



PHOTO BY WILL PALENSCAR

State Champions

Westfield head football coach Kyle Simmons and the Bulldogs celebrate winning the 6A state title on Dec. 12 at the University of Virginia's Scott Stadium in Charlottesville. Westfield defeated Oscar Smith 49-42 in triple overtime.

'We Are All God's Children'

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community holds prayer vigil.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

The motto of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is "Love for all, hatred for none." Its members condemn violence, terrorism and Jihad and, instead, believe in morality, justice, peace and tolerance.

So they were both saddened and horrified by the recent murders in San Bernadino, Calif., at the hands of suspected terrorists. And last Tuesday, Dec. 8, the Ahmadiyya Muslims held a community, inter-faith prayer vigil for the victims at their Mubarak Mosque in Chantilly.

"As a faith-based community, we believe in the power of prayer," said spokesman Fouzan Pal. "And in times like these, we believe prayer comforts the souls of the victims of tragedy. The perpetrators claimed to be 'Muslims' — and we, as peace-loving Americans, are left to handle the backlash. When it comes to true Islam, there's nothing to be fearful of — only when it is perverted."

To the 90-some attendees, he said, "I invite you to join us as good, human beings to educate people about Islam. Muslim-youth radicalization is a problem that affects all of us, and we'd be happy to go and speak in any of your schools to clear up this misinterpretation of Muslims."

Imam Rizwan Khan then sang a verse from the holy Quran, saying that "Whosoever kills a person shall be as if he has killed all man-



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Imam Rizwan Khan: "The taking of any life is a crime against humanity."

kind." Khan said that "We, as Muslims, believe in the true, divine origins of the teachings of Judeo-Christianity. All life is sacred and equal, and the taking of any life is a crime against humanity and against God Almighty."

He said people all over the world die in terrorist attacks every day. "Extremists are called terrorists because their purpose is to inflict fear," said Khan. "And they are enemies of all peace-loving people. They try to strike divisions between us by means of that terror. So Muslims must extend a hand of love to the victims."

He said that, whenever there's a terrorist attack by one group of people, others tend to blame everyone in that group — but they shouldn't. An example, said Khan,

SEE AHMADIYYA, PAGE 2

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Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Holds Prayer Vigil

FROM PAGE 1

would be to unfairly blame all Evangelical Christians for the attack on the Planned Parenthood in Colorado by a man who considers himself a member of that group. He said the same holds true for Muslims.

Khan said those shot and killed in San Bernardino “were my victims, as well as your victims. It’s a collective loss for all of us. We, as Muslims, value all human lives, and we can never allow these lost lives to become a means of distance between us. Most of the time, middle-ground people get caught between the extremists and the terrorists; and the innocent victims are caught between these two extremes, too.”

Quoting Martin Luther King Jr., he said, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” Furthermore, said Khan, “To establish justice is a collective responsibility. The only way to eradicate these tragedies at their root is to establish justice.”

“All life is sacred,” he continued. “The terrorists want to create fear between us and spread misinformation about us. But peaceful, moderate people are the vast majority of Muslims.”

Speaking next was the Rev. Dean Majette, senior pastor of Ox Hill Baptist Church in Chantilly.

“As a brother in faith, it’s a privilege for me to extend to you the greetings of our congregation, he said. “We know the majority of people in this world are good. The Old Testament describes Jesus as the Prince of Peace, and my prayer is that we’ll know the peace that our faiths offer.”

Jerry Foltz, founder of Wellspring United Church of Christ in Centreville and chap-



The Rev. Dean Majette

lain of the Centreville Volunteer Fire Department (Station 17), also addressed the crowd. “Some people call themselves Christians and do hateful acts and spout evil, but we need to be beyond that,” he said. “We give up our fear by celebrating the good news of God’s love — and that love helps us have the willingness to help one another.”

He said he’s grateful for area residents’ solidarity with the Ahmadiyya Muslims. “Blessings to you and to our Centreville-Chantilly community,” said Foltz. “And I look forward to more opportunities to support one another.”

The last speaker was Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully). “It’s been such a difficult time for our country, and we’re facing situ-



Jerry Foltz

ations like San Bernardino more frequently,” he said. “So it’s important that we reach out to each other in solidarity. We are all God’s children, and we are all in this world together; and we must stand together if we’re to make a good life for our children and for future generations. We’ve got to believe that’s what everyone wants.”

He said there are “those who seek to spread hate and have those of one faith question another. But we’re not going to allow that to happen.

When I go to our schools, I see that there’s no better place for people to learn about different faiths and cultures. And I’m convinced, 20 years from now, we’ll be in a generation of leaders who’ll grow up and



Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey

live their lives the way we wish we could.”

So, said Frey, “We need to tell the terrorists who try to instill hate, ‘We won’t allow it.’

No matter the differences in our upbringing, we are all the same.” He noted that, when the idea to build a Muslim mosque in Chantilly was first proposed, there was “a huge, collective welcome. And what a proud, happy and joyous day it was for so many when it opened. I’m proud to call you my friends, and I respect and appreciate what you’ve done for our community. We will get through this together, as we have in the past.”

Everyone then joined in prayer for the San Bernardino victims and their families.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Tuesday, Dec. 22, 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.

Because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. That way, inspectors may have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the correct use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Roadwork On Saturday

Drivers can expect lane closures at Braddock Road and Pleasant Valley Road from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, according to the Virginia Department of Transportation. Crews will be doing pipe work and grading.

This work is in addition to regular weekday closures Mondays through Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Motorists should expect delays and are advised to use alternate routes.

Construction began in late April to replace the existing four-way stop at the intersection with a one-lane roundabout in western Fairfax, to improve operations and enhance safety. The \$5.8 million project is being administered in cooperation with Fairfax County and is expected to be complete in Spring 2016.

View more details on the project at http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/braddock_and_pleasant_valley.asp.

Seeking Donations for Victims

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 due to the financial burden that comes with being a victim of crime.

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 the Victim Services Section main office located at 10600 Page Ave., Fairfax, VA 22030.

Food Donations For WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries’ food pantry needs donations of 1-2 pound bags of rice, canned fruit (all types), canned pastas, canned meats (tuna, ham, chicken), cold and hot cereals, spaghetti and sauces, peanut butter, canned vegetables (including spinach, collar greens, beets) and cooking oil. Toiletries needed, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with food stamps, include facial tissues, toothpaste, shampoo and solid deodorant.

Bring all items to WFCM’S food pantry, weekdays, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at 13888 Metrotech Drive, near Papa John’s Pizza and Kumon Learning Center, in Chantilly’s Sully Place Shopping Center. A volunteer stocker/

bagger is needed Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. Contact Annette Bosley at 703-988-9656, ext. 110, or abosley@wfcma.org.

Bilingual Volunteers Needed

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) is collaborating with GMU’s school of Conflict Analysis and Resolution on a community assessment project. The CLRC is looking for bilingual volunteers to assist researchers with conducting interviews. Schedule varies depending on interview times. Contact Molly Maddra-Santiago at director@centrevillerc.org if interested.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Fairfax County needs Meals on Wheels drivers in Chantilly and group Meals on Wheels coordinators in both Chantilly and Fairfax. Contact Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 711, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteersolutions.htm.

ONC Brings Holiday Happiness

Our Neighbor's Child just packaged and delivered Christmas gifts to nearly 800 local families in need.



Selecting games for children are (from left) Geri Lightburn and Kris Colangelo.



Standing by some bicycles ready for delivery are Kimberley Mortier and Tom Buckley.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

ONC volunteers Kerrie Peterson (left) and Erika Rodgers take a break from gift-packaging to pose with some holiday friends.



Russell Pfeiffer and Rachel Carpino, from Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfax, choose toys for a 7-year-old boy.



Mary Swick (left) and Alexandra Younger check that each family's package contains the correct items.



From left: Eli Avendano, Leandra Jones, Tracey Nixon and Celeste Lopez, of the Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfax, help fill gift bags.



Westfield High seniors Andrew Markert (left) and Jack Weston carrying gift bags on delivery day.



Westfield senior Marty Tiss loads a girl's bicycle and a gift bag into a car.



Sisters Brooke (left) and Meghan Bowen with some of the 20,000 homemade cookies being delivered with the gifts.



Westfield lacrosse players Jeffrey Anderson (left) and Justin Mohr, both juniors, load gift bags into a car's trunk.

Recycle Christmas Greens At NOVEC Office

Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative will accept evergreen Christmas trees, wreaths, and garland at its technical center at 5399 Wellington Branch Road, Gainesville, near I-66 from Dec. 28 through Jan. 10.

Customers may leave greenery in the front parking lot in the area designated by orange safety cones. Greens must be free of all decorations, metal ornament hooks, and light strings.

On Jan. 18, 2015, a 15-foot Fraser fir Christmas tree that had been cut 65 days earlier caught on fire in a Maryland home. Six family members died. According to the National Fire Protection Association, home fires started by Christmas trees are three times more deadly than most home fires because dry trees go up in flames in seconds.

NOVEC tree crews will chop greens into wood chips. They will deliver wood-chip mulch to interested Co-op members at no charge when right-of-way crews are working in nearby neighborhoods. Members interested in free wood-chip mulch should complete the request form at www.novec.com/mulch.

For more information about recycling holiday greens or obtaining mulch, contact NOVEC's right-of-way department at 703-335-0500 or 1-888-335-0500, extension 1633 or 1661.

Police Cracking Down On Drunk Drivers

Starting Dec. 16, officers of the Fairfax County Police Department will begin a countywide targeted DWI enforcement effort. Along with state and local partners, the goal is to crack down on drunk drivers and keep the roads safer this holiday season.

According to the National High Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DWI-related deaths have decreased by 25 percent from 2005 to 2014 and the number of people injured has decreased by 13 percent respectively.

In Fairfax County, alcohol-related crashes are down by approximately 12 percent from 2013, yet there were still 523 in 2014. Even with the decline in numbers, DWIs remain a threat to the community.

The NHTSA has developed an app to help people get a safe ride home. The app is available on available on the iTunes and Google Play stores.

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) is offering free rides this holiday with its SoberRide campaign. See <http://www.wrap.org/soberride/index.htm>.

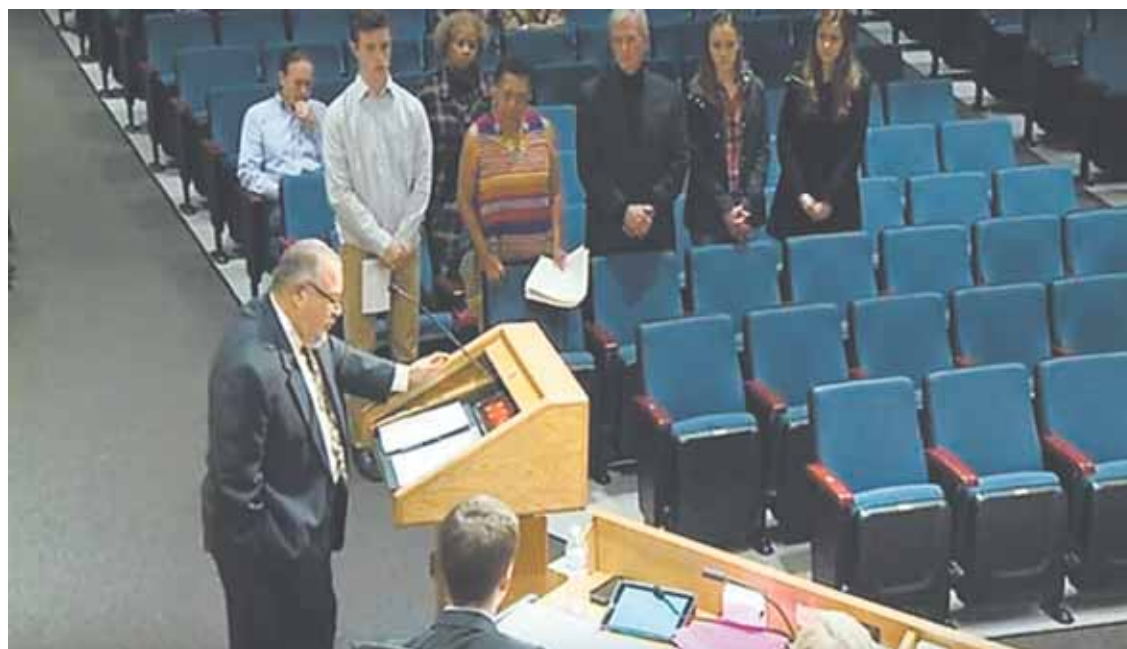
MinuteClinic Opens inside Local CVS/Pharmacy Store

MinuteClinic, a provider of retail-based medical clinics, has opened a new walk-in clinic inside the CVS/pharmacy store in Centreville at 5652 Pickwick Road. It is the 11th MinuteClinic location in Fairfax County. MinuteClinic is open 7 days a week, including weekday evening hours.

MinuteClinic nurse practitioners specialize in family health care and can diagnose, treat and write prescriptions for common family illnesses such as strep throat and ear, eye, sinus, bladder and bronchial infections. Minor wounds, abrasions, skin conditions and joint sprains are treated, and common vaccinations such as influenza, tetanus, pneumonia and Hepatitis A & B are available at most locations. Walk-in camp, sports and college physicals are available daily. In addition, MinuteClinic administers a series of wellness services designed to help patients identify lifestyle changes needed to improve their current and future health, including screenings and monitoring for diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

No appointments are required at MinuteClinic and most health insurance is accepted. For patients paying cash or credit, treatment prices are posted at each clinic and on www.minuteclinic.com. The cost for most treatment starts at \$79.

The MinuteClinic walk-in medical clinic in Centreville operates from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday.



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.

Time To Change Stuart Name?

**School Board to
take action Dec. 17.**

BY TIM PETERSON
CENTRE VIEW

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

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 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/schlbld/meetings/requestspeak.shtml.



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.

CRIME

The following incidents were reported by the Sully District Police Station.

STRONG-ARM ROBBERY: 5900 block of Fort Dr. Dec. 8, 5:19 a.m. The victim, a 44-year-old cab driver from Fairfax, picked up a fare in Leesburg and drove him to the McDonalds on Fort Drive in Centreville. The fare, a Middle Eastern male, appeared to be intoxicated and refused to pay for the trip. He then allegedly assaulted the victim and took his cell phone. The suspect fled on foot toward the Centreville Plaza Shopping Center. The victim sustained minor injuries but did not require medical transport. The suspect was further described as about 25 years old, approximately 6 feet tall, with a thin build and a beard. He was wearing a "beanie," a red, hooded sweatshirt, khaki pants and boots.

SUSPICIOUS EVENT: Sully Park Dr. / Westfield's Blvd. Dec. 8, 3:30 p.m. A 13-year-old girl was walking on the sidewalk when she was approached by a black male on a bicycle. As the suspect rode by, he reached out and touched the victim on her buttocks. He circled back and attempted to engage the victim in conversation but when she lifted her cell phone to take his photograph, the suspect fled. The victim was not injured. The suspect was described as being in his early 20s, about 5 feet 10 inches tall, with a mustache. He was wearing some sort of hat.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY (BIAS CRIME), 5000 block of Woodfield Drive, Dec. 10. A resident reported that an unknown person damaged her vehicle overnight. A racial slur was written on the side of the vehicle.

DEC. 15 LARCENIES
13500 block of Ann Grisby Circle, laptop from vehicle

DEC. 14 LARCENIES
13500 block of Ann Grisby Circle, laptop from vehicle

DEC. 11 LARCENIES
5200 block of Fernbrook Court, property from vehicle.

14300 block of Summer Tree Road, property from residence.

DEC. 10 LARCENIES
15000 block of Ulderic Drive, property stolen from vehicle

15000 block of Ulderic Drive, property stolen from vehicle

15000 block of Ulderic Drive, property stolen from vehicle

4800 block of Fox Chapel Road, property stolen from residence

14800 block of Carlbern Drive, property stolen from residence

14900 block of Jaslow Street, property stolen from vehicle

14300 block of Chantilly Crossing Lane, money stolen from business

DEC. 8 LARCENIES
6700 block of Jennie Leigh Ct. property from vehicle

DEC. 7 LARCENIES
6100 block of North Kings Highway, beer from business.

5900 block of Richmond Highway, property from gym.

6300 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business.

6400 block of Richmond Highway, license plates from vehicle.

6900 block of Columbia Drive, property from vehicle.

6300 block of South Kings Highway, purse from business.

7400 block of Fordson Road, phone from business.

7900 block of East Boulevard Drive, phone from business.

8400 block of Richmond Highway, property from business.

9300 block of Mount Vernon Circle, property from vehicle.

DEC. 5 LARCENIES
14800 block of Bolton Road, cash from hotel room.

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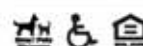
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FOR UNTO US
a child is born
Christmas
McLean Bible Church

You're Invited

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Christmas Services

DECEMBER 23, 2015 McLean Bible Church Montgomery County Campus 12440 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD 20852 Family services at 6:30 pm and 8 pm	DECEMBER 24, 2015 McLean Bible Church Loudoun Campus 44180 Riverside Parkway, Lansdowne, VA 20176 Family services at 4 pm and 6 pm  Communion service at 8 pm
DECEMBER 24, 2015 McLean Bible Church Tysons Campus 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182 Family services at 3 pm and 4:30 pm Communion services at 7 pm  , 9 pm and 11 pm	McLean Bible Church Prince William Campus 10002 Battleview Parkway, Manassas, VA 20109 Family services at 5 pm and 6 pm Communion service at 7pm

To learn more about our Christmas celebration, visit www.mcleanbible.org/christmas.

"For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)



OPINION

Season of Giving Never Has To End

Why ending childhood hunger should be your New Year's resolution.

BY AMY JOHNSON,
JENNIFER KONISH AND
NICK ARENT

The holiday season is one of our favorite times of year because it's all about the best things in life. It's a time for celebrating, bringing age-old cultural traditions to life, and spending time with family and friends. It's about being thankful for all of the things we are fortunate enough to have in our lives and reminding people how much we love and appreciate them. Oh and we suppose the delicious food that accompanies all of these things makes them that much more enjoyable!

During the holidays there are still a number of people who are struggling to make ends meet and many who don't have enough to eat, but luckily, it is also the season of giving. Around the country, the holidays inspire hundreds of thousands of people to give to the poor. Caring individuals get involved by donating to hunger-relief organizations such as the Capital Area Food Bank — the largest non-profit serving the Washington metro area — serving at soup kitchens, and finding other ways to contribute to the improvement of our communities. Especially when it comes to sharing food, we make sure that everyone has something to eat. The holiday spirit unites us, brings out the best in us, and motivates us to make a real difference in the lives of others.

This year, let's make it our New Year's resolution to keep this level of engagement continuing into 2016 by tackling one of most tragic problems facing our country — childhood hunger.

About 400,000 children here in Virginia alone are at risk of going hungry and it's a prob-

lem we can't afford to put off for another year. Despite all the pies, casseroles, hams and turkeys that will be enjoyed over the next several weeks, over 15.5 million kids across the country are food insecure. According to No Kid Hungry "three out of four public school teachers say students regularly come to school hungry" — another alarming statistic. In a country as prosperous as our own, it is absolutely unacceptable that there are any children who don't know where they are going to get their next meal.

COMMENTARY

The bottom line is that when kids are hungry, they struggle to learn, and kids who struggle to learn, struggle in life. With stomachs growling, hungry children sit through class unable to focus and get the most out of school. Fatigue and weakness as the result of poor nutrition make it difficult for them to stay awake or participate in physical activities like recess and PE. They are more likely to suffer from hyperactivity, miss school, and experience other behavioral problems which creates a negative learning environment for all students — even their peers who are not food insecure. Perhaps the scariest thing about childhood food insecurity is the inability for a child to reach their full potential because of the dramatic damage hunger does to their brain. Over time, hungry students fall behind their peers academically and many of them never catch up making it far more difficult for them to find good jobs and take care of their children once they grow up.

The medical sector is beginning to reprioritize its resources to see healthy food as the important intervention it is. For example, the American Academy of Pediatrics recently recommended for the first time that pediatricians screen all children for food insecurity.

If we want to make sure every child gets a fair shot in life, we need to make sure our elected officials and decision-makers properly fund and improve existing food assistance programs such as free/reduced price school meals, SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) and WIC. Research shows that these programs help students to perform better in school and in life — but they don't go far enough. First Lady Dorothy McAuliffe is an excellent example of how politicians from both sides of the aisle should be making this issue a priority and continuing to develop new solutions.

Congress is currently considering legislation to reauthorize the Child Nutrition Act and to make changes to a number of food assistance programs. This legislation will influence funding for programs like the Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program which allows the Capital Area Food Bank and other organizations to provide nutritious meals to food insecure children when school is out of session. If you are as concerned about childhood hunger as we are, you can contact your elected officials and urge them to take action by calling the congressional switchboard at 202-225-3121.

We will start 2016 with one in six kids across Virginia waking up at risk of going hungry throughout the year. With your help — by making ending childhood hunger your New Year's resolution and taking action on this issue throughout the year — we can work toward a future where we wake up on New Year's Day to a country where every child's basic needs are met so that they all have a fair opportunity to be successful in life.

Amy Johnson and Jennifer Konish are the NOVA Kids Cafe Coordinators with the Capital Area Food Bank. Nick Arent is a Campaign Organizer with Virginia Fair Share.

Sully District Scouters Honored for Service

Daniel Kurtenbach was recognized for his exceptional service to the National Capitol Area Council's Goshen Scout Reservation with the presentation of the Elgin Deering Visionary Award in a ceremony at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel on Dec. 3. Kurtenbach has led efforts to assess, maintain and upgrade millions of dollars of Boy Scout property in the Blue Ridge mountains.

Also receiving recognition for exceptional service was Aaron Bills, chairman of the District Friends of Scouting fundraising campaign. Bills spearheaded dozens of presentations to 40 units and organized phone-a-thons that raised more than \$60,000 to support programs for boys. Douglas Carlson served as District Membership chairman in an effort that helped Sully District to achieve its membership recruitment goal for 2015. Only two of 23 districts achieved this goal to add more boys to the Scouting roster this year over last.



PHOTO BY NICHOLAS MURPHY

From left are Bill Schoonmaker, Assistant Council Commissioner; Randy Young, District Commissioner; honoree Aaron Bills; honoree Daniel Kurtenbach; Dan Palenscar, Council Executive Board member; honoree Douglas Carlson; and Greg Brown, District Executive.

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A Connection Newspaper



Partnership Launches 'Build a Village' Campaign

Goal to end homelessness in Fairfax County by 2018 looms; more than 400 children are among the homeless here.

PHOTOS BY
MARY KIMM
CENTRE VIEW

Dozens of business leaders, elected officials and advocates for ending homelessness gathered Monday, Dec. 14 in the offices of Piedmont Fund Services in Herndon to launch the "Build a Village" campaign.

The effort is designed to provide funds to help end homelessness in Fairfax County. Businesses pledged more than \$20,000 at the event just to begin. Jim Corcoran, president and CEO of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Don Owens of Griffin-Owens Insurance in Herndon, John Sekas of Sekas Homes in Vienna and Kathy Albarado, CEO of Helios HR in Reston, each pledged \$5,000.

Albarado shared her personal story, which included periods of homelessness when she was growing up as her mother fled domestic violence.

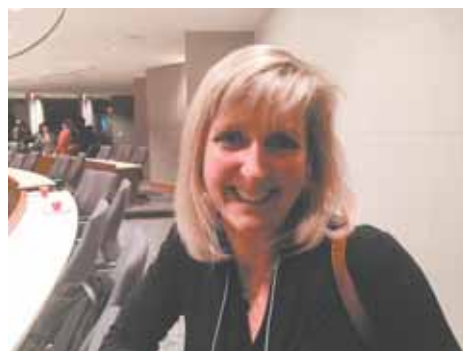
The Build a Village concept, which graphically builds houses with donations starting at one brick for \$25, a window or chimney for \$250, \$500 to build the front door and \$5,000 completing a house, is the brainchild of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and its president Eileen Curtis, who was on hand for the kickoff. Apple Federal



Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova with Michael L. O'Reilly, Chairman of the Governing Board, Fairfax County Office to End and Prevent Homelessness.

Credit Union will manage donations.

In 2015, about 1,200 people were literally homeless, including 431 children. More than 60 percent of the homeless adults in families were employed, but their jobs didn't pay them enough to afford housing. Domestic violence was the cause of homelessness for more than 40 percent of the adults in families who are homeless. Of the 488 single individuals who were home-



Wendy Lemieux, of the Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships.

less, 52 were 18-24 years old; 123 were 55 years old or older. Two hundred sixty eight homeless individuals were dealing with serious mental illness and/or substance abuse.

Lack of affordable housing is the main cause of homelessness in Fairfax County, according to the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness. Low incomes and expensive housing make it impossible to pay for an apartment when earning minimum wage — even working 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Monthly



Verdia L. Haywood, former Deputy County Executive and Governing Board member, with Glynda Hall, Partnership Development Manager for the Office to End and Prevent Homelessness, and Kathy Albarado, CEO of Helios HR in Reston.

rent for a two-bedroom apartment is at least \$1,500, meaning a family would need an annual income of \$58,760 to afford a two-bedroom apartment.

To donate, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless and click on "Build a Village" campaign.

BULLETIN BOARD

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 two weeks before event.

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.

THROUGH 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 JAN. 31

Affordable Care Act Enrollment Assistance.

Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) is 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.

Cell Phones for Soldiers is accepting donations of old cellphones so that

troops can call home. Patrons may drop off donations at 14215E Centreville Square, Centreville.

SUPPORT GROUP

Telephone Support Group for Family Caregivers of Older Adults.

7 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month. This telephone support group is designed to help caregivers of older adults share experiences, gain support and get important information without having to travel. These are one-hour free sessions. Find out more and register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ and click on Caregiver Telephone Support Group.

Fair Oaks Parkinson's Support Group for people living with Parkinson's disease, caregivers and family, meets on the fourth Saturday monthly, 10 a.m.-noon at Sunrise at

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sully Historic Site needs volunteers to help plan and present programs. Volunteers who enjoy gardening, working with children, learning new recipes and cooking methods, or just like to be around interesting people are needed both weekdays and weekends. Sully is a historic house museum owned and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority. Volunteer at Sully can choose an aspect of historic interpretation, event support or any other area to make a difference for visitors. Call 703-437-1794 for an interview. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site for more.

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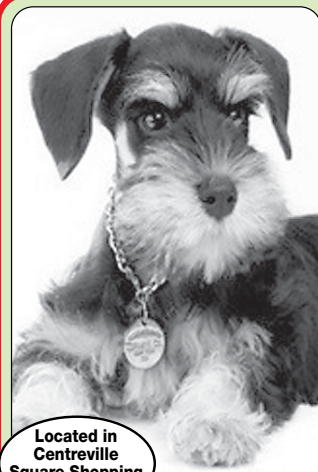
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- 9:30 PM - Christmas Carols by the St. John's Choir
- 10:00 PM - Service of Holy Eucharist

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

- 9:30 AM - Service of Holy Eucharist

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Resilient Westfield Football: State Champs

Bulldogs defeat Oscar Smith in triple overtime.

BY JON ROETMAN
CENTRE VIEW

Westfield receiver Tyler Scanlon, four of his teammates and head coach Kyle Simmons sat at a table and answered media questions following the VHSL 6A football state championship game on Dec. 12 at the University of Virginia's Scott Stadium in Charlottesville.

When a reporter asked Scanlon, a two-sport standout, about his experiences in last year's state basketball final — a 47-46 loss to Colonial Forge — and this year's football final, the 6-foot-7 senior, who will play basketball at Boston University, noted the contrasting journeys to reach the respective championship games.

During the 2014-15 basketball season, the Bulldogs were confident they would reach the state final. The 2015 football season, however, was a much bumpier ride.

"I've never been a part of a team [with which] there were so many setbacks, but at the same time, nobody hung their heads," Scanlon said. "We just kept pushing forward and found a way to get hot at the end."

Whether it was having multiple players suspended during the season, dealing with the death of a former teammate, or a quarterback change during the playoffs, Westfield faced its share of adversity this year. In order to bring home the program's first state title since 2007, the Bulldogs had to fight through one more challenging evening.

Westfield squandered two 14-point leads, lost four fumbles and at one point trailed in overtime. None of it stopped the Bull-



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR

The Westfield football team defeated Oscar Smith 49-42 in triple overtime on Dec. 12 to win the 6A state championship.

dogs, however, as Westfield defeated Oscar Smith 49-42 in triple overtime to capture the 6A state championship.

After the teams matched one another touchdown for touchdown in the first two overtimes, Westfield took the lead for good when running back Tim Beard scored on a 10-yard run during the first play of the third overtime. Three plays later, Oscar Smith faced fourth down at the 2-yard line and quarterback Shon Mitchell's pass fell incomplete, giving the game — and state championship — to Westfield.

"At the end, our kids didn't quit," Simmons said. "I thought it was pretty impressive the way they fought back, even after [the Tigers were] big-playing us in the second half and we had an awful third quarter, but we kept fighting. I know they're dog tired, but it paid off."

Westfield led 28-14 late in the third quarter, but Oscar Smith cut the Bulldogs' advantage to seven with a trick play. Shelton Hood took a handoff and threw a 55-yard touchdown pass to Larry Chapel with 1:05 left in the third quarter.

Westfield appeared ready to extend the lead back to 14 early in the fourth quarter, but quarterback Rehman Johnson fumbled inside the Oscar Smith 5-yard line. The ball was scooped up by Tigers defensive back Khalik Perry and returned 89 yards for the tying touchdown with 10:34 remaining.

Neither team scored for the remainder of regulation. Westfield kicker Brian Delaney missed a potential go-ahead 43-yard field goal attempt with 1:21 left on the clock and the game would head to overtime, where the Bulldogs found a way to win.

"I felt like we were losing our grip on the

game there at a couple points and that's why I'm so proud of these guys to keep fighting back," Simmons said. "Yes, I thought it was slipping away, I really did."

Westfield started strong, building a 14-0 lead, but a roughing the punter penalty against the Bulldogs early in the second quarter swung momentum in favor of Oscar Smith. Instead of giving the ball back to Westfield down two scores, Oscar Smith drove down and found the end zone for the first time and would later tie the score at 14.

"I think it was a momentum change for us," Simmons said, "but we found a way to

get it back."

Offensively, Westfield struggled with turnovers, losing four fumbles, but the Bulldogs made enough plays to win the game.

Running back Tim Beard carried 37 times for 234 yards and three touchdowns, including a pair of scores in overtime.

"The big thing is [the Oscar Smith defense was] very aggressive coming up the field," Beard said. "Their aggressiveness, we just took advantage of it and ran north and south."

Johnson, making his third start at quarterback after taking over for Scanlon entering the region semifinals, completed 6 of 10 passes for 106 yards and a touchdown. He also carried 20 times for 110 yards and three scores.

"We all had faith in Rehman," said Scanlon, who earned Conference 5 Offensive Player of the Year honors while playing quarterback. "That's really where he's matured over the last three or four months. He's a completely different kid. In the second half, you saw how much he persevered through the mistakes. He played well and that's really what we needed."

Scanlon, who moved back to receiver, the position he played last season, had two catches for 41 yards, including a 30-yard touchdown reception from Johnson in the second quarter.

"That's my job — I'm 6-7, I should get that ball," Scanlon said. "If I didn't get it, I'd be really disappointed with myself. If you want to win state championships, you've got to make those plays."

Defensively, Westfield surrendered 502



Westfield quarterback Rehman Johnson passed for 106 yards and a touchdown and ran for 110 yards and three scores against Oscar Smith.



Westfield running back Tim Beard rushed for 234 yards and three touchdowns against Oscar Smith in the state final on Dec. 12.

SEE CHAMPS, PAGE 11

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Lessons in Giving

Conversations, modeling behavior and hands-on actions can help teach children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
CENTRE VIEW

Matthew Mamalian's holiday shopping list included some items that might seem atypical for a 12-year-old middle school student: shampoo, socks, soap and a few snacks. He, along with several friends from his Sunday school class, packed the items in shoeboxes wrapped with holiday paper and tucked a handwritten note of encouragement inside each box.

"We were all laughing and having fun packing them," he said. "We also learned that there are people who really need these things because they don't have a lot else."

The project was part of Interfaith Works' holiday giving program, an effort by the local nonprofit organization to meet the needs of the homeless. The holiday season can be a time for children to learn the principals of benevolence, say child development experts. Involving children in charitable activities, modeling altruistic behavior and making a link between compassion and a higher power are all effective ways parents can teach their children the value of giving to the less fortunate.

"Children need to have empathy modeled for them and they need a script to follow or

ideas for carrying out charitable acts," said Christine Pegoraro Schull, Ph.D., professor of Early Childhood Education at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria. "Children aspire to be kind and to be good citizens, but they don't necessarily know how to do these things."

Involving Matthew and his siblings in philanthropic efforts through Potomac Presbyterian Church is one of the ways that their mother, Cyndy Mamalian, makes a connection between gratitude, charity and a higher power. "I think it's important for them to think beyond themselves and live out their faith," she said. "You need to put your faith into action, and that is about caring for other people."

Janet Dunlop, Matthew's Sunday school teacher and a member of the Mission Committee at Potomac Presbyterian Church, melds volunteer projects with class discussions to teach her students about gratitude and charity. This holiday season, as the middle-school aged children clipped wrapping paper and tied ribbons around shoeboxes filled with deodorant, toothpaste, snacks and other essentials for the homeless, she gave them a description of those who are on the receiving end of their project.

"Many young people growing up in

Potomac don't have much experience with homelessness," said Dunlop. "When my husband and I arrive at the shelter with these boxes, the people there are so happy to receive them. So, this is also about helping the children see another aspect of life and trying to instill in them a life-long ideal of service."

Charitable giving for adults often means donating old clothes at the end of the tax year or writing a check to a nonprofit organization. However, children might find it difficult to understand how these abstract actions make a difference. That's why psychologists and educators recommend giving children first-hand experience in caring for others.

Jenny Trope, Ph.D. and her children raised money to purchase grocery store gift cards that they are distributing to homeless men and women they encounter this winter. "It gives the kids a glimpse of what it's like to be alone, hungry and stuck outside when it's cold," said Trope, who is also a marriage and family therapist based in Arlington.

Such hands-on projects, coupled with a conversation about why it's important to take action to aid people in need of a helping hand, could drive home the message. "Children aspire to be kind and to be good

citizens, but they don't necessarily know how to do these things," said Schull.

A study by the United Nations Foundation and the Women's Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis found that talking to children about giving is highly effective for encouraging philanthropy, and increases a child's inclination to give by 20 percent.

"Conversations are critical. Talking about giving in combination with modeling is what actually increases children's giving," said Debra J. Mesch, Ph.D., director of the Women's Philanthropy Institute. "We ... know that these conversations need to be focused on why and how giving ... makes an impact on individuals in need, rather than simply talk that is more general, such as giving is the right thing to do."

The dialogue can include concrete examples of how a charitable action will benefit others, say mental health experts. "Around the holidays when you're struggling to survive, when you've lost everything and every decision you make is about meeting your absolute, basic needs, like how you're going to take a shower, it's a nice surprise to get a wrapped box of soaps, toothpaste, socks, snacks and a personal note," said Nikki Stanaitis, LCSW-C of Interfaith Works.

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Naive and Delusional



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Some days, like today, I don't feel like I have cancer. I feel – delude – myself into thinking that I have/feel what everyone else at my age who doesn't have a "terminal" disease, has/feels. Now whether I'm into something or just rationalizing symptoms like any other cancer patient does – discounting any signs of potential trouble for fear of the consequences – I certainly don't know, and probably wouldn't admit to it anyway; mind over what might actually matter. Nevertheless, it's a good feeling to have, so long as I don't think about it too much and just go with the uninterrupted flow, at least until it's interrupted. I'll spare you the details – in this column, anyway.

But not thinking about having cancer – when you have cancer, seems counterintuitive almost. How do you not think about the most important thing in your life, the "thing" which is very likely shortening that life? I mean, being diagnosed with cancer is not exactly chicken soup for the soul; it's more a harbinger of things to come, most of which are not particularly good. And as much as I would encourage not focusing on a negative and the presumptive self-fulfilling outcome it might portend, denying its existence and pretending that all is right when previously your CT Scans indicated you've been wrong, is reckless and irresponsible, unless you know/feel something that modern medicine has yet to detect.

I don't know anything except what I feel, and most of those feelings are probably being routed through my brain and its desire for self-preservation. The point being: Am I thinking clearly? Thinking wishfully/hopefully? Or thinking normally? That is: pretending, denying, waiting, wondering. Being a cancer patient/survivor is an emotional roller coaster, and feeling good – however fleeting, has many rewards, but feeling bad as I now do (a mere two paragraphs later) is all it's cracked up to be.

Sure, I had chemotherapy the other day, so feeling good, then hours later feeling bad, was not totally unexpected; as you might imagine after nearly seven years of cancer treatment I sort of know the routine/cycle. Still, whenever I feel as good as I did in the opening paragraphs, I get disappointed when the inevitable bad feelings return, which last for a week or so – and what bothers me even more: I should know better (I do know better). But I can't help thinking/hoping that this will be the post-chemotherapy week when I won't feel what I've always felt every week after chemotherapy since the infusions began in early March 2009.

As much as I readily acknowledge how amazingly lucky I am to still be alive, I can't help expecting more. And when I don't get more, but instead get less, I don't usually take it well. Emotionally I get challenged and physically I get compromised. The combination results in a difficult set of circumstances. I don't exactly lose my focus or forget my good fortune, but I am reminded that I have a serious disease, one that is looking for trouble, and occasionally, it does have its way with me. The only saving grace is that it is all very familiar to me now, and as my Auntie Irene used to say: "This too shall pass," which of course, it always does – and then we're back to abnormal.

However, that time when I feel good, it's almost a tease, as I know the forthcoming bad. And yet I want to believe that feeling good, for whatever period, is somehow indicative of a future less complicated than my present. Still, I keep thinking that maybe after this infusion, the week-after will be different. Unfortunately, it's never different. It's always the same. Hope springs eternal though, and as a cancer patient, hope is our most valuable commodity. Thankfully, there's plenty for everyone.

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

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**PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF CLIFTON
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL USE PERMIT
PUBLIC HEARING OF TOWN OF
CLIFTON TOWN COUNCIL**

JANUARY 5, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. at the Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton, VA 20124 to consider the amendment of the special use permit of the Clifton Café, located at 7144 Main Street, to include an expansion of the use, including, but not limited to, the increase in number of seats, inside and outside; an increase in parking onsite; expansion of the hours of operation; increase in employees. The application for the proposed amendment to the Clifton Café'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 Clifton Café's special use permit.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF CLIFTON
PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWN CODE**

JANUARY 5, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Town Council and the Town of Clifton Planning Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at the Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton, VA 20124, directly after the special use permit hearing at 7:30 P.M., to review and implement proposed changes to the fee schedule for use permit applications and other items pertaining to the administration of use permit applications in the Town Code Section 9-10 c. The proposed changes are 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 proposed changes to Clifton's Town Code.

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The Great Falls Connection

SPORTS

Champs

FROM PAGE 8

yards, including 424 through the air, but made enough stops to get the job done. The Bulldogs intercepted Oscar Smith quarterback Shon Mitchell three times, including twice in the red zone, and forced four total turnovers.

Westfield linebacker Kevin Petrillo had two interceptions, including a pick at the Bulldogs 2-yard line during the game's opening possession, after Oscar Smith had moved the ball down the field with ease.

"Previous to that play, they did the same two plays right in a row — they hit right up the seam, right in the middle," Petrillo said. "So instead of dropping more to the side, I dropped more straight back and I was right there and the ball came right to me."

Simmons praised the junior linebacker.

"I don't know if it's his athleticism or his brain — I'm not sure which," Simmons said. "He's such a studier of the game. He's a good athlete, but at the same time he puts himself in really great positions and he understands what they're going to try to do based on his study, which puts him in good position to make plays."

Defensive lineman Jay Aiello finished with 2.5 sacks, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery. Cole Huling had an interception.

The victory put the finishing touch on a challenging season.

After beating Washington-Lee 30-10 in the season opener on Sept. 3, the Bulldogs, missing several players due to suspension, suffered their lone defeat of the season against South County on Sept. 11, 26-19. In November, former Bulldogs kicker and 2015 Westfield High School kicker Conor Bouveron died. In the third round of the playoffs, the Bulldogs made a switch at the quarterback position, replacing Scanlon, who moved to receiver, with Johnson.

"This season taught me a lot of lessons," Simmons said. "There was a point I was sitting at home somewhere midway through the season going, 'I can't do this anymore' because of all the struggles we were going through. I just didn't know that I was doing a very good job, but we just kept plugging away. The lessons that I have learned and the lessons these guys have learned will pay off for their entire life, and mine too. ... I actually saw it the week we found out about Conor's death. I saw a change in our team. ... From a coaching standpoint, it just seemed like they kind of looked at each other and said, hey, we're lucky to be here. We could do something special and maybe we need to be a little less individuals and a little more team. You hear that from older coaches and people that have had success all the time about the importance of team and how that can overcome a lot of things and I think that's what I saw out of these guys the last three or four weeks is playing more like a team."

Westfield finished the season with a 14-1 record. The Bulldogs were ranked No. 25 nationally by USATODAY.

CENTRE VIEW ♦ DECEMBER 16-22, 2015 ♦ 11

ENTERTAINMENT

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 two weeks before event.

ONGOING

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

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.

Sully Museum Shop Sale. Through Dec. 31, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, except Tuesdays, at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Everything in the museum shop is 10 percent off. 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.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman's Club is selling 2015 White House Christmas ornaments. This year's ornament honors 30th President, Calvin Coolidge. The ornament cost \$20. Call 703-378-6216 for more.

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.

Storytime for Three to Fives. Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Stories and activities for children age 3-5 with caregiver. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

English Conversation Group. Thursdays, 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

English Conversation Group. Saturdays, 3 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-830-2223 for more.

English Conversation Group. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with a group of students and adults. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a space.

Plant Clinic. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. A neighborhood plant clinic with horticultural tips, information, techniques, and advice. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a

space.

ESL Book Club. Mondays, 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Meet and discuss a book chosen by group. Free. Call 703-830-2223 with questions and to reserve a spot.

ESL Book Club. Every other Saturday, 11 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults learning English are welcome to meet and discuss a book chosen by the group. To find out book title, call 703-502-3883.

Lego Block Party. Every other Tuesday, 3 p.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Legos will be provided for an afternoon of building. Grades 3-6. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

Duplo Storytime. Every other Wednesday, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Develop and reinforce early literacy skills for reading success. Ages 1-3 with adult. Free. Call 703-502-3883 to reserve a spot.

Live After Five. Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway. Every Friday night a band plays on the patio of the winery. Free to attend. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com for a full schedule.

Sully Historic Site. 3650 Historic Sully Way. 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.

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 award-

winning director. Visit 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 reserve a space.

Starlight Storytime. Every other Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Stories under the stars for ages 4-8. Wear pajamas and bring stuffed friends. Free. Call 703-830-2223 to reserve a space.

THURSDAY/DEC. 17

Liberty Republican Women's Club Meeting. 6 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Jennifer Harper, columnist for The Washington Times newspaper will be guest speaker. Free. all 703-378-4190 for more.

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

Toys for Tots Holiday Breakfast Event. 9-11:30 a.m. at ReMax Premier, 13135 Lee Jackson Highway, Fairfax. Bring one unwrapped new toy per guest and followed by a glass of wine. Tickets are \$13.50-15. Visit www.edlangtoysfortots.com for more.

Stretch & Sip. 11 a.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Take a yoga class followed by a glass of wine. Tickets are \$13.50-15. Visit www.wineryatbullrun.com 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.

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.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 30

Holiday Concerts. 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Listen to traditional Celtic music, and take a tour of the house. Tickets are \$12. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

THURSDAY/DEC. 31

New Year's Eve: "A Night in Venice." 5-6:30 p.m. and 8-10 p.m. seatings at Trummer's on Main, 7134 Main St., Clifton. Start at the "Bellini Bar," inspired by "Harry's Bar" in Venice where the Bellini was invented. A chef's menu will showcase his take on Venetian cuisine. During the second seating there will be live strolling entertainment. There will also be a DJ in the lounge area for those interested in dancing before or after dinner. Tickets are \$86 for 5 p.m. seating, \$148 for the 8 p.m. seating. Call 703-266-1623 for more.

New Year's Eve Beer Dinner. 7 p.m. at Dogfish Head Alehouse, 13041 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Eat a four-course meal, each course paired with a beer. After dinner, listen to live music performed by Burn the Ballroom at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$55 for dinner, \$10 for the show. Visit www.dogfishalehouse.com for more.

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