

Student Vanessa Ferrufino will represent Brazil during Chantilly High's March 19 International Night.

Chantilly High School To Celebrate Diversity

NEWS, PAGE 4

Inside

Alliance Theatre To Present
'Young Frankenstein.'

NEWS, PAGE 3

Giving a Close Shave
To Childhood Cancer

NEWS, PAGE 5

Chantilly Boys' Soccer
Looking for Return
To Concorde Final

SPORTS, PAGE 12



HomeLifeStyle

Fairfax County Spelling Bee

Supervisor Pat Herrity: Expert Use of the Word Hypocrisy

H-Y-P-O-C-R-I-S-Y


Hypocrisy is when
I **SAY** I support schools, but
vote to underfund education
every year.

Herrity's underfunded schools **STING** students and taxpayers:

- Underfunded schools put kids at risk and crowd classrooms
- Underfunded schools lower property values and quality of life
- Underfunded schools deny students the individual attention they deserve

**Tell Pat Herrity
to Fund Our Schools**

Buzz him at: 703-451-8873 E-mail him at: springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov

Fairfax County Federation of Teachers
Teachers Care! 

Paid Advertisement

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 day-to-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 non-profit 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, like-new 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

CHANTILLY CONNECTION EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
703-778-9415 OR CHANTILLY@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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 (Igor).

His Name Is 'Fronkensteen'

The Alliance Theatre presents
'Young Frankenstein.'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Arollicking, 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 numbers.

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 grandfather's medical books. He then decides to create 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, Annie Ermlick, Scott Olson, Cara Giambrone and Mike Cash.

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

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRIS KNARR

International Night is slated for March 19.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Chantilly 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.

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, usually 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 2NE1, "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.

❖ Dance With Me: Representing India 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 Kayambo, Kanchan Mittal and Shradda Adhikari; sophomores Nilaani Kayambo, Niki Vadav, Sakar Budhathoki and Anjali Chauhan; and seniors Sid Bala, Fayzan Saleem, Param Ektare, Prakhari Yadav, 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.



NEWS



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



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.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Fighting Childhood Cancer

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

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Cancer 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 Eddie's will also offer mechanical-bull 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 neuroblastoma 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 are a lot who aren't healthy," said Ratliff. "No parent should ever 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 fund-raiser for children with cancer. With the help of 17 colleagues, they hoped to raise \$17,000 on the 17th by having each person collect \$1,000 to be 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.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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 shaves, 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

SEE FIGHTING, PAGE 7

Now Enrolling for 2014-2015 School Year

(Ages 6 weeks – 12 years)

- Daily Computer Classes • Spanish Lessons • Reading
- Arts & Crafts • Music • Nutritional Meals • Exercise
- ♦ All Lead Teachers are CPR & First-Aid Certified ♦

We Offer Before & After Care

Happy Hearts is accessible by the school's bus route to neighboring school's

We Provide: • Homework Help • Activities & Games

- Nutritional Snacks • Exercise • Winter/Spring/Summer Camp Available



Happy Hearts
Children's Center
"...where all hearts are happy!"

703-793-3880

2730 Centreville Rd.

Herndon, VA 20171

www.happyheartschilrencenter.com

Give the Best Birthday Bash~We Put ART in the Party

- FUN • AFFORDABLE • EASY • SPACIOUS
- PAINT YOUR OWN POTTERY STUDIO

FUN FOR ALL AGES!



Call 703.817.1051 or visit www.claycafechantilly.com
13894 Metrotech Dr. • Chantilly (Just to the left of Petsmart)

Turn your House into a Home



How can you help?

Adopt
one of our lovable cats or dogs.

Volunteer
your time or services.

Donate
money or supplies for the Shelter.



www.foha.org

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.

When 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, charts, spreadsheets, poll results and more.

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 priorities.

"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

EDITORIAL

BULLETIN BOARD

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

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 middle-income 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.cvhs.mulch.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 programs.

A WHS athletic team will even spread your mulch if you want, at only \$2 per bag. Order by Tuesday, March 18.

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.fcmmom.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

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 or 703-425-2243.

Sober Ride. 4 p.m. Monday-4 a.m. Tuesday Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offer 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.wfwc.org or e-mail westernfairfaxcountycwc@gmail.com for more.

Centreville Garden Club Meeting. 7 p.m. at Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. "Teachings of Medieval Herbalist Hildegard Von Bingen for Today's Gardens" by Karin Rindal. Learn more at centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com, e-mail centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com or call 703-266-9233. Free.



'Angelina Meets the Princess'

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.

Chantilly CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@ChantillyConnec

Newspaper of
Chantilly
Fair Oaks / Fair Lakes
A Connection Newspaper

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns, Call:
703-778-9410
e-mail:
chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9438
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor, 703-224-3015
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com

Karen Washburn
Display Advertising, 703-778-9422
kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com

Kim Taiedi
Display Advertising, 703-778-9423
ктаiedi@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbtzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Linda Pecquex
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

2012 AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER Virginia Press Association



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

From left are Anthony Terrell, Rocky Run principal; Shelley Kucera, Environmental Club co-sponsor; contest winner, Maddy Buckley, and Megan Hudson, Environmental Club co-sponsor.

Helping Increase Environmental Awareness

Maddy Buckley won the Rocky Run Eco-Code Design Contest, creating a code that represents Rocky Run's commitment to environmental awareness. Six posters of the code will hang in the school to encourage each person at Rocky Run Middle School to make good choices about their environmental footprint. Maddy received a \$50 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble for her winning entry.



Maddy Buckley holds her winning design.

Fighting Childhood Cancer

FROM PAGE 5

\$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

“A friend of mine's daughter had cancer; so anything I can do to help any child, I will.”

— J.T. Weiland II

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 childhood 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.

“You gotta be prepared for any kind of shot hit your way.”

Connor McCormick
Future tennis phenom



‘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

The monster attacks: From left are Lori Muhlstein, Annie 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

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 well-written. And it’s really well-cast, 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 or email VolunteerSolutions@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, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer

solutions.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.centrevilleimmigrationforum.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-deserved break.

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 or go to www.centrevilleLRC.org and click on the “How to Hire” link. Tell what kind of work is required, how many workers are needed and when.

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 eight-hour 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 the event.

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 Wounded Warrior Project will be used to improve 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.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Back in the 1920s, Harry Byrd became governor of Virginia on what he called a “pay-as-you-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

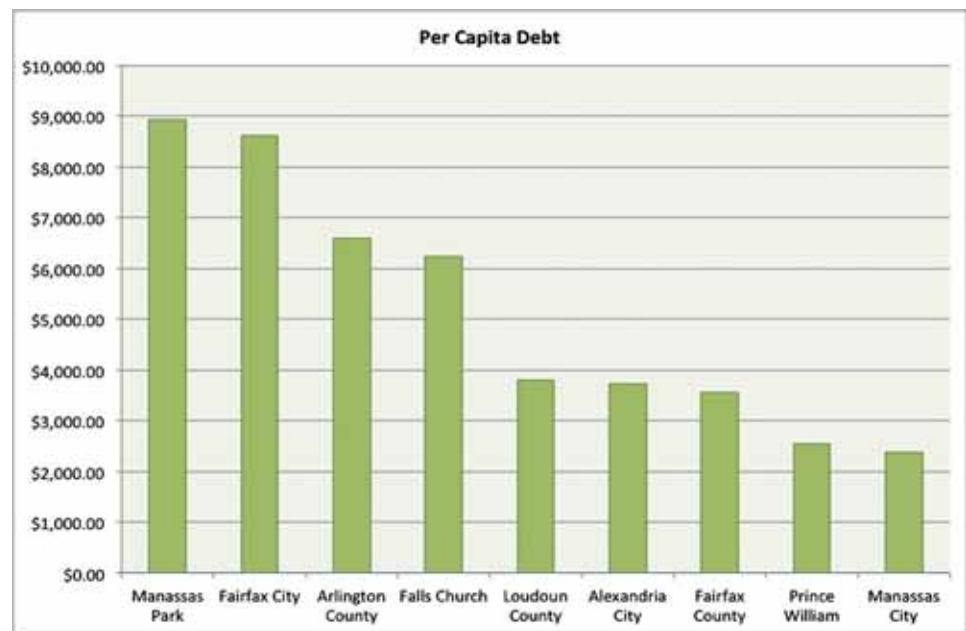
rector of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. “Others see that having high quality infrastructure is the best way to support a growing economy that will enable them to pay off the debt.”

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 interest rates.

“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 state.”

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 consecutive years.

“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.

Two 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 world.

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, Mondelēz International and other supporting sponsors.



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).



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
THE CONNECTION

Two 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."



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

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 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 tal-

ented 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

SEE CVHS, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CVHS One-Acts Take the Stage

FROM PAGE 10

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,

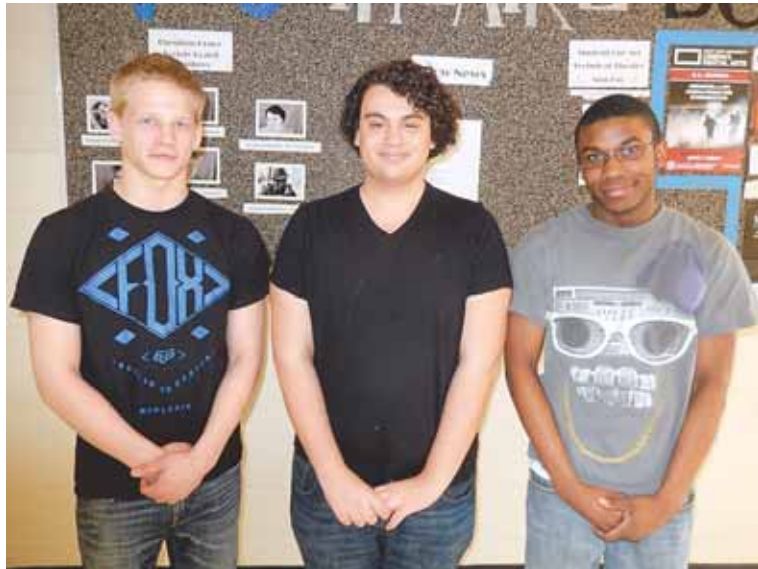


PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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

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.”

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Be the first to know – get your paper before it hits the press.

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com



THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

SHILLELAGHS THE TRAVEL CLUB

ALASKA CRUISE, MAY 23-30.....\$1,503
Includes Air from Dulles, 7 Nights on Celebrity’s “Solstice.” All meals & entertainment onboard. Transfers & Baggage Handling. CALL FOR DETAILS.

DOWNTON ABBEY TOUR OF ENGLAND, AUGUST 2-9\$2,799
Includes 6 Nights Hotel with Daily Breakfast, 2 Lunches, 2 Teas & 1 Dinner. Sightseeing – CALL FOR DETAILED ITINERARY.

THE BERKSHIRES, MA • TANGLEWOOD & BOSTON POPS! AUGUST 4-8...\$1,399
Includes Coach from Vienna or Rockville, 4 Nights Hotel with Daily Breakfast & Dinner. Sightseeing, Evening at Tanglewood. CALL FOR DETAILED ITINERARY.

SHILLELAGHS TRAVEL CLUB

100 East Street SE, Suite 202 • Vienna, Virginia 22180

703-242-2204 1-800-556-8646

Please visit our Web site at: www.shillelaghtravelclub.com for a listing of all our upcoming trips and socials.

GOOSE CREEK COACHING
Redefining Help | Children • Teens • Adults • Families
Life Coaching • Mental Health Coaching • Career Coaching

Stuck in Your Career?
No Job Post-Graduation?
Looking for a New Career Path?
Trying to Grow at Work?
Looking for a Career Change?

IF SO, CONTACT US TODAY

Career coaches are here to help with:

- Career Assessment
- Leadership Development
- Career Testing
- Resume Writing
- Career Coaching
- Interviewing Skills
- Career Transition
- Job Searches

CONTACT US AT
(703) 574-6271
www.goosecreekconsulting.com

ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION
713.27± Acres
Offered in 7 Tracts

Shockeysville Rd Winchester
Frederick County, VA

This land is ideal for hunting, hiking, and other recreational activities. With the property being less than 90 minutes from Washington, it is a great place to escape the hustle and bustle of the city and retreat to the peace and quiet of the mountains. Brush Creek is located along the foothills of the Allegheny Mountains.

Sat, Mar 29th at 10am

Tracts from 48.42± Acres to 189.65± Acres

Breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains
Borders the Tuscarora Trail, part of the Great Eastern Trail System
¼ mile from Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area
Creeks, ponds, an extensive trail system, managed timberlands, and managed deer & turkey resources
Part of the property has been approved for development

Open House Dates
Saturdays, March 8th & 15th (10am-12pm)
Sundays, March 9th & 16th (12pm-2pm)
Self guided tours welcome at your leisure.

Broker participation is welcomed.

Sales Managers: Pete Ramsey (434-258-6611)
George McDaniel (434-546-9235)

10% Buyers Premium. 10% deposit; balance in 30 days. Property sold “as is.” Full terms online. VAAF93

THE COUNTS
Realty & Auction Group

www.countsauction.com
800-780-2991

60-75% Off Pottery
Oriental Fishbowls, Orchid and Bonsai Pots now **40% Off**
Lowest Prices Since 2008!

Pansies are Here! On Sale 97¢
Reg. price \$1.89

Landscaping/Hardscape Sale
Off-Season Pricing – Best Prices of the Year!
Patios, Walkways, Retaining Walls, Landscaping
FREE ESTIMATES!

25%-75% OFF
Trees, Shrubs & Perennials

Cravens Nursery & Pottery
9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Virginia
2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.
1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)
703-573-5025
Open 7 days a week
Visit our new Web site: www.cravensnursery.com

Bulk Mulch, Playground Chips & Organic Compost \$29.99/cu. yd.

Happy St. Patrick’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.

- ✿ Foster Crew Members will answer questions about the most important thing you can do to help.
- ✿ 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

Charlie, delivered by St. Catrick, is available for adoption

LOST DOG & CAT RESCUE FOUNDATION



Senior forward Bruno Zambrana returns to the Chantilly boys' soccer team after playing academy soccer last season.



Chantilly junior Ryan Kraus splits some T.C. Williams defenders during a scrimmage on March 11 at Chantilly High School.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Chantilly Boys' Soccer Looking for Return to Concorde Final

Chargers played for district title two of last four seasons.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

During the last four seasons, the Chantilly boys' soccer program has alternated appearances in the Concorde District tournament championship game with season-ending first-round losses. With the return of standout midfielder Bruno Zambrana from the D.C. United academy, the Chargers are hoping to get back to the positive end of their back-and-forth pattern.

Chantilly lost to Robinson in the 2010 district final and Herndon in the 2012 championship game. In 2011 and 2013, the Chargers were one and done. Last year, Chantilly lost to Westfield in a penalty-kick shootout.

"We're certainly looking to much further this year," sixth-year Chantilly head coach Brian Goche said. "My teams, somehow, we like to go [strong] every other. It's like a roller coaster. This should be an up one." Zambrana, who was on the varsity as a freshman and sophomore before playing academy soccer as a junior, and junior forward Ryan Kraus, a first-team all-district selection last season, are Chantilly's top threats. Kraus led the team in scoring last season. "Ryan is exceptionally fast," Goche said. "... Bruno's foot skills [are strong]. His first touch, he immediately kills the ball. Both of them have very fast feet. ... We're looking for them to combine quite

a bit. Once we can solidify things defensively, we can helpfully get forward more often."

Leading the Charger defense will be senior Nick Ullom and senior captain Lucas Brennan.

Chantilly will open the season on the road against South County at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18. The Chargers' first home game will be March 21 against Lake Braddock. "We want to be competing for the championships," Goche said. "We want to be in the district final. You've got to be there to have a chance."

Chantilly senior Lucas Brennan, left, goes in for a header during a scrimmage against T.C. Williams on March 11.



SCHOOL NOTES

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

Arden Titus and **Parker Waters** from Franklin Middle School have been named to the 2014 Virginia American Choral Directors Association Middle School Honors Chorus.

Mackenzie Morgan, of Herndon, was named to the dean's list at Miami Univer-

sity.

Teresa Johnson, principal of Chantilly High School, has been named the Dr. Kay Phillips Administrator of the Year for the Southern Interscholastic Press Association.

Nominated by association member Mary Kay Downes, English department chair and Chantilly High yearbook adviser, Johnson was cited for her unflagging support of the school's journalism programs, advisers, and student journalists.

MILITARY NOTES

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

Air Force Airman **Megan M. Drechsler** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. Drechsler earned distinction as an honor graduate. She is the daughter of Pamela Drechsler of Centreville and granddaughter of Robert Cooke of Fairfax. The airman is a 2013 graduate of



Drechsler

Westfield High School.

Air Force Airman 1st Class **Anthony L. Morgan** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that

included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Morgan is the son of Amy Calderon of Centreville. He is a 2013 graduate of Westfield High School.



Morgan

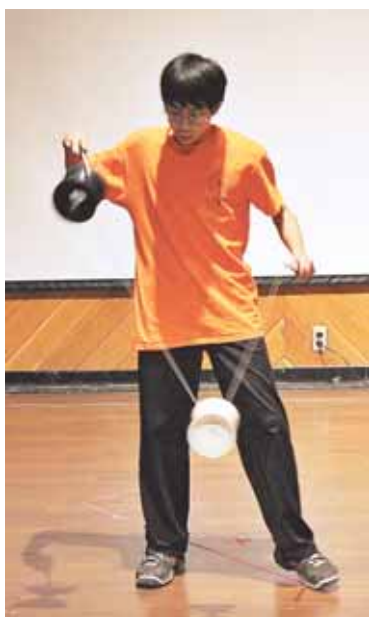
SCHOOLS



In Rocky Run Talent Show

The three winners are in the 5th Annual Rocky Run Talent Show are, from left, Jordan Greenlee, who performed a ballet dance number to the music of "Yellow;" Kristine Lowkis performing the Upside Down Piano to "Ballad in A Minor" by Friedrich Burgmuller, and the first place winner, Eric Su doing Chinese Yo-Yo to the music of "Don't You Worry Child" by Swedish.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Eric Su performs a Chinese Yo-Yo routine.



Kristine Lowkis plays the Upside Down Piano rendition of "Ballad in A Minor."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A First in the County

The Brookfield Elementary School Counseling program has recently become the first elementary school program in Fairfax County Public Schools to become RAMP (Recognized American School Counselor Association Model Program) certified. The RAMP designation, awarded to schools where the counseling program aligns with the criteria set in the American School Counselor Association National Model, recognizes schools committed to delivering a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program. From left are Brookfield Elementary counselors Kathleen Otal and Carole Zendle.



Chantilly High senior Jeremy Smith

In First Place

Jeremy Smith, a senior at Chantilly High School, won first place honors for Sports Marketing in the State of Virginia DECA competition recently in Virginia Beach. He and up to 15 other Chantilly Students who qualified will head to Atlanta for the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) and global competition May 3-6. Smith took third place statewide in Sports Marketing last year and competed at ICDC in Anaheim, Calif. Only eight Virginia students from his division were invited to Atlanta. Karen M. Jones is the faculty advisor for the DECA Team at Chantilly and this year CHS had more top finishers than in years past.

LOUIS C. FILIPPONE, D.D.S., P.C.
ORTHODONTIST

WE OFFER TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS
Both of our beautiful, modern offices use the latest technology in orthodontic treatment for children and adults.

Flexible interest free payment plans are available
Most insurance plans are accepted
Convenient Saturday and evening hours
BOARD CERTIFIED DIPLOMATE
Of THE AMERICAN BOARD
OF ORTHODONTICS

Call for your FREE Initial Consultation

Centreville 6138 Redwood Square Center, Suite 103 703-815-0127	Gainesville 7521 Virginia Oaks Dr., Suite 120 703-754-4880
---	---

703-815-0127 703-754-4880
www.nvaortho.com

DIPLOMATE
AMERICAN BOARD
OF ORTHODONTICS

Complete Dental Care for the Entire Family

BRUCE R. HUTCHISON, D.D.S.
MICHAEL H. GORMAN, D.D.S.
WHITNEY S. JARRELL, D.D.S.
BRIGID B. MOONEY, D.D.S.



FAMILY DENTISTRY

14245-P Centreville Sq.
Centreville, VA 20121

703-830-9110

www.smilesforcentreville.com

The National Capital Heisey Collector's Club
Presents the **Forty-First Annual**
All-Heisey Glass
Show and Sale
AVFD Ossian Hall

7128 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA

Admission \$7.00
(With Ad \$6.00)

Sat., March 15, 2014
10am to 5pm

Sun., March 16, 2014
11am to 4pm

Proceeds to Benefit the Study of Heisey Glass
Check us out at: www.natcapheisey.org

From I-495:
Exit 52B onto Rt. 236 East;
Left on Backlick Road;
Right on Columbia Pike to
Ossian Hall (behind Annandale
Volunteer Fire Department)

For more information call:
(703) 819-6429

ZONE 4:
• CENTREVILLE

HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM CONTRACTORS.com

703-917-6400

ZONE 4 Ad DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

ZONE 4:
• CENTREVILLE

CLASSIFIED

703-917-6400

ZONE 4 Ad DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

ELECTRICAL

K&D ELECTRIC
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabeling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc....

Licensed/Bonded/Insured

Office 703-335-0654
Mobile 703-499-0522

ELECTRICAL

IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS

HAULING

The HANDYMAN
A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION

BATHROOM REMODELING, DRYWALL,
PAINTING, CERAMIC TILE, CARPENTRY,
POWER WASHING & MUCH MORE

You have tried the rest - NOW CALL THE BEST!!

Proudly serving Northern VA - 46 yrs. exp.

We Accept VISA/MC

Licensed
Insured

703-441-8811

AL'S HAULING
Junk & Rubbish
Concrete, furn., office,
yard, construction debris
Low Rates NOVA
703-360-4364
703-304-4798 cell

7 DAYS A WEEK

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for antique
furniture and mid-century
Danish/modern
teak furniture, STERLING,
MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry
and costume jewelry,
paintings/art glass/clocks.
Schefer Antiques @
703-241-0790.
Email:theschefer@cox.net

12 Commercial Lease

12 Commercial Lease

COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE

LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF SHIRLEY
GATE AND LEE HWY, AWESOME
VISIBILITY AND ONLY 1 MILE FROM
BOTH ROUTES 50 AND 66.

1000SQFT WITH 2 OFFICES, RESTROOM
AND LARGE BAY, CALL OR STOP IN
TODAY... 703-352-8840 EXT 2

102 Instruction

ENGLISH FOR
FOREIGNERS
Exp. teacher,
private lessons
\$10.00 hr. Centreville,
703-378-1714.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LIFETIME METAL ROOFING
by VaCarolina Buildings, INC

100% Financing
Free Estimate
Free Roof Inspection

1.800.893.1242
metalroofover.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION

713± Acres (7 Tracts) Frederick County
Shockeysville Rd • Winchester, VA

This land is ideal for hunting, hiking, and other recreational activities.
Creeks, ponds, an extensive trail system, managed timberlands, and managed
deer & turkey resources, ¼ mile from Sleepy Creek Wildlife
Management Area, breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains

Property Previews: March 8th & 15th (10am-12pm), March 9th & 16th (12pm-2pm)

Saturday, March 29th at 10am On-Site

Terms: 10% buyers premium. Closing to occur in 30 days. Full terms online. VAA93

The Counts Realty & Auction Group

www.countsauction.com 800-780-2991

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Now Hiring!

Deliver Bobtail Semis
22 Pickup Locations
Quick Pay
Great Rates

Quality
Drive-Away INC.

www.qualitydriveaway.com or
call 574-642-2000 X401

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LIFETIME METAL ROOFING
by VaCarolina Buildings, INC

100% Financing
Free Estimate
Free Roof Inspection

1.800.893.1242
metalroofover.com

GUTTER

GUTTER

GUTTER CLEANING
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

PINNACLE SERVICES
lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.
email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
web: lawnsandgutters.com
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

HANDYMAN

HANDYMAN

Hand and Hand Handyman

General Remodeling
Residential & Commercial
Specializing in:

Kitchen/Bathroom/Basement Remodeling
Plumbing • Electrical • Custom Carpentry
Doors Windows • Hardwood Floors
Crown Molding • House Cleaning
Interior/Exterior Painting • Brick/Stone Work
Ceramic Tile • Decks, Fences, Patios
HOA Maintenance, Granite Counter Tops
Realtors Work and Much More

Licensed and Insured Serving Northern Virginia
703-296-6409

IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS

R&N Carpentry

♦BASEMENTS ♦BATHS ♦KITCHENS
Foreclosure specialist/Power washing
♦Exterior Wood Rot More!
Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches
No jobs too large or small
Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured
703-987-5096

Picture Perfect Home Improvements (703) 590-3187 www.pphionline.com

Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

- FREE Estimates Exterior & Interior Repair,
- FAST & Reliable Service Painting, Carpentry, Wood Rot,
- EASY To Schedule Drywall, All Flooring, Decks
- NO \$\$\$ DOWN!

Handyman Services Available
"If it can be done, we can do it"
Licensed — Bonded — Insured

R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring,
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,
Siding, Roofing, Additions &
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827 Fax: 703-830-3849
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com
www.rncontractors.com

A&S Landscaping

- All Concrete work
- Retaining Walls • Patios
- Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions
- French Drains • Sump Pumps
- Driveway Asphalt Sealing

703-863-7465
LICENSED
Serving All of N. Virginia

LANDSCAPING

LANDSCAPING

Remodeling Interior,
Bathrooms, Kitchens,
Floors, Ceramic Tile,
Painting, Decks,
Fences, Additions.
703-863-1086

PINNACLE SERVICES, INC. LAWN SERVICE

MOWING, TRIMMING, EDGING, MULCHING & TRIM HEDGES

Friendly Service for a Friendly Price

703-802-0483

MASONRY

MASONRY

Potomac Masonry 703-498-8526

New Installations & Repairs
Stone - Flagstone - Brick - Concrete
FREE ESTIMATES!!

Lic. & Ins
potomac-masonry.com

TREE SERVICE

TREE SERVICE

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured

Winter Savings...
Tree removal, topping & pruning,
shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf
removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning,
retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience - Free estimates
703-868-5358

24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

ANGEL'S HAULING
Junk Trash Removal,
Yard/Construction
Debris, Garage/Basement Clean Out,
Furniture & Appl.

703-863-1086
703-582-3709
240-603-6182

LANDSCAPING

A&S LANDSCAPING
Planting • Mulching • Sodding
Patios • Decks • Driveway Sealing,
Asphalt • Retaining Walls
Erosion Control • Drainage Solutions
703-863-7465

TREE SERVICE

ANGEL'S TREE REMOVAL
Brush & Yard Debris
Trimming & Topping
Gutters & Hauling
Angeltreeslandscaping-hauling.com
703-863-1086
703-582-3709
240-603-6182

Employers:

Are your
recruiting ads
not working in
other papers?

Try a better
way to fill
your
employment
openings



- Target your best job candidates where they live.

- Reach readers in addition to those who are currently looking for a job.
- Proven readership.
- Proven results.

THE CONNECTION
to your community

703-917-6464

classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Great Papers • Great Readers
Great Results!

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT

101 Computers

101 Computers

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

JENNIFER SMITH ♦ Serving the Area Since 1995

- > Speed up Slow Computers
- > Troubleshooting
- > Virus Removal
- > Computer Setup



(571) 265-2038

jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

HOW TO SUBMIT ADS TO

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online

CLASSIFIED

DEADLINES

Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon
Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon

E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connectionnewspapers.com
or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

EMPLOYMENT

DEADLINES

Zones 5, 6.....Tues @ 11:00
Zones 1, 3.....Tues @ 4:00
Zone 2.....Wed @ 11:00
Zone 4.....Wed @ 1:00

E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connectionnewspapers.com
or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

ZONES

- Zone 1:** The Reston Connection
The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Zone 2:** The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
- Zone 3:** The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette
- Zone 4:** Centre View North
Centre View South
- Zone 5:** The Potomac Almanac
- Zone 6:** The Arlington Connection
The Vienna/Oakton Connection
The McLean Connection
The Great Falls Connection

BUSINESS OPP

TELEPHONE

A great opportunity to
WORK AT HOME!

NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!

301-333-1900
Weekdays 9-4

BUSINESS OPP

TELEPHONE

A great opportunity to
WORK AT HOME!

NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!

301-333-1900
Weekdays 9-4

Daytime Dogsitter Needed

Must be good w/young large dogs
No walking necessary
571-393-8180

Play & Learn at Dulles Corner in

Herndon, VA is seeking a F/T qualified teacher for our Preschool program. Email your resume to sangley@va-childcare.com or fax it to (703) 713-2298 or call (703)-713-3983.

Ferguson, a leader in the plumbing wholesale industry, is hiring career-minded **CDL Drivers and Warehouse clerks** to work in our Chantilly, VA location. We offer a competitive salary, benefits, and friendly work environment.

Apply in person.
13890 Lowe St. Chantilly, VA 20151
EOE: M/F/D/V

Seasonal Garden Center Merchandiser

Bell Nursery, a nationally recognized grower/vendor is looking for hardworking people to work at a garden center near you. Must be flexible for weekend work. For job descriptions and locations go to www.bellnursery.com/jobs.

MUST LOVE CATS

Volunteers needed for cat caretaker shifts with Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation at 7 Corners/Falls Church, Tysons Corner, Reston or Leesburg PetSmart locations. Morning, mid-day or evening shifts available, need varies by location. Shifts are generally 60-90 minutes, training provided. Great opportunity for student service hours. Also opportunities for transport volunteers and fostering. Email cats@lostdogrescue.org with questions or interest.

Food Service Opportunities, Full-Time – Northern, VA

Sodexo is currently recruiting the following individuals to join our team near Chantilly, VA:
Cooks, Grill Cooks, & Cashiers
Positions are full-time; weekends, holidays, and evenings are generally not scheduled work shifts. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen and able to obtain a Government Clearance. Apply to: sodexo1000@yahoo.com or fax: 703.832.8840-. Sodexo offers competitive salary, benefits and an opportunity to advance your career. Sodexo will require a background check and may require a drug screen for all positions. At Sodexo, we value workforce diversity. EOE, M/F/D/V.

Whew!



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-test-results-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-mail.

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 notwithstanding.

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 continues, 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.

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 Center.

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

Email announcements@centreview@connectionnewspapers.com to come. Photos welcome.

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.

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. E-mail 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 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, 703-502-3883.

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, sing-alongs, Irish dancing and more. \$7/adult; \$5/child. Drinks extra. Visit www.stveronica.net or 703-773-2000.

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, 703-502-3883.

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 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. 703-502-3883.

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.

Communities of Worship
To highlight your faith community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

CENTREVILLE

The Anglican Church of the Ascension



Traditional Anglican Services
1928 Book of Common Prayer
1940 Hymnal

Holy Communion 10 A.M. Sundays
(with Church School and Nursery)

13941 Braddock Road, (north off Rte. 29) Centreville, VA
703-830-3176 • www.ascension-acc.org



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
9:15 AM CELEBRATION SERVICE
11:00 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

COMMUNITY GROUPS
Sundays at 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 am
Nursery through Elementary, Youth, College Age, Singles, Men, Women, Choir, Awana, GoGo (Older adults), Bible Study Fellowship, MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), English Language Classes and Spanish Speaking Ministry

15100 Lee Highway, Centreville, VA 20120
703-830-3333 www.cbcva.org



Centreville
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship
8:45 and 11am

15450 Lee Highway
Centreville, VA 20120
703.830.0098

www.CentrevillePres.com





Spring 2014 HomeLifeStyle

Chantilly
CONNECTION
Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes

Van Metre Wins Sales, Marketing Awards

Van Metre receives 8 awards total at The Nationals 2014.

Van 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

Some of the area's top designers competed for an opportunity 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 (formerly 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

MOVIN' ON UP!

Get MOVIN' ON UP to Van Metre before this OFFER ends! UPGRADE your life with a new HANDCRAFTED HOME during the month of MARCH and DOUBLE UP on savings! Choose any 2 PACKAGES that suit your lifestyle before March 31st!



www.VanMetreHomes.com/MovinOnUp



*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 Homes 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.



Empty-Nesters Re-invent the Family Home

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

BY JOHN BYRD

Sometimes 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 Borer family 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 Durosco, founder of Sun Design Remodeling, was called-in to discuss possible space improvement scenarios.

Durosco 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
THE CONNECTION

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

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.

However, near the end of the project, the 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

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

time."

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

SEE KITCHEN, PAGE 4

Chantilly
CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

IS PRODUCED BY
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION LLC

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CALL 703-778-9431 OR EMAIL
SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Empty-Nesters Re-invent the Family Home

FROM PAGE 3

hall” configuration defined rooms were consistent with tradition, yet 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 details.”

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-square-foot 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 articulated.

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 Benson original—provides an elegant yet useful wall for the new reading room. The new family room fireplace hearth was custom-designed to accommodate the plasma TV that now hangs above it.

Additional interior design decisions emerged from Borer’s collaboration with



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, Borer’s research revealed a strong personal attraction to transitional-style interior design, a contemporary concept that seeks to reconcile traditional architecture with the spatial freedom of an open floor plan.

On this score, Benson’s original floorplan 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 traditional and open really works well for us,” Borer said. “I found the whole process really enlightening.”

Kitchen Confidential

FROM PAGE 3

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 ogeedged granite counter tops.

OPENING UP and adding light were priorities when Guy Hopkins Semmes, partner and founder of Potomac-based design-build firm Hopkins and Porter and Lea Allen, one of the firm’s senior architects, remodeled the kitchen of a Bethesda, Md., home.

“The kitchen was small, but we were able to add a lot more space, by making few minor changes,” said Semmes. “Before there was an enclosed porch next to the kitchen. We opened the wall between the kitchen and the adjacent enclosed porch.”

Semmes and Allen made another major elimination: appliances. “We got rid of the



COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING INC

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 Semmes. “All of the other appliances are located under the counter and open up like drawers.”

Semmes also found a creative way to make the space more light-filled. “We took out a stairway wall to the second floor and replaced it with a triangular opening so light from stairwell came down into the kitchen.”

The kitchen now has maple cabinetry and white Silestone countertops. “It was done on a budget. It’s amazing what you can do when you work with what you’ve got.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOPKINS AND PORTER

Guy Semmes and Lea Allen of Potomac-based design-build firm Hopkins and Porter removed walls to create space and add light to the kitchen of this Bethesda, Md. home.

Garden Club of Virginia Celebrates 81st Tour



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

House and garden tours will take place across Virginia during the 81st Historic Garden Week. Garden week runs from Saturday, April 26-Saturday, May 3.

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 gardens, homes and historic landmarks during “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 Club of Virginia members.

Statewide tour passes are available for \$175. The Alexandria tour takes place Saturday, April 26, tickets are \$35. The Vienna tour takes place Tuesday, April 29 and tickets are \$25. There is a 240-page guidebook with detailed descriptions of properties on each tour. The \$10 charge covers the shipping 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.

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



PHOTO COPYRIGHT CAROLINE WILLIAMS

Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring

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

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

on the environment. It reduces bad bug populations and is safe over all.”

It doesn’t feel like spring. Last week’s snow made it seem like warm weather might never arrive, so planting a garden might be the last thing on your mind. However, local gardening experts say this is the ideal time to start preparing your landscape to yield colorful spring foliage.

Bill Mann, of Behnke Nurseries in Potomac, Md., said spring garden preparation plans differ from year to year. “It depends on the landscape beds you have and whether or not you’re planning to put in a vegetable garden,” he said.

“This is the time to inspect shrubs for damage that might have been broken during the snow load,” said David Watkins of Merrifield Garden Center, which has locations in Fair Oaks, Merrifield and Gainesville, Va., Don’t go overboard, however: “You don’t want to prune plants before they bloom. A good rule of thumb is to prune a flowering 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 mulch and just clean up,” said Watkins. “Everybody is sick of winter, especially this winter. This is the time to clean up old leaves. Because the winter has been so cold, there are going to be some plants that won’t have made it.”

“In March, a lot has to do with inspecting the yard for winter damage,” said Mann. “This is a great time of the year to look for insect damage and deer damage.”

Mann expects extensive deer damage this year. “Deer didn’t have much to eat except for plants like azaleas and rhododendrons.”

Insect damage is less obvious and more difficult to identify. “This is the time to do damage-control by using safe or organic-based products like neem oil,” said Mann. “When sprayed on plants, it smothers insect eggs or some insects in the larva stage. It also kills stinkbugs. If you can see them, you can control them. You can use a higher concentration this time of year and it is a lot safer and easier

WHILE EAGER GARDENERS may be excited to start planting spring flowers in their newly cleaned plots, Watkins offers a caveat: “It is a little early for most annual flowers in pots on patios, but you can plant annuals like pansies, which are cold season annuals,” he said. “They don’t like heat, so in June they start to wither. Then you can put other flowers in like petunias and geraniums.”

Watkins recommends planting hearty, ornamental shrubs in patio flowerpots and surrounding them with flowering plants to ensure year-found foliage. “A nice thing to do in pots is plant a woody ornamental,” he said. “It is nice to have plants in the pots that stay year round. I put a Japanese maple in a pot on my deck. In another pot I put ilex verticillata [winterberry] and I had red berries all winter long. In the spring, I’ll put petunias in the soil around it, and around the edge I’ll plant a flowering plant that will trail down over the pot from April to October. Then the rest of the year I’ll get red berries.”

Sowing grass seeds is also an ideal project to begin now. “The seeds won’t germinate until it gets to be 52 degrees,” Watkins continued. “So even if we get another snow storm, it helps work the seeds into the soil.”

Randee Wilson of Nature By Design in Alexandria encourages the use of indigenous plants. “Look for sources for native plants — they help sustain our local wildlife. If we didn’t have local plants, butterflies would be gone.”

Native plants also require less maintenance. “Some native plants are cardinal flower, which is bright red; bee balm, also bright red; blue cardinal; iron weed, which has purple flowers, and native wisteria vine,” said Wilson.

If a new patio is in your plans this spring, Watkins says to get started now. “We’ve been putting down putting patios all year long,” he said. “A good garden center is going to get backed up when the weather is warmer. The sooner you start getting your job in the line, the better.”

Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

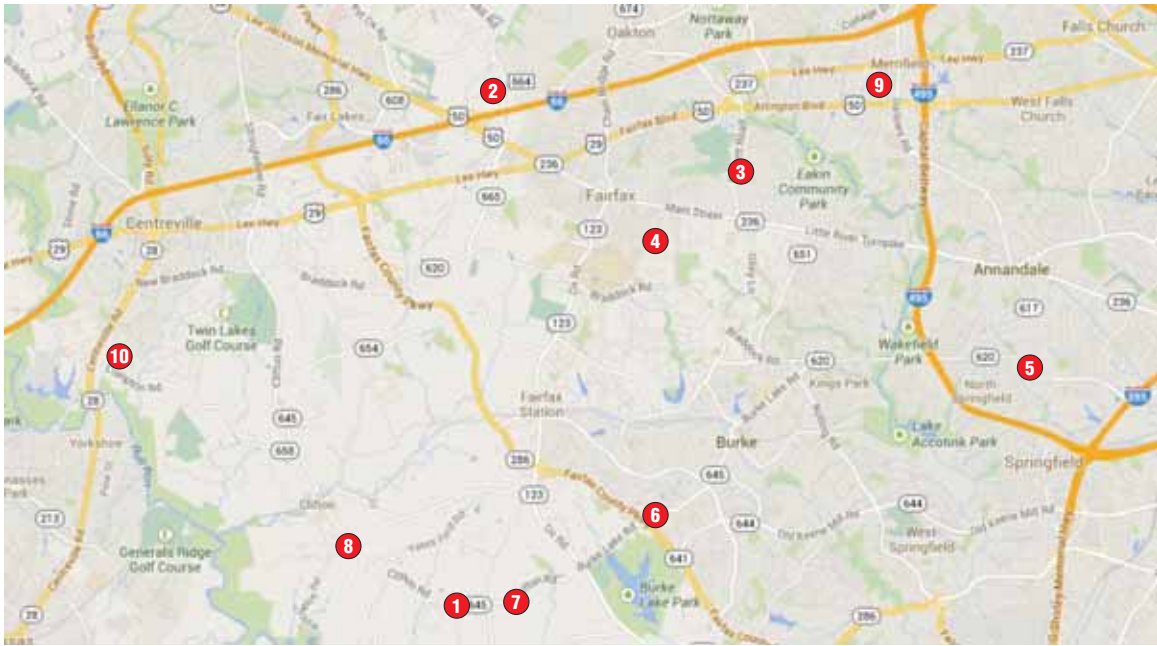


Top Sales in January, 2014

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



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



© Google Map data



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



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

Address	BR	FB	HB	.....	Postal	City	.....	Sold Price	..	Type	.....	Lot AC	..	PostalCode	.....	Subdivision	.....	Date Sold
1 7540 CLIFTON RD	7	..	9	..	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$2,250,000	...	Detached	...	4.82	.....	22039	.....	CRAFTOWN	.....	01/02/14
2 11394 AMBER HILLS CT	5	..	5	..	2	FAIRFAX	.....	\$1,626,036	...	Detached	...	1.08	.....	22033	.....	ESTATES AT FAIR OAKS	.....	01/24/14
3 3518 SCHUERMAN HOUSE DR ..	5	..	5	..	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$1,175,000	...	Detached	...	0.18	.....	22031	.....	PICKETT'S RESERVE	.....	01/17/14
4 4212 ORCHARD DR	4	..	3	..	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$1,150,000	...	Detached	...	0.33	.....	22032	.....	HALEMHURST	.....	01/22/14
5 7111 GRANBERRY WAY	5	..	5	..	2	SPRINGFIELD	..	\$1,060,000	...	Detached	...	0.37	.....	22151	.....	GRANBERRY ESTATES	.....	01/06/14
6 6471 LAKE MEADOW DR	4	..	4	..	1	BURKE	.....	\$1,037,500	...	Detached	...	0.58	.....	22015	.....	EDGEWATER	.....	01/31/14
7 11090 SANDY MANOR DR	4	..	4	..	1	FAIRFAX STATION	..	\$960,000	...	Detached	...	5.00	.....	22039	.....	SANDY RUN FOREST ESTATES	.....	01/20/14
8 7242 ARCHLAW DR	4	..	3	..	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$935,000	...	Detached	...	5.00	.....	20124	.....	CLIFTON TRAILS	.....	01/31/14
9 2936 Penny Lane	3	..	3	..	0	FAIRFAX	.....	\$917,286	...	Detached	...	0.20	.....	22031	...	MOSAIC AT MERRIFIELD	..	01/28/14
10 6720 HARTWOOD LN	6	..	4	..	1	CENTREVILLE	.....	\$715,000	...	Detached	...	0.34	.....	20121	.....	NORTH HART RUN	.....	01/21/14

COPYRIGHT 2014 REAL ESTATE BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE. SOURCE: MRIS AS OF FEBRUARY 14, 2014.

Near Zero Temps Call for Back-to-Basic

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

BY JOHN BYRD

While 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 blow-in 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



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 re-roofing 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."

Foster has encountered similarly short-sighted solutions associated with window replacement. Homeowners with drafty homes procure state-of-the-art insulated windows only to have them installed with inadequately sealed window jambs.

"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."



42886 Iron Bit Pl Chantilly, VA 20152

- Luxury home with over 7,000 sqft of finished living space sitting on private 3.3 acres of land
- 5 Bed/5 Bath/2 Half Bath
- Expansive 4 car garage
- Top of the line gourmet kitchen with SS appliances and granite countertops
- Hardwood flooring throughout the main level
- 2 sunrooms, one includes built-in library
- Open floor plan, ideal for entertaining and family get-togethers
- Large master bedroom with sitting area, custom walk-in closets, and private balcony
- Two story foyer leads to grand master staircase
- Elegant, innovative, and unique design

RE/MAX
Gateway

The Lehman Team



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



703-795-3340
703-968-7000

**I will help you find your Castle,
your Mansion, your Home**

Email:

Meglawless@cox.net

Website:

www.NoVaCastlesForYou.com

Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

2014 Assessments by Area

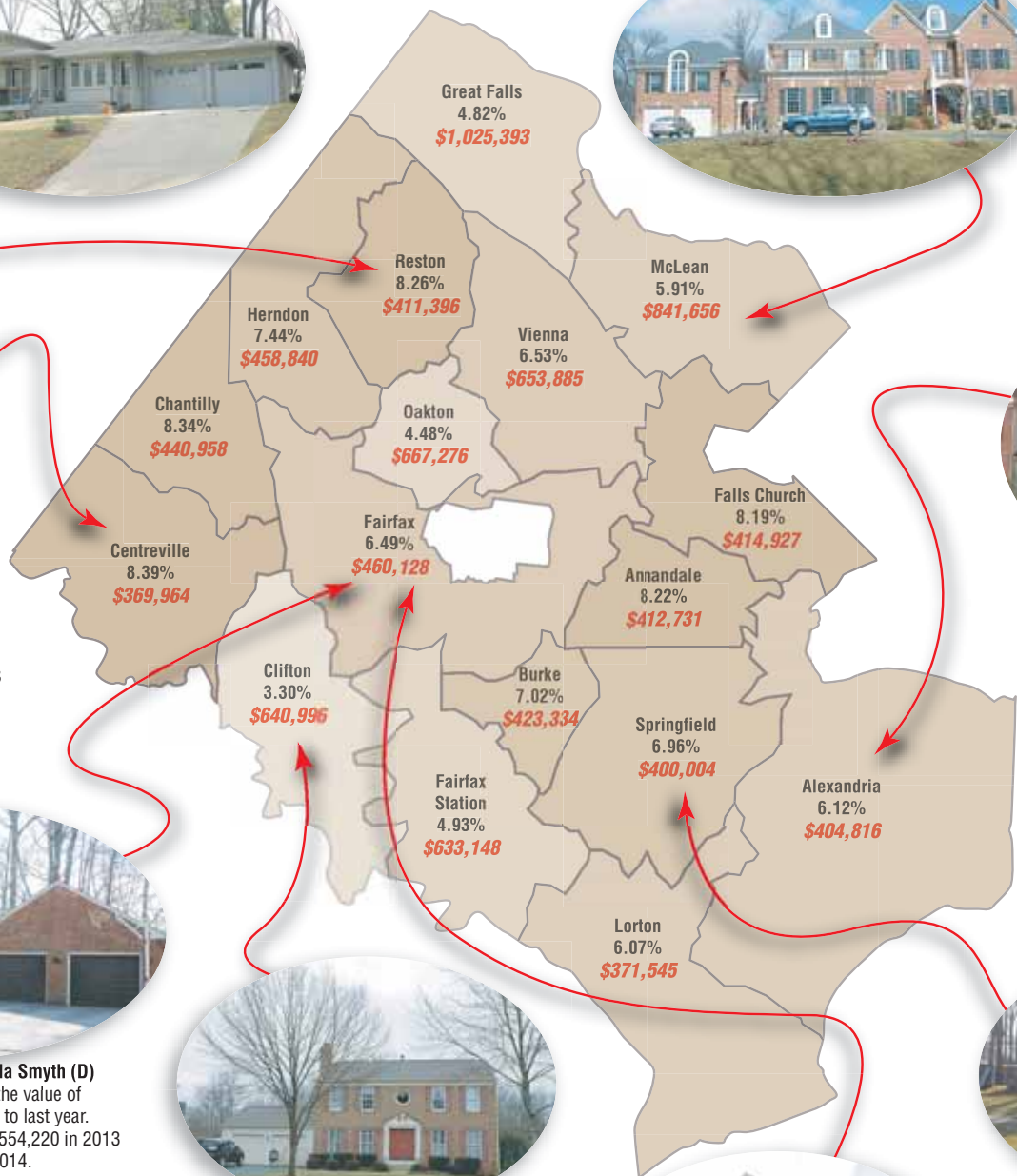
Hunter Mill Supervisor **Cathy Hudgins (D)**
saw her assessment go up 10.80%
from \$575,910 in 2013 to \$638,100 in 2014.



Dranesville District Supervisor **John Foust (D)**
saw a 6.16% drop in his property value when compared to 2013.
The county valued Foust's house at
\$3,109,050 last year and \$2,917,660 this year.



Sully Supervisor **Michael Frey (R)**
saw a 11.96% increase in
the value of his home over the last year.
Frey's home was assessed at \$225,820 in 2013
and \$252,830 in 2014.



Lee Supervisor **Jeff McKay (D)**
saw no change in his home assessment.
This year, his home was worth \$710,220,
same as last year.



Providence Supervisor **Linda Smyth (D)**
saw a 7.22% increase in the value of
her house when compared to last year.
Smyth's home was valued at \$554,220 in 2013
and \$594,220 in 2014.



Springfield Supervisor **Patrick Herrity (R)**
saw a 3.56% gain in his property value
when compared to 2013.
Last year, his home was worth \$553,770 and
this year it is valued at \$573,460.



Braddock Supervisor **John Cook (R)**
saw a 13.37% increase in
the value of his home over the last year.
Cook's home was assessed at
\$586,220 in 2013 and \$634,760 in 2014.



Fairfax County Chairman **Sharon Bulova (D)**
saw her home value go down 2.62%
from \$617,750 in 2013 to \$601,550 in 2014.

0% 10%
2014 County Average (Percent Change)
Single Family Detached **\$598,711 (5.82%)**
Townhouse **\$370,849 (8.39%)**
Condos **\$247,943 (10.51%)**

ZIP CODE AREA	2013 MEAN	2014 MEAN	PERCENT CHANGE
Alexandria/Mount Vernon	381,426	404,816	6.12
Annandale	381,386	412,731	8.22
Burke	395,580	423,334	7.02
Centreville	341,337	369,964	8.39
Chantilly	407,026	440,958	8.34
Clifton	620,491	640,996	3.30
Fairfax	432,104	460,128	6.49
Fairfax Station	603,429	633,148	4.93
Falls Church	383,502	414,927	8.19
Great Falls	978,233	1,025,393	4.82
Herndon	427,060	458,840	7.44
Lorton	350,288	371,545	6.07
McLean	794,688	841,656	5.91
Oakton	638,692	667,276	4.48
Reston	379,741	411,096	8.26
Springfield	373,964	400,004	6.96
Vienna	613,796	653,885	6.53

for single family, townhouses and condominiums

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

SOURCE: FAIRFAX COUNTY