

#### Roundups

## **Carseat Inspections**

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Dec. 10, from 5-8:30 p.m., 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. The first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

### WFCCA Land-Use

The next meeting of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee is set for Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly.

A presentation is slated on a proposed maintenance building at the Lakeside Apartments at 14301 Summer Tree Road in Centreville. The applicant wants to replace an existing, covered carport with a two-story 1,152-square foot maintenance facility.

## **Council Meeting**

The Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee will meet Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call Jeff Parnes, evenings, at 703-904-0131. Because of Christmas, this meeting is on the third Wednesday of the month.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department Chief Richard Bowers or Assistant Fire Chief John Caussin will discuss countywide trends and Sully statistics. Also on tap is a presentation on a proposed maintenance building at the Lakeside Apartments at 14301 Summer Tree Road in Centreville. The Applicant wants to replace an existing, covered carport with a two-story 1,152-square foot maintenance facility.

## **Seeking Donations**

The Fairfax County Police Department Victim Services Section is kicking off its Second Annual Holiday Gift Card Drive in an effort to provide holiday help for children of domestic and sexual violence.

Many of these children and families are facing the reality of not celebrating the holidays this year. The Victim Services Section is seeking donations of gift cards for the families they have worked with this past year, the opportunity to bring a smile to the faces of their children — those who have witnessed or been a victim of domestic or sexual violence themselves.

Gift cards can be dropped off or mailed to Victim Services Section, 10600 Page Ave., Fairfax, VA 22030.

## News

# Charlie Brown, the Grinch and More

## Westfield High presents its "Ho-Ho Holiday Show."

By Bonnie Hobbs
The Connection

ach year, a holiday tradition at Westfield High is the "Ho-Ho Holiday show." It's geared for area children and student-directed by seniors.

More than 75 theater students are participating. The curtain rises Friday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 19, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

On tap will be six, short plays: "Twas the Night before Christmas," "A Very Potter Hanukkah," "The Grinch," "A Charlie Brown Christmas," "A Year without Santa Claus" and "Frosty the Snowman."

#### 'The Grinch'

Directing "The Grinch" are Jackson Armstrong, Keegan Garant, Alexa Tucker and Zach Szmerekovsky. It has a cast of 10, including John Coughlin as the narrator and Ian Balderston as the Grinch. Wade Parker plays Max the dog; Kennedy Giroux, Cindy Lou Who; Emma Wolfe, Mama Who; and Marty Bernier, Papa Who.

"Things are going really well; the cast is attentive and easy to work with," said Tucker. "Ian hasn't seen 'The Grinch' before, so he's taking it in a different direction. But it's still really funny and it works. And since John also does impressions, he may narrate in a voice other than his own."

The directors also have experience with this show. "In my freshman year, I played a Who, and I narrated 'The Grinch' as a sophomore," said Tucker. "And Zach and Keegan were Grinches in previous years, so they have a lot to add to it."

As a director, she said, "It's cool to take the show in the direction you want. And you have to set an example for the cast by staying focused and on track. I also liked watching auditions and seeing how everyone's personality fit into their characters."

Tucker said the audience will love this play because "The Grinch' is a classic, and the main character always has a big stage presence, funny movements and lines everyone will appreciate. And there's a lot of physical humor, especially between the Grinch and Max. Kids will also enjoy the Dr. Seuss rhymes in which we tell the story."

#### "Twas the Night Before Christmas"

Featuring a cast of about 20, "Twas the Night before Christmas" is directed by Sarah Damers, Shaina Greenberg and Connor Rudy. "It's mostly a dance show, and the cast members are great dancers and fun to work with," said Damers. "It's ballet and jazz dancing with narration. The dancing illustrates the story and the narrators read the

All three directors danced in this show, the past three years; but this time, Damers and Greenberg will narrate. As for directing, Damers said it's nice to "pass on the fun experience of being in 'Ho-Ho' to other students. It's mostly teaching them the dance."

She said children will really like this show "because of the pretty music and dancing. Our music is by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra and is very Christmas-y and exciting. And this is different from all the other shows because it's music and dance, rather than a one-act play, so I think kids will enjoy it. We have fairies, including the Sugar Plum Fairy, bat rats and reindeer. And it combines some of 'The Nutcracker' characters into the 'Twas the Night before Christmas story."

#### 'A Very Potter Hanukkah'

"A Very Potter Hanukkah" is an original play written by directors Savara Gunn and Bridget Poindexter. "I grew up watching 'Harry Potter,' so I thought it would be fun to incorporate it into the Hanukkah story," said Gunn. "I found similarities between them."

"The Syrian Greeks wanted the Jews to believe in their God, but the rebels fought them," she continued. "And to purify their temple of the Greek idols, the Jews burned candles for eight days — even though they only had enough oil for one day. Similarly, in the last Harry Potter film, the Hogwarts students have to battle Voldemort."

There's a cast of 12, with Brantley Cervarich as Potter; Pressley Johnson, Hermione; Valerie Spiegalthal, Ron Weasley; Kaili Fox, Draco Malfoy; and Nikolas Glover, Voldemort. "I like how enthusiastic our cast members are," said Gunn. "They get along really well together."

She said this Hanukkah story should be more fun for children to watch than the one Westfield used to do because "it's livelier and has jokes in it. And it's relevant because kids are still into Harry Potter; so it'll be easier for them to connect with it and understand it more."

A first-time director, Gunn's having fun. "I have something in mind and I tell the actors what to do," she said. "And it's interesting to see what's in my head show up in front of me."

#### 'Frosty the Snowman'

Featuring a nine-person cast, "Frosty the Snowman" is directed by Rachel McKennedy and Misha Mullany. Portraying Frosty is Kierra Clark. The other leads are Allison Bush, Karen; Wade Parker, John; Lucas Huehuet, Prof. Hinkle; and Anna Krelovitch, Rebecca.

"We have a good cast and everyone speaks well and has a particular energy and vibe that will entertain the children," said Mullany. "This show is all about having fun, so we wanted the cast members to have fun onstage, too — and we're having a blast in rehearsals."

She said the students love doing "Ho-Ho" shows because they provide a stress-free environment for the lower classmen to showcase their acting talents. She also likes directing.

"It's fun to be on the other side and see

how much work goes into it," said Mullany. "As an actor, you don't realize how hard it is and how difficult it is to get people to listen to you and to organize everything. But it's also taught me to be a better actor because I understand the character objectives more and have improved my listening objective."

She said the audience will enjoy this play because "We have some slow-motion fights and we'll all sing 'Frosty the Snowman' at the end"

#### 'A Year without Santa Claus'

Helming "A Year without Santa Claus" are Catherine Crossett and Meredith Mehegan. "It's based on the puppet movie of the same name and this is our second year performing it," said Mehegan. "Santa gets sick and wants a holiday. He wants Christmas off because he doesn't think anyone believes in him anymore. So Mrs. Claus sends two elves, Jingle and Jangle, to a town to try to get people more into the Christmas spirit."

Leading the 13-person cast are Aja Gore as Mrs. Claus; Drew Tobin, Santa; the heat miser, Richard Helwig; the snow miser, Joshua Hiltpold; Jingle, Rylee Russler; Jangle, Gene Kim; and Iggy, Gopika Ramesh.

"We have a talented group of actors, and I'm excited to see the final product," said Mehegan. "The audience will like seeing the movie come to life onstage, as well as the storyline — the idea of a year without Santa Claus and the way he's convinced to still bring everyone Christmas presents."

She says directing is "really cool because you get to see your vision become reality, and it's fun to work with the underclassmen. I've been in these shows, the past two years, and now I'm directing."

#### 'A Charlie Brown Christmas'

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" is directed by Gabby Moses, Morgan Perigard and Andrew Sharpe and has a 14-person cast. Ryan Kirby plays Charlie Brown; Kaley Haller, Lucy; Charlie Parsons, Schroeder; and Patrick Santilly, Snoopy.

"We've got a great cast, all really excited to perform," said Sharpe. "More than half are underclassmen, so it'll be their first time on a Westfield stage. This is the classic, Peanuts show, so people will relate to Charlie Brown and the other characters they've known for years. And they'll enjoy seeing our interpretation of this story."

Sharpe also directed Westfield's VTA (Virginia Theatre Association) piece this year, so this play gives him another opportunity to hone his directing skills. "You get to experience what it's like on the other side," he said. "And you gain a lot of respect for your own director. You try to get as much done in the time you have leading up to the show and be as productive as possible."

Overall, said Sharpe, "All these shows we're presenting are a great run-up to winter break, and it's fun to get people into the holiday spirit."

# News





Artist's rendition of the Trinity Centre east façade of the apartments.



The Trinity Centre Meadow Way view of the entrance.

# Homes Will Rise Instead of Offices

Developer will build 355 apartments at the Trinity Centre.

> By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

he Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recently approved a developer's plan for the Trinity Centre in Centreville. As a result, 355 apartments will be built there, amenities will be added around the lake and the county will receive financial contributions.

Once envisioned as the heart of Centreville — a place where people would gather for various events and special occasions — Trinity Centre was originally approved for 1.8 million square feet of office space. Also planned was 250,000 square feet of retail uses, plus 336 homes.

But what's actually been built there so far — besides the homes — are two office buildings totaling 576,000 square feet, three restaurants, a hotel, a fitness center and an 11,000-square-foot office building. So, in light of the stagnant office market, JLB Partners submitted its own proposal for this site off Route 29.

JLB will replace the two office buildings (within what's called Land Unit J) with the 355 apartments. There'll be a six-story parking structure in the middle; and because of the site's topography, the residences will be within a building that's four stories in front and five stories in back.

The building will be constructed adjacent to the existing lake and will have two internal courtyards. There'll be an outdoor pool, and the lower-level units would be walkouts. In addition, the builder will seek LEED certification.

With the lake seen as an integral part of the project, amenities will be added there so residents from other communities, too, may use the lake for fishing or passive recreation. Planned are a fenced-in, off-leash, dog area; benches, chairs and a climbing structure for young children. Senior citizens may also use the outdoor area for games such as chess and bocce ball. Trails will connect it to the office development, and other trail and pedestrian connections to Trinity Center will be improved, as well. "Visually, this is better than the 8-10-story buildings that could have been built there [and now won't be]," said Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully). "And having the residential development there will provide some amenities for the community, and I think it'll be nice. There'll also be public spaces and the ability for people to walk around the lake."

The homes' pitched roofs will hide the parking structure from view. JLB expects them to take 16-18 months to build and 18-24 months to lease. They're projected to yield 500-550 residents.

"Since the area was rezoned in 1987, roughly half of the approved office/commercial use has been built, said attorney Mark Looney, representing the applicant. "So this project fills in the residential gap." He was addressing a meeting of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee.

And although WFCCA's Carol Hawn would prefer to have more businesses and

office uses in Centreville, fellow panel member Jim Neighbors said they're not moving to the Trinity Center.

Concurring, Looney said, "There's a change in the type of office environment employees want today. Offices in a sea of concrete isolated from amenities are dinosaurs. No one wants to work in them anymore. There's a tremendous surplus of unused office space, plus tens of millions of square feet of office space that is going unbuilt."

"I think Trinity Centre has always been a moving target; nothing's ever been set in stone," said At-Large Planning Commissioner Jim Hart. "Things change over time. And we're seeing this everywhere — people saying the office market is dead and is never coming back. There are very little upscale apartments nearby, and I think this is about the first building that could be like this."

Looney said the new apartments will be 1,000-square-foot units renting for \$1,600-\$1,750/month. "They'll be quality apartments and the amenities will also be appealing," said Looney. "And we're trying to make the lake more vibrant than it is today and to add a sense of place."

"The kitchens will have granite

countertops, and the apartments will have LED lights and be energy-efficient," said Marty Mankowski, JLB's pre-development manager. "They'll be something different from what's already here. We have a myriad of architectural details, and the building's rooflines are varied in angles and appearances, so you don't just have a solid mass."

The WFCCA ended up approving the plan, as did the county Planning Commission, before it headed to the supervisors for its final OK. In return, the applicant will contribute \$250,000 toward improving Trinity Parkway, the main road through Trinity Centre. "It never became a state road, so the money will be used to bring Trinity Parkway up to current VDOT standards so it can be accepted into the state road system," said

JLB will also contribute \$50,000, instead of the \$25,000 it initially planned, to the county Park Authority for historic signage within the Centreville Historic District. Frey called the infusion of cash "a huge jump-start" for the signage program there.

"That's what's intended to tie the Historic District together, explaining the buildings and [Civil War] earthworks people are seeing and their historic significance," he said. "The standard historic sign is \$2,000, so we'll be able to do a pretty nice batch of signs for \$50,000."

In addition, the developer will contribute nearly \$1,200 per apartment toward capital improvements to the schools serving the property. And it'll donate

\$893 per resident toward improving public parks in the vicinity.

Overall, said Frey, "Trinity Centre was zoned 30 years ago and, for a variety of reasons, didn't work out as originally intended, as a town center and community gathering place. But in the end, it makes sense to go ahead and finish it up."

"It's not necessarily a destination point," he continued. "But if people have an early dinner and it's a nice summer evening, they could walk around the lake. Or, they could bike from Centre Ridge, for example, and go to the Saturday-night summer drive-in movies at Trinity Centre. So I do think it'll be a place for the community to enjoy."



The Trinity Centre site plan showing the planned new apartments.

# **OPINION**

# Safety Net for Holiday Celebrations

## It's an opportunity to talk about responsibility, alcohol and planning ahead.

he holiday party season is here, and we will almost all be celebrating in some way. Some ways will involve celebrations that include alcohol.

It's up to you to make a plan to get home

Plan to bring a designated driver. Plan to party (and live) where you can take public transportation. Plan to celebrate at home or someplace where you can spend the night. Plan

And if all of that fails, the Washington Regional Alcohol Project has a safety net for you.

EDITORIAL WRAP, a local nonprofit organization, will offer free cab rides to would-be impaired drivers throughout Northern Virginia during the winter holidays.

The annual Holiday SoberRide program will operate nightly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. starting Friday, Dec. 11, 2015, and continuing until Thursday, Jan. 1, 2016 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk, holiday period.

During these times, area residents 21 and over, celebrating with alcohol can call the tollfree SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home. over \$30.

WRAP also offers free cab rides for other holidays, including Halloween, Independence Day, Cinco de Mayo, and more.

Concerns about consequences of driving under the influence are well founded.

In Fairfax County in 2014 there were 740 alcohol-related crashes, which included 12 alcohol related fatalities and 476 alcohol related injuries. (Overall in Fairfax County in 2014, there were 13,680 total crashes including 32 fatalities and 7,649 injuries.)

In 2014, there were no fatal vehicular accidents in the City of Alexandria. But of the 1,777 total crashes, 99 were alcohol-related; and of the 757 injuries in crashes, 60 were alcohol-related.

In Arlington in 2014, there were 235 alcohol related crashes, with two alcohol-related fatalities and 78 alcohol related injuries. (Overall in Arlington in 2014, there were 2,469 with five fatalities and 1,094 injuries.)

In 2013, 10,076 people were killed in alcohol-impaired driving crashes, accounting for nearly one-third of all traffic-related deaths in the United States, according to the CDC. Tens of thousands more were injured. Holidays lead to an increase in impaired driving, the Christ-

#### Safe Ride Home

offered from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. nightly from Dec. 11, 2015 to Jan. 1, 2016. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294 (TAXI). You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service. See www.SoberRide.com.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided more than 63,000 free cab rides home

We know that many young people over 21 are living at home with parents, or will be visiting for the holidays. Parents, be brave. Have a conversation with your children, whether they are under or over 21. Be sure those over 21 have a plan, and are equipped with the SoberRide number.

SoberRide is not available for underage drinkers, but parents still should talk to their children about their plans, and tell them out loud that you expect them not to drive impaired and not to get into a car with an impaired driver. Tell them to call you, and you'll

The consequences and vulnerabilities of drinking to excess are significant, more so for underage drinkers and young adults, even beyond drinking and driving. Don't let the op-

- Mary Kimm

WRAP's 2015 Holiday SoberRide program will be

to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

come get them if necessary.

portunity to talk about it pass you by.

#### Callers will be responsible for fare amounts mas through New Year season in particular. MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# Voices Will Be Raised in Song Centreville High presents winter choral concert.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

oices will be raised in song when Centreville High choral students present "Celebrate Peace; A Winter Choral Concert." It's set for Thursday, Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the school theater. Admission is free and a reception will follow.

The show will feature all the ensembles in the choral program, as well as various soloists and a student-directed a cappella group. It's also a diverse program of choral pieces from different eras and cultures, sung in a variety

"This concert is a wonderful way to usher in the holiday season," said Choral Director Lynne Babcock. "Musically, there is something for

To open the evening's entertainment, all the choirs will sing the Brazilian song "Cangoma." The Madrigal Ensemble will follow with three madrigals from the Renaissance era. The Women's Ensemble will then sing a trio of stylistically different pieces: "Banjo Pickin' Girl,' "Iraqi Peace Song" and the comedic "Mashed Potato/Love Song."

The Men's Ensemble will then perform "Keep Your Lamps," "The Water is Wide" and "Dashing Through the Slush," a satirical takeoff on "Jingle Bells." Next, under the direction of stu-

dent Caitlin Dodson, the all-female group, Upbeats, will sing "Mr. Sandman." Then Concert Choir will perform "Jenga Imani Yako," a Tanzanian folk song, followed by "Eatnemen Vuelie" and the spiritual. "Twelve Gates."

The second half of the program will begin with Bella Voce singing "Taladh Chriosda," a Gaelic carol. Then will come the Arabic song, "Koowu," and a French Canadian tune, "Reel a'Bouche." Rounding out that set will be the spiritual, "Music Down in My Soul."

A special feature of this year's Winter Concert is the world premiere of a piece for women's voices, "We Will Find Each Other," by American composer Ryan Lott. It's being sponsored by the Young People's Chorus of New York City, via its "Radio Radiance" project. Said Babcock: "The women of Bella Voce and Symphonic Choir will join forces to perform this interesting and very challenging choral work,"

The male choral students will then provide comic relief with the rollicking "Pirate Song" which they'll again perform with the Liberty Middle students at the Centreville Pyramid Concert on Jan. 11 at Centreville High.

Then Symphonic Choir will sing a traditional rendition of "Carol of the Bells," followed by "FMg Eln Khel,Ó an Iraqi/Syrian folk song in Arabic. They'll also perform "The Word Was GodÓ and the Tanzanian folk song, "Nitaimba Sifa.Ó In November, Symphonic Choir had the honor of singing a new arrangement of "The RoseÓ at The Kennedy Center for the National Anti-Defamation League "Concert against Hate," and it will reprise it for this concert. Closing out the set will be "It Takes a Village."

All the choirs, along with CVHS choir alumni, will join together for the finale. "It starts with the song, "I Ask for One Day" — a plea for peace set to a beautiful poem written by a young girl," said Babcock. "The final piece will be the traditional "Irish Blessing," which is sung at the end of every Centreville winter choral concert, performed, as always, by students past and present."

Accompanying the choirs will be two, professional musicians — Michael Maher, pianist and music teacher at Shenandoah Conservatory, and percussionist Scott Babcock. Said Lynne Babcock: "The community is most cordially invited to join the talented Centreville High singers and celebrate the season with a holiday musical feast."

Write The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314 Call: 703-917-6444. By e-mail: chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com Chantilly

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@ChantillyConnec

Newspaper of Chantilly Fair Oaks / Fair Lakes

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses. Published by

Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT: chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren

Editor, 703-778-9415 smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

**Bonnie Hobbs** 

Community Reporter, 703-778-9438 bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

**Jon Roetman** Sports Editor, 703-752-4013 jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com @jonroetman

ADVERTISING:

For advertising information sales@connectionnewspapers.com 703-778-9431

Karen Washburn

Display Advertising, 703-778-9422

**Andrea Smith** 

Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411 asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk

National Sales 703-778-9444 debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

**David Griffin** 

Marketing Assistant 703-778-9431 dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

**Editor & Publisher** 

Mary Kimm mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MaryKimm

**Executive Vice President** Jerry Vernon jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Special Assistant to the Publisher

Jeanne Theismann jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com @TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426



## News



Posing with some of the gifts donated by the community to Our Neighbor's Child during the Panther Drop-Off are members of Stone Middle School's National Junior Honor Society. Each Christmas, ONC provides new clothes and toys for families in need in the local area. And on Saturday, Dec. 5, the Stone students helped receive and sort donated clothes, toys, books and games and then loaded them into a truck bound for ONC's warehouse. All the gifts for each recipient family will be packaged on Thursday, Dec. 10. Then they'll all be delivered this Sunday, Dec. 13, from 1-4 p.m. But with nearly 800 families on ONC's list, as many drivers as possible are needed to help make the deliveries. To volunteer, go to www.ourneighborschild.org.



#### SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted. **DECEMBER** 12/23/2015.....Special Issue – Safe for the Holidays 12/30/2015 ..... Children's Connection **JANUARY** 1/6/2016......Wellbeing, Renewal, Resolutions Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Jan. 18 1/20/2016......A+ Camps & Schools 1/27/2016.....Community Guide E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com for more information. Award-Newspapers & Online Winning 703-778-9431

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/Advertising





# You Can Make a Difference





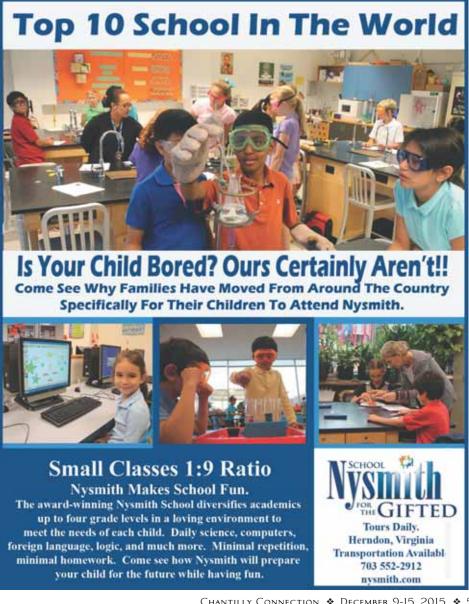
Cats benefit from being in a foster home. We need long- and short-term fosters for cats of all ages, mothers with litters and kittens on their own. Email cats@lostdogrescue.org.

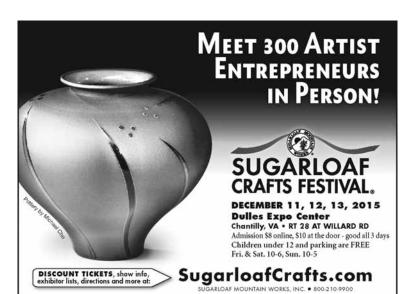


# Consider Fostering

visit the website, click on Participate

Adopt/Donate/Volunteer at www.lostdogrescue.org







Bermuda Cruise from Baltimore • May. 7-12......

Includes 5-nights cruise on RCCL's Grandeur of the Seas. With all meals & entertainment.

Azalea Festival in Norfolk • April. 21-24..... Includes Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville, 3-nights hotel in VA Beach, Daily breakfast & dinner, Sightseeing, reserved seating at parade, Virginia Intl. Tattoo Show – Call for details

> SHILLELAGHS TRAVEL CLUB 100 East Street SE, Suite 202 • Vienna, Virginia 22180

703-242-2204 1-800-556-8646 Please visit our Web site at: www.shillelaghtravelclub.com for a listing of all our upcoming trips and socials.

# HOLIDAY GUIDE

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

"Peanuts Gang." Through Dec. 24, various times at Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. To celebrate the launch of The Peanuts Movie, guests will find Peanuts characters center stage within

**Fair Oaks Mall Celebrates with** 

interactive Ice Palaces at the mall. The indoor holiday displays feature a 30-foot dome complete with falling snow, a light show and other activities. Free to attend. Visit www.shopfairoaksmall.com/events

Christmas at Sully Historic Site. Through Dec. 28, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, except Tuesdays, at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. The Sully Plantation will be decorated as it would have been in the 18th century. Tickets are \$7 for adults. \$6 for students, and \$5

for seniors and children. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more. Santa Through the Ages. Through Jan. 31, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, except Tuesdays, at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. This exhibit of Santa figures depicts Santa

through different time periods. Tickets are \$7 for adults. \$6 for students, and \$5 for seniors and children. Visit  $www.fair fax county.gov\ for\ more.$ 

**GFWC Western Fairfax County** 

Woman's Club is selling 2015

White House Christmas ornaments.

advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.sugarloafcrafts.com. This year's ornament honors 30th President, Calvin Coolidge. The ornament cost \$20. Call 703-378-

The traveling Sugarloaf Crafts Festival will bring 300 artisans with handmade goods to the Dulles Expo Center,

4320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly from

Toddlin' Twos. Tuesdays, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Early literacy storytime with songs and activities included. Age 2 with caregiver, free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

6216 for more.

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

Friday, Dec. 11 to Sunday, Dec. 13. Admission is \$8 in www.fairfaxjubilaires.org for more. Legos Kids Club. Every other Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Thousands of Legos for children to play with. Ages 6-12. Free. Call 703-830-2223 to

#### PET ADOPTIONS

reserve a space.

Adopt a Cat or Dog. Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. 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. **Adopt a Dog.** Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

#### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 10-12

"The Lion King Jr." 3 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. on Friday at Stone Middle School, 5500 Sully Park Drive, Centreville. The Stone Players present an abbreviated version of the musical. Tickets are \$7. Call 703-631-5500.

#### FRIDAY/DEC. 11

Kids' Night at the Museum. 5-8 p.m. at Children's Science Center, 11948 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Children in grades 1-6, will be part of an adventure team that will explore each experience zone at the Lab. Dinner will be served. The cost is \$50. Visit www.childsci.org for more.

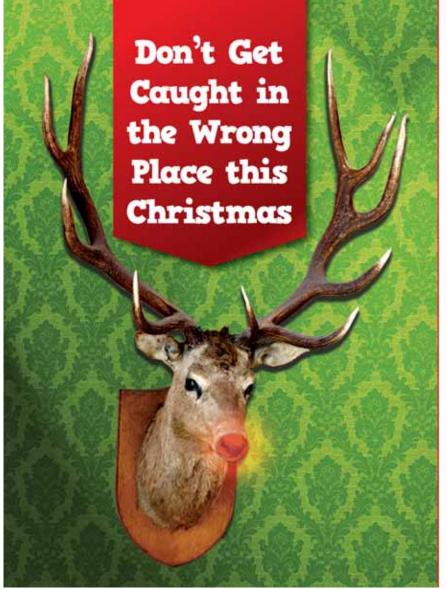
#### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 11-12 Centreville Library Holiday Used

Book Sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Books available in "like new" condition. Free. Call 703-

#### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 11-13

"Christmas in New York." Various times at Richard J. Ernst Theatre, 8333 Little River, Annandale. Encore Theatrical Arts Project presents a broadway-style music about a boy who attend a new boarding school, and eventually winds up in the North Pole. Tickets are \$19-23. Visit www.encore-tap.org for more.

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday at Dulles Expo



# Come to New Life Christian Church on Christmas Eve

December 24th

1:30, 3:00, 4:30 & 6:00pm

Meets at the nZone 14550 Lee Rd, Chantilly, VA

LEARN MORE: newlife.church/xmas



No reindeer were harmed in the making of this ad

# HOLIDAY GUIDE



## Mia Saunders School of Ballet: 'The Nutcracker'

Proceeds from performances of Mia Saunders School of Ballet's "The Nutcracker," on Saturday, Dec. 12, and Sunday, Dec 13 at 3 p.m. will benefit Centreville High School Drama Scholarships and new, unwrapped toys will be collected at the door in support of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. Performances will be held at Centreville High School Theater, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students, children and seniors (62+). Contact msb.nutcracker.tickets@gmail.com for more.

Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center Drive, Chantilly. The traveling Sugarloaf Crafts Festival brings 300 artisans with handmade goods. Admission is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.sugarloafcrafts.com for more.

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 12

Drop While You Shop. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Learning Experience, 4150 Pleasant Valley Road, Chantilly. Parents finishing holiday shopping are invited to leave their children to a day of play and a pizza lunch. Free. Visit www.chantilly.tlechildcare.com or call 703-378-7391 for more.

Edible Science Workshop. 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Children's Science Center, 11948 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. The Edible Science workshop series is an introduction to culinary-based science. Each workshop in the series will feature a new recipe. Participants will leave with a mini recipe book to continue the science learning at home-in the kitchen. Workshops are \$25 each. Visit www.childsci.org for more

www.childsci.org for more.

Civil War by Candlelight. 4:45-8
p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650
Historic Sully Way, Chantilly.
Experience a Civil War Christmas as
Confederate soldiers cook dinner in
the field and fire the Christmas guns.
Enjoy music by Evergreen Shade,
make a 19th century holiday
decoration, sample hot cider and
homemade cookies. House tour is 45
minutes. Tickets are \$10-12. Visit
www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

Christmas Palooza at the nZone. 5-7:15 p.m. at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. Have breakfast for dinner at this Christmas event for crafts, cookie decorating, carolers, moonbounces and more. Santa will visit. Visit www.newlife.church/santa.

#### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 12-13

**Mia Saunders School of Ballet:** 

"The Nutcracker." 3 p.m. at Centreville High School Theater, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The performances of this holiday classic will benefit CVHS Drama Scholarships and new, unwrapped toys will be collected at the door in support of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students, children and seniors (62+). Contact msb.nutcracker.tickets@gmail.com for more.

#### SUNDAY/DEC. 13

Railroading PaintFest. 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Local artists will lead a railroad theme painting workshop. All materials provided. Recommended age is 8 and older. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; 5-15, \$2; 16 and older, \$4. Register at www.fairfaxstation.org.

Christmas in the Time of Jane
Austen. 4:45-8 p.m. at Sully
Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully
Way, Chantilly. See how the
traditional 12 days of Christmas were
celebrated at the turn of the 19th
century. Tickets are \$10. Visit
www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

#### MONDAY-TUESDAY/DEC. 14-15

Auditions for "The Addams

**Family."** 7-9:30 p.m. at Mountain View High School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. Actors of all ages are invited to audition for a part in the play following a family with macabre preoccupations. Free. Visit www.thealliancetheatre.org for more.

#### TUESDAY/DEC. 15

Photo with Santa at the nZone. 6-8 p.m. at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. Take a keepsake photo with Santa. Free. Visit www.newlife4me.com.

#### THURSDAY/DEC. 17

Photo with Santa at the nZone. 6-8 p.m. at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly. Take a keepsake photo with Santa. Free. Visit www.newlife4me.com

#### FRIDAY/DEC. 18

**Kids' Night at the Museum.** 5-8 p.m. at Children's Science Center, 11948 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax.

Children in grades 1-6, will be part of an adventure team that will explore each experience zone at the Lab. Dinner will be served. The cost is \$50. Visit www.childsci.org for more.

#### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 18-20

"Christmas in New York." Various times at Richard J. Ernst Theatre, 8333 Little River, Annandale. Encore Theatrical Arts Project presents a broadway-style musical about a boy who attends a new boarding school, and eventually winds up in the North Pole. This performance also includes a "Gala" performance on Saturday and Sunday which includes food, cocktails, and more. Tickets are \$19-23 for the performance alone and \$75-100 for the gala performances. Visit www.encore-tap.org for more.

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 19

Edible Science Workshop. 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Children's Science Center, 11948 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. The Edible Science workshop series is an introduction to culinary-based science. Each workshop in the series will feature a new recipe. Participants will leave with a mini recipe book to continue the science learning at home-in the kitchen. Workshops are \$25 each. Visit www.childsci.org for more.

Victorian Candlelight Tour. 4:45-8 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Celebrate Christmas traditions from the Victorian era. Hear a reading of "A Visit from St. Nicholas," see the Christmas tree decorated as it would have been in 1885, and make a tree decoration based on a Victorian original. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

#### MONDAY-THURSDAY/DEC. 28-31

Winter Break Camp. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Children's Science Center, 11948 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Campers, grades 4-8, will learn morse code, cryptography, and more in this spy-themed camp. The cost is \$225. Visit www.childsci.org for more.







# Sports



Westfield running back Tim Beard ran for 227 yards and a touchdown during the Bulldogs' 40-8 victory over South County on Dec. 5.



Westfield receiver Ivory Frimpong prepares to catch a touchdown pass in the region championship game against South County.

# Westfield Beats South County for Region Championship

Bulldogs take title after losing in four straight region finals.

By Jon Roetman The Connection

enior receiver Tyler Scanlon said members of the Westfield football team wanted to win Saturday's 6A North region championship game for head coach Kyle Simmons, who led the Bulldogs to the previous four region finals, only to fall short.

Junior linebacker Kevin Petrillo said Westfield was out for revenge against South County, looking to atone for the Stallions' 26-19 regular-season victory over the Bulldogs on Sept. 11.

Westfield had several sources from which to draw additional motivation entering its rematch with South County. Regardless of the reasons, the Bulldogs made one thing perfectly clear on Dec. 5 in Lorton: Westfield is the best team in the region.

The Bulldogs captured their first region championship since 2007 with a 40-8 thrashing of the Stallions at South County High School. Westfield (13-1) will travel to Charlottesville to face undefeated Oscar Smith (13-0) in the 6A state championship game at 4:07 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12 at the University of Virginia's Scott Stadium.

"That weight's been on us the whole year," Scanlon said. "Early in the year, we were No. 1 preseason ranked; everybody had us walking through this region. Things happened that don't happen: kids got suspended, kids got expelled, kicked off the team. We've gone through so much adversity — guys getting hurt. We felt the past four years — every single one of our siblings, our friends, that went through it and fell short, every single day at practice we were dealing with it.

"I think a lot of us wanted to win this for Coach Simmons because he's been through it those four years. That's tough as a coach,



Members of the Westfield football team celebrate winning the 6A North region championship in a 40-8 victory over South County on Dec. 5.

being so close. We just wanted to put him over the top."

Westfield kicker Brian Delaney booted a 49-yard field goal in the closing seconds of the second quarter, giving the Bulldogs a 13-0 halftime lead. Westfield pulled away in the second half, extending its lead to 40-0 when quarterback Rehman Johnson scored on a 1-yard sneak with 4:32 left in the fourth quarter.

South County scored its lone touchdown when quarterback DeAndre Clayton connected with Chu Chu Enechionyia for a 35-yard touchdown with 4:08 remaining.

"We played awesome," Petrillo said. "We executed the game plan almost to perfection. They weren't getting anything on us."

Westfield scored on its first five possessions of the second half. Johnson started at quarterback for the second straight week, finishing 8 of 13 for 70 yards and a touchdown. Scanlon, who won Conference 5 Offensive Player of the Year honors at quarterback, played receiver for the second straight week — the position he played for Westfield last season.

Scanlon caught three passes for 32 yards. "We did some things later in the regular season that were successful with myself at

season that were successful with myself at quarterback, but things became stagnant," Scanlon said. "Defenses started catching on, they started scouting us. We don't have anybody who's crawling for scholarships because they've got to play one position. We've got a team who just wants to play football and wants to win games. It was an easy decision [to play Johnson at quarterback], frankly. It was 'How are we going to score more points?' because we're not doing it right now."

Running back Tim Beard carried 23 times for 227 yards and a touchdown. Receiver Ivory Frimpong caught a touchdown pass, and Jay Aiello scored a rushing touchdown. Delaney made four field goals.

After beating Washington-Lee in the season opener, Westfield lost to South County 26-19. The Bulldogs won their next 11

games to earn a rematch with the Stallions. "We [wanted] revenge," Kevin Petrillo said. "A lot of stuff was said at the end of that game and we left with a lot of bad feel-



Westfield head coach Kyle Simmons has led the Bulldogs to five straight region finals. After four straight losses, Westfield won on Dec. 5, beating South County 40-8.

ings after that game and we [wanted] to show that we've been improving all season and we're the best team in the region."

Now that Westfield snapped its four-year losing streak in the region final, the Bulldogs will attempt to win their first state championship since 2007.

"I don't really think about the falling short part," Simmons said. "I'm so proud to be in the mix five years in a row. I just don't know how you look at that and see something negative. It takes a lot of work to get here and to be consistent and to have done it for five years. I'm happy for my staff, who have put in five years of hard work.

"... I'm just so happy for them. Of course you're happy for the players, but the players come and go, the coaches are with you year in and year out. They're spending their Saturdays and their Sundays preparing and all for this next step. I'm just so happy for all the people involved to get there."

# HomeLifeStyle

# Ideas for Decking the Halls Local designers create opulent holiday designs.

By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

rom traditional to glamorous, fresh to faux and high-end to old school, local tastemakers tell how they create holiday dazzling holiday design extravaganzas.

Karen Velehoski and the rest of the design team at Merrifield Garden Center in Fair Oaks spend nearly a year planning and building the holiday displays that overtake each store during the Yuletide season.

In creating the holiday wonderlands, the designers assemble each space around a theme, maintaining consistency in style, color and texture. Their goal is to dream up design concepts that will inspire.

"We hope that people will get ideas for their own homes, but the first step is to focus on color," said Velehoski. "You can incorporate family heirlooms or decorations that you've had for years if you coordinate the colors. You can really use ribbons to tie the colors together easily."

For example, they designed a rustic space that draws inspiration from a snow-covered forest. "It's decorated with things like branches, berries, birds and other outdoor animals," said Velehoski. "And we used red, plaid ribbon to keep the outdoorsy feel."

There's another winter scene that sparkles with décor in hues of gold, copper and platinum. and a classic display that pays homage to time-honored traditions. "It appeals to people who like greens, reds and poinsettias," said Velehoski. "This year we incorporated a little bit of black with that red, white and green which is pretty."

There's even inspiration for those with a penchant for pastels. "It has an icy look," said Velehoski. "It has an icy, frozen winter won-



Courtesy of Patina Polished Living Amanda Mertins of Patina **Polished Living advises** using an urn to greet guests at the front door.

derland feel with snowflakes and icicles. We used a lot of pale blue, pink and a touch of silver."

Simple, clean and fresh are words that Gretchen Fuss, an interior designer with Tchoupitoulas Furnishings in Alexandria, uses to characterize her holiday design aesthetic

"I don't like to over do it when it comes to holiday design," she said. "I love the mood and ambiance of white lights. It changes the feel of a room. I like candlelit rooms."

Fuss says she uses a minimalist approach to incorporating family heirlooms with new acquisitions. "I do little vignettes where I'll have a piece, for example, that my mother once used to store ornaments in, and I'll use that to display fresh greenery."

The designer has even created holiday adornments of her own. "I've made holiday sculptures," said Fuss. "I even made little flower-shaped sculptures that I put together to make a six-foot tall Christmas tree."

Fuss adds white back-lighting, which shines through each flower



**Designers at Merrifield Garden Center** spend almost one year creating holiday

petal, illuminating the tree.

Candles, ribbons and bows hanging on a mantle, swags of greenery and garlands draped over wall art and mirrors are what visitors who enter the spaces created by the designers of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria will

"... A string of lights combined with ornaments might flow down the center of a table, or shine inside a cloche combined with a winter wonderland theme," said designer Amanda Mertins.

For an exterior space, Mertins

This rustic holiday space incorporates

branches and animals.

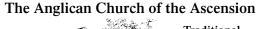
advises using a twinkling wreath or a lit arrangement in an urn to greet guests at the front door.

Maintaining thematic consistency is a precept that designer Jenne Whitlaw, of GTM Architects in Bethesda, Md., recommends when conceiving ideas for holiday spaces. "Pick a central focal point, and echo the sentiment around the space, for both indoor and outdoor," she said. "This allows the eye to bounce around your holiday canvas, experiencing asymmetrical visual harmony and balance."

For those who prefer holiday decor in muted hues, Whitlaw suggests, "neutrals [like] winter white and pale greys, when paired with light, reflective metallics and sparkle add elegance and a sense of timeless wonder to every room."

For a touch of whimsy, Whitlaw recommends adding decorations to unexpected places. "For a surprising embellishment, how about placing ornaments around the vanity in your powder room?" asks Whitlaw. "Chandeliers are also a perfect theatre in the round for cascading trinkets and greenery."

# CENTREVILLE **COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP**





**Traditional** Anglican Services 1928 Book of Common Prayer 1940 Hymnal

**Holy Communion 10 A.M. Sundays** (with Church School and Nursery)

13941 Braddock Road, (north off Rte. 29) Centreville, VA 703-830-3176 • www.ascension-acc.org



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





To highlight your faith community, call Karen at 703-917-6468



703-778-9411

ZONE 4 AD DEADLINE: Monday Noon Zone 4: • CENTREVILLE HOME & GARDEN

703-778-9411

Zone 4 Ad Deadline: Monday Noon

26 Antiques

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY, FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS. Schefer Antiques

703-241-0790 theschefers@cox.net

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

9 Land

5 ACRES,

R-1, Lorton,

Sub-dividable.

Price \$699,000.

Public Water Access and

Bedroom Perk Approved Beautiful Horses next door, Call Bob at 703-690-6969

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
CRP Fair Lakes Hotel, LLC
trading as Hyatt Fairfax; Hyatt
Fair Lakes and Hyatt Fairfax at
Fair Lakes, 12777 Fair Lakes

Circle, Fairfax, VA 22033, The

Circle, Fairfax, VA 22033. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPART-MENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEV-ERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On; Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 seats or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic.

sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Todd W. Nocerini, COO NOTE: Objections to the issu-

ance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later that

30 days from the publishing

tered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

I believe the

future is only

the past again,

entered through

another gate.

-Arthur Wing

**Pinero** 

# **GOT DEER?**

Problem Solved! Avid Bow Hunter with over 40 years experience. All harvested deer donated to Hunters for the Hungry. Also seeking properties for hunting lease. 703-407-4700 reno318@mail.com

For Local...

- Employment
- ·Employees
- ·services
- Entertainment
- Announcements
- •Real Estate
- ·Cars
- Trucks
- ·Vans ·RV's
- ·Boats
- ·Pets
- ·Yard Sales
- ·Crafts
- ·Hobbies
- ·And More!

For All Your Advertising Needs...

It Works. Week After Week. 703 917-6400

> Place YOUR Ad Today!

ONECTION

21 Announcements 21 Announcements



21580 Atlantic Blvd. #120 Sterling, VA 20166

#### 703-444-7804

www.VAGoldBuyers.com Latinos como tú sirviendo a nuestra comunidad

- We are Local
- We Buy Gold, Silver and Diamonds
- Over 40,000 Satisfied Customers
- We are Licensed and Specialize in State Sales

Not Ready to Sell? Please call us for our Lending Options!

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

# Superman had FOSTER PARENTS

Kids in our community need super parents like you to foster or adopt. You can be the wind



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Foundation & Structural Repair • Concrete Lifting Crawl Space Moisture Control - Basement Waterproofing



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

### VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS VACarolinaBuildings.com

Licensed & Insured Financing Available was Competitively Priced Local Contractor Energy Efficient

**Call For Your Free Roof Inspection!** 

434-645-7411 1-800-893-1242

**GUTTER** 

## GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

PINNACLE SERVICES

lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est. email iamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

#### IMPROVEMENTS IMPROVEMENTS

#### R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827 Fax: 703-830-3849 E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com

## Landscaping

- All Concrete work
- Retaining Walls
   Patios
- Decks Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & **Grading Solutions**
- French Drains Sump Pumps
- Driveway Asphalt Sealing

703-863-7465

All of N. Virginia Serving



Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

Exterior & Interior Repair, Painting, Carpentry, Wood Rot, Drywall, All Flooring, Deck

- FREE Estimates
- EASY To schedule FAST & Reliable Service •NO \$\$\$ DOWN!
- Handyman Services Available http://www.pphionline.com/

"If it can be done, we can do it" Licensed - Bonded - Insured

LAWN SERVICE LAWN SERVICE

## J.E.S. Services Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-912-6886







 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}$ 

#### Landscaping & Construction Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured

- Planting & Landscaping DesignDrainage & Water Problems
- Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
- Patios and Walks Masonry Work or Dry Laid Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
- · Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed

#### LANDSCAPING

A&S CONSTRUCTION

SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up **Leaf Removal** Hauling.

703-863-7465

**PAVING** 

#### **GOLDY BRICK** CONSTRUCTION

Walkways, Patios, Driveways, Flagstone, Concrete **FREE ESTIMATES** Licensed, Insured, Bonded 703-250-6231

TREE SERVICE TREE SERVICE

Do what you can, with

what you have,

where you are.

-Theodore

Roosevelt

**PAVING** 

## Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured



**Leaf Removal Gutter Cleaning** 

25 years of experience Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

## **Quality Tree Service** & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.



Summer Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls,

drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience - Free estimates 703-868-5358

24 Hour Emergency **Tree Service** 

WINDOWS & GLASS WINDOWS & GLASS

#### **CHESAPEAKE/POTOMAC** WINDOW CLEANING

Residential Specialist/Family owned/operated Working Owners Assures Quality No Hidden Fees/No Broken Window Springs 30 yrs Experience in local area

Licensed 703-356-4459 Insured

# CENTREVIEW CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden: 703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

CONNECTION

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

# I Beg Your Indulgence



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Even after seven years as a patient in the cancer whirled, I still find it emotionally difficult to promptly return a well-meaning phone call or a likewise intended e-mail when the message/content is clearly having to do with my health and welfare. Not that I don't appreciate, and on many levels, most likely need these kinds of communications; nevertheless, the challenge of summoning up the intestinal fortitude to discuss, detail, outline, rehash, speculate, articulate, wonder, hope, fear, introspect, extrovert, try to make light of and not be made heavy by, in addition to all the other miscellaneous anxieties a cancer patient experiences 24/7, is often too much. And as regularly as we are left alone with our own thoughts, sometimes, the emotional road less traveled is the one fraught with fewer bumps and bruises.

Not that I want to get stupid and live in a "cone of silence," where I can't be heard and others can't hear me; that wouldn't be smart. Still, as often as not, the effort to respond in kind is not respectfully honored. It's an odd reaction to be sure. Receiving inquiries is one thing, a helpful thing, almost like "Thing" from "The Addams family," but not responding is quite another thing. It's not exactly akin to trudging through the snow – uphill, in winter, as our parents all claimed they did, but the emotional weight of it is something that I'm probably having difficulty explaining – as much as I'm trying.

Maybe this is all just an excuse to obfuscate my ill-mannered and disrespectful negligence. How poorly was I raised that I don't know enough to provide a common courtesy? People ask, you answer. When one is sick or "diseased," and friends, family and co-workers reach out, one is not supposed to pull back, right? I should appreciate their support and absorb whatever positive energy/good vibrations they're sending. Let's face it, as I do most days; living with cancer is not exactly a solitary pursuit. Although it may seem like it, at home, alone, especially at night when tossing and turning and not sleeping becomes an Olympic sport, the cancer experience is not a meal best served cold, if you know what I mean.

Regular interaction with humans, and I don't mean radio, television or Internet, is the next best thing to being there/reaching out and actually touching someone or being touched (which is likely another benefit). Moreover, being made to feel alive and well – and dare I say, normal (not diagnosed with cancer), is the goal, but the figurative elephant in our world is not just in one room, one time; it's in every room all the time; it's herd but not seen. But difficult to ignore nonetheless.

Stage IV lung cancer is like that. It's typical that when symptoms manifest themselves, the patient is already inoperable and tumors which gave the patient no indication that they even existed, have now metastasized (moved/grown). Ergo, the staging. There is no stage V, by the way. This is not to imply that it's ever too late. It's just hard to assimilate when the diagnosis comes out of the blue and previously you were feeling in the pink. In this context, the silence of it (meaning the lack of symptoms) was not golden; any more than my silence now in not responding to well-wishers is golden. It's not. It's self-indulgent and most times I readily acknowledge it. However, I feel powerless to affect it. Please don't take my lack of a timely response per sonally. I'm just trying to navigate as best I can. As George Costanza made famous on a long-ago "Seinfeld" episode: "It's not you. If it's anybody, it's me....

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

# News

# Speakers Turn Out for Stuart Name Change

# School Board to take action Dec. 17

By Tim Peterson
The Connection

.E.B. Stuart High School senior Whitten Rutledge is proud of his school, mostly.

"The culture around the school

"The culture around the school is a wonderful one," he said, addressing the Fairfax County School Board on Dec. 3, "we believe the name should reflect the culture we have."

Rutledge was speaking on behalf of Students for Change, a group at the Falls Church school that's upset with the institution being named after a Civil War cavalry leader for the Confederate army.

"Change is necessary," Rutledge continued. "In order for our school to embrace its own culture, we need a symbol that accurately represents who we are, not a confederate general who stood adamantly for the segregation of society."

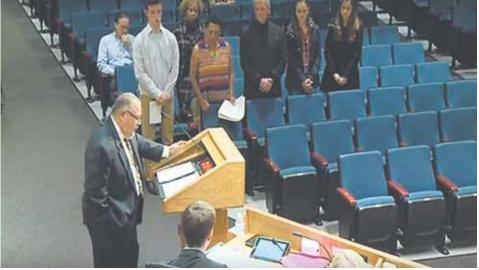
Stuart seniors Anna Rowan, Cassie Marcotty, Marley Finley, Abby Conde and Lidia Amanuel founded Students for Change and were recognized by the Fairfax County NAACP for their work to have the school's name changed to honor Thurgood Marshall.

"The momentum we need for change is happening everywhere," Rutledge said, referencing over 34,000 signatures his group has obtained in support of changing the

Under the current policy (8170.5), new names for schools are only allowed at new buildings or buildings that have been repurposed. Since being adopted first in 1987, the policy has only been corrected or revised three times.

As part of its new business on Dec. 3, the School Board scheduled a decision for changing the policy. On Dec. 17, the Board will vote on adding the sentence "The School Board may also consider a change in the name of a school or facility where some other compelling need exists," to the naming guidelines, which would essentially open the door for a formal pitch to change Stuart's name.

Edwin Henderson, a retired Fairfax



Photos courtesy of Fairfax County Public Schools

Edwin Henderson, a retired Fairfax County Public Schools U.S. history teacher and president of the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation, voices his support for changing the name of J.E.B. Stuart High School to Thurgood Marshall.



Whitten Rutledge, a senior at Stuart, explains why he and the group Students for Change believe his high school's name should be changed from J.E.B. Stuart.

County Public Schools U.S. history teacher and president of the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation, spoke after Rutledge, adding his support.

"I believe the time to do the right thing is now," said Henderson. "Renaming the school for a giant of American jurisprudence, who lived in this very community, championed Brown v. Board of Education and began a policy to dismantle segregation and open this country up to equality. If you truly honor diversity, the choice couldn't be clearer: Rename J.E.B. Stuart High School to Thurgood Marshall High School."

Fairfax County NAACP president Shirley Ginwright spoke next, comparing Stuart the man to abolitionist John Brown, who fought to free slaves and was sentenced to death by hanging.

"One is considered a hero, the other considered a traitor," she said.

"As an African American," Ginwright continued, "it is painful to be constantly reminded of the trials and tribulations of our forefathers and what they had to endure. It is hard to have our children faced with the same pain in feeling there's nothing they can do about it because of policies and institutionalized behaviors that have been supported by racism and discrimination. It is time for us as a community to correct the wrongs that have been imposed by those who have previously held these positions. It is not a matter of rewriting history, but telling history as it happened, all of the history."

The Board is scheduled to vote on the policy change at its Dec. 17 meeting, at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road in Falls Church. For more information about participating at meetings, visit www.fcps.edu/schlbd/meetings/requestspeak.shtml.

#### Bulletin Board

#### THROUGH DEC. 11

Sheehy Toys for Tots Toy Drive. At Sheehy Infiniti of Chantilly, 4145 Auto Park Circle, Chantilly. Donate a new, unwrapped toy. Visit www.sheehy.com.

#### DEC. 11-JAN. 1

Holiday SoberRide. 10 p.m.-6 a.m. Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the annual Holiday SoberRide program will provide free cab rides up to \$30. Call 1-800-200-TAXI.

#### THROUGH DEC. 19

**Auditions for Male Singers.** Audition for The Treble Clefs, a performing group established in 1986. Performances include Broadway, Pop, Patriotic, Country and seasonal Holiday music.

Free to audition. Call 703-327-3137 to schedule audition.

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and

contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least

#### THROUGH JAN. 31

Affordable Care Act Enrollment Assistance. Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) is scheduling Saturday appointments with Certifie

scheduling Saturday appointments with Certified Application Counselors to assist individuals to apply for and select a health plan. Free. Call 571-748-2580 or visit www.getcoveredamerica.org/connector for more.

#### ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

**Residents Can "E-cycle"** at the I-66 transfer station. It is free but residents may be asked to show proof of residency. Personal waste only. The I-66 station is located at 4618 West Ox

Road, Fairfax and open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. from Monday-Saturday and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sundays. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm for more.

#### DONATIONS

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



Stephanie truly has an Express Lanes love story. She is a young 71 years old and lives in Fairfax Station. Her sweetheart is 77 and lives in Montgomery County, Maryland. Before the Express Lanes, they had to fight traffic on 495 to see each other. Now, however, she says meeting up is a breeze with the Express Lanes and they no longer let traffic keep them apart. The Express Lanes have opened up all kinds of pathways for Stephanie — including one to her heart.

See more real stories from the Lanes at ExpressLanes.com



Stephanie's story was one of our winning entries in our "Express Lanes Love Story" promotion.