



NOVEMBER 9-15, 2016

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Photo by Bonnie

# Fairies, Magical Spells And Swamp Monsters

News, Page 3

Scouting for Food For WFCM Pantry News, Page 2

Steady Early Voting NEWS, PAGE 4 Rehearsing a scene from Westfield High's upcoming comedy, "The Tempest," are (from left) Maya Hossain, John Henry Stamper, Aubrey Cervarich and John Coughlin.

## Scouting for Food for WFCM Pantry <sup>Volunteers still needed</sup> for this Saturday.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

any people in Fairfax County are surprised to learn that there are hungry families right in their midst. Despite a high median income and low unemployment rate, many individuals and families here don't earn enough to meet basic monthly expenses such as food, housing and transportation.

That's why this coming weekend's food drive to restock Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) food pantry is so important. It's also why it's critical that local residents fill with food the bags Boy Scouts left at their doors last weekend and put them outside this Saturday, Nov. 12, by 9 a.m., for pickup.

"Over 76,000 county residents are at risk of experiencing hunger," said Jennie Bush, WFCM's community outreach manager. "They are food-insecure — which means they don't always know where their next meal is coming from." Some 64,851 (1 in 17) people

Representing Girl Scout Troop 3327 of Chantilly, last year, are (from left) Ruth Moran, 9; Riley Weaver, 9; her brother Ryan, 7, and mom Cathy Weaver.

CENTREVILLE

an annual income of \$23,850 for a family of four. Another 172,053 (1 in 6) county residents have incomes under 200 percent of the poverty marker - a \$47,700 annual income for a family of four. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/

live in poverty here — defined as caab/pdf/state-of-the-poor.pdf. Furthermore, the Fairfax County Public Schools Office of School Nutrition, reported that, in the 2015-2016 school year, 52,650 school-aged children received assistance with breakfast and lunch. All year 'round, the WFCM food pantry provides food for local people in need such as these children and their families. That's why such hopes are pinned on the upcoming Boy Scout Food Drive, "Scouting for Food." And every food contribution is appreciated.

"We are grateful for our neighbors who will donate to restock our food pantry shelves," said Bush. "It takes neighbors helping neighbors, making sure there are no hungry families in our community."

The Scouts will be collecting nonperishable items, such as canned soup, meats, vegetables, fruit, cereal, rice, oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, pasta and sauce (no glass jars), peanut butter and jelly, dried beans, canned tomatoes, etc.

Scouting for Food is the largest food drive of the year for WFCM's food pantry, as the Scouts go through the neighborhoods and bring approximately 50,000 pounds of food to WFCM on that one day.

It's a big undertaking and a great deal of territory to cover, so more than 150 youth and adult volunteers are needed to help, this Saturday, Nov. 12. Shifts are available beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 4 p.m. for setting up and tearing down, sorting, crating and transporting the food.

"This volunteer event is ideal for individuals, small groups, families, service clubs and students needing community service hours," said Bush. "WFCM is also looking for volunteers with trucks and strong backs to help transport 30- 50pound crates from the sorting site to the food pantry and/or local storage areas."

For more information and to sign up, contact Annette Bosley at abosley@wfcmva.org.



Happily holding canned goods to pack up for delivery to WFCM's food pantry last year are Kim and Dan Fiul and children Aiden and Allie of Chantilly Girl Scout Troop 3327.

#### 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.

#### **THURSDAY/NOV. 10**

Registration Open House. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Clifton Children's Academy, 14315 Compton Road, Centreville. Bring your child and come take a tour of the campus. Clifton Children's Academy will be holding registration for spring and fall 2017.Call 703-968-8455 for more.

#### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 12-13 **Dulles Access Road Overnight**

Detour. On or about Nov. 12 at 10 p.m. to Nov. 13 at 6 a.m., traffic on the westbound Dulles International Airport Access Highway (DIAAH) will be diverted to the westbound Dulles Toll Road (DTR) between mile marker 8.3 and mile marker 1.8 while Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project crews erect steel beams at the site of the Silver Line's future Innovation Center Station.

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2 ♦ Centre View ♦ November 9-15, 2016

## Fairies, Magical Spells and Swamp Monsters

## Westfield presents "The Tempest."

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

illed with fantasy, romance and adventure, "The Tempest" is Westfield High's upcoming play. With a cast and crew of nearly 40, this Shakespeare comedy takes the stage Nov. 18-20.

Set on a desert island, the story follows Prospero, the former Duke of Milan, as he tries to reclaim his crown from his brother, Antonio. He summons a dangerous storm to attract Antonio and his accomplice, King Alonso, to the island. But things get tricky when Prospero discovers his daughter Miranda plans to marry Alonso's son, Ferdinand.

"We have a lot of talented students from all grades and levels of experience," said Director Rachel Harrington. "And they bring a new twist and energy to Shakespeare and really make this show appealing to all ages."

The scenes take place on the island, on a ship, in a villain's hideout and at Prospero's castle on the island. "We spent 20 hours just building the ship," said Harrington. "Parents and students worked many weekends to make it come together."

The costumes are loosely based on the 1600s; so, for example, there'll be fairies in colorful, avant garde, sparkly outfits representing the elements. Through their costumes, everyone in the show will illustrate on element (earth, air, water, fire) of the island.

"The audience will enjoy the show's magic and seeing new creatures that the island holds, plus the relationship between families, lovers and friends," said Harrington. "And the play's technical aesthetics are eyecatching and intricate and sure to attract and hold people's attention, as will the story."

Senior Aubrey Cervarich portrays young



Some of the cast members of "The Tempest" in their still-underconstruction, shipwrecked boat.

> Рното ву Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

### To Go

Show times are Friday-Saturday, Nov. 18-19, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 20, at 2 p.m. in the school theater. Seating is reserved. Tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 for students, or \$10 in advance via www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com

teenager Miranda, Prospero's daughter. Her father raised her after her mother died, and they were exiled to an island when she was just 3. She's independent and headstrong, but has never experienced the world or other people. So when he creates a storm and shipwrecks a ship full of nobles on the island, including Ferdinand, it's amazing to her.

"Seeing Ferdinand, she instantly falls in love with him," said Cervarich. "She's also awestruck at finding love. Everything's new to her; it's a wonderful experience and she

wants it all. I've never done Shakespeare before, so it's cool to branch off into something I'm not used to. And it's the first time I've played a young, naïve character."

Cervarich said the audience will like the parallels between "The Tempest" and Disney's "The Little Mermaid." And, she said, "This show is extremely funny, with slapstick, physical humor. And everyone likes to see a story about young love."

Playing Prospero is senior John Coughlin. "He's a very old, wise wizard who rules the island," said Coughlin. "He's compassionate toward his daughter, but mean and angry when he needs to be toward his slaves and helpers. He forgets how to be a person and thinks everyone else is lower than him and not human. He's been on the island 12 years and is used to dealing with spirits and beasts."

It's a fun role to play, said Coughlin, because "I get to tap into different emotions from kindness to hatred. And I get to speak in Old English and figure out my character's motivations and the meaning behind his words '

As for the show, he said, "The acting's well-done and the audience will feel like they're on the island and will really feel for the characters and what they've been through. It's a different kind of theater experience because it brings out emotions in the actors that even we didn't know were there."

Freshman John Henry Stamper portrays Ferdinand. "He's a little naïve and falls in love with Miranda," said Stamper. "He's willing to stand up for himself against Prospero and for the people that he likes.

SEE WESTFIELD PRESENTS, PAGE 5

## Grocery Gift Cards, Sponsors Sought WFCM to provide holiday food for families in need.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

t'll soon be time for the holidays, and many local families in need will receive Thanksgiving or Christmas food as recipients of Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) Holiday Food Program. But it's a gigantic undertaking since WFCM is expecting to serve more than 1,600 families this year.

So it needs the community to help provide either gift baskets of food or grocery store gift cards to purchase the items

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for a holiday meal. And WFCM Community Outreach Manager Jennie Bush hopes local residents, businesses and other groups will join the organization's "Neighbors Helping Neighbors Holiday Food Program."

"I'm swamped with requests for food and have a huge need for gift cards this year to serve single individuals and small families who simply don't want or can't eat a huge turkey with trimmings all alone," said Bush. "So what I especially need are gift cards to local grocery stores for \$25 and \$50 to give to our singles, elderly and small families that I have difficulty finding food sponsors

#### for."

She needs these cards by Thursday, Nov. 17, for Thanksgiving assistance, since they'll be distributed, along with food, to WFCM's clients on Nov 21. Grocery cards will also be used for Christmas food assistance and will be accepted through Dec. 20.

For those wanting to sponsor a family with a food basket, Bush will match them up with a recipient. She'll give them a list of suggested items to include, and they'd then shop for the items for a holiday meal and put together the basket(s) or food boxes themselves. Then the sponsors deliver the

food and turkey (or other meat) to the recipient families.

To participate, contact Bush at jbush@wfcmva.org. See WFCM'S Website, www.wfcmva.org, for a list of suggested food.

Grocery store gift cards may be dropped off at the WFCM food pantry at 4511 Daly Drive, Suite, J, Chantilly, Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. (No cash donations.) Or mail them with a note saying "Holiday Food Program" to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.

## News Voters Make Their Wishes Known Local turnout is steady, heavy.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

t Greenbriar East Elementary, as at many polling places through out the country, voters flocked to the polls in droves Tuesday to vote on national, state and local issues. They cast their votes for President of the United States and, in Fairfax County, the controversial meals-tax proposal.

Pam Gannon, passing out sample Democratic Party ballots to people outside the school, said that by 10 a.m., some 929 people had already voted there. "I think it's a higher turnout than usual," she said. "And from what we've heard from around the different polling places, it's been a big turnout everywhere."

Mary Ann Welton, chief elections officer for the Greenbriar East Precinct, concurred. "All day long, there's been a steady stream of voters — not sporadic, like in a primary," she said. At almost 11 a.m., she said, 1,143 people had voted there — and that number didn't include the absentee votes cast earlier.

Voters there filled out paper ballots that were then placed into scanners for double tracking. Mainly, said Welton, "I've explained to people to fill in the entire circle and not just make check marks."

Greenbriar resident Eric Hanson said he never misses an opportunity to vote. For President, he said, "I hope the heck we get the right person in there — Trump. He's a man that's not going to make this country bend to the wishes of foreign countries."

Hanson also voted "no" on the meals tax. "I don't want to pay 4-percent more on a good meal," he said. "That would make me tip the server less, or I wouldn't go out. We've got to stop taxing, or we're going to drive people out of this country."

Greenbriar's Shashi Sahgal isn't affiliated with any political party so, she said, she voted for the presidential candidate she believes has better attributes and would do the best job. "So I voted for Hillary," she



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW Elections officers Robert Sherretta and Rebecca Gotwalt check in voters at the Greenbriar East precinct.



From left are Trump supporters Eric Hanson and Mike Brensy.

said. "I just felt that, for such a high post, to have a person with such a bad mouth and foul thinking and who's divisive and closed-minded — all negative — would be wrong."

First of all, she continued — explaining what she'd like to say to Trump — "Show your taxes. And what happened to your conscience when you and your daughter were buying stuff for your factories from China? What happened to your moral values? We are paying for you to live in America, if you don't pay taxes. So how can you say you're going to stand up for anyone else?"



Shashi Sahgal voted for Hillary Clinton for president.

Sahgal said both presidential candidates have vices, but "Trump's is moral and Hillary's is judgmental — which can be corrected. A 70-year-old man isn't going to change his morals."

Regarding the meals tax, she, too, voted "no" because "a lot of senior people depend on ready-cooked meals from the outside pizzas or carry out — and their fixed incomes don't go up. Why impose this on them?"

Mike Brensy agreed with her on the meals tax, voting "no" because, he said, "Meals out are expensive enough. When I go on a date, food and drinks are around \$100, and



Elections officer Susan Wroton stands beneath a sign telling people where to vote.

I don't want to pay 4 percent more."

However, he wants Donald Trump to be president: "I think he'll hire the right staff to make the right decisions and make our country great again, throughout his presidency. And I believe he'll take advice from military leaders and others."

As for the county's proposed tax break for survivors of fallen officers, he voted "yes," saying such spouses "shouldn't be taxed; that's ridiculous."

Jessica Mason, though, was for Hillary Clinton, all the way. "I like her stands on the issues, especially on immigration policies and women's rights," she said. "I think she's got a lot of experience and he's a loose cannon. And I want her to approve the Supreme Court justices, including Merrick Garland."

Mason also voted "yes" on the meals tax. "Going out is a luxury, so I don't mind them asking for a little bit more for the schools and to improve the area," she said. "And I voted for the surviving-spouse tax break that's the least we can do."

## Former Denver police officer, DEA agent, Ad Hoc Police Commission contributor and long-time county resident receives Environmental Excellence Award.

By Tim Peterson Centre View

12-year-old African American boy watched as a city of Denver patrol car with two white police officers drove slowly by his house, where he reported people attempting to break in.

The boy had to call the dispatcher several times to get a response to the scene. When the officers failed to stop or check on the house, the boy called the dispatcher again. He was told the officers had stopped, and that no one was home.

The boy became enraged, and obsessed, with the goal that one day he would become a police officer, and be a good one. 4 CENTRE VIEW \* NOVEMBER 9-15. 2016 Randy Sayles of Oak Hill, now 68, grew up in predominantly white Denver, Colo. He was the only child of single mother Delores Sayles. She was a domestic worker who didn't have a lot of education, he said.

To protect her son from drugs and lawlessness, Sayles' mother wouldn't allow him outside much, where he could play with other children.

He also remembers from an early age she instilled in him that having a "moral respect for other people is the most important thing you can contribute to society."

**THOSE WORDS** would guide Sayles' personal and professional actions for decades to come. Sayles retired in 2003 after more than 35 years in law enforcement. But he's

continued following what he believes is his civic duty to get involved when he sees an injustice.

Since 2002, Sayles has been collecting trash along a stretch of Centreville Road, documenting everything as he goes. In 2013, he signed on to do the work officially as part of the county's Clean Streets program. At one time he went six nights a week. Now he's out three nights a week.

The non-profit Clean Fairfax estimated last year alone Sayles picked up more than 800 bags of trash and 1,200 illegally placed signs.

Sayles was honored for his efforts at the Oct. 18 Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting as one of two individuals to win an Environmental Excellence Award. Sayles' nomination for the award read: "There are many residents of Fairfax County who are passionate about keeping the county clean, green and sustainable, but few follow through with Herculean efforts like Mr. Sayles."

It took as much effort if not more for Sayles to overcome what he said was a pattern of harassment from some Fairfax County police officers while volunteering.

His objection to being treated disrespectfully by some officers as he cleaned up the trash along the roads in Chantilly also led him lend the benefit of his years of experience in law enforcement to another area of service to Fairfax County. Sayles contributed hundreds of hours over the past 20 months SEE SAYLES, PAGE 8

## Westfield Presents 'The Tempest'

#### From Page 3

He's loving, caring, willing to help, strong and truthful." Also enjoying his part, Stamper said, "In some aspects, I get to be myself and be playful. And I can relate to him as an easygoing, young guy. I'm thankful to be cast in this show as a freshman, let alone in a lead role."

He said the audience will find many reasons to like this play. "The set is absolutely amazing, and people will like the physicality of the characters," said Stamper. "We really get into these roles; and since we're all friends, there's no awkwardness between Aubrey and me, so our relationship is more believable to the audience."

Playing King Alonso of Naples is senior Maya Hossain. "He's gotten shipwrecked with his crew," she said. "He was originally a little devious, but the whole show is a journey of his repentance. So although it's a

### – School Notes -

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

Sam Willett was one of five FCPS students named finalists in individual contests by the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA). He was named as a finalist in Illustration for Westfield's "The Watchdog."

Thirty-one FCPS students have been named

comedy, every line he says is tragic, to a degree. He's trying to lead his men to safety, while looking for his son, Ferdinand."

She said it's challenging playing a male character because "I have to take on a manly gait and make more stiff and rigid gestures than females do. Three girls are playing men, and we spent a whole day just on our walks. I also have to take the lightness out of my voice and speak in a heavier tone. But it's fun playing a guy and a leader and interpreting Shakespeare however I want. I also convey my character's descent into madness, and it's so much fun doing things you don't get to do in real life."

Overall, said Hossain, "The audience will love the mystical, dreamlike quality of this show. It's a fantasy that'll take them out of their everyday world - there are fairies, swamp monsters and magical spells - and they'll really get caught up in all of it."

to the Virginia Honors Choir for 2016. They include Sarah Gallagher, Joel Lee, and alternate William Suh from Chantilly High School; and **Emily Rakes**, Evan Kohnstam, and Jonathan Cottrell from Westfield High School.

This select choir is open only to the top 125 singers from around the Commonwealth of Virginia, and is the highest honor a choir student can attain during his or her high school career



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## **OPINION** Coming: Children's Centre View 2016

## Get creative and send art, poetry and more.

uring the last week of each year, The Centre View devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families. Even readers without children of that age spend time admiring and chuckling over the issue. The annual Children and Children

Children's Centre View is a tradition of well over a decade.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

### **Editor's Note**

Eight of the 15 Connection Newspapers go to press during the day on Tuesdays, including earlier this week on Election Day. Reporters visited polling places and filed photos and short stories during the day on Election Day, election results were not yet available when this paper went to press. See next week's papers for more insight. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Some suggestions:

Drawings or paintings or photographs of your family, friends, pets or some favorite activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format. Photos of sculpture or larger art projects are also welcome.

SkiAL Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents, family or friends any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be? What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming year? What is one thing that you would change about school? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good parent? What makes a good friend? Describe one of the best or worst things that ever happened to you? What is the best gift you've ever given? Ever received?

✤ Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, politics, etc. Poetry or other creative writing.

News stories from school newspapers.

Photos and text about activities or events. We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers.

To be published, we must have the full first and last name of the student artist/writer.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location.

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD or flash drive to: Children's Centre View, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please send all submissions by Friday, Dec. 2. The Children's Centre View will publish the last week of 2016.

You can see last year's editions by visiting www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scroll down to Children's Edition.

Email submissions for the Children's Centre View to CentreView@connection newspapers.com

> — Mary Kimm mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

## GOTV Campaign Focuses on Immigrants

## Encouraging neighborhoods of naturalized citizens to vote.

By Eden Brown Centre View

heir front doors are decorated with jack-o'-lanterns and spooky ghosts, and sometimes with oil lamps or Rangoli designs from the recent Hindu Festival of Lights. When the door opens to Get Out the Vote (GOTV) canvassers on the last Saturday before Election Day, the smell of Dhal curries and home cooked stews wafts out into the crisp Fall day. Many of Centreville's houses in the 20120 zip code, on streets named Birchleaf Court or Sequoia Farms Lane, are owned by naturalized citizens.

Rebecca FIsher says she drove here from Utah to help run the GOTV campaign in Virginia. She briefs the volunteers who have driven to Centreville from Arlington, Great Falls, Reston, and McLean to help knock on the doors of voters who have not consistently voted in the past. Fisher says the GOTV campaign is important because analysis of voting trends show many voters do not go to the polls consistently, or often have an absentee ballot they forgot to mail, or don't know where they are supposed to vote and when.

She hands the script to her volunteers: "Make sure they have a plan to vote," she says, "and an I.D. — some of them don't have drivers licences." Fisher made the decision to come east in September, at the height of the criticism of Hillary Clinton. She told herself she was not

G ♦ Centre View ♦ November 9-15, 2016



Mariam Roshini Jacob from Great Falls drove to Centreville to help the GOTV campaign and to show a friend from Jordan what American political °campaigns look like.

going to sit still while Clinton campaigned: she would go where she was needed to make sure voters who were likely to elect Clinton actually got out to vote. One of her colleagues is Brigid Godfrey, a George Washington University student. They are in the garage of Mohammad Lahlou's house in Centreville, which offered as a staging point for the volunteers. There are about 25 volunteers for a threehour shift walking around these neighborhoods. There are about 14,000 names on the list they hope to get through before Nov. 8.

One of the volunteers is Mariam Roshini Jacob from Great Falls. She came to the U.S. originally from Kerala, India and is showing a



Rebecca Fisher, who came from Utah to work on the Get Out the Vote (GOTV) campaign in Virginia, addresses a group of volunteers from all over Northern Virginia.

> friend from Jordan what an American election campaign looks like while she volunteers to get out the vote. Some of the volunteers are in their 70s, some are in their teens. The doors they knock on are opened by Jean originally from Laos, Carmen from El Salvador, Noor from Pakistan, Roopa from India, Sarabhjit from the Punjab, Hassan from Egypt, and Nga from Vietnam.

Almost without exception, they are excited to be going out to vote in an election they view as important, to remind the candidates that they are hardworking, educated, interested, invested Americans. None appear to be taking this election for granted.



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A Connection Newspaper

## PEOPLE



### Election Patch

Del. Timothy Hugo (R-40) met with Brownie Troop 797 in Clifton on Oct. 16 to discuss his work and answer questions from the scouts. He encouraged them to work hard and think about different positions in government. The troop has been working on the Election Connection patch offered through the council every four years, matching the presidential election cycle. Meeting with Hugo was the last part for the troop in completing the patch. The scouts had researched election vocabulary and found who can become president and the election rules in the Constitution.

## Michelle Li Named Division Finalist

ichelle Li, a Centreville native, will travel to the University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. in January to compete as a Division Finalist in the Senior String Competition.

Li, the daughter of Yan and Emily Li, earned the opportunity after winning the Virginia Division of the Senior String Competition. A sophomore at Centreville High

## Publishing Milestone

Douglas H. Mahn, D.D.S., a periodontist and resident of Little Rocky Run, has had his 40th article published in a peer-reviewed

dental journal. His articles have covered topics including dental esthetics, gum grafting and dental implants. Mahn's most recent article was published in the November issue of Clinical Advances in Periodontics, the official online journal of the American Academy of Periodontology. This article covers the treatment of dental implant infections (peri-implantitis). Mahn said, "What makes this article so important is that infections involving dental implants are on the rise. Patients often do not know they have a problem until it is too late. Dentists need to know how to recognize implant problems and what treatments are available once they occur." His periodontal and implant practice is in Manassas. See www.douglashmahndds.com.

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ichelle Li, a Centreville School, Li has been studying vionative, will travel to the University of South Columbia, S.C. in Janu-

Li also participated and performed in masterclasses with professor of the Juilliard School Shirley Givens, professor of University of Maryland James Stern, concertmaster of the National Philharmonic Orchestra Jody Gatewood, concertmaster of Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Jonathan Carney and music director of Edgewood Symphony Orchestra Roy Sonne. After placing second at the American Protégé Competition when she was 11, she performed at Carnegie Hall. In the spring of 2015, she was awarded third prize as a finalist in the Landon Symphonette Competition where she performed in a live final event with the orchestra. This spring Li was selected as one of the soloists to appear on the Rising Stars Series at the Alden The-

atre.



Michelle Li

Besides school orchestras where she was awarded Director's Award for Orchestra, she participated in the Centreville Area Honor Orchestra, Oakton-Chantilly Area Orchestra, Junior/Senior Regional Orchestra as concertmaster/assistant concertmaster as well as All-Virginia Orchestra as 2<sup>nd</sup> violin and AYPO as 1<sup>st</sup> violin.









Centre View \* November 9-15, 2016 \* 7

## for what I thought was right." — Randy Sayles Sayles Receives Environmental Excellence Award

FROM PAGE 4 to the efforts of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

**AFTER SERVING HIS COUNTRY** as a U.S. Marine from 1967 to 1968 (he was honorably discharged from a Vietnam assignment to care for his sick mother) Sayles served as a patrol officer and detective with the Denver Police Department for five-and-a-half years.

"He did his job without fear or favor," said Jerry Kennedy, retired division chief of the Denver Police Department. "He got along well with his peers, was willing and proactive. That's what I liked in a policeman."

Sayles learned to negotiate the brotherhood of police culture as well as his place in it as an African American.

"You have to look out for one another," he said. If someone is wrong, makes a mistake, you had to protect those you relied on, "even if you don't agree at the time."

He remembers seeing officers in Denver who wouldn't stand up to stop things they knew were wrong. But that was contrary to how he wanted to carry himself, how he'd been raised. "Wherever I worked," Sayles said, "if I saw injustice, I would speak up for what I thought was right."

He was recruited in 1974 as the first African American Special Agent at the Denver regional office for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

**JOHN "JACK" LAWN**, retired DEA administrator, met Sayles in the mid-1980s in New Orleans, where Sayles was supervising a group of young agents.

Lawn was already impressed with Sayles' background, which included Sayles' lifesaving role in a 1979 crisis where the U.S. embassy in Islamabad was attacked and set on fire. Sayles received the U.S. Attorney General's highest award for heroism and valor for assisting U.S. Marines inside the embassy to save the lives of 90 individuals who were trapped there.

"His background as a law enforcement officer, a younger Marine, left him with a unique experience on how to deal with crisis situations," Lawn said.

He was also impressed with Sayles' sincerity: "His interest [was] in seeing the right thing was done on every occasion, making difficult decisions."

Sayles was tapped to be a member of a federal monitoring committee for the DEA, to make sure promotions, assignments and other areas of employment were being distributed fairly.

As a junior agent, Sayles said he had seen discrimination in being passed over for promotions. His job on the committee was to ensure compliance.

"He didn't over-try," said Bob Bryden, retired DEA chief of operations. "He let the facts show up. He never let his position in the African American community affect a decision. I've known few people through the years with the true depth of integrity that he has. He knows the difference between popular and right."

8 \* Centre View \* November 9-15, 2016



Center, Randy Sayles (center) of Oak Hill receives the Fairfax County Environmental Excellence award, joined by (from left) WK Williams, FCPD Chief Edwin Roessler, wife Frances Sayles and David Westrate.

**SAYLES TYPICALLY** goes out between the hours of 1:30 a.m. and 5 a.m. to clean up the trash along the roadway near his home. "At those hours the only people are police and me," he said.

On several occasions, Sayles said, he was approached by law enforcement officers — Fairfax County Police, state and federal protective police — while volunteering. He would be asked repeatedly by FCPD officers what he was doing, despite giving the same answer over and over again. Some officers said he was creating a hazard for traffic, despite the lack of traffic at that hour, he said. Others said it was their job to remove the illegal signs, not his.

Sayles said officers treated him with notable lack of respect. "Like they don't believe in being respectful and professional. It gets me mad. ... I'm just a citizen, trying to do civic duty, and won't let them continue to disrespect me." His dismay at officers who would treat people with such disrespect and dismay is palpable when Sayles talks about it.

These interactions came on top of a number of situations where he said he was harassed by Fairfax County Police officers after being pulled over at various times driving.

One morning, when Sayles was stopped on the side of the road looking for his Fairfax County RECenter card, he said a cruiser stopped in the through lane next to him, lights flashing. The officer asked for his license and registration then walked away. Sayles didn't want to identify himself as former law enforcement as he didn't think it was relevant.

Some time later, a second, female officer came to Sayles' window. He said she screamed at him: "Do you have a weapon?" Sayles remembers the saliva coming out of her mouth as she continued to yell, "Don't you know the first thing you should've told us is if you had a weapon?"

At that point, Sayles said he didn't say anything, rolled up his window, and sat looking straight forward while the officer continued to scream. "Her tone, her demeanor, pissed me off," he said.

The officers ended up giving him a ticket for parking illegally blocking a through lane

of traffic, which he found ironic as they were blocking the through lane of traffic themselves. At that point, he finally pulled out his law enforcement identification.

"You of all people should've been able to answer better," the officer responded, according to Sayles.

After the incidents when he was picking up trash, Sayles requested to report a complaint with police staff of FCPD Chief Edwin Roessler, but was refused.

But later at the Fairfax County Government Center, Sayles said he encountered Roessler himself and asked him about making an appointment. The chief suggested they look for an empty room and meet right away. Roessler sat with Sayles for 45 minutes.

"He listened without interrupting," Sayles said, "let me tell my side."

Roessler gave Sayles a few recommendations for his volunteer work, including putting a flashing yellow light on his van.

Within 24 hours, Sayles was back out on the road, police saw him, and kept driving. Roessler attributed the repeated stops

while Sayles was on Centreville Road to a lack of communication among overlapping jurisdictions that border the area: the Sully, Fair Oaks and Reston District stations.

To bridge the gaps, Roessler connected the stations and introduced Sayles face-toface.

These experiences with law enforcement in Fairfax County, as well as his time in the field motivated him to serve on the Use of Force subcommittee for the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

As a U.S. Marine, police officer, DEA special agent and supervisor, he had been personally involved in most of the types of scenarios — shooting at suspects, being shot at, using force, working undercover — that were being discussed for changing policies.

Sayles said understood from his time in Denver the need both to cover a fellow officer in the moment, but if they truly screwed something up, to be transparent about that with his supervisor.

"To me, that's very important; it's at the heart of the argument we make for the reform for the FCPD," Sayles said. "There's a culture there that they cover each other

### Life in Law Enforcement

"Wherever I worked, if I saw injustice, I would speak up

Randy Sayles Career Timeline 1969-1974: Patrol officer and detective, Denver

Police Department. 1974-1979: Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent, assignments in Phoenix, New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta,

New Orleans and Mississippi. 1979: First DEA overseas assignment as Assistant Country Attaché in Islamabad Pakistan Office,

- American Embassy. 1980-1981: Staff coordinator at DEA headquarters; Watch officer at El Paso
- Intelligence Center. 1981-1984: Assistant Country Attaché, DEA
- Brasília, Brazil, American Embassy. **1984-1995:** Group supervisor, New Orleans.
- Special Assistant to the Special Agent in Charge-DEA Training, co-located with FBI Training, FBI Academy; Associate Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office Of Information Systems-DEA Headquarters; Executive Secretary to the Career Board-DEA Headquarters; and Assistant Special Agent in Charge-Chicago.
- **1996-1998**: Senior Narcotics Liaison Officer: Reestablished severed operational, intelligence efforts between DEA and the U.S. Army Southern Command, headquartered in Panama City, Panama.
- **1999-2001:** Senior Executive Service and Country Attaché, Lima, Peru; Re-assigned to FBI headquarters as SES section chief.
- **2001-2003:** DEA Deputy Assistant Administrator, DEA headquarters.
- **2002**: Begins street clean-up effort. **2003**: Retirement.
- 2015: Begins serving on Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, Use of
- Force Subcommittee. 2016: Receives Fairfax County Environmental Excellence award.

when they know they're wrong. That has to be broken before we can truly have reform in the PD."

Following the police commission recommendations, the Board of Supervisors has already voted to create an independent police auditor to review use of force incidents and complaints in particular. Next month the board is scheduled to vote on establishing an independent civilian review panel that would look at other types of citizen complaints against officers for misconduct.

"Now it's making it where if someone is harassed, they have another mechanism," Sayles said. "You can feel you're getting fair treatment with a police complaint, without going to court."

**ROESSLER SAID** Sayles has been involved in a core group from the Ad Hoc Commission that's continuing to meet with him and assist in implementing recommendations.

"He has decades of experience," Roessler said. Having him, he added, "has been a blessing, makes us think."

Roessler said he's impressed how Sayles speaks directly, as well as his passion and his ethics.

The fact that projects like those from the Ad Hoc Commission are being delivered to meet the needs of the community "are because of people like Randy," Roessler said.

Sayles said the environmental award was some vindication for the "trying times" he's had with Fairfax County law enforcement.

But he also said he wanted to recognize the hundreds of volunteers who go out and do civic work, volunteer that people don't know. "So many are equally qualified," Sayles said, "they don't ask for recognition." www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

## 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

White House Ornament Sale. GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman's Club is selling 2016 White House Christmas ornaments. This year's ornament honors our 31st President, Herbert Hoover. The ornament, inspired by a White House fire on Christmas Eve, 1929, is a fire truck carrying a Christmas tree. Ornaments are \$21. Call 703-378-6841 or 703-378- 6216. It is possible

to order previous years' ornaments. Art Guild of Clifton Exhibit. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Clifton Wine Shop, 7145 Main St., Clifton. Includes oil paintings of European settings; doors, windows, and flower shops. Free. Call 703-409-0919 for more.

#### FRIDAY/NOV. 11

Coyote Campfires at the Park. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road. Visitors will listen to coyote calls, take a short hike, and make s'mores as they learn about this wily canine. Children must be accompanied by an adult registered in the program. Register at http:// parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov/.

#### SUNDAY/NOV. 13

Dancing With My Baby. 10:30-11 a.m. at NOVA Natural Birth Center, 4200a Technology Court, Chantilly. Connect through movement, dance, yoga, and the expressive arts as you

and your family share in learning simple dance routines to music, practice yoga poses, relax, and create art. Admission is on "pay what you can" basis. Visit brigittawhite.com/ dancingwithmybaby for more.

#### SUNDAY/NOV. 20

Dancing With My Baby. 10:30-11 a.m. at NOVA Natural Birth Center, 4200a Technology Court, Chantilly. Share in learning simple dance routines to music, practice yoga poses, relax, and create art. Admission is on "pay what you can" basis. Visit brigittawhite.com/ dancingwithmybaby for more.

NTRAK Scale Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Adults 16 and over \$4; children 5 to 15- \$2; 4 and under free; museum members – free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

### MONDAY/NOV. 21

**Centreville Garden Club Thanksgiving Centerpieces.** 7 p.m. at Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Handcrafted gifts for senior centers participants are asked to bring fresh flowers to arrange. Learn more at centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com, email centrevillegardenclub@ gmail.com, or call 703-266-9233.

#### THURSDAY/NOV. 24

VaRun Turkey Trot. 8 a.m. at Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, Centreville. All proceeds go to Life With Cancer. This year's event is in memory of Centreville residents

Steve Logan and Michael Ziegler, 1st Lieutenant. Tickets are \$10-35. Visit varunturkeytrot.wixsite.com/2016.

### FRIDAY/NOV. 25

Children's Science Center. The Children's Science Center will be hosting a \$5 Family Fun Day at the Children's Science Center Lab promoting family learning. Contact Dorothy Ready at 703-963-6699 or dorothyready@childsci.org.

#### TUESDAY/NOV. 29

Giving Tuesday, A Global Day of Giving. All day at 13850 Braddock Road A, Centreville. The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County is again participating. Glory Days Grill has agreed to donate to UPC 10 percent of its food and beverage sales at its six Fairfax County restaurants to Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County. Call 703-938-8723, email deckert@upcfairfax.org or visit www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org.

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 3

Crafters Needed. St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 14640 Soucy Place. \$40 entree fee. Registration at standrewcrafts@gmail.com or 703-830-2768.

#### SATURDAY & SUNDAY/DEC. 3-4

Holiday Train Show. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., noon-4 p.m. Sun.at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Adults 16 and over - \$5: children 5 to 15- \$2: 4 and under - free; museum members free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.



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## November 10-13

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### take time to savor this edition during the holidays and beyond. Be Part of the Children's Connection

During the last week of each year, The Connection devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families. The edition has won many awards.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers. We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens, or other creative efforts.

To submit material, identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school if applicable, name of teacher and town of school location. E-mail to centreview@connection newspapers.com. To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Connection, 1606 For More Information: King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Please send all submissions by December 16.

#### Gazette Packet CENTRE VIEW CONNECTION Hount Dernon Gazette ALMANAC Centre View 🛠 November 9-15, 2016 🛠 9

## Feeling a Little Low



In spite of mostly-successfully not being preoccupied with my condition/circumstances/disease, when a lung cancer survivor dies, even one with whom I've had minimal contact; one whom I could barely call an acquaintance, the link in the chain that makes all of us lung cancer patients/survivors stronger is most definitely effected.

Not that every lung cancer patient's diagnosis is identical; be it the staging (1-4), the type (non-small, small, etc.), the molecular profiling (ALK, EGFR, KRAS, HER2, etc.), the treatment or whether they were smokers or not, one cancer survivor's death is not necessarily related to another's. Like most things in life, more information is needed.

Nevertheless, it doesn't minimize the loss. When one survivor dies, we all die, a little bit. Recently, a prominent figure in the lung cancer world, Jerome Sorkin, a nine-plus year lung cancer survivor died. I did not know him, though I knew of him. I passed him once while walking in a hallway at The Key Bridge Marriott after attending the annual LUNGevity Foundation conference held every year in late April. We were both leaving but heading in opposite directions. He saw me and said "Love your column." I replied "Thanks," and that was the extent of our interaction.

In general, and in the lung cancer world in particular, typically one wants to hear positive news/be around positive people. Otherwise, maintaining your emotional equilibrium and your living/dying existence is simply too damn difficult. The razor thin line on which all of us lung cancer survivors teeter-totter cannot tolerate too much interference. Who knows exactly what news — personally or publicly, will cause one's cancer do what it so often does: inflict more damage followed by an inevitable decline.

This does not imply/encourage that cancer patients should or could quite frankly, live in an emotional bubble where only positive feedback and life-affirming words are allowed in. As my deceased father would have said: "The idea has merit." The reality is however, that such an option is impractical and unrealistic (except on Seinfeld; see "Bubble Boy"). Still, it doesn't diminish the fact that cancer survivors need to be "infused with positivity," as I like to say. Moreover, anecdotal evidence suggest that a good attitude and a positive environment affects a cancer patient's prognosis and enhances their lives.

Not only do I joke about having cancer, I want to be around others who joke as well and who can go with my flow and not bring me back to my reality. I spend enough time there on my own; I don't need any help returning. Nor do I do well when I hear bad news; specifically, the death of a fellow lung cancer survivor. Intellectually, I understand that lung cancer survivors are all different, live different lives, have different motivations, etc. Nevertheless, I feel for Jerome Sorkin, I feel for his family and friends and I feel for LUNGevity where Mr. Sorkin was Vice Chairman of LUNGevity's Board of Directors. I don't want any lung cancer survivors to die before their presumptive time. I want lung cancer to, at the very least, become a chronic/treatable disease (like diabetes) where one can live their life to a relatively normal expectancy; and if I were to dream really big, I want lung cancer and all cancers of course, to be curable/reversible.

Until these days arrive, all of us patients live on the edge. Just as I am strengthened by stories of resolve, I am weakened by stories of fellow survivors succumbing to their disease. Right now I am weakened.

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

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## Sports

# **CLASSIFIED** Westfield Progresses To Playoffs





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By Will Palenscar

estfield and Chantilly collided for a Conference 5 game on Friday night, Oct. 28. Playoff implications were at stake. Chantilly needed some help and a victory to secure a spot, while Westfield had secured a spot but was looking to add another Conference 5 Championship. Westfield came into the game not having lost a regular season conference game since 2013, losing 28-0 to another crosstown rival Centreville.

Westfield would start from its 26 yard and would quickly go to work. QB Rehman Johnson would hit receiver Sean Eckert for a 74-yard TD just 16 seconds into the game. Nathaniel Chung would carry the ball in from 9 yards out on the first of his two rushing scores with 6:40 to play in the 1<sup>st</sup>. With Westfield up 14-0, Johnson would take to the air when he hit Ivory Frimpong for a 11-yard score with 2:41 remaining in the first quarter. Westfield would add more when Sean Eckert scored his second TD of the quarter, on a 20-yard pass.

With 4:50 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, Eugene Asante rushed in from 5 yards out and Westfield was now up 35-0. Westfield's Johnson would throw his fourth TD of the quarter when Frimpong took the Johnson pass 66 yards. Westfield QB Rehman Johnson would complete 11-13 passes for 266 yards and 4 TDs for the game. Chantilly would get on the board just prior to halftime when Joey Mazzone took a Justin Holl



Daniel Carmichael hauls in a catch.



Westfield HS 2016 Concorde District Champions.

pass 10 yards for a score. The Chargers went into half down 42-7.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Nathaniel Chung scored his second TD of the game when he ran in for a 5-yard TD. Chung would carry the ball 8 times for 66 yards and 2 TDs.

In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter with Westfield in control 49-7, and many of their starters on the sidelines, the Chargers Justin Holl threw a TD with 11:43 to go when he hit Keylan Smith for a 12-yard TD. Later in the 4<sup>TH</sup> Holl would throw his third TD of the game when he hit Daniel Carmichael from 53 yards.

With the 49-21 loss Chantilly finishes its season at (4-6) (2-3). Westfield improved to (8-2) (5-0) and will host WT Woodson (5-5) (2-3) on Friday in the first round of the playoffs.



Chantilly QB Justin Holl #12 looks downfield for an open receiver.



Chantilly's Joey Fitzsimmons #16 reaches for ball carried by Westfield's Eugene Asante #8.



Ivory Frimpong #4 pulls in reception while Chantilly Hunter Streb tries to contain him. CENTRE VIEW VIEW VOVEMBER 9-15, 2016 VII

## Home LifeStyle Guest-Ready Home for the Holidays

From organizing to decorating, a guide for getting a house ready for visitors.

By Marilyn Campbell Centre View

eady or not, the holidays are coming. For many, this means a flurry of overnight guests. With three weeks before Thanksgiving, many to-do lists are more involved than choosing turkeys and decking the halls.

Some homeowners will be sent into states of cleaning frenzy by spotting crumbled Cheerios lost in the corners of dining chairs or guestrooms piled high with papers and boxes. From the reality of cleaning and tending to repairs to the frivolity of fanciful holiday decorating, local experts offer suggestions for getting organized and ready to welcome company.

"For my out-of-town guests, I love to make them feel special and welcome," said interior designer Gretchen Fuss, of Gretchen Fuss Works of Art and Interior Design. "The whole house will be clean and sparkling."

Consider dispersing flowers, candles and greenery throughout the home in all public areas, including bathrooms and guest bedrooms, suggests Katie McCarthy, senior designer and project manager at Marika Meyer Interiors. "Adding lush throws and cable knit pillows can give the family space that cozy feeling we all look for during the holidays."

Clear the clutter before purchasing holiday decorations and before guests arrive. "Clear out any clutter that's accumulated in your main living areas," said Anne M. Walker, Anne Walker Design LLC in Potomac, Md. "If your dining room is host to a pile of papers, make sure those get filed away or thrown away soon. A clean, organized home makes a perfect palette for any holiday décor."

The kitchen is often the central hub of a household, especially during the holidays. Make sure the pantry and refrigerator are well stocked and consider leaving out a bowl of fresh fruit guests can help themselves to, advises Fuss. "Breakfast is always a meal that seems to make everyone happy," she said. "My husband starts the bacon and everyone finds his or her way to the kitchen



PHOTO BY ANNE WALKER Guest preparation should include organizing and making extra space in closets, such as this one by interior designer Anne Walker.

table. I feel it is important to have both comfort food and healthy choices for everyone."

Cleaning out the pantry and cabinets will help ensure there is plenty of room for the additional supplies and food necessary for Thanksgiving and other holiday meals.

When preparing that holiday dinner, the last thing that a person with a house full of guests wants is to realize that their oven is broken. "Inspect your appliances to be sure they are all in working order," said Chuck Khiel, vice president, FRED Home Improvement. "If the refrigerator or oven has been acting up, get them repaired or replaced before guests arrive. … Check the garbage disposal, too, to be sure it's working efficiently so it doesn't back up during dinner prep."

Another high priority — the highest, according to Fuss — is the guest bedroom. This means "fresh bed linens adorning a 'photo shoot-ready,' beautifully made bed" and bath towels wrapped with ribbon and sage," she said. "Put a luggage rack out and make space in the closet for hanging clothes."

Place fresh flowers on the dresser and, "if time allows, frame a picture of your guests and hang it on the wall in the guest room," said Fuss. "Everyone really gets a kick out of this one."

From soft lights for reading to a small mirror for applying make-up, practical touches can go a long way toward comfort. "These touches, although they may seem small, can make all the difference," said McCarthy. "Small bud vases on bedside tables, plush bathrobes and towels, and fresh, white bedding can give guest spaces a very inviting feeling."

Guest bathrooms should be stocked with extra towels, toothbrushes and toothpaste. "If your guest bathroom has a vent fan with a nightlight, make sure it is working," said Khiel "If not, repair or replace it. If the fan does not have this feature, install a plugin nightlight. There's nothing worse than guests stumbling in the dark trying to find the bathroom light."

"Make the powder room fun and festive by updating the towel rack and toilet paper holder, mirror and light fixture," said Khiel. "Think about replacing the kitchen or bathroom faucet to a new, more efficient model or one with a water filter. And get any leaky faucets fixed."

A slow-burning fire is another way to create a sense of comfort and warmth. "Inspect your fireplace to be sure it's in working order and no debris is blocking the flue," said Khiel. "Consider building or adding a storage box for wood next to fireplace for easy access or add a permanent and decorative accent box nearby for the remote if a gas fireplace.

"Check that the dryer vent is clear, adding guests may mean more laundry," he added. "Make sure the heat vents are not obstructed. Since guests often stay in rooms that are not frequently used, make sure stored items are not in the way of airflow.

Electrical outlets that are infrequently used are often forgotten until guests arrive. "Fix nonworking electrical outlets that you



Photo by Angle Seckinger/Marika Meyer Small bud vases on bedside tables and fresh bedding can give guest spaces a very inviting feeling, advises designer Katie McCarthy of Marika Meyer Interiors.

might need with more people in the house. Everyone will be have electronics to plug in," said Khiel. He said this is also a good time to take care of other simple projects like painting or putting in a new backsplash.

"Oil those squeaky interior and exterior doors so they don't wake up guests during the night," said Khiel. "Think about replacing broken or worn door knobs and locks."

The outside of a home should not be overlooked when preparing for guests, either. "Fall is a great time to tackle outdoor projects," said Walker. "If your shutters needs a fresh coat of paint, now's the time to do it. Have your windows professionally cleaned so that your holiday decorations will be seen on a pristine backdrop."

Power-washing your porches, walkways and patios offers guests a pristine first impression of your home. Inspect all walkways, especially flagstone and brick walkways and repair loose stones, advises Khiel. "Check exterior light fixtures to be sure they are in working order and that the bulbs are good. If exterior lights operate off a motion sensor, make sure it is adjusted properly."

"The bottom line," said Walker, "is that an organized, clean home, a stocked bar and kitchen, and happy, relaxed hosts will undoubtedly result in happy holiday guests."



12 & Centre View & November 9-15, 2016