

Great Beginnings Hosts Toys for Tots

Chantilly children's store is a drop-off for U.S. Marine Corps' toy campaign.

By Steve Hibbard The Connection

ina Coulson, store manager of Great Beginnings Baby & Kids of Chantilly, is conducting a Toys for Tots campaign with the U.S. Marine Corps from now through Dec. 21 at the store located at 13920-B Lee Jackson Memorial Highway (Route 50) in the Sully Plaza Shopping Center.

"I just want to help. I'm very simple that way. It's a great cause and I want to support it," said Coulson of Centreville, who has managed the store for two years. Customers can drop off new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls of all ages during store hours.

If customers "like" them on Facebook (facebook.com/greatbeginnings) or sign up email on their website (www.greatbeginnings.com), they'll receive a coupon for 20 percent off their purchase.



Tina Coulson, the store manager of Great Beginnings Baby & Kids of

They can use it for toys, clothing, furniture, or other stuff. "This will allow someone to purchase a toy and save 20 percent if they want to donate it to Toys for Tots," said

Great Beginnings is also acting as a "hub" for other Toys for Tots, which means other stores can drop off their donations at the

Chantilly shop, and Coulson is responsible for getting them down to the Marine Corps location Dumfries. Great Begin-

support it." nings is a 22,000-

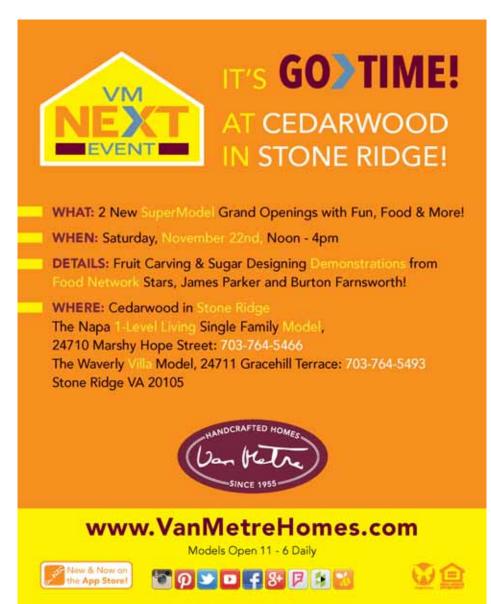
— Tina Coulson

"It's a great

cause and I

want to

square-foot specialty store that carries products geared to new babies, such as strollers, car seats, general accessories and baby and children's furniture anything new parents may need. The store also gives a 10 percent military discount. Call 571-512-4280. "Having lived in this area my entire life, it just made sense to me. It was the right thing to do," said Coulson of the toy drive.



Dulles Regional Chamber's GovCONnections Committee presents Women in Government Contracting -**Shattering Ceilings, Creating Successes GovCON**nections **DULLES REGIONAL CHAMBER of COMMERCE** Hear from three individuals who know the government contracting business inside and out! Together our panelists have decades of Speakers: business experience in the DC metro area. Kimberly Hayes If you want to learn about the government The Ambit Group contracting business, then you won't want to Barbara Kinosky miss this event on December 101 Centre Consulting & Centre You will learn what it takes to take your Law Group Gwendolyn Sykes, CFO, **U.S. Secret Service** Moderator: Kimberley Suiters WNEW - CBS Radio

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dullesregionalchamber.org

It's Time for Turkey Trot Raising money for Life with Cancer.

By Bonnie Hobbs
The Connection

great way to burn calories before Thanksgiving dinner is to participate in the Virginia Run Turkey Trot. This year's 26th annual 5K race and 2K fun walk will be held Thursday morning, Nov. 27.

"Things are running smoothly and we're well on our way," said Steve Logan, the new Turkey Trot co-chair along with Janet Day. "It's a great event that brings the entire community together."

The event also raises funds for Life with Cancer, Inova Health System's nonprofit program for cancer patients and their families. And so far, it's contributed more than \$1 million. Last year, 5,000 people total participated in Turkey Trot, raising \$94,000.

Both the run and walk begin at 8 a.m., starting and ending at the Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, off Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road in Centreville. The 5K race is USATF-certified and the course travels through the Virginia Run community.

Registration in the 5K is limited to the first 4,000 entries; the walk has unlimited entries. Register online at http://varunturkeytrot.wix.com/2014. Entry fees are 5K, \$35; walk, \$15; participants receive a cotton, short-sleeved T-shirt (entrants must pick up their shirts in person), plus post-race snacks and raffle tickets.

The commemorative T-shirts are customdesigned by Centreville artist and comicbook illustrator Rich Seetoo. This year's shirt features a turkey crossing the finish line with the Virginia Run Community Cen-



Some 5,000 people participated in Virginia Run's 2013 Turkey Trot.

ter in the background.

Prizes are awarded to the three fastest males and females overall and in the Virginia Run residents' category. The top three runners in various age categories also receive prizes. Runners are electronically timed and results posted on www.DCTiming.com. Results may also be obtained almost immediately at a tent in the Community Center parking lot.

The event takes place, rain, shine or snow, and parking's available at Centreville Baptist Church, Centreville Presbyterian

Church, Bull Run Elementary and Korean Central Presbyterian Church (KCPC), all off Route 29.

The main sponsors are Eridani Crops, Mitchell Eye Institute, Cox Farms, Korean Central Presbyterian Church, Virginia Cancer Specialists, Edelman Financial Services, American Windows and Siding, and Glory Days Grill.

Race preparations have been underway by a 20-person committee since February and 150 people will help out on the big day. For example, Howard Sevel is the announcer and heads up the raffle, Dean Jones is in charge of traffic control and Michelle Enright handles crowd control, helps with traffic and coordinates the walk.

But volunteers are still needed for race day, starting at 6 a.m., with set-up. To lend a hand, contact Helaine Newman at helainesells@gmail.com or just show up.

Logan hopes this year's Turkey Trot will be as successful as always because "Life with Cancer is a terrific and free program and does so much to help people. It's definitely a worthy cause. Having

had cancer, myself — I've been in remission for seven years — I feel the Life with Cancer program offers wonderful services for both the patients and their families."

As for Turkey Trot, he said, "The community looks forward to this race every Thanksgiving. People have been doing it for years, and it's part of their routine now."

To see a video of Turkey Trot and Life with Cancer's history, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqZDSMR1Lw0&feature=emcshare_video_user.

Life with Cancer Helps Families Cope after Diagnosis

months of chemo,

followed by radia-

tion. She finished

treatment that No-

vember and is

now doing fine.

She runs and chal-

lenges herself in endurance events

and also gives

back to help oth-

An interview with Vanessa Spiller.

ost years, the Virginia Run Turkey Trot is dedicated to a community resident who's died of cancer in the months preceding the race. But this year, it's being held in honor of those affected by cancer.

One of them is Centreville's Vanessa Spiller, who also works for Life with Cancer (LWC). The organization's slate of offerings helps families mentally, psychologically and emotionally. It's geared for those with cancer or impacted by it and helps children and teens learn how to cope and to show support for their loved ones.

In April 2011, Spiller was diagnosed with stage II breast cancer. A tumor in her breast had metastasized and, after doctors removed it, she underwent six



variessa spi

ers.

Below, Spiller explains what Life with Cancer does and why the money raised from the Virginia Run Turkey Trot is so important in helping the organization support the community.

Q: What do you do for Life with

A: I'm a certified nutritionist and I conduct healthy cooking demonstrations in the Life with Cancer kitchen. Each one covers information about specific food groups that help combat disease, plus we get to eat

good, tasty, fun and healthy food. My next one is Thursday, Dec. 4, at Life with Cancer, 8411 Pennell St. in Fairfax. It's called 'Healthy Indulgence: Let's Have our Cake and Eat it, Too.' Everyone is welcome and it's free.

Q: How are you feeling?

A: I'm doing very well. It's been 3.5 years since my diagnosis and I'm grateful. I, myself, continue to attend classes at Life with Cancer. It helps me a great deal; it's terrific information, plus I'm able to continue the work I love in the field of wellness.

Q: How you feel about Turkey Trot's proceeds going to LWC?

A: Again, I'm grateful. It's amazing that the Virginia Run Turkey Trot has supported Life with Cancer exclusively for so many years. It says a great deal about both entities. I'd like to thank the incredible sponsors and participants of the race – it's one of the largest community events in the area.

Sponsoring companies and runners have a lot of choices as to where to put their money to support local efforts. And year after year, the participants and sponsors recognize the value and choose to support an organization like Life with Cancer. It has so much to offer people.

Q: What does LWC use the money for?

A: The proceeds funding Life with Cancer help provide what seems to be an endless means of support to individuals affected by the disease. There are numerous programs and classes supported by sponsors at Life with Cancer, including exercise classes (yoga), art classes, counseling, nutrition and dietary classes.

Life with Cancer is a welcoming place to land when you've experienced your world turning upside down from a cancer diagnosis. It's a place to turn and feel hopeful. The staff and volunteers are professional and compassionate.

People



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

In 2001, Anne Lindvay was single and working and living in Northern Virginia.



Photo Contributed

Rob Havlovick was living in Northern Virginia too, sharing a house with friends and throwing parties in hopes of meeting a great girl.



Photo Contributed William was 2 years old and living with his

biological family.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

When Anne and Rob met at one of Rob's parties, they had an instant connection and began dating.

November is National Adoption Month. Here's the story of how adoption created one family in Chantilly. To learn more about adopting through foster care in the D.C. Metro area, email the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments at: picme@mwcog.org.

rree Become One



they tied the knot.

Photo © Phil Domenici In 2004, on a hot summer day,

Photo Contributed William, now 5, was still living with his biological



Photo by Joan Brady

By the time Anne and Rob were thinking about adoption, William was 13 and had been in foster care for about four years. He had lived in three foster homes. He liked taking pictures, drawing, ultimate frisbee and dogs.



Rob was more comfortable with the idea of adopting an older child and they both liked the idea of adopting a local child out of foster care.



Photo by Joan Brady

family.

Beverly Howard of Fairfax Families4Kids, which does mentoring for foster children, with William, Anne and Rob. Anne says that when they met William, things just clicked. She and Rob both fell in love with William immediately. As for William, he had just one question: Did they have a dog?



Photo by Joan Brady

When William moved in with the Havlovicks in June 2013, there definitely were rules, including things like: brushing teeth, no cell phones in the bedroom and being respectful of others. But more important to them than the rules, Anne and Rob wanted a household filled with unconditional love.



Photo by Joan Brady

"Anne was meant to be a mother. Her passion for life and the enthusiasm she brings to everything she does keeps love and laughter to our house every day," said Rob.



Photo by Joan Brady

Anne says that "while Rob has always been a kind and gentle person, parenting has brought out the best in him."



June 2014, William's adoption, attended by family and friends, was finalized.



Surrounded by the love of his two parents, today, William has just two wishes for his future: He would love to downhill ski in Colorado and he still really, really wants a dog.

Schools



Standing Together

Poplar Tree Elementary School teachers and staff gather together to take a stand against bullying during the school's recent Bullying Awareness Day.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Lawrence Dickt, of Oak Hill, was among students from Patrick Henry Community College, located in Martinsville, Va., who made the spring 2014 honor's list.

Timothy Ryan Carroll of Fairfax graduated with a Master of Professional Accounting in accounting; and **Gerald Paul Dehanis**, of Oak Hill, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in management graduated from Clemson University this summer.

Karl Mohn, a student at George Mason University has graduated from

the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps Leader Training Course at Fort Knox, Ky. He is a 2011 graduate of Westfield High School.

Vocal musicians from 14 Fairfax County public schools have been named to the Virginia Honors Choir for 2014. This select choir is open only to the top 125 singers from around the Commonwealth of Virginia, and is the highest honor a choir student can attain during his or her high school career. Thirty-six Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students were selected for the choir, and six students were named alternates. The students will perform at the Virginia Music Educators Association convention in Norfolk on Nov. 22. FCPS students named to the 2014 Virginia Honors Choir include:

Centreville High School: Nancy Brittain, Jin Young Lee and Karsten Kim; alternates Kayla Ebright and Alexandria De La Rosa.

Chantilly High School: Claire Hewer, Michael Mason, Jake Fries and Troy Fries. Westfield High School: Abigail Mar-

tin and alternate Jonathan Bidinger.

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OPINION

Why Shop Small? Shop Large Locally

Small business Saturday isn't enough; don't wait until then, and don't stop after that.

here is a joy to shopping in local stores at the holidays, to participating in community traditions and celebrations, to walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambi-

EDITORIAL

ance available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of

defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that is otherwise unmatched.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon. An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, also called Shop Small. This year that day is Nov. 29.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive, and communities depend on those businesses as well. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, advocating for improvements, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now. Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally owned retailers. But local families will literally spend millions of dollars to shop and exchange gifts during the next month, spending tens of millions of dollars in a variety of places.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at

Celebrate Locally

Bull Run Festival of Lights & Holiday Village, Nov. 19 - Jan. 4, Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville, Monday - Thursday: 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Fridays - Sunday and holidays: 5:30 to 10 p.m. call 703-631-0550 Mondays-Thursdays, \$15 per car; Fridays-Sundays and holidays, \$20 per car. Santa's Enchanted Lights, with more than 40,000 animated lights set to music. Off Interstate 66 in Centreville, on Rt. 29 (Lee Highway).

Christmas at Mount Vernon, Daily, Nov. 28 - Jan. 6, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 George Washington Memorial Pkwy, Mount Vernon, Regular Estate admission. Themed decorations (including 12 Christmas trees) and historical chocolate-making demonstrations will be offered. Tour the rarely-open third floor of the Mansion and learn how the Washingtons celebrated Christmas. In 1787, George Washington paid 18 shillings to bring a camel to Mount Vernon for the enjoyment of his guests. During Christmas at Mount Vernon, visitors can meet a camel on the grounds.

Black Friday Holiday Celebration at the Workhouse. Nov. 28, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton, 703-584-2900, free. Explore the artwork of nearly 100 artists, join in interactive demonstrations and find that perfect gift while supporting local artists. Festivities will also include Doughnuts with Santa, fine-art projects for children, and holiday music and theatrical performances throughout the day.

ity of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols. Saturday, Dec. 6. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Come enjoy live holiday music, hot cider, s'mores by the Yule log, petting farm, Ferris wheel, caroling and lighting of the Christmas tree in the winter wonderland. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festivalof-lights-and-carols for times and locations.

the mall. Everyone will do some shopping online. Many will answer the call of the big box. But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores. Spend some time shopping in your own community, and also plan an excursion to a nearby town to check out the local businesses and holiday spirit there.

The Connection is participating in Shop Small 2014, email sales@connectionnews papers.com to find out more.

- MARY KIMM

mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Plantation Christmas, Dec. 6, 2-7 p.m., Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton, 703-550-9220, Admission: \$15 adults, \$5 children (6-18). Let the Christmas Past become part of Christmas Present. Ride in a horse-drawn carriage, sip warm cider by the fire, and sample period food prepared in the hearth kitchen. Return to the 18th century as costumed characters greet visitors in the house and throughout the grounds. Visit with Santa.

"Christmas in Camp" - Civil War Living History, Dec 7, 12-4 p.m., Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, 703-591-0560. Discuss Civil War-era holiday customs, make Victorian ornaments, and participate in camp drills with Company D, 17th VA Infantry, "Fairfax Rifles" C.S.A. Guided tours of Historic Blenheim House.

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival, Dec. 12 - 14, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Dulles Expo Center, 320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly, 800-210-9900, Adults: \$8 online, \$10 at the door; Children under 12: free; Parking: free. More than 250 artisans will display and sell

their handcrafted work.

Holiday Horse Drawn Hayrides at Lake
Accotink Park, Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield, 703-22 4664, \$10 per person (free for 2 and under). Enjoy holiday music and merriment on a horse drawn hayride through the park. Warm up with seasonal treats available for purchase at the snack bar, and settle in to share stories around a toasty campfire. Also visit with Santa and share a wish list. Remember to bring a camera and make it a holiday family photo.

A Christmas Carol. Saturday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m. Art Room, Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Solo performance. NYC actor / playwright, Greg Oliver Bodine performs his one-man performance of Charles Dickens. Children over 10 and adults. General admission \$15 / \$10 Seniors and Students. www.artful.ly/store/events/

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Help Disadvantaged **Students**

To the Editor:

I found it very interesting that the Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee (CPMSAC) ["Only Excellence Is Good Enough," Nov. 13] is working so closely with the public school system and the community in an effort for bettering the academic successes and potential of minority students. Minority students are typically at an educatry considering that "minority stueconomically disadvantaged or households located in disadvan-

ing to sociologist James Coleman. It is commonly well known that most students living in these disadvantaged neighborhoods must attend subpar schools which fall beneath the standards set by neighborhoods that have an economic advantage. This, in turn, creates an education deficit formed by students who are unable to receive better opportunities given their financial circumstance; especially since these communities may be lacking the financial means necessary to support the outcome of the student's edu-

Geoffrey Canada, president of tional disadvantage in this coun- Harlem's Children Zone (HCZ) located in New York, has also recogdents are more likely to come from nized the importance of community involvement and student suceducationally disadvantaged cess as equal. The Harlem Children's Zone is dedicated to taged neighborhoods," as accord- providing a better opportunity for

children in poverty stricken areas of Harlem by providing them the academic means necessary for them to make it to and successfully past college. Much like CPMSAC, the HCZ has also created several fundamental programs designed to help students and the community achieve educational success. Such as the Baby College parenting workshops which has the goal of directing educational success starting at birth and going through to college.

I really think it's important that more communities follow in the steps of the CPMSAC and HCZ so minority students or students in disadvantaged areas of our nation can have access to the various opportunities they need in order to

> Jayla Smith Alexandria

Roundups

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Nov. 20, 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.

Chantilly

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Helping the Community

Boy Scout Troop 7369 was asked by Saint Timothy Parish to build an exhibit for the International festival. The troop's Scoutmaster, Mike Warsocki, brought up the request during a scout meeting. The troop's scouts came to a consensus to build a monkey bridge, a bridge where the only place to walk on is a single rope. Roughly half of the 70-Scout troop took part in the early construction of the bridge. This required the construction of three Aframe lashings that were made with 12 foot long logs. The troop used a one inch thick rope to walk on, and installed guide lines putting to use their knot making skills. With more 30 willing workers, the first stage of construction was completed in around 2 hours. The result was a monkey bridge 70 feet long and with the main rope 6 feet off the ground. On the day of the festival, the Scouts rebuilt the bridge in about an hour. The troop used ladders to help children — and adults — on and off the bridge, had two spotters for every participant, and ran the event for nearly 7 hours.



Jen
McLaughlin, a
trainer at
LearningRx
Chantilly, with
student Jamie
Paredes in
September.

Photo Contributed

Taking the Plunge for ALS

Chantilly accepted the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge to raise money and awareness for ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease. The challenge entails people getting drenched by buckets of ice water on video and nominating others to do the same, in an effort to raise awareness of ALS. Donations are made for those who want to opt out of the ice bath.

LearningRx director Casey www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Bauer challenged her students to take the plunge and offered to donate for each person who accepted.

One Centreville student, who was visiting family in Germany over the summer, took the challenge and posted his video from overseas. Ten students and several parents and staff participated in September. Watch the videos at f a c e b o o k . c o m / LearningRxChantilly

SCHOOL NOTES



Fall Festival

Parents, students, teachers and administrators — including (above, from left)
Wanda Radler, PTA president; Sharon S.
Williams, principal, and Holly Walker,
assistant principal — celebrated at Poplar
Tree's Fall Festival last month. Some of the
activities included: Lego Building Contest,
Pumpkin Decorating Contest, Pumpkin
Throwing Contest, and many games.



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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT



'Nutcracker'

Kick off the holiday season with The Fairfax Ballet's performance of the classical "Nutcracker." Members of the Fairfax Ballet's Company, along with students from the Russell School of Ballet and special guest artists from around the world, will dance to Tchaikovsky's opulent holiday masterwork. Three showtimes include: Nov. 29, 2 and 7 p.m., and Nov. 30, 2 p.m. at W.T. Woodson High School, 525 Main St., Fairfax. Tickets are available for purchase at fairfaxnutcracker2014.brownpapertickets.com or at the door beginning one hour before each show. Visit fairfaxballet.com, email events@fairfaxballet.com or call 703-439-9788.

Email announcements to chantilly@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.

ONGOING

The Airbus IMAX Theater at National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center,

14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway, is showing movies including "Interstellar", "D-Day: Normandy 1944", "Hubble," "Fighter Pilot," "Hidden Universe" and "The Dream is Alive." Visit airandspace.si.edu/ udvarhazy or call 703-572-4118 for the movie schedule or to schedule an IMAX On Demand show for groups of 50 or more.

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.

Exhibit of Colorful Nutcrackers at Historic Sully. Nov. 22 through

Jan. 31. Sully Historic Site, 3650
Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. See an array of nutcrackers, both old and new, in a colorful case exhibit. This holiday exhibit is included in a guided tour of the 1794 house. Sully, the home of Richard Bland Lee, northern Virginia's first congressman, will be decorated for the holiday season from Dec. 3-22. 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully

parks/sully

Singing. 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life
Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes
Drive, Clifton. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires
rehearse every Wednesday which
includes training by an awardwinning director. Visit
www.fairfaxjubilaires.org for more.

PET ADOPTIONS

Adopt a Dog. Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

and Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit hart90.org for more. Adopt a Dog. Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial

Adopt a Dog. Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit aforeverhome.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/NOV.19-SUNDAY/JAN.4

Lights Festival. 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. Almost two and a half miles of light displays and a Holiday Village to celebrate the season. Visit www.bullrunfestivaloflights.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 21-22

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly. The school will present, "And Then There Were None." Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com for more.

FRIDAY/NOV. 21

Swing Dance with Natty Beaux.

8:30-9 p.m. drop-in beginner swing lesson; 9 p.m.-midnight dance. Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. Dance to a lively mix of American music from 1940 to 1960. \$15. 703-359-9882 or www.gottaswing.com

Secret Keeper Girl Crazy Hair

Show. 6:30-9 p.m. at nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. A Bible-based relationship-building experience for moms and their tween daughters (typically ages 8-12). The event features a fashion show, balloon sculptures, bouncing beach ball competitions, mother/daughter conversation time, and colorful confetti cannons. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$13 for group general admission, \$30 for premium general admission. Limited general

admission tickets will be available at the door for \$20. www.secretkeepergirl.com

SATURDAY/NOV. 22

Christmas Decorating Tips. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks Meeting Room, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Learn how to create holiday displays that will wow guests. Call 703-968-9600 or visit merrifieldgardencenter.com for more.

Book Signing. 1-3 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. First-time author Pat Nelson Klud will have a book signing of her first book, "Green Glass." Call 703-383-1170 for more.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

Honey Baked Ham Sale. 12:30 p.m. at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The Class of 2018 is selling Honey Baked Ham right in time for Thanksgiving as their first fundraiser. Contact debarham@fcps.edu for more.

THURSDAY/NOV. 27

Turkey Trot. 8 a.m. at Virginia Run Community Center,15355 Wetherburn Court, Centreville. Spend Thanksgiving morning at this race. Visit www.varunturkey trot.wix.com/2014 for more.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

Swing Dance. 8:30-9 p.m. drop-in beginner swing lesson, 9-12 p.m dance. Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. \$20 in advance, \$30 at the door. A night of swing dance fun with music by London's Jive Aces. www.gottaswing.com or 703-359-9882.

SATURDAY/NOV. 29

Fairfax Ballet's "The Nutcracker." 2 and 7 p.m.at W.T. Woodson High

School, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. Members of the Fairfax Ballet's Company, along with students from the Russell School of Ballet and guest artists from around the world will perform. Tickets are available for purchase at fairfaxnutcracker2014.brownpapertickets.com. Tickets will also be available at the door beginning one hour before each show. Email events@fairfaxballet.com or call

SUNDAY/NOV. 30

703-439-9788 for more.

Fairfax Ballet's "The

Nutcracker." 2 p.m. at W.T. Woodson High School, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. Members of the Fairfax Ballet's Company, along with students from the Russell School of Ballet and guest artists from around the world will perform. Tickets are available for purchase at fairfaxnutcracker2014-brownpapertickets.com/Tickets will also be available at the door beginning one hour before each show. Email events@fairfaxballet.com or call 703-439-9788 for more.

TUESDAY/DEC. 2

Public Concert-Holiday Kick-Off

Event. 11:30 a.m. Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum, Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly. The United States Air Force Band concert. Free, tickets not required. Free bus parking, \$15 parking for private vehicles. www.usafband.af.mil or 202-767-5658

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Champagne Holiday Breakfast. 8

a.m.-2 p.m. at Judy Ryan of Fairfax, 9565 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Kick off the season with Judy Ryan of Fairfax. Enjoy a continental breakfast, complete with champagne and mimosas and storewide savings. Judy's elves will wrap gifts. Call 703-425-1855.

Decorating with Fresh Greens and Flowers. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks Meeting Room, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. See how to use fresh cut pine, holly, cedar, boxwood, magnolia and other plants to fill a home with the fragrance and beauty of the season. Call 703-968-9600 or

visit merrifieldgardencenter.com for

St. Nicholas Workshop. 1-4 p.m. at Saint Raphael Orthodox Church, 4429 Brookfield Corporate Drive, Suite 500, Chantilly. Children can make crafts and gifts. Free, registration is required. Call 703-426-8719 for more.

Holiday Art Show. 2-6 p.m. at Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road. Enjoy shopping for quality, original art, made entirely by Clifton artists. Visit www.artguildofclifton.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 12-13

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14220 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Books for all ages will be offered at bargain prices. The book sale is open to the public.

Call 703-830-2223 for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/ DEC. 12-14

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m. 6p.m. at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly. More than 250 of the nation's finest artisans will display and sell their handcrafted work. Visit www.sugarloafcrafts.com for more.



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Four Helpings of Comedy and Drama

Centreville High's One-Act Play Festival.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

omedy, drama and four plays for the price of one are all on the bill at Centreville High. Its One-Act Play Festival is set for this Friday-Saturday, Nov. 21-22, at 7:30 p.m. in the school theater. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Three of the shows, "Roomers," "The Chocolate Affair" and "The Bald Soprano," are student-directed. The fourth, "Elephant's Graveyard," is helmed by Centreville Theater Director Mike Hudson.

'Roomers'

Directing "Roomers" is Austin Burch. "It's about a bunch of crazy people in an apartment building in New York City," said stage manager Sean Fletcher, a junior. "The show's a fast-paced, hilarious comedy, with lots of exuberant interactions between all the cast members."

There are 14 actors and, in the story, an old friend of one of the apartment residents



The "Roomers" cast includes (standing, from left) Sam Mattheson, Zane Piper, Jack Moore, Gabie Nicchitta, Stephanie Mears, Jenny Lee, David Strauch, Amita Rao and Sean Fletcher; and (sitting) Collin Robinson.

comes to get help. She needs to get on her feet because she's run away from her husband and taken her baby with her.

"The cast is amazing and we've all had a

great time," said Fletcher. "It's one of my best experiences in theater, getting to see things from a directorial point of view and find out how different and unique it is. I learned how much work goes into making the decisions and doing everything else directors do." He said the audience will like how quickly the story moves, the stereotypes of the characters and "how upbeat this show is."

'The Bald Soprano'

Directed by senior Cameron Daly, "The Bald Soprano" has a cast of six and is an absurdist piece by playwright Eugene Ionesco. "It's a dark comedy with an overall message that diminishing communications within society have caused the individual to become replaceable," said Daly. "Each person could be replaced by someone else, and the outcome of life wouldn't change."

She said her actors have done a "phenomenal" job. "By the second rehearsal, everything had already clicked and it was awesome," said Daly. "It's my third time directing and I love it. It's fun because it lets me get my creative vision across. And I learned how to cooperate with people more, in general – directing reinforces that."

Although it's an ensemble cast, the leads are played by Miranda Newman, Josh Ewalt, Caity Sheerin and Andrew Dettmer.

SEE CVHS's ONE-ACT, PAGE 11



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The cast of "Elephant's Graveyard," (front row, from left) Stephanie Rathjen, Emily Hoffman, Cameron Daly, Miranda **Newman and Trey** McNeil; (middle row, from left) Amita Rao, Kyle Artone, Zane Piper, Annelise Jones, David Strauch, Khalied **Bashri and Austin** Burch; (back row) CJ Robinson.

> PHOTO COURTESY OF Mike Hudson

CVHS's One-Act Play Festival

From Page 10

Daly said the audience will like this show because "It's a different type of play and there's a secret surprise at the end that's going to freak everybody out."

'The Chocolate Affair'

"The Chocolate Affair" is directed by senior Stephanie Rathjen. The three-person cast is offering a dramedy about a mother who's hit her breaking point and decides to steal her child's Halloween

"She goes to a sketchy hotel to eat it because she wants to appear perfect at home to her family," said Rathjen. "But M&M and Mr. Goodbar come in and confront her about what she's doing. I'm so happy with my wonderful cast, and I'm impressed with how they've personalized their characters."

Rathjen's used to acting but, this time, she said, "I have to think about what I want to see onstage, and it's cool to make those decisions. As a director, I'm learning that each actor has to dig deep and get to know their character's back story because it makes for a more interesting show. The audience will be able to connect with the mother's inner struggle of wanting to keep up appearances, while being afraid of being judged."

'Elephant's Graveyard'

Centreville Theater Director Mike Hudson directs "Elephant's Graveyard." Written by George Brant, it was the school's entry in the Virginia Theatre Association competition, Oct. 23, in Norfolk.

"The cast did a tremendous job at VTA," said Hudson. "Miranda Newman and Cameron Daly each won an acting award, and we also got the Technical Excellence Award for the whole conference, out of 60 schools performing."

Featuring a cast of 14, it's an ensemble piece dealing with a historical event. In 1916, a small Virginia circus, the Sparks Brothers Circus, was traveling. One of the animal handlers was killed by an elephant in a parade and, as punishment, the elephant was hanged. The play focuses on how the circus people and the townspeople view the event.

"The majority of the actors are from the advanced theater class and they're doing a fabulous job," said Hudson. "The show is episodic, moves at a fairly quick pace and definitely showcases the actors' abilities. It's about the harshness of human reality and man's willingness to turn on something or someone quickly, and without explanation."



"The Bald Soprano" cast members are (from left) Director Cameron Daly, Annelise Jones, Andrew Dettmer, Miranda Newman, Josh Ewalt and Austin Huehn. (Not pictured: Caity Sheerin and Cameron Her).



The cast of "The Chocolate Affair" is (from left) Zainab **Barry, director Stephanie** Rathjen, Jemma Stratton, stage manager Joey dell 'Omo and Khalied Bashry.



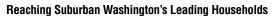


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SPORTS

Chantilly's McGorty Places Fourth at State XC Meet

Westfield's Pace, Freix earn all-state honors.

> By Jon Roetman The Connection

hantilly senior Ryan McGorty at the conclusion of the state meet questioned whether he made the right decision.

McGorty pushed the pace early in the 6A boys' race, taking an early lead. The strategy had worked when McGorty won the Monroe Parker Invitational at Burke Lake Park in early September, so why not give it another

On Saturday, McGorty's move cost him as he ran out of gas near the end of the Great Meadow course and several harriers passed him. Lake Braddock senior Alex Corbett, who won the 6A North region meet on Nov. 5, won the individual state title with a time of 15:08 on Nov. 15. Bruin teammate Kevin Monogue finished runner-up with a time of 15:19, followed by Cox junior Jonathan Lomogda (15:21).

McGorty, who recently signed with William & Mary, placed fourth with a time of 15:26.

"Honestly, I was initially disappointed about the race," McGorty wrote in an email. "If I would have just run with the pack I feel like I could have finished higher, but I



Cox junior Jonathan Lomogda, left, Chantilly senior Ryan McGorty, middle and Westfield senior Johnny Pace stand on the podium at Great Meadow after finishing third, fourth and fifth, respectively, during the 6A boys' race at the VHSL state meet on Nov. 15.

would not have had a chance to win."

While McGorty didn't capture the state title, he still earned all-state honors with his fourth-place finish.



Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

Westfield junior Sara Freix placed fifth in the 6A girls' race, earning all-state honors during the VHSL state meet on Nov. 15 at **Great Meadow.**

"Alex is a very strong runner," McGorty wrote. "When I beat him earlier in the year I was able to get a lead and keep it so my plan was to go for the lead and try to press the pace as much as I could. I paid the price

most. They ran great." Lake Braddock won the team title with a score of 41. West Springfield finished runner-up with a total of 92. Two-time defending state champion Chantilly took third with a score of 105, followed by Oakton (124), Robinson (146), Cosby (177), Ocean Lakes (181) and Washington-Lee (201).

"Overall, I think this season was great," McGorty wrote. "I was fortunate to win a few invitationals this season, which was such a great feeling. More important though was how coach [Matt] Gilchrist brought the team so far this season. When we started, I didn't even think this group would make it to states, so to go and finish third as a team was amazing. So many of our runners improved a lot over the season. It's been so fun to be a part of a team like this. Personally, I'm re-

and died a little at the end when I was passed by a group, but I'm happy I went for the win instead

of just racing with everyone. The Lake Braddock athletes and

coaches did an excellent job of preparing for the meet and being

at their best when it counted

ally looking forward to seeing how well I run at the south regional Foot Locker meet next week. I really want to run the best I can."

Westfield senior Johnny Pace placed fifth among individuals with a time of 15:28. Centreville junior Brent Bailey finished 24th

In the 6A girls' race, Westfield junior Sara Freix placed fifth with a time of 18:18. Centreville senior Jackie O'Shea finished 43rd (19:36).

Patriot sophomore Rachel McArthur won with a time of 17:43.

Oakton repeated as state champs with a score of 44, followed by Lake Braddock (58), Madison (83) and Patriot (96).



Centreville senior Caroline Wakefield, a twosport standout for the Wildcats, signed a letter of intent on Nov. 12 to play lacrosse at the University of North Carolina, Wakefield is a projected fouryear starter for the Centreville girls' lacrosse and sketball teams. She is a firstlacrosse player, also earning all-district/conference, all-region and all-state accolades during her high school career. The midfielder has 147 goals and 108 assists during her first three seasons at Centreville. On the basketball court, Wakefield is known for her defense. She's an all-district/conference performer who helped the Wildcats win the 2013 Concorde District title.

SPORTS BRIEF

Favorites Dominate In Football Playoffs

Seven of the top-eight seeds won during the first round of the 6A North region football playoffs on

No. 1 Centreville, the defending state champion, blasted No. 16 Stonewall Jackson, 56-14. No. 2 Westfield beat No. 15 Langley 47-20.

No. 3 Lake Braddock beat No. 14 Oakton by 30, 44-14. No. 4 Battlefield defeated No. 13 Annandale

No. 5 South County continued to roll up the points, beating No. 12 Robinson 50-23. No. 6 West ringfield defeated No. 11 Washington-Lee 38-20

No. 10 Chantilly upset No. 7 Hayfield 49-35, and No. 8 Patriot thumped No. 9 Yorktown 48-21.

Centreville (9-2) will host Patriot (9-2) in the region quarterfinals at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 21. Westfield (10-1) will host Chantilly (6-5) at 7:30 p.m. Lake Braddock (9-2) will host West Springfield (9-2) at 7 p.m. and South County (10-1) will travel to face Battlefield (10-1) at 7:30.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Centreville senior Tyler Love, seated, recently signed his National Letter of Intent for wrestling for the University of Virginia. From left, Centreville assistant coach Todd Reynolds, head coach John Belyea, onship as a junior last year, after a third-place finish as a sophomore. Love started wrestling in the first grade with the SYA program. Through his high school years, he has competed at several national tournaments, where he has earned four All-American titles and has been a member of the Virginia national dual team. During his freshman high school season, he set his sights on wrestling in college and specifically at UVA for coaches Steve Garland and Jordan Leen. Love is also an all-state linebacker for the Centreville football team, which won a state title in 2013 and is the top seed in this year's 6A North region playoffs. Love's parents are Alana and Billy Love; he has two sisters, Kara, an engineering student at Virginia Tech and Savanna, a Ph.D. student at Virginia Commonwealth University.





Muriel Jeddlicka (left), admissions director of Oakwood School in Annandale, was on hand at The Exceptional Schools Fair to share information with parents.

An Exceptional Education

"We have families

coming from all over.

They are looking for

a place where their

children feel safe."

- Tara Nappi, Commonwealth

Academy in Alexandria

Exceptional Schools Fair offers parents a chance to learn more about schools for their children with special needs.

> BY MARILYN CAMPBELL The Connection

aureen Kleinman wandered from booth to booth, speaking with representatives from schools that caterto students who have special needs. She asked questions about each school's resources and environment.

"I have been home schooling my daughter for 5 years," said Kleinman, an Arlington mother. Her

daughter is 11 years old and her son is 9. "I want to find a school where my daughter's educational needs will be met, but also where her social and emotional needs will be met.'

Kleinman was one of hundreds of local parents who attended the eighth annual Exceptional Schools Fair. The event is considered a clearinghouse for the region, a place where parents of children think and learn differently (regardless of their disabil-

ity) can come and find the schools that are right for gists," said Lois McCabe, head of school for the Ditheir children.

More than 30 schools from the mid-Atlantic region sent representatives to show what their schools have to offer and answer questions from parents. The

event was held at American University in D.C., November 16.

The fair was founded by Bekah Atkinson, director of admissions at the Sienna School, to provide a resource for parents whose lives literally changed overnight, or the moment they learned their children have a special need. The fair is a forum for parents to explore educational options for their children. Atkinson is clear, however, that it is not a forum for diagnosis or advice, but simply a helpful resource for parents who are facing an unknown future for their children, educationally, financially and emotionally.

We have families coming from all over," said Tara Nappi, director of teacher education and curriculum development at Commonwealth Academy in Alexandria. "They are looking for a place where their children feel safe."

EVENT ORGANIZERS described the fair as an empowering day for parents who may feel isolated by their child's diagnosis.

"The Exceptional Schools Fair is a moment for fami-

lies to see and learn that they have options; that they are not, in fact, isolated; that there are professional educators who are passionate about what they do in their school," said Atkinson.

"Whether [the need] is academic or social, it's so incredibly important that you work with professionals who understand your child and who are willing to collaborate with other professionals like speech therapists, occupational therapists and psycholo-

ener School in Potomac, Md.

For more information on schools that were part of Exceptional Schools Fair, www.exceptionalschoolsfair.com.



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And The "Scancer" Is...

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Unknown at this date - Saturday, November 15. In fact, it will be six days from now until we'll know the results. As it is always scheduled, a week or so after my quarterly CT Scan, we will have our usual follow-up, face-to-face appointment with my oncologist. At this meeting, I am examined, and of course, the radiologist's report of the most recent scan is discussed, and plans for the future - stay the course and/or adjust or switch altogether are considered.

However, this week there's been a blip. My chemotherapy infusion was delayed one week at least, maybe longer, because my creatinine levels were too high. Creatinine levels reflect kidney function, and when my level exceeds normal, given the potential for kidney failure - ultimately, and all the associated, interim complications/effects – treatment is stopped until additional lab work is completed. Now, in and of itself, this presents concerns; in conjunction with a potentially disappointing CT Scan, results of which will be learned on the 21st (even though I remain asymptomatic and feel as normal as a stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer survivor could possibly feel nearing year six, post-diagnosis), this presents worries exponentially more distressing.

Still, I'm not there yet and won't react as if the diagnosis is confirmed until it is. For the moment, I am simply enduring the typical ups and downs of living with an originally-diagnosed-as-terminal/inoperable form of lung cancer (are there any others?). There are good days and bad days to be sure, and many daze before, during and after. To be alive and facing this as yet unconfirmed complication is par for the course. To expect any different would be unrealistic. Most stage IV, nonsmall cell lung cancer patients don't survive as long as I have. Ergo, I would never complain about a situation that few of my fellow lung cancer patients have lived long enough to even consider. Heck, I'm the lucky one, considering I was originally given a "13-month to two-year" prognosis back in late February, 2009. I'm grateful to be in my shoes (any shoes, actually; sneakers mostly, because the chemotherapy-induced neuropathy in my feet is uncomfortable, a small price to pay relative to my original diagnosis/prognosis).

Initially, when I thought of this title, I was planning on channeling Alex Trebek by incorporating as many Jeopardy (the game show) touches as I could into this column: the questions, the answers, the categories, the "Daily Double," "Double Jeopardy," ("where the scores double and the game can really change"), "Final Jeopardy" (although working in its theme song would have been a challenge) and maybe even Merv Griffin would get a mention, all in an attempt to be funny.

But there's nothing very funny about the situation in which I find myself. I remain positive and upbeat, and after almost six years of experience living this emotional roller coaster, this week of waiting, even with the additional blip, is manageable, believe it or not. It's just not fun, whether you're asking or answering.

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

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Schools



Chantilly Seniors 2014 Powder Puff team

Powder

Chantilly Junior's Class of 2016 and Senior's class of 2015 played their annual in school rivalry on last month with the game ending in a tie 16-16. The seniors struck first and led 8-0 after a successful extra point by Kayla Christian. Two points are rewarded for successful extra-point kicks while a successful run or pass into the end zone results in one point. The juniors responded with a touchdown and successful extra point with 2:30 to go in the first quarter. The juniors would take the lead 16-8 in the second half behind a strong running game of Chloe Pantophlet ,Taylor Chapman and Danielle Beard. However, the seniors were able to overcome the deficit with a touchdown by Emily Harris and the running of Abby Gashel, Kayla Christian, and Anna Bowers.



Abby Gashel #13 tries to get past the reach of Anuja Dahal #3.



Rachel Palmer # 26 and Shelby Merchant #46 team up to stop Chloe Pantophlet #9.



Chantilly Juniors 2014 Powder Puff Team

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to chantilly@ 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 be-

HOLIDAY GIVING

Families in Crisis Program Seeks

Gift Cards. The Families in Crisis program at Westfield works with counselors to support current WHS families facing immediate financial hardships and is seeking donations of gift cards in any \$5 increment. Large donations should be split among multiple smaller denomination cards, as opposed to one large one. Send any donations to the main office or mail to: WHS-Families in Crisis, Attn: Meg Crossett, 4700 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly.

Operation Christmas Child.

Through Nov. 24, Chantilly individuals, families and groups are working to collect shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies and hygiene items — for children in need overseas. Collection points are open in the Chantilly area to receive colorfully wrapped shoebox gifts packed by local residents. To find a full list of area drop-off locations, call 410-772-7360 or visit www.samaritanspurse.org/occ.

THURSDAY/NOV. 20

Liberty Republican Women's Club

Meeting. 7 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Clare Lopez, strategy policy and intelligence expert with a focus on The Middle East will speak. Social hour at 6 p.m. Free. Call 703378-4190 for more.

MONDAY/NOV 24

Centreville Garden Club Meeting.

7 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Learn about fall gardening with landscape designer, David Roos. Call 703-830-2942 for more.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

Thanksgiving Eve Service. 7:30 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Call 703-383-1170 or visit www.jccag.org for

SUNDAY/NOV. 30

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Blood Drive. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at St. Andrew Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Appointments are preferred. Contact pantherpints@gmail.com for more.

Christmas VBS. 10 a.m. -2 p.m. at Pender United Methodist Church, 12401 Alder Woods Drive, Fairfax. Children will have wonderful time learning about the true meaning of Christmas while moving through different rotations of Christmas story, craft, music and recreation. Tickets are \$10 per child. Visit www.penderumc.org/christmasvbs

SUNDAY/DEC. 7

Annual Fundraising Gala. 7 p.m. at Stacy C. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. The evening program will feature international

entertainer Daniel Cainer. Trustee Members celebrating five years of giving will be honored and the Eleanor Sue Finkelstein Award for Special Needs will be presented to Jerry Hulick. Tickets are \$218. Visit www.jccnv.org for more.

TUESDAY/DEC. 9

Temple Beth Torah Ladies' Book

Club. 7:30 p.m. at 4212-C Technology Court · Chantilly. This is a "pot-luck" style book club that meets every other second Tuesday of the month. Open to all women. Bring a drink or appetizer to share. Discussing "The History of LoveÓ by Nicole Krauss. Call Jennifer Harding 703-217-8938 or visit www.BethTorah.net.

Telephone Support Group. 7-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. For family caregivers of older adults. Discuss "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly - Caregiving with Family and Friends." Share experiences, gain support and get information without having to travel. Free. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/ olderadultservices/

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 10

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 for meeting materials, archives and more. Call 703-324-8662.

MONDAY-TUESDAY/DEC. 15-16

Mental Health First Aid, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Pennino Building,

12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Public education program from the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board Wellness and Health Promotion. Over a twoday course, certified instructors help people learn to assist someone developing or experiencing a mental health problem or crisis. \$25. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/ereg/ Registration.aspx?groupID=47.

TUESDAY/MARCH 3

Listening Tour. 6:30 p.m. at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road. Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Karen K. Garza will hold a series of listening tours during the 2014-15 school year, and invites students, parents, employees and community members to participate in these upcoming sessions. Visit www.fcps.edu/news/listening-2014-15.shtml 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 Hour 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.

DONATIONS

The student Auto Sales Program

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

SCAM ALERT

Scammers, identifying themselves asdeputy sheriffs, are calling residents of Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax and the Towns of Herndon and Vienna, threatening that they will be arrested unless they purchase a money card, or wire money through Western Union. The Sheriff's Office is in no way associated with this scam. Sheriff's deputies will not call to ask individuals for money nor threaten arrest. Hang up immediately on threatening phone calls related to jury duty or tax payments. Do not give out personal information and regularly monitor all accounts and always use strong passwords. To confirm a jury duty summons, contact the Circuit Court jury duty clerk at 703-246-7816 (press 0). Visit www.irs.gov/uac/Tax-Scams-Consumer-Alerts.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Meals on Wheels needs drivers in Chantilly, Clifton, McLean and Falls Church on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Substitute drivers needed throughout the county. 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 in

Centreville needs a certified personal trainer twice a week, preferably with experience working with older adults. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Korean Meals on Wheels needs Korean-speaking volunteers to deliver meals Monday, Wednesday and Friday in Centreville, Reston and Annandale. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

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 for more. **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/sullyhistoric-site for more.

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