

FEBRUARY 7 - 13, 2013

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE



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Cast members of "Conform" are (back row, from left) Maddie Helms, Jeremy Washington, Ashley Rosenstein, Amita Rao, Caroline Collier, Cameron Daly and Stephanie Rathjen; and (front row, from left) Josh Lee, David Strauch and Marcus Schmidt.

## From Serious to Hilarious

### Centreville High presents its One-Act Play Festival.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Comedy, drama and everything in between are on tap during Centreville High's One-Act Play Festival. It's slated for Friday, Feb 15, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets, good for both days, are \$5 at the door.

Six short, student-directed plays will be presented, and all will run each of the two days. And that Saturday, the audience will receive a bonus, one-act play, "Deliver Us Not," a hilarious conver-

sation among three fetuses in the womb, discussing the world beyond what they know.

"These kids are really dedicated to what they're doing," said Centreville Theater Director Mike Hudson. "They've planned this for two years. They've got great ability to judge the talent of those who've auditioned, and they've made mature choices."

"I can see and hear myself in them when they're running their rehearsals, and it's been eye-opening for me," he continued. "And by being directors themselves, they've realized the reasons for some of my choices."

The student directors are all seniors, and their shows are: "Everything You Want," "Louder, I Can't Hear You," "Circuits," "Conform," "Balloon Shot"

SEEFESTIVAL. PAGE 8



Centreville's student directors are (from left) Binta Barry, Ashley Rosenstein, Kent Clingman, Sarah Wills, Daniel Lindgren and Emma O'Brien.

## Bank Approved For Centreville Site

### BB&T is coming to Sully Station Shopping Center.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

It's official — at long last, something is being built on the vacant pad site at the right end of the Sully Station Shopping Center. That something will be a BB&T Bank, which got a thumbs-up, last Tuesday, Jan. 29, from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

"It finally closes the loop," said Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully). That shopping center was built in 1986 and, although businesses moved into the rest of the center, nothing ever came to the free-standing portion on one side of it. Said Frey: "I've never seen a pad site sit empty so long."

The shopping center is on Stone Road in Centreville and, over the years, many businesses expressed interest in going there, but they were never the right fit. "There were fast-food restaurants, gas stations, even a car-repair place," said

Frey. "But I told them 'no' because I didn't think there was any way the community would accept them because of the noise and traffic congestion they'd bring."

But a bank is less intrusive, he said. "This use is quieter, has less traffic and will have a lower profile and lights, plus shorter hours," said Frey. "The vehicle drive-throughs are one way and the parking is separate. And a lot of people use banks for the ATMs, and that spreads the traffic out even more because that's available 24 hours a day."

Before the supervisors approved the project, it received an OK from the county Planning Commission on Nov. 29. But its first stop was at a meeting of the Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee, where attorney Bob Lawrence presented details of the plan.

BB&T stands for Branch Banking and Trust, and the new bank will be in a 3,221-square-foot building. It'll have two drive-through windows and a drive-up ATM machine.

"Instead of office buildings, with more square footage — as origi-

SEE BANK. PAGE 10



An artist's rendition of the new BB&T Bank that will be built in the Sully Station Shopping Center in Centreville.

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# NEWS

## Watch D.O.G.S.

Union Mill Elementary has the Watch D.O.G.S. program at its school for the 2012-2013 school year. Watch D.O.G.S. stands for Dads Of Great Students, a nationally recognized father involvement, educational initiative that allows fathers and father figures to be positive role models in schools, while providing extra eyes for safety and security. At Union Mill, Watch D.O.G.S. volunteers spend an entire school day helping in classrooms, the cafeteria, gymnasium, and library, as well as assisting with the arrival and dismissal of students at the main entrance, in the bus loop, and at Kiss-N-Ride. Since Union Mill launched their WATCH D.O.G.S. program in November 2012, more than 20 dads, uncles, grandfathers, and other father figures have volunteered.



PHOTO BY EDISON RUSS/CENTRE VIEW

## 20 Years in Business

Centreville Square Animal Hospital, part of Northern Virginia Veterinary Associates, is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

NVVA hospitals are accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association, and they offer boarding and grooming services in addition to providing veterinary care.

Most of the animals that go through the Northern Virginia Veterinary Associates hospitals are dogs and cats, but they do treat the occasional bird, ferret or potbellied pig.

Dr. Adam Ainspan began working at Centreville Square Animal Hospital 20 years ago

and bought it with his partner, Dr. Jay Margolis, in 1992. Ainspan and Margolis met at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine.

Ainspan also owns Graham Grace stables, which races horses in Delaware, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. "They never race too much," Ainspan said. "They never race too young. All the bad things you hear about horse racing, we try to avoid [through] the way that we raise our horses and the way that we race them."

— EDISON RUSS



**Fun with Dads** During a recent morning filled with sports activities, dads wear their favorite team jerseys and get to interact with their children and other dads at Clifton Children's Academy. Families are from Centreville, Clifton, Chantilly and Burke. Clifton Children's Academy, located in Centreville, is celebrating its 15th year serving the community. Visit [www.childrensacademy.com](http://www.childrensacademy.com).

## Learning about Lacrosse



On Jan. 24 and 25, students at Union Mill Elementary learned about lacrosse. Coaches and volunteers from Southwestern Youth Association (SYA) Lacrosse demonstrated skills and rules of the game. Students went through various stations where they practiced their scooping, throwing, and other ball handling skills. All Union Mill students in grades K-6 participated during their PE classes.

## ROUNDUPS

### Help Improve School Safety

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Sully District Police Station will host a program called "School Safety Starts With You." It's set for Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

Parents curious about the measures and steps in place to protect their children at school are urged to attend and learn how safe their children are and what their role is in keeping them safe. Residents are encouraged to bring their comments, questions and concerns.

Said Capt. Ed O'Carroll, the station commander, "We want to further our commitment to school safety by educating parents about security awareness, as well as how they can assist us in keeping public and private schools safe."

School safety experts from the FCPS Office of School Safety and Security, and the Fairfax County Police Department's School Resource Officer (SRO) program, will be on hand to present information and answer questions. For more information, call Sully Station Crime Prevention Officer Tara Freucht at 703-814-7018.

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Feb. 14, 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.

### Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) food pantry urgently needs donations of spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, rice (2-lb. bags), canned pasta, peanut butter, canned tuna and meat, hot and cold cereal, fruit juice, and pancake mix and syrup.

Bring all items to WFCM'S new food-pantry location at 13888 Metrotech Drive, near Papa John's Pizza and Kumon Learning Center, in Chantilly's Sully Place shopping center.

The WFCM thrift store is slated to reopen Saturday, Feb. 16, at 13939 Metrotech Drive, near the Lotte Market, also in Sully Place. Store hours will remain the same -Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. But starting Tuesday, Feb. 19, donation hours for clothing, household goods and furniture will be Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Citizens Fire and Rescue Academy

Area residents wanting to learn more about the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department may now have the chance. They may participate in a nine-week program showing them what firefighters and paramedics do every day.

Applications to the first-ever Citizens Fire and Rescue Academy will be accepted until Feb. 18 or until the class of 25 is filled. The free program is open to those at least 18 years old. The academy will begin March 28, 2013, meeting for nine consecutive weeks, from 6-9 p.m., at various locations.

Each session will cover different aspects of the organization, providing an in-depth overview of it and its uniformed and civilian workforce. Program topics include fire suppression, emergency medical services, training, recruitment and special operations. Apply at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cfa](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cfa).

### Meals on Wheels Volunteers

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

## NEWS

CENTRE VIEW EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN  
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**Julie Kearns, A Forever Home Rescue Foundation volunteer, prepares to give one of the rescues to its foster home where it will await a permanent adopter.**



**A Forever Home Rescue Foundation volunteer receives a new collar for the rescue dog he will be looking after until a permanent adopter can be found.**

**Above, Julie Kearns, A Forever Home Rescue Foundation volunteer, surveys the arriving dogs who have just been rescued from a backyard breeder in rural Virginia on Saturday morning, Feb. 2. The 21 dogs were brought to the Greenbrier Shopping Center parking lot in Chantilly where some of them were taken to foster homes. In the days following the rescue, the dogs will be groomed and receive any medical care that they might need, which is estimated to cost between \$30,000-\$50,000.**



**Above, Joanna Kay, A Forever Home Rescue Foundation foster parent from Centreville, receives her rescue dog that she will take care of until a permanent adopter is found.**



**Julie Kearns and Greg Brummett, A Forever Home Rescue Foundation volunteers, check to make sure each dog who is put in to foster care is carefully documented and accounted for.**

PHOTOS BY  
AARON THOMAS  
CENTRE VIEW

# ‘How Far Should Science Push?’

Westfield High presents “Flowers for Algernon.”

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

The past two years, Westfield High won a slew of Cappie awards with musicals. But this time, its Cappies show is “Flowers for Algernon,” a thought-provoking drama with a serious message.

The curtain rises Friday-Saturday, Feb. 15-16, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 17, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance via [www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com](http://www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com), and \$12, adults, and \$10, students, at the door. All seating is reserved.

“The kids wanted to do a drama this year and I have really strong actors, so I wanted to highlight them,” said Director Susie Pike. “And I love this play’s message that there’s always hope, and we need to accept all people and look at everyone’s strengths and gifts.”

In the play, Charlie Gordon is a 32-year-old mentally challenged man with a 68 IQ. But he undergoes an experiment — previously only tested on mice — that raises his IQ to genius level. “The story’s also about his relationships with his teacher, parents and doctors, and what happens when he realizes he’s beginning to revert back,” said Pike. “It’s very poignant.”

There’s a cast and crew of 36 and, said Pike, “It’s beautiful for me to watch these young adults portraying such complex characters. And this play, as in all art, allows us to discuss major issues, such as, should we do experiments on people, and how far should science push?”

“We live in a time of exciting, medical advances and people surviving things they didn’t before, because of new treatments,” she continued. “But most of all, we have to respect human beings and who they are — and that’s what I want people to go home with. I also want them to say, ‘Wow, these kids are really fantastic and not afraid to tackle serious issues and complex characters with integrity.’”

The story takes place in 1965, so the actors are also having fun exploring the attitudes and clothing of that time period. Student Zoe Hawryluk is the costume designer, and she scoured thrift shops to find appropriate items. “We’re lucky because a lot of the 1960s-inspired clothes are coming back into style today,” she said.

So the boys will wear skinny-lapel suits, narrow ties and flat-front pants. Girls will wear skirts, dresses, saddle shoes and pearls. “They wore more formal clothing then,” said Hawryluk. “People dressed up, men wore hats and girls rarely wore pants or shorts.”

Junior Brandon Sanchez designed the set; scenes will take place in a bakery, a doctor’s office, laboratory, two apartments and Charlie’s mother’s house.

“I tried to show people the inner workings of Charlie’s mind through the set,” said Sanchez. “For example, whenever Charlie has a flashback of his family, the set opens up to reveal a maze behind it. We’re also using period furniture, like couches and desks, to show the ’60s time period. It’s fun thinking of things and putting them on paper; and then seeing them come to life on build day is really special.”

Playing Charlie is senior Mitchell Buckley. “At first, he’s innocent and naïve because of his mental disabilities,” said Buckley. “But he’s essentially good, sweet and a nice guy who likes to help people; he just wants people to like him. As he becomes more intelligent, he becomes a little more cynical and less forgiving of people’s faults.”

Buckley said it’s challenging to accurately portray Charlie’s mental disabilities and then show him as a changed person. “It’s a huge, character arc,” he said. “So it’s interesting playing someone so childlike as a grown man and then beginning to question his views of the world as he becomes more intelligent.”

Buckley said the audience will see Charlie’s goodness and will be sympathetic toward him. And, he added, “That’ll make the play’s events have a powerful effect on them.”

Senior Madeleine Bloxam plays Alice Kinnian, a night-school teacher for mentally chal-

lenged adults, including Charlie. “She’s sweet and has Charlie’s best interests at heart,” said Bloxam. “She cares deeply for him as a student; and later, as their relationship grows, she falls in love with him.”

Since their relationship has to change and blossom on stage, Kinnian changes along with Charlie. “But as he gets smarter, she’s less confident about her own intellectual ability,” said Bloxam. “And she realizes there’s nothing more for her to teach him.”

She said the audience will like the play’s humanity. “It makes a statement that sometimes these experiments were unethical in the way the subjects were treated,” said Bloxam. “And this show has so many themes — love, finding identity, family relationships — that it has a broad spectrum of concepts people can connect with.”

Portraying Dr. Strauss, the main psychologist studying the aftermath of Charlie’s operation, is Sanchez. “He’s dedicated to his work because this is such an extraordinary experiment in psychology,” said Sanchez. “He and Professor Nemur are both excited about it, but Strauss sees Charlie’s more human aspect and is more sympathetic to him as a person. But still, his primary goal is to finish the experiment and show the scientific community its effects.”

Sanchez is enjoying working with Alex Mann, who plays Nemur, “because our characters are similar in some ways, so it’s fun being part of a pair.” He said the story will make people think about their views “toward people with mental issues and treat people more how they’d want to be treated.”

Nemur’s the doctor who operates on Charlie and follows his progress afterward. Mann, a senior, describes his character as focused on his work and wanting to be on science’s cutting edge. “And that often gets in the way of his humanity,” said Mann.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

In character for Westfield’s “Flowers for Algernon” are (back row, from left) Alex Mann and brothers Brandon and Julian Sanchez and (front, from left) Madeleine Bloxam and Mitchell Buckley



Madeleine Bloxam and Mitchell Buckley rehearse a scene from Westfield’s upcoming Cappies play, “Flowers for Algernon.”

“He’s done this procedure on mice, so he doesn’t know how to change his attitude toward Charlie and treats him as an object.”

But, said Mann, “When Charlie develops mentally and emotionally, his eyes are opened to the doctor’s treatment of him. You can feel Nemur’s determination and ambition, and he rarely lets his emotions show. So when he does, it’s much more effective.”

He said the story’s touching and, at points, “will leave the audience breathless. It’s well-put-together and there’s a lot to take away from it, depending on your point of view.”

Junior Julian Sanchez portrays Burt Seldon, a college student and researcher working on his senior thesis. “He’s the only one on the research staff who sees Charlie as a human being, rather than a test subject,” said Sanchez. “He’s kind and caring and consistently argues with the older researchers over how to deal with Charlie. He’s much less jaded than them.”

“I love playing Burt because he plays a pivotal role in Charlie’s life and becomes a guiding force for him throughout the play,” continued Sanchez. “I think this is a timeless tale of acceptance and the limitlessness of hope. It’s definitely resonant nowadays because of issues involving the mentally challenged and how we treat them.”

# NEWS

## Mike Roberts Is Officer of Month

From left: Sully District Police Station Commander, Capt. Ed O'Carroll, presents an Officer of the Month certificate to police Officer Mike Roberts. He works in the station's Crime Scene section and recently received the Officer of the Month award for the second time. "We had a crime spree at the mosque [in Chantilly] and Mike lifted fingerprints and connected them to crimes," said O'Carroll. "He also did a fingerprint ID of a print found at some business burglaries to close those cases. That fingerprint led to an arrest, a search warrant and the recovery of a weapon. Mike's gotten the bad guys off the streets."



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW



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## Building Blocks for Success

### Fairfax Families4Kids: A community of hope.

BY MICHAEL FREY  
SULLY DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

When it comes to building buildings or fixing things, Fairfax County does a great job. Schools, fire stations, parks — the County has a proven track record of exemplary projects.

Building or fixing families and people — that's tougher to evaluate.

Fairfax is probably no better or worse than most local governments. Fixing people is hard. There is no plan that, if followed to the letter, results in a split family being made whole, or a person with mental illness or substance abuse issues being cured. People are different than buildings.

Maybe that's why I was so excited about the Fairfax Families 4 Kids program when I was introduced to it, and became such a huge supporter of it immediately.



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Kids in foster care really have the deck stacked against them. For whatever reason their family situation didn't work and someone — typically the courts — stepped in and forced change. They are left looking to total strangers to do what their family should have done but couldn't. That's a lot to ask. They are dependent on government programs to find them temporary housing, maybe a permanent foster home, and for some of the luckier kids, a family.

FF4Kids is a partnership between the county and a whole lot of people who really believe these kids in foster care deserve more help. The program offers the kind of opportunities and experiences that the county can't possibly provide by itself. Without the volunteers, who serve as mentors, friends, teachers and occasionally substitute parents, most of these kids would bounce from one temporary situation to the next, usually aging out of foster care with little skills, no love, and little chance for future success.

I have been so impressed with everyone I have met who is involved with the program. It has increased my sense of optimism about the chances that more of these kids will find for-

ever homes with adoptive families. Clearly, there is a positive effect on the kids when they see the mentors devoting so much time and effort to them. Many of these kids have never had the love and attention they get within this program. Certainly they have never had the life education they get, and for the first time many of them begin to believe in themselves. Self-confidence and optimism are not qualities you find in many foster children. A program that gives them those two things, in my mind, can't help but benefit them.

There have been success stories for kids in this program, including adoption of some of the children by some of the mentors. Of course, not every child has been so lucky. Some still age out of the system with no family back-up to catch them if they fall. But they do have the FF4Kids family, and that in itself is a confidence-builder. They also have life skills and social skills that they likely would not without the FF4Kids programs. There are no guarantees in life, but there is no doubt in my mind whether or not they find the adoptive family we all hope that they will, they will be much better prepared young adults.

As long as there are incredibly caring and dedicated people like the FF4Kids mentors and volunteers, I will be doing all I can to help support them.

## A Family Made Whole

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
CENTRE VIEW

The Granvilles look like a made-for-TV family. On a bright October afternoon, Chris, a computer engineer, is teasing his teenage son, Kenny, about what kind of pet to adopt, while Tiffany sits on a sofa, cradling Elijah, Kenny's baby brother, who has just woken up from an afternoon nap.

"Fish? No way," Kenny, 15, says. "They just go 'round and 'round in a bowl."

Kenny is lobbying hard for a dog or — at the very least — a guinea pig or hamster.

"What I'm saying is you start with the fish, OK, and then you move up to guinea pig or something else," Chris says.

"Can you tell we've been talking about this for just a little while?" Tiffany asks a visitor, rolling her eyes in mock exasperation.

It's quickly apparent the Granvilles are a close-knit family who like spending time together.

What is not so apparent is how this family came to be, and why an ordinary Sunday afternoon laughing with two children is a minor miracle for the Granvilles.

Chris and Tiffany, both in their 30s, were married in New York City on Christmas Eve, 2007. One of three children, Chris was raised in Queens. Both were very close to their parents and grandparents, whom they credit for inspiring their Christian faith.

**IN FEBRUARY 2008**, the couple moved to Reston, where they both had demanding careers as computer engineers. They also found

### After a tragic loss, couple creates a family through adoption.



**A Granville family portrait, taken in February 2012. From left: Kenny; Tiffany holding baby brother Elijah, and Chris Granville.**

out that same month that Tiffany was pregnant.

"We were like 'wow.' We just got married, and now we're going to have baby. We were living the dream," Chris said.

Jamison Granville was born on Oct. 23, 2008. He was a healthy 8.6 pound baby, and the light of his parent's life. When Chris's mother was diagnosed with aggressive kidney cancer that spring, Jamison kept a smile on his grandmother's face as she went through grueling chemotherapy sessions.

"He was my mother's first grandchild. She and Jamison were tied at the hip," Chris said.

When Chris's mother died on July 4, 2009, both Chris and Tiffany were devastated by the loss, but they took comfort in Jamison's smile, their large network of friends and family and their faith.

Like many working parents, the Granvilles had carefully researched and selected a day care center for their child. It wasn't unusual to get a call from staff at the center if Jamison was sick, or if other minor issues cropped up.

But on Sept. 16, 2009, Tiffany received a call from the center's director. She said she sensed something was wrong immediately.

"I got a phone call about 3 p.m. The director said she needed to meet us at Reston hospital. She wouldn't give me any other information," Tiffany recalled, pausing. "Jamison was 10 months and 24 days old ..."

Chris said he got a message from a detective. "He said to call this doctor, and the doctor said you have to stop whatever you're doing and get here," Chris said. "I didn't know what was happening."

"I can't tell you how I got from my desk on the sixth floor to my car," Tiffany said. "When I got there, doctors were working on him, but I could tell he wasn't there anymore . . . You feel like you're in a movie, or a dream. You get through it, but you're not there."

Tiffany said the pain of losing Jamison was almost unbearable, and even her strong faith in God could not keep her from waking up some mornings and thinking there was nothing left to live for. "I have to be honest; there

SEE POWER OF LOVE, PAGE 7

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A Connection Newspaper

## PEOPLE

# Feeling Power of Love

FROM PAGE 6

were days I did not want to be here.”

But it was the couple’s strong faith in God that kept them moving forward.

“We became more involved in our church, but at that point, it’s just a day-by-day existence,” Chris said. Tiffany said she drew strength from her grandmother, who had also lost her firstborn son. Her grandmother went on to give birth to eight children, and adopted two more.

“I pulled from her strength. I thought to myself, this woman from Louisiana, with an eighth-grade education, through all this adversity, she was able to overcome it in a time when things were horrible for black folks,” Tiffany said. “I remember what a loving and patient person she was . . . I started to think about everybody I had here . . . I thought we all have to leave one day, so you have to make a positive impact while you’re here. We did not want what happened to us to define us.”

The couple, who had always talked about adopting a child, had maintained friendships with other couples who were foster parents, and they decided to explore that option.

“God works in mysterious ways. We actually used to go on outings with this couple and their foster children before Tiff and I were married,” he said. “We still had a lot of love to give.”

“That was the core of it, the love we had for each other,” Tiffany said. “You know, a lot of people say that when you lose a child, it tears a couple apart. Well, nothing could tear me away from him. He is my rock. His mental strength is astounding.”

**THEY CONNECTED** with a small agency in Fairfax County called FairfaxFamilies4Kids, a foster-mentoring program run by the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. Created in 2005, the program’s mission is to build bonds between volunteers and foster children, a majority of whom are 14 years old or older.

According to Beverly Howard, Ph.D., coordinator of the program, every year in Fairfax County, as many as 20 teens in foster care leave the system without a family and are unable to return safely to their parents or relatives.

The children who wait are typically African-American, and are age 9 or older when they enter foster care. They have emotional, medical and educational needs. Many have lived in a series of foster homes or residential facilities.

Kenny was one of the children in the program when the Granvilles decided to become mentors.

Howard said volunteers who become mentors have a lot of flexibility, and there’s no specific amount of time mentors must spend with children. Some are assigned a particular child while others work with several children. Every month there are group activities for the participants and their mentors.

“We want people to know they can get involved without feeling too much pressure,” Howard said.

Mentors can attend as many group outings as they want, depending on their schedule.

Outings have included a Christmas Cruise on the Potomac; the DC Kite Festival; fundraising events for the homeless and a variety of sports events and clinics, from basketball to handball. Farm Day, held twice a year in Ashburn, is a favorite event for the children. Donated by a benefactor of the program, the event is held twice a year in Ashburn, and includes

horseback riding, bike-riding, games and a picnic.

Howard said all the activities are structured to allow “natural matches” to develop over time as the youth interact with the volunteers and actively help select their mentors. “Mentors see the value, the strengths and possibilities in the youth and the youth begin to form trusting relationships with the mentors,” she said.

Kenny met the Granvilles during Farm Day. He had just turned 13, and had been in a series of foster homes since he was 9 years old.

Before formal foster care, he was living sporadically with his biological mother from the time he was 3 years old.

Born in Dumfries, Kenny’s mother had substance abuse problems. When she could not care for him, he would stay with her friends for weekends — or weeks at a time. When he was placed in foster care full-time, he had no more contact with his biological mother.

Sitting on a sofa at home, Kenny shows a visitor a book of photos from several outings. When asked if he remembers the first time he met

Chris and Tiffany, he smiles broadly, and mentions that he left his coat in their car so they would have a reason to seek him out again.

The Granvilles said they felt an immediate connection to Kenny, and they would have come back to see him, even if he hadn’t left his coat in their car.

“Oh yes, I definitely remember Farm Day,” Tiffany said.

“We had been going to different events as mentors, and then Farm Day came along,” she said, shaking her head and wiping away tears. “It was weird. There was this big gush of wind and this kid came out of nowhere. Literally, leaves are flying around, and I saw Kenny playing... I said to Chris ‘I feel like he’s going to be our child.’ I mean, we thought we would adopt a younger child, but we just jelled with him.”

“As soon as they walked in, I went up to talk to them,” Kenny said.

“There was just something about him. His smile, his sense of humor, something that tugged at our hearts,” Chris said.

Kenny began spending weekends with the couple, playing basketball with Chris, watching football games, and just being a “regular” kid with a family.

“Everything just fit,” Chris said, “It felt like it was meant to be.”

Tiffany and Chris said there’s no one “aha” moment they can point to when they decided to adopt Kenny. “It just seemed like the natural next step,” Chris said.

As the Granvilles spent more and more time with Kenny, they became determined to adopt him. And then the couple got a surprise that some might consider a “game-changer.”

She learned she was pregnant with Elijah.

“And no, we never thought about not adopting Kenny,” she said, laughing.

Kenny was formally adopted by the Granvilles when he turned 14. Elijah was just weeks old, but “we wanted him there to be with his big brother,” Chris said.

During the adoption proceeding, the judge asked Kenny if there was any reason not to go forward, and why he wanted to be adopted.

“Because I love them. And they love me,” Kenny said.

“There wasn’t a dry eye in that courtroom,” Tiffany said.

**“We did not want what happened to us to define us.”**

— Tiffany Granville

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The cast of "Balloon Shot" is (back row, from left) Santiago Jauregui, Zane Piper and Hana Tawil; and (front row, from left) Taylor Da Costa, Jessie Lamke and Emma O'Brien. (Not pictured: Katja Milosevic).



Cast members of "Circuits" and "Everything You Want" are (from left) Daniel Lindgren, Ashley Leightley, Connor Gillooly, Miranda Newman and Binta Barry.

# Festival Offers Everything from Serious to Hilarious

FROM PAGE 1  
and "Cinderella Wore Combat Boots."

## 'Conform'

Directed by Ashley Rosenstein, "Conform" has a 10-person cast starring Marcus Schmidt, David Strauch and Josh Lee. "It's an absurdist farce about three men in boxes judging society," said Rosenstein. "Throughout the play, they're telling passersby that they should conform to their ideas of the world. But in the end, it's they who conform."

"I love my cast," she said. "They've really taken to this play. They're doing a really good job and love the play as much as I do. It's very funny, has some puns and exaggerations and makes fun of what society does."

Rosenstein is also having a great time directing. "I like having my own vision and seeing how the actors have taken it to the stage and transformed it," she said. "I learned how much hard work it is and how much you rely on your cast. You have the big image, but they have to figure out all the little things their characters can do to bring it all together."

## 'Louder, I Can't Hear You'

Kent Clingman directs "Louder, I Can't Hear You," a comedy about a dysfunctional family. There are six cast members, with Jemma Stratton in the lead role of the mother, Marge. "The mother is having trouble communicating with her family, and she struggles to connect with them," said Clingman. "They're all in their own, little worlds, so they're all concerned about themselves."

He said his actors are doing well. "Everybody's learning their lines and there's good cast cohesion," said Clingman. "It's a relaxed play, not heavy, there are a lot of jokes and the audience will enjoy all the spoofs."

Calling directing fun, he's enjoying getting to know his cast members and joking



The cast of "Louder, I Can't Hear You" is (back row, from left) Kent Clingman, Josh Ewalt, Collin Robinson and Kyle Artone; and (front row, from left) Jemma Stratton, Anna Adere and Nora Winsler.

around with them. "You have to trust your actors," said Clingman. "The hardest part is getting all the staging and props in order."

## 'Everything You Want'

Directing "Everything You Want" is Binta Barry. "It's a drama with some humorous aspects," she said. "It's about Josephine, a young journalist who believes she doesn't have the right words to say, so she doesn't want to speak, at all. It's also about Harry, a computer technician who hasn't been communicating much and wants to start again."

Playing those roles in the two-person cast are, respectively, Miranda Newman and Connor Gillooly. "It's fun working with them because they're both good learners and listeners," said Barry. "They're really great at absorbing my notes and projecting them back to me."

What's most appealing about this play, she said, is that it's not plot-driven, but character-driven. So, said Barry, "The audience will

enjoy seeing the two characters' revelations and the conflict between them."

"I've always wanted to direct, so this is a dream come true," she continued. "I just love being able to be behind the scenes, after doing so much acting. There are a lot of different styles of directing, and the most difficult thing is suggesting, not telling, my actors what to do and letting them come up with some of their own ideas."

## 'Balloon Shot'

Featuring a cast of six, Emma O'Brien is directing the comedic drama, "Balloon Shot." The lead actress is Katja Milosevic who portrays Desiree. "It's about Desiree, who's one of four cell mates, and the others don't know if they can believe her when she tells them she's broken out of high-security prisons," said O'Brien. "But they want to escape with her if she is telling the truth."

Actually, O'Brien put her own spin on this show. It was originally written for four men, but she changed the characters to women. "We're using bunk beds as jail cells," she said. "We just finished all the blocking and everyone's off book [script] now. The audi-

ence will like the dynamics between these interesting characters, and my actors give very in-depth portrayals."

She said directing's stressful, but also rewarding "because it's neat to see something you were in charge of come together. I didn't realize how expensive things would be, though. For example, the rights to the show for just two performances were \$70. But directing's a really nice experience I'm glad I had."

## 'Cinderella Wore Combat Boots'

Sarah Wills directs the comedy, "Cinderella Wore Combat Boots," calling it "the classic Cinderella tale with a quirky twist. It's a fun story with the basic elements, but all the characters act differently and Cinderella and the prince meet in a different way. There's also a lot of interaction with the audience."

The eight-person cast features Emily Hoffman as Cinderella, Alec Smith as the prince and Austin Burch as the storyteller. "My actors are primarily freshmen, and I wanted to work with freshmen to get them interested in theater," said Wills. "They amaze me with how talented they are; they're all doing a really good job."

She said the audience will enjoy interacting with the cast and will like the story because it's a familiar tale, but told in a way that's "entertaining and hilarious."

"Directing is definitely a change for me because I'm not bossy," said Wills. "I don't want to be harsh, but I want to help the actors grow into their characters. I didn't realize how many things go into directing and how hard casting is. But it's nice being able to carry out my own vision for the show."

## 'Circuits'

Directed by Daniel Lindgren, "Circuits" has a cast of three, Ashley Leightley and Scott Stevenson as sister and brother, Emily and Jack, and Connor Gillooly as Emily's

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 6

- Toddlin' Twos.** 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 2 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- AARP Tax Assistance.** 1-5 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Preference given to older adults. Free. 703-830-2223.
- Mystery Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can call and ask for title. Free. 703-502-3883.
- Starlight Storytime.** 7 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. All ages can bring a stuffed animal and enjoy stories and fun. Free. Registration required. 703-830-2223.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 7

- Small Wonders.** 11 a.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children age 13-23 months can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-830-2223.
- Book Group.** 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Teens in grades 7-8 can participate. Call for title. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Tax Assistance.** 6 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can get help from IRS-certified volunteers. Free.
- English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can practice with other students. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 8

- Ready for School Storytime.** 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 4-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 9

- Lunar New Year Festival.** From 1-6 p.m. celebrate the year of the snake during Fair Oaks Mall's 10th annual festival. Features traditional Chinese dragon dances, music, martial arts demonstrations, crafts and more. Free. Visit [www.ShopFairOaksMall.com](http://www.ShopFairOaksMall.com) or 703-359-8300.
- Purple Tie Bash.** 6:30 p.m.-midnight at Westin at Washington Dulles. Chantilly High School presents an evening of fun with dinner, dancing silent and live auctions and more. Proceeds benefit the athletic programs at the high school. Visit [www.chantillysports.org](http://www.chantillysports.org) to buy tickets.
- Choral Cabaret.** 7 p.m. at Centreville High School. Enjoy dessert, coffee and tea while listening to the choir perform. There will be a silent auction and raffle. \$10/adult; \$5/student. CVHS students who buy tickets during lunch will get a free raffle ticket.
- Tax Assistance.** 10 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can get help from IRS-certified volunteers. Free.
- Kaleidoscope Storytime.** 10 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. All ages can enjoy a sensory storytime focusing on the strengths and adapting to children on the autism spectrum and with other developmental disabilities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Thriving Three to Fives.** 10:30 a.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children age 3-5 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required.



## Fair Oaks Mall Celebrates Lunar New Year

More than 300 performers will participate in Fair Oaks Mall's 10th annual Lunar New Year celebrations, representing such countries as China, Korea, India, Thailand, Vietnam, Mongolia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Tahiti and the state of Hawaii. The Lunar New Year celebrations will feature traditional Chinese dragon dances, music and dance performances, martial arts demonstrations, children's crafts, multi-cultural displays and a special lantern festival.

Fair Oaks' Lunar New Year festival is produced with the Washington Hai Hua Community Center, a nonprofit organization working as a bridge between new immigrants and American society since 1989.

One of the largest events of its kind in the country, Fair Oaks Mall's 10th annual Lunar New Year Festival is expected to once again attract close to 200,000 people to the award-winning retail center over the course of the two-day celebration on Saturday, Feb. 9 and Sunday, Feb. 10, 1-6 p.m.

The celebration is free and open to the public. Visit [www.ShopFairOaksMall.com](http://www.ShopFairOaksMall.com) or call 703-359-8300.

- 703-830-2223.
- E-book Help.** 2 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can get any questions about their eBook reader answered. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- English Conversation Group.** 3:30 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Adults can practice with other students. Registration required. 703-830-2223.

## MONDAY/FEB. 11

- Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Book Group.** 2:15 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children in grades 3 and 4 can participate. Call for title. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Writers of Chantilly.** 6:45 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can share their work and receive feedback. Free. 703-502-3883.
- ESL Book Club.** 7 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Ask for title. 703-830-2223.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 12

- English Conversation Group.** 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can practice with other students. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Small Wonders.** 10:30 a.m. at

- Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy rhymes, songs and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Thriving Three to Fives.** 11 a.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children age 3-5 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-830-2223.
- Bouncin' Babies.** 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Storytime.** 1:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- AARP Tax Assistance.** 4-8 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Preference given to older adults. Free. 703-830-2223.
- Toddlin' Twos.** 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 2 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 13

- Toddlin' Twos.** 10:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 2 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- AARP Tax Assistance.** 1-5 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Preference given to older adults. Free. 703-830-2223.
- Bouncin' Babies.** 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Small Wonders.** 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy rhymes, songs and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 16

**Trummer's on Main is offering a Special Valentine's Day Menu Inspired by the "Love of Food".**

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## NEWS

### Join Us As We Celebrate Our Thrift Store's Grand Re-Opening

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**STORE HOURS**  
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The cast of "Cinderella Wore Combat Boots" is (back row, from left) Khalied Bashri, Austin Burch, Zoe Costanza, Sarah Wills, Alec Smith and Zainab Barry; and (front row, from left) Emily Hoffman, Emily Angelotti, Liza Vanyan and Caity Sheerin.

## Everything from Serious to Hilarious

FROM PAGE 8

love interest, Hugh. Lindgren describes it as a comedy with dramatic elements.

"Emily's brother has died in a car accident and she's going to his funeral," said Lindgren. "The entire play takes place in her room, but the audience doesn't know whether she sees Jack as a coping mechanism because of all the stress or if he's a ghost."

He said the audience will like the relationships between the characters and will relate to the way the siblings interact. "The story does a good job of dealing with a serious issue in a more lighthearted way and, in the end, it has a solid message," said

Lindgren. "The actors really understand the script and how their characters are supposed to relate to each other, and I've been impressed with that."

Calling directing an "interesting experience," he said, "I've been in one-acts since I was a freshman, so it's cool to finally have that control. I'm now better able to see my own vision of a show than I was before. I'm analyzing things more, and I've learned how important it is to get scripts out of people's hands so they can focus on the acting. I'm also enjoying seeing what kinds of things they bring to the table. I like having my mind changed, at times, but also seeing my original plan come to fruition."

## OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 & 10

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link.  
**Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

### Annandale

4241 Americana Dr #101...\$149,000...Sat/Sun 1-4.....Christina Yoon.....Weichert...703-357-5111

### Burke

9686 Britford Dr.....\$697,500...Sun 12-3.....Mark Goedde..Coldwell Banker..703-850-8129

6010 Wilmington Dr.....\$579,900...Sun 1-4.....David Unterman.....RE/MAX..703-869-1876

10523 Reeds Landing Cir...\$369,900...Sun 1-4.....Doris Crockett.....Weichert...703-615-8411

### Centreville

6487 Trillium House Ln.....\$999,900...Sun 10-4.....Jean Marotta.....Birch Haven..703-402-9471

13837 Wakley Ct.....\$339,900...Sun 1-4.....Dan Mleziva.....RE/MAX...703-380-9915

### Fairfax

6050 Colchester Rd.....\$649,900...Sun 1-4..Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812

13403 Foxhole Dr.....\$365,000...Sun 1-4.....Jo Ann L. Prociv.....Long & Foster..703-966-3351

### Fairfax Station

11107 Hampton Rd.....\$1,295,000...Sat 10-1.....Franklin Mendoza.....Weichert..703-282-2163

8030 Woodland Hills Ln..\$1,100,000...Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX...703-503-4365

### Falls Church

3804 Munson Rd.....\$829,000...Sun 1-4.....Patrick M. Kessler.....Keller Williams..703-405-6540

3804 Munson Rd.....\$829,000...Sun 1-4.....Thomas Hilleary.....Keller Williams..703-655-3100

3324 Stoneybrae Dr.....\$699,500...Sun 1-4.....Dana LaFever.....Weichert...703-609-3479

### Kingstowne/Alexandria

5408 Castle Bar Ln.....\$618,500...Sat 1-3.....Kathy Peters.....Long & Foster..703-915-2165

### Springfield

7262 Linden Tree Ln.....\$459,950...Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

### Stafford

195 Tangwood Ln.....\$210,000...Sun 1-4.....Karen Paris...Keller Williams...571-220-7503

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

## Bank Approved for Centreville Site

FROM PAGE 1

nally planned for that site — there'll be one, smaller building," said Lawrence. "There'll be plenty of parking, plus access from Stone Road and from the subdivision to the south. There are also proffered buffers and a berm."

The building will be constructed of brick and a composite building material, and the bank's main entrance won't be visible from Stone

Road. There'll be room for 10 vehicles in the drive-throughs, and the site layout will be similar to the existing BB&T in the Franklin Farm Shopping Center.

Centreville residents Priscilla Knight and Mark McConn said drivers speeding on Stone Road often make it difficult for people to get in and out of the Sully Station Shopping Center. But Lawrence said Fairfax County's

Department of Transportation would review the plan to make sure it wouldn't cause any traffic problems. And Pat Gorman with Bohler Engineering, representing BB&T, said there might be some traffic-calming measures that could be done there.

Gorman also noted that the building would be 25 feet high, the BB&T letters on it would be internally lit and "the landscaping and berm will shield the lighting." And at the end, the council gave its approval to the project.

The property is already zoned C-6, for community retail. And the county's Comprehensive Plan calls for neighborhood-serving commercial uses within that shopping center, so the bank will be in keeping with the plan by providing additional services to the surrounding residential community.

"I think it'll fit in very nicely," said Frey on Monday. "We met with the neighbors and, this time, for the most part, they were fine with the bank going there. They were pleased to see something finally going in there that was compatible with the neighborhood."



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Geriatric experts say healthy lifestyle habits like regular exercise, eating a nutritious diet and brain challenges can help preserve mental health as we age.

## Preserving Ones' Mental Health

Experts say diet, exercise and mental stimulation are key.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
CENTRE VIEW

**R**andy Weadon walks six miles each day around the perimeters of his retirement community, Greenspring in Springfield. He also does crossword puzzles daily.

"During tax season, I walk around the halls and mentally do my income taxes in my head," said Weadon, a retired Coast Guard officer. "If I had not started walking, I don't know if I'd be alive. I am 86-and-a-half years old, but I don't feel that age at all."

Geriatric experts say healthy lifestyle habits like regular exercise, eating a nutritious diet and brain challenges can help preserve mental health as we age.

"The one thing that I always tell my patients is that if you don't use it, you lose it. I recommend crossword puzzles, mentally challenging games and reading, especially about current events," said Dr. Lisa Calusic, a psychiatrist at Inova Behavioral Health Services in Alexandria, and an Arlington, resident.

Researchers Pamela Greenwood and Raja Parasuraman, professors at the Department of Psychology at George Mason University in Fairfax, have spent more than 20 years studying the way the human brain ages with a focus on Alzheimer's disease. The two wrote a book, "Nurturing the Older Brain and Mind," in which they explore ways middle-aged people can stave off mental deterioration.

"We know that if we can put off dementing illnesses, even by a year or two through lifestyle changes, that will reduce the number of people with Alzheimer's disease, which is reaching epidemic proportions," Parasuraman says.

The duo says that preventing and staving off mental deterioration is more important than ever now that workers are staying employed longer for economic reasons. Physical activity is an important tool as well.

"Exercise [is] the 'lifestyle' factor with the strongest effect," said Greenwood. "A number of different

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Randy Weadon, 86, does crossword puzzles and walks six miles each day around the perimeters of his retirement community, Greenspring in Springfield.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

research groups have found benefits of aerobic exercise on both brain structure and function, and on cognitive performance."

Joel Martin, a professor of kinesiology at George Mason, agrees: "Regular exercise has been proven to slow the aging process," he said. "People have their actual age, which they can't do anything about, and their biological age. Someone could be 40 years old, live a very inactive lifestyle and not eat very well, which may cause them to be closer to 60 in terms of their biological age. Vice versa: Someone who is 60 could be very active and eat a healthy diet and feel like they are much younger, perhaps a biological age closer to mid-40s."

As an octogenarian, Weadon credits his sharpness to regular mental challenges. Martin agrees. "Regularly engaging in activities requiring cognitive function is important," said Martin. "Most tissues in the body respond to stress placed on it by becoming stronger or adapting to handle the stimulus you place on it. If you lift weights, your muscles get bigger and stronger. If you don't do any sort of physical activity to stimulate your muscles, then they get smaller and become weaker. The brain is the same way, it needs regular stimulation to maintain its function."

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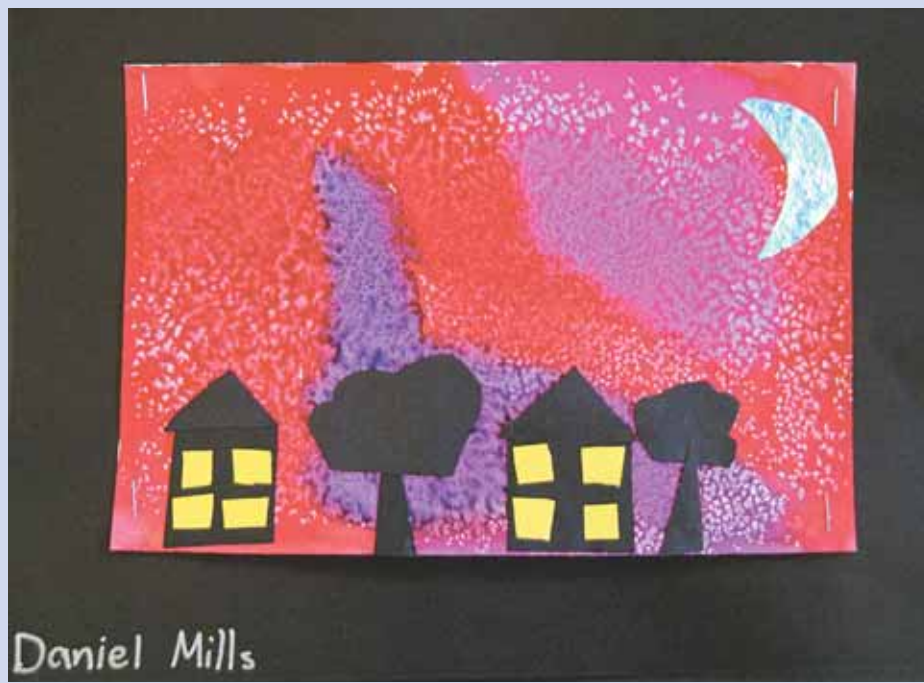
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## SCHOOL NOTES

**Brendan Carlozzi** of Centreville graduated from Southwestern College in December 2012.

**Ryan Christopher Branch** of Centreville, has been named to the president's list and to the Commandant's Distinguished Service List at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina. Branch is a physical education major and a member of Delta Company.

**Olivia Cibelle Zendja** of Centreville, has been named to the dean's list for the 2012 Fall Semester at Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky. Parent is Florence Zendja of Centreville.

**Benjamin Sando**, a graduating senior at Centreville High School, has been named to the 2013 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

The following James Madison University students and Centreville residents have been named to the president's list for the fall 2012 semester: **Hannah Whittaker** is a senior whose major is health sciences. **Helen Tan** is a sophomore whose major is health sciences. **Grace Masumoto** is a senior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies. **Emily Volkmann** is a senior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies.

**Emma Stewart** is a junior whose major is kinesiology. **Russell Wagoner** is a senior whose major is modern foreign languages. **Brooke Garrity** is a senior whose major is nursing. **Jessica VanOrmer** is a senior whose major is psychology.

The following students from Centreville graduated from James Madison University during the Dec. 15 commencement exercises: **Samuel Datta** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in communication studies. **David Skahn** graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in computer information systems. **James Alls** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in English. **Matthew Koons** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in history. **Abin Kim** graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in international business. **John Koons** graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in management. **Fiona Torres** graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in management. **Brooke Garrity** graduated with a bachelor of science degree in nursing. **Rebecca Render** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in psychology. **Elizabeth Burghardt** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in writing, rhetoric and

technical communication.

**Nicholas Burroughs**, a resident of Centreville, made the dean's list at Wake Forest University.

The following James Madison University students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2012 semester:

**Alexandra Alepohoritis** is a senior whose major is studio art.

**Rebecca Baumgart** is a freshman whose major is nursing.

**Laurel Brubaker** is a sophomore whose major is psychology.

**Amanda Cameron** is a sophomore whose major is marketing.

**Brendan Corcoran** is a sophomore whose major is marketing.

**Russell Day** is a senior whose major is accounting.

**Jason Delaney** is a senior whose major is intelligence analysis.

**Nicolena DeWitt** is a sophomore whose major is nursing.

**Emily Elcano** is a junior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies.

**Brendan English** is a senior whose major is economics.

**Shannyn Esmond** is a sophomore whose major is nursing.

**Austin Fallon** is a junior whose major is management.

**Katherine Fiely** is a sophomore

whose major is international affairs.

**Devin Galloway** is a senior whose major is integrated science and technology.

**Kathryn Gilbert** is a senior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies.

**Sierra Higinbotham** is a freshman whose major is nursing.

**Rachel Hollenbeck** is a sophomore whose major is economics.

**Julie Kamp** is a junior whose major is health sciences.

**Abin Kim** is a senior whose major is international business.

**Mary Kim** is a senior whose major is writing, rhetoric and technical communications.

**Mallory Knapp** is a senior whose major is psychology.

**Mollie Leon** is a sophomore whose major is marketing.

**Li-Cheng Liu** is a senior whose major is accounting.

**Adrienne Lowry** is a junior whose major is political science.

**Katie Malinowski** is a senior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies.

**Marissa McGill** is a sophomore whose major is management.

**Maggie McInturff** is a freshman whose major is undeclared.

**Rebecca Montalvo** is a senior whose major is intelligence analysis.

**Kevin Reardon** is a senior whose

major is graphic design.

**Katherine Schmank** is a sophomore whose major is nursing.

**Elissa Smith** is a junior whose major is communications studies.

**Madelaine Stanley** is a sophomore whose major is art history.

**Cameron Stark** is a senior whose major is computer information systems.

**Mark Trimakas** is a senior whose major is accounting.

**Thomas Verbanic** is a senior whose major is psychology.

**Alexandra Vermillion** is a junior whose major is hospitality management.

**Dana Vivirito** is a sophomore whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies.

**Gabriela Itzel Nunez** of Centreville has been named to the dean's list at Bethany College for the fall semester 2012-13 academic year. Nunez, a senior history major is the daughter of Gabriel Núñez and Maggie Rossi.

Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, has awarded **Yun Park**, of Centreville, an undergraduate spring research fellowship.

Park, a senior, will study "Bullying and Exercise." The work will be supervised by Victoria Kazmerski.

# SPORTS

## Westfield Boys' Basketball Falls to Herndon

The Westfield boys' basketball team lost to Herndon 89-72 on Tuesday.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, C.J. Hill led Westfield with 21 points. Tre'Von Walton scored 18 points, Chris Mullins had 13 and Chauncey Beckett had 10.

Will Ferguson led Herndon with 33 points and Dorian Johnson had 20.

Westfield will close the regular season with a road game against Oakton at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 8. As of Wednesday morning, Westfield and Oakton are tied for second in the district standings and could also be tied with Robinson, if the Rams beat Centreville on Wednesday night. The No. 2 seed in the Concorde District tournament receives an automatic regional tournament berth.



Westfield senior guard C.J. Hill shoots against Herndon on Feb. 5.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

## Centreville Girls' Basketball Beats Oakton

In a rematch of the top two girls' basketball team in the Concorde District, Centreville defeated Oakton 49-38 on Feb. 5 at Centreville High School. Jenna Green led the Wildcats with 22 points. Tori Collar, Clara Logsdon and Caroline Wakefield each had seven.

Oakton beat Centreville 65-48 in the season's first meeting on Jan. 18 at Oakton High School.

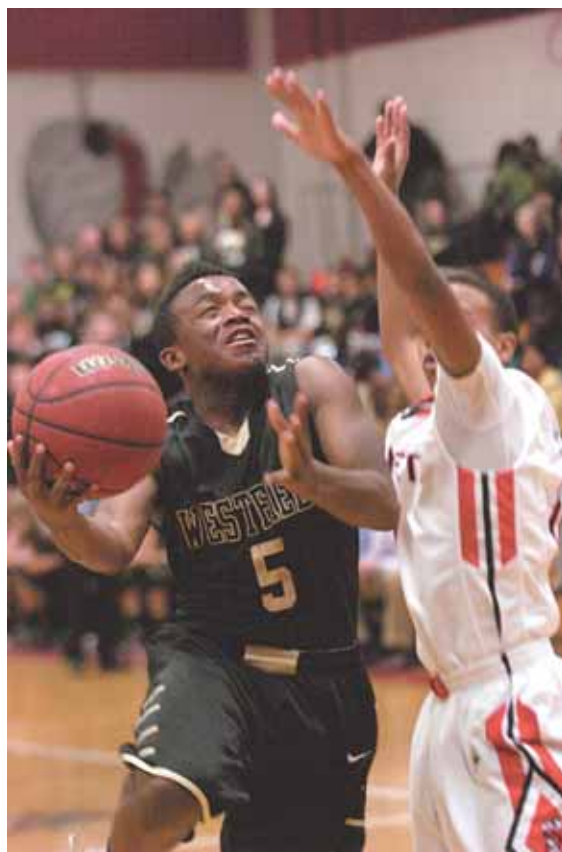
With the win, Centreville improved to 18-2 overall and 7-1 in the district. The Wildcats hosted Robinson on Wednesday, after Centre View's deadline. Centreville will close the regular season at Chantilly at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 8.

## Centreville Swim and Dive

The following Centreville athletes competed in the Concorde District meet and qualified for regionals: Rachel Anderson (100 fly, 200 IM, 200 medley relay, 200 free relay), Andy Balberde (200 free relay, 400 free relay), Paul Baumgartner (diving), Ryan Boll (200 free relay, 400 free relay), Jonathan Clark (200 medley relay, 200 free relay), Mackenzie Cripe (400 free relay), Kylie Cuomo (50 free, 100 free, 200 medley relay, 200 free relay), Kelsey Daily (400 free relay), Tae Hyun Jung (200 medley relay, 400 free relay), Tyler Kurowski (diving), Kyle Marshall (100 back, 200 medley relay, 400 free relay), Abby McCranie (50 free, 100 free, 200 medley relay, 200 free relay), Matthew Rice (200 medley relay, 200 free relay), Logan Ross (100 breast, 200 medley relay, 400 free relay) and Brooke Worley (200 free, 500 free, 200 free relay, 400 free relay).

## Centreville Gymnastics

At the Concorde District gymnastics meet, Ciara



Westfield senior guard Chauncey Becket drives to the basket against Herndon on Feb. 5.

Hoernke placed second on vault, fifth on bars, third on beam, fourth on floor and third in the all-around. She earned a trip to the regional meet on Feb. 6.

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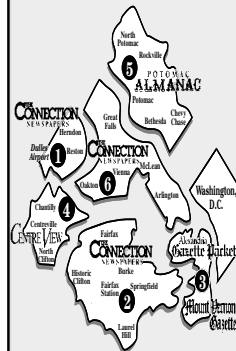
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## A Complicated Answer



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And a further explanation and corollary to last week's column: "A Simple Question," which attempted to sort through my reactions to being asked an extremely innocent, appropriate, well-intended and always appreciated courtesy: "How are you?" and the problem that it sometimes causes me. That problem being: a question which had it not been asked would then not require an answer. An answer that I'll always give, but not before I've given it some thought, which if I hadn't thought about, wouldn't have bothered me in the least. And in the most, it doesn't really bother me, but after four years, a sort of cancer-fatigue has set in. I'm tired of talking about it. "Not that there's anything wrong with that"; being asked the obvious question. Still, if I'm going to keep pretending that my coast is semi-clear, I'd rather not be reminded that five hundred years ago, that coast/horizon represented the end of the world.

This first paragraph was yet another attempt by yours truly to offer some insight into the thought process of a cancer survivor (OK, maybe just this cancer survivor; or a person with some issues, although I would deny that). The related point being that there are the obvious problems being a cancer patient (need I elaborate?) and then there are the less-than-obvious, almost subliminal-type problems which can just as easily ruin your day – and night, as much if not more than a chemo-cocktail infused straight into your body for six hours every three weeks can.

And just like the Philadelphia-born comedian, David Brenner, used to joke about mosquitoes: "It's not the ones you hear you should worry about, it's the ones you can't hear." So too with cancer. There's plenty to worry about that you know – or think you know or have heard about, or maybe have even anticipated: lab work, diagnostic scans, biopsies, surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, doctor's appointments, etc. But it's the down time, the private time alone and away from all the people, places and things with which you've grown familiar and dare I admit, accustomed, that becomes cherished. Then, when you least expect it, a courtesy question inquiring about your overall health, not even one particularly cancer-centric. Still, the question takes you (at least it does to me), right back to cancer central. The one place – for me, I try to avoid. The one place I never imagined I'd be, and now that I'm there often, the one place where I'd rather not be reminded that I semi-reside.

Four years post diagnosis, I realize this jackpot I find myself in is hardly a winning hand, and it's more than a bad dream. It's a reality. Yet avoiding the nightmare directly – and indirectly, as often as possible, has been my M.O. I can't say I've been particularly successful doing so, but I've had my moments and have made my peace. However, it's the random nature of the spoken and written word that occasionally has undercut my emotional foundation. A foundation built on a lifetime living and learning, trying not to make a bad situation worse; and one striving to not be irrational, unreasonable, illogical and ill-prepared for all that life throws at you. I ceded control four years ago and now when I'm asked, "How I'm doing?", I'm always reminded how fragile and unpredictable life can be; "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," as Cerphe used to say back in the day, on the original WHFS.

I know – and appreciate – that you have to ask. Please understand that sometimes, I might not feel like answering.

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

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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3883.  
**E-book Help.** 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can get any questions about their eBook reader answered. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.  
**Chantilly Book Discussion Group.** 7:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can call and ask for title. Free. 703-502-3883.  
**Tax Assistance.** 6 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can get help from IRS-certified volunteers. Free.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 14

**Civil War Lecture.** 7 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Adults and school age children can call for lecture title. Free. 703-830-2223.  
**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can practice with other students. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 15

**Comedy Showcase.** Doors open at 7:30 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. at Sully's Restaurant and Lounge,



**Cabaret 2012**

14513 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Chantilly. Mike James headlines with Graham Hall, Becca Steinhoff and Kat Timpf. Allison Wruk is host. \$5/cover includes DJ after. 703-818-9292.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 16

**Tax Assistance.** 10 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can get help from IRS-certified volunteers. Free.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 17

**Train Display.** 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax

## Choral Cabaret

Centreville High School's Choral Program annual fundraising event, Choral Cabaret, is Saturday, Feb. 9 at 7 pm. This is a "Coffee House" style program that the choir presents in the school cafeteria. Have an evening out listening to students sing while the audience enjoys dessert, coffee and tea. There will also be a silent auction and a raffle for prizes like restaurant gift cards. Entrance fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

Station Railroad Museum. There will be a display by the Northern Virginia NTRACK members. \$3/adult; \$1/child. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org) or 703-425-9225.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 19

**Flower Talk.** 2-4 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center Fair Oaks. Arlington Rose Foundation hosts Tara Krause of the Organic Perfumery, discussing "Roses and the Lost Art of Natural Perfumery." Free. Rose bouquets as door prizes. 703-371-9351.

**English Conversation Group.** 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library,

4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults can practice with other students. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

**Small Wonders.** 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy rhymes, songs and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

**Bouncin' Babies.** 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

**Storytime.** 130 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

**AARP Tax Assistance.** 4-8 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Preference given to older adults. Free. 703-830-2223.

**Tuesday Tales.** 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. All ages can enjoy music, movement and fun. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 20

**Toddlin' Twos.** 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 2 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos welcome.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 31

**Registration Open House.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Clifton Children's Academy, 14315 Compton Road, Centreville. Come tour the school and register for morning, afternoon or full-day preschool classes. Visit [www.childrensacademy.com](http://www.childrensacademy.com) or 703-968-8455 to register for one of the open houses.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 7

**Program Information.** Learn about Lifetime Leadership Program at 11 a.m. at Leadership Fairfax, 8230 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 350, Vienna.  
**Program.** 11 a.m.-noon at Leadership Fairfax offices, 8230 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 350, Vienna. Learn how to use accumulated skills and leadership to make a difference in the community. For more information or to RSVP for one of the information sessions, contact Moniek by email [Moniek@leadershipfairfax.org](mailto:Moniek@leadershipfairfax.org) or by phone 703-752-7504. For additional information about Leadership Fairfax, visit [www.leadershipfairfax.org/lifetimeleaders](http://www.leadershipfairfax.org/lifetimeleaders).

## SATURDAY/FEB. 9

**Second Saturday.** 9 a.m. at Marriott Courtyard, 11220 Lee-Jackson Highway, Fairfax. Professionals speak towards educating spouses about separation and divorce process in order to encourage them to be civil and reasonable for their pocketbooks, emotional health and children. RSVP to [clapham@beankinney.com](mailto:clapham@beankinney.com).

## SUNDAY/FEB. 10

**Learn about Fragrances.** 2-4 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Learn about roses, botanicals and herbs. Free. Rose bouquets as door prizes. 703-371-9351.

## THROUGH FEB. 15

**Singing Valentines.** 9 a.m.-9 p.m. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires barbershop chorus will serenade a loved one at work or at home with a special message. \$50 from Feb. 9-13; \$70 on Feb. 14-15. Price includes two songs sung in person, a rose and chocolates and a card. \$30 for a telephoned singing Valentine delivered anywhere, includes two songs and a greeting. Purchase at [www.fairfaxjubilaires.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaires.org).

## MONDAY/FEB. 18

**Garden Club.** 7 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Learn how to increase home grown produce. Free. Visit [centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com](http://centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com) for more.

## THROUGH FEB. 18

**Application Deadline.** Applications are due for the inaugural Citizens Fire & Rescue Academy. Learn what firefighters and paramedics do every day. Must be at least 18 and apply online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cfa](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cfa).

## TUESDAY/FEB. 19

**Presentation.** 7 p.m. at Greenbriar Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road. GFWC-Western Fairfax County Woman's Club presents "Infection Control: Not Just for Hospitals." Free. 703-631-7093.

# Communities of Worship

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