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MARCH 13-19, 2014

25 CENTS Newsstand Price



Director Jeremy Washington (in front) with the cast and crew of "13 Ways to Screw up a College Interview."

# Three Plays for Price of One

# Centreville High One-Acts take the stage.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

wo dramas and a comedy are on tap for Centreville High's annual One-Act Play Festival. Presented will be "13 Ways to Screw up a College Interview," "10,000 Cigarettes" and "The Lottery." The curtain rises Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

### '13 WAYS ... COLLEGE INTERVIEW'

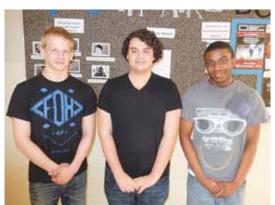
Directing "13 Ways to Screw up a College Interview" is senior Jeremy Washington. "It's a fast-paced comedy about two college interviewers trying to find one more person to get into their college before they're fired," he said. "So they go down the wait list — filled with 13 zany characters — and have them each come in for an interview, and the laughter takes off."

The cast and crew of 14 has been rehearsing since early January, with Ashley Leightley and Kyle Artone portraying the interviewers. "Our show has a lot of first-time actors, and I want them to have fun and like theater while we're also getting things done," said Washington. "And for the most part, it's been going really well."

Calling all his thespians "good kids," he said, "I'm surprised how much they love theater and acting. They're excited to be in this show and they all have a really good work ethic. They also have great, creative ideas about how they can take their characters to the next level. The audience will like how weird the prospective students are and how the interviewers react to them."

It's Washington's first time directing. "I was a little worried, at first," he said. "But now that I've gotten to do it and gotten to know my actors, I'm really confident about how my show's going to turn out." Initially, said Washington, it was tough

SEE CENTREVILLE HIGH, PAGE 2



The three student directors are (from left) Connor Mitchell, Jeremy Pritchard and Jeremy Washington.

# Giving a Close Shave To Childhood Cancer

# St. Baldrick's fund-raiser is March 23.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

ancer at any age is devastating; but it's particularly heartbreaking when it strikes a child. So St. Baldrick's Day events try to raise as much money as possible toward finding a cure for childhood cancer

Centreville's ninth annual St. Baldrick's Day celebration will be held Sunday, March 23, from 4-6 p.m., at Fast Eddie's; it's in the Newgate Shopping Center at Routes 28/29.

In a cheerful, fun-filled atmosphere with music and laughter, participants will have their heads shaved bald while friends and families cheer them on. Fast

"It feels really

children, and I've

had loved ones in

my life who've

with cancer,"

been diagnosed

— William Dzubak

good to help

Eddie's will also offer mechanicalbull rides for \$5, with half the proceeds going to St. Baldrick's.

Steve Ratliff of Centreville's Country Club Manor community organized the event with help from Pleasant Hill's Meg Crossett, whose daughter Rachel died of neuroblas-

toma in 2001 at age 6. He's also been shaving his hair and beard at this and other St. Baldrick's affairs for 11 years now.

"I have healthy kids, but there



William Dzubak, then in middle school, gets shaved by Lakisha Shelton of CC Hair Salon.

are a lot who aren't healthy," said Ratliff. "No parent should every have to bury a child. So if sitting down and getting my head shaved once a year can help, even a little

bit, I'm glad to do it. It's only hair, and it's fun — it's a neat feeling to be a part of the event."

The St. Baldrick's Foundation began March 17, 2000, when three business executives decided to transform their St. Patrick's Day party into a fundraiser for children

with cancer. With the help of 17 colleagues, they hoped to raise \$17,000 on the 17<sup>th</sup> by having each person collect \$1,000 to be

See Fighting, Page 7

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The cast and crew of "10,000 Cigarettes" are (from left) Stage Manager Joey Dell'Omo, Miranda Newman, Director Jeremy Pritchard, Caroline Collier and Gabie Nicchita. (Not pictured: Jemma Stratton).



The cast of "The Lottery," with Director Connor Mitchell at far right.

# Centreville High One-Acts Take the Stage

From Page 1

figuring out some of the show's technical aspects, but then things fell into place.

"The best part is being able to hang out with a bunch of really cool people and knowing that the experience they'll take from the show, the friends they make and the things they'll learn are because of me," he said. "But the actors taught me as much as I taught them. I thought of the show as a whole, but they'd think about their characters' little quirks and mannerisms and bring them to me and we'd go with them."

### '10,000 CIGARETTES'

Senior Jeremy Pritchard is helming "10,000 Cigarettes," aided by Stage Manager Joey Dell'Omo and Assistant Director Amita Rao. "It's a drama that takes place after the funeral of four sisters' father who died of lung cancer from cigarette use," said Pritchard.

"Throughout the show, they talk about how good cigarettes are," he said. "Then they start coughing and realize cigarettes are killing them, too, and all they have is each other." The four girls in the cast are Miranda Newman, Caroline Collier, Gabie Nicchita and Jemma Stratton.

"We've been rehearsing since mid-December and things are going wonderfully," said Pritchard. "These are four, extremely talented girls and I'm so lucky to have them in my cast. I had them read for a specific personality trait that defines each character and picked the actors who portrayed them best. One's a confident businesswoman and the others are a perky airhead, a goofball and someone sexy."

He said the audience will like the fact that this play isn't like regular theater. "It's more stylized in the acting and writing," said Pritchard. "For example, the characters will finish each others' sentences. The set is simple and the location is up to interpretation."

He was assistant director for Centreville's production of "Lend Me a Tenor" in the fall, but this is his first time directing. "I learned that, even if you want to be friends with your actors, sometimes you need to put your foot down and let them know you're in charge," he said.

But on the whole, Pritchard was glad he

got the opportunity to direct. "I really enjoy it because I like seeing my vision come alive," he explained. "The toughest part is trying to make everything click perfectly—costumes, makeup, etc. But the thing I love most is watching the actors grow and develop their characters."

### 'THE LOTTERY'

Directing "The Lottery" is senior Connor Mitchell. Featuring a cast and crew of 13, this show has been rehearsing since the beginning of February. "It's a drama about a bunch of townspeople who gather in the town square for a lottery," said Mitchell.

"They're pretty casual and are talking about their everyday lives in an upbeat way," he continued. "Later on, the audience starts to realize this lottery may not be such a good thing — and there's a shocking twist at the end."

In the lead roles are Emily Hoffman, who plays Tessie, a villager's wife who turns out to be a very significant character in the play, and Zane Piper, who portrays Joe Summers, the village leader. He's almost a celebrity among the townsfolk and he conducts the

lottery.

"Things are going well," said Mitchell. "We're working hard and everyone's very committed to the show, so it's coming along nicely. Eventually, every character is on stage at the same time, so the hardest thing is the blocking to make sure everyone's seen."

He, too, is a first-time director. "It's a lot of work," said Mitchell. "Since all my experience has been acting, I want to play every part for my actors, but I can't — I can only give advice. But I'm enjoying the sense of control I have and, like an architect, seeing my creation fall into place and come to life."

However, he admitted, "I didn't think directing would be as time consuming as it is

Not only do you have to direct, you have to figure out the blocking, costumes, lighting, set design, etc. so there's a lot more that goes into directing than I ever realized."

As for the play, he's pleased that the story's arc will be something the audience won't expect. Said Mitchell: "After feeling at ease for most of the show, there's such a surprising jolt that it'll really wake them up."



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### Roundups

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, March 13, 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.

## St. Baldrick's Sign-Ups

A St. Baldrick's Day event is slated for Sunday, March 23, at 4 p.m., at Fast Eddie's in the Newgate Shopping Center, at Routes 28/29 in Centreville. The event raises funds for childhood cancer research. People volunteer to have their heads shaved and raise money in advance for the privilege. Then all those being shaved get it done together while others cheer them on. Sign up at http:// /www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/149/2014.

In addition, Valvoline Instant Oil Change in Centreville is giving a 10-percent discount on services and 10 percent back to the St. Baldrick's Foundation when customers mention St. Baldrick's.

### Disaster Resiliency Summit

The Fairfax County Community Collaboration Summit for Disaster Resiliency is designed for organizations that provide dayto-day support to Fairfax County community members and will give them sustained support when a disaster strikes. The summit will be held Tuesday, March 25, from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at Mount Olive Baptist Church, 6600 Old Centreville Road in Centreville.

Entities such as faith- and community-based organizations, disaster volunteer groups, residential-management groups, civic associations and representatives from the private, public and nonprofit sectors involved in disaster recovery, should attend. Register at https://2014summit.eventbrite.com. This event is sponsored by Volunteer Fairfax, Fairfax County's Neighborhood and Community Services and Faith Communities in Action.

# **Budget Town Hall Meeting**

A town hall meeting on the FY 2015 Fairfax County and FCPS budgets is set for Thursday, March 27, at 7 p.m. It'll be held in the cafeteria of Rocky Run Middle School, 4400 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly. Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) and Sully District School Board representative Kathy Smith will be on hand, and budget staff from FCPS and the county Office of Management and Budget will make a presentation.

### Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry urgently needs donations of spaghetti sauce, fruit juice, cooking oil; pancake mix and syrup, sugar, flour and canned fruit and meat. (Also needed are toothpaste, deodorant, baby wipes and shampoo).

Bring all items to WFCM'S new food-pantry location, weekdays, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at 13888 Metrotech Drive, near Papa John's Pizza and Kumon Learning Center, in Chantilly's Sully Place Shopping Center.

Thrift-store needs include coats, fall and winter clothing, likenew houseware, plus Bibles in English and Spanish. The store is at 13939 Metrotech Drive. In addition, Thrift Store volunteers are needed for two- to four-hour shifts Fridays, between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Saturdays, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

# Long-Term Care Advocates

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities. Training is provided in March. Call 703-324-

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 8

# News



In costume for Alliance's "Young Frankenstein" are (from left) Lori Muhlstein (the housekeeper), Ian Wade, Cara Giambrone, Scott Olson, Annie Ermlick and Mike Cash

# His Name Is 'Fronkensteen'

The Alliance Theatre presents 'Young Frankenstein.'

> BY BONNIE HOBBS Centre View

rollicking, Mel Brooks comedy will burst upon the stage when The Alliance Theatre presents "Young Frankenstein." A musical version of the 1974 film, it takes direct dialogue from it and adds some 15 musical

Show times are Friday-Saturday, March 21-22, March 28-29 and April 4-5, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 30 and April 6, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18, adults; \$16, children 12 and under and senior citizens, at the door or via www.thealliancetheatre.org. The venue is Mountain View High School, 5775 Spindle Court in Centreville. It's PG-13 because of language and innuendoes.

"It's hysterical and we have an absolutely amazing cast," said Director Leslie Anne Ross. "They bring an incredible amount of experience and energy. This show takes all the classic gags from the film and puts them on the stage with singing and dancing.'

Freddie Frankenstein is a New York scientist and medical-school teacher. His grandfather Victor dies and Frankenstein inherits his estate in Transylvania. He goes there to deal with it and discovers his Annie Ermlick, Scott Olson, Cara grandfather's medical books. He then decides to cre- Giambrone and Mike Cash. ate a monster, and hilarity ensues.

The cast and crew of 35 have been rehearsing since early January. "The creative team from our production of 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' worked so well together that we have them again for this show," said Ross. "And that says a lot about Alliance that good people keep wanting to come



Ready to perform "Young Frankenstein" are (from left) Lori Muhlstein, Ian Wade,

back."

The actors are a mix of those new to the company, plus seasoned veterans. Ross is also the set designer, and Producer Maggie Swan is the lead costume de-

SEE MUSICAL, PAGE 8

# Chantilly High School Celebrates Diversity

# International Night is slated for March 19.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

hantilly High is holding its annual International Night next Wednesday, March 19, in the school theater. Celebrating Chantilly's diversity of cultures, the event includes both food and entertainment.

New this year is a "Taste of the World" dinner, from 5:30-6:45 p.m., in the cafeteria. The cuisine, (on sale from \$7.50-\$8.50), is being provided by Aguaymanto Peruvian Restaurant, The Similans Thai Eatery and The Village Café of Centreville.

In addition, students from the school's Spanish Honor Society, German Club and Hispanic Heritage Club will be selling desserts from different countries while wearing traditional clothing reflecting those countries.<sup>o</sup>

Then at 7 p.m., the students will perform a show featuring colorful fashions, songs and dances from a variety of countries worldwide. Tickets for the show are \$5 at the door (check or cash) or via www.chantillyhsdrama.com.

"This year promises to be bigger and better than ever," said show Director Shannon Khatcheressian. "We have really focused on bringing the evening to a whole new level of entertainment and getting more involvement from the school and the community."

"This year promises to be bigger and better than ever. We have really focused on bringing the evening to a whole new level of entertainment and getting more involvement from the school and the community."

— Show Director Shannon Khatcheressian

Stage Manager Chris Knarr says the international show will be fun and engaging for the entire family. "All of the performers are so talented this year and have really worked hard," said Knarr. "I am excited for the community to come and celebrate the diversity and culture we have at the school."

Some of the acts and performers include the following:

❖ Nepali Dance: Representing



Representing India are (from left) Pallavi Swarup and Priyanka Shah.

Nepal are seniors Roshita Upadhyaya and Pratibha Pandey, juniors Sadhana Regmi and Garima Dhakal, and sophomore Sandhya Dotel. Their dance fuses both modern and classical taste. The first song is a classic, typically played at marriage ceremonies. The other two are more modern, usu-

ally done at parties or other modern ceremonies.

❖ The Nobodies: Representing South Korea and the U.S. are senior Allyson Pak and junior Diane On. They're dancing to "No No No" by APink, "Can't Nobody" by 2NEI, "Radar" by Britney Spears and "Like Money" by WonderGirls.

The last song is WonderGirl's second single in America and features American rapper, Akon. These upbeat K-pop songs are huge sensations internationally and are beginning to be the center of Korean Culture and young life.

dia and Pakistan is senior Alesha Khan.

From a Bollywood movie, the words "Aaja Nachle" translate to "dance with me." In the song, Khan tells people to forget everyone else and just come dance with her.

❖ Memories of My Youth: Representing France will be senior Bi Lin. This sweet and simple song expresses the joys of childhood life and innocent hearts.

❖ All Around the World: Representing the U.S. are freshman Tora Crank and senior Nikki Sewell. Their performance is everything hip-hop, bringing back some moves

from the beginning of the genre to current moves used in popular music videos and concerts. Dances such as these began in New York City's South Bronx and Harlem.

❖ I Want Your Love (Wo Yao Ni De Ai): Representing China is sophomore Emily Zou. She's doing an upbeat, jazz piece from the 1950s, originally performed by Grace Chang.

❖ Picking Song: Representing China is freshman Yi Ran Tang. This classic Chinese folk song is about a young woman picking lotuses near a river.

Angela's Hip Hop Routine:
Representing the U.S. is
sophomore Angela Shakeri.
Hip-hop dance emphasizes
energy, creativity and fun.
She'll be dancing to the
moves of three, well-known,
California choreographers,
"Wildabeast" Adams, Matt
Steffanina and Ellen Kim.

\* Chantilly Bollywood Dance
Team: Representing India are juniors
Amy Kumar, Shay Kayamboo, Kanchan
Mittal and Shradda Adhikari; sophomores
Nilaani Kayamboo, Niki Vadav, Sakar
Budhathoki and Anjali Chauhan; and seniors Sid Bala, Fayzan Saleem, Param
Ektare, Prakhar Yadar, Shilp Ronvelwala
and Sonny Eltepu.

Their newly formed dance team has collectively choreographed an upbeat dance that represents their culture and is seen in movies and at parties. The song depicts a classic love story between a boy and girl.



Although wearing a poodle skirt here, Emily Zou will represent China on International Night.

❖ Twenty: Representing South Korea are seniors Hyein Lee, HyoJung Lee, Julia Park and Yurim Suh. They'll be performing the Korean pop hit, "Missing You," by a hugely popular girl band called 2NE1.

❖ Got 5: Representing South Korea are sophomores Olivia Ryu, Esther Mun, Sae Mi Rood, Ye Ji Kwon and Michelle Kim. K-pop is Korean music that's now reached a global market and features catchy melodies and fascinating dance moves.

The Jawani Dancers: Representing India are sophomores
 Priyanka Shah and Pallavi

Swarup. They'll perform two songs from the Bollywood hit, "Yeh Jawaani Hai." The first song depicts leaving everything to be with the love of one's life and loving everything about them. The second song is about the silliness and mischievousness of someone's heart.

Bringing the two together is the song "Kamli" from "Dhoom 3."

❖ Dynamic Love: Representing South Korea and the U.S. are seniors Jennifer Song and Paul Lee, junior Noah Lee and freshman Joel Lee. With Paul on the piano, Noah rapping and beatboxing, and Jennifer and Joel singing, Dynamic Love will perform a medley of Korean and American pop songs. They'll tell a story illustrating the different stages of love, from sad and unrequited to powerful and endless.

# Mr. Horejsi Goes to Richmond

In the fight for social justice with patience and persistence.

> By Victoria Ross CENTRE VIEW

very year, dozens of high-priced lobbyists descend on Virginia's state capitol. Some tantalize with promises of business investment and jobs; others represent important campaign contributors, while some say they can deliver votes from key constituencies.

They are often joined by Vienna resident John Horejsi, 71, who offers legislators, a simple, singular opportunity: to do the right thing for the socially disadvantaged.

Part Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, part Don Quixote tilting at windmills, Horejsi is regarded by many lawmakers as a man of conviction and persistence.

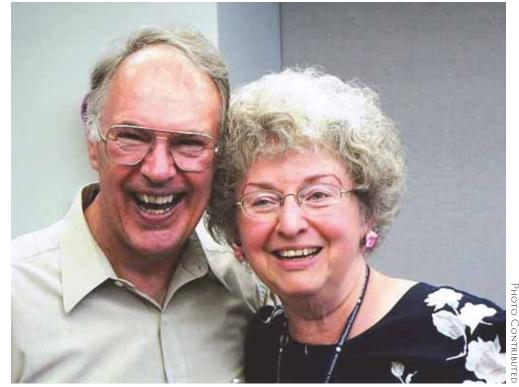
Those traits often give him the credibility other lobbyists lack, when his idealistic - and sometimes naïve — pleas for social justice collide with more powerful and persuasive agen-

And like Jefferson Smith — the character played by Jimmy Stewart in Frank Capra's timeless parable of Good vs. Evil - Horejsi believes that lawmakers have a moral imperative to care about the powerless and voiceless, the "least among us."

"There are times when he's a little bit like Robin Hood," said state Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31), a potent ally who has helped Horejsi advance legislation that helps the poor, the homeless, prisoners and children. "The difference is that John doesn't have a bow and arrow to convince the rich to help the poor."

"I guess that's true. I don't have a bow and arrow, and there are times I feel like Mr. Smith in Richmond," Horejsi said, smiling. Like Jefferson Smith, Horejsi said he wouldn't give "two cents for all the fancy rules if, behind them, they didn't have a little bit of plain, ordinary, everyday kindness, and a little looking out for the other fella too."

After speaking to a group about homelessness and hunger during a Catholic Charities conference in 1981, Horejsi found



John Horejsi, a Vienna resident and founder of SALT, with his wife

Richmond. He and a "ragtag band" of eight formed Social Action Linking Together, commonly known as "SALT."

What began with a few social justice pioneers is now one of the most active and influential nonpartisan advocacy groups from Northern Virginia with 1,200-plus active mem-

SALT's mission is simple: keep social justice issues front and center with Virginia lawmakers. But the group's legislative initiatives touch a staggeringly wide range of public welfare issues. Since the early 1980s, SALT has introduced bills benefitting the homeless, children, families, employees who face discrimination and other low-income Virginians who lack a secure safety net.

According to Robert Stewart, a founding member of SALT, members bring "the social, economic and justice teachings of their faith to bear on public policy and legislation."

Whether lawmakers support SALT's message or not, many respect the messenger, who has

others willing to fight for "the other fella" in a knack for being pushy without being rude and insolent.

> "He is a very nice man with a big heart. He states the way we all wish the world would be," said Del. David Albo (R-42), the most senior Republican from Northern Virginia in Richmond. "But the world is not always like the way we want it to be."

> "(His) work with the Homeless Intervention Program (HIP) and SALT alone has done more good for more people than most citizens are capable of imagining," said Del. Ken Plum (D-36), who has served in the Virginia legislature

> As an elected official, Plum said he hears regularly from constituents who sometimes lack the basic necessities in life.

> "I know what John's activism over the years has meant to Northern Virginians," Plum said.

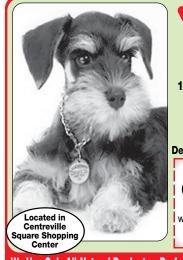
### A TRANSFORMING MOMENT

Like most movements that have a profound and lasting impact, SALT was years in the SEE FIGHTING, PAGE 12









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# **OPINION**

# Voting Against Virginia?

# Local proponents of expanding health coverage for poor people have a point about those in the General Assembly voting against it.

hen Delegates Scott Surovell, Charniele Herring and Rob Krupicka, along with Sen. Adam Ebbin got together to make the case for expanding Medicaid in Virginia, they brought slide presentations, EDITORIAL charts, spreadsheets, poll results and

It is a compelling argument that expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act is not only good for the health of working poor Virginians, it's good for the health of Virginia's economy. What's more, polls show that Virginians support expanding Medicaid, even Virgin-

ians who didn't vote for Gov. Terry McAuliffe. Expanding health care for poor individuals and families who so far have been cut out of

health care reform by the General Assembly's

refusal would create more than 30,000 new jobs, hundreds of jobs in every district in the state. It would bring in \$5 million in Federal dollars

every day, \$1.8 billion a year. It would save the General Fund \$285 million over the biannual budget, money that could be spent on education, mental health and other critical priori-

"Real people are suffering because of this,"

said Ebbin. "Real people would be helped." That includes working families and more than 12.000 veterans. Ebbin related the story of a taxi driver from his district who had a stroke in his 40s. With no insurance, Mount Vernon Inova Hospital covered his acute treatment and recovery. But without insurance, his access to rehabilitation was limited and as a result, his lifetime expectations are likely limited.

Saying no to \$5 million a day is, in fact, voting against Virginia.

Mary Kimm,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### BULLETIN BOARD

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

#### FREE TAX ASSISTANCE

Tax Help. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive will hold free tax help hosted by AARP Tax-Aide on Tuesdays from 4-8:30 p.m. and Wednesdays from 1-5 p.m. Free. For taxpayers with low- and middleincome and special attention to those age 60 and older. Bring photo ID, social security card and prior year's tax return.

### **MULCH SALES**

Centreville High School. Get premium double shredded hardwood mulch (3 cubic foot bags) at \$4.90/

bag for orders of 1-49 bags or \$4.55/ bag for orders of 50+ bags. Order online now through March 23 at midnight at www.cvhsmulch.org. To pay by check, download, print, and mail the attached order form available on the web site. Delivery is available to ZIP codes 20120, 20121, and 20124. Free delivery for orders of 10+ bags. Delivery of mulch will be March 28-30, or pick up mulch at CVHS Saturday, March 29. All proceeds benefit Project Graduation and senior scholarship programs and activities. Visit http:// football.cvhstouchdownapp.com/ mulch-spreading.html for mulch

spreading services.

Westfield High School. Sales have begun for the Westfield High School Mulch Sale. Get double shredded hardwood mulch delivered to help raise money for a safe and sober

graduation party for the Class of 2014, as well as other PTSA

A WHS athletic team will even spread your mulch if you want, at only \$2 per bag. Order by Tuesday, March

Free delivery or pick up is March 29. Visit http://ptsa.westfieldhs.org to learn more or submit an order.

#### MONDAYS/JAN. 13-MARCH 31

Conversational English. 7:30-9 p.m. at Chantilly Bible Church, 4390 Pleasant Valley Road, Chantilly. There are four levels: beginning, basic, intermediate, and advanced There is also a citizenship class. This is the eighth year church members have offered this free program. Childcare provided. Call 703-263-1188, ext. 15.

#### SATURDAY/MARCH 15

Consignment Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. Fairfax County Mothers of Multiples will host over 200 families who will be selling gently used clothing, shoes, toys, books and more for the whole family. Free. Cash and checks accepted. Visit www.fcmom.org for more

**Discussion.** 2-4 p.m. at Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. "Managing the Medical Mayhem-Going from Piles to Files," presented by Patient Consultant Marjorie Veiga at the NOVA Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Fibromyalgia, and Orthostatic Intolerance Support Group. Caregivers welcome. Free. Visit cfsnova.com or 703-968-9818.

### **MONDAY/MARCH 17**

or 703-425-2243.

**Assistance League of Northern** Virginia. 1 p.m. at Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. All are welcome to learn more about programs that feed, clothe, educate and nurture those in need. Contact Mary Spence at mespence@cox.net

Sober Ride. 4 p.m. Monday-4 a.m. Tuesday Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offers free cab rides (up to a \$30 value) to would-be drunk drivers in the metro-Washington, D.C. area, including Fairfax, Arlington and Montgomery counties and Alexandria. Call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI (8294). AT&T wireless customers can dial # WRAP for the same service. Visit

www.soberride.com for more. **Meeting.** 7 p.m. in the Cale Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road. The GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman's Club, will host a presentation on ""Intelligence in the Civil War" by Dr. David Robarge Chief Historian of the Central Intelligence Agency. Free. Visit www.wfcwc.org or e-mail westernfairfaxcountywc@gmail.com

### Centreville Garden Club Meeting.

4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. "Teachings of Medieval Herbalist Hildegard Von Bingen for Today's Gardens" by Karin Rindal. Learn centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com,

centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com or call 703-266-9233. Free.



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A Connection Newspaper







Mia Saunders Schools of Ballet and the Little Rocky Run HOA presented "Angelina Meets the Princess" on March 8. Mia Saunders' students danced the ballet featuring Lauren McGovern as Angelina Ballerina and Jemma Stratton as Miss Lilly. Many "petite" audience members watched the ballet, danced with the Mouselings, ate homemade cookies and refreshments, and were read a story by the Princess, played by Jean Marie Schierling. The audience then made tutus and got autographs of the dancers.



Cindy Del Rocco, CC Hair Salon owner, prepares to shave Country Club Manor's Steve Ratliff at a previous event.



Lisa Lanser will get her head shaved.

# Fighting Childhood Cancer

From Page 1

shaved. That event yielded more than \$104,000, and a tradition was born.

The effort caught on worldwide and, since 2005, St. Baldrick's has awarded more than \$127 million to support lifesaving research. It's now the largest private funder of childhood-cancer research grants. In 2013, St. Baldrick's awarded more than \$24.5 million to fund pediatric oncology researchers.

For more information, see www.stbaldricks.org.

However, the need is still great. More children die of cancer in the U.S. than from any other disease and, globally, a child is diagnosed every 3 minutes.

Many adult cancers can be diagnosed early; but in 80 percent of children, it's already spread to other areas of the body by the time it's diagnosed.

In Centreville's past eight St. Baldrick's Days, \$227,400 has been raised and 260 people were shaved. This year's goal is \$25,000 and, so far, 34 people have signed up to be shaved and \$16,690 has been raised.

And there's still time to join in. The link to the event page is: www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/149/2014.

"The hope is that, one of these days, we won't have to do this because they'll have found a cure," said Ratliff. "You never know when that next dollar or next event will be the one that makes the difference."

Westfield High freshman William Dzubak is one of the shavees, and it'll be his sixth time. He plans to raise \$1,000 and is halfway there.

"It feels really good to help children, and I've had loved ones in my life who've been diagnosed with cancer," he said. "The people involved with the event are all really nice, and it's good to know there are so many people around you who have a love for curing cancer."

Jack Elliott, a 2013 Westfield grad now at NOVA, participated two years ago and will be in this year's event, as well. "Usually, I do it for my best friend Taylor, who has neuroblastoma," he said. "But this year, I'm doing it for my grandmother who was just diagnosed with leukemia."

His favorite part of St. Baldrick's Day is telling people about why he's bald. "When they ask about my shaved head, I tell them not to pity people with cancer, but to treat them like regular people," said Elliott. "I also like telling other people to get involved; I just got five or six college kids to sign up, too. I raised \$900 last time, in a week, so I'm aiming for \$2,000 this time."

J.T. Weiland II, of Centreville's Stonehenge community, has raised money for several years for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, but he's participating in St. Baldrick's for the first time. To raise funds, he tells people they'll see a funny, bald photo of him on Facebook after the event. He figures "it'll entice people to donate more if I show my commitment to the cause."

His target is \$5,000 and, said Weiland, "It's a steep goal, but I'm hoping to make it. I like raising money for charity, especially for children. A friend of mine's daughter had cancer; so anything I can do to help any child, I will."

Also participating are husband and wife Wayne Malick and Lisa Lanser of Country Club Manor.

It'll be Malick's second time shaving, and he said the event's "neat because any research is good research, so I'm trying to help as much as I can." He's also looking forward to "seeing everybody together when we get shaved."

So far, Lanser is the only woman who's signed up to be shaved. "My husband did it two years ago, and I wanted to do it, too," she said. "It's a replenishable resource, so why not? And at least, I have a choice — a lot of people fighting cancer don't get that choice."

She also wanted to help because child-hood cancer is "so rampant." She'll also do it in memory of two women in her high-school graduating class — one in her 30s and one in her 40s — who both died of cancer. She hopes to raise \$1,000 and, so far, is at \$475.

Lanser's never had her head shaved before, but she's approaching it with a good attitude

"It'll be a whole, new experience," she said. "I wasn't even born bald."



# Traumatic brain injury. Not the opponent Connor was expecting.

Two years ago a simple game of catch ended with a trip to the emergency room. A baseball had struck Connor above the eyebrow and blood was pooling dangerously between his brain and skull. Watch how our experts responded at JustRightForChildren.com/Connor.



# 'A Feel-Good, Well-Cast and Hilarious Musical'

From Page 3

signer. The scenes take place in New York, Transylvania, a Bavarian town, a laboratory and a castle. The actors wear 1930s clothing, including dirndl dresses and lederhosen.

"Even if people aren't familiar with Mel Brooks, they'll still love this show," said Ross. "It's funny, risqué and has lots of double entendres and sight gags."

Portraying Frankenstein, the dean of anatomy at a world-renowned medical school, is Ian Wade. "He doesn't want to admit he's his grandfather's descendant, so he pronounces his name 'Fronkensteen," said Wade. "He's an incredibly brilliant surgeon and anatomy teacher who loves the brain more than anything else. In Transylvania, he meets Igor, who wants to work with him like their grandparents did and build a monster, but he resists."

Frankenstein has a fiancé, Elizabeth, in New York. But, said Wade, "She's cold and standoffish, and he's shy about physical love. However, he's egotistical and self-assured when it comes to science. I can do a lot with this role because he's energetic and passionate and I can express that. I also like his comical overestimation of himself; he's funny without meaning to be."

Wade's favorite number is "Puttin' on the Ritz," which he sings. "It's an Irving Berlin song with a catchy melody, and I like how the music flows," he said. "It's me and the monster dancing together onstage, and it's very funny."

He says the audience will enjoy the show's music and dancing. "It's well-choreographed and mirrors the movie, which was very popular," he said. "It's a funny show

and it'll be fun to do."

Scott Olson, who's directed Alliance shows, plays the monster. "He's basically a child who has great strength and is very big," said Olson. "For example, he's afraid of fire and feels emotions greatly. I wear boots with 4-inch soles that make me 6-foot-6-inches tall and a padded suit so I'll look heavier. I'm having a blast because I just have to act like a dork. I groan and scream a lot and do very physical comedy."

He said the audience will like the way the story progresses with the comedy. "There are a lot of morals woven through the show, and it's a whole, different ending than what they'd expect," said Olson. "It's also about how the monster accepts himself as human and learns about the world around him.

Portraying Inga, Freddie's lab assistant, is Annie Ermlick of Centreville's Centre Ridge community. "She's a country girl who's very affectionate, loving, approachable, giving and available — a free spirit," said Ermlick. "She's smart, has a true passion for science and is a good person who falls in love with Freddie."

Enjoying her part, Ermlick

said, "Inga's a smiley and positive character — and I get to have a German accent. She's a song-and-dance girl, so I get to do



Photo by Bonnie Hobbs/Centre View

Ermlick, Ian Wade, Scott Olson, Cara Giambrone and Mike Cash.

fun, upbeat numbers and even yodel. Inga has a lot of different facets to her, and I like finding her different layers. She's also got

The monster attacks: From left are Lori Muhlstein, Annie

lots of really great lines." An added bonus is that Ermlick's real-life husband, Dave, plays Victor, in their first show together.

"It's a feel-good musical with lots of catchy tunes, and Mel Brooks is hilarious," said Ermlick. "It's rare that someone can translate a film to the stage and have it not lose its integrity and be equally as strong, so it's extremely wellwritten. And it's really wellcast, from the leads to the ensemble."

One of those ensemble members is Little Rocky Run's Kathy Young. She sings and dances, plays a villager and also portrays the wife of Inspector Kemp (Little Rocky Run's John Totten), the police officer trying to find the monster. "It's a lot of fun, the music is fabulous and the actors are wonderful and so talented," she said.

She especially likes the number, "Please Don't Touch Me," sung by Cara Giambrone as Elizabeth. "She has a great voice and it's a hysterical song," said Young. Overall, she said, "The audience will like the story and the funny quips and jokes. They'll also love the relationship between Igor and

Freddie. The audience will see how much fun everyone's having and will have a good time, too."

### Roundups

From Page 3

5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan @fairfaxcounty.gov.

# **Drive Seniors** to Appointments

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions VolunteerSolutions email @fairfaxcounty.gov.

### Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Fairfax County needs Meals on Wheels drivers in Chantilly and group Meals on Wheels coordinators in both Chantilly and Fairfax. Contact Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 711, Volunteer Solutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/ olderadultservices/volunteersolutions.htm.

# 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.centreville immigrationforum.org. The organization is supported totally by grants and donations; it receives no government funding.

# **Give Caregivers** a Break

Fairfax County needs Respite Care volunteers throughout the county to give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-de-

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. Support and training is provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

# How to Hire **CLRC Workers**

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) serves businesses and homeowners needing help with just about any home remodeling or maintenance project. And local residents who'd like to hire a worker from the CLRC may do so easily. Either call 703-543-6272 www.centrevilleLRC.org and click on the "How to Hire" link. Tell what kind of work is required, how many workers are needed

The CLRC will match the needs to its registered workers' skills and set up the job. The price for work will be negotiated. After the job is completed, employers are encouraged to provide the CLRC with feedback to ensure that the work was done well and to their satisfaction and to make sure the workers are fairly paid.

# Fundraiser To **Benefit Wounded** Warrior Project

Southwestern Youth Association (SYA) and Chantilly Youth Association (CYA) are joining forces to host the first "LAX for a Cause: Purple vs. Red" marathon. The eighthour lacrosse game will be held March 15, at Centreville High School. The goal is to raise \$10,000 to directly benefit the nation's wounded warriors through the Wounded Warrior Project.

The marathon will feature more than 20 teams — with players ages five and up — who will play at a different time slots throughout the day.

Funds will be raised through player sponsorships from individuals and businesses prior to the marathon, as well as through concessions and t-shirt sales on the day of

SYA Lacrosse and CYA Lacrosse are local, volunteer, non-profit youth sports organizations that serve the youth of western Fairfax. Proceeds beyond the \$10,000 for the prove player safety through the purchase of updated equipment and gear. Funds raised also will help keep the sport accessible to every household in western Fairfax by keeping registration costs low, as well as help subsidize the organizations' free off-season training programs and clinics.

# A Debt to Society Local governments use debt as a tool to build for the future

# as a tool to build for the future.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE Centre View

ack in the 1920s, Harry Byrd became governor of Virginia on what he called a "pay-asyou-go" platform. Byrd had an almost pathological hatred of debt, fueled in part by mounting debt problems of his family's business. Now, almost a century later, leaders across Northern Virginia have a very different view about the role debt should play in balancing the books. Local governments across Virginia have taken on more than \$8 billion in debt.

"Some jurisdictions are having to be more careful with their debt load as they are small and have a weak real estate base," said Stephen Fuller, di-

"Some jurisdictions are having to be more careful with their debt load as they are small and have a weak real estate base."

> — Stephen Fuller, director of the Center for Regional Analysis at **George Mason University**

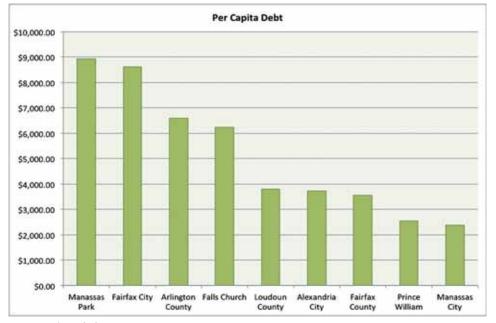
rector of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. "Others see that having high quality infrastructure is the best way to support a growing economy that will enable them to pay off the debt."

Fairfax County has the largest debt by far, almost \$4 billion. But Fairfax also has more people than any of the other jurisdictions. So the county's per capita debt burden is actually lower than Arlington or Alexandria. Financial reports show that local governments across Northern Virginia have been taking on increasing debt in recent years, and some believe that trend might accelerate in the near future. Because Congress is considering eliminating some exemptions for income tax on municipal bonds, local governments might consider taking on larger amounts of debt in the near future to take advantage of lower in-

"There are some clouds gathering on the horizon that will impose significantly greater increases in costs for borrowing to issue bonds to finance long-term improvements," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Leadership. "Local governments are asking themselves if they want to risk deferring borrowing knowing it might carry a much higher interest rate."

**GOVERNMENT LEADERS** say the old Byrd philosophy of "pay-as-you-

locality	education debt	transportation debt	other general government debt	enterprise activities debt	total debt	per capita debt
Fairfax County	\$1,549,052,341	\$396,425,978	\$1,489,446,960	\$554,411,229	\$3,989,336,508	\$3,564.93
Arlington County	\$415,885,635	\$112,840,854	\$455,326,656	\$428,655,606	\$1,412,708,751	\$6,589.96
Loudoun County	\$890,389,301	\$0	\$360,213,903	\$2,060,377	\$1,252,663,581	\$3,803.35
Prince William	\$597,558,000	\$201,316,000	\$260,383,000	\$0	\$1,059,257,000	\$2,552.72
Alexandria City	\$152,270,716	\$17,340,064	\$365,761,922	\$27,144,311	\$535,372,702	\$3,731.76
Fairfax City	\$88,893,350	\$0	\$78,185,450	\$29,998,814	\$197,077,614	\$8,618.81
Manassas Park	\$58,228,329	\$0	\$59,670,144	\$14,776,604	\$132,675,077	\$8,930.79
Manassas	\$39,298,653	\$7,690,477	\$15,529,780	\$30,376,597	\$92,995,507	\$2,380.84
Falls Church	\$4,869,733	\$0	\$39,573,050	\$33,821,309	\$78,264,092	\$6,227.75



Per capita debt.

go" is a relic of the past in much the same way as the policy of racial segregation associated with the Byrd machine. Although government officials acknowledge that local governments are taken on increasing amounts of debt, they argue that it's all relative to the amount of money the jurisdiction raises each year and how much value is tied to land in the jurisdiction.

"All the Northern Virginia jurisdictions are looking at the same metrics — they can't exceed a three percent limit of outstanding debt as a percent of assessed value, and annual debt payments can't exceed 10 percent of their total budget," said Joe LaHait, debt coordinator for Fairfax County. "Those two metrics are strongly abided by, and they are constantly monitored by the bond rating agencies who ultimately provide the ratings to every single jurisdiction in the

Arlington County has one of the highest per capita debt loads in Northern Virginia, an indication that county leaders are willing to use its bonding authority to borrow money to construct everything from schools to a new aquatics center at Long Bridge Park. Supporters of the county's efforts say the bond rating agencies approve because Arlington has an Aaa/AAA/AAA credit rating. Arlington is one of the few jurisdictions in America to have a triple-triple A credit rating, a distinction it's held for 13 consecu-

"You could make a reasonable argument, I think, that we have got a number of different programs doing the same things sometimes and you could probably streamline some things in Arlington. There's no doubt about that," said Robert Hynes, a member of the Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission. "But I also do not think there's a

lot of great waste in the money they spend. They spend it well I think."

ONE POTENTIAL drawback for local governments deciding to take on more debt is the risk of violating self-imposed debt limits. In Alexandria, for example, city leaders are trying to find a way to finance a new Metro station at Potomac Yard. Last year, members of the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee sounded the alarm that the city was actually on track to violate its debt ceiling even without calculating the massive borrowing that would be needed to finance the Metro station, which could be anywhere from \$200 million to \$400 million. That means borrowing money to build the station would violate the city's debt policy at least temporarily.

"The idea was, I think, to make an exception that would be paid down and then go back to the guidelines — in other words break the guidelines," said James Bulter, former chairman of the Alexandria Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee. "But I believe that they should carefully examine their options because the debt policy has a real meaning, and it should be followed if at all possible."

Local governments are not alone in trying to borrow money to balance the books. Last year, the commonwealth of Virginia's total debt increased to \$37.3 billion, an increase of \$1.1 billion, or 3.2 percent. According to a study by the nonpartisan State Budget Solutions, that means each private sector worker in Virginia has a state debt burden of more than \$21,000. And the federal government problems with debt are well known.

"My own personal debt concerns me, so certainly the debt of my county does as well," said Ed Batten, a member of the Lee District Budget Advisory Group. "But when I look at what the demands are in this county, the human demands as well as what's going on in the economy, I think that what we are doing is the best we can do given the circumstances."

# Students Named Global Finalists

# Two TJHSST teams selected for 2014 Spirit of Innovation Challenge competition.

wo teams from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology have been chosen as global finalists to compete in the 2014 Spirit of Innovation Challenge competition.

In the Health & Nutrition category are TJ Juniors Ramya Radhakrishnan of Herndon, Heather Lukas of Oakton and Pooja Chandrashekar of Potomac Falls with their Project: Sensitive Solutions – OmniSENSE.

In the Cybertechnology & Security category are TJ Sophomores Matthew Sun of Great Falls, Valerie Chen of Chantilly, Jasper Treakle of Fairfax and Raghav Ramraj of Centreville with their Project: TXT U L8R AutoSense.

The Conrad Foundation announced the names of 20 high school and middle school teams from the U.S., China, India, Israel and Sri Lanka to compete in the final round of the 2013-2014 Spirit of Innovation Challenge competition.

These young entrepreneurs — selected from 133 innovative semifinalist teams from around the world — will attend the 2014 Innovation Summit in Houston and compete for \$45,000 in prizes. There were a total of 385 team entries from around the

Presented by Lockheed Martin, the competition challenges teams of students (ages 13 to 18) to combine innovation and entrepreneurship, along with STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), to create commercially-viable products to benefit humanity and support global sustainability. Finalist teams will present their product concepts April 7-8 before a panel of industry experts, leading entrepreneurs, government officials and world-renowned scientists at NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston. Products will be evaluated for technical content and marketplace viability. Presentations will be available for public viewing via live stream.

The 2013-2014 Spirit of Innovation Challenge is made possible by Lockheed Martin, PepsiCo, Battelle, Air Liquide, Mondelêz International and other supporting spon-

# Entertainment

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com.

#### **ONGOING**

Art Exhibit. See "Songs of the Shore," archival inkjet prints by Chantilly resident Peter Toth in the Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, of the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Runs through March 16. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html.

Art Exhibit. Paintings by Centreville artist Rosemary Gallick will be on display Feb. 19-March 28 at the Atrium gallery at the Woodbridge Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 15200 Neabsco Mills Road. "Diversity in Music: Crossing Gender and Race" honors the talents of many artists. Free. Email rgallick@nvcc.edu, visit nvcc.edu or 703-878-5797.

#### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 14-29

Theater Performance. The

Providence Players present John Guare's "The House of Blue Leaves,"

about Bronx Zoo attendant Artie Shaughnessy, a failed songwriter with an overly medicated wife, an impatient mistress, an AWOL son, and beer-drinking nuns on the day the Pope visits New York City in 1965. Contains mature themes and some strong language. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. At The James Lee Community Center Theater 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. \$17-\$20. Tickets at the door, at www.providenceplayers.org, by email at providenceplayerstickets@cox.net, or by phone at 703-425-6782.

#### SATURDAY/MARCH 15

Small Wonders. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy rhymes, songs and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883. Bouncin' Babies. 11:30 a.m. at

ouncin' Babies. 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883. **Lego Mania.** 12:30 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children in grades K-2 can build. Free. Registration required, 703-502-

St. Patrick's Day/St. Joseph's Day Party. 6-9:30 p.m. at St. Veronica's Church parish hall, 3460 Centreville Road, Chantilly. Family-friendly event includes food, drink, singalongs, Irish dancing and more. \$7/adult; \$5/child. Drinks extra. Visit www.stveronica.net or 703-773-

### LAX for a Cause: Purple vs Red.

The eight-hour lacrosse game will be at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton, and will feature more than 20 teams. Funds will be raised for the Wounded Warrior Project. Email vicecommissioner@syalacrosse.org.

#### SUNDAY/MARCH 16

**Train Show.** 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will have a display and N gauge trains running. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or 703-425-9225.

#### **MONDAY/MARCH 17**

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.

Hidden Pond. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 6-12 can discover and explore local nature. Live birds, reptiles or amphibians may be present. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

#### **TUESDAY/MARCH 18**

**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. 1:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children age 3-5 can enjoy songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Ravenous Readers. 7 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Students in grades 7-12 can discuss books. Drop-ins welcome. Free. 703-830-2223.

Pajama Storytime. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 1-6 can wear pjs and bring a cuddly friend and blanket and enjoy bedtime stories. Free. Registration required, 703-502-

#### WEDNESDAY/MARCH 19

Read, Build, Play. Duplo Story

**Time.** 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 3-5 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

Bouncin' Babies. 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

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

**Creating Comics.** 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Teens age 12-18 can learn how to make comics with Matt Dembicki. This is a hands-on approach. Free. 703-502-3883.

### THURSDAY/MARCH 20

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

Starlight Storytime. 7 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children age 4-8 can wear pajamas and bring a favorite stuffed friend and enjoy stories and fun. Free. Registration required. 703-830-2223. The End (Or is It?) Book Club. 7:30

he End (Or is It?) Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Girls and boys in grades 5-6 can discuss a book. Call for title. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

### FRIDAY/MARCH 21

**Bouncin' Babies.** 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Babies up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes, songs, stories and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy rhymes, songs and more. Free. Registration required. 703-502-

### SUNDAY/MARCH 23

Movie Premiere. Jason Brown, a 1996 Centreville High School graduate, will premiere his film "Falcon Song" at 2 p.m. at the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema in Ashburn. Visit www.falconsong.com for information or drafthouse.com/movies/falconsong/northern virginia for tickets. www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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# Dinner Theater: 'Death at The Devereux'

# Performances are March 20-22 at Clifton Town Meeting Hall.

By Janelle Germanos Centre View

he cast of "Death at The Devereux," the spring performance of the Clifton Dinner Theater, will take audience members back to the 1920s in this musical-murder-mystery-comedy.

The musical, written by director Charlotte Yakovleff of Centreville, follows the grand re-opening of "The Devereux," Bobby Lyle's

This is Yakovleff's fourth year directing the Clifton Dinner Theater.

"A lot of people came back this year, and we have a lot of new faces," Yakovleff said. "It's always nice to see what the actors have to bring to the table, as far as developing their character."

Yakovleff says this year is different, as she wrote the play and a musical is being done for the first time.

"A friend and I were brainstorming, and she said it was a cool concept. She asked if I would write it, and I said yes, not really thinking of how hard it was going to be, because it's a period piece," she said.

Yakovleff said learning the vernacular from the 1920s was somewhat of a challenge.

"I had to go and research. I spent a lot of hours watching period movies, like Dick Tracy and Chicago, and the Untouchables, just to get a feel for how those characters carried themselves, and what they said," she

Lynne Strang, a Clifton resident who plays Mabelline Lyle in the play, is in her third year of performing for Clifton Dinner The-

"It's a great group and lots of fun. There's a lot of community spirit," Strang said.

According to Dianne Janczewski, the show's producer, the dinner theater has been a sellout every year.

"Most of the cast members are from the town. We first advertise within the town,"



Laura Walsh, Helen Rusnak, Terri Marin, and Sheldon Hofferman during a rehearsal of "Death at The Devereux."

Janczewski said.

This year is also the first year the show is done in a lounge format. Dinner will be served by children from Clifton.

Matt Brooks, who plays Bobby Lyle, has lived in Clifton since 1998 but is participating in the dinner theater for the first time this year. "It's a lot of fun," Brooks said. "I enjoy my character- he has the role of being a manager and a gangster-style person."

The Clifton Dinner Theater is an annual

event that raises money for Clifton. Cast members include several residents of Clifton, as well as Centreville and Fairfax.

Tickets are \$35 for the Thursday, March 20 performance and \$40 for March 21 and 22, and are available at several locations in Clifton, including All that Glitters, The Clifton Wine and Tasting Shoppe, Clifton Brite Cleaners and Hydrangea of Clifton. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the show begins

### SCHOOL NOTES

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

Meredith Rigby, of Clifton, was named to Susquehanna University's dean's list for the fall 2013 semester. Rigby, a senior communications major with an emphasis in speech communications, is a 2010 graduate of Centreville High School. She is the daughter of Susan and Peter Rigby.

Reagan Cerisano, a junior marketing management major, was named to the dean's list with distinction at Grove City College. Reagan is a 2011 graduate of homeschooled and is the daughter of John and Anette Cerisano, from Centreville.

The following students were named to the dean's list at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: Kirsten Cardinal, of Centreville, chemical engineering and Jonathan Haveles, of Centreville, mechanical engineering.

The following local residents made the dean's list for fall 2013 semester at Rochester Institute of

Technology: Christina Brooks of Centreville, is a fourth-year student in the new media design and imaging program in RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences and Christopher Carey of Centreville, is a fifth-year student in the software engineering program in RIT's B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences.

Meredith Rigby, of Clifton, was among 76 Susquehanna University students named to the 2014 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." Rigby is a senior communications major at Susquehanna. A 2010 graduate of Centreville High School, she is the daughter of Susan and Peter Rigby.

Jessica Ayer traveled to Costa Rica as part of Franklin College's winter semester study abroad program. She is the daughter of Brett and Cynthia Ayer of Centreville.

Megan McKenzie Elliott and Megan Riedel, both of Centreville, were named to the dean's list at Miami University.

Hayley Davis and Grace Martin, both of Centreville, earned honor roll distinction for the fall 2013 semester at the University of Kansas. Davis is the daughter of Laura and David Arnold, of Centreville. Martin is the daughter of Hugh Martin, of Centreville.

Taylor McHugh was recognized by the Virginia Independent Conference, the Blue Ridge Conference, and the Virginia Independent School Athletic Association for his performance during the winter 2013-14 season. McHugh, in grade 11 at Virginia Episcopal School, received Second Team Honors in VIC Division 1 Boys Basketball.

Maretta Fan was named to the Dean's List of Emory College, the undergraduate, liberal arts college of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., for the 2013 fall semester.

Shelby Romine has been named to the dean's list at Bucknell University for the fall semester of the 2013-14 academic year. Romine, daughter of Richard and Tracy Romine, is a graduate of Westfield High School.

### The Cast

Cast of the 2014 Clifton Dinner Theater, "Death at the Devereux:"

Mabelline Lyle - Lynne Strang, Bobby Lyle - Matt Brooks,

Charlie - Phil Williams,

Maggie - Laura Walsh,

Madam Twotoes - Terri Grimes-

Vinney "No-Nuts" McGee - Charles Hoffman.

Bonnie Lyle - Teri Pierce, Johnny Bostello - Jim Boykin,

Dixie - Stephanie Lawrence, Veronica McGee - Helen Rusnak, Lucinda Bell - Jolanda Janczewski, Alexander Bell - Max Snyder, Gilbert Bell - Daniel Serpaty, Ruby the Cocktail Waitress - Teri Meyer,

Producer - Dianne Janczewski, Director - Charlt Yakovleff, Pianist - Marie Koneczny, Sound - Matthew Rusnak, Lighting/Sound - Gary Aspesi

# Happy St. Catrick's Day!

You've heard about St. Patrick who drove the snakes out of Ireland, but did you know about St. Catrick, who saved the kittens out of shelters? Now's your chance to find out! Join Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation for a St. Catrick's Day celebration, and learn how you can help save lives.

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- 烯 Adoption Center Coordinators will provide information about volunteering at PetSmart centers.
- Our Transport Coordinator will explain how you can help with little more than some time and a car.



Join us at Lost Dog Café-McLean Saturday, March 15, 3-7 p.m. Enjoy snacks & soft drinks while learning how you can help. 1690 Anderson Road, McLean (near Safeway) www.lostdogandcatrescue.org





# Fighting for Social Justice with Patience and Persistence

From Page 5

making.

For Horejsi, the seeds of compassion were planted early.

He was born and raised in the tiny farming town of Bechyn, Minn. — which listed its population as 30 in the 1920 U.S. Census. Shortly after World War II, Horejsi's mother died and his father was unable to care for him.

He was taken in by impoverished relatives, who treated him, he said, with kindness.

"When my mother died everything changed. Since my father was unable to care for me, I was placed into the state social services Kinship Care system," Horejsi said.

"Who knows what would have happened to me or where I would be today without their help and the support of social services. Being aware of my personal situation sensitized me and always made me feel like I should do something," he said.

Horejsi said another powerful event in his life was meeting a 16-year-old homeless teen in Alexandria in 1985. When the girl's mother was laid off from her job, they became homeless, living out of their car for a short time before moving to a homeless shelter for six months.

"After meeting her, I felt strongly that we should help the homeless. That's when we started our successful advocacy for the Homeless Intervention Program (HIP) to prevent homelessness," Horejsi said.

Thanks to programs and services available to the homeless, the young woman went on to study with the Virginia Ballet School and Company and earned a law degree from Catholic University in 1993.

Horejsi said he will never forget her. "In fact, many people might know her name today, because they voted her into office," Horejsi said.

The homeless teen Horejsi met was Charneille Herring, who has served as a Democrat in the Virginia House of Delegates, representing the 46th district, since 2009. In December 2012, she became the first African-American elected chair of the Democratic Party of Richmond.

"These kinds of life events cause you to think, 'What are you doing for others?"

#### A MAJOR VICTORY; A STUNNING DEFEAT

The political culture in Richmond is frequently compared to a Greek tragedy — most of the plot twists and turns happen off stage. Those who don't know how the system works, or who don't know how to work the system, soon get frustrated and give up

"Richmond is not constituent-friendly," Horejsi said. "It is very frustrating and disappointing that many of our bills pass the Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support and then die in some sub-committee."

The political winds are constantly shifting, and Horejsi said he and other SALT advocates must constantly monitor bills during session, so they have an opportunity to educate legislators and influence



The SALT "gang" on one of many trips to Richmond. Bob Stewart of Chantilly, John Horejsi, David Balducchi of Arlington, a national work sharing expert, and Maddie Lupo gather with Sen. George Barker (D-39) (center), who worked with Sen. Bill Stanley and various coalitions and agencies to push work sharing legislation through this year.

their votes

"This year started off as an amazing surprise," Horejsi said. "During our first visit we met with 11 legislators — not just their aides. This was a record."

"There seemed to be a new era of good feeling and cooperation. Almost all our bills began to pass quickly through assigned subcommittees and then full committees unanimously with lightning speed," Horejsi said.

But during "crossover" — when bills pass from the Senate to the House — several SALT-backed bills stalled, getting caught in the larger political crossfire that goes hand-in-hand with crossover.

Take Medicaid expansion, for example, which was SALT's number one priority this session

On Saturday, March 8, the General Assembly adjourned its 60-day session, yet lawmakers left Richmond without passing Democratic Gov. Terry McAuliffe's number one priority — a \$96 billion budget that included expanding Medicaid eligibility for roughly 400,000 Virginia residents.

Republicans in the GOP-controlled House opposed the expansion, saying the rapidly-growing program still needs reform, and the debate should be separated from the budget.

A key part of the new federal health care law, the issue deadlocked the GOP-controlled House and the Democratically-controlled Senate. In response, McAuliffe immediately called for a special session to begin in two weeks.

SALT members argue that turning down roughly \$5 million a day in federal funds associated with expanded Medicaid eligi-

bility could have severe consequences, such as shutting down many hospitals in rural communities.

SALT also lost its battle to "Ban the Box." If passed, Virginia would have joined the growing number of states that give job applicants with a prior criminal conviction a "fair chance" at getting a job.

The legislation, filed by Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45), would have removed the box on applications for state jobs that asks people if they have been convicted of a felony.

"This is not about hiding an individual's past," Krupicka said in a letter to constituents, noting that employers can still ask about criminal history during the interview process.

"All this bill aims to do is help ex-offenders reach more job interviews that hopefully will lead to more jobs ... In Alexandria alone, 13 people are released from jail every day.

In trying to re-integrate into society, finding employment can be one of the most useful factors in reducing recidivism rates," Krupicka said.

Horejsi called Ban the Box an "essential" component of any meaningful program designed to help former prisoners reenter society, and said he was extremely disheartened when it failed — at the 11th hour — in the House Courts of Justice Committee, chaired by Del. Dave Albo.

"I wish the world was like John (envisions it), but taxpayers are maxed out, and there are violent people among us that the only place safe is to have them in prison," Albo said in an interview Sunday.

"We have limited money and there are

bad guys out there that want to hurt people. John's positions are always what we could do with unlimited money and assume that all criminals could be rehabilitated."

In the plus column, SALT was successful in moving work share legislation through the General Assembly and on to the governor's desk for his signature.

State Senators George Barker (D-39) and Bill Stanley (R-20) were instrumental in getting the legislation passed this year, after it failed last year. Horejsi said both senators, and SALT advocates, worked closely with the Virginia Employment Commission to ensure that the bill works with current VEC programs.

The program lessens the impact of layoffs by allowing employers to reduce the hours of their existing work force instead of letting employees go. A kind of unemployment insurance in reverse, the program comes with free federal dollars to keep workers in their jobs instead of supporting them after they're laid off.

"Having been through the recession and recent slight increases in Virginia unemployment rates as federal sequestration takes effect, it is important that we give Virginia businesses all the tools we can to help them and their employees get through challenging times. This bill does that," Barker said in an interview at the beginning of this year's legislative session.

Horejsi admits there are times when he gets discouraged by "politics as usual."

"What keeps me going are notes like this, from a parishioner of St. Anne's," Horejsi said:

"John, I just want you to know I appreciate all of these emails you send. I was at St. Ann's community weekend today. I saw your sign-up sheet. I feel bad that with all that is going on with my life right now, that i haven't had time to help, but please keep the emails coming. I enjoy your posts. Every once in a while it is a helpful reminder that there are others who care."

"I truly believe there is always hope," Horejsi said, after the General Assembly session ended. "For example, Sen. Jill Vogel, the only Republican senator to vote for our Ban the Box bill during a lively debate, made a beautiful and inspiring speech about some of her most loyal employees being those with former convictions."

Horejsi is already gearing up for next year's session, studying legislation and organizing constituent education meetings.

Despite the sometimes overwhelming odds against social justice bills, Horejsi said he refuses to let social justice issues become submerged in the tide of legislation that benefits only wealthy corporations and constituents

"Legislators have told us that what they really respect about us is that we're not asking anything for ourselves," Horejsi said. "We're asking on behalf of those who are the most desperate and in the greatest need ... That's why SALT will remain intimately involved in the process."

For more information on SALT, and how to get involved, visit the SALT website at www.S-A-L-T.org.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

# **SPORTS**

# Perfect Night for Perfect Team

he 2013 6A State Football Champion Football Team, the Centreville Wildcats received their championship rings Monday night, March 10, at Velocity 5 Restaurant in Centreville. The evening included a complimentary dinner buffet provided by Velocity 5 for the entire football team, staff and coaches. Rick "Doc" Walker, former Redskin and local media celebrity, gave a speech encouraging the Wildcat team to be champions on and off the field, in the classroom and in the community.

The Wildcats completed a perfect 15-0 season, its best in school history, with a 35-6 win over Oscar Smith in the championship game in Charlottesville, Va., back in December. They finished ranked No. 1 in Virginia, the D.C. metro and finished ranked 14th in the nation by USA Today.

Coach Chris Haddock presented the team the rings after dinner. In his four years at Centreville, Haddock has posted a 45-9 record and his Wildcats were the state runner up in 2011. With 17 starting players returning, the Wildcats are looking for another run at the title next season. They open the 2014 season against Washington, D.C. football power, Gonzaga, on Sept. 5 in Centreville.



Centreville Football Head Coach with Rick "Doc" Walker, former Redskin.



## Champions

The SYA Boys Grade 11-12 basketball team, coached by AJ Bakhtari, gather after their tournament championship win. The team lost their first two games of the season then went on to win all of their remaining regular season games and all playoff games. Senior Guard Zach Thurston and Senior Center Danny Meador began their careers together playing on the same team in first grade and were able to end their SYA Basketball careers together as seniors (12th graders).

### MILITARY NOTES

 $\label{lem:eq:entropy} Email \qquad announcements \qquad to \\ centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. \ Photos\ are\ welcome.$ 

Air Force Airman  ${\bf Daniel~E.~Portillaromero}$  graduated

from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. Portillaromero is the son of Mario Portilla and Marlen Romero-Portilla of Centreville. He is a 2012 graduate of Centreville High School.



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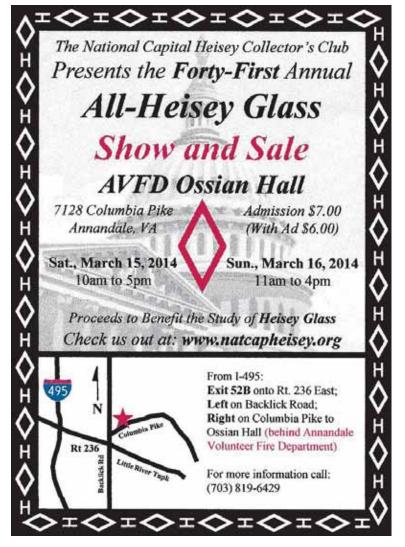


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**By KENNETH B. LOURIE** 

Originally, this column was to be a discussion about the communication process between my doctor and this patient. Specifically, the time lag between when tests are performed/ completed and when those results are communicated to the doctor who in turn – per this patient's request, e-mails them to me. In the olden days, results were most likely offered up in person; in the post-olden days, more likely a phone call was made; presently, at least in my experience, results most likely will be e-mailed. I imagine an enduring problem for the patient – during all three "days," has been the time waiting for test results and hearing about them from your doctor. Excruciating is one of the most accurate characterizations of that delay, combined with an unhealthy dose of helplessness. Eventually, if you live long enough, you sort of become accustomed to the process and learn to roll with the punches, both figuratively and literally. Nevertheless, the patience and experience you learn can't totally stop the rampant speculation that keeps you up at night and sleepy during the day.

All of this being said and mostly internalized and assimilated into my terminal-patient brain, unfortunately doesn't prevent the process from negatively impacting your waiting-for-testresults-from-your-doctor compartment where you've (at least where I have) attempted to compartmentalize this process so that it doesn't adversely impact every other psychological compartment I've previously constructed. But I may have learned my lesson this time. The reason being that even though I received an e-mail from my oncologist two days after my CT Scan was completed, it turned out to be sort of an incomplete/inaccurate assessment: "Some better, some worse. I'll explain more on Friday,' (the date of my next infusion and coincidentally, the date of our next face-to-face appointment, a week later). It seems the Radiologist had compared this recent scan to one I had taken nine months ago and consequently, made some incorrect assumptions - but of course, we didn't know any of this until we saw my doctor; as such, we stressed about the content of the e-

Friday arrived and we went to The Infusion Center where I was hooked up as usual. Within a few minutes, my oncologist walked over to my Barcalounger. Dina immediately whispers: "He's not smiling." (Reading the facial expressions and body language of your doctor has no doubt become the bane of every patient's existence, especially when dealing with oncologists.) Soon enough though, after my doctor began talking (and explaining the radiologist's mistake), it became clear that my results were quite the opposite of what the original e-mail had indicated. It was not "some better, some worse," it was Tony-the-Tiger GREAT! news with which I could most definitely live – and for many years, too, he said. To say were pleasantly surprised might be the understatement of the universe. To say we were over the moon might be a bit more realistic, hyperbole notwithstand-

So what did I learn? What did my oncologist advise me going forward? To not interpret the delay in the communication process as indicating anything other than the nature of the process; nothing to be taken personally or interpreted in any meaningful way. And even though the news we received was extremely encouraging this time, the process, such as it is, likely ontinues, and anticipating that news – good, bad or indifferent – is to be delivered in any other way is unrealistic. As difficult as it is for this patient to be patient, in some cases, as I learned this past week, your patience can sometimes be rewarded.

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

# Business

# Van Metre Homes Receive National Awards

Van Metre Homes, based in Fairfax, are the recipients of a number of National Sales and Marketing Awards for 2014. Hosted by the National Sales and Marketing Council, the awards spotlight achievement of superior sales and marketing by individual professionals, homebuilders and associates, as well as sales and marketing councils.

Having earned eight awards total, Van Metre Homes succeeded as Silver Award Winners in Rookie of the Year, Sales Person of the Year, Sales Manager of the Year, Best Direct Mail Program, Best Print Campaign, Best Overall Advertising Campaign, Best Computer Sales Tool, and Best Design Cen-

There were three individuals who were recognized for outstanding achievement: Omayra Dehring for Rookie of the Year, Ernie Kyger for Sales Person of the Year, and Danny Faulkner for Sales Manager of the Year. Van Metre Homes also won for Best Direct Mail Program with their Fashion Week. Their Fresh Campaign won two awards for Best Print Campaign and for Best Overall Advertising Campaign. Van Metre Homes' Hologram won for Best Computer Sales Tool and the Van Metre Design Studio won for Best Design Center.

Van Metre Companies is a private multidisciplinary real estate developer that has constructed more than 16,000 houses and several thousand apartments, as well as office buildings and shopping centers in Northern Virginia.

### **BUSINESS NOTES**

announcements centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos wel-

Architectural Ceramics, Inc. is opening a new showroom and warehouse in Chantilly. Joining five other locations in the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area: Baltimore, Bethesda, Rockville, Alexandria and Falls Church, ACI Chantilly features a 11,000-square-foot showroom and warehouse offering a wide assortment of ceramic, porcelain, natural stone, slate, marble, limestone, glass and metal tiles. Contact Neal Whys at 703-348-7107 or visit the Architectural Ceramics Chantilly showroom at 14801 Willard Road, Suite 400, Chantilly. Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday from 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sal Migliorie, president, Augustine Homes, has been elected the HomeAid Northern Virginia 2014 president. Migliorie brings more than 30 years of experience in the residential building industry to HomeAid.

**CORT**, a provider of transition services, is continuing its partnership with the Folds of Honor Foundation in 2014 by providing scholarships and serving as the exclusive furniture provider for the foundation. Founded by Major Dan Rooney in 2007, Folds of Honor provides educational scholarships to dependents and spouses of fallen or severely injured soldiers across the United States.

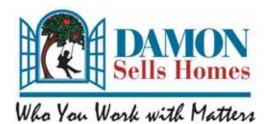
Last year, CORT provided both monetary and product support to Folds of Honor Foundation. Through various campaigns, the company donated more than \$70,000 through educational scholarships and by furnishing the first Honor Cottage, a retreat house for military families located on the shore of Skiatook Lake in Sperry, Okla. CORT donated furniture, accessories and housewares to complete the cottage.

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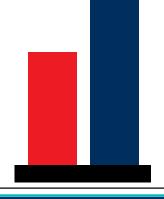
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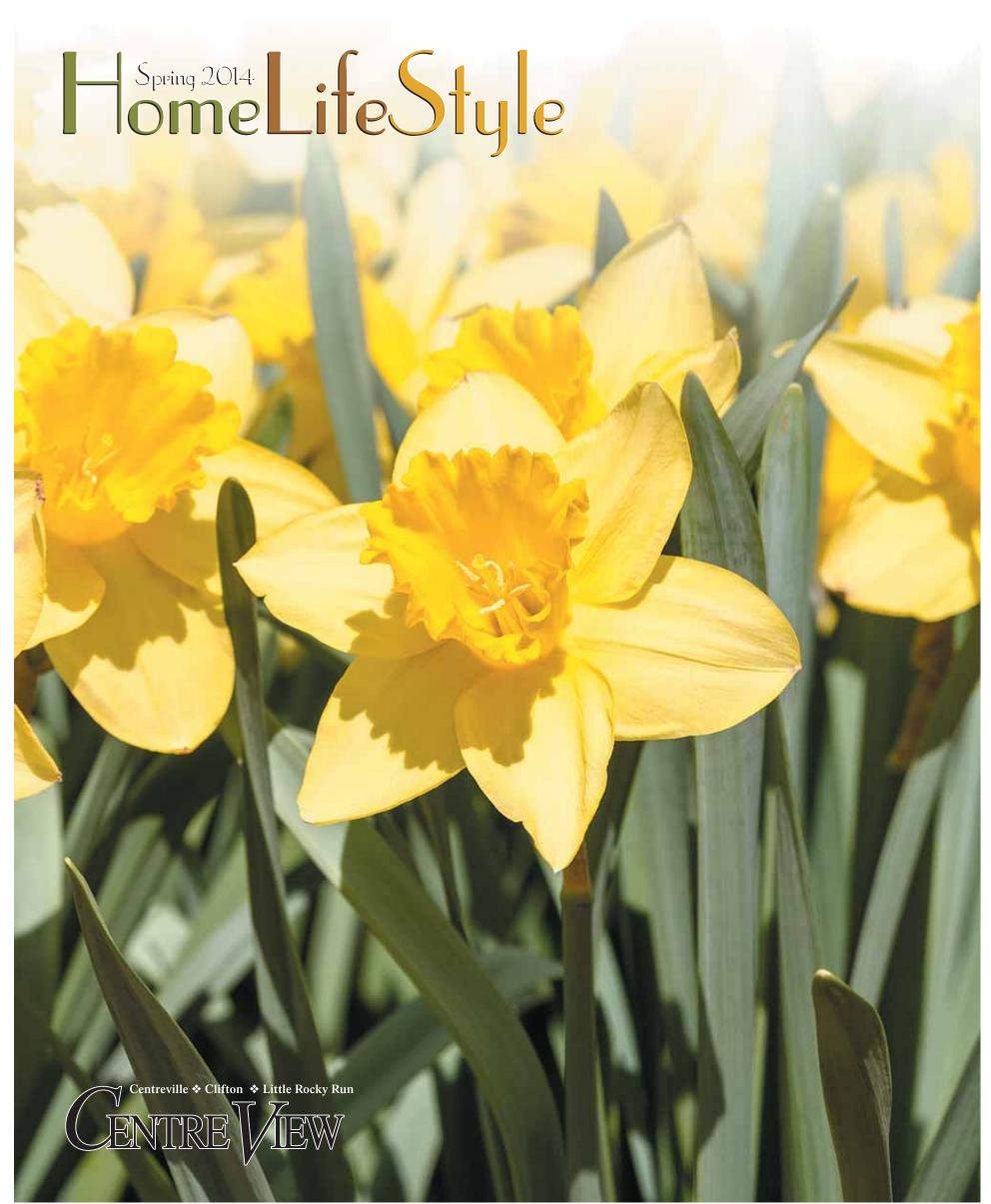
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# Van Metre Wins Sales, Marketing Awards

# Van Metre receives 8 awards total at The Nationals 2014.

an Metre Homes won eight Silver Awards at the 2014 National Sales and Marketing Awards, hosted by the National Sales and Marketing Council.

Van Metre Homes were honored as Rookie of the Year, Sales Person of the Year, Sales Manager of the Year, Best Direct Mail Program, Best Print Campaign, Best Overall Advertising Campaign, Best Computer Sales Tool, and Best Design Center

Individuals recognized for outstanding achievement included Omayra Dehring for Rookie of the Year, Ernie Kyger for Sales Person of the Year, and Danny Faulkner for Sales Manager of the Year. Van Metre Homes won for Best Direct Mail Program with their Fashion Week. Their Fresh Campaign won two awards for Best Print Campaign and for Best Overall Advertising Campaign. Van Metre Homes' Hologram won for Best Computer Sales

Tool and the Van Metre Design Studio won for Best Design Center.

Van Metre Companies has constructed more than 16,000 houses and several thousand apartments, as well as office buildings and shopping centers in Northern Virginia. Van Metre communities include their own master-planned developments, as well as neighborhoods in smaller subdivisions and third-party planned communities.

The Van Metre portfolio of new homes includes condominiums, townhomes and single-family homes designed for first-time and move-up buyers throughout the Northern Virginia suburbs.

Van Metre's exclusive Design Studio, located in Stone Ridge, Va., allows homebuyers to choose their interior finishes and options. Van Metre also offers turnkey mortgage financing services through their own lending affiliate, Intercoastal Mortgage. Through the Van Metre in-house architecture team, buyers can modify architecture based on a community's design plan and surrounding environments. They are also able to quickly adapt to market changes, as well as offer customization with Van Metre's Dream Home Portfolio — offering homebuyers an easy path to personal home customization.



Photo by Jesse Snyder

Local designers will turn this estate into a "flowing design home" to raise funds for a local charity.

# The D.C. Design House Designers Announced

ome of the area's top design ers competed for an oppor tunity to donate their talent to transform a local, grand home into a showcase home. Local designers chosen to help transform the 2014 DC Design House include:

- ❖ Jim Rill and David Benton of Rill Architects in Potomac, Md.
- ❖ Victoria Sanchez of Victoria Sanchez Interiors in Old Town, Alexandria, Va.
- ❖ Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, Va.
- ❖ Allie Mann, based in Arlington, Va., of Case Design/Remodeling
- Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer of Cleveland Hall Design in Alexandria.
- Nancy Colbert of Design Partners, LLC in McLean, Va.

Now in its seventh year, the annual event is a fundraiser for Children's National Health System (formally Children's National Medical Center). The D.C. Design House has raised more than \$1 million and attracted more than 55,000 visitors over the past six years.

Built in 1929, the home, located in northwest Washington, D.C., has six bedrooms, five full baths and two half baths and also features a three-car garage and a pool. The stone house offers three levels and approximately 7,929 square feet of living space for 24 designers to transform.

The DC Design House opens to the public on Sunday, April 13 and runs through Sunday, May 11. Hours are Saturday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., closed Monday, \$25. A preview party will take place Saturday, April 12, \$50. Visit www.dcdesignhouse.com.

— Marilyn Campbell



\*Offer valid on contracts written between 3/3 - 3/31/14. This is a limited time offer, subject to change and may be withdrawn at the discretion of Van Metre Homies without prior notice and may not be used in conjunction with any other discount. Prices subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions apply. For more details, see Sales Manager. 3/2014.

# Home LifeStyle

# Empty-Nesters Re-invent the Family Home

Built-ins, cleverly articulated interior increase usable space without need to add-on.

By John Byrd

ometimes life's second act requires a bold set change. How else are others to know that the featured players have moved on, embracing new beginnings?

Reinvention is after all the quintessential triumph of creativity, and can be a very personal process when the thing reinvented is your home itself.

"Of course, large-scale life changes don't necessarily demand a whole house makeover," recently retired teacher Cindy Borer said. But in the past year, her only son moved out to start a new career and her husband is now traveling less, so the timing was right for discoveries.

BUT TO START AT THE TOP: last spring the Borers had celebrated 20 years residency in their two-story, four-bedroom Colonial-style house in Burke, and were taking stock of what they wanted from the years ahead.

At just over 800 square feet, the home's primary living area had been serviceable enough; even so, the formal dining room and adjacent den on opposite sides of the front facing foyer were hardly ever used and the rear family room was dark and cramped.



By borrowing a mere nine square feet from the dining room, the designers found space for a small mudroom with bench immediately to the right of a side kitchen door.

Evaluating options, Borer considered enlarging a few rear rooms. She also wondered if some of the home's interior walls could be modified in way that would allow for more natural light. What to do?

It was at this juncture that Craig Durosko, founder of Sun Design Remodeling, was called-in to discuss possible space improvement scenarios.

Durosko pointed out that the couple

didn't so much lack square footage as a sensible space plan tailored to how they actually use their home. The existing "center-

SEE EMPTY-NESTERS, PAGE 4

# Kitchen Confidential

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

hen Allie Mann of Arlington, a designer and senior interior specialist at Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. was tasked with giving the first

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# From light-filled to dramatic, local designers create dream kitchens.

floor of a McLean, Va., home a face lift, she had to think free-flowing and airy.

"[The] client wanted to focus on making the kitchen feel open and connected to rest of home," said Mann. "[They] needed to have plenty of space to cook and entertain plus lots of storage."

Mann said the homeowner was making a cross-country move and settling in Virginia, so adhering to a strict timeline and budget were critical.

homeowner wanted to make a change

"At nearly 85 percent job completion, client decided they wanted to completely remove the wall between the kitchen and family room. In the original design, we partially removed the wall," said Mann. "This meant a shift and redirection of scope, additional



Photo courtesy Nicely Done Kitchens

However, near the end of the project, the A vertical, glass subway tile backsplash adds a dramatic flair to this kitchen by Nicely Done Kitchens.

> engineering [because] the remaining portion of the wall housed a three-story fireplace, relocation of cabinets had already been installed and modifications to counter tops. And still deliver a project close to on

The finished kitchen is a light-filled space with cabinets by Crystal Cabinetry, honed Vermont Marble countertops and appliances SEE KITCHEN, PAGE 4

# Home LifeStyle

From Page 3

hall" configuration defined rooms were consistent with tradition, vet were functionally underutilized most of the time. This accounted for daily traffic patterns that didn't work as well as they might, and a nagging sense that the entire first floor was space-restricted.

On a second subject: the mid-house floor-to-ceiling bearing wall dividing the front and rear sections of the house could be completely deleted by installing concealed vertical supports at strategic intervals, Durokso said. Such a move would dramatically increase natural light, creating the floor space needed for an alternative layout more appropriate for both daily use and entertainment.

"On the first visit Craig pretty much solved our space plan problem," Borer said. "From this point on, I was mainly to think about the interior design de-

So Borer's meeting with Jon Benson, the makeover's lead designer, proved a revelation from the start.

A veteran home remodeling specialist as well as a nationally recognized furniture designer, Benson's input shaped a floor plan focused on personal requirements in which custom built-ins eliminate unneeded walls while sharply improving both room function and interior design integrity.

To create a more functional relationship between the kitchen and the dining room, for instance, the designer replaced an interior pantry with a 27.5-squarefoot food preparation surface and dining counter that serves both rooms equally.

By borrowing a mere nine square feet from the dining room, Benson also found space for a small mudroom with bench immediately to the right of the side entrance to the kitchen.

Re-situating the front hall closet to the right of the front door not only widened the front foyer but also created dramatic front-to-back sight lines that make the entire house seem much larger.

Measured in square feet, the changes are small. Yet such revisions liberate the first level circulation plan, re-organizing the home's primary living area into rooms that are both interactive and ar-

To visually differentiate the front-facing library from the family room, the designer converted existing overhead beams into an elegant tray ceiling supported by Craftsman-style piers.

A floor-to-ceiling bookcase—also a the plasma TV that now hangs above it. spatial freedom of an open floor plan.

4 CENTRE VIEW & Home Life Style Spring 2014



Photos by Bryan Burris Photography

To differentiate the front-facing library from the family room visually, Sun Design converted existing overhead beams into an elegant tray ceiling supported by Craftsman-style piers.



The new transitional-style interior employs decorative elements to create distinctive use-zones in an open floor plan.

Sun Design's Jessica Page.

"Jessica helped me discover the design style I'd been looking for," Borer said. "She opened up a lot of resources. Ideas that I liked were added to a project scrapbook which we both referenced regularly to keep the decision process on track."

As space plan modifications proceeded, Benson original—provides an elegant vet Borer's research revealed a strong personal useful wall for the new reading room. attraction to transitional-style interior de-The new family room fireplace hearth sign, a contemporary concept that seeks to was custom-designed to accommodate reconcile traditional architecture with the tional and open really works well for us,"

Additional interior design decisions On this score, Benson's original floorplan really enlightening." emerged from Borer's collaboration with sketch anticipated the use of loveseats as



Transitional interior design style seeks to reconcile traditional architecture with the spatial freedom of an open floor plan.

space dividers between the family room and the den. Meanwhile, Borer's preference for soft white and grey duotones inspired an interior paint scheme that combines sharp white and khaki.

In the kitchen, Giallo Sioriato granite surfaces are set off by a vividly original glass tile and stone backsplash which lends an invigorating streak of color to the broader visual panorama.

"Its very comfortable balance of tradi-Borer said. "I found the whole process

# Empty-Nesters Re-invent the Family Home Kitchen Confidential

by Sub-Zero, Wolf, KitchenAid and Miele.

**NICELY DONE KITCHENS** in Springfield, Va., created a kitchen with drama for a Centreville, Va., family. "White semi-custom cabinetry and a contrasting dark island creates a dramatic look," said Stephanie Brick, designer. Brick cited the focus on the vertical, subway tile back splash.

The rest of the back splash in the kitchen is horizontal, which is the standard for subway tile, said Brick.

The kitchen also includes ample, easily accessible storage space.

"The paneled refrigerator helps conceal the appliances and helps them to blend in with the cabinetry to give the aesthetic more continuity," said Brick. The kitchen includes easily accessible storage space and ogeeedged granite counter tops.

**OPENING UP** and adding light were priorities when Guy Hopkins Semmes, partner and founder of Potomac-based designmodeled the kitchen of a Bethesda, Md., drawers."

"The kitchen was small, but we were able We opened the wall between the kitchen and the adjacent enclosed porch."

elimination: appliances. "We got rid of the when you work with what you've got."



Arlington, Va., designer Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. created a free-flowing and elegant feel in this McLean, Va. kitchen.

refrigerator and moved it downstairs," said build firm Hopkins and Porter and Lea Semmes. "All of the other appliances are Allen, one of the firm's senior architects, re- located under the counter and open up like

Semmes also found a creative way to make the space more light-filled. "We took to add a lot more space, by making few out a stairway wall to the second floor and minor changes," said Semmes. "Before there replaced it with a triangular opening so light was an enclosed porch next to the kitchen. from stairwell came down into the kitchen."

The kitchen now has maple cabinetry and Semmes and Allen made another major on a budget. It's amazing what you can do to create space and add light to the



**Guy Semmes and Lea Allen of** Potomac-based design-build firm white Silestone countertops. "It was done Hopkins and Porter removed walls kitchen of this Bethesda, Md. home.

ouse and garden tours will take

place across Virginia during the

81st Historic Garden Week. Gar-

den week runs from Saturday, April 26-Sat-

Tour proceeds fund the restoration and

preservation of Virginia's historic gardens.

Each spring visitors are welcomed to more

than 250 of Virginia's most beautiful gar-

dens, homes and historic landmarks dur-

ing "America's Largest Open House." This

eight-day statewide event provides visitors

an opportunity to see gardens at the peak

of Virginia's springtime color, as well as

beautiful houses sparkling with over 2,000

flower arrangements created by Garden

Statewide tour passes are available for

\$175. The Alexandria tour takes place Sat-

urday, April 26, tickets are \$35. The Vienna

tour takes place Tuesday, April 29 and tick-

ets are \$25. There is a 240-page guidebook

with detailed descriptions of properties on

each tour. The \$10 charge covers the ship-

ping and handling cost of the book. Free

copies of the guide are available at Virginia

businesses, visitor centers, and some AAAs.

Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

Club of Virginia members.

**David Watkins of Merrifield Garden Center** savs cold season annuals like these yellow pansies can add bright color to a garden now.



# Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring

Local experts tell you what you should do now, in spite of the cold weather.

By Marilyn Campbell on the environment. It reduces bad bug CENTRE VIEW populations and is safe over all."

last thing on your mind. However, local annual flowers in pots on patios, but you gardening experts say this is the ideal can plant annuals like pansies, which are time to start preparing your landscape cold season annuals," he said. "They to yield colorful spring foliage.

Potomac, Md., said spring garden prepa- in like petunias and geraniums." ration plans differ from year to year. "It depends on the landscape beds you have and whether or not you're planning to and surrounding them with flowering put in a vegetable garden," he said.

damage that might have been broken ornamental," he said. "It is nice to have during the snow load," said David plants in the pots that stay year round. I Watkins of Merrifield Garden Center, put a Japanese maple in a pot on my which has locations in Fair Oaks, deck. In another pot I put ilex verticillata Merrifield and Gainesville, Va., Don't go [winterberry] and I had red berries all overboard, however: "You don't want to winter long. In the spring, I'll put petuprune plants before they bloom. A good nias in the soil around it, and around the rule of thumb is to prune a flowering edge I'll plant a flowering plant that will plant right after it blooms."

Instead, spend some time tidying up. "Right now is the time to fertilize your shrubs, remove old mulch, put down new so cold, there are going to be some plants seeds into the soil." that won't have made it."

ing the yard for winter damage," saud enous plants. "Look for sources for na-Mann. "This is a great time of the year tive plants — they help sustain our local to look for insect damage and deer dam- wildlife. If we didn't have local plants,

Mann expects extensive deer damage except for plants like azaleas and rhodo-

difficult to identify. "This is the time to wisteria vine," said Wilson. do damage-control by using safe or or- 
If a new patio is in your plans this time of year and it is a lot safer and easier the better."

t doesn't feel like spring. Last WHILE EAGER GARDENERS may be week's snow made it seem like excited to start planting spring flowers warm weather might never arrive, in their newly cleaned plots, Watkins ofso planting a garden might be the fers a caveat: "It is a little early for most don't like heat, so in June they start to Bill Mann, of Behnke Nurseries in whither. Then you can put other flowers

Watkins recommends planting hearty, ornamental shrubs in patio flowerpots plants to ensure year-found foliage. "A "This is the time to inspect shrubs for nice thing to do in pots is plant a woody trail down over the pot from April to October. Then the rest of the year I'll get

Sowing grass seeds is also an ideal mulch and just clean up," said Watkins. project to begin now. "The seeds won't "Everybody is sick of winter, especially germinate until it gets to be 52 degrees," this winter. This is the time to clean up Watkins continued. "So even if we get old leaves. Because the winter has been another snow storm, it helps work the

Randee Wilson of Nature By Design in "In March, a lot has to do with inspect- Alexandria encourages the use of indigbutterflies would be gone."

Native plants also require less maintethis year. "Deer didn't have much to eat nance. "Some native plants are cardinal flower, which is bright red; bee balm, also bright red; blue cardinal; iron weed, Insect damage is less obvious and more which has purple flowers, and native

ganic-based products like neem oil," said spring, Watkins says to get started now. Mann. "When sprayed on plants, it "We've been putting down putting pa smothers insect eggs or some insects in tios all year long," he said. "A good garthe larva stage. It also kills stinkbugs. If den center is going to get backed up you can see them, you can control them. when the weather is warmer. The sooner You can use a higher concentration this you start getting your job in the line,

# Garden Club of Virginia Celebrates 81st Tour



This Alexandria garden will appear on the 81st Historic Garden Week

CENTRE VIEW \* HomeLifeStyle Spring 2014 \* 5 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

urday, May 3.

# Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



# Top Sales in January, 2014

1 7540 Clifton Road, Fairfax Station — \$2,250,000



**2** 11394 Amber Hills Court, Fairfax — \$1,626,036



5 7111 Granberry Way, Springfield — \$1,060,000



**6** 6471 Lake Meadow Drive, Burke — \$1,037,500

# Home LifeStyle

# Near Zero Temps Call for Back-to-Basic

# What mid-winter maintenance can reveal about your home's needs.

By John Byrd

hile common sense suggests that home improvements should be put off to warmer weather, a sustained period of colder temperatures often reveals systemic problems that will need correction sooner or later.

As temperatures dropped precipitously several weeks ago, all Reston homeowner Craig Mattice knew was that his original mansard roof was plagued with ice dams and his 10-year-old, 600-square-foot addition was so cold the pipes were freezing. Moreover, no amount of thermostat adjustment improved the situation much.

"After living in the house for over 25 years the chill was a surprise," Mattice said. "It wasn't just that the winter has been colder than usual ... it was beginning to look like a larger problem, particularly in the new wing, which was five degrees colder than other rooms."

To determine the cause of ice-clogged gutters, Mattice decided to seek a comprehensive assessment and turned to remodeler David Foster who had completed a number of home improvements for his son.

"The damming was literally the tip of the iceberg," said Foster, principal of Foster Remodeling Solutions. "When I inspected the attic it was clear that the envelope was not adequately sealed, insulated or ventilated, which is why the upstairs had been too hot last summer."

Add to this the fact that prior to 1980 local building code required less thermally-resistant insulation (R-19) than the current R-38 standard and the outlines of a common problem with older production homes begins to emerge.

"It's not unusual to find that the existing insulation just isn't the best application for some of our coldest days" Foster said. "Different parts of a house can call for different insulation strategies."

Since the goal for the Mattice attic was to dramatically increase R-value, Foster rearranged the old insulation, adding soffit baffles to improve ventilation. The larger technical solution, however, was to blowin R-25 fiberglass, which raised the attic's thermal resistance to R-44.

"One of the benefits of fiberglass is that it wraps everything...creating an air-tight insular envelope," Foster says. "This makes all aspects of the home's heating and cooling more efficient."

The more recently completed family wing was another matter. Turns out the Mattice's artfully-designed addition was built over an unheated crawl space, and the HVAC duct wasn't even connected in the kitchen.

"An appropriate insulation strategy starts with a kind of forensics," Foster said. "Where is a wall, ceiling or roof exposed to outside conditions? Is it difficult to regulate temperatures in different parts of the house? These are some basic questions we start with."

Given challenges inherent in insulating rooms built over an unheated crawl space — which also must support air circulation, Foster re-engineered the entire thermal equation: existing fiberglass batt was removed; sprayed-in closed cell foam was then applied to the underside of the floor system. This elevated the thermal value to R-20 while providing a Homeowners with drawart insulated window with inadequately se "Winter is not part lutions," Foster said. it's time to look at the how a house works."



Photo courtesy of Foster Remodeling Solutions

A sustained period of cold weather can reveal problems with your home's basic systems that will need to be addressed in any season if further deterioration is to be prevented.

draft-free air-tight seal to the kitchen floor. To accommodate for summer conditions, Foster added ventilation to both the crawl space and the attic.

So how do the upgrades perform?

"Beautifully," Craig Mattice says. "The house is noticeably tighter and the new wing is much more comfortable."

**A PROFESSIONAL REMODELER** for 35 years, Foster said he's somewhat surprised by the calls he gets when temperatures drop, usually from homeowners who've found that previous attempts at keeping the house comfortable and well-functioning haven't worked very well.

A few months ago, for example, he executed a reroofing and gutter protection assignment for Alexandria homeowner Steve Piper, who had previously hired him to design and build an extensive interior makeover.

"We knew we had a leaking problem before we met David," Piper said. "But the situation had gotten worse — and I wasn't sure what to expect from roofers. Finally, it occurred to me to ask David for his assessment."

Foster traced the problem to inappropriate and poorly installed flashing which was allowing water to seep into siding and under roof shingles.

His prescription: a re-shingled roof, a new gutter protection system and attic ventilation equipped with an electronic thermostat.

"It's important to address the whole problem when the system has failed," Foster said. "This is a plan that not only eliminates the leaking, but functions much better in all seasons."

A few miles away, Alexandrian Jeff Hage came to Foster when he noticed one of the posts to a front porch was sagging.

Foster, who had finished an interior for Hage a few months before, quickly recognized that the whole roof had settled, making it impossible to stop worsening deterioration by simply replacing the corner column.

"When the problem becomes structural you have to remake the basic supports, "he says. "In this case that meant raising the porch roof and re-aligning posts and beams."

the house? These are some basic questions we start with."

Given challenges inherent in insulating rooms built over an unheated crawl space — which also must support air circulation, Foster re-engineered the en-

"Winter is not particularly forgiving of partial solutions," Foster said. "When a problem is recurring, it's time to look at the larger system. After all, this is how a house works."



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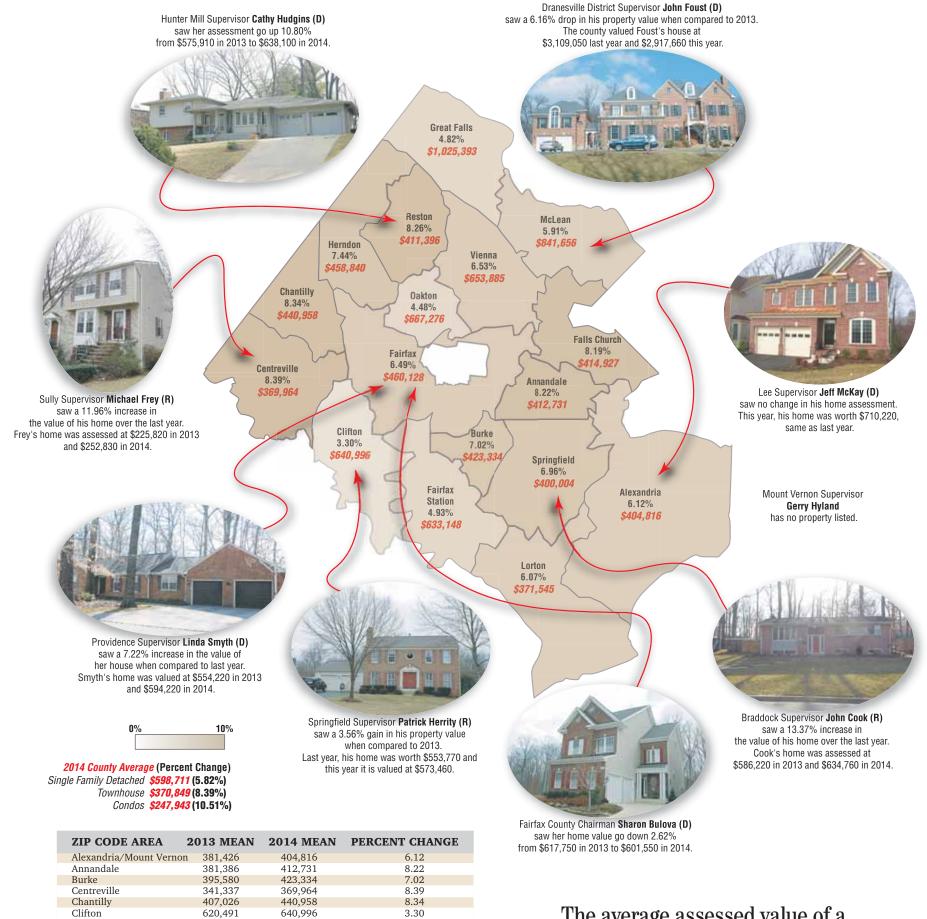


For more info on your dream home Call Robert Herrity/Cynthia Lehman 703-376-4118 or 703-587-7307



# Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

# 2014 Assessments by Area



The average assessed value of a single family home in Fairfax County for 2014 is \$598,711, up 5.82%

SOURCE: FAIRFAX COUNTY

Fairfax

Herndon

Lorton

McLean

Reston

Vienna

Springfield

Fairfax Station

Falls Church

432,104

603,429

383,502

427,060

350,288 794,688

638,692

379,741

373,964 613,796 460,128

633,148

414,927 1,025,393

458,840

371,545

841,656

411,096

400,004 653,885

for single family, townhouses and condominiums

6.49

4.93

6.07

5.91

6.53