

DECEMBER 19-25, 2013

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

They're State Champions

Wildcats finish 15-0, ranked No. 15 nationally by USA TODAY.

BY JON ROETMAN
CENTRE VIEW

Opponents rarely challenged the Centreville football team during the 2013 season. But once the Wildcats reached Saturday's VHSL Group 6A state championship game, winning the program's first title in more than a decade would require knocking off an opponent recognized on a national level.

The Oscar Smith football team arrived in Charlottesville with the resume of a powerhouse. The Tigers had the numbers: They were undefeated and ranked No. 8 nationally by USA TODAY. Oscar Smith had surrendered just 68 points in 14 games (an average of less than 5 per game) while only one team, Western Branch, had managed to score 14 points against the Tigers in a single game. Meanwhile, Oscar Smith averaged more than 45 points per contest, scoring at least 35 in all but two games.

The Tigers had the players: Six-foot-4, 300-pound senior Andrew Brown is the nation's No. 1-rated defensive tackle prospect, according to ESPN.com, was named

Gatorade National Player of the Year and is committed to the University of Virginia. Senior receiver Jaylen Bradshaw is committed to Virginia Tech.

The Tigers even had history: Oscar Smith defeated Centreville 47-21 in the 2011 AAA state championship game.

None of it mattered.

Centreville dominated Oscar Smith on both sides of the ball on Dec. 14, capping the greatest season in school history with a 35-6 victory on a cold, wet night at UVa's Scott Stadium. The Wildcats captured the school's first state championship since 2000, finished the season with a 15-0 record and ranked No. 15 in the country by USA TODAY.

"Today, all the credit goes to Centreville," Oscar Smith head coach Rich Morgan said. "They flat-out out-played us, out-hit us; they honestly just did things to us today that we usually do to everyone else."

Centreville's impressive performance started with a touchdown on its opening possession. The Wildcats' momentum grew with a defensive score minutes later. Centreville's dominance concluded with hoisting the trophy



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZE/CENTRE VIEW

The Centreville football team celebrates after beating Oscar Smith 35-6 in the Group 6A state championship game on Dec. 14 at UVa's Scott Stadium.

and leaving a story of success on the stat sheet.

A glance at the final stats speaks of Centreville's dominance. Total yards: Centreville 338, Oscar Smith 88. Rushing yards: Centreville 327, Oscar Smith 14. Time of possession: Centreville 34:02, Oscar Smith 13:58.

How did the Wildcats pull it off?

On offense, Centreville adjusted its usual game plan, opting to run right at Oscar Smith.

"We really felt like in all the films that we saw on Oscar Smith that nobody really went at them," Centreville head coach Chris Haddock said. "We felt like that was the right plan. We certainly knew that they had some great football players but we felt like that we could run straight ahead against them. We felt like our speed could be matched by their speed, so we felt like we wanted to be as physical as we could and we felt like that we had certain plays and certain schemes that we felt very confident that were going to be successful."

"We've run [the plays] all year. Really, our game plan every game this year has been, let's work the outside and then we'll work back in, and today was just the oppo-

site. We worked the inside to try to get out. We [felt] pretty good about our plan. Our coaches did a great job putting that plan together and the kids just did a great job executing."

What did the Centreville offensive line do that allowed the Wildcats to run for 327 yards?

"Their cut blocks were more efficient, I'll give them that," said Brown, who ESPN.com ranks as the nation's No. 4 recruit at any position. "Penetration-wise, we were there, but it just didn't turn out the way we wanted it to. They weren't physically better than us, they just schemed well and they got the best of us."

Centreville junior A.J. Turner carried 18 times for 175 yards and two touchdowns. Senior quarterback Scott Walter carried 22 times for 90 yards and two scores. Junior fullback Taylor Boose had 16

carries for 62 yards.

Turner gave Centreville a 7-0 lead with a 52-yard touchdown run on the game's opening drive.

"I think it built my confidence a lot," Turner said. "At first I was kind of nervous. The (Oscar Smith) D-line is really good and the linebackers are really solid. But after I scored the first time, I was like they're not unstoppable and I'm definitely capable of doing what I'm doing."

Centreville didn't take long to increase its lead. Oscar Smith faced second-and-14 on its first possession when Centreville junior Xavier Nickens-Yzer intercepted Tigers freshman quarterback Shon Mitchell and returned it 65 yards for a touchdown, giving the Wildcats a 14-0 lead.

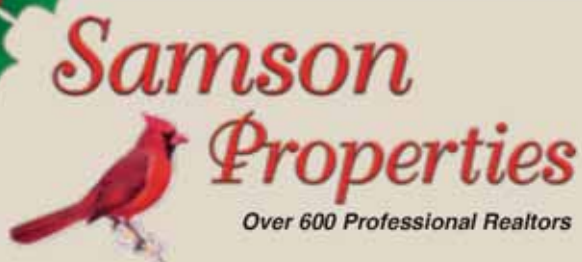
"I think," Haddock said, "[the Tigers] were probably more

SEE CVHS BEATS, PAGE 12



Centreville fullback Taylor Boose carries the ball against Oscar Smith in the 6A state championship game on Dec. 14 in Charlottesville.

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From left: Tammy Hagemeyer of Virginia Run; Estela Chavarria, Faircrest, and Lorina Taylor, Virginia Run, choose presents to fulfill children's gift wishes.



Greenbriar's Barbara Levermann and Juliana Alonso of South Riding help out on packaging day.



Checking the families' toy lists are (from left) Jacqueline Wood, Virginia Run; Cindy Kanode, Oak Hill; Leigh Weed, Clifton and Sue Harpe, Oak Hill.

ONC Volunteers Make Holidays Bright

On Dec. 12, a slew of volunteers helped package presents for each of the more than 700 local families on Our Neighbor's Child's holiday gift list.



From left: Marni Rochkind, Madeline Weaver and Ellie Kraselsky lend a hand at the ONC warehouse.



Picking out just the right gifts are (from left) Virginia Run's Chris Capote and Carole Gunn.



Oak Hill's Kerrie Peterson moves a batch of special-request items from one room to another.



Standing by the bicycles is Lees Corner Elementary counselor Rachel DiBartolo.



Charles Van Lahr of Virginia Run checks his list to make sure each family's gifts are in their bags.



Leslie Dominy and Mickey McDermott take a break to pose with a penguin. They make sure the right gifts go into the right bags and check that they're labeled with each family's ID number, plus how many bags they're receiving.



Virginia Run's Beth Cleveland (left) and daughter Megan, a 2008 Westfield High grad now attending the University of Mississippi Medical Center, give out batteries for the toys.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

ROUNDUPS

Franklin Farm Bank Robbed

Fairfax County police are looking for the person who robbed a bank, Sunday afternoon, in Franklin Farm. The incident occurred Dec. 15, shortly before 3 p.m., at the PNC Bank inside the Giant Foods store at 13330 Franklin Farm Road.

Police say a man approached a teller, made a vague threat and demanded money. An undisclosed amount of cash was handed over and he fled; no one was injured.

The suspect was described as white, 35-45 years old, 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 7 inches tall, 160-180 pounds and having brown hair. He wore a dark jacket, gray hat, sunglasses and gloves.

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.



Suspect

Man Robbed in Clifton

Fairfax County police are seeking the people who robbed a man, Friday night, in the 6100 block of Clifton Road. According to police, the victim had just parked his vehicle, at 9:50 p.m., when two men approached and demanded money. One of the men displayed a handgun and shot out a window on the victim's vehicle.

Both men then stole cash and property from the victim and fled in a blue sedan. There were no injuries. The suspects were described as black, ages 17-20, and wearing black clothing and masks.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Dec. 19, 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.

Don't Drink and Drive

As the holidays approach, Fairfax County police reminds everyone not to drink and drive. SoberRide is offering a free cab ride home every night until Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014.

So anyone heading out to enjoy a holiday gathering is urged to designate a driver or call SoberRide at 1-800-200-TAXI between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. to get home safely. (AT&T customers dial #9727). For more information, go to <http://www.wrap.org/soberride/>.

Learn about Unsolved Crimes

The Fairfax County Police Department's Cold Case Unit will be the topic at the next meeting of the Sully District Station's Citizens Advisory Committee. It's set for Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 7:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

Attendees will get a look at the Cold Case Unit's tools, techniques and investigative methods as its members pursue and resolve long-standing homicides, search for missing persons and handle other complex cases. The public is welcome.

How to Help the CLRC

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) needs volunteers to lead vocational training workshops to increase the workers' job skills. A Wednesday morning ESOL instructor is also needed; contact Molly Maddra at coordinator@centrevilleLRC.org for more information.

In addition, end-of-year contributions to CLRC may be made at www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org. The organization is supported totally by grants and donations; it receives no government funding.

NEWS

Helping Someone Have a Home

Habitat for Humanity renovates house in Centreville.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Not everyone has the money to buy a home. But thanks to Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia (HHNV) and some willing volunteers, a family will be able to buy a house in Centreville at an affordable price.

It's on Saguaro Place in The Meadows community and, on a recent weekday, 15 people were hard at work renovating and repairing it to make it livable. Built in 1971, it's a two-story, three-bedroom house.

"This property is in the National Neighborhood Stabilization program," said Romana Sanchez, HHNV's construction director. "It was foreclosed and, since banks give us the first right of refusal, we purchased this one. Structurally, it was fine, but it was otherwise in disrepair."

Although people had lived in the house, the kitchen wasn't functioning. "We started the demolition in May," said Sanchez. "We pulled everything out of the kitchen and bathroom and took out all the kitchen drywall and all the damaged doors. We also replaced the windows, heating and air conditioning."

The electrical wiring was brought up to code and the plumbing repaired. "There was a huge leak under the kitchen sink and in the upstairs bathroom," said Sanchez. "We subcontract out the mechanical, plumbing and electrical work, and it's done either pro bono or at a discount."

The Habitat crew and their volunteers have been working here two days a week because they're working on other, similar projects at the same time. Eventually, Habitat's family-selection committee will choose a family that's applied for a Habitat house and then that family will buy the Centreville house.

"We provide affordable homes for first-time homebuyers," said Sanchez. "Because we get monetary contributions, in-kind services donated and our labor is free, we keep the cost of the home down."

"I enjoy working with the volunteers and homeowners — who also put in sweat-equity hours," she continued. "And it's rewarding seeing a family move into a home they'd otherwise be unable to purchase."

Habitat's dedicated volunteers are called the sandlot; they're usually retirees and many have been with the organization for 15-20 years. They lead the corporate or community volunteers in



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Janice Henry (left) and Tiffany Hines paint the stairwell.

the day's work. And on a recent Thursday, four sandlot members, two Habitat staff members, one Americorps volunteer and eight volunteers from Reston's FM Global Corporate Property Insurance Co. worked together on the Centreville home.

"It's been completely gutted and we're remodeling it," said Habitat's volunteer-manger, Erica Painter. "We put up drywall, primed the upstairs and downstairs and, today, we're painting the walls. I'm lucky because I get to do this full time. The rewarding part is being able to connect people looking for an opportunity to give back with those needing help."

"I've always wanted to work with Habitat for Humanity," said FM Global's Susan Godshall. "FM Global is generous and gives us a volunteer day every year, and I'm part of our volunteer committee at work that finds ways for people to help in the community."

That day, she painted the kitchen and the upstairs baseboards and windowsills. "We've already

painted the majority of the downstairs, including ceilings, and it looks really good," she said. "It's great seeing the transformation already. It's pretty awesome knowing that what we're doing will benefit someone who's going to live here — that's a good feeling."

After all, added FM Global's George Plesce, "What's better than helping someone have a home? I painted downstairs, too, and did some caulking. It was fun helping out and doing something with my coworkers."

The project appealed to Mercedes Powers, who primed and painted the living room and detailed the corners. "Habitat for Human



Spackling inside a closet is AmeriCorps member Chris Orkwis.

SEE HELPING, PAGE 15

News

BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW



Centreville High SGA members wrap up Gummie Life Savers as a treat for their fellow students who collected food and toys for 40 families in need in the school community. From left are juniors Morgan Assel, Scott Stevenson, Noelle Brown and Caroline Wakefield, plus seniors Colin Reynolds and Jack Will.

CVHS Students Help Families in Need

Centreville High SGA members have had a busy fall. Not only did they bring in and package more than 6,000 homemade cookies to donate to Our Neighbor's child, but they also bought Christmas presents for 40 families in need in the school community.

The students participated, as well, in a food drive for the Capital Area Food Bank, which distributes food to hunger-relief organizations in the Washington Metropolitan area.

"All during November, we asked classes to bring in food," said senior Josh Kim last Thursday, Dec. 12. "It was a schoolwide effort. Then the past two weeks, the SGA collected it all — canned goods, pastas and

boxed items — from each classroom."

"Yesterday [Dec. 11], we packed it all in boxes and then loaded it on a truck," added senior Scott Walter. "We were just trying to help out the community."

Kim explained why it's so important. "Even though Fairfax County is one of the richest counties around here, we know that a lot of people are in need — especially at the holidays," he said. "So we wanted to be good Samaritans." "It makes you feel good to help people out," said Walter.

"They may not have any food on the table that night, so just having one can or a bag of rice can make a big difference."

— BONNIE HOBBS

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OPINION

Preserve 3-2-1 for Housing

Housing for all income levels near transit supports vibrant communities and job growth, reduces traffic.

BY MICHELLE KROCKER
AND JIM EDMONDSON

In the latest edition of The Herry Report, Springfield Supervisor Pat Herry proposed “redirecting developers’ \$3 per square foot contribution for buying rent-controlled housing units into a trust fund to pay for public school renovation and construction.”

The report proceeds to make several unsubstantiated claims regarding the number of people living in subsidized housing and the growth in both the number of subsidized units and number of households in Fairfax County. However as in the past, The Herry Report does not provide the full picture of the housing policy under discussion, and misrepresents the facts.

The Board of Supervisors adopted its housing policy in 2010 as a part of the larger plan

for the redevelopment of Tysons. It is now under consideration, at the request of the board, for application in other designated high density, transit and business centers in the rest of the county. Called the ‘3-2-1’ policy, the proposal by county staff would apply a contribution from commercial development to support the construction of workforce housing in the transit or business area, as it does in the Tysons plan. The contribution would be applied on a sliding scale based on a proposed development’s proximity to a transit station. This proposal will go before the Planning Commission and then the Board of Supervisors in the first quarter of 2014.

Why is this policy important?

❖ To accommodate projected job growth and remain competitive within the region, it is important to ensure housing opportunities for the workforce of the future at all income levels;

❖ Developing housing at transit stations and adjacent to employment centers encourages use of mass transit, walking and biking which can lead to fewer cars, and less congestion; it also enhances Metro revenue and reduces the pressure on local government to provide subsidies for the system;

❖ Linking commercial development (jobs) and housing via a linkage program is an acknowledged “best practice” in hundreds of communities across the country to ensure an

adequate supply of housing to support job growth.

❖ It recognizes the changing preferences of workers/taxpayers/voters, particularly young people, to live near where they work.

The proposed policy anticipates that the contributions will be made to a housing trust fund used by the county to leverage private sector financing to develop the needed housing.

The housing that is constructed will not be owned or purchased by the county. In fact, very little of the affordable housing in the county is owned by the government.

Securing decent housing that is affordable remains a challenge for Fairfax County households earning less than \$60,000.

Meeting the growing needs of our school system is also an important issue. Both education and safe, decent housing are fundamental to the well-being of our community, and residents want leadership that seeks to find workable solutions. Failing to recognize the importance of both and pitting one issue against the other are not the answers, and the citizens of Fairfax County deserve better from elected officials.

Michelle Krockner is executive director, Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance. Jim Edmondson is president of AHOME, which promotes affordable housing opportunities for families at all income levels.

GUEST
EDITORIAL

LETTER

A Family’s Homelessness

To the Editor:

One of Centreville’s Virginia 6A State Champion football players lives in a homeless shelter with his mother and the youngest of his six siblings. Although he lives in the shelter, he remains disciplined to attend school and excels both in the classroom and on the football field. The player and his family have fallen on hard times and we would like to help them.

The senior has only played football for two years, but he was recently named second-team all-Concorde District. Last Saturday, at the University of Virginia, he and his teammates captured the State Championship and completed a perfect 15-0 record. The Wildcats finished as the top ranked school in the state and the #21 ranked high school football team in the nation.

A site, with a link to a Washington Post article written on Dec. 7 about him and his family, has been established to allow contributions to help.

Please join us in helping this family get back on their feet. The URL to contribute is: <http://www.gofundme.com/5odq40>.

Although the “goal” on this website says, “\$25K”, we hope to raise between \$75K and \$100K. After all, Fairfax County is the second wealthiest county in the country.

Let’s show this family what caring is all about.

The Centreville Wildcat Nation



PHOTO COURTESY OF BARBARA HAGAN

Coaching with Grace and Compassion

At the top, center, Centreville High Quarterback Coach Chris Dizebba and Head Varsity Football Coach Chris Haddock comfort Oscar Smith High’s No. 65, Andrew Brown, National High School Player of the Year, after the Wildcats beat his team, Saturday, 35-6, for the state championship. “This is why our community loves the CVHS coaches and the program they’ve built since 2010,” said Centreville parent Karen Fulkerson. “They care, and they always support, no matter who you are. They also know exactly how unimportant any individual win or moment is; it’s the overall collection of moments in life that matters.”

CENTREVIEW

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Honoring Supporters and Giving Thanks

Labor Resource Center celebrates second anniversary.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) has been open two years now, making a difference in the lives of the day laborers it serves. And on Saturday, Dec. 7, those involved in the center celebrated its anniversary.

"We give thanks for the center's second anniversary and for all the many blessings, hard work and caring hearts and hands that come together in this place," said the Rev. Marci Huntsman, giving the invocation. Noting the bonds that have developed between the center and local residents, she also thanked God "for the sense that we are, more and more, one world and that this feeling radiates out into the community."

Before the CLRC opened in the Centreville Square Shopping Center, day laborers stood on the street corners and employers hired them from there. But many didn't get work and, often, some who did were cheated out of their wages by employers refusing to pay them after the job was done.

Things have improved since then. And about 60 local residents have sought jobs at the CLRC in this difficult economy. During the anniversary celebration, center Director Roberto Fernández updated attendees on the CLRC's progress.

"We've had a very successful year," he said. "It was my first as director, and it's been an amazing experience because of the volunteers. I also thank the workers, who've been de-stigmatized a little by this. And their community outreach helps people learn they have nothing to fear from them."

He said the center has seen a 38-percent increase in registered workers since 2012 and now has 486. "We've also had about a 67-percent increase in employers, most from word of mouth," said Fernández. "This year, we've had 843 jobs arranged through the center."

The Centreville Immigration Forum is re-



Roberto Fernandez and Alice Foltz enjoy the festivities.

From left are Michael Frey, Adam and Ellen Church, Alice Foltz and Sharon Bulova.

sponsible for the center's continuing operation, and CIF President Alice Foltz praised its board of directors. "We really appreciate all the hard work put in, year 'round, by the board," she said. "The work it does is essential and we're grateful for it."

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) were on hand to help recognize some of the CLRC's staunchest supporters.

"Congratulations and thanks," Bulova said. "This center is exactly the kind of place we need in Fairfax County. This is what's needed to help people trying to find work and feed their families."

Then, addressing Frey, she said, "This was a brave thing for you to do, to support this center. [The idea of] this was not without controversy, and I personally thank Mike for his role. Politically, it wasn't easy, but it was the right thing to do. This is a model for how we should treat day laborers."

Next, Foltz presented framed certificates to several people. First were Ellen Cobb Church, owner and CEO of Craver Mathews Smith, and her son Adam. "Throughout her career in marketing, Ellen has dedicated herself to advancing the movements that

drive social change," said Foltz. "She and her son have been strong supporters of CLRC since Ellen joined the CIF Advisory Council in 2012."

This year, they designed, produced and donated a new brochure for the center and are conducting a mass-mail campaign to spread awareness of CLRC, not just to Centreville, but also to Chantilly and Fairfax. It lets people know they can hire workers at the center and can donate to CIF, as well.

Dr. Tong Soo Park and his volunteers at Grace Community Center were also honored. A member of Korean Central Presbyterian Church, Park established a free clinic in Centreville for people in need. It opened in September and its patients have included workers from the CLRC.

Park specializes in neonatal-perinatal pediatric medicine at Inova Fairfax Children's Hospital. And, said Foltz, "This award goes not only to Dr. Park, but to the entire volunteer team at Grace Community Center, for their dedication and faith in bringing this blessing — serving those without other options for medical care."

CIF assistant treasurer Cari Lin was recognized for her "faithful and conscientious

work, so essential to our continuing mission," said Foltz. With a background in economics and accounting, Lin volunteered for this post; she records and acknowledges all donations and helps prepare the monthly treasurer's reports.

Also honored was Fernández. Sharing some of his experience, Foltz said he'd served three years with the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic, organized Fair Trade groups and volunteered with Haitian refugees immediately after the 2011 earthquake.

Besides his organizational and data-managing abilities, she said, "Even more important is Roberto's valuing of the contributions of every worker. He understands that the center belongs to the workers, themselves, and he works to build their leadership and expand their opportunities to be self-sufficient members of the community."

Molly Maddra, CLRC's outreach and training coordinator, was feted, as well. She's been with the center two years, serving as interim director while obtaining a master's degree in global affairs. "Molly's experience as a volunteer organizer with Tenants and Workers United, and her warm personality,

SEE LABOR RESOURCE, PAGE 8

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW



From left are Michael Frey, Alice Foltz, Sharon Bulova and Dr. Tong Soo Park.



From left are Cari Lin, Michael Frey, Alice Foltz and Sharon Bulova.



From left are Roberto Fernández, Michael Frey, Alice Foltz and Sharon Bulova.



Christmas carolers perform in the Clifton Presbyterian Church.



Peter Noonan stands next to his Christmas tree.



Chantilly High's carolers sing in the Clifton Baptist Church.

Clifton's Candlelight Homes Tour

The Town of Clifton's Candlelight Homes Tour was held Saturday, Dec. 7.



Jamie and Donna Netschert's dining room is decorated for Christmas.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW



Trisha Robertson with the miniature holiday village in her home.



Reed and Amy Hall with children, Davis, 4, and Hope, 2, enjoyed the town Christmas-tree lighting in Ayre Square.

Labor Resource Center Celebrates Second Anniversary

FROM PAGE 7

are essential to CLRC's outreach," said Foltz. "Her skill, energy and positive attitude bring both workers and employers back to the center, again and again."

"The workers know she understands and respects them and can both listen and lead," continued Foltz. "Now she's busy setting up classes and encouraging new and older workers to build their skills, but she always has time for stories and laughs."

Frey said opening this center "took a lot of faith and commitment. This was a community problem, not a federal issue, and we could address it at our level. And with Alice, the faith partners and other partners, plus Al Dwoskin [who donated the space for the CLRC], this has been a huge success."

Two years into it, it continues to grow —

and that's a tribute to the community — so thank you all."

However, added Foltz, "We do need everybody's continuing support, financially and by volunteering, to keep this place open. So please keep us in mind."

The Rev. Stefan Starzynski of St. Timothy Catholic Church then gave the closing prayer. "I was thinking of Nelson Mandela and how one man chose love over hatred, mercy over revenge, and helped heal a country and so much of the world," he said.

"Diversity of cultures is beautiful. May God bless all of you for helping restore dignity to people who may have forgotten their own dignity."

And if one man can heal a nation, what can one group do? May God bless all the volunteers, workers and benefactors of this center."



From left are Michael Frey, Molly Maddra, Alice Foltz and Sharon Bulova.

PHOTO BY
BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com.

ONGOING

The **Airbus IMAX Theater at National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center**, 14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway, is showing movies including "Hunger Games: Catching Fire", "Hubble," "Fighter Pilot," "Air Racers" and "The Dream is Alive". Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/udvarhazy/> or call 703-572-4118 for the movie schedule.

Super Science Saturdays. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. the second Saturday of each month at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/udvarhazy>.

Enchanted Ice Palace Holiday Tradition. Visit with Santa and the Ice Princess on her throne 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.

Exhibit. See an array of colorful nesting dolls on display at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Exhibit runs through Jan. 31. Enjoy a guided tour of the 1794 home of Northern Virginia's first congressman, Richard Bland Lee. \$7/adult; \$6/student; \$5/senior and child. Hours are daily, except Tuesdays, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 703-437-1794.

THURSDAY-TUESDAY/DEC. 12-24

"Twelve Days of Adoptables." a partnership between the Washington Humane Society and the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Dogs, cats, and a variety of small animals will be included in this adoption promotion designed to bring extra attention to those shelter pets that, through no fault of their own, have been waiting many weeks or months to find their new family. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal.

THURSDAY/DEC. 19

Storytime. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 3-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. For children in grades 5-6. Call for title. Free. 703-502-3883.

FRIDAY/DEC. 20

Ready for School Storytime. 1:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 4-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Ballet Performance. 7 p.m. at Freedom High School, 15201 Neabsco Mills Road, Woodbridge. The Swan Ballet presents "The Nutcracker." Visit www.swanballetdanceschools.com, e-mail swanballetdance@aol.com or 703-425-9400 for tickets.

SATURDAY/DEC. 21

Bouncin' Babies. 10:30 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.

Small Wonders. 11:30 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.

Victorian Christmas. 4:45-7 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way. See the 1794 home of Northern Virginia's first congressman, Richard Bland Lee in the glow of candlelight, make an ornament and see what treats are being prepared, and then enjoy cider and cookies by a fire. There will be photo opportunities near an antique sleigh. \$10. Prepaid reservations required. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully or 703-437-1794.

Ballet Performance. 2 p.m. or 7 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. The Swan Ballet presents "The Nutcracker." Visit www.swanballetdanceschools.com, e-mail swanballetdance@aol.com or 703-425-9400 for tickets.

MONDAY/DEC. 23

Bouncin' Babies. 10:30 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.

Time for Tots. 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. 703-830-2223.

Small Wonders. 11:30 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.

Book Buddies. 2:15 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children in grades 1-2 can discuss a book. Free. 703-502-3883 for title.

THURSDAY/DEC. 26

Magic and Mayhem. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000

BULLETIN BOARD

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

HOLIDAY DONATIONS

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

Stringfellow Road. Girls and boys in grades 6-8 can participate in this sci-fi/fantasy book group. Call for title. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

FRIDAY/DEC. 27

Bouncin' Babies. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy rhymes, songs and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY/DEC. 28

Hidden Pond. 2:30 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 6-12 can learn how to recognize the signs that animals leave behind. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

MONDAY/DEC. 30

Bouncin' Babies. 10:30 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.

Small Wonders. 11:30 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.

Boredom Buster Craft Hour. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children in grades 3-6 can learn how to make a pom pom shooter out of a pool noodle and duct tape. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

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.

THURSDAY/DEC. 19

Volunteer to Help Pack Food. 10 a.m. at Dominion Virginia Power's office, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Help package food for children. Contact Assistance League at ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com or visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 10

Celebrate Christmas Brunch at Westfields Marriott

December 25, 2013 • 11 am-2:30 pm

This Christmas, enjoy a delicious brunch at Palm Court. Our award-winning Sunday brunch is sure to charm with unparalleled service, delicious cuisine and an elegant, upscale atmosphere. Enjoy live piano music and beautiful chandelier lighting while sampling signature dishes from our team of accomplished chefs.

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BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

SATURDAY/JAN. 4

DAR Meeting. Lane's Mill Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) members will meet at 5501 Sully Park Drive, Centreville. Prospective members are welcome to attend and should contact lanesmillchapter@hotmail.com. DAR is a volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history.

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.

MONDAY/MARCH 3

Application Deadline. The online application for the Military Officers Association of America Educational Assistance Programs for the 2014-2015 school year is now available online at <https://scholarship.moaa.org/login.aspx>. Students can apply for the interest-free loans and grants, which are awarded annually for up to five years of undergraduate study (or until a student graduates.)

Applicants must be graduating high school seniors or full-time college students working toward their first undergraduate degree. Students may apply online at www.moaa.org/education. The application deadline is Monday, March 3 at noon. Visit www.moaa.org/scholarshipfund or e-mail edassist@MOAA.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 7

Silent Auction. Navy Elementary School, 500 W. Ox Road, is sponsoring a silent auction with proceeds benefiting the school. Visit navypto.org or 703-927-9606 to find out if you can donate items.

DONATIONS

The **student Auto Sales Program** operating from Centreville High School works in conjunction with the CVHS automotive technology classes to bring in donated automobiles, boats and motorcycles for students to work on. Some refurbished vehicles are sold, with 75 percent of the proceeds going back to the auto tech program. The program is in need of cars, trucks or motorcycles, which are fully tax deductible, for student training. Contact Lyman Rose for further information at 703-802-5588 or by e-mail lyman.rose@fcps.edu.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Northern Virginia Family Service is seeking volunteers to organize collection drives of toiletries products for clients in need. Requested items include such things as shampoo, soap, lotion, deodorant, hand sanitizer, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Learn more about Northern Virginia Family Service at www.nvfs.org and contact Colleen Ross rosscross@nvfs.org if interested.

The **Stuart-Mosby Civil War Cavalry Museum** needs volunteers to work on Sundays at 13938 Braddock Road, Centreville. The museum is open from 1-4 p.m. on Sundays, when volunteer help is needed the most. Civil War buffs who want something worthwhile to do on Sundays are perfect candidates. Generally at least two volunteers are on duty each day. The museum is also open on Saturdays and Mondays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 703-785-5294 or visit www.stuart-mosby.com.

Respite Care Volunteers. Give a family caregiver of a frail, older adult a break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Volunteers are matched with families in or near their own neighborhoods in Fairfax County. Support and training is provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm.

Advocates. The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities throughout the area. Training is provided. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/lombudsman/vol_ombud_program.htm.

ONGOING

Ornament Sale. The Western Fairfax County Woman's Club, a charitable organization, sells the 2013 rendition of the White House Christmas ornament, inspired by 28th President Woodrow Wilson. \$20. Previous year ornaments available. Call 703-378-6841 or 703-378-6216.

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703-278-8023

Pleasant Valley United Methodist...

703-327-4461

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Centreville Community Church...

703-580-5226

Christian Life Center...703-754-9600

Clear River Community Church...

703-881-7443

Covenant Christian Center...703-631-5340

Fair Oaks Church...703-631-1112

New Life...703-222-8836

Tree of Life Bible Church...703-830-4563

PENTECOSTAL

Capital Worship Center...

703-530-8100

Church of the Blessed Trinity...

703-803-3007

ORTHODOX

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church...

703-818-8372

St. Raphael Orthodox Church...

703-303-3047

PRESBYTERIAN

Centreville Presbyterian Church...

703-830-0098

Chantilly Presbyterian Church...

703-449-1354

Clifton Presbyterian Church...

703-830-3175

Young Saeng Korean Presbyterian Church...703-818-9200

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Wellspring United Church of Christ...

703-257-4111

ANGLICAN

Church of the Epiphany...703-481-8601

Christ the Redeemer...703-502-1732

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Centreville Assembly of God...703-830-1841

BAHA'I

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

BAPTIST

Centreville Baptist Church...703-830-3333

Chantilly Baptist Church...703-378-6880

Clifton Baptist Church...703-263-1161

Second Baptist Church...703-830-1850

Mount Olive Baptist Church...703-830-8769

Ox Hill Baptist Church...703-378-5555

BIBLE

Chantilly Bible Church...703-263-1188

Community Bible Church...703-222-7737

CATHOLIC

St. Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church...

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St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church...

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St. Paul Chung Catholic Church...

703-968-3010

St. Timothy Catholic Church...703-378-7461

St. Veronica Catholic Church...703-773-2000

EPISCOPAL

Church of the Epiphany...703-715-6070

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Congregation Yad Shalom...703-802-8901

Temple Beth Torah...703-263-2252

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Junior Emma Lark (left) and senior Tori Donahue with some colorful, Christmas cookies.



A close-up of some of the cookies baked by Westfield High SGA members.



Sophomore Kelly Lazor (left) and freshman Tally Lott box up some cookies to be delivered to families in need.

Colorful Christmas Cookies Contributed

Last Wednesday, Dec. 11, each Westfield High SGA member brought in three dozen homemade cookies to package and donate to Our Neighbor's Child. A box of cookies is given to each family in need receiving Christmas gifts from ONC. The 130 students in SGA contributed and packaged more than 4,600 cookies.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW



Senior Mahna Ghafori (left) and junior India Mazzaro had fun packing the cookies into boxes.



Holding some of the homemade cookies they packaged are (from left) seniors Connor Rogers and Nicole Vinson, plus junior Manoo Ebrahimi.



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

A winter scene at the Centreville Regional Library was created by Amelia Grazioso (left) and Juanita Klinker.

Winter Wonderland At Centreville Library

Amelia Grazioso and Juanita Klinker of the Friends of the Centreville Regional Library created a winter scene in the display window just inside the library's entrance. Using books and pages from torn and soiled volumes that wouldn't be sold or used by the library, they made snowy pinecone-covered trees, wreaths, a fireplace, bookcase and a snowman.

One wreath was adorned with chunky, children's books in Spanish, and the snowman was created from books with their pages folded back for a rounded effect. There's also a small Christmas tree made out of magazines.

The display illustrated a Garri-

son Keillor quote, "A book is a gift you can open again and again." And the books shown in the window are all in different languages to represent the library's diversity. The purpose of the display was to advertise the library's book sale, earlier this month, and to raise awareness of the Friends within the community.

Grazioso and Klinker also want area residents to come to the Friends' next board meeting, Monday, Jan. 6, at 6:30 p.m., in the library.

For more information and to check for any date and/or time changes for the meeting, go to www.friendsofcentrevillelibrary.blogspot.com.

SPORTS



Centreville junior A.J. Turner rushed for 175 yards and two touchdowns against Oscar Smith in the 6A state championship game on Dec. 14.



Centreville quarterback Scott Walter takes a shotgun snap during the 6A state championship game against Oscar Smith on Dec. 14.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

CVHS Beats Oscar Smith for 6A State Championship

FROM PAGE 1

shocked than we were excited.”

Centreville increased its lead to 21-0 when Walter scored on a 1-yard sneak with 44 seconds remaining in the second quarter. Oscar Smith entered Saturday's state championship game having allowed just one opponent to score 14 points in a single contest. The Wildcats surpassed that mark in the first half.

On defense, Haddock said facing “dynamic” players like West Potomac running back-turned-quarterback DeMornay Pierson-El, who is committed to the University of Nebraska, and Westfield running back Tyler Thrasher-Walker during the season helped prepare the Wildcats to take on Oscar Smith's playmakers. Centreville linebacker Chad Wiggins said preparation was the key to shutting down the Tigers. Centreville held Oscar Smith to less than 100 yards of total offense and forced four turnovers.

“Every day in practice we go through it,” Wiggins said. “We know each play before it's going to be snapped and that was the

key this week. We needed to study hard and we needed to come out ready to play and that's what I think we did. It's all about preparation.”

Centreville led 21-0 in the third quarter and drove to the Oscar Smith 26-yard line, but the scoring threat ended when Walter was intercepted by Tigers defensive back Keyvone Bruton. Instead of capitalizing on the takeaway, Oscar Smith fumbled on the next play and Centreville defensive lineman Christian Brooks recovered the ball at the Tigers 12-yard line.

Four plays later, Walter scored on a 1-yard sneak to give Centreville a 28-0 lead.

“It was definitely a roller coaster after I threw the pick,” Walter said. “I got to the sideline and coach (Steve) Fox came over to me and was like, ‘Shake it off, we'll get the ball back.’ And as soon as that happened, we got the ball back and went down and scored.”

Oscar Smith's lone score came on a 25-yard touchdown pass from Mitchell to Kamathi Holsey with 11:46 remaining in the fourth quarter. Centreville blocked the ex-

les, including four solo stops. Brooks had two sacks and a fumble recovery. Wiggins and Jordan Brooks each had one sack and a forced fumble. Jordan Brooks also had a fumble recovery.

Nickens-Yzer finished with two interceptions.

Centreville finished the season outscoring its opponents 680-169. The Wildcats' smallest margin of victory was 20 points.

“It's certainly the best team that I've ever been around in 21 years of coaching high school football,” Haddock said. “... We actually talked to our kids a lot about our place in history and setting a higher standard and that's something that the kids

“It's certainly the best team that I've ever been around in 21 years of coaching high school football. ... We actually talked to our kids a lot about our place in history and setting a higher standard and that's something that the kids wanted to do. They wanted to make history.”

— Centreville football coach Chris Haddock

tra point.

Turner scored Centreville's final touchdown on a 3-yard run with 2:27 remaining in the contest.

Tyler Love led Centreville with seven tack-

wanted to do. They wanted to make history. I don't know where you place us in the all-time teams, but we're certainly one of the best in Northern Virginia and we're definitely the best at Centreville.”



Centreville head coach Chris Haddock led the Wildcats to a 15-0 record and a state championship.



Centreville fans cheer during the 6A football state championship game against Oscar Smith on Dec. 14 at UVa's Scott Stadium.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEN ANNETTA

Len Annetta, Ph.D., of George Mason University traveled to Italy recently with his wife, Jennifer, and his children Samantha and Joey. Annetta kept his children occupied during the long flight with cloud games and by helping them practice Italian.

Surviving a Long Trip

Keeping children entertained on lengthy airplane rides.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
CENTRE VIEW

Liz Henry is nervous about her upcoming flight to San Francisco. It's not TSA regulations or long lines that are causing her anxiety, however. It is traveling alone with her three children — all of whom are under the age of 6.

"My kids are 5, 3 and 1," said Henry, who lives in Vienna. "I'm taking them to visit my family for Christmas, but they've never flown before. I have a lot of DVDs packed, but I don't know how far those will get me. I don't like pacifying my kids with videos, but I don't think I have a choice."

Going home for the holidays often means boarding an airplane with high-energy children and settling in for a long ride. Parents such as Henry scramble to find ways to fill the time in a way that keeps their child entertained without disturbing other passengers. Local education experts say there are options that don't involve the last resort of videos and electronic games, however.

"Reading is always a good choice, but for many children, it cannot hold their attention for long plane rides," said Len Annetta, Ph.D., a professor in the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. "Games like Scrabble challenge players' literacy skills in a fun way. Crossword puzzles are also fun and engaging."

Annetta, who recently returned from a family trip to Italy, has first-hand experience with surviving lengthy plane rides with children in tow. "I took the whole family, including my 13- and 11-year-old children," he said. "My children are older, but we played

a name the cloud game. Of course, we were above the clouds, so it made it a bit more difficult."

When traveling abroad, a long flight is an ideal time to learn more about the culture or language of your final destination. "My children tried a crash course on Italian," said Annetta. "They learned a few words they used during the week we were there. This was a free app on the iPod that we downloaded before we left."

Bethesda-based psychotherapist Katie Cogan, Ph.D., recommends activities that engage a child's imagination, particularly for younger children. "You always have your imagination with you no matter what," she said. "You can say to a child, 'Tell me a story,' or you can take turns telling stories with your child. When you're on the plane, you can help your child imagine what it will look like when we get there."

For young children, Cogan said, "Using what's inside you to create a world that already exists. It is called active imagination. Use your creativity to do anything. If you're with a young child, you can ask 'How many things can you think of that are red?'"

Cogan also advises helping children make up a story, particularly about their final destination. "If it is a small kid, give them the first part of the story or the first word and let them take it from there," she said.

"Have paper with you, and you can have your child tell you the story and either write it down or have your child write the story down and color it."

Annetta said, "Journaling your experience is a fun way to practice writing while telling the story of where you are going or where you've been."

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ORDER OF PUBLICATION
(PROTECTIVE ORDER/HEARING DATE)

1. The object of this suit is to obtain protection from the Respondent.

2. The object of this publication by Class I legal advertisement is to notify Respondent of the PROTECTIVE ORDER prohibiting the above named Respondent from having contact with certain individuals. This Order may affect property and other rights of the Respondent. Violating this Order may subject the Respondent to criminal sanctions. The Respondent is strongly encouraged to obtain a copy of this Protective Order and Petition from the Circuit Clerk of the country listed above.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT

If appearing by evidence duly taken in this action that you could not be found in or that you have left the State of West Virginia, you are hereby notified of the ORDER referenced above, a copy of the Petition and Order may be obtained at the Mercer County, Circuit Clerk's office. This PROTECTIVE ORDER will remain in effect until January 7, 2014.

A Final Hearing is scheduled for the 7th day of January, 2014, at 10:30am before the Mercer County Family Court. Bluefield Daily Telegraph, Class I Advertisement, First Publication Date December 27, 2013, Issued this 10th day of December, 2013 at 11:17 am. Julie Ball, Circuit Clerk

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Backwards Thinking



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Considering that I've been cancer-centric now for nearly five years, one would have thought I might have learned and totally embraced an alternative concept: forward living – and less thinking about past causes and their possible current effects. Certainly cancer causes physical manifestations and symptoms that are diagnosable and indicative of trouble. But it's the unseen effects that in some cases cause as many difficulties. What I am referring to is the mental and emotional toll a terminal diagnosis and short term prognosis can have on the patient's perspective on life and living, and what's presumptively thought to be left of it.

And in my experience now as a comparatively long-term survivor – five years come February 27, of stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), backwards thinking, as in why me, as in woe is me, has generally not been characteristic of my daily grind. Sure, I've made changes to my pre-cancer Kenny regimen of poor diet and above-average stress, and have regularly compared and contrasted my past with my present/future. However, much of this has been ongoing. I've never felt as if I've dwelled on any of it. Focused maybe, but not so much as a negative, more as a positive, as in changes which needed to be made – or else. Moreover, to learn the error of my ways and try to parlay any new found knowledge into a future that initially, according to my oncologist's original prognosis: "13 months to two years", was hardly guaranteed.

In spite of it all, I have lived – and learned and accepted that my new reality is somewhat different than it once was: somewhere between tenuous and temporary. Still, thinking about the past can only do so much good when contemplating a future that has been snatched away somewhat (somewhat? quite, actually) unexpectedly at 54 and one half. If I want to have a future, thinking and living as if I have one is more agreeable and more rewarding – and much less stressful than thinking I don't. And constantly reviewing, assessing, and connecting with the horse on which I rode in, as informative as it may be in helping to understand and appreciate the medical predicament in which I find myself so immersed, might actually be causing more harm – emotionally, than I'm willing to admit. I can't change the past, so living with it on a daily basis when I have a present and a future to consider might be shackling me in some emotional way that is preventing me from maintaining the positive and optimistic attitude so crucial in defending myself against the insidious disease inside my lungs.

Not that I'm suggesting that I can talk/think these malignant tumors ("metastatic to the lung") to cease and desist, but spending mental time on what has already occurred, instead of what possibly could be, seems counterproductive, maybe even harmful. Trouble has already found me; I don't need to encourage it. And after all these years, I should know better. I do know better. Nevertheless, as the content of this column clearly indicates, I am still under siege. I am still trying to balance the challenges of living with a future while being mindful of a past and understanding that some emotions I can't control. Cancer is funny like that, but it's no laughing matter. Even so, I did think the subject was fodder for a column – or maybe I'm just indulging myself at your expense. If it's the latter more so than the former, I appreciate your patience. I probably need it.

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

News



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Painting the living room are (from left) sandlot volunteers Craig Taylor and Laurie Corkey and FM Global's Mercedes Powers and Dallas Gage.

Helping Someone Have a Home

FROM PAGE 4

ity is very reputable," she said. "And I knew this would be fun and I'd feel good afterward; it's very fulfilling."

Coworker Tiffany Hines "wanted to get physical and do something that makes a difference. I painted the stairwell, ceilings, foyer and hallways."

Janice Henry did those tasks with her. "From watching 'Extreme Home Makeover' on TV, it was always something I wanted to do," she said. "It inspired me and seemed like a great experience."

Hines said trying to reach the highest spots was the toughest part for her. "But we teamed up, joked and had a good time together," said Henry. "I kept threatening to get paint on her."

"But I got it on me first, so I stole her thunder," said Hines.

Both women were happy to "give back to someone." And, said Henry, "I like knowing that a family will get something they wanted and worked for — and that their children will be able to grow up in a home."

Victor Ling had never volunteered for Habitat for Humanity before so, he said, "It was a good opportunity to try something new. I painted the hallways and kitchen, and it's fun seeing what you're accomplishing right away. It's also nice to see everyone outside the regular, work environment."

Also improving the home was Chris Orkwis, a construction crew leader with AmeriCorps.

Originally from New York, he's working



Some of the people renovating the Centreville Habitat for Humanity house are (from left) Craig Taylor, Erica Painter, Jay Sharp, Laurie Corkey, Gary Olson and Chris Orkwis.

in Northern Virginia with Habitat for Humanity for 10 months. "This house should be finished in mid-December," he said. "We'll put in new kitchen cabinets, light fixtures and appliances. Some of it's donated and some we order from a store."

Enjoying the work, Orkwis said, "It's my first job out of college, and I think I'd like to continue in construction. It's great experience and it's awesome to work with the families we're doing this for. The hardest part is jumping in feet first with everything and learning as I go. But I love seeing the families and how enthusiastic they are about being able to have their own house."

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