

JUNE 21-27, 2012

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CENTRE VIEW

## Celebrating Chantilly's Graduates

Chantilly High School principal Teresa Johnson recognizes the honor students in the class of 2012 during ceremonies June 18 at the Patriot Center. Seated behind the principal are class officers: Diana Ho, Michael Jacob, Taylor Poe, Mary Zillberfarb and honor graduate speaker Rachel Carle. More photos, page 4.

## Overcoming Obstacles

Mountain View  
grads share  
their stories.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

The highlights of any Mountain View High graduation are the speeches by the student speakers. They're heartfelt, riveting and intensely honest, and the ones given last Friday, June 15, were no exception.

First at the podium was slender, dark-haired Sarah Khaliq who, since age 6, struggled with her weight. As a result, she was bullied and made fun of in middle school and at her former high school.

"Name calling and jokes were an everyday event at school," she said. "I got prank phone calls and phony invitations to parties, and someone even made a false Facebook page about me. I had a broken heart and, sometimes, I wished I was dead."



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

**Daniela Pimentel Carpio smiles from the stage as Mountain View Alternative High School ESOL teacher Michelle Ohanian describes the qualities that led the school's faculty to nominate her for the Citizenship Award.**

Khaliq said all these things made her feel worthless, although she knew she wasn't. "I tried dieting, hypnosis and a personal trainer,

SEE OVERCOMING, PAGE 3

## Westfield ESOL Student Thrives

Juan Castro  
receives board's  
Character  
Award.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

When Juan Castro came to the U.S. from El Salvador, six years ago, he only spoke a few words of English and was a stranger in a strange place. But he adapted well, learned quickly and worked hard at school and in his community.

It all paid off. Last Thursday, June 7, the Westfield High senior received the 2012 Character Award from the Fairfax County School Board. He was honored for demonstrating "high moral values, strong integrity and good character" and for being a role model for his peers.

"He's one of the most dynamic, nicest kids ever," said Dan Harris, Castro's counselor at Westfield.



Juan Castro with his 2012 Character Award.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSE SANDOVAL

"Juan's the kind of kid you hope your son grows up like. He's mature, humble, intelligent, honest and charismatic, and he has a great future in front of him."

Harris nominated Castro, 20, as Westfield's candidate for this award. And ESOL teachers Merrily Friedlander and Patty Skiffington wrote letters about him to the School Board when it was weighing him against the contenders from all the other FCPS high schools.

Because he had to take so many ESOL classes, this is Castro's fifth year at Westfield. But this year, he only needed to take English 11 and 12, plus government. He's also

aided other ESOL students there.

"Juan's helpful with them when they come here with no English," said Harris. "He interprets for them, shows them around the school and helps them with their English in their [beginning] ESOL classes."

To compete for the character award, Castro had to write about five activities he does daily that mean the most to him. He wrote about church, clubs,

SEE WESTFIELD ESOL, PAGE 5

## Principal Jagels: Words of Advice

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

At the start of Mountain View High's graduation ceremony, last Friday, June 15, Assistant Principal Gary Morris told the seniors, "Do not follow where the path may lead. Instead, go where there is no path

and leave a trail."

At the ceremony's end, 83 students held their diplomas, turned the tassels on their caps and celebrated with family and friends. Soon, they'd make their way in the world as high-school graduates. But first, Principal Dave Jagels reviewed the hurdles they'd already

SEE PRINCIPAL JAGELS, PAGE 7

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## News



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LYNETTE CONSTANTINIDES

Peer Helpers students hold up signs of encouragement to fellow, Chantilly High classmates.

## Taking a Stand against Bullies

**Chantilly High peer helpers lead the way.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

**T**rying to stem the tide of bullying at Chantilly High, some 80 students in the school's three Peer Helpers classes held a week-long event to raise awareness and change attitudes.

"We decided to focus on anti-bullying because bullying is becoming so much more prevalent in our school," said teacher Shannon Khatcheressian. "It directly affects the students in one way or another."

She's the main, peer-helping mediation instructor, team teaching with Sarah Pramstaller and E.J. Stabler. And the students do activities throughout the year, including reading to elementary-school children and helping those with disabilities.

They all participated in Anti-Bullying Week, including junior Lauren Vicinski. "With all the stuff people say on the Internet, Facebook and Twitter, bullying is totally different now," she said. "It used to be just face-to-face, but now it's always there for you. So we wanted to get the word out to people about the different types of bullying and that they're not alone and are appreciated."

The students blew up balloons, wrote compliments on them, such as, "You're smart" and "You're beautiful," and hung them on staircases and in hallways to make their classmates feel good about themselves. They also gave construction-paper hands to students at lunch and had them write positive things about themselves on the hands. The hands were then taped to the cafeteria walls.

"We recently had a suicide at our school," said Vicinski. "And kids were also stressed out about finals, SOLs and AP tests, so we wanted to tell them there are people out there who care."

Sophomore Allison Gartrell said it's important to bring attention to the problem of bullying "so people

will know it's wrong and won't just ignore it. If people see it happening, they should either approach the bully or the victim or tell somebody about it."

During the event, she said, "Bullies got to talk about their problems because some people don't realize they're being bullies until someone points it out to

SEE TALKING A STAND, PAGE 11



Chantilly seniors Kelsey Velandria & Lauren Mashinski hang up paper hands featuring positive messages.



# Overcoming Obstacles To Achieve Success

FROM PAGE 1

but nothing worked," she said. "I still weighed over 400 pounds."

So in October 2008, she had gastric-bypass surgery – followed by severe complications. She couldn't attend school for four months and fell behind in her schoolwork. "The anger I had from being obese was still in me, and I needed to turn it into motivation and drive," she said. "I wanted to graduate on time, so I came to Mountain View."

Khaliq had her family's support and, at Mountain View, she found a whole community that believed in her, as well. "The entire faculty showed me I could do it," she said. Then in 2010, she joined the Fairfax County Police Department's Explorer Program to train for "what I want to do as a career — help and defend people in need. I know I can make a difference." She received a 2011-12 FCPS Leadership and Peace Award.

"Every one of us at Mountain View has obstacles," said Khaliq. "We either work long hours, have children to care for or struggle with the language. But many have made honor roll, passed the SOLs, participated in school activities and achieved academic success. Our teachers cared about us and we made friends who did not judge us."

The school's motto is "Family, love and respect." And Khaliq said the respect comes from "all of us knowing we could face obstacles and work to achieve something positive in our lives. As we go through life, we'll face other challenges; but if we respect ourselves and others, we'll be able to overcome them because of our experience at Mountain View."

The next speaker, Maria Hernandez, is originally from El Salvador, where she grew up on a farm. "For most people, fighting is considered negative, but I had to fight for success," she said. "And as a child, I just had to fight — I had 11 brothers and sis-



**All smiles after Mountain View's graduation are (from left) Nancy Abbott and daughter Stephanie with Zack Hansen and his mother Amy. All Chantilly residents, the Abbotts live in Brookfield and the Hansens live in Hunters Run. Friends Stephanie and Zack attended Rocky Run Middle School together.**

ters."

At age 10, she'd rise early to cook breakfast for her siblings so they could work in the fields with her father. Then, she said, "I'd do laundry, catch a chicken and wring its neck so we could have lunch." But she wanted more out of life. When she was 16, one of her sisters had already moved to the U.S., and Hernandez wanted to go, too.

"My mother didn't want me to leave," she said. "But she supported my dream and, finally, she said she believed in me. So I moved to Virginia to live with my sister and her husband." But Hernandez spoke no English and worked 10 hours a day cleaning huge homes with movie theaters and swimming pools.

"I told myself I'd have a house like that someday if I worked hard and got a good education," she said. "So when I was 18, I moved to Herndon to attend Mountain View." Hernandez worked in a restaurant in Reston and, today, has risen to an administrative position there.

"It was a challenge to go to school and work at the same time," she said. "But I read my books and studied and made All-A Honor Roll; I received two awards and was happy and proud of myself."

Hernandez had been afraid to speak in front of large groups of people, but Principal Dave Jagels and Assistant Principal Gary Morris encouraged her. "They believed in me and told me I could do it," she said. "And



**Sarah Michelle Khaliq, graduating senior from Mountain View Alternative High School, describes some of the obstacles she overcame to earn her diploma during the school's commencement ceremony on June 15, held in the Oakton High School auditorium.**

whenever a teacher or student needed my help, I said yes."

"I was able to use my knowledge and work ethic to achieve my goal — a high-school education — and I'm the first of all my siblings to get one," she continued. "If I was still in El Salvador, I'd be milking cows and fighting to stay safe from the gangs. Instead, I'm graduating from high school and have transformed from a shy, simple girl to a professional woman with a bright future."

After the two speeches, five students received special awards from the Mountain View faculty and staff. Honored with Personal Achievement Awards were Julio Ceto, David Hernandez (no relation to Maria) and Gelber Contreras. Daniella Carpio received the Citizenship Award.

Then counselor Ellen Fay presented the Faculty Award to Maria Hernandez. In little

SEE GRADUATES SHARE, PAGE 7



**Gelber Contreras Garcia, Julio Ceto Velasco and David Hernandez (in no particular order) are presented with Personal Achievement Awards by Mountain View Alternative High School English teacher Mary Gray.**



**Mountain View Alternative High School Assistant Principal gives Faculty Excellence Award recipient, Maria Hernandez, a tissue and a grin as Hernandez's tears up during the speech that lists her accomplishments at the high school's June 15 commencement held at Oakton High School.**



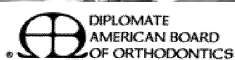
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## GRADUATION '12



Diplomas are presented to the Chantilly High School Class of 2012 at the Patriot Center on June 18.

# Chantilly High Seniors Say Goodbye

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CENTRE VIEW

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Senior Board Member Diana Ho receives  
her diploma and is congratulated by  
Principal Teresa Johnson.



William Donald Norden is awarded the  
2012 Chantilly High School faculty award.



Class officer Michael Jacob  
is honored with the 2012  
Charger Award.



Stephen James Aanston  
leaves the stage after being  
awarded his diploma.



Rachel Carle, honor gradu-  
ate speaker, takes a snap-  
shot of her class before  
beginning her speech.



## SCHOOLS

# Westfield ESOL Student Thrives and Succeeds

FROM PAGE 1

school, family and community.

His church is Asambleas de Dios Vida in Manassas. He started attending there five years ago and works with the youth group and plays drums with the band during Saturday and Sunday services. He also goes to Tuesday Bible study.

At school, Castro works with the Edge Club, a Christian club that meets Mondays after school. The 20-25 student members sing, play games and have Bible study and guest speakers. "I founded it two years ago so students could develop a connection with Jesus," he said. "They go to their own churches and, if they have problems, we all talk about them and give them help and support."

And when Principal Tim Thomas implemented a program whereby Hispanic seniors helped underachieving Hispanic freshmen, Castro was a mentor. "I told them I also struggled, my freshman year, but now I'm doing well," he said. "It made me feel good to be able to help them, and now they're doing better and want to be mentors, too." He also mentored ESOL students in Friedlander's class in his free time.

"When I first came from El Salvador to California, where my father lives, someone helped me, so I wanted to help others," said Castro. "I tell them not to give up because, even if you fail, at least you've tried. It makes you stronger and, next time, you might succeed." When learning English, he said, "The best thing for me was practicing and asking my English-speaking friends how to say things correctly."

Castro also tries to be a role model for his younger siblings. For example, he said, "I don't just tell them — I show them, 'Don't smoke or skip classes.'" He lives with his mother, stepfather, three brothers and one sister in Centreville's London Towne community. He's the oldest, and his brothers are

19, 14 and 11; his sister is 16.

"My two youngest brothers just came here two months ago from El Salvador," said Castro. "They were living with my grandmother for 10 years; and before they came, my mom was saving money to bring them here."

So to help her out, Castro sold his iPad and gave her the proceeds. "She was surprised and really happy and emotional; she started crying," he said. "Then my oldest brother did the same thing, and that helped, too."

He's a good neighbor, too. Every Thursday afternoon, he helps his 80-year-old neighbor carry in her groceries and do various chores. This year, he also revamped her garden; he cleaned it, mulched, planted flowers, grass and bushes and transformed it from overgrown to attractive.

As if all that weren't enough, Castro's a student at two schools. Besides attending classes at Westfield, he's taking Auto Tech I and is in his third year of carpentry at The Chantilly Academy. He's also learning electrical work and plumbing and would like to someday be a carpenter and own his own company.

School Board Chairman Janie Strauss called him personally to tell him he'd won the character award. "I was so happy and surprised," he said. "I'm thankful, but I believe God has control of everything. I have a close relationship with God and I believe I won because He's in my life."

Castro said there were many gangs in El Salvador when he lived there and he figured he'd join one. "My best friend did, and someone from another gang killed him," he said. "I was 13 then; my parents were in the U.S. and I was living with my grandmother. I went to school in the afternoon and worked in a supermarket in the morning."

One day, the gang members called his

**"Juan's the kind of kid you hope your son grows up like."**

— Dan Harris



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSE SANDOVAL

**The proud family (from left): stepfather Jose Rivera, brother Armando Castillo, Juan Castro, brother Javier Castillo and mother Carmen Rivera.**

house, demanding \$7,000. Since his parents were in America, explained Castro, they thought he could get the money from them. Instead, his parents brought him, his sister and oldest brother to the U.S. to remove them from the danger.

"Once I started going to church, I could

see there's a plan and a purpose to everything," he said. "That's because, if I'd stayed in El Salvador, I could be dead. And once I accepted Jesus in my heart, I began changing and good things started happening. I saw things differently, and now I can help other students."

## Turbok Wins TurnAround Life Award

At MountainView Alternative High School's senior luncheon on June 13, Casey Turbok won the \$1,000 TurnAround Life Award. "This financial award can give the student a jumpstart on the next leg of their life's journey," said Lauren Kirby, TurnAround, LLC, president. "It's intended to recognize their graduation achievement and help the student enroll in further education, pay on a debt, or get into a car or apartment. With Casey's award, TurnAround Life has awarded \$10,000 to MountainView seniors." Casey plans to use the funds to enroll at Northern Virginia Community College for the fall semester. To learn more about TurnAround Life, visit [www.turnaroundllc.com](http://www.turnaroundllc.com) and click on TurnAround Life



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# OPINION

## Summer Projects

Reader input needed for community guides, Pet Centre View.

**T**he summer is in full swing at the Centre View, with many interns and staff members focused on some light and some more serious summer projects.

At the end of July, we'll print our summer "Pet Centre View," and we invite readers to send in stories and photos of your pets, and any story ideas you might have. We love to have photos of you or other family members with your pets. Please include your name, pet's name, town name and contact phone number, and identify the people in any photos.

Email [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com).

Through July we will be working on our annual Insider's Edition: Newcomers and Community Guide, which will publish Aug. 22. We need input from our readers on many aspects of this guide.

### EDITORIAL

Through narrative, tips from readers, listings, viewpoints and photographs, we endeavor to capture what it means to live here. We'll compile highlights of places to visit and things to do, a snapshot of local history, help finding community resources and tips on lesser known wonders in our communities.

As a local, weekly newspaper, the Centre View's mission is to bring the news you need about your community, to give you the information you need to enjoy the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in community and people's lives.

We invite newcomers to the area and long-time residents alike to be a part of providing more reader input.

We appreciate readers' ideas. If you see something that you think might be a story, or something you have a question about, give us a call, or drop us a line. If you know of a person or an organization doing important work, something that might make a good feature story, let us know.

For our Insider's Guide, we are looking for your tips. What is one place you think is a "must see" for newcomers? What's your suggestion for ways to get involved in the community?

What are you most concerned about in your community? What do you think the top news stories will be in the coming months?

We also need input from community organizations to update listings and upcoming events. Send information by Aug. 1 to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com).



The students at Centre Ridge Elementary School School Age Child Care build a juice box boat for the 23rd Cardboard Boat Regatta at Lake Accotink Park on June 3.

## Ship Shape?

**F**ifty boats competed in the 23rd Cardboard Boat Regatta at Lake Accotink Park on June 3 as part of the Springfield Days Celebration. All shapes and sizes, the boats had to be made entirely of cardboard, only glued or taped at the seams. The judging panel included Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay and Braddock District Supervisor John Cook. Awards were given for: Pride of the Regatta, Best Costume, Team Spirit, Most Likely To Float and the Titanic.

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW



Team Lees Corner Elementary School SACC (School Age Child Care) prepares to launch their "California Rollin'" cardboard boat. They spent two months building the boat — and practicing their paddling techniques on the couch in the SACC room-in preparation for the event.

## CENTREVIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

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## GRADUATION '12

# Graduates Share Their Stories

FROM PAGE 3

more than five years, said Fay, Hernandez "completely mastered" a new language and a new culture, while working almost full time, volunteering in her church and maintaining a nearly straight-A average.

"These achievements would be admirable, in and of themselves," said Fay. "But they're truly remarkable when one realizes the many obstacles she's overcome — including, at times, being homeless and finding transportation to and from work and school, since she doesn't have a car."

Now Hernandez hopes to become a doctor and, said Fay, "She tells me she wants to work in the inner city 'where so many children and adults go without medical care.' She applied for and won almost \$18,000 in college scholarships, and our faculty unanimously selected her to be the 2012 Faculty Award winner."

Then, as several audience members wiped tears from their eyes, they all rose and gave Hernandez a standing ovation. Said Fay: "Maria, we are all so proud of you."



**Diego Gonzalez Cedillo reaches out to shake Mountain View Alternative High School Principal Dave Jagels' hand and receive his diploma.**



**Maria Hernandez tears up as Mountain View Alternative High School guidance counselor Ellen Fay describes why the faculty chose Hernandez to receive the Faculty Excellence award.**

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

## Principal Jagels: Words of Advice

FROM PAGE 1

overcome to reach that point.

Noting Wounded Warrior Justine Constantine, who addressed Mountain View government classes this spring, Jagels said that — despite being severely injured in the Iraq war — Constantine overcame his challenges to help others. He did so, said Jagels, because of his grit, or indomitable spirit.

Similarly, said the principal, "Mountain View is a place where students with grit find success and overcome obstacles so overwhelming, one would think success would never be possible. Some [students here] today came to this country a few short years ago with little schooling, without parents and with little English."

Others, he said, juggled parenthood with school-work. Others overcame addiction, homelessness and

other obstacles. Yet because of their grit and that of the faculty, they're graduating. "I see grit in a staff willing to pick up students at home to make sure they have a ride to school," said Jagels. "I see staff providing food so students can eat, visiting homes to make sure everything's OK, driving students to college placement tests and mentoring them 'just because it's the right thing to do.'"

Passion for the mission and dedication to achieve it make Mountain View what it is, said Jagels. "Students, take your determination and grit and go do amazing things with your life," he said. "Let our motto of Family, Love and Respect be character traits you carry with you."

Class of 2012, we're proud of you and your grit and of what you've accomplished and overcome to be here today."



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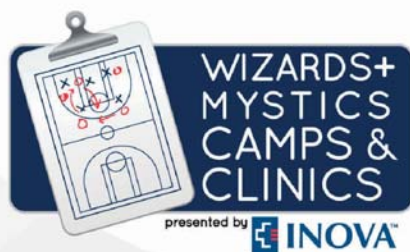
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# Planning Warm Weather Activities

## Making the most of summer.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
CENTRE VIEW

**I**'m bored, there's nothing to do," is a phrase often uttered by children during the summer. The end of the school year leaves many parents scrambling for activities to keep their young ones active and stimulated. Experts say it is important to plan activities to keep children safe and out of trouble.

"Adult supervision is important, especially for the younger age groups. Make sure there is a good balance between fun and learning in the activities chosen," said Chantilly resident Maria Londono, a mental health therapist for Fairfax County Community Health Care Network and Molina Health Care in Falls Church, Alexandria and Reston. "Children should also

have some down time, so don't kill yourself trying to fill every minute of the day with activities."

**WHEN IT COMES TO CAMPS,** think outside the box. While traditional day camps often fill as soon as registration opens, specialty camps such as cooking camps, yoga camps, sports camps and art camps frequently offer more availability.

"With specialty camps you can have a clear idea of what your child will be doing and your child will know what to expect," said Linda Feldman, director of Budding Yogis camp. "Like traditional camps, specialty camps usually include crafts and outdoor activities."

"Specialty camps provide an opportunity for campers to explore particular areas of interest and foster discovery, adventure and learning," said Jim Supple, director of summer programs at St.

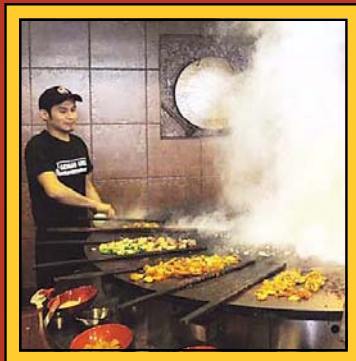
SEE SUMMER, PAGE 9

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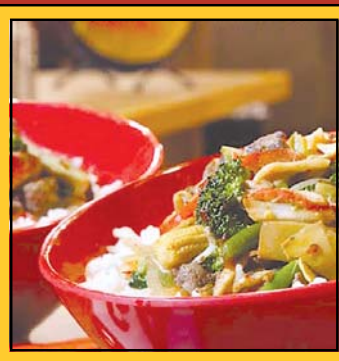
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Middle school science teacher Robert Davis teaches campers during a "Physics is Fun" camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School's SummerTimes program. "Specialty camps provide an opportunity for campers to explore particular areas of interest and foster discovery, adventure and learning," said Jim Supple, director of summer programs.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL



## Making the Most of Summer

FROM PAGE 8

Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria.

George Mason University's Summer Camps and Youth Programs 2012 offers a variety of activities ranging from sports to academics.

"Each of [our] camps is run individually and all of the camps are listed on our website," said Angelique LeBlanc, an event coordinator at the school's office of University Information. "One of the most popular of our camps is the George Mason University Forensics Camp. Also popular are all of the camps that are held at the aquatics center, and our performing arts and music camps."

**KEEP LEARNING IN THE MIX.** The National Summer Learning Association reports that most students fall more than two months behind in math skills during the summer.

Susan Goldberg, principal of Potomac Elementary School in Potomac, says that educational tools are all around. "Make math a part of everyday experiences. There are interesting and fun websites, games and problem solving activities that can insure that your child continues their love of learning," she said.

Don't forget literature. Experts say that children should read every day. "If you take time to read alongside or to your children, they will make it a life-long habit, and they'll enrich their lives at the same time," said Goldberg.

Take advantage of summer programs at local libraries. "Check your local libraries for story times and arts-and-crafts-related activities. Most libraries and community recreational centers have programs full of stimulating and age-appropriate activities for children and their families during the summer," said Londono.

**LEAVE TIME FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES.** "Keep in mind that summer is a time for fun and a break from the routine," said Susan DeLaurentis, director of counseling at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School. "Whatever activities parents plan for their children, they should be enjoyable and stress-free. When it's too hot outside, or on a rainy day, pitch a tent in the living room and go 'camping' indoors. Have a bag ready, filled with new board games and books."

Summer fun doesn't have to be expensive. "There are always low cost or free activities for children during the summer," said Londono. "[Many] area museums are free of cost. [Planning] a picnic at a park and having children involved in the preparation of the picnic basket can be fun. A family bike ride, fishing, camping can be all fun family-oriented activities that don't necessarily involve a lot of spending. Including children in the preparation of meals can be a fun and helpful activity year-round because it gets them interested in food and keeps them involved in helping around the house."



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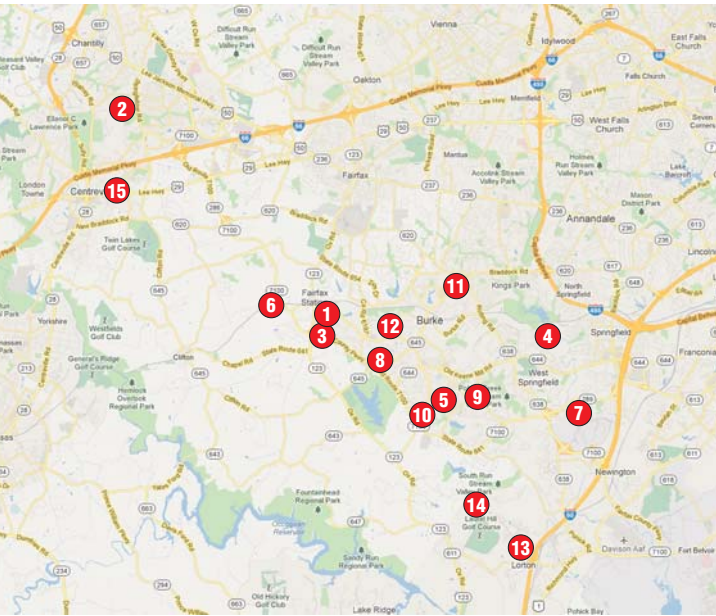
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# Taking a Stand against Bullies

FROM PAGE 2  
them. They said they did it because of their own situation or views of life."

Gartrell's favorite activity of the week was called Capt. Compliment. "People in our class dressed up as superheroes and gave other students candy if they saw them doing something nice for someone else," she said. "I felt good being able to give others recognition. This week also made me more aware, because I was oblivious to the bullying in the school before."

Sophomore Edom Demissie took the Peer Helpers class to hang out with different people than she usually does and because she likes helping people. She said she'd advise bullying victims to talk about it with someone they trust.

She especially liked it when she and her classmates all wore black one day "to stand up to bullies and remember those who've committed suicide and speak up for them and their families. As people arrived for school in the morning, we held up signs saying things like, 'Never give up' and 'Stand up for anti-bullying.'" Demissie said it's

important to respect people. "If you bully each other, it'll just lead to a cycle that keeps repeating," she said. "We wanted bullies to stop and to know their actions could have serious consequences – even someone's death."

Senior Raquel Flores said the Peer Helpers class is fun and a great way to get involved in the school. The most important thing she learned, she said, was not to judge people by the group to which they belong. "We have different cliques in school," said Flores. "But we should get to know the individuals within them as people." She called Anti-Bullying Week valuable because "Sometimes you have to do a group project to really affect people. Kids don't always take bullying seriously if it doesn't happen to them, so this was a way of getting their attention."

"It was really successful, and the kids came up with each day's theme on their own," said Khatcheressian. "There was a lot of creativity and dedication. I saw a really big impact when we did an anti-bullying luncheon between

14 students in Peer Mediation – the advanced Peer Helpers class – and about 50 faculty members."

The PTSA sponsored the luncheon and students and teachers chatted about bullying at Chantilly in an informal way. "It's so infrequent that they get to just talk to each other as humans. Amazing ideas were tossed around; it was truly a collaborative effort."

Khatcheressian said many teachers told her they gained insight from the students about "issues we're not privy to, as adults, such as the rise in cyber-bullying or even students bullied by teachers. So eye-opening discussions took place, and the teachers were wonderfully responsive and engaged. And the students thought it was the most successful event of the week."

So, she said, they hope to hold four similar luncheons next year on various topics and "let students and teachers work as a team to better the school." As for bullying, Khatcheressian said it'll be a continuing project of Chantilly's Peer Helpers "for as long as it's an issue."



COURTESY OF LYNETTE CONSTANTINIDES

**Peer Mediation students (from left) seniors Preston Rhodes, Lauren Mashinski, Mary Namugosa, Kasey Brown, Kelsey Velandria and Lia Dimaiuta show off the construction-paper hands.**

## AT THE LIBRARIES

### SATURDAY/JUNE 23

**Rocknocos Presents: Colonel Purple Turtle.** 2:30 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Join Coach Cotton, Williebob and Boogie Woogie for a rockin' good time. All ages. Sign up each child and adult separately. 703-830-2223.

### MONDAY/JUNE 25

**Sully Book Club.** 1 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. State of Wonder by Ann Patchett. Adults. 703-830-2223.

**ESL Book Club.** 7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Adults learning English meet to discuss a book chosen by the group. 703-830-2223.

### TUESDAY/JUNE 26

**Time for Tots.** 11 a.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Stories and activities. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-830-2223.

**Theatre Improv.** 7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Improv workshop with Letty Tomlinson and friends. Age 12-18. 703-830-2223.

### WEDNESDAY/JUNE 27

**A Novel Society.** 7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. In the Garden of the Beast by Erik Larson. Adults. 703-830-2223.

### SATURDAY/JUNE 30

**Practice Your English Conversation Group.** 3:30 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. ESL Conversation Group for adults learning English. 703-830-2223.

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# SCHOOLS



These students are representing the Best Orchestra nomination.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

## Westfield Thespians Receive Cappie Medallions

Westfield High received 20 Cappie nominations for its musical, "Crazy for You." On Wednesday, May 30, school Principal Tim Thomas and Director Susie Pike presented the Cappie medallions to the nominees.

Westfield's nominees for Critics Team; Graduating Critic, **Joey Biagini**; and Rising Critic, **Julian Sanchez**. (Not pictured, **Serena Emanuel**).



From left are **Bryan Pitt**, **Erica Schmidt**, **Allie Koenigsberg** and **Alex Mann**. Schmidt is one of Director **Susie Pike**'s Cappie Commendeeds; the others (not pictured) are **John McGuigan**, **Elizabeth Coo** and **Jordan Vollenweider**. Pitt, Koenigsberg and Mann are representing Westfield's Best Musical nomination.



Acting, dancing and choreography award nominees are (from left) **Mitchell Buckley**; **Madeleine Bloxam**; **Corinne Holland**, Featured Dancer; **Colby Dezelick**, Lead Actor in a Musical and Choreography; **Sarah Schweit**, and **Joey Biagini**.



Lights, Sound and Props nominees are (back row, from left) **Robert Palack**, **Ben Nelms**, **Elizabeth Ross** and **Dieter Stach** and (front row) **Nate Schrader** and **Sophia Alam**. (Not pictured, **Sarah Dickenson** and **Arianna Willis**).

**Follies and Cowboys**, Westfield's Cappie nominees for Ensemble in a Musical.



From left: Costumes nominees **Zoe Hawryluk** and **Bayleigh Aschenbrenner** with Sets nominees **Brandon Sanchez**, **Olivia Witt** and **Colby Dezelick**.



Stage Crew nominees (from left) **Shannon Douglass**, **Ally Engelbrecht** and **Olivia Witt**. (Not pictured, **Serena Emanuel**).





PHOTO BY SYDNEY SAWYER

The SYA Cardinals 99 White finished as champions of the under-12 boys bracket at the Capital Cup held in Richmond over the Memorial Day weekend. In the finals, the team recovered from a 2-0 deficit to defeat the Richmond Metro Sky, 6-3. Bottom row, from left: Nik Hoffman, Anthony Saab, Hayden Aspesi, Jacob Kaminsky, Jacob Waddelland Mason Joiner. Top row, from left: Pablo Najarro, assistant coach Mark Kaminsky, Jasper Peralta, Jimmy Gangi, Max Straub, Sean Herlihy, Sean Tilliard, Coach Kieran McCarthy and Aiden McCarthy.

**The Brookfield Breakers** are looking forward to an exciting swim season as they prepare to compete in NVSL Div. 10. More than 180 swimmers have joined the team, with many new families participating in swim team for the first time.

Mary Kate Kenna returns this season as head coach and is working with assistant coaches William Schulte and Mikayla Lynn. Stephanie Proctor has also been selected as coach to the Mini-Breakers program. Each of the coaches is a current Breakers or alumni. They are excited to continue many Breaker traditions on the team.

Sue Proctor and Paula Shervanick are the Breakers Team Representatives and they are working to make it an enjoyable season for all.

The Breakers will travel to Villa Aquatic for their first NVSL meet on June 23. On June 24, Brookfield will be hosting their annual Swim-A-Thon, with Breakers and their families swimming laps to raise funds in the fight against breast cancer.

Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax has announced that **Bob**



**Brookfield Breakers coaches, from left: William Schulte, Mikayla Lynn and Mary Kate Kenna.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURI HILBURGER

**Waters** is the new boys' lacrosse head coach. Waters has been coaching in Northern Virginia since 1990 and most recently served as the assistant varsity head coach at Chantilly High School where, over the

past six years, he helped lead the Chargers to four VHSL state finals appearances, a state championship in 2008, and an overall record of 86-14. Coach Waters played collegiately at the University of Delaware, where he was named All-Conference on three occasions and served as the team captain for the Blue Hens. Waters recently took early retirement from Northrop Grumman, where he was employed in a variety of management and leadership roles. He is also the Executive Director of the FuZe Lacrosse Club and has successfully helped numerous student-athletes with the college re-

cruiting process for over seven years.

"We are extremely excited about having Coach Waters lead our program to the next level," remarked Paul VI Athletic Director Billy Emerson. "We were looking for someone with a strong background in lacrosse, leadership and management. He has all three. Coach Waters' belief in multisport athletes, his knowledge of the game and his track record of success made him the perfect fit for our program."

**Zack Sikora**, a senior at Centreville High School, recently gained All-American recognition in high school boys' lacrosse. A Centreville High team captain, Sikora finished this past spring season with 44 goals and 50 assists in only 15 games and was also named to both the First Team All-Concorde District and First Team All-Northern Region squads. He also was named Offensive Player of the Year for the Concorde District.

Sikora played on the Centreville varsity team for four years. He was named the Wildcats' Offensive MVP for his sophomore, and earned Team MVP honors in both his junior and senior years. Sikora has committed to play lacrosse at Rutgers University this fall.

*Local Swim Team Representatives are encouraged to send weekly team reports and photos to Rich Sanders at richsand8@aol.com.*

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## Where To Begin?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



I realize this admission may sound weird, but having cancer is boring. Don't get me wrong, I'm lucky to be alive, and quite happy about it, too. But waiting for the other shoe to drop, i.e. some bad cancer news to appear (lab work, scan, advisory from my oncologist), is tiresome because it's always so worrisome. Since I've been told by my oncologist that he "can't cure me, he can only treat me," in spite of what above-average and atypical results and life expectancy I've experienced diagnosis-to-date (three years and three months, approximately), I don't, nor have I ever, enjoyed the luxury of time, even though I was diagnosed at a relatively early age: 54 and five months.

As much as I have assimilated this new reality into my current and future plans, its severity is difficult to ignore, despite my best efforts. The "inescapability" of the diagnosis and prognosis wears on me. Though relatively asymptomatic, there are still daily reminders, and recurring responsibilities: appointments, lab work, diagnostic scans, pills, diet, lifestyle changes, etc., which reinforce the facts of my case: though I have now outlived my original "13-month to two-year" prognosis by a substantial amount of time, the percentage of stage IV lung cancer patients who survive beyond five years (from date of diagnosis) is hardly worth mentioning, because it's extremely discouraging (quite a bit less in fact than those who are fortunate enough to outlive their original diagnosis). And so whatever luxury of time I may have naively felt 39 months ago when first diagnosed, I no longer feel, naively or otherwise. The other shoe has not exactly dropped, nor is it fitting comfortably, if you know what I mean.

And grateful as I am that life goes on, so too do all the associated fears and anxieties. Outliving your prognosis is one thing; managing all the emotions that come with exceeding that prognosis is quite another. It's impossible – for me, to leave well enough alone. Surviving for as long as I have creates a sort of inevitability; at some point, sooner rather than later presumably, a metaphorical fan is going to be involved and I'll be in a great deal more trouble than I've been in diagnosis-to-date. Understanding and expecting it are the currency I've utilized in a never-ending effort to not cash-in my chips prematurely. However, there are certain forces at work here that are likely out of my control, and probably even uncontrollable on my best day, despite my most vigorous efforts and intentions, that are likely greasing the skids on which every day I try to stand and deliver. There's only so much I can do, though.

Accepting my limitations and not worrying about them makes for a perplexing existence. Giving it to them may be a sign of weakness or submission, but not doing so might be a sign of stupidity. Either way, my goal should be about limiting the stress brought on by all this cancer-related/cancer-driven emotional churning. If only it were that simple.

Of late though, for the first part of year four post-diagnosis, focusing on the future without considering the present – as it relates to my original prognosis, seems irresponsible somehow. I can't ignore the facts all the time, can I? Cancer is a serious, often times terminal business (don't I know it) and pretending that life goes merrily along without any wear, especially wear that's been worn for three-plus years, seems a fool's errand. But maybe not? Who knows? I certainly don't. And that's what really worries me.

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

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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200

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### Junior ROTC Medal

Angelica Betts of Providence Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), presented the DAR ROTC Bronze Award on May 12 to Cadet Naadia S. Puri at the Air Force Junior ROTC Pass-in-Review ceremony. Cadet Puri, who attends Fairfax High School, participates in the Junior ROTC program at Chantilly High School.



Eva, a (kindergarten student, and Captain Stacey Kincaid with a piece of artwork from the auction.

### Support for Needy Kids Program

For the second year in a row, the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office received a donation to its Shop with a Sheriff Program from Montessori of Chantilly – Casa dei Bambini. Each year, the kindergarten class creates several pieces of art under the guidance of the art teacher. Since these art pieces are created as a group, they are auctioned rather than returned to the students. The proceeds from the auction benefit a charitable program. A donation of more than \$1,000 was given to the Shop with a Sheriff program after the auction.

The Shop with a Sheriff program is an annual event that is held a week before school starts. Homeless children from the Katherine K. Hanley and Patrick Henry Family Shelters pair up with Sheriff's deputies to shop for school supplies and clothes at the Target store in Burke. Since 1992, the Burke Target has been the primary sponsor of this program. In recent years, Costco, Capital One Bank and Panera have joined in supporting this worthwhile event.

The Katherine K. Hanley and Patrick Henry Family Shelters provide a safe, temporary home for families, where they can receive help to assess their needs and develop a plan to locate permanent housing.



# CALENDAR

Email announcements to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com). Photos welcome.

## 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.

## MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

**Zumba.** 7-8 p.m. Latin-based dance fitness classes — no gym membership required. Visit [www.gozumbafun.com](http://www.gozumbafun.com).

## THROUGH AUG. 31

**Summer Camp.** For ages 3 to rising 9th graders. Teen Camp for rising 10th graders to rising 12th graders. At Mount Olive Baptist Church, 6600 Old Centreville Road, Centreville.

## FRIDAY/JUNE 22

**Benefit Concert.** 7:30-9 p.m. New York Philharmonic Cellist Wei Yu in Concert to benefit Sudan Sunrise, [www.sudansunrise.org](http://www.sudansunrise.org). Tickets not required, a freewill offering will be taken with net proceeds to benefit Sudan Sunrise. Truro Anglican

Church is located at 10520 Main Street, Fairfax. Call 703-273-1300.  
**Swing Dance.** With the bee-hived and polka-dotted Fabulettes. 8:30-9 p.m. drop-in beginner swing lesson; 9 p.m.-midnight dance, \$15. Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

## SATURDAY/JUNE 23

**Pink Day.** Meadows Farms will be hosting a fundraiser for the Breast Cancer Research foundation at all locations. They will be selling "Invincible Spirit" Hydrangeas, chosen to represent the cause by Proven Winners, which is donating \$1 for each of the signature hydrangeas sold. Visit [www.meadowsfarms.com](http://www.meadowsfarms.com).

## TUESDAY/JUNE 26

**Needlework.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Centreville Stitchers 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 [joknitter@verizon.net](mailto:joknitter@verizon.net).

## SATURDAY/JULY 7

**The Great Zucchini.** 10 a.m. Free.

Children's show at E.C. Lawrence Park Amphitheater, Centreville.

## SATURDAY/JULY 14

**Obon Festival.** 5:30 p.m. Ekoji Buddhist Temple is celebrating its 31st Obon Festival with a full-evening of activities including traditional Japanese folk dancing, a memorial candle ceremony, children's games and a taiko performance by Nen Daiko. On Sunday, July 15, a joint service will be held at 11 a.m. and will be officiated by Rev. Brian Nagata, of Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai — America (BDK) visiting from Berkeley, Calif., who will also serve as the guest speaker. Contact [information@ekoji.org](mailto:information@ekoji.org) or [www.ekoji.org](http://www.ekoji.org).

## THURSDAY/JULY 19

**John McCutcheon.** 7:30 p.m. Folk musician at Frying Pan Farm Park in Herndon.

## SUNDAY/JULY 22

**Music of the Civil War.** 7:30 p.m. Sully Historic Site and Frying Pan Farm Park join together to host a concert of period music in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. At

Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Call 703-437-1794.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 4

**"The Muppets."** 6 p.m. At the Starlight Cinema Drive-in Movies at Trinity Centre in Centreville.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 4 & SUNDAY/AUG. 5

**Expo.** Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax, will present a Women and Children's Expo for professional women in the Grand Court of the center. The Fair Oaks Women and Children's Expo will feature such showcased services as continuing education, women's health care and career opportunities for women, along with enrichment programs for children including private schools, private preschools, martial arts, gymnastics, and arts and performance schools. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.ShopFair.Oaks.Mall.com](http://www.ShopFair.Oaks.Mall.com) or call 703-359-8302.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 24 TO SUNDAY/AUG. 26

**Conference.** Rebuilding Christendom: Towards a Vision of Reconstruction Amidst the Ruins. The Conference will include presentations by 10 speakers, a Friday reception,

Continental breakfast on Saturday, Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, full breakfast on Sunday, Mass on Saturday and Sunday. Early Bird registration of \$150. At the Dulles Marriott Hotel. Visit [www.rebuildingchristendom.com](http://www.rebuildingchristendom.com) to register.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 25 & SUNDAY/AUG. 26

**Civil War Reenactment.** Commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Medical Evacuation of wounded soldiers will be held at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum honoring Clara Barton, "Angel of the Battle Field" and Founder of the Red Cross. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Outside activities are free. Museum fee is \$5 adults; \$1 children 5-10. Under 5 are free. Call 703-425-9225 or visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org).

## SUNDAY/ AUG. 26

**Open House.** Caring Hands Animal Hospital of Centreville is holding their 16th Annual Open House and Dog Wash from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Open to the public, proceeds will be donated to local animal rescues. 5659 Stone Road, Centreville. Call 703-830-5700.

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## Sunday Services at Centreville Presbyterian Church



Loving Christ



Loving People



Serving the World

**Sunday Worship Services**  
8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

[www.centrevillepres.com](http://www.centrevillepres.com)  
15450 Lee Highway,  
Centreville, VA 20120  
703-830-0098



**Centreville**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

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

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

Braddock Road and Cranoke Street  
Centreville, VA 20120

[www.saintandrewlc.org](http://www.saintandrewlc.org)  
703-830-2768

## Centreville BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

**Something for Everyone!**  
Nursery through Elementary, Youth, College Age,  
Singles, Men, Women, Adult Discipleship, Choir,  
Awana, GoGo (Older adults), Bible Study Fellowship,  
MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers),  
English Language Classes and Spanish Speaking Ministry

*We're building... Come grow with us!*

15100 Lee Highway, Centreville, VA 20120  
703-830-3333 [www.cbcva.org](http://www.cbcva.org)



**Mount Olive Baptist Church**  
6600 Old Centreville Road, Centreville, VA 20121

Phone: 703 830-8769; Fax: 703 830-6718

[www.mountolive-church.org](http://www.mountolive-church.org)

E-Mail: [mtolive@mountolive-church.org](mailto:mtolive@mountolive-church.org)



Rev. Dr. Eugene Johnson, Pastor



### Service Times:

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 AM  
Children's Church and Jr. Youth Church-  
During regular Worship Service  
Sunday School (9:00-9:45 AM/ All ages)  
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)

