

CENTRE VIEW

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY NELMS

Lead actors in "Anything Goes" are (front row, from left) Corinne Holland, Julian Sanchez, Katelyn Reimer, Joshua Ewalt, Colby Dezelick and Rachel Shirley; and (back row, from left) Chaz Coffin and Karin Hoelzl. (Not pictured, Daniel Perkes.)

'Anything Goes' in This Production

Westfield Summer Stage presents musical.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

When Lori Knickerbocker and Yvonne Henry saw the Broadway revival of the musical, "Anything Goes," they realized it would be perfect for Westfield Summer Stage. And now, Knickerbocker's directing and Henry's choreographing this show for local audiences.

"There's something for everyone," said Knickerbocker. "There are different types of dancing and a funny script, and it's family-friendly and appeals to all ages. People will leave the theater singing and dancing to the tunes because they're so happy."

This Cole Porter musical comedy marks 12 years of Westfield Summer Stage productions and

features a cast and crew of about 100. There are adult actors, plus students from 15 different schools, including Centreville, Chantilly and Westfield high schools; St. Timothy Catholic School and Rocky Run, Stone and Liberty middle schools.

Geared for teen actors, technicians and musicians, Westfield Summer Stage is a five-week, theater-arts, summer workshop culminating in a musical show. This one is challenging, said Knickerbocker, because "it's such a big spectacle with so many song-and-dance numbers, about 200 costumes and a giant set. And for the first time ever, we're doing it for two weeks, not just one."

The action takes place on a two-story cruise ship built by the tech crew. It has railings, gangplanks, a jail, staterooms and decks. Said Knickerbocker: "It's massive and will be awesome."

To Go

"Anything Goes" will be performed at Westfield High on Friday-Saturday, July 20-21, at 7:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, July 27-28, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, July 22, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Seating is reserved; online tickets are at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

Rachel Shirley, a 2012 Westfield grad, plays Hope Harcourt, a wealthy debutante in the mid-1930s. She's sailing from the U.S., with her mother

SEE THE AUDIENCE, PAGE 2

Losing 911

DPSC director discusses power-outage response.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

When hurricane-force winds slammed into the local area two weeks ago, they felled trees and power lines and knocked out electricity to more than 1 million residents in Northern Virginia. Verizon supplied electricity and phone service to many of them, including Fairfax County's Department of Public Safety Communications (DPSC).

As a result, Verizon customers here were plunged into darkness and lost air conditioning in the

midst of a blistering heat wave. And residents with emergencies were unable to reach the 911 call center by phone.

Called a "Derecho" because of its straight-line winds, the storm occurred Friday, June 29, around 10:30 p.m. Verizon wasn't the only power company knocked out of service that night but, because it serves Fairfax County's 911 call center, its loss here was felt.

"The storm struck the county with great ferocity," said DPSC Director Steve Souder. "In its three-hour duration, DPSC workloads increased more than 400 percent. However, after the storm passed, on June 30 at 6 a.m., suddenly the 911 lines ceased to ring because of the failure in the Verizon 911 service."

It wasn't until the afternoon of

SEE REACTING, PAGE 4

In Case of Emergency

A look at Fairfax County's 911 center.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Being a dispatcher in Fairfax County's state-of-the-art, 911 center sounds like an exciting job. It's also stressful, tiring, rewarding and, at times, harrowing.

"Not everybody can do this," said Sherrie White, assistant training supervisor in the 911 call center, also known as the Department of Public Safety Communications



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Sherrie White, 911 assistant training supervisor

SEE 911 CENTER, PAGE 3



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARY NELMS



Julian Sanchez's and Corinne Holland's characters in "Anything Goes" hide out on the cruise ship.



Reno and the Angels from "Anything Goes." Front row, from left, are Serena Emanuel, Rebecca Shirley, Katelyn Reimer, Meredith Mehegan and Nora Winsler. Back row, from left, are Katelyn Cooke, Alison Koenigsberg, Selena Clyne-Galindo, Ola Pozor and Madeleine Bloxam. (Not pictured, Rachel Moser.)



Rachel Shirley and Colby Dezelick dance as Hope and Billy in Westfield Summer Stage's "Anything Goes."

'The Audience Will Want To Dance and Sing'

FROM PAGE 1

and fiance, to get married in England. The fiance is an English lord, and Hope's marrying him to please her mother, but she really loves Billy Crocker, played by Colby Dezelick.

"She's torn between her heart and her head," said Shirley. "She's been raised to be a lady and is friendly and polite, but also innocent and a little sheltered. I like her songs and her character because she's a classic heroine, torn between doing what's right and what her heart tells her."

Her favorite song is "It's De-Lovely," which she and Dezelick sing and dance to together. "It's a cute song with a jazzy feel," she said. Calling it a fun show, Shirley said the audience will like its "goofiness, jokes and one-liners. And a lot of the characters are stereotyped and overly dramatic."

Also a 2012 Westfield grad, Dezelick says Crocker's a N.Y. stockbroker who works for Elijah J. Whitney, one of the cruise-ship passengers. Crocker goes to the ship to give Whitney his passport and papers. "There, he sees Hope, whom he'd met three months before and spent a wonderful night with — but then finds out she's engaged."

So he stows away to be near her and has to wear several, different disguises so he won't get caught. Also on board is Moonface Martin, Public Enemy No. 13, who befriends and helps Crocker.

"Billy's trying to find opportunities to meet Hope, but Moonface gave him Public Enemy No. 1's ticket and passport," said Dezelick. "So when he's discovered on the ship, they believe he's Public Enemy No. 1. But since no celebrities are on board, instead of jailing him, they throw him a party."

Dezelick said the show contains romantic complications for many of its couples. But eventually, they're able to devise a plan and marry the people they love. Fittingly,

he especially likes the song, "Easy to Love," which he sings.

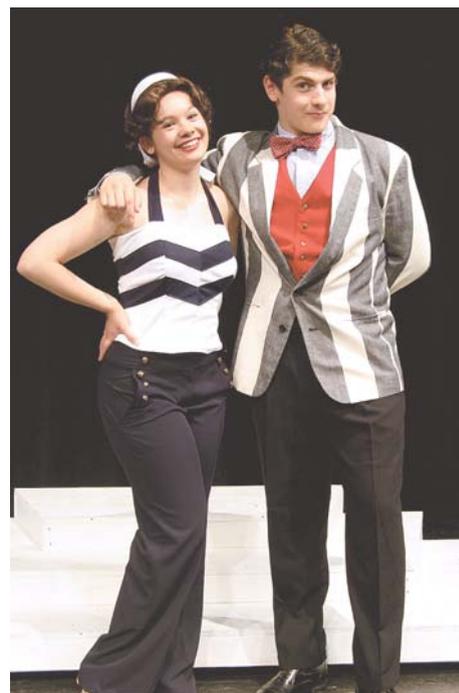
"This is the prelude to the whole show, where you see Billy and Hope meet," he said. "Because of this concept, the song's really cool because you later get to refer back to that night. And it has a great melody and presentation that go naturally with the scene."

Dezelick said the audience "will love the show because it has such a wide range of characters to relate to. It has wonderful music and awesome dancing, plus lots of terrific, quick, sitcom-type one-liners. The audience will really have a good time — they'll want to get up and dance and sing when it's over."

Playing Martin is Westfield rising junior Julian Sanchez. "He's a second-rate gangster who sneaks on board to hide out for awhile," said Sanchez. "He's really goofy, funny and definitely lovable. He wants to be Public Enemy No. 1, instead of 13; but deep down inside, he's not as bad as everyone thinks he is. His sidekick Bonnie, played by Corinne Holland, is his partner in crime, and they have a lot of funny material together."

Sanchez enjoys playing Martin because "he's really comedic and it's such a notable, Cole Porter role. Over the years, so many funny comedians have played it, and Joel Grey is playing it now on Broadway." Sanchez's favorite song is "Be Like the Bluebird," which he sings. "It's Moonface's attempt to make Billy feel better about Hope," he said. "It's a silly song and that's why I love it."

He said the audience will see how much time and effort went into the show and how it's culminated into something special. And, he added, "They'll love the big, musical numbers because we have such strong vocalists and dancers."



Katelyn Reimer and Joshua Ewalt rehearse a scene from "Anything Goes."

Westfield rising senior Katelyn Reimer portrays Reno Sweeney. "She's a well-known nightclub singer and the closest thing to a celebrity on the ship until they discover Public Enemy No. 1 is on board," said Reimer. "She's loud, brassy and self-confident; she walks into a room and commands it. But she's also sweet and vulnerable."

Calling it her "dream role," Reimer saw Sutton Foster play it on Broadway and says they have similar vocal ranges and mannerisms. "She made the role come alive for me, and I want to do the same thing for other people," said Reimer.

Her favorite number is "Blow, Gabriel, Blow" because "it's just pure fun. I get to

sing and dance and let loose, and I love that." Although younger audiences may not have heard of "Anything Goes," she said, "They'll be surprised how much they enjoy it — every line is hilarious."

Many Westfield alumni are leaders in the Summer Stage program, including Kevin Clay, assistant director, stage manager and set designer; Avery Hobbs, assistant choreographer and assistant director; Trevor Knickerbocker, technical director, and Olivia Brown, publicity. In addition, Claire Manship is co-musical director with her father, Charlie Manship. Vocal director is Carol Jones.

"We're mentoring the alumni so they can run this program someday," said Lori Knickerbocker. "That's been my vision since day one, and it's gratifying that they want to come back and spend their summers with us."

As set designer, Clay took concepts from the current Broadway revival and sketched them by hand. "Then Trevor used an architectural-drawing program on the computer to get the dimensions accurate," said Clay. "We collaborated with Tina Dempsey, who's doing the color schemes, set dressing and furniture, and with our master carpenter, Jeff Nelms, who's building it with the students. The ship has staircases, plus three doorways, adding another layer to where the choreography and acting can take place."

Claire Manship is conducting the 22-person orchestra. "I love all the songs and I'm excited to do it," she said. "The Westfield Theater Boosters have always been my extended family, and it's nice to see so many familiar faces. And after doing so many Westfield shows and having so many good memories of Summer Stage, it's rewarding to come back to my roots and take on a new leadership position."

ROUNDUPS

Route 50 Traffic to Shift

On or about this Thursday, July 12, there'll be a shift in the regular traffic pattern for eastbound Route 50 traffic between Stonecroft Boulevard and Pleasant Valley Road. Just to the east of Pleasant Valley Road in Fairfax County, eastbound Route 50 traffic will be diverted some 50 feet to the north to cross over Cub Run and go up to the Stonecroft Boulevard intersection.

Weather permitting, the traffic switch will occur at night and will be fully operational Friday morning, July 13. The change won't affect access to or from any of the side streets or entrances.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, July 12 and 26, 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.

Internet Security Workshop Offered for Parents

Parents concerned about what their children are exposed to on the Internet might want to attend an Internet Security Workshop on Saturday, July 14, from 10 a.m.-noon. It'll be sponsored by and held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 14150 Upper Ridge Drive in Centreville, behind the McDonald's on Route 28.

Frank Stone, an Internet security specialist for a Defense Department agency, will discuss practical ways of controlling the content of computer and media influence that enters the home. In addition, a Fairfax County police officer will speak about "General Safety for You and Your Children."

Sully District Council Meeting

The Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee will meet Wednesday, July 25, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call Jeff Parnes, evenings, at 703-904-0131.

The panel will learn about BB&T's proposal to build a drive-in bank in Centreville's Sully Station Shopping Center. It will also hear details about Fairfax Forward, Fairfax County's next step in the new planning process that replaced the countywide Area Plans Review (APR).

Public Transit Meeting Set

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation is conducting the Countywide Transit Network Study to determine the type of transit systems needed to accommodate forecasted growth throughout the county over the next several decades. A public meeting will be held Monday, July 16, in rooms 9 and 10 of the county Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. It'll run from 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., with a 20-minute presentation at 7 p.m.

The study will develop recommendations for where Metrorail should be extended, where streetcar or light-rail systems are appropriate, and where dedicated lanes that allow buses to move faster could go. It will also recommend how the system may be phased in and funded over time.

Area residents are encouraged to attend the meeting or a workshop to discuss the study purpose and scope and schedule and help refine proposed study goals and objectives. They may also help identify possible modifications to the Comprehensive Plan designation of Enhanced Public Transportation Corridors.

NEWS



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

A bird's-eye view of the EOC operations floor for Fairfax County 911, police and fire dispatchers, VDOT and State Police inside the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center.

A Look at County's 911 Center

FROM PAGE 1

(DPSC).

"We work 12-1/2-hour shifts and handle calls about CPR, houses on fire, shootings – and this is what we deal with every day," she said. "It's hard to go home after days like that and leave it all behind us."

The 911 center is part of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) within the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC) on West Ox Road near Route 29 in Fairfax. And in the event of a national or weather-related emergency, the building serves as a central command facility where state and county representatives will work together.

White, of Chantilly's Greenbriar community, recently gave a tour of the 911 center to members of the Sully District Police Station's Citizens Advisory Committee. Also present was Capt. Purvis Dawson, that station's commander.

Unfortunately, said White, some people call 911 for the wrong reasons, telling the dispatcher, for example, "There's a raccoon in my trash," or asking, "How do I cook a turkey?" Obviously, these calls should not have been made to an emergency line.

But the majority of the calls are deadly serious. "Our 10-week training is a model for other 911 centers across the country," said White. "We're trained to talk you back down from hysteria."

"These folks do a phenomenal job," said Dawson. "They miss out on family birthdays, holidays, children's soccer games and school plays – but they come back and do it, day after day. Behind that phone call to the police and fire departments are these people; it all starts here."

Callers don't have to speak English or be fluent in it to seek help. "Anyone can call 911, no matter what language they speak, and we'll help them," said

White. "We'll connect them to a language line [for translation]."

What especially helps the dispatchers understand the nature of a caller's emergency is when that person clearly explains the situation. "I have to picture you placing a loved one on the floor so you can perform CPR," said White. "You have to describe your burning house and its exits so I can best tell you how to escape."

The frustrating part is that it's similar to watching a movie or reading a book, but stopping before the ending. "We never know what happened [to the emergency] for which we received the call," said White. "For example, you take someone through chest compressions and then never know if the person lived."

But it's all part of the job, and 911 dispatchers frequently deal with matters of life or death. "If we get a 911 hang-up, often it's a domestic-violence situation; and with our enhanced system, all your [contact] information comes up," said White. "We have to return all these calls to make sure you're OK — and we've saved so many lives this way."

The 911 center doesn't close. "We're here all the time, 24/7, 365 days a year," said White. "We work weekends and holidays and don't get snow days off."

SEE 911 CENTER, PAGE 4

Call-Taker Job Details

- ❖ Applicant must successfully complete a battery of hiring tests, plus panel interview. Must also:
- ❖ Be 18 and have a high-school diploma or GED.
- ❖ Have a clean police record.
- ❖ Pass a polygraph and background investigation.
- ❖ Comprehend the English language well.
- ❖ Type 30 words a minute and be able to multitask, prioritize and make decisions.

Callers receive 10 weeks classroom training, plus 6-12 weeks on-the-job training.

Shifts are 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.-7 a.m. Starting salary is about \$38,000/year.

Reacting to 911 Power Outage

FROM PAGE 1

Tuesday, July 3, that 911 service was restored fully. And in the interim, there was only sporadic service throughout the county. The outage also affected 911 service in Loudoun, Prince William, Arlington, Alexandria and Stafford counties.

When the 911 lines went down, said Souder, the normal backup phone numbers — the non-emergency lines — went out, too, “which is rare to happen. So we had to find an alternative, 10-digit number for people to use.”

But until that happened, he said, “Initially, we told people to flag down a police officer or firefighter if they had emergencies. The spirit of Fairfax County residents and their ability to react and improvise was amazing. They picked the ball up and did what they needed to do. As far as we know, there were no emergencies that went unreported by some means.”

And when an alternative, emergency number was established, DPSC posted it on the county’s Twitter account and on Facebook and alerted TV, radio and other media outlets. However, said Souder, “Because

of the electrical outage, many cell sites lost power and went to generators — which eventually failed, too. So people had multiple challenges.”

But he said Fairfax County’s emergency personnel and DPSC employees are “pretty resilient, too; we’re good at coping. The radio system used to communicate with public safety field personnel — fire and police — was still working. So if people flagged down an officer for help, that officer would radio in to us and we’d dispatch the appropriate units.”

Furthermore, said Souder, “Our Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system within our building continued to operate fine. And the officers had mobile CAD computers through which we could continue to communicate with them.”

Nonetheless, he said, “911 is the most-recognized number in America — and in the National Capital Region with 7 million people, we can’t have this happen in a major emergency. The [Metropolitan Washington] Council of Governments will be undertaking an inquiry to identify what Verizon can do in the future so there’s no possibility of this happening again.”

Inside Fairfax County’s 911 Center

FROM PAGE 3

But we love what we do for the people and the county.”

There are 130 staffed positions working four permanent shifts — two during the day and two at night. In 2010, callers received 895,360 calls. Of that number, 485,681 were for legitimate emergencies; 397,982 were nonemergency. Others were towing and other reasons.

Once a dispatcher takes a call, that person routes it to police or fire personnel. “We’ve been taught to investigate and extract information from you about the incident,” said White. “We’ll say, for example, ‘Give me a description of the suspect and the gun; tell me which way he ran,’ because first and foremost, we worry about safety.”

The same is true with a fire. “We have to send the information to the units as fast as we can,” said White. “We’re not perfect, but we try to be as close to it as possible.”

“There’s a purpose behind every question they ask,” added Dawson. “We need to know what we’re in for so we can be better prepared for it. But meanwhile, the first people have already been sent out.”

In addition, everything a caller says is recorded. That way, said White, “We can go back and recreate sequences and listen to the call again if there’s something difficult to understand. And if someone calls in with a non-prepaid cell phone, I can find them within 500 feet. Then officers can set up a perimeter to find their home. I type the information and send it to the officers.”

White said police and fire supervisors are in the 911 center with the dispatchers to advise them, when needed. “We’re all working together,” she said.

“Police have CAD [computer-aided dispatch] terminals that they can take with them from their cars,”

said Dawson. “Once a dispatcher hits ‘send,’ we can read that message on our computer screens. But we practice every month doing it the old-fashioned way, without the computers. We still want our officers to know how to look into a map book, find a street and get there, in case their CAD goes down — and that’s paramount to you all.”

White said the 911 center also has a backup dispatch system. “It’s called pencil and paper,” she said. “I’ll take calls on a handset, if the regular system goes down.”

After the Sept. 11, 2001 tragedy, she said, public safety personnel adopted plain language for communication, rather than describing incidents in numerical codes. That way, all agencies involved in an emergency can

understand each other because all their employees are saying exactly what they mean. Said Dawson: “The goal was seamless communication and we’ve pretty much reached it.”

White said dispatchers in the 911 center also have access to a full, gourmet kitchen and a gym within the building “to keep everyone sane and healthy. We take care of ourselves and each other. We have a great group of individuals here — you don’t want anybody else to have your back.”

At any given time, 28-38 dispatchers are on duty. “We should have 50, but we’re short-staffed,” said White. “They’re usually here three to five years — and roughly 50-80 percent of the new recruits quit by the end of the first year.”

“It’s partly because it’s such a stressful job,” said Dawson. “And they often go on to become police, firefighters and deputies.”

Basically, said White, “It’s a calling. I’ve got 13 years in, and I will run this joint one day because I want to make a difference for the county I live in.”



Police Capt. Purvis Dawson

BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

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“We wanted to break the link between gun running in a way that the second amendment would not be broken.”

— Don Beyer, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia under the Wilder administration

Guns from the South

July 1 marks lifting of 19-year restriction on handgun purchases.

BY MONTIE MARTIN
CENTRE VIEW

On July 1, the 19-year restriction on handgun purchases in Virginia became null and void. The measure was signed by Gov. Bob McDonnell Feb 28, and effectively allows an unlimited number of handgun purchases to individuals in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Small businesses that support the change maintain a rise in handgun sales will lead to increases in state revenue, and that the restriction is fundamentally against the second amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Opponents of the measure argue that lifting the restriction will facilitate arms trafficking and further the image of Virginia as a rogue supplier of firearms.

The one-handgun-per-month restriction was a signature effort of the Douglas Wilder administration, and was aimed squarely at crime organizations from New York. Such organizations filtered south to Virginia for bulk purchases of handguns from local retailers. By purchasing handguns in Virginia, firearms traffickers circumvented stringent controls in New York.

According to Don Beyer, lieutenant governor of Virginia under the Wilder administration when the restriction was established in 1993, the limit on handgun purchases was seen as a practical and bipartisan solution to gun trafficking.

“We wanted to break the link between gun running in a way that the second amendment would not be broken,” said Beyer in a telephone interview. “We had a lot of bipartisan support, limiting gun purchases to one per month is not the same as taking all guns away. People thought this was a common sense approach, criminals were not buying Virginia guns in bulk and to that extent it was a very good thing.”

The restriction had an immediate impact on Virginia guns found at crime scenes out of state. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association and ATF records of traced firearms used in crimes, 41 percent of crime scene guns found in New York City in 1991 originated in Virginia. Two years after the restriction was put in place Virginia guns only accounted for 15 percent of total guns used in crime there.

The net effect of the restriction did not



PHOTO BY MONTIE MARTIN/CENTRE VIEW

Guns on display at the Nation's Gun Show. Private owners of guns in Virginia are not required to conduct background checks before selling firearms.

hold up over time, however, and by 2006 Virginia was once again a top supplier of guns used in out of state crime. Colin Goddard, a survivor of the 2007 Virginia Tech mass shooting and spokesperson for the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, notes that guns trafficked from Virginia are caused by ever increasing exceptions to the one-handgun-per-month restriction.

“Lobby groups like the NRA started taking away pieces of the law until they could claim it was redundant. The law did not apply to private sales, collectors, and not if you had a concealed handgun permit,” said Goddard in a telephone interview. “Basically everyone was exempted except gun traffickers.”

The consequences of firearms trafficking are deadly. In December of 2011, NYPD Officer Peter Figoski was shot and killed by a Virginia handgun. Following the high-profile murder, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Boston Mayor Tom Menino brought the issue of illegal guns to the national stage during a 30-second advertisement for Super bowl XLVI. Although Bloomberg did not call out Virginia by name during the Super Bowl slot, in an emailed statement to the Connection Newspapers the mayor made his sentiments clear.

“Virginia is the number one out-of-state source of crime guns in New York, and one of the top suppliers nationally,” said Bloomberg. “If they care about innocent people and police officers being shot, they should be strengthening laws — as we have

done in New York — to keep guns away from criminals, not weakening them.”

Proponents of lifting the one-handgun-per-month restriction are quick to point out second amendment concerns. “We had a man come in looking to buy a handgun for his daughter, wife and himself because he felt his family was threatened,” said Brian Reed, a gun dealer with the Damascus Gun Shop in Damascus, Va.. “He couldn’t, because of the restriction, and he had to wait months to buy them.”

Virginia guns have been selling at record highs even with the restriction in place. According to the Virginia State Police, between 2010 and 2011 there were 321,166 firearm background checks from licensed dealers in Virginia, the largest number of checks ever. Conservative estimates put these sales into the millions of dollars.

“Between 2010 and 2011 gun stores sold \$312.5 million in firearms, and another \$312.5 million on accessories. That’s \$625 million in total sales,” said Reed. “With a five percent sales tax that’s \$31.25 million collected for Virginia.”

Annette Eliot, president of Showmasters, a family-owned gun show company, notes that many of the Virginia gun dealerships are small businesses. Although the one-handgun-per-month restriction has limited potential sales, lengthy wait times for background checks are a principal concern for firearm dealers.

“The average customer is delayed by four hours because of background checks, it’s expensive because people walk away from sales,” said Eliot. “These are small businessmen, last year dealers lost 12 percent in sales, that’s a hit.”

Delays most often occur when there is a high volume of background checks that must be processed. Customers who purchase firearms in Virginia are subject to two levels of background checks. The National Instant Criminal Background Check System, managed by the FBI, checks a national databank of convicted felons who are ineligible to purchase firearms. An additional background check conducted by the Virginia

State Police looks closely at individuals who were committed to mental hospitals, and stems from the fallout of the Virginia Tech massacre.

Background checks do not apply to private sales, however, and law enforcement officials do not know how many firearms are sold under such circumstances. “That is not something the Virginia Firearms Transaction Program is capable of tracking or capturing, nor is the FTP mandated to do so by state law,” said Corinne Geller, a spokesperson for the Virginia State Police.

Proponents of stricter firearms controls point to the “gun show loophole” as a source of illegal firearms transactions. Gun shows make space available for private citizens to sell weapons from personal collections, without conducting background checks. The one handgun per month restriction does not apply to such individuals. Applicability of the restriction to private sales, however, was never the intent of the original legislation.

“The perception was that people don’t go to gun shows to buy 50 at a time,” said Beyer. “The way the market worked at the time had to do with the radical operation of gun stores who could deal in volume.”

“Criminals don’t buy guns from private individuals at gun shows, the truth is that 98 percent of guns used in crime come from us,” said Reed. “Criminals will get guns, the solution is tougher laws for criminals.”

Although Virginia has laws in place that guard against falsifying documents when purchasing handguns, it is not required to report a lost or stolen firearm. According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, such leniency creates an atmosphere ripe for gun trafficking via straw purchases.

In exchange for as little as \$10, or an equivalent in drugs, individuals with clean records will purchase a handgun and give the weapon to a ringleader for transportation.

“A straw purchaser is someone saying this gun is for me, then meets a person a few blocks away and gives them the gun,” said Mike Campbell, a spokesperson with the ATF, in a telephone interview. “Most people buy a gun and choose to keep it for a while, newly purchased guns used in crime scenes are more likely to have been trafficked.”

Law enforcement agencies track crime scene guns by following the supply chain, from gun manufacture to wholesaler, dealer and the individual who purchased the gun. If the owner has sold the firearm without keeping a record of the transaction, lost the gun or had it stolen, the trail goes cold.

Law enforcement officers are not involved in the political debate regarding the one handgun per month restriction. “Virginia is an island of loose gun regulations surrounded by states with more stringent controls on firearms,” said Campbell. “It’s not our job to advise states what they can and can not do with their laws. The people of Virginia are the ones who elected their officials.”

July 1, Fewer Gun Restrictions

Legislation going into effect this week in Virginia includes multiple bills that ease any restrictions on guns.

The new laws:

- ❖ Eliminate the prohibition on purchasing more than one handgun in a 30-day period.
- ❖ Add concealed handgun permits to the list of acceptable forms of identification to vote or when challenged.
- ❖ Provide that nothing in the Emergency Services and Disaster Law shall be interpreted

to limit or prohibit the otherwise lawful possession, carrying, transportation, sale, or transfer of firearms.

- ❖ Provides that no locality may participate in any gun-buyback program unless the governing body of the locality has enacted an ordinance authorizing the participation of the locality. The ordinance shall require that such firearms shall be offered for sale by public auction or sealed bids to a person licensed as a dealer.

OPINION

Every Vote in Virginia Will Count

Top presidential donor zip codes in this area show Virginia is purple; Romney or Obama to be decided on Election Day.

If you wonder if presidential politics really matters in this area, consider that Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland hold some of the top zip codes for contributions to the two major party candidates.

Donors who live in McLean 22101 gave \$422,770 to Romney this presidential cycle, and \$232,876 to Obama. In McLean 22102, donors gave Romney \$255,444, and Obama \$193,321. In Arlington, 22207, donors gave \$193,543 to Obama and \$178,196 to Romney. In Alexandria 22314, donors gave \$172,425 to Romney and \$142,467 to Obama.

EDITORIALS

While Maryland consistently votes for Democrats in presidential races, donors who live in Potomac, Md. 20854 gave Romney \$340,885, and Obama \$291,402.

In order to vote in the presidential election on Tuesday, Nov. 6, residents must be registered to vote at their current address by Monday, Oct. 15.

Virtually everyone in Northern Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, and absentee voting

in person begins Sept. 21. Here is the qualification that applies: Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for 11 or more hours of the 13 hours that the polls are open.

Any commute in Northern Virginia could potentially take four hours or more in a crisis situation. This is definitely a case where voting early is an excellent idea. Don't take the risk that the next derecho storm or earthquake will keep you from the polls on Nov. 6.

This area has very high rates of voter registration. Consider that Fairfax County, with a population of just more than 1.1 million people, has 711,817 registered voters. And 24 percent of Fairfax County's population is un-

Some Top Local Zips, Presidential Donors

McLean 22101 ❖ Romney \$422,770 ❖ Obama \$232,876	McLean 22102 ❖ Romney \$255,444 ❖ Obama \$193,321	Great Falls 22066 ❖ Romney \$166,457 ❖ Obama \$91,290
Bethesda 20817 ❖ Obama \$359,656 ❖ Romney \$249,399	Arlington 22207 ❖ Obama \$193,543 ❖ Romney \$178,196	Arlington 22202 ❖ Obama \$79,568 ❖ Romney \$39,740
Potomac 20854 ❖ Romney \$340,885 ❖ Obama \$291,402	Alexandria 22314 ❖ Romney \$172,425 ❖ Obama \$142,467	Alexandria 22301 ❖ Obama \$52,347 ❖ Romney \$42,095

Source: OpenSecrets.com and VPAP.org

der 18, so not eligible to vote.

Arlington has a population of 216,000 and 157,236 registered voters. Sixteen percent are under 18.

The City of Alexandria has a population of 144,000 with 101,887 registered voters; 17 percent are under 18.

We're lucky in Virginia to have the Virginia Public Access Project, vpap.org. On the VPAP website, maps of Virginia's zip codes showing shades of red and blue give a quick visual sense of how purple the Commonwealth really is. Take a look.

Compromise on E-ZPass Transponders

While the Virginia Department of Transportation initially proposed that all E-ZPass customers would pay \$1 a month for each transponder they have, on July 9 VDOT announced that if one had a transponder before July 9, 2012, no fee will need to be paid until one has to replace the transponder.

New E-ZPass customers will pay a 50-cent

monthly fee for a standard transponder and \$1 monthly fee for a "Flex" transponder. The Flex transponder allows drivers to switch to a high-occupancy position if they have three or more people in the vehicle so that they can drive in the new Beltway toll lanes for free. Drivers with fewer than three passengers will pay a toll to drive in the express lanes that will vary depending on how much traffic there is.

This is certainly better than charging all E-ZPass users \$1 per month per transponder. We still wonder why the cost of transponders is not recovered in the tolls paid rather than as a separate fee whether or not drivers are regularly driving on toll roads.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Ready to march in the parade are (from left) Sam Kinter, 9; Dalton Holbrook, 10; Brylan Noonan, 9; Price Holbrook, 7; Elliot Pline, 10; Jacki Ramey, 9; and Hannah Ramey, 11.



Elsa Hencken, 8, shows her patriotic pride.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Clifton's Old-Fashioned Fourth

The Town of Clifton celebrated the Fourth of July with a parade, flag ceremony and a potluck picnic in the park with moonbounces, tug-of-war, pie-eating and egg-toss competitions.

CENTREVIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

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A Connection Newspaper

SCHOOLS

Front row, from left, are Team: Epic Einsteins — Saiteja Bevara, Ajith Kanuri and Dheeraj Bandrau — joined by, back row, from left, an eCybermission Ambassador, GBW Vice Principal Lauryn Campbell, GBW Principal Lori Cleveland, Team Advisor Padmaja Bevara, parent Vasavi Bandaru and parent Ravi Kanuri.



Epic Einsteins Take Second in State

Greenbriar West sixth grade students Saiteja Bevara, Dheeraj Bandaru and Ajith Kanuri and team advisor Padmaja Bevara participated and won second place in the state level competition of the Army's eCybermission project. eCybermission is a web-based Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) competition for students in grades six through nine.

Epic Einsteins researched how trash burning causes emissions lead to pollution and ultimately,

global warming. They hypothesized that by designing a way to burn trash underground, this would eliminate the amount of emissions in the atmosphere. Their design allowed for trash to be entered into the ground through a trash pipe, and then filtered into a tunnel through a conveyor belt. The trash would then fall through the tunnels into a steel lined open fire chamber where it would be burned, and the conveyor belt would be powered by a windmill above the underground landfill.

Thanks
to this **Chair Donation**, a House Was Built in Northern Virginia

This used chair was donated to **Habitat for Humanity ReStore**. It was purchased at the ReStore for \$35. The \$35 will go towards building a home for a family in need in Northern Virginia.

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Underwater Search and Recovery Unit Trains in Occoquan

Dive team responds to ever-changing conditions.

BY DEB COBB
CENTRE VIEW

“911. What’s your emergency?” “I just saw a guy’s boat sink in the reservoir, I think he went under with it.”

This fictional 911 call describes the scenario for a joint training exercise between the Fairfax County Underwater Search and Recovery Team, the Fairfax County Police Marine Patrol Unit and the Prince William County Police Underwater Search and Recovery Unit that took place on June 13 in the Occoquan Reservoir near Fountainhead Regional Park: 23 law enforcement officers worked together to locate a dummy representing a body and the boat and recover them from the waters of the Occoquan Reservoir.

Diver is considered the riskiest job in the Fairfax County police department due to nature of the work — underwater, in ever-changing conditions with low to no visibility, low temperatures, and intense physical demands. Says Unit Supervisor Lt. Lance Schaible, “The danger never changes for them whether it is a real-life situation or training.” Training sessions are critical for the unit to maintain skills, develop expertise with new tools, develop familiarity and comfort with different types of recovery operations and to provide newer members of the unit with experience.

Two days before the recovery exercise was scheduled to start, two members of the Marine Patrol Unit sank a body and a do-



MPO Charles Mills drops a dummy and will in short order sink the dummy’s boat in the Occoquan Reservoir at Fountainhead Regional Park on June 11 in preparation for a Dive Team training exercise to be held on June 13. Mills is a member of the Fairfax County motor squad, a diver on the Fairfax County Police Underwater Search and Recovery Team and is detailed temporarily to the Marine Patrol Unit – which works in collaboration with the Dive Team.

nated boat in the Occoquan Reservoir just off shore from the boat dock at Fountainhead Regional Park.

On exercise day, after a briefing to review the operation, assign responsibilities, discuss conditions, hazards and review procedures and safety measures, the dive teams suited up while the Marine Patrol Unit deployed their side scan sonar to find the body and the sunken boat. The Marine Patrol Unit

uses the sonar to search a grid pattern of the floor of the reservoir based on witness statements about where the victim and boat went down. The sonar provides a detailed view of the floor of the reservoir; it is lowered from the front of the boat and connected via cable to a computer operated by one of the marine patrol officers.

Once the body and boat are found, officers mark their location by dropping a crab



Police Officer First Class Matthew Grubb operates the Marine Patrol Unit’s side scan sonar during a Fairfax County Police Search and Recovery Team training exercise at Fountainhead Regional Park on June 13. The side scan sonar is used to locate bodies and evidence underwater. Officer Carrie Bennett is on temporary assignment to the Marine Patrol Unit from the Mt. Vernon district station.

pot. The metal of the crab pot lights up brightly on the sonar image and is the starting point for the divers’ entry into the water to recover the body, any evidence, and the boat. Once the location is marked, the MPU sets out diver flags to mark out the area where the dive team will be operating and then heads into shore to offload the

SEE RESPONDING, PAGE 9

Snake Wrangling at Fountainhead Regional Park

“Excuse me, I just wanted to let you know that there is a copperhead sunning itself on the boat launch. You’ll want to be careful,” Chris Couchman of Fountainhead Regional Park told members of the Fairfax County Police Underwater Search and Recovery Team as they were preparing for a training exercise at the park on June 13.

The copperhead snake is a pit viper common to Virginia — and poisonous, although not the most aggressive of the poisonous snakes in Virginia.

It is illegal to kill the copperhead unless it presents an immediate threat to one’s personal safety. This snake wasn’t aggressive, but it was basking in a location too close to dive team operations and the boat launch at the park.

When faced with a poisonous snake, it’s good to be with Fairfax County police officers. MPO Mike Nicholson, lead motor carrier detective of the Motor Carrier Unit and 15-year veteran of the Fairfax County Police Underwater Search and Recovery Team fashioned a snake pole from some pvc pipe

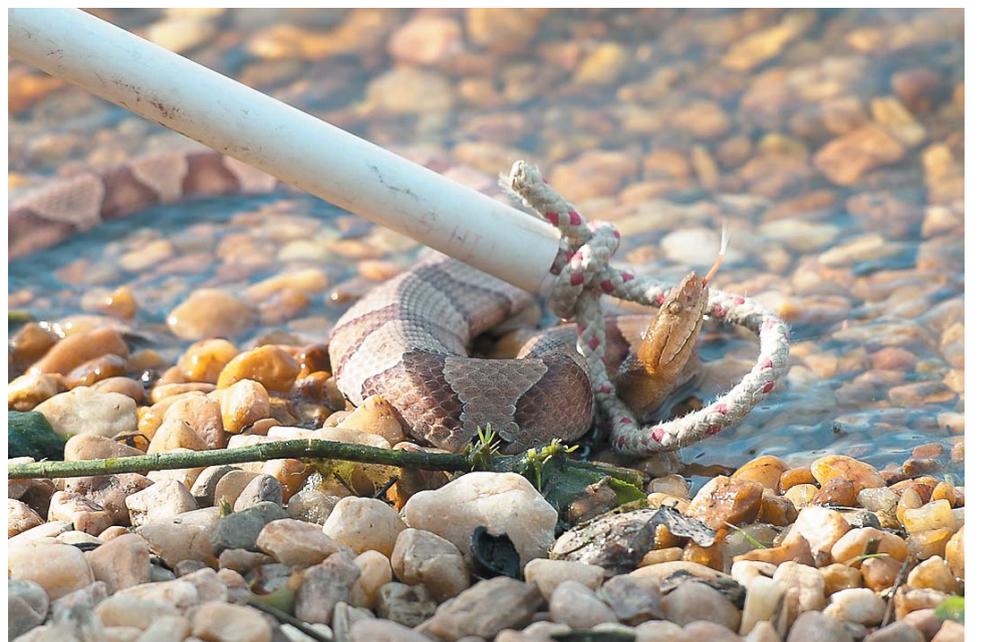


On June 13, a copperhead snake demonstrates it can swim at Fountainhead Regional Park.

and a rope and captured and relocated the snake to a less-traveled area of the park to enable the training exercise involving 23 police officers from Fairfax County and Prince William County to proceed.

— DEB COBB

PHOTOS BY
DEB COBB
CENTRE VIEW



Fairfax County Police Search and Recovery Team diver MPO Mike Nicholson crafts a snake pole out of pvc and rope to move a copperhead snake that is sunning itself a little too close to the Dive Teams training area at Fountainhead Regional Park on June 13.



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

Ron Miller (right) checks air tanks of a Fairfax County Police Search and Recovery Team diver before he heads into the waters of Occoquan Reservoir on June 13. Miller is the lead dive team trainer, a retired Fairfax County Police detective and a founding member of the dive team.

Responding to Underwater Scenario

FROM PAGE 8

sonar and take on divers.

While the Marine Patrol Unit is searching for the location of the body and the boat, the dive teams do dry runs of their missions on shore, planning each step to ensure smooth and safe operations under water.

Once the body is recovered, the Fairfax County dive team starts its operation to recover the sunken boat by attaching lift bags filling them with oxygen and bringing it to the surface. Divers wear about 80 pounds of gear, and each diver goes through a health check and several safety checks before they enter the water.

“Fill your house with pitch black water, have someone move everything around, and then go find the remote,” so dive team member PFC Robert Gogan describes the chal-



Officer Carrie Bennett of the Fairfax County Police Marine Patrol Unit hands an oxygen tank to a Fairfax County Police Search and Recovery Team diver in Occoquan Reservoir at Fountainhead Regional Park on June 13.

lenge of searching for bodies and evidence in the murky waters of northern Virginia. While searching in conditions of often zero-visibility, divers must be mindful of hazards such as debris, fishing lines and hooks while carefully searching hand over hand for evidence. The scene underwater is treated like a crime scene, divers work to find and preserve evidence as they recover the body and the boat.

Special lift bags are attached to the boat and then filled with oxygen supplied by an extra tank brought out with the divers. Lift operations are complex and can be extremely dangerous, particularly if heavy objects are being lifted. The first team that lifts the boat during this exercise attaches the lift bags to one end of the boat and then fills them, raising the boat perpendicular to the reservoir floor. This strategy works because the boat is so light. The team also wants to practice a horizontal lift, simulating how they would extract a heavy object, like a car, from the reservoir. They attach lift bags to the front and rear end of the boat and use a manifold system attached to the oxygen tank to fill the bags simultaneously. Once the boat rises to the surface, it is towed in to shore and removed from the water.

Officers stow their gear, clean up the site and then debrief about the operation. Each member of the team gets a chance to talk about things they thought worked, things that didn't, discuss what they could do differently and identify lessons learned. “You get so much more training value out of things that don't go the way that you've planned — as long as it is safe,” Schaible said about the importance of the day's exercise.

The Fairfax County dive team is called in to recover drowning victims and evidence like weapons and other articles that have been thrown into bodies of water. The team holds monthly training exercises and plans to train quarterly with the Prince William County dive unit. This is the first time the two units have held a joint training exercise although they collaborate regularly during recovery operations.

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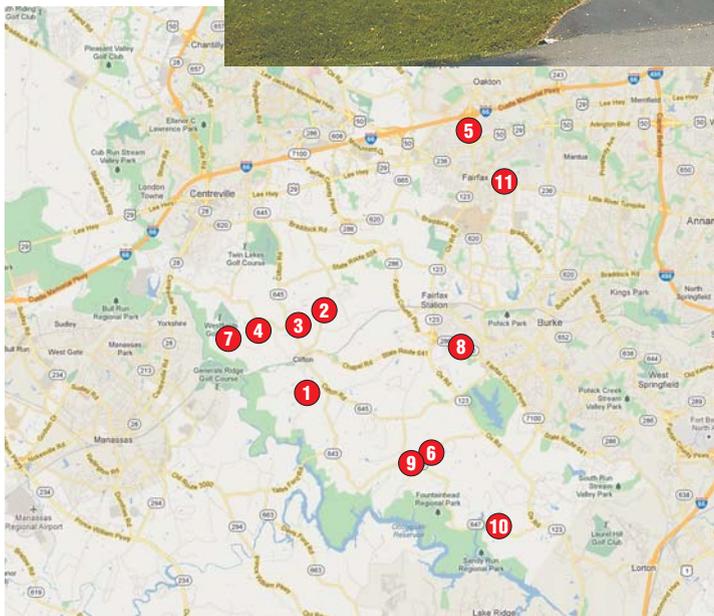


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© Google Map data

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2 12522 KNOLLBROOK DR	5	5	1	CLIFTON		\$1,650,000	Detached	5.00	20124	FERGUSON KNOLLS	05/15/12
3 12809 WYCKLOW DR	5	4	1	CLIFTON		\$1,300,000	Detached	5.00	20124	WILGUSON HILLS	05/09/12
4 13308 IVAKOTA FARM RD	6	4	1	CLIFTON		\$1,245,000	Detached	2.45	20124	BALMORAL GREENS	05/25/12
5 3502 MAVIS CT	6	5	1	FAIRFAX		\$1,175,000	Detached	0.50	22030	COBBDALE	05/11/12
6 7780 KELLY ANN CT	5	4	0	FAIRFAX STATION		\$1,052,000	Detached	5.02	22039	BRIARLYNN ESTATES	05/15/12
7 7412 UNION RIDGE RD	5	4	1	CLIFTON		\$1,030,000	Detached	1.41	20124	BALMORAL GREENS	05/31/12
8 10605 FOURNIER DR	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION		\$975,000	Detached	3.00	22039	HUNT AT FAIRFAX STATION	05/25/12
9 11204 DEVEREUX MANOR LN	4	4	1	FAIRFAX STATION		\$920,000	Detached	5.00	22039	DEVEREUX STATION	05/31/12
10 10121 HAMPTON RD	5	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION		\$911,300	Detached	5.77	22039	SANDY RUN	05/02/12
11 4098 ORCHARD DR	6	5	0	FAIRFAX		\$906,000	Detached	0.25	22032	HALEMHURST	05/17/12

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Home Life Style



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.



David Vogt of Case Design Remodeling, Inc. created an open kitchen and dining area in this Falls Church home. Local contractors say developing a list of everything that one might want in a dream home is a good starting point when remodeling.

“A client can benefit from doing their homework and being engaged in the selection process early on.”

**— David Vogt
of Case Design Remodeling, Inc.**

Home Remodeling 101

Experts offer suggestions for a timely and efficient renovation.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
CENTRE VIEW

Case Design/Remodeling, Inc.

Whether expanding a home or just remodeling an existing interior space, building projects can be daunting, especially if the goal is to be finished by a certain date.

“If you wanted to get going on a project and your goal was to be done by Thanksgiving, the planning process and permit process is probably as long as the building process, but you don’t want to rush through those aspects of it and then wish you’d done something differently,” said David Vogt of

LOCAL CONTRACTORS say there are a few things that homeowners can do before the first nail is hammered to ensure a smooth and an efficient construction process. Creating a list of everything that one might want in a dream home is a good starting point.

“A client can benefit from doing their homework and being engaged in the selection process early on,” said Vogt. “Maybe start by collecting photographs and magazine articles of things you like. That will help paint an overall picture of the feel that you want for the space.”

Bob Gallagher, president of Sun Design

Inc., in Burke, says a good source for ideas is the Houzz Interior Design website www.houzz.com as well as the iPad and iPhone applications. “It is phenomenal. There are many amazing photos on there.”

The next important step in the process say experts is determining a budget. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry advises homeowners to decide how much they are going to spend before calling an architect or contractor. “The truth is not many people enjoy establishing a remodeling budget,” said Dean Herriges, National Association of the Remodeling Industry National President in a statement. “Many homeowners prefer to call a contractor and

expect him or her to create the budget for them, which is not the best way to begin.”

“I’d love for a client to have some numbers of how much they want to spend,” said Jeff Pregman of Two Poor Teachers in Annandale. “I’d rather have a client that has a little bit of knowledge, a budget and a timeline so I can come in and give them everything they need.”

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry recommends that homeowners decide how long they plan to live in their home before deciding how much to spend on remodeling costs. “If you

SEE REMODELING, PAGE 12

CENTRE VIEW NORTH ♦ JULY 12-18, 2012 ♦ 11

Home Life Style

Remodeling

FROM PAGE 11

are going to stay in the home for more than 10 years, you should spend as much as you are able to create the home of your dreams," said Herriges. "However, if you are planning on moving in the near future, you should take care not to over-build for your neighborhood."

AFTER A BUDGET is established, experts say homeowners must tackle the task of interviewing and selecting a contractor. Contractors can be found through the National Association of Home Builders and the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. Homeowners should ask prospective contractors for references and proof of insurance. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry also suggests checking with the government Consumer Affairs Office and the Better Business Bureau for complaints on record for the contractor.

Once a decision is made about who will do the construction, it is time to seal the deal. "The contract is a critical step in any remodeling project. This is the one item that holds the job together and ensures that all parties involved agree to the same vision and scope for the project," said Herriges.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUN DESIGN/HADLEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Bob Gallagher, president of Sun Design in Northern Virginia, remodeled the kitchen and dining area of this Fairfax Station home. Local contractors say coming up with a budget can help ensure a smooth and efficient construction process.

The contract should detail what the contractor will and will not do, and should include a list of materials for the project, including size, color, model, brand name and product, said Herriges. Homeowners are advised to make sure financial terms, including final price and payment schedule, are spelled out in the contract.

"The homeowner could and should ask questions about the process for the project's development. They should make sure they understand the sequence of things that are being done so that decisions needed are made when they are needed," said Potomac resident Susan Matus of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. "Don't design while you are under construction. Spend the time in the beginning so that you are not making changes constantly during construction. A good remodeler will have helped you make the right decisions before the project starts."

Maintaining a good relationship with a contractor is paramount to bringing a project to fruition. "The key to a good homeowner-contractor relationship is open communication," said Herriges. "Start a dialogue over issues you have, no matter how small you think they are. Chances are the problem can be overcome."

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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, JULY 14 & 15

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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

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4110 40th Place N.....\$1,799,999...Sun 1-4.....Beckie Owen...Long & Foster..703-328-4129

Burke
7006 Veering Ln.....\$589,950....Sun 1-4...Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

Centreville
8243 Battalion St.....\$334,900.....Sun 1-4.....Marguerite Roland.....RE/MAX..703-577-4538

Chantilly
42344 Astors Beachwood Ct..\$899,900..Sun 1-4.....Chris Pezzana.....Weichert..703-447-1662

Clifton
12129 Beaver Creek Rd.....\$950,000....Sun 1-4.....Diane Lenahan.....Wolf Run..703-283-7328
12404 Shari Hunt Grv.....\$1,500,000....Sun 1-4...Carol Hermandorfer...Long & Foster..703-503-1812
13201 Johnny Moore Ln....\$600,000....Sun 1-4.....Scott MacDonald.....RE/MAX..703-727-6900
7700 Kincheloe Rd.....\$1,395,000....Sun 1-4...Carol Hermandorfer...Long & Foster..703-503-1812
7802 Blackacre Rd.....\$675,000....Sun 1-4.....Cyndee Julian...Long & Foster..703-201-5834

Fairfax
4038 Heatherstone Ct.....\$494,900....Sun 1-4.....Jonna Quadt...Long & Foster..703-668-1816

Fairfax Station
8515 Heron Pond Ln.....\$765,000....Sun 1-4.....Tony Araj...Samson Props..703-209-3535

Kingstowne/Alexandria
6204 Gum St. N.....\$479,900...Sun 12-3.....Frank Freeman.....Avery-Hess..703-451-3007
6233 Cockspur Dr.....\$500,000....Sun 1-4.....Susan Mekenney.....RE/MAX..703-283-6881

Lorton
8496 Silverview Ct.....\$749,900....Sun 1-4.....Kathy Peters...Long & Foster..703-915-2165

Manassas
10655 Moselle Ct.....\$499,500....Sun 1-4.....Crystal Sarno...Long & Foster..703-927-6264

Springfield
8238 Taunton Pl.....\$449,900....Sun 1-4...Carol Hermandorfer...Long & Foster..703-503-1812
8723 Stone Hill Pl.....\$415,000....Sun 1-4.....Jorge Martinez...Long & Foster..571-505-4768
9015 Golden Sunset Ln.....\$459,900....Sun 1-4.....Etta Gabel...Long & Foster..703-425-5163

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
All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.



WABC Scholarships

The Westfield Athletic Booster Club named the winners of the 2012 WABC Scholarships; \$12,000 was awarded to these 10 seniors at the Athletic Awards Ceremony on June 12 at Westfield High School. From left in the top row are Timothy Kearney, Matthew Pisarcik, Connor Kirkham, Brett Campbell and Mark Gibson. From left on the bottom row are Marisa Grayson, Abigail Fallon, Courtney Cleveland, Annie Perkins and Katie Castro.

Telford in Contest To Enter Ironman

Fair Lakes resident BethAnn Telford was diagnosed with a Stage III brain tumor in 2005, and is still fighting for her life. But she works full time and, via her nonprofit fund-raising organization, Team BT, she raises money for the National Brain Tumor Society (NBTS).

Telford also runs marathons and participates in endurance races, and one of her dreams is to compete in this October's Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii. To win a slot in it, she entered the Ironman Kona Inspired "Anything is Possible" Video Competition sponsored by Yurbuds.

Her video was chosen in the first round of the contest and must now compete in the semi-finals as part of the Round 3 grouping. From this

grouping, two videos will be selected for entry into the Ironman World Championships based on the number of online votes received.

Online voting began July 4 and continues through July 18. To help make Telford's dream a reality, go to:

http://apps.facebook.com/konainspired?x=us_facebook_app_348_16

or mobile link http://konainspired.thismoment.com/us/baase/mobile#cat_16_content_348 to reach the Kona Inspired Facebook page and vote for Telford's video. The contest allows one vote per 24-hour time frame per computer, Smartphone or other device.

— BONNIE HOBBS

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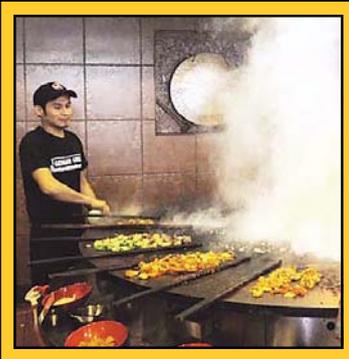
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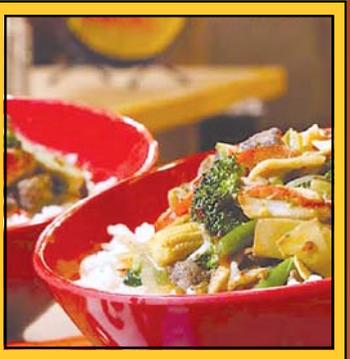
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PEOPLE



Grand Opening

Lindsay Veleber, financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments, celebrated the grand opening of her new office, on June 13, which included a ribbon cutting ceremony with Chamber of Commerce members, her branch office assistant, Brenda Vick, as well as, clients, friends, and members of the community. Veleber's office is located in the Franklin Farm Shopping Center, inside the Professional building in Herndon at the intersection of Franklin Farm Road and Fairfax County Parkway.

Scholarship Awards

On June 11, Scholarship Committee Chair Dr. Joyce Brotton of the Western Fairfax County Woman's Club presented Chantilly High School seniors Diana Saffarini, left, and Jessica Bylund, right, each with a \$2,000 college scholarship.



Saffarini was awarded the continuing Lois C. Howe Memorial Scholarship, endowed by the family of Mrs. Howe, founder of the club's Scholarship Project. Bylund received the Randi Coates Weston Scholarship of 2012, augmented and named in memory of a beloved club member who died unexpectedly on May 30. Saffarini will attend Virginia Commonwealth University to begin preparation for a career as a dentist. Her service as a Hugh O'Brien Youth Ambassador included appearing with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan on National Public Radio to discuss HOBY service goals. Bylund's service projects included on-site work at a Guatemalan orphanage and cancer research fundraising. She will major in physics and minor in Spanish plus participate in both Navy ROTC and the Corp of Cadets at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She hopes to eventually serve aboard a U.S. nuclear submarine. On Tuesday, July 17, the Club will hold a CHS Scholarship fundraiser at the Greenbriar Town Center's Dogfish Head Ale House. Call 703-631-7093 for more information on joining the Western Fairfax County Woman's Club or the July 17 fundraiser.

Girl Scouts Honored

Graduating seniors Annie Cecil and Reva Joshi of Chantilly High School were honored at an area teen Girl Scouts ceremony at the Fairfax County Government Center on May 18. Both girls were recognized for participating in scouting for years and for earning multiple Girl Scout awards, including the Silver and Gold Awards. The Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn and requires hours of planning, demonstration of leadership skills and community service. Annie completed her Gold Award project at the Katherine Hanley Family Shelter, and Reva completed her project for The Habitat for Humanity Restore in Chantilly.



CALENDAR

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos welcome.

TUESDAY NIGHTS

World-Class Jazz. 6-9 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.

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.

THURSDAY/JULY 12

Needlework Crafts. Centerville Stitchers welcome adults who enjoy knitting, crocheting, or other needlework crafts, and conversation. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Centerville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Dr., Centreville. Call 703-803-0595 or email joknitter@verizon.net.

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 or www.ekoji.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 19

Hands-on History. 1:30-3:30 p.m. A new program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road in, provides an opportunity to experience how children lived in the 1800s. A costumed interpreter will lead the program, adding to the authenticity of the experience. Participants will practice penmanship, wash clothes, churn butter, and make ice cream. This program is suitable for children ages 4-9 years old. \$10 per child per session. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ecl/calendar.htm. Call 703-631-0013, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/

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

FRIDAY/JULY 20

Musical. 7:30 p.m. Westfield Summer Stage presents the Cole Porter musical comedy, "Anything Goes." Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Seating is reserved. Buy tickets online at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 21

Children's Concert. 10 a.m. The ever popular Arts in the Parks Children's Entertainment Series at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park will feature DINOROCK. Free. Located at 5040 Walney Road.

Musical. 7:30 p.m. Westfield Summer Stage presents the Cole Porter musical comedy, "Anything Goes." Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Seating is reserved. Buy tickets online at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

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. The 97th Regimental String Band recreates an actual string band of the Civil War Era singing a wide variety of traditional American songs in authentic, "living history" style. At Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Call 703-437-1794.

Musical. 2 p.m. Westfield Summer Stage presents the Cole Porter musical comedy, "Anything Goes." Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Seating is reserved. Tickets: www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Needlework Crafts. Centerville Stitchers welcome adults who enjoy knitting, crocheting, or other needlework crafts, and conversation. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Centerville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Dr., Centreville. If you have any questions contact Jo at 703-803-0595 or email joknitter@verizon.net.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 25

Seminar. 7-8 p.m. Discover five tools to make lasting lifestyle changes. Free. Goose Creek Consulting, 5675 Stone Road, Suite 230.

FRIDAY/JULY 27

Musical. 7:30 p.m. Westfield Summer

Stage presents the Cole Porter musical comedy, "Anything Goes." Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Seating is reserved. Buy tickets online at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 28

Redefining Help Seminar. 10-11 a.m. Discover five tools to make lasting lifestyle changes. Free. Goose Creek Consulting, 5675 Stone Road, Suite 230.
Musical. 7:30 p.m. Westfield Summer Stage presents the Cole Porter musical comedy, "Anything Goes." Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Seating is reserved. Tickets: www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 2

Hands-on History. 1:30-3:30 p.m. A new program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road in, provides an opportunity to experience how children lived in the 1800s. A costumed interpreter will lead the program, adding to the authenticity of the experience. Participants will practice penmanship, wash clothes, churn butter, and make ice cream. This program is suitable for children ages 4-9. \$10 per child per session. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ecl/calendar.htm. Call 703-631-0013, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ecl.

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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)



SPORTS

Wins Don't Come Easy in NoVa Swimming

Sometimes it's the luck of the draw that puts you into a league section where you really don't belong. Sometimes it's the numbers that seed you in a tougher division where it's almost impossible to compete. Sometimes it's just a bad day when many of your top swimmers are at camp or on vacation. Whatever the reason, swimmers and coaches in the area know that no matter how hard you prepare, or how much improvement you show, your swim team is going to have to dig really deep for a win in Northern Virginia.

For the Sequoia Farms Stingrays, that elusive, big win has been a beast to come by this season. A quick look at the recent Olympic swimming trials will give one a strong indication of why it has been such a challenge. The strength of swimming, as a sport in this geographic region is huge. A great number of the nation's top swimmers hail from this region. Many of them may not currently train here because of the (out of town) residency of numerous top universities and coaches, but the Washington, D.C. area is where a number of the nation's most accomplished swimmers spent their formative years. So Sequoia (and many other) swimmers, take heart, you are competing against many of the best in the country and the larger the team you swim against, the more likely you are to run into some of this highly accomplished swimming talent.

As for Saturday's meet against the Arlington Knights of Columbus, the Sequoia team experienced the same fate as the week before, and despite some great performances and a number of personal bests, the Stingrays fell to the more experienced team. While the Stingrays are heavy at the bottom of the age roster (the 8 and under group is by far the largest group), they haven't matured enough yet in the middle age groups to mount a strong, overall attack. Those individual Stingrays who did contribute to the final score this week were: Matthew Bentley (third breast); Georgia Cerisano (third free, second breast, second fly); Jesse Cerisano (first free); Brian Chapman (first free, second fly); Lauren Chin (first breast); Hannah Clardy (third fly); Ian Clardy (first free, first back);



A pleasant surprise this season, has been the medley relay in the boys 15-18 group: Brian Chapman, Matt Cohen, Will Steinhilber and Blake Feichtl (missing is Carlo Paraggio)

Matthew Cohen (third back, third breast); Diego Cromwell (third free, first back, first fly); Blake Feichtl (second breast); Gillian Hadermann (second breast); Kelsey Hamer (third back);

Avery Harris (first free, second back, first fly); Brice Harris (third free, third fly);

Jessie Heise (third free, first back, third breast); Sydney Loper (second free, first back, first fly); Megan Marco (third free); Daniel Morris (third free, third breast); Ryan Morris (second back, second fly); Bridget O'Malley (second free, third back); Carlo Paraggio (first back); Caroline Santilli (first breast); Ella Santilli (first free, first back);

Diane Sellars (second free, second back, second fly); Jennifer Steinhilber (second breast, second fly); Russ Steinhilber (second free, third breast); Will Steinhilber (second free, first breast, first fly); James Williams (third breast); Nicole Williams (second free); Samuel Williams (first breast).

In the relay events Sequoia Farms posted the following wins: girls' 9-10 100 medley (Sydney Loper, Caroline Santilli, Sydney Fish, Julia Barrett); girls' 13-14 200 medley (Kelsey Hamer, Lauren Chin, Georgia Cerisano, Nicole Williams); boys' 15-18 200 medley (Carlo Paraggio, Blake Feichtl, Will Steinhilber, Brian L. Chapman).

SSTs Fall, Soar Over Busy Weekend

Despite the oppressive weather this weekend, the Sully Station SSTs persevered, competing in two "A" meets and a "B" meet on Monday. During Saturday's home meet against Hunter Mill, the SSTs scored 50 personal best marks, swept three events and were victorious in half the relay events. Ultimately they fell to Hunter Mill with a score of 227 to 192.

The SSTs started strong with six out of 10 wins in the freestyle events. Leading the way was Madison Moon in the Girls 8u 25 meter, while Brian Patten and Allison Hickey each had big wins in the 9-10 50 meter events. Anirwin Sridhar brought home the win for the 13-14 boys, along with Danial Okhovvatgiliani and Logan Coulson Moore for the 15-18s.

Backstroke is where Sully Station started to lose ground, not pulling off a win until 10-year-old Elise Mozeleski, swimming up two age groups in the Girls 13-14 50 meter event, had a big finish winning by more than four seconds. The 15-18 Girls, swept their 50 meter event, with Logan Coulson Moore earning the top spot, followed by Reagan Warrington in second place and Zoe Hemmer in third.

Things started heating up again in the breaststroke events, as 9-10s Brian Patten and Allison Hickey again launched into first. The girls, swept this event with Adison Moore finishing second and Marie McPherson in third. Payton Moore and Brandon Fiala also won for the Girls 11-12 and Boys 15-18, respectively. Though the SSTs again faltered in the butterfly, Elise Mozeleski prevailed once more, this time swimming the Girls 9-10 25 meter butterfly. Fiala also brought home his second win of the day, swimming in the Boys 15-18 event. The 15-18 girls, Zoe Hemmer, Meagan Hickey and Reagan Warrington, successfully executed their Butterfly event, with the SSTs third sweep of the day. Hemmer was the victor in this race, followed by Hickey and Warrington.

SUNDAY THE SSTs traveled to Mansion House, where they secured their second win of the season by a score of 231-189. With a close score running most of the meet, Sully Station produced 31 wins for the day and 25 personal best marks.

Throughout freestyle and backstroke it was anybody's race, with the SSTs seizing first place in 11 out of 20 events. But, during breaststroke, the team rallied, resulting in more successful swims including more than half the wins and more swimmers delivering the supporting points of second and third place. In the first breaststroke event, the 8u Boys set the tone with Adam Jefferson hustling into first and Jack Townsend less than one second behind in third place. The 8u Girls kicked it up a notch, sweeping their event, with Brooke Patten leading the way, Helene O'Brien in second and Leah Mozeleski in third.

The SSTs swam harder and faster still during Butterfly racking up seven wins. Again, the 8u boys came out strong with Nate Hamluk capturing the top spot in the Boys 25 meter and the 8u Girls, led by Leah Mozeleski in first place delivered the second sweep of the day. Helene O'Brien again grabbed the second place finish and Madison Moon placed third.

While still too close to call, the SSTs were depending on their 12 relay teams to clinch the win. The first relay win came with the Girls 8u 100 Meter Freestyle. Leah Mozeleski, Helene O'Brien, Madison Moon and Lily Render dominated the race, ultimately winning by nearly eight seconds. Similarly the 9-10s swam commanding wins over their opponents, with Austin Debrody, Brian Patten, Logan Kimmel and Nicholas Stockel finishing with 8.32 seconds to spare and Elise Mozeleski, Adison Moore, Allison Hickey and Jessica Dickinson beating Mansion House by 4.61 seconds. With only victories in three out of the first eight relays, the SSTs hunkered down, to capture the number one spot in the last four events of the meet. The highlight of the relay events came during the Girls 15-18 200 Medley, when at the last minute, the team's anchor became ill and Grace McKnight stepped up to take her place. The girls exerted a phenomenal effort, but were still behind at the last turn. In an astounding upset, McKnight clinched

Sully Station II Defeats Crosspointe, Fall to Donaldson Run

The Sully Station II Piranhas stormed their way to a 233-187 win over Crosspointe on June 30. While the region was clearing downed trees and restoring power to thousands of homes, Sully II generated their own electricity with fantastic swims in their first home meet of the season. Despite more than 20 missing swimmers, the Piranhas displayed their talent and depth by capturing 23 individual victories and completing five sweeps.

The 15-18 boys dominated in the pool and turned in an unprecedented sweep of all four events, led by Nick Campbell in the free (26.27) and back (29.92), Connor Pangman in the breaststroke (36.69), and Austen Bundy in the fly (29.57). Teammates Ben Wu, Kevin Jiang, and Andrew Kwon rounded out this fearsome six and spurred on other Piranhas to turn in personal bests. The 15-18 girls completed a sweep in the fly as well, led by Carli Molano (31.63), Madisyn Graham (34.75), and Kenzie Elliott (35.46).

In addition to Nick Campbell, five Piranhas captured victories in two events, including Angela Cai in free (19.14) and breast (24.79), Brantley Cervarich in free (36.34) and back (41.28), Taylor Smith in breast (45.67) and fly (18.41), Carli Molano in back (32.22) and fly, and Erin Schulte in free (29.44) and breast (39.27).

Exceptional single event winners included freestyler Harmon St. Germain (32.88), backstrokers Faith Alston (43.79), Kellen Campbell (38.93), Lauren Peters (38.24), and Nick Jiang (36.53), and breaststrokers Aidan Crisci (50.59), Flynn Crisci (42.56), Georgia Stamper (39.41), and Michael Jiang (39.09). Twelve-year-old Georgia set a new Piranha record by lowering the time she turned in last weekend by .34.

The Piranhas secured the win by prevailing in eight of 12 close individual races as well as six relays. The team closed out the meet with enthusiastic cheers and good sportsmanship.

ON THE HOTTEST DAY of the year to date, Sully 16 ♦ CENTRE VIEW NORTH ♦ JULY 12-18, 2012



Sully II's 15-18 boys rocked the pool with extraordinary sweeps in all four events. From left: Kevin Jiang, Ben Wu, Austen Bundy, Connor Pangman, Nick Campbell, and Andrew Kwon.

Station II kept their cool by turning in 43 personal best times in the meet against Donaldson Run. The Piranhas braved the brutal weather on July 7, but as temperatures surged to 105 degrees the team was eventually scorched by sizzling competition in the pool, 250-170.

The 9-10 girls made a splash by winning three events, completing a freestyle sweep, and breaking the team relay record with a time of 1:17.43. Freestylers Delaney Kennedy (37.10), Daean Lee (37.71), and Kelly Elson (38.74) dominated their race and started off the meet with speed. Victories soon followed by teammates Faith Alston in backstroke (42.25) and Taylor Smith in breaststroke (45.04).

Carli Molano topped the leader board with dual wins in freestyle (27.80) and fly (31.64). Several Piranhas teamed up to finish first and second in their races, including breaststrokers Angela Cai (24.14) and Madison Stalfort (27.52) in 8&U girls and Flynn Crisci (41.76) and Harmon Saint Germain (44.99) in 11-12 boys. Powerful back-



Sully Station II's 9-10 relay squads both turned in best times, with the girls breaking the team record. From left: Kelly Elson, Brantley Cervarich, Delaney Kennedy, Allan Beres, Taylor Smith, Aidan Crisci, Faith Alston, and John Henry Stamper.

stroke duos included 11-12 boys Kellen Campbell (38.34) and Brody Campbell (40.64) as well as 13-14 boys Nick Jiang (36.77) and Jack Jiang (38.24). Five other Piranhas nabbed individual wins: Michael Jiang in freestyle (28.46), Brantley Cervarich in backstroke (42.70), Lily Li in fly (35.02), and breaststrokers Georgia Stamper (39.46) and Erin Schulte (37.77).

Personal bests were recorded throughout the meet, particularly for the team's 8&U swimmers. In backstroke, Caroline Li achieved an 11 percent improvement in her backstroke followed by a 10 percent time drop for Collin West. Harrison Saint Germain slashed 11 percent off his breaststroke time and Isabella Burgos dropped almost 8 percent in her freestyle.

Sully II will host Wakefield Chapel at their next home meet on July 14.

— KARA STAMPER

SEE SSTs, PAGE 17

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTOGRAPH CONTRIBUTED

The SYA West Little League 9/10 All-Star team (Centreville) won the District 10 title on Saturday, July 7 by beating Chantilly National, 11-1. SYA West will head off to the state tournament next week, which will be held in Ashburn.



PHOTO BY LAURI HILBURGER

Brookfield Hosts Fundraiser

The Brookfield Breakers held their annual Swim-A-Thon on July 8, with almost 50 swimmers, including swim team members, their families and friends, joining in the fight against breast cancer in support of Inova Breast Care Institute. Swimmers received pledges for swimming as many laps as they could in one hour. This year's Swim-A-Thon was held in honor of two Breakers moms, Kristin Nelson and Susan Ruth, who have been a source of inspiration to the team, as they continue their treatments and still remain active with the swim team this season. Visit www.inovabreastcare.org.

SSTs Fall to Hunter Mill, Soar Over Mansion House

FROM PAGE 16
the win by .02 of a second.

FOR THE THIRD MEET in as many days, the SSTs traveled to Poplar Tree for a "B" meet. Still high on the previous day's win, Sully Station pushed harder, resulting with 55 swimmers beating their fastest swims, earning personal best marks.

In the first event of the evening, the Boys 6u 25 meter freestyle, the SSTs swept, with Tyler Whitacre savoring the win, Tommy Townsend placing second and Ariyan Jazaeri in third. Swimming her first race ever, 6-year-old Keira O'Neal also took first place. Several other SSTs came out on top including, Lucas Boettcher in his first 8u Backstroke, Hallie Puckett in the Girls 11-12 Backstroke, Patrick Kruk in the 11-12 Boys Breaststroke, Kyle Talley in the Boys 13-14 Breaststroke, Kaleigh McFadden in the Girls 9-10 Butterfly and Lauren McDermott in the Girls 13-14 Butterfly.

Regardless of wins, Sully Station had a phenomenal weekend with most swimmers besting their fastest times. The largest improvements came from Bryce Brown on Saturday, with 11.13 percent bite out of his 25 meter butterfly, Nathaniel Hamluk swimming Sunday's 25 meter butterfly 11.67 percent faster and Ethan Mortier with an incredible 20.94 percent reduction in time in the 25 meter backstroke on Monday.

In a sport where one's greatest competition is oneself, it is virtually impossible to improve with each swim. The best one can hope for is to swim at 100 percent effort at all times. Seven Sully Station swimmers achieved this feat, earning personal best marks at both of this weekend's "A" meets. This notable achievement was completed by Jessica Dickinson, Collin Fiala,



PHOTO BY STACEY HUSE

The Sully Station girls upset Mansion House Sunday, in an exciting sprint to the finish of the 15-18 200 meter Medley Relay. From left, Grace McKnight, Megan Hickey, Logan Coulson Moore and Zoe Hemmer.

Logan Kimmel, Madison Moon, Leah Mozeleski, Elayna Render and Jack Tyskowski. But most impressive, was 16-year-old Jake Bowen in the Boys 15-18 50 meter butterfly. Bowen not only beat his time on Saturday by .38 percent and on Sunday by 1.06 percent, but crushed it again during Monday's "B" meet, with an improvement of another 1.58 percent.

Wednesday, July 11, Sully Station hosts the Divisional Relay Carnival and will travel to Langley for an "A" meet on Saturday the July 14.

— STACEY HUSE

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21 Announcements



Sally Elizabeth Burton 88 of Centreville, VA died Monday April 30, 2012 at Commonwealth Health and Rehabilitation Center in Fairfax, VA.

She was born in the Plato community of Pulaski County, KY, the daughter of George Boone and Maranda Purcell Burton, who preceded her in death. She graduated from the Foundation School of Berea College in 1944.

She then moved to Washington, D.C. for a career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and retired as the Night Supervisor of the Service Unit, Division 4, Records and Communications.

She was a member of Centreville United Methodist Church, The Historic Centreville Society, and the Manassas Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

She is survived by her niece, whom she loved as a daughter, Bonnie Ann Wood Garber and her husband, Thomas Templeman Garber of Spotsylvania County, VA and their son, James Thomas Garber and his wife Faith, of Washington, D.C. A sister, Louanna Burton Stewart and her husband, Bill, of Johnson City, TN; one brother, Boonie Burton, and his wife, Lucy of Lincoln County, KY, and two sisters-in-law, Maxine Burton and Alma Burton, both of Somerset, KY; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by a sister, Faye L. Burton Wood, of Centreville, VA, and her husband James F. Wood with whom she had made her home since 1950; three brothers, Joseph Mason Burton, Sr., Gene B. Burton, and Paul Wesley Burton, and a nephew, Joseph Mason Burton, Jr., all of Somerset, KY.

A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, July 22, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. at Centreville United Methodist Church.

Contributions may be made to Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Rd., Centreville VA 20121.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Over the Edge

Father and son team help raise \$60,000 for Special Olympics.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
CENTRE VIEW

It was an offer too good for HART Technologies president Patrick Chesnut's employees to resist: a chance to "toss the boss" over the edge of a 15-story building in the inaugural Northern Virginia Over the Edge fundraiser for Special Olympics.

"It was an incredible experience," said Chesnut, a Chantilly resident who rappelled down the side of the Hilton Crystal City in Arlington June 22 along with his 14-year-old son Ben.

"Once you are hanging out there, it's an exhilarating feeling. You want to do it forever but at the same time can't wait to get

to the ground."

The Chesnuts joined area celebrities like DC 101 DJ Elliot Segal of "Elliot in the Morning" fame and ABC 7's Steve Chenevey in dangling 250-feet from the side of the Hilton in an effort to raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics of Virginia.

"Nonprofits are facing a lot of challenges these days," said Paul Griffith, who started Over the Edge in 2004 as a one-time fundraising event in his native Halifax, Nova Scotia. "There are only so many charity walks or runs you can do. Rappelling is something different and a more exciting way to bring awareness to an organization like Special Olympics."

Participants had to raise a minimum of \$1,000 for the "privilege" to go "Over the Edge" in the first-time event in Northern Virginia.

"We raised enough for our CFO Lori Wilson, VP of engineering Steve

Lunsford and my son Ben to all participate," Chesnut said. "If I was going down, I was taking them with me."

"Once you are hanging out there, it's an exhilarating feeling. You want to do it forever but at the same time can't wait to get to the ground."

— Chantilly resident Patrick Chesnut

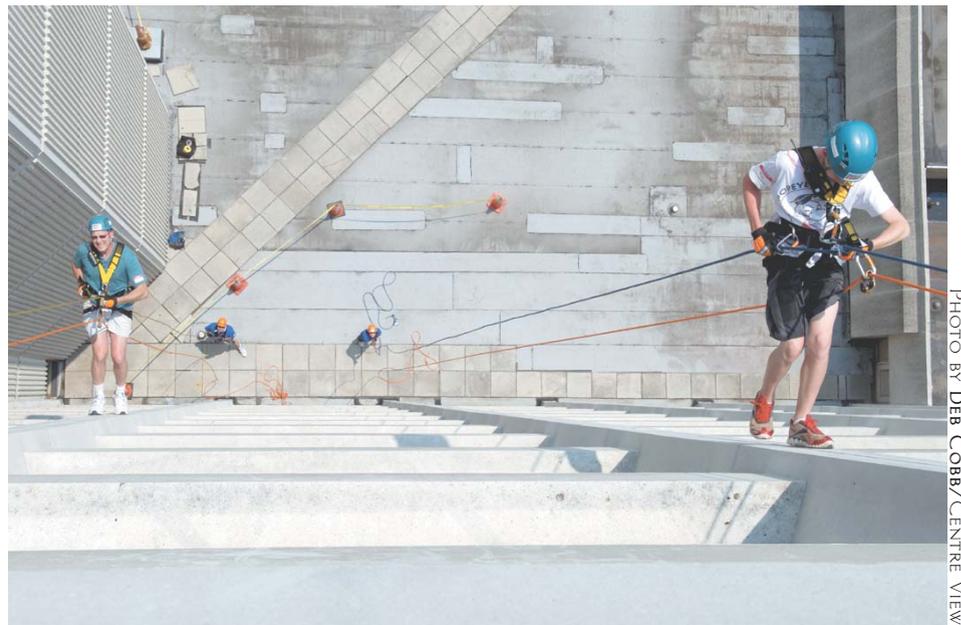


PHOTO BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

Patrick Chesnut of Chantilly looks up at his son Ben Chesnut, 14, as they both rappel down the side of the Crystal City Hilton in Arlington on June 22. Both Chesnuts are part of the Hart Technologies fundraising team that is raising money for Special Olympics Virginia.

Sixty-eight rappellers participated in the event, raising more than \$60,000 for Special Olympics of Virginia.

"All four of us had a great time," said Chesnut, who has been a Special Olympics supporter for more than 30 years. "It reinforced two key lessons in life: Pay attention during the briefing and the first step is always the hardest."

Ben, a rising freshman at Chantilly High School, is excited to participate again next

year, as is Chesnut's 12-year-old daughter Julia. "It might be a little hard to talk mom into going, though," Chesnut said of his wife Jill. "But this was an amazing experience and doing it for an organization like Special Olympics made it all the better."

For more information on Over the Edge or how to participate next year, visit www.OverTheEdgeVA.com or follow Special Olympics of Virginia on Twitter at @overtheedgeva.



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