

# Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes



Fairfax County Fire & Rescue  
Station 38 and  
Centreville Volunteer Fire Dept.  
9-11-01  
WE WILL NEVER  
FORGET

## Remembering America's Fallen Heroes

News, Page 3

‘[This] Will Change  
Our Lives’

News, Page 4

Attending Classes  
In Korea

A+, Page 9

Outside Fire Station 38 in Centreville  
are 343 flags honoring every New  
York City firefighter who died on 9/11.





# **SORRY MOM** Your Overwhelming Schedule **JUST GOT WORSE** Thanks to Supervisor Michael Frey

## **Fairfax school's half-day Mondays were stressful for parents:**

You scramble getting everyone to their appointments and lessons on time, and then on Mondays you're brokering deals with other parents, working from home and lining up sitters.

## **Help was on the way... Until Michael Frey got involved.**

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors was giving parents a break by funding full-day Mondays for students. But now Supervisor Michael Frey is saying he won't let full-day Mondays get "shoved down our throats."<sup>1</sup>



**Call or email Michael Frey – TELL HIM TO GIVE PARENTS A BREAK!**

**703-814-7100 | [sully@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:sully@fairfaxcounty.gov)**

### **Check the Facts:**

1. "Fairfax full-day Mondays meeting ends with tense exchange on funding," *Washington Post*, September 3, 2014

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## ROUNDUPS

### Farmers Market on Thursdays

Each Thursday, from 3-7 p.m., the Fairfax County Government Center hosts a farmers market in its parking lot. The Government Center is at 12000 Government Center Pkwy. in Fair Oaks, and the next markets are slated for Sept. 18 and Sept. 25.

### Meet the Congressional Candidates

A Congressional Candidates Night will be held Monday, Sept. 22, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. It's jointly sponsored by the Sully District Council of Citizen Associations, League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, AARP, VA and Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia.

#### 10th District

- ❖ Dianne Blais (IG) (Confirmed)
- ❖ Barbara Comstock (R) (Invited)
- ❖ Brad A. Eickholt (I) (Confirmed)
- ❖ John Foust (D) (Confirmed)
- ❖ William Redpath (L) (Confirmed)

#### 11th District

- ❖ Gerry Connolly (D) (Will Send Proxy)
- ❖ Joe Galdo (G) (Confirmed)
- ❖ Marc Harrold (L) (Confirmed)
- ❖ Suzanne Scholte (R) (Confirmed)

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Sept. 25, 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.

### Learn about Police Explorers

For teens who've ever considered careers in law enforcement, they and their parents are invited to learn more about the Fairfax County Police Explorer program. An informational meeting is set for Tuesday, Sept. 30, at the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. On hand will be police personnel and equipment, including the helicopter, Animal Control Officers and members of the K-9, Dive and S.W.A.T. teams.

Explorers serve police departments and their communities and provide young people with opportunities to learn and practice skills that police officers use on a daily basis. Explorers gain experience in fingerprinting, processing crime scenes, staffing special events and helping officers spread the word about safety and crime prevention.

### Help with Food Drive

Many youth and adult volunteers are needed to help with the Sully District area Boy Scout Food Drive. Shifts are available for set up and tear down, sorting and transporting food on Friday-Saturday, Nov. 7-8. Youth may work with a team of friends and earn community-service hours. Contact

Volunteer Manager Annette Bosley at abosley@wfcma.org.

### Helping Immigrant Children

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) is collecting donations for the 70 immigrant children and 15 young mothers being housed at a secure facility in Bristow while awaiting hearings. The children need health and hygiene supplies, clothing and bed

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 4

## NEWS

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



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**Firefighters from C shift at Station 38 in Centreville stand among the flags on Sept. 11. (Back row, from left) are probationary Firefighter Jordan Linhart, Lt. Jeff Allen, Firefighter Jeremy Godines and Technician Hao Sevenser; and (front row, from left) are Master Technician Reid Lottchea, station Capt. Chris Brown and Technician Iona Nieves.**

## Remembering America's Fallen Heroes

Each year, the firefighters of West Centreville Station 38 honor the firefighters who died in the 9/11 tragedy in New York by placing flags outside their station. Some 343 flags are planted in the ground to represent the 343 firefighters who lost their lives in the Twin Towers.

"Each flag has a tag with a particular person's name, rank and fire station," said Station 38 Capt. Christopher Brown. "We placed them outside on Sept. 9 and read each name aloud as we did it."

— BONNIE HOBBS

## In Solemn Remembrance

**Local bugler plays "Taps" in honor of the Sept. 11 victims.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Throughout Virginia and the U.S., people commemorated last Thursday's 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy. Locally, Theodore Smith, an 83-year old volunteer with Bugles Across America, did it in his own, special way.

He went to four, different sites and played "Taps" in remembrance of all those who lost their lives that September morning. He began in front of the Fairfax County Government Center in Fair Oaks at exactly 8:46 a.m., the time when American Airlines Flight 11 flew into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City.



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**Theodore Smith and his bugle on Sept. 11.**

SEE LOCAL BUGLER, PAGE 8



## ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 3

ding. Donations may be brought to CLRC, 5956 Centreville Crest Lane in Centreville.

Especially needed are clothing and underwear for both boys and girls, ages 7-17; white towels, twin-sized blankets, sheets and bedspreads; new pillows and personal-hygiene products including shampoo, conditioner, hand soap, lotion, deodorant, hair brushes and accessories, tooth paste and toothbrushes, and disposable diapers.

For more information call CLRC Director Roberto Fernández at 703-543-6272, Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m.-noon, or Foltz at 703-346-6030.

## Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry urgently needs donations of canned vegetables (except for green beans), canned pasta and pasta sauces, canned tomatoes, canned fruit, peanut butter, canned and dry beans, and granola bars. Also needed are toiletries, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with food stamps. Especially needed are shampoo, diapers sizes 4 and 5, deodorant, toothpaste and toilet paper.

Bring all items to WFCM'S food pantry, 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. A volunteer stocker/bagger is needed Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. Contact Annette Bosley at 703-988-9656, ext. 110, or abosley@wfcma.org.

## 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](http://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.

## 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](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov) or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm).

## 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 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email [Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## 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](mailto:Kristin.Martin@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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and link to Volunteer Solutions or email [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## NEWS



From left: Fouad Qreitem and Pierre Garçon happily watch Juwaan's excitement.

## '[This] Will Change Our Lives'

Community, Paisano's unite to purchase an accessible van.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Last Friday, Sept. 12, was a night when dreams came true. On Centreville High's football field, the Wildcats trounced West Potomac, 54-0. And on the sidelines at halftime, Centreville senior Juwaan Espinal, 17, was presented with an accessible van.

Juwaan has cerebral palsy, and the van will enable his mother to transport him to places more easily and bring his power wheelchair home from school so he can use it full time. And it was made possible by teamwork between the community, football player Pierre Garçon and Paisano's Pizza.

"It's overwhelming," said Juwaan's mom, Ibis Espinal, of Centreville's Centre Ridge community. "I didn't think this day would come – but it did."

Born with cerebral palsy and wheelchair-bound, Juwaan is unlike his peers, yet he's one of them. A huge football fan, he's been unofficially adopted by both the Wildcat varsity and freshman football teams and is an honorary captain, wearing a Centreville jersey adorned with the number one.

He has a ton of friends at school and, although he can't communicate with them verbally, they text each other and "talk" regularly via Facebook. He has pals to eat lunch with and he also belongs to his school's Best Buddies chapter.

But as Juwaan's grown, it's become harder and harder for his petite, single mom to lift him in and out of their car. His sister Shanelle is away at college, so there's no one to help his mother on a daily basis.

Furthermore, he had surgery in September to correct the 75-degree scoliosis curve in his back because it was affecting his lungs and other internal organs. And as he healed, he grew 4 inches from the spine-straightening and then another 3 inches on top of that, and gained 30 pounds.

As Juwaan became too big for his mother to carry,



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Juwaan Espinal had a special night last Friday; he received an accessible van and his football team, the Centreville Wildcats, won.

getting him in and out of her small SUV became a real ordeal. She needed an accessible van for him, but her insurance didn't cover it. And after losing her job as a mortgage-loan processor and an auditor, money became even tighter for them as she struggled to pay the bills, including those for Juwaan's physical therapy.

She had a tough time lifting his wheelchair into the car. But even more important, getting her son into a car seat was potentially harmful to him. "I had to bend him to get him in the car seat – which I'm not supposed to do because of the rods in his back," said Ibis Espinal. "So it was compromising his wellbeing."

Wanting to help Juwaan, but knowing she could never do it alone, she took to social media and started a GoFundMe account for him. The goal was to some-

SEE 'WILL CHANGE OUR LIVES,' PAGE 13



# What Students Are Reading

An interview with new librarian Rachel Grover of Rocky Run Middle School.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

At Rocky Run Middle School in Chantilly, new librarian Rachel Grover, 28, of Gainesville, says, "Reading is cool and students read like crazy."

She says middle school students are often at a crossroads of defining who they are and one of the great things about young adult literature is the diverse perspectives that it brings.

So what's popular for middle-schoolers reading-wise? Dystopian literature like The "Hunger Games" series, or "The Giver" by Lois Lowry. For boys, the Alex Rider series and Anthony Horowitz is hot; as are the Harry Potter books and Walter Dean Myers, she says. For girls, the "Gallagher Girl" series by Ally Carter about young females who train as spies as well as the "Divergent" series by Veronica Roth set in a dystopian world (similar to the "Hunger Games").

"Middle school students are always looking to fit in with their classmates. When they read the same books as their classmates, it gives them a commonality with their friends," said Grover, who taught herself to



**Rachel Grover, 28, is the new librarian at Rocky Run Middle School in Chantilly.**

read at age 3. But a lot of students are also into realistic fiction ... "They like to be able to associate with a character and being able to connect their own lives so they know they are not alone in what they're going through," said Grover, who is originally from Boston and has degrees from Gordon College and a master's from Old Dominion University. She worked in Manassas and Dumfries, and taught fifth grade, then seventh and eighth grade English before making the switch to a librarian.

She added: "They are really looking for affirmation or exploration out of their current situation. So reading is the place to find themselves and who they are."

Graphic novels are becoming more popular, she says. "It used to be that graphic

SEE WHAT STUDENTS, PAGE 7

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# OPINION

## Protecting Against Domestic Violence

### September marks 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Violence Against Women Act.

BY GERRY CONNOLLY  
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-II)

**T**his month marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) – landmark legislation in which our nation committed new prevention and response resources so that our mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends would no longer have to suffer in silence through domestic abuse.

Though meaningful progress has been realized, domestic violence continues to be a real and troubling challenge in our communities. Far too many of us have been touched by domestic violence in one way or another. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, an estimated 1.3 million women are victims each year, and one in every four women will experience such violence in their lifetime.

#### COMMENTARY

Just last year, Turning Points, the only domestic violence intervention program in Prince William County, served 6,000 clients. In Fairfax County there were more than 8,000 incidents reported, and we have seen a 40 percent increase in homelessness due to domestic violence.

This is why I was so disappointed when the House Republican majority blocked a bipartisan modernization of VAWA for 18 months before relenting last year. The Senate passed the bill in a strong and bipartisan 78-22 vote, but some House Republicans objected because they did not want to extend protections to Native Americans, LGBT Americans, and immigrants. Thankfully, House leadership finally put aside this obstructionism and ultimately allowed the House to pass the improved VAWA bill, which I and an overwhelming number of Democrats supported.

Thanks to VAWA, we have strengthened and expanded critical protections for all victims of domestic violence and enhanced our nation's criminal justice response. Specifically, VAWA has instituted stricter sentencing guidelines for repeat federal sex crime offenders and provided resources to tribal, local, and state law

enforcement communities to address violent crimes against women. In addition, VAWA funds specialized training for 500,000 law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, and other personnel every year. The National Domestic Violence Hotline, which responds to more than 22,000 urgent calls for help every month, also was created under VAWA.

The updated VAWA is renewing our successful partnerships with local nonprofits and law enforcement agencies. It is improving protections for underserved communities, particularly immigrants and victims of human trafficking. And of particular importance for helping victims through the recovery process, the new bill is expanding housing assistance and providing support regardless of sexual orientation.

Sadly, recent events in the news demonstrate that although we have made great progress, as a community we must remain vigilant in protecting those threatened by domestic violence. Please know that I will continue to push Congress to maintain and expand the investments needed to support these critical programs in our community and continue to be a voice of support to those who might otherwise not speak up for themselves.

## School Board Ready to Tackle Fiscal Challenges

BY TAMARA DERENAK KAUFAX  
CHAIRMAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

**I** am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the chairman of Fairfax County School Board for the 2014-15 school year. My colleagues on the board and I – working closely with our superintendent, Dr. Karen Garza – have an ambitious agenda for the year ahead. Our top priority remains adequate funding for our schools at both the state and county levels. State support for education remains at unacceptable levels and we will continue to work with our county Board of Supervisors to provide our schools with an adequate level of financial support when the state fails to do its job. As a consensus builder, I will continue to urge the School Board to work in partnership with the Board of Supervisors to find solutions to our budget dilemma.

We have already taken steps to build a stronger relationship with the Board of Supervisors. This past year, Dr. Garza provided a new level of transparency in the budget process by meeting with the Board of Supervisors and other community leaders, conducting listening tours in each of the magisterial districts, and developing the Citizens Guide to Understanding the Budget, all of which were well received by the supervisors and the community. Our boards have already met jointly in September to outline our fiscal forecasts. In addition, we have established the Joint Budget Development Committee composed of three supervisors and three School Board members. The committee will review budget factors impacting Fiscal Year 2016 and provide guidance to both boards. The committee

#### COMMENTARY

will deliver a report to both boards before the County Executive presents his Advertised Budget and before the superintendent presents her Proposed Budget in early 2015. Last year, the county and School Board created the joint Infrastructure Financing Committee to review the facilities needs of both FCPS and the county. The committee report released earlier this year resulted in an additional \$13 million that will be invested each year beginning in FY 2016 for school infrastructure upgrades. I will continue to encourage this kind of collaboration to build trust and realistic expectations for the supervisors, the school board, and the community.

In the next few weeks we plan to make a final decision regarding school start times for the 2015-16 school year. Superintendent Garza made her recommendation to the board at a meeting in early September. We will provide the community with sufficient time to comment on the proposal before we take final action at our Oct. 23 meeting. As you may recall, the School Board adopted a resolution in April 2012 with the stated goal to start high schools after 8 a.m. The board subsequently hired Children's National Medical Center to serve as consultants to develop a plan to achieve that goal. CNMC developed four options. Those options were taken to the community in a series of eight public meetings held in May and June. After analyzing the feedback from parents and the community, CNMC made their recommendation and, based on school board direction, Option 3 is the framework being used to develop a final recommendation for school board consideration. I invite you to learn more at [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu).

Other new initiatives include the FCPS Portrait of a Graduate, which will serve as a foundation on which to build a long-range strategic plan for FCPS. Once a strategic plan is in place with a direct and clear vision for our schools, our work will be very focused and the outcome will be improved student achievement for every student.

We have had great success with our launch of full day Mondays for our elementary students. The community is very supportive of the change which will increase instructional time for students and dedicated planning time for teachers. Beginning this school year, we also have a new standard school calendar in place that eliminates the need to make up inclement weather days at the end of the school year, if fewer than 13 days are missed.

The Bailey's Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences opened Sept. 2 with a community ribbon-cutting celebration scheduled for Oct. 15. This new school was converted from a five-story office building on Leesburg Pike and will solve the overcrowding problems that have plagued Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. Under the leadership of one principal, the new campus houses grades 3-5 while the existing campus remains home to preschoolers through second graders.

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for students, parents and teachers. As chairman, I pledge to maintain and build upon the excellence for which our schools are known. Working with our state elected officials, supervisors, superintendent and other stakeholders, I am confident that we can solve our most pressing problems while continuing to offer a world-class education for our families. Have a safe and productive school year.

## Chantilly CONNECTION

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# What Students Are Reading

FROM PAGE 5

novels and comic books did not have a prominent place in the library, but now they're huge." For example, the "Uglies" series by Scott Westerfield has its own graphic novel series, meaning that each novel has a graphic novel version. "It reads like a comic book but it's the length of a novel," she said.

Another trend is turning nonfiction events like the Vietnam War into graphic novel form. It helps struggling readers to stay in the loop with their reader friends, so if a student can't read on the level of the novel, graphic novels help them visualize and shorten the amount of text they have to read, she says.

Grover says Rocky Run's library is changing with the times and the internet is making librarians think about whether to invest in print or electronic versions of a book. "And students seem receptive to both," she said.

She said students are more internet-dependent now and are able to use an iPad or an iPhone to search the Fairfax County catalogues and online databases on a global scale. "They are always on their phones or electronic devices and they are looking for information; we are showing them safer, valid resources to learn instead of just Google or Wikipedia," she said.

Grover wants to make better use of BYOD — Bring Your Own Device — where students bring in their own iPhones and iPads into the library. "The main question is how can the library use that knowledge to engage their patrons," she said.

So she created a bulletin board for the Virginia

## Top Books for Middle Schoolers

- 1) "The Hunger Games Trilogy" by Suzanne Collins
- 2) "The Giver" by Lois Lowry
- 3) "The Book Thief" by Marcus Zusak
- 4) "Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie" by Jordan Sonnenblick
- 5) "Ender's Game" by Orsen Scott Card
- 6) "Monster" by Walter Dean Myers
- 7) "The Mysterious Benedict Society Series" by Trenton Lee Stewart
- 8) "How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awful Famous" (Nonfiction) by Georgia Bragg
- 9) "Chasing Lincoln's Killer" (Nonfiction) by Steve Sheinkin
- 10) "Discovering Wes Moore" (Biography) by Wes Moore
- 11) "Pressure: True Stories by Teens About Stress" (Nonfiction), edited by Al Desetta

Reader's Choice Books, a committee that comes up with the top books for each level in elementary, middle and high schools. The bulletin board has a QR code with the book covers so students can watch a book trailer, similar to a movie trailer, to get a preview. "We plan on using QR codes to link students to the library catalogue, so they don't have to sign into a computer," she said.

Grover will be presenting at the state librarian's conference, the Virginia Association of School Librarians (VAASL) in Roanoke on Nov. 6-8 on how librarians can use technology to make them more 21<sup>st</sup> century friendly. She'll be talking about using Google Forms and QR codes to make libraries more tech-

SEE FAVORITE BOOKS, PAGE 11

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# Local Bugler Plays 'Taps' in Honor of Sept. 11 Victims

FROM PAGE 3

Next, Smith did the same thing in front of Fairfax Fire Station 40 on West Ox Road. He played at 9:03 a.m., when United Airlines Flight 175 struck the South Tower. Said Smith: "This second sounding was chosen to honor all of the heroic police and firefighters who gave their lives that day in order to save hundreds more."

He then performed "Taps" at Paul VI Catholic High School. He did so at 9:40 a.m., when American Airlines Flight 77 struck the Pentagon. "It was to honor the diversity of citizens of all backgrounds that perished that day, and since, from evil terrorism," he explained.

Finally, Smith played his bugle in front of the flag outside The Woodlands Retirement Community in Fairfax. The residents and guests placed their hands over their hearts while he performed at 10:06 a.m., when United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pa.

This effort, said Smith, was "to honor all of the courageous passengers whose resistance prevented another possible crash into a vital, Washington, D.C., target, which saved hundreds more lives."

Afterward, he played "The Star-Spangled Banner" in recognition of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its writing by Francis Scott Key.



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**Theodore Smith plays "Taps" while (from left) Charlie Schuck places his hand over his heart and Jack Barbee salutes.**

He also chose that selection, he said, "for those who have since sacrificed their lives for the freedoms that we Americans must never take for granted."

One of those attending the musical tribute at The Woodlands was Del. David Bulova (D-37<sup>th</sup>). "My father-in-law was in the Pentagon the day it was hit," he ex-

plained. "We lost a lot of great people that day, and I am very happy that Mr. Smith continues to keep their memories alive."

Smith, who lives at The Woodlands with his wife, Mary Frances, does similar bugle performances each Sept. 11. He's played both trumpet and bugle for many years and started his 9/11 musical commemoration when they lived in McLean. This was his fifth year doing it.

And as a proud member of Bugles Across America, he and his co-musicians also play at veterans' funerals and, he said, "Their families appreciate that."

Smith served in the Coast Guard for two years and the Air Force, five years, and then owned an aerospace consulting firm in McLean before retiring. He and Mary Frances moved to The Woodlands in 2012 and reside in the independent-living section.

"We have a number of ex-military and ex-government personnel here, so they appreciate the 9/11 observance," he said. "We had a good turnout for this ceremony, and it was nice of David Bulova to come out, too."

So why does Smith do it, each year? "As we get farther away from 9/11, we need to remind people about it," he said. "Some people weren't born, yet, or others were so young then that they barely remember it. So it's a commemoration and my small contribution."

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**CENTRE VIEW**



# Attending Classes in Korea

Fairfax Academy student will spend school year there.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Normally, Serena Gregory would have just begun her last year at Chantilly High, caught up in the excitement of new classes, old friends and the thrill of being a senior. She'd also be playing volleyball, basketball and lacrosse for the Chargers.

Instead, the former Korean-language student at the Fairfax Academy is now in another part of the world, spending the school year in Korea. She was one of just 15 American students selected to study there and live with Korean families. She received a full scholarship from the National Security Language Initiative for Youth, sponsored by the U.S. State Department.

Gregory, 16, left for Korea on Aug. 28; but before she did, both she and her Fairfax Academy teacher, Song Johnston, described their delight with the teen's good fortune.

"I found out over spring break," said Gregory. "I got an email at the airport going from S.F. to L.A. while doing college visits. I cried tears of joy because this was my second year applying for this scholarship; I didn't get it last year."

"She has an excellent work ethic and was one of the top students in Korean I," said Johnston. "I recommended she skip Korean II because she was learning very fast, so she went to Korean III and IV this past year."

And, said Gregory's Korean teacher, "She did a beautiful job; she paid attention in class, studied at home and was always ready to take tests. But her motivation wasn't just for a grade – she had a genuine interest in learning the language."

"When my brother was a sophomore in high school, his best friend was a Korean exchange student who'd been living with an American family here," said Gregory. "And often, he'd spend weekends and summers at our house. I got to know him well and he taught me about Korean language and culture."

Then, as a Franklin Middle eighth-grader, she made friends with Korean students who taught her to read and write the language. "Even though you're using Hangul characters, Korean is still phonetic," said Gregory. "Compared to Chinese, it's easier, because each Chinese character represents a different word. But in Korean, you can spell out words with the characters, just like we do in English."

So, she said, "I found Korean interesting and unique. My friends also introduced me to Korean music, or K-Pop, which I still listen to. But I didn't start taking formal, language classes until I came to the Fairfax Academy for them every day during my sophomore and junior years."

Gregory said Academy classes are more intensive and the students in them are there "because they really want to learn, so that makes it more enjoyable." Last year, about 90 students total in five classes took Korean at the Academy, learning more than just the language.

"In class we did a lot of cultural activities," said Gregory. "We learned how to make traditional, Korean dishes like Kimbap, served with rice and vegetables and/or meat, and how to do the traditional fan dance. We got to perform at GMU and it was really fun and definitely a cool experience."

The students also learned how to play the buk drums – like an American drum line with a Korean



**Serena Gregory in her Korean-language classroom.**

rhythm and music written in Korean. "We learned about the life and culture in Korea," said Gregory. "And we did creative projects, such as drawing our room and explaining its layout in Korean."

For her end-of-the-year project, she translated an American song – Chris Brown's "Next to You" – into Korean and a friend helped her record it to put on YouTube. Then, with the friend singing and Gregory playing guitar, they also performed it together for their peers.

Meanwhile, Johnston told Gregory about the scholarship and suggested she apply. Ten Fairfax Academy students applied, but only Gregory got the prize. During an interview, the scholarship committee asked her why she wanted to go to Korea, why she took Korean and what she planned to do after high school.

"As a junior, I was in the Academy's highest level of Korean, so there was nothing else here for me as a senior," said Gregory. "And I wanted to continue taking the most advanced course I could to get as fluent and proficient as possible."

She also had to write three essays describing herself and her future plans. After graduation, she intends to double major in college in Korean and International Relations. She's considering UCLA, and Johnston approves because of its strong, Korean-language program. Eventually, Gregory wants to become a diplomat or foreign-service officer.

"I'm so proud of her," said Johnston. "I wish more students could have this opportunity. She'll do very well in Korea; I just hope finishing high school won't be that difficult for her in math, science and Korean history."

But Gregory's not worried. "I consider myself an independent person," she said. "I've switched schools before and adjusted quickly. Obviously, this is a bigger adjustment."

And, added Johnston, "She'll have to wear a uniform, just longer for her since she's 5 foot 9. And she'll have two or three host families."

"I'm looking forward to being fully immersed in the culture and seeing what it's like to go to a regular high school in another country," said Gregory. "School started in March, so I'll be coming in the middle of the school year, during break; but school will start again about a week after I arrive."

She'll be staying in Seoul or Incheon and hopes to visit Namsan Tower "where you can see the whole city of Seoul," she said. "I also want to see some music concerts, take a hip-hop dance class and visit my brother's best friend, who's now in the military there."

Gregory also hopes to become fluent in Korean and

SEE CLASSES IN KOREA, PAGE 11

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

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# A Different Path to a 4-year Degree

**NOVA's Guaranteed Admissions Program gives students opportunities to attend their dream schools.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**N**oor Naveed immigrated to the United States from Pakistan with her family shortly after the 9/11 attacks. The family settled in Northern Virginia and, years later, Naveed graduated from Hayfield Secondary School in Alexandria. She dreams of becoming the first person in her family to graduate from college.

"My mother was forced to drop out of junior high and at 32 got her GED. I just knew that there wasn't anyone in my immediate family who had graduated from college and was determined to be the first person," said Naveed. "I knew I wanted to [go to] George Mason because I didn't want loans and I knew I could pay for George Mason out of pocket."

Naveed used Northern Virginia Community College's Guaranteed Admissions Program to complete her associate of arts degree and is now finishing a bachelor's degree in criminology, law and society at George Mason University in Fairfax.

"Counselors were great at telling me what classes I should take so they would trans-

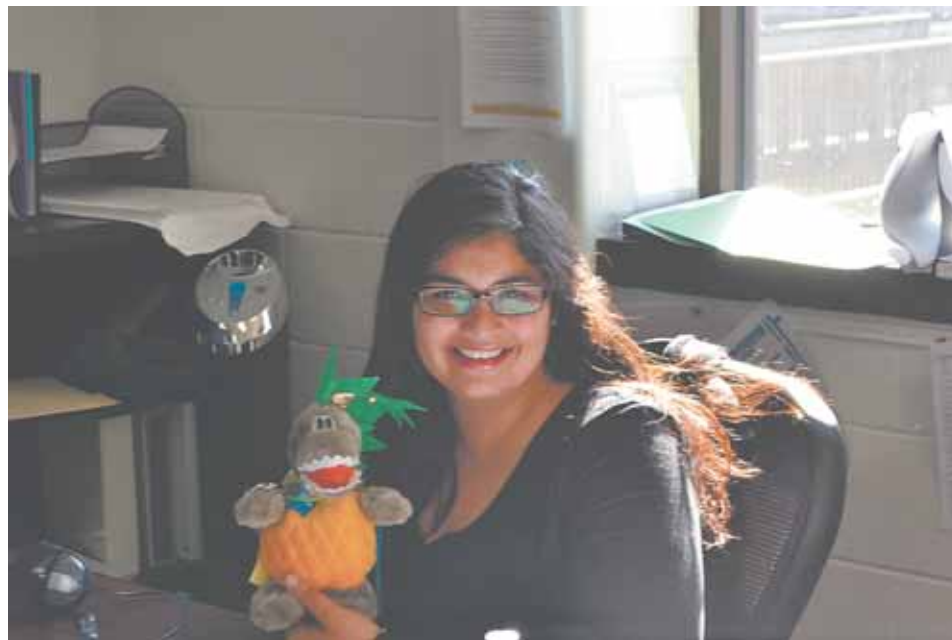


PHOTO COURTESY OF NOOR NAVEED

**Noor Naveed hopes to become the first person in her family to graduate from college. After graduating from NOVA, she transferred to George Mason University.**

fer," she said. "Almost all of my classes transferred."

NOVA's admissions agreements guarantee current and future NOVA students who earn associate degrees admission to more than 40 four-year colleges and universities.

Students have to meet certain academic requirements, such as earning a minimum grade point average, to be accepted into their chosen four-year colleges.

"It's very beneficial to the students because before these agreements, there weren't any parameters as to what it takes to be admitted to universities," said Julia Brown, coordinator for transfer policy at Northern Virginia Community College. "As long as you have a certain GPA, the guaranteed admission agreement takes all of the guess work out of whether you will qualify. It is a huge relief. ... Students don't want to waste money or time by taking a class that isn't needed."

NOVA officials say that popular majors include engineering, nursing, computer science and general studies.

For example, a student can earn an associates degree in engineering from NOVA then transfer to Virginia Tech's College of Engineering or the University of Virginia's School of Engineering and Applied Science. A student who might be unsure of the major he plans to pursue can earn a general studies degree and then transfer to George Mason University.

George Mason University, University of Virginia and Virginia Tech are the top transfer schools for NOVA graduates.

"The [Guaranteed Admission Agreement] program allowed me to complete my associate's degree close to home. The GAA gave me the opportunity to transfer to my dream school, James Madison University, with ease and with no debt," said Amy Zuaso, a first-year advising specialist at NOVA. "At NOVA, I met with a JMU transfer representative that informed me about

a full ride scholarship program, The Centennial Scholars Program, that I applied for and was awarded. Starting at NOVA first and using the GAA helped me graduate from a four-year school and to be the first person in my family to graduate from college."

Zuaso is now completing an online master's degree in counseling at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

**THE PROGRAM WAS CREATED** after the release of a workforce trends report prepared by George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis showed professional, scientific, technical and health care fields as the key sources of new net job growth in Northern Virginia from 2010 to 2020.

"The GAA is designed to offer students a seamless transfer process," said Darren Troxler, associate dean of admissions and chief transfer officer at George Mason University. "Students who meet all of the requirements for GAA admission are not only guaranteed transfer admission to Mason, but are considered juniors for class standing, registration and financial aid purposes, and are considered to have completed the Mason Core, our lower-level general education requirement."

Troxler says another advantage to GAA enrollment is the significant cost savings for students and parents. "There is a \$271 per credit hour differential in tuition rates between Mason and NOVA for Virginia residents," he said. "Students will realize a significantly lower debt burden by taking advantage of the Virginia Community College System."



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**NOVA Community students can earn admission to more than 40 colleges and universities through the school's guaranteed admission agreements.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMY ZUASO

**Amy Zuaso became the first person in her family to graduate from college. She says the guaranteed admission agreements at NOVA allowed her to complete her associate's degree and transfer to her dream school: James Madison University.**



## SCHOOLS

## HOME SALES

In July 2014, 23 homes sold between \$1,050,000-\$360,000 in the Chantilly area.

# Classes in Korea

FROM PAGE 9

is looking forward to experiencing the world outside America in a non-English-speaking country. "I want to learn their views of life," she said. "From what I know about Asian countries, their level of respect for other people is astonishing – and we could probably learn from that."

**Student Serena Gregory (left) and teacher Song Johnston.**



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Address .....	BR	FB	HB	.....	Postal City .....	Sold Price .....	Type .....	Lot AC	Postal Code
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4625 GRANITE ROCK CT .....	5	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$672,922 .....	Detached .....	0.36	20151
3909 BEEKER MILL PL.....	4	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$670,000 .....	Detached .....	0.10	20151
13605 OLD CHATWOOD PL .....	4	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$650,000 .....	Detached .....	0.15	20151
13707 ROSETREE CT .....	4	.2	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$645,000 .....	Detached .....	0.19	20151
13716 SPRINGHAVEN DR .....	5	.3	0	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$610,000 .....	Detached .....	0.19	20151
3520 ARMFIELD FARM DR .....	3	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$598,000 .....	Detached .....	0.17	20151
4631 SAND ROCK LN .....	4	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$550,000 .....	Detached .....	0.26	20151
13612 CHEVY CHASE LN .....	4	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$550,000 .....	Detached .....	0.17	20151
4500 WAVERLY CROSSING LN .....	4	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$533,000 .....	Detached .....	0.28	20151
13985 KHALID LN .....	3	.3	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$503,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.06	20151
3813 BEECH DOWN DR .....	4	.2	2	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$490,000 .....	Detached .....	0.13	20151
4336 SILAS HUTCHINSON DR .....	5	.3	0	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$475,000 .....	Detached .....	0.27	20151
PEIROS TER .....	3	.2	1	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$433,870 .....	Other .....	0.00	20151
4417 LEES CORNER RD .....	4	.3	0	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$426,500 .....	Detached .....	0.45	20151
4105 HAMLIN AVE .....	4	.2	0	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$379,000 .....	Detached .....	0.19	20151
4306 DE HAVEN DR .....	3	.3	0	.....	CHANTILLY .....	\$360,000 .....	Detached .....	0.19	2015

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# Favorite Books

FROM PAGE 7

friendly for both staff and students.

Anthony Terrell, principal of Rocky Run Middle School, says Grover brings a wealth of middle school teaching experience to her new role as a librarian, which is an asset. "The middle school library is often where students first learn the research skills they will use in high school and beyond," he said.

He added: "She also brings an infectious interest in age-appropriate literature for middle school students and a heart for young readers."

Charlie Fontz, librarian at Rocky Run, calls her organized, energetic, enthusiastic, creative, and refreshing.

"As a new librarian, Rachel brings freshness to the position, which I really appreciate ... She looks at everything from the perspective of being a recent classroom teacher."

He added: "Rachel is a very creative person who has wonderful concepts on how to present various ideas, whether in the form of bulletin board displays, student library orientations or how to work with students in the library and in their classes."

## BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## TAG DAY

**Westfield High School music students** annual Tag Day event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 27. Students from band, chorus, guitar and orchestra will be visiting their neighbors' homes requesting donations to the schools award-winning music program for the 2014-2015 school year. Donations will be used to cover costs related to instructors, instruments, uniforms and competitions not covered by Fairfax County.

Support the **Centreville High School Music Department**. Band, orchestra, guitar and choral groups are preparing to perform at football games, national competitions and school concerts. Tax-deductible contributions will enable the music department to purchase uniforms, instruments, equipment, special music and first-class guest instructors. In appreciation of contributions, a family invitation will be provided to a band, orchestra, guitar or choral performance of the donors choice. Students will be in the neighborhood Saturday, Sept. 27. Visit <http://cvhsband.org> for more.

## WHITE HOUSE ORNAMENT SALE

The Western Fairfax County Woman's Club is selling **2014 White House Christmas ornaments** in honor of the 29th President Warren G. Harding. This two piece train ornament is a reminder of Harding's use of trains during his campaign and White House years. Ornaments cost \$20 and proceeds benefit charity. Order by calling 703-378-6841 or 703-378-6216.

## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Residents can now "e-cycle" at the I-66 transfer station. It is free but residents may be asked to show proof of residency. Personal waste only. The I-66 station is located at 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax and open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. from Monday-Saturday and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sundays. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm).

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

**Club Meeting.** 6 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Liberty Republican Women's Club meeting hosts Matt C. Ames, Fairfax County GOP Chairman. Social hour with food at 6 p.m., then hear Ames' updates on news locally, from Richmond and nationally at 7 p.m. Call 703-378-4190 for more.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 12



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The free seminar will be held at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly.

To register, call 703-530-WELL (9355) or visit [NovantHealth.org/kneepain](http://NovantHealth.org/kneepain) to learn more.

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# SPORTS

## VCU Commit McNamara Leads Defending State Champ Westfield

Senior has 15 goals, 10 assists in nine games.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

Emily McNamara wasted little time helping the Westfield field hockey team take the lead against West Springfield on Tuesday, assisting teammate Olivia Markert's goal less than four minutes into the contest.

McNamara showed off her shooting skills shortly after, launching a rocket into the cage for a 2-0 advantage.

The senior's skills are eye-catching, even when they don't translate to success on the scoreboard. A well-struck cross that doesn't find a teammate to finish? A nifty move through defenders that goes for naught? McNamara makes it look good.

"She's so talented," Westfield head coach Starr Karl said. "I think she's the best player in the region."

On this night, McNamara, a VCU commit, finished with one goal and two assists, helping the Bulldogs beat West Springfield 7-0 at Westfield High School. She poses a threat as a goal-scorer and facilitator, totaling 15 goals and 10 assists in nine games this season.

"She's extremely smart and extremely athletic," Karl said. "When she decides that she wants to make the players around her better players, that's when she's at her best."



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERNUTZEL

Westfield field hockey coach Starr Karl said VCU commit Emily McNamara is "one of the most talented kids I've ever coached."

McNamara is in her fourth year on the varsity squad. Last year, she helped Westfield win the first state championship in program history, scoring a goal during the Bulldogs' 2-1 victory over First Colonial in the 6A final. McNamara was hardly a one-player show, however. Westfield had four seniors earn all-state honors — Katie Winesett, Katelyn Rennyson, Rachael Ulsh and Grace Horgan — each of whom went on to play Division I field hockey.

This season, McNamara is a team captain and senior leader.

"She's taken more of a leadership role on the team," Karl said. "She's like the go-to

person. ... She's dedicated herself and worked really hard. If I can get 60 minutes out of her every game, like, come to play and finish with 60 minutes, nobody could touch her."

So far, so good for McNamara, who is one

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Football Roundup

The defending VHSL 6A state champion Centreville football team responded to a season-opening loss to Gonzaga with a 54-0 victory over West Potomac on Sept. 12. Kyle Richbourg had 101 rushing yards and two touchdowns for the Wildcats.

Centreville will host Hayfield at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 19.

Westfield improved to 2-0 with a 45-33 victory over Hayfield. The Bulldogs, last year's 6A North region runner-up, will host Lake Braddock at 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

Chantilly won its season opener on Sept. 12, defeating Madison 7-3. The Chargers

of the primary reasons Westfield is 8-1 this season.

"It's weird being the oldest, with everybody looking up to me," McNamara said, "so it's a huge change, but we've adapted. ... I'm definitely more vocal, and I feel more like a pathway from the team to the coaches — I'm the connector now, rather than another person."

Along with her talents — she said she's improved her skills in the past year — McNamara's 5-foot-8 1/2 frame and long reach help her on the field.

"It's my specialty," McNamara said of her reach. Westfield has more than one talented athlete. Junior forward Claire Eller and freshman midfielder Mackenzie Karl each scored two goals against West Springfield, and freshman forward Nicki McNamara, Emily's sister, and sophomore midfielder Markert each scored one. However, Emily McNamara is the leader of a Bulldogs team looking for another successful finish to the season, starting with a home game against Robinson at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 18.

"She's definitely one of the most talented kids I've ever coached," Karl said. "I've had quite a few, but she's absolutely up there."

(2-0) will travel to take on South County at 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

#### Centreville Field Hockey Beats McLean

The Centreville field hockey team defeated McLean in strokes, 0-0 (3-0), on Sept. 10.

Centreville goalkeeper Kylie LeBlanc finished with 16 saves. Nicole Kang, Brynn Doyle and Megan Sevidal converted strokes for the Wildcats.

"She's definitely one of the most talented kids I've ever coached. I've had quite a few, but she's absolutely up there."

— Westfield field hockey coach Starr Karl about Emily McNamara

### BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 11

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Practice English with other students. Adults. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Consignment Sale.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. 200+ families will be selling gently used clothing, shoes, toys, books for the whole family. Free admission. Cash, Checks, and Credit Cards (Mastercard and Visa) are accepted. Indoor sale, held rain or shine. Visit [www.fcmm.org](http://www.fcmm.org).

**ESL Book Club.** 11 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Adults learning English meet to discuss a book chosen by the group. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**English Conversation Group.** 3:30 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. English conversation practice opportunity for adult learners of English. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

**Presentation: Applying for Social Security Disability.** 2-4 p.m. Attorney Mitch Lambros talks about SSDI benefits for those who are too ill to continue working. Free. No RSVP required. Refrain from wearing scented products. Call 703-968-9818 or visit [www.cfsnova.com](http://www.cfsnova.com) for more.

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

**"Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief."** 1-6 p.m. at Christ Church, 8285 Glen Eagles Lane, Fairfax Station. Stephen Ministry, a Christian non-profit organization, hosts an introductory workshop. \$15 per person; \$50 for 4 or more. Visit [www.stephenministry.org/workshop](http://www.stephenministry.org/workshop) or call Stephen Ministries at 314-428-

2600 to register.

#### MONDAY/SEPT. 22

**Membership Meeting.** 7 p.m. in the Sully District Governmental Center Front Meeting Room, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly. A meeting to discuss the 10th and 11th District Candidates. Visit [www.SullyDistrict.org](http://www.SullyDistrict.org) for more.

**ESL Book Club.** 7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Adults learning English meet to discuss a book chosen by the group. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

**New Voting Equipment Demonstration.** 3-5 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Staff from the Fairfax County Office of Elections will provide an opportunity to see and try out the new voting machines and equipment that will be used in the upcoming elections. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/)

branches/ch/  
**Candidate Meet and Greet.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Candidates for the 10th and 11th Congressional Districts will be discussing their views on important issues and guests will have a chance to interact.

#### TUESDAY/SEPT. 23

**Fairfax County Park Authority Board Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. in the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/boardagn2.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/boardagn2.htm) for meeting materials, archives and more. Call 703-324-8662.

**New Voting Equipment Demonstration.** 5-7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Staff from Fairfax County Office of Elections will provide an opportunity to see and try out the new voting machines and equipment that will be

used in the upcoming elections. Adults. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

**English Conversation Group.** 10:30 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Practice your English with other students. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Teen Volunteer Information Night.** 6:30 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. This presentation will show teens how to explore upcoming volunteer opportunities including VolunteerFest. Age 12-18. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

#### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

**eBook Help.** 1 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Get eBook questions answered. Please bring tablet or e-reader and library card. Adults. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)



Juwaan reacts as Pierre Garçon gets out of the van.



## ‘[This] Will Change Our Lives’

FROM PAGE 4

day raise enough money for an accessible van. And the community responded, with people pledging whatever amounts they could.

After three months, they’d raised \$9,567. Trouble was, even a used accessible van costs more than \$25,000. And that’s when Fouad Qreitem, owner and CEO of Paisano’s, stepped in to help. Once he learned about Juwaan and the fundraising efforts, he contacted Espinal and spoke with her.

It’s not the first time he’s come to the aid of local youth in need. As a businessman and a father of two daughters, he believes it’s his duty to give back and lend a hand where possible. “It’s great to be part of the community and help others,” he said. “I want Paisano’s to be known for helping people in the community.”

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Pierre Garçon and Juwaan Espinal pose for photos together.

For a week, from Aug. 25-31, Qreitem donated 50 percent of the sales from all of his Paisano’s locations – including Centreville’s Bella Pizza – to the cause. Next, he got his buddy, Washington Redskins wide receiver Pierre Garçon, involved.

“I told Pierre about Juwaan and he was happy to participate,” said Qreitem. “Then we put together a fundraiser. On Aug. 26, Pierre went to the Paisano’s in Arlington and, for everyone who donated \$25, he took photos with them and signed autographs.”

The two fundraising campaigns raised a total of \$23,000 and, combined with most of the money from the GoFundMe account, it was enough to purchase a \$28,000 accessible van – including taxes and extended warranty – from a dealership in Richmond. The remainder in the account will be used for the van’s maintenance and insurance.

It’s a dark blue, 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan with a rear entry with a pull-down ramp for the wheelchair. And once Juwaan is rolled inside the van, his wheelchair can be locked in place so it doesn’t move.

It was presented to him Friday night, during half-time of the football game – and it came as a surprise to him. He was also surprised by who delivered it. Since Paisano’s is in the pizza business, Qreitem and Garçon drove the vehicle up to Juwaan – complete with a lighted, Paisano’s sign atop – as if they were delivering him a pizza.

When they stepped out and he saw who was there and realized their purpose, he arched in his wheelchair, waved his arms and smiled. Simultaneously, the fans in the stands jumped to their feet and erupted into loud chants of “Juwaan, Juwaan.”

Garçon chatted with him, posed for pictures and also gave him four tickets and sideline passes to last Sunday’s Redskins game. The football player also shook hands with and signed autographs for some of the students. And he said how glad he was to do what he could for Juwaan.

“It’s great; it gives me a good feeling to help out,” said Garçon. “It’s nice being able to be in a position to help, especially a family that needs it so much. And it helps the community, too, to see Juwaan able to get around and enjoy all these activities. This is exciting.”

SEE ‘WILL CHANGE OUR LIVES,’ PAGE 15

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## Scared, Hopefully Not to Death

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



One of my greatest fears (or regrets, if I am in fact the cause of my own decline) is that my own stubbornness, stupidity, "male blockheadedness" and/or refusal to believe/pay attention to signs, symptoms, indications and instructions/health advisories from my oncologist about my health will lead to my premature death. Not that a stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer diagnosee originally given a "13-month to two-year" prognosis still alive and writing – among other activities – five and a half years later should think it "premature" after so far outliving his original prognosis; nevertheless, having received this diagnosis at age 54 and a half has caused me to still characterize my death as potentially premature given the fact that both my parents lived well into their 80s. Their long life had led me to believe that I'd live just as long. Hearing what I heard from my oncologist back on February 27, 2009, at the initial Team Lourie meeting changed my thinking, however.

Yet here I sit, not exactly "ensconced" in velvet as George Costanza loved, but alive and reasonably well, sitting "in the catbird seat" (to quote the late, great, legendary Red Barber, radio voice of the Brooklyn Dodgers {1939 -1953} and the New York Yankees {1954-1966}.) "Sittin' pretty," in the "rocking chair" are similar phrases of a type of good fortune. And considering my original set of extremely unfavorable circumstances – terminal cancer, inoperable, incurable, "perhaps you ought to take that trip you always dreamed of;" – I'm about as fortunate as one could be: sitting, rocking, standing, anything, in or out of the catbird seat or any other seat for that matter. Lucky doesn't begin to summarize my amazing good fortune. And as much as I've done to affect my circumstances: diet, supplements, minerals, vitamins, non-western alternatives, holistic ideas, I certainly don't want to stop now. (I grade myself a "B" on the how-good-I'm-doing scale; those who know my history would give me a higher grade, however.) But as live on, I try to pay closer attention to what my body is telling me, given that it may have outlived its ability to absorb the many poisons and toxins it has absorbed over these past five years having been subjected to almost non-stop chemotherapy, every three weeks – save for a 12-month break when I was able to take two pills a day instead.

After all this time though, it's still my nature to ignore, shrug off and even minimize some of what I feel and attribute it to age. (Believe me, it's a lot easier than believing it's the cancer.) I mean, I'm not getting any younger, and while the cancer is presumably impacting me in some way, I don't want to take my above-average health for granted. Nor do I want to worry myself into an early grave, either. But if I'm not proactive and worried – and attentive to details, perhaps that innocence and hopefulness may very well be my undoing; even though I'm not ready to be undone. Regardless of what I do, or how I do it, sometimes I feel like my life is a done deal. And that's what scares me – to be the victim of my own circumstances.

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

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Sharing Juwaan's joy are (from left) Fouad Qreitem, Pierre Garçon and Ibis Espinal.

# '[This] Will Change Our Lives'

FROM PAGE 13

Also happy was Centreville High Director of Student Activities Jimmy Sanabria, who was pleased with the community's fundraising efforts, as well. "We're family here in Centreville; and each time someone's in need, help has always come," he said. "It's a tribute to the community and I'm proud to work here."

As Espinal saw the accessible van drive up to them along the track around the football field, she said, "I'm very happy – I have no words." After awhile, though, she was able to express what the vehicle will mean to her son. She said it'll improve his mobility, allow him to use his power chair outside of school and enable him to be more independent.

"The van will change our lives in so many ways," said Espinal. She said family friends are already planning to take Juwaan to the zoo and, next spring, Shanelle will bring him to Virginia Tech for a weekend.

"It'll make it easier to get him to sports events, the mall, doctors' appointments and

even grocery stores," continued Espinal. "For years, I haven't been able to take him grocery shopping because our SUV was too small for him and the wheelchair. Now, he'll be able to do that with me and pick out the food he wants."

"I want to thank everyone in the community who donated their hard-earned money to the GoFundMe fund, and Paisano's for their incredible generosity," she continued. "Together, we raised enough money to buy the van. I also thank Pierre Garçon for coming out here tonight – and getting tickets to Sunday's game was awesome, too."

Awed and grateful to be surrounded by so many caring people, Espinal added, "Juwaan is truly a blessed soul." Seeing the joy on Juwaan's face also meant a great deal to Qreitem.

"It's amazing," he said. "Helping somebody like him is a special feeling. Knowing you impacted somebody's life, money can't buy that. I wouldn't even care if nobody knew about what we did – knowing Juwaan has transportation is enough for me, and I know Pierre feels the same way."

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Email announcements to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com). Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

**Homeless Animals Rescue Team** is looking for volunteers to hold dogs at adoption events, Saturdays noon-3 p.m. Volunteers must be 18 or older. Events will be held at Petsmart, 13866 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly. Call 703-691-HART or visit [www.hart90.org/](http://www.hart90.org/) for more.

**Fairfax County.** In need of a volunteer On-Call IT Specialists to help older adults. Schedule is flexible. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults).

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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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site) for more.

**Northern Virginia Family Service** is seeking volunteers to organize collection drives of toiletries products for clients in need. Requested items include such things as shampoo, soap, lotion, deodorant, hand sanitizer, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Learn more about Northern Virginia Family Service at [www.nvfs.org](http://www.nvfs.org) and contact Colleen Ross [cross@nvfs.org](mailto:cross@nvfs.org).



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## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

**Lunch 'N' Life.** Noon-2 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. For people 50 or older. The program will feature Brian Van de Graaff, ABC Channel 7 - WJLA TV weather team and meteorologist. For reservations, call Faye Quesenberry, 703-620-0161, by Sept. 12. \$10. Call 703-323-4788 for transportation. Visit [www.scfbva.org](http://www.scfbva.org) for more.

**The End (Or Is It?) Book Group.** 7:30 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Book discussion for 5th and 6th grade students. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Beautiful Displays with Bulbs & Perennials.** 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks Meeting Room, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Now is the time to plant bulbs for bright, beautiful color next spring. Peg and Stephanie will demonstrate how to combine bulbs and perennials for long-lasting displays of color and interest. Call 703-968-9600 or visit [merrifieldgardencenter.com](http://merrifieldgardencenter.com) for more.

**Art Guild of Clifton Art Walk.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Along Chapel Road, Clifton. Fine art, jewelry, photography, artists and demos. Along the way you will also see unique shops for gifts, home accessories, paper craft, cupcakes and

wine. [artguildofclifton@gmail.com](mailto:artguildofclifton@gmail.com)  
**Thriving Three to Fives: Birds Take Flight!** 10:30 a.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

**Civil War Wig-Wag in Fairfax.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Learn a secret method of communication via flags that was used in Fairfax County during the Civil War. Age 6-12. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Master Gardeners.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. A neighborhood plant clinic. Master gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice for home gardeners. Adults. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Cheers to 10 Years.** 3-6 p.m. at Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Rd., Clifton. Join the Assistance League of Northern Virginia in celebrating many accomplishments of helping those in need in the community, and learn how to help in the future. \$25, includes heavy appetizers and two glasses of wine. Contact Darlene Cooke 703-848-0623 or visit [northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

**PJ Library Book Buddies.** 1 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Moms, dads, grandparents, caregivers and children who love books are welcome to join for stories and fun that relate to Jewish culture, traditions and

holidays. Age 2.5-5 with caregiver. Siblings welcome. Email [jennifer.deangelis@jccnv.org](mailto:jennifer.deangelis@jccnv.org).  
**"Wedgwood Fairyland Lustre" Lecture.** 2 p.m. Total Wine Store, Chantilly. Lecture by Stuart Slavid followed by free wine tasting. [www.wedgwoodcapital.org](http://www.wedgwoodcapital.org)

## MONDAY/SEPT. 22

**Sully Book Club.** 1 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. "Crossing to Safety" by Wallace Stegner. Adults. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

**Writers of Chantilly.** 6:45 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Share your work, give and receive feedback in a supportive setting. Adults. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Starlight Storytime.** 7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Stories and fun for the whole family. Pajamas and stuffed friends welcome. Age 4-8. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

**Civil War Presentation.** 7:30 p.m. Cabell's Mill, 5235 Walney Road, Centreville. Presentation by David Welker based on his book, "Diary of a Keystone Rebel." Free. Contact Cheryl Repetti at [ccf@centrevilleva.org](mailto:ccf@centrevilleva.org).

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 23

**Toddlin' Twos.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Early literacy storytime with stories, songs and activities. Age 2 with caregiver. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Toddlin' Twos.** 11:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Early literacy storytime with stories, songs and activities. Age 2 with caregiver. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)  
**Storytime for Three to Fives.** 1:30 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Early literacy program with stories and activities. Age 3-5 with caregiver. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

**Read! Build! Play! Duplo Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Duplo play storytime to help develop and reinforce early literacy skills. Age 3-5 with adult. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Read! Build! Play! Duplo Storytime.** 11:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Duplo play storytime to help develop and reinforce early literacy skills. Age 3-5 with adult. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**A Novel Society.** 7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Street, Centreville. And the "Mountains Echoed" by Khaleed Hosseini. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 25

**Time for Tots.** 11 a.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Street, Centreville. Stories and activities. Age 2-3 with adult. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/)

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 26

**7th Annual Erin Peterson Fund Golf Tournament.** Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. Register at [www.erinpetersonfund.org](http://www.erinpetersonfund.org) or [erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com](mailto:erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com).

**Ready for School Storytime.** 2 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Early literacy storytime program for children ready to be on their own without caregivers or siblings. Age 4-5. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Bouncin' Babies.** 3 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for you and your baby. Birth-11 months with caregiver. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Small Wonders.** 4 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for you and your baby. 12-23 months with caregiver. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**Designing Gardens with Color.** 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks Meeting Room, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. In Mary Kirk's seminar, you will learn how colors work together to create a theme that evokes meaning and emotion. Call 703-968-9600 or visit [merrifieldgardencenter.com](http://merrifieldgardencenter.com) for more.

**Master Gardeners.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. A neighborhood plant clinic. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice for home gardeners. Adults. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Peaceful Paws.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Children on the autism spectrum or with other developmental challenges meet and read to a trained therapy dog. Bring your own book or choose one from the library; however, reading is not required. Parents and siblings are welcome to join. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Local Author Event.** 1-4 p.m. Barnes & Noble at Fair Lakes Promenade, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Bethany Masone Harar, whose first young adult novel, "Voices of the Sea", debuted on July 22, will be signing books. Contact [bethany.harar@gmail.com](mailto:bethany.harar@gmail.com) or visit <http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/4727756>.

**Wine Tasting.** 1-5 p.m. Mosaic, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. Charity Wine Life Festival by Swirl & Sip with more than 150 premium and value-driven wines hand-selected from around the world. \$49 per ticket until 9/19/14 (regular ticket price \$55). [www.mosaicdistrict.com/events/charity-wine-life-festival-swirl-sip](http://www.mosaicdistrict.com/events/charity-wine-life-festival-swirl-sip)

## MONDAY/SEPT. 29

**Bouncin' Babies.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for you and your baby. Birth-11 months with caregiver. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

**Small Wonders.** 11:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for you and your baby. 12-23 months with caregiver. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ch/)

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