

Chantilly CONNECTION

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Oak Hill Elementary first-grader Evan Bonshock wears the hat he made during the Chantilly Pyramid Art Show. More photos, page 4.

News

'Feed Me, Seymour,' Says the Plant

Westfield High presents 'Little Shop of Horrors.'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

A musical about a man-eating plant is Westfield High's Cappies show for 2014. The curtain rises on "Little Shop of Horrors" May 2-3 and May 9-10 at 7:30 p.m. and May 4 at 2 p.m.

The cast and crew of 40 has been rehearsing since February, and Director Shannon Lynch says things are going great. Besides the regular actors, she's especially excited about Eni Oyeleye, who gives voice to the plant.

"It takes a tremendous personality to have that kind of comedic timing and deep, sultry voice to portray this plant," said Lynch. "It's a smart, savvy, New York Harlem, soulful, streetwise voice that's hard to find in Northern Virginia, so we're lucky to have him."

She's also pleased with Stephen Cox, who designed the plant, is one of the master builders and also the puppeteer. "It took a lot of bold, creative vision and innovation to come up with the design," she said. "And everyone involved has worked hard on it."

"Little Shop of Horrors' is an everyman's musical

about down-and-out people and an underdog [Seymour] who has an opportunity to make a difference," said Lynch. "Aside from being entertaining and fun, it has a more realistic and honest ending. So there's a strong moral and an ethical question posed to the audience members about what they'd do if they were in Seymour's shoes."

Senior Brandon Sanchez designed the set to look like a gritty, early 1960s, Brooklyn Ghetto. "It'll also have the feel of an off-kilter comic book," said Lynch. "We're making this PG-13 show like an over-the-top 'B' movie, absurd and exaggerated. We're keeping the dark, twisty, seedy elements, but with fun and energetic music to maintain the musical comedy."

Seymour works in a florist's shop on skid row and loves his co-worker, Audrey, who's involved with an abusive boyfriend (Sanchez). Playing Seymour is senior TJ Vinsavich. "He's shy, awkward, a people-pleaser who does what people tell him," said Vinsavich. "He was an orphan until the shop owner, Mushnik, took him in, so he's not confident and lets people walk over him. But he slowly gains a backbone and starts growing as a person."

Vinsavich enjoys his role because of Seymour's growth and inner conflict about what the plant forces him to do. "He realizes what he's doing is morally wrong," said Vinsavich. "But he's not used to overwhelming success, so he lets it

SEE WESTFIELD HIGH, PAGE 10



PHOTO COURTESY OF TINA DEMPSEY

TJ Vinsavich and Samantha Dempsey as Seymour and Audrey in Westfield High's "Little Shop of Horrors."



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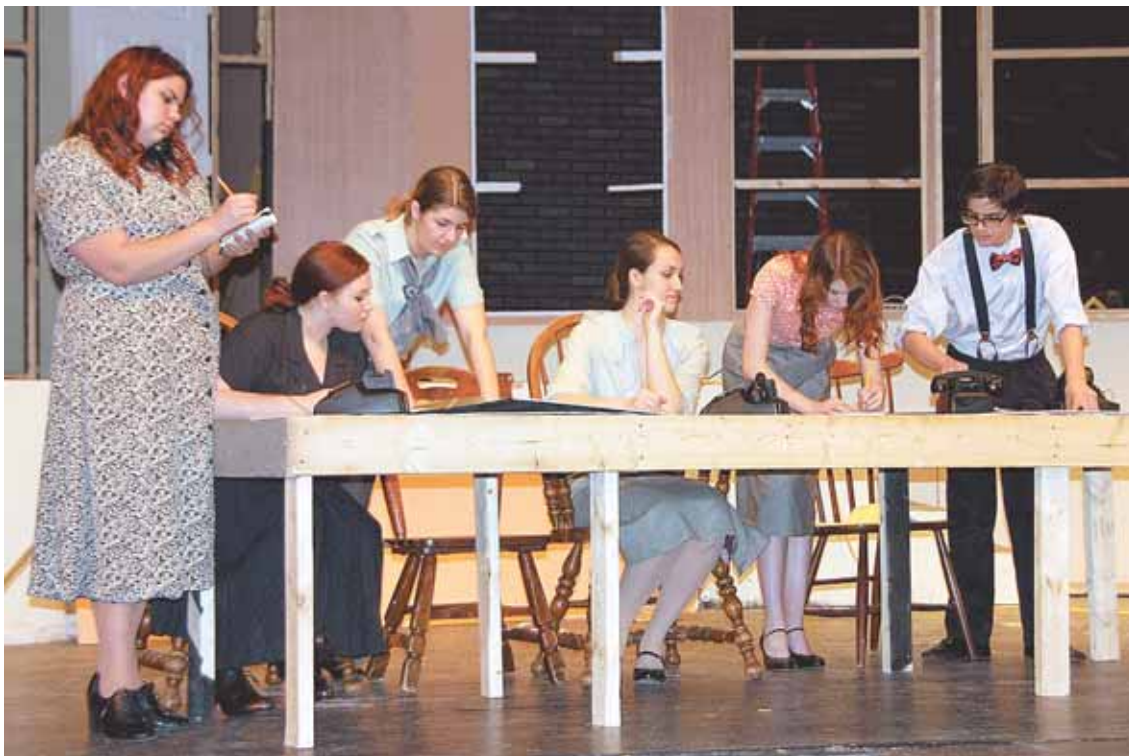












The hardworking reporters are (from left) Ava Schwarz, Grace Mattes, Abby Gwin, Monica Holtz, Kristen Popham and Gonzalo Izquierdo.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CARTER BECK VON PECCOZ

In this rehearsal scene, reporter Hildy (Brooke Johnson) tries to quiet the escaped convict (Ryan Rickard).

A Funny, Fast-Paced Screwball Comedy

Chantilly High presents "The Front Page."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

A 1930s newsroom is the setting for Chantilly High's madcap comedy, "The Front Page." The school's Cappies play takes the stage Thursday-Saturday, May 1, 2, 3, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door or \$8 via www.chantillyhsdrama.com.

"There are lots of funny characters and situations," said Director Ed Monk. "It's a screwball comedy, so everything is fast and quick. We have a really talented cast of 22, and the show has lots of nice, character parts for them. Everyone gets their moment to shine."

They've been rehearsing since February, and the costume crew, hair and makeup artists have meticulously researched what people wore and looked like in the 1930s. The play was written in 1929 and, said Monk, "Pretty much most of it is still relevant to what's going on today, both in politics and in the media. And it's fun watching the kids figure out how to use a rotary phone and a typewriter."

"The Front Page" is about Chicago reporters waiting to cover the hanging of a convicted killer. One reporter, though, plans to quit her job to get married, but this story keeps pulling her in. And when the killer escapes, she puts her job above her marriage. At the same time, her editor, Walter

Burns, played by junior Diego Encarnacion, tries to keep her from leaving the paper.

Senior Brooke Johnson portrays Hildy Johnson, the best reporter for the biggest paper in Chicago. "She wants to live a normal life and move to New York with her fiancé, an ad man," said Johnson. "But she loves her nontraditional job and all the intrigue that goes with it. She's really tough and quick-witted and always gets the scoop."

Enjoying her part, Johnson said Hildy's "awesome and a fun character to play. She's sarcastic and persuasive and finds a way to have her way. And the dialogue is really fast, with 1930s slang and tongue-in-cheek humor."

She said the show contains "lots of funny moments. All the characters are sort of coarse and unrefined, so they just say whatever they think. It's also a cool look into the justice system at that time and the role of newspapers in bringing down corruption and holding the government accountable. You also see the role of the media in shaping public opinion."

Playing Hildy's love interest, Peter, is senior Sam McKee. "He's young and wealthy, but things aren't working out with Hildy the way he expects because of her job," said McKee. "He also has to deal with his complaining mother who's waiting for Hildy to join us in a taxi to catch the train for New York."

McKee's having fun portraying a romantic lead and someone with extreme emotions. "Peter's well-respected, smart and serious and likes things to go as planned," said McKee. "And when they don't, he gets angry."

He said the audience will like "the witty banter among the reporters and the overall, constant action. There's always something going on in the newsroom – people are screaming and lying – so the audience will be entertained at all times. This play's a lot of fun."

Sophomore Grace Mattes portrays Judy Wilson, a reporter waiting for the story to break. "She's lazy, sarcastic and fed up with waiting," said Mattes. "She and the other reporters are playing cards to pass the time. She jokes around with them and doesn't really want to do any work."

Mattes likes her role, but says it's complicated because "We have to be able to say rapid-fire lines about our poker game while saying the lines for the plot. But my character also gets to play solitaire and build card houses, and it's fun to show her sarcasm. The audience will like this show because it's fast-paced, funny and has a really cool plot."

Chantilly plays are noted for their outstanding sets, and set designers Mia Rickenbach, a junior, and Ben Jordan, a sophomore, are creating the magic for this show. "We're doing a round, 1930s-style newsroom with period lights, furniture, wall hangings and props," said Rickenbach. "We looked up the architecture of that time and incorporated it into the arch-topped windows."

Jordan said the toughest part was "trying to make it as complex as possible to make it more impressive."

"There are phone calls throughout the show, so there's also a wall that opens up to show the person on the other end of the call," said Rickenbach. The best part, for both of them, was the shattering window they developed. Said Rickenbach: "It's made out of edible-sugar glass that one of the

SEE A FUNNY. PAGE 10



Lovebirds Peter and Hildy (Sam McKee and Brooke Johnson) share a tender embrace.



Timothy Gustafson, Lees Corner Elementary, fourth grade.



Amanda Oldson, Greenbriar East Elementary, second grade.



Dannon Olsen, Lees Corner, fourth grade.



Emily Bishop, Chantilly senior.

Chantilly Showcases Youth Art

The Chantilly Pyramid Art Show was April 10 at Chantilly High.



Daphne Kupchella, Lees Corner, kindergarten.



Kelly Harmison, Franklin Middle, seventh grade.

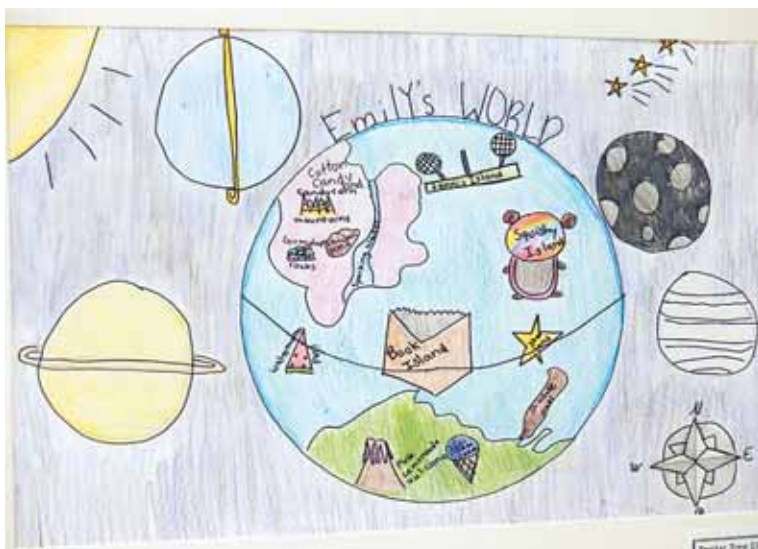


Niki Balani with her portfolio, Chantilly senior.



Autumn Tury, Chantilly sophomore.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



Drawing by Emily Yi, Poplar Tree Elementary, fifth grade.



Ameer Abdulilah, Greenbriar East Elementary, first grade.



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Rehearsing a scene from “Funny Money” are (from left) Miranda Newman, Connor Gillooly, Austin Burch and Adrianna Hauser.

‘It’ll Make People Laugh, Feel Good’

Centreville High presents comedy, ‘Funny Money.’

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

An aptly named show that’ll have the audience roaring with laughter, “Funny Money” is Centreville High’s upcoming Cappies play. It’ll burst upon the stage Friday-Saturday, May 2-3 and May 9-10, at 7:30 p.m.; tickets are \$10 at the door.

“It’s an English, comic farce that takes place in modern-day London,” said Director Mike Hudson. “There’s a mistaken identity that’s intentional, and it gets more bizarrely convoluted as the play goes on.”

The main character, Henry, finds himself with a briefcase he thought was his, but isn’t. And when he discovers it’s full of cash, he decides he and his wife will emigrate to Barcelona and live the easy life.

“Trouble is, she doesn’t want to leave home, and the hilarity begins when the police show up at their door to investigate two different crimes,” said Hudson. “Meanwhile, the bad guys have Henry’s briefcase and eventually trace their briefcase back to him.”

Calling the show “absolute slapstick,” Hudson said it’s “almost like Monty Python and very funny. And as the play progresses — and characters lie to cover their actions — it becomes more and more complicated and hilarious.”

This play was a smash on London’s West End, and the scenes unfold over the course of one evening in Henry and Jean Perkins’s living room. The cast and crew of 21 have been rehearsing since February, and Hudson says everyone’s doing a terrific job.

“The makeup, costumes and sets are all designed by the students,” he said. “And the main actors play well off each other, have sharp comic timing and are doing wonderfully with the witty dialogue.”

Senior Connor Gillooly plays Henry. “He’s pretty normal; at first, he’s wimpy and does what he’s told,” said Gillooly. “But after he finds the money, he begins doing what he wants, instead of listening to others. He tries his best to control all the chaotic aspects of his life and gets frustrated when he can’t.”

Gillooly loves his role because “Henry tries to be in the know about everything; and when he’s not, he’s utterly confused and baffled. And that’s when he has some of his funniest lines. It’s my first lead, so it’s stressful; but it’s very worthwhile and pays off in the end.”

“A lot of the confusion is really funny,” he continued. “And there are many shocking lines that are hysterical and will really catch the audience off guard. And the witty, British humor will appeal to a lot

SEE ‘IT’LL MAKE, PAGE 10

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OPINION

Past Time for Later Start Times

It's possible that, finally, high school will begin the day at a time healthier for teens.

Teenagers are sleep deprived, and sleep deprivation takes a significant toll on safety, health and learning. We've known this for decades.

But for decades, literally, Fairfax County Public Schools (and Montgomery County, Md.) have let a combination of reactionary blabber ("buck up and get moving;" "just tell them to go to bed earlier") and organizational resistance prevent implementing a solution to this very real problem.

Getting up at 5:30 or 6 a.m. to hop on a school bus at 5:45 a.m. or even as late at 6:30 a.m. to get to school by 7:20 a.m. is not healthy for teenagers. It is nearly impossible for teenagers to go to sleep before 11 p.m. or midnight.

Fairfax County high school students average six hours of sleep a night on weeknights. Research shows they need nine hours of sleep.

Research has also quantified the costs of sleep deprivation.

That level of sleep deprivation contributes to depression and suicidal thoughts.

Driving-while-teen is challenging by itself; driving with sleep deprivation is like driving under the influence, and contributes to car accidents both minor and major.

Sleep deprivation is also associated with lack of impulse control, another aspect of teenage life that needs no augmentation.

It's hard to learn when sleep deprived, and harder still to get excited about what one is learning.

Children's National Medical Center was contracted more than a year ago by Fairfax County Public Schools to develop proposals for starting high schools after 8 a.m. Specific proposals will be presented shortly, and those specific proposals are sure to bring out specific objections.

Yes, changing start times will cost money. Yes, changing start times will require changing a lot of other things that many will find inconvenient. It's going to require significant will on the part of supporters of teen health, supporters of later high school start times to push

this proposal across the finish line. Kudos to SLEEP in Fairfax advocates who have been pushing for so long.

How much would you spend, how much would you be willing to be inconvenienced, to prevent a single suicide? To prevent a single serious car crash? These are genuinely the things that are at stake.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 11 and every year at this time, we call for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery. Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your full address or contact information.) You can upload photos and information directly to our website at www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/ or email to editor@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, May 2.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saddened by Anti-Semitic Violence

To the Editor:

"... whosoever killed a person ... it shall be as if he had killed all mankind;" Quran 5:33. When I heard of the shooting that took place at the Jewish Community Center in Kansas City, I was saddened by the state of our people. As a Muslim, it felt as if members of my own community had been violently snatched from this Earth. The fact that this is blatant racism and

prejudice sickens me. The fact that people are willing to go as far as murder and take innocent lives to perpetuate racism and prejudice is frightening. As an American Muslim, I am shocked and saddened by the anti-Semitic violence that has occurred as I too share much love and respect for the Israelite prophets.

In the Holy Qur'an, God states "Say, 'We believe in ... that which was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the Tribes, and that which was given to Moses and Jesus and other Prophets from their Lord'" (3:85). I wish to extend my hand and offer my

deepest condolences to the Jewish community. This is not humanity and no one deserves to suffer like this just because of their beliefs. I pray that we are all protected and remain unified in brotherhood in spite of those that may try to divide us as a community. God bless.

Saira Bhatti
Centreville

Wiser Use of Federal Tax Dollars

To the Editor:

I'm unhappy to learn that 40 cents of every one of my 2013 federal tax dollars went to fund current and past wars, according to the Quaker advocacy group the Friends Committee on National Legislation.

We have some critical needs as a country — how to respond to the effects of climate change, how to repair our crumbling bridges and roadways, how to bridge the growing divide between rich and poor. I want to see more of my tax dollars going to these priorities rather than to the Pentagon.

I hope that my senators, Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, will work to make this happen in the coming year. They can start by eliminating the more than \$100 billion of documented waste, fraud and abuse found in the Pentagon's budget every year. We might disagree about the need to invest in the tools for war, but surely we can agree on the need to spend our tax dollars responsibly.

Kristen Van Tassell
Centreville



STEVEN G. ARTLEY/THE CONNECTION

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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
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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](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
[@TheismannMedia](https://twitter.com/TheismannMedia)

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



ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, April 24 and May 8, from 5 p.m. to dusk, 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.

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. (The inspection may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather). Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Drug Take-Back On April 26

People wanting to get rid of prescription or non-prescription drugs in a safe way may bring them to the Sully District Police Station on Drug Take-Back Day. It'll be Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in the lobby of the station at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. People are asked to scratch out any personal information on the bottles and boxes. This event is completely anonymous, with no questions asked.

International Celebration

Celebrating the community's cultural diversity, the Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF) presents the Centreville International Showcase. A lighthearted evening of music, dance, food and friendship is slated for Saturday, April 26, from 6-9:30 p.m., at Centreville United Methodist Church. The church is at 6400 Old Centreville Road in Centreville, and the festivities will take place in the gym. The event includes food for sale from Guatemala, El Salvador, Korea and other countries, plus entertainment, a 50-50 raffle and a silent auction. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted to help support the CIF and the Centreville Labor Resource Center.

Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices – such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous

wastes – including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County's "Electric Sunday" events. The next one is slated for Sunday, April 27, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

Fair Oaks CAC Tours Shelter

The Citizens Advisory Council of
SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 14



Spring At Last

Pink cherry blossoms add welcome color to a Fair Oaks neighborhood after the long winter.

BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

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Local REAL ESTATE

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3 7840 Gold Flint Drive, Clifton — \$1,237,522



6 11418 Lilting Lane, Fairfax Station — \$1,165,000



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3 7840 GOLD FLINT DR	6	..	6..	2	CLIFTON	\$1,237,522 ...	Detached ...	5.00	20124	WYCKLAND	02/21/14
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5 12489 FALKIRK DR	5	..	4..	1	FAIRFAX	\$1,199,000 ...	Detached ...	0.51	22033	DARTMOOR WOODS	02/12/14
6 11418 LILTING LN	5	..	4..	0	...	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,165,000 ...	Detached ...	6.95	22039	SINGING WOODS THE	02/27/14
7 9751 THORN BUSH DR	5	..	4..	1	...	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,162,500 ...	Detached ...	5.02	22039	ESTATES AT ROSELAND ...	02/14/14
8 10500 SUMMERWIND LN	4	..	4..	2	...	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,050,000 ...	Detached ...	5.00	22039	SUMMERWIND	02/06/14
9 16700 CEDAR POST CT	5	..	4..	1	CENTREVILLE ..	\$1,045,000 ...	Detached ...	5.02	20120	CEDAR CREST ESTATES ...	02/18/14

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What to Expect Real estate experts offer a forecast for spring.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Real estate agent Joan Caton Cromwell says she lost a home bidding war last week in Falls Church even though her client was a strong contestant.

"We were one of five contracts and we even waived the appraisal," said Cromwell of McEneaney Associates. "Any house that is close-in [to Washington, D.C.] and that is in nice condition, is going to attract a lot of attention."

Real estate agents say spring is one of the busiest times of the year for home sales and there is dearth of available homes in popular neighborhoods. "The lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties," said John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty in Arlington. "I expect all sectors of the market to see price gains and demand to remain high."

HOME PRICES are on the rise. "If you put a home on the market and it gets multiple offers, the eight other people who didn't get the house will bid on another house," said Cromwell. "In a market where there are multiple offers it definitely drives the prices up and it drives them up quickly."

Anthony B. Sanders, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Real Estate Finance at George Mason University said, "Very simply, this is still an area that is growing, so housing home sales will continue to rise, but more slowly than during the real estate bubble."

Still, agents are optimistic as they enter the spring buying season. "The state of the real estate market is great," said Marsha Schuman of the Washington Fine Properties' Schuman Team. "The weather is be-



COURTESY OF TTR SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty says lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties like this Arlington home.

hind us and there is a momentum going into the spring market that feels very positive."

The spring market in the Washington, D.C. area is aligned with academic calendars. "It starts in April and May in the suburbs," said Cromwell. "Those in the military or who work for the World Bank for example, put their homes on the market in spring to prepare to relocate during the summer."

Proximity to public transportation increases desirability. "For example, Reston is popular because of the Silver Line," said Cromwell. "North Arlington and Falls Church are popular. Anything that offers a decent commuting experience for someone who can't afford what they want in the city will be sought after."

Schuman said, "We see a new trend in all

price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located. They want an easier life. Convenience is the new real estate buzzword. Property becomes compelling when buyers see value."

Sanders said some communities are especially competitive. "Virginia has two of the wealthiest counties in the country, Loudoun and Fairfax counties, so those communities should see a fairly short turn over."

NOT EVERYONE IS KEEPING with the trend. "We're not seeing middle class families buying homes through the mortgage market," said Sanders, the GMU professor. "Their income was devastated during the

Fairfax County Real Estate Overview

❖ In February, 789 homes were sold in Fairfax County, an increase of 2.1 percent from the 773 homes sold in February 2013.

❖ On average, homes that sold in Fairfax County in February were on the market for 60 days, eight days longer than the 52-day average in February 2013.

❖ The average home sales price of all homes that sold in February 2014 in Fairfax County was \$499,765, an increase of 4.8 percent over the February 2013 average sales price of \$476,735. Compared to the annual 2013 average home sales price of \$531,136, the February price decreased 5.9 percent.

❖ The average sales price for detached homes that sold in February 2014 was \$677,199, an increase of 7.4 percent over the February 2013 average of \$630,557.

❖ The average sales price of attached homes increased 6.9 percent in the same time period, to \$352,384 from \$329,534 the year before.

❖ In February, the number of active listings in the County was 1,814, an increase of 26.3 percent over the 1,436 listed in February 2013. Based on the February 2014 listings and the current sales rate, there is a 2.3 month supply of homes for sale in the County, up from the 1.9 month supply a year ago.

Source: Fairfax County Office of Management and Budget

housing bubble burst due to foreclosures. Real household income has fallen since 2007. So the American middle class is worse off than it was in 2007. It's more high-income families with cash or investors who are buying homes."

Schuman says that homes priced below \$1.3 million "are being snapped off the market if they are well conditioned and fairly priced. The ultra-luxury market, homes over \$2 million, is a little bit slower paced at present, but there are signs that these buyers are out there and wanting to buy."

Cromwell agrees, "The 600-900K price point is very busy for a house in good condition."

Realtors: Great Kitchens Help Sell Homes

Real estate experts offer tips for creating an appealing kitchen.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Designer Jacquelin Lluy, of Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths in Springfield, recently transformed the kitchen of a home in Mantua, in Fairfax, from a small, dark space to a light-filled, free-flowing culinary oasis.

"The kitchen was built in the '70s with a small, dark eat-in kitchen table for four," Lluy. "The family wanted a view of their expansive wooded lot and an island built

for entertaining and family meals with their young boys."

The new kitchen includes an island made of maple. "The two-height island has a 'truffle' finish [and] was designed for game nights, football watching, entertaining friends on the higher level while the lower level is used for quick weekday meals and easy clean up with sink, trash/recycle and dishwasher located there."

BEFORE PUTTING ONE'S HOME on the market, real estate agents encourage homeowners to spruce up the kitchen. Well-designed, free-flowing kitchens like Lluy's can often make or break the sale of a home say some local Realtors.

"I think a kitchen is one of the top things

SEE TIPS FOR, PAGE 13



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWO POOR TEACHERS

This kitchen, designed by Two Poor Teachers, includes a large entertainment island. Realtors say attractive kitchens help homes sell quickly.

Westfield High Presents 'Little Shop of Horrors'

FROM PAGE 2
get to him."

His favorite number is "Feed Me" because "it's really passionate and you see the biggest change in Seymour's character. It ends strong and emotionally awesome, with a big crescendo of energy as Seymour makes an important decision." Vinsavich said the audience will relate to and feel for all the characters. "They'll like the songs and dialogue, too," he said. "It's well-written and funny, so they'll enjoy the whole show."

Junior Samantha Dempsey portrays Audrey. "She's lovable, sexy, ditzy and a dreamer," said Dempsey. "She wants to have a normal, happy life with a husband and kids. I love playing her because she has a New Jersey accent, is so innocent and open-minded and has a big heart."

Dempsey especially likes Audrey's main song, "Somewhere that's Green," because "it's the first time the audience sees her dreaming about what she really wants in her life. But people will like all the songs and the story. It's a little scary, but not terrifying — the comedy makes up for it. And the costumes are unique to each character."

Senior Selena Clyne-Galindo plays Crystal, one of three Doo Wop Girls called the Trashettes — who act as narrators and are also background singers and dancers. "She's the knowledgeable one," said Clyne-Galindo. "They're all sassy and upfront, but



The Doo Wop Girls, the Trashettes: (From left) are Estella Massey (Ronnette), Emily Tobin (Chiffon) and Selena Clyne-Galindo (Crystal).

Crystal's a little more reserved."

She's excited to play Crystal "because it's like playing myself and messing around with my friends, having fun and dancing." She also choreographed the show with help from Ola Polzar and Meredith Mehegan. "They did the ensemble numbers and I fo-

cused on the Trashettes and some of the numbers for the leads," said Clyne-Galindo.

She liked choreographing because "it was fun to see everything come together and look really good. I spent the past four years being taught choreography by other talented students, so it was nice to contribute

to a show that way, too."

Clyne-Galindo's favorite song is the title number because "it opens the show, it's upbeat, lets the Doo Wops introduce what's going to happen and is the show's most iconic number." Overall, she said the plant will be amazing, "not just as a prop, but as a character, because Eni has the perfect voice for it."

The other two Doo Wop girls are Estella Massey as Ronette and senior Emily Tobin as Chiffon. Tobin also helped Cox and David Koenigsberg design and build the four, separate plants needed to show its growth. Hardest, she said, was "actually constructing the plants and getting them to work. They're all puppets so we have to make sure all the talking goes smoothly with the movements."

Tobin enjoyed working with her friends and, she added, "I have a fascination with how puppets work, so making one that size and of such intricate detail sounded like fun to me. The tallest plant is 7 feet tall, with its mouth shut. We made it out of PVC pipe and chicken wire and then covered it with papier-mâché."

Regarding the play, she said, "All the actors do incredibly with their characters and bring something unique to each of them, and they're all really talented. I'm hoping people will love the plant and enjoy the music. Overall, it's a really good show and it'll make the audience laugh."

PHOTO COURTESY OF TINA DEMPSEY

A Funny, Fast-Paced Screwball Comedy

FROM PAGE 3

characters will crash through."

"It'll cover the whole stage," added Jordan. The tech crew has about 10 people, and both Jordan and Rickenbach are happy to be on it.

"I like it because I have a background in art," said Rickenbach. "And when you're designing sets, you can work off a script." As for Jordan, he enjoys working on crew because "the people are all weird in a good way. And I never wanted to act, so this is a good way for me to gain entry into the theater community."

'It'll Make People Laugh, Feel Good'

FROM PAGE 5

of people."

Portraying his wife Jean is junior Miranda Newman. "She's very interested in keeping up her home," said Newman. "She's together, organized and a little uptight. She's kind of bland, always follows the rules and likes to keep things in order. So when Henry says, 'Let's move to Barcelona,' she can't handle it and she starts drinking."

Newman said it's fun playing Jean because "playing someone different than I am — and who's older and drinks — gives me a different perspective. And she has a lot of funny dialogue." Newman said the whole show is fast-paced and "basically, every line is a joke, so it's very funny. It's upbeat and will make people laugh and feel good about themselves."

Junior Austin Burch plays Vic. "He's kind of simple and is easily confused at the latest twist in Henry and Jean's activities," explained Burch. "He tends to be a bit bold and out there, but isn't brave when confronted."

Burch said it's a fun role to play because it's interesting to be totally lost and confused onstage. "Vic's trying to keep up with what's going on — which the audience will be, too, on occasion," he said. "And a lot of his physical actions can be really big and [strange]."

While noting that the audience will enjoy the show's rapid-fire humor and cheerful tone, Burch believes "the normalness of the characters — despite their extraordinary circumstances — will make them relatable."

Adrianna Hauser, also a junior, plays Vic's wife



Posing in character are (standing, from left) Khalied Bashri, CJ Robinson, Austin Burch, Adrianna Hauser and Jeremy Washington and (sitting, from left) Miranda Newman, Connor Gillooly and Santiago Jauregui.

Betty. Hauser described Vic as "quicker to use his fists than his brains," but said Betty is "a really cheerful and bubbly woman, [although] a bit crazy. And they're both family friends of the Perkinses. I feel like she wishes she had more of a life of glamour and money. She's also buxom and makes a lot of sexual innuendoes."

Hauser loves her part because "it's serious, but super-funny at the same time. Betty tries to act mature, but is childish, so I get to be an older woman trying to act prim and proper when she's not." As for the show, she said the audience will like "all the jokes, the confusion with the briefcases and the overall raw humor of the play."

BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com.

ONGOING

High School Theater. “The Front Page” at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road. Set in 1930’s Chicago, with 22 student performers and more than 30 student technicians. Runs Thursday, May 1-Saturday, May 3. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.chantillyhsdrama.com.

High School Musical. “Little Shop of Horrors” at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Runs May 2-10, 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sunday. \$10 with valid student ID; others \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

Sully Historic Site. 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Enjoy guided tours of the 1794 home of Northern Virginia’s first congressman, Richard Bland Lee. \$7/adult; \$6/student; \$5/senior and child. Hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 703-437-1794.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25

Bouncin’ Babies. 3 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

Step Out with the USO. 7-11 p.m. Support the Dulles USO lounge and members of the armed forces at the Washington Dulles Airport Marriott on Aviation Drive. There will be food, dancing, cash bar, silent auction and raffle. \$35/person. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/step-out-with-the-uso-at-dulles-tickets-

10454099493.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

Lego Mania. 12:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children in kindergarten through second grade can show off their Lego-building skills. Call 703-502-3883.

Singles Dinner and Movie Night. 5 p.m. at PF Chang’s in Fairfax Corner, 4250 Fairfax Corner Ave. Fixed price dinner followed by movie of your choice at Fairfax Corner 14. Cost of \$30 at door includes dinner, soda, tip and movie ticket. RSVP required. Sponsored by New Beginnings, a support group for separated/divorced men and women. Call 301-924-4101 or visit www.newbeginningsusa.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 28

Bouncin’ Babies. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

Sully Book Club. 1 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. “Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War” by Nathaniel Philbrick. Call 703-830-2223.

Hidden Pond Nature. 2 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Discover and explore local nature. Live animals may be present. Presented by the staff of Hidden Pond Nature Center. For grades 1-6. Call 703-502-3883.

Book Buddies. 2:15 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Book buddy

discussion group for first and second grade students. Call 703-502-3883.

Writers of Chantilly. 6:45 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Share work and give and receive feedback. Call 703-502-3883.

TUESDAY/APRIL 29

Toddlin’ Twos. 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Early literacy storytime with stories, songs and activities. Age 2 with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Storytime. 1:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Early literacy program with stories and activities for children age 3-5 with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

Duplo Storytime. 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Duplo play storytime helps early literacy skills for children ages 3-5 with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Bouncin’ Babies. 3 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

A Novel Society. 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. “Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck. Call 703-830-2223.

THURSDAY/MAY 1

Ready for Potty Training Storytime. 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000

Stringfellow Road. Stories and games to help motivate boys and girls who are ready to start potty training for children ages 18 months-3 years with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Book Sale Preview. 6-8:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Preview of book sale for Friends of the Centreville Library. Annual membership fees of \$15 collected beginning at 5:30. Sale open to the public May 2-4. Call 703-502-3883.

FRIDAY/MAY 2

Bouncin’ Babies. 3 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. 703-502-3883.

Wildcat Golf Classic. 1:30 p.m. at Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. General Dynamics & the Wildcat golf team host 10th annual event. Registration fee is \$400 per foursome; \$100 for individuals. Visit www.cvhs golf.org or email glbigus@fcps.edu.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 2-4

Book Sale. At the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Friends of Centreville Library spring sale 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 1-3 p.m. Sunday.

Theater. Cinder-Rachella, a musical adaptation which celebrates Jewish and Israeli culture. Part of the JCCNV Performing Arts Series, in partnership with First Draft at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike. Friday 6 p.m. Shabbat Dinner, 7 p.m.

performance; \$12 adult, \$8 children. Saturday 11 a.m. and Sunday 2 p.m.; both \$10 adult, \$8 student, free ages 3-6. Call 703-537-3000, email boxoffice@jccnv.org or visit www.jccnvarts.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 3

Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-noon in front of Giant Food, 5615 Stone Road, Sully Station, Centreville. Perennials, annuals and herbs for sale by Centreville Garden Club. Visit centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com, contact centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com or 703-266-9233.

Kaleidoscope Adaptive Storytime. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Stories, songs and movement in a welcoming atmosphere for children of all ages on the autism spectrum and with other developmental challenges. Call 703-502-3883.

Plant Clinic. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Master gardeners with provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-502-3883.

PAWS for Reading. 3 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Read aloud for a 15-minute session with a therapy dog. Bring a book or choose one from the library. For ages 5-12. Call 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 3-4

Fairfax Fine Art Festival. Fairfax Corner on Grand Commons Avenue between Monument Corner and Summit Corner Drives. 10 a.m.-7 a.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Original handmade work of artisans from 17 states. Free.



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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION
David Zaman (1) and the Chantilly boys' lacrosse team lost to South County, 8-6, on April 22.



Chase Alderman, middle, and the Chantilly boys' lacrosse team on April 22 suffered their first defeat since falling to Madison in last season's Northern Region championship game on May 24, 2013.

South County Beats Defending State Champion Chantilly

Chargers suffer first loss since 2013 Northern Region final.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The South County boys' lacrosse team still has plenty of work to do in order to fulfill its hopes of winning a state championship. On Tuesday evening, however, the Stallions proved they deserve to be mentioned as a title contender.

South County jumped out to a 4-0 lead and never trailed during an 8-6 victory over defending state champion Chantilly on April 22 at South County High School. Both teams entered the contest undefeated, but it was the Stallions who took control early.

"It means a lot, but you can't let it get to your head," senior midfielder David Symmes said. ... It's just a statement win. It shows we're contenders."

Junior midfielder Kevin Quigley scored with 2:40 remaining in the third quarter, giving South County an 8-4 lead. Chantilly answered with a goal by sophomore attackman Colin Zimmerman late in the third and another by senior midfielder/attackman Conor Kelly with 5:49 remaining in the fourth, but the Chargers got no closer.

South County handed Chantilly its first loss since the Chargers fell to Madison in the AAA Northern Region championship game on May 24, 2013.

"I think it just puts us in the conversation right now as one of the best teams in the region," said first-year South County head coach Dale Nalls, who spent last year away from coaching after leading the Mount Vernon boys' program from 1994-2012. "That's where we want to be; we want to be in the conversation as a team that's going to be a tough out, hopefully, when we get to the play-offs."

Players on both teams struggled with footing after heavy rainfall during the first half left the Stallions' grass field slick. South County managed to build an early lead, however, starting with Symmes' first goal less than 2 minutes into the contest. Senior midfielder Nate Cho and junior attackman Austin Fitzmaurice also scored in the first quarter, giving the Stallions a 3-0 advantage.

Quigley scored in the opening minute of the second quarter, extending the Stallions' lead to 4-0.

"With our physical abilities, we use it to our advantage," Symmes said. "I think we have a faster tempo than any team out there, in my opinion. We really beat people into the ground. We're relentless."

Chantilly junior midfielder Colin Meehan

got the Chargers on the board with a goal at the 9:08 mark and senior attackman Jonathan Popham added a goal with 6:33 remaining in the first half, cutting the South County lead in half. Fitzmaurice responded with his second goal in the final minute of the second quarter, giving South County a 5-2 halftime lead.

Symmes' second goal gave South County a 6-2 advantage with 8:21 remaining in the third.

"Really, the district is sort of looking at the small picture to us. We're looking for something bigger — state championship. If you're going to go to the state championship, you have to compete with teams like Chantilly."

— South County senior David Symmes

Symmes, who will play collegiately at West Point, broke the shaft of his stick while contacting a Chantilly player in the second quarter. Symmes used the shaft of a teammates' stick to fix his own and returned to the field to score his second goal.

"He's vital to our offensive success," Nalls said. "He draws shutoffs — they were shut-

ting him off for a lot of the game. Other teams have to game plan for him so that sometimes throws their own players out of sync a little bit. When that happens, then other players on our offense benefit and reap the rewards. ... It wasn't just David, but David creates mismatches for other guys and that opens things up for Nate Cho and Kevin Quigley and Austin Fitzmaurice and David Krein and Tyler Alexander."

Goals by Chantilly's Zach Gilbert and Nick Jung cut the South County lead to 6-4 in the third, but the Stallions extended the lead back to four with goals by Krein and Quigley.

With the win, South County improved to 9-0. The Stallions hosted Osborn Park on Wednesday, after The Connection's deadline, and will host Lake Braddock at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, April 25.

South County won the Patriot District championship last season. This year, Symmes said the Stallions have their sights set on greater accomplishments.

"Really, the district is sort of looking at the small picture to us," he said. "We're looking for something bigger — state championship. If you're going to go to the state championship, you have to compete with teams like Chantilly."

Chantilly dropped to 9-1. The Chargers faced Yorktown on Wednesday, after The Connection's deadline, and will travel to face Woodson at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, April 25.



This kitchen, designed by Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths, is light-filled and features an open floor plan. Realtors say an open kitchen appeals to buyers.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICELY DONE KITCHENS AND BATHS

Tips for Creating an Appealing Kitchen

FROM PAGE 9

that a buyer looks at,” said Arlington Realtor Michelle Sagatov of the Michelle Sagatov group at McEneaney Associates.

Alexandria-based Realtor Elizabeth Lucchesi of the LizLuke Team at McEneaney Associates said, “Kitchens are the nucleus of the house. It is where everybody hangs out. The kitchen has to look good and feel good.”

Ken Nies, of Two Poor Teachers in Annandale, recently remodeled the kitchen in a Falls Church home adding “custom window millwork, lighting, a backsplash, a large center entertainment island and farm sink.” Nies advises using “different materials on your island to give a custom look.”

Realtors suggest investing in quality cabinetry and countertops. “Granite is something people look for but there are other materials that people can use like caesarstone and quartz,” said Sagatov. “Choose nice, solid counter tops that compliment the cabinetry.”

FOR THOSE WHO WANT to update a kitchen and think they will be selling their home within five to seven years, Sagatov suggests that homeowners think about the resale value before remodeling. “Make the kitchen timeless,” she said. “Don’t put too much of your personality into the kitchen. If you want to show off your personality, do that with paint or kitchen decorations, but make the things that cost a lot of money neutral and timeless, so when you go to sell your home, it appeals to a much broader audience.”

If you plan on renovating the kitchen, do it early, “not when you’re about to sell so that you can enjoy it too,” continued Sagatov.

HOWEVER, ONE DOESN’T need to remodel an entire kitchen before putting a home on the market. Real estate agents say there are a few changes that homeowners can make to help their kitchen sparkle.

“If you don’t have an updated kitchen there are things that you can do to make it look updated, clean

and fresh,” said Sagatov.

Make sure the kitchen has matching appliances that are in good working order. “It doesn’t matter if they are stainless steel, black or white as long as they match,” said Lucchesi.

An open kitchen appeals to buyers. “Having a kitchen area where you can cook while spending time with family, is important,” said Lucchesi. “Having it open into a living area allows the cook to be connected to others.”

Don’t underestimate the power of lighting. “Under-counter mounted lighting makes all the difference in the world,” said Lucchesi. “It gives the illusion that you have a lot of countertop space when in reality maybe you don’t.”

Spruce up dated cabinetry. “Painting cabinets a crisp white goes a long way,” said Sagatov. “A lot of older kitchens have dark wood. Putting a coat of fresh paint and new hardware goes a long way and is an investment that gives you so much money back.”

Sagatov said, “Another easy fix would be painting the walls. Taupe or grey paint on the walls in the kitchen would be soothing and go well with the white cabinets. Those fixes don’t cost a lot of money.”

Fixtures are another minor element that can make a big impression.

“Make sure that cabinet pulls are updated with materials like glass or brushed nickel,” said Lucchesi. “Great faucets are like a nice pair of shoes or a good belt.”

Lucchesi speaks from experience. “We sold a 1940s house recently with a small kitchen,” she said. “We added new appliances, a new faucet, new cabinets and it sold for \$24,000 above the list price in four days with seven offers.”

“When enhancing a house for sale, you want to appeal to the broadest audience,” said Lucchesi.

Polished and updated kitchens create appealing pictures. “Sexy kitchens photograph well,” said Lucchesi. “When people are looking at kitchens in online photos, we don’t want to give them a reason to tell their agent, ‘No I don’t want to see that house.’”

“Sexy kitchens photograph well. When people are looking at kitchens in online photos, we don’t want to give them a reason to tell their agent, ‘No I don’t want to see that house.’”

— Elizabeth Lucchesi

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ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 7

the Fair Oaks District Police Station will meet Tuesday, April 29, at 7 p.m., at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, 4500 West Ox Road in Fairfax to tour the newly renovated shelter.

Chantilly High's 40th Birthday

Chantilly High will celebrate its 40th birthday on Friday, May 2, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., and the community's invited to come and join the festivities. There'll be school tours, exhibits of current programs (near the tennis courts), Chantilly trivia, sports accomplishments and desserts – birthday cake and other treats – near the football stadium.

Rotary's Electronics Recycling Day

The Rotary Club of Centreville & Chantilly is holding its first annual Electronics Recycling Day on Saturday May 3, from 8 a.m.-noon, in the parking lot of United Bank, 6375 Multiplex Drive in Centreville. It's being done in partnership with the bank and Prime Recycling Group. Bring computers, cell phones, laptops, printers, DVD players, ink cartridges, cables and wires, small household appliances, etc. The event will allow residents to safely recycle old electronics, and the local Rotary Club will benefit by receiving a portion of the proceeds earned from selling the recyclable material.

That money goes toward funding several of the club's local and international projects. These include an annual scholarship to a student at Mountain View High School, adoption of needy families during the holiday season, road cleanup efforts, sponsorship of a Shelter Box to provide emergency assistance to families displaced by war or famine throughout the world, and Rotary's signature international project – supplying funds for organizations providing desperately needed medical and sanitation facilities to a community in Haiti.

Get Trained For Emergencies

A new CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class will begin Monday, May 5, at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy, 4600 West Ox Road in Fairfax. It'll meet every Monday, from 7-10:30 p.m., (except for May 26) and will end June 23. Those interested must first register as volunteers at www.fairfaxcert.com to receive registration information. Anyone with questions should email fire.cert@fairfaxcounty.gov.

CERT helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. Then they can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members may also help with non-emergency projects that help improve community safety and preparedness.

Where Am I?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



"I'm sitting in the rocking chair, good buddy," (a "Smokey and The Bandit" reference, if you're not of a certain vintage), between two 18-wheelers where the police radar can't find me – further referencing the C.B. radio days. Updating to the "Kenny-with-cancer" days, I'm a month or so past my last very encouraging CT Scan, the one I wrote about when my oncologist offered me a congratulatory handshake, a gesture he had not made in the five-plus years since we've been tangling with this damn disease; and I'm approximately seven weeks away from my next CT scan, "intevald" every three months at present. Seven weeks is far enough away where I'm not even thinking about it, or the possibility of its discouraging results that I'll know about on or about June 9th. I am cruising, emotionally, and savoring the excellent results from the last scan and not yet worrying, wondering, hoping, praying (too much) about my next scan. This means, at the moment – or moments, I should say, I am enjoying a relatively stress-free and blissful ignorance to what may – or hopefully may not, be happening in my lungs. I am, to quote a Three Stooges line: "as safe as in my mother's arms."

Let me admit for the record, when you're originally scheduled as terminal by your oncologist ("13 months to two years"), grasping at straws, rationalizing, wishful thinking and denial (which as you regular readers know is more than just a river in Egypt...an "NYPD" reference), become de rigueur, a sort of standard operating procedure – whether you intend it to be or not. And whether these days – or should I further admit and characterize them as daze – are simply a grand illusion, or a type of non-arrogant delusion, is another distinction I'm not the least bit worried about. The reality, for me, is that I can breathe easily – figuratively and literally, thank God? (And to be fair, thanks also go to my oncologist and to myself as well; for we've both played a part in this cancer battle.)

And why shouldn't I be exceedingly – and perhaps naively – grateful, for my still being alive and reasonably well. Only 16 percent of lung cancer patients survive beyond five years; I'm at five years and two months now. Whatever good news I receive, whatever positive spin I can give my results, whatever smiles and handshakes I elicit are crucial to this pursuit of life that I live every day. The only recurring and disturbing thought I have, now that I'm past this statistically relevant five-year survivability measure (and this is not about being in remission, which I'm not; I'm still undergoing chemotherapy) is: I can't help juggling in my mind whether being five years post-diagnosis makes me closer to the end of my life or further away from it. As such, when I experience a kind of break in my action, when I'm between halves, so to speak, when the past and future of my cancer life is not front and center but instead more off to the side, these are days to relish and I don't even like conditions. But that's what a cancer diagnosis, particularly a terminal one, will do: change everything. Rolling with the punches is how one has to learn to live: good with the bad, bad with the good, the last scan, the next scan, comparing the results from your ongoing lab work and your occasional face-to-face appointments/exams with the oncologist are what drive this cancer bus that you'd rather never have been on. But you're on it, all the time. This experience is a never-ending (hopefully never ending, let's be honest) roller coaster-type ride of emotions, treatment options, preoccupations and mental gymnastics. Anything and everything I can do to find some peace in the life-expectancy challenged and very unexpected medical circumstances in which I find myself so immersed, is what I do. I'm in a good place right now. It won't last given the timing of what my life's cycle is at present (scans and all), but no matter. I'm not stressing backwards or worrying forwards. This is as good as it gets, realistically speaking.

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

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TRUSTEES' SALE OF
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TAX MAP ID NO. 065-2-09-0443

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Isa K. Azzouz and May I. Azzouz, as grantors, to John D. Eubank and Timothy E. Lewis, as trustees, for the benefit of Commercial Lending, LLC, a Virginia limited liability company, as beneficiary, dated September 25, 2007 and recorded on November 27, 2007 in Book 19673 at Page 1179 as Instrument No. 2007033933.014 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia ("Deed of Trust"), with an original principal balance of \$20,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the front door of the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22030, on

APRIL 30, 2014 AT 2:00 PM

ALL THAT REAL PROPERTY AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Fairfax County, Virginia, and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of ten per centum of the sale price will be required of the Purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit must be paid in cash or certified funds. The balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds within twenty (20) days of the date of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 12% per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement. The party secured herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest. Purchaser shall settle within twenty (20) days of the date of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY THE PURCHASER. In the event that Purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, Purchaser shall be in default. The defaulting Purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property, and the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all of the expenses of this sale (including attorneys' fees and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, including, but not limited to, exceptions to the sale, bankruptcy filings by interested parties, court administration of the foreclosure, or unknown title defects, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, ground rent, water and all public charges including electrical, sanitation, and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, are to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the Purchaser. Cost of all documentary stamps, recordation taxes, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the Purchaser.

The Property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition and subject to recorded covenants, conditions, restrictions, agreements, and senior liens, if any, and with no warranty of any kind (except as required by the Deed of Trust).

In the event that the Trustees are in default for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect.

Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward.

Trustees reserve the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The Purchaser will be required to execute and deliver to the Trustees a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding. John D. Eubank and Timothy E. Lewis, Trustees

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

COUNSELORS-IN-TRAINING

The Fairfax County Park Authority is seeking applicants (age 14-17) to serve as Counselors-in-Training (CITs) during the 2014 summer Rec-PAC program. Counselors-in-Training work as part of a team to facilitate activities for children during the summer Rec-PAC program, a structured recreation program with emphasis on leisure skills designed for elementary school children. The cost is \$135 for six weeks of training, but CITs can commit to as little as one week of camp. This year the Rec-PAC program will operate in 50 elementary school locations around Fairfax County on weekdays from June 30 through Aug. 7. During the summer, students will be assigned to a site and work daily from 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec-pac/cit-volunteer.htm or call 703-222-4664 for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 24

Registration. Lees Corner Elementary School is gathering information on children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 30, 2014 and live within the

school's boundaries. Boundary information can be accessed at www.fcps.edu/boundary/. Call Mrs. Nolan at 703-227-3500 if you have a child who meets these requirements. Registration will be held 4-7 p.m. Enrollment information and forms will be mailed out prior to the registration. Visit www.fcps.edu/parents/start/kindergarten.shtml for more.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with other students. Call 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

LRWC Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Liberty Republican Women's Club meeting yard sale: rain, shine or snow. Call 703-378-2519.

eBook Help. 2 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Get eBook questions answered. Bring a tablet or digital reader and library card. Call 703-502-3883.

MONDAY/APRIL 28

Kindergarten Registration. 2-4 p.m. at Virginia Run Elementary School, 15450 Martins Hundred Drive, Centreville. Virginia Run Elementary

will hold kindergarten registration. Forms will be available on-site. A child is eligible for kindergarten if the child reaches his or her fifth birthday on or before Sept. 30, 2014. Call the school office at 703-988-8900.

Kindergarten Orientation/Registration. 2:15 p.m. at Greenbriar East Elementary, 13006 Point Pleasant Drive, Fairfax. Greenbriar East Elementary will be having their Kindergarten Orientation/Registration. Call 703-633-6400.

"Building the Brain." 6:30 p.m. at the Manassas Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 6901 Sudley Road, Manassas. Mark Finley presents "Building the Brain." Free, open to the community. Contact iCAD Project Manager Michael Carrington at mcarrington@nvcc.edu or 703-257-6555.

TUESDAY/APRIL 29

English Conversation Group. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with other students. Call 703-502-3883.

Kindergarten Registration. 4:30-6 p.m. at Virginia Run Elementary School, 15450 Martins Hundred Drive, Centreville. Virginia Run elementary will hold kindergarten

registration. Forms will be available on-site. A child is eligible for kindergarten if the child reaches his or her fifth birthday on or before Sept. 30, 2014. Call the school office at 703-988-8900.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

eBook Help. 1 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Get eBook questions answered. Bring a tablet or digital reader and library card. Call 703-502-3883.

THURSDAY/MAY 1

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with other students. Call 703-502-3883.

Chantilly Library Teen Advisory Board Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Call 703-502-3883.

FRIDAY/MAY 2

Kindergarten Orientation. 9:15-10:15 a.m. at Poplar Tree Elementary, 13440 Melville Lane, Chantilly. Children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 30 and live within the school's boundaries are eligible for Kindergarten for the

2014-2015 school year. Call 703-633-7400 if more information is needed.

SATURDAY/MAY 3

ESL Book Club. 11 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults learning English meet to discuss a book chosen by the group. Call 703-502-3883.

TUESDAY/MAY 6

English Conversation Group. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with other students. Call 703-502-3883.

Legal Planning Workshop. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter, 3701 Pender Drive, suite 400, Fairfax. Hosted by the Alzheimer's Association. Free. Register at 800-272-3900.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 7

Family Caregiver Seminar. Noon-1 p.m. Webinar: Six Questions Regarding Paying for Long-Term Care. To register visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults and link to Register Now for Caregiver Seminars, or call 703-324-5205, TTY 711.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Comfort Zone, an organization that helps give grieving children a voice, a place, and a community in which to heal, grow, and lead more fulfilling lives, seeks volunteers. There is a volunteer training Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the VT/UVA Northern Virginia Center, 7054 Haycock Road, Falls Church. To register, visit www.comfortzonecamp.org/volunteers/application.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The Sully Senior Center, 5690 Sully Road, Centreville, needs a certified personal trainer, preferably with experience working with older adults, for one hour two days per week. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Sully Historic Site needs volunteers to help plan and present programs. Volunteers who enjoy gardening, working with children, learning new recipes and cooking methods, or just like to be around interesting people are needed both weekdays and weekends. Sully is a historic house museum owned and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority. Volunteer at Sully can choose an aspect of historic interpretation, event support or any other area to make a difference for visitors. Call 703-437-1794 for an interview. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site for more.

The **Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities throughout the area. Volunteers can work in facilities close to where they live. Training is provided in March 2014. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or e-mail Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Find more information on becoming a long-term care ombudsman volunteer at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/vol_ombud_program.htm.

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