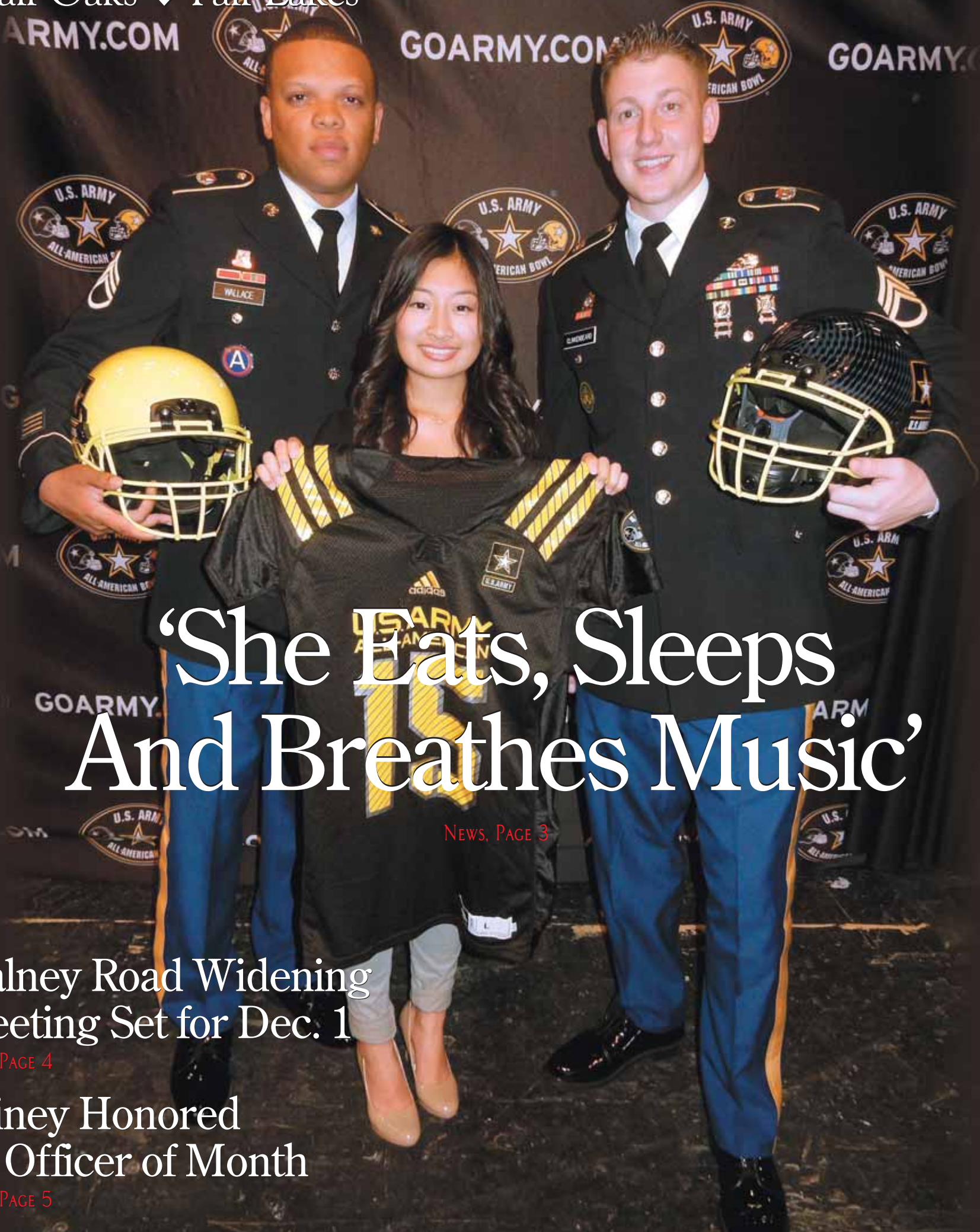


# Chantilly CONNECTION

Fair Oaks ♦ Fair Lakes

Army Staff Sgts. Joseph Clinkenbeard and Jeffery Wallace with All-American Band member Mari Takeda of Chantilly High. On Jan. 3, 2015, she'll join an elite group of musicians who'll perform at halftime of the U.S. Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas.



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# ‘She Eats, Sleeps and Breathes Music’

## Chantilly student to perform with Army’s All-American Marching Band.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**C**hantilly High senior Mari Takeda has an extra-special reason to look forward to the holidays. On Jan. 3, 2015, she’ll join an elite group of musicians who’ll perform at halftime of the U.S. Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas.

A percussionist, Takeda, 17 was selected to be part of the 2015 U.S. Army All-American Marching Band. That honor also recognizes her as one of the top 125 high-school senior marching musicians and color-guard members in the country. And on Oct. 29, she received her official invitation from four Army members during a ceremony at her school.

“It’s amazing to be recognized at this high a level; I didn’t expect it,” she said. “But I think it’s great for them to provide this opportunity.”

In front of her fellow band members, Staff Sgt. Joshua Smith said those chosen for this honor must possess exceptional musicianship, character, achievement and leadership. “It takes a special person to wear the Army colors, and their loyalty, dedication to duty, self-respect, integrity and personal strength earned them [this] right,” he said. “Mari embodies these characteristics and we’re proud to welcome her to the band.”

“I couldn’t have achieved this great honor without the strong support from my friends, family and teachers,” said Takeda. She then thanked Chantilly Band Directors Doug Maloney and Chris Singleton, plus former band Director Drew Ross, “for pushing the band to its limit and helping us realize the potential in the band and in ourselves.”

She also thanked her private teachers, R.J. Fadoul and John Kilkenny, and her parents



**Surrounded by (from left) Staff Sgts. Marcos Batista, Joseph Clinkenbeard, Joshua Smith and Jeffery Wallace, Mari Takeda wears the Army All-American Marching Band jacket and cap.**

“for encouraging me to follow my passion. Being in band has been life-changing — from meeting inspiring people to experiencing the beauty of music, itself.” Takeda noted that, after seeing her older brother Yoshi perform the show, “Sandscapes,” with Chantilly’s marching band, a few years ago, she “instantly knew” she wanted to join.

“Worthwhile things only come from hard work,” said Maloney. “[And] Mari’s industrious nature certainly served as a cornerstone for each of her musical successes. She’s the epitome of someone who eats, sleeps and breathes music — [whether] she’s practicing the marimba outside, rehearsing with our Symphonic Winds or working on percussion rudiments to improve her musical precision and expression.”

When Takeda’s not busy rehearsing with the marching band, said Maloney, she’s giving private instruction to elementary-school percussionists, preparing for auditions or performing with ensembles such as the

American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.

“Mari, we’re so blessed to have you as a member of the Chantilly Band,” he said. “We’re incredibly proud of your well-deserved recognition. We can’t wait to see you perform in January and we’re even more excited to see where your passion, talent and dedication carry you in your future musical endeavors.”

A resident of the Chantilly Highlands community, Takeda played violin three years before switching to percussion to try something different. “When I heard a marimba for the first time, I knew I wanted to play it — I loved the sound,” she said.

Besides performing all four years with Chantilly’s marching band, she’s also part of the American Youth Symphonic Orchestra in Alexandria and the Peabody Youth Orchestra in Baltimore. She’s applied to several prestigious colleges and wants to major in music performance and eventually become a professional chamber or orchestral musician.

Percussion’s much more than just drums, said Takeda. “There’s now a huge emphasis on marching percussion and drumline,



**Mari Takeda with her parents (from left) Yoshi and Makiko Takeda.**

and that’s opened up more opportunities for people to play percussion,” she said. “This school really supports its marching arts, so I’m proud to be part of it.”

At Chantilly, she said, “I realized the importance of time and how long you have with each person — whether it’s a teacher or a best friend in marching band — and to treasure that time before moving on to college. Marching band had a really successful year and a successful Bands of America competition, and everyone in the band is proud of what we achieved.”

Takeda applied for the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band in May, sent three audition tapes and was nominated by Maloney. About 2,000 students applied and the National Assn. for Music Education selected the All-Americans. “I had no idea if I’d make it, but I knew it was an awesome program.”

She found out in July. “I was really excited and immediately called Gabe Luebke, who’s my best friend and who got it last year,” she said. “But I couldn’t tell anyone else officially — no social media — until the presentation.” At that time, she received an “Army Strong” cap, All-American Marching Band jacket, a plaque and an official invitation.

Takeda’s already begun practicing the music — an entire, 10-minute show. “It’s pretty surreal to know I’m going to San Antonio to meet other All-Americans, and we’ll all be there with the same attitude and skill level,” she said. “And being brought together for one week will be an amazing experience. It’ll definitely be a trip I’ll remember for the rest of my life.”



**Holding a plaque is Chantilly Band Director Doug Maloney with (from left) Staff Sgts. Marcos Batista, Joseph Clinkenbeard and Jeffery Wallace.**



**From left are Chantilly Band Directors Chris Singleton and Doug Maloney with Mari Takeda and school Principal Teresa Johnson.**



## ROUNDUPS

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Dec. 4, 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.

### Police, Fire Games Help Needed

The 2015 World Police and Fire Games will need upwards of 3,000 people to take on a wide variety of roles across the National Capital Region. These include welcoming visitors, transporting athletes, joining the medical team, assisting sports coordinators, helping out behind the scenes on the technology team. For more information or to volunteer, go to <http://fairfax2015.com/volunteer>.

### Volunteering Made Easy

Fairfax County introduces its new volunteer management system, paving the way for easier navigation of county volunteer opportunities. People may visit [volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov), fill out one application and search for opportunities meeting their interests by geographic location, dates, type of people or program type. They may view positions from a variety of agencies track their hours and review upcoming volunteer jobs. They may even volunteer to serve during emergencies.

### 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).

### 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 bedding. 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.

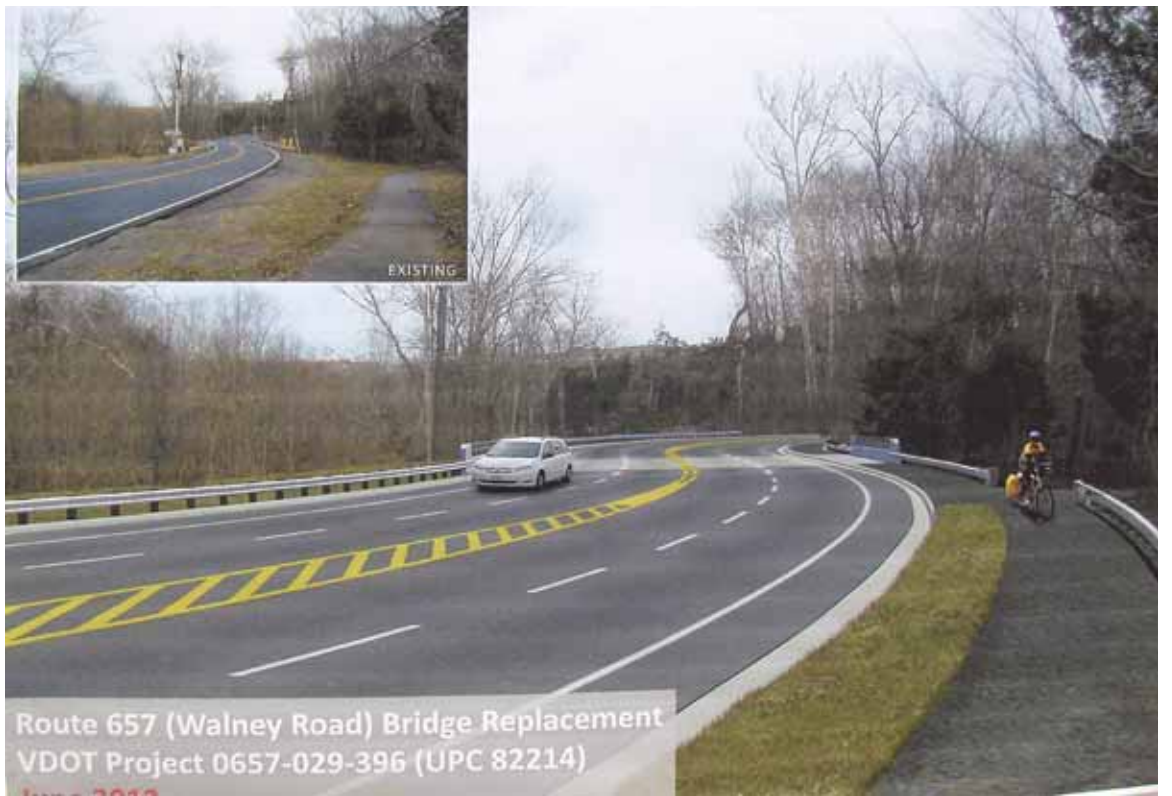
### Food Donations for WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry urgently needs donations of canned fruits and vegetables (except for green beans), cereal, canned pasta, crackers, canned tomatoes, pancake mix, rice and noodle mixes, cooking oil, Jello, and canned tuna and chicken. Also needed are toiletries, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with food stamps. Especially needed are toothpaste, bars of soap 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

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 11

## NEWS



Artist's rendition of a widened, Walney Road Bridge, with inset photo of current bridge.

### Walney Road Widening Meeting Set

Work is scheduled to begin Dec. 2.

Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) and VDOT are co-hosting a "Pardon Our Dust" meeting for the Walney Road widening and bridge replacement. It's set for Monday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

Residents will be able to meet VDOT's project team and learn more about construction and traffic impacts, including detours for the four-and-one-half-month closure of Walney Road.

Crews are slated to start work Tuesday, Dec. 2, on the \$14.8 million project to improve safety and ease congestion by widening Walney Road from two to four lanes near Willard Road. The work will include adding 5-foot-wide bike lanes on both the north-

bound and southbound lanes. Also planned are a sidewalk on the west side and a shared-use path on the east side.

The project will also replace and widen the 85-foot-long Walney Road Bridge over Flatlick Branch. Beginning in mid-April 2015, Walney Road will be closed from Westfields Boulevard to Mariah Court for relocation of the existing sanitary sewer line and for bridge construction. The road will re-open to one lane of traffic in each direction on Sept. 1, 2015.

Drivers will be detoured via Westfields Boulevard, Route 28 and Willard Road. However, access to all adjacent properties will be maintained throughout the duration of the project. VDOT will announce this closure again in the spring.

The work is expected to be finished in December 2015. For more details on this project, go to

[http://www.VirginiaDOT.org/projects/northernvirginia/walney\\_road\\_over\\_flatlick\\_branch.asp](http://www.VirginiaDOT.org/projects/northernvirginia/walney_road_over_flatlick_branch.asp).

### Holiday Food Drive For Needy Families

Police and community answer the call.

By BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

For many local families, the holidays are a time of hunger. So the Sully District Police Station, Westfields Business Owners Association and Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) teamed up to help feed them. And with donations of non-perishable food items from the community, they collected more than 2,500 pounds of food.

Then on Saturday, Nov. 15, volunteers gathered at the Sully District Police Station to pack up bright-red bags full of food to give to 40 families in need.

SEE HOLIDAY FOOD, PAGE 5



Lending a hand are (from left) Kara Blakley, 11; Kasey Blakley, 9, Sarah O'Carroll, 12; and Kiyah Calvo, 6.

BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION





PHOTO COURTESY OF TODD KINKADE

From left are Capt. Ed O'Carroll, CAC's Leslie Jenuleson, PFC Shannon Briney, Sal Speziale and Crime Prevention Officer Tara Gerhard. Speziale, owner of Ciao Osteria in Centreville, gave Briney a gift certificate to his restaurant.

## Briney Honored as Officer of Month

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

PFC Shannon Briney has been a Fairfax County police officer for 12 years and, for the past three, she's been assigned to the Sully District Station. Now, based on her exemplary job performance, she's been selected as the station's Citizens Advisory Committee's (CAC) Officer of the Month for October.

"PFC Briney is a proactive patrol officer and operates at a very high level," wrote her supervisor, Sgt. Brad Avery, in his nomination letter. "She routinely handles complex events with little to no direction needed from her supervisors."

He also noted that her reports detailing what happened, her investigation and the outcome are written "in a manner well above the average patrol officer." And, he added, besides her supervisors observing her attention to detail, investigative aptitude and ability to draft an excellent report, a supervisor from the Major Crimes Division has also acknowledged her superior work.

"PFC Briney maintains the demanding certifications associated with being an EMT-paramedic without impacting her primary responsibility to patrol," continued Avery. "She then utilizes these specialized

skills by supplementing the Helicopter Division's critical mission."

He said she's demonstrated her knowledge and skills on several, joint Police and Fire Department events. And as a result, "Her abilities are widely recognized by the Fire Department's EMT-paramedics who work within the Sully District."

Briney also assists with squad administrative tasks. "She willingly steps up to coordinate squad staffing, ensuring minimum numbers are met," said Avery. "She works with new officers assigned to the squad to ease their transition to the station. These tasks are all self-initiated and evidence of her devotion to duty. PFC Briney is a reliable employee and most deserving of this recognition."

She was formally honored at a recent CAC meeting. Capt. Ed O'Carroll, commander of the Sully District Station, said Briney's on permanent night shift there. "She has an outstanding work ethic, puts detail in her crime reports and maintains a positive attitude," he said. "She has the ability to get the job done, and her leadership on her squad is a shining example to others." "I've relied on her here at Sully," said O'Carroll. "And the community has definitely benefitted - she's saved lives."

Accepting her certificate from him, Briney said, "I truly appreciate it; I did not expect it."

## Holiday Food Dive for Needy Families

FROM PAGE 4

Also participating was Target, which donated the food bags, as well as canned goods.

The packaging turned out to be a family affair. The workers included station commander Capt. Ed O'Carroll and his daughter Sarah, assistant station commander Capt. Bob Blakley and his daughters, Kara and Kasey, plus station Crime Prevention Officer Tara Gerhard. Also pitching in were Chantilly Target employee Iris Calvo and her daughter, Kiyah.

"This is awesome," said O'Carroll. "The donations have been overwhelming."

"Justice Federal Credit Union in Westfields was a big contributor," said Gerhard. "And members of the Sully Station I Homeowners Assn. brought 400 pounds of food."

In addition, she said, "The squads at this station also did food drives. They had a competition to see which one could bring in the most food, and the Evening A Shift won with 663 pounds of food. For their prize, Chick-fil-A of Chantilly donated a catered lunch to the winning group."

But everyone's real reward was knowing that the food was going to people who really need it. Police

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BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left: Sully District police Bob Blakley, Tara Gerhard and Ed O'Carroll unpack boxes of donated food.

officers planned to deliver it, Nov. 22-25, to families in need throughout Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton and Fairfax Station. They're either WFCM clients or local crime victims.

All in all, said Gerhard, "It was a lot of fun; we had a good time."

"It's a humbling opportunity for our officers to be involved in," added O'Carroll. "And it gives us the opportunity to help out others in need."

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# OPINION

## Holidays Are About Giving

Give thanks and share; tens of thousands of families around us are in need.

The holidays are about giving, and giving thanks. The holidays are about children and family. The holidays are about sharing, about joy. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation. The holidays are about alleviating suffering for others.

Surrounded by the bounty in so many neighborhoods in Northern Virginia, many of us see little signs of the massive unmet needs here. But in Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 52,000 of the students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty.

In Arlington more than 32 percent of the students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals; that's 7,452 students at last count.

In Alexandria, 8,582 students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals. That's 60 percent of the 14,222 students enrolled.

These are children who are living in families who may be on the brink of homelessness, families who must choose between medical bills, car repair, heat and food. These are children who may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school. School holidays can bring uncertainty and hunger, a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools, and their needs are greater.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas. We will rerun this list again during the holiday, so let us know what we have missed.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Where to Give Locally in Fairfax County

In no particular order:

**Our Daily Bread** — has been serving needy families in Fairfax County for 25 years. The Holiday Program helps those in need with food for the holidays and gifts for their children, making last year's holiday season brighter for approximately 3,000 families. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a family, go to [www.odbfairfax.com/holiday](http://www.odbfairfax.com/holiday)

**Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, [www.cornerstonesva.org](http://www.cornerstonesva.org). Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program and the Thanksgiving Food Drive.

**FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251 or [volunteer@facetscares.org](mailto:volunteer@facetscares.org). [www.facetscares.org](http://www.facetscares.org). 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030

**The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic**, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon, VA 20171, 571-235-3577. Last year, 139 community volunteers — nurses, nurse practitioners, and physicians — gave more than 1,300 hours of their time to see patients. [jsfreeclinic.org](http://jsfreeclinic.org).

**Alternative House** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. [www.thealternativehouse.org](http://www.thealternativehouse.org).

**SHARE** of McLean seeks donations of grocery gift cards and more. Checks and gift cards can be sent to: Holiday Celebration, Share, Inc. PO Box 210, McLean, VA 22101. 703-284-2179. [www.SHAREofMcLean.org](http://www.SHAREofMcLean.org)

**LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more, needs contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, plus volunteers. More than 4,000 adults and children have signed up for help with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. 703-437-1776 [www.linkagainsthunger.org](http://www.linkagainsthunger.org)

**Committee for Helping Others (CHO)**, Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of concerned churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. 14th Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. Vienna 703-281-7614 <http://www.cho-va.com>

**Fairfax City Area FISH** (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), working with the Office of Coordinated Services Planning, Fairfax County Department of Human Services, FISH helps local citizens who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880 <http://fairfaxfish.org/>

**Herndon-Reston FISH** (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 <http://herndonrestonfish.org>

**Lamb Center**, [www.thelambcenter.org](http://www.thelambcenter.org). Day center for homeless, Fairfax 703-691-3178

**Northern Virginia Family Service**, 10455 White Granite Drive Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124 703-385-3267 <http://www.nvfs.org/>

**United Community Ministries**, Mount Vernon,

703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306 <http://www.ucmagency.org/>

**Food for Others** distributed more than 2.4 million pounds of free food to families in need in Northern Virginia in the year ending June 30, 2012. The non-profit provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173. [www.foodforothers.com](http://www.foodforothers.com)

**Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO)**, 703-569-9160. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low income families, helping more than 5,000 people last year. [www.echo-inc.org](http://www.echo-inc.org).

**Lorton Community Action Center** operates the Act II Thrift Shop at 9506 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Sales from the shop generate funds for LCAC and clients also shop there. Now collecting gift cards and food baskets for Thanksgiving, gifts and food baskets for Christmas, and warm coats. 703-339-8611 [www.lortonaction.org](http://www.lortonaction.org).

**Boys and Girls Clubs** of Greater Washington Fairfax Area operates clubs in two of the neediest areas of the county, Culmore and the Route 1 corridor, focusing on character and academic success. <http://www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/>

**Office to End and Prevent Homelessness** needs just a few thousand dollars more in contributions for Jeans Day (in October) to qualify for a matching grant from the Phillip L. Graham Fund, turning many \$5 and greater donations into \$50,000 to help thousands of homeless in Fairfax County. [www.ziphomelessness.com](http://www.ziphomelessness.com)

**12 Ways of Giving:** Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships "12 Ways of Giving" campaign is an annual event that showcases many ways for meaningful, local giving during the holiday season, highlighting nonprofits in Fairfax County. [www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org](http://www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org)

**Assistance League of Northern Virginia** is an all-volunteer organization that clothes, feeds, educates and nurtures those in need focusing five of the neediest elementary schools. Volunteers and donors are always needed. Contact [ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com](mailto:ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com) or see [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org)

**Comfort for America's Uniformed Services (CAUSE)** — ensures that recuperating service members have opportunities for recreation and social interaction and receive concrete signs of appreciation for all that they have done. 4114 Legato Road Suite B, Fairfax, VA 22033, 703-591-4968, [cause-usa.org](http://cause-usa.org)

**National Capital Food Bank**, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia, 703-541-3063. [www.capitalareafoodbank.org](http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org)

**Western Fairfax Christian Ministries** — food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly (near Backyard Grill and Bar). For more information or to sponsor a family, call 703-988-9656, ext. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. 703-988-9656.

**Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. <http://www.touchingheart.com>, 703-901-7355

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
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1606 King St.  
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Call 703-917-6444  
Email  
[chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com)

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## Chantilly CONNECTION

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# BULLETIN BOARD

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

## 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.

## TUESDAY/NOV. 25

**English Conversation Group.** 10:30 a.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Practice English with other students. Adults. Call 703-502-3883 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

**eBook Help.** 1 p.m. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Get eBook questions answered. No prior experience required. Bring tablet or e-reader and library card. Adults. Telephone 703-502-3883 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce).

## THURSDAY-FRIDAY/NOV. 27-28

**Library Closed.** Fairfax County Public

Libraries are closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 29

**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. Ask for title. Adults. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ce/) or call 703-502-3883.

## SUNDAY/NOV. 30

**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](mailto:pantherpints@gmail.com) for more.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 6

**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](http://www.penderumc.org/christmasvbs) for more.

## 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

SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 9

## GMU Parenting Mindfully Study

Are you the parent of a teenager? Are you feeling stressed out? We are looking for parents of 12-16 year olds for a study of a mindfulness program to reduce parent stress. If you enroll, you will be eligible to receive a FREE 8 week mindfulness course specially designed for parents of teenagers.

Families will be **PAID** up to \$430 for participation.

For more information contact:  
Ali at (703) 993-5066  
or  
[ParentingMindfully@gmail.com](mailto:ParentingMindfully@gmail.com)

**ALL INFORMATION IS HELD CONFIDENTIAL**



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## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

November 28 – 30

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[merrifieldgardencenter.com](http://merrifieldgardencenter.com)



# Hand & Stone Opens in Chantilly

Spa offers facials, massage, waxings.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

A new Chantilly Hand & Stone Spa opened in the Greenbriar Town Center behind the Starbucks along Route 50 on Oct. 12. Owned by Darielle Danver, 25, and her father Eric Danver, 52, of Medford, N.J., the franchise spa decorated in warm earth tones and ambient lighting specializes in facials, hot stone massages, skin peels, waxing, eyebrows, hand therapy, and hot towel foot treatments with scrubs and lotions.

"It's a five-star spa experience at a one-star price," said Darielle Danver, who recently moved to Fairfax to start her new business. "It's a spa environment as opposed to a clinical environment."

She added: "Everybody wants to feel good, and we're bringing that to them at a very affordable price ... You can come in and feel pampered and not break your bank while doing that."

The Signature Service is a 50-minute hot stone massage using river stones where the stones are heated to 120 degrees. The therapist uses the stones as an extension of their hands; they help break down lactic acid in muscles. "The heat from the stones draws out stress and tension," said Darielle Danver. "It's a whole body massage; everywhere their hand goes, the stone will go as well."

The spa offers Clarity and Dermalogica Facials. After an aesthetician does a full analysis of the skin, they determine if there are any problem areas, and can recommend customized upgrades. They do cleansing, exfoliation, steaming, extractions as well as a



**The staff of the Chantilly Hand & Stone Spa (from left): Jecica Choe, Meredith Williams, Gayatri Sharma, Kristina Lovelace, Darielle Danver, Louis Diaz, and Briana Marcey.**

decolleage massage of the neck and upper shoulders. In addition, they offer anti-aging facials, sensitive skin facials, and detox facials for acne-prone skin. "They are always customized for whatever skin condition the client has going on," said Danver.

For sun-damaged and dry skin, there's a hydrating facial. For autumn, there's a pumpkin facial with pumpkin enzymes to help peel away the years. For acne-prone skin, there's the MediBac line that targets bacteria.

The spa provides upgrades based on the aesthetician's recommendations for the client's skin: the ultra-calming line is used for skin with problems like rosacea; the MediBac line for acne and oily skin; the Age-Smart line for prematuring skin and the Grey Line for normal skin.

In addition, the spa does hair removal and waxing, using NuFree Hard Wax, which sticks to the hair

follicle and lifts the hair from the root.

Hand & Stone was founded by physical therapist John Marco in Tom's River, N.J., in 2004. It has 160 locations nationwide. With a staff of 12, the Chantilly location has 2,300 square feet with eight different rooms — two aesthetician rooms, five massage rooms, and one couple's room. The Danvers plan to expand to the South Lakes Shopping Center in Reston in mid-January, plus five other Hand & Stone spas in the communities of Vienna, Falls Church, Burke and Ashburn.

Eric Danver, who owns 22 Papa Johns Pizzas in New Jersey and Delaware, has the franchise background, and daughter Darielle is in charge of the day-to-day running of the spa. "I was a customer in New Jersey for a couple of years; I was fascinated with the business and wanted to do multiple spas in the area," he said.



**Hand & Stone Spa owners Darielle Danver, 25, and her father Eric Danver, 52.**

Manager and operations director Kristina Lovelace, 29, who moved to Fairfax from New Jersey, has 10 years of experience in the spa business. "Hand & Stone spa is meant to be its own private oasis — a place for clients to escape and relax and come to clear their minds from the day-to-day chaos," said Lovelace.

"I fell in love with Hand & Stone because of the extensive services it offers; they are more customized and therapeutic," said Kay Hechler, 52, who owns a Hand & Stone franchise with her husband John Phillips in Gaithersburg, and who was at the soft-opening of Danvers' store. "It's based on wellness principles; the services are very solid and I don't think there's anything like this in Chantilly."

Email announcements to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com). Photos welcome.

**ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC** (ECS) has expanded the Chantilly Environmental Group.

**Pamela L. Oelerich**, LEED GA, has joined ECS as an environmental senior project manager. She brings the Chantilly office more than 13 years of experience as an environmental professional. A LEED Green Associate (GA), Oelerich holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of New Hampshire. She is a member of the NYC Chapter of the United States Green Building Council.

**Jennifer A. Dietzen**, a new senior project manager in the Environmental Group, will also be based in the Chantilly office. She has B. S. in biology, ecology option from The Pennsylvania State University. Dietzen has more than eight years of experience in wetland and stream delineations and federal and state permitting throughout Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio. She performs biological assessments, and has prepared Clean Water Act Section 401/404 Permit applications, PASPGP-4 General Permit applications, and USACE Nationwide Permit applications for industrial and commercial projects. Additional experience includes preparation of detailed environmental impact assessments, alternative analyses, and mitigation plans. Dietzen will continue her work coordinating with federal and state agencies from pre-application meetings to resolution of alternatives, mitigation measures, and public hearings to ensure clients are in compliance with the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act.

**Diana D. Krass** has joined ECS Chantilly as an environmental project manager. She has more than six years of experience as an industrial hygienist and environmental consultant. Krass performs mold and water intrusion assessments, indoor air quality testing, asbestos surveys and HAZMAT surveys. She holds an M.S. in environmental studies from C.W. Post Long Island University and a B.S. in marine vertebrate biology from Stony Brook University. She has experience conducting microbial sampling, mold inspections, indoor air quality testing, asbestos surveys; project monitoring and air sampling for asbestos abatement projects. She has developed site-specific remedial strategies and provided oversight of remedial activities to ensure both cost effectiveness and compliance with applicable regulations and industry standard practices.

**Richard Bennett** has joined **Bowman Consulting's** Richmond office as Director of Right of Way and Utility Coordination Services. Bennett brings more than 46 years of experience in the transportation and utility sectors, 37 of which he served in various capacities at the Virginia Department of Transportation. He will be actively involved in Bowman's right of way acquisition efforts, relocation consulting, utility coordination and railroad coordination. Bowman Consulting is headquartered in Chantilly.

**Jonathan Bondi**, PLA, ISA CA, has joined **Pennoni Associates**, an award-winning multidiscipline engineering, design, and consulting firm, as a senior landscape architect in the land development division of the firm's Chantilly office. He previously worked as a senior project manager at Bowman Consulting.

Senior security technician **James K. Powell Jr.** and his company, Corbett Technology Solutions of Chantilly, were recognized as the Electronic Security Association of Virginia's Member of the Year during the group's annual conference.

## NOVEC To Collect Toys for Tots at Co-op Offices

The Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative's non-profit organization, NOVEC HELPS, is collecting new, unwrapped toys through Thursday, Dec. 16 for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. HELPS is also participating with the Toys for Tots Cruise-in Drive, organized by several local car clubs.

Toys may be dropped off at these NOVEC offices:

- ❖ 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas
  - ❖ 5399 Wellington Branch Drive, Gainesville
  - ❖ 14500 Minnieville Road, Woodbridge
- Hours are 8:15 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The Marine Corps in Quantico will distribute the toys to underprivileged children in Northern Virginia.

According to the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation website, [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org), the primary goal of the program is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens.

NOVEC HELPS is a 501(c) (3) organization that assists charitable and community organizations financially or with the volunteer resources of NOVEC employees and customers.

The organizations that NOVEC HELPS supports focus on health, education, youth programs, the community, and the arts, and it is tax-exempt under IRS section 501(c) (3). For more information, call 703-335-0500 or toll free 1-888-335-0500.

NOVEC, headquartered in Manassas, is a not-for-profit corporation that supplies and distributes electricity and provides energy-related services to approximately 157,000 customers in Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, Stafford and Clarke counties, the City of Manassas Park, and the Town of Clifton.



# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

Jerry Hulick. Tickets are \$218. Visit [www.jccnv.org](http://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 Love" by Nicole Krauss. Call Jennifer Harding 703-217-8938 or visit [www.BethTorah.net](http://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/](http://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](http://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 two-day course, certified instructors help people learn to assist someone developing or experiencing a mental health problem or crisis. \$25. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscodes/ereg/Registration.aspx?groupID=47](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscodes/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](http://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.

## 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. Monday-Saturday and 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).

**BLACK FRIDAY SPECIAL!**

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Window appointment must be scheduled between Nov. 24th and Dec. 1st only\*

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## THANKSGIVING

# Thanksgiving Tablescape Ideas for giving thanks in style.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hether one's taste in table settings is subtle or over-the-top, it is possible to give thanks in style. From centerpieces to table runners, local designers say the right combination of accessories can create a Thanksgiving table that guests will remember long after the holiday.

"Start with candles," said Susan Taylor of Design for You in Centreville. "They are simple, clean and classic and affordable. You can use traditional candelabras on your table and place small floral arrangements evenly spaced between each one. For a rustic or romantic look, place candles down the table on a bed of greenery, especially fragrant greenery like holly."

When using greenery, warns Taylor, make sure the flames cannot touch the greenery or anything that can start a fire.

Candles always set the mood on the table, said Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors in Chantilly.

"Have a collection of different heights, possibly different colors for added interest," she said. "If you want to go with an elegant look, go for the burlap, white pumpkin, and use all of your metallics such as bronze, champagnes and golds."

Ideas for table décor can found almost anywhere, even in a supermarket, says Sharon Kleinman of Transitions by Sharon Kleinman in Potomac, Md. "While there, I get inspiration from their beautiful produce and flowers," she said. "The persimmons were such a lovely shade of orange I knew I wanted to use them in my table decor. I decided to cut the bottoms off, scoop out part of the inside and fill them with fall flowers for individual arrangements at each place setting. I also purchased some bright orange pyracantha branches figuring I could use them in my table arrangement."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SALLIE KJOS

**Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors in Chantilly says metallic accessories in colors such as bronze, champagne and gold create an elegant setting.**

Options for runners and tablecloths run the gamut from rustic to elegant. "Use your tablecloth and a runner, doing a burlap table cloth is a very inexpensive way to get a fall color, but it doesn't mean you have to go rustic," said Kjos. "Any runner on top of the tablecloth adds texture. Consider getting two runners and running them the width of the table verses the length."

Accessories you already own can be updated easily. "In my stash of holiday decor I have three ceramic pumpkins that are really quite elegant and anchor my centerpiece. This year I purchased some beautiful napkins in the same rust and plum tones" said Kleinman. "To create an eye catching centerpiece, I used the largest pumpkin in

the center and placed the two smaller pumpkins approximately 24 inches to the right and left of the center. In the space between the pumpkins and on each end I layered the dried berries, magnolia leaves, pyracantha and dried flowers. I tucked fresh flowers among the dried flowers and branches. I keep them fresh by using the plastic tubes the florist sends with long stem roses that I always save."

Kjos has a centerpiece idea that focuses on the meaning of the holiday. "For each center piece, wrap up a little box," she said. "Inside the box use fall colored craft paper and write down five things about that guest that you are thankful for. The box can be wrapped in bronze paper, gold, whatever you like that is fall looking and goes with your decor, then tie up with a ribbon or twine and add a leaf to the top with their name is metallic sharpie for a place setting."

Kleinman visited a local nursery to gather foliage. "I picked up some burlap ribbon to tie up my napkins, dried berries, fake magnolia leaves that looked real and some dried exotic flowers," she said. "My last purchase was four apple cinnamon scented candles encased in a plum glass."

The combination of scented candlelight, fresh flowers, dried flowers and berries, fresh produce and fine linens feels color-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARON KLEINMAN

**Sharon Kleinman of Potomac uses both fresh and faux foliage in her Thanksgiving table décor.**

ful, bountiful and elegant but understated, said Kleinman.

"The best part of creating a lovely table setting is that it shows family and friends that you care," she said. "For me preparing a beautiful table is just as important as preparing a delicious meal. It is my way of showing family and friends that I'm thankful for them."

## Gifts for the Hostess Stylish ideas for saying thank you.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**I**f you're planning to be a guest rather than a host for Thanksgiving dinner this year, you don't want to arrive empty handed. For those who are still searching for the perfect hostess gift, local tastemakers come to the rescue with presents that are stylish and thoughtful.

Candles in seasonal fragrances are among the popular hostess gifts. "Our Rosy Rings Spicy Apple Botanical candle has the fragrance of an apple pie cooling on a windowsill," said Ann O'Shields of The Nest Egg in Fairfax.

"A 200 hour burn time and made with apple slices, bay leaves, cinnamon sticks, rosehips, essential and high quality fragrance oils," said O'Shields. "Customers

await our first shipment every fall."

"Fragrances like pumpkin or cinnamon are popular this time of year and can carry through the holiday season," said Courtney Thomas of the Picket Fence in Burke.

Cocktail napkins are something that every host can use, said Thomas.

"A couple packs in a decorative holder make a great and useful gift," she said. "Many people choose one fall and one holiday design so they can be used throughout the holidays."

Terri Downs, owner of JT



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANN O'SHIELDS

**Luxurious white marble and natural wood make these cheese boards an elegant gift.**

Interiors in Potomac, Md., says she has an array of items for the hostess including, "candles and potpourri."

Food items always make a nice gift. "Put together a little goodie bag of snack items — peanuts, cheese biscuits or candies for the hostess to enjoy after all the festivities are over," said Thomas.

A marble-and-wood, monogrammed cheese board and spreader is a thoughtful and personal idea, said O'Shields.

"These fabulous boards come in handy for everyone who entertains," she said. "They are great for serving cheese, fruit and more. The monogram makes it a personal gift and the natural wood and marble easily fit into all décor styles."

For a larger gift you could include a package of cocktail napkins, wine, cheese and crackers for an instant appetizer.



# ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 4

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@wfcmv.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).

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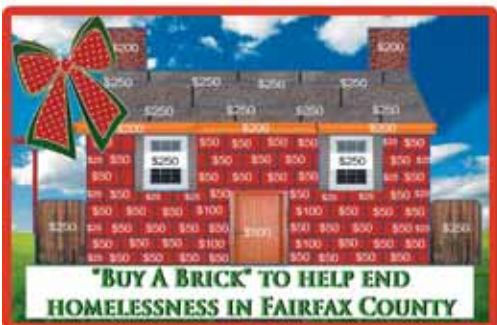
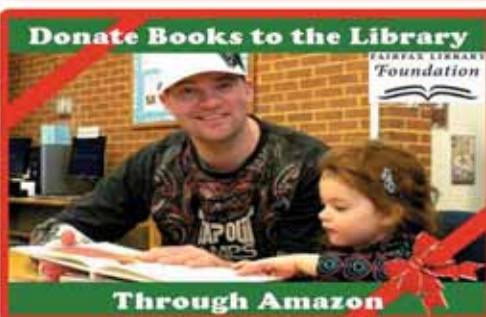
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# SPORTS

## Pace Headed to Charlotte for Foot Locker South

### Westfield senior competes in annual Turkey Trot with family.

**A**s a junior, Johnny Pace was the first Westfield harrier in 10 years to qualify for the state meet. This year, Pace has been one of the top runners in Virginia.

Pace finished runner-up at the Conference 5 meet on Oct. 30 at Burke Lake Park, placed fifth at the 6A North region meet on Nov. 5 and earned all-state with a fifth-place finish in the 6A race during the VHSL state meet on Nov. 15 at Great Meadow. Pace finished with a time of 15:28.

**Q&A** Pace recently participated in a Q&A via email, sharing some insight about his Thanksgiving plans.

#### Q: What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Pace: This year, most of my Thanksgiving will be spent driving down to Charlotte, N.C., for the Foot Locker South Regional Meet on Saturday. I'm hoping we'll arrive early enough that we won't have to resort to eating drive-thru Thanksgiving dinner while on the road to Charlotte.

#### Q: Do you or your family have any annual Thanksgiving traditions?

Pace: My family and I have run the Virginia Run Turkey Trot every year since I was 6. That's an 11-year streak! I will be running it nice and slow just to keep the streak going but don't be surprised if you see me running the same time I ran when I was 6! As much as I'd like to run hard, I have to keep my fresh legs for the Footlocker meet.

#### Q: Does your family incorporate sports into Thanksgiving? If so, how?

Pace: Like I said, year in and year out, my family has made the early morning trek to the Turkey Trot starting line and doing so has provided us with reason enough to enjoy eating up during dinnertime.

#### Q: What is your favorite thing to eat on Thanksgiving?

Pace: It is impossible to pick one single item. Like a good work of art, Thanksgiving dinner is all in how one chooses to meld and interpret the various components to

**Westfield senior Johnny Pace crosses the finish line at the 6A North region championship meet on Nov. 5 at Burke Lake Park.**



CONNECTION  
FILE PHOTO

craft a single magnificent menagerie of deliciousness. Trying to select a single food would be like trying to paint with one color; it simply can't compare to the blending of the full food spectrum.

#### Q: You finished fifth at the state meet. How do you feel you performed?

Pace: I'm happy with my race execution. I dropped my time by 30 seconds from last year's state meet, although I have some things to work out in the last mile, which I know could lead to even faster times. I'm looking forward to seeing everything come together this week at Foot Locker and I am hoping I can really leave everything out there and do something special.

#### Q: Do you compete in any other sports at Westfield?

Pace: I am a four-year member of the marching band and have enjoyed the journey of being selected to play in the 2014 Rose Parade. It was an experience I will remember for the rest of my life. Moreover, I am a three-season runner, participating in cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track, where I have been a varsity member of the two-time indoor/outdoor regional champion teams.

#### Q: What is your favorite sports moment during your Westfield career?

Pace: My junior year, I became the first male Westfield runner to qualify for states in 10 years. The year before, I had been a JV runner and the emotion of having come so far in one year was enough to solidify that meet as one I would never forget.

#### Q: You were named Westfield homecoming king. What was that experience like?

Pace: It was a very flattering experience, to say the least. I never would have imagined I would have the privilege of being selected by my peers for king and it certainly made me proud to be a Bulldog. Fortunately, the other class officers and I had been working on a castle float for the Candyland homecoming parade, so the whole king thing fit very nicely with the float.

#### Q: What are your college plans? Will you run for the school you're attending?

Pace: I am still looking at colleges near and far but I know that collegiate running is something I definitely want to pursue. I am being careful to assess schools based on academic strength first and then hopefully, they have a strong athletic program to follow. People will tell you the college search process is stressful, but I have enjoyed every step of it! I just hope I will choose a place I feel comfortable being and can grow as both a student and an athlete.

#### Q: Who is your favorite music artist? Why?

Pace: Kids these days seem to be aligned with the hip hop scene so I tend to culture myself with the likes of wordsmiths such as Kanye West, although I can certainly appreciate Queen, Stevie Wonder, and most other artists.

#### Q: What is your favorite movie? Why?

Pace: Few movies have had such enduring legacies of enjoyment in my own mind as "Napoleon Dynamite." The film's simplicity coupled with its sophisticated level of humor has provided for endless quotability in my lifetime and for the purchase of a genuine pair of American flag workout pants as a result of one of its most iconic scenes.

#### Q: What location is the farthest you have traveled from the Washington, D.C. area?

Pace: I traveled with the Westfield marching band to Pasadena, Calif., for the 125th Tournament of Roses Rose Parade last year. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience and if anything can justify the work that goes into a marching band, it would certainly be the feeling of rounding the television corner to look down Colorado Boulevard at hundreds of thousands of cheering observers. Truly indescribable.

#### Q: Who are your favorite pro sports teams?

Pace: While I can't call myself an avid sports fan, I have always been a supporter of the Washington Redskins.

#### Q: Who are your favorite pro athletes?

Pace: I am an admirer of RG3 for his activism in the community. To see the good he has done in the local area alone is enough to make me proud of his accomplishments, regardless of his recent mistakes on the field. It is character that defines who I look up to, not solely his or her athletic accomplishments.

— JON ROETMAN

### SPORTS BRIEF

## Centreville, Westfield Football To Host Region Semifinals

The Centreville and Westfield football teams will host 6A North region semifinal matchups at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 29.

Centreville, the region's top seed, will host No. 4 Battlefield. No. 2 Westfield will host No. 3 Lake Braddock.

Centreville defeated Stonewall Jackson in last season's semifinal round before defeating Westfield in the region final and Oscar Smith in the state championship game.

Westfield came from behind to beat Lake Braddock in the 2013 region semifinals.

### SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Student publications from 14 Fairfax County public schools recently earned Trophy Class rankings, the top honor in the Virginia High School League (VHSL) Publications Evaluation Service. Trophy Class rankings were awarded to:

**The Purple Tide**, Chantilly High School, Clare Gartlan, adviser in the Newspaper division.

**Odyssey**, Chantilly High School, Mary Kay Downes, adviser; and **The Guardian**, Westfield High School, An-

thony Whitten, adviser, in the Yearbook division.

**Christina Cardamone**, of Herndon, is a member of the University of Iowa's class of 2018.

Fifty-nine Fairfax County Public Schools teachers have been recognized with the Gold Star Award from Working in Support of Education (WISE) for their students' performance on the 2013-14 WISE Financial Literacy Certification Test.

The test—a national, standardized test—measures students' knowledge of personal finance and pronounces them

financially capable when they graduate from high school.

The Gold Star Award designates that the teacher achieved a 90 percent pass rate in at least one of his or her classes on the 2013-14 WISE Financial Literacy Certification Test. FCPS Gold Star Award winning teachers are: **Catherine Casares, Janice Findley, Melissa Guerro, Janet Johnston, Scott Loube** and **Marcella Setness** of Chantilly High; and **Cathy Cespedes, Sonja Clelland, Rhonda Dumont, Cheryl Edwards** and **Anthony Whitten** of Westfield High.



## NEWS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

### Lending a Hand

Saint Timothy Parish asked Boy Scout Troop 7369 to build an exhibit for the international festival taking place at the end of September. The troop's Scouts came to a consensus to build a monkey bridge, where the only place to walk on is a single rope. Roughly half of the nearly 70-Scout troop took part in the early construction of the bridge. This required the construction of three A-frame lashings that were made with 12-foot long logs, a one-inch thick rope to walk on, and guide lines. The result was a monkey bridge 70 feet long and with the main rope 6 feet off the ground. At the festival, the Scouts rebuilt the bridge, used ladders to help children (and adults) on and off the bridge, and had two spotters for every participant. Some Scouts made doughnuts and sold them next to the bridge to help earn more money for the parish.



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### DECEMBER

Publishing

Wellbeing.....12/3/14

HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays... 12/10/14

Hanukkah begins December 16.

★Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II..12/16/14

A+ Camps & Schools.....12/16/14

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION.....12/24/14

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# "Shrinkage"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not exactly "like a frightened turtle" as "similed" on a long-ago Seinfeld episode by Jerry himself; this shrinkage is the good kind, the kind you hope a radiological oncologist characterizes when viewing your CT Scan (computed tomography). Specifically, the exact kind of scan I get every three months to assess and evaluate the tumors, and fluid, in my stage IV, non-small cell cancer-affected lungs. The actual scanning itself takes about 30 seconds of "breathe in," "hold it," and "breathe out" to determine if my life is on hold – in a good way – or in jeopardy (not a belated reference back to last week's column). The week-long wait until we have our face-to-face appointment with my oncologist to learn the results is not as interminable as you might think. Over time, we have gotten used to the experience. After all, living with cancer means living, not dying, and adapting and compartmentalizing cancer's effects – mentally, physically and spiritually; all keys to surviving and enduring the good, bad and ugly that daily can traumatize those of us "characterized as terminal" who frequent the Infusion Centers hoping for a miracle cure.

Since March, 2009, I've been treated with nearly non-stop chemotherapy, infused mostly, except for 12 months or so when I was able to take a targeted therapy pill at home and only had to show up at the Center for scans and doctor's appointments. Six years ago almost, this process began; I can't say it seems like yesterday, because there are yesterdays – due to the effect of chemotherapy – that I simply don't remember ("chemo brain" is the accepted condition/characterization), but time flies when you're having fun or rather, you're still alive against all odds. And so it seems as if I still have a few tomorrows. Tomorrows that were hardly promised to me back at the original Team Lourie meeting in late February, 2009. Somehow, through a variety of fits and starts, I have survived: my DNA, my family history, my attitude, my pills, my supplements, my alkaline water, my diet and lifestyle changes, my above-average luck, whatever, however, I am still present and accounted for. And though "stable" is a radiologist's/ oncologist's description I have come to hope and pray for and embrace over these past six years, "shrinkage" is a description "most welcome" as Hercule Poirot might say and one I rarely anticipated hearing – considering my stage IV circumstances.

But I can take it. Though I'm not cancer-free and certainly not in remission, I am doing reasonably well. I am, as a good friend says: "in pretty good shape for the shape I'm in." The scan results are results with which I can live (Duh!) and so I intend to – until three months hence when we do this scan dance all over again. Granted, this cycle of gloom and doom and results-not-soon-enough is hardly ideal, but it is a living and a living I was not "prognosed" to have ("13 months to two years" was the original prognosis) when first diagnosed. I'm nowhere near home free; I'm still in for the fight of my life – for my life, but for the moment, at least, for this quarter, due to the shrinkage, I can take a bit of a break, which if you want to know the truth, I can certainly use.

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

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### 21 Announcements

### 21 Announcements

#### OBITUARY

**Pamela Wallace**, passed away at St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, NJ surrounded by her loving family. They invite everyone to attend the memorial service celebrating her life at the Christ Episcopal Church, 74 Park Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028 on Saturday, November 29, 2014 at 11 AM where she wed her husband, Bob, forty-five years ago. Please omit flowers but memorial contributions to ASPCA, PO Box 96929, Washington, DC 20090-6929 ([www.ASPCA.ORG](http://www.ASPCA.ORG)) or the American Stroke Foundation ([AMERICANSTROKE.ORG](http://AMERICANSTROKE.ORG)) would be greatly appreciated.

Born in Michigan City, Indiana, Pam lived in Clifton, VA for twenty-five years raising her family then moving to Lewes, DE several years ago. She received her teaching degree from Windham College, Putney, VT and her Masters in teaching from the University of VA. Pamela retired three years ago after sixteen years as a high school English/Special Education teacher within the Fairfax County (VA) Public Schools.

In addition to her husband Bob, she is survived by her sons Chris and wife Jessica, Scott and wife Melissa and Andrew and wife Ashley; she is also survived by her five wonderful grandchildren and her loving sister Molly Emiliani, husband Vincent and their five children

### 21 Announcements

### 21 Announcements

### 21 Announcements

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## News

### Supporting U.S. Troops

Preschool and elementary school students from eight Chesterbrook Academy schools in Northern Virginia worked together on Nov. 7 to gather and sort more than 1,000 pieces of candy for U.S. troops. Students from Chesterbrook Academy locations in Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fairfax and Herndon gathered at Chesterbrook Academy Kids Campus in Chantilly to sort the candy and package it for delivery. Each



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

year in honor of Veterans Day, Chesterbrook Academy schools participate in the project, called Operation Gratitude, as a token of their appreciation for servicemen and women. The candy will be distributed to USO locations in the Baltimore-Washington metro area and to children who have parents deployed in war zones.



Dan Harris and Gregg Greentree, co-owners and co-teachers of the local SAT Prep program, Turbo Tutoring. Their website is [www.turbo-tutoring.com](http://www.turbo-tutoring.com)

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## Turbo Tutoring Helps Ellie's Hats

Dan Harris and Gregg Greentree, co-owners of Turbo Tutoring LLC, are conducting a hat drive for Ellie's Hats in conjunction with their SAT prep seminar on Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Stone Bridge High School, Room 303, at 43100 Hay Road, Ashburn, VA 20147.

Students who take the two-and-a-half-hour SAT prep class for \$175 are encouraged to bring in hats, which will then be donated to area hospitals and clinics for kids who are undergoing chemo treatments for pediatric cancer. "Students are encouraged to take our class and bring in a hat to donate to area clinics for kids who are undergoing chemo treatments," said Harris.

The Westfield High School English teacher and school counselor have been in the tutoring business for two years. To encourage kids to bring in those hats, they are having raffle items with Clyde's gift cards,

and other gift cards. "We're going to raffle off some prizes to give kids and families incentive to give back," said Harris.

He added: "We've developed a really fun prep class for kids," said Harris. "We've had a lot of success with kids' scores going up after our class. Kids feel like they learn a lot from our class that they can apply to other classes.

Ellie's Hats was started by retired Fairfax County P.E. teacher Jay Coakley with whom Harris once worked. The program donates hats to kids with cancer at local hospitals, Ronald McDonald Houses, NIH and a cancer clinic in Falls Church.

"I think we all reflect at this time of year. Giving something as small as a hat, to a child battling pediatric cancer, hopefully will help brighten their day, and put a smile on their face in such a difficult time for them," said Harris.

— STEVE HIBBARD



# ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to [chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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](http://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.** 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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully)

**Singing.** 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. The Fairfax Jubilaires

rehearse every Wednesday which includes training by an award-winning director. Visit [www.fairfaxjubilaires.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaires.org) for more.

## PET ADOPTIONS

**Pet Adoptions.** Friday, Nov. 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Fairfax County Animal Shelter, 4500 West Ox Road. Fees for pet adoptions for animals with black fur only will be waived. Call 703-830-1100 for more.

**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](http://www.lostdogrescue.org) for more.

**Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit [hart90.org](http://hart90.org) for more.

**Adopt a Dog.** Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit [aforeverhome.org](http://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](http://www.bullrunfestivaloflights.com).

## 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.varunturkeytrot.wix.com/2014](http://www.varunturkeytrot.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](http://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](http://fairfaxnutcracker2014.brownpapertickets.com). Tickets will also be available at the door beginning one hour before each show. Email [events@fairfaxballet.com](mailto:events@fairfaxballet.com) or call 703-439-9788 for more.

## SUNDAY/NOV. 30

**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/](http://fairfaxnutcracker2014.brownpapertickets.com/). Tickets will also be available at the door beginning one hour before each show. Email [events@fairfaxballet.com](mailto: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



PHOTO BY LISA JUNG-MOSS

**Larry Keeling and Noah Fraize rehearse for The Alliance Theater's production of "Twas the Night Before Christmas."**

## "Twas the Night Before Christmas"

A fun filled family holiday event, presented by The Alliance Theater, begins with a performance of Ken Ludwig's "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by special arrangement with Samuel French, followed by Christmas caroling, and bring a camera for an opportunity to sit with and take pictures with Santa

"Twas the Night Before Christmas" is the tale of Amos the mouse whose house gets missed by Santa. He and his two friends, an elf named Calliope and a spunky little girl, Emily, go to great lengths to ensure that Santa doesn't miss him again. They set off on wild adventures that involve a heist, a crazy airplane flight, and an elf's stint as a secret agent in this playful tribute to the holiday season.

All performances will be held at Mountain View High School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. Show dates are Friday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 6, 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 13, 3 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 14, 3 p.m. Visit [TheAllianceTheatre.org](http://TheAllianceTheatre.org).

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](http://www.usafband.af.mil) or 202-767-5658.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 5-7

**Christmas Musical Drama.** 7:30 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Enjoy the musical drama, "The Gift" depicting the story of a soldier and family at the end of WW II. Call 703-383-1170 for more.

**Holiday Performance.** Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 3 p.m. at Mountain View High School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. Enjoy "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by special arrangement with Samuel French, followed by Christmas caroling, and an opportunity to sit with and take your own pictures with Santa. Visit [TheAllianceTheatre.org](http://TheAllianceTheatre.org) for more.

## 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](http://merrifieldgardencenter.com) for more.

**Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair.** 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Brookfield Elementary, 4200 Lees Corner Road, Chantilly. Enjoy pictures with Santa and local craft vendors offering potential gift ideas. Contact 703-814-8700 for more.

**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](http://www.artguildofclifton.org) for more.

# CENTREVILLE

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