuge together, underneath a couch, which sits in the corner of our dining room. And for a couple of days at least, that's where they remained, despite our coaxing. Not wanting to stress them unnecessarily, that's exactly where we left them. We fed and watered them there and placed their litter box within site and smell as well.

Though we had — and still have — an adult golden retriever in the house (Bailey), his old age prevented him from climbing the two steps required to enter the dining room and interfere with the cat's evolving routine. Certainly the cats wouldn't have known that (and of course, there's no way we could have communicated it to them). But, we knew, so their placement in the dining room was strategically considered with every expectation that over time, after familiarity began to breed courage, the boys would venture out and away from their cozy confines and explore the rest of the house and begin to acclimate.

Within a week or so of observing the boys' movements, we moved their food from immediately in front of the couch to its current location, approximately 10 feet away, still in the dining room but in a more centralized feeding location and one still safely at paws' distance from Bailey. We also moved their litter box to its present semi-private, outside-of-the-dining-room location, carrying the cats in the process and placing them directly in the box so they would know its new permanent location and force them, quite frankly, to have to move throughout the house a little bit. It wasn't a seamless operation for the cats, but as you cat owners know, eventually they figured it out and here we all sit, literally, one big, happy, family; and often together in one room; Kenny, Dina, Bailey, Biscuit, Cappuccino and not to be forgotten, Chester, our rabbit.

As I sit at the dining room table and write, Biscuit is inconveniently lying across the very table on which I am attempting to write. "Cino" is curled up on one of the dining room chairs that sits at the head of this table at which I'm sitting and still attempting to write. Bailey, now nearly 14, is still spry when encouraged but content most of the other times to lay in his orthopedic bed on the floor in the adjacent living room or underneath the coffee table in the den sleeping. Chester is in his cage in the kitchen, asleep for the moment, stretched out on his aspen bedding, nose crinkling, ready to pounce at the slightest noise. And so it goes, everywhere I look, an animal, doing things that animals normally do.

Soon, it will be feeding time. The cats will meow, Bailey will pant and Chester will stand up on his hindquarters, front paws grabbing his cage pleading for a cracker. Bailey will be fed first, he's the senior man; next will be Chester because his food is stored between Bailey's and the cats', then the cats will be fed (last) because they're fed in another room (still in the dining room, for privacy sake). If we don't pay attention and watch who eats what, the animals will eat from one another's bowls: Chester will eat the dry cat food and the dry dog food, the cats will eat Bailey's dry dog food and drink from his water bowl, and Bailey will eat from the cat's litter box (if he can remember where it is) and miscellaneous other animal-related droppings he might find (from when the rabbit is out of his cage). After meals, everybody goes to sleep; Chester in his cage, Bailey and the two cats wherever they find comfort.

I was hesitant at first to introduce two kittens into the life of our semi-retired golden retriever, I didn't want them bothering him while he was trying to enjoy his golden years (no pun intended). But the cats seem to have figured out his tolerances and really don't interfere with his winding-down routine. Oh, they run underneath him when he comes back in the house, curl their tails under his jaw when he's walking, stick their noses in his food bowl when he's eating but generally, the animals coexist peacefully (most of the time).

Thanks to Biscuit and "Cino," there is new life and energy in our house, energy that we didn't know was missing. And as it has evolved, energy that was much needed and is very much appreciated. I realize I'm only discussing cats (and a dog and rabbit), but living with love and affection cannot be overvalued. And thanks to the "Buff Boys" our lives are whole again.

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

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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In execution of a Deed of Trust from Truong Nguyen, dated June 20, 2005, and recorded June 21, 2005, in Deed Book 17417 at page 1636 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Monday, May 4, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 133, Section 2-E, London Towne West as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 6161 at page 1392, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 14844 Basingstroke Loop, Centreville, Virginia 20120.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$30,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 5.625 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
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SPORTS

After a Slow Start...



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FROM PAGE 12

take its pace.” Clearly the team’s ace, Ashooh, who had 40 strikeouts and only 18 walks in 36 innings last spring, will be counted upon to give Centreville its best chance at victory every time he’s fresh enough to do so. But what hadn’t been counted upon as much was the team’s clutch hitting, the type of hitting that Centreville practically boiled over with against Herndon.

After Viands’ homer in the third, left fielder Will Fuka doubled and right fielder Connor Bach (1-for-4, two RBIs), who scored on a fielder’s choice, traded places with him. In the fourth, Viands’ two-out single scored center fielder David DeLorimier and a Herndon error helped catcher Kyle Hall come around to score in the fifth.

A MONTH AGO, those types of opportunities weren’t happening for Centreville. In-between hops popped up just enough to make a fielder’s job simple; hitters were just missing close pitches late in counts. Now, Centreville’s players are cutting down on their strikeouts and are attacking the baseball instead of getting attacked by it.

During pregame batting practice on Monday, hitting coach Joe Carter noticed that Fuka’s hands were a bit higher than they should be. So Fuka dropped his hands down a bit and yet another adjustment paid off for Centreville, as he finished 2-for-4 with a pair of doubles, an RBI and a run scored.

“That opened up a whole new sort of vision for me,” Fuka said. “The whole feel just opened up, and that had a lot to do with it.”

“We’ve had a much better approach at the plate for our last seven or eight games and it’s starting to show,” said Spencer, whose squad wasn’t able to continue its momen-

After making a mechanical adjustment during batting practice, Centreville senior Will Fuka crushed a pair of doubles against Herndon on Monday.

tum against Westfield (14-1) Tuesday night and suffered a 4-2 loss.

But the back end of Centreville’s schedule is favorable. With Concorde District games against Herndon and Fairfax left, as well as an out-of-district matchup with Wakefield remaining, Centreville could very easily finish 9-10 overall, 6-6 against district opponents, which is a far cry from that 0-7 start.

“With us starting 0-7, I never thought we didn’t have a good team,” Spencer said. “I knew we had a pretty good team. I told the guys, ‘It’s all about how to you play at the end of the year,’ and I think that once we got our first win, we got on a little bit of a roll.”

WEEK IN SPORTS

FROM PAGE 12

Westfield Basketball Camp

The Westfield boys’ basketball program will hold a series of four camps throughout the end of June and all of July. The first

four-day session runs from June 29 through July 3; the second runs from July 13-17; the third from July 20-24; the fourth from July 27-31. For more information, contact Doug Ewell at 703-488-6406 or via email at douglas.ewell@fcps.edu.

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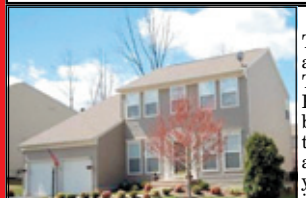
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