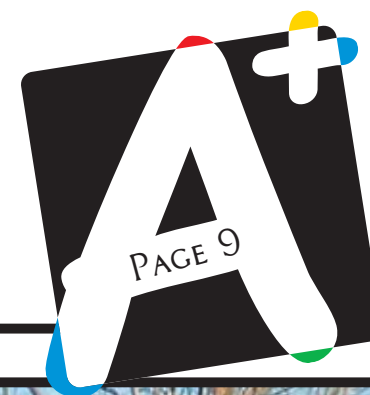


Centreville ♦ Little Rocky Run CENTREVIEW



APRIL 19-25, 2017

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

Mona and Joe
Samaha wearing
T-shirts imprinted
with their daugh-
ter Reema's face.

'Reema Is My Angel Now'

5K Ice Cream Race at Bull Run

NEWS, PAGE 2

'Legally Blonde'
At Westfield

NEWS, PAGE 4

CALENDAR, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

5K Ice Cream Race at Bull Run Fundraiser to benefit The Fisher House.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

Several thousand people are expected for the fourth annual 5K obstacle Ice Cream Race, which will be held Saturday, May 6, at Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville. The event includes an ice cream-themed obstacle course with whipped cream-like foam, a chocolate syrup water slide, and a banana peel pit. It will be held every half hour from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

In addition, costumed people will line the race route dressed as ice cream cones, cherries and bananas; they will be throwing cherry bomb water balloons and other goodies at the runners. For added fun, there will be Knockerball (for \$5), music, food trucks, ice cream eating competitions, and wild costume competitions. Once runners cross the finish line, they'll be rewarded with a custom made medal — and ice cream.

"The Ice Cream Race 5K is a fun run like no other," said organizer Max Bawarski, 34, a physical edu-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Ice Cream Race will include a sweet slide.

cation teacher at Providence Elementary School in Fairfax. "This is an experience of a lifetime. Go down a chocolate syrup slide, trudge through foam like whipped cream, limbo through a banana peel pit, and more. This is a great

way to kick off the summer and have a lot of fun with family and friends."

Bawarski also organized several Blood and Guts Runs during past Halloweens that had 5,000 attendees, and he is planning another

Blood and Guts Run scheduled for October 2017 at Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville.

For the Ice Cream Race, some of this year's obstacle highlights include: a waffle cone cargo net, slippery beams, a chocolate syrup

water slide, a luscious ladder wall, icy rope wall, sticky steeple chase, frigid up-and-over wall, and sweet slide.

The races start every half hour beginning at 9 a.m.; 9:30 a.m.; 10 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; and 11 a.m. The entry price ranges from \$49 if purchased by April 28, and \$59 if purchased by May 6. This is a rain or shine event, and the minimum age to race is 5. There is a rinse station at the end of the race. A portion of the profits this year will benefit The Fisher House which helps military families.

The venue is at Bull Run Regional Park, Special Events Center, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville, VA 20121. For more details, email max@theicecreamrace.com or call Bawarski at 703-593-3173.

There are also discounts for various professions including police officers, teachers, nurses, and firefighters who run. For discount tickets, email max@theicecreamrace.com.

Visit www.theicecreamrace.com to register and find more information.

BUSINESS NOTES

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnews.com. Photos welcome.

CORT in Chantilly was recently awarded the 2016 Gold Supplier Award by Brookfield Global Relocation Services by exceeding service level agreement benchmarks including timely contact with the assignee, prompt assignment to the Destination Service Consultant, successful placement of assignee in rental housing in their destination city and obtaining and delivering required documentation. The award was recently presented at the Brookfield 2016 Supplier Forum in Washington, D.C.

Sheehy Auto Stores was recently recognized with a Gold Peer Award from the Television, Internet, Video Association (TIVA) for its employee orientation video, produced by Cocklins Digital. The eight-minute video emphasizes the Sheehy difference and was produced to welcome new employees to the company. The Chantilly branch is at 4145 Auto Park Circle.

Finmarc Management, Inc., a Bethesda, Md.-based commercial real estate firm, has announced the sale of a three-story 78,327 square foot commercial office building situated at 4100 Lafayette Center Drive within the Enterprise Center in Chantilly, Va., for \$4.9 million. The asset was acquired by Better Lafayette, LLC.

BLACK HAWK DOWN HERO

FIRST SERGEANT MATT EVERSMANN (RET.)

PORTRAYED BY JOSH HARTNETT IN THE MOVIE

SEE HIM AT NEW LIFE
SUNDAY, APRIL 23
8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM

NEWLIFE.CHURCH/BIGDAY

**new life
christian church**

ONE CHURCH. THREE LOCATIONS

CHANTILLY | LINTON HALL | ONLINE

NEWLIFE.CHURCH

703-222-8836

‘Reema Is My Angel Now’

Mona Samaha reflects on losing her daughter in the VT shooting.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

For many American families, this past Sunday, April 16, was a day to gather with friends and relatives and celebrate Easter. But for those who lost a loved one in the April 16, 2007 massacre at Virginia Tech, it marked 10 years since the worst day of their lives.

“It can be hard every day,” said Mona Samaha, whose daughter Reema – a 2006 Westfield High grad – was among the shooting victims. “But as the anniversary gets closer, I tend to relive the last days I spent with her, the last phone call, the last hug.”

Speaking on Tuesday, April 11, from her backyard in Centreville’s Sully Station community, Samaha recalled that Easter Sunday 2007 was on April 8 and Reema was home visiting. Just 18, she was a VT freshman majoring in both international relations and urban planning and minoring in French.

She’d gone to midnight mass and Easter church services with her family, then ate lunch with them and other relatives before a friend came to pick her up. Excited, she told her parents, “I’m so happy I get to see you three weeks in a row, this month.”

Easter was the first of those three weekends; Reema’s parents planned on going to VT, the next two weekends, to watch their daughter – an accomplished dancer – perform with the Contemporary Dance Ensemble there. But instead, her life was taken abruptly by a mentally unstable young man who fatally shot her and 31 others before killing himself, too.

When her parents learned of the shooting and didn’t hear from Reema, they immediately

drove to the university. “People were writing on her Facebook page and she wasn’t responding, and we hoped she was on lockdown [and just unable to communicate],” said Samaha.

“While driving we heard the lockdown was off, but still didn’t hear from her, so we told her cousin – who was also a student there – to go look for her in the hospital.”

As Mona and husband Joe arrived at the Blacksburg Inn, a table had been set up for families in search of their children. Someone took their name and, within an hour, they were in a room with another family.

“A lady asked me what classroom my daughter was in and I said, ‘211,’” said Mona Samaha. “And she said, ‘That’s the one with the most missing.’ But I hoped Reema was in a hospital in surgery, unable to give her name. Then I went out for a minute and, when I returned, Joe told me Reema didn’t make it.”

“I fell to the floor and other people took me to another room. I was crying; and then there was a moment when I stopped crying and felt Reema’s presence above my head. And I thought, ‘I shouldn’t be crying; Reema is my angel now and she’s in heaven.’”

Samaha said that sensation of strength



Reema Samaha



Reema Samaha during a dance performance.

Reema’s death, and she again visited her mother in spirit. “I was sitting in the living room and I felt her kissing me and touching me on the leg,” said Samaha. “And I told her, ‘I know that’s you and I love you.’ I couldn’t wait to tell Joe; it was a beautiful gift.”

That July, she and her husband traveled to France and Italy for their 25th wedding anniversary. It was pre-planned, and Reema and her older sister

Randa were supposed to meet them there. “In Italy, I saw a Degas painting of a dance rehearsal, and a girl in that painting looked just like Reema,” said Samaha. “The pain and loss were still raw then, so that was really comforting.”

Randa was studying in Lyon, France; and when she met her parents there, she showed

and power – and feeling that her daughter was with her – got her through the first five years after the tragedy. “In my heart, I felt her so closely with me,” she said. “For example, whenever I needed to find something tucked away in her room, she’d guide me to it. That was really a blessing; it was like a miracle, soft and sweet.”

Such things happened often, said Samaha. Mother’s Day was a month after

SEE ‘REEMA IS MY ANGEL’, PAGE 11

10 Years after VT Tragedy Reema’s father discusses life after his daughter’s death.

BY JOSEPH SAMAHA

The Virginia Tech shooting was transformative, not only for impacted families, survivors and the university, but also for U.S. higher education. Improving safety quickly became a priority on campuses and with state and national policy-makers.

The lost lives of our children and their professors opened a dialogue that raised awareness and a lot of new questions regarding campus safety. The blue-lighted, emergency call buttons on campus are now obsolete.

I have never doubted the choices I made after April 16, 2007. Though the hurt never goes away, my wife Mona, our children Omar and Randa, and I have always felt that Reema is not far away. I feel that she and the other victims guide us in what we do and remind us to look forward.

Yes, she died. They died. But now we must focus on preventing other young persons from being killed, other parents from experiencing our searing grief. We all have an important mission. And, yes, you could say this also has been my therapy.

Mona and I have handled the loss of Reema differently, with Mona choosing a deeply spiritual path to cope with our grief. Our other children choose separate paths, too. At the time, Omar became a gun-safety and violence-prevention advocate of some prominence, working with New York Mayor Bloomberg, while he pursued a graduate degree, and he has launched his career as a Realtor. Randa is a nurse practitioner in New York. Her big, loving heart is wide open to help others.

So we address our deep loss on different roads of advocacy, spirituality, activism and resilience. But we hold hands on our journeys and we never let go. A family cannot –

and should not – face the sort of loss we did without an outpouring of love and support from extended family, friends and community. And, to my mind, it would be hard to move forward without a cause to pursue.

The VTV Family Outreach Foundation, made up of a majority of the families and victims of the shooting, has recently launched Campaign32 (www.Campaign32.org), a mission to prevent other Virginia Tech-type shootings and look for our communities to support our efforts.

In my last email to Reema, at 11 p.m. the night before she died, I expressed how proud I was of her. “You did a GREAT job this weekend!” I told her, remembering her dance performances.

If only everyone had done their job on April 16, I’ve told myself over and over since the tragedy, I might now know what path

Reema would have taken upon graduating from Virginia Tech in 2010 as a vibrant, intelligent, beautiful, smiling young woman. Now I only have a framed diploma, given posthumously, posted in my office to remind me of her aspirations.

Reema’s life for me is frozen in time. In her room at home, her laptop remains unopened, perhaps holding a draft response to my last email. The clothes she wore as she breathed her last breath are in a brown paper bag. Her ballet slippers hang on her closet door. The costume she wore during her last dabke, or Lebanese folk dance performance, April 15 at the VT Street Fest, lays on her bed. Her Chip N Dale calendar is open to April 2007. Smiling and funny pictures of Reema are displayed, as we might say in our Samaha village, sans voix – without voice, but remaining my inspiration. As Tony Robbins says, “How our lives change in a moment.”

Singing, Dancing, Comedy and Endearing Characters

Westfield presents “Legally Blonde: The Musical.”

BY BONNIE HOBBS

After graduating from UCLA, Elle Woods hopes to get engaged to her boyfriend. But he breaks up with her instead and heads to law school at Harvard. Undaunted, she follows him there and finagles her way into law school, too. Both problems and hilarity ensue as she attempts to win him back.

That’s the premise of Westfield High’s Cappies show, “Legally Blonde: The Musical.” Show times are Friday-Saturday, April 28-29 and May 5-6, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday April 30, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at the door and \$10 with a student I.D. or online via www.westfieldtheatre.com.

The cast and crew of more than 80 have been rehearsing since February, and Director Rachel Harrington said things are going great. There’ll be a 15-piece, pit band, and the actors are a mix of choir, band and theater students. Drew Tobin is the student set designer, and the three student choreographers are Sarah Bresnahan, Bridgette Carey and Emily Bidingier.

“It’s really neat to see the kids create things like the dances, set, lighting, etc., that adults usually help them with,” said Harrington. “And this cast is, by far, one of my favorites because of the enthusiasm and passion they bring to the production. Each one has created characters that really pop off the stage and become endearing. These kids make the show fun for everyone to see.”

Although the show is “PG-13” for some of the college themes, she said the audience will love the high-energy, song-and-dance numbers. “The tunes are sure to be stuck in people’s heads by the end of the night,” said Harrington. “And our show even has some cute puppies.”

Portraying Elle is junior Molly Van Trees. “She’s optimistic, fun, has a bubbly personality, is hard-working and will do whatever it takes to get where she wants to go,” said Van Trees. “With her, the sky’s the limit. There’s nothing she can’t do, if she puts her mind to it.”

Calling Elle an “outstanding character” to play, Van Trees said, “She’s very different than I am, so she gives me an opportunity to step outside my box. She’s like a real-life



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS

Cast members after rehearsing the “What You Want” dance number in “Legally Blonde: The Musical.”

Barbie, and I’m so lucky to get to play such a cool role.” Her favorite song is “Legally Blonde Remix,” the number right before the finale. “Elle has lost all hope, but realizes people believe in her, so she’s reinvigorated to fight for her cause,” said Van Trees. “It’s an incredibly fun dance, the music makes you smile and it’s always been one of my favorite numbers from this show.” Because this play is so entertaining and uplifting, she said, “The audience will leave in a good mood. And they’ll see lots of different people shine on the stage.”

Classmate Wade Parker plays Elle’s ex-boyfriend, Warner. “He’s a self-centered, egotistical person who only cares about himself and his ambitions to become a lawyer,” said Parker. “He’s trying to live up to his family members who are lawyers, too, and he’s also a ladies’ man.”

Parker enjoys his role because “I get to be both comedic and serious. And it’s really fun to play a lead and have my own song, ‘Serious.’ It’s about how Warner needs to find a girlfriend who’s more mature than a sorority girl, and I love its rhythm and tone.”

As for the show, he said, “The singers are great, the songs are catchy and upbeat, and the pit orchestra is phenomenal. And the acting and the chemistry between the ac-

tors is really believable.”

Portraying Elle’s best friend, Emmett, is freshman John Henry Stamper. “He’s an older, more-experienced student who leads Elle’s law study-group and helps her in school,” said Stamper. “He’s casual and laid-back, but also professional. He’s trying to prove himself to his professor, while also mentoring the younger law students. He’s a nice guy who’s got everyone’s best interests at heart, and he’s a mediator who’s there for everyone.”

Calling it a fun part, Stamper said, “I get to be myself – relaxed and happy to be here – so it’s easy to get into character for Emmett. Playing a lead isn’t new to me, but it’s always a good challenge.” He especially likes “Find My Way,” the show’s finale, because “It’s a big, ensemble number with everyone on stage. The whole show is wrapped up in this one song, Elle’s the valedictorian and everyone has a happy ending.”

He said the audience will like the show because “There are a ton of songs and large dance numbers, and the college theme will be relatable to many people. And everyone on stage is having such a good time that the audience will, too. In addition, the set is absolutely huge and well-done; the story opens with a two-story, sorority home.”

Junior Aja Rene plays Paulette, Elle’s best friend whom she meets when she’s going through a crisis. “She’s very spunky, yet shy,” said Rene. “She has outbursts of excitement, but pulls back when she has to deal with confrontations. She doesn’t have a lot of confidence.” “I genuinely see a lot of me in her – even the accent,” continued Rene. “She’s from Boston and I’m from [New] Jersey. I like her sense of style and comedy. She has lots of energy, and her clothing style is outlandish and wacky, but she’s not ashamed of it – she owns it.”

Rene’s favorite song is “Bend and Snap,” which she sings.

“It’s the turning point where Paulette finds her confidence,” said Rene. “I also like ‘Legally Blonde’ because it’s a beautiful, intimate duet between Elle and Emmett. It brings me to tears every time because it’s so emotional.”

She said everyone will love this musical’s energy and comedy. “It’s so electrifying and memorable that people will leave saying lines from it, for the next week, maybe forever. They’ll also remember how well the cast members meshed together and fed off each other’s vibes. This show is a rollercoaster and a perfect balance between comedy and a lesson well-learned. To me, it’s a must-see.”

ROUNDUPS

Centreville International Showcase

The Centreville Immigration Forum is hosting the 7th Annual Centreville International Showcase on Saturday, April 22, from 5:30-9 p.m. at the Korean Central Presbyterian Church, 15451 Lee Highway, Centreville. The free event offers international entertainment and food from local restaurants. The Centreville Immigration Forum is a community volunteer group focused on immigration and

diversity in the Centreville area, with goals to implement sustainable programs that: provide immigrants in need with the means to improve their lives and become more integrated into the community; improve communication and cooperation among all groups serving immigrants; and build community recognition of our strength in diversity. See www.centrevilleinternationalshowcase.org.

How To Deal with Bullying

John Halligan will visit and speak to the parents and

students of the Chantilly Pyramid at Rocky Run Middle on Monday, April 24 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Halligan’s presentations will cover the lessons learned too late for his family regarding how to deal with bullying, cyberbullying, and teen depression.

His son, Ryan, died by suicide on Oct. 7, 2003, at the age of 13 after being bullied by classmates at school and online. Halligan will speak to Franklin Middle students during the day on April 24, and will speak to Rocky Run students on April 25.

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 5

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

SYA Little League Opening Day

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) speaks to a gym full of baseball players and their families at the SYA Little League opening day on April 1.

CRIME REPORT

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

COMMERCIAL ROBBERY: 14200 block of Centreville Square (Advance America), April 14, around 11:25 a.m. A man went into the business, approached an employee and demanded cash. The victim gave the suspect an undisclosed amount of cash and he ran toward the Giant Supermarket. The victim did not require medical attention. The suspect was described as approximately 20 years old, olive-toned complexion, wearing a dark blue sweatshirt and had a piece of cloth covering his face.

INDECENT EXPOSURE: 15000 block of Stillfield Place, April 8 around 2:30 p.m. A woman was walking her dog on a trail along a stream. She looked across the stream and saw a man exposing and touching himself inappropriately. The victim immediately left the area then reported the incident. Officers extensively checked the area but did not locate the suspect. He was described as white, in his 40s, about 6 feet 1 inch tall and 200 pounds. He wore a blue plaid shirt and blue jeans.

FAILURE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE CARE OF A DOG/TETHERING VIOLATION/ARREST: 5300 block of Willow Valley Road, March 24 around 9:45 a.m. A 37-year-old woman was charged after an investigation determined she tethered

her 8-month-old Husky to a tree in the backyard without proper shelter for several hours. She was issued summonses for failing to provide adequate care of a dog and violation of the tethering law. Animal Protection Police officers provided guidance to the owner on properly caring for and raising her pet.

APRIL 17 – LARCENIES
6000 block of Union Mill Road, cell phone from school

APRIL 10 – LARCENIES
4400 block of Brookfield Corporate Drive, cell phone from business

6000 block of Union Mill Road, cell phone from business

5100 block of Westfields Boulevard, liquor from business

APRIL 7 – LARCENIES
5300 block of Sammie Kay Lane, property from vehicle

14900 block of Willard Road, property from residence

APRIL 6 – LARCENIES
4400 block of Chantilly Shopping Center, merchandise from business

4800 block of Cross Meadow Place, property from vehicle

13800 block of Fount Beattie Court, wallet from residence

4500 block of Flushing Court, cash from vehicle

13600 block of Smallwood Court, laptop computer from vehicle

APRIL 4 – LARCENIES
14300 block of Avocado Court, documents from vehicle

7700 block of Bull Run Drive, cell phone from park

13500 block of Orchard Drive, package from residence

14400 block of Woodmere Court, purse from business

APRIL 3 – LARCENIES
13600 block of Bent Tree Circle, medication from business

13800 block of Braddock Road, watch from residence

6000 block of Raina Drive, ring from residence

MARCH 31 – LARCENIES
14800 block of Bolton Road, cash from vehicle

MARCH 30 – LARCENIES
4400 block of Chantilly Shopping Center, cell phone from vehicle

5700 block of Deer Pond Road, electronic devices from vehicle

5600 block of Stone Road, merchandise from business

MARCH 29 – LARCENIES
14500 block of Lee Road, beer from business

MARCH 27 – LARCENIES
4900 block of Stonecroft Boulevard, cell phone from business

5800 block of Trinity Parkway, ring from residence

MARCH 24 – LARCENIES
5500 block of Stroud Court, cell phones from business

MARCH 23 – LARCENIES
13700 block of Autumn Vale Court, property from vehicle

ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 4

Emergency Response Education

The next available Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, April 24 at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy. There are two sessions each week on Mondays and Wednesdays that run until May 17. The class is 28 hours in length, plus the final practical exercise.

The training prepares residents to help themselves, their families and neighbors in the event of a disaster in their community. Through CERT, residents can learn about disaster preparedness and receive training in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations.

CERT training is free of charge and basic gear is provided. The minimum requirements to participate in CERT training at any level is that residents be 16 years of age or older, and either be a Fairfax County resident, or work in the county.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cert/cert.htm.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, April 27, 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.

Clean Out Medicine Cabinets

On Saturday, April 29, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., the Sully District Police Station and the Drug Enforcement Administration will give the public another opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring the pills for disposal to the lobby of 4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly.

The DEA cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps, only pills or patches. The service is free and anonymous.

Neighborhood Watch Training

PFC Tara Gerhard, crime prevention officer for the Sully District Police Station, is offering neighborhood watch training to all communities in the Sully District. Her next presentation is set for Monday, May 1, at 7 p.m., at the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Go to the community room, just inside the lobby on the right. R.S.V.P. to Gerhard at Tara.Gerhard@fairfaxcounty.gov or call her at 703-814-7051. She'll also be happy to answer any related questions.

Free Admission

5TH ANNUAL

Arlington Festival of the Arts

April 22nd – 23rd Sat./Sun. 10am – 5pm

North Highland Street and Washington Boulevard
in the Clarendon district of Arlington, VA

Artfestival.com Information: (703) 812-8881
A Howard Alan Event or (561) 746-6615

OPINION

Mother's Day

Centre View is seeking submissions for its annual photo gallery.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 14 this year and as usual every year at this time, Centre View calls for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery.

Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children in the photos. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. We will not print your full address or contact information.

You can upload photos and information directly to www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/ or email to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com.

No Ordinary Play Date

By Mike Mohler, Captain I
Fire Station 16, Clifton, A-Shift

Recently, the MOMS Club of Clifton/Centreville South stopped by Fire Station 16, Clifton, to learn more about fire safety and to get a tour of the station. They had a specific request for us to teach them how to develop and execute a home escape plan in case of fire.

The crew from A-Shift were up to the task and utilized materials from the department's Life Safety Education section as well as a YouTube video. To practice what they learned, Firefighter Irene Lawrence took the parents and children into the bunkroom and instructed them how to escape a bedroom when their smoke alarm sounds. Everyone

connectionnewspapers.com.

Immediately after we publish our Mother's Day photo galleries, we will begin to ask for submissions for our annual Father's Day galleries. Each year we seem to receive many more photos for Father's Day.

We've always been curious whether that is because it is the second of the set so readers are more aware or because mothers are more likely to send in images of the fathers in their life.

Throughout the year, we ask for community submissions. Twice a year we ask you to tell us stories about your pets and how they have come into, touched and left your lives.

In late summer, we invite readers to share

what they know about their community for neighbors and newcomers alike.

And wrapping up the year, we gather writing and art from local students to fill our holiday edition. Each year, through an enormous effort by area teachers and school staff we receive more material than is possible to publish for most of our 15 editions.

In addition, regular contributions to our entertainment calendars, community bulletin boards, school notes, and business notes help us to share news in your community. We also always welcome photos and captions from community organizations (Scouts, sports teams, faith groups, school activities, etc.) and local businesses.



then got to practice.

After the important fire safety lesson, one of the firefighters dressed up in full gear to show the kids what a firefighter looks like when they go into a fire. They also had a chance to check

out the fire truck and ambulance.

Thanks to the MOMS Club of Clifton/Centreville South for stopping by, to meet your local firefighters and to learn how to keep your children a little safer.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 30, 2017, are eligible to attend kindergarten. Find the correct neighborhood school by entering your address at <http://boundary.fcps.edu/boundary/>. Complete a packet of registration forms found at www.fcps.edu/it/forms/enroll.pdf or in the school office. Gather supporting documents: proof of residence in the school boundary, a certified copy of the child's birth certificate, parent/guardian photo ID, and any custody orders. Certificate of physical exam and immunization will be required before the student may start school, but is not required for registration. Parents who choose to delay enrollment in kindergarten by one year are required to notify the school in writing of their intent.

Greenbriar East Elementary School, 13006 Point Pleasant Drive,

Fairfax, is now accepting registration for rising Kindergarteners. Visit greenbriareastes.fcps.edu to sign up for an appointment or call Melissa Dicker, School Registrar at 703-633-6400.

Greenbriar West Elementary School is now accepting information for next year's Kindergarten classes. Call the school office at 703-633-6700 as soon as possible.

APRIL

Coffee for Campers. April is the Month of the Military Child, and to honor our nation's littlest heroes, the National Military Family Association is asking if you'll give up your coffee shop coffee and donate that extra \$5 a day to send a military kid to Operation Purple Camp. Visit www.militaryfamily.org/get-involved/donate/coffee-for-campers.html to learn more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 14

Westfield Mulch Order Deadline. Have your mulch delivered right to your driveway on April 21 or 22. Your order will raise the funds

needed to provide a safe and sober All Night Grad Party for Westfield Seniors and support other vital PTSA programs. Order early, there is a limit on the total number of bags that can be delivered. \$5 per bag. \$2 per bag, for students to spread mulch, also limited number of slots. Order today at bit.ly/2kAh4fb.

MONDAY/APRIL 17

Emergency Preparedness Lecture. 7 p.m. at the Cale Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road. Guest speaker is Grelia Steele, the new Community Outreach Manager for the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management. Visit www.wfcwc.org or call 703-378-4250.

SATURDAY/APRIL 22

7th Annual Immigration Forum. 5:30-9 p.m. at Korean Central Presbyterian Church, 15451 Lee Highway, Centreville. Join the Centreville Immigration Forum in celebration of the dance, music, food and diverse community of Northern Virginia. Free. Visit

www.centrevilleinternationalshowcase.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 24

Free Financial Counseling. 6-7:15 p.m. at Chantilly Computer Learning Center, 4101 Elmwood St., Chantilly. Certified financial planners will provide 45-60 minutes of free confidential financial counseling. Email Ldiaz@wfcma.org or call 703-988-9656.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 26

Sully District Council Meeting. 7 p.m. at Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly. Membership topic: Manassas Battlefield National Park's current plans and possible impacts on its Fairfax County neighbors with Brandon S. Bies, Superintendent, Manassas National Battlefield Park. Visit www.sullydistrict.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 29

Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Sully

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 8

CENTREVIEW

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A Connection Newspaper

OBITUARY



The store was one of Route 50's central general stores, selling cowboy boots, blue jeans, tobacco, handmade sandwiches and more.

William Adrian Lockhart

Surrounded by his loving family, William Adrian Lockhart, beloved father, known throughout the community as "Chantilly Billy," and fun-loving friend to all he met, died on April 8, 2017.



Lockhart

Billy Lockhart was a cherished father to three daughters, "Grampies" to seven grandchildren, a loving partner, the animated owner of Route 50's iconic Chantilly Cash & Carry, passionate golfer, gardener and poker ace. Billy knew no strangers. He was genuine, witty and sharp, a man who lived his life unbridled and a friend who would drop anything to help.

A Virginian born and bred, Billy was born on Feb. 25, 1950 to Lakie Reil and Robert Lee Lockhart, II in Front Royal, Va. Starting out life skipping rocks in rural Limeton, Va., Billy moved to the "big city" of Front Royal at age 8, where — when he was not shooting pea shooters at unsuspecting patrons on the lower level of the Royal Theater — he was beloved, grabbing burgers and shakes at the Royal Dairy, participating as a guard on the men's basketball team at John S. Mosby Academy High School, where he graduated in 1968, and playing on local Little League teams.

Billy served in the United States Marine Corps for 4 years; after training at Parris Island, he served in Okinawa. In 1977, Billy took over his parents' general store on Route 50 and built the Chantilly Cash & Carry, an iconic hometown general store which supplied Chantilly with an eclectic mix of everything from cowboy boots and blue jeans to fishing supplies to homemade pickled eggs, half-smokes and beer.

During his difficult seven-month battle with cancer, Billy's family received word from hundreds of Northern Virginians who credit the Cash & Carry to the purchase of



Billy and Suzie Lockhart in 1980 with daughter Dusty.

their first beer or their favorite community gathering place. Chantilly Billy loved the Chantilly community and running "the Cash." Billy took so much joy in being a father to his three girls and was a doting daddy who loved, protected and constantly cared for the well-being of his children, even into adulthood.

On the other side, Billy joins his mother and stepfather Lakie Edna Reil and Robert Reil, his grandmother Opal (Hollandsworth) Mitchell, his brother Robert "Jim" Lee Lockhart, III and his beloved black Lab, Captain.

He is survived by his father and stepmother, Mary Ann and Robert Lee Lockhart, II, his sisters and brothers-in-law Barbara and Ray Lester of Edinburg, Va. and Robin and Gordon Jones of Saluda, Va., his loving partner of 20 years, Barbara Ward, three adoring daughters and sons-in-law who miss him dearly, Dusty Lockhart and Stefano Frigerio of Purcellville, Va., Jessie Lockhart and Craig Renteria of Campbell, Calif., and Lindsay Lockhart and Michael Reiss of Washington, D.C. and seven grandchildren William Cody, Cooper, Porter, Landon, Nicoletta, Peyton and Suzie.

Our daddy, our brother and Chantilly's own is dearly missed. His carefree, giving and loving nature lives on in the lives of the many people he has touched.

— DUSTY LOCKHART

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Bull Run Students Recognized in Fairfax SAR Poster Contest

The Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution visited Bull Run Elementary School in Centreville in April to recognize participants in its annual Americanism poster contest. The chapter recognized Justin Thomas from Kate Charlton's 4th grade class as the winner of its poster contest and presented Leslie Lopez and Alison Hernandez from Sherry Watkins' class with Certificates of Recognition for their participation. The chapter also presented a program on Early American Flags to both classes.



Justin Thomas is recognized by Chapter President Jeff Thomas for his winning poster on Colonel William Grayson as SAR member Dick Hamly displays the poster.



Students Leslie Lopez and Alison Hernandez display their Certificates of Recognition with Fairfax Resolves President Jeff Thomas and Color Guard member Vern Eubanks.

Spiritual Lessons from the Military

First Sergeant Matt Eversmann (ret.), who illustrates the importance of leadership, courage and selfless service to succeed when ordinary circumstances become extraordinary challenges, will speak at New Life Christian Church, at The nZone, 14550 Lee Road, Chantilly on Sunday, April 23, 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m.

As an Army Ranger deployed to Somalia in 1993, he and his fellow soldiers were trapped in a hostile district of Mogadishu and marked for death by an angry mob. His story of survival was immortalized in the film, "Blackhawk Down."

Committed to sharing the lessons he learned in the military, he draws parallels from his experiences to highlight the importance of leadership, courage, and responsibility and how that relates to one's relationship with God and others. See newlife.church/bigday.



Eversmann

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FROM PAGE 6

District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Drop off unused or expired medications at a Fairfax County Police district station (pills or liquids only, no pressurized canisters or needles). Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb or email wwwcsb@fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

Caregiver Bootcamp. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Join IMCC for a day-long training event covering many essential caregiving topics. A continental breakfast and lunch

will be provided. Visit bit.ly/2kzc66z for more.

MONDAY/MAY 23

Free Financial Counseling. 6-7:15 p.m. at Chantilly Computer Learning Center, 4101 Elmwood St., Chantilly. Certified financial planners will provide 45-60 minutes of free confidential financial counseling. Email Ldiaz@wfcma.org or call 703-988-9656.

SUNDAY/MAY 28

Memorial Day Service at Church of the Ascension. 5:30 p.m. at Church of

the Ascension, 13941 Braddock Road, Centreville. Visit www.ascension-acc.org.

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.



Uncle Slam's Reading Program

Students and their dads pose with Uncle Slam as he visited Union Mill's library to promote 2017 Uncle Slam's Reading Program. Uncle Slam challenged students to read four books at age appropriate level to receive two free grandstand Potomac National tickets on one of the four designated reading program games.

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Weighing Long-Term Benefits of Summer Camp

Camp experiences can enhance social and psychological development, say experts.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As the end of the school year draws near, so does the beginning of summer camp experiences. Child development experts say that summer camps offer more than just fun; they present opportunities for emotional, social and psychological growth and development.

"Summer camps provide children with a sense of community where they can feel safe and learn through first-hand experiences, said Stacie Gottlieb, director, Bullis Summer Programs at Bullis School in Potomac, Md. "Within this setting, campers develop a sense of independence as they try new adventures in an environment different from the norm."

Children benefit from the nurturing structure of a summer camp in a way that is different from the structure they get during a school year, says Jim Supple, associate dean of students and director of Summer Programs at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. "Summer camps allow children to be children," he said. "They allow them to make new friends, try new things,

and learn how to be part of a group. These are attributes of camps that will promote not only healthy interaction among peers, but also building a healthy image of what type of child they want to be."

A summer camp where children engage in new and memorable activities will sow seeds for learning during the upcoming academic year, said Shannon Melideo, Ph. D. associate dean of the School of Education & Human Services and associate professor of education at Marymount University. "For example, if your child's summer camp takes a field trip to a historical site that your son finds fascinating and then during the school year, the teacher introduces [the] same historical events and location, he has schema for the lessons. He is more likely to participate, learn more, be better prepared to read his social studies textbook, and even perform better on the exam."

"Summer camp can be a terrific opportunity to grow your child's sense of competence and mastery over something that they love," added Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D., professor of psychology, Northern Virginia Community College. "By picking a camp where your child has an interest, they can

be mentored in a passion in ways that a typical school day often can't."

When selecting a camp, Melideo advises parents to consider a complete picture of their child. "For example, while your daughter, Sophia loves softball, find a summer camp where she can refine [her] batting and pitching skills and engage with books, perform in skits, play math games, and try something new," she said.

A child's social skills can be boosted at camps which provide children with opportunities to make new friends or nurture existing friendships, says Colleen K. Vesely, Ph. D., assistant professor of Early Childhood Education and Human Development at George Mason University. "Developing new social and cognitive skills outside the physical walls and social boundaries of school can help promote healthy self-esteem in children, while spending time in nature can boost children's overall health and well-being." Camps offer an opportunity for children to gain skills that lead to independence. "For older children, over 8-plus years old, typically, sleep away camp offers opportunities to develop independence and self-reliance by providing children with space to navigate daily life away from the directing of parents but under the guidance of trusted adults," said Vesely.

For some parents, there are mixed emotions around enrolling a child in camp.

"Sometimes working parents feel guilty for enrolling their children in summer camps because of the need for child care during the work day," said Ivy Beringer, Ed.D., professor of Early Childhood Education and Dean for Social and Professional Sciences at Northern Virginia Community College. "However, children are usually very excited to attend summer camps. This is especially true if the children have input into the camp selection."

"Summer camps allow for continuous learning that extends beyond the regular school year [and] provide a relaxed atmosphere that stimulates their brains for creative learning without the assessment anxiety that often accompanies school classroom learning," said Beringer. "[Summer camp] enhances self-esteem by offering special interest learning in small group situations and often with a lower adult-student ratio in school settings."

"A mother recently called me with a concern that her son only wanted to attend soccer camps this summer and she felt this was too limited of an experience," continued Beringer. "My response to her was that if he was interested in improving his soccer skills she should view this in a positive light. After all, he will be outdoors in the fresh air and sunshine everyday, exercising his body, and enhancing skills in a sport he loves. What's not good about that choice?"

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Credit The Card



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm not a big spender, maybe a medium spender — on my best day. My brother is a big spender, my father was, too. My mother, probably who I most likely take after: 'medium' and judicious, again, like me (or is it me like her?). Nevertheless, the money got spent and if there was more of it, it likely would have got spent, too. It's not as if I was deprived growing up, I got the things that mattered — in the long run. I just didn't get everything money could buy.

But that was before credit cards. Well, before Visa, MasterCard, Discover and Capital One. Sure, there were department store cards: Filene's, Jordon Marsh, Kennedy's — in Boston, and off course there were gas cards: Esso, Amoco and Arco, and I suppose I recall knowing about American Express and Diner's Club, but they weren't used by everybody everywhere, certainly not by the Louries. Now, plastic is the currency by which many of us pay to play, and some of us use to merely stay in the game.

And for me, it sort of is a game: how long can I go without charging something and how much can I charge and still be able to pay the balance off when the next monthly credit card bill arrives? As I contemplate my daily/weekly/bi-weekly/monthly inflow and outgo, I associate my efforts at restraint and attempted control with that of a levee, if I understand their function correctly — which I might not: bend and not break? Like some NFL team defenses are often described.

The problem arises — for both me and the levee, when the levee/spending restraint breaks (quite the opposite of brakes/stops). That's when the damage occurs. That's when the balance overflows. That's when good, bad and indifferent money follows. In for a dime, in for dollars, some of which don't make sense. Once that resolve is weakened, and once that wallet is opened and that credit card is handed over, I feel very much the addict. Once I've started — and stopped denying myself the pleasure of the purchase, I find it extremely difficult to get off the spending bus. Invariably, it's taken me awhile to get on so whether it's sensory deprivation, deferred gratification or premature escalation, there are no more skid marks on that slippery slope. The race is on, so to speak and until I hit my imaginary financial wall, my credit card balance is going onward and upward.

Sure it feels good to spend money I don't have without considering the pay-back consequences. Presumably, the benefits derived from the purchase will help soothe the savage, impoverished beast as he jiggles and then juggles the dollars in order to find some cents. I imagine that's what makes the world go 'round: short term pain for long term gain. Still, it doesn't feel much like progress and progress is what feels good to me. Although, these new Rockport leather slip-ons with the "cushiony" soles and orthotic inserts are improving my disposition and lessening the pain in my feet and fatigue in my legs, it still costs me money not in my wallet.

I admit, I am enjoying the support and comfort my new shoes are providing. But I'm also keenly aware that I haven't received the credit card bill yet reflecting there and other slippery-slope purchases made that same weekend. And when the piper has to be paid, I may not like my new shoes — among other items, nearly as much as I do right now. Right now, the shoes are free. Soon they won't be.

Further complicating this spending-not spending dilemma is the fact that I'm a 62-year-old cancer patient; how do I deprive myself of any creature comforts when I have recurring highly stressful situations that give me, and my life-expectancy, pause. Naturally, I'd rather pay my way — and my share, but at what cost? I suppose cash in hand is still worth two in the bush, but if a credit card is all I have ... ? Either I use it or lose it. The pain and/or pleasure will likely follow regardless.

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

NEWS

'Reema Is My Angel Now'

FROM PAGE 3

them some graffiti on the back of her dorm building. It was the word, "Meema," which is how Reema pronounced her name as a child. Again, her mother took it as a message that her younger daughter was still with her.

As for the trip, itself, she said, "We went because we decided, in honor of Reema, we are going to continue to live our lives the way she would have wanted us to live." But it hasn't been easy.

"Joe took me to counseling and therapy, and I'm still going," said Samaha. "I had so many questions about life and prayer — they lost their meaning for me, and I had to find it again. I did, after about five years. I learned that we live to love, the essence of life is love and life is eternal. And once I found my answers, I was liberated and Reema was free. I was holding onto her, but I had to let her go."

Those first five years, Samaha said she was living in a bubble, so she had to regain her balance in the real world. "My faith and love helped me and I appreciated all I had," she said. But lately, she admitted, "I'm battling my anxiety and fears; it was safer and more peaceful when I was in my bubble."

Now, she keeps praying and realizing the larger picture. "I understand it's God's will, not mine," she said. "I had the privilege of being Reema's mom, but she belongs to the world. After her death, everyone was talking about her and sharing her picture. We got letters from people in Australia who didn't even know her. Like a firework that goes up in the sky and bursts, that's Reema — the whole world got a piece of her."

This past weekend, friends and relatives of the VT 32 gathered at the university for a three-day event in their honor. Friday was a remembrance through the arts, and Saturday was a 5K run, picnic and interfaith service.

On Sunday, April 16, was a candlelight vigil at the campus's outdoor memorial site. Each victim's name was read and a candle was lit in their honor; Reema's sister and brother Omar lit the candle for her. In addition, the school's Corps of Cadets lit a memorial candle that burned for 24 hours.

It helps, said Samaha, because "The parents get together and talk and listen to each



Reema Samaha before a high-school prom.

other. It connects and unites us, and it feels good to talk about our children. We're sharing the same loss." Through her own grief, she said, "I knew life keeps going, and I needed to keep going for my other two children."

Noting that she and Joe are lucky to have a big family that doesn't forget about Reema, Samaha said, "Even a Virginia Tech alumni — whose daughter I taught at Herndon Elementary [in the French immersion program] after this happened — meets us there every year for the remembrance."

She said Reema's death brought her closer to God, and Reema, herself, guided her to "this awakening. Reema also had an impact on many others who send us messages to tell us how she's brought strength, courage and more meaning into their lives. And I want people to keep believing in their faith, whatever it is, because through faith, there's joy and peace."

"Reema is truly special, and I am so grateful and honored to be her mom," continued Samaha. "Now I want to celebrate life because it's a gift — and in Reema's name, I will celebrate every occasion."

Celebrating Erin Peterson's Life

April 16 will mark a decade since the Virginia Tech massacre that took the lives of 32 victims, including Erin Peterson of Centreville.

"By the Grace of God," Erin's family, friends and the community will gather at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville, on Saturday, April 29, at 6 p.m., to celebrate Erin's life and legacy during the Erin Peterson Fund Celebration of Life Concert featuring Israel Houghton & New Breed.

Since its inception the Fund has awarded more than \$183,000 in schol-

arships and grants to aspiring college students. The EPF also continues to fund the Young Men's Leadership Group at Westfield High School as well as a new initiative; EPF Koats for Kids which provides new coats to local elementary students in need.

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/erin-peterson-fund-celebration-of-life-concert-tickets-31396869883> to reserve a complimentary general admissions ticket. The event is free and open to the public; however, donations will be accepted for the Erin Peterson Fund.

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

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.

Carolina Shag Dance. Wednesdays, 6:30-10 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m.; no partners needed; dinner menu at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$8. Visit www.nvshag.org for more.

Open Rehearsal. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Lord of Life church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Centreville. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires barbershop chorus invites men of all ages who enjoy singing. Free. Visit www.fairfaxjubilaire.org 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. Selected 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 a list of dates.

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.

Mondays are Family Night. 5-7 p.m.



Civil War Day

Civil War Day is at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road on June 3-4. Demonstrations of camp life, musket firings, candle making, Civil War reenactors from the Victorian Dance Ensemble of the Civil War Dance Foundation in formal ball dress of the time dancing and teaching authentic dance steps of that period. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; 16 and older, \$5. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, or call 703-425-9225 for more.



at Villaggio, 7145 Main St. \$45 for a family of four. Call 703-543-2030 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.

Over-40 Softball League. A Fairfax-based league is looking for enough players to form another team. Players must be at least 40 years of age to be eligible. All games are doubleheaders -played on Sundays at Bready Park in Herndon between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. If interested, email skeduman@aol.com for more.

PET ADOPTIONS

Adopt a Dog. Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit hart90.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at

Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit aforeverhome.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 20

Toddler Class. 6-7 p.m. at the NOVA Natural Birth Center, 4200 Technology Court, Suite A, Chantilly. An introduction to the amazing skill of signing that babies and toddlers can easily learn. Call 703-357-3808 for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 22

Centreville International Showcase. At Korean Central Presbyterian Church, 15451 Lee Highway, Centreville. Sponsored by the Centreville Immigration Forum to celebrate the diversity of the community through music, dance, and food. Email showtimecentreville@gmail.com for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 22-23

"Sleeping Beauty." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 22, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 23. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333

Little River Turnpike. Virginia Ballet Company presents the full-length ballet "Sleeping Beauty." Call 703-323-3000 for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 23

Sipping and Painting. 11:30-1:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Instructions on creating a canvas masterpiece of a spring Afternoon on the Lake! Call 703-815-2233 for more.

Meet the New Draft Horses. 1-3 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Join in welcoming Jeff and Charlie, the park's new team of Belgian Draft horses. Call 703-324-8662 for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 28

Live Music by Willem Dicke. 4:30-8:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Call 703-815-2233 for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 29

Fairfax County Anniversary. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Virginia Room, City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. "A Place Called Home: Fairfax County. A 275th Anniversary Event" is a day-long exploration of the history of Fairfax

County. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-293-6227, ext. 6.

Virginia Touch-A-Truck. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Dominion High School, 21326 Augusta Drive, Sterling. Climb aboard a fire truck, concrete truck or tractor trailer at the Virginia Touch-A-Truck event held by Joshua's Hands. \$5. Children under 12 months free. Email elisabeth@joshuashands.org.

Winning Poets on History. 10:30 a.m. at the Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Six winners ages 5-13 have been invited to read their poems. This contest is sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax County Park Foundation and is an official Fairfax County 275th anniversary event. Email parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-8662 for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 30

Indoor Yard Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Oakton Baptist Church of Chantilly, 14001 Sullyfield Circle. Call 571-313-1863 for more.

Spring Arts and Crafts Day. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Railroad themed arts and crafts. 5-15, \$2; 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

MAY 4-7

Spring Book Sale. Various times at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Proceeds benefit the library and its patrons. For more information call the library at 703-830-2223 or visit friendsofcentrevillelibrary.blogspot.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 6

Live Music by Jerry Irwin. 1-5 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Call 703-815-2233 for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 19

Bike to Work Day 2017. Registration — now open — is free and open to anyone who commutes in the region, from first timers to daily cyclists. All registrants will be entered in a regional bicycle raffle, and the first 16,000 to register and attend will receive a free t-shirt at one of more than 85 pit-stops throughout Northern Virginia. Participants can register online at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org. Email Megan Goodman at mgoodman@mwccog.org, or call 202-962-3209 for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 21

N-Gauge Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold an N gauge T-TRAK model train show. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

Wine, Whiskers and Wags. 1-5 p.m. at Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Benefit hosted by Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Wine tasting, food, a Silent Auction, raffle and much more. Well-behaved children and dogs welcome. Admission is \$40/person in advance and \$45 at the door. Visit ffcas.org for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 28

Memorial Day Service. 5:30 p.m. at Church of the Ascension, 13941 Braddock Road. Visit www.ascension-acc.org/ for more.

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