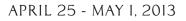
Centreville * Clifton * Little Rocky Run ENTRE / DITION





Residents flock to the Taste of Chantilly for international foods last vear.

Рнотоѕ ву Bonnie Hobbs/ Centre View

Food, Fun and Festivities

Second annual Chantilly Day celebration is May 4.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

et ready for fun - the second annual Chantilly Day celebration is slated for Saturday, May 4, at the Sully Place Shopping Center, off Route 50 West in Chantilly. There'll be children's activities, live music, food and entertainment — as well as two U.S. astronauts.

The festival runs from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Kmart and Babies R Us parking lots, and the day's events will include onstage performances by the Westfield High Jazz Combo, local rock musicians, a pet adoption, rock climbing, business expo and awards ceremony.

"This will be far and above what we had last year, and it's doubling in size," said event Co-Chairman Carl Brown, assistant general manager of Staybridge Suites in Chantilly. Insurance agency owner Shak Hill is the other co-chair.

"Everyone is welcome to our event," said Brown. "Chantilly Day is that time for people to come out and celebrate the area, create a sense of community and acknowledge the businesses and leaders that help make Chantilly what it is."

ASTRONAUTS APPEAR

More than 15,000 people attended last year's event, and this year's celebration promises to be



Glennys Warsocki (left) and Chuck Kettenacker man the **Rotary Club** of **Centreville's** patriotic booth during Chantilly Day 2012.



Cousins Kaitlyn Pham (left) and Chloe Schwetz, both 4, have fun blowing bubbles at last year's Chantilly Day.

Celebrating Erin's Life

Event promotes her legacy.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

rin Peterson was just 18 when she became a victim of the April 16, 2007 Virginia Tech massacre. But her parents, Centreville's Grafton and Celeste Peterson, make sure the Westfield High grad's legacy lives on.

They established the Erin Peterson Fund to continue their daughter's commitment to reaching goals through education and aiding people in need. They also began an annual Gospel Celebration in remembrance of her and to raise money for the fund.

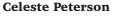
The 6th Annual Erin Peterson Gospel Celebration of Life was held Sunday, April 14, at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville, and Celeste Peterson addressed the crowd.

"My daughter set the bar high and I'm trying to carry on in her name," said Peterson. "She wanted to work for a nonprofit and help those less fortunate. My daughter gave us deep roots for times like these when we need an anchor. And we're here today to praise the Lord and raise funds for the Erin Peterson Fund."

Although Erin's been gone six years, she said, "She's with me every day, advising me. She's teaching me how to live and give thanks to the Lord." Peterson also acknowledged her husband, calling him her "strength. When I come home crying, he's the one









Gospel singer Crystal Aikin was the featured entertainer.

who tells me it's going to be OK. We've been married 28 years and he's a blessing to me; I think God for giving him to me."

Award-winning Gospel singer Crystal Aikin wowed the audience with her voice. But besides singing,

SEE CELEBRATING, PAGE 19





News



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Math Resource Teacher Josh Douds gets shaved by second grader Tara Sanker on the Lees Corner Elementary School morning news program. Douds, and Lees Corner Principal Robert D'Amato, let Sanker shave their heads in an effort to show the Lees Corner community that hair, or the lack of it, does not change who one is as a person. They, in conjunction with Sanker's mother Tara Sanker and her teacher Vicki McGorty (to Tara Sanker's right), wanted to share Tara's story and educate the school community.

Close Shave at Lees Corner

hen second grader Tara Sanker was diagnosed with brain cancer, the staff and faculty at Lees Corner Elementary School got ready to help her through her journey. The first milestone was the day she came into school with a shaved head. Some younger students were confused about the changes Sanker was going through and made some comments and observations that were inadvertently hurtful. Tara's mom Tammy Sanker, Principal Robert D'Amato and Tara's teacher Vicki McGorty felt the best way to help Tara was to share her story with the students at Lees Corner Elementary School during the morning news program.

D'Amato, math resource teacher Josh Douds and

Special Education IA Ashley Kappatos decided to go a step further — they let Tara cut their hair. Tara cut 10 inches off Kappatos' head to be donated to Locks of Love and she shaved D'Amato and Douds — all in front of the student body during the morning news program on April 18. "We wanted to share her story with the students and educate everyone in the building. We wanted to make sure Tara didn't feel alone," said D'Amato. The impact of the effort was dramatic and instantaneous, according to D'Amato. Students, staff and faculty are reaching out to Tara in a variety of ways. "We're doing everything we can to support her," D'Amato said.

— Дев Совв



Special Education instructional assistant Ashley Kappatos lets second grader Tara Sanker cut ten inches off her hair to be donated to Locks of Love. Principal Robert D'Amato stands with an improvised drape as Sanker is about to shave his head.



Lees Corner Principal Robert D'Amato lets second grader Tara Sanker shave his head. Sanker's teacher Vicki McGorty stands in the background. The shaving evolved from a desire to help the school community understand Tara's story and inspire them to support Tara.

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Roundups

Sexual Assault and Burglary

Fairfax County Police are investigating the sexual assault of a 27-year-old Centreville woman. The incident occurred Sunday, April 21, around 3 a.m. Police say the woman was asleep inside her home in the 13000 block of Winding Oak Circle when she was awoken by a man sexually assaulting her. But she fought him off and he fled on foot.

Investigation also revealed that electronic equipment had been stolen from her residence. Entry was apparently gained through an unlocked door. The suspect was described as possibly Hispanic, 25-35, about 5 feet 7 inches, with a medium build and wearing a dark hoodie and dark pants.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org, text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

Beware: Route 50 Delays

Motorists can expect lane closures and delays at the intersection of Route 50 and Lee Road in Chantilly this weekend as part of VDOT's Route 50 widening project. From 8 p.m. Friday until noon Saturday (April 26-27) one or two lanes will be closed in each direction on Route 50 and traffic will periodically be stopped for up to 15 minutes at a time.

In addition, the ramp from southbound Route 28 to westbound Route 50 will be closed. Signs will direct drivers to use Willard Road to access westbound Route 50. No left turns will be permitted onto Route 50 from Lee Road.

Crews will be removing the existing traffic signal heads, poles and span wire and installing temporary signals. Message boards will be posted alerting motorists to use alternate routes.

Police: '50 Means 50'

Fairfax County police are currently conducting a weeklong initiative, "50 Means 50," by saturating the Fairfax County Parkway with officers to nab unsafe drivers. It will last until Sunday, April 28, and is targeting motorists engaging in aggressive and reckless driving, speeding, texting while driving, following too closely, and failure to pay full time and attention.

During the same time period last year, officers issued 714 citations on the Parkway for offenses in these categories. Police are using vehicles including motorcycles, Mustangs, Camaros, Impalas, pick-up trucks and other unmarked and marked police vehicles.

The stepped-up enforcement will take place 24 hours a day. The intent is to reduce the overall average speed on the parkway and to decrease the number of property-damage, injury and fatal crashes, making the parkway a safer roadway.

Stringfellow Road Night Closures

For the next eight weeks or so, night work will be done on Stringfellow Road between Route 50 and Fair Lakes Boulevard from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. The contractor will be placing pavement markings and installing temporary concrete barriers.

Expect alternating one-way traffic and temporary stoppages along Stringfellow.^oThis work will begin at Route 50 and move south.^oDrivers are asked to be aware of any new traffic patterns after each closure, as traffic will be shifted away from the active construction areas.

Centreville High Art Show

The Centreville High Pyramid Art Show will be held this Thursday, April 25, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Besides art from that school, student artwork will also be on display from Bull Run, Centre Ridge, Centreville, Colin Powell and Union Mill elementary schools, Liberty Middle and Mountain View High.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will

See Roundups, Page 4

News



Posing in character for Westfield's production of **"Urinetown: The** Musical" are (back row, from left) Brandon Sanchez, Sam Dempsey, Sarah Schweit, Julian Sanchez, Connor Rudy, Selena **Clyne-Galindo** and Jake Ehrlich; and (front row, from left) Emily Tobin, Estella Massey, Allie **Koenigsberg and** Paola Urista.

Songs, Dances and a Message

Westfield High presents 'Urinetown: The Musical.'

> By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

estfield High's new show, "Urinetown: The Musical," is about a future time when a severe water shortage forces citizens to pay to pee. And, no pun intended, Director Susie Pike says her actors are "rarin' to go."

"They enjoy doing something different and con-

temporary, and they're bringing a lot of energy to it," she said. "They're really talented kids; I couldn't ask for a better cast. The audience will like the detailed choreography, tremendous voices and great characterizations from the actors."

The curtain rises Friday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 4, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, May 5, at 2 p.m. Seating is reserved; tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 with student ID, and \$10 at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

There's a cast and crew of 55; school Choral Director Katie Pierce is the show's vocal director and conductor of the 20-piece orchestra. Said Pike: "I love musicals because they bring together so many elements of art — singing,

dancing, instrumentals, painting, designing and acting."

The outside scenes will have different textures, such as brick and chain link, and tunnels and sewers will provide an industrial look. And, said Pike, "We have a bridge and two staircases to make the set multi-level, which is really neat for staging and choreography."

Senior Maggie Mitchell is assistant director and choreographer. Taking dancing lessons since second grade, she's worked tirelessly on the choreography since last June.

"There are about 17 songs, and I did the movement and blocking for all of them," she said. "And as assistant director, I'm able to make the changes between the scenes and songs seamless. It's lots of work and an incredible amount of responsibility."

Toughest, said Mitchell, are the many numbers where the whole cast is on stage, but doing different movements. So, she said, "It takes a lot of organization and planning at home to work it out. But we have a strong ensemble of dancers and singers and they're doing a great job. And since I've had a vision of what I wanted for the show for so long, it's wonderful to see it finally coming together."

Playing the rich Mrs. Millennium is senior Shannon Douglass. "She's on the staff of Urine Good Com-

pany, which controls the water consumption and takes poor people's money so they can pee," said Douglass. They're not allowed to do it at home, anymore, only in public amenities. "She's snooty and just looks out for herself, but it's fun," said Douglass. "I like the numbers she's in and it's nice to play someone more upper class than my previous roles."

Her favorite song is "Mr. Cladwell" because "it's showy and upbeat and has classic, Broadwaystyle moves." Douglass said the audience will like the show's "unique humor, and the actors' performances will really capture them."

Junior Selena Clyne-Galindo portrays Penelope Pennywise, who works for the big boss, Mr.

Cladwell, and runs Public Amenity No. 9. "She's tired, but sassy, and doesn't put up with people's complaining," said Clyne-Galindo. "I can relate to her personality, so it's a comfortable role for me."

She especially likes the song, "Privilege to Pee," which she sings, because "it really shows Penelope's true character and it's vocally challenging to sing, but fun. It's a funny musical and I think people will get a good laugh and really enjoy themselves."

Playing Cladwell's daughter Hope is senior Sarah Schweit. "She's a little bit of an airhead, but not stupid; and she's dynamic and mature by the end of the show," said Schweit. "It's a blast to play the bubbly SEE SONGS. DANCES. PAGE 4



Julian Sanchez and Sarah

Schweit play Bobby and

Hope.

Roundups

From Page 3

perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, April 25, 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.

Time for a Fiesta

A variety of ethnic songs, dances, food and fun are on tap for the third annual Centreville International Music and Dance Fiesta. It's slated for Saturday, April 27, from 7-10 p.m., at Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road.

Hosted by the Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF) and the Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC), the event is a fundraiser for both entities. The festivities will be in the church gym and are free and open to the public.

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, April 28, 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.

Meeting on I-66/Route 28

VDOT is hosting a public information meeting on°improvements for the I-66/Route 28 interchange, Monday, April 29, from 6-8 p.m., in the cafeteria of Stone Middle School, 5500 Sully Park Drive in Centreville.

Attendees will learn about the results of a preliminary study of alternatives to improve this interchange and be able to view displays about the project. VDOT staff will be on hand to answer questions. Further project information is available at www.virginiadot.org.

Fair Oaks CAC to Meet

The Citizens Advisory Council of the Fair Oaks District Police Station will meet Tuesday, April 30, at 7 p.m., in the roll-call room of the police station. It's at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly.

Eat Chicken, Raise Money

Fair Lakes resident BethAnn Telford is battling a brain tumor, herself, but that doesn't stop her from raising as much money as she can for the National Brain Tumor Society and Accelerate Brain Cancer Cure.

So on Thursday, May 2, from 5-7 p.m., she and her fundraising organization, Team BT, will be at the Chick-Fil-A at the Dulles Expo Center, 4412 Chantilly Place in Chantilly.

During that time, the restaurant will donate a percentage of its sales to Team BT. Participants must present a copy of the event flier to the cashier. It may be downloaded in advance at http:// teambt.org/images/Chick-fil-a_2013_v3.pdf.

Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' 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.



Federal agent Kevin Whalen held a Police Unity Tour fundraiser last Tuesday, April 16, at the Coyote Grill in Centreville. Raffled off was this Washington Capitals jersey. Holding banner (back row, from left) are City of Fairfax Police Officers Robert Mignon (K-9) and Jay Tolan (patrol). (Front row, from left) are Christine Castro, Coyote Grille; Kevin Whalen; U.S. Park Police Officer Lisa Marie Weisbaum and Randall Henderson, Coyote Grille. The event raised \$1,000 in honor of Prince William County Police Officer Chris Yung, for whom Whalen will be riding.

Raising Money for Police Unity Tour

entreville's Kevin Whalen is bicycling 230 miles, May 10-12, in the Police Unity Tour (PUT) Virginia ride. It raises money and awareness for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial fund and the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, D.C., honoring and remembering officers who've died in the line of duty.

So Whalen's holding a fundraiser Thursday, April 25, at Glory Days Grill and the public's invited to join in the fun. Glory Days is in the Old Centreville Crossing Shopping Center off Braddock Road in Centreville. On that date, it will donate 10 percent of its total food sales from lunch, dinner and nighttime. And PUT riders and law-enforcement personnel will be guest bartending during the 6-10 p.m.

happy hour.

Attendees will vie for raffle prizes of Redskins, Nationals and Caps jerseys, including a special Washington Capitals jersey signed by the team. There's also a signed jersey from Redskin Brian Orakpo, and Redskin players may appear in person. Cash and check donations to the Police Unity Tour will be accepted.

For more information, contact Whalen at kevwhalens@gmail.com. For PUT information, visit www.policeunitytourchapter4.com. To donate and sponsor his ride, go to www.firstgiving.com and search for Whalen's PUT Chapter IV Ride.

— Bonnie Hobbs

Songs, Dances and a Message

From Page 3

ingénue."

She likes the song, "Why did I Listen to That Man?" sung by the leads because "the harmonies and countermelodies intertwine and create this awesome tapestry." Calling the show "a parody of a ton of popular, Broadway musicals," Schweit said it's appealing because "every character has their own style of humor, ranging from satire to slapstick."

Junior Julian Sanchez plays Bobby Strong, who leads the citizen uprising against Cladwell's empire. "He's a brave, independent thinker motivated to stop the injustice in Urinetown," said Sanchez. "It's a role I always wanted to play because I love all his songs and he's such a heroic character. And I've always wanted to lead a show at Westfield, and now that's being fulfilled."

His favorite song is "Run, Freedom, Run" because "it's a show-stopping number in which I lift the spirits of the downtrodden people." Sanchez also noted that this show will raise environmental discussions afterward about "how much water we use and our carbon footprint."

Portraying Officer Lockstock is twin brother Brandon Sanchez. "He's both the narrator and police officer in the city," said Sanchez. "He's also Cladwell's right-hand man and enforces the city's strict, nopeeing law. He's dedicated to his work and takes a little too much pride in oppressing the poor. But as the narrator interacting with the audience, he's very likable."

Enjoying his role, Sanchez said, "It's the first time I've gotten to break the fourth wall. And Lockstock's manly and an original character; I think he's the funniest one."

He likes "Cop Song," which he and the other policeman, played by T.J. Vinsavich, perform with others, telling how they love catching lawbreakers and taking them to Urinetown. Overall, said Sanchez, "It's a mix between a funny show and one with a message — to keep authority in check so it won't have a dominating presence over society."

NEWS Alliance Theatre Offers Musical Comedy

Learning lessons at 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'

> By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

et in modern-day, upstate New York, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is the upcoming musical comedy from The Alliance Theatre. And Director Leslie Anne Ross says every cast member is "perfect for their role."

The story's about 10 middle-school students who all have quirky, unique personalities and participate in a spelling bee. "Each has something difficult to deal with in their family, but they're all really smart and love spelling," said Ross. "During the show, each one has a moment of vulnerability and a moment of triumph."

"There isn't a star; it's truly an ensemble piece," she continued. "And when each child sings, they pour out their hearts and really let us see them. The adults in the show also grow."

Show times are Friday, May 3, 10 and 17 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 4, 11 and 18 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, May 19, at 2 p.m. It's presented at Mountain View High, 5775 Spindle Court in Centreville (behind Glory Days Grill).

Tickets are \$16, adults; \$14, children 12 and under and senior citizens. (The show's not recommended for children in elementary school or younger). Group pricing is available; order tickets at www.TheAllianceTheatre.org.

Robin Parker's the choreographer; Laurelyn Morrison, music director. The scenes take place in a school auditorium, and the costumes reflect where the children come from in the county. For example, there's a Boy Scout, a child in parochial school and a homeschooled boy wearing a homemade outfit.

"It's a joyous show because the spellers are so excited to be there and their joy is infectious," said Ross. "The music is absolutely beautiful and their voices are perfect for it. It's also really funny; there are lots of great one-liners, especially by the spellingbee commentators. And three audience members will be able to come up on stage and spell, too, so the audience will feel like they're actually part of the spelling bee."

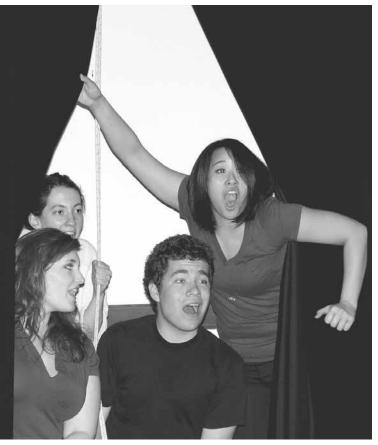
Mike Cash, of Chantilly's Franklin Glen community, portrays Mitch Mahoney. "He's the comfort counselor who's not all that comforting," said Cash. "He's a white-collar criminal doing community service as this counselor at the spelling bee, but he's not very sympathetic or nurturing. In fact, he's annoyed that these kids don't know what real pain and disappointment are. These things changed his life and left him a little bitter."

Performing the finale in Alliance's musical, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," are (from left) Christine Cox, Sarah Akers, Stephanie Gaia Chu,^oKatherine Bisulca, Rachel Gray, Grace McCarthy, Joel Bading, Larry Keeling and Mike Cash.^o(Not pictured, Julian Olive).

Enjoying this part, Cash said, "It's wonderful; I like the transformation that takes place from his harsh demeanor to considerably more sympathetic, by the show's end. And the role gives me good, comedic opportunities."

His favorite number is "The Prayer of the Comfort Counselor" because "it gives me the chance to interpret the song the way I want to. It's catchy, kitschy and a real change of pace in the flow of the show; the audience sees the other side of Mitch. One earmark of a great show is one that makes the audience both laugh and cry, and that's this show." Julian Olive, 18, plays Leaf Coneybear, the homeschooled speller. "He's childlike, fidgety, has a short attention span and tends to go into his own world and imagine different scenarios," said Olive. "I like playing a character totally opposite from me, but I can relate to him because we both come from big families."

He likes the song he sings, "I'm Not That Smart," because "it's a pivotal moment for my character and shows how he really feels. The audience will find something in each of the characters to connect with. This show's an honest representation of how life is and the flaws certain people have."



Singing "Second" are (from left) Grace McCarthy, Katherine Bisulca, Joel Bading and Sephanie Gaia Chu. Playing Marcy Park is Stephanie Gaia Chu. "She's the overachieving, Catholic school girl who has to be perfect at everything," said Chu. "She comes across as strict and regulated because she believes, if you follow the system, you'll win — and there's no alternative."

"It's how I grew up — excellence is always expected — so I can identify with this character," continued Chu. "Marcy's song, 'I Speak Six Languages,' is an homage to everything she can do. That's what I love about this show — the characters are so relatable."

Chu said it's also hilarious. "Larry Keeling and Rachel Gray, playing the two spelling-bee administrators, carry the show and are what makes it funny," she said. "It's a good balance of comedy, plus the reality of life. You can substitute the word, 'life,' for 'spelling bee,' in the whole script."

Rachel Gray says her character, Rona Lisa Perretti, gives a play-by-play, golf-type commentary of the event. "She's middle-aged, single and the top Realtor in Putnam County," said Gray. "She loves children and wishes she had her own, so she's living vicariously through them. She likes being in control, but has a genuine warmth toward those kids. She's also reliving the best moment of her life, when she won the spelling bee as a child."

Having fun with her character, Gray said, "I get to improvise the commentary and find Rona's nuances. I think she has this secret, wild side wanting to come out, so there's a spark. She also feels nostalgic, lives in the past and wants something more in her life."

Describing the show as "highly entertaining and fantastically written," Gray said it has a great energy, plus depth. "The spelling bee is kind of a commentary on life," she said. "And whenever there's audience involvement in a show, you can't help but love being there and watching it."

OPINION

Connection Guide to Parks Wins 'Best in Show'

Investigative reporting, in depth coverage, education writing, photography, art, design, sports, garner Virginia Press Association honors.

dozens of awards from the Virginia Press Association, with winners announced on Saturday, April 20, in Norfolk.

The Connection project, Insiders Guide to the Parks of Fairfax County, published in our Newcomers and Community Guides, won a top honor of Best in Show for Art. The project also won first place for informational graphics. Spearheaded and researched by Jean Card, who also designed the pages, with photography by Craig Sterbutzel and map

Editorial design by Laurence Foong, Insiders Guide to the Parks led judges to say:

"This is chock-full of information. It probably leaves readers with no unanswered questions. Colors and typography work well together. The down-page photo and text wrap features are nice touches."

A multi-part series on immigration spearheaded by Victoria Ross won first place for indepth or investigative writing. The Connection devoted multiple pages in multiple editions for multiple weeks to exhaustive reporting on immigration. "This entry clearly stood out above the rest in this category," said judges of Ross's work. "The author portrayed an excellent mix of data and human stories in covering all of the facets of this topic. It was obvious she spent a great deal of time working on this in-depth series. This was extremely comprehensive, well rounded and objective. This was not just reports, numbers and data but a terrific compilation of human stories, personal experiences, challenges and a great deal of hope." See the package entire immigration at www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/Immigration/.

Alexandria Gazette Packet reporters took all three awards for In-depth or Investigative Reporting in their division, one circulation category above the Connection papers. Nicholas Horrock won first place, In-depth or investigative reporting, for a multi-part series on Potomac Yard. "Great reporting job and extremely thorough," said judges. "Well organized with great sidebars, from the Native American to the EPA angles. Writing is smooth and easy."

Montie Martin, Alexandria Gazette Packet, won second place also for In-depth or investigative reporting for Guns From the South. Judge's comment: "Very well reported, thorough piece on the issue. Easy to read; organization flows well. Good quotes." Michael Lee Pope, won third place in the same category, for Looking Behind the Numbers.

Kenneth Lourie won first place for Column Writing. Judge's comment: "An exceptionally friendly, down-home writing style. The best of the group without a doubt."

Laurence Foong and Michael Lee Pope, first place, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Informational Graphics.

Nikki Cheshire, an intern for the Great Falls Connection, garnered a first place award for

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he Connection Newspapers won her dramatic breaking news photo, a helicopter rescue at Great Falls Park. See the award winning photo at

www.connectionnewspapers.com/photos/ 2012/jun/11/18271/.

Bonnie Hobbs won first place for public safety writing in the Centre View and second place for public safety writing in the Fairfax Connection. Judges said: "Although the cases featured in these entries were sensational, which made them interesting in and of themselves, the writer maintained the readers' interest by her excellent

storytelling ability. The stories not only conveyed facts but also emotion. The coverage was comprehensive and thorough with no questions left unanswered."

Alex McVeigh won first place for Education Writing, first published in the Oak Hill-Herndon Connection.

Photographer Deb Cobb won first place for an online slide show of coverage of daily patrols on the water in the Mount Vernon Gazette. See it at www.connectionnewspapers.com/photos/galleries and search for Daily Marine Patrols. Cobb also won first place for general news photo for her photo of "Freezin' for a Reason," the polar bear plunge into Lake Anne.

Mike Pope won first place for breaking news for coverage of "New Leadership at Gunston Hall.'

Pope also won third place for continuing coverage for "Horses and Graves Versus Road Widening" in the Mount Vernon Gazette, and third place for Mount Vernon Health, Science and Environmental Writing Portfolio.

The staff of Great Falls Connection won second place for overall excellence (general makeup). Judges said: "Although the tabloid format and general design has a 'features' feel, this is a beautiful paper. The text, use of color and section delineation makes it very easy to read and follow both news and features. All cover selections draw you in." Winners included Kemal Kurspahic, Amna Rehmatulla, Chelsea Bryan, Laurence Foong, Stuart Moll and Geovani Flores.

Louise Krafft and Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Combination Picture and Story for Memorial Day. Judge's comment: "A variety of great photos neatly presented helps tell the story of this important day."

Craig Sterbutzel, Burke Connection: Sports News Photo - Santiago Valdez. Judge's comment: "Great Exposure."

Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Headline Writing. Judge's comment: "Think you can't say much in two words? This entry disproves that. I particularly like 'Bovine Intervention' with the subhead 'Del Ray's Holy Cow, ACT partner for local charities."

Louise Krafft won second place for picture story or essay for her coverage of the Mount Vernon High School graduation.

Mary Kimm, third place, editorial writing for a package of education-related editorials.

Award Winners

Special Award: Best in Show, Non-daily Artwork Jean Card, Laurence Foong and Craig Sterbutzel, Fairfax Connection: Informational Graphics, Parks in Fairfax County.

First Place Winners

- Victoria Ross, Springfield Connection: In-depth or Investigative Reporting, Immigration Nicholas Horrock, Alexandria Gazette Packet: In-
- depth or investigative reporting, Potomac Yard ✤ Jean Card, Laurence Foong and Craig Sterbutzel,
- Fairfax Connection: Informational Graphics, Parks in Fairfax County
- Nikki Cheshire, Great Falls Connection: Breaking News Photo, Rescue at Great Falls
- Deb Cobb, Mount Vernon Gazette: Online Slideshow, Daily Patrols Take to the Water
- Deb Cobb, Reston Connection: General news photo, Freezin' for a Reason
- Laurence Foong and Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Informational Graphics Sonnie Hobbs, Centre View North: Public Safety
- Writing Kenneth Lourie, Arlington Connection: Column
- Writing Alex McVeigh, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection:
- Education Writing, The Human Element of Learning Michael Lee Pope, Arlington Connection: Multimedia
- News Report, Secret Police Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: **Business and Financial Writing**
- Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Breaking News Writing Second Place Winners

- Montie Martin, Alexandria Gazette Packet: In-depth or investigative reporting, Guns From the South Jean Card, Mount Vernon Gazette: Page Design
- Bonnie Hobbs, Fairfax Connection: Public Safety Writing
- Louise Krafft, Mount Vernon Gazette: Picture Story or Essay, Mount Vernon Graduation 2012 Louise Krafft and Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria
- Gazette Packet: Combination Picture and Story, Memorial Day
- Craig Sterbutzel, Burke Connection: Sports News Photo, Santiago Valdez Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet:
- Headline Writing ✤ Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet:
- Column Writing. Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Stuart Moll,
- Laurence Foong and Jean Card, Mount Vernon Gazette: Special Sections or Special Editions: Insider's Guide.
- Kemal Kurspahic, Amna Rehmatulla, Chelsea Bryan, Laurence Foong, Stuart Moll and Geovani Flores, Great Falls Connection: General Makeup **Third Place Winners**
- Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: In-
- depth or investigative reporting: Looking Behind the Numbers Laurence Foong, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Page
- Design
- Laurence Foong, The Fairfax Connection: Informational Graphics
- Mary Kimm, Fairfax Connection: Editorial Writing; five editorials about education
- Louise Krafft, Arlington Connection: Sports Feature Photo.Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Picture Story or Essay, Celebrating the Irish.
- Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Multimedia News Report, Schools in Crisis
- Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Feature Series or Continuing Story, Horses and Graves Versus Road Widening
- Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Health, Science and Environmental Writing.
- Jon Roetman, Arlington Connection: Sports Writing. Steven Mauren, Jean Card, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong and Stuart Moll, Alexandria Gazette Packet: General Makeup.
- Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Stuart Moll, Laurence Foong and Jean Card, Mount Vernon Gazette: Special Sections or Special Editions, Children's Edition.

MDDC

The Potomac Almanac, a Connection Newspaper located in Potomac, Md., competes in the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association, and won at least six press association awards, which will be formally announced on May 17 at the MDDC Press awards luncheon, Susan Belford, John Byrd, Laurence Foong, Ken Moore (2) and Staff were named as winners.



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Sports



Opening Day for Softball

The Southwestern Youth Association Girls Softball League held its first-ever opening day festivities at Colin Powel Elementary School on Saturday, April 13, with a variety of activities for the children, including; a bouncy castle, a number of softball skills games, an opening day parade of teams and several softball games.



Lexi Krobath, a member of the Flames softball team, plays a softball skills game on April 13 at Colin Powell Elementary School. It was opening day for the SYA Girls Softball league.



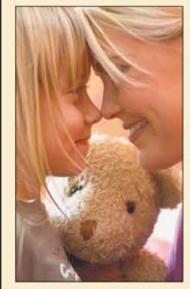
Members of the Dynamite softball team of the SYA Girls Softball League perform a team cheer as part of opening day activities in Centreville.



Teams march around the field during the SYA Girls Softball League opening day festivities.

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The Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County welcomes Orthodox Christians to join us for the Services of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

The Greek Orthodox Parish Of Loudoun County 21580 Atlantic Blvd. Building D, Unit 160, Dulles, VA 20166 www.greekorthodoxloudoun.org

> Palm Sunday Service Sunday, April 28th 9:30 am

Good Friday Service May 3rd 7:00 pm

Candlelight Easter Resurrection Service Saturday, May 4th 11:00 am

> Easter Agape Service Sunday, May 5th 11:00 am

Day and Evening Services held during Holy Week

For the complete list of Holy Week Services, go to www.greekorthodoxloudoun.org. or call 703-421-7515.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

CHANTILLY DAY **Preparing Second Annual Community Celebration**

From Page 1

"out of this world" since former NASA astronauts Carl Walz and Frank Culbertson will be the cochairs and guests of honor. In addition, Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) will read a proclamation by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors officially declaring Chantilly as the "Air and Space Capital of Virginia."

"It was Culbertson, [while] the sole American aboard the International Space Station, who took the picture many saw depicting the plume of smoke he witnessed 200 miles above the surface of the earth on 9/11," said Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce spokeswoman Heather Gray.

Both he and Walz now work for Orbital Sciences Corp., which develops and manufactures smalland medium-class rockets and space systems for commercial, military and civil government customers.

"The former astronauts' appearance at the festival reflects the rich history of exploration and technology that has long helped define Chantilly and the surrounding Dulles region," said Gray. "With the Space Shuttle Discovery recently relocated to the nearby National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, the chamber is confident this year's festival will continue to strengthen the identity of this dynamic community."

The astronauts will address the crowd as part of the day's stage entertainment. They'll talk about what Chantilly is all about."



Emma Wyatt of Chantilly sports a painted dragon mask.

life in space and on the Space Station and how their space experiences relate to their work at Orbital Sciences. Both will also meet the public and answer questions at a special tent next to the spaceshuttle moonbounce in the Babies R Us lot.

The Chantilly-Centreville Chamber of Commerce (an offshoot of the Dulles Chamber), in partnership with the Westfields Business Owners Association and Kaiser Permanente, are putting on the event. Host sponsor is the shopping-center owner, Beatty Management Co.

Like the others, WBOA President Bill Keech Jr. is looking forward to Chantilly Day. "We're bringing people here," he said. "Companies, individuals and families get to come together and learn and share

Former Astronaut Frank L. Culbertson Jr. Frank Culbertson Jr. was a NASA astronaut for

18 years. He's flown three space missions and logged more than 144 days in space as a shuttle commander, pilot, and station crewmember.

His last mission launched on the Shuttle Endeavor and lasted 129 days, from Aug. 10-Dec. 17, 2001. During that mission, he lived and worked aboard the International Space Station for 125 days and was the commander for 117 days.

He also held several, key management positions within the NASA Shuttle and ISS programs and was program manager of the Shuttle-Mir program. He's a 1971 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. He was a naval aviator, fighter pilot and test pilot, and he retired from the Navy as a captain in 1997.

Culbertson's many honors include the Legion of Merit, Navy Flying Cross, Defense Superior Service Medal, NAA/FAI Gagarin Gold Medal and NASA Distinguished Service Medal. He was inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame in 2010.

He's currently the executive vice president and general manager of the Advanced Programs Group for Orbital Sciences

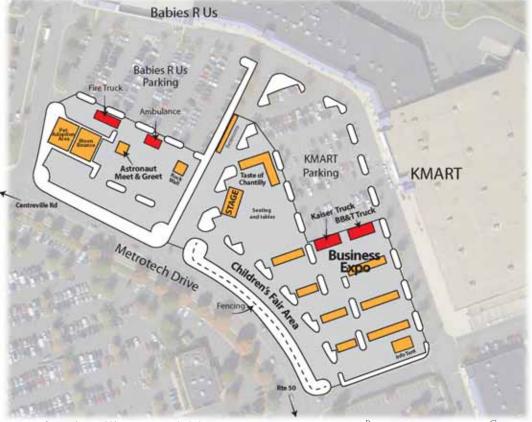


Frank Culbertson aboard the International Space Station

Corp. in Dulles.

His responsibilities include the execution and performance of all Orbital programs related to human space flight, including the Commercial Orbital Transportation System, plus multiple national-security, space- related projects.

Previously, Culbertson was a senior vice president for Human Space Systems at Orbital; before that, he was a senior vice president at SAIC.



Map for Chantilly Day activities.

Background image from Google

About 25 people were involved in planning Chantilly Day. Said Brown: "We began working on it the day after last year's event."

LSO

OPENING AND AWARDS

Opening ceremonies and the presentation of awards will kick off the day at 9:30 a.m. at the stage in the Kmart parking lot. All the other events will begin at 10 a.m., except for the stage entertainment which will start at 10:15 a.m. and the Taste of Chantilly, beginning SEE CHANTILLY DAY, PAGE 10

Former Astronaut Carl E. Walz

Carl E. Walz had a distinguished career as a NASA astronaut and is a veteran of four space flights, logging a total of 231 days in space.

He was a mission specialist on STS-51 (1993), was the Orbiter flight engineer (MS-2) on STS-65 (1994), was a mission specialist on the STS-79 (1996) mission to the

Russian Mir Space Station, and served as flight engineer (FE-1) on ISS Expedition 4 (2001-2002).

During Expedition 4, Walz and his U.S. and Russian colleagues performed flight tests of ISS hardware, conducted internal and external maintenance and outfitting tasks, operated the Space Station Robotic Manipulator System, and conducted numerous experiments in a variety of scientific disciplines. Also during that expedition, Walz completed two spacewalks totaling almost 12 hours, in both Russian and U.S. spacesuits.

rector for the Advanced Capabilities Division in the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters in



Carl Walz aboard the International Space Station

Washington, D.C. He was responsible for a broad range of activities including human research, space technology development, space nuclear power and propulsion, the Lunar Precursor Robotic program, and NASA's physical science and life science experiments on the ISS and Space Shuttle.

An Air Force veteran, Walz retired from active duty in 2003. He graduated from Kent State and John Carroll universities, both in Ohio.º

He's currently vice president for Human Space Flight Operations of Orbital Science Corp.'s Advanced Programs Group. Besides being a NASA astro- He's responsible for cargo and naut, he also served as the di- mission operations for Orbital's Commercial Orbital Transportation Services demonstration and Commercial Resupply Services programs.

♦ CENTRE VIEW SOUTH ♦ APRIL 25 - MAY 1, 2013

CHANTILLY DAY





THEYCALLMEPIANO

THEYCALLMEPIANO writes a diverse blend of songs based on her personal experiences. Her music style generally falls into the Pop-Rock genre. Ranging from acoustic ballads to heavy synth beat driven dance songs, she colors her music to best portray the often hidden messages within. Piano's musical journey began at age three when she taught herself to play the keyboard and was immediately driven to make up her own songs. At age 10, a collaboration with KidzBob resulted in an original web series called "Rockin' it Old School" where in each episode she would give a short history of a Classic Rock Band and then perform one of their songs. Her friends started calling her "Piano" and the nickname stuck.



...AND WHAT ARMY

..AND WHAT ARMY are a two piece rock- funk hybrid from Herndon. Their next ep will be an acoustic style comparable to City and Colour, Modest Mouse and Counting Crows

Chantilly Day Entertainment Schedule

- Performers will entertain at the stage in the Kmart parking lot. Exact times may vary slightly. 10-10:20 a.m. – PRO Martial Arts
- 10:25-10:45 a.m. Competitive jump roping; Wholesome Campus 10:50-11:10 a.m. - Former astronauts Carl Walz
- and Frank Culbertson will speak. 11:15 a.m.-noon – Soul Raising Visions rock band 12:15-1 p.m. – ...AND WHAT ARMY
- 1:15-2 p.m. THEYCALLMEPIANO 2:15-2:45 p.m. - Westfield High Jazz Combo
- 3-4 p.m. Stolen Camaros rock band



Stolen Camaros

Stolen Camaros play a modern mix of hard rock, power-pop and original music containing elements of bands like the Foo Fighters and U2. Their lyrics cover topics from lost chances for love, to current social and political themes, to the sociopath next door. The Stolen Camaros began life in 2010 as a trio playing local shows and festivals, performing the songs off singer/guitarist Ted Hovis' solo release "Let It Shine" produced by Grammy winner Kevin Guitierez. In 2011 the lineup expanded to include keyboards. Original bassist turned guitarist, Mark Beeson, brings a powerpop influence to create a complementary sonic layer of licks and chords supported by the rock solid rhythm section of drummer Ted Dumas and bassist Nima Ghovanlu.

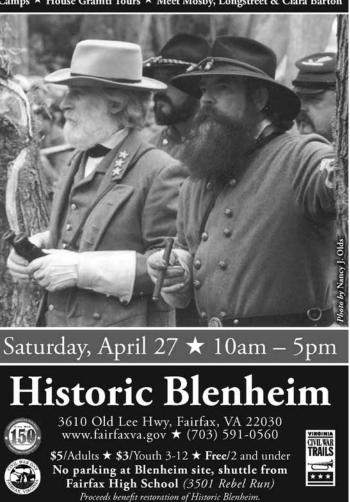
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A 150th Anniversary Civil War Event Photo 13th Fairfax Civil War Day GALLERY Civil War Balloon Demo ★ Cannon Firing ★ Hayrides ★ Music "Me Camps ★ House Graffiti Tours ★ Meet Mosby, Longstreet & Clara Barton and My Mom" To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favor ite snapshots of you with your Mom and Centre View will publish them in our Mother's Day issue Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo. plus vour name an phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to: centreview@conne tionnewspapers.cor Or to mail photo prints, send to: Centre View, 'Me and My Mom Photo Gallery," 1606 King St. kandria VA S Photo prints will be 150 returned to you if you include a stamped. self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irre-

placeable.



CHANTILLY DAY

Offering Food, Fun and Festivities

From Page 6

at 11 a.m.

The Chantilly Academy's Air Force JROTC Color Guard will present the colors at 9:30 a.m. and Dulles Chamber member Brittani Poindexter will sing the national anthem.

The Chantilly-Centreville Chamber will then give out business, nonprofit, partnership and citizen of the year awards. It will also present four, \$1,000 STEM scholarships (science, technology, engineering and math) to graduating seniors at Chantilly, Centreville and Westfield high schools and The Chantilly Academy - a Governor's STEM Academy.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

"What makes our festival a familyfriendly, fun event is that the children's activities are free," said Gray. "They're provided by the Chantilly-Centreville Chamber and its sponsors."

They'll be in a fenced-in area along Metrotech Drive in the Kmart lot, near the business expo. And sponsoring many of the children's activities is Wholesome Campus of Chantilly, an enrichment center for children and adults.

"I'm really excited about Chantilly Day," said company President Donna Cooper. "We'll have face-painting, bubbles and lots of gymnastics equipment, including balance beams, plastic tunnels, tents, parachutes

and rockers. We have a competitive jump rope team and some of the members will be performing on stage. We also hope to bring in a balloon artist and a tarp covered with Legos."

Additionally, the Elden Street Players will perform at a special children's stage. Children will also be able to climb on a rock wall sponsored by F3 Tactical of Chantilly and enjoy a space-shuttle moonbounce and trackless train rides sponsored by the Chantilly-Centreville Chamber. There'll also be games and arts and crafts.

FOOD

The Taste of Chantilly food area will be in the Kmart lot. Vendors will include: The Similans Thai Eatery, Thai dishes; Bungalow Billiards, pulled pork and chicken sliders; Hooters, chicken wings, hot dogs and hamburgers; Coyote Grille, tacos; Chick-Fil-A, chicken sandwiches; Moe's Southwest Grill, Mexican food; and Ms. P's Concessions, jerk chicken, red beans and rice, steamed cabbage, plantains, fish, funnel cakes, lemonade, soda and water.

ENTERTAINMENT

There'll be a variety of entertainment for all ages. PRO Martial Arts of Chantilly will give a martial arts demonstration and the competitive jump ropers from Wholesome Campus will show what they can do.

Also performing will be the Westfield High Jazz Combo, plus THEYCALLMEPIANO, a local pop, rock and electronic dance music artist. Three rock bands will liven up the day, as well. They are ... AND WHAT ARMY, Soul Raising Visions and The Stolen Camaros.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Sponsoring a pet adoption is Chantilly Animal Hospital; this activity will be in the Babies R Us lot, next to the moonbounce. Attendees will be able to adopt pets on the spot and take them home.

Various Chantilly High clubs and classes will also be participating in Chantilly Day. One of the hits of last year's event was the Chantilly Academy's basketball-playing robot, and the Robotics Club is bringing it back again this year.

The school's Hispanic Leadership Club will be doing free face-painting, in addition to the face painter provided by Wholesome Campus. The Chantilly Academy's Animal Science class will also be on hand, as will the school's athletic boosters, who'll be selling spirit wear.

And more than 100 local businesses are participating in the Chantilly Day Business Expo. It gives area residents a chance to see what's available to them in their community. Businesses range from finance to health, education and government contract-



Chantilly High's Robotics Team will bring its basketball-shooting robot.

ing. They'll be offering giveaways and people may win prizes just by stopping by their tables.

PARKING

Free, offsite parking with shuttle service to and from the event will be offered. Staybridge Suites is providing free shuttle buses. Visitors are encouraged to use the nearby parking area at 3900 Skyhawk Drive (off Centreville Road). Signs will mark the parking lot. People are also welcome to walk the quarter mile or so from the lot to the event.

Behind the Scenes: Bill Keech Jr. Talks about Chantilly Day

of the Westfield Business Owners Assn. and the Chantilly-Centreville Chamber of Commerce, both of which are putting on Chantilly Day, along with Kaiser Permanente.

Q: How will the second annual Chantilly Day build on last year's event? A: It is hard to build on an

The Sponsors

Presenting sponsors Westfields Business Owners Assn. and Kaiser Permanente are joined by the following businesses in supporting this event: Beatty Management Co., Virginia Heritage Bank, Sandy Spring Bank, Western Federal Credit Union, Systems Furniture Gallery, Wholesome Campus, Northern Virginia Veterinary Associates, Connection Newspapers -Centre View. Chantilly Youth Association, Inova Fair Oaks Hospital, Staybridge Suites Chantilly, 110 RPM, F3 Tactical, TriVision Studios and

FASTSIGNS

ill Keech Jr. is president event that was so successful last year. The momentum is building and everyone is excited about this year's Chantilly Day. We are welcoming the designation of the "Air & Space Capital of Virginia" and the fantastic lineup in the business showcase, live entertainment, family games and our very special honored guest astronauts, Carl Walz and Frank Culbertson Jr.

Q: What's your goal for this year's Chantilly Day?

A: Our goal has always been to create the very best venue for the business and surrounding community to have a chance to get together to learn about our business neighbors and our special community here in Chantilly. We are^oproud of our community and we want to share with each other what makes Chantilly so special. We believe we met our goal last year^oand^owill surpass our expectations this year.

Q: What does this event contribute to the Chantilly community?

A: Chantilly Day was designed to bring the business and surround greater Chantilly community together to highlight what makes our community so special. It helps us all recognize and share the success that our businesses, schools and families have achieved and enjoyed here in Fairfax County. It's an opportunity to highlight and share our wonderful retail, dining and entertainment venues and learn about the business and services available to us.

Q: What are you most excited about this time?

A: We are excited to see the dedication of the Chamber, its committees, members and volunteers, as well as our business community come together to create this venue. A lot of hard work went into creating this event. We^oare excited and honored that we can kick off our community proclamation of "The Air & Space Capital of Virginia" with our two local astronauts. It will be fun for the family and kids to meet a real astronaut.

Q: Why is it important for the chamber to provide this avenue for business and

entertainment to the **Chantilly community?**

A: The community chamber helps bridge the gap between the businesses and the surrounding community. Getting to know your^oneighbors, who they are^oand^owhat they do creates a sense of belonging and a communal wellbeing. We know we have^osomething special here and we are proud to share it.

O: Why does the Westfield **Business Owners Assn.** believe it should contribute to this event?

A: Westfields International Corporate Center is the largest, Class A office park in the region and home to some of the largest most well-respected businesses in the world. Representing the property owners and their tenants, we represent the largest employment base in Chantilly.

Since the creation of the office park in 1986, we feel much of our success is based on our community of elected officials, civic leaders, our families and our businesses and property owners all working together to propel Chantilly into one of the best places to work and live.

Q: What do you hope the community takes away from Chantilly Day?

A: We hope the community will see beyondotheirobackyards and neighborhoods to see that there is a lot of success and opportunity happening right here in Chantilly. There is more than meets the eye when it comes to great companies creating and^oinnovating^ogreat things and families and communities that work hand-in-hand with their elected officials, schools and civic leaders. We have a can-do attitude and a warm, welcoming community for all.

Q: How do you as a business in Chantilly believe this event will contribute to the area's business and community identity?

A: We are a large part of this community and we hope we can show people that Chantilly has a lot^oto offer as a place to live, learn, work, shop and play. We are fortunate that we have the best community, the best schools and the best businesses in the region, and the best is yet to come.



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Centre View South & April 25 - May 1, 2013 & 11



Real Estate Housing Market: 'Sell and Buy'

Sustained low interest rates and rising prices have energized the marketplace.

> By Tim Peterson Centre View

he local real estate market is thriving, with Realtors reporting multiple offers on homes in some areas and dwindling inventory of homes for sale. At least two things are contributing to this change in the market.

First, interest rates have been in the basement: Freddie Mac reported a 30-year fixed-rate of 3.57

percent for March this year, as opposed to 3.95 percent in March 2012 and 4.84 percent in 2011 (for reference, March 2005 was 5.93 percent).

Second, home prices are rising: RealEstate Business Intelligence reported a 10.23 percent increase in average sold price in Fairfax County between February 2012 and 2013. Even though inventory is shrinking across the county, distressed sales (foreclosures and short sales) are a smaller part of the market. On the whole, everyone has warm fuzzies about the market.

"It's as healthy as it's ever been," said Dane Work, an associate broker with Re/Max Preferred Properties in Fairfax. "Everything is a hot potato. The whole market is red hot, white hot."

BUT HOW LONG until the extended honeymoon SEE PERFECT STORM, PAGE 13

Walk with 🛛 5-K Walk to benefit children in foster care

When: Saturday, May 18, 2013, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. (Registration from 8 to 8:30 a.m.)

Where: Lake Accotink Park (rear entrance) 5660 Heming Avenue, Springfield, VA.

Cost: \$30 registration fee • Picnic lunch provided

Steps to Walk – or Support the 5-K Walk

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What Housing Slump?

Real estate experts explain the rise in luxury condominium sales.

> By Marilyn Campbell CENTRE VIEW

hen a retired couple decided it was time to leave their sprawling suburban home, they wanted to downsize without giving up luxury. As a result, they purchased a high-end condominium and hired Bethesda, Md., based interior designer Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Interior Design to create a serene and sophisticated space.

"The couple are retired professionals, empty nesters who lead active lives and didn't want the maintenance of a single family home," said Proxmire. "[They] wanted to blend the furniture, accessories and mementoes they had each collected. ... They wanted a home that was elegant, comfortable, and that also allowed them to lock and leave on a moment's notice."

Proxmire's clients are part of rebound in the highend condominium market. The National Association of Realtors reports that condominium purchases are on the rise, and says that sales are 13.9 percent higher than they were at the same time last year.

David DeSantis, a partner at TTR | Sotheby's International Realty says his company has seen an increase in luxury condominium sales in the Washington region in recent months. "In the past several months we have broken records for high-end condo prices, and we recently sold the most expensive condo ever sold in the Washington region, which was \$7.5 million," he said. "We sold a number of condos at Turnberry Tower in Rosslyn [Arlington]."

COMMUNITIES LIKE the Oronoco in Old Town Alexandria; Market Street at Town Center in Reston, and Quarry Springs in Bethesda attract those who want both luxury and convenience. "The appeal of these buildings is the fact that you've got these large apartments that are like homes except with a health club and concierge service," said DeSantis. "The close-in suburbs are good places to live. There are good stores, good restaurants and you don't have the issue of a long commute to work."

Realtors say that properties close to public transportation are in demand. "Reston is on fire. The condos are turning very quickly there because the Metro is coming," said Great Falls-based realtor Dianne Van Volkenburg of Long & Foster Companies. "Reston is one of the places where inventory is extremely limited, so you're getting multiples offers over list price."

Alexandria-based realtor Allison Goodhart of The Goodhart Group of McEnearney Associates, Inc. said, "Sales and showings for properties have really picked up across the board in Alexandria City. The Oronoco is all high-end, one-level condos near the Old Town [Alexandria] waterfront and those are selling very well.'

Bob Wulff, Ph.D., director of the Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship and the master's in real estate development program at George Mason University in Fairfax, says there are two primary types of buyers who are drawn to condominiums. "There are first time homebuyers and move-down homebuyers who've sold their large suburban homes," said Wulff. "Move-down buyers are looking for luxury in a walkable neighborhood that is near mass transit."

DeSantis agrees. "A big portion of those clients are the empty-nester crowd," he said. "Their kids have graduated from college and they are looking for a lifestyle change. These people were not pinched by the recession, but it also wasn't a good time to sell their big house in suburbs."

In addition to empty nesters, DeSantis says that high-income professional singles and couples often choose luxury condominiums. "Those two groups are leading to the up-tick in sales," he said.

Walter Molony, economic issues media manager for the National Association of Realtors, says the boost in condominium sales is the result of a stronger economy. "It is part of the rising tide that is floating all boats," he said. "After four years of a sluggish economy that impacted people's confidence, affordability conditions have improved and people have the wherewithal and the confidence to buy. There is less inventory in the low-end market, and there are more buyers than sellers, which is driving demand up."

DeSantis said, "For the most part, the Washington, D.C., area was not hit as hard, so we're coming back faster. One of the things that we've seen in the real estate industry is that there's no shortage of people in this market who have the resources to buy high-end housing. They held off on buying while the direction of the economy ... was unclear, but people are now willing to spend the money that they've had all along."

Real Estate

Perfect Storm for Appreciation

From Page 11

phase is over? And what will that market look like? According to George Mason University professor of finance Gerald Hanweck, a lot like it has before.

"The hype is, fundamentally, what you would expect from a market like this," said Hanweck. "For quite a while, this has been a terrific housing market in Fairfax County."

Hanweck came to GMU in 1985 after spending nearly two decades in the research division at the Federal Reserve Board. Today in addition to teaching MBA finance courses, he is also associate dean for graduate programs.

The professor has seen real estate go through cycle after cycle over the decades. "It really just took time to allow housing prices to get on a path of rising, at a rate they had in the past," he said.

"When I first came here in 1968, the thought was housing prices should always go up ten percent a year. That was a rule. And in fact they did for some time," Hanweck said.

"Now we've hit a plateau," said Hanweck, "to where we probably should take off and start having price rises between 4 and 6 percent a year, on average, for residential properties.

Once we hit that, and that's been happening now for several years, prices are high enough - after they had fallen in 2005 and

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2006 — that people are willing to buy and sell. Enough time has passed."

WHY THE DWINDLING SUPPLY? There

are several factors, according to Hanweck, which result in people hanging on to their properties. Among them is a gradual increase in the number of retirees in this area who choose to stay in their homes. Another is people simply waiting to see how high prices will rise. There are also more instances of business investors buying properties to rent.

But none of this should dissuade anyone from jumping into the real estate market right now, Hanweck said. "Sell. Sell and buy."

"If you want to move, sell now, buy now. Buying six months ago would be even better, buying a year ago would've been even better. But buy. Over the next year, two years, it's going to be a good market. After that we're going to see federal government cuts actually start to impact."

"I'm incredibly optimistic," said Work. "I have been for about a year and a half. It makes me look like a saint. The writing was on the wall for some of this.

"It's such a great opportunity for the end user, for occupants," he continued. "Everybody's got to live somewhere. Now is the time to lock in on something and secure it."

Photo GALLERY "Me and My Mom"

> To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favor ite snapshots of you with your Mom and Centre View will publish them in our Mother's Day issue Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

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Local REAL ESTATE

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Conflicted, Times Two

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

About what I'm feeling and whether I should even be writing about it. Obviously, the "it" ("confliction," one of my father's many made-up words), has to do with yours truly having stage IV lung cancer (duh!). Specifically, it has to do with the feedback I received today from my nephrologist (kidney specialist), an appointment I have scheduled every four to six months. The ongoing concern being, that the toxicity of my previous three years of infused chemotherapy has caused collateral damage (internally for sure, externally, not so much), especially since I have lived longer than the standard treatment protocols anticipated/have been studied. Over this time, lab work and patient observation has indicated that something not totally unexpected has happened (other than my still being alive that is): damage to internal organs not directly related to the underlying cancer diagnosis. And what has been happening is that my creatinine levels (likely a side effect of my previous 18month-long Avastin infusion) and bilirubin (likely a side effect of the - at present, nine months-long and counting, daily dose of tarceva, a targeted treatment/pill I take daily), are reaching new highs. Elevated levels of which are hardly grist for the rumor mill. In fact, it's quite the opposite: cause for concern.

The problem is that neither chemotherapy nor targeted treatment have been – heretofore, considered long-term treatment options for stage IV lung cancer patients because long-term survivors are rare. As such, studies determining such multi-year protocols have been equally rare, given the minimal patient population. And since I now fall into this "rare" population, how to treat me is more feel than established fact. The book hasn't been written, so to speak, because I'm the "book."

That being said, what the nephrologist said to me was: "You look great. Are you in remission?" (Not that I have been told.) "No one could tell by looking at you that you're not healthy." All of which I was grateful to hear, but hesitant to embrace. Ergo, the first "confliction." All of a sudden (four-plus years, actually), I'm not terminal? Given that I'm now living year five post-diagnosis, the chance, statistically speaking, that I'll be alive in year six is only 14.8 percent (see previous column of the same name). So, am I closer to the end of my life or the end of the cancer? That's a fairly wide disparity between fact and fiction. Am I living longer or dying sooner?

"Confliction" number two: What's the benefit to me, in even writing about what the nephrologist said? It feels as if I'm putting the proverbial cart before the horse. I'm not cured. There is no cure (as my oncologist clearly advised Team Lourie back in February, '09: "I can treat you, but I can't cure you." Hard words to live by). To the point then, what advantage, what purpose does discussing being cured (in remission) serve? My "CT" scan next week will tell me what I should be feeling; that's when the diagnostic rubber really hits the road. It doesn't matter what I think or feel - or write about now, the tale of the tape will be in the "computerized topography." Until the radiologist completes his analysis and my oncologist communicates those findings to me, embracing what the nephrologist said to me or even writing about my reaction to it seems counterproductive somehow. I can't believe in miracles. I have to believe in myself. However, believing in one without the other is perhaps the reason I'm so conflicted. Or, I just think too much.

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

The Mount Vernon Gazette



Connection



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Sports



Madison Noel and the Centreville softball team are on a seven-game winning streak.



Centreville freshman Kaleigh Berry bats against Herndon on April 12.

Centreville Softball Wins Seventh Straight

he Centreville softball team defeated Chantilly 4-1 on Tuesday, four days after the Wildcats defeated Oakton, 9-8.

Centreville started the season 2-3, but the Wildcats have responded with a seven-game winning streak. The victory against Chantilly improved Centreville's record to 9-3, including 5-0 in the Concorde District. The Centreville softball team took its

Sports Briefs

three-game winning streak on the road to Concorde District foe Herndon High School on Monday, April 15, winning the contest 9-8.

The Herndon Hornets took an early tworun lead, but the Wildcats stormed back on a two-run homer by freshman shortstop Kaleigh Berry in the top of the third inning to tie the score. After the Hornets went ahead 3-2, the Wildcat offense exploded for five runs in the fifth inning. The Wildcats added two more runs in the top of the seventh to extend the score to 9-3. The Hornets almost pulled off a great comeback in their final at bat, scoring five runs, but came up just short.

Other Wildcats having a solid night at the plate included senior right fielder Amanda Meny (hit, 2 RBIs), junior designated player Lexi Hunter (2 hits, RBI), junior third baseman Natalie Hopkins (hit, RBI), senior left fielder Lauren Knoble (2 hits, double) and junior center fielder Morgan Yi (2 hits). Sophomore pitcher Gretchen Kernbach got her sixth win while striking out four, walking two and giving up six hits.

On Tuesday, April 16, the Lady Wildcats softball team put their four-game winning streak on the line, visiting cross-town rival Westfield High School. CVHS shut out the Lady Bulldogs, winning 3-0. In a game that was well played by both sides, the Wildcat bats, aggressive base running, and timely defense proved to be the difference.

After two scoreless innings, Centreville plated two runs in the top of third and added another run in sixth. The Wildcat defense came through when needed, www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

thwarting several Bulldog scoring opportunities. Senior left fielder Lauren Knoble led the offensive effort for the Wildcats with two RBIs on a hit. Sophomore second baseman Madi Noel drove in the third run and contributed two hits. Five other Wildcat players also provided hits. Sophomore pitcher Gretchen Kernbach got her seventh win and third shutout of the season by striking out three without giving up a walk.

Centreville will travel to face Robinson at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 26.

WHS Girls' Soccer To Host Chantilly

The Westfield girls' soccer team will host Chantilly at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 25 in a battle of the top two teams in the Concorde District standings.

Westfield is 9-0 overall and 3-0 in the district. Chantilly is 7-2-1 overall and 3-0 in the district. Chantilly's losses came against Lake Braddock and Broad Run. The Chargers played to a 1-all tie with Stone Bridge.

Both teams are ranked in the Washington Post's top 10 - Westfield is No. 2 and Chantilly is No. 4.

Centreville Girls' Tennis

The Centreville girls' tennis team defeated Herndon 9-0 on March 21.

On court No. 1, Jamie Schoshinski won 10-5. Carlota Perez-Carpio completed her match in record time, winning 10-0. On court No. 3. Kimberly Townsend won handily, beating her opponent 10-2. Rebekah Lee won 10-6 on court No. 4. On court No. 5, Tanya Kumar won 10-5. On court No. 6, Katie Kowalski was focused and ably beat her opponent, 10-3. In doubles, the No. 1 team of Schoshinski and Perez-Carpio were very aggressive at the net and won, 8-3. Townsend and Lee took their match, 8-1. In No. 3 doubles, Sierra Dimmer and

Kowalski overtook their opponents, 8-3.

On April 18, CVHS played Westfield. On court No. 2 Perez-Carpio won her match, 10-4. On court No. 3, Jessica Jassal overtook her opponent Nickie Bruley, who played line four previously, winning 10-2. On court No. 6, Kumar won her match, 10-6. In No. 1 doubles, Schoshinski and Perez-Carpio won their match, taking advantage of their opponent's positions and aggressively handling the net, but overall the Bulldogs won the day's event. The team is scheduled to host Chantilly on Thursday, April 25.

Centreville JV Boys' Lacrosse

The Centreville JV boys' lacrosse team visited the Chantilly Chargers on April 16 and toughed out a 6-5 victory.

The first quarter featured long possessions as each team concentrated on controlling the ball and gauging their foe. Pat Fuller broke the ice for Centreville after a spin move and a shot from the side of the goal

with 36 seconds left in the quarter. John Tarver made the next Wildcat goal with an assist from Kyle Heidt, but Chantilly responded with a barrage of shots, resulting in two Charger goals in the last few minutes of the first half.

Corey Spriggs regained the lead in the third quarter on a big shot from outside, assisted by Matthew Laurence. Fuller notched two assists as Patrick Goldammer and Laurence each scored, pushing the lead to 5-2. Chantilly continued to fight back in the fourth quarter, converting a goal from a stolen clear early, and scoring another goal with less than 5 minutes remaining in the game to pull within one. Aggressive play worked against Chantilly when Tarver scored again on a two-man up situation, but also led to a Charger goal with just over a minute to go.

Centreville held tight as the clock ticked down for the one-point win.

Wildcats Ignacio Fernandez, Aidan Barns, Kyle Evans, and Britton Lee played tough defense throughout the game and goalie Josh Tarver had another outstanding game with a dozen saves.



Katherine Bukovsky (8) and the Westfield girls' soccer team will host Chantilly on Thursday, April 25,



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Schools







Understanding Autism In observation of Autism Awareness Month, Union Mill Elementary students participated in a sensory simulation experience during their physical education classes on Thursday, April 4, and Friday, April 5. The activities included an obstacle course which simulated things that children with autism often find to be helpful, such as jumping and bouncing. Other stations included a mirror station that simulated perception confusion, a glove station that simulated fine motor challenges, and a listening station that simulated the filtering of external stimuli, all of which can be challenging for students with autism. The experience gave students a better understanding of autism. The sensory simulation activities were coordinated and led by Union Mill PTA Alternative Education Co-Chairs, Melyssa Plath and Nicole Moore, and PE teachers Jenny Murray and Elizabeth Cross. Several Union Mill parent volunteers were also on hand to assist the students at each station.

School Notes

More than 300 JMU students embarked on 30 spring break trips around the country and world. Students spent the week living simply, focused on service in their destination community but also on teamwork and reflection within their group. The following students participated in alternative spring break: Emma Stewart, Adrienne Lowry and Rachael Donnelly

Meagan McCue, a sophomore at

the University of South Carolina, Columbia, and a Centreville High School graduate, was named to the president's honor roll for the fall of 2012. She was also named to the dean's list for the Spring of 2012.

Kimberly Fitzpatrick, of Centreville, has been named to Eckerd College's dean's list for the fall 2012 semester. Kimberly is majoring in marine science.

Twenty Fairfax County Public Schools students have received 21 national medals for their entries in the 2013 Scholastic Art Awards sponsored by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers. Seven students earned 8 Gold Awards: 13 students earned Silver Medals.

Gold Award winners from FCPS are: Ksenia Muzyka of Westfield High School for drawing. Elizabeth Tropea of Centreville High School for photography



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Turbo Tutoring Scholarship

Turbo Tutoring, a local SAT accelerated prep company, awarded its first scholarship (for \$500) to Kelly Duncan, who will be attending the University of Tennessee in the fall. From left are Dan Harris, Kelly Duncan and Gregg Greentree. Turbo Tutoring looks forward to awarding more scholarships in the future. Learn more about its program, see testimonials from both parents and students, read recent media articles, and get information about their upcoming seminars at: www.turbo-tutoring.com



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News

The Mount Zion Baptist Church Praise Team

Photos By **Bonnie Hobbs/** Centre View

Celebrating Erin's Life

From Page 1

she also shared her thoughts. "I've lost a loved one, myself, so I know how you feel," she said. "You may look fine on the outside; but inside, you're broken."

"But let me encourage you — you shall make it," said Aikin. "Tragedy doesn't come to the feint; it comes to the strong. And it's through the loss that we have victory. Erin died young, but not unfulfilled, because God fulfilled her purpose."

At the program's end, Peterson thanked everyone attending for their donations, saying she couldn't run the Erin Peterson Fund without them. Then the Rev. Eugene Johnson, Mount Olive's pastor, spoke.

"This is important that we can come together and



Crystal Aikin (on right) sings directly to Celeste Peterson.

reflect and tell our young people they can move forward, in spite of challenges," he said. "This fund recognizes Erin's legacy, and we bless the experience that Erin allowed us to share together this afternoon."



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ENTERTAINMENT

From Page 16

- sale. Bid on items during a silent auction. Free, but donations encouraged. Visit www.centrevillefiesta.org for photos
- of our entertainers. Spring Fling Carnival. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Union Mill Elementary, 13611 Springstone Drive, Clifton. Sponsored by Union Mill PTA. Rides, games, lucky drawing, food and more.

MONDAY/APRIL 29

Bouncin' Babies. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs,

required. 703-502-3883

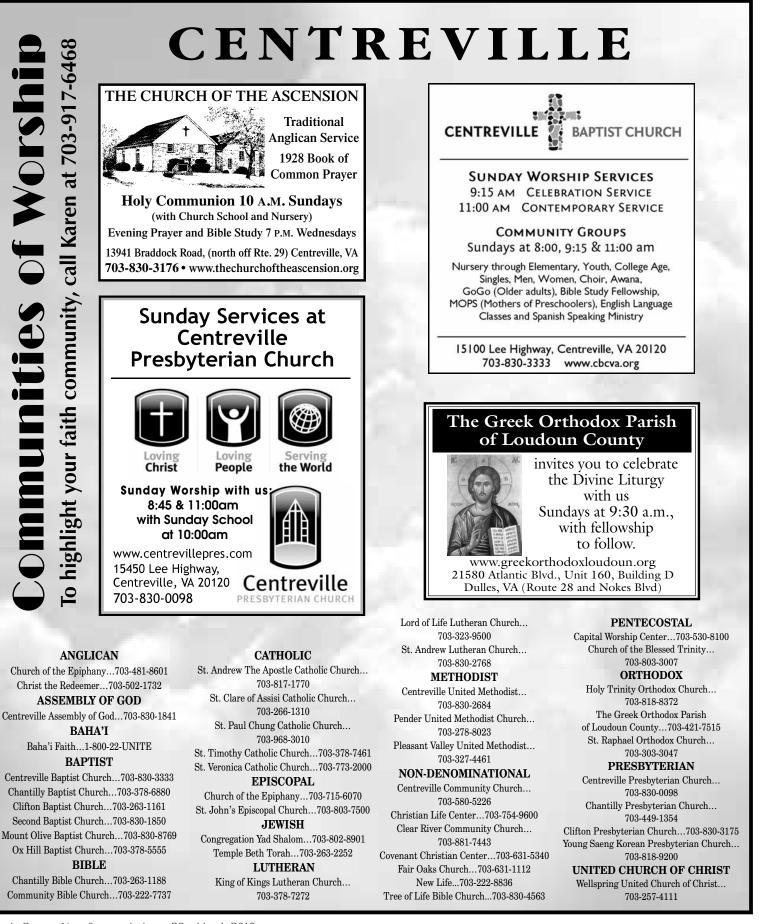
- Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy rhymes, songs and more. Free. Registration
- required. 703-502-3883. Kinder-Budds. 2:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Kindergarteners can enjoy a book discussion. Call for title. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.
- Book Buddies. 3:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. First and second graders can enjoy a book discussion. Call for title. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

TUESDAY/APRIL 30

- 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.
- Storvtime. 1:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 3-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883. 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. Dine With Local Firefighters and
- Police Officers. 6-8 p.m. at Chick-Fil-A at the Dulles Expo Center. Guests can see equipment and ask questions. There will be games and prizes for children.

THURSDAY/MAY 2

Preview Book Sale. 6-9 p.m. at



Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Members of the library can browse thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and more. Memberships available for \$15. Special incentives will be given to those who purchase a membership. Visit friendsofcentreville library.blogspot.com or 703-830-2223

Theater Performance. 7 p.m. at Chantilly High School. See more than 35 students perform in "You Can't Take it With You." \$8/online; \$10/ door. Visit www.chantillyhs drama.com for tickets.

FRIDAY/MAY 3

- Book Sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Browse thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and more. Visit friendsofcentrevillelibrary.blogspot.com or 703-830-2223.
- Theater Performance. 7 p.m. at Chantilly High School. See more than 35 students perform in "You Can't Take it With You." \$8/online; \$10/ door. Visit www.chantillyhs drama.com for tickets.

SATURDAY/MAY 4

- Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Browse thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and more. Visit friendsofcentrevillelibrary.blogspot.com or 703-830-2223.
- Annual Plant Sale. Perennials, annuals & herbs for sale by Centreville Garden Club. From 9 a.m.- noon in front of Giant Food. 5615 Stone Road, Sully Station, Centreville. Proceeds maintain planter boxes at Sully Governmental Center & other civic projects. Learn more at centre ville gard enclub. blog spot. com
- or e-mail: centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com. 703-830-2942.
- Shred Event. 9 a.m.-noon at McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center, 4890 Alliance Dr. Shred personal and finance documents securely. Taxdeductible donations will be accepted to benefit Crime Solvers; the suggested donation is \$5/bag.

SUNDAY/MAY 5

Book Sale. 1-5 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Browse thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and more. Visit friendsofcentrevillelibrary.blogspot.com or 703-830-2223.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 15

ArtNight Reception Party. 5:30-8 p.m. at Marriott SpringHill Suites Fairfax Hotel, 11191 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax. Meet members of the Fairfax Art League and see original works and get art-related questions answered. Free. There will be food and refreshments. There will also be a free drawing for artwork, hotel stays and more.

THURSDAY/MAY 16

- Clifton Charity Homes Tour. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in historic Clifton. \$25/advance; \$30/day of tour; \$10/ single home admission. Visit www.cliftoncwc.org for ticket information. Proceeds benefit the Charitable Trust.
- **Marketplace and Silent Auction** Fundraiser. The Clifton Community Woman's Club will host the fundraiser at Paradise Spring Winery in conjunction with the homes tour. Wine Down and silent auction from 3-6 p.m. at the winery. Free. Visit www.cliftoncwc.org.

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stories and more. Free. Registration Small Wonders. 11:30 a.m. at