

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Sorting cans of soup into crates are (from left) Nathaniel Hara of Boy Scout Troop 1137 of Colin Powell Elementary; Nick Falatko and Corrinne Ward, both Stone Middle eighth-graders; Athena Pablo of South Riding; Juliette Faulding of Virginia Run and Anthony De Francesco of Boy Scout Troop 893 of Centreville United Methodist Church.

Season Of Giving

Boy and Girl Scouts, students and parents all pitched in Saturday and collected food throughout the local area for the WFCM (Western Fairfax Christian Ministries) food pantry. Despite the tough economy, the Scouts collected more than 44,600 pounds of food, which was an increase over last year's 37,000 pounds. More than 800 Scouts, plus some 600 other students and adults participated.



Packing up cake and cornbread mixes are (from left) Mia Lenotti, Stone seventh-grader; Carolyn Buonforte, St. Veronica fifth-grader, and her mother Marie; Carolyn Perkins of Girl Scout Troop 1100 of Virginia Run and her mother and troop leader, Mary Anne.



From left: Boy Scouts from Troop 1995 of Deer Park Elementary Joe Tenney, Sean Bartro and Conor Bouveron pile canned goods into crates to take to WFCM's food pantry.



Sorting dry goods and bottled items are (from left) Stone Middle eighth-graders Chris Wilson, Michael McPherson, Patrick Manijayme, Mark Hardy and David Faulding.

21st Turkey Trot

Annual event raises funds for nonprofit Life with Cancer.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
 CENTRE VIEW

Pumpkin pie, cranberry sauce and the Virginia Run Turkey Trot make for a Thanksgiving day tradition that's hard to beat. And this year's 5K race and 2K fun walk should be no exception.

Besides enabling participants to work out before the big meal, it also raises funds for Life with Cancer, Inova Health System's non-profit program for cancer patients and their families.

"It's a great cause," said event chairman Dominic DeVincenzo. "Last year, we raised just under \$40,000." Life with Cancer has received Turkey Trot's proceeds for 17 years and, this year, will exceed

\$515,000 total from the race.

The organization helps families mentally, psychologically and emotionally. Its programs are for those with cancer and those affected by it, and children and teens learn how to cope and to show their support of loved ones.

Each Turkey Trot is run in memory of a Virginia Run resident who died of cancer during the year, and this one is in honor of Lauri Dodson, who passed away in January. There's also a tribute to former race director Dick Chillemi, who died of heart problems in March 2008.

"He was a wonderful friend and so good to the community," said DeVincenzo. "On each commemorative T-shirt will be a black rib SEE RAISING MONEY, PAGE 2

Race Is in Honor Of Lauri Dodson

BY BONNIE HOBBS
 CENTRE VIEW

In better times, resident Lauri Dodson helped stuff the bags given to the runners in the Virginia Run Turkey Trot. And the past two years, her husband Todd and daughter Kaitlyn ran in the race.

This year, though, everything has changed. In January, Lauri died of colon cancer at age 44, and the upcoming Turkey Trot is being run in her honor.

As a young woman, Lauri won several beauty pageants in North Carolina, modeled, worked on movies and TV shows in Holly-



Lauri Dodson

wood and was a script supervisor and a movie extra in Wilmington, N.C.

SEE RACE, PAGE 2

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NEWS

Raising Money for Life with Cancer

FROM PAGE 1

bon with his name above it, the words 'race director' and the dates 1994-2003."

The 2009 Turkey Trot 5K kicks off Thursday, Nov. 26, at 8 a.m., followed immediately by the 2K fun walk. The running course is USATF-certified; both it and the 2K start and end at the Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, off Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road, in Centreville.

Register at www.runwashington.com. Entry fee is \$20, runners; and \$13, walkers, by Nov. 22. Afterward, it's \$22 and \$15. There's no race-day registration for the run, but walkers may still sign up. The fee includes the T-shirt, post-race snacks and raffle participation.

Lila Jade Koumtakoun, 11, who's been participating in Life with Cancer's program for family members, for a year, designed this year's T-shirt.

It shows a child looking up at a rainbow and, said DeVincenzo, "When she submitted her design, she told me, 'Life with Cancer helps me get my feelings out.'"

The event takes place, rain, shine or snow, and parking is available at nearby Centreville Baptist Church, Centreville Presbyterian Church and Bull Run Elementary,



COURTESY OF GREG E. MATHIESON

The starting line of the 2008 Virginia Run Turkey Trot.

all off Route 29. More than 2,300 runners participated in last year's race, plus some 800 walkers, and this year's pre-registration is keeping pace, so DeVincenzo hopes for at least the same amount.

Runners are electronically timed and results posted on www.runwashington.com. Prizes are awarded to the two fastest males and females overall and in the Virginia Run residents' category. The top two runners in various age categories also receive prizes.

The main sponsors are Mitchell Eye Institute, Fairfax Oncology and Elan Tech Systems of Chantilly, and DeVincenzo is grateful for their generous contributions, especially in the difficult

economy.

Race preparations have been underway since spring and 150 people will help out on the big day. But volunteers are still needed for that day and to help stuff the runners' packets and do other needed tasks, at the community center, this Saturday, Nov. 21, from 9 a.m.-noon; Tuesday, Nov. 24, from 6-8:30 p.m.; and Wednesday, Nov. 25, from 2-8 p.m. Call DeVincenzo at 703-830-7634.

Involved with Turkey Trot for 17 years and, in explaining what keeps him returning, he replied, "A lot of the people I work with on a yearly basis, the satisfaction of donating that money to Life with Cancer and the good I see it doing."

Race Is in Honor of Lauri Dodson

FROM PAGE 1

"She was beautiful and just a good person," said Todd Dodson. "We were married 16 years. We met in May 1992 and got married Dec. 19, 1992." Todd Dodson is an Army colonel, on active duty with the U.S. Special Operations Command, and Kaitlyn, 14, a Westfield High freshman, is their only child.

All was well until January 2003 when, at age 38, Lauri Dodson had stomach problems and was diagnosed with cancer. Said Todd Dodson: "The tumor had grown so much and gotten so big that it was blocking her colon."

TWO WEEKS LATER, she had surgery to remove the tumor, but doctors discovered the cancer had already spread. So over the next six years, Lauri Dodson underwent chemotherapy, radiation and eight or nine surgeries.

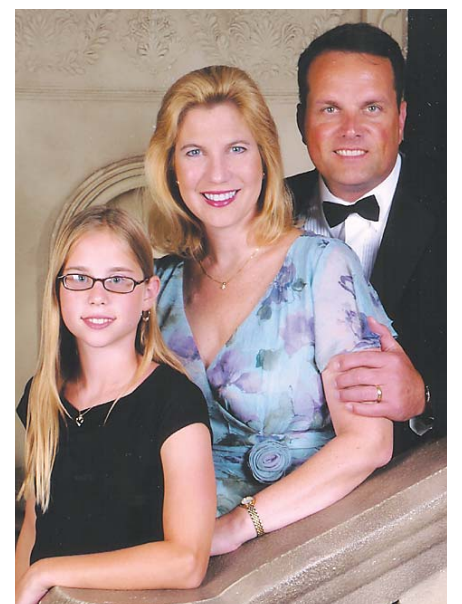
"It was a tough six years," said Todd Dodson. "They gave her a 0-percent probability of seeing five years, and she fought it for six. She did pretty good, the first four

years, but she died Jan. 31."

When Lauri Dodson was feeling well, the family enjoyed traveling and going to movies. And even all through her illness, said her husband, "She gave of herself and always helped other people. She'd try to take care of them, up to the last two or three weeks of her life."

This will be her family's first Thanksgiving and Christmas without her. So, although the Dodsons will be in Virginia Run for the start of the Turkey Trot, after that, they'll head for Wilmington to spend Thanksgiving with Lauri's relatives.

And even though they've only lived in this community two years, Todd Dodson said the people in Virginia Run made them feel welcome and at home. As for them running this year's Turkey Trot in his wife's memory, he said, "I'm extremely honored and humbled by it. This



The Dodson family, (from left), Kaitlyn, Lauri and Todd, in summer 2006.

neighborhood has done so much. We moved in, didn't know anybody — and two weeks later, Lauri was in the hospital for seven weeks. And what they all did for us was unbelievable."

ROUNDUPS

Route 28 Drivers, Beware

The Route 28 Corridor has historically had a high number of crashes and traffic incidents due to aggressive driving or driver inattention. On average, 84,000 vehicles travel through this Corridor during the course of a weekday. So officers from the Sully District Station are using the month of

November and the upcoming holidays to educate the public and enforce traffic laws along Route 28 to remind drivers everywhere to be more alert and courteous when driving.

Sign boards will also be posted along the corridor to encourage safe driving during the holiday season. Some of the intersections along Route 28 where enforcement will be increased include, but are not limited to, Braddock, Machen and Compton roads and I-66.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Nov. 19, 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.

However, because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. That way, inspectors may have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the proper use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Park Authority Listening Forum

Fairfax County Park Authority Director John Dargle Jr. will speak one-on-one with residents on topics related to parks. The next listening forum is slated for this Thursday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m., in rooms 4 and 5 of the Fairfax County Government Center.

Brookfield Civic Meeting

The Brookfield Civic Association's quarterly meeting is this Thursday, Nov. 19, at 7:30 p.m. at Brookfield Elementary. Then around 8:15 p.m., guest speaker Rita Fagan of M&T Bank will discuss facts, myths and benefits of reverse mortgages and how they can help people 62 and over improve their cash flow and reduce expenditures. She'll also answer audience questions.

Child Identification Project

In cooperation with police from the Sully District Station, the Brookfield Civic Association is sponsoring a Child Identification project, Saturday, Nov. 21, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly. The BCA will provide ID photos at cost as part of this project, and engraving tools will be available to mark personal property. For details, see www.brookfieldcivic.org.

Chantilly Community Coalition

The next meeting of the Chantilly Community Coalition is Monday, Nov. 23, at 4 p.m., in the Chantilly High media center. Contact Carol Hoffman at 703-378-6155 or cehoffman@fcps.edu.

Fair Oaks CAC to Meet

The Citizens Advisory Council of the Fair Oaks District Police Station will meet Tuesday, Nov. 24, at 7 p.m., in the roll-call room of the police station. It's at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly.

Meeting about Schools

The Southwestern Regional Planning Study committee will meet Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m., in the Liberty Middle School cafeteria, 6801 Union Mill Road (just uphill from Centreville High). Possible changes in the school boundaries and populations will be discussed. Schools involved include Clifton and Colin Powell elementaries.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

From left: Students Reid McCarthy and Connor Mitchell wore Velcro jumpsuits and jumped onto a wall to illustrate inertia. Giving them instructions are Katie Adler, Eric Olson and J.J. Hopson.

Putting Newton's Laws into Motion

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Who knew Sir Isaac Newton's Three Laws of Motion could be so much fun? But at Rocky Run Middle School recently, students laughed, cheered and had a great time learning these principles through an innovative program called FMA Live!

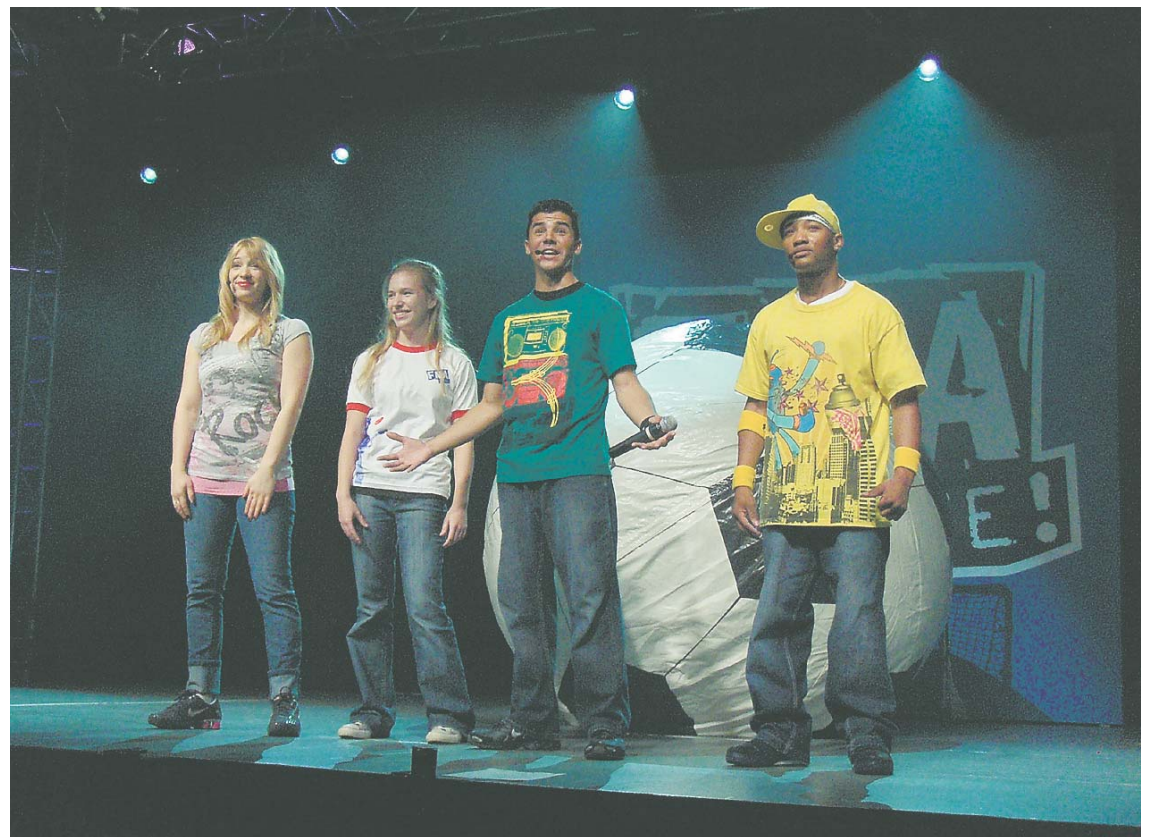
They were engrossed in the presentation because it was so energetic, they couldn't help themselves. And along the way, they learned some science.

FMA Live! is a hip-hop science concert developed through a partnership with NASA and Honeywell to interest and excite middle-schoolers in science and show its relevance in their daily lives.

Performers Eric Olson, J.J. Hopson and Katie Adler rapped and danced to hip-hop music and used video and larger-than-life demonstrations to teach Newton's Universal Law of Gravity and Three Laws of Motion.

The program helped prepare students for the SOLs. Newton's Three Laws of Motion laid the foundation

SEE LEARNING, PAGE 5



Eighth-grader Virginia Walsh (second from left) demonstrated that force equals mass times acceleration. The bigger the soccer ball, the harder it was for her to make it move.

GOP Primary Date Set To Fill Cuccinelli's Seat

Republicans to choose Senate candidate Dec. 1.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
CENTRE VIEW

The Republican Party will conduct a "firehouse primary" to select its nominee for the 37th State Senate seat on Dec. 1 at Centreville High School from 6-10 p.m. The Fairfax County Republican Committee had previously said the primary would take place Nov. 21.

Current state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) won an election to become Virginia Attorney General in early November and said he intends to resign from his Senate seat Jan. 12.

Gov. Tim Kaine has also set the general special election — when the Republican nominee, a Democratic nominee and possibly some independent candidates will run

against each other — for Jan. 12. The Virginia General Assembly's 2010 session begins Jan. 13.

Three Republicans are vying to replace Cuccinelli but it is not clear yet who the Democratic nominee for the empty senate seat will be.

IN THE REPUBLICAN firehouse primary, voters will get to choose between former Environmental Protection Agency acting administrator Marianne Horinko, former at-large Fairfax County School Board member Steve Hunt and Greenspring retirement community's executive director Will Nance in the upcoming Republican primary.

Those want to vote in the "firehouse primary" will be required to sign a Republican Party pledge. In other election pledges, voters have typically been asked to state their

allegiance to the Republican Party and intention to support the Republican nominee, no matter who it is, in the general election.

Since voters are not allowed to register with a specific political party in Virginia, both Republicans and Democrats use such pledges to discourage "crossover voters" — people who are not aligned with their political party — from taking part in primary contests.

As for Democratic candidates, Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) said last week he is seriously considering running for the office.

Marsden's delegate seat overlaps with the 37th Senate District in 10 voting precincts. But Marsden's Burke home, where he has lived since the late 1970s, is not located in the 37th District and the elected official would have to move to run for the office.

THAT THE DEMOCRATS could not find a current resident of the 37th District to run for the office should be viewed cynically by the voters, said Cuccinelli.

"I think that is pretty pathetic. There are 200,000 people who live in the district. Are you telling me you can't find one capable, competent person who lives here already?" said Cuccinelli.

Cuccinelli also said Kaine was "playing politics" by waiting until Nov. 18 to announce the date of the special election. The senator, who notified the governor of his intentions to resign on Nov. 6, suspects the

governor waited to see what day would benefit the Democratic candidate the most.

"That is the only explanation. It takes no time at all to pick a date," said Cuccinelli.

Kaine spokesperson Gordon Hickey said setting a date for the special election was a little more difficult than Cuccinelli suggests.

Though Cuccinelli had officially turned a letter stating his intention to resign, Kaine was waiting for similar statement from state Sen. Ken Stolle (R-8), who was elected sheriff in the Virginia Beach area and is also leaving his senate position early.

The Governor wanted to hold the two special elections on the same day to save taxpayer dollars, said Hickey.

There are also strict rules regarding the voting machines, which must be locked down for a certain number of days before they can be used again. Kaine was waiting to get more specific information on when the machines could be opened up and used again, said Hickey.

Cuccinelli would like to have a candidate in place by the time the 2010 General Assembly session starts Jan. 13, he said.

"I want the folks in this district to be represented every single minute of the session," said Cuccinelli.

But Hickey said the Governor's options were limited as to when he could schedule the election. "We wanted to give the candidates time to run. That can be difficult during the holiday season," said Hickey.

COUNTY NOTEBOOK

County Employees Get More Leave

Fairfax County employees will get an additional day and a half of paid leave in December thanks to a Board of Supervisors decision Nov. 16.

The supervisors voted to give county employees one half day off on Dec. 24 and a full day off on Dec. 31 that were previously not included in Fairfax's work calendar.

The supervisors said they wanted to reward the county staff for "doing more with less," as a result of budget cuts. The extra paid leave, which Fairfax County chairman

Sharon Bulova (D) and Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross (D) brought to the rest of the board, will cost the county approximately \$1 million.

At first, Bulova and Gross had suggested giving county employees two half days on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31. But Sully District supervisor Michael Frey (R) convinced the supervisors to give county employees a full day off Dec. 31, saying that little would get accomplished during a half day of work on New Year's eve. Several supervisors said the additional vacation days were also supposed to ease the pain of the one furlough day county employees had to take during the first week of January this year.



Tasty Geography As part of the Fourth Grade Virginia Studies curriculum, fourth-graders at Lees Corner Elementary School decorated Virginia-shaped cookies to represent regions, mountains, rivers and cities. Afterwards, they enjoyed eating their creations.

Woman Pleads Guilty to Neglecting Daughters

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Originally charged with two counts of child abuse and neglect causing serious injury, an Oak Hill woman has pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of neglect of children. The victims were her 3-week-old, twin daughters and, to protect their identities, Centre View is not revealing the name of their mother.

In a July 20 affidavit for a search warrant, Fairfax County Police Det. Nickolas Boffi, of the Child Investigation Unit of the Criminal Investigation Bureau, explained the case against her. He sought the warrant

to obtain forensic evidence from her person.

He wrote that, on Sept. 30, 2008, the then-20-year-old mother brought her 22-day-old daughter to Inova Fair Oaks Hospital for treatment of a possible injury to her arm. According to the detective, the infant's grandmother had noticed that she wasn't moving her right arm and that it appeared to be swollen.

The hospital confirmed that the baby's forearm had been fractured, and the mother couldn't provide the hospital with an explanation for how it had happened. As a result, the treating physician contacted the county's Child Protective Services and that

agency followed up on the case.

Then on Oct. 7, 2008, the mother went to the hospital again — but this time, she not only brought that infant (called Victim 1 by Boffi), but her twin sister, as well, after the grandmother observed bruise marks on various parts of both babies' bodies.

"The treating physician ordered a full, skeletal X-ray of both victims, and it was determined that both had multiple fractures to most of their extremities, multiple rib fractures and a possible skull fracture to Victim 1," wrote Boffi. The doctor then ordered both infants taken to Inova Fairfax Hospital for treatment of their injuries.

There, on Oct. 8, 2008, the detective was

present while Dr. William Hauta, recognized in Circuit Court as a child-abuse expert, performed a head-to-toe evaluation of the twins. Boffi wrote that Hauta confirmed that both had sustained "non-accidental trauma."

That same day, Boffi obtained arrest warrants for the mother and she was formally charged after turning herself in at police headquarters in Fairfax. She appeared Nov. 18, 2008 in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, and the cases against her were certified to the grand jury — which indicted her on both charges.

SEE NEGLECT, PAGE 15

NEWS



Algebra and math teacher Laura Gooding smashed into a huge cream pie to illustrate all three laws together.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Learning Science Through Hip-Hop

FROM PAGE 3

for modern science; and out of his discoveries, man learned about gravity.

At the outset, Kathryn Althage, Honeywell spokeswoman, told the students, "We're relying on you to build sustainable energy systems that don't pollute the planet, create cars that don't run on gas, find cures for cancer and autism, and feed the planet. One day, you'll be in control, so we need more people involved in science, technology, engineering and math."

During the program, Rocky Run students, teachers and administrators participated in on-stage demonstrations. Eighth-graders Reid McCarthy and Connor Mitchell donned Velcro suits to illustrate Newton's first law, inertia.

They jumped on a spring board that propelled them onto a wall made of 1-foot-thick gym mats and Velcro fabric. Doing so illustrated that objects in motion stay in motion, and objects at rest stay at rest unless acted on by an outside force.

Eighth-grader Virginia Walsh kicked different sizes of soccer balls to demonstrate the second law, FMA: Force equals mass times acceleration. The bigger the soccer ball — the last was a gigantic one made out of foam — the harder it was for her to make it move.

Illustrating that principle another way, computer-technology teacher David Waite and P.E. teacher Mike Gershman wore huge, padded, Sumo wrestler suits and tried to knock each other down — much to the audience's delight. The lesson was that, together, mass times acceleration equals force; but just one of these elements isn't enough to achieve the goal.

Demonstrating Newton's third law, eighth-graders Katie Dingman and Jessica Sun raced across the stage in two, CO₂-powered dragsters. They showed that every action has an equal and opposite reaction.

Lastly, to illustrate all three laws together, algebra and math teacher Laura Gooding sat in a special chair that hovered 1/8" above the

floor. Using nitrogen gas, the chair was then propelled across the stage and into an outside force: a giant cream pie.

Afterward, while Gooding laughed and wiped the cream off her face, the three FMA Live! performers told the student audience: "Get ready and learn all you can, because who knows how far you can go? Everything's in motion."

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Children's 'Street Scene' at Chantilly High Centre View

BY EMILY SARGEANT
SOUTH COUNTY SECONDARY SCHOOL

Every year, over the winter holidays, the Centre View turns the pages of one entire issue over to the contributions of local students.

We will feature artwork of many kinds, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories, reflections and more. Artwork can include paintings, drawings or any media; photos of sculpture, ceramics or other works too large to submit are also encouraged.

We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled. Past contributions have come from children from nursery schools through those preparing to graduate from high school.

Sometimes an art or English teacher will assign a project and submit the work of an entire class, but individual submissions from any young person in the community are welcome.

You can see last year's Children's Centre View on our Web site. Go to www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click on "print Editions Online" in the red bar and scroll down to "Children's Connection."

We prefer digital submissions, delivered on CD or via email. Please send in submissions as soon as possible. Our address is 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. E-mail to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Please be sure to include the name of the artist or author, and include age, grade, school attended and name of the home town, along with address and phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Caputo's Thanks

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my friends, supporters and constituents for helping me in two successful attempts and one unsuccessful in my quest to serve in the Virginia House of Delegates. It has been a very rewarding four years during which I've had many opportunities to participate in meaningful legislation and provide outstanding constituent services to those who live in the 67th District.

We fought the good fight against an incredible force that swept our Commonwealth — and to borrow from Star Wars — the force wasn't with us. I am so extremely proud of my campaign team and the hundreds of volunteers and over a thousand contributors who have made my victories possible, as well as this year's superlative efforts. As for serving my constituents, I could not have done it without the amazing talents of my Legislative Assistant, Susan Southworth and my Richmond Legislative Assistant, Diane Waltrip.

For the incoming Governor and the new House of Delegates with our sitting Senate, I wish you well in meeting the challenges facing our Commonwealth including: the financing of our critical transportation infrastructure, adequately funding education from pre-K through college and resurrecting our economy.

Who knew that a perfectly normal day could turn into such a debacle filled with death and broken hearts? The characters in "Street Scene" had no idea so much could happen in such a short period of time. Chantilly High School Theatre Department's performance of "Street Scene" portrayed the dramatic evening with terrific success.

"Street Scene," written by Elmer Rice in 1929, is a play filled with gossip. Apartment residents gossip to each other over rumors about an affair between apartment resident Mrs. Marrant and the milk man collector, the influence of foreigners, how Sam Kaplan is in love with Rose Marrant, Rose's relationship with her married boss Easter, and Mr. Marrant's deadly behavior. Rose's life turns upside down when Vincent Jones, Easter, and Sam Kaplan are all seeking to be with her and when her mother is brutally shot by Rose's own father.

The show began with a huge and incredible set that filled the stage. The way each apartment had different window curtains was very clever. The porch lights were a nice touch. The entire cast of Chantilly's show excelled when listening and reacting to what each of the characters had to say, even when their characters were not in specific conversations. Many cast members attempted native accents which added to their characters' personality very well.

And, in all this, we must remember to enact the legislation necessary to provide for adequate health services, protection of the environment and support for the law enforcement officers who protect this Commonwealth.

Barbara and I have had many special opportunities during these four years, which included meeting the Queen of England and celebrating the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown landing, to name two. But, for me in particular, it has been a tremendous honor to serve in the same Chamber as such Virginia luminaries as Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Patrick Henry did long ago.

I know not where the path will lead from here, but I do know that I have met and befriended incredible people who work tirelessly at their jobs and callings, whether it be in the capacity of the executive or legislative branch, local governments, lobbyists who do their best to represent their clients and community representatives who serve the underserved.

Chuck Caputo

Thanks for Support

To the Editor:

An open letter to the Chantilly, Centreville, and Northern Virginia communities.

On behalf of the Chantilly American Virginia State Champions, we would like to thank our

Although some performers talked at a fast rate towards the beginning of the show, each performer had clear pronunciation, diction, and projection so the audience had no trouble listening to the lines or with dialogue in certain scenes where there was fluid movement and blocking across the stage. The show had an incredibly strong cast of males.

Chris Albrigo (Mr. Marrant) did extremely well with developing his character's anger throughout the show. His sternness was shown very realistically and created a fearful fatherly character. Taylor Jarrell (Lippo) was hilarious with his portrayal of an Italian man. His accent added to his character's comedic nature superbly. He had great comedic timing that made the audience continuously laugh. Adrian Tafesh (Easter) and Katie Chin (Rose) had amazing chemistry. They were a very believable couple. Tafesh had great facial expressions and played the role of Rose's boss successfully. Miles Drawdy (Sam) did a tremendous job with his portrayal of Sam. He had a good character voice and did a good job staying focused and showing his love for Rose. He had great moments where he would be very still and it added to the way his character was feeling and it showed his character's emotions well.

They ended the show creatively with the same music they used to start the show to represent the everyday cycle of gossip around the apartments. Overall Chantilly High School Theatre Department did a tremendous job with their show "Street Scene."

community for the overwhelming support for our team throughout the District, State, and Regional Little League Championships. Our always very competitive and close neighbors, SYA East, hosted the District and State Championships. We greatly appreciated all of the time and effort that the parents and players from SYA put in to making it a wonderful venue and experience for our team. In addition, a great big thank you to Bob Sottile, our Little League District Administrator, who guided us along our journey to Regionals in Huntington, WV. Of course, we would have opted for a different outcome in Huntington but the road getting there was well worth the days at the ball fields.

Finally, we wanted to thank our Chantilly Youth Board of Directors, CYA Baseball Board, sponsors, and CYA community of baseball players and families at every level of our association. Your support and dedication along the "road to Williamsport" was stupendous. In turn, we hope that we represented our community and love of baseball in a way that would make our community proud. We hope that those following in the years to come will have the opportunity to live a dream just as we did.

Again thanks for all of the support this past summer.

Chantilly American
Virginia State Champions



About Veterans

Poplar Tree hosted its annual Veterans Day assembly on Nov. 11. Military guests from the school community spoke to the students. The music department led the students in singing patriotic songs. SCA Officers pictured in front along with Principal Sharon Williams and Assistant Principal Jason Pensler.

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120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna, VA

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MOUNT VERNON CANDLELIGHT TOUR WITH DINNER, Friday, Dec. 4.....\$109
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Communities of Worship
 To highlight your faith community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

CENTREVILLE

Centreville Baptist Church

Thanksgiving Service:
 November 22, 2009 at 7:00 pm

Worship Services
 8:00 & 9:30 am Celebration Service
 11:00 am Contemporary Service

Bible Study - 9:30 am & 11:00 am

Ministries Include:
 Nursery through Elementary, Youth, College Age, Singles, Men, Women, Adult Discipleship, Choir, Awana, Bible Study Fellowship, MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), English Language Classes and Spanish Speaking Ministry

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Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
 Christian Education for All Ages: 9:45 a.m.
 Adult Bible Study: Wed. 9:30 a.m.

Our mission is to welcome all people, to grow in our relationship with Christ, and to serve the Lord

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 Centreville, VA 20120
 www.saintandrewlc.org
 703-830-2768

Centreville Community Bible Church

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 Bible Study-9:30 a.m.
 Worship- 10:30 a.m.
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 (703) 815-8860 www.ccbc-va.com Pastor, Gary L. Maines

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 Come in for a serving of both this Sunday*

Centreville United Methodist Church

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



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 Corner of New Braddock Road & Route 28

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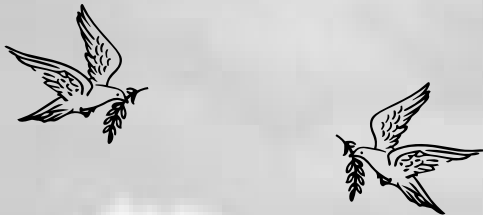
Traditional Anglican Service

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9:00 - Morning Prayer & 11:00 - Holy Communion (1st, 3rd, 5th weeks of the month)
 11:00 - Morning Prayer & 9:00 - Holy Communion (2nd, 4th weeks of the month)

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CENTREVILLE

Centreville United Methodist Church

11:02 AM Contemporary Worship Service

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Children's Quiet Play Area & Children's Worship Message

Weekly Communion Table Open to All



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8:15 & 9:45am Praise & worship

11:15 Traditional

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Worship Service:	10:00 AM
Children's & Youth Church:	10:00 AM
Youth Minister: Rev. Bobby Joe Ford, Jr.	
Wednesday Bible Study (Includes Youth Classes)	7:00-9:00 PM

MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Administrative Office:
 13924 Braddock Road Suite 201
 Centreville, VA 20120
 Phone: 703-830-8769
 Fax: 703-830-6718
 Website:
www.mountolive-church.org
 Email:
mtolive@mountolive-church.org



Rev. Dr. Eugene Johnson, Pastor

6600 OLD CENTREVILLE ROAD CENTREVILLE, VA 20121

WORTH NOTING

ONGOING

Western Fairfax Christian

Ministries (WFCM) will provide more than 1,500 holiday food baskets to families in need in Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fair Oaks and Fairfax station. So it's seeking local residents and businesses willing to either sponsor a family, by providing food for a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal, or donate supermarket gift cards in any denomination.

Gift cards may be dropped off at the WFCM food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly (near Backyard Grill and Bar). For more information or to sponsor a family, contact Pam Ryan at 703-988-9656, ext. 3, or via development@wfcma.org.

To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. Checks should be made payable to WFCM.

Our Neighbors Child (ONC) is the local organization coordinating holiday assistance (new toys and clothing gifts) for children of families in financial crisis in Centreville, Chantilly and Western Fairfax. Assistance is made possible through the generous support from local churches, schools, businesses and individuals each year.

In its 18th year, ONC is looking for groups or individuals to "adopt" the special needs of local children this holiday season. There is an especially urgent need for winter coats, blankets and other warm clothing. Specific information (sizes, etc.) will be available by Thanksgiving. If you are willing to help, contact Denise McInerney, ONC Clothing Coordinator at ondc Denise@aol.com. For other volunteer opportunities or to make a

donation, visit www.ourneighborschild.org.

The Western Fairfax County

Woman's Club is selling the 2009 White House Christmas ornaments. This year's ornament honors our 24th President Grover Cleveland.

A finely crafted gold-plated wreath of snowflakes, painted in ice blue and white, frames the oval ornament that depicts a view of the White House from the south lawn. The first White House Christmas tree to be adorned with electric lights can be seen through the upstairs window.

The cost of the ornament is \$18 and all profits benefit charity. If you wish to order previous years' ornaments, just ask about that when you call to place your order. Orders can be placed through any club member or by calling 703-378-6841 or 703-378-6216.

THURSDAY/NOV. 19

Open House. 9:15-11:30 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. Clifton Children's Academy is holding a Registration Open House for Kindergarten and morning, afternoon and full day preschool classes. At 14315 Compton Road in Centreville. Call 703-968-8455. Registration info at www.childrensacademy.com.

FRIDAY, NOV. 20

Swing Dance with The Fabulettes.

8:30-9 p.m. Drop-in beginner swing lesson; 9 p.m.-12 midnight dance. Admission is \$15. At Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road (Route 28 near the airport), Herndon. Call 703-359-9882 or visit www.gottaswing.com.

NOV. 20, 21, 22

"Brighton Beach Memories." \$10

admission. Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. At Westfield High School in Chantilly. To order tickets online, visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com or call 703-488-6439.

SATURDAY/NOV. 21

29th Annual Craft Fair. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Booths still available; crafters call 703-814-7986. At St. Timothy School, 13809 Poplar Tree Road, Chantilly. Contact Mary Kowalski, 703-502-9758 or mary.kowalski1@verizon.net.

JCCNV Gala. 7:30 p.m. The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's, 29th annual fall gala benefitting the JCCNV's Special Needs program which serves individuals and families with special needs including high-functioning autism, Asperger's Syndrome and ADD/ADHD. Tickets start at \$180 per individual/\$360 per couple. At the Westfields Marriott, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. Visit www.jccnv.org or call Sara Moore, 703-537-3024 or SaraM@jccnv.org.

Free Health Event. 2-4:30 p.m. "How Feelings Link the Brain, the Body, and the Sixth Sense." Vienna author and sensitivity researcher Mike Jawer will discuss the his book, *The Spiritual Anatomy of Emotion*, with The NOVA Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS), Fibromyalgia (FM), and MVPS/Dysautonomia (OI) Support Group. At the McDonnell Room, Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly. No registration required; free. Contact Elly at 703-968-9818 or CFSsupport-owner@yahoo.com. Go to www.cfsnova.com.

Toll Carom. Appearing at Blue Water Grille, 5127 Westfields Blvd., Centreville, Call 703-803-1040

NOV. 21-22

Holiday Bazaar. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Farmer's market, arts and craft vendors, face painting, a strolling juggler. At the Fair Lakes Center Courtyard, at the intersection of Fair Lakes Parkway and Fair Lakes Circle.

SUNDAY/NOV. 22

Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner. 1:30 p.m. Seniors are invited to a free Thanksgiving turkey dinner. Offered to all seniors by the Knights of Columbus, Father Nudd and Father Cilinski Councils. At St. Timothy School, 13809 Poplar Tree Road, Chantilly, in the cafeteria.

THURSDAY/NOV. 26

Virginia Run Turkey Trot. 8 a.m. 5K race and 2K walk. Registration is available online at www.runwashington.com. Entry fee is \$20 to run and \$13 to walk if registered by Nov. 22. The fee includes a short sleeve T-shirt, post race snacks and raffle participation. Prizes are awarded to the fastest two males and females overall and in the Virginia Run residents' category. Proceeds go to Life With Cancer. The top two runners in the following age categories will receive prizes: 10 and under, 11-14, 15-18, 19-29, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70+.

FRIDAY/NOV. 27

Swing Dancing. Beginner swing lesson 8:30-9 p.m. Dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. \$15 admission. With the band, Hula Monsters, a swing band with a Hawaiian flavor. Led by Sue and Gary Caley. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. Visit <http://www.gottaswing.com>.

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Seeking artwork, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories and reflections from local students.

E-mail to: PhotoCV@connectionnewsletters.com, or mail or deliver contributions by Dec. 4, to 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Please be sure to include the student's name, age, grade, school and town of residence along with each submission. For information, call 703-778-9410.

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The Most Popular Art & Craft Show in the Greater Metropolitan Washington DC area!

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Sunday, November 22, 2009
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Over 200 juried crafters and gourmet food vendors.

Admission fee: \$5 per person each day or \$8 for a two day ticket. Under 18 years free.

Free Shuttle Bus Service.

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Parks & Recreation
City of Fairfax

City of
Fairfax

HOLIDAY CALENDAR



Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents "The Kingdom of Sweets" from The Nutcracker on Dec. 5.

NOV. 21-22

Holiday Bazaar. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Farmer's market, arts and craft vendors, face painting, a strolling juggler. At the Fair Lakes Center Courtyard, at the intersection of Fair Lakes Parkway and Fair Lakes Circle.

SUNDAY/NOV. 22

Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner. 1:30 p.m. Seniors are invited to a free Thanksgiving turkey dinner. Offered to all seniors by the Knights of Columbus, Father Nudd and Father Cilinski Councils. At St. Timothy School, 13809 Poplar Tree Road, Chantilly, in the cafeteria.

FRIDAY/DEC. 4

Christmas Concert. 7 p.m. Free. Performing is the Ministering Group, Promise Land Quartet, a Southern Gospel group. At Oakton Baptist Church, 14001 Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly. Call 703 631-1799.

SATURDAY/DEC. 5

"The Kingdom of Sweets." 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents "The Kingdom of Sweets from The Nutcracker and "Holiday Rhythms." At The Ernst Cultural Center at the Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus. Tickets cost \$15 each. Call Cynthia Davenport at 703-815-7558 or email kostickets@gmail.com.



Manor's Christmas Feaste at Centreville United Methodist Church, Dec. 11-12.

SATURDAY/DEC. 5

Scrapbooking Santa. 12:30 p.m. Free. Santa will make a special stop at ScrapbooksPlus to meet the kids and share a snack before heading to the North Pole. At 14502-A Lee Road, Chantilly. Visit scrapbooks-plus.com or call 703-263-9503.

DEC. 5-6

Church Production. Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Amahl and the Night Visitors by Gian Carlo Menotti. At Centreville Presbyterian Church, 15450 Lee Highway, Centreville. Cost is \$10/person. For tickets, go to

www.centrevillepres.com or call 703-830-0098.

DEC. 11-12

Manor's Christmas Feaste. 6:30 p.m. An evening of food, music and entertainment set in the Renaissance period. Members of the adult choir will act as the Royal Court to the Lord and Lady of the manor. Catered dinner and entertainment of a brass quartet, harp, Madrigal Choir, vocal soloists and dramatic vignettes. Tickets are \$30. At Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville. Call

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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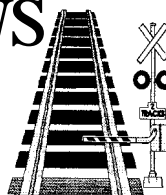
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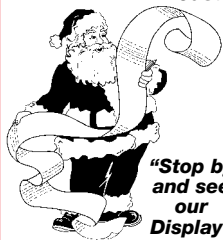
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HOLIDAY CALENDAR



Mia Saunders' "Nutcracker" at Centreville High School, Dec. 19-20.

FROM PAGE 10

703-830-2684, ext. 1869.

Friends Holiday Book Sale. At Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Call 703-830-2223.

DEC. 11-13

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. More than 250 craftspeople to display handmade works. Master craftspeople will demonstrate their expertise in a range of media, including copper spinning, ceramics, and kinetic sculpture making. Admission is \$7/online, \$8/door. Hours are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At the Dulles Expo

Center in Chantilly, 4320 Chantilly Place Center, Chantilly. Go to www.sugarloafcrafter.com or call 800-210-9900.

DEC. 12-13

Christmas Musical Drama. 6 p.m. Free. "A 1940s Christmas Homecoming." The drama is about a WWII soldier who is attempting to be home in time for Christmas to surprise his family. At Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Call 703-383-1170 or go to www.jccag.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 13

Holiday Jazz Event. 7 p.m. Fund-raiser for the Band of Parents. At the Chantilly National Golf and Country

Club. Hosted by the Franca family whose son Nick has battled Neuroblastoma for four years. Music by Jeff Franca and his jazz group. Tickets are \$50. Email: cliftonbarb@aol.com or call 703-830-8131.

DEC. 19-20

Mia Saunders' "Nutcracker." Saturday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 20 at 3 p.m. Tickets: \$12 adults/\$10 seniors/\$8 students and children. Proceeds benefit the CVHS Drama Boosters and Fisher House. Centreville High School Theatre, 6001 Union Mill Rd., Clifton. Contact Celine Righi at celinemrighi@yahoo.com or 703-968-9530.

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GIVING

Bringing Holiday Joy to Soldiers

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Tables inside the Clifton Town Meeting Hall were covered Sunday with snacks, toiletries, playing cards and more. But within an hour, the Democratic Women of Clifton (DWC) had packed it all in boxes to send to soldiers overseas.

"It's our third year doing this," said Project Coordinator Debbie Nagy of Little Rocky Run. "I'm just delighted and honored to do this for our soldiers, and they always tell us how much they enjoy receiving our packages and using everything in them — and how much it means to them."

Besides the DWC, also contributing items for the boxes were members of the Clifton community, Burke VFW Post, Mountain View School faculty and the VISTA Dynamo U-14 boys soccer team of Clifton/Centreville.

"Even more this year than in the past, we had an outpouring of support from the local community," said Nagy. "It's one of our favorite service projects, and about 30 people came today to help pack."

One of them was Clifton's Betty Boyd. "It's a wonderful thing to do, and I'm excited that I can do a small part," she said. "But I can't believe I'm doing this again; I did this for my husband and his friends in WWII."

Tom Troy, representing the Burke VFW Post, brought three boxfuls of paperback books, plus items including hand sanitizers, uniform clips, peanut butter, candy, chip, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and small Beanie Babies teddy bears dressed in camouflage uniforms. Said Troy: "The soldiers give them to the kids, and the kids tell them where the baddies with the bombs are."

His post often sends out care packages and already had things



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

From left: Chris Randon of Fairfax Station; Tom Troy, Burke; and Betty Jacob and Debbie Nagy, both of Little Rocky Run, prepare to pack up boxes.

on hand, but not yet packed. So when Troy learned of the DWC's project, he brought it all to Clifton for the women to package, and the VFW contributed to the postage. "We're a service organization and this is what we do," he said.

Also helping was Little Rocky Run's Betty Jacob. "My son was an Army soldier in Iraq, so this is really important," she said. "They need to know there are people at home thinking about them, and they need something to bring smiles to their faces. This reminds

me of all the times my husband and I, family members, friends and neighbors did it for our son — and how much he and his colleagues appreciated it — so it's very special."

Jill Waters of Fairfax Station brought her daughter Jenny, 10, to help pack on Sunday. "It feels good to give back and I wanted her to do some community service, too," said Waters. "And when you give kids an opportunity to help, they're happy to do it. I often quote JFK, who said, 'To whom much is given, much is expected.' So when Jenny asks me what that means, I can tell her it's this."

Yvonne Garcia of Centreville's Cabell's Mill community purchased items such as razor blades, batteries, deodorant and healthy snacks. "Every time I participate in this, I feel like I'm doing something in honor of my father," she said. "He wanted to fight during WWII, but couldn't get into the military because of a leg injury. So he always tried to do what he could to help, and I'm carrying on in his tradition."

Receiving and distributing the packages to more than 30 soldiers stationed in Afghanistan will be
SEE SENDING, PAGE 13

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GIVING

Sending Holiday Gifts to Soldiers

FROM PAGE 12

PFC Ronald Gravois, an Army medic who's the nephew and godson of Clifton resident Jeanne Chutuape. Just 21 and a newlywed, he's been there since spring.

"I'm really proud of him and all the young people over there representing us," said Chutuape. "They have such good hearts and believe in what they're doing. Of course, we worry about his safety but, after joining the Army, he gained maturity and was proud to get his national certification as an EMT. He has a real, strong sense of purpose and enjoys helping our soldiers, as well as local people who, otherwise, wouldn't get medical care for their injuries in such a remote area."

More Ways to Help

❖ From now until Dec. 31, the DWC is also collecting monetary donations and grocery-store gift cards in any amount for Our Daily Bread's food-distribution program feeding needy families in Fairfax County. Gift cards and checks payable to Our Daily Bread, with "Food Program" on the memo line, may be mailed to: DWC, P.O. Box 143, Clifton, VA 20124. So far, DWC's collected \$645 in food cards and checks to give to ODB in time for January distribution.

❖ Contribute to the troops at www.soldiersangels.org or via Valorit (also on that Web site) which gets enabled technology, such as voice-activated software, to battle-wounded soldiers and veterans.

Chutuape was at the Clifton Post Office on Monday when the DWC mailed off the 37 boxes at a cost of \$480 postage. "I remembered when I went to college in Chicago and the overwhelming homesickness I felt," she said. "What a difference it was from my home in New Orleans. Our soldiers are also far away from home, but it's even worse for them, being in a foreign

country during a war."

Her two sons, Adam, 11, and Cole, 9, enclosed letters in the boxes, saying how hard it must be for the soldiers to be in danger and how grateful they were for their sacrifices. Added Chutuape: It's such a privilege to help someone else, and it's an expression of our strength and wellbeing that we can do so."



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Children Send Toys, Candy Overseas Second-graders in teachers Vanessa Litchfield's and Robin Durham's classes at Chesterbrook Academy in Chantilly packed Beanie Babies and candy Tuesday, Nov. 17, to send to U.S. troops overseas. They included Beanie Babies because they're small enough for soldiers to place inside their jacket pockets and pass out to children they meet in war-torn countries. The whole school and students' families participated in the collection and also enclosed handwritten letters, thanking the soldiers for their service to the country. They did so via the nonprofit, volunteer, Operation Gratitude program, which will distribute the care packages of donated items to the troops.



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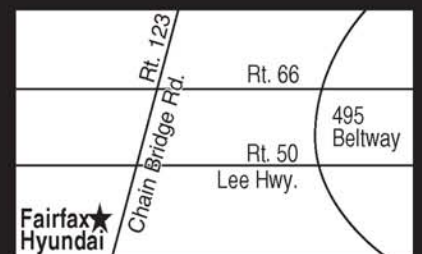


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NEWS

Suspended Sentence Guilty for selling marijuana.

A 29-year-old Chantilly man has received a suspended prison sentence, plus probation, for selling marijuana. He is Matt Deam of 13935 Rockland Village Drive, Apt. 302, in the Rockland Village community.

When he pleaded guilty in July, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kelly Pearson presented details of the case against him. She said that, on two occasions in September and October 2008, a confidential informant purchased marijuana from Deam. "On Oct. 28, 2008, police executed a search warrant at his home and recovered approximately three-fourths of a pound of marijuana," said Pearson. "It weighed over 13 ounces. He told the police he'd sold to two others, also."

Fairfax County police arrested Deam, the next day, and charged him with three counts of distribution of marijuana. Two of them were later dropped, May 26, during his preliminary hearing in General District Court. However, Pearson noted that he owed the police department \$800 in restitution for previous buys.

Then, after the grand jury indicted Deam for selling marijuana, he pleaded guilty July 27 in Circuit Court. In exchange, the prosecution agreed not to bring two other, related charges against him. He returned Oct. 23 for sentencing, and Judge Gaylord Finch gave him three years in prison, suspending all that time and placing him on two years probation.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Neglect

FROM PAGE 4

After several continuances, she was scheduled for an Oct. 26 jury trial in Circuit Court but, instead, entered a plea there on Oct. 22. At that time, one of her charges was dropped and the other was amended to a lesser crime of neglect of children.

It's still a felony but — unlike her initial charge, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison — this one is punishable by no more than five years behind bars. Judge Stanley Klein set sentencing for Jan. 29, 2010.

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Bittersweet End for the Bulldogs

Westfield exits playoffs in first round, but wins sixth district title in 9 years.

BY REED S. ALBERS
CENTRE VIEW

For a quarter and a half during the first round of the Div. 6 AAA Northern Region football playoffs on Nov. 14, it seemed as if the No. 4 seeded Westfield High School Bulldogs could do no wrong against South County Secondary School.

The Bulldogs were led by strong play on both sides of the ball in the first half. Defensive back Ryan Sweet's two interceptions and a field goal block helped suffocate South County's offensive attack while junior running back Bryan Monticue's 17-yard rushing touchdown sprung Westfield to a 23-7 lead early in the second quarter.

Although the Bulldogs seemed invincible for a short period of time, 16 unanswered points scored late in the second quarter by South County doomed the Bulldogs.

Westfield couldn't crack an equally impressive performance by the Stallions' defense in the second half and never recovered from the 16-point breakdown. The Stallions went on to win 27-23.

"[South County] made a few adjustments after we took the lead and we just couldn't get our throwing game going," Westfield head coach Tom Verbanic said.

WHILE THE BULLDOGS' rushing attack played the role of workhorse, rushing for 160 yards, quarterback Danny Fenyak and the Bulldogs' receivers were only able to amass 33 passing yards on the night.

Verbanic said the inconsistent passing game and reliance on the run crippled the Bulldogs' offense. "We weren't as balanced as we

have been all year and that hurt us," Verbanic said. "You can't live just doing one thing in a football game."

Further adding to the Bulldogs' troubles was that the usually rock-steady defense wasn't able to contain South County's playmakers at critical moments.

"We don't give up big plays very often," Verbanic said. "But South County was able to hit those big plays."

Despite the lapse in coverage in the second quarter, the defense shut out the Stallions' offense in the second half, keeping the Bulldogs within striking distance.

AS THE FINAL seconds counted down on the clock, and the players' looks of hope turned to disappointment, Verbanic said he used his final post-game talk to remind his team how far they had come.

The Bulldogs, who started the season 1-4, fought back from the sluggish start to secure their sixth Concorde District title in nine years.

"[The district title] is what we talked about on the field after the game," Verbanic said. "Maybe we sat back and enjoyed [the title] too much, but we accomplished something that nobody thought we could do."

As Verbanic led the 2009 Bulldogs off the field for the last time to their locker room, he took a moment to reflect on how this season's team will be remembered in Westfield's football tradition.

"I will remember the great attitude of the seniors, who at 1-4 refused to give up," Verbanic said. "They willed our way to a championship. It was incredible."



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Running back Bryan Monticue's 17-yard rushing touchdown helped give the Bulldogs a 23-7 lead in the second quarter, but the team was unable to score in the second half.



Defensive back Ryan Sweet intercepts a pass from South County quarterback Aaron Andrews. Sweet had two interceptions and a field goal block in the game.

Four Chantilly Athletes Are College-Bound

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Four Chantilly High students last Friday signed letters of intent to play sports in college. Samantha Reeves and Allison Williams will play volleyball for, respectively, Loyola University Maryland and Villanova University. Elizabeth Dunwoody will play lacrosse for the University of Florida, and Victor Monte will golf for Georgia College and State Uni-

versity.

Reeves played on the Charger varsity volleyball team for four years under head coach Charles Ezigbo and assistant coach Chrissy Campbell. She's co-captain this year and has played club volleyball since fifth grade with NVVA and Virginia Elite. Honors include first team All-State, first team All-Met, first team All-Region, first team All-District and several all-tournament team awards. She was both sophomore and junior class

president at Chantilly, has a 3.875 GPA and is a member of the National Honor society. She and her parents, Amy and Bennie, and three sisters, Shannon, Jessica and Hannah, live in Chantilly Farm.

With a 4.3 GPA, Williams belongs to the National Honor Society. Before playing on Chantilly's varsity, she played CYA and club volleyball. Her Virginia Elite 17s team qualified for the USAV Junior National Volleyball Champion



Four Chantilly High athletes all signed national letters of intent, Nov. 12, to play sports in college. They are (from left) Allison Williams, Elizabeth Dunwoody, Samantha Reeves and Victor Monte.



PHOTO BY COLIN S. JOHNSON/CENTRE VIEW

Robotic Competition

The Lego Eagles in the final seconds prior to their match. The Eagles were one of more than 20 elementary and middle school teams competing at the FIRST Lego League 3rd Regional Tournament on Nov. 7 at Franklin Middle School. The event was hosted by the Chantilly Academy FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science) Robotics Team.



Melissa Carbonara's second-grade class at Lees Corner Elementary had fun with "Wacky Hair Day" recently.



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A Big Shot I'm Not



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I would have thought – or expected, that after nearly eight months since I received my cancer diagnosis and six months since I've been column-writing my thoughts on the subject, that I would (perhaps even, should) be able to actually talk about it. And in talk about it, I mean, actually say the word cancer out loud in response to a friendly inquiry about my appearance, my hair (or lack thereof), my water-drinking, my diet, my work schedule, etc. But I can't, apparently, at least not without a lot of stammering and stuttering, and hemming and hawing, anyway.

And here I thought I was so well-adjusted, so comfortable in my cancer-affected skin; Mr. Positive, Mr. What-A-Great-Attitude, Mr. I-Can-Handle-This, that a simple question asking the obvious wouldn't illicit such a verbal vacuum. I know silence is supposed to be golden, but this silence seems so awkward, so inappropriate, sort of, that I find myself trying, occasionally, to avoid the conversation/situation altogether. Sometimes it feels better to be simply left alone with my own unspoken thoughts rather than struggling to express them in public to a sincerely interested person but one who is not, quite frankly, someone who my life is not dependent upon (the kindness of others notwithstanding).

And not that my life is dependent upon anyone right now, thank God! And not that cancer patients in general, or anyone with serious medical issues, are not dependent in some way on said kindness and queries – and prayers of others, because I've certainly come to realize that we are. Moreover, it's not that I'm a private person fearful of the invasion of that privacy. Hardly. I'm comfortable writing about it (obviously) and comfortable having people know about it. But in the past few weeks, social situations have presented themselves that have made it clear that I'm not nearly as comfortable talking about it as my writing would have lead me to believe.

I don't think I'm in denial; I think I'm in reality. Heck, when they stick a needle in your arm every three weeks for chemotherapy and every week for lab work, there's not a minute (make that second) that goes by when you're not keenly aware that you're "Not in Kansas anymore," unless of course, you're a cancer patient who actually lives in Kansas. I know exactly where I am, what I'm doing and more importantly, why I'm doing it. I don't know the outcome, yet. However, if I were to guess as to why my words are more easily written than they are spoken, I would bet that not knowing my future may be the cause of some of the verbal problems I'm having in the present.

It's that uncertainty that ties my tongue, I believe. And in recounting various conversations I've had with my oncologist, my oncology nurse and miscellaneous other health care professionals with whom I interact (and who know my diagnosis), my prognosis is so interdependent on variables impossible even to predict and/or anticipate that receiving a definitive assessment/scenario/future summarizing them and in turn comforting me, is unrealistic, apparently.

Therefore, when I ask the existential question, "What does it all mean, doctor?" the answer I usually receive is unsatisfactory. But at least I'm alive to ask it (and to hear the answer, too).

For a stage IV lung cancer patient that may be as good as it gets.

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

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College-Bound Athletes

FROM PAGE 16

ships, making it one of the top 28 teams in the U.S. Awards include 2008 Regional Tournament MVP, 2008 All-Region and All-District team, 2007 and 2008 District and Regional All-Tournament teams, and 2008 All-State and All-Met second teams. She's on the Prepvolleyball.com Top 250 Seniors list and the 2009-2010 AVCA All-American Watch List. She and her parents, Jim and Mary, live in Fair Lakes Forest.

❖ A four-year starter on Chantilly's varsity lacrosse team, Dunwoody was a career leader in caused turnovers and interceptions. Before her senior year, she was among the top three in goals, assists and total points. She was first team, All Concorde District, All Northern Region and All Tournament, as a sophomore, and All American Honorable Mention as a junior. That same year, Dunwoody captained Chantilly's first State Championship lacrosse team in school history.

The Chargers were runners-up in 2008 States; and this year, Chantilly's State Championship team was ranked tops in Virginia public high schools by the Washing-

ton Post and Lax Power Polls. Dunwoody played Capital Lacrosse three years and was on the National Tournament team which played for the 2009 championship. She also captained the Charger basketball team that went 29-3. An Honor Roll student, she and her parents, Julie and W.J., live in Oak Hill.

❖ Monte played varsity golf all four years at Chantilly and, in 2007, finished sixth in the AAA State Championship. This year, he led the team during the regular season with a 70.9 stroke average, and was a medalist at the Charger Challenge tournament (three under par 69). In post-season play, Monte won the individual title in the Concorde District tournament with a five under par 139. He's currently ranked second in Virginia for all 2010 graduates in the Golfweek/Sagarin national rankings.

He'll be in GCSU's nationally recognized golf program, which was ranked No. 1 in the country at the beginning of this season by the Golf World/Nike Golf Division II Coaches Poll. The poll combines the resources of the Golf World magazine, Nike Golf and the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA). Monte and his parents, Dennis and Elizabeth, live in Franklin Glen.

Paige Krall Signs With University Of Kentucky

Local gymnast and Westfield High School student Paige Krall has signed her National Letter of Intent to attend the University of Kentucky.

Krall will receive a full athletic scholarship to Kentucky and compete in South Eastern Conference (SEC).

The signing was held on Monday, Nov. 16 at Apollo Gymnastics in Woodbridge facility.

"The team is so positive and hard working," Krall said. "It's just a great atmosphere and I can't wait to start competing."



COURTESY PHOTO

Gymnast and Westfield student Paige Krall poses with her National Letter of Intent to compete for the University of Kentucky.

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