

# CENTRE VIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

MAY 10-16, 2012

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

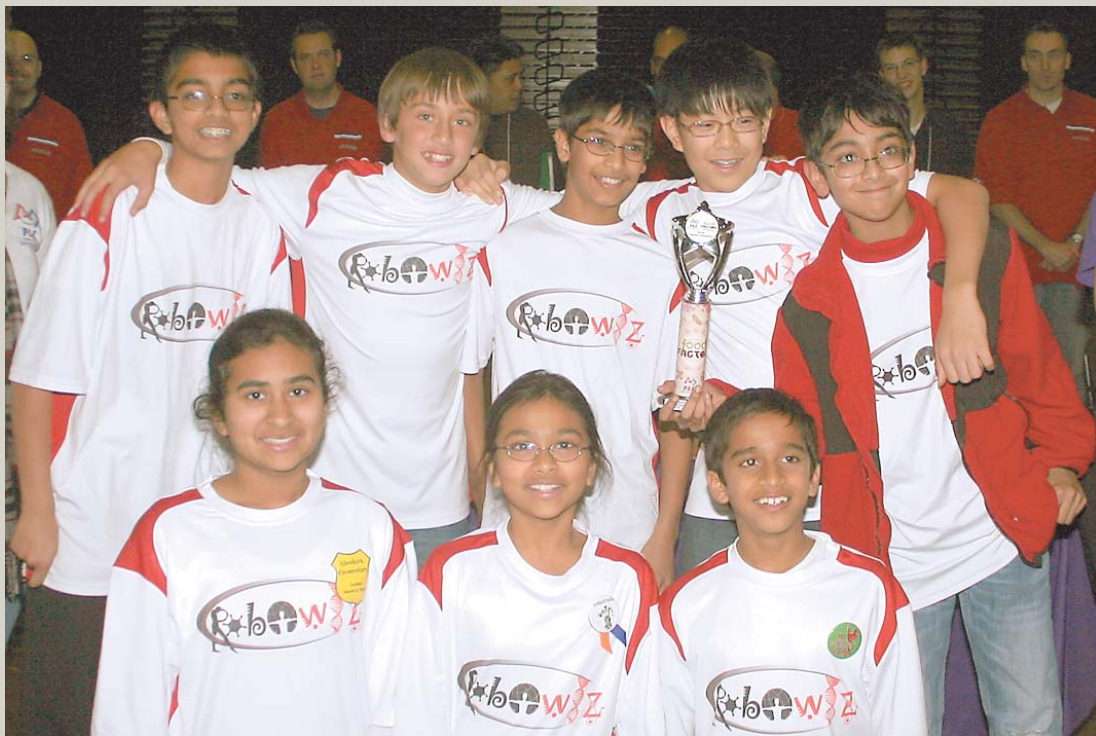


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROU AGRAWAL

Members of Team Robowiz (back row, from left) are Adithya Varadan, Daniel Mitchell, Neeraj Prasad, Jami Park and Shomik Ghose, and (front row, from left) Abha Agrawal, Nitya Agrawal and Akshay Balaji.

## Rocky Run Against the World

Robowiz team develops groundbreaking research.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

With food safety being of vital importance these days, a group of students mainly from Rocky Run Middle School created a way to prevent e coli from forming in reusable grocery bags. For their efforts, they took second place in a

state championship and third in the world.

The students are on a First Lego League (FLL) team called Robowiz. They are Rocky Run eighth-grader Abha Agrawal; Rocky Run seventh-graders Jami Park, Shomik Ghose, Akshay Balaji, Adithya Varadan and Daniel Mitchell; Greenbriar West Elementary (GBW) sixth-grader Nitya Agrawal (Abha's sister); and Longfellow Middle seventh-grader Neeraj Prasad.

Some 2,000 teams from Virginia entered the FLL competition, with Rocky Run beginning its winning streak by capturing first place in Regionals.

SEE ROBOWIZ TEAM, PAGE 8

## Shall We Dance? Special ed students have fun at day prom.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Proms in the daytime can be just as much fun as those in the evening. And the special ed students attending the FCPS Day Prom, last Thursday morning, May 3, at the Waterford in Fair Oaks had a great time.

Students from Centreville, Westfield, Herndon, Oakton, Fairfax and South Lakes high schools; Lake Braddock Secondary School and the Kilmer Center par-

ticipated. The event began 11 years ago with just two schools and has since grown into an event involving eight schools, a banquet hall and a professional deejay.

Mercinda Witherspoon, a special ed aide at Centreville High, is in her first year at the school. She

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 9

**Westfield High School Tommy Nash spins around the dance floor at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual "Day Prom" assisted by Brigitte Schultz.**



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

## Saturday Is Chantilly Day

Parade, food, music, cars, children's activities.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Grab the children, comfy shoes and sunscreen — and come to the Sully Place Shopping Center, this Saturday, May 12, for the first-ever Chantilly Day celebration. It's free and open to everyone, no matter where they live, and promises to be a day of fun and entertainment.

Music, food, a car show, children's activities, displays by the local high schools, an awards ceremony and a parade are all in store. The festival will run from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the parking lot near Babies R Us, followed by a free concert until 6 p.m.

"I am amazed at how quickly the community has responded to Chantilly Day," said event organizer Andrew Ross. "We oversold all of our tables and will have 120 tents set up with community organizations, businesses and restaurants."

"The Dulles Chamber [of Commerce] has put together a great team of Chantilly enthusiasts, and we're going to have so much fun spotlighting the community," continued Ross. "Between the parade, children's activities, car show and entertainment stage, there'll be fun for everyone of all ages. On Saturday, from 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Chantilly Day will be the best place to be."

Led by Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) as the grand marshal, the parade will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will march along

### Main Stage Entertainment

**10 a.m.** — DeeJay and introduction by Eileen Curtis and Saharnaz Farivar (including presentation to U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf)

**10:15 a.m.** — Marching band celebration

**10:40 a.m.** — Omei Wushu Center Tae Kwon Do

**11 a.m.** — Westfield High jazz band

**11:30 a.m.** — Awards and special presentation to representatives of Chantilly, France.

**11:45 a.m.** — Chantilly High jazz band

**12:40 p.m.** — They Call Me Piano, a teenage Centreville musician

**1:35 p.m.** — Highkicks Tae Kwon Do

**2 p.m.** — The Women's Club Zumba demonstration

**2:45 p.m.** — Chantilly High Junior AFROTC drill team

**3:05 p.m.** — More announcements

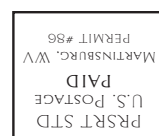
**3:15 p.m.** — Music Loft, several teen musicians

**4:10 p.m.** — Merchants of Cool, rock music

Metrotech Drive. Performing will be both the Westfield and Chantilly high school marching bands. There'll also be a color guard, fire engine from Chantilly Fire Station 15, a pet parade, plus other business and community groups.

People with pets and children with decorated bikes, scooters, etc., are also invited to march in the parade. Staging will be behind Babies R Us. The parade is open to all area residents. People from

SEE FESTIVAL, PAGE 3





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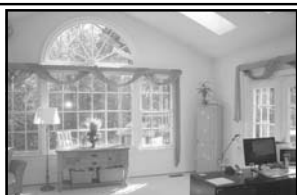
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## SCHOOLS

The following Chantilly High School art students won 2012 Regional Scholastic Art awards.

**Anne Sophie Kim** — Gold Key — Drawing;

**Andy Kim** — Gold Key — Photography;

**Emma Richer** — Silver Key — Photography;

**Yewon Kwon** — Gold Keys — Printmaking and Mixed Media;

2012 National Scholastic Art Awards

**Yewon Kwon** — Silver Medal — Printmaking

Yewon and her teacher Zach Winfrey will be honored at Carnegie Hall on June 1.

National Society of Arts and Letters April 28 Awards at The Kennedy Center

**Yewon Kwon** — Award of Excellence in Art

**Anne Sophie Kim** — Award of Merit in Art

**Andy Kim** — Award of Merit in Art

**Emma Richer** — Award of Merit in Art

2012 Governor's School

**Yewon Kwon** — Art

**Anne Sophie Kim** — Art

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has named **Robert Mason, Jr., of Chantilly High School** as one of 41 FCPS student winners of \$2,500 National Merit Scholarships.

Chantilly Academy has partnered with Northrop Grumman Information Systems to present the first annual CyberSecurity Camp, Aug. 6–10, at Chantilly High School. Open to 60 Fairfax County Public School students in grades 9–12, Northrop Grumman cyber experts will teach Computer Forensics, CyberSecurity Fundamentals, and provide invaluable information on cybersecurity internships & careers. CyberSecurity Camp tuition is \$150 and includes lunches, and a CyberSecurity Camp T-Shirt. For more information, visit: <http://www.fcps.edu/ChantillyAcademy/index.html>, or contact: Ms. Joan Ozdogan, Chantilly Academy at 703-222-7464 or Email [jeozdogan@fcps.edu](mailto:jeozdogan@fcps.edu)

**Chelsea Nicole Walker of Chantilly** was named to the honor roll for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas.

**Pavithra Anand of Oak Hill** was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2011 semester at Washington University in St. Louis. Anand is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson



**Chantilly High School art students Anne Sophie Kim, Emma Richer and Andrew Kim.**

High School Sci Tech in Alexandria and is enrolled in the university's School of Engineering and Applied Science.

**Senior Peter G. Hawes of Centerville and junior Ryan S. Green of Fairfax** have been named to the President's List at The University of Mary Washington for the fall semester of the 2011-12 academic year.

Local Fairfax County Public Schools students won top honors in their categories at the 48th annual SkillsUSA Virginia State Leadership and Skill Conference held recently in Hampton.

First place winners included:  
❖ **Alexandra Flevarakis of Chantilly Academy**, first place in Animal Science.

❖ **Sam Meono of Chantilly Academy**, first place in Culinary Arts.

First place finishers will advance to the National SkillsUSA Conference and Competition in Kansas City, Mo., in June.

**Greenbriar East Elementary School** will be having its Kindergarten Registration/Orientation on Monday, May 21 at 2 p.m. Call the school office at 703-633-6400 to register your student's information for the 2012-2013 school year. Your student must turn 5 by Sept. 30, 2012 to be eligible for Kindergarten.

**Jonathan Phillips**, a resident of Oak Hill, has been named to the Cornell University College of Arts and Sciences' Dean's List for Fall Semester 2011.

**Chelsea Nicole Walker of Chantilly**, a freshman in Pre-Medicine, was named to the honor roll for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas.

**Marilyn Peizer**, a resident of Fairfax, was named to the Dean's List at Fairfield University for the

fall 2011 semester.

**Samuel Kim of Chantilly** earned a place on the dean's list at Berklee College Of Music.

**Junior Andrew Criminski**, the son of Scott Criminski and Charmain Wardley of Oak Hill and Therese Criminski of San Diego, CA, was named to the President's List at Randolph-Macon Academy.

**Joo Young Jo**, of Alpharetta, Ga., daughter of Dr. Yong Jo and Youngbok Han of Fairfax, received an Associate in Arts from Oxford College of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., on Dec. 17, 2011.

Ashna Sharan, of Chantilly, a member of the class of 2012 at Washington and Lee University, has earned dean's list status for the recently ended fall term.

**Samantha Reeves**, a member of the class of 2014 from Fairfax, has been named to the fall 2011 Dean's List at Loyola University Maryland.

**Pat L. Kerbuski of Chantilly and Alison Virginia Silkworth of Oak Hill** have been named to the dean's list for second semester 2011-2012 at Miami University.

**Senior Kimberly Lane of Fairfax** and first-year student Madelyn Saunders of Chantilly, have been recognized as members of the dean's list for the fall semester at Eastern Mennonite University.

**Matthew Litton**, a junior Electrical Engineering major has been named to the Dean's List with Distinction at Grove City College. Matthew is a 2009 graduate of Chantilly High School and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Litton from Fairfax.

**Jessica Brown of Fairfax** has

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 17

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## ROUNDUPS

### Worker Dies on the Job

A Herndon man working on a job in Chantilly died Sunday after an accident involving heavy equipment. Fairfax County police identified him as Gerardo Santiago Paulette Ruiz, 47. The tragedy occurred May 6, shortly before 3 p.m., at a business in the 4100 block of Lafayette Center Drive.

Police say Ruiz was operating a forklift in the warehouse area and “apparently attempted to pass through a doorway when the forklift struck an overhead beam.” The beam then dislodged and fell on him. Ruiz was pronounced dead at the scene.

### Fund-Raiser for Injured Barista

Residents Cathy Lemberg and Jean Hnarakis are raising money for a barista at the Stone Road Starbucks in Centreville. He’s Josh Stine, who was injured in a 40-foot fall and has been in a local trauma ICU since April 4. The event is this Friday, May 11, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at 5731 Rocky Run Drive in Centreville.

Anyone who wants to help is welcome to attend. R.S.V.P. to Cathy at [stumprz@yahoo.com](mailto:stumprz@yahoo.com) or to Jean at [jean.dennis@prodigy.net](mailto:jean.dennis@prodigy.net). Josh will be going to a rehabilitation facility soon, where he’ll face a challenging recovery. Money collected at this fund-raiser will be donated to a fund to offset his medical expenses.

### Delays, Detours on Parkways

Over the next two weeks, motorists should expect delays and detours at the Fairfax County Parkway and Fair Lakes Parkway from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. weeknights while crews erect beams for the bridges that will carry traffic over Fair Lakes Parkway and Monument Drive.

From now to May 11, motorists heading to the Fairfax County Parkway from Monument Drive will be detoured to West Ox Road between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. each night.

From May 14 to May 18, drivers won’t be able to make left turns from Fair Lakes Parkway to Fairfax County Parkway from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. each night, nor will through traffic be permitted across Fairfax County Parkway from Fair Lakes Parkway. Fair Lakes Parkway traffic will be detoured onto Fair Lakes Circle.

The entire project is scheduled for completion in 2013. The \$69.5 million interchange at Fairfax County Parkway and Fair Lakes Parkway will improve pedestrian and cyclist access, widen more than three miles of the Fairfax County Parkway and improve traffic flow by separating local and parkway traffic through this area. More details are at [http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/fairfax\\_county\\_parkway-fair\\_lakes.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/fairfax_county_parkway-fair_lakes.asp).

### Alcohol, Substance Abuse Meeting

The next meeting of the Sully District Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will focus on alcohol and substance abuse. Parents and teens will learn what they need to be aware of as proms, graduation parties, summer parties, the start of college and even possible hazing approach.

In addition, the guest speaker will share his firsthand knowledge of how binge drinking can lead to tragedy. The meeting is Tuesday, May 15, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Says CAC Chairman Leslie Jenuleson: “Every parent and teen should attend.”

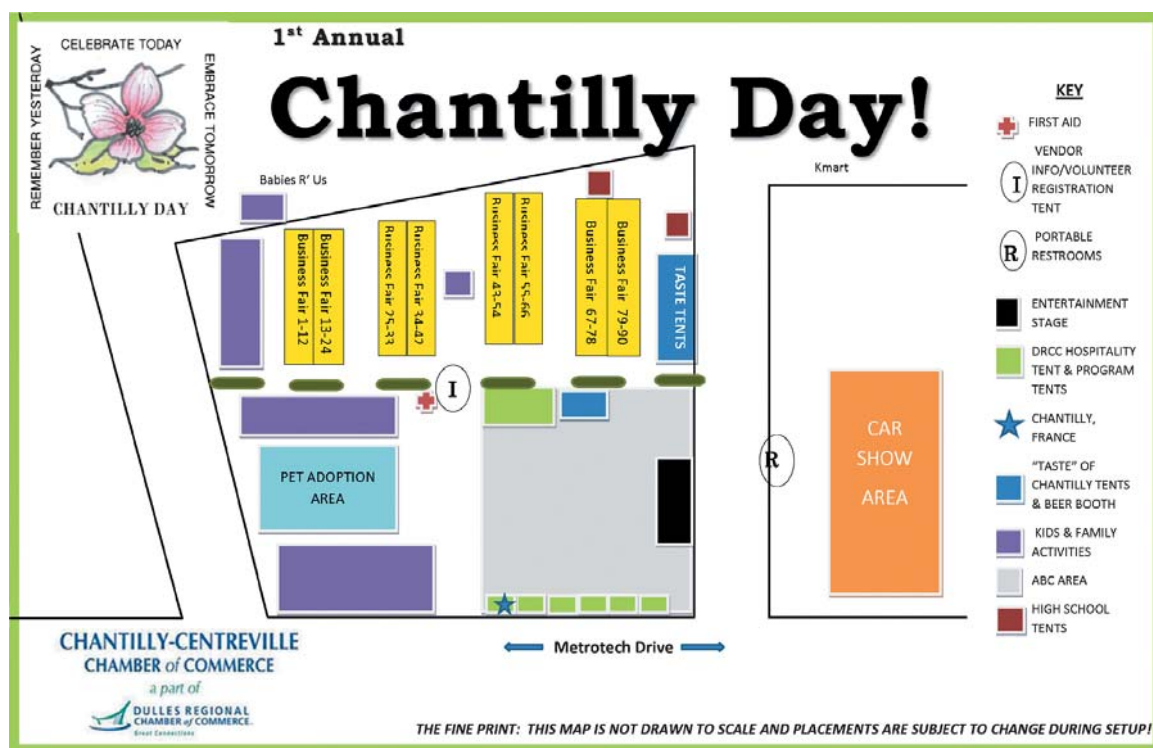
### Relay For Life Meeting

Local residents are invited to attend a Relay Rally planning meeting, Thursday, May 17, at 7 p.m., at the nZone, 14550 Lee Road in Chantilly. It’s to present details about the upcoming Relay for Life walk, which raises money for the American Cancer Society. People may form a team of walkers, serve on the planning committee or volunteer at the June 9 Relay at the nZone. For more information, visit [www.CentrevilleRelay.org](http://www.CentrevilleRelay.org) or contact Brandi Steward of the American Cancer Society at [brandi.steward@cancer.org](mailto:brandi.steward@cancer.org).

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 8

## NEWS

CENTRE VIEW EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN  
703-778-9415 OR [CENTREVIEW@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:CENTREVIEW@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



## Festival Offers Parade, Food, More

FROM PAGE 1

Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fair Oaks, Fair Lakes, Fairfax, South Riding, etc., are welcome to participate.

Both Chantilly and Westfield High will have tents in the business expo area. Chantilly will feature entities including its performing and creative arts, Hispanic Leadership Club, and Chantilly Academy. Art students will sell their work and paint children’s faces, cosmetology students will do hair braiding and extensions, and the Robotics club will bring the basketball-shooting robot they built.

From 11 a.m. to 5:30 or 6 p.m., a Taste of Chantilly will feature food from local restaurants including Chick-Fil-A, WaBa Grill Teriyaki House, Don Churro Café, Papa Murphy’s Pizza, Hooters and Creekside Bakery.

There’ll be onstage performances from 10:40 a.m.-4 p.m. Both the Westfield and Chantilly jazz bands will entertain; and at 2:45 p.m., Chantilly’s Junior Air Force ROTC drill team will demonstrate its precision marching. At 4 p.m. will be a two-hour rock concert by The Merchants of Cool.

**A PET ADOPTION** will be held from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on the grassy area in the Babies R Us parking lot, and a variety of pets will be available to good homes.

The children’s fair will surround the pet-adoption area. Children will be able to enjoy a rock-climbing wall, rides on a trackless train, moonbounces and other inflatables, games and a 60-foot obstacle course.

The car show runs from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the parking lot in front of K-mart. There’ll be lots of classic cars, with BB&T’s NASCAR racecar — a Richard Childress Racing vehicle — as the showstopper.

The theme for Chantilly Day is “Remember Yesterday, Celebrate Today, Embrace Tomorrow.” So attendees will also be encouraged to visit Sully Plantation and the National Air and Space Museum’s Udvar-Hazy Center, and shuttles will be available at the festival to take them to and from Sully Plantation.

Saharnaz Farivar is the coordinator of the Chantilly-Centreville Chamber of Commerce — an

offshoot of the Dulles Chamber — and this organization and the Westfield Business Owners Association are jointly sponsoring Chantilly Day. As a result, more than 100 local businesses will be there showcasing their offerings.

Awards for Educator of the Year, businesses and nonprofit groups, and student essay-contest winners will be presented at 11:30 a.m. And the most-popular car in the show will receive a people’s-choice award. Also slated is a special presentation to two representatives from the mayor’s office in Chantilly, France. They’ll have a booth, too, with information about their city.

Sully Place Shopping Center owner, Beatty Management Co., donated the space for the day’s festivities. Parking is in the K-mart, Lowe’s and Lotte parking lots. Roads will only be closed for the parade from 9-10:45 a.m., and traffic will still be able to flow around most of Metrotech Drive.

Go to [www.chantillyday.com](http://www.chantillyday.com) for registration information, plus more ways to get involved. Anyone interested in marching in the parade, entering the car show, participating in the business expo or volunteering should contact the event organizers at [info@chantillyday.com](mailto:info@chantillyday.com).

### Auditions Set for Alliance Theatre’s Upcoming Musical

The Alliance Theatre is holding auditions for the play, “Legally Blonde, the Musical,” Friday, May 18, from 7-10 p.m., and Sunday, May 20, from 1-7 p.m., at Centreville Presbyterian church, 15450 Lee Highway in Centreville.

All interested actors must pre-register at [www.thealliancetheatre.org](http://www.thealliancetheatre.org). Also see that Web site for audition requirements, rehearsal schedule and actor expectations. Performances will be held, July 27-Aug. 5, at Chantilly High.

For more information, contact Maggie Swan at [swanflor@yahoo.com](mailto:swanflor@yahoo.com).



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## News



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Local residents enjoy themselves, Saturday morning, at E.C. Lawrence Park. The fun included baby animals and a Civil War re-enactor.

# Saving the Forest

## Park Authority embarking on life-saving plan.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Looking at area residents having fun at E.C. Lawrence Park in Chantilly — and seeing its lush, green forest — it's not immediately apparent that anything needs fixing. But the experts know better, and they're doing something about it.

Sully District Park Authority representative Hal Strickland asked his fellow members of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board to support a pilot project, and staff to prepare its scope. Then, he said, "I proposed Ellanor C. Lawrence Park as the ideal site to develop a model of how to manage our forests. It will begin this summer and continue through at least 2014."

Charles Smith, manager of the Park Authority's Natural Resource Management and Protection Branch, will oversee the work. On Saturday, May 5, he explained the details to residents gathered there for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that park's Walney Visitor Center.

"It's a recognition that our natural resources have tremendous value for us, resulting in better air quality, stormwater management, quality of life and even property values," he said. So the Park Authority is now creating a blueprint detailing how best to manage its natural systems — such as forests, meadows, plants and streams — that comprise the habitat enjoyed by both wildlife and people.

The catalyst for this action is threefold — people,

"over-browsing" by deer and invasive plants, said Smith. The forest's ecological health has been declining, he said, because of "human disturbance and excessive deer eating too many of the natural plants. When that happens, we don't get any new plants of that type — only the non-native, invasive ones. These plants out-compete the natives and don't provide the same natural benefits for humans or wildlife."

In January, the Park Authority received \$340,000 from the 2008 Park Bond — \$300,000 coming from sewer-utility fees and \$40,000 from developer proffers — so it's now able to kick off this new, forest-protection project in E.C. Lawrence Park.

"Hal was instrumental in identifying and securing those funds for us," said Smith. "He also challenged us to come up with a plan to better manage the forest. So we came up with a great concept — we're developing a model for managing our forest systems. We'll define our goals, gather physical information from the landscape and formulate plans to achieve our goals."

He said the Park Authority will accomplish these tasks with help from partners. And at the same time, said Smith, "It will give these partners the opportunity to learn how to manage whole ecosystems. Meanwhile, it'll give us the know-how and methods we need to do this at other parks. And as we go, we'll educate the public about it,

too."

The partners will include the county wildlife biologist, the Virginia Department of Forestry, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, the county's Urban Forest Management department and the Virginia Natural Heritage program.

SEE LAWRENCE PARK, PAGE 14

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## NEWS

# Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday

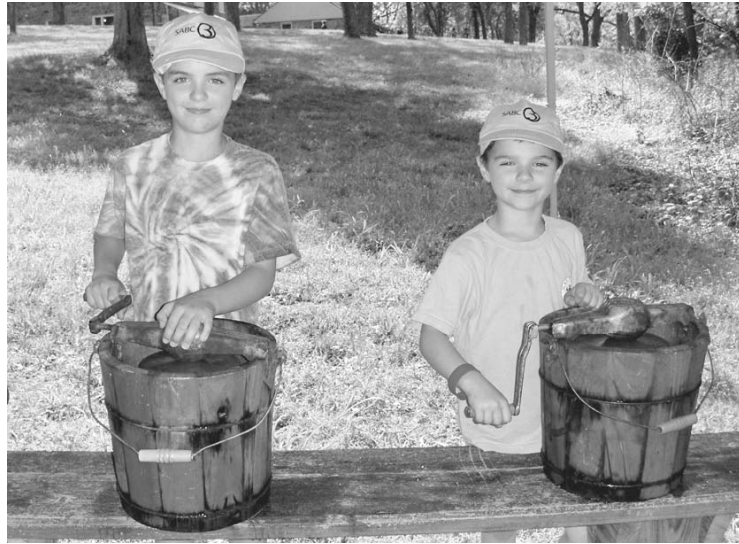
## Walney Visitor Center celebrates three decades.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

In a nod to yesteryear, children were churning butter and hand-cranking ice cream, Saturday morning, in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park in Chantilly. But it wasn't because the electricity was out — these activities were part of the celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Walney Visitor Center.

Before the Fairfax County Park Authority acquired the land comprising the park in 1971, it was known as Walney Farm. For more than 230 years, just three families farmed it, and the opening of the visitor center in 1982 made sure that their stories and the history of the land would be preserved.

Now, more than 300,000 visitors a year flock to the visitor center



Chantilly brothers Keith (left), 8, and Chad Hayes, 6, make hand-cranked ice cream.

for its many educational programs and exhibits. Inside a converted, 1780 farmhouse are a children's touch table, live-animal exhibits, historic exhibits, a classroom and a greenhouse — all inviting visitors to learn and explore.

On Saturday, May 5, Sully District Park Authority representative Hal Strickland welcomed some 50 people to the outdoor celebration.

Noting some of the Park Authority's accomplishments in both land preservation and recreation opportunities for the public, he thanked Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) for his longtime support.

"He's been a true friend of the parks," said Strickland. "We are indebted to him for his vision of

SEE CELEBRATING, PAGE 14

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

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**VDOT** Virginia Department of Transportation

## Walney Road and Willard Road Fairfax County

**Find out** about the proposal to upgrade the existing traffic signal at Walney Road (Route 657) and Willard Road (Route 6215) in Chantilly.

**Review** project information at [www.virginiadot.org](http://www.virginiadot.org) or at VDOT's District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030. Please call ahead at 703-259-1778, 800-367-7623 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Mr. Bud Siegel, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, at the above address on or prior to **May 19, 2012**. If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and 23 CFR 771, an environmental document in the form of a Blanket Categorical Exclusion was prepared and is available. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also available.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you have questions or concerns about your civil rights in regards to this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the VDOT manager listed above.

State Project: 0657-029-920,P101,M501  
Federal Project: HSIP-5A01(148), HSIP-5A01(149) UPC: 98281

# OPINION

## Transparency, Technology and Tolls

With E-Z Pass transponder on the windshield, you should know what you're about to pay; whatever it is, it's going up.

Despite the high number of drivers in Northern Virginia who already have an E-ZPass transponder, when the HOT-Lanes open on the Beltway, there will be pressure for many more drivers to subscribe.

VDOT is now proposing to tack on an additional \$1 a month fee for each E-ZPass transponder. Note that is per transponder, not per account, so in a household with multiple cars and multiple transponders, the additional annual charge could be \$36, \$48 or \$60.

There are 900,000 transponders in use in Virginia now, with an expected need for more than 400,000 more coming with the new I-495 Express Lanes.

Driving through the E-ZPass lane on the Dulles Toll Road without stopping while cars without a transponder line up to slog through

### EDITORIAL

is one advantage. The two other places one can use the E-ZPass in Northern Virginia are the Dulles Greenway and, soon, the "express lanes" on the Beltway.

One of the disadvantages of using the E-ZPass is that you seldom know how much you are paying, and it's significant. Signs with full information about tolls are few and far between, and so far nonexistent on some roads.

Motorists will need an E-ZPass transponder to ride in the Beltway express lanes. Vehicles with three or more people will be able to drive in the express lanes for free if they have a Flex transponder which has a switch that identifies carpoolers, but which also costs more than a regular transponder.

It is worth noting that 100 percent of the tolls from the Beltway HOT-lanes will be col-

lected by the private company that is building them, without any revenue sharing with the Commonwealth. If it is really VDOT's responsibility to maintain the system to collect those tolls, then that is a failure in the crafting of the contract to build the lanes. Apparently all E-ZPass account holders will be paying for the contractor's collection of funds.

Meanwhile, we're still not sure what it will cost to drive in the express lanes, but we do know that the amount will vary depending on traffic. We can only hope that signs will make it clear how much it will cost.

Today VDOT approved four new signs for the Greenway that will at least let drivers know how much they are paying. The answer is more than \$5 each way, not counting the new fee per transponder.

VDOT will not hold public hearings on this, although it should. It will be accepting emailed comments. Visit [www.virginiadot.org/e-zpass](http://www.virginiadot.org/e-zpass) or submit comments directly to [vdotinfo@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:vdotinfo@vdot.virginia.gov).

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

### CAPPIES REVIEW

## 'Crazy For You' at Westfield High School

BY BROOKE JOHNSON  
CHANTILLY HIGH SCHOOL

From the vaudeville style one liners, to the myriad of abundantly sequined costumes, Westfield High School's production of "Crazy For You" was simply dazzling.

This bubbly lighthearted musical is largely based off the Gershwin musical "Girl Crazy." The songs were written by George and Ira Gershwin and the script was written by Ken Ludwig. "Crazy For You" won a Tony award in 1992 for best musical. The story revolves around aspiring song and dance man Bobby Childs (Colby Dezelick) who must make the difficult decision to follow his passion to dance, or bend to the will of his mother's and fiancée's wishes and go into the family banking business. Bobby decides that he will follow the paycheck and accepts the assignment to foreclose on a theater in Deadrock, Nevada. Upon his arrival, Bobby encounters a firecracker country cutie named Polly (Allie Koenigsberg), whose father owns the theater Bobby came to foreclose. Soon, Bobby falls madly in love with her, and embarks upon a hilarious and dance-packed journey to save the theater.

"Crazy For You" featured dancing so professional and visually

pleasing, it was difficult to believe it was completely student choreographed. Every giggly Follies dancer and sheepish cowboy executed his or her dance moves with nearly perfect timing and confidence. This show was simply visually pleasing. The dance moves were creative and often drew cheers from the audience at their excellent execution. An example of this was during the number "Slap That Bass" when the cowboys actually played the follies as basses, creating a dramatic and stunning visual effect. Though some voices did not meet the exceptional quality of the show, "Crazy For You" was wonderful down to the last cowboy.

This glowing cast was led by Colby Dezelick, as Bobby Child. Dezelick didn't just steal the show, he took it and ran with it leaving the mediocre stereotype of a high school actor in the dust. Dezelick's dancing was graceful and complicated, at times even verging on acrobatic. The audience gasped as Dezelick became a blur as he executed a surprising and delightful backflip, proving himself to be a triple threat once and for all that with his velvety voice, impeccable comedic timing and of course, those remarkable feet. Bobby's love interest, Polly, was played by Allie Koenigsberg. Koenigsberg portrayed her character effectively,

showing the sweet as honey country girl and the tough as nails woman side by side.

Corrinne Holland, played the ditzy but irresistibly adorable Follie dancer named Patsy. Corrinne's dancing was standout, which is saying a lot among this remarkable group of dancers. She also managed to maintain steady characterization throughout even the most complicated dance number, her characteristic delighted squeal melting even the most stoic heart. Some of the most moving singing in the show was performed by the cowboy trio, Nick Burroughs, Ben Nelms, and Brandon Sanchez. With harmonies that any crooner would be proud of, the group's soulful singing ex-

tracted wild applause from the audience.

The flawless lighting contributed to the deliciously light atmosphere and even added to the humor at times, such as when Everett Baker (Bryan Pitt) would step into a perfectly timed spotlight to tell his repetitive and groan-inducing story. The set itself was detailed and beautifully painted, easily transitioning from the bright lights of New York, to the tumble weeds of Nevada.

Westfield High School's production of "Crazy For You" was a glittering spectacle to be remembered. With dancing cowboys, beautiful Follies girls and dramatic love triangles, as the song said, who could ask for anything more?

### 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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Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com)

# CENTREVIEW

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**Steven Mauren**  
Editor, 703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Bonnie Hobbs**  
Community Reporter, 703-778-9438  
[bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steve Hibbard**  
Associate Editor, 703-778-9412  
[shibbard@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:shibbard@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Rich Sanders**  
Sports Editor, 703-224-3031  
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**Debbie Funk**  
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703-778-9444  
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**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
[@MaryKimm](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
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**Photography:**  
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Jeanne Theismann  
703-778-9436  
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**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426**  
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## ME & MY MOM



**Marnie Harter, world's best mom and grandma, with all her grandchildren.**

### MILITARY NOTES

To have military news listed in Centre View e-mail [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com). Photos, especially color, are encouraged. Deadline is one week before publication.

Navy Seaman **Recruit Thanh S. Vo**, son of Mong-Linh T. Nguyen of Chantilly, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Vo is a 2009 graduate of Chantilly High School.

Air Force Airman **Jason C. Montgomery** graduated from basic military training at Lackland

Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Montgomery is the son of Jason and Pamela Montgomery of Summit Corner Drive, Fairfax. He is a 2011 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Greenbelt, Md.

Marine Corps Sgt. **Joshua D. Roman**, son of Kimberly W. and Norman S. Roman of Fairfax, recently reported for duty with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, Marine Aircraft Group 36, Okinawa, Japan. Roman is a 2006 graduate of Chapparral High School of Temecula, Calif. and joined the Marine Corps in May 2007.



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## ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 3

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, May 17, 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.

### Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices – such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous wastes – including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County’s “Electric Sunday” events. The next one is slated for Sunday, May 20, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 transfer station at 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

### Women’s Self-Defense Course

A free, two-day, self-defense course for women of all ages will be held Tuesday, May 22, and Thursday, May 24, from 6-9 p.m., at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy, 14601 Lee Road in Chantilly. A second session is also available Tuesday, June 12, and Thursday, June 14. It’s sponsored by the Fairfax County Police Department, the Fairfax Police Law Enforcement Foundation and C & J Security Corp.

This comprehensive safety course is taught by trained experts with years of experience and will help prepare women to fend off attackers. They’ll learn risk awareness and reduction, crime-prevention strategies and defensive concepts, while receiving hands-on training in defensive tactics.

Women will test their newly-learned skills in realistic, controlled environments and will experience what it’s like to be suddenly grabbed in a stairwell, a parking lot or an elevator. The course is open to women 13 years and older; however mothers (or female guardians) must attend with their teens. Men are not allowed to attend. For more information or to register for one of the two-day sessions, e-mail [wsd@fairfaxfoundation.org](mailto:wsd@fairfaxfoundation.org) or call 703-246-7806. Seating is limited.

### Roadside Mowing Underway

VDOT mowing crews are out working along roadsides in Northern Virginia, so VDOT is reminding drivers to slow down and stay alert in work zones where crews are mowing grass, pruning trees, cutting brush and removing litter.

Much of this work is done slowly, so motorists are asked to watch for posted signs, slow-moving trucks and crews along roadsides and in medians. Drivers should also slow down in these areas and move into the opposite lane, where possible, when approaching the work zone. These courtesies allow VDOT crews space to work while helping keep both them and motorists safe.

### WFCM Seeks Food, Volunteers

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries’ (WFCM) food pantry urgently needs donations of oil (48 oz. or smaller); flour (2-5 lb. bag); sugar (2-5 lb. bag); rice (2 lb. bags); canned meats; salad dressing, jelly; jam; spaghetti sauce, canned fruit; canned beets, spinach, greens, potatoes and mixed vegetables; canned garbanzo, lima, butter and northern beans; pancake mix and syrup; mayonnaise, baby food (stages 1 and 3); cocoa, coffee, ketchup and mustard. Also needed are laundry detergent, toothpaste, shampoo, toilet paper and baby wipes.

Bring all items to WFCM’s food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive (near Backyard Grill and Bar) in Chantilly.

## NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLI AGRAWAL

**Rocky Run’s Robowiz team has fun while in Florida competing in the FLL World Invitational Open. Pictured are (back row, from left) Roli Agrawal, Shomik Ghose, “Legoman,” Balaji Subramaniam, “Da Blind Pirate” and Daniel Mitchell; and (front row, from left) Nitya Agrawal, Adithya Varadan, Abha Agrawal, Jami Park, Neeraj Prasad and Akshay Balaji.**

## Robowiz Team: Third in the World

FROM PAGE 1

Then last week, May 3-6, in Winter Haven, Fla., Robowiz competed in the FLL World Invitational Open against 64 other teams.

For its groundbreaking research on food safety, Rocky Run was the only Washington Metropolitan area team in the semifinals for the FLL Global Innovation award. This honor recognizes teams doing innovative research that has the potential to make a difference in people’s lives. As such, Rocky Run was one of the top 20 teams worldwide and among the top 14 in the U.S.

Except for Neeraj, of Vienna, all the Robowiz members live in Centreville or Chantilly, but they all attended GBW for its GT program. “I loved playing with Legos when I was little, so my dad created his own FLL team and introduced the concept to this area,” said Shomik. “He had an interest meeting at GBW when I was in fourth grade, and we started the name, Robowiz.”

Now, the team members meet on weekends and a few times in the summer, during the year. And when they can’t get together in person, they collaborate via Google Docs and Skype. “And we work on background research on the Internet,” said Abha.

The FLL competition has four components; teams are judged on robot performance, robot design, research and teamwork. This year’s topic was food safety.

“The mission in robot performance [at States] was to complete challenges, such as putting fresh fish in a sink without contaminating the sink, mat or fish — and all these things were made out of Legos,” said Shomik.

“It’s an obstacle course, so you build a robot — about 8 inches or so tall — out of Legos,” said Jami. “Then it goes through 16 challenges.”

“The robot has 2 and a half minutes to do as many challenges as it can to get the most points,” said Nitya.

“In robot design, we display the structure of our robot and the things it can do,” said Akshay. “We show the innovation behind it.”

Said Nitya: “The judges look for the sensors attached to it, like sound and light.” Abha explained that the sensors “are to guide the robot and help it go through the maze.”

“The judges grade you on how you designed the robot to complete the challenges,” added Adithya. Shomik said the teams were told what the challenges would be, two months in advance, so they could build their robots accordingly.

“They also look at your programming,” said Nitya. “We used MindStorm.” In that program, said Shomik, each of the robot’s movements is designed in a block “to show you have a deeper understanding of programming.”

For the research component, said Akshay, “We had to find a problem related to the topic and come up with an innovative solution.” Added Shomik: “We’re graded on how well we’ve researched and presented the topic.”

“It had to be something ‘out there,’ but also viable and practical,” said Abha. And, said Adithya, “It helps to have a problem that solves a major issue.”

That way, said Shomik, “It would affect a large amount of people and have a greater impact.” Nitya said they also examined existing solutions for their problem and explained why theirs is more useful and helpful.

“We also had to consult experts and share our research with the community,” said Shomik. “So we talked to experts at the NIH and Johns Hopkins University Medical Center.” The students also talked with the owner of a hydroponic farm in Haymarket about his lettuce, as well as professional food inspectors.

“Each of us researched five foods we commonly eat, and we decided to focus on lettuce because it’s eaten raw and uncooked,” said Jami. “And leafy greens are one of the top-riskiest foods, according to the FDA, because of that.”

The students also knew of e coli outbreaks in lettuce, in recent years, and found a study done by a university in Portugal saying that oil extracted from coriander can kill e coli and other pathogens. And,

SEE ROCKY RUN, PAGE 15

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



# Students Have Fun at Day Prom



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

**Jen Scudder, an instructional assistant at Westfield High School dances with Kilmer Center School student Jocelyn McCord.**

FROM PAGE 1

was attending the Day Prom for the first time and was impressed by what she saw.

"I think it's a good opportunity for kids to interact with their peers from other schools," she said. "They can get that prom experience and not feel left out."

Westfield High freshman Marcus Leach was also at his first Day Prom. Just before enjoying the buffet lunch, he said he liked the pizza as well as the dancing and music.

Meanwhile, Barbara Gillette — a special ed teacher at Westfield since the school opened, more than a decade ago — has a long connection with this event. "I've been to the Day Prom every year," she said. "My daughter Shannon, also a special ed student, graduated from Centreville High in 2000."

"The kids have a great time at the prom, but it also gives us a chance to work on their social skills in an appropriate setting," said Gillette. "They have so much fun but, at the same time, they learn how to be acceptable at a social event."

She said 15 students with intellectual and/or physical challenges from Westfield were attending the Day Prom and had been eagerly anticipating it. Said Gillette: "This has been their big topic of conversation."

And it was important to them to look their best for the dance; the girls wore pretty dresses and many of the boys wore suits or sport coats. "Some hair stylists from a salon came to the school this morning and did their hair — including the boys, who wanted gel in their hair," said Gillette. "They wanted to be spiffed-up, too."

This year's prom chairman, Kathy Khair of Herndon High, says she hopes the Day Prom tradition will continue for many more years. "From the first day of



**Centreville High School student Faby Argandona dances with her peer and 'Best Buddy' Juwaan Espinal. This year, 179 students from eight schools participated in the three-and-a-half hour event. The Best Buddies program creates opportunities for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to develop on-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development by matching them up with student volunteers.**



**Best friends Giselle Brito-Lopez of Fairfax High School and Teresa Petrizzo of Centreville High School get time to spend with each other at the "Day Prom."**

school until the day of the prom, my students talk about and look forward to this event," she said. "And I really appreciate all the committee members who give their time, effort and cooperation to insure that the Day Prom is always an event that students will remember."

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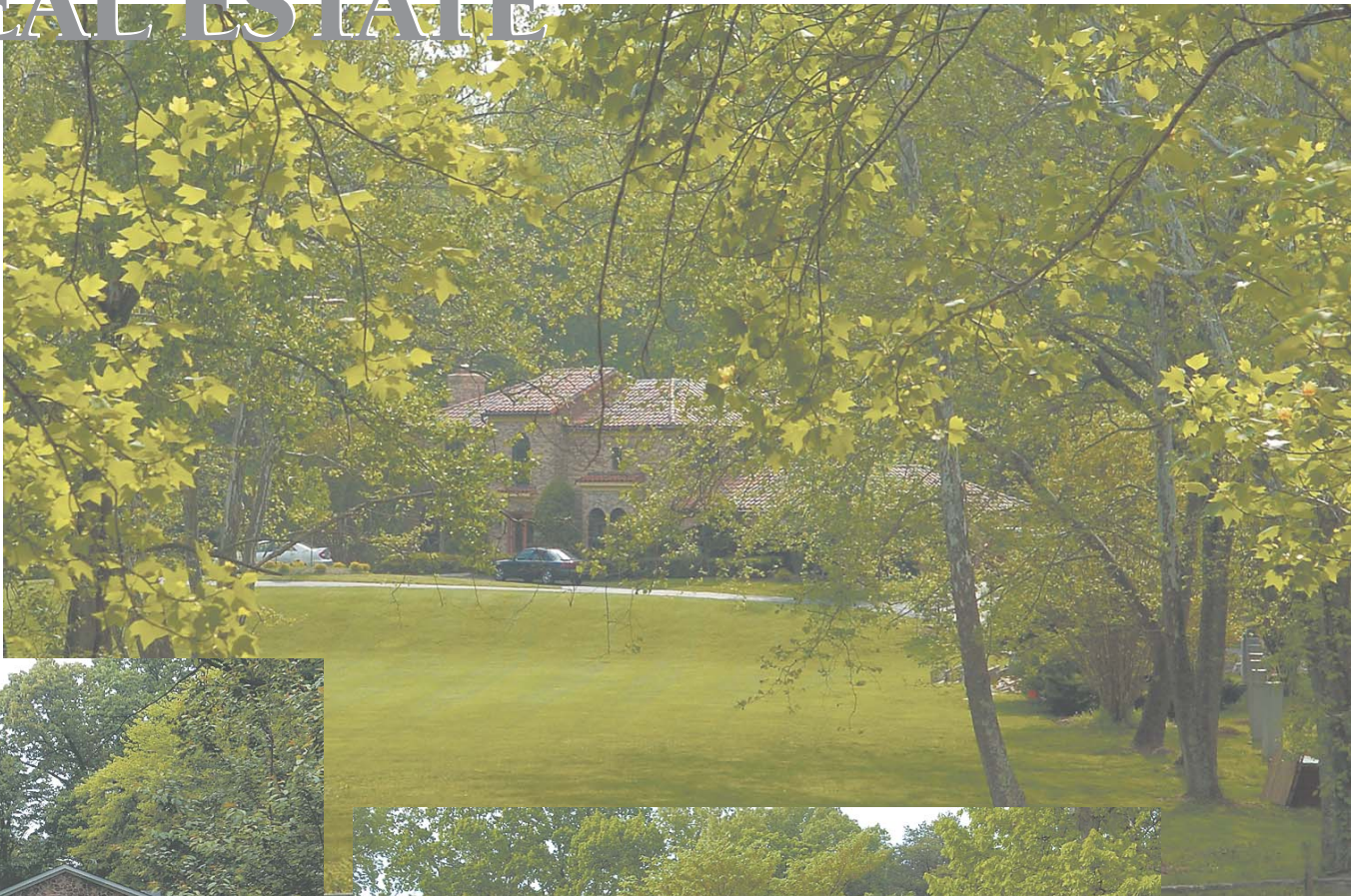


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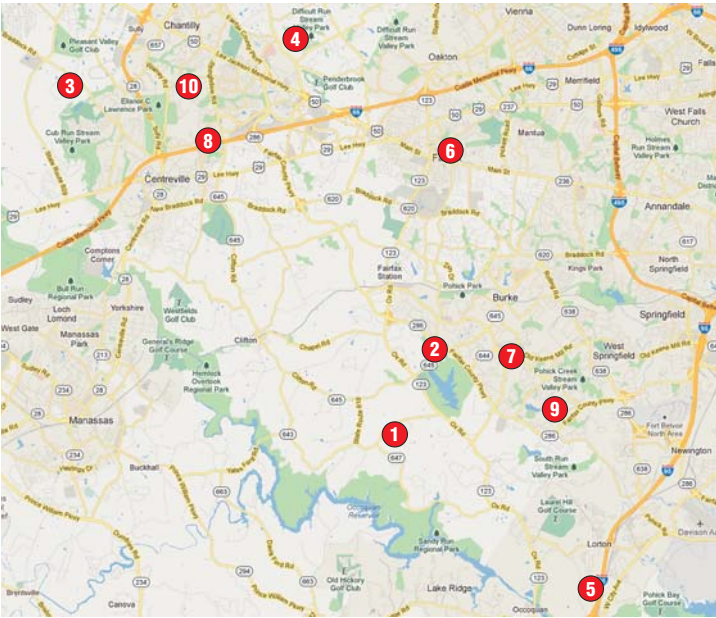


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2 10314 REGENCY STATION DR	4	..	3..	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$957,500	Detached	0.67	22039	EDGEWATER	03/29/12
3 5452 CHANDLEY FARM CIR	5	..	6..	0	CENTREVILLE	\$950,000	Detached	5.47	20120	SULLY ESTATES	03/16/12
4 3412 TILTON VALLEY DR	4	..	3..	1	FAIRFAX	\$900,000	Detached	0.92	22033	MARY RIDGE	03/07/12
5 8934 KHALSA CT	4	..	3..	1	LORTON	\$875,000	Detached	0.83	22079	YORKSHIRE	03/02/12
6 3837 FARR OAK CIR	4	..	4..	1	FAIRFAX	\$870,000	Detached	0.11	22030	FARRCROFT	03/22/12
7 9429 WOODED GLEN AVE	4	..	3..	1	BURKE	\$735,000	Detached	0.21	22015	WOODED GLEN	03/19/12
8 5106 BEBE CT	5	..	5..	0	CENTREVILLE	\$716,000	Detached	0.24	20120	FAIRLAKES CROSSNG	03/30/12
9 7477 THORNCLIFF LN	4	..	3..	1	SPRINGFIELD	\$712,500	Detached	0.23	22153	MIDDLEFORD	03/22/12
10 13616 RIDGE ROCK DR	5	..	2..	1	CHANTILLY	\$685,000	Detached	0.41	20151	SUTTON OAKS	03/16/12

SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT WWW.MRIS.COM



# Home Life Style

## Clifton Rolls Out the Welcome Mat

It's the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Homes Tour.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

French chandeliers, antique furnishings, original paintings and whimsical collections are among the delights awaiting all those attending the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Clifton Spring Homes Tour. It's slated for Thursday, May 17, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and includes a marketplace, silent auction and raffle, from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Paradise Springs Winery.

Lunch will be available at Clifton eateries; and the winery, at 13219 Yates Ford Road, will sell box lunches with advance reservations (made by May 15) at 703-830-9463. Culminating the day's events will be a "Wine Down," also at Paradise Springs, from 3-6 p.m., featuring a performance by the Steve Smith Blues Duo.

Tickets are \$25 in advance; \$30 on tour day; single-home admission is \$10. There's no charge to enter the winery for the marketplace or silent auction. And Homes Tour Co-Chair JoAnne Gallo says it's a great way to have fun.

"We want people to enjoy visiting the homes," she said. "Then we hope they'll come to the winery after touring, buy lots of raffle tickets, meet their friends, husbands and significant others and stay for the wine and music."

Putting on the tour is the Clifton Community Woman's Club (CCWC), and all net proceeds support its Charitable Trust which contributes to several local charities, student scholarships, food banks and causes including the Yellow Ribbon Fund, which aids injured soldiers and their families.

The homes tour is the trust's primary fund-raiser and generally attracts some 600 visitors from throughout the Washington Metropolitan area. As a result, over the past six years, alone, the Trust has contributed more than \$120,000 to help others.



From left: Rob Airaghi, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Joe and Vickie Luchini and Brant Baber hold the paintings of their homes done by artists Trudi Arnold and Peggy Cranston. They were honored Sunday at a homeowners' reception at the Fairfax Station home of Sharon and Mark Gottlieb. (Not pictured are Kathy Kalinowski and Lisa and Paul Brockman).

"Every year, we're able to donate approximately \$20,000 to our Charitable Trust," said Gallo. "We're a small club of just 80-90 members, and we work hard to make the money to donate to the trust."

This year's event features four homes, plus the newly renovated Acacia Lodge on Main Street. Opening their houses to the public are Kathy Kalinowski and Brant Baber, Lisa and Paul Brockman, Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Rob Airaghi, and Vickie and Joe Luchini.

"This year, we have three homes older than 100 years," said event Co-Chair Diane Smith. "And our tour is fairly compact; people won't have to drive a long way between houses. The Acacia Lodge has never before been on the spring homes tour. And inside the lodge will be an information table with a video of what the CCWC does, plus

cookies and lemonade."

For ticket-sales locations and more information about the features homes, go to [www.cliftoncwc.org](http://www.cliftoncwc.org) or contact Gallo at [jgallo.jbg@verizon.net](mailto:jgallo.jbg@verizon.net) or Smith at [mds727@cox.net](mailto:mds727@cox.net).

There'll be a variety of vendors at the marketplace, offering items including handwoven baskets, beaded and wire jewelry, name art, ceramics, decorative glassware and tableware, handbags with interchangeable covers, skin-care products, fine-art portraits and pictures made of crushed/fused glass.

Items to be raffled off will include gift certificates and merchandise donated by restaurants, woman's club members and local businesses. Raffle tickets will be available at the winery.

At the silent auction, instead of gift bas-

kets, attendees will bid on gift certificates for items such as golf foursomes, hair-salon and spa visits, fine dining, tickets for the GMU Center for the Arts, and a week at a time share.

All in all, said Gallo, "It'll be a wonderful day — a day to peek in other people's houses, get together with friends, have lunch, shop and have a really nice time."

### BABER HOUSE

Built in 1880, the Victorian farmhouse of Kathy Kalinowski and Brant Baber on Ford Lane boasts its original tin roof, white-oak siding, yellow-pine floors, banister and mantelpieces. A 19<sup>th</sup>-century gas chandelier (now electrified) adorns the two-story hall in the home they've lived in for three decades.

Also decorating the home are a Chippendale sofa, Queen Anne chairs, a gilded French-horn chandelier made in Paris, an antique French bookcase and a floor-to-ceiling mirror which once hung in an English manor house. There's a painting of George Washington which was in the Smithsonian 100 years ago, plus an Andrew Copen painting of the Boston Market that came from John Kennedy's senate office.

### BROCKMAN HOUSE

Horses grazing in a field by a red barn, a columned porch and family heirlooms make the home of Paul and Lisa Brockman warm and welcoming. This 19<sup>th</sup>-century farmhouse on Yates Ford Road contains a bookcase that belonged to Paul's father and now holds a collection of Lisa's grandmother's Quimper pottery. There's also a large, decorative pot from the Waldorf Astoria.

The house features many pieces of furniture custom-made from reclaimed wood, especially the farmhouse table and corner cabinet in the dining room. At each end of the table are wing chairs, upholstered by Lisa in old grain sacks. Whimsical touches include a picket-fence headboard, antique shoe-form collection, African headdress and bunny weathervane.

SEE HOMES TOUR, PAGE 12



This is a yellow, New England saltbox in a wooded setting.



Family heirlooms make this home warm and inviting.



This Victorian farmhouse was built in 1880.



# OPEN HOUSES

## SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 12 & 13



**10920 Middlegate Drive, Fairfax • \$569,900 • Open Sunday  
1-4 p.m. • Dan Mleziva, RE/MAX, 703-380-9915**

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 on the "This Week in Real Estate" link.  
**Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

## Annandale

3243 Decourcey Ct.....\$359,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermendorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812

## Burke

10605 Lakeside Oak Ct.....\$367,000.....Sat 1-4.....Ali Farhadov.....Solutions..703-750-1450  
9507 Ashbridge Ct.....\$368,900.....Sat 2-4.....Vladimir Gherman.....Belinsky..703-909-5487  
6418 Birch Leaf Ct.....\$334,900.....Sun 1-4.....Theodosia Dampier.....Weichert..703-919-2212

## Centreville

6505 Trillium House Ln.....\$539,900.....Sat 2-5.....Stephen Lefave.....Samson Props..703-896-5849  
14215 Rock Canyon Dr.....\$623,900.....Sun 1-4.....Jeffrey Stein.....Jefferson..703-539-8000

## Clifton

12208 Yates Ford Rd.....\$549,000.....Sat 12-3.....Harry Hasbun.....Keller Williams..703-330-2222  
13436 Compton Rd.....\$589,900.....Sun 1-4.....Dennis Hogge.....RE/MAX..703-830-2233  
6701 Rock Fall Ct.....\$685,000.....Sun 2-4.....James Nellis.....RE/MAX..703-503-4375

## Fairfax

12560 Royal Wolf Pl.....\$529,700.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermendorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812  
3436 Preservation Dr.....\$1,124,999.....Sat 1-3.....Mary Thyfault Clark.....RE/MAX..703-563-2210  
10920 Middlegate Dr.....\$569,900.....Sun 1-4.....Dan Mleziva.....RE/MAX..703-380-9915

## Fairfax Station

10830 Olm Dr.....\$999,450.....Sun 1-4.....Ron Griffin.....Weichert..571-255-0782  
7209 Laketree Dr.....\$914,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

## Kingstowne/Alexandria

5620 Glenwood Dr.....\$999,000.....Sun 1-4.....Janet Price.....McEanearney..703-960-5858  
5921 Founders Crossing Ct #304..\$329,000.....Sat 11-4.....Jorge Guillen.....Keller Williams..703-563-1761  
6001 Chicory Pl.....\$349,999.....Sat 1-4.....Meng Truong.....Weichert..301-610-6444  
6036 Buttercup Ct.....\$375,000.....Sat 1-4.....Ann-Marie Grotticelli..Coldwell Banker..703-518-8300  
6100 Gardenia Ct.....\$360,000.....Sun 1-4.....Jim Souvagas.....Long & Foster..703-919-9191  
5317 Waldo Dr.....\$539,950.....Sun 1-4..Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207  
6484 Sutcliffe Dr.....\$529,990.....Sun 12-3.....Seema Sinha.....Keller Williams..703-564-4000

## Oak Hill

12721 Ox Meadow Dr.....\$1,269,000.....Sat 2-4.....Jerry Thatcher.....Weichert..703-795-9848

## Springfield

8010 Ferncliff Ct.....\$499,900.....Sun 2-5.....Susan Whittenberg.....Century 21..703-626-4416  
8238 Taunton Pl.....\$464,900.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermendorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812  
8616 Etta Dr.....\$609,000.....Sat 1-4.....Ron Jones.....Avery-Hess..703-451-9797

**To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-Mail the info to: [kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com)  
All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY LYNNE GARVEY-HODGE

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One light West of Rt. 28)



**www.foha.org**

# Home Life Style

## Homes Tour

FROM PAGE 11

### LUCHINI HOME

The Tepper Drive home of Vickie and Joe Luchini is a yellow, New England saltbox in a wooded setting. The couple designed it themselves to remind Vickie of the ones she loved so much in New York and Vermont. Visitors are greeted by a soaring stone fireplace, and the front-hall walls begin the home's color scheme of deep golds, greens and reds. Combined with the black-walnut floors and Oriental carpets, they create a dramatic backdrop for the Luchinis' collection of 18<sup>th</sup>-century, English oak furniture.

Their oil paintings include impressionistic waterscapes by Kevin Fitzgerald, plus a rendition of West Virginia's Tygart River by Lynn Boggess. Scenes by Martin Poole hang on the staircase and in the den. Since Vickie loves British things, the home also features a pub sign embellished with the Royal Coat of Arms and a painted chest honoring Lord Nelson.

### AIRAGHI-GARVEY-HODGE HOME

Recently engaged, Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Rob Airaghi named their home on Blue Dan Lane "Amami Sempre" (love me forever). Overlooking rolling hills and paddocks, it's a serene setting for what was originally an 1870s farmhouse and is now adorned with heart-pine floors and five-paneled doors, plus antiques in each room, such as quilts and needlework stitched by previous generations.

Lynne's own paintings, drawings, watercolors, oils — many featuring scenes of the local area — abound. Also on display are her collection of snails in crystal, pottery and silver, plus international souvenirs from Rob's career as an Air Force officer in places such as Berlin and Cairo. They include a massive, German cupboard and a decorative, 17<sup>th</sup>-century French mirror.

### ACACIA LODGE

The Acacia Masonic Lodge represents more than 130 years of Freemasonry in Clifton. It was originally built as a saw mill on Popes Head Creek in the 1870s. The Freemasons purchased the building in 1903 and moved it to Main Street in 1920. It was the first building in town with electricity and is registered as a Historic Landmark.

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)



# ENTERTAINMENT

## THURSDAYS IN MAY

**Story Time With Miss Elise.** Every Thursday morning at 10 a.m. during May, the Caribou Coffee in Fairfax Corner is offering Story Time with Miss Elise, children's director at Fairfax Circle Church. The interactive event features props and puppets. On May 10, she'll be reading "Old Bear" by Jane Hissey; May 17, she'll read Eric Carle's "The Very Busy Spider." May 24 is "Giraffes Can't Dance" by Giles Andrae, and May 31 is "Little Bear's Dragon" by Jane Hissey.

## TUESDAY NIGHTS

**World-Class Jazz.** 6 to 9 p.m. Paul Langosch on bass and Rick Whitehead on guitar. At the Copper Canyon, 5815 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Call 703-830-6600 for reservations.

## TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

**Centreville Stitches** welcome adults who enjoy knitting, crocheting, or other needlework crafts, and conversation. Join us at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Dr., Centreville. Admission is free. Contact Jo at 703-803-0595 or email joknitter@verizon.net.

- Thursday, May 10 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY/MAY 10

**Liberty Republican Women's Club.** 5:30 p.m. Meeting at the home of JoAnn Plitt, 13766 Cabells Mill Dr., Centreville. Guests will enjoy a BBQ dinner, followed by guest speaker Sabrina Schaeffer, executive director of International Women's Forum, a non-partisan research and educational institution who seek to cultivate support for principles of economical freedom and encourage women to be involved in returning our country to limited constitutional government. Contact 703-378-4190.

**CVHS Spring Band Concert.** 7 p.m. Free. At the Centreville High School Auditorium. This will be the last chance to use your TAG from this year's Music Department fundraiser.

**FACETS Opening Doors Breakfast.** 7 to 9 a.m. To inform the community about poverty and homelessness efforts in Fairfax. At the Waterford at Fair Oaks, 12025 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway. To register, visit [www.FACETSCares.org](http://www.FACETSCares.org) or contact Stacy Boden at [sboden@facetscares.org](mailto:sboden@facetscares.org) or 703-352-3268.

## FRIDAY/MAY 11

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

## SATURDAY/MAY 12

**Improv Now!** 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10/person. Join the performers for an evening of scenes, jokes and songs made up on the spot — anything can happen. Each show is different because each one is inspired by the audience. Under the direction of Mike Young, Improv Now! strives to create the freshest short-form improv comedy, similar to the TV show, "Whose Line Is It Anyway?". Held at an unconventional venue, Affinity Computers, located at 23035 Douglas Court, Dulles, Va. Call 301-675-8242 or Email: [improvnw@gmail.com](mailto:improvnw@gmail.com) or <http://improvnw.com>

**CVHS Choral Yard Sale.** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Centreville High School Choral Department is having a yard sale and a Car and Truck Show, featuring new and classic cars and police and fire vehicles. There will also be karaoke and a bake sale. Proceeds will benefit the Choral Department scholarship program. At Centreville

High School.

**Flea Market.** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Oakton Baptist Church, at the intersection of Sullyfield Circle and Route 50 in Chantilly, first light East of Route 28.

**Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.** 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With pianist Adam Golka. Britten's Sinfonia da Requiem, Debussy's La Mer, Ravel's Concerto for the Left Hand, and Elgar's Enigma Variations. Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. [info@fairfaxsymphony.org](mailto:info@fairfaxsymphony.org).

**Clifton Caboose Twilight Run.** 6 p.m. Register now at [www.signmeup.com/80841](http://www.signmeup.com/80841)

**Chantilly Day Festival.** 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Featuring a parade, a "Taste of Chantilly" food and drink expo, a children's carnival, performance stage, classic car show, business fair, awards ceremony, sunset concert and more. This free event will support a number of organizations, including Chantilly High School and Westfield High School, that will be gearing up for a Battle of the Bands. At the Sully Place Shopping Center in Chantilly.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 16

**Talk on Rheumatoid Arthritis.** 7 to 8:30 p.m. At the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. The seminar is part of its free Spring 2012 Seminars for Family Caregivers series. Register online (go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) and link to caregiver series), email [caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov), or call 703-324-5205, TTY 711.

## THURSDAY/MAY 17

**Clifton Charity Homes Tour.** 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Clifton Community Woman's Club (CCWC) presents its 40th Annual Charity Homes Tour, Marketplace and Silent

Auction Fundraiser in the surroundings of historic Clifton. Visitors will enjoy diverse homes situated around the area. Culminating the event will be the "Wine Down" from 3 to 6 p.m., featuring live music and the Silent Auction Fundraiser at the Paradise Spring Winery. Advance Tickets \$25; Day of Tour Tickets \$30; Single Home Admission \$10. Lunch will be available at Clifton eateries. The Paradise Springs Winery will also be offering box lunches with a prior RSVP by calling 703-830-9463. For location of ticket sales, visit [www.cliftoncwc.org](http://www.cliftoncwc.org). Or contact Chairperson JoAnne Gallo ([jgallo.jbg@verizon.net](mailto:jgallo.jbg@verizon.net)) or Co-Chairperson Diane Smith ([mds727@cox.net](mailto:mds727@cox.net))

## MAY 18 AND 20

**Auditions for "Legally Blonde, The Musical."** May 18 from 7 to 10 p.m., and May 20 from 1 to 7 p.m. At Centreville Presbyterian Church, 15450 Lee Highway, Centreville. Callbacks will be held May 21. To audition, actors must pre-register at [www.thealliance theatre.org](http://www.thealliance theatre.org). Performances will be held July 27 to Aug. 5 at Chantilly High School. Contact Maggie Swan at [swanflor@yahoo.com](mailto:swanflor@yahoo.com)

## FRIDAY/MAY 18

**Ultimate NOVA Business Expo.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This expo is designed to bring together sponsors, exhibitors, business owners and professionals. At nZone Community Center, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. Visit [www.ultbizepo.com](http://www.ultbizepo.com) or call 703-359-5642.

**Swing Dancing.** 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the band, Rockin' Bones. 8:30-9 p.m. drop-in beginner swing lesson; 9 p.m.-12 midnight dance. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

# RETIREMENT SALE! EVERYTHING GOES! STORE CLOSING!

## Fixtures For Sale

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# Celebrate Mother's Day

at the **BACKYARD GRILL**

**Brunch Buffet**  
**Sunday May 13th**  
**10 AM to 3 PM**

## Special Mother's Day Menu

### Carving Station

Prime Roast Beef Au jus  
Virginia Baked Ham  
(Pineapple Glazed)

### and Featuring

Steamed Spiced Shrimp  
Backyard Seafood Newburg  
Chicken Piccata

### Side Dishes

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Rice Pilaf

### Traditional Breakfast

Scrambled Eggs  
Bacon, Sausage & Ham  
Breakfast Potatoes  
Fresh Fruit Salad

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**ADULTS \$ 17.99**

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## News



**BRING HER SMILE TO LIGHT—  
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Set here, in the heart of Old Colonial Virginia Charm and accented by silver chandeliers and classical art, this elegant brunch affair includes a culinary selection of fresh seafood and meats, gourmet salads, pastries, and a splendid selection of savory delicacies—all while enjoying live entertainment.

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**Cheryl Repetti, assistant naturalist and historian at E.C. Lawrence Park, demonstrates butter churning for visitors. “In both 1850 and 1860, they made 500 pounds of butter here in the dairy,” she said. “They used the nearby spring as a natural refrigeration system to separate the cream from the milk. Then they made butter and ice cream from the cream.”**

## Celebrating Three Decades

FROM PAGE 5

the future in this community and his recent and past support of park bonds. The Board of Supervisors was kind enough to increase our [upcoming] park bond from \$50 million to \$75 million last week, and we could not have secured passage of that initiative without Michael's support.”

Taking the podium, Frey said, “This park offers the community so much — there are fields and programs, trails and quiet places to sit and reflect. Some visitors love to explore the history all around us; others want to spend time learning about the wildlife and the natural surroundings. I'm so pleased to be a part of today's celebration, and I consider all of us to be richer for the experiences we enjoy here at Walney.”

## Lawrence Park To Gain Pilot Project

FROM PAGE 4

“We'll learn how much it costs because we only have limited staff and financial resources,” said Smith. “So the partners will provide expertise and additional manpower, and we'll become an outdoor classroom for them.” With the current funding, he said, those involved envision this endeavor as being a three-year project. “We want to help the forest help itself and restore its healthy, natural, native ecosystems, including the plants, animals and soils,” said Smith. “As you lose the native plants and animals, you lose all the old seed beds, root systems and genetic biodiversity within the soil and the ecosystem,” he said. “So this work will protect the things people can see and not see.”



**Austin Nuckols, 3 and a half, of Centreville's Cabell's Mills community, gently strokes one of the baby goats visiting from Frying Pan Farm Park.**



**Christina Perea of The Preserve at Wynmar community in Chantilly looks on as her daughter Alina, 2, pets a bunny.**



**Nathanael Adamson, 4, whose dad works seasonally at the park, pets one of the goats tended to by volunteer Hannah Duffy.**

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

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# Rocky Run Students' Groundbreaking Research

FROM PAGE 8

said Akshay, "Since there's been an increasing trend in using fabric bags in grocery stores, we based our project on that."

So they searched for a way to prevent the possible transference of e coli in lettuce to those bags. "We wanted to use the Portuguese study in our research, so we decided to spray the interior of a reusable grocery bag with coriander oil," said Shomik. "It would diffuse into the grocery bag and destroy any e coli bacteria on it from produce."

"Initially, we were focusing on lettuce," said Akshay. "But we found this could apply to many types of produce." "We wanted the coriander to release slowly so it could diffuse in the bag for a few days," said Abha. "So we contacted Dr. Munmaya Mishra, a polymer scientist in Richmond. He helped us with our research last year. We asked him if we could use polymers to slowly release the oil, and he said we could use alginate — derived from seaweed — or pectin."

Both are FDA-approved, natural and water-soluble. "So he suggested using calcium chloride and cross-linking it with the polymers to form an invisible mesh," said Abha. "That would allow the coriander oil to release slowly. So we made an emulsion with the coriander oil and pectin."

Both pectin and alginate would work, said Nitya, but pectin's easier to find in stores because it's used in jams.

"We also made a liquid solution with calcium chloride and distilled water, and we put the emulsion and the liquid into two different spray cans," said Abha. "So the consumer just has to spray the inside of the grocery bag, first with the emulsion and then with the liquid, to prevent contamination."

The Robowiz team has also applied for a patent on its creations and, said Abha, "An expert from Johns Hopkins said they could create these products in their lab."

Regarding the teamwork component, the judges at States gave the students a chal-

lenge requiring teamwork to complete. "We had to build a ramp out of Legos, roll a ball down it and knock off pins," said Akshay. "It was to see if we got angry with each other or talked things over, accepted ideas and tried to work out solutions together. They also wanted to see how we worked under pressure."

"We're also judged on how we deal with each other and with other teams while waiting to be judged at the competition," said Shomik. Added Nitya: "They judge if you have 'gracious professionalism,' respecting other teams and helping them." Akshay said good sportsmanship is important, as well.

They were all excited about going to the world competition because it was in Florida, the awards ceremony was held at Legoland and they'd see other students' projects and robots. Most of all, said Abha, they looked forward to "having a wonderful experience and meeting kids just like us from other countries."

They also thanked their coaches, Abha's

and Nitya's mom, Roli Agrawal; and Akshay's dad, Balaji Subramaniam; for their guidance. And although they didn't win Worlds, said Akshay, "It's not about the glory, it's about helping people." Agreeing, Nitya said, "Our motto is 'Technology for Humanity,' and our project will keep people from getting e coli."

## AT THE LIBRARY

### THURSDAY/MAY 10

**Storytime for Three to Fives.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with caregiver. 703-502-3883.

### SATURDAY/MAY 12

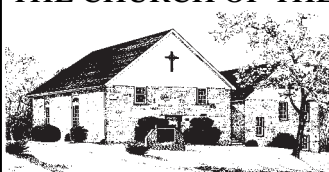
**Master Gardeners.** 10 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. Adults. 703-502-3883.

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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)







PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

**Chantilly High girls' lacrosse player Bridget Cleary looks to make a move with the ball during the Chargers' Concorde District quarterfinals play-off game at Robinson last Friday evening.**



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

**Chantilly High senior goalie Elizabeth Graviano made several fine saves for the Chargers, who saw their season end with the loss to the Rams.**

## Chantilly Pushes Rams to the Limit in Playoff Loss

Chargers, in Concorde quarterfinals, can't quite overcome eight-goal deficit in 2nd half.

BY RICH SANDERS  
CENTRE VIEW

Both teams showcased their scoring prowess last Friday evening, May 4 when Robinson and Chantilly met in a first round Concorde District girls' lacrosse playoff contest at Robinson Secondary.

With a Northern Region playoff seeding on the line and a chance to advance to the district semifinals, both teams played with passion and determination. For the winner, it would be the first game of what could be an extended postseason. For the losing team, it would mark the end of the season.

In the end, Robinson, the six-team district tournament's No. 4 seed, held off a ferocious late game Chantilly rally and defeated the Chargers, 19-16.

Robinson, with the win, advanced to a district semifinals meeting versus top seed Centreville earlier this week on Tuesday, May 8. There, the Rams lost to the powerful Wildcats. Robinson will next set its focus on next week's 16-team regional tournament. Centreville, meanwhile, will play in the district finals 5:30 this Friday evening, May 11 at Chantilly High School.

"Friday's win over Chantilly was a nice victory and well played game," said Robinson coach Liz Case. "The ability to play well together showed against Chantilly."

In the quarterfinals game, the action was fast-paced from start to finish as both Robinson and Chantilly continually moved the ball up and down the field. Over and over again, it seemed, both the Rams and Chargers were making strong moves to their opponents' net and getting off good scoring chances.

Both starting goalies, senior Elizabeth

Graviano for Chantilly and junior Lauren Rauch for Robinson, made several nifty saves in the net throughout the game's 50 minutes. But the sustained pressure offensively by both teams was constant and there was only so much either net-minder could do to stop the scoring flow.

Robinson received an outstanding balanced attack as three players — senior attack Shannon Picard, sophomore midfielder/attack Maggie Hyland, and senior middle/attack Katie McHugh — each scored five goals. Senior midfielder Campbell Collier added three and junior midfielder Megan Barlow scored as well.

For Chantilly, sophomore attack wing Bridget Cleary and senior center Kylie Chaplin both notched four scores. Also for the Chargers, freshman Megan Birnie scored three times; senior attack Shannon Strittmatter and sophomore attack Brooke Fitzgerald both found the net twice; and junior Christina Gonzalez scored once.

**CHANTILLY'S** Gonzalez sent a sizzling ball high into the right side of the net from close range to open the game's scoring less than two minutes into the start of play. Robinson's Hyland, off a pass from junior Catina Boster, countered with a close range chance just over a minute later to tie the score.

The two teams would continue to trade goals over the first 16 minutes of the first half. McHugh, a team tri-captain for the Rams, broke a 6-6 tie with a 10-yard score from straight range with 8 minutes, 46 seconds remaining in the half.

As it turned out, Robinson would never lose the lead. Collier, another tri-captain for Robinson, scored less than 30 seconds af-

ter McHugh's tally off a picturesque, 14-yard sidearm shot from the right wing area while moving left to right across the goal to give the Rams an 8-6 advantage.

Chantilly's Cleary scored just over a minute later to get the Chargers within 8-7. Over the final seven-plus minutes of the half, however, the Rams would score four times to Chantilly's none. The Robinson goals during that stretch came from Picard on a driving, 12-yard bounce shot in traffic from the right wing; Collier, with 90 seconds remaining; Barlow, on a catch and shoot from eight yards out, off an assist from behind the net by Hyland at the 30 second mark; and Hyland from close range while moving across the goal area with seven seconds showing.

The Rams, over the first half's final nine minutes, outscored the Chargers six to one and carried a 12-7 advantage into the half.

Robinson's lead ultimately reached eight — at 16-8 — following a score from McHugh nearly six minutes into the second half.

Chantilly answered with four straight scores, two of those coming from freshman Birnie, to get within 16-12. The Rams then scored three straight to make it 19-12 with less than 10 seconds remaining.

Again, the Chargers showed no quit in their game as they responded with the final four scores of the night, the last one coming with 3:32 remaining on a catch and shoot close range shot by Birnie to make it 19-16. All in all, a hard-fought game.

### SPORTS NOTES

**The Sequoia Farms Swim Team** will hold its summer swim team registration on two weekends: Saturday, May

12, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Sunday, May 20, from 1-4 p.m. Both registrations will be held at the pool, located at the intersection of Braddock Road and Sequoia Farms Drive. Opportunities for memberships to the pool will also be offered and will qualify families to apply for membership of the swim team. The Sequoia Farms Swim Team provides daily summer activity (June and July) for children ages 5-to-18 and encourages a healthy sense of competition and team spirit. Drop by Sequoia Farms to learn more about the program.

Registration is open for the **5th Annual Erin Peterson Fund Golf Tournament** set to take place Thursday, June 14 at Westfields Golf Club, located at 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. Along with having a fun golf outing, participants will also be helping a worthy cause. Past donations and participation in the benefit event have resulted in the giving away of \$85,000 in scholarships and grants.

For information and a registration packet go to: [www.erinpetersonfund.org](http://www.erinpetersonfund.org). Click on the Golf Info icon at the top or click on the Golfer on the right. For questions please e-mail [erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com](mailto:erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com).

The **Westfield High School Athletic Booster Club (WABC)** is accepting nominations for the executive board for the 2012-2013 school year. The following positions are up for nomination: President, vice president, recording secretary, correspondence secretary, and treasurer. To nominate someone for a position on the board, or for additional information, contact one of the following members of the nominating committee: Robin Angle at [anglehome@att.net](mailto:anglehome@att.net); Karen Duncan at [Wkduncan@aol.com](mailto:Wkduncan@aol.com) or 703-222-4382; or Frank Giancola at [fjgpcnv@aol.com](mailto:fjgpcnv@aol.com) or 703-830-4921. Volunteers are always welcome and other committee opportunities are available. The elections will be held at the Monday night, June 4 meeting at 7 in the school library. The mission of the WABC is to support all athletic programs at Westfield.



## SCHOOLS



Chantilly Academy's Early Childhood Career students earned two silver and a bronze medal at the Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) State Competition held in Virginia Beach from April 27-29. Above: Alison Litvin and Ryce Sauer, 3rd place, Chapter Service Project Display; Kathryn Allsopp, 2nd place, Focus on Children project, and Marie Meador, Alyssa Rozines and Rebecca Townsend, 2nd place, Illustrated Talk.

### SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 2

been named to the dean's list for the fall of 2011 semester at Olivet Nazarene University.

**Miranda Smith**, a resident of Oak Hill, has been named to the Fall 2011 Dean's List at Roger Williams University.

**Alex James Perry of Oak Hill** has been named to the Deans' List/Honor Roll at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the fall

semester of 2011. Perry is a sophomore biological sciences major in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The University of Kentucky has named **Victoria Monroe of Chantilly**, BS in Animal Sciences, and Audrey Boslego of Oak Hill, BS in Equine Science and Management, to the dean's list for the fall 2011 semester.

**Justin Choi**, a senior undeclared major from Oak Hill, and

Brigid Hasson, a sophomore politics major from Fairfax, have been named to the University of Dallas Honor Roll for the fall 2011 semester.

**Whitney Blankenship**, a sophomore PreK-4 Elementary Education major has been named to the Dean's List at Grove City College. Whitney is a 2010 graduate of Trinity Christian School and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Blankenship from Chantilly.



### First Place

The SYA Extreme Silver cheer competition team wrapped up a winning season on Saturday, May 4 by placing first in the senior, level 2 division, at the U.S. Finals Cheer Competition held in Virginia Beach. The team is coached by Jelaire Grillo

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John graduated from Wake Field High School and attended Ferum College where he played football and tutored Spanish and was a College Track Star. After college he served in the Coast Guard for eight years and then 35 years in the Postal Service where he received the one million mile of Safe Driving Award. He retired from Mosby Post Office in 1994. He loved singing, playing and watching sports and loved to read, read, read and read the newspaper and Bible. He hated in justice but loved all American Soldiers.

He left behind his loving wife Jan Allison who he was married to for 50 years; three children John Douglas Allison, John Paul Allison and Jodi Lynne Allison-Wilson and Rick Young who was like a son to him; 12 grandchildren, (Brandi, Brianne, Drew, Trey, Samantha, Miranda, Quad, Sarah, Paulie, Noah, Nia and Hanson) and his dog Onyx.. Condolences may be sent to [www.pierceth.com](http://www.pierceth.com).

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## "I'm Fine"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Mostly. All things considered, and as a stage IV (terminal) lung cancer patient, it's impossible – for me, to not consider all things.

What I'm considering in this column is how – and why – I typically respond to well-meaning inquiries regarding my health. Generally speaking, I'm not going to give any in-depth answers to most people who ask. I am happy to provide a relatively curt, but courteous answer. I'm not inclined (nor do I feel the need) to give any unsuspecting – or even a suspecting and sincere questioner, both barrels: diagnosis, prognosis, appointments, scan results, treatment protocol, etc. It's "T.M.I." It's not that I'm uncomfortable or even unwilling – or unable to respond in this kind of detail, it's more that I'm unenthusiastic. I'd really rather, unless compelled by a particularly persistent person, to not bother/bore anybody with chapter and verse about how I got to where I am. It's not exactly that I don't feel it's anybody's business (obviously I do, given the content of my weekly column), it's more that I'm selfish, sort of. My delusion is, the less I talk about having cancer, the less serious my circumstances are. It's a reworked version of George Costanza's advice to Jerry Seinfeld on how to beat a lie-detector test: "It's not a lie, if you believe it." If I don't blather on about it (having cancer), it's not that serious. Alternatively, the more I talk about it, the more believable it becomes and the more inevitable are the consequences. If I don't give it life (by talking about it), perhaps it dies and I don't.

Don't get me wrong, I will talk about having cancer (I certainly write about it enough), but it doesn't really bring me the kind of joy that most opportunities to talk about oneself generally do. Oh sure, I have a pretty good story to tell; having outlived my original prognosis by years, but perhaps the less said, the better. Sometimes I feel as if I'm flying under the radar and the fact that I was diagnosed with incurable, stage IV lung cancer in February, 2009 has slipped through the cracks somehow and been forgotten. To that end, as much as possible – in public, I try not to dwell on having cancer. I have it. Next. If I don't publicize it, maybe I don't hasten its apparently delayed effect.

There's so much that goes on, psychologically – in my head, when it comes to having cancer. Accepting it is one thing – which I've done, but being victimized by it is quite another and something I will not allow. Of course I have some physical issues that prevent me living a "normal" life, but I view them more as opportunities to make the best of a bad situation rather than making the worst of it. Where's the future in that? There isn't, at least in my strategic plan. And though I joke about pretending and being in denial about having cancer; the truth is, I'm quite comfortable with my circumstances – and my attitude. I really am "fine" with all of it.

Sometimes, most times in fact, I'd simply rather not talk about it. I'd rather talk about something else, anything else. It's actually therapeutic to do so. Thanks for asking though, but not for the reason you might think. Oddly enough, though it's a question I realize will be asked, as often as not, it provides me an opportunity to give an answer that you might not expect: it's not always about me, and it shouldn't be, in spite of my circumstances. Life goes on – for all of us, and that's what interests me.

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





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