



Hadeed
ORIENTAL RUG CLEANING
AND IN-HOME SERVICES

**PET DANDER.
POLLEN. GET THE
ALLERGENS OUT!**



IN-PLANT ORIENTAL RUG CLEANING
Have 2 Rugs Cleaned And Get The 3rd Cleaned **FREE!**
Save up to 35%

Valid on Our Signature Hand-Washing of Your Fine Rugs Or the Hanna Ayoub Express Expedited Service for Rugs that Qualify!
- A Trusted Resource Since 1929!

**OUR BEST OFFER EVER
EXTENDED
BY POPULAR
DEMAND!**

703-836-1111 | JoeHadeed.com | FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY! Expires 6/24/18. Same size or smaller rug free. Not valid w/any other offers. †Some restrictions apply.

Centreville ❖ Little Rocky Run

CENTRE VIEW



JUNE 20-26, 2018

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

Irvin Baker Jr. shakes hands with Mountain View Principal Gary Morris before receiving his diploma.

Mountain View Grads Praise Their School

NEWS, PAGE 3

Wexton to Take On Comstock

NEWS, PAGE 4

ATTENTION
POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE
MATERIAL
REQUESTED
IN HOME
6-21-18

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

CALENDAR, PAGE 12 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

‘Nothing about What Happened Is OK’

Westfield grad
Chaz Coffin is in
“The Scottsboro
Boys.”

BY BONNIE HOBBS

Chaz Alexander Coffin, a 2012 Westfield High grad, recently returned to this area. But he’s not just here visiting family and friends — he has one of the lead roles in Signature Theatre’s production of “The Scottsboro Boys.”

A musical based on a true story of racism and injustice in the Jim Crow South, the show opened May 29 and runs through July 1, and possibly longer. The theater is at 4200 Campbell Ave. in Arlington’s Village at Shirlington. For tickets, go to SigTheatre.org.

“It’s draped in the framework of a minstrel show,” said Coffin. “But it’s a hard-hitting, controversial production that touches people’s emotions.”

While at Westfield, besides appearing in several shows, Coffin also performed with The Alliance Theatre and won a Washington Area Theatre Community Honors (WATCH) award for best actor in Alliance’s summer 2011 musical,



“The Scottsboro Boys” at Signature Theatre: Singing in front row are (from left) Chaz Alexander Coffin and Stephen Scott Wormley. (Back row, from left) are Jonathan Adriel, Aramie Payton, Andre Hinds and Darrell Purcell Jr.

“Hairspray.” He later received his bachelor’s in fine arts from East Carolina University and acted in several, professional productions throughout the country. (See sidebar.)

Then in April, he answered a casting call in New York for “The Scottsboro Boys.” He initially auditioned for one of the boys, but got the roles of Mr. Tambo and the

boys’ defense attorney.

It’s the true story of nine, black, young men, ages 12-19, who were riding on a freight train in northern Alabama in 1931, en route to Memphis to find jobs. A fight broke out between black and white youths, and the nine blacks plus two white women were rounded up. Someone said the word, “rape,” and the boys were pulled

from the train and taken to the nearest jail — in Scottsboro, Ala.

Their story made national news, was sensationalized by the Southern press and spurred the involvement of the NAACP and the ACLU. A prominent, New York defense attorney took their case, pro bono, and the boys became a symbol of American injustice.

Tambo is one of two, minstrel



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHAZ COFFIN

Chaz Coffin graduated from Westfield High.

clowns moving the show from one scene to another with one-liners and the shake of a tambourine. “There’s something special about African-American men onstage telling their stories,” said Coffin. “We also portray the white sheriff and prison guard, and it’s interesting being blacks playing whites who oppress the show’s black characters.”

As the defense attorney, Coffin portrays Samuel Leibowitz, considered an outsider because he was a Jew from New York. “This role resonated with me the most because Leibowitz was the good guy and has more of an impact than the other characters I portray,” said Coffin. “I also have a

SEE PERFORMING, PAGE 10

From Comedy to Musicals, Drama

Chaz Alexander Coffin
builds his theatrical résumé.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

Actively pursuing a career in the theater, Westfield High graduate Chaz Alexander Coffin has compiled a steady and varied résumé showcasing his talents as an actor in musicals, comedy and drama.

In college at East Carolina University, one of his favorite roles was an African dwarf who became a jester in the comedy, “Las Meninas” (“The Little Maids”). “It was fun and fulfilling,” he said. “And I learned a lot about myself and what I could do as an actor because it was a straight play and not a musical.”

I also played Benny, one of the eight leads in “Rent.” He’s often seen as a villain, so I liked diving into a different dynamic and making him likable.”

Coffin then began his professional career and was happy to put to good use the lessons he’d learned at Westfield. Since his theater directors there had taught him “professionalism, poise and how to talk to people,” he was well-prepared to audition and already had jobs lined up upon graduating from ECU.

His advice to other, aspiring actors is to “keep moving. Even if you’re not performing, keep hustling toward what you want to do. Get yourself seen, meet people, audition and keep trying.”

Coffin’s first, professional lead was as Donkey in “Shrek” in Bigfork, Mont. “It was a Broadway musical; and as long as I wanted to do theater, I wanted to play Donkey,” he said. “So it meant a lot to me to leave college and do my dream role.”

This was one of four shows we did in summer 2016.”

“In college, I was trained mostly in drama, and Donkey is the most fun, iconic character in that show,” continued Coffin. “It was the most challenging responsibility, and I got to sing by myself, too.”

But the best part was meeting kids and families from the audience and getting their excited responses after the show.”

He was next in the ensemble of “The Wiz” in Sarasota, Fla., and

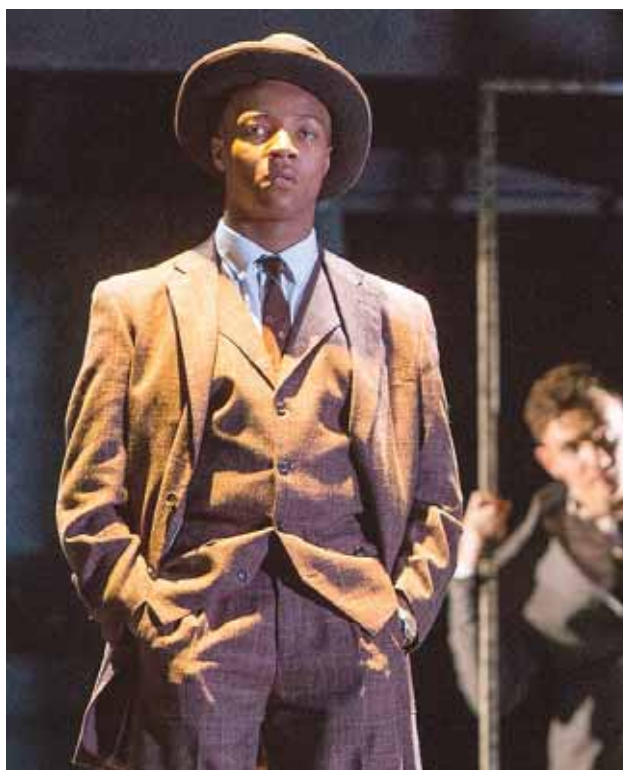


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHAZ COFFIN

Chaz Alexander Coffin as Richard Roe in “Machinal” at East Carolina University.

acted in “The Addams Family” and “Sister Act” in Clarksville, Ind. “At this point, I was getting a lot of comedy roles — which were still new to me,” he said. “But I was getting accustomed to them and enjoying them.”

Then last summer, Coffin moved to New York to learn what it was like being an actor there. But after four months, he booked “Dream Girls” in Columbus, Ohio. “It was another dream role of mine, C.C., Effie’s brother who writes the songs,” said Coffin. “Everybody loved him and he was relatable, and wasn’t flashy or a villain or drug-abusing singer, like the other guys in the show.”

It also meant a great deal to him because it was his first role since college that wasn’t comedic, but more like a real person. And it enabled him to get into the membership candidacy program for Equity, the professional union for stage actors.

SEE BUILDS, PAGE 10

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

‘Filled with an Abundance of Love’

Mountain View grads praise their high school.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

At the start of Mountain View High’s graduation ceremony last week, Assistant Principal Claudia Pirouzan-Jones told the students, “You share the common bond of being part of the Mountain View family. And the school’s motto of ‘Family, Love and Respect’ lives within your soul.”

The graduation was Tuesday, June 12, at Centreville High and was powerful and heartfelt because — unlike students at larger, traditional high schools — those at Mountain View have more obstacles to overcome. So their diplomas signify the achievements they’ve made and the future potential on the horizon.

“You have perseverance, grit, intelligence and drive,” said Pirouzan-Jones. “You’re resilient and strong, and you have a lot to be proud of.” She then thanked the parents and all members of the Mountain View family and had the seniors stand and applaud to show their gratitude.

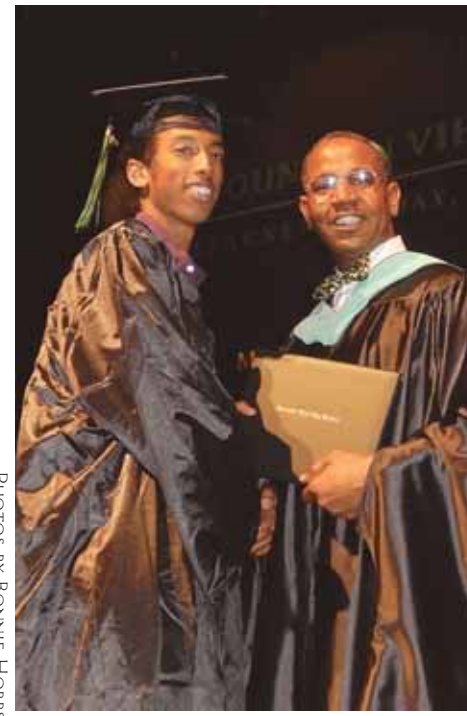
Saying he shared the graduates’ joy and excitement, Principal Gary Morris told them, “Because of our experiences together, I’m truly touched by this day.” He then read a letter he wrote to his youngest child, telling her he has a renewed confidence in her future because of the 68 new Mountain View Timber Wolf graduates who’ll lead the way for her.

He said no path to success is ever truly straight, but she can reach it by possessing the four characteristics these grads have. The first is being courageous. Whenever he felt down and wanted to stay home from

SEE MOUNTAIN VIEW, PAGE 8



Graduate Denilson Aguilar Lopez with (from left) siblings Randy and Amy and parents Yolanda and Ramon.



Koshin Khalif receives his diploma from Principal Gary Morris.



ESOL teacher Elizabeth Park (center) presents Citizenship Awards to (from left) Charlotte Williams and Duc My Tran.



English teacher Courtney McPhee gives Personal Achievement Awards to Jose Ramos Cantarero and Callie Harry.

Bright Future for Local Graduate

BY ELLEN FAY

Below is the speech given by Mountain View High Counselor Ellen Fay, last week, to graduating student Brayan Perez Brito before presenting him with the school’s Faculty Award.

“**B**rayan, when you completed your 70-day journey from Guatemala to the United States, you did not know there was another ‘Mountain’ ahead of you. You said that you memorized one sentence in English when you came to register at Mountain View High School. It was, ‘Excuse me, but does anyone here speak Spanish?’ And with the help of the amazing [administrative assistant] Tina Perez, who does speak Spanish, you began

your high-school journey.

For most students, high school can be a challenge. But when a student is in a new country, without family and not understanding the language or the culture, the obstacles can seem insurmountable. Your commitment to learning and your ability to reach out for support are the driving forces behind your success.

You embraced the Dreamcatcher Program at George Mason University. Searching for work, you found the Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF); and before long, you were not just using the center for resources, but you soon became a volunteer director, using your talents to help others.

You have been an active partici-



Brayan Perez Brito receives the Faculty Award from counselor Ellen Fay.

Mountain View’s Brito earns two scholarships.

part in the Mountain View Family. In the past, you have represented the school at the Superintendent’s Round Table, you were a member of the Mountain View student council and president of the school’s Environmental club.

On Jan. 19, a snowy, icy-cold day, I accompanied you to the Supreme Court of Virginia, in Richmond, where you were one of three finalists from the 10th Congressional District for the Harry F. Byrd Jr. Leadership Scholarship. This prestigious scholarship is open to every student in a public or a private high school in the state of Virginia. Academics are a factor, but the most important factors

SEE BRITO, PAGE 11

Wexton to Take on Comstock

Moderate state senator did not get pulled to the left in primary.

By Michael Lee Pope

State Sen. Jennifer Wexton (D-33) made a name for herself in Northern Virginia as a tough-as-nails prosecutor, including one case that grabbed national headlines involving a woman who persuaded her boyfriend to kill her father with a samurai sword. During her campaign for the Democratic nomination in Virginia's 10th Congressional District, she never lost that sense of law-and-order grit, refusing to be pulled to the left as other candidates were calling for President Trump to be impeached. "We are now on a mission to bring real representation to Northern Virginia and to remove Barbara Comstock from office," said Wexton in a statement shortly after securing the nomination. "Barbara Comstock has worked to strip healthcare from millions of Americans, proudly touts her A rating from the NRA, and is so out of touch with this district that she hides from her constituents and has never held a single town hall."

Comstock is the only Republican incumbent in Virginia to be defending a district that Trump lost in 2016, which puts this particular race at the top of the agenda for Democrats this fall. Two years ago, Comstock won 53 percent of the vote against Democrat LuAnn Bennett. But Hillary Clinton also won the district with 52 percent of the vote. Since that time, Comstock has tried to position herself as a centrist looking out for the interests of her constituents while taking an arms-length approach to some of Trump's more conservative rhetoric.

"Barbara Comstock has defeated a Jennifer Wexton-type candidate before, and she'll do it again in November."

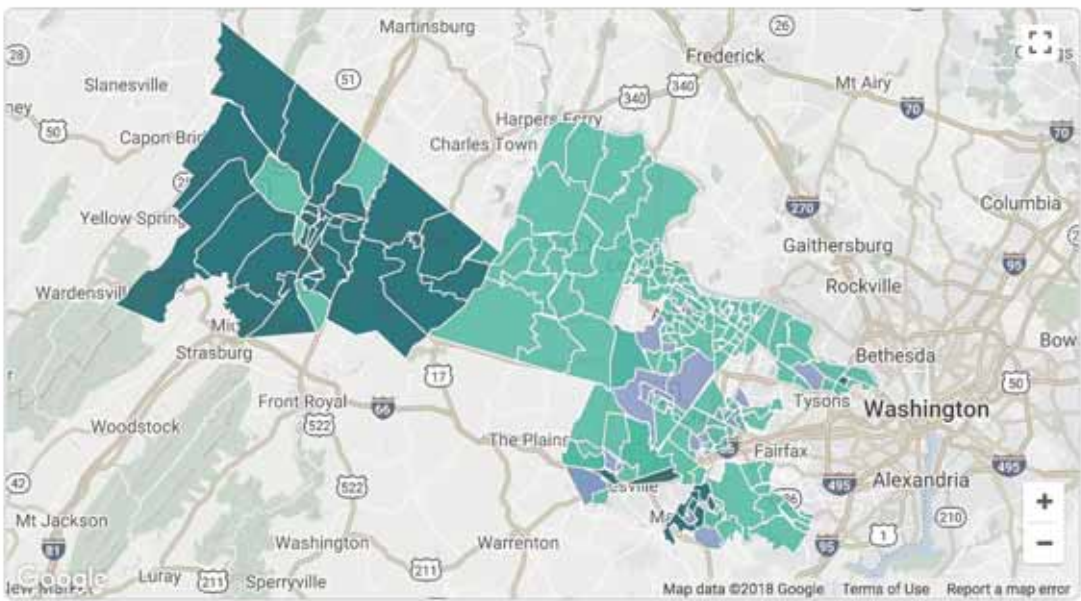
— Maddie Anderson, spokeswoman, National Republican Congressional Committee

LAST YEAR'S BLUE WAVE

election has given Democrats hope that they're entering a midterm election season with the wind at their back, and they're targeting three incumbent Republican House members in

Jennifer Wexton	22,394	41.88%
Alison Friedman	12,289	22.98%
Lindsey Stover	8,561	16.01%
Dan Helmer	6,709	12.55%
Paul Pelletier	2,010	3.76%
Julia Biggins	1,512	2.83%

Click on a precinct for details



10th District map.

"She is the only candidate in this race who has voted to cut our taxes and increase our take home pay and grow jobs," said Susan Falconer, campaign manager for Comstock, in a written statement after her primary victory against Republican challenger Shak Hill. "She is the only candidate in this race to have passed two MS-13 anti-gang bills on a bipartisan basis that the president has already committed to sign."

Virginia. Aside from Comstock, incumbents who find themselves in the crosshairs include U.S. Rep. Dave Brat (VA-07) and U.S. Rep. Scott Taylor (VA-02). The House Majority PAC is supporting Democrats in all three of these races, hoping to turn these red parts of Virginia blue. "These candidates will stand up for Virginia families and fight for an agenda that lifts up the middle class while their Republican opponents have made it clear that they aren't looking out for the hardworking Virginia families they're supposed to represent," said Charlie Kelly, executive director of the political action committee. "These Republicans have enabled a toxic GOP agenda that raises taxes on hardworking Virginians, imposes a devastating age tax and takes away health care from millions of Americans."

WEXTON was able to beat back a crowded field of Democratic challengers, including

SOURCE: VIRGINIA PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT

two former Obama administration officials. One, Alison Friedman, was able to pump \$1 million into her own campaign and remained a constant presence on television ads. The other, Lindsey Davis Stover, became a constant presence at community meetings and town halls over the last few months. In the end, neither was able to match the name recognition that Wexton has built.

"From the moment it began, this campaign has been about putting people back into the center of our politics," said Stover in a concession statement, thanking the other candidates in the race. "Together, we built momentum and enthusiasm that will ensure Democrats can unseat Barbara Comstock this November."

Friedman was able to win seven precincts in Fairfax County and nine precincts in Loudoun County. And Stover had a strong showing in Frederick County, Manassas and Winchester.

But Wexton was able to run up the numbers in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William County for a comfortable margin of victory. Republicans say they're ready to take on Wexton this fall.

"The nasty and divisive Democratic primary forced Nancy Pelosi recruit Jennifer Wexton to lurch to the far-left, rendering her unelectable," said Maddie Anderson, spokeswoman for the National Republican Congressional Committee. "Barbara Comstock has defeated a Jennifer Wexton-type candidate before, and she'll do it again in November."

211 of 211 precincts reporting (100.00%)

Jennifer Wexton	22,394	41.88%
Alison Friedman	12,289	22.98%
Lindsey Stover	8,561	16.01%
Dan Helmer	6,709	12.55%
Paul Pelletier	2,010	3.76%
Julia Biggins	1,512	2.83%

211 of 211 precincts reporting (100.00%)

Barbara Comstock*	28,274	60.71%
Shak Hill	18,301	39.29%

<https://www.vpap.org/electionresults/20180612/usHouse/>

ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, June 21, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. No appointment is necessary. But residents should in-

stall 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.

Rocky Run Trail Improvements

The Fairfax County Park Authority will hold a public information meeting to discuss proposed improvements to the Rocky Run Stream Valley Trail, including stream-

crossing upgrades and paving of the gravel sections between Stringfellow Road and the Fairfax County Parkway.

The meeting is set for Thursday, June 21, at 7 p.m., in the Greenbrier East Elementary School cafeteria, 13006 Point Pleasant Drive in Chantilly. A brief overview of the proposed project will be presented, followed by an opportunity for questions and answers.

Voters Choose Firebrand

Corey Stewart to lead Republican ticket in Virginia this fall.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE

Conservative firebrand Corey Stewart was denied an opportunity to be the Republican nominee for lieutenant governor in 2013. And then he came within striking distance of being the party's standard-bearer in the gubernatorial campaign last year. Now, finally, the chairman of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors has secured a spot at the top of the ticket, bringing his brand of anti-immigrant, pro-Confederate Trumpism to the race against incumbent U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine.

"We will unite the coalition that President Trump brought together in 2016," said Stewart at a victory party in Woodbridge. "We will win working men and woman across this state. We will restore our values. We will restore our economy. We will restore our border. And we will restore America."

The Republican establishment campaigned against Stewart, worrying that his brand of conservatism would tarnish the GOP and harm down-ticket Republicans in competitive congressional races. They tried

to rally behind Del. Nick Freitas (R-30), who grabbed national headlines earlier this year with a barnburner of a speech on the floor of the House of Delegates that took on Democrats for their support for gun control by blaming them for slavery and massive resistance to civil rights. In the end, voters chose the candidate who is outspoken in his support for Confederate flags and statues.

"Basically the Republican Party of Virginia is setting themselves up for a loss in No-

"We're going to hear a lot about Hillary Clinton in this race in part because Tim Kaine was Hillary Clinton's running mate, so we're going to get a reprisal in some ways of the presidential race here in Virginia."

— **Quentin Kidd, Professor, Christopher Newport University**

vember against Tim Kaine, and that could have all kinds of ramifications down ballot," said Geoff Skelley at the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "If Kaine ends up winning by more than 10 points, that could create conditions for Democrats to win some tough congressional races."

Stewart was typically defiant in his victory speech, taking on Democrats and media and even other Republicans. He thanked Freitas, adding that he has a future in the party. But he also brought out a familiar list of themes from the 2016 campaign, including attacking immigrants and Hillary Clinton. That prompted the audience to chant "build the wall" and "lock her up" just as they had two years ago. Even though that approach put Trump in the White House, it failed to win the day in Virginia.

"We're going to hear a lot about Hillary Clinton in this race in part because Tim Kaine was Hillary Clinton's running mate, so we're going to get a reprisal in some ways of the presidential race here in Virginia," said Quentin Kidd, a professor at Christopher Newport University. "Hillary Clinton won Virginia by five points in 2016, so it's going to be an uphill climb for Corey Stewart."

In Fairfax County, Stewart won with 49 percent of the vote, with the strongest showing in Bull Run, Difficult Run and Woodyard. Freitas was able to win some parts of the wealthy northern suburbs, posting his strongest numbers in Greenbrier

West, Bush Hill and Grovesnor. But it was no match for Stewart, who has a long history in the region and a familiarity with voters from years of experience leading a neighboring county.

"Senator Tim Kaine has spent his career fighting for civil rights, good jobs, and education for all Virginians," said Susan Swecker, chairwoman of the Democratic Party of Virginia. "Corey Stewart has spent his spreading hate and engaging in destructive carnival barking."

Republicans, though, are prepared to take on Kaine. During the primary, Stewart promised to run a campaign against Kaine that would be "vicious." Within hours of Stewart securing the nomination, Trump endorsed him and called Kaine "a total stiff." In the endorsement, Trump mentioned immigration and tax cuts — setting out a template for the campaign they plan on waging against the freshman Democratic senator.

"Senator Kaine spends more time whining about Crooked Hillary's big loss than actually representing Virginia in the U.S. Senate," said John Whitbeck, chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia. "It's about time that Virginia had a senator that looked out for the interests of the Commonwealth over the interests of his California or Massachusetts donors."

HADEED

SINCE 1955

Oriental Rug Cleaning & In-Home Services

POLLEN. PET DANDER. GET THE ALLERGENS OUT!

SAVE UP TO 35%

OUR BEST OFFER EVER!

In-Plant Oriental Rug Cleaning

Have 2 Rugs Cleaned | And Get The 3rd Cleaned **Free!**

Offer Valid On 1 - Week Express Services or Signature Hand-Washing of Fine Rugs!

EXPRESS SERVICE! Machine Made Synthetic Rugs	EXPRESS SERVICE! Machine Made Wool Rugs	EXPRESS SERVICE! Handmade Tufted Rugs	SIGNATURE SERVICE! Handmade Wool Rugs HAND WASHED
--	---	---	--

CHOOSE THE SERVICE THAT'S BEST FOR YOUR RUG!

FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY!
Includes: Furniture Moving & Rolling & Laying the Rugs! †


We Hand-Wash Your Fine Oriental Rugs!

In-Plant Rug Restoration 10% OFF* <small>*Hurry, Offer Expires 6/24/18.</small>	Wall to Wall Carpet Steam Cleaning 20% OFF* <small>*Hurry, Offer Expires 6/24/18.</small>	Hardwood Floor Cleaning/Polishing 20% OFF* <small>*Hurry, Offer Expires 6/24/18.</small>
---	---	--

535 W. Maple Avenue Vienna, VA | 4918 Wisconsin Ave. DC/MD | 3206 Duke Street Alexandria, VA | 6628 Electronic Dr. Springfield VA | 3116 W. Moore Street Richmond VA

703-836-1111 | JoeHadeed.com

* Expires 6/24/18. (3) for the price of (2) same size or smaller rug free. Not valid w/any other offers. †Available in MD, DC, & VA. Min. order required, some restrictions apply. Doesn't include breakables. Call for details.



MEET MATA AMRITANANDAMAYI, RENOWNED HUMANITARIAN AND SPIRITUAL LEADER

AMMA

WASHINGTON, DC
JULY 1 - 2, 2018

Programs include inspirational music, meditation, spiritual discourse, and personal blessings

July 1 – FREE PROGRAM
10:00am, morning program
7:30pm, evening program

July 2 – FREE PROGRAM
10:00am, morning program

July 2 – DEVI BHAVA FREE PROGRAM
A celebration devoted to world peace
Program begins at 7:00pm

LOCATION
Crystal Gateway Marriott
1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy
Arlington, VA 22202

PARKING / TRANSPORTATION
\$17.00 Hotel Parking | Free parking available in neighboring lots all day Sunday, and Monday after 4:00 PM
Crystal City Metro | .02 mi from hotel lobby
Free Shuttle | To and from Reagan National Airport

For info about Amma's charities visit embracingtheworld.org.

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 90 MINUTES BEFORE THE PROGRAM TO RECEIVE A FREE TOKEN IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AMMA'S EMBRACE. TOKENS MAY BE LIMITED BY TIME CONSTRAINTS.

AMMADC.ORG | INFO@AMMADC.ORG | (240) 532-2662

OM LOKAH SAMASTAH SUKHINO BHAVANTU MAY ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE BE HAPPY

OPINION

‘Just Add Water’

To the Editor:

I am writing as a new Team Rep for our neighborhood’s summer swim team here in Centreville, the Faircrest Cyclones. You published an article about our first season back in 2016, <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2016/jul/13/faircrest-cyclones-swim-first-season/>.

That article highlighted some of what we offer our community: opportunity for youth and unity from diversity. Now entering our third season, we faced a tremendous obstacle: our community’s clubhouse was struck by fire April 6. You can see some of the local television coverage here: <http://wjla.com/news/local/crews-battle-massive-fire-as-community-clubhouse-goes-up-in-flames-in-centreville>. The fire has closed our pool for the entire summer: for what it’s worth, the news reports grossly undervalued the damages. No one was hurt, thankfully, and we will rebuild.

Unfortunately, the blaze left the Cyclones with no pool where we can practice this year: a swim team without a pool, but with swimmers, parents, and coaches still fiercely determined to swim, to have fun, and to represent the community this summer. After the fire, we immediately and actively explored options to get practice time elsewhere, making “Just Add Water” our theme for the season. In an area so blessed with pools and so active in competitive swimming, this proved surprisingly challenging.

Registration for the team had opened a month before, and March’s steady enrollment stalled with the uncertainty as possibilities were explored and leads followed, coming to

naught. Swimmers and their parents make their decisions for summer activities based on logistics, and ours were dependent on the pool and clubhouse, left floating in the air by the fire.

I am elated to say that this story has a happy ending, and even an inspiring one. We reached out to the swim community, and a neighboring swim club responded in early May at the urging of its own summer team, going well out of its way to provide us a home away from home this summer by adding hours, lifeguards, and a firehose-like blast of warm welcome. With just a few days before outdoor pools open, the business details were hammered out. Registration for the team resumed, and with fervor.

Overcoming the adversity posed by the fire has created palpable excitement here in Faircrest, matched both by the joy these young swimmers have at being in the water for a third summer and by the confidence that if this can be overcome there will be many more seasons in our future.

I would like to thank publicly all in the swim community who offered sympathy, suggestions, and options, but particularly the Brookfield Swim Club in Chantilly, their swim team the Breakers, and their league, the Northern Virginia Swim League, for pulling this rabbit out of the hat for us. If a pool supporting not just one team but two were not shocking enough, I will also point out that the Cyclones are not even members of the Northern Virginia Swim League. For its part, I would also like to extend our gratitude to our own Herndon Swim League for promptly and efficiently reshuffling a nearly finalized meet schedule, for its empathy, and for providing the Cyclones all possible

latitude as our season teetered on the brink.

Of course, like any team, we always salute our sponsors, the local businesses that support us. It would be trite and commercial to name them here, but for standing with us when we could not promote them exactly as planned, they have our profound respect. We are proud to wear their logos on the backs of our tee shirts and fly them on our banner.

I would also like to thank our HOA, the Centreville Farms Community Association, that owns and operates the pool. During a time when it was understandably taxed with safety, insurance, recovery, and reconstruction issues from the fire itself, its board and managers nonetheless stood staunchly behind the team’s efforts to carry on its own mission. Finally, I am deeply indebted to the Cyclones families and coaches themselves, for treating the fire as an inconvenience rather than a tragedy, and for rallying with patience, perseverance, and good humor.

The team’s plight certainly pales compared to that of those injured and left homeless by the area’s more recent fires, but to me the story of overcoming it is an important one. Those organizations named above demonstrate, I believe, the very best qualities of summer swim — teamwork, volunteerism, and community. “Just Add Water” to those and you get the very sunny result of kids swimming, learning, and having fun.

With a final flip turn, we get back to where the story began. To those who professionally “Just Add Water” all year long, the Fairfax County Fire Department, thank you.

Mike Wiedemann
Faircrest Cyclones

Board, in 10-0 Vote, Approves More Inclusive Policies

To the Editor:

On June 14 at its regular meeting, the Fairfax County School Board approved updates to the Family Life Education Curriculum which are more inclusive of transgender students and family members, and a provision which will teach about ways to help fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic and inevitably save some of our students from infection.

Many members of the LGBTQ community and many allies came to the School Board meeting wearing purple, outnumbering those opposed by more than two-to-one. School Board members Karen Corbett Sanders (Mount Vernon), Tamara Derenak Kaufax (Lee), Megan McLaughlin (Braddock), Jane Strauss (Dranesville), Dalia Palchik (Providence), Pat Hynes (Hunter Mill), Sandy Evans (Mason), Karen Keys-Gamarra (at-large), Ilryong Moon (at-large) and Ryan McElveen (at-large) spoke eloquently and clearly in support of these provisions. Sully

representative Tom Wilson and Springfield representative Elizabeth Schultz spoke against them, but were in fact away from the table for the final vote; it was unanimous at 10-0.

As president of FCPS Pride (a

social welfare organization for LGBTQ employees, parents of LGBTQ students, and LGBTQ parents and allies in Fairfax County Public Schools), I would like to express my gratitude for the citizens who came to support, and to

the elected officials who responded to those community members. We look forward to contributing, canvassing and voting at the elections in 2019.

Robert Rigby, Jr.
President, FCPS Pride

Disappointed by Family Life Education Changes

To the Editor:

The following statement was issued regarding the Fairfax County School Board’s vote on its Family Life Education (FLE) curriculum.

While I am pleased that the Fairfax County School Board has voted to retain clergy among the list of people our youth ought to consider trusted adults, I am nevertheless disappointed to see the board has chosen ideology over biology in introducing such terms as “sex assigned at birth” in place of “biological sex” in the schools’ Family Life Education (FLE) curriculum. It is also distressing to see students receiving information about the drug regimen PrEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis) while at the

same time not learning that abstinence is the only 100 percent effective way of preventing the transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). As a community committed to proclaiming the truth about human life, dignity and sexuality, the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Arlington will

continue its efforts to educate the public regarding the content of the FLE curriculum and encourage parents to exercise their God-given right to “opt-out” their children from those lessons that distort the truth and are morally offensive.

Bishop Michael E. Burbidge
Catholic Diocese of Arlington

Write

Centre View welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor • Centre View
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.
By e-mail: centreview@connectionnewspapers.com

CENTREVIEW

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@CentreView

Newspaper of
Centreville
Little Rocky Run
A Connection Newspaper

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
centreview@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9415
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Worker
Contributing Writer
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper



Supporting Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

The Union Mill Family Fitness 4 a Cause crew hosted a 5K race at Burke Lake to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to honor Jack Brillantine by being Brillantine Tough. Jack is a 6th grade student at Union Mill who has been battling leukemia this year.



Mike Taimi presents Flag Certificate of Commendation to Joe Stein, vice president of the Little Rocky Run Homeowners Association.

HOA Honored

The Little Rocky Run Homeowners Association in Clifton was awarded a National Society Sons of the American Revolution Flag Certificate for proper display of the United States flag. The flag at the HOA Office is displayed 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is lighted at night.

Mike Taimi — president of the Colonel William Grayson Chapter, Virginia Society of the SAR, and Little Rocky Run resident — presented the certificate to Joe Stein, vice president of the HOA.

The Sons of the American Revolution perpetuate the ideals of the war for independence. It is a historical, educational, and patriotic organization that seeks to maintain and expand the meaning of patriotism, respect for the nation's symbols, and the value of American citizenship.

The Certificate of Commendation reads: "This Certificate of Commendation is presented to the Little Rocky Run Homeowners Association in Recognition of Exemplary Patriotism in the display of the flag of the United States of America."

Disaster Assistance Loans Available

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) released the following statement after the Small Business Administration announced that low-interest disaster loans will be available for businesses and residents affected by the recent Forest Glen Senior Apartment Complex Fire in Centreville:

"The Small Business Administration (SBA) has stepped up to offer low-interest loans to residents and business owners who were tragically impacted by the Forest Glen Senior Apartment Complex on May 2. According to SBA, \$200,000 will be available to be loaned to homeowners so they can fix damaged real estate. In the case of damaged personal property, homeowners and renters will be eligible for up to \$40,000 in loans. The deadline for applications for property damage is Aug. 13, 2018 and the deadline for economic injury applications is March 14, 2019. There will be Small Business Administration representatives available to help constituents at the Disaster Loan Outreach Center located at the Cub Run RECenter."

Olivia Moffett To Study in China

BY MATT KELLY
UNIVERSITY NEWS ASSOCIATE

Olivia Moffett of Centreville is one of three University of Virginia scholars will spend the summer immersed in foreign cultures and languages, thanks to the Critical Language Scholarships from the U.S. Department of State.

They are among approximately 550 U.S. undergraduate and graduate students who received scholarships from the program. They will spend seven to 10 weeks this summer in intensive language institutes in one of 13 countries, studying languages the U.S. government has deemed "critical:" Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Indonesian, Japanese, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Swahili, Turkish or Urdu.

Moffett of Centreville, a third-year student double-majoring in Chinese language and literature and economics, with a minor in Middle Eastern studies and Arabic, who will study Mandarin in Xi'an, China.

UVA's other participants are Katya Sankow

of Pittsburgh and Winchester, a second-year Russian and Eastern European studies major, who will study Russian in Vladimir, Russia, and Olivia Grotenhuis of Madison, a second-year student double-majoring in foreign affairs and East Asian studies with a concentration in Korean, who will study Korean at Chonnam National University in Gwangju, Korea.

Moffett said the Critical Language Scholarship "aligns perfectly with my career goals."

"I have always been very interested in a career with the government," she said. "I've also been very eager at the thought of improving my Mandarin skills through an intensive study-abroad program. The Critical Language Scholarship will allow me to explore both of these interests during the summer."

Moffett was president of the Metcalf-Lefevre Association Council of the First Year Leadership Experience, and then served on the Second Year Council's Academic and Wellness Committee. She is a recolonizing member of Tri Sigma (Delta Chi Chapter); has been on the finance committee of Phi Alpha Delta pre-law fraternity; an editor for Virginia Undergraduate Law Review; a member of the Econ Club; and a competing member of the Virginia Competitive Cheer team. Her artwork has been featured in Veritas Art Show at the UVA School of Medicine. She has interned at a finance startup, NextGenVest, working on student loans. She is also a licensed Realtor. A graduate of Centreville High School, she is contemplating graduate school.

"I am considering a higher degree in an



PHOTO BY DAN ABDISON

Olivia Moffett of Centreville will study Mandarin in Xi'an, China.

area that would complement my current studies, such as a business or STEM degree," she said. "I also hope to pursue any opportunities I find available to me in terms of beginning a career abroad."

Mark Metcalf, a lecturer in Chinese literature in the Department of East Asian Languages, Literatures and Cultures, taught Moffett in "Survey of Traditional Chinese Literature," a course in English translation that covers China's literature from roughly 1000 BCE to 1000 CE.

"Olivia's performance as a student was spectacular," he said. "She was fully engaged in classroom discussions, routinely providing insightful observations about the day's readings. She also wrote four expertly crafted essays that demonstrated her thorough understanding of both the historical development of traditional Chinese literature and the literary significance of individual works. It was a pleasure having her in class."

Correction

In Centre View's June 13 "Graduation Joy," it should have said Centreville High School graduate Brady Boose received the Faculty Award. The unidentified speaker who read the speech about Brady "lighting up every room he enters" was Subschool Principal Amy Balint.

Mountain View Grads Praise Their High School

FROM PAGE 3

the job he loved, said Morris, he remembered the battles they fought daily just to be at school. He also thought about what awaited some of them at home.

“Some had to navigate abusive households or gang-ridden neighborhoods; some had another eight-hour work day,” he said. “They fought and learned a new language in a condensed amount of time. And some had to change the perception of who they were in order to be what they knew they could be. Courage isn’t what they displayed, it’s what they are.”

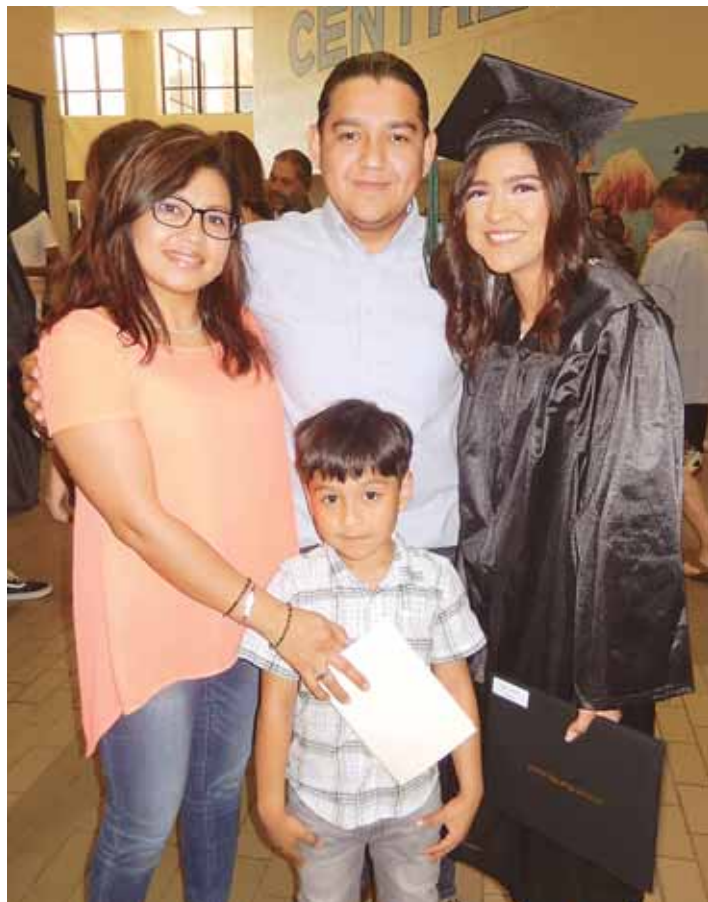
Second is commitment. “It’s so much more important to be committed than compliant [so that] you give everything you have to it and strive to be better at it every day,” said Morris. “Our students taught me that you can’t always judge a person by statistics, dates and benchmarks. Despite the struggles, home issues, changes in academic standards and — for some — political pressures, they successfully arrived at today.”

Third is curious. He said these students opened their minds to new experiences and wanted to learn about “new cultures, extending this planet’s life and how we all could work better together. That type of curiosity has driven them and will continue driving them to be equipped for tomorrow.”

Fourth is loving. “It describes the heart and passion these students displayed to the staff and to one another in times of adversity,” said Morris. “They shared kind words, meals, finances and rides.” Because they accepted each other, regardless of color, culture, religion or socio-economic status, he said they etched a place in the world for his daughter to feel accepted and loved.

“I can count on them to shoulder the inequities and level the playing fields so you can hold your head high with a purpose that’ll be respected,” he told his daughter. “All I ask is that you follow in their footsteps and pay forward the rewards they’ll set in place for you to reap. If you do that, you’ll be safe, respected and — in every sense of the word — you’ll know what it means to be a Timber Wolf.”

Next, three seniors shared their stories



Celebrating daughter Monica’s graduation are her parents, Maritza and Carlos Velasco, and her brother, Rodrigo.



Grad Natalie Paniagua with daughter Andrea, 1, sister Claudia and brother Mateo.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

with their classmates. The first, Callie Harry, worried when she initially came to Mountain View because attendance is expected. But her chronic illness makes it difficult for her to do homework, so she can’t always turn in her assignments on time.

“The stigma and ignorance surrounding chronic illness at my former school made me lose trust in school,” she said. “I don’t look sick, so they just labeled me lazy, without getting to know who I was. But at Mountain View, everybody greeted me and asked if they could help me. My teachers made accommodations for me, and my peers were only interested in the kind of person I was.”

With everyone making her feel so welcome, said Harry, “I had my most success-

ful school year yet and enjoyed school. What I had to say mattered at Mountain View, and my teachers inspired me to follow my dreams. [Sue] Houde is the best counselor I’ve ever had. And my family — whose support has never faded — lifted me from the darkest time of my life so I could start over at Mountain View.”

Harry was even accepted at the University of Massachusetts. “I’ve thrived here and have plans I’m looking forward to,” she said. “And I wouldn’t be in that position if it wasn’t for Mountain View. I’m never going to forget the people here who gave me a second chance because, once a Timber Wolf, always a Timber Wolf.”

School was also tough for Sebastian Cruz because of his behavior issues and absenteeism from Centreville High. One day, Principal Dave Jagels asked him what was wrong. “For a long time, I was stubborn and made bad choices,” said Cruz. “So I was working 30 hours/week at Wendy’s to make restitution to the people I’d hurt.”

So Jagels told him about Mountain View and took him to lunch with Morris and Student Services Director Jim Lockwood. “They said I could do it and made me feel welcome,” said Cruz. “In March 2017, I started at Mountain View. I didn’t know anyone, but the students were cool and the teachers were nice and patient. They also helped me earn my community-service hours. Mountain View is a place where people show each other respect. It’s filled with an abundance of love and opens its arms to welcome everyone like a family.”

When Charlotte “Lotty” Williams first arrived there, she was cynical. “My past

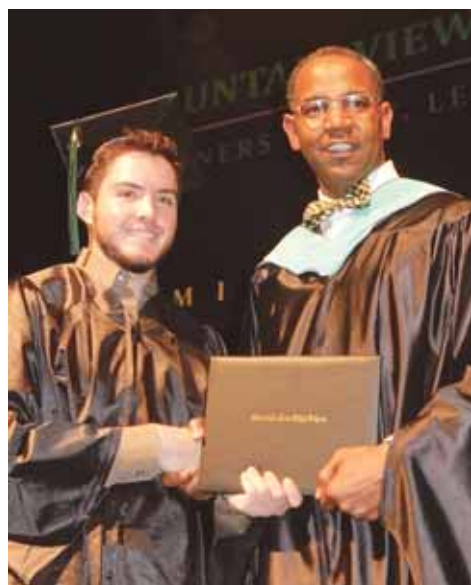
schools led me to believe schools never kept their promises. And when you’re a kid with special needs, it’s hard when you’re lumped in with all the other kids. But I needed something else.”

For example, she said, “I can’t work in a crowded room where everyone’s talking because I can’t filter them out. I need lots of reminders about when things are due, and shouting at me and calling me a cry baby doesn’t help.” But when she came to Mountain View last year, she discovered that things were different.

“It was quieter here because the kids were doing their work, and it felt safe in here,” said Williams. “I asked Mr. Morris what would happen if a fight broke out among the students, and he said, ‘That rarely happens here.’”

“I wasn’t ‘til I came here that I was treated as human in school and not ridiculed,” she continued. “I’m proud to say I’m graduating from Mountain View Alternative School — something I couldn’t say about any of my other schools.”

Then, before the diplomas were presented, awards were presented to some of the most outstanding graduates. The Citizenship Award — given to students who’ve helped build a positive school community — went to Williams and to Duc My Tran. Personal Achievement Awards — for students dealing with adult commitments, but still succeeding personally and academically — went to Callie Harry and Jose Ramos Cantarero. And the Faculty Award (see sidebar) — for a student who succeeded academically, despite significant, personal obstacles — went to Brayan Perez Brito.



Timothy Rudolph shakes hands with Principal Gary Morris.



Principal Gary Morris gives Kathaleen del Carmen Ordonez her diploma.

Talking to Children about Suicide

Creating safe environment is key to opening a discussion.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The recent high profile deaths by suicide make it inevitable that children will ask questions and express a curiosity about the topic. However, some parents might feel a sense of uneasiness about answering those questions. Local mental health educators say that the steady increase in death by suicide each year since 1999 makes those conversations vital.

Parents can begin by creating a safe environment for an age-appropriate dialogue, says Linda Gulyn, Ph.D, professor of psychology at Marymount University. "As always, reassure young children that you are there for them no matter what," she said. "Don't feed into the anxiety. Teens understand it 100 percent, probably more than you realize."

"Encourage children to ask questions and answer them honestly," added Jerome Short, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology at George Mason University. "Parents should state that they will help their children handle any bad feelings or problems that happen."

Suicide can be a frightening topic for children and a difficult subject for parents to explain, advised Short. "Explain that people die in different ways and suicide means that people hurt themselves and died from it," he said. "A more detailed explanation is that our thoughts and feelings come from our brain, and sometimes a person's brain is sick. People feel alone, believe they are a burden on others, and are hopeless that it will change. Some people cannot stop the hurt they feel inside by themselves, but they can get help."

Parents should have a general understanding of suicide rates, signs and methods of preventing before embarking on a conversation with their children about the topic, advises Monica Band, Ed.D., assistant professor of counseling at Marymount University, who recommends the National Suicide Prevention and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention as sources of information. "I would also recommend parents challenging their misconceptions and preconceived notions of [those who] who attempt and think of committing suicide because it is an issue that has an impact across cultures."

Some children might not understand the difference between feelings of sadness and clinical depression. "Explain that we all get sad and have good days and bad days," said Gulyn. "Usually we feel better. But kids who commit suicide are so sad that they don't know what to do to feel better. But the truth is there is a way to feel better, and there are very helpful adults in school and at home who are great to talk to."

However, some children might have difficulty grasping the concept of mental illnesses like depression. "Sad is normal, sad is part of life, and usually we feel sad when something outside of us happens,

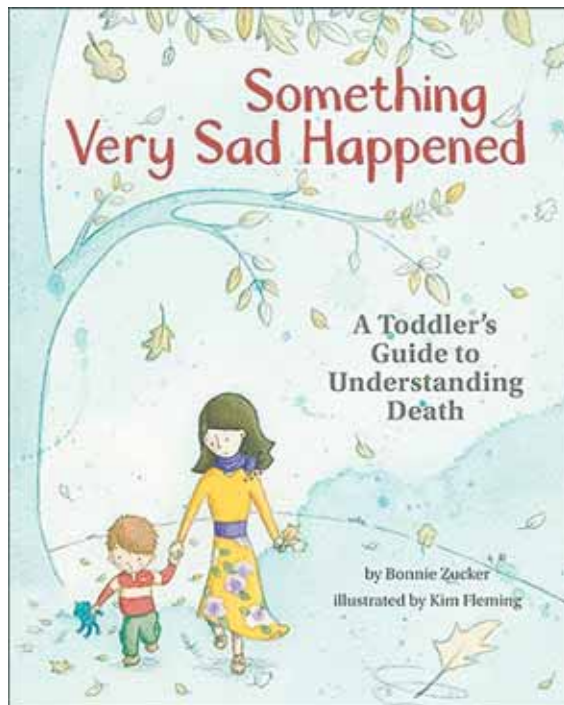


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Books like "Something Very Sad Happened: A Toddler's Guide to Understanding Death" by Bonnie Zucker can help parents explain concepts of mental health to their children.

like when a friend moves away. And we know that we will feel better," said Gulyn. "Depression is when someone feels hopeless that he or she won't be sad anymore. And that makes them not want to do fun things, or take care of themselves."

An awareness of warning signs of mental illness and the fact that depression is not a normal phase of adolescence are two factors that Gulyn underscores. "[Depression] is a serious mental health disorder for which there are effective treatments," she said. "Parents need to be aware of kids isolating themselves from others, especially peers. Other signs [include] not taking care of your physical appearance, consistently performing poorly in school, substance abuse, eating disorders, excessive or inadequate rest."

If a parent notices any of these symptoms or suspects that their child might be depressed, Gulyn advises a straightforward approach. Don't be afraid to ask your teen directly, "Do you think you are depressed?" or "Have you been thinking about hurting yourself?", she suggests.

Teaching a child healthy help-seeking behaviors will give them an invaluable tool when facing mental health issues, advised Monica P. Band, an assistant professor of counseling at Marymount University. "If parents raise the child to have specific religious or spiritual beliefs, this could be a way to begin the discussion of how one finds

strength, resilience, or peace in times when they feel like they're not in control," said Band. "Regardless of one's religious or spiritual beliefs, it is worth it if parents have an understanding and awareness of mood shifts or changes with their children and set an example and expectation with how to address these issues when things aren't feeling right or normal for their child."

Resources

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
<https://afsp.org/about-suicide/risk-factors-and-warning-signs/>

BOOKS:

"Something Very Sad Happened: A Toddler's Guide to Understanding Death" by Bonnie Zucker

"Depression: A Teen's Guide to Survive and Thrive" by Jacqueline Toner and Claire Freeland

"Danny and the Blue Cloud" by James M. Foley

"Why are You So Sad, A Child's Book About Parental Depression" by Beth Andrews



AT GAYLORD NATIONAL*

FEATURING
an ALL-★ AMERICAN CELEBRATION

Enjoy endless family activities this summer on the Potomac!
 Now – September 3, 2018

- Live music every Friday featuring the best in Jazz, Adult Contemporary, R&B & more!
- Movies Under the Stars and Great American Road Trip Atrium Show, both presented by bubly™
- Water Splashing Fun, Star-Spangled Clues Scavenger Hunt & A National Haunting Ghost Tour
- Seasonal spa treatments, unique dining events and a Silent Disco Party
- Additional entertainment experiences just steps away in National Harbor

Book Your Getaway Today!
GaylordNational.com/SummerFest
 (301) 965-4000



PRESENTED BY 

AQUAFINA is a registered trademark of PepsiCo, Inc., © 2018 BUBLY and the Bubbly Design are trademarks.



CENTRE VIEW

Special Edition

PET Centre View

Publishes: July 25, 2018 • Ads close: July 19, 2018

Centre View readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets.

The Pet Centre View will publish on July 25, 2018, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 19.

This edition provides a great advertising opportunity to reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention - be sure to take advantage of our different advertising options.

Find more information about submissions online at
[www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets)

For advertising information, call 703.778.9431 or Email
SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM for more specials, digital advertising options and pricing.

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

• Alexandria Gazette Packet	• Fairfax Connection	• Oak Hill/Hemdon Connection
• Arlington Connection	• Fairfax Station/Glenn/Lorton Connection	• Potomac Almanac
• Burke Connection	• Great Falls Connection	• Reston Connection
• Centreville Connection	• McLean Connection	• Springfield Connection
• Chantilly Connection	• Mount Vernon Gazette	• Vienna/Oakton Connection

Announcements

**We pay top \$ for STERLING,
MEN'S WATCHES,
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.**
Schefer Antiques
703-241-0790
theschefers@cox.net

Home Improvement

Johnson's Home Renovation, Inc.
Small jobs around the house
to full bath or kitchen renovations
• Painting, drywall, landscaping and more.
• Free Estimate
• Doing Business Since 1989
• Licensed and Insured
www.jhr-inc.com / 703.631.9273 / info@jhr-inc.com

Announcements

Employment

**Forget Daily
Commuting**

Print and digital media
sales consultant for area's
most popular and trusted
local news source

Manage your own hours from home
Enjoy flexible schedule
plus no daily commute
Help local businesses grow
Unique opportunity to be a
voice in your community
Competitive compensation

Call Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
Connection Newspapers & Digital Media
Trusted Connection to Local Communities

Announcements

OUTER BANKS, NC - VACATION RENTALS

Over 600 vacation homes from S. Nags Head to Corolla's 4x4!

Brindley Beach
VACATIONS & SALES

877-642-3224
www.brindleybeach.com

Announcements

Announcements

IS IT A HIKE,
OR A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY?

WEST VIRGINIA
WVtourism.com
almost heaven

News



**Chaz Coffin in
"Las Meninas"
at ECU.**

PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
CHAZ COFFIN

Builds a Theatrical Resumé

FROM PAGE 2

This spring, he was in the musical, "Hair," in Peoria, Ariz. "I love ensembleship; and being with actors you form a bond with and like, you find your tribe — and we still keep in touch," said Coffin. "The show's message was 'Make love, not war.' And when the Parkland shooting happened in February, we dedicated a special cabaret in the school's honor."

Chaz Alexander Coffin is currently acting in "The Scottsboro Boys."



Performing in 'Scottsboro Boys'

FROM PAGE 2

song and talk really fast." Although it's a musical, he said "The Scottsboro Boys" is "a different dynamic. It holds a mirror up to the audience and makes them uncomfortable watching it. And they should be — because nothing about what happened is OK. Nothing about a minstrel show should be easy to watch, and it makes the show even more powerful because this is actually what happened."

This musical came on Broadway in 2010; and in 2013 — long after they'd died — the state of Alabama pardoned the boys. "This show is, without a doubt, the most influential and significant production I've ever been fortunate to be a part of, because of its relevance today," said Coffin. "In our current political climate — and with our given history of

police brutality — people come to the show and have a real, visceral reaction to what they're watching."

"Those who don't know about the story learn a shocking history lesson," he continued. "And those who knew about it see that it's still happening today. People also have post-show discussions; they ask us how it feels to be an African-American putting on this story and how we feel about its current-world relevance."

Coffin's life journey has been markedly different from those of the Scottsboro Boys. But still, he said, "Every day, something else happens that brings me even closer to this show. When rapper Childish Gambino's song, 'This is America,' came out recently, that directly reminded me of what I'd been seeing my whole life — the target on my back. I'm not entirely safe."

BULLETIN BOARD

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

Women's Summit 2018. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Hyatt Regency Dulles, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon. Network NoVA presents their second Women's Summit to continue the grassroots momentum of building coalitions across the state to flip Virginia's Congressional delegation blue in November. This weekend event for women and men will feature speakers, workshops, an advocacy fair, congressional row, and most importantly, network opportunities. \$65. Visit networknova.org for more.

MONDAY/JUNE 25

Future of Retail-Non-Office Building Repurposing. 7 p.m. at

Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 9/10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Non-Office Building Repurposing. The meeting provides an opportunity to learn how retail markets are changing and discuss how alternative uses may be used to fill existing retail spaces. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/plan-amendments/non-office-building-repurposing or contact Michael Lynskey, DPZ, at 703-324-1204.

TUESDAY/JUNE 26

Rotary Club Meeting. 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at Eggspertations, 5009 Westone Plaza, Chantilly. The Rotary Club of Centreville-Chantilly meets every Tuesday. Rotary is a service organization open to anyone in the

community with an interest in supporting local and international projects. Those who are interested in Rotary are invited any Tuesday as a guest. \$15. Call 703-966-6960, email catherine@creativeread.com or visit www.CentrevilleChantillyRotary.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 27

Airport Aircraft Noise Contour Map Update. 6-8 p.m. at Washington Dulles International Airport Office Building, 45045 Aviation Drive, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Sterling. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority will hold a public workshop regarding the Washington Dulles International Airport Aircraft noise contour map update. Visit www.FlyDulles.com.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Brito

FROM PAGE 3

are a student's volunteer/leadership service to the wider community. That day, you had to interview before a panel of 11 people.

The following month, Feb. 14, was a proud day for the Mountain View family. Principal Gary Morris drove us to Richmond to see the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Hon. Donald W. Lemons, award you the Byrd Scholarship and hand you a check for \$10,000. Two of your former teachers, Jude Welling and Richard Chinn; your mentor from George Mason University, engineering professor Art Poland; your community mentor, 'Mr. Chuck'; CIF President Alice Foltz and her husband Jerry, along with Mr. Morris and myself, were all there to see you receive this great honor. No other student from an alternative high school has ever won this scholarship. That day, you put Mountain View High School's name on the map.

As it turned out, one of the 11 panel members who interviewed you in Richmond was Tracy Fitzsimmons, president of Shenandoah University. Dr. Fitzsimmons was so impressed by your story that she contacted you and offered you a Presidential Scholarship of \$20,000 a year for four years — a possible total of \$80,000.

In August, you will go off to Shenandoah University to study one of your many major passions, Computer Science, Engineering or possibly International Relations. Since receiving the Byrd scholarship, you have been interviewed by National Public Radio, Fairfax County Public Schools has made a video about your story and, most recently, Univision of Miami came to Mountain View for two days to film your story.

You recently accepted an invitation to speak at Stone Middle School. A counselor there had read about your story and invited you to talk to their students. Many of their students had shared struggles similar to your own. You were touched by these students who told you that you had inspired them and given them hope. One student even asked for your autograph.

Brayan, you would be the first to give credit for your academic and emotional success to your Mountain View teachers who helped you negotiate, not only your classes, but also helped and supported you as who applied for and were granted asylum in the United States.

Please do not forget Mountain View. Come back when you can and talk with our students. Let them know that a young man who once asked the question, 'Does anyone here speak Spanish?' is now four years later realizing his dreams.

There is a repeating verse from the song, 'New York, New York,' that goes, 'If I can make it there, I'll make it anywhere.' Brayan, you have definitely made it here at Mountain View.

Twenty-five courses with an overall B-plus grade-point average and 10, SOL-verified credits later, here you are at the summit of the mountain. You are a Mountain View graduate. It is an honor, on behalf of the Mountain View faculty, to present to you with the Faculty Award. Go Timberwolf!"

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

LANDSCAPING A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465		Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller	
LANDSCAPING Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-912-6886		LANDSCAPING J.E.S. Services Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting & Landscaping Design Drainage & Water Problems Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose Retaining walls of all types All work Guaranteed	
ELECTRICAL K&D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc... Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 letrkman28@gmail.com		ELECTRICAL GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email: jamie@lawnsgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!	
GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email: jamie@lawnsgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		TILE / MARBLE BATHROOM REMODELING by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured	
IMPROVEMENTS Power Washing Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hoia voilation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates email: jnave@comcast.net 703-987-5096		IMPROVEMENTS Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Spring Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience — Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service	
IMPROVEMENTS A&S Landscaping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Concrete work Retaining Walls • Patios Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions French Drains • Sump Pumps Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia		PAVING GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION Walkways, Patios, Driveways, Flagstone, Concrete FREE ESTIMATES Licensed, Insured, Bonded 703-250-6231	
PAVING RN. CONTRACTORS, INC. Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic Phone: 703-887-3827 E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com		PAVING Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete Driveways Patios • Sidewalks Stone • Brick Phone: VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603 www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com	
MASONRY Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete Driveways Patios • Sidewalks Stone • Brick Phone: VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603 www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com		MASONRY An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg	

Watching Some More and Wondering No Less



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently, I bought my wife, Dina, the "Limited Edition, Downton Abbey, The Complete Collector's Set." Twenty-two discs, all the episodes, bonus features, etc. Now we can finally delete the saved content off our DVR; that should open up about half the available storage. Storage that we've happily used and accessed many times.

In its prime though, we did not miss a Downton Abbey episode when it was first broadcast on PBS (starting Jan. 9, 2011 and ending Jan. 3, 2016) and we've been recording, saving and watching ever since. We are two, of millions, who couldn't get enough viewing time of this period drama then and still can't to this day.

Ergo, the purchase. Now we are in control. If anything happens to our cable box — and it needs to be replaced/upgraded, we will not — as previously happened, suffer a potentially tragic loss of content in the exchange. Eliminating that worry alone has made the purchase worth the very reasonable price we paid.

Having the complete set in hand, Dina and I have decided to re-watch the series from start to finish. Heretofore, we had watched episodes in sequence, but not necessarily in chronological order — meaning season one, episode one through the final episode of season six. As a result of this decision, we have gotten reacquainted with story lines which had somewhat faded over time as there are some episodes we hadn't seen in years. We had saved many, but not all (when it was free to do so; now, the there's a cost, \$2.99 per episode to buy, I believe).

So far, we're through season two and we've thoroughly enjoyed the people, places and things — and the many nuances we may have missed or forgotten. However, this passage of time has caused Dina and I to rethink some of our opinions of characters and story lines.

There are two primary reassessments that oddly enough, Dina and I share.

One concerns Dr. Clarkson, the local/family doctor who runs the Downton Cottage Hospital. The other concerns Patrick Crawley (the cousin/ original heir who was thought to have died when the Titanic sank in 1912) who reappears in season two as a convalescing Peter Gordon, a.k.a. P Gordon. As much as we like Dr. Clarkson, and are amused by his straddling the line between himself and the aristocracy, we have decided that we don't like some of his medical opinions: his hesitancy to even consider the treatment for dropsy for Mr. Drake that "cousin" Isobel (an experienced nurse) had proposed; his misjudgment of the possible psychological consequences of transferring the patient with gas blindness (with whom Thomas had developed a rapport) who subsequently killed himself — presumably rather than accept being transferred; and finally Matthew who suffered what Dr. Clarkson described as a transection of his spine when he and William were injured in battle which turned out to be a bruise.

An injury that he said would prevent Matthew from ever walking and — as later realized, fathering children either. In all three instances, Dr. Clarkson was proven to be wrong. As a consequence, if Dr. Clarkson was diagnosing my cancer, I'd ask for a second opinion.

As for Peter Gordon/P Gordon/Patrick Crawley and the story line concerning his reappearance as heir/heir pretender so many years after the family thought he had died — I would love to ask Julian Fellowes (writer and creator of "Downton Abbey") if this element was fact or fiction or simply a mere diversion for affect.

It all seemed so contrived, especially after "P" Gordon (who says he got his "name from a liquor bottle") leaves a note for the heartbroken Edith before there's any resolution. I mean, was he the heir or wasn't he? Did he leave because he felt the jig was up and the ruse was likely to fail? Or did he feel so betrayed and disrespected by his family (the Crawleys) that he felt his present and/or future could never be what he envisioned?

Consequently, there are two questions I'd like answered: was Peter Gordon actually Patrick Crawley and where did Dr. Clarkson get his medical training?

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

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Fitness for 50+. Daytime hours, Monday-Friday at Sully Senior Center, 14426 Albemarle Point Place, Chantilly. Jazzercise Lite, Zumba Gold, Hot Hula Fitness (dancing Polynesian style), Strength Training, Qi Gong, Tai Chi and more. Membership is \$48 a year, and waivers are available. Email lynne.lott@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-322-4475 for more.

History Volunteers Needed. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum needs history buffs. The Museum offers a variety of volunteer opportunities in Museum events, programs and administration. Email volunteers@fairfax-station.org or call 703-945-7483 to explore opportunities. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. It is open every Sunday, except holidays, from 1-4 p.m. www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-9225.

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.fairfaxjubilairs.org for more.

Live After Five. Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. 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. at Villagio, 7145 Main St. \$45 for a family of four. Call 703-543-2030 for more.

LIBRARY FUN

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.

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.

Lego Block Party. Every other Saturday at 10:30 a.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.

Legos Kids Club. Every other



PHOTO BY STEPHEN JAFFEE

The Bull Run Park venue offers plenty of room for Bichons and their families.

2018 Bichon Bash

The Bichon Bash is a family friendly event where Bichons can play together in a safe outdoor area, and experts can provide advice on the breed. This is an annual fundraiser for the Bichon Frise Club of America rescue group, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Bichons only. Sunday, Sept. 16, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Bull Run Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. \$15 pre-register online; \$20 at gate; \$5 children under 12. Call 703-401-9551 or www.bichonbash.org.

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.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

Finding Home: The Immigrant Experience. 7-8 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Teen author Duaah Hammad will read excerpts from her book "Finding Home" and speak about the immigrant experience in America. Book signing to follow. Ages 13 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/chantilly-regional or call 703-502-3883; TTY 711.

THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Jacks are Wild. 10:30-11:15 a.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Jack Russell Terriers, Mario and Bella, perform fun and amazing tricks. Ages 6-12. Call 703-830-2223 or TTY: 711 for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

FrogHair Golf Tournament. Noon at Twin Lakes Golf Course, 6201 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Enjoy the chance to be a winner at the upcoming FrogHair Golf Tournament presented jointly by Southwestern Youth Association and Chantilly Youth Association. A fun twist on the game is presented at each hole, providing both experienced and inexperienced golfers with an opportunity to win a prize. Golfers can sign up as a single, a twosome or a foursome. \$99 per person. Visit www.froghairgolfclassic.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

Dairy Days. 1-4 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Head to Dairy Days where family members age 5-adult can churn butter, crank ice cream, milk a

fake cow and play 18th century games. It's a day to experience the products of a historic dairy at Sully Historic Site. \$7 per person. Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is recommended. Sign-up for times at 1, 2 or 3 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Tour the historic house for an additional fee. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 23-24

Summer Celebration. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Whitehall Farms, 6080 Colchester Road, Fairfax. Whitehall Farms hosts a summer celebration with music, wagon rides, animal encounters, an inflatable obstacle course and yard games. \$10/person. Children 3 and under enter free. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Visit www.whitehall.farm for more.

SUNDAY/JUNE 24

35th Anniversary Celebration. 10 a.m. at Oakton Baptist Church of Chantilly, 14001 Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly. Oakton Baptist Church of Chantilly will be celebrating their 35th Anniversary. Services start at 10 a.m. with The Old Time Gospel Singers. Pastor Ray Brock will be preaching at the 11 a.m. Service. Following the services, dinner will be served in the Fellowship Hall. The community is welcome to join the celebration. Visit www.sbcv.org/churches/oakton-baptist-church/ for more.

Colonial Games and Ice Cream. 1-3 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Start summer with historic fun and games at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Join a tournament of hoop and stick, the game of graces and other childhood games of yesteryear. Take historic scavenger hunt challenges and race to buy cows for the historic Walney Farm. End your day relaxing with ice cream. The program runs from 1 to 3 p.m. and the cost is \$10 per person. \$10. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence for registration information.

JUNE 25-29

CyberSecurity Camp. Chantilly

Academy will partner with Northrop Grumman and the Volgenau School of Engineering at George Mason University (GMU) for its annual CyberSecurity summer camp. Students will learn cyber ethics, computer forensics, and cyber security fundamentals; they will also learn about cybersecurity internships and careers in the field. This camp is open to rising 7th-12th graders. \$225 for the week. Visit chantillyacademy.fcps.edu/announcements/summer-camps-chantilly-academy.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 27

What Flies and Croaks at Dusk. 8-9 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. From fireflies to amphibians, there's a lot happening in county parks as night falls. Get a glimpse of park life after people go home for the day. Join the "Fireflies in the Meadow" program to watch the meadow light up with fireflies as dusk descends. Bring a plastic jar with a lid to catch and then release the lightning bugs. Dress in long pants, socks and closed shoes. Flashlights and insect repellent are useful. Age 2-adult. \$6 per person. Meet at Cabell's Mill. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

THURSDAY/JUNE 28

Wonder: The Movie. 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Join for the movie version of the book "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio. Bring a blanket and/or a pillow to sit on. Light snacks and drinks provided or bring your own snacks. This movie is rated PG. Grades 4 and up. Call 703-830-2223 or TTY: 711 for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Stream Life. 6-7 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Freshwater ecosystems are full of fascinating creatures. Search for stoneflies, hellgrammites, water pennies, and crayfish. Explore Big Rocky Run with a naturalist, use dip nets and kick nets to catch and release these creatures and learn about their role in the environment. Learn stream monitoring techniques and the impacts humans have on

these fragile ecosystems. Wear shoes that can get wet. Meet at the pond. Ages 4 and older. Cost \$6. Call 703-631-0013; TTY 711 or email parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SUNDAY/JULY 1

Crafts for the 4th of July. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Enjoy making railroad inspired, 4th of July crafts. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/JULY 8

Hands On Activities. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Activities may include railroad inspired crafts, demonstrations of railroad artifacts with visitor participation as well as possible history challenges for the whole family. All craft supplies included with admission fees. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/JULY 15

NTRAK Scale Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a N gauge model train show. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/JULY 22

Reading Circle. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will host two 45-minute Reading Circle sessions of the Caldecott Medal winning book, "Locomotive." One session will begin at 1:15, the second at 2:30. All craft supplies included with admission fees. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

SATURDAY/AUG. 4

Starlight Cinema: Little Mermaid. Gates open at 6 p.m.; movie starts at dark at Trinity Centre, 5860 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Starlight Drive-in Cinema brings the community together with features that appeal to both children and adults. The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and FM radio if you wish to sit outside. Children's games and rides. Free. To volunteer, call 703-814-7100.

AUG. 6-10

Girls in STEM Camp. Chantilly Academy offers a new Girls in STEM camp, providing girls with an opportunity to experience the world of STEM with plenty of hands-on activities. For girls new to STEM, summer programs provide a fun way to explore unfamiliar subjects, and for girls already interested in STEM, these camps build on existing interests or knowledge. The camp is open to rising 5th-8th graders. \$225 for the week. Visit chantillyacademy.fcps.edu/announcements/summer-camps-chantilly-academy.