

CENTRE VIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION

Fairytales with Musical Message

Westfield High presents "Into the Woods."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Fractured fairytales with a message and music hit the stage in Westfield High's production of "Into the Woods." Featuring songs by Stephen Sondheim, this Tony-award-winning musical boasts a cast and crew of 76 — including both theater and choral students — plus a live orchestra.

Show times are Friday, May 15, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, May 16, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, May 17, at 2 p.m. in the school theater. Tickets are \$10 at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com, or at the door; all seating is reserved.

"The students are doing fantastic," said Director Susie Pike. "It takes a tremendous amount

SEE WESTFIELD, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

From left are Russell Wagoner, the baker; Claire Manship, Little Red Riding Hood; and Taylin Frame, the baker's wife.

Schnippel Is Found Guilty

Centreville man convicted of heroin distribution resulting in death.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

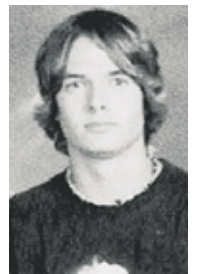
After her daughter Alicia overdosed on heroin on Aug. 12, 2007, Donna Lannes sat at her kitchen table in Centreville and spoke with Alicia's boyfriend, Skylar Schnippel. Knowing her daughter had been traumatized by something in her past, she wanted to protect her from further harm. "Skylar said he'd never done heroin and wasn't involved in it," Lannes testified in court Monday at Schnippel's trial for causing Alicia's heroin-related death, seven months later. "He said it was Alicia's idea to use heroin and he'd do his best to keep her away from it."

But Schnippel's words were lies and he never kept his promise. And on March 5, 2008, as Alicia, 19, lay dying in her basement bed-

room after using heroin he'd given her, he still did nothing to help her. When they texted each other and she stopped responding, he didn't call her parents and tell them to go downstairs and check on her, nor did he call 911.

Instead, he called friend Michael Bonner, who'd gone with Schnippel earlier on March 4 to buy the heroin from Daniel Nash. "Around 3 a.m., he asked me to check on her because he thought she was overdosing and might be in trouble," testified Bonner.

"Alicia's mother, a registered



Schnippel

SEE SCHNIPPEL, PAGE 2

Statewide Honor for Colin Powell Elementary Principal

Hull is Virginia's 2009 National Distinguished Principal.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Colin Powell Elementary Principal Brian Hull has received two of the highest honors a principal can get. Yet he won them both not by any conscious effort to garner personal accolades, but by doing each day what he does best — being an extraordinary school leader.

In 2008, he was named Fairfax County Public Schools' Principal of the Year. And now, he's just been selected as Virginia's 2009 National Distinguished Principal by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and the

U.S. Department of Education.

"I am humbled beyond belief that they've given it to me," said Hull. "I'm just honored by what's happened here. Our instructional teams have worked so collaboratively and explicitly to support student achievement and the high expectations we have in this building, and our students work very hard to meet those expectations."

In his 29th year in FCPS, he's been at Colin Powell Elementary since it opened in September 2003. Prior to that, he was principal at Franklin



Brian Hull

"I'm not in this for recognition."

Brian Hull, principal,
Colin Powell Elementary

Sherman, Willow Springs and Brookfield elementaries, acting principal at Jermantown Elementary and assistant principal at Brookfield.

In the mid- to late-1980s, Hull was principal at both the Fair Hill and Bush Hill centers for the physically disabled. And before that, he was a teacher for seven years. He taught special-ed students in Milwaukee

and then taught math in the special-ed program at Fairfax High.

"This is my 25th year as a principal, so I've had the good fortune to work in a great variety of schools and communities," said Hull.

But he's truly left his mark on Colin Powell — so much so, in fact, that it was his colleagues in the Centreville Pyramid who nominated him for the NAESP award. However, instead of crowing about it, he praised his fellow principals — saying, "I feel very grateful to work with such incredible professionals."

AND THAT'S how Hull's faculty and staff feels about him. "We are just so pleased and excited he's receiving this award," said office as

SEE HULL, PAGE 3



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NEWS

Schnipple

FROM PAGE 1

nurse who'd saved her before, was upstairs, and Schnipple never called 911," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Grooms. "Only after four hours passed [since she took the heroin, around 1 a.m.] did someone else call 911, at 5 a.m. She died, and the defendant walked away."

This time, though, Schnipple, 20, of Centreville's Virginia Run community, is going nowhere except to prison. After a bench trial, Monday-Tuesday, May 4-5, in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, he was found guilty of heroin distribution resulting in Alicia Lannes's death.

He was also convicted of conspiracy to distribute one kilogram or more of heroin resulting in death, possession with intent to distribute heroin resulting in death, and obstruction of justice. He pleaded guilty to the obstruction charge, but was found guilty of the others and will be sentenced July 24.

Schnipple was part of an extensive, two-year-long, heroin-trafficking ring based in Centreville and begun by people who knew each other from Westfield High, where many of them were once students. It went on under the radar, at first; but when young men and women began dying from heroin overdoses, federal authorities got involved.

AN INVESTIGATION dubbed "Operation Smackdown" by the FBI and Fairfax County police resulted in 16 arrests; 15 later pleaded guilty, with only Schnipple opting for a trial. At the outset, Grooms said, "Conspiracies take on lives of their own — things change and members come and go. But in this one — despite overdoses, arrests and deaths — there was one constant, Skylar Schnipple."

Every day of those two years, said Grooms, multiple grams of heroin were bought and used. "Schnipple introduced J.R. Quick, David Schreider and Daniel Nash to heroin and drove them to Washington, D.C., to get it. When Alicia Lannes overdosed on Aug. 12 and Oct. 18, 2007, there was the defendant. And when she died, there was [Schnipple]. But it changed nothing for him. Even in October and November 2008 — fully aware of the federal investigation — there was the defendant introducing heroin to [someone else], even on the day he was arrested."

Grooms said Kevin Zuiker and
SEE SCHNIPPLE, PAGE 4

ROUNDUP

Chantilly Man Is Killed Crossing Route 50

A 25-year-old Chantilly man, Pedro Ceto-Chavez of Summer Hollow Court, has died, a week after being struck by a car while trying to cross Route 50 on foot. The tragedy occurred Sunday, April 26, around 11:25 p.m. According to Fairfax County police, he was near the intersection of Chantilly Road — outside of the crosswalk and against the light.

Police say Ceto-Chavez was hit by a 2003 Honda Odyssey traveling west on Route 50 as he crossed the lanes. He was rushed to Inova Fairfax Hospital where, last Sunday, May 3, he succumbed to his injuries, around 2:43 a.m. Police say the Honda driver, a 22-year-old woman from Columbia, Md., will not be charged.

Free Carseat Inspections Scheduled

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections, Thursday, May 7 and May 14, 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.

Park Authority To Meet

The Fairfax County Park Authority will meet Wednesday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m., in the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 900 in Fairfax. Call Judy Pedersen at 703-324-8662.

'Electric Sunday' May 17 At I-66 Transfer Station

On Sunday, May 17, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Fairfax County residents may recycle televisions, computers and peripheral electronic devices — including keyboards, speakers, printers and external drives — at the I-66 Transfer Station at 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. Devices from businesses will not be accepted. Residents should not bring small or large kitchen appliances, CDs, DVDs, video cassettes or stereo equipment. Items need not be in working order. For more information, see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling or call 703-324-5250.

WFCM Needs Some Donations, Volunteers

With the downturn in the economy, Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) could use some help meeting its increased demand from local residents for food, clothing and financial aid. To make donations for the food pantry or thrift shop, to volunteer or to receive information on the next free budgeting class, in May, call 703-988-9656.

Needed items in WFCM's thrift store include: Clothing for all ages, denim, coats and jackets, shoes, jewelry, accessories, seasonal items, furniture, linens, small appliances, books, music, movies, kitchenware, sporting goods and baby items.

NEWS

Hull Is Tops in Virginia

FROM PAGE 1

sistant Kim Burke. "He's very deserving, and it's nice that he's been acknowledged by the entire commonwealth. He's a wonderful leader — hands-on, visible and involved — and he listens to the children, parents, staff and faculty."

Calling him approachable, Burke said, "You can go to him to discuss any topic. He's knowledgeable, supportive, professional, friendly and nurturing, and I'm happy to be working with him. He's a great motivator and really sets the pace and the high standards for the school."

A mom too shy to give her name for publication spoke of Hull's kindness to her child, a fourth-grader there. "My son interviewed Mr. Hull for a writing project for his class," she said. "And he was so excited and honored that the principal took the time to do it."

The Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals

(VAESP) conducted a statewide search for its nominee, but Hull didn't know he was even in the running until December. Then, after he was notified, he had to complete four essay questions on school leadership, setting high student goals and being responsive to the community.

"It wasn't difficult because I just wrote about what we do here," he said. "A month later, they said I was a finalist and was invited to come for an interview in Richmond on March 10. I expected a panel of eight to 10 people, but it was 25-30 people — principals from around the state, and they were all on the VAESP executive board."

AT FIRST, Hull was a bit intimidated, but then relaxed and had fun. "I was speaking from the heart," he said. "I talked about what we've created here, and about school leadership — but through the lens of Colin Powell Elementary."

Then in February, a three-principal team came to the school and interviewed the PTA president, reading specialist and staff members. They also walked around the building and visited classrooms to get an understanding of the school's culture.

"They were surprised at the rich diversity we have here and were impressed with our high level of achievement," said Hull. "We have an incredibly strong instructional staff, and I could not be more proud of the quality of educators we have in this building."

And it was while meeting with those educators that he learned of his award. Said Hull: "I was in the midst of my monthly staff meeting, on April 21, when the door opened and in walked my wife Laura, [FCPS] School Superintendent Jack Dale, Deputy Superintendent Rich Moniuszko, Cluster VII Assistant Superintendent Linda Burke and several principals."

Also there were VAESP and NAESP representatives, plus incoming VAESP President Jim Baldwin, principal of Centre Ridge Elementary, and the Colin Powell PTA executive board — President Jason Ahn and officers Bethann Lockert, Angelo Africa, Dawn Fraioli and Patrice Mortson.

"It was such a surprise," said Hull. "I was just honored to be nominated. I'm not in this for recognition; I'm passionate

about what we can do and what we as a school community can provide our students — that's what it's all about."

In addition, through VAESP and NAESP, he's become a certified mentor for new principals around the state. He's currently mentoring two assistant principals and two administrative interns in four, different counties.

"That's been such a rewarding experience, having the time to talk with them, one on one, on a weekly basis," said Hull. "I feel like I'm helping the next generation of administrators, and that's exciting."

Colin Powell is also a professional-development school with GMU. Year-long interns from the college function as part of the staff while learning the latest teaching methods from particular faculty members, and half-year interns work as student teachers.

"The kids and the community love it," said Hull. We have five interns this year and they've been enthusiastically embraced by the staff. And the interns have enjoyed the opportunity to be on the cutting edge of what's happening in public education."

As for his award, he'll receive it during a program, Oct. 22-23, in Washington, D.C., along with 58 other principals from throughout the U.S., plus private and overseas schools.

"At the helm of every successful school is a successful principal," said NAESP Executive Director Gail Connelly. "Our National Distinguished Principals program provides us with an opportunity to recognize the outstanding leadership of these principals and their commitment to creating successful learning communities. Because of them, students thrive academically, teachers grow professionally and communities are strengthened."

Teachers at Colin Powell know this firsthand and couldn't be happier for Hull. Just ask ESOL teacher Deborah Vitus, who's been at the school three years.

"He's wonderful," she said. "He knows how to bring out the best in people and is always cool, calm and collected — the consummate professional. And he has a heart for children — and for all people. Many of us were a little weepy when we found out about his award. We have incredible pride in him and in being part of the community he spearheads."

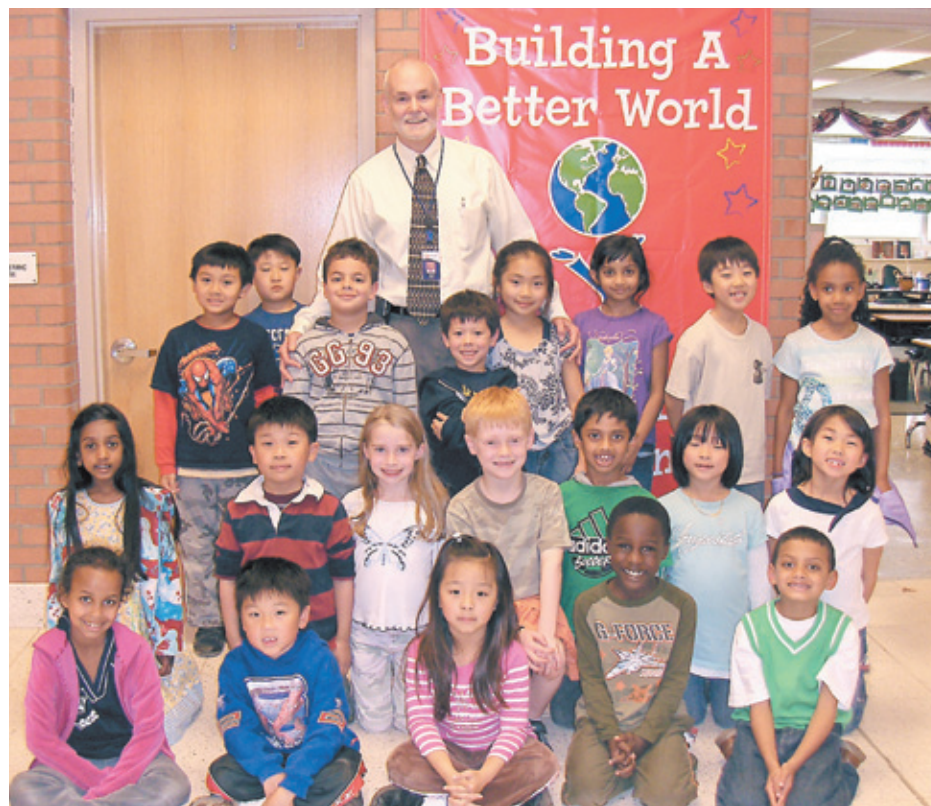


PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

First-graders in teacher Corin Harmon's class gather 'round Colin Powell Elementary Principal Brian Hull in the hallway.

"He knows how to bring out the best in people."

Deborah Vitus, ESOL teacher

Schnipple Found Guilty on All Counts

FROM PAGE 2

his girlfriend Anna Richter first introduced Schnipple to heroin and then Schnipple bypassed Zuiker and began buying it from a man called "T." He's actually Antonio Harper, 33, who'll be sentenced July 17 in federal court on the same heroin charges as Schnipple, plus possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug-trafficking crime.

"Schnipple brokered deals and got heroin for himself and others, [including] regularly for Lannes," said Grooms. "Others told him to stop supplying heroin to her because she could die," but he didn't listen.

Defense attorney Rod Leffler said, "These kids got mixed up with heroin, their junior and senior years at Westfield, and continued another year afterward. Dozens of classmates who pooled their money became addicted to heroin. Their recklessness and boldness will shock the court. These young people did heroin in their parents' homes, in their cars, in school while doing AP projects, while being runners in restaurants and while babysitting. They were rabid heroin users."

Both he and Grooms agreed that, unlike many drug-distribution conspiracies, this one wasn't profit-driven. Instead, said Leffler, "The heroin addiction got so bad among all these kids that their primary goal was to buy heroin and use it, themselves."

FROM SUMMER 2006 through November 2008, Schnipple and others worked together to obtain heroin from Washington, D.C., and Maryland to use and distribute to others. In court Monday, Quick, Schreider, Nash and Lokesh Rawat — each already sentenced to prison for their roles in the con-

Lannes Family, Authorities Respond to the Verdict

On Tuesday, U.S. District Court Judge Leonie Brinkema found Centreville's Skylar Schnipple guilty of three heroin-distribution charges, including giving his girlfriend, Alicia Lannes, the dose that proved fatal to her.

Afterward, her father, Greg Lannes, said his family was pleased with Brinkema's verdict. "The evidence presented in the trial clearly showed how deep Skylar was involved in this drug conspiracy," he said. "Our hearts go out to the Schnipple

family and friends during this difficult time."

But, he added, "The thing that still surprises me is the fact that there are many people in our community who believe drugs are not an issue. The evidence in this trial clearly shows that we have a big problem with drug abuse and it must be addressed now. Inhalants, PCB cocaine, heroin, prescription drugs, along with a host of other drugs I've never heard of, are being consumed by our youths. We all need to chip in and stop the non-sense of drug abuse in our community."

Law-enforcement authorities also responded to the judge's findings of guilt.

"Today's conviction should be a warning to other young people dealing deadly drugs," said Dana J. Boente, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. "If any of these youth from Centreville had stopped to consider the consequences of their actions, this death may have been prevented. Our thoughts are with the Lannes family and the other families who lost loved ones as a result of this conspiracy."

"Many of our investigators have

children of their own; and drug cases like this, where a child dies, are particularly heartbreaking," said Joseph Persichini, Jr., Assistant Director in charge of the FBI Washington Field Office. "Sometimes it's hard to determine when a good kid will turn bad. But, we know for sure that parent involvement is an essential deterrent. We urge parents to speak with their children openly and frankly about this case, which has changed more than a dozen lives forever."

— BONNIE HOBBS

spiracy — detailed the extent of the operation, as did Zuiker, who'll be sentenced May 29, along with Richter and Tayler Gibson.

Zuiker first got heroin from Angela Aycock, whose supplier was Harper. (Aycock's sentencing is June 5). Zuiker then purchased directly from Harper, who'd sell him six bags for \$100. Said Zuiker: "I'd get an average of \$600 worth each time, one to three times a week."

Then in late summer/early fall of 2006, Zuiker began selling heroin to Schnipple and eventually to Schreider and Quick, until those three began buying from Harper, who sold it cheaper. Zuiker lowered his prices to \$40/one bag; \$70, two and \$100, three, and continued distributing until he was arrested in May 2008 for distributing Xanax.

The end of 2007, he switched suppliers to a Baltimore source he'd obtained from Richter. He then paid \$125/gram, usually buying 5 grams each time for \$625. He went to Baltimore once or

twice a week and, in return, he said Richter would get free heroin for herself.

Schreider said Schnipple first sold him cocaine and ecstasy. Then in spring/summer 2007, Schnipple introduced him to heroin. "Skylar said, 'It's nice; you should try it,'" said Schreider, who then purchased \$50 bags from him before switching to Zuiker and then Harper. Eventually, Schreider distributed heroin with Quick.

"We got it multiple times a week," said Schreider. "We'd spend about \$1,000/trip, keep a little for personal use and sell the rest."

When he and another person were arrested, he said, "We had 60 bags between the two of us."

Quick said Schnipple started him on heroin, too, and he also became a dealer. For \$1,000, said Quick, they'd both get 50 or more bags at a time from Harper, every other day, and sell it in Centreville and use it.

In December 2007, Quick began buying it in Baltimore, instead, and that's where he purchased it, March 4, 2008, to give to Nash for Schnipple — who then gave it to Lannes. But neither her death, nor his own arrest, a month later, stopped the heroin pipeline. "After your arrest, your girlfriend Tayler Gibson took over your route, correct?" asked Leffler. "Yes," replied Quick.

Nash — whose addiction was so intense, federal agents feared he'd die of an overdose before they could arrest him — was also hooked on heroin by Schnipple and later distributed it. Nash said Schnipple got heroin from him "at least once a week after Alicia

died." Rawat testified that Schnipple got him to inject heroin, saying it was "more potent than snorting it." He, too, had multiple sources and dealt it to others.

Several witnesses described Lannes's previous overdoses. She briefly shared a Centreville apartment with Nicole Anderson, who testified that, on Oct. 18, 2007, she came home to find Alicia unconscious, struggling to breathe and turning blue. Anderson's boyfriend administered CPR and she called Schnipple. Said Anderson: "He said he was with her earlier and she began to become unconscious and he left."

Meanwhile, Lannes's mother, Donna, went to see Alicia, unaware what had happened, but concerned after her husband found Schnipple's caller I.D. on their phone. Lannes said his mother told her he wasn't away at college, as Lannes had thought, and had "a horrible heroin addiction." So she went to the apartment, got no answer at the door and walked to the back — catching Schnipple about to leave.

They went inside and discovered Alicia had stopped breathing, so Lannes gave her "rescue breathing" until paramedics arrived. A few days later, said Lannes, "Skylar said he'd used heroin in August and that he was all clean and doesn't do it anymore. He promised us that, if Alicia ever wanted it again, he'd call us before obtaining it for her so we could call her doctor." On March 5, 2008, Schnipple did call, around 5:20 a.m. — less than 30 seconds before police pounded on the Lannes's door after receiving a 911 call about their daughter. But by then, it was too late.

"This defendant was selfishly indifferent to the consequences of his actions."

— Lauren Wetzler,
Assistant U.S. Attorney



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'Into the Woods'

FROM PAGE 1

of focus and dedication to pull off a show like this, but they're acting like true professionals. The first act is all about what we want, and the second act is deciding if that's what you really wanted — and dealing with the consequences."

Junior Carey Jarosik plays the witch. "She's not your normal witch," said Jarosik. "She casts spells, but all the characters have inner issues you wouldn't expect. So the cool thing about her is that she does mean things because of her insecurities."

The witch cast a spell on a baker so he can't have children. The baker and his wife try to break it, and the other fairytale characters have the ingredients for a potion to help them.

Jarosik loves being the villain because "she's dramatic, sarcastic and witty. And she sings an interesting range of music — everything from ballads to rap. The audience will like the lyrics' funny plays on words and double meanings."

Portraying the baker is senior

Russell Wagoner. "Through his methods of undoing the spell and experiencing the repercussions, he learns about himself and his relationship with his wife," said Wagoner. "It's all about finding the balance between the masculinity the part requires and the character's vulnerability."

As his wife, senior Taylin Frame is "a strong, courageous, independent woman who just wants a child. So she goes into the woods with her husband to help him break the spell, even though he doesn't want her to go. I like her because she's serious about what she wants, but she has lots of humor and spunk."

PLAYING CINDERELLA is senior Micaela Anderson. "She doesn't know if she wants a prince or to be her step-family's servant and not have to make decisions," said Anderson. "She's clumsy, but becomes more mature and a mother figure for Little Red Riding Hood. I'm in choir and band, so I've never done this before, but I embrace the challenge."

SEE WOODS, PAGE 7

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Hopeful Home Sales

First time homebuyers get shot at affordable homeownership; domino effect helps all homeowners.

A look at the records of more than 1,000 homes that sold in March, 2009 in our area offers a glimpse of a sales at the top and bottom of the market.

In March in Northern Virginia, hundreds of homes, mostly condos and townhouses, sold for less than \$250,000.

About half or more of these were likely foreclosures or distressed properties, but all movement in the real estate market is a good sign, clearing out inventory.

Many of the families whose homes sold and closed in March are now able to move up in the market; there are unusually good prices available on homes at all entry points right now.

In the City of Alexandria, at least five townhouses sold for under \$250,000, with more than two dozen condominiums selling for under \$200,000. At the other end, five homes sold for more than \$1 million.

In Arlington, 14 sales closed for under \$200,000, and 14 more between \$200,000 and \$250,000. There was movement at the high end too, with the sale of one condominium for \$5.65 million, plus eight more homes selling for more \$1 million in March alone.

Looking for a single family home under

\$200,000? Among the nearly 50 March sales under \$200,000 in Sterling were a dozen single family detached homes, with many more under \$300,000.

More than 20 townhouses sold in Herndon for under \$200,000.

In Mount Vernon, the top home sold for \$2.65 million, while nearby a variety of bargains sold for remarkably low prices in the Route 1 corridor, including 29 condos and townhouses for under \$100,000. Twenty more condos, townhouses and duplexes sold in March in the area for between \$100,000 and \$200,000.

In Reston, one condo sold for \$1.1 million, while there were 13 sales of condos and townhouses for under \$200,000.

In Burke, 15 homes sold for under \$250,000 in March, mostly townhouses.

In Centreville in March, 22 townhouses sold for under \$200,000.

In Springfield in March, there were 31 sales

of condos and townhouses for under \$250,000.

In Fairfax Station and Clifton, 22 homes sold for more than \$500,000, with two sales over \$1 million in March. In Lorton in March, 10 townhouses sold for under \$200,000.

In Great Falls, only one home in March sold for less than \$500,000, but there were five homes sold for more than \$1 million.

In McLean, one home sold for \$3.4 million, with eight more homes selling in March for more than \$1 million. A handful of condos sold in McLean for under \$250,000.

In Vienna, eight homes sold in March for more than \$1 million, while nine condos and townhouses sold for under \$300,000.

For specific addresses and home sales by town for March, see <http://www.connection-newspapers.com/article.asp?article=%20328003&paper=%2059&cat=228>. April home sales will be posted after May 20.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

In the Interests of Public Health

While it's a huge topic for discussion, no one really has any idea what the future holds for us and the so-called swine flu. It's reasonable to predict that in the next few weeks, it will turn up in Northern Virginia.

With the Centers for Disease Control calling for the closing of schools where cases are confirmed, we might well be facing one or more schools that are unexpectedly closed.

But we question whether such a policy is considering all aspects of public health. When an elementary school, for example, is closed, how do families that depend on two incomes

or single parent families cope? In any less affluent area, what percentage of children might be home alone because parents have no sick leave or vacation time?

In middle school, students are nominally more able to be home alone for some period of time, but we know there are consequences to unsupervised adolescents in terms of risky behavior.

Let's take the actions necessary to stem a crisis, but let's not lose sight of other risks in the process.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

'The Elephant Man' at Centreville High School

BY SABENA RICHTER
PAUL VI HIGH SCHOOL

What gives us the ability to treat others unequally and why do simple differences bring that about? Centreville High School explored these questions which have plagued humankind for eternity in its rendition of "The Elephant Man."

Set in Victorian England, the play was written by Bernard Pomerance in 1979, in an attempt to relay the true story of the elephant man, named John Merrick. Merrick suffers from a medical disorder that is an enigma to all who see him. Because of his physical condition and deformities, society is repulsed by him, abusing him and treating him inhumanely. His life is one of suffering, being gawked at in a circus and cheated of his earnings. However, Merrick is taken in by Fredrick Treves, a doctor, who allows him to find a home in the hospital. Merrick begins to discover the meaning of life, while teaching those around him to cherish its beauty. His story is one of

CAPPIES
REVIEW

determination in facing unattainable aspirations.

With few main characters in the play, the audience was able to observe the development of each role as the storyline progressed. Though the changing volume of characters made it difficult to hear lines, overall the cast performed very well. Steve Belden's recreation of John Merrick held the audience's hearts throughout the duration of the play, as his depiction of Merrick was quite realistic. The heartfelt drive for life he displayed, as well as the deplorable adversity he faced as a character, established him as a powerful actor. Frederick Treves, played by Torin Van Houten, gained the admiration of the audience with his striking loyalty to Merrick and his ability to give Merrick an identity as a human being. As Treves, Houten reminded the audience how similar humans are to one another and that equality is a right all humans deserve.

Other characters who made the play more effective were Mrs. Kendal, played by Annie Paradis, and Ross, played by Neema Atri. While Mrs. Kendal showed the importance of kind-

ness toward others in her visits with Merrick, Ross demonstrated the terrible impact of cruelty in his abuse of Merrick. In addition, the Bishop, Zach Schebish, consistently advocated the consolation of religion in Merrick's life, providing Merrick a chance to dream of a future life without affliction. The cast created a poignant and heart-wrenching story, with the use of strong character development, mood-setting lights, and sentimental music.

The music in the play allowed it to flow during scene changes, helping the audience to consider the play's meaning and create a mood of tragedy. The lighting, especially during the circus scenes gave more depth to the play by illustrating the treatment of people like Merrick.

Centreville High School's of "The Elephant Man" provided a heartbreaking testimony of the treatment given to people with incomprehensible disorders at the time, and the strong desire of those people to live a normal life.

Cappies is a high school critics and awards program involving more than 50 schools in the Virginia, Maryland and D.C. areas.

NEWS

'Into the Woods'

FROM PAGE 5

Junior Taylor Aucott plays Cinderella's prince. "He's extremely pompous, but kind," said Aucott. "He thinks he's better than anyone else, but he's not rude. He's the big brother of Rapunzel's prince, but feels superior to him. And he's in love with Cinderella, but other people, too. He says he was 'raised to be charming, not sincere.'"

It's enjoyable to play someone over-the-top and "so out of my element," said Aucott. "And although he's a jerk, the audience loves him because he's extremely amusing. They'll also love the show because it's a spectacle and, when we're singing, we're telling a story."

Portraying Rapunzel's prince is freshman Colby Dezelick. "He's adventuring into the woods because the woods are where it's at," said Dezelick. "You have to go through the woods to get anywhere, and Rapunzel lives in a tower in the forest. He's also pompous and royal. He's fun to play — a prince with great lines. It's amazing to see how the characters' paths intertwine, but in far different ways from the originals, so you look at them in a new light."

Senior Nathan Neeley plays a mysterious man who's "eccentric, pops from behind trees and talks in riddles. He helps the baker, without the baker realizing it. He has little quirks; he's always hunched over and speaks in an odd voice. And he has funny, bewildering moments with other people." Neeley says Sondheim "mixed up all these fairytale characters, added twists and created something new. He put in dark humor so it's more adult, but still family-friendly."

Cinderella's stepmother is played by senior Leslie Roth. "I'm rather officious and take strides to demean Cinderella and keep her in her place because I'm so wrapped up in my own daughters," said Roth. "Later, my daughters and I join Cinderella and the prince to live in the palace and see things from a different perspective, and it's humbling to us. It's exciting to be part of this operetta, and I even have miniature solos sprinkled in."

Senior Kim Perrow, playing daughter Lucinda, said, "The step-sisters act rudely to Cinderella because we're jealous of her beauty and goodness." And junior

SEE INTO, PAGE 11

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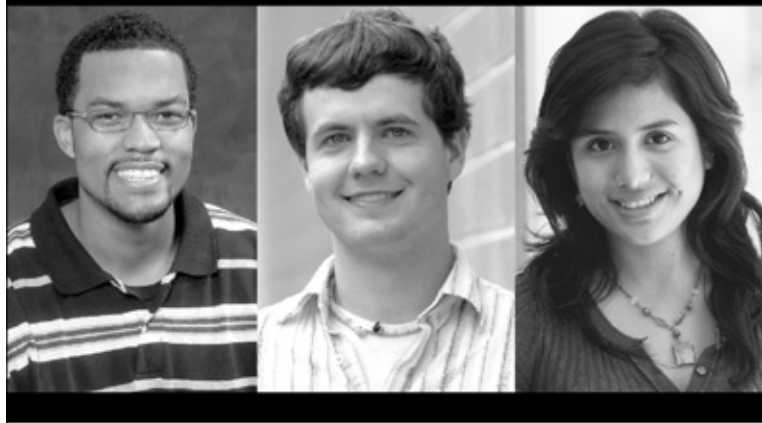
Month	Date	Band
May	1	2U (U2 tribute band) + Road Soda
	8	Lost in Paris
	15	Laura Lea & Tripp Fabulous
	22	Black Sheep
	29	No Friday Night Live! (Herndon Festival)
June	5	Burnt Sienna
	12	Monster Band
	19	Dr.FU
	26	Love Seed Mama Jump
July	3	Crowded Streets + 8 Track Jones
	10	Flip Like Wilson
	17	Kristin & the Noise
	24	B2B (Jimmy Buffett Beach Band)
	31	JunkFood + Fools & Horses
August	7	Hyjinx + Rise & Fall
	14	Gonzo's Nose
	21	Drop Dead Sexy
	28	Go Go Gadget

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

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CONNECTIONS

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MOM & ME

Readers were invited to submit photos for the Gazette Packet's annual Mom & Me gallery for Mother's Day.



Lara Valosio and son, Renner (19 months), enjoying an afternoon at Walney Pond.



"Happy Mother's Day Mom, we Love You!" from Mike and Elizabeth Esser" (and Chase II). Mom is Roseann Esser, clinic aide at Centerville High School.



Kyle Hogan, Cyndy Hogan and Connor Hogan at Cyndy's sister Sara's wedding reception on Sept. 27.



Nicholas Gaffney (14) Patrick Gaffney (16) Madalyn Gaffney (10) and mom Laurie Gaffney of Balmoral in Clifton. They are in Disney World Orlando, Fla. in April 2009.



Corey (age 9), Kim and Jake (age 7) Richardson of Virginia Run in Centerville at Nationals Stadium as the Nats battle the Colorado Rockies in August 2008.



Kari Pewett with daughter Allison (8) and sons Sam (6) and Chris (2) on first day of homeschooling in Clifton's Little Rocky Run in September 2008.



Christmas at the Coverts in Little Rocky Run, Clifton. Four big boys to feed (from left to right): Cal (father), Carolyn (mother), Rick (18), Centerville High Senior; T.J. (21), second year NVCC; Phil (23), George Mason senior; Nathan (13), Liberty Middle - 8th grade.

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WORTH NOTING

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/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.

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. 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.
Community Theater Cabaret. 7-9 p.m. at Centreville Presbyterian Church. \$5/donation and a new or used tool. Visit www.centrevillepres.com for more.
Great Escapes. 6-9 p.m. at South Riding Golf Club. Enjoy beer tasting, silent auction, food and more. \$50/person. Benefits Assistance League of Northern Virginia. Visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org or 703-860-8670.

SUNDAY/MAY 10

Angel Kisses Run/Walk. 10 a.m. at Poplar Tree Community Center, 13516 Point Pleasant Drive, Chantilly. Proceeds benefit Jeffrey Virostek Memorial Fund. To register, visit www.angelkisses-5k.org.
Mother's Day Brunch. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave. Includes breakfast items, entrees and more. \$31.95/adult; \$15.95/child. Reservations recommended, 703-631-3300.

TUESDAY/MAY 12

Knitting Group. 6 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Adults 16 and up can bring a project and get help. Beginners welcome. Free. 703-830-2223.




THURSDAY/MAY 14

Civil War Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Learn about "Second Manassas." Free. 703-830-2223.
Dinner. 6 p.m. at Vespucci's Italian Seafood Grill, 10579 Lee Highway. New Providence Republican Women's Club. \$35/person. 703-591-7368 for reservations.

SEE WORTH NOTING, PAGE 11

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Sat. May 9, from 7-9pm
Pre-Mothers Day Celebration
3 course meal with a bottle of wine.
\$60 per couple.
Featuring The Jamie Leigh Band!

NEWS

'Into the Woods'

FROM PAGE 7

Phoebe Dillard, playing daughter Florinda, called Cinderella's stepsisters coldhearted. "We're close, but materialistic and selfish," said Dillard. "We only care about looks, pretty things, status and becoming royal. It's fun because we're friends in real life and we bring that camaraderie to the stage."

A NARRATOR, senior Andy Nye describes the action. "All my lines are new moments in the show, so I don't have anyone to play off of," he said. "Me and Heather Doubleday, the other narrator, are always addressing the audience. But I love it — it's a lighthearted show."

Playing the steward of Cinderella's prince is senior Jordan Wilson. "I'm a servant and a snob and feel privileged to be 'part' of the royal family," he said. "I'm very shallow. It's purely comedic and fun to play arrogance." His favorite song is "Stay with Me," which the witch sings to Rapunzel. "Sondheim's genius shows through," said Wilson. "It's musically brilliant and humanizes the characters, making them 'real.'"

Westfield Choral Director Jessica Lardin is the music director, conducting the orchestra and vocals. "It's a pleasure collaborating with Susie [Pike] on this," she said. "About half the students are mine and this is one of my favorite shows. I've been singing Sondheim music since I was in high school, so it's near and dear to my heart."

WORTH NOTING

FROM PAGE 10

SATURDAY/MAY 16

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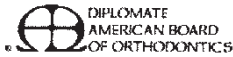
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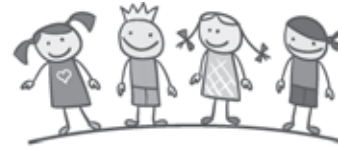
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One Up, One Down for Westfield

Westfield boys' lacrosse upsets Robinson, girls' team suffers loss to Rams.

BY JASON MACKEY
CENTRE VIEW

Two reasons could explain the different outcomes for Westfield's two lacrosse teams on a rainy Tuesday night in Fairfax. And while one is more black and white, producing a get-it-done-or-else assessment, the other has many, many different variables.

But regardless of any comparison between the two, the inability to control the draw for Westfield's girls' lacrosse team Tuesday night saddled the Bulldogs with an overtime loss, while an increased focus and intensity vaulted the boys' team into Friday's Concorde District title game.

In the first game of the night for the district semifinals, the third-seeded girls' team — after an hour-long delay as school officials used squeegees to push water off the field — suffered an 18-14 loss to No. 2 Robinson in overtime. Despite tying the score on an Amanda



PHOTO BY JASON MACKEY/CENTRE VIEW

Westfield's Eric Alter scored the game-winning goal during his team's 7-5 win over Robinson Tuesday. The Bulldogs will now face Chantilly in Friday's Concorde District title game.

O'Sullivan goal with 19 seconds remaining, Westfield lost every overtime faceoff and was outscored, 4-0.

Nearly a half-hour later and down the road at Fairfax High School, the third-seeded Westfield boys' team was tied at 4 with No. 2 Robinson after three periods. And despite having a goal waved off with 9:12 left, Westfield rallied for two unanswered tallies in the

final seven minutes and hung on for a 7-5 win.

"It felt like the clock wouldn't go down," said Westfield's Gage Hagen, who scored the Bulldogs' final goal with 6:25 left. Hagen and Co. will face Chantilly on Friday, which earned a 7-3 win over Oakton earlier in the evening.

"There was a lot of hype before this game," added Hagen. "We planned a lot and watched a lot of

film. We were ready to come out and beat [Robinson]."

FIRST-YEAR coach Brian Dilley refused the credit. There are a lot of things he can do on the sideline, he said, but forcing his players to want to win isn't on that list. Indeed, Dilley spent the better part of his postgame interview praising the merits of his players, who took it upon themselves to erase the

memory of a four-goal loss to Robinson on April 27.

"I can't coach motivation. I can't coach heart. But when they bring it, that's when we're good," said Dilley, whose squad improved to 7-6 on the year with the win. "I thought it would take a lot of work, and, as a testament to the kids, they've put in the work. They work hard, so my credit is to my team — not to me."

Dilley also pointed out that the loss on April 27 came on a Monday. As most coaches will say, Monday games are especially hard to prepare for because all the game-planning must be done on Saturday. And with players in school all day, very little can be done before that first faceoff.

Practice on Monday afternoon was a much-needed breath of fresh air, Dilley said, and the effort against Robinson the second time around couldn't have been different than how it was at the end of April.

"We had an outstanding pre-game practice," Dilley said. "They came ready, and they were focused and they were ready to go. I think it's a testament to my team and the captains.

"It's the playoffs, and I've been emphasizing that to the whole team. It's now one-and-done for us, and that's how they have to

SEE WESTFIELD, PAGE 12

WEEK IN SPORTS

Contributions From All

When all seven Concorde District girls' tennis coaches met last Saturday to draft what would become this year's All-District teams, nine parts of that computer's keyboard got a little bit more of a workout than some of the others — those nine keys needed to type Centreville.

Except for one player, every member of Centreville's starting lineup achieved some sort of honor, whether it was a first team singles player, honorable mention laurels or part of a second team doubles pairing.

"That hasn't happened in a long time," said Wildcats coach Terry Hicks, whose team finished the regular season at 9-3 and will travel to South County on Monday for its first round regional matchup.

"We're very thrilled with how the year went," Hicks added. "Coming in second in our district, we just think that we've gotten contributions from everybody. It's been a very balanced team."

On the boys' side, Centreville finished fifth in the district with a 5-7 record, earning wins over Herndon, Fairfax and Oakton.

Soccer Shorts

Averaging more than four goals per game, the Westfield boys' soccer team sits at 12-1-0 overall, 5-1-0 against Concorde District opponents ahead of next week's district tournament, which is scheduled to begin on May 13. Despite a 3-1 home loss to Robinson on March 27, Westfield regained its familiar place atop the standings with the Rams second at 4-1-1. With a total of 53 goals, the Bulldogs are the Northern Region's top offensive team. Sean Murnane leads the squad with 21 markers, and Irvin Herrera has 15 goals and 15 assists. ... Centreville, meanwhile, is 4-4-1 overall, 2-2-1 against district foes, and the Wildcats squared off with Chantilly (2-9-1, 2-3-0 Concorde) Wednesday night, which ended too late for this edition. Senior Jacob Lawrence has paced Centreville's offense this season, scoring a team-high four goals. Calder Street and Pat Luke are tied for second on the team with three apiece.

Around the Diamond

With only two district games remaining, the Westfield softball team has already

clinched the regular-season Concorde title. The Bulldogs, at 14-4 overall, 10-0 in the Concorde, sit three games ahead of second-place Centreville (12-5, 7-3 Concorde) prior to the district tournament, which starts with the quarterfinal round on May 13; semifinals are May 15 and the title game is scheduled for May 18 at Chantilly. Westfield has scored 129 runs this season, while Centreville has totaled 96. Both decisions went to Westfield this spring, with the Bulldogs taking a 10-9 victory on March 31 and a 2-1 win on April 28. Neither team reached the district final last season, as Robinson upset Herndon, 4-2.

Westfield Crew Captures Silver Medals

This past Saturday at the Ted Phoenix Lower Boat Championship Regatta on the Occoquan, two Westfield boats won silver medals. The novice men's eight came within two feet of winning its race in the closest race of the day, with nothing but open water between it and the third-place finisher.

Those in the boat included Myles Anhalt, Stephen Chastka, Ryan Titzer, Dharanish Gollamudi, Sean Amico, Ben Fairbanks, Cameron Schultz, Daniel Johnson and Jordan Trenkov as coxswain.

The women's fourth eight won silver in a close race with Jefferson. The boat included Jessie Gold, Mary Burke, Danielle Rehn, Samantha Kehn, Meg Gardner, Sierra Higinbotham, Kristen Neitz, Elizabeth Kearns and coxswain Rachel Kieler.

On Saturday at the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association's Championship Regatta at Sandy Run Regional Park on the Occoquan, Westfield's top three men's and women's boats will attempt to earn their own medals and qualify for the Scholastic Rowing Association's National Regatta on Lake Mercer in Princeton, N.J. on May 22-23. For more information about Westfield crew, go to www.westfieldcrew.org.

Scholarship Awarded

Stephanie Kelly, a senior on Centreville's swim and dive team, won one of six 2008-09 Wachovia Citizenship Award Scholar

SEE WEEK, PAGE 15

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SPORTS

Westfield Upsets Robinson

FROM PAGE 12

look at it. And they've been ready to go every time after that."

WITH LESS than 30 seconds remaining and her team trailing by a goal, O'Sullivan sloshed her way into the offensive zone. A spin move later, O'Sullivan netted her sixth goal of the game and produced a 14-14 tie.

But starting with the first overtime faceoff, Westfield suddenly couldn't gain control again. It wasn't any specific issue, rather just the sort of bad luck nobody wants during the overtime period of a playoff game.

"They won every draw," said Bulldogs

coach Jim Dwyer, whose team dropped to 8-5 on the season. Westfield, with the Concorde's No. 3 seed, will play the loser of Friday's Liberty District title game between W.T. Woodson and Madison in the first round of the region tournament next Tuesday.

"You have to have possession," Dwyer added. "If you don't win the draw, there's a good chance you're not gonna score. You have to have the draw, and we didn't get it."

Besides O'Sullivan's six goals, Westfield got three tallies from Mary Barondess. Hanna Skahn had two goals, and Nicole Ficarra had a goal and an assist. Maddy Curry and junior attack Katie Sasek each scored once.

WEEK IN SPORTS

FROM PAGE 15

ships, which were presented by the Virginia High School League. A male and female student from each of the VHSEs three classifications was awarded the \$1,000 scholarship. The selection criteria included the applicant's contributions to family, school or community; promotion of good sportsmanship and citizenship; participation in at least one VHSL activity; and submission of a student essay. A four-year member of the swim and dive team, Kelly volunteered as a swim instructor for the "Make a Splash" program — a water safety and skills program for children, teens and young adults with disabilities. In addition to swimming, Kelly is a member of the National Honor Society and serves as vice president for both the Drama and Key Clubs.

Sign-Up to Swim

Two sessions of registration for the 2009 season of the Sequoia Farms Stingrays swim team will be held on Saturday, May 9 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. and on Sunday, May 17 from 2 until 5 p.m. Registration will be held at the pool, which is located at 5562 Sequoia Farms Drive in Centreville. Current members of Sequoia Farms pools are invited to join the team, while outside pool memberships are available and will qualify a

swimmer to become a member of the team as well.

Centreville Basketball Camp

The Centreville booster club is sponsoring a boys' basketball camp for rising third-through 10th-grade boys. The camp will take place at Centreville High School from June 22-26, and the camp's cost is \$135 for the week. Camp will run from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Contact coach Drew Murphy at 703-802-5476 or by email at andrew.murphy@fcps.edu for more details, or got to www.fcps.edu/CentrevilleHS/boys_basketball_camp.html to download an application.

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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