

MARCH 29 - APRIL 4, 2012

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE



Local residents peruse maps of existing county bike trails.

Anyone for Bike Riding?

**Fairfax County's
creating a Bicycle
Transportation Plan.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Besides being fun and good exercise, bicycle riding can also help improve transportation in Fairfax County. So the county's Department of Transportation (DOT) is holding a series of meetings to further develop a countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan.

The goal is to create a system of on- and off-road bike lanes to serve as a bicycle-transportation network. Included will be specific improvements needed to accommodate and encourage bicycling within and between county activity and population centers, and to and from neighboring jurisdictions.

"We did the bike plan for Tysons last year, and now we're doing the rest of the county," said Dan Goodman, a senior planner with Toole Design Group of Silver Spring, Md. His company and Cambridge Systematics of Bethesda are working together with the county to develop its bicycle master plan.

SEE FAIRFAX COUNTY'S, PAGE 6

'This Is How We Want To Live'

**Residents speak out
about bike plan.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Local residents had their say recently about Fairfax County's plan to create a practical and workable bicycle-transportation network. They said it's about time, but also contended that motorists' attitudes toward bicyclists need to change.

"Most people who see me biking on the road want me to get off," said Julia Glowacki of Centreville's Virginia Run community. "But people

should see biking as a mode of transportation that should be supported. Fairfax County, in my opinion, is not a bike-friendly place."

But if the county's Department of Transportation (DOT) and Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling (FABB) have their way, conditions for bicyclists will eventually be changing for the better. With help from Toole Design Group, the county is currently developing a bicycle master plan.

"FABB's been a good partner," said Toole senior planner Dan Goodman. "It helped us develop a comprehensive list of everyone in the county who's doing anything bike-related."

And once the bicycle plan is formulated, said FABB Chairman Bruce Wright, "Our job is to get

SEE RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT, PAGE 6

Budget, Budget, Toil and Trouble

**Fairfax County
funding is less
than desired.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

To the average person, \$6.7 billion seems like lots of money. But for Fairfax County — home to more than 1 million people — it's still not enough to fund everything its residents want. But county representatives say they're doing the best they can in a difficult economy.

"It's looking a little better, but we're going to face the most difficult couple years we've ever seen," said Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully), at a town hall meeting Thursday, March 22, in Chantilly. "When cutbacks occur in the private sector, we have more demands for county services — housing assistance, libraries, parks, etc."

"On top of that, we know there are big-time federal [funding] cuts coming, and they're going to dump that on the states — which will do the same thing to the counties," he continued. "But we can't pick up every program cut by the state or federal government because we don't have the tax base."

Instead, said Frey, the county's looking at ways to "leverage resources" and partner with the community, wherever possible. So, he told the audience, "We want to hear what you think is important and what we should be focusing on."

Also speaking was Sully District School Board representative Kathy Smith. "We are a successful school



Joe Lahait discusses the finer points of the FY2013 budget.

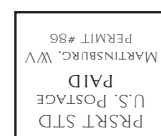
system in a community with high expectations," she said. "[But] we are growing by thousands of students every year and that affects everything we do."

Then Katie Horstman and Joe Lahait, with the county's Department of Management and Budget, discussed some highlights of the county executive's proposed FY 2013 budget. The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings April 10-12 and have several work sessions before adopting a final budget on May 1.

The current property-tax rate is \$1.07/per \$100 assessed valuation, but Frey said the supervisors will advertise a \$1.08 rate, because of an increase in the stormwater-utility fee. But with decreased home-assessment values, the impact on the average taxpayer would be minimal.

Horstman said the general fund is projected to grow by 3.4 percent

SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 4



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News



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

On their deck in October 2011 are (from left) Christian, Skyler (holding pumpkin) and Jordan.

Fair Lakes Girl Honored at Ball

She's a leukemia survivor.

By BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Skyler Hundley, a 9-and-a-half-year-old fourth-grader at Poplar Tree Elementary, lives with her parents, John and Stacey, twin sister Jordan and little brother Christian, 5, in Fair Lakes. An active girl, she likes riding her bike and scooter, jumping on a trampoline and playing CYA soccer.

She's also a leukemia survivor and, this Saturday, March 31, in Washington, D.C., she'll be one of the honored heroes at the annual Leukemia Ball sponsored by The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS).

Skyler was just 4 when she was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) in April 2007. Although she seemed otherwise healthy, her parents noticed some swollen lymph nodes her under chin and took her to their pediatrician.

The doctor discovered swollen lymph nodes all over the child's body, and a blood test revealed that her counts were severely abnormal. "My son was 8 months old then, but I went straight from the pediatrician's to Inova Fairfax Hospital with all three kids," said Stacey Hundley.

Skyler was admitted to the pediatric oncology ward and, the next morning, she was diagnosed with ALL. SEE LEUKEMIA, PAGE 5

Clifton Man Also To Be Honored

He fights two battles with lymphoma.

By BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

David Timko became the executive director of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Washington, D.C., chapter in 1987 and, the following year, helped create the fund-raising Leukemia Ball. Little did he know then that he'd someday be one of the event's patient heroes.

"I worked on the ball for 20 years, and it went from an event raising several thousand dollars to one raising \$3.5 million," said Timko, 63, of Clifton's Little Rocky Run community. "It was a labor of love and joy."

He joined the LLS in the first place because he believed so strongly in its mission of raising funds to help find a cure for people stricken with those diseases.

"Our cure rates for kids in the 1960s and '70s were pretty much nonexistent," said Timko. "When I

started with the National Capital Area Chapter in the '80s, we were up to 75 percent; and 10 years later, it was 90 percent, which is remarkable."

But working for the organization didn't guarantee him personal immunity. "In 1993, our chapter became the top fund-raiser in the United States and I got hammered with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma," he said. "So it was a cruel irony."

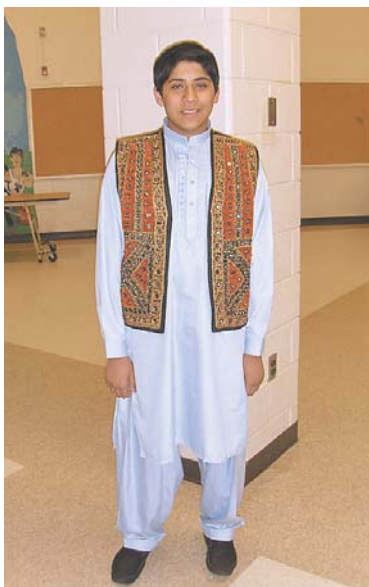
"I was shaken to my soul," said Timko. "I was a father of two, beautiful children and had a full and happy life. But I kept working and underwent aggressive treatment. After a year or so, I went into remission."

That lasted for 20 years, until 2009, when the cancer returned with a vengeance. "Lymphomas are slow-growing and are notorious for recurring," said Timko. "It's been a tougher battle this time because I'm older and because the lymphoma morphed into a more aggressive form."

More treatment followed, made possible in part by funds raised by events such as the Leukemia Ball. And in September 2011, he underwent a stem-cell transplant at Inova Fairfax Hospital.

SEE NAMED PATIENT, PAGE 5

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Representing Pakistan and Afghanistan, sophomore Junaid Rehman modeled this Pashtun outfit worn for weddings and parties.



From left: Freshman Cathy Tran, junior Amanda White and freshman Britnee Hager serve spaghetti with meat sauce, Fettucini Alfredo and fusilli primavera, respectively, at the international dinner before the show.



Junior Jonea Ahouissoussi wears a special-occasion dress from Benin in West Africa.



Modeling a sari from Bangladesh is junior Sabrina Ahmed-Iqbal.

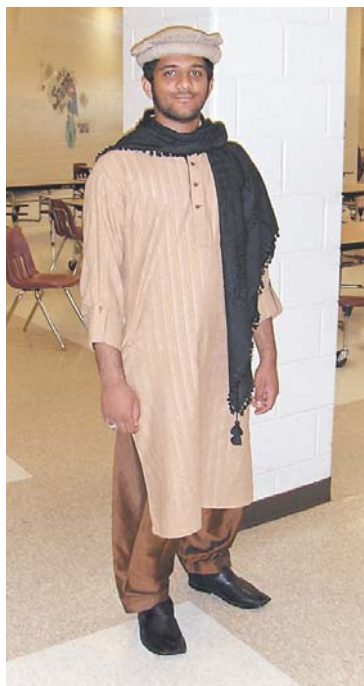
Centreville High Celebrates Its Diversity



Centreville High celebrated its cultural and ethnic diversity, Friday, March 23, with an International Night showcasing student talent. The event included songs, dancing and food from several countries as well as a fashion show.

Senior Obaid Rehman wears an everyday outfit from Pakistan. His hat is called a pakol, and his gown is a shalwar kameez.

Junior Mokhira Shokir wears an atlas dress worn by brides in Uzbekistan.



Representing Korea are (front row, from left) Bokyeong Kim, Diana Kim and Taehee Kim, and (back row, from left) Min Su Ju, Jae Hyeon Joo and Hong Kim.



Dancers perform a Baile de Gala from Central and South America.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Residents React to \$6.7 Billion County Budget Proposal

FROM PAGE 1

— an increase of \$112 million over the last fiscal year. “Most of our general-fund revenue comes from real-estate taxes,” she said. “We’re expecting an increase in our real-estate tax base by 3.27 percent.”

Frey said commercial/industrial property owners are paying “significantly higher” taxes. And that’s good for the county because, said Horstman, “Single-family homes are almost 73 percent of our base, but they’re only growing in value by .7 percent.” However, commercial/industrial property now comprises 20.8 percent of the county’s real-estate assessment base — an increase over the past two fiscal years.

Frey noted that “most businesses tell us they locate here for the schools, quality of life and proximity to Dulles Airport — which is clearly, by far, the economic engine for Northern Virginia.” And Horstman said there’s a renewed interest in nonresidential, speculative building — projects being constructed before tenants are lined up.

The proposed General Fund disbursements total is \$3.5 billion —



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Katie Horstman answers a question about Fairfax County’s proposed budget.

up \$143 million over last year’s figure. The majority, 52.5 percent or \$1.85 billion, is earmarked for the school system. The allotment for public safety — police, fire, sheriff and E-911 — is just 12.2 percent or roughly \$428.5 million.

Cost of county operations is recommended to be increased by \$64.6 million, including a 2.18 percent cost-of-living pay increase, effective July 1, for all county

employees. Said Lahait: “With over 10,000 employees, our largest cost is county salaries.”

The proposed budget also includes a total of \$3.35 million to the Lorton Arts Foundation, representing \$2.6 million extra, on top of the \$.75 million the county already contributes to it annually. “It’s run into some economic and fund-raising challenges,” said Lahait.

However, this line item incensed several people in the room. Mark McConn, of Centreville’s Bull Run Estates community, wanted to know if there’s “a sunset time for this annual, \$750,000 contribution from the county.”

Frey said the supervisors are “asking this question, too.” And Robin Jenks Vanderlip of Centreville’s Confederate Ridge community said that money could be used for food for the WFCM food pantry or for children who get food at school through UFO (U Feed Others), via Centreville United Methodist Church.

Police Lt. Jaysyn Carson said the police “haven’t had a pay increase in four years, and School Board and general county employees get

so much more in salary.”

So, said Police Lt. Christopher Cochrane, president of the Fairfax Coalition of Police Union, Local 5000, “It’s hard for us to swallow when the county is funding private organizations ahead of county employees. Four years without this money is tough — especially when our last three years of employment determine our pension.”

He said public-safety personnel aren’t asking for a raise, but simply the reinstatement of their already-earned merit and longevity pay, which would cost \$8.7 million total. Having their current pay-scale steps frozen for a fourth year, said Cochrane, is “unacceptable.”

He also noted that public-safety personnel contribute 10 percent to their retirement — the highest amount for all county employees — after reportedly being promised it would be reduced to 8 percent.

Besides that, said Officer Lincoln Kiefer, “A lot of officers haven’t gotten a merit increase since 2004.”

Cochrane urged the county to “not ignore the pay for public safety, simply because the citizens never see a reduction in service —

because they won’t. The officers are the best in the region, if not the country, so they will always work. Its time to compensate fairly and return the benefits they were promised.”

Carson emphasized that the police are “already about 40 officers down, so we have to pay more money in overtime. So we’re doing more with less. People want to work in Fairfax County, but these officers will seek employment in other places; \$8.7 million isn’t very much to keep Public Safety going.”

“We know we’ve asked our employees for a lot,” replied Frey. “But it would be difficult to unfreeze Public Safety and not other areas.”

“Shouldn’t we therefore tell some of these foundations, like Lorton, to go find their funding elsewhere?” asked McConn. Or, asked a woman in the audience, “Could we reduce [the amount contributed]?”

Answered Frey: “We’ve cut an awful lot, but that’s what the budget process is about.”

Hal Strickland, Sully District Park Authority representative, also has a problem with the proposed budget. “In these tough economic times, a lot of citizens turn to public facilities for entertainment,” he said. “We’ve experienced a significant increase in park use over the past several years.”

“We had 18 million visits to the parks in 2011, and over 50 percent of all families in Fairfax County have used our rec centers — and both are increases,” he said. People come to the parks, said Strickland, because of the ball fields, golf courses, trails, open space, and natural and cultural stewardship programs.

“With that increase, the impact on them has been severe,” he said. “In this FY 2013 budget, we’re scheduled in November for a \$38 million Capital Improvement Bond for Parks and Recreation. But it’s not enough — some of our rec centers and other facilities are wearing out. So we want this increased to \$75 million, and I understand the county debt ceiling would allow that.”

Strickland thanked Frey and Smith for their support of the park system and asked residents at the meeting to support an increased park bond. “Parks and Recreation is .6 percent of the total budget — not even 1 percent [of the General Fund disbursements],” said Strickland. “And with the service we give the citizens, that’s a pretty good deal. I’m talking \$22 million out of \$3.5 billion.”

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The Timko family last year at North Carolina's Outer Banks. Back row, from left, are David and Missi Timko with grandson Dominic DeSarno between them. Front row, from left, are their daughters and son-in-laws, Matt and Emily McGlon and Lauren and Nick DeSarno. (Not pictured, Lila DeSarno).

Named Patient Hero at Ball

FROM PAGE 2

He's not cured, but is currently in remission and, in November 2011, he was able to walk his daughter Emily down the aisle. She and her husband Matt now live in Chicago.

Timko and his wife Missi are also parents of Lauren DeSarno; she and her husband Nick have two children, Dominic, 5, and Lila, 2, and another on the way.

The Timkos have been married almost 40 years, and David says the letters "s" in Missi's name stand for "saint." Said Timko: "I wouldn't be here without her. She's been a rock, a nurse — everything — and she continues to be remarkable. I'm so blessed

to still be here, on the right side of the flowers."

He recently returned to his job as senior vice president of Volunteer Engagement for the national level of the LLS; and this Saturday, March 31, he and Missi will attend the annual Leukemia Ball in Washington, D.C. But this time, Timko will be there as more than an LLS employee; he'll also be one of the patient honorees.

However, he said it'll be a bit awkward for him. "I feel honored, and it'll be great for me to be there that night with the donors and volunteers," said Timko. "But I'd rather the attention be on them and not me."

Surviving Childhood Leukemia

FROM PAGE 2

As scary as this news was, however, pediatric oncologist Jay Greenberg reassured Hundley that all would be well.

"He initially thought it was either aplastic anemia or leukemia," she said. "But he told us, 'Whatever she has, I have every intention of curing your daughter.' And he and his colleagues did, so I'm very thankful to them — they were awesome."

It wasn't easy, though and — with a compromised immune system during her treatment — said Skyler's mom, "An infection could have killed her." She also worried whether Jordan had leukemia, too.

"They're fraternal twins, so the doctors said, if she's going to have it, it's usually within three years of the first diagnosis," said Hundley. "So we had Jordan tested every three months for three years, but she was fine."

As for Skyler, "She took everything in stride and sailed through," said her mom. "She did a lot better than I did. She was never even nauseous. And she liked going to the doctor's because they did all they could to entertain her."

She turned 5 in May 2007 and was able to start kindergarten that October. Skyler completed her treatments in June 2009 and her leukemia is now in remission. Throughout it all, though, she remained cheerful and positive.

"Even though she had no hair for awhile, she still had a big smile on her face," said

Hundley. "She was a trooper."

When it was all over, Hundley breathed a huge sigh of relief. "I was thankful because I'd heard so many bad stories about what chemotherapy does to you," she said. "But Skyler did wonderfully. She broke her toe recently while running through the house.

But other than that, she's fine."

Now Skyler's looking forward to attending the Leukemia Ball, and Hundley is delighted that she's being feted. "Since it's a black-tie affair, we got her a dark-pink formal dress and new white shoes," said Hundley. "Hopefully, she'll have two of them on and won't be on crutches."

In 2010, Skyler was the LLS's Girl of the Year; at this year's ball, she'll be honored for her efforts in the fight

against blood cancers. "We've done the Light the Night Walk for three years; and the first year, people pledged so much money that she raised over \$10,000," said her mom. "The whole family participated and Skyler walked, too. She was also in a fund-raising golf tournament in Maryland last summer with her dad."

For the past 25 years, the Leukemia Ball has raised more than \$42 million for the LLS's National Capital Area Chapter. That's a good thing because leukemia accounts for nearly one-third of all childhood cancers.

So what has Hundley learned from Skyler's experience? "Don't ever think that what happens to other people can't happen to you, because it can," she said. "Now I don't take anything for granted."

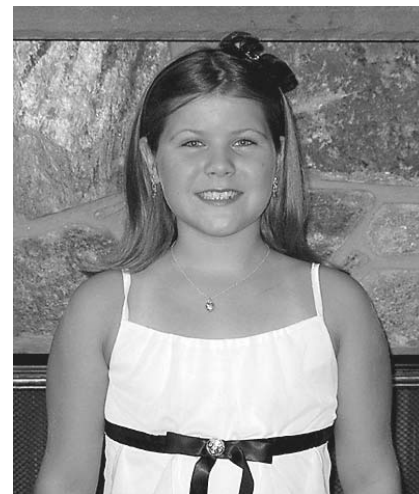


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Skyler Hundley

BUSINESS NOTES

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Fairfax County's Creating Bicycle Transportation Plan

FROM PAGE 1

"We're focusing mostly on biking for transportation," he said. "We started in June 2011 and will finish this June. Then we'll recommend a proposed bike-network plan to the Board of Supervisors in June or July. We hope to have it incorporated into the [county's] Comprehensive Plan and into the City of Fairfax's plan."

Goodman was speaking March 6 before local residents at the Sully District Governmental Center in Chantilly. Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling (FABB) asked the Board of Supervisors to create a county bike program, and it did so, five years ago. Now, said Charlie Strunk, bicycle coordinator for the county DOT, about 20 people comprise the county's Bicycle Advisory Committee and will help create the bike-network plan.

At the meeting, several maps were displayed showing possible bike routes from Centreville to Fair Oaks, Fair Oaks to Reston and Centreville to Herndon. Residents used them to help decide what physical improvements are necessary to make viable bike trails here.

Eventually, countywide policies and programs needed to support bicycling will be developed. But first, said Goodman, input will be gathered from the realms of health-care, law enforcement and education.

"The bike network will be broken into



Goodman

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

four quadrants, and it must coordinate with the countywide trails plan and VDOT," he said. "We're broadening the scope of our outreach; we want to tie people's needs together so we come out with one, unified vision."

Toole employees have also gleaned firsthand knowledge of the local road system, doing an extensive field review of major and minor roadways. "We're looking at road and traffic conditions, and we'll make recommendations for intersection and interchange crossing-safety improvements," said Goodman.

"We're measuring existing roads, looking for extra space on them," he continued. "Repaving and adding a bike lane that way is cheaper than widening the road. We're also looking at any dangerous situations, and we're shooting to provide biking facilities for the full range of bikers [both experienced and not]."

Goodman said the hope is to increase and improve the connectivity between on- and off-road bike trails. Doing so would make it more feasible and comfortable for residents to bicycle more often.

Ways of marking bike paths include:

- ❖ Designating marked bike lanes;
- ❖ Placing shared-lane emblems on the road showing that bikes and cars share a lane when there's not enough room for a

separate bike lane; and

- ❖ Having a cycle track – a bicycling space separated from both the roadway and the sidewalk.

"Using bikes for transportation is an important part of our vision for the future," said Goodman. "We know Fairfax County is competing with other cities for jobs, and these are the types of things that could reel in potential employers." With modest growth expected in the Centreville-Chantilly area, he said, "Biking will become even more important. As Metro comes in, access to new stations by bike will be critical."

According to 2010 U.S. census statistics, some 12,000 daily trips to work made by Centreville/Chantilly residents are 3 miles or less. The number of daily trips of 3 miles or less for just schools, shopping and other reasons was 142,113.

So it's no wonder, then, that FABB wants to see more bike lanes and neighborhood connections established here. It would like children to be able to bicycle safely to school and other activities; it also wants residents to have better opportunities to bike to their jobs and other destinations in their everyday lives. The census also revealed that, for workers living in this county: 72.1 percent drove alone to work; 10.2 percent carpooled; 8.8 percent took public transportation to their jobs; 2.3 percent walked to work and .3 percent bicycled to work.



Strunk

Another 5 percent worked from home and the rest traveled via other means, such as motorcycle or taxi.

But to make the area more bike-friendly, said Goodman, "We need to get across the barriers of I-66, Routes 50 and 29 and the Dulles Toll Road. Other big arteries that are obstacles are West Ox, Centreville and Sully roads."

"Often, we can improve conditions for bikes by paving road shoulders," he added. "We were also really

happy to see the Sully Woodlands trail plan. If there's a road project coming up, we want to piggyback on it to add in bike-lane improvements." Basically, said Goodman, "We want people to tell us what streets should have bicycle lanes, cycle tracks, etc.; where are the important, existing connector trails; where are connector trails needed, and where are the gaps in the trail system? What intersections need bike-safety improvements, what are the important destinations to serve, what major barriers need to be addressed and what are the good routes you use today? And what should be done to improve routes to other parts of the county?"

Those attending the meeting were able to fill out a survey to provide their answers to these questions. Other residents may take it online; go to www.tooledesign.com/fairfax, click on "get involved" and then take the survey by March 31.

Residents Speak Out About What They Want in Bike Plan

FROM PAGE 1

the plan implemented and to have people support it."

According to Kirk Holley, special-projects manager with the county Park Authority, "One out of every two households in the county used a trail last year. It's the largest-used amenity, by a huge margin. But there's not enough advocacy for bike trails and trail maintenance when it comes to county funding."

But at the March 6 bike-plan meeting in Chantilly, Wright said his group will talk to the Board of Supervisors about it during county, capital-funding meetings slated for April 10-12.

Fair Oaks resident Fionnuala Quinn, on the FABB board and a member of the county's Bike Advisory Committee, said people also need to advocate for more and better bike trails. "They need to tell the supervisors that it's important for their safety, access to places and quality of life," she said.

"We really need more voices telling them this is how we want to live," continued Quinn. "Voices really count, and it's a piece that's been missing all these years."

Jeff McGiboney of Oak Hill said that, whenever he bicycles alongside the Fairfax County Parkway, "There are horns blowing and people trying to get me to leave. They're

very aggressive." In fact, he noted, a female driver once cut him off and sent him flying over his handlebars.

Quinn said such incidents should be reported to the police "so they can establish a pattern and do something about it."

Sully District Transportation Commissioner Jeff Parnes, of Chantilly Highlands, also bicycles and sees the problems bikers face firsthand. "Centreville Road as it crosses under Route 267 only works if you're going south-bound," he said. "Otherwise, you have to cross six lanes of traffic to go north. In the last 20 years, Fairfax County's built roads without regard for the connectivity of the existing trails."

It's even a problem at the neighborhood level. "My three boys bicycle, but they can't cross Pleasant Valley Road," said Glowacki. "We live in a neighborhood of 1,200 homes, and it's a shame — you can't get to the other side. During rush hour, it can take 10 minutes to cross the road. Last year, a boy was hit on a bike."

That's why advocates of the bike plan say it's crucial for the county to put something in place. Once something is recommended,



FABB board member Fionnuala Quinn explains why bike lanes are important.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

"Having this planning document is also important for VDOT to know where the county plans on having bike lanes."

McGiboney bicycles to his job in McLean every day. So, he said, "A bike plan would be wonderful and would make things easier. If they continue to develop this program, a lot more people will use the system to bicycle. Schools could also have incentive programs for kids to ride their bikes to school, instead of driving."

Quinn said there are many county residents "for whom bikes are their sole mode of transportation, so they often have no choice but to ride on roads unsafe for them. For example, Route 50 is very difficult for bicyclists going under Route 28 because it's not designed for bicycles. So dollars spent on bike facilities are cost-effective because they have huge safety, traffic and health benefits."

More information about FABB is at www.fabb-bikes.org. Further bike-project details may be seen at www.tooledesign.com/fairfax.

County Feeding Deer to Control Ticks

As part of a new research study looking at a new method of controlling tick infestations, the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist's Office has deployed deer feeding stations in 20 locations across the county.

These stations are used to attract deer, using corn as bait. When the deer come to feed, they rub up against rollers treated with a pesticide used to kill ticks. A non-toxic dye is added to the rollers that will leave a pink streak on the deer that come in contact with the stations. The pink dye fades in three

to four days.

Residents shouldn't be alarmed if they notice raccoons, squirrels, or other creatures that may have come into contact with the pink dye at the feeding stations.

The three-year study examines the use of this technology as a way of controlling tick infestations on white-tailed deer and the practicality of the stations to treat free-roaming deer. Deer are the primary host of adult blacklegged ticks which transmit diseases, such as Lyme disease, to humans.

Development of this study has been underway since 2009 and deployment of the stations is expected to last from 2012 through early 2015. The feeding stations have been deployed at the following locations: Sully Woodlands and Hemlock Overlook Regional Park. Laurel Hill Park and Braddock Park have been selected as control sites to collect additional tick data, minus deployment of the feeding stations.

The research study is being conducted by the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist's Office and the Health Department's Disease Carrying Insects Program, with the support of the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

The feeding stations are not presently available for legal commercial use in Virginia, so a special permit was issued by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

The cost of the three-year study is approximately \$380,000 and includes purchase and maintenance of the feeding stations and supplies, corn, pesticide, and technicians' wages.

MILITARY NOTE

Air Force Airman **Todd A. L. Drechsler** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Drechsler is the son of Robert and Pamela Drechsler of Centreville. He is a 2011 graduate of Westfield High School.



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Interrupting Harassment and Bullying

Empowering bystanders to intervene, students to set boundaries.

With a controversial and much discussed new movie, “Bully,” coming out this week, local school districts continue to wrestle with the issue of bullying in the schools.

And while school officials are still looking at “cyber-bullying” as novel and separate phenomena, it’s fair to say that for students, there is little distinction between the teasing, harassment and worse that happens on school grounds and the school bus and the nastiness, rumors and character assassination that takes place online. The combined effect, including the graphic, lasting, visceral attacks that are possible online, can make school literally unbearable for some and more than unpleasant for others.

As adults, we can only be thankful that we escaped this environment before the advent of cell phone cameras and videos, instant posting to websites and other technological “advances.” (I have long believed that middle

EDITORIAL

school, by its very existence, is unconstitutionally cruel and unusual punishment.)

Fairfax County undertakes an annual survey of all students in grades 8, 10 and 12 that gives insight into the lives of teens.

More than 30 percent of Fairfax County students recently surveyed reported being depressed in the past year.

This is probably not unrelated to the fact that 56 percent of students surveyed reported being bullied while 43 percent admitted to bullying others. This is consistent with findings from other areas, with 8th grade as a bullying “hot-spot.” In Fairfax County, 62 percent of 8th graders said they had been bullied and 55 percent admitted to bullying others. Of course there is some overlap in the two groups.

“We’ve seen that over 40 percent of the students who say they have been bullied have themselves bullied someone,” Mary Ann Panarelli, director of Fairfax County Public School’s Intervention and Prevention Services department told Connection reporter Alex McVeigh. “It’s not a matter of punishing it out of the system, it’s a matter of enacting a culture change.”

In seeking that culture change, much of the outreach is dedicated to the bystander, the person witnessing someone being bullied, and their ability to make the bullying behavior less acceptable.

Students who witness bullying can say to the perpetrator: “Why would you say something like that? Why would you do that?”

Panarelli added: “Things like going up to the victim after, saying ‘I saw what happened, and don’t agree with it,’ helps that victim from feeling isolated.”

It’s the sort of lesson that can start very young. We can learn to say: “This is not right,” even in the face of fierce peer pressure. This ability to set boundaries which can begin in preschool will serve our children well later in life when they are resisting being a passenger in a car driven by someone who has been drinking or refusing to participate in rumors and ostracizing.

This starts with learning empathy, to care for animals, people and things who are vulnerable and face challenges.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM, ON

TWITTER @MARYKIMM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Court Case: Inspiring Effort

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Celeste Peterson.

I just read the article in The Centre View [“Virginia Tech Found Culpable”] about your court case involving Virginia Tech and the series of events that took place in December, 2011. I could not be more impressed and supportive of your efforts.

As a father of three young daughters and the school counselor at Centreville Elementary School, I believe the way you’re dealing with such a tragedy is an excellent example of fighting for what is right.

I also commend The Centre View for giving this story the prominence (front page) it deserves, rather than the all too often negative cover stories that appear in most publications. Most of our front page news stories are focused on crimes, war, death, natural disasters, poor character judgment, etc. While the circumstances from which this story derived are devastating, the message is a positive one. I believe we all have a responsibility to our community and to our children to do what we feel is right for the greater good and do so in a respectful and responsible manner. I’m hopeful that the day will come when our front page news is about community service, people demonstrating positive character, stories of individuals and families helping those less fortunate, etc.

Cheers to focusing on the positive!

Lee R. Kaiser

Potential Corruption Not Actual

To the Editor:

With respect to your editorial “Practices that Undermine Public Trust” (March 21) noting findings by an organization called the State Integrity Investigation, there are certainly ideas in their report that ought to be considered for improving the transparency and accountability of Virginia’s government. However, before readers draw the conclusion that Virginia’s politics is less than honest, it should be noted that the study examines the scope of existing state laws and practices related to public integrity, not actual instances of corruption. This leads to some unexpected results in the study.

For example, while Virginia is ranked among the worst states (47th) for “vulnerability to corruption,” New Jersey is ranked the best. With all due respects to New Jersey and other highly ranked states, it’s easy to suppose their public integrity laws are the most expansive among the 50 states perhaps because they need to be as a result of a history of government malfeasance. I hope readers will examine the study at www.stateintegrity.org as you suggested for more information.

One other point mentioned in your editorial is that subcommittee votes in the General Assembly are not recorded and not available to the public. That’s true for the Virginia Senate but not the House of Delegates. Subcommittee votes in the House of Delegates are recorded when there is a motion to report a bill to the full committee (and likewise from the full committee to the House floor). As a result of legislation I introduced last year along with

Del. Mark Keam (D-Fairfax), all recorded subcommittee votes (and recorded full committee and floor votes) in the House of Delegates are available on-line. They can all be found here: <http://services.dlas.virginia.gov/web/services/frmLISVotIng1.aspx>. Readers should be sure to use the look up feature to find the name of the delegate whose record they want to review.

Jim LeMunyon

Member, Virginia House of Delegates
67th District

Write

The Centre View welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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OPINION



PHOTO BY KEVIN NELSON

Celebrating 100th Birthday of Girl Scouting

The Girl Scouts of Service Unit 56-3, which includes girls from local Centreville, Chantilly and Fairfax elementary and middle schools, enjoyed cupcakes and ice cream and a night of songs on March 15 that Greenbriar West Elementary School. Daisies, Brownies, Juniors and Cadettes were led in song by ladies from the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital "Sing-A-Long" service. Approximately 100 girls and their leaders/parents attended the 1.5 hour event which ended with each participant receiving a balloon and a goodie bag with, among other items, a special 100th anniversary patch for their uniforms.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's Discrimination And It's Wrong

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters was born more than 90 years ago from the long fight to get women the right to vote. Since 1992, when League members studied health care policy, we have worked to ensure access to quality health care for all. The League also has a strong commitment and belief that public policy in a diverse society must affirm the right of all individuals to make their own reproductive choices.

That's why the League is so deeply concerned about recent proposals that would allow employers and health plans to block contraceptive services and discriminate against women.

By a narrow margin, the U.S. Senate recently defeated an amendment that would limit access to contraception for women if any employer or insurance plan has an undefined "religious or moral objection" to it. A couple's decision about whether and how to limit the size of their family is a personal one and

theirs alone to make. Giving employers the authority to limit available options is an inappropriate intrusion into the private lives of their employees.

We understand that not everyone agrees with the League on this subject. But we strongly believe that public institutions, including schools and hospitals that receive substantial federal assistance, should not limit the health care choices available to their employees. While no organization should be forced to violate its religious principles, institutions that serve the public at large should show the same respect for their employees' differing beliefs that they demand the community show for their own principles.

The League of Women Voters believes that all persons, regardless of gender, should be eligible for preventive health services. Allowing employers to exclude contraceptive services is discrimination based on sex, and it's wrong.

**Jane E. George
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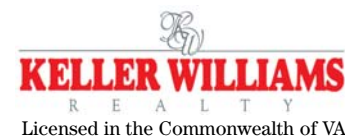


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SCHOOLS



Jamie Paredes, one half of the Dancing Stickmen, perform their glowing dance routine during the Virginia Run Elementary School 2012 Variety Show held at Westfield High School on March 16.



The Surfing Dudes perform their surf routine to the music of the Beach Boys. The Surfing Dudes were: Wyatt Beach, William Dale, Andrew McKee, Justin Pokrant and Jonah Quaale.



Elizabeth Hale, Allie Matz and Anna McGrath are The Hooper Loopers and performed their skit in the dark with lit-up hula-hoops and costumes.

Virginia Run Students Perform in Variety Show



Virginia Run kindergarten students Joseph Barnett, Luke Carballosa, Sam Herndon, Collin Keethler and Brian Station perform their skit, "Public Service Announcement."



For her talent, Emily Heo sings the Adele song, "Turning Tables."



The Glitter Girls perform the dance routine as part of the Virginia Run Elementary School Variety Show.



Virginia Run Elementary students Erika Lindahl, Rachel Ingham and Grace Paredes perform their skit, "MUSTACH-E-O."

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/
CENTRE VIEW



Katie Conway performs her acrobatic routine to the song, "Trainwreck."



Sarah Schettini performs her dance number, "A Squirrely Situation."

Operation Enduring Collaboration

From March 19-21, the Fairfax County government held a three-day emergency exercise called Operation: Enduring Collaboration during which county agencies and partners worked through worst-case scenarios relating to a major tornado outbreak in Fairfax County. The objective of the exercise was to sharpen responses, coordination and planning for emergencies and to better understand the potential power of tornadoes.

On March 20, the Fairfax County Hazardous Materials Response Team participated in the tornado exercise. The scenario was that the March 19 tornado destroyed important signage at a sewage treatment building at the Upper Occoquan Sewage Authority. A truck delivering chemicals to the plant put them in the wrong tank, causing a chemical reaction that created a cloud that injured two people. The fire department was called and the Hazmat team was deployed.

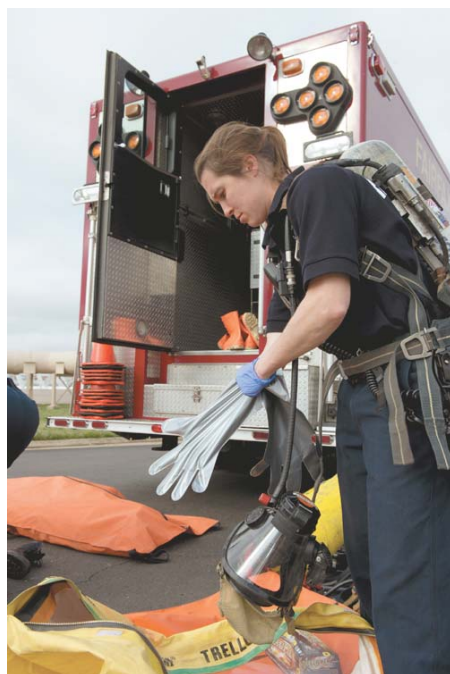
Throughout the day, the 50-person Hazmat team ran through the exercise, stopping periodically to debrief and review lessons learned, the objective being to review and reinforce procedures and protocols, "Preparedness is paramount to success," said Battalion Chief Craig Buckley, chief of the Hazardous Materials Response Team.

Station 40 at Legato Road is the main Hazmat rescue squad, supplemented by Station 1 in McLean, Station 11 Penn Daw in Alexandria, Station 19 in Lorton and Station 26 on Edsall Road. The entire Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department Hazmat team encompasses over 230 people; 50 people were involved in the March 20 exercise.

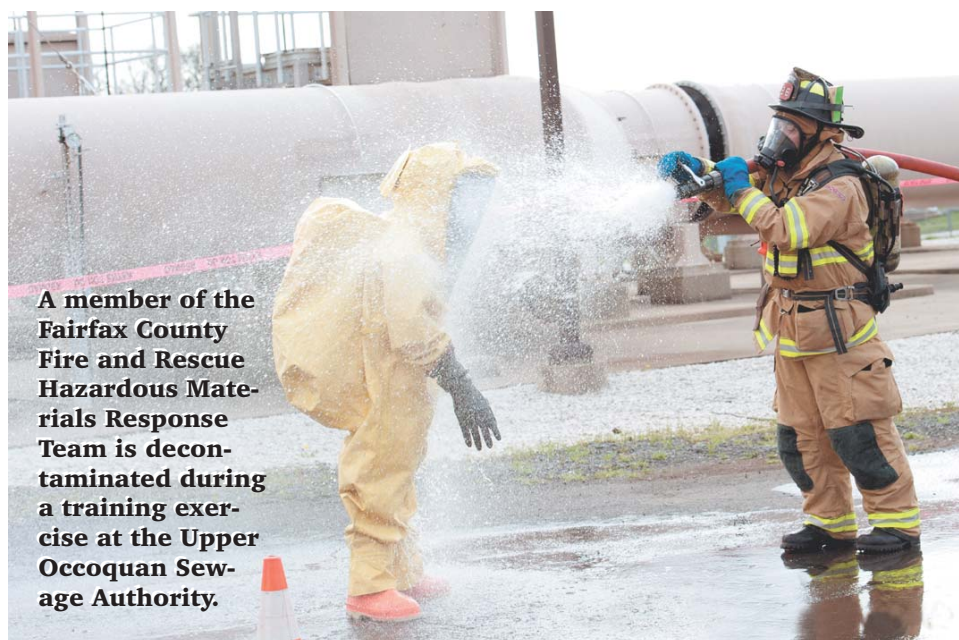
— DEB COBB



In this training scenario, the wrong chemicals have been added to a storage tank at this facility, injuring two people. Firefighters in the Hazmat suits (on left) have just moved the two victims from the contaminated building in the rear to a decontamination area where the victims are decontaminated by other members of the Hazmat team.



The first units on the scene put on their gear and prepare to assess the scene. The Hazmat suits that firefighters wear are sealed — there is no air or liquid penetration through the suit. This protects firefighters from exposure to hazardous materials.



A member of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Hazardous Materials Response Team is decontaminated during a training exercise at the Upper Occoquan Sewage Authority.



The Hazmat gear awaits, much like traditional firefighting gear, at a March 20 training exercise for the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Hazardous Materials Response Team at the Upper Occoquan Sewage Authority.



Fairfax County Public Schools: Go Inside the Classroom with Teachers

Coming in April: Visual and Performing Arts

When was the last time you visited a classroom? You may remember the desks, the chalkboard, or even the heavy copy of the dictionary sitting on top of the bookshelf.

Today's classrooms are dynamic and interactive settings where students learn from teachers who use a wide variety of resources and tools in the classroom to engage and empower students. Whether they are creating unique lesson plans or inviting professionals into the classroom to share their experience with students, teachers provide opportunities for students to be curious and stimulate thoughts and ideas.

This Just In:

Michelle Henry, health specialist and physical education teacher at Liberty Middle School, has been named the National K-12 Health Teacher of the Year by the American Association for Health Education.

Sometimes the art of teaching requires the use of unique methods

to engage students. Jeff Lonnett, an art resource teacher at Mosby Woods Elementary School, is doing just that. Mosby Woods in Fairfax is one of 16 schools in the Washington, D.C., area that partners with the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts as part of its Changing Education Through the Arts (CETA) program.

Through CETA, Lonnett works with teachers throughout the school to help them develop knowledge and skills to integrate the arts into other subjects such as history, math, language arts, and science.

"Our sixth graders recently completed a unit on the Revolutionary War and were asked to design propaganda posters promoting a real political position of the Revolutionary War," explained Lonnett.

"Art highlights the importance of learning at every opportunity," said Lonnett. "You can probably get through life without being an artist, but art teaches storytelling, problem solving, and creative thinking that you need for so many other things in life."

Teaching students the skills they need to lead responsible, fulfilling, and respectful lives is one student achievement goal in Fairfax County Public Schools. Tom Harlow works with more than 50 physically disabled students from around the county to help them develop the resilience and self-confidence required to deal effectively with life's challenges. He's the adapted physical education teacher at Falls Church High School.

Harlow started a program to bring general education students into the adapted PE classes to work with his students. It is called the Peer Teaching Program.

"At the beginning of the year, I have my students introduce themselves in front of the whole class and talk about what they can do," said Harlow. "Self-advocacy is an important skill and it makes them more confident."



The peer teachers get to know the other students helping by them participate in activities such as fishing, kite flying, in-line skating, archery, and much more.

"It's a win-win situation," said Harlow. "The students who serve as peer teachers come in to help, but by the time the class is finished, they have learned a lot about each other, especially about the ability of the other students. The physically disabled students enjoy working with their peers and have a lot of fun."

Every year, more and more students ask to be a part of the Peer Teaching Program.

"The Peer Teaching Program helps knock down walls that should never be there," said Harlow.

Knocking down walls on the other side of the county is Linda Martin, a resource teacher for the advanced academic program at Dogwood Elementary School in Reston. She is passionate about fostering interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

"Children are naturally curious and should be given simulated opportunities to innovate, create, and resolve unique problems," said Martin. "That's what we try to do through our clubs, camp, and classes."

Martin sponsors the Girls Excelling in Math and Science (GEMS) club at Dogwood and organizes the GEMS conferences annually.

"I believe very strongly in bringing professionals into the classroom to give us authentic experiences. Our students need to meet people in the field who are doing these things now. Suddenly their work is elevated. It has purpose, relevance, and there is a vision that starts to take shape in their minds."

"I never forget that this is their childhood and I am their teacher and I am creating indelible memories for them. I don't want them to just learn and remember things. I want their learning to be unforgettable."



Getting To Know Us

School-Based Technology Specialist Patrick Ledesma

"These are exciting times to be a teacher," says Patrick Ledesma, school-based technology specialist and special education department chair at Holmes Middle School in Alexandria.

"The greatest fulfillment as a teacher is helping students learn. The wide availability of technology tools today, when combined with effective teaching practices, provides almost unlimited ways to inspire students."

Whether students use mobile computing devices such as netbooks, tablets, and iPads in the classroom or teachers use interactive whiteboards and classroom response systems, Ledesma says it will be the technology advances promoting more equitable student access to technology, rather than a specific brand or device, that will allow us to "inspire, enable, and empower all students to meet high academic standards, lead ethical lives, and demonstrate responsible citizenship," which are FCPS student achievement goals.

Ledesma says it is critical for students to be able to use technology to prepare for careers.

"Technology is seamlessly integrated into many job procedures and responsibilities today. Walk around any workplace or office, technology is evident somewhere in the background. To prepare students to use technology, we must continue to give students as many opportunities as possible to use technology in the learning process," he said.

"More importantly, we must focus on empowering students to be successful in applying higher level thinking skills. The more students are successful in activities that promote these skills, the more prepared they will be to use any technology available to them in the future."

Did You Know?

More than 10,000 (70 percent) of FCPS teachers have master's degrees and more than 370 FCPS teachers are certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, the highest credential a teacher can earn.

Students Engaged Through Technology

It may sound like something from a James Bond movie, but the Smart Pen is a teaching tool that is helping students of all ages.

The Smart Pen contains a computer that can capture handwriting and simultaneously record audio. The user taps a specially made sticker placed in a Smart Pen notebook to record the writing and audio.

"My students are extremely excited and motivated when they use the Smart Pen," said Courtney Taylor, a kindergarten teacher at Parklawn Elementary School.

Taylor has multiple uses for the Smart Pen in her classroom.

"Recently each student wrote a report about polar animals and recorded themselves reading what they wrote," said Taylor. "Now any student can pick up the reports, use a Smart Pen to tap on the special dot in the notebook and listen to their classmates read their reports. It is a technology that fosters independence and engagement."

Taylor also records herself reading stories so her students can use free time to listen to a story on the Smart Pen and follow along in the book.

"The pens are very user friendly and my students love using them. They are even generating their own ideas on how we can use them!"



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News



At Jazz Festival

Under the direction of Robert Zazzara, the Stone Middle School Jazz Ensemble participated in the 32nd Annual Chantilly Invitational Jazz Festival on March 16. They received a “Superior” rating for their performance and received a second place trophy out of five middle school performing groups. First row, from left: Michael Baylock, Donovan Davis, Mikenna Moore, Casey Comer, Britain Bangerter, John Dickenson, Christian Nunley; second row: William Dzubak, Christopher Hoffman, Sarah Shim, Catherine Corradino, Sydney Park, Garrett Anderson, Nicole Ruckert, Austin Porter, Sean Luffy; third row: Alex Jorgensen, Thomas Lattomus, Lauren Mannikko, Cole Sorrells, Chloe Hicks, John Nguyen, Samuel Kim and Kathryn Mozell. Absent: Connor Charters.

Virginia Run Vs. Cub Run

Students gather at the annual Virginia Run Elementary vs. Cub Run Elementary Volleyball game on March 23. The two school communities came together for a fun-filled night; all proceeds benefited each school’s PTA fund.



Tiger Badges

Members of Cub Scout Den 1 of Pack 1860 were awarded their Tiger Badge this March. All of the boys attend Union Mill Elementary.

ROUNDUPS

Chantilly Crash Victim Identified

Fairfax County police have identified the victim of a one-car crash, March 20 in Chantilly, as Robert Bittner, 56, of Ashburn. The incident occurred on the Fairfax County Parkway near Franklin Farm Road. Shortly before 1 p.m., he was driving a 1999 Toyota Camry south on the parkway when his vehicle left the roadway just past Franklin Farm Road and struck the sound wall.

Passers-by pulled Bittner from the car and he was Medevaced to a nearby hospital where he died. Police say speed and alcohol were not factors in this crash, but they haven’t released information about what caused the tragedy.

Animal Shelter Match-a-thon

March madness arrives at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter with a Mega Match-a-thon. Saturday, March 31, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, April 1, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., shelter dogs and cats will be available for adoption during a two-day adopt-a-thon. The shelter is at 4500 West Ox Road in Fairfax.

Adopters will receive \$10 off the adoption fee for all cats, and all dogs and cats will receive a free spay/neuter prior to being adopted. Dog adoptions for the special event will cost \$40 and cat adoptions will be \$20 (after the discount). Available animals will be on view at the shelter; call 703-830-1100.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, April 5 and April 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 correct use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Free Income Tax Preparation

People who worked in 2011 and earned less than \$50,000 may qualify for free, income-tax preparation. It’s available Saturdays, through April 14, from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly. If married and filing a joint return, both spouses must be present. For a list of items participants must bring with them, go to www.nvacash.org and click on “free tax preparation.”

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Fairfax County needs Meals on Wheels drivers in Chantilly and group Meals on Wheels coordinators in both Chantilly and Fairfax. Contact Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 711, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm.

Become a CASA Volunteer

A new case of child abuse or neglect enters the Fairfax County Domestic & Juvenile Relations Court system once every 38 hours. These children need caring advocates to help ensure that they grow up in safe and permanent homes. Fairfax CASA trains volunteers to advocate for a child’s best interests in Court.

To become a volunteer position with a serious purpose that can create real change, attend Fairfax CASA’s upcoming information session at the Centreville Regional Library on Saturday, April 14, from 11 a.m.-12 noon. For reservations or information, contact Elisa Kosarin, associate director, Recruitment and Training, at 703-273-3526, ext. 22, or at ekosarin@casafairfax.org, or visit www.fairfaxcasa.org.

Peculiar Presence

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



In the last few months, out of the blue, I have received electronic correspondence from each of my three oldest childhood friends (none of whom have remained adulthood friends, though all three remain of interest to me) commenting on my cancer diagnosis; each having stumbled across one of my cancer columns online, presumably after initiating a Google-type search for yours truly. This reconnection with my past has empowered me, sort of, to deal with the present. Feeling there are people – in other cities and states, thinking positive, supportive and encouraging thoughts about me, maybe even sending prayers my way as well, is powerful stuff. The stuff of which dreams are made, and let me tell you, when you're terminal, you dream. The associated vibe I feel is somewhere between not being alone and anything is possible.

Not that any of the three were offering insights on fighting cancer or presuming certain familiarities which no longer exist; theirs was more a general inquiry about a specific set of circumstances (my cancer diagnosis), simply letting me know that they recently became aware of my situation and were thinking about me and wishing me well; a "random act of kindness," if you will. And as a cancer patient, I can assure you, any thoughts of kindness, random or otherwise, are much appreciated. Certainly I corresponded back and expressed my gratitude for their having reached out to me. It was great to reconnect; these three friends were my friends at the beginning: Bowen Elementary School. Given our current ages, we're talking 50 years ago, even before Little League. That's heavy; heck, that's historical.

But all three looking for me, and finding me, at the same time, seems more than just a coincidence. And it's not as if they have any independent contact with one another, because they don't. Nor are any of the three in touch/connected with my best friend, Cary, (who lives in Needham, Mass.) and who is my conduit of sorts for all my adolescent/pre-college friends and acquaintances, should any inquiries be made – which I welcome and are no problem for me, but that's not what happened here. What happened here happened on its own; in Barnstable, Mass., Greenwich, Conn. and Sharon, Mass., without any communication or contact between the interested parties.

The cumulative effect – on me, as a result of this "three-for" has been sobering, and I don't even drink. I don't want to get existential here, but when multiple unrelated influences all of a sudden intersect, and the intersection is you, (meaning me), it does give one pause: Why me? Why now? The answer is partially, I would guess, that my situation (my less than enviable health circumstances) is fairly serious (Duh!), maybe even grave. (Although that's more a play on words than how I actually feel). And somehow, the seriousness of my circumstances has been realized by this triumvirate of extremely important people – from my earliest days, who now have found me again, hopefully not at the end. It's difficult – for me, to not notice the symmetry here. Sure, there's a randomness to the universe, but there's also a part of me that believes things happen for a reason. Then again, maybe not.

Originally I was given a "13-month to two-year" prognosis and advised by my oncologist to consider taking that vacation I always dreamed of. Yet here I am, three-plus years later, alive and reasonably well (and still not having taken that vacation). I'm not cured by any means, but neither am I a distant memory. In fact, given these three most recent inquiries, I'm a fairly current memory, and for that, I am most appreciative. Thanks for all your kind thoughts. I need every one of them.

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

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21 Announcements

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-St. Francis de Sales

Centreville Baseball Hoping to Remain Hot in Florida

Wildcats, winners of their first four games, are headed to Orlando for spring break week.

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

An early season trip to Florida for spring break week is always nice for a high school baseball team, but it's even better when a team has gotten off to the sort of fast start that the Centreville Wildcats have.

Centreville, going into this week, was 4-0 this spring and has a little giddy-up in its step as it prepares for Florida. The Wildcats were scheduled to play a home game on Wednesday, March 28 of this week versus Flint Hill School (Oakton) before getting out their travel plans and heading to the sunshine state for next week's spring break week.

"I think the guys are pretty confident right now," said Centreville head coach Morgan Spencer, earlier this week. "We have a lot of guys back from last year and we're just playing pretty solid, fundamental baseball. We haven't done anything extraordinary or had monster games, but we've been consistent and our line-up is good."

Down south over the break, Centreville will be competing in the Orlando Spring Classic and is scheduled to play five games — two on Monday, and one game per day Tuesday, Wednesday, and

Thursday. The games will all be played at gorgeous Samford Stadium, a state of the art ballpark and facility.

Centreville competed at the same tournament last year over spring break. Two years ago, the team spent the free week in Sarasota.

"For the most part it's hot and we play a lot of baseball in five days," said Spencer. "The facilities [in Orlando] are gorgeous."

"Every year the idea is to come back a better team than when we left," he said. "Typically what happens is we come back a [more cohesive] team and the guys form a bond, which is the idea."

Centreville's first game in Florida will be a Monday day game versus Charlotte Amalie, a team from the Virgin Islands. That night, the Wildcats will meet a California team, Narbonne Harbor. On Tuesday, the opponent will be a team from Athens, Tennessee. The opponents for Wednesday and Thursday's games are not known yet.

CENTREVILLE'S SQUAD is an experienced, talented bunch. Following an outstanding season in 2010 when the Wildcats proved to be one of the best teams in the

Northern Region, Centreville had a more mundane spring last year, going a respectable 12-11 with a relatively young line-up but failing to qualify for the 16-team regional playoff field.

This year's group, Spencer said, is hungry to re-emerge into the top tier of teams across the region and make a solid postseason run at both the Concorde District and regional playoffs later this season.

So far, Centreville has set a good tone to the season.

"We have eight starters back," said Spencer, who has 10 seniors on the roster. "Our senior leadership is outstanding. They've done a nice job. The guys have a bitter taste at missing the region tournament last year. The team is real focused."

Centreville opened the new season on March 13, winning handily over visiting Falls Church, 19-0. Carson Bach was the winning pitcher and senior outfielder Chris Simpson homered in that win over the Jaguars.

The Wildcats traveled to the Tidewater area for a couple of non-region games versus private school opponents March 16-17. They defeated Cape Henry Collegiate of Virginia Beach, 5-3, on March 16, and bested Atlantic



PHOTO BY RICH SANDERS/CENTRE VIEW

Morgan Spencer, the Centreville High baseball team's head coach, has an experienced roster that includes eight returning starters.

Shores Christian School of Chesapeake the next day. Last year, Centreville lost early season games to those same teams.

Daniel Woodruff (2-0), a freshman pitcher who has been impressive thus far, earned the win in both contests. Senior outfielder Bret Fite homered in the win over Atlantic Shores.

Last Thursday, March 22 saw Centreville defeat visiting Wakefield High (Arlington), 10-0. Mitch Mahoney earned the mound decision in that one.

Following its Orlando trip, Centreville, the following week,

will start up play within the Concorde District. The Wildcats will play at Robinson on Tuesday, April 10 and host Herndon High later in the week on Friday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m. Those will be the first two of 10 straight games against teams from the district.

Key Centreville position players this season include outfielders Simpson and Fite, senior catcher Bobby San Martin, and senior shortstop Kevin LaChance. The pitching staff will be led by seniors Mahoney and Mitch Ferrick (third base), junior Bach, and ninth grader Woodruff (outfield), a right hander.

CENTREVILLE HIGH SPORTS REPORT

WILDCAT GIRLS LACROSSE

BY AILEEN ANDERSON

The Centreville girls varsity lacrosse team's season home opener hailed a decisive 17-3 victory for the Lady Wildcats over T.C. Williams. Fast moves and an excellent stick led freshman attacker Reagan Newell to drive home eight points with five goals and three assists. Freshman midfielder Caroline Wakefield dominated the field with three goals, four assists, four ground balls, two interceptions and four draw controls. Pouncing on the T.C. Williams defense were Wildcat senior midfielder Maggie Dulkarian (4 goals/2 assists/3 ground balls), junior midfielder Carly Sane (2 goals), and sophomore Katherine Zempolich (1 goal/1 assist). Senior Hayley Anderson contributed two goals, two assists, and two draw controls.

Two nights later Centreville's defense was put to the first real test, with a close 11-10 win over

West Springfield. Junior defensive players Danielle Smith (2 turnovers/3 ground balls) and Brooke Peterson (2 ground balls/1 caused turnover) helped to hold back a dominating West Springfield midfield. The offense worked the field with Wakefield leading with three goals and one assist. Anderson and Newell helped pull out the win with two goals each. Double teaming by the West Springfield defense only opened up opportunities for the Wildcats, with Zempolich, sophomore Caroline Bollman, Sane, and Smith each adding one goal. The Lady Wildcats have a 3-0 record to date and were scheduled to play Edison High earlier this week on Monday, March 26 before Spring Break.

BOYS' JV LACROSSE

BY LANCE BOWDEN

Centreville's JV boys' lacrosse team notched a 9-7 win on Thursday, March 22 at West Springfield High School. The team raced to a

2-0 lead in the first 1 minute, 30 seconds of the game after a goal by Mark Mahoney, and then Alex Rizzi on the ensuing faceoff. Additional goals by Rizzi and David Shim made the score 6-4 at the half. With the two-goal deficit, the defense held West Springfield to a single goal in the third quarter while Mahoney and Elliot Cunningham scored for the Wildcats. With five minutes left in the game, Matt Perry shot the game-tying goal and Cunningham made the go-ahead goal one minute later. With just one minute left on the clock, Alex Rizzi managed to get an insurance goal off a deflected pass from Cunningham for the 9-7 victory.

Two days later, a cold and drizzly afternoon last Saturday was brightened by a decisive 7-6 victory for the Wildcats at Mount Vernon High. The scoring started with a goal by Mark Mahoney, followed by one from Alex Rizzi off a long clear. David Shim added a goal to bring the first quarter score to 3-1. The squad added five goals

in the second quarter, the scores coming from Colin Reynolds, Mark Mahoney, two from Elliot Cunningham, and another by Rizzi. The score at halftime was 8-4.

Third quarter goals by Shim and Rizzi brought the score to 10-6. The shower of rain and goals intensified in the fourth quarter as Brian Yoo, Kyle Roarty, Brooks Anderson, and Corey Spriggs each scored, while Rizzi and Cunningham added to their totals. The defense continued to make great stops and clears, shutting down Mount Vernon in the fourth. The JV Squad's current record stands at 3-0-1.

CENTREVILLE GIRLS SOCCER:

BY KATHY HULL

In their second home game of the season Monday night, March 19, the Wildcats' girls varsity soccer team earned its first regular season win behind a strong offensive effort against an athletic

squad from Alexandria's T.C. Williams High School. Junior midfielder Alex Myers, in the 5-0 victory, opened the scoring, hitting a hard driving shot from outside the penalty area into the net past the T.C. Williams goalkeeper. Minutes later, sophomore Jenna Green sped through the Titans' defense and slipped a well-placed shot to the far corner of the net. Myers then scored her second goal of the night, and the game stood at 3-0 going into halftime. Opening the second half scoring, junior defender Lindsey Egbers sent a beautiful free kick into the top of the net, tallying her first goal of the season. Freshman Bella Muzo then followed up with a fifth goal for the Wildcats, coming in from behind the Titans' defense to tuck the ball into the net.

The midfield and forwards successfully possessed the ball through the entire game, resulting in the shutout win before the game was called due to lightning with 24 minutes remaining on the

SEE CENTREVILLE, PAGE 19

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SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Westfield Athletic Boosters Sponsor Summer Camps

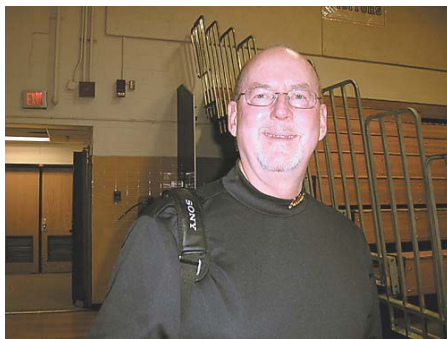
The Girls Basketball Summer Camps, sponsored by the Westfield High Athletic Booster Club, will hold sessions on the following dates: June 19-June 22 (Session 1, noon time to 4 p.m. for rising seventh through 12th graders); July 2 through July 6 (Session 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for girls ages 8 to 15); and July 16-20 (Session 3, also 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for girls ages 8 to 15). Note there will be no camp session on the Fourth of July.

The Girls Basketball Summer Camps, which draw youngsters from the Centreville, Chantilly, Burke, and Fairfax areas, will be run by former Westfield High girls' basketball coach Pat Deegan and assistant Alice Andersen. Current college and high school players will also serve as camp workers.

Session 1 is designed for the serious athlete who is planning on or is currently playing varsity basketball. The session will include intense one on one, two on two, and three on three basketball drills to help campers achieve their basketball potential. In addition to the skill drills there will be two, five on five games as well as sessions focused upon developing quickness, strength, and endurance.

Sessions 2 and 3 are designed to help the girls accomplish three things: to learn more about the game of basketball, to enjoy a competitive week of supervised contests, and to have lots of fun while doing so.

Camp tuition is \$85 for Session 1, \$130 for Session 2 (four days), and \$150 for Session 3 (five days). For multiple family members, there is a \$15 discount for each



RICH SANDERS/CENTRE VIEW

Pat Deegan will be running the upcoming Girls Basketball Summer Camp Sessions at Westfield High School.

child. There is also a \$15 discount for those who attend subsequent sessions. The first 120 players to register will receive a camp basketball, in addition to the camp tee shirt. For more information or applications, contact Pat Deegan at: Pgdeegan@fcps.edu, or by phone at 703-488-6363, ext. 7201.

IN CHANTILLY HIGH BOYS' SOCCER action last week, the Chargers, in a non-district game played at Lake Braddock Secondary, lost a close 3-2 contest to the Bruins. The game was scoreless at halftime. But Lake Braddock came out strong and scored a goal a few minutes into the second half. The Bruins tallied a second goal about 10

minutes later for a 2-0 advantage.

Chantilly gave up a foul outside of the box and Lake Braddock scored a third goal with about 20 minutes left. But Chantilly, down 3-0, never gave up and with four minutes left, Billy Germain was fouled at the top of the box. He took the free kick and scored. Chantilly then came back on a nice play up the right side, with Germain playing a through ball to Chris Treme, who scored the second goal to get the Chargers within 3-2. That was how the contest ended. Evan Ragland and Irvin Perez played good games on defense for Chantilly.

In its next game, Chantilly lost a 2-1 decision to South County, another team from the Patriot District. Germain scored the lone goal for Chantilly, the score coming on a penalty kick in the first half to put the Chargers up 1-0. South County came back and tied the game in the second half, then went up a goal with 10 minutes left.

HUNDREDS of the best 11 and 12-year-old ice hockey players from across the country will descend upon Northern Virginia to compete in the USA Hockey 12 and Under Tier II National Championships, Wednesday, March 28 through Sunday, April 1, at the twin rink Ashburn Ice House and SkateQuest Reston.

CENTREVILLE HIGH SPORTS REPORT FROM PAGE 18

clock. The defense held strong and withstood T.C.'s counter-attacks, ensuring that goalie Tori Collar kept a clean sheet on the night. Sophomore forward Madi Simons had a fantastic game, showing energy, speed, and cleverness throughout the match.

The boys' varsity soccer team, having played earlier in the evening, was in attendance in the student section and kept a steady stream of cheers and lively banter going throughout the game, adding to the game atmosphere. Following a subsequent 1-0 win over host West Springfield on Friday, March 23, the Lady Wildcats' record stood at 2-1-1. They were slated to battle McLean High at home on March 27 before traveling to Wakefield High in Arlington for an away game on March 29, just prior to the Spring Break.

WILDCATS GIRLS TENNIS

The Lady Wildcats tennis team had a tough night on Tuesday, March 20th, losing their first match of the season, 8-1, to Robinson High. Coach Leslie O'Connor reported that Courts No. 3, 4, and 5 singles were close games, as were courts No. 1 and 2 in doubles play.

Many Wildcat team members are playing varsity tennis for the first time. The lineup includes: Jamie Schoshinski (No. 1 singles); Jessica Jassal (No. 2); Sapna Rao

(No. 3); Esther Yoon (No. 4); Rebekah Lee (No. 5); and Kimberly Townsend (No. 6). In doubles play, the lineup includes: Jamie Schoshinski and Ali Dyer at No. 1 singles; Sapna Rao and Jessica Jassal at No. 2; and Sarah Alberstein and Tanya Kumar at No. 3. The Lady Wildcats were due to face Westfield High in an away match earlier this week on Tuesday, March 27.

CENTREVILLE JV, VARSITY SOFTBALL

JV REPORT BY DANIELLE MURRAY AND KARA WEINER

The Centreville High JV softball team kept their winning streak alive as they defeated Briar Woods High School on Wednesday, March 21, by a score of 22-8 in a five-inning match-up. The win was due to the tremendous collaboration of each Wildcat from an offensive and defensive standpoint. The run production for the Wildcats exploded in the first inning and did not stop until the final out of the game. Sophomore Natalie Hopkins went 4-for-4 with two walks, a single, triple, four runs scored, two RBI's, and a stolen base. Sophomore Victoria Richards recorded a double and scored three runs. Freshman Rachel Lee had a multi-hit game and junior Brianna Carrazana had a two-run single. The pitcher for Centreville, sophomore Sarah Hudson, clinched the win by striking out

five. The Wildcats were set to host Robinson earlier this week on Tuesday, April 10 at 6:30 p.m.

VARSVITY WILDCATS

BY ALANA LOVE AND LYNNE WILSON

The varsity softball team fell in games to Lake Braddock and Briar Woods early last week before starting up play at the Madison Spring Break Tournament on Saturday, March 24 with a solid home victory over R. E. Lee High from Springfield. The Lady Wildcats will be preparing for the remainder of the Madison Tournament this week, continuing tournament play with games scheduled on both Saturday, March 31 and Monday, April 2.

WILDCAT BASEBALL

BY CHRIS BARRON

The Centreville Wildcats varsity baseball team continued their unbeaten streak by defeating Wakefield High, 10-0, in six innings on Thursday, March 22. Senior catcher Bobby San Martin led the team, going 2-for-4 with a double. Pitchers Mitch Mahoney and Carson Bach combined for a one-hitter and struck out eight Wakefield batters. The 4-0 Wildcats were scheduled to take on visiting Flint Hill on Wednesday, March 28 of this week before leaving for their Spring Break tournament in Orlando, FL, where Centreville will play in games throughout the week of April 2-6.

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FRIDAY/MARCH 30

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the band, Natty Beaux. Drop-in beginner swing lesson from 8:30 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

SATURDAY/MARCH 31

Easter Egg Hunt. 11:45 a.m. registration; 12 noon Hunt. For children age toddler through fourth grade. Separate hunt areas for toddlers to preschool, K-2nd grade, and 3rd-4th grade. Admission is \$3. At the Town of Clifton. For details, email CliftonEggHunt@cox.net.

Car Wash, Vacuum and Bake Sale.

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by Chantilly Academy Air Force JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp). To be held directly in front of Chantilly High School, Door #1.

Bluegrass Gospel Concert.

6 p.m. Featuring Bob Stone and the Virginia Gospel Singers from Fredericksburg. At Oakton Baptist Church of Chantilly. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. before the concert and a monetary donation will be accepted. The church is located at the corner of Sullyfield Circle and Route 50 in Chantilly. Call 703-631-1799.

MARCH 31 AND APRIL 1

Mega Match-a-thon. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fairfax County shelter dogs and cats will be available for adoption during a two-day adopt-a-thon at the West Ox Road facility. Adopters will receive \$10 off the adoption fee for all adopted shelter cats. Available animals will be on view at 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax. Contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 703-830-1100.

SUNDAY/APRIL 1

Persian New Year. In honor of 13 Bedar or Sizdah Bedar, there will be DJs, dancing, food vendors and more. At Bull Run Special Events Center in Centreville. The park will be open from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. on April 1, 2012. For more information on the Special Events Center, visit www.nvrpa.org.

Bridgewater College Concert Choir

Concert. 7 p.m. Free. Features the Concert Choir, the 20-voice Chorale and the student-directed Handbell Choir. At Centreville United Methodist

Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville. Visit www.centreville-umc.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 2

Scouting Event. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Scouts from all levels will earn badge requirements at several outdoor stations located on the grounds of Sully Historic Site. Throughout the day scouts will also learn about life in the 18th and 19th centuries as they tour the historic house where Northern Virginia's first Congressman, Richard Bland Lee, once lived. Scout Day is open to Tigers, Bears, Wolves, Boy Scouts, Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes. The cost is \$15 per child and \$5 per adult. The rain date is April 9. Picnic lunches are suggested. To register, call 703-437-1794.

FRIDAY/APRIL 6

Good Friday Service. 7:30 p.m. The Alliance Church Centre is a member of the Christian & Missionary Alliance denomination with several of their churches participating. All are welcome to attend. At the Alliance Church Centre, 12113 Vale Road, Oakton. Call 703-264-1273.

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With Mitch Woods and His Rocket 88s. Drop-in beginner swing lesson from 8:30 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

MONDAY/APRIL 9

Kindergarten Registration. Brookfield Elementary School will begin kindergarten registration for the 2012-2013 school year. At 4200 Lees Corner Road in Chantilly. Call 703-814-8700.

FRIDAY/APRIL 13

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the band, JP McDermott and Western Bop. Drop-in beginner swing lesson from 8:30 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

SATURDAY/APRIL 14

Spring Upscale Resale. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Salvation Army Fairfax Corps will host a gigantic sale of personal treasures and sundries donated from their members and several estates. At 4915 Ox Road in Fairfax. Call 703-893-1113 or 703-356-4058.

School Clean-Up. 9 a.m. to noon. Help serve your community at the annual Colin Powell Elementary Community Clean-Up. Staff, students, parents, and community members are invited to help clean up the school and its surrounding community. Trash bags will be provided by the school. Contact CMABt@fcps.edu.

Clear River Community Church Moves to Westfield High School

Clear River Community Church, established in 1999 as a non-denominational Christian Church, is moving its meeting location from Stone Middle School in Centreville — where it has been meeting for the past 10 years — to Westfield High School, in Chantilly. They will celebrate their inaugural service at the new facility on Easter Sunday, April, 8, at 10 a.m.

The Rev. Jeff Ling, senior pastor of Clear River, has served the body of Christ for over 30 years. Jeff has a pastor's heart and his teaching ministry is dynamic, humorous, highly practical and solidly rooted in the Scriptures. He has ministered throughout the world focusing on worship, servant leadership, and spiritual growth. Jeff is ordained under the ministry of Messenger Fellowship, based in Nashville Tennessee. Visit www.clearriver.org.

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April 6th Good Friday
Communion 7:30pm

April 8th Easter
8:45 and 11:00am Celebration Ringers

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Easter SERVICES

Good Friday Services
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Easter Worship - Sunday, April 8
6:00 am Sunrise Service
8:00 am Celebration Service
9:30 am Celebration Service
11:00 am Contemporary Service

Bible Studies
9:30 am & 11:00 am

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Spiritual Development Courses: (8:45-9:45 AM)
Youth Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
(Rev. Bobby J. Ford Jr., Youth Minister)
Holy Communion (Third Sunday) 10:00 AM
Wednesday Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study
and Spiritual Development Courses: 7:00 PM
(Includes Youth Bible Study)

