

Centreville ❖ Clifton ❖ Little Rocky Run

CENTRE VIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION

NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 4, 2013

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE



From left: Alex Jones, Lu Ann McNabb, Sophia Teie and Debbie Lawall in front of Centreville High's anti-bullying-week banner in the cafeteria.

Actively Caring Comes to CVHS

Part of Bullying Awareness Week, AC4P recognizes acts of kindness.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Not bullying means more than just not taunting or hitting someone; it also means being kind and considerate. So it was fitting that members of Virginia Tech's pro-

gram, Actively Caring for People (AC4P), shared their message Monday, Nov. 18, during the first day of Cluster VII's Bullying Awareness Week.

Visiting Centreville High were AC4P representatives Sophia Teie and Alex Jones. "We're starting AC4P at Centreville in January," said Teie. "A

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BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Clement Sentenced To 10 Years in Prison

From principal to sex offender.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW



Clement

The incidents occurred Oct. 2-3, 2009 in Burke Lake Park. The boy was 8 at the time, and Clement had led the Royal Rangers Scout

For most of his 62 years, Little Rocky Run's Thom Clement led an exemplary life and was known in the community as an educator and a school principal. He was a 28-year employee of Fairfax County Public Schools and was Bull Run Elementary's principal for seven years until his July 2006 retirement.

Now, however, the labels attached to him will include "child molester" and "sex offender." Convicted of two counts of felony aggravated sexual battery of a minor, he was sentenced Friday in Fairfax County Circuit Court to 10 years in prison.

"It doesn't matter to the victim of sexual abuse whether [Clement] is a good person," said Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Kathy Stott. "This victim will be fearful and suspicious of others and feel no one can be trusted because of what was done to him at a young age."

The crime came to light in February, when the victim, now 13, told his family and the Virginia State police that he'd been inappropriately touched by Clement during an overnight camping trip.

group at Centerpointe Church in Fair Oaks for 20 years. Following an investigation, he was arrested May 23.

In court Sept. 17 for Clement's guilty pleas, Stott explained what had happened. It was bedtime, she said; and after telling two boys to settle down and be quiet, "The defendant entered their tent and lay

down between [them]. He then laid the victim on top of him, unzipped the boy's pants and touched him. He then wrapped the boy's hand around him." Afterward, she said, Clement zipped up the boy's pants and left the tent.

According to Stott, Clement said he'd been working with children since he was

in his 20s and "said that he probably had these feelings, but channeled them. He thought [the victim] was asleep and said this was the only time something like this had ever happened."

Wearing a green jail jumpsuit, Clement returned to court Nov. 22 for sentencing. In the front row was his wife of 33 years and four

SEE FORMER, PAGE 14

"This defendant put himself in situations where he was entrusted with other people's children."

— Kathy Stott, Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney

Crafts, Music, Santa and 'Polar Express'

Chantilly students collecting Toys for Tots.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Santa's elves are getting some extra help this year from the students in Chantilly High's Peer-Mediation class. They're collecting gifts for Toys for Tots during a Holiday Extravaganza for children.

The event is slated for Saturday, Dec. 7, starting at 3 p.m., in the school cafeteria. The fun includes arts and crafts, a meet-and-greet and photos with Santa, tasty treats, music and a holiday movie.

Admission to the event is one, new, unwrapped

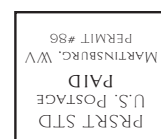
toy per person, and all donated toys will be given directly to the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. And Peer Mediation teacher Shannon Khatcheressian, who has two young children of her own, said there'll be activities for all ages.

"It'll be perfect for the whole family," she said. "There'll be face-painting and snowflake-making — all types of holiday crafts. It's a nice way to kick off the holiday season."

Jersey Mike's and Chick-Fil-A will sell food, and the Rocky Run Middle School band and choir will perform holiday music. Khatcheressian's 36 Peer-Mediation students will run all the activity stations.

The crafts, food and music will go from 3-4 p.m. Then at 4:15 p.m., everyone will go into the auditorium for a special showing of the hit movie, "Polar Express," starring Tom Hanks.

SEE CRAFTS, MUSIC, PAGE 13



'It's All about Building Relationships'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Centre Ridge Elementary celebrates expanded Family Center.

Previously, Centre Ridge Elementary's Family Center was in a small, conference room in the school. It was cramped and had to share its space with people having meetings.

But on Nov. 4, the ribbon was cut on a new and expanded Family Center in a trailer near the cafeteria. "The new Family Center is warm and inviting," said Assistant Principal Janice Suitte. "It has more room for programs and ac-

tivities for parents, plus a play area for preschool children."

Participating in the ceremony were Principal Margo Dias-Pareja and parent liaisons Mary Pierri, who works with the Hispanic parents, and Soo-Min Ok, who works

with the school's Korean parents. And they couldn't have been happier.

"This really is a recognition that parents are the first teachers children have, and of the collaboration between school and home," said Dias-Pareja. She also acknowledged Pierri and Ok, saying, "We're lucky and blessed to have the best school liaisons in all of Fairfax County."

Target, Walmart and McDonald's donated gift cards to be raffled off to the parents after the ceremony. And, said Dias-Pareja, "A group of Korean mothers spent countless hours cleaning the Family Center and getting things ready." It was also a collaboration between the parents, administrators and PTA, plus representatives from FCPS' Family and School Partnerships (FSP).

The center's goal is to provide a welcoming place where families feel respected, honored and celebrated. Valuing the cultural and educational diversity of its school community, Centre Ridge works with families to support their children's academic success. Open weekdays from 8:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., the center offers resources, parent workshops and activities to bridge and strengthen family and school partnerships.

"We opened the other one three years ago," said Dias-Pareja. "But as we added more programs for parents, we outgrew the space." She said Suitte took the lead on

creating a new space, which was also intended to increase parent participation in school events.

For example, said Dias-Pareja, "For our book fair, we prepared the moms to volunteer at it, in advance. And we had a larger, more diverse group than ever working at it."

She said parents also helped ready the Family Center to open by donating toys and a small refrigerator. In addition, the room contains three computers, tables, chairs, couches, a children's play area and a bilingual library for parents. "They worked on it, little by little, over the summer," said the principal.

Both parent liaisons have desks there, too, so they can meet with parents. They also teach many of the classes offered at the center. Three of the major programs are:

- ❖ Parents as Educational Partners, designed for parents of ESOL students. It includes ways for parents to improve their own English-language skills, while becoming familiar with the school and school system. "They learn that the U.S. school system encourages parental involvement," said Dias-Pareja. "And, ultimately, that helps their children."

- ❖ Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters is a free, home-based, school-readiness and parent-engagement program for eligible families with children ages 3-5.

SEE CENTRE RIDGE, PAGE 8

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BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

From left: Centre Ridge Principal Margo Dias-Pareja and parent liaisons Mary Pierri and Soo-Min Ok cut the ribbon on the school's new Family Center.



The Noonan home.



The Milne house.



The Netschert home.

It's Time To Celebrate Christmas in Clifton

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Twinkling lights, the sound of caroling, a parade on horseback and beautifully decorated houses in a storybook setting — all that and more means Christmas in Clifton. And the public's invited to join in the fun on Saturday, Dec. 7.

The festivities also include a candlelight tour of homes, musical entertainment in two churches, an art show and the lighting of the town Christmas tree — complete with hot chocolate and carols. And Homes Tour Chairman Tom McNamara says it'll be a special time to visit the town.

"We have five really interesting homes that are trimmed for the holidays and are in the Historic District," he said. "Most of these houses are old, but the Milnes' is the newest and is really unique because of its arts-and-crafts style."

Tickets are available in town at A Flower Blooms in Clifton, T&K Treasures, Hydrangea and All that Glitters. They're also at Picket Fence in Burke and Banner's Hallmark in Centreville. Cost is \$20, adults; \$5, children under 12, through Dec. 6. The day of the event, they're \$25 and \$10, respectively, at the booth on Main Street.

The holiday fun begins at 2 p.m., with a colorful parade of horses and riders decorated in Christmas finery. Sponsored by the Clifton Horse Society, it travels up Main Street, goes through town and along Chapel Street to a field where participants and spectators gather for cookies, caroling and the awarding of prizes.

Visitors may then shop in Clifton's stores and enjoy the town's restaurants prior to the homes tour. "All the shops will be open late," said McNamara. "And this year, there are some neat, new stores in town, so people can get a head start on their Christmas shopping."

FOOD, SHOPPING, ART, TREE LIGHTING

The new businesses are Cupcaked and Hydrangea on Chapel Road and Trattoria Villagio (formerly Heart in Hand) on Main Street. Cupcaked features several varieties of cupcakes, Hydrangea is a gift shop and Trattoria Villagio is an upscale Italian restaurant and market. Also open will be the Clifton Café, Main Street Pub (in the Clifton Store) and Trummer's on Main.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

From 4-9 p.m., the Art Guild of Clifton will hold its second annual Holiday Art Show and Sale in the Clifton Town Meeting Hall, next to the fire station, at 12641 Chapel Road. Original artwork on display will include oil paintings, giclées, prints, watercolors, pastels, greeting cards, jewelry, collages, pottery, murals, and faux and decorative painting.

The candlelight homes tour runs from 4-7 p.m. Five houses and two churches will welcome visitors. Then at 7:30 p.m. will be the annual, Christmas tree lighting in Ayre Square, at the corner of Main Street and Chapel Road.

"I think the tree lighting will be extra special this year," said McNamara. "I'm really excited about it. We bought 100, flameless, hand-held candles for all the attendees, and I think it's going to be a really cool look. People will turn on their candles as the tree is lit. We'll also have hot chocolate and marshmallows to roast for S'mores, and the carolers from Chantilly High will sing."

The tour includes the following:

THE NOONAN HOME

Home to City of Fairfax Schools Superintendent Peter Noonan, this house on Chapel Road was built in 1900. Called the "Fletcher House," it was the former home of Clifton's longtime postmistress, Anna Sprouse.

Noonan is only the second owner of this historic house and transformed it into a functional home for a family, while keeping its original integrity intact. It's now been trimmed for the holidays with his children's handmade ornaments, as well as glowing luminarias reflecting Noonan's ties to New Mexico.

THE MILNE HOUSE

At just over a year old, the Dell Avenue home of Melissa and Graham Milne is the youngest house in Clifton. But the property



The Robertson house.

PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
WILLIAM HUMMEL

The Keen home.



has a colorful past — it was rumored to have been the location of moonshine stills in the 1920s.

Local architect, Royce Jarrendt, worked closely with the homeowners to maintain the charm of old Clifton while incorporating a modern flavor. The open, living design of the interior provides the stage for an eclectic mix of industrial, French and antique décor.

This house is at the top of a steep hill, so a shuttle in front of the Clifton Store will take visitors to and from it.

THE NETSCHERT HOME

Donna and Jamie Netschert's home on Chestnut Street is the oldest home on this year's tour. It was constructed in 1886 by James Cross, a wagon builder, wheelwright, blacksmith, undertaker and one of the first members of the Clifton Town Council.

Visitors will be able to see Jamie's collection of his spectacular sunset photographs, plus Donna's baby grand piano in the front parlor. Christmas music will be played on it during the tour to put guests in the holiday spirit.

THE ROBERTSON HOUSE

Built around 1902, the "Kivett House" on Main Street is home to Trisha and Jonathan Robertson. The original owner, R.M.Kivett, was a shopkeeper, real-estate and insurance salesman, town booster and newspaper correspondent. And from 1904-08, he was even the town mayor.

This three-story house was constructed in the carpenter-gothic, Victorian style. It began as a Sears kit that was substantially modified as it was built. The interior is bright and casual, reflecting the Robertson family.

THE KEEN HOME

Designed by local architect Jim Hricko in

1985, the Chapel Street residence of Ginny and Vernon Keen has many architectural details found throughout the town of Clifton.

The homeowners have decorated their house's open-floor, 20th-century floor plan with a mix of family heirlooms, antiques and Civil War mementos. Their talents in music and interior design add warmth to this holiday showplace.

CLIFTON BAPTIST CHURCH

The Clifton Baptist Church, at 7152 Main St., was admitted into the Potomac Baptist Association in August 1875. Services were first held in the home of George W. Tillet and other area men who served with Mosby's Rangers during the Civil War. The first church building was constructed in 1877 and was used for both worship and community functions.

The cornerstone of the present building was laid Nov. 24, 1910, with construction completed in 1912. With its gabled roof, steeple and Gothic arched windows, it's one of the most beautiful buildings in historic Clifton. During the homes tour, the Chantilly High Carolers will be performing in the church every half hour.

CLIFTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Clifton Presbyterian Church, at 12748 Richardson Lane, has served the community as a place of worship and community life since its founding in 1870 by families of soldiers who fought in this area during the Civil War and settled here afterward.

In the early 1900s, the church acquired the manse next door, later adding an annex for classroom, office and fellowship space in the 1950s. Its recently renovated sanctuary won a Fairfax County Architectural Design award for creative use of historic space. During the homes tour, the Osborn Park High Madrigal Singers will perform inside the church every half hour.

Community's Help Needed by Our Neighbor's Child

Our Neighbor's Child (ONC) is a local, grassroots organization that provides toys and clothing for more than 700 families in need in Centreville, Chantilly and Clifton. But the task is so large that this all-volunteer group needs help from the community to fulfill all the children's wishes. Below are the many ways in which people may lend a much-appreciated hand:

- ❖ Visit the web page at www.ourneighborschild.org for up-to-date information, current volunteer opportunities and a link for donations.

- ❖ To "adopt" a child and purchase his or her specific clothing needs, e-mail Stephanie Somers at volunteer@ourneighborschild.org.

- ❖ Groups or businesses still have time to host a giving tree; the link to sign up is on the Web site. ONC will provide ornaments listing a child's specific gift wish, or organizations may host a general, gift or gift-card collection.

Gifts for young teens are particularly needed.

Especially popular with teens are iTunes gift cards or Target or Walmart gift cards for clothing that allow them the opportunity to select just the right fit and style.

- ❖ A box of homemade cookies accompanies every ONC gift delivery, so nearly 20,000 cookies are needed. Anyone wish-



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

ONC volunteers collecting gifts for children in need during a toy drive last December.

ing to bake cookies for the families should drop them off Thursday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, off Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road in Centreville.

Any type of disposable container is fine; they'll all be repackaged "cookie-exchange" style into assortments. Contact Pam Ryan at volunteer@ourneighborschild.org with any questions.

- ❖ Packaging Day is also Dec. 12, when

hundreds of volunteers will be needed to help match up each item to the children's wish lists provided by the recipient parents.

- ❖ Delivery Day is Sunday, Dec. 15, from 1-4 p.m. People interested in volunteering for either Packaging or Delivery should go to www.ourneighborschild.org and click on "Volunteer Needs."

- ❖ To volunteer for any part of this effort, use the Sign-Up Genius link on the Website. For inquiries about opportunities not listed, e-mail volunteer@ourneighborschild.org and the e-mail will be redirected to the appropriate, volunteer Project Leader.

- ❖ Financial contributions are always a critical need.

These funds help ONC purchase any remaining children's wishes that aren't adopted by a sponsor. Due to the increase in requests for clothing and winter coats, that number is expected to be at an all-time high.

Checks payable to Our Neighbor's Child may be mailed to: Karen Moore, Treasurer, Our Neighbor's Child, P.O. Box 276, Centreville, VA 20120, or online donations may be made via the "donate now" link on the ONC Web site, www.ourneighborschild.org. 100 per cent of the monetary contributions collected by this all-volunteer organization go directly to the purchase of gifts for local children in need.





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VIEWPOINTS

What do you have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving?

Interviews and photos by Steve Hibbard at Centreville Library on Nov. 21.



"I'm thankful for basically everything. I'm pretty blessed compared to other people in the world."

— JANICE LEE, SOUTH RIDING



"I'm thankful for my dog, a German Shepherd named Micah."

— V.J. BAJWA, CLIFTON



"I'm thankful for my parents and family."

— RENEE BAGLINI, CHANTILLY



"I'm thankful for my family who supports me from across the country. I'm thankful for my family that came here from Russia in 1994."

— MAX MISHCHENKO, CENTREVILLE



"I'm thankful for my parents."

— JAY JEONG, CENTREVILLE

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Winter Blues?

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- Anxious
- Oversleeping
- Feeling Withdrawn
- Losing Interest
- Appetite Change

While we know that the holiday season is a time of joy for many, we also realize that others are struggling. Our clinicians are dedicated to helping people through the difficulties of the winter season. We provide help with mental health, career, life and a variety of other issues. If you or someone you know needs help, call us today.

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7 Things You Must Know Before Putting Your Home Up for Sale

Chantilly - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money. This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them lit-

erally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-800-358-6410 and enter 4086 You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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OPINION

Holidays Are About Giving

So many needs, so many great organizations, give locally where your heart leads you.



Needy families wait on line to receive groceries and gift certificates at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Herndon on Nov. 16. Sixty families an hour were escorted through the church supermarket during seven hour LINK event. www.linkagainsthunger.org 703-437-1776

PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANK SIMMONS

The holidays are about giving. They are about children. The holidays are about sharing, about joy, about alleviating suffering for others. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation.

Most of us live in neighborhoods that are very homogenous. There are exceptions, but most people reading this live in affluent areas where the houses are mostly in the same price range, and while there might be some ethnic diversity, there is little in the way of economic diversity.

It's easy to forget that there are massive unmet needs, hungry children, homeless families most with at least one working parent, homeless individuals with jobs and without jobs, people who don't know for sure whether they will have enough to eat or be able to be warm enough, people who are choosing between medical care and car repair when forgoing the car repair could mean losing a job.

In Fairfax County Public Schools, about 50,000 of the 185,000 students qualify to receive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty. Many elementary schools staff are discovering that for some of these students, a majority of students in some schools, they only meals the can count on are breakfast and lunch on school days.

Nonprofits, school staff and individuals have been working to send backpacks of healthy, kid-friendly food home with students on the weekend.

It's hard to imagine 50,000 students going hungry; it's obvious that children who aren't sure they will be able to eat when they are hungry are not going to have joyous holidays filled with family meals, gifts and special activities.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools, and their needs are greater.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are

a few ideas. We welcome suggestions for other groups.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

FAIRFAX COUNTY

Where To Give Locally

In no particular order:

- ❖ Our Daily Bread — has been serving needy families in Fairfax County for 25 years. The Holiday Program helps those in need with food for the holidays and gifts for their children, making last year's holiday season brighter for approximately 3,000 families. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a family, go to www.odbfairfax.com/holiday
- ❖ Food for Others distributed more than 2.4 million pounds of free food to families in need in Northern Virginia in the year ending June 30, 2012. The non-profit provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173. www.foodforothers.com
- ❖ Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), 703-569-9160. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low income families, helping more than 5,000 people last year. www.echo-inc.org.
- ❖ Lorton Community Action Center operates the Act II Thrift Shop at 9506 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Sales from the shop generate funds for LCAC and clients also shop there. Now collecting gift cards and food baskets for Thanksgiving, gifts and food baskets for Christmas, and warm coats. 703-339-8611 www.lortonaction.org.
- ❖ Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area operates clubs in two of the neediest areas of the county, Culmore and the Route 1 corridor, focusing on character and academic success. <http://www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/>
- ❖ Office to End and Prevent Homelessness needs just a few

thousand dollars more in contributions for Jeans Day (in October) to qualify for a matching grant from the Phillip L. Graham Fund, turning many \$5 and greater donations into \$50,000 to help thousands of homeless in Fairfax County. www.ziphomelessness.com

- ❖ 12 Ways of Giving: Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships "12 Ways of Giving" campaign is an annual event that showcases many ways for meaningful, local giving during the holiday season, highlighting nonprofits in Fairfax County. www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org
- ❖ Comfort for America's Uniformed Services (CAUSE) — ensures that recuperating service members have opportunities for recreation and social interaction and receive concrete signs of appreciation for all that they have done. 4114 Legato Road Suite B, Fairfax, VA 22033, 703-591-4968, cause-usa.org
- ❖ National Capital Food Bank, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia, 703-541-3063. www.capitalareafoodbank.org
- ❖ Western Fairfax Christian Ministries — food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly (near Backyard Grill and Bar). For more information or to sponsor a family, call 703-988-9656, ext. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. 703-988-9656.
- ❖ The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon, VA 20171, 571-235-3577. Last year, 139 community volunteers — nurses, nurse practitioners, and physicians — gave more than 1,300 hours of their time to see patients. jsfreeclinic.org.
- ❖ Alternative House — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. www.thealternativehouse.org.
- ❖ Cornerstones, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.cornerstonesva.org. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program and the Thanksgiving Food Drive.
- ❖ SHARE of McLean seeks donations of grocery gift cards and more. Checks and gift cards can be sent to: Holiday Celebration, Share, Inc. PO Box 210, McLean, VA 22101. 703-284-2179. www.SHAREofMcLean.org
- ❖ LINK, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more, needs

contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, plus volunteers. More than 4,000 adults and children have signed up for help with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. 703-437-1776

- ❖ www.linkagainsthunger.org
- ❖ FACETS helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251 or volunteer@facetscares.org. FACETS offers a monthly Youth Volunteer Night, with the next one scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 20, 5:30-6:30pm. Information about supply donations and FACETS holiday gifts drive is available on the website at www.facetscares.org. 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030
- ❖ Committee for Helping Others (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of concerned churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. 14th Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. Vienna 703-281-7614 <http://www.cho-va.com>
- ❖ Fairfax City Area FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), working with the Office of Coordinated Services Planning, Fairfax County Department of Human Services, FISH helps local citizens who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880 <http://fairfaxfish.org/>
- ❖ Herndon-Reston FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 <http://herndonrestonfish.org>
- ❖ Lamb Center, www.thelambcenter.org, Day center for homeless, Fairfax 703-691-3178
- ❖ Northern Virginia Family Service, 10455 White Granite Drive Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124 703-385-3267 <http://www.nvfs.org/>
- ❖ United Community Ministries, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306 <http://www.ucmagency.org/>
- ❖ Touching Heart in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. <http://www.touchingheart.com>, 703-901-7355

CENTREVIEW

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LETTERS

Positive Reinforcement

To the Editor:

We would like to thank Martin Grimm and Jan-Marie Fernandez, principals of Centreville High School and Mantua Elementary, respectively, for hosting Angel Fund and Actively Caring 4 People the week of Nov. 18. In particular, we would like to thank school counselors, Sinitra DeHaven and Dana Doss of Centreville and Allison Warren and Susan Kim of Mantua Elementary, for their enthusiasm and determination to create an environment of positive reinforcement and actively caring in their schools. Sophia Teie of Actively Caring also met with student leaders at Woodson High School this week. We are grateful to principal Jeff Yost, assistant principal Adam Entenberg and faculty advisors for the Leadership Class, Dan Schaefer and Jenna Brown for arranging those meetings and supporting Sophia.

Centreville High School had a wonderful banner hung in their lunchroom on Monday designating the daily activities planned to create awareness about bullying and sexual harassment. A paw print in the shape of a shoe was painted near the banner to represent all the students signing a pledge to not bully or sexually harass and by doing so, leaving a positive footprint. We were gratified to see a number of students attend the interest meeting after school. We look forward to watching these student leaders design and implement the Actively Caring program in January.

Mantua Elementary was delightful as little children smiled at the green bracelets they will receive the first week after Thanksgiving. Counselors had created a wonderful tri-fold and had spoken about the Actively Caring program to parents at Back to School Night. A number of parents stopped by our table to express their support and wish to bring the program to places as far as Arizona and Russia.

Angel Fund's intent is to implement the Actively Caring program in every Fairfax County public school that would like to have it. We would like to acknowledge the role of Kim Dockery, Fairfax County Public Schools Assistant Superintendent for Special Services and Mary Ann Panarelli, FCPS Intervention and Prevention Services, in assisting our efforts to bring this program to Fairfax County Public Schools.

Angel Fund's mission is to create a safe environment for students to be tolerant and to feel respected and self-confident. We believe that a community that takes action against bullying, depression, anxiety, ad-

diction and suicide will be realized because of the power of young people to touch the lives of others to make a difference.

Lu Ann Maciulla McNabb
President, Angel Fund

Observe Thanksgiving Every Day

To the Editor:

We all know the story of how the first Thanksgiving started. In the 1600s pilgrims and the Native Americans celebrated Thanksgiving for the first harvest of crops and by showing their gratitude for the bounty they received from God. However Thanksgiving did not become a national holiday after that first harvest. It was still celebrated only by some people. More people started to celebrate Thanksgiving as the population increased and more people started to express their gratefulness. It became a custom to celebrate it on the last Thursday in November by majority of the states. But it still did not become a holiday. Thanksgiving actually became a holiday after the Revolutionary War ended. It became a national holiday when Abraham Lincoln was president in 1863. He declared that Thanksgiving should be a national holiday and be celebrated on the last Thursday of November. On Dec. 26, 1941 President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a joint congressional resolution, to change the day of Thanksgiving from last Thursday in November to third Thursday in November.

Now you see families today celebrating Thanksgiving and showing thanks on day which became a national holiday. We all know how it became a holiday and people show thanks on the day. But do people stop and think for just a moment why they are being grateful on that specific day? As Muslim girl, I think that Thanksgiving is every day. I give thanks to God every day. I pray to God for the things He gave me and for the things I already have. I eat with my family and thank God for the food He has given us to eat. I thank God for the smallest things that we take for granted. I pray to Him for the loving and caring family He has provided me. I don't think I can live without them. The best way to appreciate God is to be grateful to Him and care for the things He has provided us.

Ujala Yousaf, age 11
Centreville

Student Election

Union Mill Elementary held an assembly on Oct. 18 to install its newly-elected Student Council officers for the 2013-2014 school year. Earlier that month, each 5th and 6th grade classroom held a primary election for those students who wished to run for a student council position. Once the final candidates were determined, a school-wide general election was held to elect the new officers. Five students were installed as president, vice president, secretary, historian, and reporter. One student from each classroom was elected and installed as a room representative, representing their class at SCA meetings.



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NEWS

Centre Ridge Celebrates Center



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Preschool children enjoy the play area.

FROM PAGE 2

❖ Early Literacy is a free, interactive, parent-and-child program offered to Korean- and Spanish-speaking families with children up to age 5. It's given in the students' native languages and is geared for those not in preschool programs.

In addition, many parents asked to learn basic computer skills, so

Todd Reynolds, Centre Ridge's technology specialist, will teach these classes. The computers also provide them with Internet access they may not have in their homes.

The center offers parent-to-parent support groups, too, plus informal discussions about topics including homework and parent-teacher conferences. The lending library includes dual-language books, math games and books on parenting, and there's even a small clothes closet of gently used clothing for students and families.

Attendees at the ribbon-cutting included FSP representatives Mary Shepherd, Lynne Whildin, Bette Morris and Michelle Vogel; Centreville Regional Librarian Jisuk Pak, who signed up Centre

Ridge students for library cards; and Melanie Harrison and Jean Josephson of Centreville United Methodist Church, which provides food for the school's backpack program for students who'd otherwise go hungry on the weekends.

Afterward, parents visited the center while their young children played with the toys in the corner. "This center encapsulates what we wanted for our families," said Dias-Pareja. "There's a clear relationship between student academic achievement and parental involvement. Little by little, one parent will bring another to the center — it's all about building relationships. We're proud of this space and excited to advertise what it represents to our community."

NEWS BRIEFS

Crash Kills Warrenton Man

A Warrenton man was killed last week following a vehicle crash at the Route 28/Old Centreville Road intersection in Centreville. He was identified as Matthew Kendrick, 20. Fairfax County police responded to the scene last Wednesday, Nov. 20, around 2 p.m.

During the initial investigation, Crash Reconstruction detectives determined that a 1996 Ford station wagon driven by a 16-year-old Centreville girl was stopped at a red light in the westbound through lane of Old Centreville Road at Route 28. When the light turned green, the Ford started moving into the intersection.

At the same time, Kendrick was driving a 2004 Chevrolet pickup truck north on Route 28, approaching the intersection of Old Centreville Road. According to

police, the truck entered the intersection "against the red light and struck the front of the Ford. The impact caused the Chevrolet to rotate and flip. Kendrick was apparently not wearing his seatbelt and was ejected from the pickup and landed in the roadway in front of it."

He was Medevaced to Inova Fairfax Hospital and was pronounced dead a short time later. The driver of the Ford and her 16-year-old female passenger received only minor injuries.

Detectives are trying to determine if speed and/or alcohol were factors in this crash. The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Clifton Man Dies in Car Crash

Fairfax County police are investigating Monday-morning crash that killed Trung Hieu Tran, 24, of Clifton. According to police, he was traveling east on Jermantown Road near Borge Street in Oakton, Nov. 25, about 1:35 a.m.

As Tran approached a curve, say police, "He failed to negotiate the turn and lost control of his 2006 Acura RSX Coupe. The car traveled across a grass median and struck a tree, causing the vehicle to ro-

tate and strike a second tree, where it came to rest. Tran was transported to the hospital with life-threatening injuries and later died. Speed appears to be a factor in the crash."

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.

Blood Drive, Raffle, Cupcakes

The first annual Live Like Nick Did (LLND) Blood Drive will be held Saturday, Nov. 30, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at Clifton Presbyterian Church, behind Trummer's parking lot, in Clifton. It's in memory of 2009 Centreville High

grad Nick Franca, who died of cancer in May 2011, at age 21.

The event includes a raffle, cupcakes from Clifton's new shop, Cupcaked. Proceeds will fund research and a college scholarship in Franca's name.

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Actively Caring Comes to CVHS

FROM PAGE 1

lot of our AC4P coaches came from Northern Virginia, so it's exciting for us to be here."

Created at Virginia Tech in the aftermath of the April 2007 tragedy in which a young man who'd been bullied killed 32 people there, AC4P has now become a worldwide movement. The premise is that, when people are encouraged to actively care for others, they're inspired to perform intentional acts of kindness as a regular part of their daily lives.

During school lunches on Monday, Teie and Jones were in Centreville's cafeteria, along with Angel Fund Board of Directors members LuAnn McNabb and Debbie Lawall. Westfield High grad Reema Samaha was one of the Virginia Tech victims, and the non-profit Angel Fund was begun by her parents to create safer schools and communities by focusing on mental-health issues, privacy laws and information sharing.

Angel Fund paid for AC4P's visit to Centreville and is also funding the AC4P Wildcat T-shirts and wristbands the students will receive in January. The idea is to observe an act of kindness, thank the person for actively caring, reward him or her with an AC4P wristband and tell that person to pass it on.

Teie briefly mentioned the program to the students, and those interested in learning more about it signed up for a meeting after school. "We'll tell them what other high schools have done," she said. "For example, Woodson High's leadership team is incorporating it into their own initiative. We want it to be student-run."

In January, AC4P will hold a series of workshops at Centreville. Students will learn the psychological science behind what it means to actively care. "No one's born knowing how to reach out of their comfort zone and actively care for someone else," said Teie. "So we'll give them the tools to infuse AC4P in either their school, community or local middle school. The goal is to make a culture change that's not imposed on the students, but is something they want to do."

Senior Sonya Kim and junior Ariana Nozary were among those signing up for Monday's after-school meeting. "I agree with anti-bullying and I'd like to help," said Kim. "And it would be great to go to elementary and middle schools and tell them how they can handle bullies."

"We've all been bullied," added Nozary. "I was bullied really badly, so I know how it feels. So I'd like to help people and show them they're not alone in it."

Sophomore Alison Gomeiz also signed up. "I think we need something in the community to bring people together and prevent these kinds of things from happening again," she said.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

AC4P's Alex Jones and Sophia Teie talk about the program at Centreville High.

School counselor Autumn Koo said it's important for students to model good behavior so that acts of kindness become contagious. "Hopefully, we can foster a caring environment that will carry through the whole school year," she said. "Bullying's always present in our school system, but showing kindness in action will be empowering to the students."

Koo said FCPS gives anti-bullying lessons, but AC4P is a "more creative way" to teach it. Said Koo: "It meets students where they are."

Signing up for the after-school meeting, senior Arezou Zarghami said, "I'm so against bullying. I want to help everyone by letting them know the consequences of bullying — what it can do to people — and tell them they shouldn't bully others."

Pleased with how things were going, Teie said, "We're just planting the seeds today and introducing the phrase, 'Actively Caring for Others.' Then when we come back in January, the students will be familiar with it."

Also happy to be at Centreville, McNabb said school counselor Sinitra DeHaven approached her at a bullying-prevention workshop last year. McNabb then gave DeHaven her card, told her about AC4P and linked her to Teie.

"Our hope is that the AC4P program is implemented at Centreville," said McNabb. "We're expecting it to be successful here and want to get it into as many Fairfax County public schools as we can."

"I think this is awesome," added DeHaven. "We really do have caring students at Centreville, so I think it'll be a good fit here."

For more information, go to www.activelycaringforpeople.org.



Lu Ann McNabb gets an AC4P brochure for senior Arezou Zarghami.



Sophomore Alison Gomeiz signs up for the interest meeting.



Students Sonya Kim (left) and Ariana Nozary sign up for the after-school meeting.



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THANKSGIVING



Teacher Maura Francis (on right) with her first-grade class at Poplar Tree Elementary. (On left) is visual-impairment teacher Linda Sgroi.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

'Grab a Turkey, Put It in the Oven'

Students in teacher Maura Francis's first-grade class at Poplar Tree Elementary tell their favorite foods to eat on Thanksgiving and how they think they're made.

Turkey – "You put it in the oven, put pepper on it and cook it for 30 minutes at 4 degrees."
— HEWOTE BAZIN, 6

Pumpkin pie – "I'd make it without a crust. Mix pumpkins and cinnamon and bake it for a few minutes."
— DELANEY BROOKS, 7

Turkey – "I'd put it in the oven, stuff it with salt and cook it 8 minutes on hot."
— COLIN DOYLE, 6



Mashed potatoes by Tyler Solomon.

Pumpkin Pie – "I'd get a pumpkin and put it in the oven and cook it 4 or 5 minutes and then smooch it."
— BEN FARELLO, 7

Turkey – "I'd stuff it with carrots and bananas and cook it in the oven for 5 hours at a little bit hot."
— SAFA HASSEN, 6

Mashed potatoes – "Bake them in the oven about 10 minutes at 35 degrees. Then smash them up with

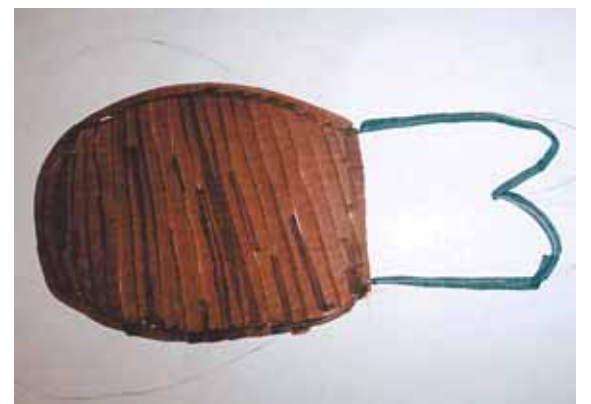
gravy until they get really smoochy."
— TODD LETT, 7

Corn – "I'd take it off the cob and cook it in a pot

SEE THANKSGIVING, PAGE 11



Corn by Lily Payne.



Turkey by Camden Kantaporn.

THANKSGIVING

How To Cook a Turkey Dinner

FROM PAGE 10

for 5 or 6 minutes.”
— AYAAN DEV, 6

Turkey – “Cook it in the oven for a couple minutes at 30 degrees.”
— CAMDEN KANTAPORN, 6

Mashed potatoes – “I’d put them in a bowl and mix them with gravy and then bake them an hour on hot.”
— CHARLOTTE MEIDLINGER, 6

Cranberry sauce – “I’d get some cherries and mush them up and get some cranberries and mix them in and then cook them in the oven.”
— STEPHANIE NICHOLSON, 6

Turkey – “I’d put it in the oven and cook it about an hour at 50 degrees and eat it with gravy.”
— TANNER PAVLECH, 7

Corn – “I’d eat it on the cob – I love using my hands to eat. I’d cook it in the oven for 3 minutes and put butter on it.”
— LILY PAYNE, 6

Mashed potatoes – “I’d carve the potato skins and put the potatoes in a bowl. Then I’d stir them with a little water and cook them in a pot and



Pumpkin pie by Delaney Brooks.



Pumpkin pie by Ayaan Dev.



The Thanksgiving table by Cara Pham.

eat them with gravy.”
— CARA PHAM, 6

Apple pie – “I would cut up apples and put them in a pan with something sweet. Then bake them in the oven for 5 minutes.”
— MICHELLE VIROSTEK, 6

Corn – “I’d buy frozen corn at Walmart, put it in water in a pot on the stove, cook it for an hour and serve it with butter.”
— EMILY RAIMIST, 7

Turkey – “I’d stuff it with cheddar cheese and bake it in the oven for 3 minutes at 50 degrees and serve it with ham.”
— GABRIELLE ROHLS, 6

Corn – “I’d put it in the oven, cook it for a minute and serve it with butter and salt.”
— TRENT SABEN, 7

Turkey – “Grab a turkey, put it in the oven and cook it ’til it’s ready to eat – 21 minutes.”
— CAITLIN SCHUETZ, 6

Mashed potatoes – “Put potatoes in a pot and cook them for 1 minute. Mash them with a fork and eat them.”
— TYLER SOLOMON, 6



Corn by Zackary Marcheski.



Pumpkin pie by Hewote Bazin.



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Westfield running back Tyler Thrasher-Walker carried 29 times for 203 yards and three touchdowns against Robinson on Nov. 22.



Westfield receiver Devon Burns took snaps as a wildcat quarterback against Robinson. He finished with seven carries for 100 yards.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Thrasher-Walker Leads Westfield to Playoff Victory

Bulldogs receiver Burns thrives in Wildcat role.

BY JON ROETMAN
CENTRE VIEW

On a night when the Westfield offense did not complete a pass, a dominant effort by senior running back Tyler Thrasher-Walker and a wrinkle coaches have been developing the past three weeks were enough to get the Bulldogs into the region final four.

The No. 3-seed Westfield football team defeated No. 11 Robinson 21-14 on Friday night in the 6A North region quarterfinals at Westfield High School. The Bulldogs, a run-oriented team to begin with, got all of their offensive production on the ground against the Rams, gaining more than 300 rushing yards. Junior quarterback Mason Scoville attempted two passes, each falling incomplete.

Thrasher-Walker carried 29 times for 203 yards and scored each of Westfield's three touchdowns. His 41-yard touchdown run with 9:25 remaining in the third quarter gave the Bulldogs a 21-7 advantage.

"We just knew that we had to [man] it up," Thrasher-Walker said. "[The ground attack] was working early in the game and we're like, it's not broke, no need to fix it."

Westfield will travel to face undefeated Lake Braddock, the No. 2 seed, in the semifinals at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 30. The Bruins beat the Bulldogs 28-24 during the teams' regular-season meeting on Sept. 20 at Lake Braddock.

While the Westfield offense was one-dimensional in the run/pass sense on Friday night, the Bulldogs unleashed a wrinkle that kept Thrasher-Walker from being the only threat.

Senior receiver Devon Burns took snaps as a wildcat quarterback and carried seven times for 100 yards. The speedster's first four carries went for 14, 27, 17 and 29 yards, respectively.

"I'm really proud of the offensive staff," Westfield head coach Kyle Simmons said. "We put a couple different things in. We've been building on it week after week trying to not be so predictable. We like our bread and butter — we like our inside/outside zone, we like our counter — but we just tried to add to that to [give] some teams some things to think about."

"... Not a completed pass in the whole game so getting Devon the ball in a different way is something that we've been work-

"We just knew that we had to [man] it up. [The ground attack] was working early in the game and we're like, it's not broke, no need to fix it."

— Westfield senior Tyler Thrasher-Walker

ing on and have gotten a little better at each week. We'll add to that next week also and try to get an arsenal of things that he can do back there in the backfield."

Burns transferred to Westfield from Freedom-South Riding last year and was deep threat in the Bulldogs' passing game. With Westfield not passing the ball as much this season, running the wildcat with Burns is a way for the Bulldogs to put the ball in the hands of one of their top playmakers.

"As a coaching staff, if he's not getting the ball in the passing game then it's our job to find a way to get him the ball," Simmons said. "We'd be dumb to leave him out there by himself, not getting anything accomplished."

Burns said he was frustrated about not getting the ball, but enjoys running the wildcat.

"I was a little frustrated at the beginning,

but as the year went on, we're a team [and] teams go through this a lot," Burns said. "Not every team is going to have a really, really good [passing game] every year. You have to work with what you have."

The Westfield ground game wasn't the only source of success for the Bulldogs on Friday night. The Westfield defense got a huge stop with the game on the line, forcing a turnover on downs at the Westfield 35-yard line with 1:43 remaining. Robinson started its final drive at its own 5-yard line with 7:07 remaining in the contest. After a dropped pass wiped out what could have been a huge gain on first down, the Rams marched into Westfield territory with hopes of tying the score. An 8-yard pass from

Rowlett to Shaquan Jackson on third down gave the Rams a fourth-and-5 at the 35, but Rowlett's fourth-down pass fell incomplete.

Robinson had all three of its timeouts remaining, but Thrasher-Walker gained 30 yards on four carries to help the Bulldogs run out the clock.

"We played against a very fine football team," Robinson head coach Dan Meier said. "Give them credit; they have a great program and they play hard. Year in and year out, they're always there. You know when you come over here, you're in for a battle."

Meier, who retired as Robinson's principal at the end of the 2012-13 school year, agreed to coach the Rams on a one-year interim basis. This allows Matt Eline, who was named Robinson's new principal during the summer, to help select the next Robinson head football coach. Meier said

he does not plan to coach the Rams next season.

"Anything I could to help the school," Meier said. "I'll do that all my life. It's my school. I love the school and I think our team represented the school well."

Westfield scored the game's first points on its second possession after Ra'Shaune Rice's interception return gave the Bulldogs the ball at the Robinson 22-yard line. Two plays later, Thrasher-Walker scored on a 19-yard run, giving Westfield a 7-0 lead with 4:58 left in the opening quarter.

Robinson answered on its ensuing possession with a 14-play, 55-yard drive ending with a 5-yard touchdown run on fourth-and-2 by quarterback Jack Rowlett. The drive lasted 7 minutes, 34 seconds and tied the score at 7-all.

Westfield's next possession started at the Robinson 44-yard line. Five plays later, Thrasher-Walker scored on a 4-yard run, giving the Bulldogs a 14-7 lead they would not relinquish.

Trailing 21-7, Rowlett found a wide-open Endi Ackerman for a 32-yard touchdown, cutting the Westfield lead to 21-14 with 6:35 remaining in the third quarter, but the Rams would get no closer.

Rowlett completed 6 of 11 passes for 106 yards with one touchdown and an interception. He also scored a rushing touchdown.

Robinson running back Joe Wilson carried 15 times for 96 yards.

Correction

In "Chantilly Boys' XC Team Repeats as State Champion" [Centre View, Nov. 21-27], Chantilly's No. 3 finisher was incorrectly identified as Aaqib Syed, who finished 24th. The Chargers' No. 3 finisher was Adam Huff, who finished 25th with a time of 16:11.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Some of the children, Marines and toys at last year's RE/MAX Premier holiday event for Toys for Tots.

Crafts, Music, Santa and 'Polar Express'

FROM PAGE 1

"It's a great holiday movie for the family to see together, and Marines in uniform will be there to collect the donated toys," said Khatcheressian. "We've partnered with the Ed Lang team of RE/MAX Premier [Realty], which is funding the event. And my students came up with the craft ideas and activities

and are doing all the decorations."

"We hope at least 400 people will attend," she continued. "It's a wonderful opportunity for families to spend a great afternoon together. And it's also a chance to bring so much joy to local children in less-fortunate families in our area. I think it'll be a really fun-filled and entertaining day for everyone."

BULLETIN BOARD

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

HOLIDAY DONATIONS

"Gifting for Families" Campaign.

Northern Virginia Family Service is collecting toys and gift cards for some of the community's neediest families. A suggested toy list can be found at www.nfs.org/gifting. Donations can be dropped off at 13926 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly on Friday, Dec. 13 from 1-5 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14 from 1-4 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 16 from 9 a.m.- p.m. or Tuesday, Dec. 17 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. To volunteer to sort and organize gifts, e-mail ncannon@nvfs.org.

Blanket Collection. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 14150 Upperridge Drive, Centreville, is collecting donations of new or gently used blankets for refugees of the Syrian civil war in Turkey. Drop off freshly laundered and folded blankets on Sunday, Dec. 1 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 3, 7-9 p.m. or Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9-11 a.m. Contact James Outzen at james@outzen.us or visit hizmetrelief.org/syrian-refugees for more.

Book Donation. Northern Virginia Family Service and Barnes & Noble Fairfax are partnering together for the first time this year to ensure that NVFS' Head Start students and children of families who turn to NVFS for emergency assistance receive books for the holiday season. From now through Jan. 1, customers entering Barnes and Noble Fairfax will be given the option upon checkout of donating a book to a

child in an NVFS program. All books collected will be given to underserved children through the agency's "Gifting for Families" program. The Book Drive for Northern Virginia Family Service is underway at the Fairfax Barnes and Noble store in the Fair Lakes Promenade Shopping Center at the Corner of Monument and Fair Lakes Parkway.

Toys for Tots Drive. The Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative's non-profit organization, NOVEC HELPS, will be collecting toys through Thursday, Dec. 5, for the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. Drop a new, unwrapped toy off at the NOVEC office, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas from 8:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Visit www.toysfortots.org for more.

SATURDAY/NOV. 30

Blood Drive. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Buy raffle tickets, enjoy a bake sale, get pictures taken with Santa. Proceeds will benefit childhood cancer research. Learn more and sign up by visiting www.lndblooddrive.com, or by calling INOVA blood at 1-866-256-6372 give reference code: 8025.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

Affordable Care Act Workshop. 6:30-9 p.m. at Chantilly Baptist Church, 14312 Chantilly Baptist Lane. Get free assistance in enrolling in the program and get one-on-one personalized guidance and answers to questions. Visit www.chantillybaptist.org or 703-378-

6880. No appointment necessary. Free.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 15

Application Deadline. The Arts Council of Fairfax County will award three \$5,000 grants to recognize professional working artists' achievements and their demonstrated history of accomplishments, while promoting the continued pursuit of creative work. Visit www.artsfairfax.org for guidelines and application materials.

FRIDAY/JAN. 31

Application Deadline. Juniors at Herndon, Chantilly and Westfield high schools who are in good standing and have an interest in history are encouraged to apply for this paid nine-month internship that runs April through December 2014. Up to three interns will be hired. Participants will gain experience in museum operations, public speaking, historic object collections, event programming and museum store and visitor center operations. Sully Historic Site, which is owned and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority, will begin accepting applications for this internship program in December 2013. Candidates will be asked to provide a completed application, written essay, and teacher recommendations by January 31, 2014 for panel review. For further information e-mail either Carol McDonnell, site manager at Sully Historic Site (carol.mcdonnell@fairfaxcounty.gov) or Noreen McCann, visitor services manager (noreen.mccann@fairfaxcounty.gov). 703-437-1794.

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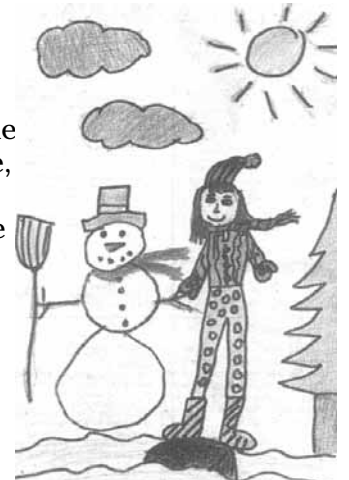
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E-mail submissions to: smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Centre View, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

CENTRE VIEW



Former Principal Sentenced

FROM PAGE 1

grown sons; also in courtroom 4F were the victim's parents.

Defense attorney Mike Sprano said many of Clement's family members, friends and former colleagues had written to the judge on his behalf. The boy's parents wrote to the judge, as well.

"In their letter, they said the boy needs to know that the government recognizes the severity of this crime and that justice is done — and my client accepts this," said Sprano. But, he added, "This is a man who was held in high esteem by his family, colleagues and church community."

He said that, after Clement's arrest, many people e-mailed him and said they "knew he couldn't have done it." But then, said Sprano, "He notified all these people who looked up to him and confessed that he did do it. He showed the sincerity and depth of his remorse, and his sister called him a 'broken, contrite man.'"

Noting that many people say they're sorry, Sprano said Clement was concerned first for the effect of his actions on the victim and secondly for their effect on his family, "but never for him."

"Because of the nature of the incident and the level of contact he's had with children throughout the years, I would not have been surprised if more victims had come forward after his arrest," said the attorney. "But no one ever did."

Still, he said, Clement's "now come to realize he'd had these feelings all his life, but never acted on them. This was an impulsive act — nothing premeditated or ever repeated. And he recognizes it's a terrible crime and a line society cannot tolerate being crossed."

Nonetheless, Sprano asked Judge Gaylord Finch to consider his client's whole life "and the good along with the bad" when sentencing him. He said a church member wrote that, although Clement's actions were "reprehensible, they're not characteristic of the way he lived his life."

Throughout his three-decade marriage, Clement taught his sons "selfless service to others and was always there for them," said Sprano. "They described him as giving them unconditional love and being a role model for them. Then he had to tell them he wasn't the man they thought he was, yet they still wrote about him so eloquently."

Sprano said teachers and other past colleagues of Clement's — "not unaware of the effects this crime can have on children" — still sent letters of support to the judge. He said the letters told "how dedicated he was to children all his life and made a positive impact" on them.

Sprano then asked Finch to consider his client's lifetime of "good character" and reduce whatever sentence he had in mind because of it. "The crime committed is the action of a bad man," said Sprano. "But everything else he's done, his whole life, is the action of a good man — and that should count."

But the prosecutor urged the judge to keep the victim in mind as he sentenced

Clement. "This defendant put himself in situations, throughout his employment and personal life, where he was entrusted with other people's children," said Stott. "But he knew, starting in his 20s, that he had feelings for children in this age range — and that's frightening."

She said children looked to him for guidance and believed he was a good person. "But at his core, he's not," she said. "He took advantage of a not-quite-9-year-old boy on a camping trip away from his parents. The boy didn't report it right away. He knew it felt wrong, but it took several years for him to see what Mr. Clement is — a wolf in sheep's clothing — a child molester who put himself around children."

Stott said she believes he's sorry, "but he cannot undo the damage he's done; it doesn't make it any better for the victim whose life has been irrevocably changed. And it'll be a lot of work for his family to overcome. No child should be subjected to this behavior. This defendant deserves to spend years in the penitentiary for his behavior and the emotional damage it's done to this victim."

Clement then stood and addressed the court. "I'm so terribly sorry," he said. "I recognize the harm I've done. I apologize to the young man and pray daily for his healing. And I apologize to my family for the pain, suffering and embarrassment I've caused them, and to my friends and colleagues for disappointing them. I spent my whole life trying to help people, and it tears me apart what I've done. I'll spend the rest of my life trying to make up for it."

The state sentencing guidelines for aggravated sexual battery range from two years, one month to six years, six months incarceration. But as Judge Finch began pronouncing sentence, he said, "I'm going to exceed the guidelines, and I'll explain why."

"I have no question that the vast majority of your experiences were ones of personal integrity and character," he told Clement. "You have no criminal record, and I recognize your service to the community and your uncontrived remorse. Your wife's letter states that being your wife is her most-honored title."

But, continued Finch, "I can't get past the enormous, unforgivable betrayal of trust and moral authority this crime represented." The judge was also troubled by where it occurred. "The victim was helpless," he said. "And at the end of the day, the act was manipulative and occurred in a tent with another child present."

Saying he also had to consider the protection of the community, Finch then sentenced Clement to 15 years in prison on each count, suspending five years of each sentence. He then ran the sentences concurrently, leaving Clement 10 years to serve.

The judge also placed him on five years active probation following his release. Clement must then register as a sex-offender, undergo sex-offender treatment recommended by his probation officer and have no unsupervised contact with any child under age 18.

"Scanticipation"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

When I get CT-Scanned on Wednesday, November 27th, it will be nearly four months since my last diagnostic scan. That occurred during my hospital "staycation" during the first week of August, when I was admitted due to the extremely abnormal fluid buildup in my left lung. The surgery to drain the fluid went well, as you regular readers know, but as a consequence of this procedure/hospital stay — and its recovery, my subsequent chemotherapy infusions were delayed for about a month and naturally the follow-up scans were as well. This meant/now means that my every-three-month scan has become at least for this particular set of time circumstances, a four-month interval, the longest such interval in my full-time cancer career since I was first diagnosed with stage IV, non-small-cell lung cancer back in February, 2009.

I'm not nervous about the outcome this time, however, as I have written about in previous columns: "Scanxiety," "Scanning the Horizon" and "Scantastic." These are all examples of the emotional roller coaster a cancer patient rides when scans are in the offing. Regarding (you'll note I didn't use "concerning,") this upcoming scan, I feel more curious and calm than I have felt before. Aside from being more experienced with this process/cycle, and continuing as well to be relatively asymptomatic, my most recent lab work has been encouraging or at least not discouraging in that certain results/levels are improving. Now I don't know if these improved results (specifically my creatinine and bilirubin levels as well as my GFR/glomerular filtration rate) have any effect on the metastatic tumors in my left lung, but the improving levels do mean that my body is tolerating the every-three-week chemotherapy infusions that I've been receiving since September 20th. And "tolerating" is about as good as it gets, considering there are few drugs still available that my oncologist would feel are suitable for my condition. More to the point, when I asked my oncologist how do I really know (other than the lab results) that I'm tolerating the drug, he said, "You wouldn't be a very happy camper if you weren't." To which I replied, happily: "Well, I'm a long way from that." And not that the camping reference was lost on me, but I've been camping very few times in my life, and on those few occasions, I was happiest when I was leaving the campsite heading home.

Camping experiences aside — and not misunderstood, I am looking forward to the results of this next scan and really not stressing about it, either. Nor am I anxious. If anything, I'll admit to being naive. Moreover, I won't admit to being positive, since there's so much about the human body that I don't understand and after five years of having cancer-type symptoms and/or feelings, or not having cancer-type symptoms and/or feelings, with varying outcomes, I never know what to make of any of it. What I am positive about is how mysterious it all is and how few guarantees there are in any of it. Nevertheless, I'm grateful for a definite maybe; I can live with that, as I have been.

Time will tell, soon enough. Although, a long Thanksgiving weekend might slow down the e-mail which my oncologist will send with the results. But I can't worry about that either. I feel good. My labs were good. My reaction to yesterday's chemotherapy was good. The Red Sox just won the World Series for the third time in 10 years; that's all good, great in fact. For a terminal cancer patient from Boston five years post-diagnosis who wants to live and loves his hometown team, it doesn't get much better, realistically speaking.

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

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF CLIFTON, VIRGINIA
This Summary Statement of Financial Condition concerning the Industrial Development Authority of the Town of Clifton, Virginia (the "IDA") is being published pursuant to the requirements of Section 30-140 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The following information is based on the financial statement of the IDA for the period ending June 30, 2013 (the "Statement") and the audit of Anderson, White & Company, P.C., Staunton, Virginia, dated September 30, 2013:
Total Assets \$32,500
Total Revenues \$32,500
Total Liabilities \$0
Total Expenditures \$0
Fund Balances \$32,500
Other Sources/Uses \$0
Net Change \$32,500
The Statement may be obtained from the IDA at the office of its Chairman, 3937C University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia.

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Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Frying Pan Farm. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Meet local animals, enjoy a story and take home a craft. For children in grades K-6. 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.

Holiday Cupcake Wars. 7 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Teens age 12-18 can compete in teams in "Cupcake Wars," while enjoying decorating and creating an artsy display. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

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.

Storytime for Three to Fives. 1:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 3-5. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Yoga Storytime. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 6-9 can enjoy story time that incorporates basic yoga moves. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

ASL Signing Santa Day. 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. at Fair Oaks Mall, there will be an ASL signing Santa and Mrs. Claus, and interpreters for deaf and hard-of-hearing children and their families. The interpreters will be walking in and around the Ice Palace to help prepare children for meeting Santa and Mrs. Claus. Visit www.shopfairoaksmall.com or 703-279-2708.

Read, Build, Play. Duplo Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 18-36. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

Mystery Book Group. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults call for title. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

THURSDAY/DEC. 5

Teen Book Club. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. For teens in grades 7-9. Call for title. Free. 703-502-3883.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

Norwegian Holiday Festival/Bazaar. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 3810 Meredith Drive. Enjoy musical entertainment, cafe, food products, merchandise and more. Free. Visit www.norwaydc.org or 703-573-5943.

Holiday Book Sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Gift-quality used books will be for sale. 703-830-2223.

Ready for School Storytime. 1:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 4-5. Free. 703-502-3883.

Bouncin' Babies. 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Norwegian Holiday Festival/Bazaar. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 3810 Meredith Drive. Enjoy musical entertainment, cafe, food products, merchandise and more. Free. Visit www.norwaydc.org or 703-573-5943.

Model Train Display. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. This event is designed for families with children. This is a free event at Chantilly Bible Church, 4390 Pleasant Valley Road. 703-263-1188 or chantillybible.org/trains.

Toys for Tots Movie Event. 3 p.m. at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road. Watch "The Polar Express," hear music from Rocky Run Middle School Band and Chorus, take pictures with Santa, face painting, trivia and more. Located at Chantilly High School. Proceeds benefit Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. E-mail edlang@edlang.com or call 703-818-9603.

ONGOING

Enchanted Ice Palace Holiday Tradition. Visit with Santa and the Ice Princess through Dec. 24. There will also be a Hanukkah display, along with a 30-foot ice dome with falling snow, images from BBC's "Frozen Planet," a light show, and more. All are in the Grand Court of Fair Oaks Mall. Visit www.shopfairoaksmall.com or 703-279-2708.

THURSDAY/NOV. 28

Thanksgiving Day 5K Run/2K Walk. 8 a.m. at the Virginia Run Community Center. Proceeds benefit

SATURDAY/NOV. 30

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

Bouncin' Babies. 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

SUNDAY/DEC. 1

Santa "Paws" Pet Photography. 8:30-10 a.m. or 7:30-9 p.m. at the

MONDAY/DEC. 2


Bouncin' Babies. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000

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Baha'i Faith...1-800-22-UNITE
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