

Home LifeStyle

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A Fractured Fairytale

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Portraying the quest for integration depicted in "Hairspray" during Sunday's Martin Luther King Festival are Stone Middle students (from left) Haley Steen, C.J. Armstrong and Jaasirah Jihad.

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Fairfax County

Monday, January 26, 2015

Oakton High School Cafeteria (Entrance #1 or #14)
2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA 22181

Tuesday, January 27, 2015

Bull Run Elementary School Cafeteria (Entrance #1)
15301 Lee Highway, Centreville, VA 20121

Thursday, January 29, 2015

VDOT Northern Virginia District Office, 1st Floor, Occoquan Room
4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

If any of the above meetings are cancelled due to weather, the alternate date will be **Thursday, February 5, 2015** at the VDOT Northern Virginia District office in Fairfax.

Prince William County

Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Battlefield High School Cafeteria (Entrance #1 or #4)
15000 Graduation Drive, Haymarket, VA 20169

If the above meeting is cancelled for inclement weather, the alternate date will be **Wednesday, February 4, 2015** at the same time and location.

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Stop by between 6:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the proposed improvements. Attend the formal presentation at 7:00 p.m. VDOT staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at www.transform66.org, at the meetings, or at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure the availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions. Preliminary plans, project schedule, and right-of-way, environmental and civil rights information will be available for review and public comment at the meetings.

Comments can be provided at the meetings on comment cards or to the court reporter. You may also e-mail comments at any time to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference "I-66 Corridor Improvements" in the subject line.

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State Project: 0066-96A-297, P101 Federal Project: NH-066-1(300) UPC: 105500

NEWS

Navigating Ship of State

Delegates, senators, community leaders reflect on priorities.

By TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

look at what we're doing."

With the sentencing of former Virginia governor Bob McDonnell fresh on their minds, many northern Virginia members of the delegation to the state General Assembly expect ethics reform to be a focal point at the session beginning Jan. 14.

"I'm hoping we're going to take what was a painful experience to watch into a positive 2015," said Del. David Bulova (D-37). "It gives us a chance for asking how do we do things better down in Richmond, and to minimize the chance someone falls into that same trap."

McDonnell was found guilty on corruption charges, of receiving gifts in return for political favors, and sentenced to serving two years in prison.

The General Assembly addressed ethics last year, including a bill more tightly regulating legislators' travel, according to Del. Mark Sickles (R-43).

"When we tackled that last year, a significant number in the General Assembly really felt that however ill-advised, the governor wouldn't be convicted," said Del. Vivian Watts (D-39). "The conviction made everyone realize it doesn't matter how Virginia laws have been on the books more on gentleman's honor than letter of the law. You can be convicted under federal standards of behavior and we need to take a very strong

BUDGET BALANCING AND MEDICAID EXPANSION will also draw attention, according to legislators. The assembly will massage a two-year budget that was passed in a 2014 session.

"Our economy has been soft the last two years and we have required deposits to make into our rainy day fund, Virginia Retirement System, all sorts of bills to pay," said state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34). "There will probably be cuts across the board; almost every state agency with a three-to-five percent reduction, is probably what the governor will be seeking."

"Expanding Medicaid may be a fight, but it's already been fought," said Del. Dave Albo (R-42), referring to the special session in September 2014 when the General Assembly opposed a bill that would take advantage of federal assistance under the Affordable Care Act.

"Except it's not free," Albo continued. "I would love to take care of the 400,000 people, what the bill basically seeks. The federal government says they have money to pay 90 percent. Just the 10 percent share for Virginia is \$230 million. We're already in the hole before we walk into the General Assembly. Where are we going to find \$230 million?"

Others disagree, that passing on the federal money is too much of

SEE LEGISLATORS, PAGE 5

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Chantilly Baptist Church's Gospel group performs "Break Every Chain."



Choral groups from Stone Middle and Westfield High united for "Just Sing."

Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee (CPMSAC) and Westfield High School presented the 21st annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Festival on Sunday, Jan. 11.

Noting the racial harmony he sees in schools here today, CPMSAC President Johnny Nelson said King "paid the price" for it and he urged everyone to always remember King.

More photos, see page 4.



Mime performers from Chantilly Baptist Church.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS



Franklin Middle student Ricky McGlothlin gives a dramatic reading as Martin Luther King.



Members of Centreville High's Wildcat Guitar Ensemble play "El Farol."



Greenbriar East Elementary's Tone Chimes Ensemble performs "Ring Merrily."



Stone Middle theater students perform "I Know Where I've Been," from their production of "Hairspray Jr.," promoting racial equality.



Chantilly High's Chamber Chorale sings "Bridge over Troubled Waters."



Performing "Our Gift for You" is Lees Corner Elementary's fifth-grade choir.



Singing "I am But a Small Voice" is Brookfield Elementary's fifth- and sixth-grade chorus.

Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.



Re-enacting an interview Coretta Scott King gave after her husband's death is Chantilly's Asriel Walker.



Bull Run Elementary sixth-grader Junwon Park plays "Amazing Grace" on the violin.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS



Performing "We Shall Overcome" is Bull Run Elementary's Chamber Choir with music teacher Kelly Butler-Noel (far right) and the school's String Ensemble.



Colin Powell Elementary's Puma Choir sings "Change is Good."

Legislators Note Priorities

FROM PAGE 2

a missed opportunity.

"It's the right thing to do," said state Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37). "If people could vote without political consequences, it's the right thing to pass. But if you touch anything to do with Obamacare, you will get challenged in a primary. I'm not optimistic. We've already lost over a year now where the government pays 100 percent."

CONTINUED FUNDING for transportation and social services are hopes from some of northern Virginia's civic and business leaders.

"We're blessed, as recipients of some top of the line road projects in the greater Springfield area over past 10 years," said Nancy-jo Manney, executive director of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce. "Maintenance of those nice roads is key. If we don't have the infrastructure maintained, adequate to future growth, businesses won't come, and won't stay."

Holly Dougherty, executive director of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce echoed the sentiment that past transportation improvements have been well-received, but continued work such as road width consistency along U.S. Route 1 from the Beltway to the Prince William County line, as well as re-synchronizing the highway's

traffic lights, is imperative. "Congestion relief will help economic development, things that give the best return to Virginia taxpayers. That will help our businesses so they're more competitive in this part of Fairfax County."

Whether or not they already receive much funding from the state or county, non-profit executive directors like Meg Brantley at ECHO in Springfield will be watching the budget cuts carefully. "If they did something, cut away Medicaid, that would mean community-based organizations would need to pick up the tab for more medical programs than they do now."

Robert Petitti, executive director at Koinonia in Franconia, said another angle to watch is whether the state can earmark money for social services agencies and sidestep the county, where he believes money gets lost.

"The money that's given out typically isn't geared for non-government organizations," he said. "It could be done, it's just do the politicians have the will do it?"

"The non-profit community can't be looked upon to take the slack for providing services," said Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Our Daily Bread in Fairfax. "We're already stretched to the bone for doing more with less. We need to talk about a revenue stream, a new one, but I don't know what that would be."



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OPINION

Steps To Prevent Gun Violence

BY MARTINA LEINZ
PRESIDENT, NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF
THE BRADY CAMPAIGN TO
PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

Legislators convening for the 2015 Virginia General Assembly session this month have a great opportunity to make the Commonwealth a safer place for us all by voting in favor of the modest and responsible recommendations recently put forth by Governor Terry McAuliffe regarding gun violence prevention.

Governor McAuliffe has proposed six key pieces of legislation intended to keep firearms away from dangerous individuals. Three of the initiatives are regarding criminal background checks at gun shows. Currently, only Federally Licensed Firearms Dealers are required to run criminal background checks prior to selling or transferring firearms. Private sellers are exempt from this requirement leaving the door wide open for criminals to easily gain access to guns.

One of McAuliffe's proposals would make unlawful purchases more difficult by prevent-

ing gun shows from advertising that they are not required to conduct background checks. Another proposal would give the State Police statutory authority to process voluntary background check requests of private sellers. The most substantive of the three proposals would close the existing loophole and require background checks for all purchases at gun shows.

None of these three proposals goes far enough. Ideally, criminal background checks would be universal; required on all firearms transactions including online sales. They are, however, a step in the right direction and would do much to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals.

Another proposal is to return the limit of handgun purchases to one a month so the Commonwealth won't hold the dubious distinction of being one of the most prolific gun-running states in the nation. Other initiatives include a bill to keep guns from people subject to protective orders and one to revoke concealed handgun permits for parents delinquent on child support payments. This later proposal would affect the roughly 9,000 parents with

such permits who are delinquent collectively on child support payments of over \$15 million.

These six modest proposals would be very effective in reducing violent crime by keeping guns out of the hands of people who should not have them.

None of the proposals would prevent law-abiding citizens from owning weapons and none would infringe upon Second Amendment rights of responsible adults.

With the Republicans controlling both the House of Delegates and the Senate, there are bound to be disagreements with any legislation proposed by Democratic Governor McAuliffe. However, everyone should agree to these modest proposals to keep Virginians safe. It is not a partisan issue; it is a simple matter of public health and safety.

With great opportunity comes great responsibility. I sincerely hope the General Assembly embraces that responsibility and votes accordingly. If you agree, please contact your elected officials and tell them you are counting on them to vote in support of all proposals to curb gun violence in the Commonwealth.

COMMENTARY

Honoring Best and Brightest

Sully police B Squad/Day Shift is feted.

BY MATT DOYLE
FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPT.

For the first time in the history of the Sully District Police Station's Citizen Advisory Committee, an entire patrol squad has been recognized for its outstanding work. It's the B Squad/Day Shift, and 2nd Lt. Matt Doyle, the squad leader, explained why in a memorandum to CAC Chairman Leslie Jenuleson:

Throughout 2014, the police officers assigned to the Sully District Station's B Squad/Day Shift have demonstrated dedication, determination and teamwork to carry out any and all duties placed upon them. Their commitment to serving and protecting the public has been second to none and was highlighted in their tenacity to address countless, quality-of-life concerns within the communities they serve on a daily basis.

Their ability to work as a unified team to address several serial crimes, while fostering strong bonds with members of the community, has led to great success in improving the overall quality of life of the residents of Fairfax County. Their hard work and dedication was recently recognized by the CAC, in partnership with Centreville's Ciao Osteria restau-

rant, which hosted a luncheon to honor the officers.

Here are some highlights of several outstanding achievements by the B Squad/Day Shift officers during 2014:

In one incident, a Centreville community experienced a small series of burglary and theft incidents directly impacting several residents of not only Fairfax County, but also surrounding counties. On May 15, 2014, the Fairfax County Department of Public Safety Communications received a frantic 911 call from a resident of a local community in the Centreville area.

At approximately 11:50 a.m., a 24-year-old woman called 911, advising she just returned home when an unknown subject was seen running through the main level of her home, exiting in an unknown direction. Doyle and his squad expeditiously responded in a professional and diligent manner.

The coordinated response resulted in a team of officers quickly setting up a perimeter to contain the suspect, while others descended upon the house. The officers at the house immediately entered the home to secure the residence, ensuring the woman was safe and no other subjects were inside it. Upon securing the residence, officers began their initial investigation while others held their perimeter positions and others began a ground search of the



From left are 2nd Lt. Matt Doyle, Ciao Osteria owners Gina and Sal Speziale and Leslie Jenuleson.

area.

While maintaining proper discipline and the utmost vigilance for over an hour, a subject matching the suspect description was spotted entering a vehicle and departing the area. The vehicle was stopped and the suspect was taken into custody without incident.

Upon searching the suspect and his vehicle, officers located several pieces of precious jewelry and priceless heirlooms. The suspect was subsequently linked to the series of crimes in the area, resulting in the closure of several cases and the return of countless valuable items.

The above incident is only one of many efforts and successes the

squad had in 2014 to apprehend the criminal element and keep communities safe, but only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to helping others. During 2014, officers from the squad were dispatched to a suspicious person in the early morning hours. Upon their arrival, the officers located a young woman with injuries consistent with a physical assault and coming down from a drug-induced high.

The woman was extremely uncooperative and untrusting of the police, due to her involvement in illegal narcotics use and a questionable lifestyle. The officers took it upon themselves to look beyond

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2015 New Year Remodeling Resolutions

Improving long-term living needs and future home value.

BY JOSHUA BAKER
BOWA

After all the holiday festivities have passed and the ball has dropped to ring in the New Year, many homeowners are inspired to tackle resolutions that relate to their living space. 2015 may be the year you want to remodel your home to allow for the changes occurring in your life. Perhaps you want to build out an office which will allow you to work from home? Maybe 2015 is the year you want to avoid climbing stairs, so moving the master suite to the first floor may be on your resolution list?

One thing is certain in life — family needs are always evolving. As kids come and go, aging parents move in, greener technology becomes available, and we look for more creature comforts in our homes, individuals and families need and want to update

living spaces.

So, if you're thinking 2015 is the year to make changes to your home to better suit your changing lifestyle needs, I would encourage you to review some of the following top home remodeling resolutions.



TIP #1: Planning For Your Long-Term Home Needs

Given the fact that a home remodeling project can be a significant investment of both time and money, I would strongly recommend that your family has thought through all elements of the remodeling job to make sure it will work for family's long-term living needs. You want the work done on your home to both improve your day-to-day life and add to the future value of your home, so ensuring the decision makers in your family are all on the same page is critical.

Also, as your family plans to remodel your home, we recommend considering the best times for your home to be under construction. We find that since families tend to travel more during the summer months, that is a good time for a remodeling project as the process may be less disruptive and the work can move quicker.

TIP #2: Research What You Like

One of the best things you can do to prepare for sitting down with a professional remodeler is to find pictures of aspects of homes that you like. Being able to show examples of your preferences is extremely helpful to ensure your tastes are understood and incorporated into the design, and often, the materials selected for your remodeling project.

Websites like Houzz.com or Pinterest.com offer thousands of ideas that you can explore and print out to help you define the look and feel you desire to achieve with your new finished space. You can also save them in an online account that can be viewed by your potential remodel company.

TIP #3: Do Your Homework on the Best Remodeling Company

As with any significant investment, make sure you do due diligence before signing on with a design-build firm. Remodeling remains one of the most reported industries, so be sure to talk with the firm's client references and visit recent projects they have completed to get a sense for their craftsmanship. You may also want to ask about employee tenure and which professionals will be working with you through the re-

modeling process. It is important to know who will be your single point of accountability.

With a single point of accountability for the entire design and construction process, you can work alongside your architectural team and other specialists to ensure reliable materials are specified, drawings are clear, and challenges are addressed to lay the groundwork for a smooth production process. Most importantly, this team approach ensures that the project that is being designed aligns with your budget goals, and finds areas of efficiencies and appropriate cost savings wherever possible.

These three tips will help you to achieve the best approach and find a design-build team that will take accountability and manage the entire process while looking after your best interests. Remodeling professionals become part of your family during the process, so it's important to be extremely comfortable with the firm you choose.

Josh Baker is the founder and co-chairman of BOWA, an award-winning design and construction company specializing in luxury renovations, remodels and additions in the greater Washington, D.C. area. BOWA has more than 25 years of experience and has been honored with 170 local and national awards. Visit www.bowa.com or call 703-734-9050.

Backyard Dreaming

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Spring may seem light years away from the frigid January temperatures, and lounging in your backyard is probably the last thing you want to do at the moment, but landscape designers say now is the time to start planning a summer retreat.

"January is a good time to start thinking about your backyard," said Alex Ikenson, co-owner of Home Escapes, located in Herndon. Home Escapes, which had specialized in hot tubs and outdoor furniture, merged recently with Urban Retreat, an indoor furniture and accessory company.

"A lot of things we sell are special order and take a few weeks to come in, so you don't want to start too late," said Ikenson.

From swim spas to fire pit tables, options for outdoor landscapes are plentiful.

"People now are spending more time at home and less time going on vacation, and making their backyards more of a living space, creating a living space," said Rosanne Tsantes, sales manager of Home Escapes. "Outdoor furniture companies have responded to the surge with beautiful pieces of furniture."

Touted by industry insiders as comfortable, durable and easy to maintain, the array of outdoor fabrics on the market rival their indoor counterparts.

"The whole industry has expanded to true designer furniture and fabrics. There are hundreds of beautiful fabrics available," said Tsantes. "If you were to pick out alu-



Options for outdoor décor, including swim spas and fire pit tables, abound at a newly formed showroom in Herndon.

minum furniture, you could choose from at least 10 frame colors, where it used to be just black and green. We have brush tones with gold tint, antique tones, ... There are some really gorgeous finishes."

Accessories can be customized to fit virtually every budget and space as well. "Everything is made to order," said Jodie Labovitch, an interior designer with Urban Retreat. "They're not pulling it off the shelf."

Outdoor fire pit tables, powered by gas, are crowd-pleasing accessories that come in every size from compact coffee table to

dining room table. Styles run the gamut from rustic to sleek.

"The tabletops can be porcelain or aluminum, stone or granite," said Tsantes. "There is even an artisan top that looks like carved leather. Now you can go into your back yard and feel like you're on vacation somewhere in the islands."

Adding the resort-like feel are swim spas, the large cousin of the ubiquitous hot tub.

"A swim spa allows you to exercise, even during the winter, by swimming against the current," said Tsantes. "They are like hot

Local tastemakers say winter is the best time to plan an idyllic backyard retreat.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROSANNE TSANTES

Swim spas, upscale furniture and fire pit tables are among the options in outdoor furnishings for those who want to create a backyard living space.

tubs, only about 12-16 feet long and eight feet wide. You can run out in the winter and swim and then sit on the spa bench, just like you would in a hot tub."

Even those who don't have an expansive backyard can create cozy retreats.

"Outdoor furniture companies are making pieces for those with small spaces to those with huge Great Falls homes with a large backyard," said Tsantes.

"Indoor and outdoor furniture are now blending," said David Cintorino, president of Home Escapes. "People are using their outdoor spaces like indoor spaces, that is a current trend. Outdoor furniture companies are creating furniture to keep up with that trend."

Wild and Wacky Children's Play

Chantilly High presents "Little Red Riding Hood and the Power Mutants."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Anyone can present a classic fairytale that children will enjoy. But it takes the creativity and imagination that spring from the mind of Ed Monk to turn it into something special, memorable and downright hilarious.

And that's what Chantilly High's upcoming children's show, "Little Red Riding Hood and the Power Mutants," promises to deliver. Featuring a cast of 45 and a crew of 10, silliness abounds as Little Red Riding Hood tries to deliver her basket of goodies to a poor, sweet grandma.

Show times are Friday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 24, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m., in the school theater. Tickets are \$5 at the door or via www.chantillyhsdrama.com.

"It's a very fun show for the whole family" said Monk, who's both the director and writer. "There are jokes for the little kids, as well as jokes for the adults. So everyone can come in from the cold and enjoy an hour of theater."

"Because we had such a huge turnout of talented students, I had to double-cast the show," he continued. "So one cast will perform Friday night and Saturday afternoon, and the other cast performs Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. We are so lucky to have such an outstanding group of actors."

In this fractured and funny telling of the well-known story, Little Red runs a gourmet catering and home delivery service. She is hired by a busy TV reporter to deliver a basket of food to her grandmother, who has lost all of her money buying lottery tickets.

Portraying Red in one of the casts is sophomore Shannon Gaskins. "I like being in the show because I'm meeting many great new people and am having the time of my life with some of my best friends," she said. "So it's a great experience."

In the show, Little Red's journey to grandma's house is fraught with danger as she's pursued by students from Oswald's School for Wolves. Sophomore Jack David is having a wonderful time playing Oswald. "He's really trying hard to teach his students how to be wolves, but they're not very bright and they keep messing everything up," said David. "It's fun getting to play a teacher who gets to yell a lot."

Added into the mix is Ranger Reba, portrayed by sophomore Adriana Castillo. "Ranger Reba is a goofy, little sidekick trying to catch hunters and save the forest," said Castillo. "She works with her partner and, together, they get into funny trouble."

Fortunately for Little Red, however, the students in Oswald's school are rather bumbling and inept. But when Red does find herself in danger, she's rescued by The Power Mutants. They're a rather strange and goofy set of superheroes certain to appeal to children, and they go by the names of Nerf Man, Rubber Chicken Girl and The Burper.

Freshman Kylee Marciello has her first onstage role at Chantilly as Rubber Chicken



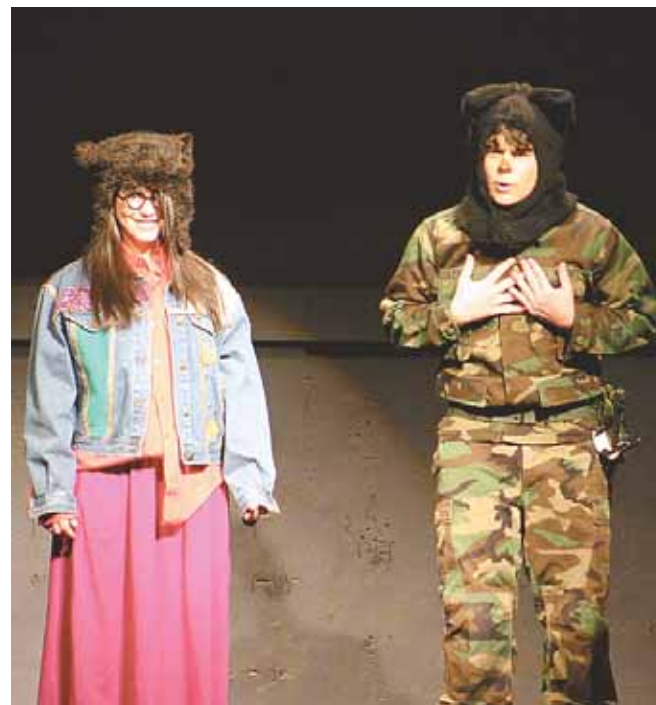
Little Red Riding Hood (Shannon Gaskins) of Little Red's Gourmet Food and Home Delivery Service.



From left: Norbert (Alayna Lee) tries to steal the basket of goodies from Little Red Riding Hood (Shannon Gaskins), only to be thwarted by The Burper (Rachel Weaver), one of The Power Mutants.



From left: Killer, the goofy wolf (Sarah Proctor), knocks on the door of sweet Grandma (Jackson Trahan).



Oswald the Big Bad Wolf (Jack David, on right) instructs one of his students, Boris (Perri Cooper), at Oswald's School for Wolves.°

Girl, and she couldn't be more excited. "I think that everyone will really like the show," she said. "It's so much fun – just a bunch of goofy jokes, one after another. Plus I get to play with a lot of rubber chickens. I hope a lot of parents bring their children to the show because it's a great way to see theater."

Marka Doolittle, now a sophomore, plays Ranger Rhonda. But she also remembers coming to Chantilly years ago to see her first children's show. "It was so much fun to come to the big high school and see the play," she said. "It was so exciting, and we would come back and see all of the other shows that they did, as well."

"And now, it is so cool that I get to be in a children's play, myself," continued Doolittle. "It's fun to think that some of the kids in the audience will be in one of the shows in six or seven years – just like me."

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



From left: Ranger Rhonda (Marka Doolittle) tells Ranger Reba (Maria Benincasa) how to catch the evil hunters.

SPORTS

Dropping Conference Opener

Bulldogs can't overcome early offensive struggles.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

After a slow start, the Westfield girls' basketball team started executing midway through the second quarter of its Conference 5 opener against Oakton on Jan. 9.

After a strong finish to the first half, the Bulldogs continued to chip away in the third quarter. When Emily McNamara knocked down a 3-pointer with 4:42 on the clock, Oakton head coach Fred Priester called timeout as the Cougars' lead had dwindled from 22 points to 12.

But while Westfield showed signs of life against the defending conference champion, the Bulldogs' early scoring struggles proved too much to overcome.

Westfield lost to Oakton 63-46 on Friday at Oakton High School, dropping its record to 6-4, including 0-1 in the conference. It was the Bulldogs' second consecutive loss and third in their last four games.

Neither team scored during the first three minutes of the contest. Oakton's Lindsay Abed knocked down a pair of free throws with 4:29 remaining in the opening period and Cougar center Maddie Royle made the game's first field goal with 3:29 on the clock. Westfield finally got on the board when junior Jessica Martinez knocked down a short jumper with 2:32 remaining, but it would be the Bulldogs' only bucket of the first quarter as Westfield found itself trailing 12-2 after one.

Oakton continued to build its lead in the second quarter and held a 29-7 advantage when Royle scored with 3:37 remaining in the opening half.

Westfield cut its deficit to 12 in the third quarter, but Oakton built its lead back to 22 late in the fourth quarter, when Kailyn Fee knocked down a 3-pointer to give the Cougars a 63-41 advantage.

Junior post Danielle Little led Westfield with 13 points and 11 rebounds. McNamara finished with 12 points, including a pair of 3-pointers. Martinez finished with nine. Westfield faced Centreville on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Bulldogs will travel to face Washington-Lee at 7:45 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 14 and will host Herndon at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16.



Westfield guard Emily McNamara scored 12 points against Oakton on Jan. 9.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Westfield post player Danielle Little, right, scored 13 points and grabbed 11 rebounds during a loss to Oakton on Jan. 9.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Westfield Boys' Basketball Improves to 11-1

The Westfield boys' basketball team extended its winning streak to nine games and improved its record to 11-1 with a 70-57 win over Oakton on Jan. 9 at Westfield High School.

Two days earlier, the Bulldogs defeated Washington-Lee 71-56. Blake Francis scored 17 points for the Bulldogs. Tyler Scanlon scored 16 and Jacob Williams added 15 points.

Westfield faced Centreville on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Bulldogs will travel

to face Herndon at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16.

Loudoun Freedom Tryouts

The Loudoun Freedom announces tryouts for spring 2015 girls' basketball teams for grades 2-11. Tryouts are Feb. 8 and Feb. 15. See www.loudounfreedom.com for details. Contact Michael Turner at 703-303-0808 or loudounfreedombball@gmail.com for more information. The Freedom will also host an information session Feb. 1.



Westfield boys' basketball coach Doug Ewell, right, is seen with Washington-Lee coach Bobby Dobson.

PHOTO BY WILF PALENSCAR

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By KENNETH B. LOURIE



For one box of 54 petite Belgian waffle cookies in three delicious flavors: milk chocolate, dark chocolate and vanilla; an extravagance to be sure, available during the holidays; this recipient (actually, my wife, Dina, was the recipient) very happy to oblige and indulge. However, as lucky as I was to receive/be offered some of these desserts: \$36 approximately, for 54 average-sized cookies is a bit out of my price range. The problem/complication is, my wife Dina is often a quality-not-quantity type of person, much different than I. And even though her sweet tooth pales in comparison to my sweet teeth, she is now, as a result of this very kind and generous gift, predisposed more than ever to scoff (I'm being polite) at my regular cookie purchases; typically bought by yours truly at the local supermarket and more often than not, involving some kind of Nabisco-brand product. As much as I'd like to think I'm semi open to change, it's the change back from a five-dollar bill with which I'm likely more inclined to consider.

Not that I didn't/don't appreciate the upgrade in my snacking choices, it's more the arithmetic that boggles. For the same \$36 spent on these delightful alternatives, when on sale at \$3 per bag, take 12 bags of Oreo DoubleStuf cookies – each of three sleeves holding 10 cookies – 30 cookies filling each bag. If one multiplies 12 bags times 30 cookies, 360 cookies becomes the total; meaning for the same \$36, I can enjoy 54 cookies, or with my Oreos, I can enjoy 360 cookies (not at one sitting; I'm bad, but not that bad) instead. Not exactly the heels of a dilemma, but neither is it dollars to donuts. And like my mother before me, when the price is upside down on something, as I would characterize this comparison, digesting the more expensive item (cookies in this example) becomes challenging and not nearly as enjoyable as the upgrade might lend itself to be.

To be fair though, as delicious as these cookies were, they are NEVER going to be a regular item in our pantry, nor do I suspect, a regular gift. I mean, who can afford such an expense? And though I certainly enjoyed eating them (especially considering that I didn't pay for them), buying them myself offers much less satisfaction. Dina however, might (might?) think differently. She might (might?) prefer the upgrade. As she has said many times, she doesn't mind less if it is better than more. And on a related subject, a lot of something is just a lot, not necessarily better. She doesn't see the same value in quantity as I do. Speaking to her cookie interest, it might only be 54 cookies whereas mine would be substantially greater. Thus, my being cut off after only 54 cookies, (time frame not specified) would be a significant consideration; for Dina, not so much.

Quality rules her roost. More often than not, quantity rules mine. And though one might consider this difference as substance over style, I characterize it more as fact over fiction. Yes. The cookies were delicious, but money doesn't grow on trees (it's made out of linen, actually); still, I'd rather have a lot of a little than a little of a lot. Sometimes, too much of a good thing is simply too much. With respect to these Christmas cookies, even though their time here was short, their memory will be long. For now, that will have to suffice.

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

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-William Van Horne

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-Werner Heisenberg

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21 Announcements

PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF CLIFTON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL USE PERMIT PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CLIFTON PLANNING COMMISSION JANUARY 19, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 19, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. at the Acacia Lodge Hall, 7135 Main Street, Clifton, VA 20124 to consider the amendment of the special use permit of Trattoria Villagio, located at 7145 Main Street, to include and authorize the use of outdoor music, specifically sound (music) that will be distributed via Trattoria Villagio's outdoor wall mounted and rock speakers, located within the controlled area of the patio, and to be played/heard at a controlled decibel level no greater than 70 dBA. The application for the proposed amendment to Trattoria Villagio's special use permit, is available for review and downloading on the Town's website at www.clifton-va.com and a hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton VA, 20124. All interested parties are invited to attend and express their views with respect to the requested amendment to the Trattoria Villagio's special use permit, to authorize outdoor music.

21 Announcements

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OPINION

The chefs
and owners
of Ciao
Osteria,
with the
CAC's Leslie
Jenuleson,
plus the
officers of B
Squad/Day
Shift, which
the restau-
rant feted.



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Honoring Best and Brightest

FROM PAGE 6

the woman's lifestyle and decided to foster a working relationship to help her better her ways, while aiding her to overcome her drug addiction.

The officers learned her underlying concerns dealt mostly with low self esteem and the people she associated with during her free time. The officers learned the young woman had a passion for playing the violin and utilized this knowledge to work with her and an area assisted-living home for the elderly to allow her to provide musical entertainment for its residents.

A team of officers set up a small breakfast gathering for the residents and the young woman where she played her violin, providing entertainment for the elderly residents of the community. The partnership between the officers and the community has

fostered a bond for the young woman, whereas she now plays her violin and the residents provide her friendship and support to help her curtail her addictions.

The officers of the Sully District Station's B Squad/Day Shift display dedication, professionalism and teamwork to the fullest extent. Throughout 2014, the team has come together as one to serve and protect the communities and citizens of Fairfax County and, in particular, the residents of the Sully District Police service areas.

Their selfless action, and willingness to go above and beyond all expectations, drives home the pride they have in the work they do, each and every day. The squad has come together as a team, dedicating themselves to the mission of the Fairfax County Police Department and proudly serves the residents of our community.

LETTER

Need Muslims for Peace

To the Editor:

As a Muslim American, it pains me to see individuals committing terrorism in the name of Islam. The killings at the French newspaper Charlie Hebdo are only one example in a series of such attacks. Don't get me wrong, it is even more painful to witness the senseless and provocative cartoons promoted by that newspaper against the personality of Prophet Muhammad — whom billions of people around the world hold in high esteem — but violence is not the response to such provocation. If the Prophet him-

self never retaliated with violence in response to attacks against his personality — and in fact forbade his companions from such excesses — what gives today's Muslims the right to kill in the name of Islam? What is needed is a concerted effort to remove the misconceptions that westerners have about the noble character of Prophet Muhammad, may peace be upon him. What we need are Muslims for Peace.

Fouzan Pal
Chantilly

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [centreview@connection-
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newspapers.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.

SUPPORT NEEDED

Annual STEM-H Expo. The six high school academies in Fairfax County Public Schools are seeking sponsors, exhibitors, and presenters for their annual STEM-H (science, technology, engineering, math, and health and medical sciences) Expo, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 21, at Chantilly High School. Colleges, businesses,

industries, and other organizations that educate for, do business in, or support the STEM-H fields are invited to submit proposals to present STEM-H focused breakout sessions, provide exhibits, and demonstrate STEM-H related business technologies to attract middle and high school students to careers in these fields. Exhibitor registration fees are \$25 for corporate organizations and \$15 for non-profit organizations to help cover event costs. There is no charge for FCPS groups. Donations of promotional items for student and parent participants and for give-away items for raffles are also being sought. Contact Cara Kirby at 571-423-4502 or ckkirby@fcps.edu.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

Workbook on Display. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. The exhibit is open through January, in the park's visitor center and admission is free. The highlight of the exhibit is an original workbook created by Lewis H. Machen who purchased Walney in 1843 and lived there until his death in 1863. This is the first time the workbook has been shared publicly. Contact 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence for more.

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" and "Hidden Universe". 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. 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

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 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 Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit aforeverhome.org for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 17

Delicious Landscape. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Make a beautiful and tasty garden with edible plants. Learn about growing fruits, berries, flowers roots and bulbs. Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or call 703-968-9600.

Rabbi Sam. 8 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. The JCCNV Performing Arts Series presents Charlie Varon in his solo show, a play for Jews, Gentiles, and anyone who has ever attended a meeting. A mix of comedy and drama, the play tells the story of Sam Isaac, a rabbi who wants to reinvent American Judaism, and the havoc that erupts in the congregation that hires him. Tickets: \$34 premium reserved, \$29 adults, \$24 J members or seniors (65+), \$19 under 30. Visit

www.jccnv.org, email boxoffice@jccnv.org, or call 703-537-3000.

SUNDAY/JAN. 18

Rabbi Sam. 2 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. The JCCNV Performing Arts Series presents Charlie Varon in his solo show, a play for Jews, Gentiles, and anyone who has ever attended a meeting. A mix of comedy and drama, the play tells the story of Sam Isaac, a rabbi who wants to reinvent American Judaism, and the havoc that erupts in the congregation that hires him. Tickets: \$34 premium reserved, \$29 adults, \$24 J members or seniors (65+), \$19 under 30. Visit www.jccnv.org, email boxoffice@jccnv.org, or call 703-537-3000.

SATURDAY/JAN. 24

Landscape Renovations. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Overgrown or outdated landscape? If so, it's time for an audit and renovation. Learn how making a few small changes can lead to big results. Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or

call 703-968-9600.

FRIDAY/JAN. 30

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly. Browse and buy items and fine art created by more than 250 jury-selected artists displaying one-of-a-kind items in sculpture, glass, jewelry, fashion, wood, metal, furniture, home accessories, leather, photography and fine art. Tickets valid all three days: \$8 online; \$10 at the door; free for children under 12. Free parking. Visit www.sugarloafcrafter.com or call 800-210-9900.

SATURDAY/JAN. 31

Growing Plants Indoors. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Escape the winter doldrums with colorful tropical plants. Select plants and get tips to keep them looking great. Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or call 703-968-9600.

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly. Browse and buy items and fine art created by more than 250 jury-selected artists displaying one-of-a-kind items in sculpture, glass, jewelry, fashion, wood, metal, furniture, home accessories, leather, photography and fine art. Tickets valid all three days: \$8 online; \$10 at the door; free for children under 12. Free parking. Visit www.sugarloafcrafter.com or call 800-210-9900.

SUNDAY/FEB. 1

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly. Browse and buy items and fine art created by more than 250 jury-selected artists displaying one-of-a-kind items in sculpture, glass, jewelry, fashion, wood, metal, furniture, home accessories, leather, photography and fine art. Tickets valid all three days: \$8 online; \$10 at the door; free for children under 12. Free parking. Visit www.sugarloafcrafter.com or call 800-210-9900.

SATURDAY/FEB. 7

Evergreens For Every Garden. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Evergreens are a must-have in every garden. They provide year-round interest, structure, define spaces and serve as backdrop to other plants. Attend this seminar to discover the many varieties. Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or call 703-968-9600.

Children's Gardening Workshops. 2 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. These seminars are ideal for parents and grandparents who want to introduce children, ages 6-12, to gardening. Each child will learn and have fun while creating a dish garden to bring home. An adult must be present. Space is limited. Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or call 703-968-9600.

SATURDAY/FEB. 14

It's All About the Birds and the Bees. 10 a.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Flowers can be so much more than gifts for a Valentine. Find out how they use their shape, fragrance and color to attract the perfect partner for pollination and reproduction. Is it love, biology or both? Visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com or call 703-968-9600.

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Sundays at 9:15 am & 11:00 am

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Sundays at 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 am

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



Centreville
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship

8:45 and 11am

15450 Lee Highway
Centreville, VA 20120
703.830.0098

www.CentrevillePres.com