

# CENTRE VIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION



NOV 19-25, 2009

"It's ABOUT SHARING"

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

VOLUME XXIII, NO. 46



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](http://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](http://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.

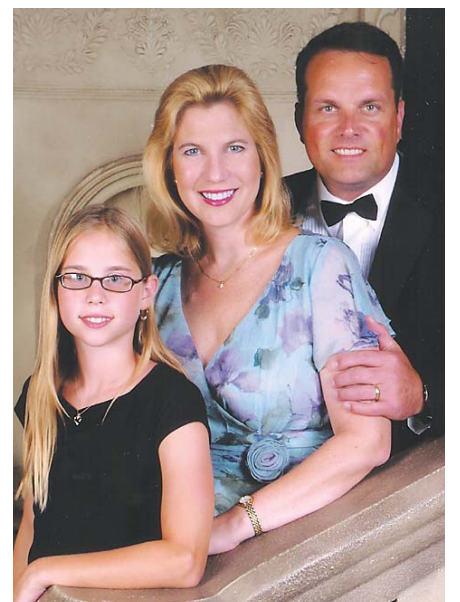
"It was a tough six years," said Todd Dodson. "They gave her a 0-percent probability of seeing five years, and she fought it for six. She did pretty good, the first four

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."

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## 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](http://www.brookfieldcivic.org).

### 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.

### WFCM Needs Donations, Help

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, 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



### Walking for Homeless

The SYA Storm U11 Girls soccer team and Keller Williams Fairfax Gateway Realtor Group hit the street in September to participate in the annual Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter Homeless Mini-Walk to raise funds to prevent and end homelessness. The Mini-Walk is one of hundreds of Mini-Walks being hosted across the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area as part of the Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Program. The program culminates with the 22nd Annual Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walkathon on Saturday, Nov. 21, on the National Mall.

## Republican Primary Date Set

### GOP 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.

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 who 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

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

— State Sen. Ken Cuccinelli

IN THE REPUBLICAN firehouse primary, voters

SEE PRIMARY, PAGE 9





### Discussing Allergic Reactions

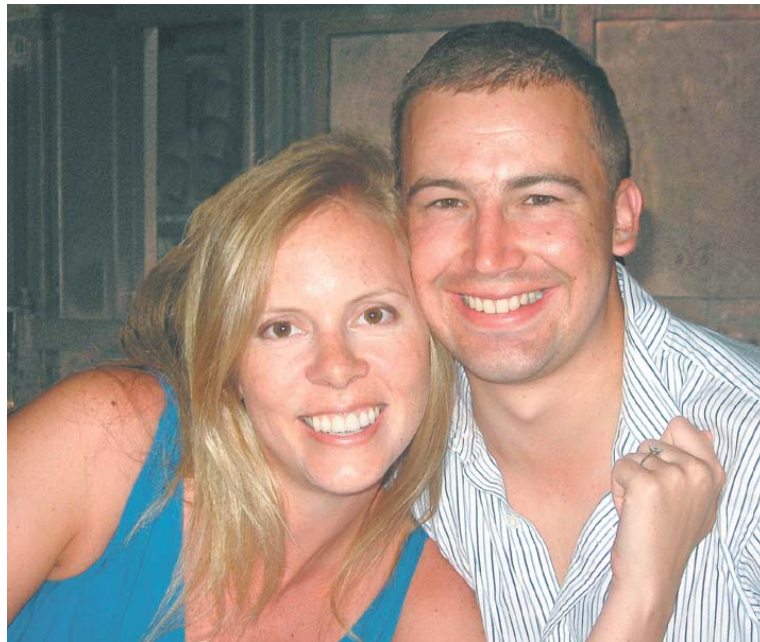
Deer Park first grade student Thomas Majka was selected to represent Virginia as a Junior Ambassador at The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN)'s 2009 Kids' Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., held from Sept. 30- Oct. 1. Thomas met with government representatives to tell them his story of what it is like to live with food allergies. Thomas is severely allergic to nuts and carries an epi-pen with him at all times during his school day. In telling his story, Thomas and the other Junior Ambassadors will help lawmakers understand food allergies and direct more funds to food allergy education and research. Pictured: Christopher Weiss, VP of Advocacy of FAAN, Eleanor Garrow-Majka, Thomas' mother, Thomas and his sister, Julia Bradsher, CEO at FAAN and another Junior Ambassador and her mother from Geneva, Ill.

### Smith, Barna To Wed

Carlton Glenn Smith of Nokesville, Va. and Denise O. Smith of Centreville announce the engagement of their daughter, Melanie Smith, to Martin Barna, son of Allen and Adrienne Barna, of Fairfax.

Melanie Smith is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and employed as creative director of RCN Corporation in Herndon. Martin Barna is a graduate of the University of Virginia and employed as traffic engineer at Wells + Associates in Tysons Corner.

A garden wedding will take place on June 26, 2010 in Alexandria. The newlywed couple will reside in Arlington.



Melanie Smith and Martin Barna

# Gold Burglary Spree Leads to Arrests

Thieves went after gold jewelry in South Asian households.

BY MIKE DiCICCO  
CENTRE VIEW

On Tuesday, Nov. 10, police arrested three people suspected of a string of 26 burglaries across Fairfax County since late January. Most of the victims have been of South Asian descent, a population that appears to have been targeted because its members traditionally own relatively large collections of high-karat gold jewelry, often passed down through the generations.

More than half of the burglaries in the county took place in the Fair Oaks police district.

According to a police release, Francisco Gray, 39, of Nassau County, N.Y., 27-year-old Dagoberto Soto-Ramirez and his wife, Melinda Soto, 33, both of Queens, N.Y., were stopped and arrested in the Clifton area, near Centreville. They have each been charged with four counts of burglary; four counts of grand larceny and one count of conspiracy to commit burglary in connection with four thefts perpetrated last month in the Fair Oaks area. The three are being held without bond.

Police spokesman Bud Walker said the charges were based on burglarious materials found in the vehicle they were driving.

It was a U.S. marshal who spotted the three suspects in the Cavalier Woods neighborhood. Walker said the marshals had been involved in the case for a number of weeks. "We had over 30 law enforcement individuals out in the field and we had them out there

for several weeks now," he said.

According to an affidavit to search the suspects' vehicle, witnesses in neighborhoods where burglaries were committed in late October had described a blue SUV. As with earlier cases, they also described a Hispanic female with red-tinted hair and a Hispanic male in a blue jumpsuit. On Oct. 29, a man matching that description knocked on a neighbor's door and asked whether Ahmad Khan was home. When the woman said he had the wrong address, he asked if she needed any plumbing work done and then left. Since then, the affidavit says, police had been canvassing neighborhoods, looking for a blue SUV with suspects matching the description.

It was on Tuesday, Nov. 10, about 1:30 p.m., when the marshal saw such a car on Cavalier Woods Lane. When the driver noticed the marshal's vehicle, the affidavit says, the car "made several U-turns attempting to leave the neighborhood and evade him" before he initiated a traffic stop. After the vehicle was stopped, police arrived and saw, in plain view, a laptop, a GPS device, a backpack, a utility bag and a police scanner tuned to the Fairfax County frequency in the vehicle, along with an invoice for plumbing work for an Ahmad Khan.

Walker said police had been in touch with authorities in New York, as well as neighboring jurisdictions, including Loudoun and Prince William counties, which

SEE THREE ARRESTED, PAGE 8



Dagoberto Soto-Ramirez



Francisco Gray



Melinda Soto

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# Robbery Yields 13 Years Prison

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

**B**efore Centreville's Nino Justice Pascal was sentenced in court for a brutal, home-invasion robbery in Reston, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Katie Swart told the judge to send him to prison for a long time.

"He pistol-whipped the victim and wounded him — and all for a very little bit of gain," she said. "This defendant deserves to be incarcerated for a significant portion of his life."

In the end, Fairfax County Circuit Court Judge David Schell agreed and sentenced Pascal to 13 years, four months in prison.

The crime occurred Jan. 24 in a residence on Reston Avenue. Robbery Det. Eric Deane explained what happened in a Feb. 2 affidavit for a warrant to search Pascal's home for possible evidence. He wrote that a firearm was used "to perpetrate the robbery and assault the victim" — who sustained a laceration to his head. Wrote Deane: "The blood from the victim is believed to be on the clothes of the suspect who caused this injury."

Following an investigation, police arrested Pascal on Jan. 26, charging him with robbery, malicious wounding, abduction with intent to extort money, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The last charge stemmed from the fact that authorities believed Pascal used a pistol to assault the victim, and because, on March 24, 2006 in Circuit Court, he was convicted of a felony — distribution of a Schedule I controlled substance.

On March 16, the grand jury indicted Pascal, 27, of 6161 Strasburg Drive in The Meadows community, on all five charges. Later, on July 21 in Circuit Court, the use-of-a-firearm charge was dropped. Pascal then entered Alford pleas of guilt to the other four charges. By doing so, he didn't admit guilt, but acknowledged the presence of enough evidence to convict him.

He returned to court, Nov. 6, for sentencing, and Swart said Pascal "was identified as the person who committed these horrific offenses." She told Schell

the high end of the state sentencing guidelines for this case — 10 years, nine months — was "shockingly low."

"I ask the court to impose substantially more than that," she said. "This defendant is a dangerous person, and your consideration should be for the protection of the community."

Defense attorney Ashley Henderson said a female co-defendant had problems with the victim and "she was the one who took money and drugs from the victim." Henderson said the victim initially wasn't going to seek medical attention for his injuries and even drove himself to the hospital.

Regarding the abduction charge, she said, "The victim was pushed down a long hallway; there's no evidence of him being tied up or moved from place to place. This isn't as appalling as the commonwealth would have you believe. [Pascal] doesn't have a history of violence, just some drug convictions."

Henderson said her client has an 11-year-old daughter and "wants to play a more important role in her life as she grows up." She then asked Schell to just sentence him to the three-year mandatory minimum for the remaining firearm charge.

Pascal told the judge he's coached Little League football to teach teamwork and achieving goals. "I want to start a nonprofit organization for kids who are on a path to prison," he said. "I've learned from my past mistakes and want to help others learn from them, too."

But Schell remained firm. "The facts of this case are extremely violent," he said. "A handgun was used and the person received multiple injuries to the head. [He] was forced to go down on his knees with a person behind him with a gun to his head."

For each of the robbery, malicious wounding and abduction charges, Schell then sentenced Pascal to 20 years in prison, suspending nine years, eight months, leaving him 10 years, four months to serve. These sentences will run concurrently with each other.

Pascal also received three years behind bars for the firearm charge. This sentence will run consecutively to the others, for a total of 13 years, four months in prison. He'll also be on five years active probation upon his release.

**"This defendant is a dangerous person."**  
— Katie Swart, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney

# Woman Is Convicted of Robbery

**I**n May, Fairfax County police charged two Centreville residents with robbing the BB&T Bank at 13360 Franklin Farm Road in Chantilly. Both live in The Meadows community.

Now, one of them — Zoghanno Holmes, 50, of 14547 Golden Oak Road — has pleaded guilty, and the other — Marlon Negassa, 37, of the same address, is slated for a jury trial next month.

In a May 20 affidavit, robbery Det. John Vickery explained the case against them. He wrote that, on May 20, around 10:35 a.m., a masked man walked into the Franklin Farm BB&T, "pointed a



**Negassa Holmes**

handgun at a bank employee and demanded money."

However, when a struggle ensued, two men inside the bank were able to disarm the robber, subdue him and hold him until police arrived. Police later identi-

fied the robber as Negassa.

They also arrested Holmes nearby "after she was connected to the robber and the getaway vehicle," wrote Vickery. "During the post-arrest interview with Holmes, she [allegedly] implicated herself and her boyfriend, Negassa, in all of the robberies."

On Oct. 15 in Circuit Court, Holmes pleaded guilty to robbery. Judge Robert Smith then set her sentencing for Feb. 26. As for Negassa, on Aug. 17, the grand jury indicted him for robbery and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. He's scheduled to stand trial Dec. 1 in Circuit Court.

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E-mail to: [PhotoCV@connectionnews.com](mailto:PhotoCV@connectionnews.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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## Children's Centre View

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](http://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](mailto: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.



### Robotics Team Gains Sponsor

**The Centreville High School's newly established Robotics Team has reached a milestone in its ability to compete in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology organization) robotics competition. Centreville-based Adaptive Methods; a developer of advanced sensor systems and sensor processing and computing architecture products for surveillance, security and military combat systems is a founding sponsor for Centreville High School's FIRST robotics team. Barclay Roman, vice president and director of research and development, and Keith Walters, a software engineer at Adaptive Methods, joined the robotics team on Oct. 29 to formally present the team with a donation that will help get their robot into the first phases of production.**



### Raising Funds for Homeless

**The Fannie Mae Foundation and the Virginia Run PTA partnered for the 8th consecutive year to sponsor the Help the Homeless Mini-Walk. On Monday, Oct. 19, more than 100 Virginia Run Elementary School students were joined by parents, faculty, and friends to participate in this community service event. Special guest, Jan Welch, chairwoman of the Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) was on-hand to educate everyone on the more than 2,000 adults and children who are homeless in Fairfax County. This year's Help the Homeless Mini-Walk raised just over \$1,800.**

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Remembering the Scars

To the Editor:

The terrifying memories of the sniper attacks still haunt Virginia and D.C.'s inhabitants, and even more so with the execution day of John Allen Muhammad, the person responsible for this senseless violence. This man brought pure fear threatening our way of living, striking fear in every human heart. Even so what will we most likely remember about him? The fact that he was a deeply troubled individual, that he was one so clever his neighbors didn't suspect a thing ... or how about the fact that he was a Muslim? A clever yet troubled one at that. It would indeed be very easy to blame the religion here, but let me ask you this, if such a person claimed to belong to your faith, would you want anything to do with them? Would you accept them knowing what they did and how much pain they caused?

The actions of John Allen Muhammad are not supported by any person, creed, or religious custom. No sane individual can sanctify this heinous crime, Muslim or not. I think we can all agree that his conduct has caused reason to seriously doubt his function among society, thus causing him to receive the death penalty. His actions have brought discord to the peace we and our children cherish so much. There was no reason, no excuse for taking the lives of those innocent Americans as they went about their daily lives. There is no logic or argument that sides with taking someone's life,

SEE SCARS, PAGE 7



# COMMUNITY

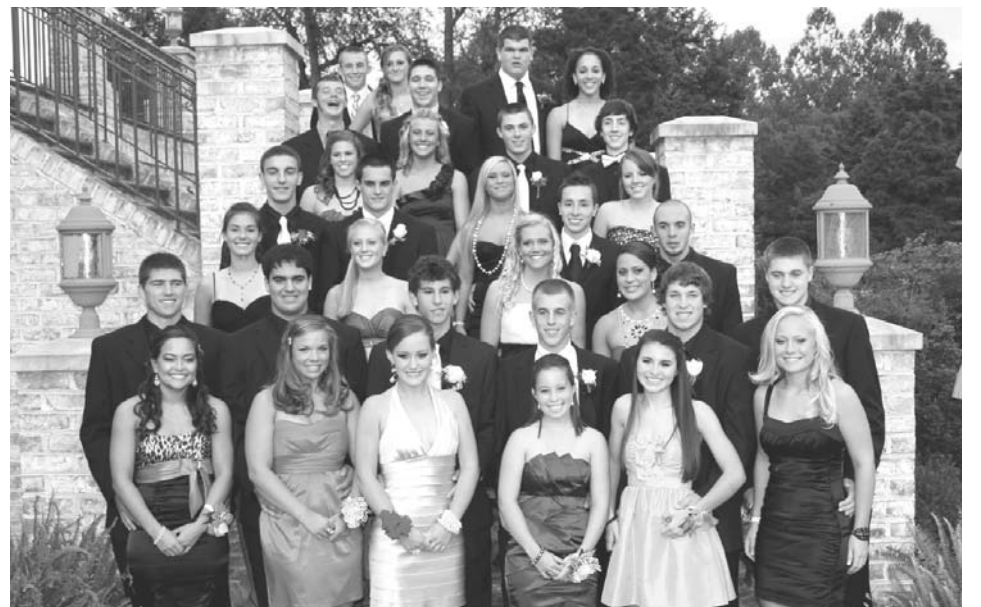
## Community Helpers

Jodi Haveles and her dog Wendy, from the Guiding Eyes foundation, visited the children at Clifton Children's Academy during Community Helpers week. She spoke with the children about how these highly trained dogs help people who are visually or otherwise physically impaired. The children learned that service dogs are working and should not be distracted from their jobs. Pictured: Trainer Jodi Haveles and her dog Wendy with children from the Clifton Children's Academy, (from right) Lauren Emmert, Erika Chande, and Ashley Garrison.



## At the Logsdon Home

Centreville High School girls gathered at the home of the Logsdon's for pictures and then enjoyed an evening out at Alto Plaza for dinner and on to the Centreville High School Homecoming Dance Saturday. Pictured front row: Stephanie Yoon, Alex Myers, Madison Hoffpaur, Kerri O'Brien Second row: Haley Yow, Paige Reaman, Ashley Ziadi, Clara Logsdon, Sarah Wills, Third row: Jamie Staub, Hannah Woodruff, Megan Riedel, Sydney Pryor, and Holly Clark.



## At the Warhurst Home

A group of Centreville High seniors gathered at the home of Robert P and Billie J. Warhurst, grandparents of Bobby Warhurst before heading to dinner at Sakura Japanese Steakhouse in Fair Lakes. From bottom row, left to right couples, Lexi Vermillion & Cameron Walter, Allison Blumer & Colin McShane, Molly MacDonnell & Ryan Ashooh, Megan Hutchenson & Holland Anderson, Haili Hartman & Bobby Warhurst. In the second row, Sarah Salette & Chris Mandell, Susie Lesniewski & Martin Seneca, Allison Miller & Santi Rojas, Natalie Leake & Shane Mondloch. In the third row, Rebecca Balint & Matt Woodworth, Lauren Johnson & Wes Jones, Megan Rearden & Chris Fallon, Emily Bollman & Peter Lizza. In the back row, Allison Nasta & Andy Viands, Celine Alasamoka & Lance Diamond.



## At Torches Home

These Centreville High School students gathered for pictures at the Torches' home in the Manorgate community before heading to dinner at Mon Ami Gabi in Reston Town Center and the homecoming dance. Pictured are AnhThu Le, Caitlyn Langelier, Cameron Owens, Paola Chavez, Francis Chun, Kelsey Newman, Daniel Johnson, Alison DeMocker, Will McKee, Alexandria Torch, David Amin, Rachael Donnelly, Eric Georges, Kristen Rebelo, and Mo Qabbani.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

the day John Allen Muhammad took away an innocent he abandoned not just his faith, but the faith of justice and humanity.

You cannot hold any religion responsible for these sniper attacks. To say that Islam supports these attacks is a statement of mis-

understanding. How can any religion go for such acts that cause misery to others? You won't find anything in favor of these shootings. Our actions are influenced by many things, for instance, TV, video games, our peers, the internet ... and much more. If John Allen Muhammad insists on being Muslim he should take this quote into ac-

count: "Whosoever killed a person - unless it be for killing a person or for creating disorder in the land - it shall be as if he had killed all mankind..." (Holy Quran Ch 5, v.33.)

As you read this, John Allen Muhammad would have already met his death sentence, but as I write this I hope he realizes the

damage he has done and the severity of his conduct before he goes to die.

To the victims who lost their lives during that dreadful saga, may you rest in peace, and may your families continue to uphold their strength.

**Seher Chowdhry**  
Centreville



# Three Arrested In Burglary Spree

FROM PAGE 4

may have also had burglaries that were part of the spree. Four similar incidents were reported in Loudoun's South Riding area since late June. Walker said he did not know whether the three suspects were known to New York authorities. "We'll be executing search warrants at various locations that may include places in New York," he said.

"Even though we take comfort

in these arrests, the police want to warn the community not to relax their guard," Walker said, noting that the media attention could encourage similar crimes. On that front, he said, the communication lines that were strengthened between police and the South Asian community during the burglary spree would continue to be useful. "Continued dialogue and communication with the South Asian community is needed and will continue," he said.



## It's Official

**Scott Blecher, left, cuts the ribbon, Nov. 6, to officially reopen the newly renovated Centreville Giant in the Sully Station shopping center. Blecher manages this store at 5615 Stone Road. Joining him is Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully).**



**Lockheed Day of Service volunteers help to clear trees and brush from stone wall on old Braddock Road.**

## Cleanup Reveals Old Stone Wall

Volunteers with Lockheed Martin helped to uncover a view of Centreville's history that was almost lost — the stone wall at Royal Oaks. Uncovering the Royal Oaks wall was one of a number of tasks undertaken Aug. 15, to help clean-up an expanded Historic Centreville Park. The team of about 50 volunteers also removed trash from the Royal Oaks property, cleared part of the "River Thames" stream behind the Sears House and painted an abandoned house so that it could be re-used as a canvas for a community paint-in on Centreville. The Centreville park clean-up was one of five projects that nearly 500 Lockheed employees, family and

friends volunteered to participate in during the company's county-wide Day of Service.

The stone wall at Royal Oaks was a familiar Centreville landmark along Braddock Road until that section Braddock Road was abandoned in the 1990s. Shrubs and trees then began to hide the wall William and Georgia Lamb had built in 1940 to enhance the entry drive to their 1800 manor house known as Royal Oaks.

The wall, and the Royal Oaks property, might have been lost to development. But the property was recently acquired by the Fairfax County Park Authority.

## COUNTY NOTEBOOK

### County Employees to Get More Holiday 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.

"A half day of work on Dec. 31 would not necessarily be a productive day," said Bulova, agreeing with Frey.

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.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

### Fairfax Administers 21,000 H1N1 Vaccines

The Fairfax County Health Department administered 21,000 H1N1 vaccines over two Saturday clinics held Oct. 24 and Nov. 7 at the Fairfax County Government Center, according to a written statement by Fairfax County chairman Sharon Bulova (D).

The county limited its vaccinations to people considered most at risk for developing complications if they contract the H1N1 strain of the influenza. These groups included children and pregnant women.

A few residents were so anxious to get the vaccine that they camped out before the Oct. 24 clinic to ensure a good place in line. By 9 a.m. on the day of the first clinic, the line of people for the vaccination stretched from the government center door almost to Fairfax Corner shopping center about two blocks away, said Bulova.

The second clinic, on Nov. 7, ran more smoothly, with a very short wait for people who came to be vaccinated after 3 p.m.

According to Bulova, the county medical corps put in 3,900 hours of service, which costs \$96,292 per clinic. The Health Department call center is currently averaging 250 per day from the public about the H1N1 flu.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



# Primary Date Set

FROM PAGE 3

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.

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## GIFT GUIDE

# 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



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 boxes.

baddies with the bombs are."

His post often sends out care packages and already had things 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,

SEE HELPING, PAGE 14



## Seasonal Gifts

Ribbon's Hallmark, Centreville Plaza: Janelle Ponzette is not only holding a fun Peanut character gift idea but showcasing the Hallmark ornaments available now, plus other great gifts of stuff toys, candy, angels, cards and more available in the store.

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# GIFT GUIDE



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## HOLIDAY CALENDAR

### 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.

SEE HOLIDAY CALENDAR, PAGE 15



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

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## GIFT GUIDE



### Cards, Baby Items Manor's Christmas Feaste at Centreville United

Methodist Church, Dec. 11-12. **and More** Cottage Art, The Towne of Historic Clifton: Pat Condrion is holding a festive winter wall hanging and highlighting the various cards, baby items, ornaments and more available in the Historic Clifton area. Many stocking stuffers from candy to stuff toys are on hand for quick gifts.



### Treasures

T & K Treasures, a new shop owned by Teresa Balkin in The Towne of Historic Clifton, features food items, cook books, lamps, and more.

## Helping Soldiers

FROM PAGE 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 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."

Chutuape was at the Clifton Post Office on Monday when the DWC mailed off the 37 boxes at a cost

SEE BRINGING, PAGE 21

### 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](http://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.

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# HOLIDAY CALENDAR



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

FROM PAGE 11

**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.

**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

SEE HOLIDAY, PAGE 21

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When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) and click the Real Estate links on the right side.

**Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.**

Centreville/Clifton					
7157 MAIN ST	\$314,900	Sat. 1-3	Century 21 New Millennium	Mark Gaetjen	703-402-7524
6502 WHITE POST RD	\$524,900	Sun. 1-4	Long & Foster	Jim Souvagis	703-919-9191
6613 PEACEFUL MEADOW LN	\$949,000	Sat. 1-4	Long & Foster	John T. Nguyen	(571) 277-1694
Chantilly/Oak Hill					
4505 STONE PINE CT	\$540,000	Sun. 1-4	Long & Foster	Elizabeth McGuinness	703-626-1952
12830 PARAPET WAY	\$1,450,000	Sun. 1-4	Weichert	Courtney Riley	703-801-7964
Fairfax					
3114 Plantation Parkway	\$459,000	Sun. 1-4	Weichert	Ron Fowler	703-598-0511
10725 Norman Ave.	\$539,000	Sun. 1-4	Weichert	Ron Fowler	703-598-0511
Fairfax Station					
11451 QUAILWOOD MANOR DR	\$1,195,000	Sun. 1-4	Keller Williams Realty	Diane Lenahan	703-283-7328
Ashburn					
21325 Clancy Terrace	\$388,500	Sun. 1-4	Century 21 New Millennium	Dorian Ritchie	571-299-9793
Springfield					
8506 Forrester Blvd	\$249,950	Sun. 1-4	Weichert	Kathleen Quintarelli	703-862-8808
Vienna					
502 Spring Street SE	\$1,240,000	Sun. 1-4	Samson Properties	Casey Samson	703-508-2535
601 Glyndon Street SE	\$1,225,000	Sun. 1-4	Samson Properties	Casey Samson	703-508-2535

To add your **FREE** Realtor Open House listing in **Chantilly/Oak Hill, Centreville/Clifton, Fairfax**  
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[kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com)  
All listings due by Monday at 3 p.m.

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**SCHOOLS**

**Westfield High** presents a play about a boy growing up in 1937 New York, Neil Simon's autobiographical comedy, "Brighton Beach Memoirs."  
The curtain rises Friday-Saturday, Nov. 20-21, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 22, at 2 p.m., in the school theater. Tickets are \$10 at the door; reserved seating is available at [www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com](http://www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com).

**Comedy will rule** when Rocky Run Middle School presents "The Mouse that Roared." Show times are Friday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 21, at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 at the door or, Nov. 18-20, in the school cafeteria. A small country in Europe declares war on the U.S. so it can lose and receive financial aid. But things don't go as planned ...

**Centreville High's fall play** has bite – that's because it's "Dracula." With a cast and crew of 44 and lots of special effects, this classic, Gothic chiller takes the stage Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Nov. 19-20, at 7:30 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$10 at the door. It closely follows Bram Stoker's book, but is not recommended for children under 12.

**After Goldilocks** entered the three bears' house while they were gone, she ate some porridge, broke a chair and took a nap. So the bears have her arrested. Audiences will learn what happens, Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 21-22, at noon and 5 p.m. each day, when Chantilly High presents "Goldilocks on Trial." Tickets are \$5.

**The Centreville High School Media Center** is holding a fund-raising event on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 3-4 at the Barnes and Noble bookstore in Fair Lakes Promenade Shopping Center. Every time shoppers mention CVHS as they are paying for their purchases, in both the bookstore and the cafe, a portion of the proceeds will be donated by the bookstore back to the Media Center. Centreville High School will bring a myriad of entertainment to the store to celebrate the holidays, including holiday music from their award-winning Performing Arts Department, face-painting, and a kids' story time with special guests.

**The Westfield High School Jazz Ensemble, Symphonic and Concert Bands** will present "A Holiday Extravaganza" on Thursday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. at Westfield High School. Admission is a new toy that will be donated to Our Neighbor's Child.

**The Westfield High School Wind Symphony** under the direction of Steve Panoff will be joined by Prelude on Friday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. for "A Holiday Prelude". Join this evening of music and entertainment followed by a Holiday Dessert Reception. Admission is free; donations accepted.

**The Centreville Wildcat Band** department is holding its annual citrus sale. Band students and the wildcat band boosters will be taking orders through Nov. 23, 2009. Fruit will be available for pick-up at the school in the band room on Friday, Dec. 4.  
A full case contains 50 to 56 oranges or 30 to 35 grapefruit and sells for \$30. A half case contains 25 to 28 oranges or 15 to 20 grapefruit and sells for \$20. New this year are mixed full cases selling for \$35 and mixed half cases selling for \$25.  
If you are interested in ordering, you may contact your neighborhood band student or contact Tricia Cruz at 703-266-6748 or e-mail her at [Va\\_Cruz@cox.net](mailto:Va_Cruz@cox.net). Make all checks payable to Wildcat Band Boosters. Delivery can be arranged for hardship cases within a five-mile radius.



**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:**  
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 703-830-3333 www.cbcva.org

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**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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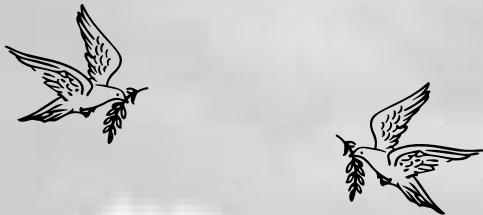


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## WORTH NOTING

### 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@wfcmva.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 willing to help, contact Denise McInerney, ONC Clothing Coordinator at oncdenise@aol.com. For other volunteer opportunities or to make a donation, visit [www.ourneighborschild.org](http://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 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. To order previous years' ornaments, ask about that when calling to place an 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.childremsacademy.com](http://www.childremsacademy.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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.jccnv.org) or call Sara Moore, 703-537-3024 or [SaraM@jccnv.org](mailto: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 (OD) 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](mailto:CFSsupport-owner@yahoo.com). Go to [www.cfsnova.com](http://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](http://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>.

### SATURDAY/NOV. 28

**Peter Douskalis Performs.** 7-9 p.m. Jazz Guitar Soloist performs at Pacino Ristorante. Free admission. At 5653 Stone Road, Centreville. Call 703-222-5885 or go to [www.peterdouskalis.com](http://www.peterdouskalis.com).

### TUESDAY/DEC. 1

**Relay For Life Planning Meeting.** 7 p.m. The American Cancer Society invites the community to learn about Relay For Life of Centreville-Clifton, coming to Centreville High School May 22-23, 2010. Visit the Planning Committee Co-Chair for a brief information session and then all visitors are welcome to stay for the Planning Committee meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. Email [CentrevilleRelay@gmail.com](mailto:CentrevilleRelay@gmail.com) or visit [www.CentrevilleRelay.org](http://www.CentrevilleRelay.org).

### FRIDAY/DEC. 4

**Christmas Concert.** 7 p.m. Free. Performing is the Ministering Group, Promising 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](mailto:kostickets@gmail.com).

### 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](http://scrapbooks-plus.com) or call 703-263-9503.

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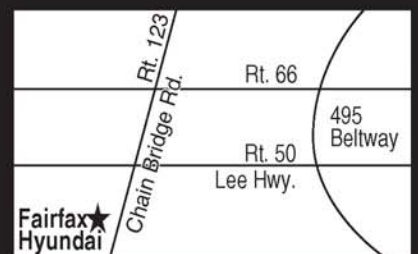


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# Bittersweet End for the Bulldogs

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."

Player of the week twice.

The Centerville native recorded a nine-save shutout against Davidson and also made a career-high 12 saves against Longwood, No. 2 North Carolina, No. 9 Boston College and Rider.

She is the first Highlander to earn this defensive honor.

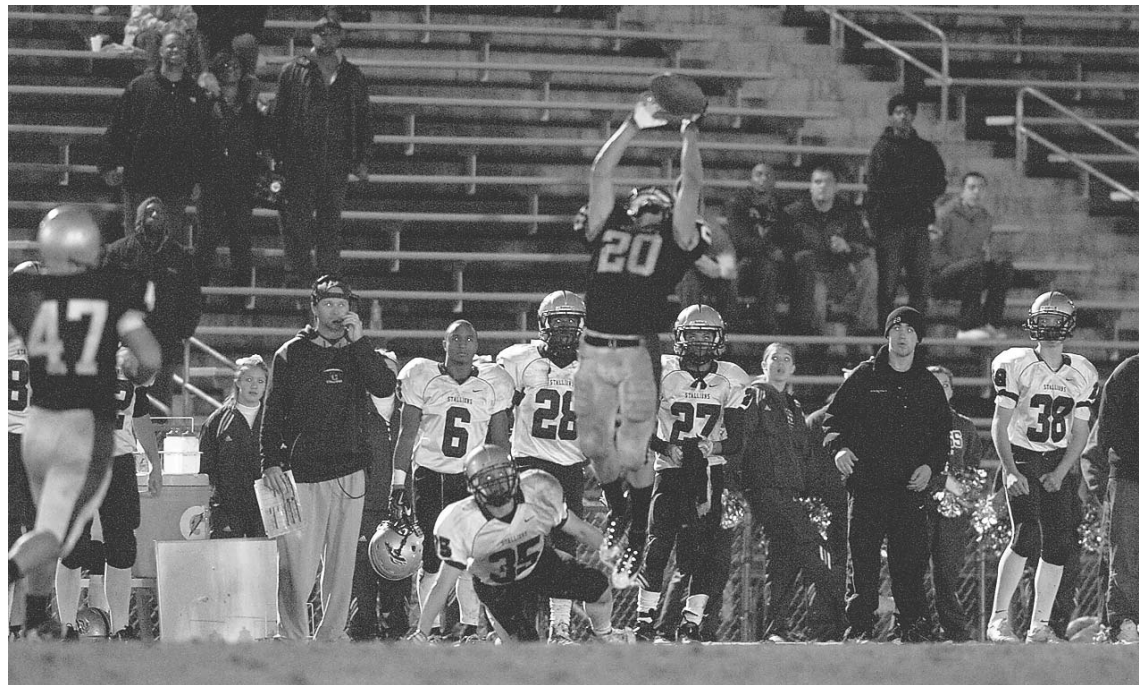
## Paige Krall Signs With Kentucky

Local gymnast and Westfield High



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.**

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Wisniewski Excels for Radford

Radford University junior goaltender Jennifer Wisniewski was recently named the NorPac East Divisions' Defense Player of the Year.

Her career highs this season were achieving 9th and 10th in the NCAA in goals against average and save percentage during the third week of the season and winning Conference

School student Paige Krall has signed her National Letter of Intent to attend the University of Kentucky.

"I'm very excited about attending Kentucky," Krall said. "It's such a beautiful campus and the gymnastics program is very good."

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.

SEE SPORTS, PAGE 23



COURTESY PHOTO

**Jennifer Wisniewski, now at Radford University, played her high school field hockey with Centerville.**





The Democratic Women of Clifton package items to send to U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan.

## Bringing Holiday Joy

FROM PAGE 14

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."

### HOLIDAY CALENDAR



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

FROM PAGE 15

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 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:celinemrighi@yahoo.com) or 703-968-9530.

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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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## SPORTS

FROM PAGE 20

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

### Indoor Lacrosse Registration

Northern Virginia West Lacrosse (NoVa West) is currently in the process of registering for its indoor lacrosse season.

The group is also accepting registrations for tryouts in their summer select teams which include U11, U13, U15 and two levels of High School play.

For more information about NoVa West Lacrosse's youth sports offerings for 2010, visit, <http://www.novawestlax.com>.

### Paul VI 3-3 Basketball Tournament Nov. 25

Paul VI High School in Fairfax will be hosting a 3-on-3 basketball tournament on Nov. 25 for ages 14 and up.

The tournament will run from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. and will be hosted by the Paul VI Men's Basketball teams.

Registration fees are \$15 per player or \$50 per team. Early bird registration before Nov. 20 will reduce the fees to \$10 per players and \$50 per team.

For online registration, visit [http://www.paulvi.net/athletics/reg\\_3on3.pdf](http://www.paulvi.net/athletics/reg_3on3.pdf).

For more information, contact Gene Fisher ([gene54321@aol.com](mailto:gene54321@aol.com) or 703-609-8808) or Corey Howard (301-433-1943)

### Holiday Sports Camp

Parents seeking a high energy camp for children during the holiday break might be interested in the Fit Kids Sports Mania Holiday Camp.

The Camp is for children ages 5 to 9 and will be held at the Claude Moore Community center from Dec. 28 to Dec. 30.

Camp runs from 9 a.m to 12 p.m. and will feature a variety of sports including soccer, hockey, t-ball and more.

The camp's goal is to emphasis teamwork and sportsmanship.

Interested parties can find registration information at <http://webtrac.loudoun.gov>



COURTESY PHOTO

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

call 571-258-3500.

### SYA Registration

SYA winter registration is now available online at [www.syasports.org](http://www.syasports.org).

Winter sports include basketball, wrestling, and track and field. Early registration is suggested to assure team placement and avoid late fees and wait lists. For more information on a particular sport, visit the SYA Web site.

### Submit Youth Sports Items

The local youth football, soccer, cheerleader and other sports seasons are nearing completion and the Centre View doesn't want any child's accomplishments to go unnoticed.

Typical submissions include photographs of teams posing with trophies and short comments about a player or team's accomplishments on the field. To have youth sports items printed or posted on the Web, send the information to Sports Editor Reed S. Albers at [ralbers@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:ralbers@connectionnewspapers.com)

**If I keep a green bough in my heart, the singing bird will come.**  
 —Chinese proverb

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