

NOVEMBER 15-21, 2012

25 CENTS Newsstand Price

Former Westfield High students (from left) Chaz Coffin and Colby Dezelick and Virginia Run's Geri Lightburn (center) placed these toys in the packages going to local families.

Holiday
Entertainment
& Gift Guide 2012

Gearing Up For Holidays

Holiday Guide, Page 10

Photo by
Bonnie Hobbs
Centre View

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Thanks to this light fixture, a foundation was dug to a new home.



This used light fixture was **donated** to the **ReStore**.

It was **purchased at the ReStore** for **\$35** to help refurnish a kitchen.

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Schools



Photos by Deb Cobb/Centre View



Fifth graders at Lees Corner Elementary School enjoy themselves as they walk past their new bike rack in the Polar Parade.

Polar Parade

Lees Corner Elementary School sixth grade teacher Jeff Hauser does some warm ups with his class at Lees Corner Elementary School before they begin their march around the school during the Polar Parade on Oct. 3. The school was one of 50 in Virginia to receive a \$1,000 grant from the organization Prevention Connections in collaboration with the Fairfax County Community Services Board to hold a walk in honor of International Walk and Bike to School Day.

The Most Popular Art & Craft Show in the Greater Metropolitan Washington DC area!

Saturday, November 17, 2012,
10am - 5pm

Sunday, November 18, 2012,
10am - 3pm

Fairfax High School,
3501 Rebel Run,
Fairfax, VA 22030

Admission fee:

\$5 per person each day or
\$8 for a two day ticket.
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For more information:

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Fair City Mall



Roundups

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Nov. 15 and 29, 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.

ONC Needs Community's Help

Our Neighbor's Child (ONC) is preparing for its 21st holiday season providing new toys and clothing for children of families in financial crisis in Centreville, Chantilly and Western Fairfax. But it's a volunteer organization and it can only carry out its mission with the generous support of local churches, schools, businesses and individuals.

And this year, in the face of a difficult economy, ONC needs help more than ever from groups or individuals willing to furnish clothing for local children in need. The number of requests for winter coats, jackets and other warm clothing is high again this year. Specific information (sizes, etc.) will be available before Thanksgiving.

Anyone who'd like to help is urged to contact Stephanie Somers, ONC clothing coordinator, at somerss@cox.net. For other ONC volunteer opportunities or to make a monetary donation, visit www.ourneighborschild.org.

Toy and Food Drive

To brighten the holiday season for area families in need, the Democratic Women of Clifton (DWC) will once again be taking donations for the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Toy Drive, plus grocery-store gift cards for Our Daily Bread.

Anyone who wants to help may drop off these items during the DWC's Sunday, Nov. 18, meeting from 3-5 p.m., in the Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road in Clifton. For more information, e-mail cliftonwomendems@aol.com or visit www.democraticwomenofclifton.org.

Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices – such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous wastes – including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County's "Electric Sunday" events. The next one is slated for Sunday, Nov. 18, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

Donate Blood, Save Lives

Total Framing, at 9528 Main St. in Fairfax, will hold its second annual blood drive in honor of Owen Wicks (the son of a Clifton Elementary alumnus) and Ryan Dillon (whose father was a former Clifton Elementary P.E. teacher). Both lost their battles with Osteosarcoma earlier this year, but this blood drive is to honor their memories and help others battling cancer and other diseases and conditions requiring transfusions.

The drive is set for Saturday, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Inova Bloodmobile will be in the parking lot of the turnpike Shopping Center in Fairfax. To register, visit www.inova.org/donateblood, click on "schedule a donation," then click on "donate blood" and use sponsor code 7848. Or contact Terri Price at 703-426-0660 or at terri@totalframing.biz.

A photo ID is required, and all donors will receive a goodie bag full of surprises. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. Since blood donations drop dramatically during the holidays, the need is critical during this time of year.

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News

Centre View Editor Steven Mauren
703-778-9415 or centreview@connectionnewspapers.com



The 2011 Virginia Run Turkey Trot attracted a huge number of participants. Here they are at the starting line.

Photo Courtesy of
Laurie Horstmann

It's Time for Turkey Trot

Annual event raises money for Life with Cancer.

By Bonnie Hobbs
Centre View

Each year around this time, many people's thoughts turn to turkey, stuffing, pumpkin pie — and the Virginia Run Turkey Trot. This year's 24th annual 5K run and 2K walk will be held Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22, at 8 a.m. at the Virginia Run Community Center in Centreville.

Both courses travel through Virginia Run, and the event is being held in memory of resident Bonnie Huneke, who succumbed to cancer earlier this year. All proceeds from the Turkey Trot benefit Life with Cancer, INOVA Health System's nonprofit program for cancer patients and their families.

Last year, more than 4,000 runners and more than 700 walkers participated. This year, registration in the 5K is limited to the first 4,000 entries; the walk has unlimited entries. Register online at www.virginiarun.com/turkeytrot.

Entry fees are 5K, \$30; walk, \$20; participants receive a cotton, short-sleeved T-shirt (entrants must pick up their shirts in person), plus post-race snacks and raffle tickets. Prizes are awarded to the three fastest males and females overall and in the Virginia Run residents' category. The top three runners in various age categories also receive prizes.

"Last year, we had people from as far away as California, Ohio, Kentucky, New York and New Jersey participating," said Dominic DeVincenzo, event co-chair with Laurie Horstmann. "And this year, registration is really strong again."

The 2011 Turkey Trot donated \$83,000 to Life with Cancer. Altogether, the event has contributed close to \$900,000. "My goal this year is to raise \$100,000," said DeVincenzo. "If we do, then that total will break \$1 million."

Life with Cancer helps families mentally, psychologically and emotionally. Its programs are for those with cancer and those affected by it, and children and teens learn how to cope and to show their support of loved ones.

The 5K running course is USATF-certified; both it and the 2K start and end at the Virginia Run Com-

munity Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, off Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road, in Centreville.

"Because of trail construction, we've had to reroute the walk," said DeVincenzo. "So half of Wetherburn Drive will be shut down to traffic between 8-8:45 a.m. But people will still be able to get in and out of the community."

The commemorative T-shirts were designed by Sabrina Yedigarian, who majored in graphics design at GMU and is the daughter-in-law of race-committee member Mary Mitchell. The white shirts are adorned with a drawing of a five-color turkey running.

The event takes place, rain, shine or snow, and parking is available at nearby Centreville Baptist Church, Centreville Presbyterian Church, Bull Run Elementary and Korean Central Presbyterian Church (KCPC), all off Route 29. Runners are electronically timed and results posted on www.DCTiming.com.

The main sponsor is Mitchell Eye Institute. Other major sponsors are Ourisman Chantilly Toyota, Edelman Financial Services, KCPC, Virginia Runner, Elan Tech Systems Inc., Odyssey Travel and American Windows and Siding of Va. Inc.

Race preparations have been underway since May and 150 people will help out on the big day. For example, Greg Richter is the announcer and heads up the raffle, Virginia State Trooper Dean Jones is in charge of traffic control and Fairfax County Police Officer Michelle Enright handles crowd control, helps with traffic and coordinates the walk.

But volunteers are still needed for race day and to help stuff the runners' packets and do other needed tasks, at the community center, this Saturday, Nov. 17, from 9 a.m.-noon. To lend a hand, call DeVincenzo at 703-830-7634.

In his 19th year as event chairman, for DeVincenzo, it just wouldn't be Thanksgiving without the Turkey Trot. "It's just ordinary people in a small, local community trying to help others," he said.

Basically, he explained, "This is something that everyone involved in it really enjoys doing," he said. "It's a community event, and a lot of us have been touched personally by cancer or know someone who has been. So it strikes close to home and you want to do something to help." Besides, added DeVincenzo, "It's a fun, family event where people can get a little exercise before stuffing themselves with turkey and watching football the rest of the day."

Looking Back and Going Forward

CIF celebrates achievements, past director and future goals.

By Bonnie Hobbs
Centre View

The Oct. 23 annual meeting of the Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF) came full circle. Members honored the past year's accomplishments and the former director of its labor resource center, heard a budget update, installed four board of directors members and planned for the future.

"We've had an amazing journey since our last annual meeting," said CIF President Alice Foltz. "Looking at our 2011-12 achievements, certainly the big one was the opening of the Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) in December 2011.

Shani Moser was the center director and Molly Maddra, its coordinator/organizer, and Foltz praised them both. "It was wonderful to see how Shani, supported by Molly, put together the procedures and methods of operation to make this work," she said. "Their dedication and determination made it happen."

The CIF runs the center's daily operations, and Foltz said the April 2012 international festival fundraiser raised about \$4,000 to help keep the CLRC afloat. She also noted the formation of the CIF advisory council by Jim Daniels and Marci Huntsman.

"It's 19 people who help the CIF and CLRC succeed, but can't attend monthly meetings," said Foltz. "We've gotten help and ideas from them about things such as marketing the center and fundraising."

During the meeting, Terry Angelotti, Ed Duggan, Luis Flores and Carlos Cunha were elected to new, three-year terms on the Board of Directors. Then Duggan, the CIF treasurer, and Angelotti, chairman of the Finance and Fundraising Committee, presented a budget report. As of Sept. 30, said Duggan, the CIF had an income of \$133,000



Shani Moser (left) and Molly Maddra wear scarves given to them as gifts and made by the mother of one of the workers.

and \$143,000 in expenditures, plus \$71,000 in the bank.

"Basically, we're in good shape financially," he said. "We spent a little more than we raised, but that'll change shortly."

Angelotti said the 2013 CIF budget is \$262,778. Moser resigned as center director in September to teach Spanish at Madison High, so under administrative costs is the salary for a new director. "The maximum is \$55,000, but the new one would probably start lower and get raises," said

Help Available At CLRC

Workers at the Centreville Labor Resource Center are ready to help residents clean up damage and debris from rain, wind or any other weather event.

The CLRC responds right away to general labor needs and can quickly match residents with workers to help with storm cleanup. For more detailed work such as drywall repair and painting, it can also find the particular worker needed with a day's notice. Anyone wanting to get quick help while generating income in Centreville may visit the center or call 703-543-6272.

The CLRC is a nonprofit organization that provides a safe, organized place for workers and employers to meet and arrange temporary or permanent work. No fees are charged to workers or employers; the workers are paid directly for their services.



Elected to three-year terms on the CIF Board of Directors, beginning Jan. 1, 2013 are (from left) Carlos Cunha, Luis Flores, Terry Angelotti and Ed Duggan.

Angelotti. "Molly [now the interim director] has been increased from part time to full time at a salary of \$35,000."

In addition, said Angelotti, "We'd like to hire a part-time position for \$15,000, and the director would decide what that person would focus on. There's also funding for relief and substitute staff for vacations and workshops."

She said CIF operating costs will be "just over \$20,000 for professional development consulting to increase our income and do more community outreach. The center's operating costs will be about \$82,000, but a lot of that is Al Dwoskin's in-kind donations [of the space and utilities]. The only capital expense is \$1,000 for possibly purchasing a printer and other equipment and/or repairing equipment."

Angelotti said the CIF hopes to raise \$264,000 – "\$60,000 from foundations – ideally, three grants of \$20,000 each – plus \$45,000 from corporations, \$43,000 from churches, \$50,000 from individuals and \$8,000 from our international festival. We'll also be applying to the Northern Virginia Community Foundation and the Norman Foundation."

Acknowledging Angelotti's grant-writing talents, Foltz said the CIF is always concerned about raising money. "It's necessary to always find new foundations for grants because they don't give you a grant forever," said Foltz. "We've done great to get these grants in a recession, but it's been due in large part to the hard work of Terry and her committee."

However, said Angelotti, "Having a well-run center accomplishing its goals goes a long way toward attracting grants." Foltz said the center's also received many contributions from individuals, with most people donating \$100 or less. Said Angelotti: "The \$100 level is the largest category."

"A number of churches in the area have been very generous, as well, giving us regular support throughout the year," said Foltz. "And our Communications Committee is going to improve our Web site to increase the center's online presence." She said the CIF is also considering becoming a nonprofit in its own name, instead of via Virginia Organizing.

Looking back at the past year, Moser said, "We're soaring and have gone beyond our goals of helping the [immigrant] workers find jobs. And we're finding that more of the community also needs employment help."

Noting a "continued desire to learn" on behalf of the workers, Moser said the center was beginning an evening electricity

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Alice Foltz (left) and Molly Maddra.



Miki Carrillo and Alice Foltz.

News



Standing (from left) are Air Force Master Sgt. Kevin Francis, Army CWO Mike Carlson, retired Air Force Maj. Tagg A. Timm, retired Marine Platoon Sgt. and Korean War veteran Frank Spicer, Navy veteran Leontyne Bostick and her husband, Navy Cmdr. Randall Bostick; and kneeling (from left) Colin Powell Elementary Principal Linda Clifford, Air Force veteran Mark Felder and retired Marine Jeffrey Miller.



Photo by Bonnie Hobbs/Centre View

Second-graders in Kara Haakonson's and Amy Patterson's classes sing "The Star Spangled Banner."

'Thank You for Risking Your Lives'

Colin Powell Elementary honors veterans.

By Bonnie Hobbs
Centre View

America officially celebrated Veterans Day on Monday, Nov. 12, and so did the students, teachers and staff of Colin Powell Elementary. They invited local veterans to the school, plus fire and police personnel, for their eighth annual Veterans Day Celebration.

In the school gym, students honored the veterans by reading short poems and essays they'd written, and second-graders and sixth-grade orchestra members feted them with patriotic songs and music. And decorating the halls outside the gym were student artwork in honor of Veterans Day, as well as essays in which students wrote why they're proud to be Americans.

"Today we come to honor those who've so bravely served our country in both peace and wartime, and we thank them for their service," said Principal Linda Clifford. "They stood ready to sacrifice life, itself, on our behalf."

Noting that the veterans present for Monday's event are from the school family and the local community, she said some are parents and grandparents of Colin Powell students. Said Clifford: "We honor them for standing up for the American spirit and their courage and dedication to protect the freedoms of our great nation."

SCA President Josh Valentino welcomed fellow students, teachers and veterans, and Girl Scout Troop 1852 presented the colors. SCA Vice-President Noah Tran gave the history of Veterans Day, and students held up signs representing each branch of the service while that branch's song was played and the veterans stood.

Guest speaker was Robert Mason, a Vietnam veteran who served as a Marine Corps advisor after the war. "Freedom is never free; we must always be willing to step up and protect it," he said. "During WWII, everyone played a part; the women workforce helped build up the country and its industry. Even children helped by collecting

See Honor Veterans, Page 20



"I Love My Country" is performed by second graders in Danielle Krueger's and Susan Steinberg's classes.

Second-grade students in Helena Garzon's and Patrice Mortson's classes perform "You Are Our Heroes."



A patriotic medley is sung by Colin Powell Elementary second-graders in Susan Colantonio's and Patricia O'Malley's classes.

Opinion Shop Locally ...

Small business Saturday isn't enough;
don't wait until then, and don't stop after that.

An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year that is Nov. 24. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is a day of national zeal for shopping. Presumably the next day shoppers can focus on local shopping.

It sounds like an obligation, and it is. But there is a joy to shopping in local stores at the holidays, to walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to

thrive. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

Supporting small businesses, locally owned businesses, has to be more than a one-day affair.

The economy continues to improve slowly without inspiring. But still, local families will shop and exchange gifts during the next month, spending tens of millions of dollars in a variety of places.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambience available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability

and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now. Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally-owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. Everyone will do some shopping online. But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores. Spend some time shopping in your own community, and also plan an excursion to a nearby town to check out the local businesses and holiday spirit there.

— Mary Kimm,

mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Poverty and homelessness are sometimes hard to see in Northern Virginia, but there is no shortage of families in need locally, especially at the holidays. Here are some of the local organizations ready to help, and in need of your help. Financial contributions are always preferred.

... Give Locally

Where To Give Locally

In no particular order:

United Community Ministries, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306 <http://www.ucmagency.org/>

Our Daily Bread — has been serving needy families in Fairfax County for 25 years. The Holiday Program helps those in need with food for the holidays and gifts for their children, making last year's holiday season brighter for approximately 3,000 families. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a family, go to www.odbfairfax.com/holiday

Food for Others distributed more than 2.4 million pounds of free food to families in need in Northern Virginia in the year ending June 30, 2012. The non-profit provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173. www.foodforothers.com

Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), 703-569-9160. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low income families, helping more than 5,000 people last year. www.echo-inc.org.

Lorton Community Action Center operates the Act II Thrift Shop at 9506 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Sales from the shop generate funds for LCAC and clients also shop there. Now collecting gift cards and food baskets for Thanksgiving, gifts and food baskets for Christmas, and warm coats. 703-339-8611 www.lortonaction.org.

Comfort for America's Uniformed Services (CAUSE) — ensures that recuperating

service members have opportunities for recreation and social interaction and receive concrete signs of appreciation for all that they have done. 4114 Legato Road Suite B, Fairfax, VA 22033, 703-591-4968, cause-usa.org

National Capital Food Bank, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia. capitalareafoodbank.org. 703-541-3063.

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries — food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly (near Backyard Grill and Bar). Call 703-988-9656, ext. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. 703-988-9656.

The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon, VA 20171, 571-235-3577. Last year, 139 community volunteers — nurses, nurse practitioners, and physicians — gave more than 1,300 hours of their time to see patients. jsfreeclinic.org.

Alternative House — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. www.thealternativehouse.org.

Reston Interfaith, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, restoninterfaith.org. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program and the Thanksgiving Food Drive.

SHARE of McLean seeks donations of grocery gift cards and more. Checks and gift cards can be sent to: Holiday Celebration, Share, Inc. PO Box 210, McLean, VA 22101. 703-284-2179. www.SHAREofMcLean.org

LINK, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more, needs contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, plus volunteers. More than 4,000 adults and children have

signed up for help with holiday meals. 703-437-1776 www.linkagainsthunger.org

FACETS helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251 or volunteer@facetscares.org. FACETS offers a monthly Youth Volunteer Night, with the next one scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 20, 5:30-6:30pm. Information about donations and holiday gift drive at www.facetscares.org. 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030

Committee for Helping Others (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of concerned churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. 14th Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. 703-281-7614 www.cho-va.com

Fairfax City Area FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), working with the Office of Coordinated Services Planning, Fairfax County Department of Human Services, FISH helps local citizens in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880 <http://fairfaxfish.org/>

Herndon-Reston FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 <http://herndonrestonfish.org>

Lamb Center, www.thelambcenter.org, Day center for homeless, Fairfax 703-691-3178

Northern Virginia Family Service, 10455 White Granite Drive Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124, 703-385-3267, www.nvfs.org/

CENTREVIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Newspaper of
**Chantilly / Fair Oaks
Fair Lakes**
A Connection Newspaper

*An independent, locally owned weekly
newspaper delivered
to homes and businesses.*

**Published by
Local Media Connection LLC**

**1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

*Free digital edition delivered to
your email box. Go to
connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe*

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A Connection Newspaper

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

News

CIF Celebrates Achievements

From Page 3

class Nov. 9. "We're also establishing volunteerism by the workers within the community," she said. "And I look forward to following what the CLRC is going. I think the most important thing we achieved this year is the growth of community within the center. Thank you for this opportunity."

Then Maddra discussed the center's employment picture. "In the past 10 months, the income generated through jobs going out of the center is about \$73,000 – and that's a low estimate," she said. "I'd say the true number is closer to \$100,000 because [the other figure] doesn't include street pickups – or cases where workers and employers meet in the center and make arrangements outside, or are picked up at their homes. Some workers also got permanent employment."

She said the workers logged 1,895 hours learning English. Adding that total to the other educational, occupational and financial classes they took, said Maddra, and it amounts to "2,145 learning hours through the center with no money spent. The funds came from a movie project we held, plus worker donations."

According to Maddra, 654 individual jobs were obtained through the center and 982 workers were employed. "We now have 347 regular workers and 307 registered employers," she said. "And we also want to put out fliers three times a week – including in Ashburn and Gainesville – to get more jobs."

Regarding other future goals, Maddra said the CIF wants to increase the center's educational reach and



Photo by Bonnie Hobbs/Centre View

Alice Foltz gives former center Director Shani Moser (on right) a framed certificate signed by the CIF members.

peer workshops, in which the workers teach each other their specialized skills. "They're part social and part learning, and there's nothing wrong with that," she said. "The workers learn new skills and also what they'll face in the context of the workplace."

Foltz said the center has also received "an incredible number" of volunteer hours. Stephen Vandivere chalked up the highest total with almost 300 hours.

She also said a fond farewell to worker Miki Carrillo, who planned to return home to Ixil, Guatemala, sometime this month. "He's served on the board since the center was organized," said Foltz. "We wish him good luck and Godspeed and thank him for all he's done."

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ChristmasOnThePotomac.com
or call 301-965-4122

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CENTRE VIEW

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Drug-Dealing Conspiracy Yields Prison Sentences

Pain clinic's Boccone given 15 years; Brown gets five.

By Bonnie Hobbs
Centre View

Before Paul Boccone was sentenced last week to 15 years in prison for crimes including distributing narcotics out of the Chantilly Pain Clinic, his attorney John Iweanoge tried rewriting history.

"This is not the usual drug-dealing case," he told the judge. "All the people receiving medications had pain and needed [them]. Mistakes were made, but Mr. Boccone can't be held responsible for every bad thing done by his employees. So I ask you to fashion a lighter sentence for him."

But Virginia Assistant Attorney General Marc J. Birnbaum — a former Fairfax County assistant commonwealth's attorney — set the record straight.

"That's not what happened," he said. "This defendant affirmatively entered a conspiracy to sell and distribute drugs throughout the community, Virginia and other

states. He hired employees without a pain-treatment background so he could direct what they should do [and prescribe]. He directed more than 800,000 oxycodone pills to be distributed in a one-year period."

This scene played out last Friday, Nov. 9, in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, where both Boccone, 56, the clinic's owner and president, and Charles Brown Jr., 52, a nurse practitioner there, received their sentences. Birnbaum said Boccone led a "multi-level operation" and even ordered Brown to alter the records of patients who died.

"Oxycodone abuse and the abuse of prescription drugs are a plague throughout the U.S. and this defendant was at the core," said the prosecutor. "Patients came [to Boccone's clinic] from hundreds of miles because they knew, as addicts, they could get

what they wanted there. A significant sentence is appropriate."

Then it was Boccone's turn to speak and he stood and addressed U.S. District Court Judge Claude Hilton. "I worked very hard trying to manage a

sound, stable practice," said Boccone. "I'm not a doctor; I relied on my employees to do their jobs." He also said patients sometimes gave them false information.

"I was president of the corporation, so I don't shirk that responsibility," continued

Boccone. "I'm not the kind of person who'd do something like this, with an intention to defraud or harm or put anyone in peril."

But Hilton had the final say. For seven counts total of conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance and distributing it, he sentenced Boccone to 15 years in prison. For one count of health-care fraud, he gave Boccone one year behind bars. And for 12 counts of failure to pay employment taxes, Hilton sentenced him to five years in prison.

The judge ran all the sentences concurrently, meaning Boccone has 15 years to serve. Hilton also placed him on three years supervised release, following his incarceration.

As conditions of his release, Boccone may not borrow any money without his probation officer's approval, must provide his financial records to his probation officer upon request and must pay more than \$200,000 in restitution for his unpaid taxes.

Brown was sentenced immediately after Boccone. Noting that Brown had no training in pain management, defense attorney David Williams said it was the job of the medical doctors in the practice to train Brown and review his charts daily.

"The other doctors provided the safety net and supervised what he did," said Williams. "And he never wrote any prescriptions outside the practice." Noting all the letters written on his client's behalf, Williams asked the judge to sentence Brown "well below" the sentencing-guidelines range.

"There's no question this defendant is less culpable than Mr. Boccone, but this con-

"I understand now that what I did ... crossed the line into bad medicine."

— Charles Brown Jr.

spiracy couldn't have happened without his participation," countered Birnbaum. "The defendant prescribed hundreds of thousands of oxycodone pills and his patients died of overdoses, so it's hard to deny the real-life impacts of what he did. And he knew what he was doing — why else would he alter a patient's record after death?"

Addressing the judge, Brown said he'd devoted his professional life to helping people and taking care of the sick. And before he became a nurse practitioner, he worked in research and development.

"I understand now that what I did at Chantilly Pain Clinic crossed the line into bad medicine, but I never deliberately over-prescribed," he said. "I was never told I was doing anything wrong. I was naïve, but I trusted others and believed what I was told."

Then for four counts of conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance and distributing it, Hilton sentenced Brown to five years in prison. The judge also placed him on three years supervised release once his term is completed.

As a condition of that release, said Hilton, "You must undergo drug treatment or monitoring, as requested by your probation officer."

"[Paul Boccone] affirmatively entered a conspiracy to sell and distribute drugs."

— Marc J. Birnbaum, Virginia Assistant Attorney General

Chantilly Pain Clinic: The Case's Background

Oxycodone distribution, healthcare, tax fraud.

By Bonnie Hobbs
Centre View

On Aug. 3, the owner and president of a pain clinic in Chantilly was convicted in Federal Court of conspiring to distribute and actually distributing oxycodone, a controlled drug. Paul Photiadis Boccone, 56, was also found guilty of healthcare fraud and payroll tax evasion in connection with Chantilly Specialists Ltd. pain clinic.

Charles Brown Jr., 51, a nurse practitioner with the clinic, was convicted of the same two narcotics charges. And both were sentenced to prison, last Friday, Nov. 9, in U.S. District Court in Alexandria.

Boccone prescribed medication and sometimes referred to himself as a doctor, but didn't have a medical license. And at least four of the clinic's patients died of overdoses related to the drugs they'd received there.

Trial evidence revealed that Boccone treated patients and prescribed narcotics by either forging the signatures of medical practitioners or encouraging medical prac-

tioners to endorse prescriptions that he wrote.

Brown was the lead nurse practitioner there, and prosecutors said he helped Boccone by continuing to prescribe large amounts of narcotics to patients without medical need for them.

The case against the two men was detailed in a federal indictment filed Dec. 22, 2011. A federal grand jury indicted Boccone on 28 criminal counts, and Brown — also known as Charles Conway — on four counts. The document stated the illegal activities occurred over a six-year period from Dec. 22, 2005 until the indictment date.

Boccone ran the clinic's daily operations, hired and directed employees, approved payments from the company, signed payroll checks and made financial decisions on behalf of the company.

However, the indictment also states that he told medical providers at Chantilly Specialists that "customers were to be provided with Schedule II narcotic pain medication, sometimes in direct contrast with the medical provider's clinical opinion." Schedule II drugs have a high risk of being abused by their users and often lead to severe addiction.

People would often travel more than 350 miles one way to be treated for reported severe pain. But according to the indict-

ment, "Chantilly Specialists would 'examine' 25 or more patients per provider per day. [But] each of these customers would receive only cursory examinations prior to being prescribed Schedule II narcotics."

The document further states that "Medical providers at Chantilly Specialists, including Brown, provided large amounts of prescription medication to customers they knew to be drug addicts — including patients who were not examined in person prior to issuance of the prescriptions."

It stated that Boccone would intercede on behalf of customers and "would coerce or threaten medical providers who did not prescribe the desired medication ... He also would sign [a particular] supervising physician's name on prescriptions." In addition, existing patients were encouraged by Boccone to solicit new ones to the practice, regardless of their medical requirements.

According to the indictment, in a one-year period, under Boccone's direction, Brown prescribed "over 800,000 oxycodone-based narcotic pills to approximately 600 customers. [One particular] customer was prescribed [some] 14,400 oxycodone-based pills."

The document also noted that, under Boccone's control, Brown "continued to prescribe excessive amounts of controlled sub-

stances, knowing that these distributions [had] resulted in numerous overdoses and, in some cases, deaths to customers." And in fact, three men and one woman died Oct. 3, 2009, April 7, 2010, and Feb. 1 and March 4, 2011.

ADDING TO THE CONSPIRACY, the indictment stated that, at Boccone's direction, Brown "altered at least one customer's file after Chantilly Specialists learned of his death. [And] Boccone, under subpoena to produce certain customer files, altered those files." Prosecutors also said the two men and others "obtained substantial income and resources from their illegal distribution of controlled substances."

Regarding the healthcare fraud, to submit claims to Medicare for services rendered, a doctor must enroll with Medicare and obtain and register his or her individual Medicare Provider Number. But although the clinic treated patients on Medicare and submitted claims for their services, Boccone never obtained a provider number.

As for the payroll tax evasion, the indictment stated that from Jan. 1, 2006 until Dec. 31, 2008, Boccone "did willfully fail to truthfully account for and pay over to the Internal Revenue Service all of the federal income taxes and FICA taxes" he'd withheld from his employees' paychecks.

Holiday Calendar

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

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 14

Author Discussion. 7:30 p.m. Author Don Hakenson will discuss his manuscript, "This Forgotten Land: A Tour of Civil War Sites & Other Historical Landmarks South of Alexandria" at a Civil War Forum at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Free and open to the public. The Railroad Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Rd. Call 703-425-9225 or visit www.fairfax-station.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 15

Free Lung Cancer Event. 6-8:30 p.m. In honor of National Lung Cancer Awareness Month, the Inova Thoracic Oncology Program, Inova Life with Cancer™ and the Lung Cancer Alliance are hosting a free lung cancer awareness event. At Dewberry Life with Cancer Family Center, 8411 Pennell St. Free parking. Dinner and refreshments served. Multidisciplinary discussion on current treatments in lung cancer will be presented. RSVP at 703-776-3777.

FRIDAY/NOV. 16

Solo Performance and Coaching. 11 a.m.-noon at Frost Middle School, 4101 Pickett Road. The FSO and VASTA present a solo performance and coaching session with 2012 Avery Fischer Grant recipient Benjamin Beilman. Free admission with RSVP by Wednesday, Nov. 14. Call 703-563-1990 or email rsvp@fairfaxsymphony.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 17

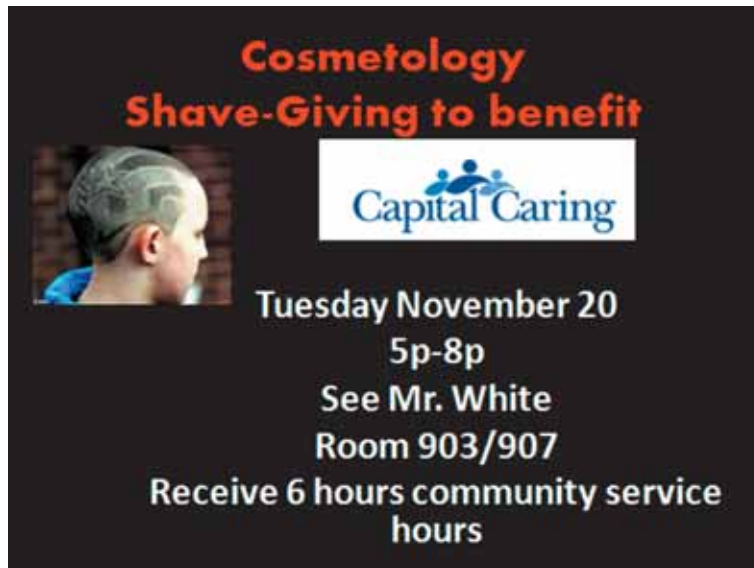
Christmas Floral Designs. 10 a.m. Learn how to make beautiful and creative holiday arrangements with artificial greens, flowers and berries. At Merrifield Gardens at Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Hwy. Call 703-968-9600 or visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com.

Celebrate a Night of Beethoven. 8 p.m. at GMU's Center for the Arts, Fairfax. Featuring Kenneth Woods, conductor and Benjamin Beilman, violin. There will be a free pre-concert discussion with Kenneth Woods at 7 p.m. Visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org or call 703-563-1990.

The Importance of Light. 1-3 p.m. Come to Sully Historic Site and make light. Learn how light regulates daily life on a farm and how it was used by the Lee family and African American slaves who worked the farm. The program includes making a candle and refreshments from the kitchen. The cost is \$5 per person. Call 703-437-1794. Sully Historic Site is located at 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly.

TUESDAY/NOV. 20

Shave Your Head. 5-8 p.m. Chantilly High School Academy's Cosmetology program is sponsoring a Shave Your Head event to benefit the Capital Caring Charity. Representatives from Capital Caring will be at this event to share information. Students can receive up to six community service hours by participating in this event. At Chantilly High School, Room 907. Call 703-222-7487 or email wwhite@fcps.edu.



**Cosmetology
Shave-Giving to benefit**

Capital Caring

**Tuesday November 20
5p-8p
See Mr. White
Room 903/907
Receive 6 hours community service
hours**

Shave-giving at Chantilly

The Chantilly High School Academy's Cosmetology class is holding a Shave-giving charity event, Tuesday, Nov. 20, 5-8 p.m. at Chantilly High School, Room 903. Students who volunteer to have their head shaved may earn 6 hours of community service. The event is being held to raise awareness of Capital Caring Hospice Charity. Visit www.fcps.edu/ChantillyAcademy/ or www.capitalcaring.org/.

SATURDAY/DEC. 1

Decorating with Holiday Greens. 10 a.m. Learn how to bring the beauty and fragrance of the holiday season indoors with fresh cut pine, holly, cedar, boxwood, magnolia and other plants. Peg Bier will share her ideas and displays. At Merrifield Gardens at Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Hwy. Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com.

Toys for Tots Event. The Ed Lang Team and Re/Max Premier will be hosting their Annual Toys for Tots Charity Movie Event at the Centreville Multiplex theatres. The event is free to local residents with the donation of at least one unwrapped new toy per guest. This charity event has brought in more than 10,000 gifts for the Toys for Tots Foundation over the past 15+

See Calendar, Page 17



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The master bedroom suite consists of a sitting room, dressing room, and large walkin closet. There are decks off the first floor and the basement level. In addition, there is a year round sun room off of the great room.

Large kitchen and great room with a formal living room and dining room. There is a fireplace in the living room and great room. The basement level is partially finished with a full bath and a 2-car garage. Cottage located about 50' from the main house and has a small kitchen—ideal as a guest cottage or mother-in-law house.

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Holiday Guide

Gearing Up for Holidays

Our Neighbor's Child needs community's help.

By Bonnie Hobbs
Centre View

Our Neighbor's Child isn't waiting until Black Friday to start planning for the holidays. It can't — not when it has to make sure that 580 local families receive Christmas presents.

Now in its 21st year, the all-volunteer, nonprofit group has already started on its massive mission of providing holiday happiness for people in need in Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fair Oaks and Fair Lakes.

But ONC can't do it alone; it counts on residents and businesses in the local community to open up their hearts and wallets and donate the new toys and clothing that's so desperately needed.

"This year, we'll be serving an estimated 2,200 children and we have more clothing requests than ever," said ONC Executive Director Kelly Lavin. "So Stephanie Somers, our ONC project leader in charge of clothing donations, needs people to 'adopt' families and purchase their children's clothing needs."

Somers may be reached at somers06@cox.net. And with the temperatures falling and winter fast approaching, the need for warm clothing — such as coats, hats, jackets, mittens, sweaters, etc. — is especially urgent.

A 2010 Brookings Institution study showed that, in Washington, D.C.'s Virginia suburbs, Centreville and Chantilly are among the top four locations in recent years with the largest increases in the number of people living in poverty. And these are the families that ONC helps.

FCPS Guidance counselors and social workers are generally the source for referrals, and the majority of the families served have qualified at income levels consistent with Fairfax County's Free and Reduced Price Lunch program.

Our Neighbor's Child: Questions and Answers

Our Neighbor's Child (ONC) volunteers are preparing for their 21st year of coordinating the community's efforts to provide holiday gifts to children from struggling families in western Fairfax County. In 2011, it delivered brand-new holiday gifts to more than 2,200 local children.

Food baskets for these same families are also provided by the community and coordinated by WFCM (Western Fairfax Christian Ministries). ONC's Founder and Executive Director, Kelly Lavin, has put together a list of answers to some frequently asked questions:

Q: What is Our Neighbor's Child and what does it do?

A: Our Neighbor's Child is a community-based organization and 501c organization that coordinates holiday assistance for children from low-income families, or those in temporary crisis in western Fairfax County. Our all-volunteer team of 28 project leaders coordinates the generous efforts of the community — local schools, churches, businesses and several hundred individuals — who give their time to make this effort possible.

Q: I'd like to help. How can I become an Our Neighbor's Child volunteer?

A: New faces are always welcome at ONC (and we really appreciate the returning ones). We will be serv-

The referrals are collected by Our Daily Bread and either re-routed to groups like Our Neighbor's Child (for western Fairfax County) or "adopted out" individually in areas without a similar organization.

So Lavin's hoping that local residents will go to the various local churches, schools and businesses hosting ONC giving trees, pick ornaments from them and buy the requested gifts for the children and teens who, otherwise, would receive nothing on Christmas.

Meanwhile, the ONC volunteers have been busy making the paper ornaments for the giving trees, collecting the families' wish lists, transferring the hoped-for items to labels and attaching the labels to the ornaments. And with nearly 7,000 ornaments and labels needed (children receive more than one gift), it's a huge undertaking.

MORE THAN 4,000 of the ornaments were made by teacher Jennifer McGee's students at Stone Middle School. And Monday night, volunteers gathered 'round a table in Centreville's Virginia Run community and attached the labels to the ornaments.

The Hagan family has opened its home for this event every year since sons Matt and Kevin were in elementary school. They're now juniors at Westfield High.

"When the number of ornaments reached the thousands, we realized we needed an 'assembly line' of support," said Lavin. "The Hagans' home has always been a favorite gathering spot for the neighborhood boys, and [parents] Mike and Kathleen were more than willing to help."

ONC database manager Nicole Rogers noted, too, how things have changed over the years. "When the boys were in elementary school, the moms used to stay and help," she said. "Now they drive themselves."

It takes some 400 volunteers overall to enable ONC
See Helping Our, Page 11

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CENTRE VIEW



Holiday Guide

Photo Courtesy of Kelly Lavin



From left: Matt Hagan, Mike Hagan, Drew Magnusson, Kathleen Hagan, Connor Rogers, Kevin Hagan and Reid Lavin attach children's Christmas-gift wishes to ornaments for 2012 giving trees.

Helping Our Neighbor's Child

From Page 10

to carry out its work. But, said Lavin, "We have a great team of project leaders. Everyone is back from last year and we've added some terrific new faces, as well." Describing ONC as "truly a community effort," she said, "We believe we've built a model that works so that, even in the toughest economic times, everyone can do a little or give something. Our efforts are divided into smaller, do-able tasks. Volunteers are encouraged to jump in where they can and the projects are designed to allow for any sort of time commitment."

"There are many 'elves' behind the scenes who work to ensure that the process goes smoothly and the attention to detail is the same from the first child to the last," continued Lavin. "We take it very seriously."

For the past few weeks, volunteers have gathered in office space donated by A&A Transfer Co. in Chantilly. Each child's gift wish was entered into a

"This year, we'll be serving an estimated 2,200 children and we have more clothing requests than ever."

— ONC Executive Director Kelly Lavin

spreadsheet in order to become a giving-tree ornament label.

Those helping with this task included Phyllis White, Denise McInerney, Nicole Rogers, Quinn Rogers, Lee Ann Mondloch and Kim Latham.

"We're still receiving referrals and would welcome a few more volunteers who are available to help with data entry now and can return later on our Dec. 13 packaging day," said Lavin.

More volunteer opportunities are available on the ONC Web site, <http://www.ourneighborschild.org>.

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Photos by Craig Sterbutzel /The Connection

September, 2012 Top Sales



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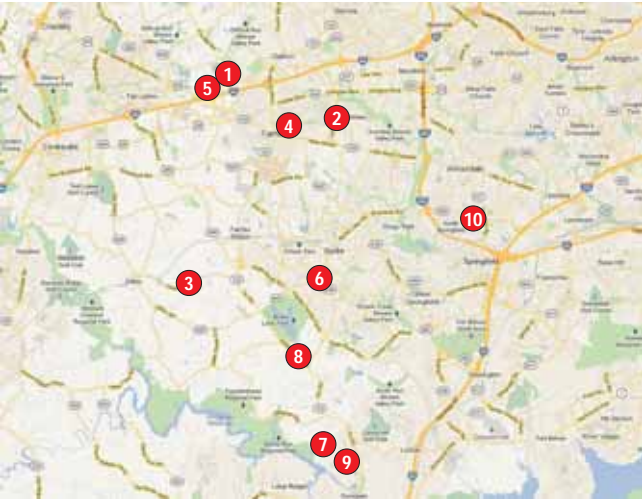
3 11820 Chapel Road, Clifton — \$1,100,000



6 6295 Timarron Cove Lane, Burke — \$1,050,000



8 7818 Ox Road, Fairfax Station — \$935,000



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2 9506 SHELLY KRASNOW LN	5	4	1	FAIRFAX	\$1,125,000	Detached	0.18	22031	PICKETT'S RESERVE	09/14/12
3 11820 CHAPEL RD	6	4	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$1,100,000	Detached	5.03	20124	SURREY ACRES	09/14/12
4 10116 DANIELS RUN WAY	5	4	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$1,100,000	Detached	0.15	22030	FARRCROFT	09/24/12
5 11397 AMBER HILLS CT	4	3	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$1,050,977	Detached	0.89	22033	ESTATES AT FAIR OAKS	09/25/12
6 6295 TIMARRON COVE LN	5	5	2	BURKE	.....	\$1,050,000	Detached	0.34	22015	TIMARRON COVE	09/27/12
7 9312 OCCOQUAN OVERLOOK DR ..	5	4	1	LORTON	.....	\$950,000	Detached	0.83	22079	OCCOQUAN OVERLOOK	09/28/12
8 7818 OX RD	5	4	2	FAIRFAX STATION	..	\$935,000	Detached	2.40	22039	NONE	09/26/12
9 9115 MARIAH JEFFERSON CT#8 ..	4	3	1	LORTON	.....	\$932,617	Detached	1.19	22079	OCCOQUAN PARK	09/21/12
10 7106 GRANBERRY WAY	4	4	1	SPRINGFIELD	\$900,000	Detached	0.40	22151	GRANBERRY ESTATES	09/14/12

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Giving Thanks In Style

Area tastemakers offer inspiration for Thanksgiving table settings.

By Marilyn Campbell
Centre View

There's more to an elegant Thanksgiving table than a perfectly roasted turkey and fluffy mashed potatoes. Local design experts say that with a little planning and a few natural elements, it is possible to set a Thanksgiving table that is as tantalizing as the food it holds.

Ann O'Shields of The Nest Egg in Fairfax, suggests simplicity and seasonality. "Less is usually more when it comes to tablescapes, and this time of year with all the beautiful colors outside, I think the best thing is to pull those into the color palate that you're going to use. Focus on the bright orange, the red, the yellow, with some green. It is always nice to be simple with the color of the service pieces, like a white or cream color. That way it shows off your decora-



Photo courtesy of The Nest Egg

Ann O'Shields, of The Nest Egg in Fairfax, suggests incorporating pumpkins and candles into a Thanksgiving table.

tions a little bit more."

Light up the table. "Candles are great," said O'Shields. "If you're going to go with pillars, I like to do more than just one set. It's nice if you can kind of repeat them all the way down the table and do them in a little cluster. If you don't have candleholders, you can hollow out the inside of a small pumpkin and use that as your

holder. That would look great going all the way down the center of a table."

Sharon Kleinman of Transition by Sharon Kleinman advises bringing the outside indoors. "I like to take to autumn leaves and scatter them down the table," she said. "A friend and I baked a cornucopia and shellacked it and filled it with vegetables. I also like to tie napkins with different things like raffia or a ribbon and add a flower to it."

Another designer who incorporates foliage is Sallie Kjos, of Grey Hunt Interiors in South Riding. "One thing you do is gather fresh leaves and press them in wax paper so that they are preserved and flat," she said. "When you are setting the Thanksgiving table, put the platter down — without the turkey — and place the leaves around it to make a decorative border. You can also do that around the dinner plates. It's easy to do and it's free, but it's very festive and looks almost like a placemat."

"I love mixing pinecones, really tall grasses and three round, boldly colored flowers with large heads like chrysanthemums," said McLean resident Jean Freeman, a professor of interior design at Marymount University in Arlington. "I use three or five different items that have different texture, colors and heights. The grasses are tall, the flowers medium height and the pines cones are low. Sometimes I will scatter yellow rose petals on the table." When it comes to pumpkins, Potomac-based designer Susan Matus suggests thinking

beyond traditional varieties. "There are so many interesting types of pumpkins, not just the traditional orange jack-o-lantern," she said. I've seen peanut pumpkins, fairytale pumpkins, sweet meat pumpkins ... they range in color from orange, to green to white and yellow and aren't always perfect. We see that people like the idea of decorating with something that they can actually use when finished. The idea of creating a centerpiece around some of these interesting pumpkins and squashes, means that after the holiday, they can be baked, whether into pies or side dishes. "

Matus adds the fall home décor is taking a cue from the runway. "Colors that seem popular are like those that hit fashion this year, ox blood red, or that deep wine color are great centerpiece options, especially since red is one of the colors that stimulates our palates," she said.

CREATE A FESTIVE MOOD with fragrance. "I use candles throughout the first floor to create inviting aromas for family and friends," said Meyer. "Another trick we use in my home is to steep mulling spices on the stovetop for a few hours. It creates a wonderful aroma full of holiday nostalgia."

Incorporate elements that can be found in the kitchen. "Adding pieces of fresh herbs to a table — in a fragrance that goes well with food — can add a nice scent," said O'Shields. "You can use rosemary, bay leaves or cinnamon cloves, which look sort of branchy and evergreen."



Photo by Gwin Hunt Photography

Potomac-based designer Sharon Kleinman incorporates elements of nature in her Thanksgiving table decor. "I like to take to autumn leaves and scatter them down the table," she said. She also uses kale, pumpkins and other produce that represent a harvest.

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HomeLifeStyle

Getting Organized for Thanksgiving

By Marilyn Campbell
Centre View

Local experts offer a survival guide.

Jill Mahon is hosting her family for Thanksgiving next week, which is, of course, the kick-off of the holiday season. But for Mahon, the holidays herald an organizational nightmare.

"The thought of getting my

house cleaned and in order for eight additional people made me feel like crawling into bed with a bag of M&Ms," Mahon, an Arlington resident, said in jest. "I got up to start planning dinner and five [minutes] later I crawled back into bed with my M&Ms."

The holidays don't have to be so logistically challenging, however. Area organization experts say, "let the planning begin" and offer suggestions for Thanksgiving and beyond.

"When it comes to the holidays, I always suggest that you start early and plan ahead," said Susan Unger, of ClutterSOS in Vienna.

Sally Reinholdt, of Closets 911, in Alexandria, says to begin by getting out a pencil and paper. "Make a list of all the things that need to be done and a date when the list needs to be completed. Write one or two things that can be accomplished each day on your calendar. Breaking down the to-do list will make it a lot less overwhelming."

SPECIAL TOUCHES, say experts, can help make out-of-town guests feel welcome. "Put together a welcome basket with extra toothbrushes and toiletries just in case your guests forgot any of their personal items," said Reinholdt. "If you know what their interests are or if they want to sightsee, spend a few minutes on the computer and print out some relevant information."

Experts say planning ahead for meals is important, particularly when one has visitors. "If you are going to have house guests, plan the other meals," said Unger. "Maybe you could make things ahead of time and put them in the freezer like a lasagna or chili. Buy a bagged salad, so it's less work. Always keep it simple."

Unger said, "When grocery shopping for the holidays, if you can, pick up everything early, maybe the non-perishables with your regular weekly shopping and save the perishables for the week of."

I tend to go to the grocery store very early in the morning the week of Thanksgiving because the stores get really busy later on and you end up waiting."

One take-charge tool that Jody Al-Saigh, of Picture Perfect Organizing, in Alexandria, recommends is a filing system. She said, "Create a holiday binder or accordion file with categories like cards, crafts, décor, food, gifts, parties, menus, lists, songs, traditions and budget."

"Have home decorating and home de-decorating parties with a few family members and friends. The whole process will go a lot more quickly and be a lot more fun," said Reinholdt.

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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

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6324 Deepwood Farm Dr.....\$589,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ed Duggan.....Century 21..703-989-7735

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Fairfax Water

**NOTICE OF WATER RATE
Public Hearing**

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2012, Fairfax Water will conduct a
public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The
hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue,
Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2013, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,700 to \$3,850t.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,000 to \$9,500.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,000 to \$1,050t.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$33 to \$35.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$8.35 to \$9.20t.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.16 to \$2.29 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.20 to \$3.45 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Turn Off / Turn On Charge from \$46 to \$50.
9. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the
Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
10. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$41 to \$44.
11. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$16 to \$17.

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at
http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm. Those wishing to speak at this
hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.
Interested parties also may submit written comments to
PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday,
December 12, 2012 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

*Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges
for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates,
Fees, and Charges.

Fairfax Water

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2013 BUDGET

Fairfax County Water Authority (Fairfax Water) is proposing a \$143.4 million budget
for calendar year 2013*.

On Thursday, December 13, 2012, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its
proposed 2013 Budget in its offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax. The public
hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m.

A copy of the proposed budget can be viewed on our Web site at
http://www.fairfaxwater.org/. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring
a copy of the proposed budget should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

Revenues are expected to be \$143.4 million in 2013. Water sales are expected to provide
\$124.6 million. Approximately \$18.8 million is expected from connection charges, invest-
ment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	-- \$1,000s --	
	2012	2013
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$46,473	\$48,367
Power and Utilities	11,345	11,686
Chemicals	6,694	7,968
Fuel	916	960
Postage	547	460
Insurance	1,300	1,107
Supplies and Materials	3,976	4,233
Contractual Services	8,749	8,657
Professional Services	1,656	1,902
Other	2,005	2,285
Sub-Total	83,661	87,625
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(9,559)	(9,613)
Total	74,102	78,012

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$39,374,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$14,068,000

* Fairfax Water's Board will continue to monitor economic factors and review revenues
and expenditures at mid-year to determine if additional action is needed.

A.O. "K," Emotionally

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Well, I did, along with 2,000 or so other like-minded individuals, walk the Walk on November 4th: Five Ks, although not exactly the route mapped out by the literature provided by the LUNGEvity Foundation. (If truth be told, our group, "Team Kenny's Column" veered off course prematurely by a "K" or so to attend to some prearranged business, unfortunately). Nevertheless, we started the Walk behind the Washington Monument, then alongside the Reflecting Pool up toward the Lincoln Memorial, stopped at the steps for a "photo op," then returned on the other side of the Reflecting Pool back down to 7th Street, then across the Mall – with the U.S. Capitol in our sights, finally turning back along the sidewalk bordering the Mall and returning to the Start/Finish.

Twenty-two registrants from our "team" paid their money and made their presence felt. Spirits were high even though the temperature was low, in the 40s. Still, the sun was mostly shining, the breeze was light, and the turnout was record-setting, as was the money raised: over \$261,000 as of November 10, 2012 (the site, www.LUNGEvity.org will remain active/open through December 31st for donations), and the greater good was most definitely served.

As a "survivor," I was given a green t-shirt with "Survivor" printed on the front; the other participants received blue t-shirts without being so identified. In addition, we all received LIVESTRONG-type wrist bracelets with "www.lungevity.org" and "Cure Lung Cancer" printed on them. I wore my bracelet proudly that day, (as everyone did) and even kept it on my wrist when I went to bed that night. However, I had trouble sleeping and attributed it to the bracelet reminding my brain that I have cancer. Feeling a physical reminder like that touched me – subconsciously. And though I may wear my emotions on my sleeve, as you regular readers know, having such a constant reminder of my cancer diagnosis dangling on my wrist didn't seem to help me fall asleep. I know I have cancer. I don't need to be convinced. Nor do I need to be reminded all the time. Forgetting helps too.

And if I did forget about having cancer, it would qualify as a mental health moment. Being diagnosed with cancer is bad enough, especially the kind (non-small cell lung cancer, or NSCLC) that I have, which is, at present, incurable/terminal ("Treatable," my oncologist said, "but not curable;" words I never imagined hearing at age 54 and a half). Forgetting about my diagnosis, as often as possible and living life – as normally as possible, has been a part of my process diagnosis-to-date. Though sometimes it seems irresponsible to do so, and almost inappropriate even, concentrating and focusing on it/the disease/my compromised life expectancy shall we say, 24-7 seems counter-productive. It's sort of a bastardized version of: "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." Somehow, I have to live my life like I have a life, not like I have a cancer. I'm not giving up, and I'm not giving in. I'm just making the best of bad situation. And as bad as it is, I don't need to make it any worse. If it sounds counter-intuitive, it probably is. But that's life in the cancer lane. One conundrum after another.

Participating in Breathe Deep DC/ LUNGEvity Foundation's 5K made that life better. And "better" is all I can ask for. Thanks to all who organized, volunteered, participated and donated their time, energy and money. See you all next year.

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

Holiday Calendar

From Page 9

years. Some of the past sponsors and participants include the Marines, Girl Scout Troops, Rocky Run Middle School Band and Choir, St. Timothy's Conquest Boys Clubs, and many local community member volunteers.

THROUGH DEC. 5

Yogurt Lid Collection. Western Fairfax Alumnae of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity are collecting pink Yoplait yogurt lids. For each lid collected 10 cents will be donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Community drop off location is Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Rd. Centreville. Call 703-631-8238.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 7-9

Sugarloaf Craft Festival. Visitors can shop a variety of sculpture, glass, jewelry, fashion, wood, metal, furniture, accessories, photography and fine art – all hand-crafted by more than 300 artists who have been jury selected for this show. Live music, children's entertainment and gourmet goodies from dozens of specialty food vendors will make the Festival a great destination for the entire family. Admission is \$8 online, \$10 at the door. Free for children under 12. Admission is valid all three days. Visit www.sugarloaforcrafts.com or call 800-210-9900. Free parking. At Dulles Expo Center, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Show hours: Friday, Dec. 7: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 9: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

SATURDAY/DEC. 8

Toy Train Show. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The Washington, Baltimore & Annapolis Chapter (WB&A) of the

Train Collectors Association will be holding a Holiday Toy Train Show and Sale at the Shriner's Kena Temple, located at 9001 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Attendees of all ages will get into the holiday spirit at the Holiday Show, which will include working layouts of model trains of all types and gauges. Model trains, track, and components will also be available for sale. Admission is \$5, free for children under 12 and Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in uniform (when accompanied by an adult); active members of the military, National Guard, Coast Guard, and Reserves; and members of the WB&A. Call James or Colleen Hall at 540-497-1840 or email memberwba@gmail.com.

THROUGH DEC. 24

Fair Oaks Enchanted Ice Palace Holiday Tradition. Open during all Fair Oaks regular and holiday hours. Fair Oaks' Ice Palace features a 30-foot ice dome with falling snow, interactive multi-sensory elements, larger-than-life snow globes, Ice Throne and light show beneath twinkling icicles descending from Fair Oaks' 65-foot Grand Court atrium. New this year will be showcases of the beloved prehistoric herd from the family film Ice Age: Continental Drift. The 1,200 square foot Ice Palace will culminate with a visit to Santa and a complimentary Ice Age gift. Fair Oaks will also celebrate the eight days of Hanukkah with a display adjacent to the Ice Palace featuring the history and significance of the dreidel (sevivonim). ASL Signing Santa and Signing Mrs. Claus will remain in the Ice Palace throughout the day Thursday, Dec. 6 through 9:30 p.m. to welcome shoppers. Free and open to the public. Visit www.ShopFairOaksMall.com or call 703-279-2708. In the Fair Oaks Grand Court.



Pets will have the chance for photos with Santa at Fair Oaks Mall.

'Santa Paws' at Fair Oaks Mall

Fair Oaks Mall will offer guests five opportunities during the holidays to have their pets' pictures taken with Santa at the Ice Palace, locally presented by Cox Communications. The annual Fair Oaks Mall "Santa Paws" will be offered on Sunday, Nov. 18 from 6:45-8:30 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 25 from 8-9 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 2 from 7:30-9 a.m. and 8-9 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 9 from 8-9:30 p.m.

Set against the enchanted Ice Palace, the 1,200-square foot centerpiece of the Fair Oaks Mall holiday celebrations, dogs and cats with their owners and families will have the opportunity to pose for commemorative professional photos with Santa.

For those purchasing a special photo package that includes four 5x7s, four 4x6s, four 3x5s, four wallet sizes and a hi-res portrait CD, Fair Oaks Mall will donate \$10 to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

Owners with their dogs and cats will be able to access Fair Oaks Mall during "Santa Paws" hours only from the lower level south east entrance adjacent to Todai Japanese Seafood Buffet. Whether they've been naughty or nice, all pets must be on a leash or in a lightweight cage or pet carrier with a harness. Dogs and cats must be up-to-date with their shots and owners will be responsible for their pets at all times.

Bulletin Board

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

TUESDAYS AND/OR THURSDAYS

Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Classes are held in a heated indoor pool and are designed to work on balance and core muscles in order to prevent injuries and falls. At The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Dr. Registrations are required. Call 703-667-9800 to register as space is limited. Cost is \$10 per class.

THURSDAY/NOV. 15

Lung Cancer Screening. 6-8:30 p.m. The Inova Lung Cancer Screening Program offers low dose CT scans, with a cost of \$310, for individuals matching the following criteria: Age 55 - 74 and with more than 30 packs per year history of smoking; smoking cessation less than 15 years; or age 50 years and older and with more than 20 packs per year history of smoking, and one additional risk factor (other than second-hand smoke). In addition to the screening, the Inova Thoracic Oncology Program, Life with Cancer and the Lung Cancer Alliance are hosting an awareness event featuring a multidisciplinary discussion on current treatments in lung cancer. At Dewberry Life with Cancer™

Family Center, 8411 Pennell St. Call 703-776-3777 to schedule or to RSVP for the event.

FRIDAY/NOV. 16

Shabbat Service. 7:30 p.m. At Temple Beth Torah located at 4212-C Technology Court, Chantilly. Call Jennifer Harding 703-217-8938 or visit www.BethTorah.net.

SATURDAY/NOV. 17

Disaster Shelter Workshop. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. American Red Cross Disaster Shelter Workshop in conjunction with the American Red Cross and the Lott Carey Foreign Baptist Convention, MOBC is sponsoring a disaster shelter workshop. Free, registration is required. Lunch provided for a free-will donation. Visit <https://classes.redcross.org> to register. Contact beverly.williams@mountolive-church.org. Mount Olive Baptist Church, 6660 Old Centreville Rd.

MONDAY/NOV. 19

"Personality Profile: Identifying Your Strengths." 7 p.m. The GFWC-Western Fairfax County Woman's Club will host a presentation on the D.I.S.C. Behavioral/Personality Profile. At Greenbriar Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road. Free and

open to the public. Call 703-631-7093 or e-mail westernfairfaxcountywc@gmail.com.

Centreville Garden Club

Thanksgiving Event. 7 p.m. Thanksgiving centerpieces, handcrafted gifts for senior centers. Bring fresh flowers to arrange at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Open to the public and members. Meetings generally 3rd Monday each month. Email centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 30

Shabbat Service. 7:30 p.m. At Temple Beth Torah located at 4212-C Technology Court, Chantilly. Call Jennifer Harding at 703-217-8938 or visit www.BethTorah.net.

SATURDAY/DEC. 1

Nosh & Dosh with Rabbi Block. 10:30 a.m. "We're Going on a Guilt Trip and the Rabbi's Driving!" At Temple Beth Torah located at 4212-C Technology Court, Chantilly. Call Jennifer Harding at 703-217-8938 or visit www.BethTorah.net.

ONGOING

Volunteers Needed. Our Neighbor's Child is coordinating holiday assistance (gifts of new toys and new clothing) for

children of families in financial crisis in Centreville, Chantilly and Western Fairfax. Assistance is made possible through the support of local churches, schools, businesses, and individuals. The number of requests for winter coats/jackets and other warm clothing is high again this year. Specific information (sizes, etc.) will be available before Thanksgiving. Contact Stephanie Somers at somerss@cox.net. For volunteer opportunities or to make a monetary donation, visit www.ourneighborschild.org.

White House Ornament Sale.

The Western Fairfax County Woman's Club is selling 2012 White House Christmas ornaments. The ornaments cost \$19. Proceeds benefit charity. Order by calling 703-378-6841 or 703-378-6216. It is possible to order previous years' ornaments.

Holiday Greenery.

Order holiday greenery from the Westfield H.S. crew team. Select from two sizes and colors of florist quality poinsettias and mixed wreaths. Order online now, visit <http://poinsettiasale.westfieldcrew.org/>. Orders due by Nov. 16 with pickup on Nov 28. Contact Candis Anhalt, anhalt.dc@cox.net.

ReStore Anniversary Event.

The main goal of the ReStore (4262 Entre Court, Chantilly) is to fund Habitat for Humanity. To donate, call 703-360-6700 or visit www.restorenova.org.

Chantilly Wins First Boys' XC State Championship

Sean McGorty wins individual title, sets course record.

By Jon Roetman
Centre View

As a peerless Sean McGorty approached the finish line at the VHSL state cross country meet, a championship all but secured, the only question remaining was whether the Chantilly senior would break the Great Meadow course record.

Moments later, it was clear McGorty would do to the course record what he did to his competition during the AAA boys' race: destroy it.

McGorty won the 2012 state title with a course-record time of 14:47 on Nov. 10. The previous record of 15:02 was set by Jamestown's Andrew Colley in 2008. McGorty finished 42 seconds ahead of his nearest competitor, Lake Braddock's Nick Tuck, and ended the VHSL cross country season undefeated.

"I knew the course record was 15:02, so coming into it that was the goal," McGorty said. "To break it by that much, it's amazing. I'm thrilled with it and I'm thrilled to see I'm still in good shape heading into [the] Foot Locker [regional meet on Nov. 24]. ... Having records [to chase] is just like having someone running right next to you."

MCGORTY'S PERFORMANCE helped the Chantilly boys' team capture its first state championship. The Chargers finished with a score of 57, followed by Midlothian



Chantilly senior Kendall Cowne earned all-state honors with a 10th-place finish during the AAA girls' race at the VHSL state cross country meet on Nov. 10 at Great Meadow.



Chantilly's Logan Miller, left, edges Edison's Louis Colson for third place at the VHSL state cross country meet on Nov. 10 at Great Meadow.



Chantilly senior Sean McGorty won the AAA boys' state cross country title on Nov. 10 at Great Meadow with a course-record time of 14:47.

(72) and Battlefield (128).

The top three teams are honored at the podium and the top 15 individuals receive all-state honors.

Chantilly's Logan Miller placed third with a time of 15:36. Faris Sakallah (16:05) finished 23rd (team score of 14), Ryan McGorty (16:13) was 32nd (18) and Adam Huff (16:15) finished 35th (21).

"To say it's satisfying probably belittles it," Chantilly head coach Matt Gilchrist said. "I'm so happy for these guys."

Miller, a senior, earned all-state for the second consecutive season. He placed eighth in 2011 with a time of 15:54.

"It still hasn't sunk in; I don't think it ever will," Miller said. "We made history today and it will last forever and I just can't fathom that. It's great to be on a team with these guys because most of us freshman and sophomore year, we were really slow. To see all of us come up from nothing to living our dreams, it's pretty cool."

THE CHANTILLY GIRLS' TEAM finished sixth with a score of 145. Lake Braddock won the team title with a score of 47, followed by Oakton (101) and Midlothian (101). Oakton finished runner-up due to a sixth-runner tiebreaker.

Chantilly senior Kendall Cowne earned all-state with a 10th-place time of 18:29. Last year, Cowne finished 55th with a time of 19:54.

"Last year, I didn't really know what to expect," Cowne said. "This year I also felt a



Chantilly senior Sean McGorty runs ahead of the field during the AAA boys' race at the VHSL state cross country meet on Nov. 10 at Great Meadow.

little more confident running with the girls I ran with. I think the difference was just

the experience and I feel like I'm a better runner than I was last year."#

Sports Brief

Concorde Dominates D6 Football Playoffs

The Northern Region Division 6 football semifinals are composed entirely of teams from the Concorde District.

No. 1 Westfield will host No. 4 Chantilly and No. 3 Centreville will host No. 7 Oakton at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 16. Westfield defeated No. 8 West Springfield, 49-7, in the quarterfinals on

Nov. 9. Chantilly defeated No. 5 Robinson, 56-21, Centreville beat No. 6 West Potomac, 28-11, and Oakton knocked off No. 2 Lake Braddock, 20-13.

Westfield defeated Chantilly, 24-21, during the regular season on Oct. 5 and Centreville beat Oakton, 49-28 on Nov. 2.

Roundups

From Page 3

Centreville Elementary Seeks Grant

Centreville Elementary has been nominated by its PTA for a \$50,000 Clorox Bright Futures® Grant. If awarded, the grant will be used to support the school's healthy movement initiative. The school will install a running/walking track for the students and community. This is a nationwide competition, and the entity with the most votes will win.

Anyone from the community may vote twice a day (once online at <https://powerabrightfuture.clorox.com/nominees/detail/?nid=2099> and once by texting 2099pbf to 95248). Anyone 13 and older may vote every day until Dec. 19. So Centreville counselor Lee Kaiser is asking residents to "please vote, and tell your friends and family to do it, too."

WFCM Seeks Food, Volunteers

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) food pantry urgently needs donations of oil (48 oz. or smaller); flour (2-5 lb. bag); sugar (2-5 lb. bag); rice; canned meats; salad dressing, jelly; jam; peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, Ramen Noodles, canned fruit; canned beets and collard greens; canned soup and beans; dry pasta and beans; ketchup, mustard, pancake mix and syrup; hot and cold cereal and coffee. In addition, the Food Pantry would appreciate fresh produce, such as tomatoes, from local gardens.

Also needed are laundry detergent, toothpaste, shampoo, toilet paper and diapers (sizes 4, 5 & 6). WFCM clients are also in great need of gasoline cards.

Bring all items to WFCM's food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive (near Backyard Grill and Bar) in Chantilly. Volunteers are also needed:

Thrift store: Volunteers are needed Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., to receive donations. Contact Volunteer Manager Annette Bosley at 703-988-9656.

Food pantry: Regular volunteers are needed to pick up donated food from Costco on Thursday mornings and from Harris Teeter on Fridays between 9-10 a.m.

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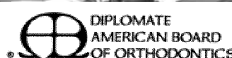
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Colin Powell Elementary Honors Veterans

From Page 5

things such as milkweed, which was used for life vests aboard ships."

Mason listed all the wars, including the Cold War, in which the U.S. participated. "And all through it, we've always had the threat of terrorism," he said. "So, thank you, to the first responders here today. It's important that we maintain our freedom against all enemies, both foreign and domestic."

After WWII, said Mason, "The G.I. Bill paid for veterans to go to college, and our whole nation improved because of this great education level." He then presented Clifford with the book, "A Proud American," about military hero Joe Foss, for the school library.

Students in several second-grade classes sang patriotic songs and sixth-grade advanced-strings

students performed, "America." Fifth-graders Seonmin Cho and Joseph Burton read their poems titled, "You Are," about soldiers' feelings and bravery during war-time.

Reading his essay, fourth-grader Daniel Carlson said, "In second grade, my dad had to go to the Iraq War to keep us safe and free. Thank you, Dad, and thank you, U.S.A." His father, Army CWO Mike Carlson, was in the audience, and his mother, Tara Carlson, teaches third grade at Colin Powell.

Likewise, classmate Dhwani Suriana said, "I'm proud to be an American because our veterans leave their families to protect our country. If we didn't have them, we wouldn't have as much freedom and power."

Sixth-graders Melissa Friedrich and Macy Owens also expressed

their gratitude to the veterans. "Thank you for risking your lives to keep people you don't even know safe," said Melissa. "We're proud to call you veterans."

"Thank you for your miraculous courage to protect our country," said Macy. "Because of you, so many lives have been saved or made better. Every soldier in every American army makes a difference."

After the ceremony, Air Force veteran Mark Felder of Centreville's Faircrest community said he was in the Pentagon on Sept. 11, so this event "brought back some heartfelt memories. I have a second-grader here, Victoria, and I'm ecstatic that I could participate. It was an honor to see that our youth, particularly at this age, have the respect and admiration for the veterans who served our country."

"The students spoke of freedom and liberty, and a lot of them mentioned the sacrifices we all make," continued Felder. "And it makes it all worthwhile to know [they realize that] — especially when we're in harm's way or at great distances from our loved ones. It makes me proud to be an American."

Also happy was Air Force Master Sgt. Kevin Francis, who's been on active duty for 19 years. His daughter Kezia is in second grade at Colin Powell. "It was amazing — really outstanding," said Francis. "Every aspect of the program was heartwarming and touching."

He said the event instills patriotism and appreciation of service to one's country. So, said Francis, "We can be encouraged that, when it's time for the next generation to do its part, it will continue that



Photo by Bonnie Hobbs/Centre View

Guest speaker Robert Mason, a Vietnam War veteran.

legacy."

Jeffrey Miller, who retired from both the Marines and a California police department, has a son Josh in second-grade at Colin Powell. "This is my fifth time here for Veterans Day because my daughter Jennifer also went here; and every year, it's moving. "The support and appreciation is so open and sincere," said Miller. "It helps me feel that my 30 years of service were well-spent and appreciated."

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