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CENTRE VIEW

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STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Runners, including a dog, begin the 2007 Virginia Run Turkey Trot.

Turkey Trot: A Race with a Heart

Virginia Run's 20th annual event is in honor of Judy Jacobson.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Not only is the Virginia Run Turkey Trot 5K race and 2K fun walk a great way to work off some calories before the Thanksgiving meal, it's also a way to help countless people. That's because the proceeds benefit Life with Cancer, Inova Health System's nonprofit program for cancer patients and their families.

"We made \$53,000 last year, but I want us to make \$55,000 this year," said event Chairman Dominic DeVincenzo. "This is the 20th anniversary and, this year, we will have raised half a million dollars for Life with Cancer, so it's a really big deal."

Each Turkey Trot is run in memory of a Virginia Run resident who died of cancer during the year, and this one is in honor of Judy Jacobson, who succumbed to breast cancer, Jan. 20, at age 52.

The family lived in Virginia Run since 1993; Lee and Judy Jacobson were married 25 years and had three children. Steven, 23, is an EMT in Maryland; Leandra, 20, is a junior at Christopher Newport University; and Juliette, 12, is a sixth-grader

SEE NEIGHBORS, PAGE 10

Help Needed

Our Neighbor's Child faces much greater need for assistance.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Back in 1992, when Centreville's Kelly Lavin began Our Neighbor's Child (ONC) to provide Christmas presents for a handful of needy families in her Virginia Run neighborhood, she and her helpers bought gifts for 30 children.

Fast forward to 2008 and how times have changed. This grassroots, non-profit organization is now in its 17th year, and the number of people needing assistance is bigger than ever.

"We are swamped," said Lavin on Sunday. "We're at family 620, and that's unheard of at this point. We're usually in the 400s at this time — and we still have two more weeks to go, to receive family referrals. We gave presents to 1,600 kids last year, but we'll probably have over 2,000 kids this year."

The referrals come from Fairfax County social workers and school guidance counselors, and all the people being helped live in the local area — Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton and west of Fair Oaks Mall. "We really qualify the need," said Lavin. "We try to just help those who don't have another option."

EACH YEAR, the group of ONC volunteers works to come up with the holiday items — new toys and clothing — on the families' wish lists. But this time, it especially needs the community's help to meet the demand.

"The economy is such that people are miserably hurting," said Lavin. "So we have an increase in referrals and a decrease in donors. And the stories of the people needing help are so sad. For example, one woman is living in her car with her kids, and another woman is raising her own

"The economy is such that people are miserably hurting."

— Kelly Lavin,
ONC executive director

SEE ONC, PAGE 7

Solomon Found Guilty of Robbing Chantilly Man

Jury recommends five years in prison.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Sure, Abel Solomon's bat had a dent in it. But it wasn't from when he swung at and missed hitting a Chantilly man while trying to rob him and, instead, struck a sign pole. It happened when he and a buddy used it to demolish a DVD player.

That was the Reston man's defense when

he stood trial for robbery, earlier this month, in Fairfax County Circuit Court. But Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kathy Stott wasn't buying it, one bit, and called it both "ridiculous" and "incredible."

And in the end, the jury of five men and seven women agreed with her. They found Solomon, 21, of 2410 Southgate Square, guilty of robbery and recommended he serve five years in prison. Sentencing is Feb. 6.

The robbery occurred March 11, outside the Shenandoah Crossing Apartments



Solomon

where the victim lived. Solomon's trial was Nov. 3-4, and the victim, 34, testified first. He said that, the night before, he had some friends from work over to his house for drinks. Around 10 or 11 p.m., another friend, Carolyn Kelly, called to see if she could join them.

"She wanted to bring a guy named Abel," said the victim. "I didn't know him, so I told her not to bring him." She brought Solomon, anyway, but another friend of the victim's, Carolina Miyake, turned him away at the door. He and the victim never saw each other.

The next night, Miyake and a friend named Casey were in the parking lot on their way to the victim's apartment when they noticed the dome lights on in his car. When he went outside to turn them off, he said, "I noticed three guys walking, all dressed in black. I'd lived there four years and they just didn't fit."

He turned out the dome lights and started walking back to his apartment when the men approached him. "Three guys came up to me," said the victim. "One guy had a bat in my face, and a guy to my right had a gun, but kept it down. The guy with the bat

SEE PRISON, PAGE 5

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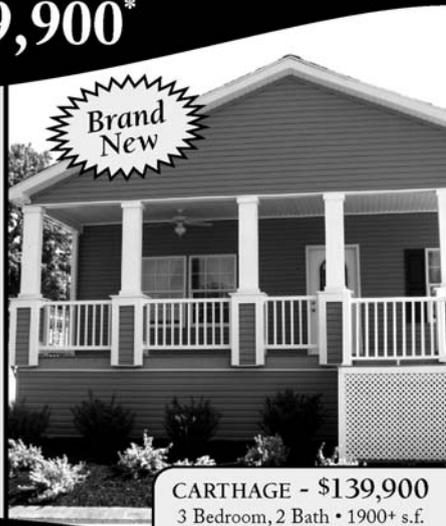
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Shoulder-Tap Yields Arrests

Fairfax County police arrested four adults last week for allegedly purchasing alcohol for underage, undercover police cadets. Members of the Fair Oaks District Station, plus a member of the Operation Support Bureau, conducted a "Shoulder Tap" operation in Chantilly and Oakton, last Thursday evening, Nov. 13.

It took place in parking lots outside businesses holding state ABC licenses to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption. Police cadets dressed in plain clothes approached adults and asked them to buy alcohol for them. If asked their age by the adult, the cadets were told to respond with their true ages.

If the illegal purchase of alcohol occurred, a plain-clothes officer watching the transaction had a nearby uniformed officer arrest the adult. Some 59 adults were approached, and police charged four people, at three separate locations, with illegally purchasing alcohol. The Chantilly location was the 7-Eleven at 4086 Majestic Lane in the Greenbriar Town Center.

Police Traffic Safety Campaign Along Route 28 Corridor

In response to community concerns about traffic and road safety, police officers from the Sully District Station are being deployed on the Route 28 Corridor at intersections where a majority of vehicle crashes have occurred during the past year. The officers are looking for speeding, reckless driving, following too closely, aggressive driving and disregarding traffic signals. The campaign began Nov. 1 and will continue through the end of the month.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections, Thursday, Nov. 20, 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. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140 to confirm dates and times.

'The Odd Couple' at CVHS

Centreville High will present the play, "The Odd Couple," two ways, with both males and females in the leading roles. The male version will be performed Friday, Nov. 21, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 22, at 2 p.m. The female version is Thursday, Nov. 20, and Saturday, Nov. 22, at 7:30 p.m. each night, and Sunday, Nov. 23, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$6 in advance, at the door or at www.theatrecentreville.com.

Each version has a cast of eight. Seniors Kathryn Peterson and Stephanie Kelly, both 18, play the female leads, and seniors Neema Atri, 17, and Torin Van Houten, 18, portray the male leads. The play illustrates what happens when a freewheeling, messy person lets his or her neat and serious friend move in with him or her — and hilarity ensues. "If there's a quintessential, Neil Simon play, it's 'The Odd Couple,'" said Director J. Mark Rogers. "He is an American master at comedy."

Rocky Run Offers 'Stefanie Hero'

Take a princess, a knight, a dragon and an evil sorcerer, add some talented students and the result is 'Stefanie Hero,' the newest production from Rocky Run Middle School.

Show times are Friday, Nov. 21, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 22, at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m., in the little theater. Tickets are \$7 at the door and during the prior week's school lunchtimes.

Directed by Julie Wharton, this comedy adventure was written by Mark Medoff, author of "Children of a Lesser God." It's the story of a princess, Stefanie, whose father left years before on a quest to prove himself a great knight and vanished. Her mother is selfish, self-absorbed and bitter.

"Stefanie has two younger brothers and a sister and, by default, she's become head of her household and the kingdom," said Wharton. "There's also an evil sorcerer who'd like to marry Stefanie and, to gain power over her, he casts a spell over her mother and siblings. So she goes on an adventure to save them."

NEWS

Sending Packages to Soldiers

Democratic Women of Clifton remember those serving in Iraq.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Thanks to the Democratic Women of Clifton (DWC), almost three dozen holiday packages are on their way to soldiers in Iraq.

"This is our second year," said DWC Chairman Jane Barker. "Last year, one of our members in Little Rocky Run had a nephew stationed in Iraq so we packaged about 20 large boxes for him and the other soldiers."

Their effort was such a success that they decided to do it again. This time, they asked DWC steering-committee member Yvonne Garcia to find a recipient.

"I know lots of military people in Gainesville and one has a son in Iraq," said Garcia, of Centreville's Cabell's Mill community. "So I contacted his parents and they put me in touch with him."

He is Army 1st Lt. James J. "Jeff" Robertson II of the XVIII Airborne Corps and he's one of 18 men and two women in Baghdad who'll receive the packages. After learning about the DWC's plan to brighten their holidays, he wrote a thank-you letter and told a bit about the duties he and his fellow soldiers have.

"We are made up of soldiers and airmen from all over the world," wrote Robertson. "Our main function is to assess and provide information, as part of Operation Defeat Al Qaeda in the North, to the commanding general. We also work closely with the Iraq-Syrian border security ... in countering extremists groups that receive external moral, material and other assistance from private supporters in Syria and elsewhere."

In closing his letter, Robertson assured the DWC that "anything we receive will be shared amongst many people. We all thank you for your thoughts



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

With their packages are (from left) DWC members Caitlin Lhommedieu, Barbara Miller, Debbie Nagy, Susan Pisner and Louise Glenn.

and prayers."

He also sent a list of some of the items they especially like receiving, including: Cookies, brownies, crackers, beef jerky, trail mix, gum, sunflower seeds, peanuts, home-baked goods, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, shampoo, soap, shaving razors and hand-sanitizing wipes.

So the DWC members purchased these things and, on Sunday afternoon, nearly two dozen women gathered in the Clifton Town Meeting Hall and packaged them to send overseas. They're going priority mail and will arrive in time for Christmas.

Happy to participate, Garcia said that when she was buying items for last year's holiday packages, she originally intended to just pick up some razors, but found herself buying them and many other treats for the soldiers. "I felt like there was no amount of money I could spend that would equate with what they're doing over there," she said. "And this was something I could do to help them."

Barker said the project has "grown tremendously. We did 20 boxes last year and 32 this year. We also wrote notes and letters to the soldiers and enclosed them in the packages. We thanked them for their service and wished them happy holidays."

For example, DWC member Lois Mitchell of Fairfax

SEE PACKAGES, PAGE 4

"It was an honor to be included in the project."

— Ranae Little, DWC member

Need for Food Donation Grows

WFCM is seeking help with Thanksgiving baskets.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

There are lots of local families who won't have much to eat this Thanksgiving. But with help from Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) and the generosity of community residents, that doesn't have to be the case.

WFCM is providing holiday food baskets to needy families, and Pam Ryan is coordinating the efforts. She's lined up some individuals, churches, families and businesses willing to provide some of the baskets, but still needs many more to fulfill all the requests for help.

"It's not too late for folks to sponsor a basket," she

said. "And if they're unable to shop for the needed items, themselves, to put together a basket, they can send us a supermarket gift card or a check. We'd be grateful for any level of support."

Anyone who'd like to help should contact Ryan at 703-988-9656, ext. 3, or at volunteer@wfcma.org. Checks — with "holiday baskets" written on the memo line — may be sent to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. Gift cards or monetary donations may also be brought to the WFCM office at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly, near Backyard Grill and Bar.

"We figure it costs about \$30 to supply food for a family of one to three people, and \$40-\$50 for larger

SEE FOOD, PAGE 4

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NEWS

Food Sought

FROM PAGE 3

families," she said. "The most expensive item is the meat." Baskets typically contain a turkey, stuffing, vegetables, fresh fruit, dinner rolls, onions, potatoes, juice and a pie or two. Recipients will prepare their own meals.

"Sponsors will be given a family's name, address and phone number," said Ryan. "Then they'll call to see if they'd like turkey, chicken or ham, and what their family's favorite vegetables and desserts are." They'll also find out when is best to deliver the basket.

Ryan said many families get their children involved in the shopping and delivery. "It's something they can do together, and it's a chance for kids to understand that not everyone is as fortunate as they are," she said. And with the tough economic times this year, said Ryan, the need is especially great.

"We have 610 families in the Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fairfax Station, Fair Oaks and Fair Lakes areas who've requested assistance, and I have sponsors for all but 180," she said. "Our churches, local businesses and residents are helping, but we still have families without sponsors. So we really want to do what we can to get them something for Thanksgiving dinner."

Packages

FROM PAGE 3

wrote: "We're thinking of you and want you to know how much we appreciate what you are doing. Thank you so much for your effort, and please know you are in our hearts."

As the women finished addressing the mailing labels to be attached to the packages, DWC member Ranae Little of Clifton summed up the feelings of everyone in the group. "It was an honor to be included in the project," she said. "And it felt good to be doing something for those serving our country."

The Democratic Women of Clifton meet once a month at the Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road in Clifton. For more information, e-mail CliftonWomenDems@aol.com or see www.democraticwomenofclifton.org.

"You don't have to live in Clifton or Little Rocky Run to join," said Barker. "All Democratic women in Northern Virginia are welcome."

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Prison Recommended for Robbery

FROM PAGE 1

kept cocking it back, cursing and saying, 'Give me your money, give me your keys; we're gonna rob you.'"

The victim said the bat-wielder had a 5-o'clock shadow, curly hair and "almost like a ponytail coming out the bottom of his mask." Stott asked if he was able to get a good look at the man with the bat, and the victim said he was. "I was standing right under a street light and he was [only] a foot away from me," he said. He then pointed out Solomon in court as that man.

Furthermore, said the victim, the encounter was not random; instead he'd been targeted. "I remember one of the other guys saying, 'Is this him?' he testified. Then, he said, "After they took \$20 from my hand, I started backing away toward Stringfellow Road, with my hands up. The guy swung the bat and it struck the street sign, and I ran to Casey and Carolina's car."

WHEN STOTT asked him to describe how he felt at the time, the victim said, "I was afraid of the guy with the bat in my face and the guy with the gun. I could have died." He then pointed out in a photo the "No parking, no standing" sign pole that was struck with the bat. When he dived into his friends' car, he said, they'd already called the police and they met officers at the nearby Greenbriar Town Center.

In trying to figure out who'd want to rob him, he said, he remembered what had happened the night before. "I asked Carolina if Abel had long hair, and

she said he did," said the victim. "She had him on her Facebook account, and I saw him and it was [the guy with the bat]. That was what he looked like, the night of the robbery — exactly."

Under cross-examination by defense attorney Martin Mooradian, the victim said the assailants had their hoods up, one wore a mask and "Abel had a cut-out ski mask that only covered part of his face." He said he didn't know which one took his money: "It was chaotic; it all happened in about 30 seconds."

Miyake testified next. Although Solomon appeared in court clean-shaven and with his hair closely cropped, she identified him as the man who'd come, unwanted, to the victim's house when she opened the door. That night, she said, "He had long, curly hair tied in a ponytail."

From their car, the next night, she said, she and Casey saw the victim with his hands in the air and realized he was in trouble. "I saw three people wearing hoodies; one had a face mask on," said Miyake. "The person with the ponytail was the only person without his hood up. He was wearing some kind of hat."

When the metal baseball bat connected, she said, it "hit the 'no parking' sign's metal pole and made a really loud noise." So they drove over to the victim and picked him up. "We were going to drive to the [Fair Oaks District] police station nearby on Route 50," she said. "But we saw three squad cars parked in the shopping center so we stopped there, instead, and told them."

SEE SOLOMON, PAGE 10



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PEOPLE

GBW Takes First in LEGO Tourney

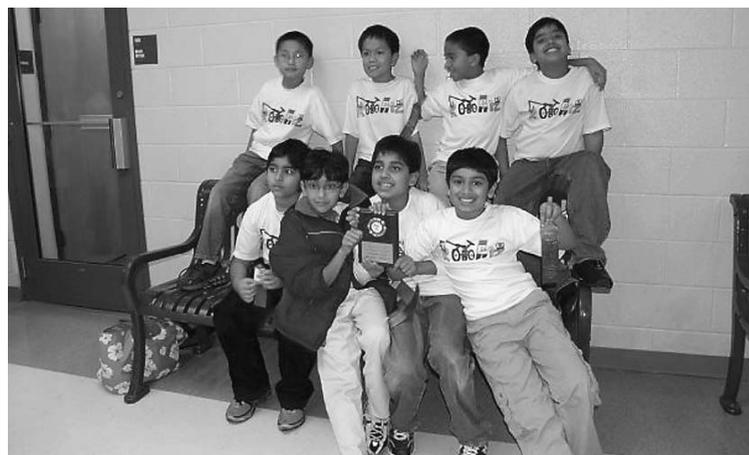
A group of GBW fourth-graders participated at the FIRST LEGO Regional Tournament at Chantilly High School on Nov 15, sponsored by the Chantilly Robotics Academy. FLL is for students between the age of 8-14 and so far, FLL has reached more than 135,000 people in 45 countries around the globe.

The GBW ROBOWIZ TEAM won the Division 1 Champions Award competing against 24 teams comprised of fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders from teams across Northern Virginia. They are now headed to the VA/DC State Finals to compete against winners from 16 similar Regional Qualifying tournaments at the Virginia/DC FLL Championship tournament at James Madison University (JMU) on Dec 6-7. The team is coached by Suprotik Ghose.

FLL FIRST LEGO is comprised of four areas of competition:

1. Robot Performance (where the teams compete with a robot that they build and program on a Championship mat).

2. Robot Design & Programming (this where the technical merits of the robot built from Lego blocks and innovation in execution are judged).



The GBW ROBOWIZ TEAM (and their GT teachers) is comprised of Devan Kowdley and Tanmay Khattar (Mr. Kelly) ; Shomik Ghose, Kanishka Gaba and Roy Kamineni (Mr. Smith/Ms. Molitar) and Akshay Balaji, Eric Wei and Jonathan Cao (Ms. McNeilly) and Nikhil Chintada (Ms. Richwine).

3. Challenge Topic Research and Presentation (local and global impacts): this year's topic was Climate Connections (impact of global warming). The teams topic was "The Impact of Climate Change on the Cherry Blossom Seasons in Washington, D.C., and Kyoto, Japan". The team researched papers on the impact in D.C. and Kyoto in the public libraries and on the internet and visited Dr. Peterson (a noted Botanist at

the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History) to discuss their findings.

4. Teamwork (very similar to Spontaneous in Odyssey of the Mind). The idea is to practice "Gracious Professionalism," an integral part of the ethos of FIRST. It's a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.

Franklin Middle Students Choose Obama as President

Franklin Middle School's eighth-grade civics classes learned a valuable life lesson on Wednesday, Oct. 29 when they voted in the 2008 Presidential Election.

Coordinating their lesson plans around the upcoming election, civics teachers Eric McCann, Judy Huber, Meghan Kokinda, Mike LeMay and Connie Lepore had their students go through the steps to become voting citizens.

Each student participated in a Campaign 2008 Project which included classroom and home activities. These activities stressed background information and issues of the two major candidates. They also included Presidential terms and other information such as the importance of the role of the Electoral College in national elections. And finally the voting process was brought home by learning about requirements and regulations on how to vote in Virginia.

Prior to the Election Day the library was set up as a registrar's office where the students were required to take personal time during the week to partially fill out and sign a Virginia Voter Registration Application form. The deadline was Tuesday. Those who registered properly were allowed to vote in the pretend election held



Franklin Middle School eighth-grade civics class members Amorkor Armar, Micahia Avant, Greg Brayboy, Jeong Choi, Jessica Dinh, Griffin Duy, Conor Flanagan, Anna Goethche, Jillian Goulding, Thelma Jefferson, Nick Jones, Li Lui, Callie Long, Heather Maher, Zack Maulella, Logan Miller, Walid Mohammadi, Robert Nelson, Mileena Owen and Connor Pinocci display their "I Voted" stickers after voting in their Presidential Election in the school's library.

on Wednesday.

On Election Day the library was set up to simulate Fairfax County Precinct 905's polling place (which is normally held at Franklin Middle School). Each civic class was escorted to the library to vote. The library staff posed as poll workers with a registrar checking off names and handing out a paper copy of the Virginia ballot. The ballots gave students the chance

to vote for a member of the House and the Senate as well as selecting one of the six presidential candidates. Students were instructed on the importance of following directions and filling out the ballot correctly.

After voting, each student proudly displayed their "I Voted" stickers for the rest of the day. The results: 64 percent of the students voted for Barack Obama.

WFCM Needs Help to Fill Thanksgiving Baskets

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

There are lots of local families who won't have much to eat this Thanksgiving. But with help from Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) and the generosity of community residents, that doesn't have to be the case.

WFCM is providing holiday food baskets to needy families, and Pam Ryan is coordinating the efforts. She's lined up some individuals, churches, families and businesses willing to provide some of the baskets, but still needs many more to fulfill all the requests for help.

"It's not too late for folks to sponsor a basket," she said. "And if they're unable to shop for the needed items, themselves, to put together a basket, they can send us a supermarket gift card or a check. We'd be grateful for any level of support."

Anyone who'd like to help should contact Ryan at 703-988-9656, ext. 3, or at volunteer@wfcmvva.org. Checks — with "holiday baskets" written on the memo line — may be sent to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. Gift cards or monetary donations may also be brought to the WFCM office at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly, near Backyard Grill and Bar.

"We figure it costs about \$30 to supply food for a family of one to three people, and \$40-\$50 for larger families," she said. "The most expensive item is the meat." Baskets typically contain a turkey, stuffing, vegetables, fresh fruit, dinner rolls, onions, potatoes, juice and a pie or two. Recipients will prepare their own meals.

"Sponsors will be given a family's name, address and phone number," said Ryan. "Then they'll call to see if they'd like turkey, chicken or ham, and what their family's favorite vegetables and desserts are." They'll also find out when is best to deliver the basket.

Ryan said many families get their children involved in the shopping and delivery. "It's something they can do together, and it's a chance for kids to understand that not everyone is as fortunate as they are," she said. And with the tough economic times this year, said Ryan, the need is especially great.

"We have 610 families in the Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fairfax Station, Fair Oaks and Fair Lakes areas who've requested assistance, and I have sponsors for all but 180," she said. "Our churches, local businesses and residents are helping, but we still have families without sponsors. So we really want to do what we can to get them something for Thanksgiving dinner."

MILITARY NOTES

To have military news listed in Centre View, mail to 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102, e-mail to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com or fax to 703-917-0991. Photos, especially color, are encouraged. Deadline is one week before publication. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-917-6434.

Air Force Airman Timothy C. Smith has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

He is the son of Gina Smith of Moon Harbor Way, Middleburg, Fla., and Timmy Smith of Fairfax Woods Way, Fairfax. Smith is a 2006 graduate of Ridgeview High School, Orange Park, Fla.

Navy Seaman Recruit Robert A. Raymond, son of Shannon A. Cambell of Bremerton, Wash., and Donald A. Raymond of Fairfax, recently

completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Raymond is a 2008 graduate of West Lake High School of Waldorf, Md.

Air Force Airman Saranam L. Dorman has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Dorman is the daughter of Richard and Carol Dorman of Eddy Court, Centreville. In 2006, the airman graduated from Westfield High School, Chantilly.

Christopher X. Treyz has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Leader's Training Course at Fort Knox, Ky. The cadet is a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. He is the son of Fred A. and Mary Treyz of Chancery Park Drive, Fairfax. Treyz graduated in 2006 from Fairfax High School.

NEWS

ONC Needs Help To Help Others

FROM PAGE 1

three children plus two grandchildren.”

And because of foreclosures, some families who once had their own homes have had to move in with relatives. Or worse yet, they're homeless. Said Lavin: "Some people tell us, 'I'm living in this house now, but I may not be on delivery day.'"

And at the same time, ONC has lost some of its previous contributors. "We've had a good economic situation in the past," said Lavin. "But now, a lot of our donors who were generous before are struggling, themselves."

SO ONC is doing what it can to generate help. The week of Dec. 1, students from Stone Middle School will drop off fliers in their neighborhoods. The fliers will ask residents for donations of holiday gift items, such as new toys, games and books, as well as new and like-new clothing for children from infants up to age 17.

Then on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., the students will return to pick up the items. "People can leave them on their porch, if they want," said Lavin. "And residents living elsewhere are welcome to drop items at Stone, that day, and students will be in front of the school to accept them."

Throughout its history, ONC has always met every request it's received. But this time, Lavin admits she's a bit nervous. "We don't want to realize at the 11th hour that we can't do it," she said. Most of all, though, she's grateful for local residents' support, all these years.

"It's not just ONC that does this," said Lavin. "It's this community, and ONC organizes its efforts. All the individuals, businesses,

To Help

- ❖ Shop at giving tree: Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., a giving tree with ornaments containing children's holiday wishes will be in the Fair Lakes Wal-Mart. Pick as many items as desired off the tree, buy those things and place them in the big box next to the ONC volunteers outside the store.
- ❖ Volunteers are also needed to help pick up, package and deliver each family's gifts, plus bake some of the thousands of cookies that will be distributed to the recipients.
- ❖ Pick up gifts from churches, businesses, etc. Contact Chris Hobbs at hobbsfamily@cox.net.
- ❖ To help bake cookies, call Pam Ryan at 703-795-1494.
- ❖ Packaging day is Thursday, Dec. 18, from 9 a.m.-3 or 4 p.m. Contact Kathy Sposa at sposafamily@aol.com.
- ❖ Delivery day is Sunday, Dec. 21, from 1-4 p.m. Contact Lucy Richter at relest8lucy@aol.com.
- ❖ For monetary contributions, mail checks to ONC address or contact Karen Moore at kk1mo@aol.com.



Christine and Lizzie Rooney, and Ali and Caroline Hager, helped bag clothing last year for Our Neighbor's Child.

churches and schools have to do their part to make it happen. So, while we might lose some donors — and especially some of the bigger ones — my hope is that people are more sensitive to the needs of others because they're facing [tough times] in their own lives."

"These are members of their community who need help," continued Lavin. "And if people will

donate small amounts, they'll add up and make it all possible."

Checks payable to Our Neighbor's Child may be sent to it at P.O. Box 276, Centreville, VA 20120. "Monetary contributions are used to buy whatever gifts don't come in, as well as gift cards for the families," said Lavin. "Any amount would be greatly appreciated."

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More Unlicensed Than Drunk Drivers at Checkpoints

When the Fairfax County police set up a checkpoint over a weekend night, they are more likely to find people driving without a license than people driving under the influence, according to county executive Tony Griffin.

"Each police station has controlled stops in the district and they tend to arrest more people for not having an operator's license [than drunk driving]," said Griffin at the Board of Supervisors legislative meeting Nov. 14.

Fairfax County officers wrote about 5,440 tickets for driving without a license from October 2007 through September 2008. Of the eight precincts, the Mount Vernon police district garnered the most offenders in this area last year, with about 1,120 tickets issued for this problem.

Some elected officials suspect that some of the people caught driving without a license are undocumented workers because illegal immigrants are prohibited from acquiring driver's licenses in Virginia.

"Hundreds of people are getting pulled over and arrested for not having a driver's license. ...These are hundreds and hundreds of people who have never had a license, never had training" said Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D).

Foust suggested Fairfax County look into a state legislative initiative backed by the Town of Herndon, which has taken several aggressive steps to crackdown on illegal immigrants. The town government proposed a measure that would allow police officers to impound a citizen's vehicle if that person was caught driving with no license for a second time.

Some Fairfax County supervisors had reservations about the measure, partly because it was part of a Herndon legislative package focused on a illegal immigrants that the county generally did not support.

Most supervisors wanted more information from the Fairfax County police about the problem before they backed a solution.

"I think this is a bit ominous. The owner and operator of the vehicle may not be the same," said Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D).

In an interview this week, Springfield Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R) said something should be done to address the issue.

Herrity said one of the problems is the fines for driving without a license are not high enough to deter people, until someone is caught for the third time. Since many people regularly driving without a license use aliases with the police, the offenders rarely rack up the three charges that trigger a harsher fine and penalty, according to Griffin.

Herrity would like the police to run a background check on all people pulled over for driving without a license. But the supervisor is not sure the checks, which are time consuming for police, should take priority over other law enforcement duties.

"Do you want to pull police officers off the street to do this?" said Herrity.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Police encounter more people driving without licenses than driving under the influence, according to a report this week. In the Mount Vernon police district alone, police issued 1,120 tickets for driving without a driver's license last year.

Put 'County Checkbook' Online?

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors backed away from an initiative to provide more transparency by itemizing county expenditures online when board members put together the county's 2009 state legislative package Nov. 14.

State Senators Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) and Chap Petersen (D-35) have already submitted a bill for next session that could require the creation of a searchable, detailed database of its budget and expenditures.

The measure is similar to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, which set up a free publicly searchable Web site for all federal contracts and grants over \$25,000.

President-elect Barack Obama and Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Ok.) were leaders on the open government legislation. Former presidential candidate John McCain (R) was also one of its initial sponsors in the U.S. Senate.

After the federal law passed, several states followed with their own transparency laws, including Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin (R) who posted her state's check register online.

"Other states have done this. We will monitor it and see how it has gone there," said county attorney David Bobzien.

Some county staff said they could think of examples where government would want to keep some of its payments "out of the public record."

"There are some downsides to doing this. We need to examine it. We need better answers," said county chairman Gerry Connolly (D).

But Springfield Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R)— who is running to replace Connolly — said he felt the county was dragging its feet on the issue. "For us not to be doing that is ridiculous. It has been done in a bi-

partisan fashion across the country," said Herrity.

Connolly Favors Bail Out for Localities

U.S. Representative-elect and current Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly (D) indicated that he would advocate adopting an additional Economic Stabilization Act to give federal assistance to local governments.

"When you are looking at bailing out GM, Ford and Chrysler, how about bailing out us? There has to be aid to localities for the purpose of stimulus," said Connolly at a county board legislative committee meeting Nov. 14.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors also backed a resolution adopted by the Virginia Association of Counties that requested the federal government give money directly to localities and not only to state governments.

Fairfax Students Report Depression

The percentage of Fairfax County Public School students reporting depression has fallen in the last seven years but still remains higher than the national average, according to the county's 2008 Youth Survey released Nov. 14.

Approximately 31 percent of the eighth, 10th and 12th grade students in Fairfax County who participated in the survey said they had felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for weeks that they had stopped participating in some regular activities. The national average is for their peers reporting depression is 28.5 percent.

The number of Fairfax County students who say they have experienced depression has consistently dropped since 2001, when 35 percent of those surveyed said they felt the same symptoms.

The percentage of Fairfax students who have considered attempting suicide, about 14.5 percent, is around the national average, 14.7 percent, and has also dropped from its 2001 figure, 18.5 percent.

Those students who report a suicide attempt, about 3.5 percent, is approximately half of the nationwide figure of 7 percent.

About 35 percent of girls reported feeling sad and lonely to just 26 percent of boys. Approximately 18 percent of girls to just 11 percent of boys said they had considered suicide and the percentage of female students who said they attempted suicide, 4.7, was more than twice than of the boys, which hovered around two percent.

In terms of ethnic groups, Hispanic or Latinos appeared more prone to feeling depressed, 39 percent.

White students were the least likely to report depressive symptoms, according to the report.

Since 2001, all student ethnic groups in Fairfax County had seen a decline in feelings of depression, according to the survey.

But Dranesville District School Board member Janie Strauss cautioned people not to be too optimistic about the statistics.

The a nationwide drop in attempted and "successful" suicides among teenagers but the incidents of cutting — self-mutilation to relieve stress — have increased, she said.

Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly said he would like to see Fairfax County Public Schools train classroom teachers to spot early warning signs of depression or suicide in their students.

"My candid opinion is that we don't do this well. ... And there is a still a tremendous stigma attached to suicide," said Connolly. "A teacher who is trained a little bit could be a pivotal figure."

Help is available for anyone who depressed or considering suicide by calling CrisisLink at 703-527-4077, or 1-800-SUICIDE.

Panel Recommends New Utility Fee

Fairfax County's Environmental Quality Advisory Council proposed a new storm water management impact fee during a Board of Supervisors meeting Nov. 17.

The county currently pays for storm water management through its general fund. The supervisors dedicate one penny of Fairfax's real estate tax rate, 92 cents per \$100 of assessed value, to the cause, which would amount to about \$21 million annually.

Due to budget constraints, the county has been using more of the funding from the storm water-dedicated penny to cover staffing and equipment, resulting in a 38 percent reduction in funding going to actual infrastructure upgrades.

The environmental advisory council would like to see a steadier stream of funding for storm water management, particularly in light of the county's projected \$500 million budget shortfall next year.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

OPINION

Call for Student Connection

Looking for writing and artwork by local students.

Every year, over the winter holidays, the Centre View turns the pages of one entire issue over to the contributions of local students.

As with previous years' issues, we will feature artwork of many kinds, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories, reflections and more. Artwork can include paintings, drawings or any media; photos of sculpture, ceramics or other works too large to sub-

mit are also encouraged.

We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled. Past contributions have come from children from nursery schools through those preparing to graduate from high school.

Sometimes an art or English teacher will assign a project and submit the work of an entire class, but individual submissions from any young person in the commu-

nity are also welcome. We prefer digital submissions.

Please be sure to include the name of the artist or author, and include age, school attended and name of the hometown, along with a phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

Mail, e-mail or deliver submissions to the Connection by Dec. 5. Our address is 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. E-mail to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com, or call 703-917-6428 with questions.

EDITORIALS

Here's a Stimulus Plan

Many localities are calling for their share of the federal bailout. It's not unreasonable, given that the economic slowdown means less revenue for localities at the very moment local citizens turn to their local governments for more help.

For a stimulus plan that would create jobs, give localities a boost and provide lasting benefits, the next phase of stimulus spending should involve dispensing funds to localities that have major projects, like rail to Dulles or

school building and renovations, ready to go.

Rail to Dulles is not the only major (and sorely needed) transit project that has been languishing in a parsimonious and convoluted federal process waiting for funding. Let's spend \$150 billion paying for projects around the country that will put people to work right away, stimulate the economy via jobs and demand for goods and services, take cars off the roads.

Think what a boost it would be to the local economy to have most of the cost of such a

Build rail to Dulles, and other infrastructure projects.

project taken care of by the feds.

Do we have anything to show for the \$150 billion in stimulus checks mailed out to consumers a few hundred dollars at a time?

The federal government is spending inconceivable sums of money to help stabilize the economy. Let's spend some of it on something that will last.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,
703-917-6416

In Defense of Father Fimian at St. Timothy's

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the letter written by Mr. Joseph Cassara which was published on Nov. 6, 2008. I am not sure what the point was Mr. Cassara was trying to make by writing to a secu-

lar paper about a grievance he had with a Catholic Priest, except to try to cause slander to Fr. Fimian's name and our Church. In the future I would hope he would take his complaint to Fr. Fimian and our Pastor in private. But since he

has chosen this venue, I feel compelled to write in defense of Fr. Fimian.

I too am a Parishoner at St. Timothy's Parish. Fr. Fimian is a very zealous priest who is faithful to the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church. What Father Fimian did was not a direct violation of the separation of church and state. The law regarding the separation of church and state was not passed to put a gag order on the Church about instructing the faithful on moral issues. The whole point of Father Fimian's homily (yes, I heard them), was that abortion is a moral issue and not just a political issue, and because it is a moral issue it is the most important issue, especially as Catholics, to consider when voting. At no time did Father Fimian say who to vote for. He did mention Obama by name, but only — as you quoted in your letter — to ask us to pray for him. Since when

is it unlawful for a priest to suggest we pray for someone?

Fr. Fimian isn't the first priest to come out and say voting for a pro-choice candidate is wrong. Several Catholic Bishops spoke out before the election. Our faith is what forms our political views, or at least it should.

The election wasn't the first time Father Fimian has spoken about pro-life issues during his homilies, and as he proved last Sunday, it won't be the last. Over 5 million babies have been killed by the evil of abortion. They don't have a voice, and as Catholics we need to pray and be active in finding justice for all, from conception until natural death. Mr. Cassara claims to be pro-life. So, why not use your time to defend life instead of complaining about a Priest who isn't afraid to speak the truth!

Melissa J. George
Manor Hall Lane
Fairfax

Action Is Needed on JellyBeans

To the Editor:

JellyBean packages come in two sizes: small and large. Both contain candies with enchanting flavors. Presidents have served them. Poets have praised them. They are loved by millions, young and old.

As one who prefers JellyBeans over Godiva chocolates, I am greatly disturbed by the actions of certain business that cater to the JellyBean trade: these include Giant, CVS and Safeway stores, to name three. In the past month these stores have raised (jumped is a better word) the price of all brands of JellyBeans by as much as 50 percent. This action has been taken in clear disregard of the terrible condition of our economy.

With huge layoffs looming, JellyBean prices may rise beyond reach of even those excessively compensated Wall Street managers. An appropriate question: should JellyBean lovers consider applying for government support?

Can this be price gouging?

I think direct action is needed. Despite the hardship, JellyBean lovers and their supporters should refuse to purchase, or reduce purchases of JellyBeans to the minimum until price sanity is restored.

Larry Baldwin
Centreville

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, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, Va. 22102. Call: 703-917-6444. By fax: 703-917-0991. By e-mail: centreview@connectionnewspapers.com

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Neighbors Prepare Turkey Trot

FROM PAGE 1

at Virginia Run Elementary.

"A lot of people were excited to learn that this year's race was in her memory," said Leandra. "And she'd be really happy to know that everybody cared enough about her to run the Turkey Trot in her honor."

"Judy was wonderful," added DeVincenzo. "Three years ago, when my daughter Tara and her daughter Leandra were seniors at Westfield High, we both chaperoned the Theater Department's senior trip to Chicago together."

THE 2008 Turkey Trot 5K kicks off Thursday, Nov. 27, at 8 a.m., followed immediately by the 2K fun walk. The running course is USATF-certified; both it and the 2K start and end at the Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, off Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road, in Centreville.

Register at www.runwashington.com. Entry fee is \$20, runners; and \$13, walkers, by Nov. 22. Afterward, it's \$22 and \$15. There's no race-day registration for the run, but walkers may still sign up. The fee includes a commemorative T-shirt, post-race snacks and raffle participation. The event takes place, rain, shine or snow, and parking is available at nearby Centreville Baptist Church, Centreville Presbyterian Church and Bull Run Elementary, all off Route 29.

Some 2,250 runners participated in last year's race, plus more than 800 walkers. This year, said DeVincenzo, "Pre-registration is bigger than ever. So far, we're 200 people above what we had last year at this time, so we could break 2,500 people registering for the race."

Runners will be electronically timed and results will be posted on www.runwashington.com. Prizes are awarded to the two fastest males and females overall and in the Virginia Run residents' category. The top two runners in various age categories also receive prizes. As always, Virginia Run's Greg Richter will provide most of the raffle prizes. To contribute raffle items or help out monetarily, call Ann Tursic at 703-815-1456.

THE MAIN SPONSORS are Mitchell Eye Institute, Fairfax Oncology, Luck Stone, Odyssey Travel and Glory Days Grill, and DeVincenzo appreciates each and every one of them. "In the fourth year of the race, we were making \$3,500, and I set a goal to clear \$10,000," he said. "By the seventh year, we were exceeding that, and it's grown ever since."

He attributes the event's success to the fact that it's a community race — put on by Virginia Run residents, with the proceeds going to a local charity. Life with Cancer offers a wide variety of free programs to help families mentally, psychologically and emotionally.

They're both for those with cancer and those affected by it — parents, spouses, siblings, etc. — enabling them to express themselves in words and art or enjoy music to heal the mind, body and spirit. In addition, children and teens learn how to cope and to show their support of loved ones.

DEVINCENZO ALSO praised Virginia Run residents Dean Jones, a state trooper, and Mike Reilly, with Fairfax County's fire department, plus Michelle Enright with the county police. Jones and Enright help with crowd and traffic control, plus runner safety, during the race, and Reilly and Jones make sure emergency personnel are on hand.

Race preparations have been under way since May, and 150 people will help out on the big day. Volunteers are still needed, though; call DeVincenzo at 703-830-7634. He's been involved with Turkey Trot for 16 years, and he wouldn't have it any other way.

"I lost both my parents to cancer, so I got involved when they were ill," he explained. "And when you're raising money, you want to raise as much as you can because the better it is for the people it'll help."

"All the people who work on the race get no compensation, whatsoever," continued DeVincenzo. "Most of us are either cancer survivors or have lost a family member to it. More than half the committee [of about 15 people] are survivors — it's amazing — and every year, they come back."

Jacobson Recalled as Warm and Funny

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

When Leandra Jacobson talks about her late mother, Judy, she can't help but smile. That's because her mom was the kind of person who made everyone else happy just by being herself.

So her death in January devastated all who knew and loved her, but her family most of all. Since then, said Leandra, 20, "It's difficult, but we're making do. Mother's Day was hard, and so was her birthday in October."

Jacobson was a stay-at-home mom to her son and two daughters. She also worked at Virginia Run Elementary as a teacher's assistant for children with disabilities.

"She just loved children and babies and everybody," said Leandra. "And she was the warm, fuzzy center of our family."

She said her mom could be "silly and goofy" and was truly a funny person. "She always made me laugh," said Leandra. "She was always lighthearted, even in the darkest of times. She had a good spirit about her. She was fighting breast cancer since 2002, but she was strong throughout the entire thing."

Jacobson enjoyed painting and was "very crafty," according to her daughter. "My dad was in the Navy until he retired in 1993, when we moved to Virginia Run," said Leandra. "But before then, when we lived



The Jacobsons: Lee, Leandra, Judy, Juliette and Steven during Christmas 2007.

in Japan and Hawaii, my mom made all of our clothes. In kindergarten, I wore these elaborate dresses with my name embroidered on them. She was the most talented seamstress anywhere — I think that was her biggest talent. And when I was in Westfield theater, I did costumes for the shows sometimes and she helped me."

Leandra volunteered at Turkey Trot in the past and said she and her family would

cheer on a friend who ran in it every year. So, she said, "It made me really happy when I got the phone call [about this year's race being in her honor] because I know a lot of people in the community loved and cared about her."

Furthermore, she said, "It's all part of the coping process — not just for our family — but for all the neighbors and everyone who knew her. Virginia Run is a pretty small community and each member is important."

Solomon Found Guilty

FROM PAGE 5

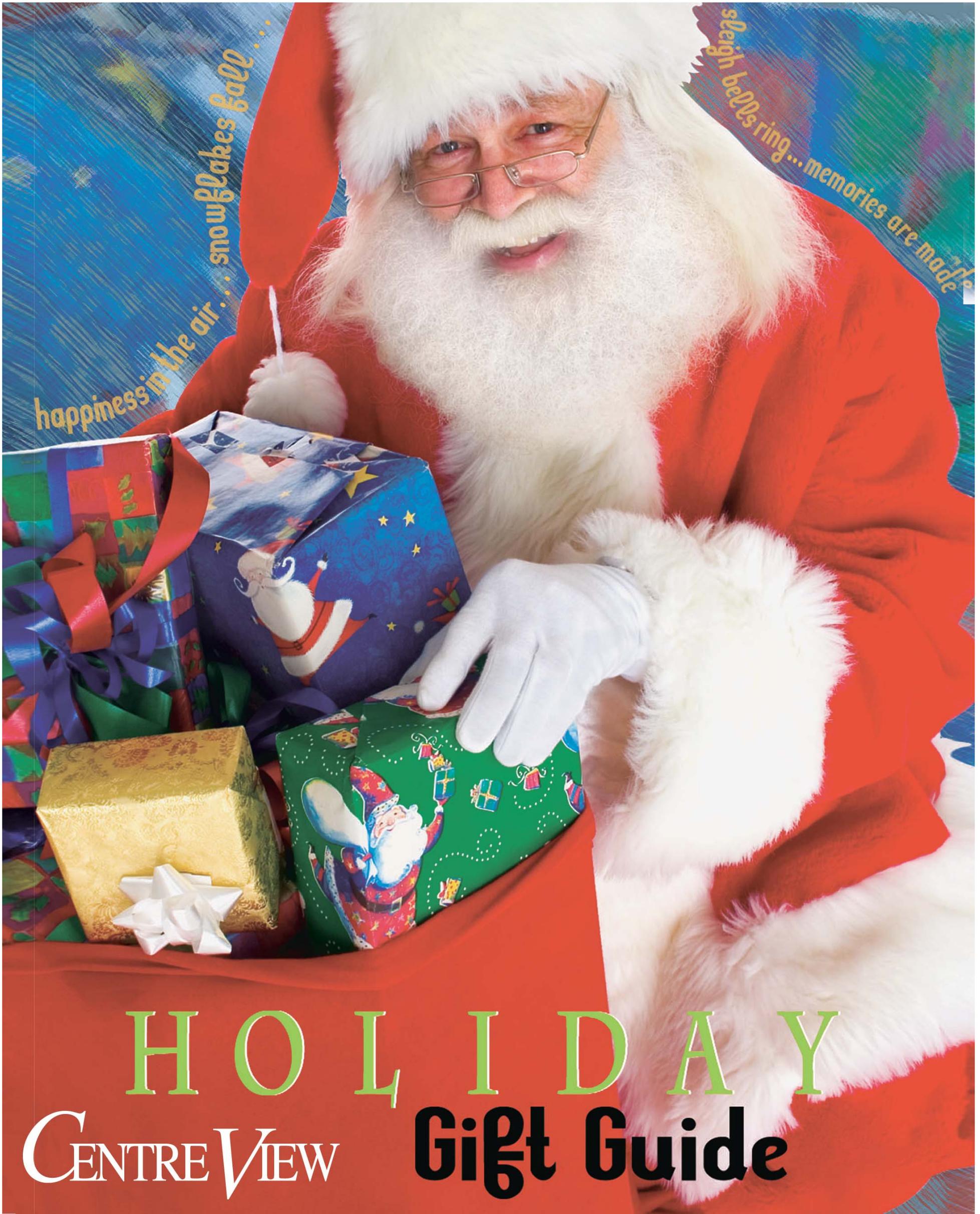
Robbery-Squad Det. Eric Deane testified that Solomon had shoulder-length, curly hair in a ponytail, plus a few days' beard growth, when he was arrested April 2. He said police seized from Solomon's townhouse a dented aluminum baseball bat, a "gaiter" — a black, stretchy mask that covers up the face below the nose, a black knit cap and a black hooded jacket. Deane said the bat, mask, cap and "a black, nylon thing to cover your hair" were all found together by a couch.

Kenneth Rodriguez, who called Solomon "my best friend for five years," testified that, on the night of the robbery, Solomon was at his home from 7 p.m.-3 a.m. He said that, in November 2007, the two of them — angry that their soccer team had lost — beat up Rodriguez's DVD player with a bat, and that's how the bat got dented. He also made a DVD of them doing it — which the jury saw.

STOTT GOT Rodriguez to admit that, the first time someone asked him where Solomon was on March 11 was a week before his trial. "That's over seven months ago, and you were able to recall, with absolute clarity, where you were and who you were with that day?" she asked. "Yeah," he replied.

Later, Stott told the jury, "That incredible 'alibi' casts doubt on [Rodriguez's] entire testimony. This DVD of [them beating the DVD player] is ridiculous. Why would they make that DVD and then keep it? This is an absolute miracle of a coincidence that you'd just happen to have a DVD of bats hitting a DVD player."

Mooradian tried poking holes in the victim's testimony and said being refused entry into his home wasn't motive enough for Solomon to commit robbery. But, said Stott, "The defendant is a 21-year-old boy." She said young men often have "hot tempers" and "don't yet know that it's better to walk away from an injury to your reputation." She also said robbery wasn't the motive: "This was about intimidation, payback and showing who's boss."



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Address: 13999 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly
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Hours: Mon.-Sat. 11-2 a.m.; Sun. 10-2 a.m.

Looking for a great place to eat for the holidays? Backyard Grill in the Sully Square Shopping Center offers a scrumptious Sunday Brunch. For \$12.95, there's an omelette station, Eggs Benedict, seafood section, waffles, pancakes, french toast, fruits and desserts. Gift certificates are available for \$50, which is really \$70 worth of food (they'll add on \$20 for free). The customer appreciation dinner specials are Sundays through Thursdays for \$9.95. They include half-roasted chicken, meat loaf, salmon alfredo and steak salad. A deejay performs Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. During the warmer months, the outdoor patio is a main attraction. A second location is at 7421 Sudley Road in Manassas off Route 23 (next to Comfort Suites).



Backyard Grill bartenders (from left): Amanda Savidge, Mark Mac, Billy Ballard and Janelle Cooley.

STEVE HIBBARD/CENTRE VIEW



Blue Tulip has a sparkling selection of Christmas ornaments from \$7.95 to \$16.95.

STEVE HIBBARD/CENTRE VIEW

Blue Tulip

Address: 4475 Market Commons Drive, Fair Lakes
Phone: 703-818-3009;
 www.bluetulip.com
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10-8 p.m.; Sun. 11-6 p.m.

Blue Tulip is the local gift store for all occasions — whether it be personalized gifts, baby gifts or birthday presents. Located in Fair Lakes across from Whole Foods, the store offers frosted reindeer martini and wine glasses for \$44.99 for a set of four. Also popular this holiday season are the hot cocoa mugs at \$9.95 to \$10.95, and \$12.90 with added coffee. The appetizer plates go for \$24.95 for a set of four. There are hand-painted wine glasses for \$19.95 for a set of four. There are sparkly Hanukkah and Christmas tree ornaments for \$7.95 to \$16.95. The Kate Spade wedding gifts and frames go from \$40 to \$100.

Wine Styles

Address: 12717 Shoppes Lane, The Shoppes at Fair Lakes, Fairfax
Phone: 703-222-9463
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 12-8; Sun. 12-5

Located in the Shoppes at Fair Lakes, Wine Styles takes the guess work out of choosing your wine. Its wine experts specialize in locating hard-to-find wines from small and large vineyards from around the world. The wine club membership is \$34.99 and includes two bottles — one red and one white — valued at \$40 or more chosen by the sommelier. Benefits include 10 percent off all wine purchases, reward points towards exclusive discounts and invitations to private tastings. Try the sparkling wines for the month of December, and dessert wines for Valentine's Day. For holiday gift-giving, try a custom-made basket in any price range. They include wines and foods like cheese, crackers, chocolates, pastas, dipping oils, dips and spreads. For that hard-to-please someone, give a Vinturi, a glass decanter (\$39.99) that allows wine to "breathe" before it's served. Wine tastings are 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays.

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Address: 14245-D Centreville Square, Centreville.
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www.withyarninfront.com
Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Thursday-Friday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m.

Store partners Malika Bennani and Tiffany Bojeun opened With Yarn in Front in mid-June, offering everything and then some for knitting and crocheting enthusiasts. Since then, it's become immensely popular. The shop sells knitting and crocheting supplies and books; spinning, knitting and weaving machines; yarn of all types and colors, plus a large collection of roving material – the fiber used to make yarn.

Classes and private lessons are also available. "We teach knitting and crocheting, plus designing, as well as spinning and weaving," said Bennani. "We do absolutely everything – design, custom-make items, teach, repair and even copy things already made."

"We only carry top-quality yarn and can special-order particular colors," she continued. "We have yarn from all over the world, and it's reasonably priced and costs less than at other stores. For example, baby-sweater yarn is \$3 a ball, and 500 yards of alpaca is \$20." The store has silk, cashmere, angora, alpaca, wool, cotton and acrylic yarn, as well as yarn made out of corn, milk, linen, seashells and bamboo. It comes in both skeins and cones.

And just for fun, every other Friday is "Flick Night." Customers arrive at 7 p.m. with a project to work on while enjoying cheese and crackers and watching a movie. Upcoming films are: Nov. 21,



Co-owner Malika Bennani holds a handmade shawl and sweater inside the store, With Yarn in Front.

"Sense and Sensibility;" Dec. 5, "A Christmas Story;" Dec. 19, "White Christmas," and Jan. 2, "Chocolat."

For the holidays, Bennani suggests: Gift certificates for lessons, \$35-\$90; a ball of yarn for a baby sweater up to 18-

months size, complete with buttons and directions, \$14; Christmas-socking kits, \$20-\$45; baby-blanket kit, \$15; already-made hat-and-scarf sets, \$70-\$90; custom-made and personalized Christmas stockings, \$85-\$150.

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STEVE HIBBARD/CENTRE VIEW



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Phone: 703-961-0850
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An international jewelry store specializing in imports from India, Allure Jewels has an exotic blend of accessories

to compliment any holiday wardrobe. The jewelry can be custom ordered and built from scratch. The \$22K gold chains start at \$150 and go up to \$1,500. The 18K gold and diamond traditional Indian necklaces (VVS quality) go from \$250 to \$5,000. Hoops earrings in 18K or 22K gold sell for \$300; bracelets in

22K gold with diamonds go for \$300-\$400, depending on weight. There are kids earrings for \$100-\$200; bangles in 22K gold for \$1,000, depending on the weight; and gold necklaces with stones for \$1,000. They specialize in diamond and cocktail rings with on-site jewelry repairs while you wait.



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Charlie Chiang's Centreville manager and co-owner, Maggie Jim and Raymond Chen.



Two orders of Charlie Chiang's fresh pineapple chicken.

Charlie Chiang's

Address: 14107 St. Germain Drive, in Centreville's Centrowood Plaza.
Phone: 703-266-7300;
www.charliechiangcentreville.com.
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 11:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; Sunday and holidays, noon-10 p.m.

Charlie Chiang's mainly offers Chinese cuisine; however, there's also a sushi bar and some Thai, Vietnamese and Japanese dishes are available. The restaurant serves both lunch and dinner,

with the latter ranging from \$15-\$25/person.

It's been open about four years in Centrowood Plaza and, in 2005, its designer won a hospitality award for the restaurant's sleek, modern interior of black, white and silver.

There's an extensive menu, and Manager Maggie Jim says the most popular entrees are the creamy sesame jumbo shrimp, fresh pineapple chicken, crispy hot beef and honey tempura chicken.

"We also have a very good wine selection," she said. "And we even offer some Revolution diet meals." These dishes are served without salt, sugar, cornstarch

and MSG; an example is steamed asparagus with jumbo shrimp and scallops, with sauce on the side.

As a lunch special, Monday-Saturday, from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., the restaurant offers Bento boxes with Chinese and Japanese combinations. Most are \$9.95 and include soup, rice or six pieces of California Roll with the entrée.

And on Saturdays and Sundays, Charlie Chiang's serves a champagne brunch for \$15/person. It features soup, appetizer, entrée, beverage and dessert. For holiday gift-giving, Jim recommends gift certificates in amounts ranging from \$10-\$100.

Encore Presents

Encore Theatrical Arts Project presents "Over the North Pole," its 12th Annual Holiday Spectacular, in two locations. Written by Brandon Kalbaugh and directed and choreographed by Raynor van der Merwe. See www.encore-tap.org. The dates are Dec. 12 at 8 p.m.; Dec. 13 at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Dec. 14 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. at The Richard J. Ernst Theatre, NOVA Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Also playing on Dec. 20 at 1, 4, 8 p.m.; and Dec. 21 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Harris Theatre, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Cost is \$15/students and seniors; \$17/adults; \$15 Scout Special (includes behind-the-scenes tour, pre-seating and snack). Visit www.encore-tap.org or call 703-222-5511.

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Clay Cafe Studios

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Phone: 703-817-1051; www.claycafechantilly.com
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11-7 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. 11-9 p.m.; Sun. 12-5 p.m.

Owned by Grace Wolf, Clay Cafe Studios in Chantilly is a paint-your-own pottery studio. They provide the pottery, paints, and basic instructions, and you do the painting. For a \$6 flat fee, you get the paint, basic instruction, glaze and firing, and pay for the finished product. They offer Art Parties with group rates of \$6/painter plus the price of the pot-

tery for "The Basic," which is 1 1/2 hours of fun. "The Extended" Party is \$9/painter for two hours of fun. Art parties have a 10-person, 10-piece minimum and require advance registration with a \$75 non-refundable deposit. Glass fusing is also an option, where you choose components from the Glass Fusing Center and glue your design in place. Then the glass is melted together in the kiln, then heated again to shape it into bowls, candleholders, vases or platters. Popular holiday projects are Christmas plates with hand prints, Christmas ornaments, and Christmas platters and hot chocolate mugs. Voted one of the best places to have a birthday party by Washington Family Magazine readers.



Clay Cafe Studios offers walk-in paint-your-own pottery and fused glass art.

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Located across from Kohl's in the Fair Lakes Shopping Center, Jus Massage offers a full menu of different massage services. The introductory massage for first-time visitors is \$49. The monthly gift membership is \$69, which includes one Swedish relaxation massage; additional 50-minute massages are \$59. For members, there's 25-minute specials like reflexology for \$40, extended relaxation for \$30, extended stone massage for \$40, head and shoulders massage for \$30, foot massage for \$30, deep tissue for \$10 and aromatherapy for \$10. Couples rooms are also available. Packages are available for 11 massages at \$781; five massages at \$365; and three massages for \$225. There's 24-hour online appointments scheduling, and online gift cards at www.jusmassage.com.

"With our membership program, you can make relaxation a part of your routine," says Mana Laha, manager.



Jus Massage offers massage for couples.

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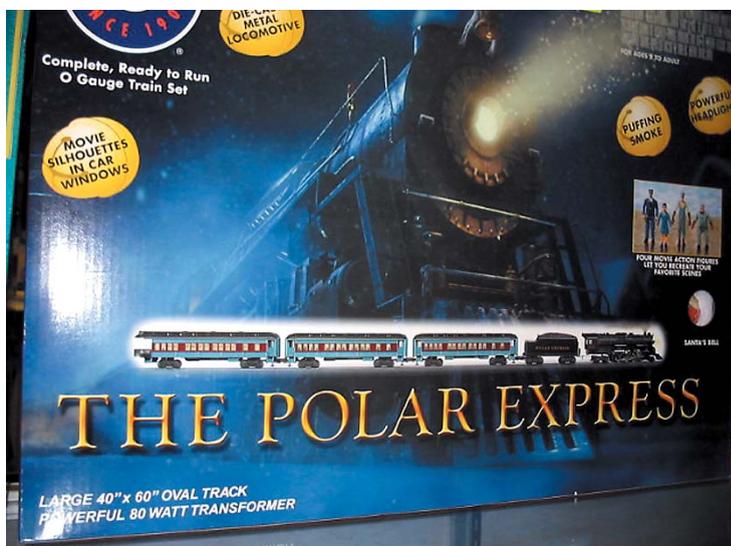
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GIFT GUIDE

Piper Hobby

Address: 13892 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly
Phone: 703-803-3103; www.piperhobby.com
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 12-8 p.m.; Sun. 12-5 p.m.

Owned by Bill and Donna Kimball, Piper Hobby of Chantilly's Sully Place Shopping Center offers stationary plastic scale kits of airplanes, armored vehicles, ships and cars from Revell, Hasegawa, Tamiya and Trumpeter for \$15 to \$200. (There are no radio-controlled products). The trains come from Lionel Trains, Bachmann, Athearn, and Atlas, and sell for \$200 to \$600 a set. Individual cars go for \$50 and locomotives are \$125. The HO scale train sets range from \$70 to \$200. They also sell Pinecars for Boy Scouts projects.



Piper Hobby sells authentic Lionel O Scale Harry Potter trains (\$299.99) and Polar Express trains (\$299.99).

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/CENTRE VIEW

Rhonda's Flowers & Gifts

Address: 13967 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly
Phone: 703-488-9911; www.rhondasflowersva.com
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9-6 p.m.; Sat. 10-3 p.m.

Owned by Rhonda Bell-Khezam, Rhonda's Flowers & Gifts specializes in weddings, proms and any special occasion. For \$35 and up, she'll whip up a fall flower mixture in a small wicker basket. For \$45 and up, she'll do an arrangement in a vase. The \$75 arrangement has fancier roses and upgraded flowers in a fancy vase. They also have \$30-and-up seasonal plants. Rhonda's can also do customized silk arrangements, signature upgrades and center pieces.



Tina Bell, store manager of Rhonda's Flowers & Gifts in the Sully Square Shopping Center.

Valon Salon and Day Spa

Address: 5708 Pickwick Road, Centreville, in the Pickwick Square Shopping Center.
Phone: 703-266-7660; www.valonsalon.com.
Hours: Monday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

A Centreville staple for 11 years, Valon Salon and Day Spa specializes in hair coloring and also offers manicures, pedicures, haircuts and hairstyling for both men and women, shampoos and blow dries. It also does makeup for special occasions.

The day spa portion does laser hair removal, waxing, manicures and pedicures, plus oxygen facials and skin care. "A machine pumps oxygen into your face," explained owner Valary Brown. "It's the most hydrating thing you can do for it."

Hot stone, deep tissue and Swedish massages are also offered in the day spa, as well as body treatments, such as polishing - which consists of exfoliating and then hydrating the skin.

For gift-giving, Brown suggests a \$180 gift certificate for a Winter Wonderland package - a Swedish massage, signature facial and eye treatment (infusing moisture into the eye area to help eliminate wrinkles). Other gift ideas include gift certificates for a holiday pedicure for \$40, or for a haircut and paraffin hand treatment for \$60.

JOIN US FOR A FABULOUS THANKSGIVING BUFFET

Thursday, November 27, 2008 11am - 4pm



- ◆ Roasted Turkey with Apple Cider Glaze
 - ◆ Roast Beef
 - ◆ Virginia Baked Ham
 - ◆ All the Thanksgiving trimmings & desserts
- \$18.95 per person
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Call at least one day ahead

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7421 Sudley Rd. Manassas
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 28th Annual 13809 Poplar Tree Rd.
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- Stop for lunch or visit our Kids' Corner for fun games & activities
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008
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www.sainttimothyschool.org

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 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna, VA

Thanksgiving Weekend

Friday & Saturday
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Sunday
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WORTH NOTING

ONGOING

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) is looking for individuals, churches, families or businesses who would be willing to provide a holiday food basket to a needy family this Thanksgiving. This is a family-oriented program where you have the opportunity to deliver the basket directly to your sponsored family. There are still hundreds of families looking for sponsors. To help, contact Pam Ryan at 703-988-9656, ext. 3, or send an email to volunteer@wfcma.org. Or mail your contribution, marked "Holiday Baskets," to WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.

The Western Fairfax County Woman's Club is selling 2008 White House Christmas ornaments. This year's ornament honors the 23rd President, Benjamin Harrison. The cost of the ornament is \$18, and all profits go to charity. Orders may be placed through any club member or by calling 703-378-6841 or 703-378-6216.

The Clock Tower Thrift store in Centreville needs volunteers on weekdays and weekends to help in sorting out merchandise, tagging and organizing it. Volunteers (not younger than 16 years old) will also greet and assist costumers that bring donations and buy store items. Northern Virginia

Family Service has served low income individuals and families for over 80 years. Contact Monica Arispe at 703-219-2193 or volunteer@nvfs.org. Court-ordered volunteers are welcome

NOV. 20-23

The GMU Players bring Martin McDonagh's black comedy "The Pillowman" to the Black Box in the Performing Arts Building on George Mason University's Fairfax campus on Nov. 20-22 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 22 and 23 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$6. (\$3 For students, seniors and GMU faculty/staff). All performances are in the TheaterSpace. Free parking available in adjacent surface lots. Tickets may be purchased at the door one hour prior to the performance. To purchase tickets by phone, or for directions, contact the Center for the Arts Box Office at 703-993-8888.

For information on group sales, call Kimberly Schall at 703-993-8600. For information on the GMU Players, call 703-993-1120.

THURSDAY, NOV. 20

Ameriprise Financial will present the financial seminar, "Five Steps You Can Take in a Volatile Market" on Thursday, Nov. 20 from 6:30-8 p.m. at its office at 5870 Trinity Parkway, 1st floor, Centreville.

The speaker is Christopher C. Shiring, Field Vice President who will explore: Why and how markets change ❖ Why it's important to stay in the market ❖ What opportunities can be gained from market downturns ❖ The emotions market change can bring ❖ Steps you can take today. Respond with your guests' name(s) to Chris Allen at 703-825-2382
FIRST.INITIAL.LAST@ampf.com

Mothers First - Chantilly/Centreville is a nonprofit support organization dedicated to helping women who have chosen to alter their careers to raise their children at home. Meetings are first and third Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St Germain Dr., Centreville. Contact 703-827-5922 or www.mothersfirst.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 21

Swing Dances are held every Friday night at the Dulles Hilton in the Red Fox Room with Sue and Gary Caley. Drop-in beginner lesson included in price of admission from 8:30-9 p.m. Live music from 9 p.m. to midnight. Cost is \$15. All ages welcome, large dance floors, air conditioned. Hilton Washington Dulles Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. Go to www.gottaswing.com for details etc.

❖ Nov. 21 — Breathless w/ Christina

Crear (November birthday Dance for all Nov. Birthdays with cake etc.);
❖ Nov. 28 — band, TBA you'll want to come and dance off the Turkey;
❖ Dec. 5 — Natty Beaux.

SATURDAY, NOV. 22

"It's All About the Cats" — A kitten and cat adoption extravaganza is Saturday, Nov. 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Call 703-502-3883. There will be all breeds of cats, from Long Haired, Semi-Long Haired and Domestic Short-Hairs in a variety of colors, Black, Orange, Gray, and White, Tabbies, Patch-cats, and Tuxedos. Sponsored by Commonwealth Cat Rescue Inc.

The Mott Community Center is presenting a Scholarship and Student Study Skills Workshop on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. To register for this free event, contact Christopher Goldbecker at 703-278-8605, TTY 711. Mott Community Center is located at 12111 Braddock Road in Fairfax near the intersection of Braddock Road and the Fairfax County Parkway. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec.

St. Timothy School in Chantilly is hosting its 28th Annual Fall Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. This year's fair boasts 100 unique and creative crafters. New this year, is a Kids' Corner with fun games

and activities and a used book/CD/DVD sale. St. Timothy School is located at 13809 Poplar Tree Rd. in Chantilly.

MONDAY/NOV. 24

The Greenbriar Garden Club will meet Monday, Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbriar Community Center on Stringfellow Road. The topic is: Stepping into Winter Gardening with Babs McClendon, who will cover topics ranging from planting for winter fragrance and interest to winter chores and winter protection for plants. The club is open to all and there is no admission fee. Contact Stan at 703-802-9376.

TUESDAY/NOV. 25

The Centreville Community Foundation is hosting the Northern Virginia Early Shopping Extravaganza on Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Centreville office of Long & Foster, Realtors, 14260 Centreville Square, Bottom Level, Centreville. While you shop for a cause there will be raffle prizes and extra special treats that you won't want to miss. Sponsors include Tastefully Simple, Southern Living at Home, WineShop at Home, Kura Design, The Pampered Chef, Virginia's Best Gifts, Gold Canyon, Creative Memories, Silpada Designs, and USBORNE Books.

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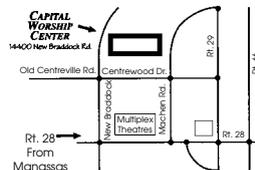
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Meeting at:
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Sundays 10:30 am
Wednesdays 7:30 pm



Warm People ~ Hot Coffee
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Sunday Worship Services
8:15 AM
9:30 AM
11:00 AM
Contemporary Service in the ROC
11:02 AM



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Children and Adults Education: 9:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: Wed. 9:30 a.m.

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(703) 830-4563

Pastor James & First Lady Ada Vanison, Founders

Worship Services:
Sunday Services 11 AM & 4 PM
Wednesday Service 8 PM

Visit us on-line at www.treeoflifebiblechurch.org



ANGELICAN
Church of the Epiphany...703-481-8601
Christ the Redeemer...703-502-1732
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Centreville Assembly of God...703-830-1841
BAHA'I
Baha'i Faith...1-800-22-UNITE
BAPTIST
Centreville Baptist Church...703-830-3333
Chantilly Baptist Church...703-263-1161
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Mount Olive Baptist Church...703-830-8769
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Sunday Praise & Worship Services:
7:30 am and 10:45 am
Sunday Children's Church 8:00 am and 11:00 am
Sunday Communion Services
Third Sundays 7:30am and 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:45am - 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm



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Community Bible Church...703-222-7737

CATHOLIC
St. Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church...703-817-1770
St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church...703-266-1310
St. Paul Chung Catholic Church...703-968-3010
St. Timothy Catholic Church...703-378-7461
St. Veronica Catholic Church...703-773-2000

FAITH

Attention Crafters: Saint Timothy School in Chantilly will be holding its annual Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 22. Go to www.sainttimothyschool.org. Call Karen Yee at 703-803-0460.

King of Kings Lutheran, Christ Presbyterian, Pender Methodist, and Ox Hill Baptist Churches will host an ecumenical community Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. at King of Kings, 4025 Kings Way, Fairfax. Call 703-378-7272 or www.kofk.org.

Chantilly Bible Church is hosting a free holiday Model Train Display on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event is especially for families with children, and will feature train displays including a large Lionel display, Lego display and an HO Modular display. Chantilly Bible Church is at 4390 Pleasant Valley Road in Chantilly.

Congregation Beth Emeth, Herndon, will present Rabbi Lia Bass in a talk entitled "Living a Life of Torah" on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 10 a.m. Her presentation is one in a Beth Emeth Adult Enrichment Series recognizing the 20th anniversary of the publication of Emet Ve-Emunah, the statement of principles of American Judaism's Conservative Movement.

Cost is \$18 for members of Beth Emeth and Etz Hayim and \$25 for non-members. Call 703-860-4515, ext. 127. Congregation Beth Emeth is located at 12523 Lawyers Road, Herndon.

Christmas Benefit Concert: "Christmas Through the Eyes of Mary and Joseph." Kick off the Christmas Season with your family at the Mark Forest Benefit Concert on Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in St. Timothy Church. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door and children under 12 are free. Mark Forrest is an International Irish Tenor. Proceeds will support the St. Timothy School and parish service projects.

Wellspring Church welcomes Dr. Ed White, of the Alban Institute, preaching about the extraordinary opportunities for spiritual communities in this season. Especially when times are tough, Christians know that "God is still speaking" and showing new ways of hope. Sunday worship is at 11 a.m., at the chapel on Route 29, 13510 Lee Highway, Centreville. The chapel is on the north side of Route 29, just west of the Lee Highway-Union Mill Rd. intersection.

Sunday School for children meets during the worship hour. Following worship today there will be a fellowship hour with fair trade coffee and treats.

A "Living the Questions" evening Bible study meets during the week. Nov. 30 will be a "friends and family" Sunday, with special guest choir from City of Refuge, Washington, D.C., and buffet luncheon following worship. Check the Web site, wellspringucc.org, or call Sara Little at 703-257-4111 for information on this and other special events.

Wellspring United Church of Christ is thoughtful, prayerful, justice-seeking, and Open and Affirming to seekers of all backgrounds. Worship is informal.

Thanksgiving Eve Service at Jubilee Christian Center. Jubilee Christian Center will have a Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, Nov. 26, 7:30 p.m., with refreshments. 4650 Shirley Gate Rd., Fairfax. Call 703-383-1170, or www.jccag.org

Choralis, the acclaimed mixed voice chorus under the direction of Gretchen Kuhmann, will present a joyous holiday concert, "A Classic Brass Christmas" in two venues. On Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m., the group will sing at Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville, and on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., they will present the concert at Falls Church Presbyterian Church, 225 East Broad St. (Rt. 7), Falls Church. Joining the chorus will

be guest performers: The Classical Brass Quintet, the Choralis Youth Choirs (on Dec. 13), and the McLean High School Madrigals (on Dec. 14). Tickets are \$25/general admission; \$35/premium seating; \$5/students 22 and under with ID; and children 2 and under free. Call 703-237-2499 or visit www.choralis.org.

A "Mission Fair and Gospel Concert" will be held Saturday, Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. at Oakton Baptist Church of Chantilly. The Promised Land Quartet will perform. Cost with dinner is \$25 with proceeds going to missions. The church is located at Sullyfield Circle and Route 50 in Chantilly. Call 703-631-1799.

The Children's and Music Departments at Jubilee Christian Center will be presenting a Children's Christmas musical, "Angels Aware!" on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 11 a.m. The musical drama depicts the story of why Jesus came to earth as a baby. Free admission. Jubilee Christian Center is at 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Call 703-383-1170, www.jccag.org

Congregation Yad Shalom of Centreville provides a variety of programs in a traditional format with a modern flair. It openly invites inquiries about participation in these activities by

the community. There are a number of activities for the family for the new year:

❖ Join in a Saturday morning service with Cantor Zucker on Nov. 29, at Little Rocky Run Community Center # 3. The dinner will be followed by a service with Cantor Zucker.

❖ Join in a Friday night Shabbat dinner on Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Little Rocky Run Community Center # 3. The dinner will be followed by a service with Cantor Zucker.

❖ Ask about the K-2 Hebrew school for the children for the fall semester. Check out an extensive variety of educational opportunities with the congregation.

❖ Check out the Web site — keep up with the activities scheduled throughout the year.

For further information and/or directions, contact the Congregation at 703-579-6079, or visit the Web site at www.yadshalom.com.

Temple Beth Torah is a Reform Jewish congregation and member of the Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) that meets at St. John's Episcopal Church in Centreville. Religious school is held at the Goddard School in Chantilly. The congregation offers the Northern Virginia Jewish community services that provide numerous spiritual, educational, support and social opportunities including religious school for member

CENTREVILLE



CENTREVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship Services
8:00 & 9:30 am Celebration Service
11:00 am Contemporary Service

Bible Study
9:30 am & 11:00 am

Ministries Include:
Nursery through Elementary, Youth, College Age, Singles, Men, Women, Adult Discipleship, Choir, Awana, Bible Study Fellowship, MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), English Language Classes and Spanish Speaking Ministry

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703-830-3333 www.cbcva.org

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St. John's Episcopal Church...
703-803-7500
- JEWISH**
Congregation Yad Shalom...
703-802-8901
Temple Beth Torah...
703-263-2252

- LUTHERAN**
King of Kings Lutheran Church...
703-378-7272
Lord of Life Lutheran Church...
703-323-9500
St. Andrew Lutheran Church...
703-830-2768
- METHODIST**
Centreville United Methodist...
703-830-2684

- Pender United Methodist Church...
703-278-8023
Pleasant Valley United Methodist...
703-327-4461
- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**
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Clear River Community Church...
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CENTREVILLE



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Every Sunday in the ROC (Recreation and Outreach Center)

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SCHOOLS

Clifton Children's Academy will hold a Registration Open House for fall 2009 kindergarten and morning, afternoon and full-day preschool classes, Thursday, Nov. 20, from 9:15 -11:30 a.m. and 1- 2 p.m. Limited registration is also available for this winter (2008). Bring your child and come tour the school at 14315 Compton Road in Centreville. Call 703-968-8455 or see www.childrensacademy.com.

Westfield High School Athletic Booster Club will be holding its Annual Holiday Shopping Hours on Thursday, Nov. 20 from 6-9 p.m. at the Indoor Concession Stand at Westfield. There will be all kinds of Westfield High Merchandise available for purchase.

Stone Middle School's Stone Players present "Seussical, Jr.," a musical based on the literary works of Dr. Seuss. The times and dates for the play are as follows: Thursday, Dec. 4 at 3:15 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 6 at 3 p.m. All tickets are available for sale in advance during lunch at Stone Middle School on Dec. 1, 2 and 3, but tickets for the Thursday show must be purchased in advance. Tickets are \$5. Call the school at 703- 631-5500, or contact Emily Altadonna at emily.altadonna@fcps.edu.

Chantilly High School will be having their annual Ethic Seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 25. All juniors will participate in the seminar that begins at Chantilly High School with keynote speaker Seth Cutter, president of the American University Student Government, speaking on the American University Honor court. Juniors will then go to the Westfield Marriott where they will participate in three hands-on sessions conducted by experts in their fields.

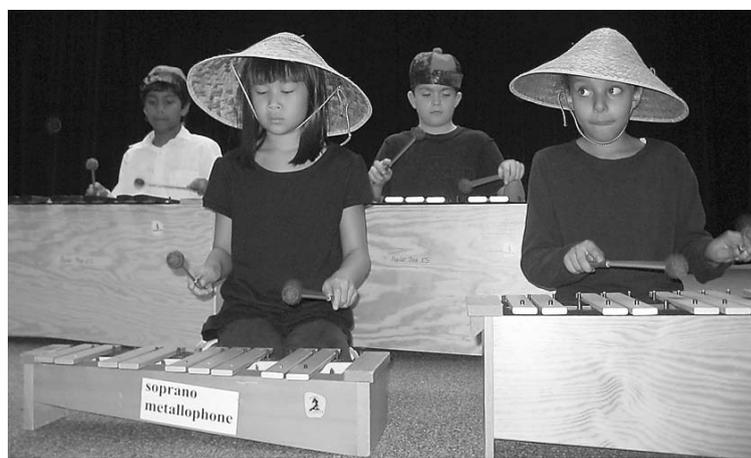
The Centreville Wildcat Band is conducting its annual citrus sale. A full box contains 50 to 56 oranges or 30-35 grapefruit and sells for \$30. A half box contains 25 to 28 oranges or 15 to 20 grapefruit and sells for \$20. Orders are being taken through Nov. 25. Delivery date is Dec. 5. Contact Tricia Cruz at 703-266-6748 or e-mail VaCruz@cox.net.

The Centreville High School Wildcat Drama Boosters have the annual 2008 White House Christmas ornaments for sale. The price is \$18.50, or just \$18 if you buy five or more. Available for purchase at Theatre Centreville's presentation of "The Odd Couple" Nov 19-21; or by contacting Sandy Clingman at clingman05@cox.net.

Registration began Nov. 17 for the spring 2009 semester at Northern Virginia Community. People who register early may defer paying tuition until Dec. 19. Anyone who registers after Dec. 19 must pay tuition before 5 p.m. on the next business day. Classes in the 16-week semester begin Jan. 12. NOVA also offers two eight-week sessions which start Jan. 12 and March 16. The eight-week sessions cover the same material and award the same credits as 16-week courses. Call 703-323-3000 or visit www.nvcc.edu.

The Fresh Air Fund is looking for local families to host inner-city children from New York City for two weeks next summer. Contact Susan Kennedy at 202-832-5366 or The Fresh Air Fund at 800-367-0003 or visit The Fund's Web site at www.freshair.org.

Hinson Peters of Chantilly, a junior at Paul VI Catholic High School, recently won third place in the 2008 Voice of Democracy speech contest. The theme of this year's contest was "Service and Sacrifice by America's veterans benefits today's youth by..."



STEVE HERRARD/CENTRE VIEW

Poplar Tree Holds International Night

Poplar Tree Elementary celebrated its diverse student population during its International Night on Nov. 7. The evening included potluck dinner, a talent show with dancing and musical instruments. (Pictured) Students perform the Mongolian Night Song.



(From left): Monique Mezher, Anant Das, Josef Jamison, Rocco Barbero, Jeremy Gross and Nikhil Sharma.

GBW Students Plant Saplings

Nine students from Greenbriar West helped distribute 200 red oak tree saplings to the Greenbriar community on Nov. 8. As part of the FIRST Lego League Competition, the team asked FairfaxReleaf for the trees to help with their project about environmental cleanup and flooding. Fairfax Releaf also donated tree stakes, brochures, planting guides, tubes, and the other supplies that would be needed. The sixth-graders ran

up and down the street waving signs and soliciting people to plant the trees. Taking part were: Anant Das, Nikhil Sharma, Kathryn Young, Jeremy Gross, Monique Mezher, Pooja Yadav, Josef Jamison, Rocco Barbero, and Sahil Laheri. This year's project dealt with the theme of Climate Change and flooding, to find an environmental problem in the community, find a solution and share it with another community.



GBW Holds Mock Election

The presidential election this year has provided excellent opportunities for students to learn about the right to vote and the democratic process. Greenbriar West Elementary students used Senteo clickers to vote in a school-wide Mock Election Oct. 30. Graphs comparing both the popular vote and the electoral college results for the school were then shared on the student news show. Senteo, made by SMART Technologies Inc., is a handheld student response system which sends student choices wirelessly to the teacher's laptop.

Come In Out of the Cold

Be Our Guests at our
Red-Hot Business Mixer
 at Austin Grille

Tuesday, December 2nd, 5:30-7:30pm

Hosted by the Chantilly-Centreville Chamber
 Part of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce

We offer the Warm Collegiality of 1,000+ Business
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To register, visit
www.dullesregionalchamber.org



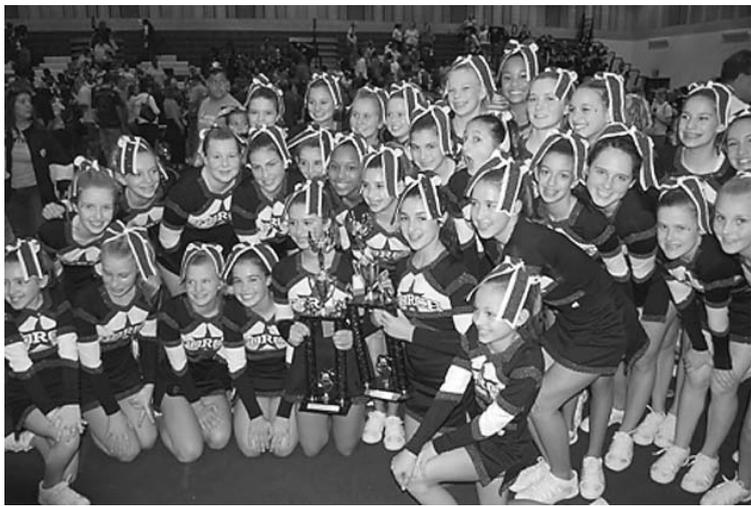
SPORTS



CYA Chantilly Eagles Finish as Runnerup

Congratulations to the CYA Chantilly Eagles who finished the season as the FCYFL Runnerup in the Anklebiter Division 3 with a record of 6-3.

(Pictured, top row, from left): Asst. Coach Joe Sefchick, Venosh Rampersad, Dylan Gepford, Cole Ohr, Joshua Cruz, Head Coach Joe Imperato, Jesse Danehower, Asst. Coach Neal McMichael; (Second Row): Khalid Omer, Isaiah Bryant, D'Marco Nathan, Tyler McMichael, Jaydyn Ragin; (Front Row): Kevin Kendall, Joey Imperato, Ryan Brault, Jack Sefchick, Joseph O'Brien. (Not pictured): Asst. Coach Dewayne Kendall, Chris Gepford and AJ Worley.



CYA Cheer Select is Back with FORCE!

Into their third year of competition now, CYA Cheer Select continues to master their sport. Cheer Select FORCE, comprised of 31 seventh- and eighth-graders competed for the first time this season and not only took home first place in their division, and took home the Grand Champion award with the highest score in their division, but also walked out with the highest overall score of all 52 teams that competed on Oct. 5.

CYA Cheer Select is part of Chantilly Youth Cheerleading. Cheerleaders that cheer for the CYA Fall Football season, along with cheerleaders from any local FCYFL league, are eligible to join Cheer Select for the Winter/Spring season competition season. Cheer Select accepts kids ages 5 to 14 in their program.

Beginning in 2006, Cheer Select has doubled their registration. The sport of Cheerleading has come a long way, and Cheer Select offers kids the chance to experience the competition world of cheer without the financial commitment of the typical all-star programs. Cheer Select cheerleaders compete at local competitions against other youth/recreation teams in their age level and division.

Cheer Select now has several Grand Champion awards under their belt, along with two National titles and they don't plan to stop now! They'll compete for the third year in a row at the largest youth/recreation cheer competition on the East coast — The Battle at the Capitol — at the Patriot Center in March 2009.

Comprised of 10 certified and accredited coaches, a lead choreographer and staff, Cheer Select plans to continue their success this year as the largest youth/recreation competition cheer program in Northern Virginia. Registration is open now for the 2008/09 season. Go to www.CheerSelect.com.

Chantilly Firecats are No. 5 in the Nation

The Chantilly Firecats (GU14) soccer team, part of the Chantilly Youth Association (CYA), traveled north to participate in one of the major East Coast tournaments this past weekend, the Bethesda Thanksgiving Tournament. The tournament brings together many of the best teams from New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Rhode Island and even Massachusetts. Typical of our region, the weather varied radically from day-to-day, almost hour-to-hour. In the Saturday morning game the Firecats faced the New Jersey Soccer Association Elite in a game played in a relatively warm, but strong southern wind with intermittent and sometimes heavy rain. With the saturated ground, the rain and the strong gusting wind, the players had a difficult time keeping their feet under them and shots flew everywhere, it looked much like a Keystone Cops movie. Nevertheless, they were able to finish out the game in a 1-1 tie. Soon after, the wind stopped, the sun came out and the temperatures spiked up to 70 degrees to the delight of everyone present. By the late afternoon with game time drawing near, the winds changed to northwest and the temperatures started to drop and a deluge cancelled the afternoon games. Sunday morning the weather changed completely, again, and the fans were forced to put their shorts away and put on parkas and ski pants as protection against the frigid temperatures and heavy winds. At 9:15 a.m., the Firecats faced Levittown United, former New York East State Champions and in a tight game, the Firecats prevailed 1-0. At 11:45 a.m., the Firecats faced local rival Freestate (Annapolis, Md.) and won 2-0 earning a place in the championship



(Front, from left): Hanna Hannesdottir, Cassie Smith, Bianca Blazquez, Maddie Gray, Adelle Clinton, Courtney Gleason, Danielle Fitzgerald, Madison Smith. (Back row): Coach Todd Hamlin, Caroline Collier, Kara DeGuisto, Kaylee Hohein, Kyndall Finch, Marlo Sweatman, Alyssa Morgan, Haley Roberson, Coach Nadir Moumen. (Missing): Coach Rich Gleason, Manager Marsha Clinton.

match against the Bethesda Freedom. Bethesda is also a local rival and are the reigning Region 1 (Virginia to Maine) champions. The Firecats scored first early in the first half, but the game soon settled into a measured game of strategy and inches that flowed back and forth like a finely wrought mystery. The Firecats scored a second goal midway in the second half and held on for the 2-0 win to earn the championship. As a result of this major tournament victory, the ranking service Gotsoccer has elevated the Firecats to be positioned #5 in the nation.

The Firecats are coached by Nadir Moumen. The team would like to thank the Glory Days Grill, Dr. Crutchfield and Wal-Mart for their continued support. The Firecats are part of an authorized 501C3 organization and donations are tax deductible. Visit <http://www.eteamz.com/chantillyfirecats/index.cfm> or call (703) 378-7667.

Freedom '98 Purple Takes 2nd in Battlefield Classic

The Chantilly Youth Association's, U10 Girls Travel Team, Freedom '98 Purple coached by Charlie Rynex won second place in the Battlefield Classic Tournament Blue Division held Oct. 11-12 in Bristow.

Freedom '98 Purple won its first medals of competition by beating out local teams in their division.

They lost to the U10 Girls Team, Herndon Pegasus for the title but won many hearts by playing hard and showing great sportsmanship.

(Back row, from left): Maggie Yanchulis, Maddie Aldrich, Abby Alexa, Megan Vasquez, McKenzie Wallace, Cara McFerren and



Caroline Barnes. (Front row): Shiveley, Abby Rynex, Allison Cho Rachel Scherbenke, Grace and Nicole Palmer

SPORTS BRIEFS

The Virginia Run Turkey Trot will be held Thursday, Nov. 27 at 8 a.m. in Centreville. It includes a 5K running course as well as a 2K walking course. Each goes through the Virginia Run community at Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road in Centreville.

All proceeds from the Turkey Trot benefit Life with Cancer, INOVA Health System's non-profit program for cancer patients and their families. The event has been raising funds for the cancer program for 16 years. During that time, Life with Cancer has become a well established support program, and in the

past two years, the Turkey Trot has attracted enough participants and sponsors to donate \$53,000 to the charity. This year's race will exceed \$500,000 donated to with Life with Cancer. Last year over 2,300 runners and over 750 walkers participated.

Easy registration is available online at www.runwashington.com. Entry fee is \$20 to run and \$13 to walk if registered by Nov. 23. The fee includes a long sleeve T-shirt, post race snacks and raffle participation. Prizes are awarded to the fastest two males and females overall and in the Virginia Run resi-

dents' category. In addition, the top two runners in the following age categories will receive prizes: 10 and under, 11-14, 15-18, 19-29, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70-plus.

SYA Travel Baseball will be holding tryouts for its 8-U through 12-U travel baseball teams Wednesday, Dec. 3 through Saturday, Dec. 6. All baseball players within the SYA boundaries are eligible to attend the tryouts. For more information on the tryouts and the travel program check the SYA Travel Baseball web site at www.syabaseball.org.

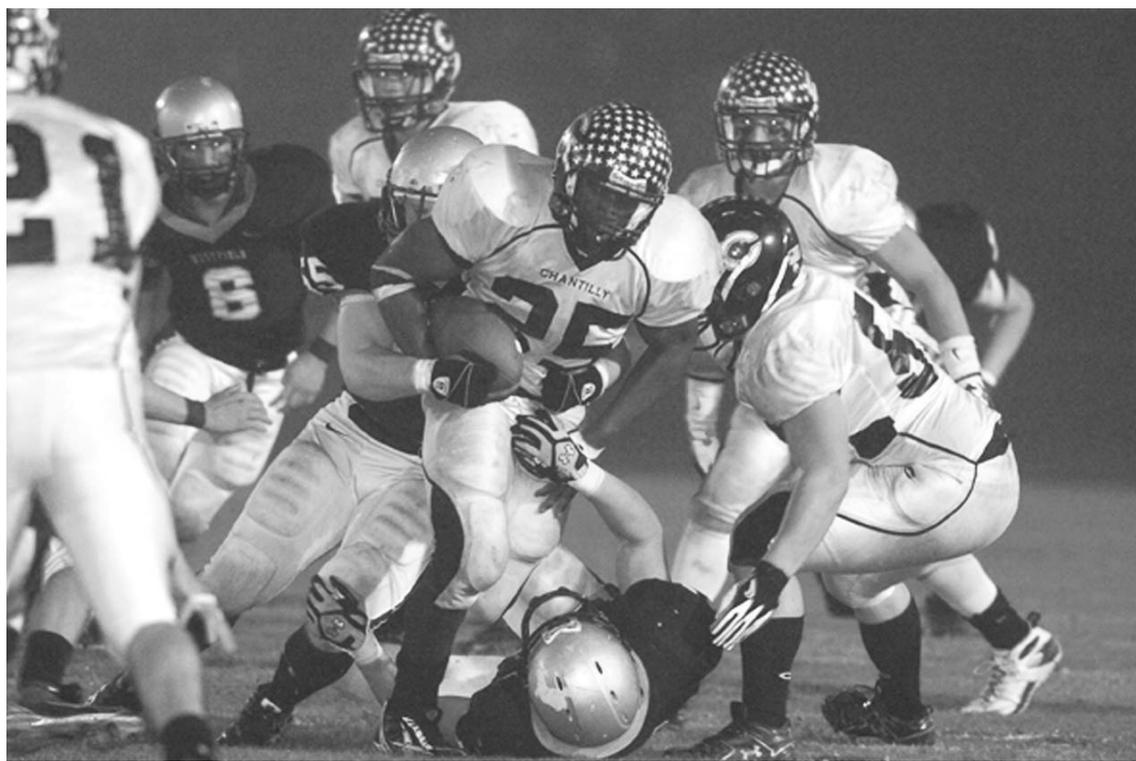


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

With 118 yards and no touchdowns during Chantilly's Week 4 loss to Westfield, Torrian Pace wasn't much of a factor for the Chargers. That was not the case last Friday.

Chargers' Second Shot

After early-season loss, Chantilly bounces back to push rival Westfield from Northern Region Div. 6 playoffs.

BY JASON MACKEY
CENTRE VIEW

Given a second shot at solving rival Westfield, Chantilly football coach Mike Lalli took full advantage. In a Week 4 home loss to the Bulldogs on Sept. 19, Lalli watched his team struggle to stop Westfield's Jordan Anderson and start a running game of its own.

Anderson carried 17 times for 103 yards and three total touchdowns during his team's 32-7 win, while Chantilly running back Torrian Pace (15 carries, 118 yards) didn't score a touchdown for the first and only time all season.

But during last Friday's Northern Region Division 6 semifinal matchup, played under a fall blend of fog and mist at Westfield High School, Lalli and Co. made the necessary adjustments and escaped with a thrilling 35-28 win.

Pace racked up 353 yards on 34 carries and accounted for all five of the Chargers' touchdowns. While Anderson (20 carries, 199 yards, two touchdowns) was still a factor, Lalli's defense allowed a pair of long touchdown runs but little else.

"We were just going to do our best to keep Jordan from beating us," said Lalli, whose Chargers (9-

3) will advance to Saturday afternoon's Northern Region championship game. "He's really worked hard at trying to do that. We committed a lot of guys to stopping the run and we challenged them in the passing game."

In a back-and-forth game that featured two ties and a pair of lead changes, Chantilly rode Pace all the way until the end. And at the end, that passing-game challenge paid off.

THE PIVOTAL and game-sealing play came with 35 seconds remaining and Westfield facing a third-and-10 situation from Chantilly's 16-yard line. Westfield (9-3) had just nearly missed on a pass in the left corner of the end zone — it bounced off Chantilly senior Brian Abatemarco's hands — and elected to counter with a double pass to the same area of the field.

As quarterback Danny Fenyak (13-of-21 passing, 241 yards, two touchdowns) turned to his left and tossed to backup Mack Spees, Abatemarco recognized the play and subsequently spoiled it, atoning for his drop on the previous play.

"This is the best moment of my entire life," Abatemarco, who suffered a concussion on the play, said after the game. "I knew right when [Spees] went into the game that it was going to be a double pass."

"I thought it was worth a shot," Westfield coach Tom Verbanic said. "We were getting press-man coverage, and I just felt like it was a good chance to take at the time."

In the hours that followed Chantilly's second win over Westfield in its past 10 tries, Lalli presumably began to deconstruct film on his team's next opponent — the undefeated and top-seeded Oakton Cougars (12-0). Kickoff is at 1:30 p.m. at Oakton High School.

Oakton defeated West Springfield (8-4) by a score of 49-43 last Friday night, as the Spartans closed the game with 21 straight points but ultimately couldn't close the gap.

THE COUGARS scored a tight 17-15 win over Chantilly in Week 6, a win that the Chargers nearly pulled out by scoring 15 unanswered points in the second half. But during that game, Pace was held to a season-low 73 yards and one touchdown on 21 carries.

"It's always tough to play people twice, but we lost, so I guess there's not much difference," Lalli said. "It's been a tough matchup for us. They're very well coached. They have multiple running backs, quarterback, receivers, so offensively they're very talented and they're very strong on defense."

For a win, Chantilly will have to control rotating quarterbacks



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Senior running back Torrian Pace ran 34 times for 353 yards last Friday during Chantilly's 35-28 win over Westfield. Pace accounted for all five of the Chargers' touchdowns.

Chris Coyer (1,848 total yards, 19 total touchdowns) and Ryan Harris (594 total yards, seven touchdowns), as well as multi-purpose backs Trey Watts (576 rushing yards, 13 touchdowns) and Jonathan Meadows (780 rushing yards, 10 touchdowns).

The Chargers will also have to depend on Pace to look more like the 353-yard, five-touchdown workhorse from Friday as opposed to his pedestrian performance against Oakton on Oct. 3.

But if Chantilly's season-long arc

of never giving up and erasing deficits continues, Lalli's team could very well parlay another midseason loss into its second Northern Region title in the past three years.

"That 2006 team had that drive and the feeling of never giving up, and I saw it in my offensive lineman and throughout the players on the sideline [against Westfield]," said Pace, who has totaled 2,455 and 32 touchdowns this season. "That's the main thing that the coaches talk about, playing as a team and never giving up."

WEEK IN SPORTS

Westfield Football Finishes 9-3

With a 35-28 loss to Chantilly (9-3) last Friday in the Northern Region semifinals, Westfield football coach Tom Verbanic had to make speech that he had the luxury of avoiding last season.

Verbanic, who coached the team last season to a 15-0 record that culminated with the school's second state title, called his players together.

"You don't always finish where you want to finish, but as long as you can look yourself in the eye and make sure that did the best you could then we're all very happy and proud," Verbanic said.

Westfield ended the year with a 9-3 record, suffering losses to Herndon (6-5), Oakton (12-0) and now Chantilly.

Senior running back Jordan Anderson, who transferred from Annandale and had a breakout year, ran for 1,964 yards and 27 touchdowns.

The Bulldogs will lose key offensive linemen Tyler Delph, Tyler Barfield and Jacob Ryder, all of whom contributed to Anderson's success.

"[Anderson] had a great year, and obviously he was a big part of our offense," Verbanic said.

"But I think he'd be the first one to tell you that we also played very well up front on the offensive line and did a lot of things to help him."

Seniors Cole McInturff and Evan Winfrey will also be lost. McInturff caught five passes for 92 yards and a touchdown against Chantilly, while Winfrey totaled five receptions for 111 yards and a score.

SPORTS

Chantilly and Westfield Both Lose to Albemarle

Volleyball teams end successful seasons with trips to VCU's Siegel Center in Richmond.

BY JASON MACKEY
CENTRE VIEW

Don't sign the Westfield and Chantilly volleyball teams up just yet for Albemarle football season tickets. With a pair of Virginia AAA state tournament losses to the Patriots, Charlottesville is about the last place either of these two teams would like to be.

Starting on Thursday at Virginia Commonwealth's Siegel Center, Albemarle handed Chantilly (26-2) its second loss of the season, scoring an emotional five-game win (22-25, 20-25, 25-19, 25-20, 13-15) over the Chargers.

Two days later, the Patriots ended Westfield's magical run to the Virginia AAA state title match with a 3-1 win (27-25, 25-16, 19-25, 22-25), producing the first-ever state title for the Northwest Region school.

"Different teams play at different paces and with different styles, but we hadn't seen that style all year," Chantilly coach Charles Ezigbo said of Albemarle. "It caused our blocking to be deficient until we were able to figure it out."

Hardly anyone was able to challenge the Chargers this season. Winning 78 of 88 games,



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Despite district and region title-game losses, the Westfield volleyball team pressed on, upsetting Mills Godwin and Landstown to reach the Virginia AAA state title match in Richmond.

"We're really proud of how far we came this year."

— Emma Stewart

Chantilly hadn't suffered a loss since Aug. 29, reeling off Concorde District and Northern Region titles — both over Westfield — in the process.

But against Albemarle's dominant front line, the Chargers could only adjust and hope, which wasn't necessarily a bad thing.

Chantilly was quickly ousted from last year's state tournament by Frank W. Cox, 3-0. The Chargers couldn't adjust to what the Falcons did offensively, a byproduct of Chantilly's roster that included several sophomores with little or no big-game experience.

But the Chargers' front-line — Samantha Reeves, Allison Williams, Jessica Cooper and Jamie

Gorman — was able to adjust this year. It was a move that marks, essentially, the second stage of development for this junior-heavy Chantilly team.

THE WESTFIELD volleyball team was more than able to adapt to state-level competition. Despite suffering district and region final losses to Chantilly, the Bulldogs (22-7) simply pressed on. Traveling to Richmond on Tuesday night to face Mills Godwin, Westfield came back with a 3-0 win over the Eagles. On Thursday, facing yet another region champion, the Bulldogs earned a 3-1 win (23-25, 25-21, 26-24, 25-22) over Landstown to earn a spot in Saturday's championship match, becoming the second consecutive Northern Region team to do so.

"We're really proud of how far we came this year," said junior outside hitter Emma Stewart, whose five kills and 10 blocks

Bright Lights, Bright Colors

BY JASON MACKEY
CENTRE VIEW

Westfield field hockey coach Terri Towle has always had a rule. When T-shirts, warm-up pants or anything else was made, the team's traditional color scheme was required. Not anymore.

With a 2-0 victory over Thomas Dale last week in the Virginia AAA state quarterfinals, Towle's philosophy has been changed some. The win avenged 2006, when Westfield won a Northern Region title but suffered a 6-1 loss to Mountain View in the state quarterfinal round.

"Two years ago it was kind of a letdown," said goalkeeper Nicole Ficarra, who, along with her defense, recorded 14 shutouts this season. "But this year, we belonged there. We were more confident. We weren't as nervous, and we were excited to play the game."

The win was the Bulldogs' first-ever state tournament victory (they lost in the semifinals to Cox), and it allowed Towle to soften a bit when considering a T-shirt that commemorated Westfield's first-ever Concorde District title, which was also won this year.

"I have to approve what's on it," Towle added, "but I will probably allow them to go with one of the brighter colors that they like so much."

Thanks to Molly Gift's blurt-it-out answer after Towle asked which exact color the players wanted, Westfield has settled on bright red.

"She's all about following the rules, but if we do great she lets us get away with some stuff," said forward Ameera Ahmadi, who led the Bulldogs this season with seven goals.

Westfield finished at 20-5, reaching the Northern Region title game (a 2-0 loss to Lake Braddock) for the second time in the past three seasons.

Saturday night served as an informative snapshot into next year. "We're really proud of the fact that we did beat a lot of big-name teams to get here."

After falling behind 2-0, Westfield came out swinging in Game 3. Powered by six kills from sophomore Emily Kohler (team-high 14 total kills), the Bulldogs began to threaten Albemarle.

In the final game, Westfield pulled even at 22 before Albemarle scored three straight points to escape with the win. In addition to Kohler and Stewart, senior Sammy

Spees totaled seven kills and 20 digs, while classmate Kat Lanigan dished out 41 assists.

"I'm so proud of how we played, just all of the energy coming from the bench, the screaming and the yelling, and we stayed so positive," said Kohler, a sophomore, who will be one of the team's key returners along with Stewart. "It just wasn't our fate this time, but we came so close. It's a memory that I think everyone is going to be very happy to have."

Sugar Plum Fairy Tea Party

Mia Saunders School of Ballet presents the Sugar Plum Fairy Tea Party on Saturday, Nov. 29 from 2-3:30 p.m. at the Little Rocky Run Rec Center #2 at 6201 Sandstone Way, Clifton. Proceeds will benefit The Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Appropriate for ages 3 and up. \$10 donation (children and adults). Reservations are required. Contact Helen Martin 703-815-0525 or HelenLMartin@cox.net. All checks payable to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

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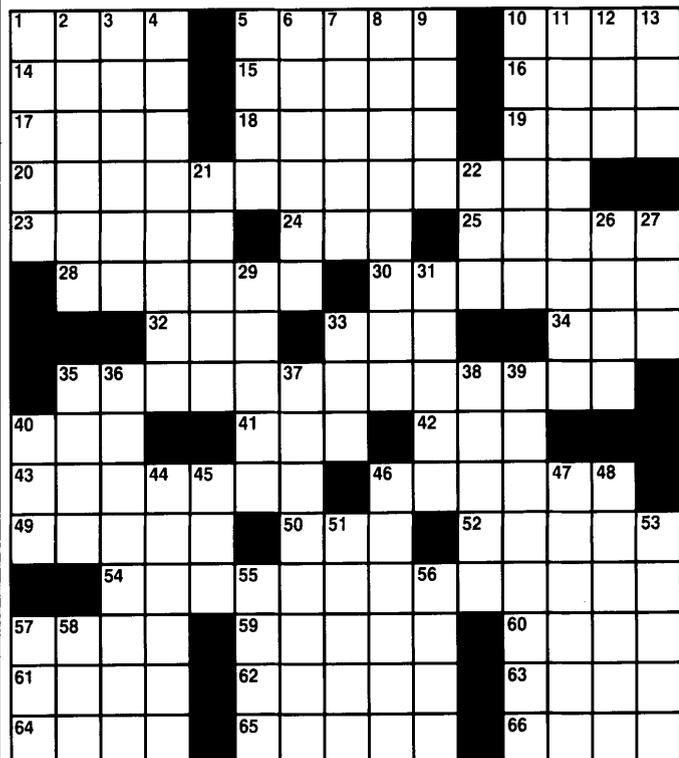
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0408-4



Puzzle by David J. Kahn

ACROSS

- 1 Orchestra alternative
- 5 Comment around the deck?
- 10 Terrible —
- 14 Last words?
- 15 Opposite of sur
- 16 Four-letter word
- 17 Architect Saarinen
- 18 Company whose logo has a red "o"
- 19 Cogitate
- 20 Noted director who acted in 30-Across with 35-Across
- 23 Bud of baseball
- 24 Before, once
- 25 Isle of Man residents
- 28 Brought up
- 30 See 20-Across
- 32 Calif. neighbor
- 33 Midpoint: Abbr.
- 34 On a roll
- 35 See 20-Across and 54-Across
- 40 Big —
- 41 Link
- 42 Classified inits.

- 43 See 54-Across
- 46 Singer Mel and namesakes
- 49 Napoléon led one
- 50 "Forget it!"
- 52 — Park, N.J.
- 54 Noted director who acted in 43-Across with 35-Across
- 57 Drunk's tipoff
- 59 Plant and animal life
- 60 Andrews of "The Mod Squad"
- 61 Money writer Marshall —
- 62 "A house — a home"
- 63 — Bator
- 64 The rich man in "Rich Man, Poor Man"
- 65 Some guard dogs, for short
- 66 Get better

DOWN

- 1 Loamy deposit
- 2 Good dog
- 3 Slimming device
- 4 Some English students
- 5 "— Room" (Beach Boys hit)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- 31 Gluck's "— ed Euridice"
- 33 29-Down role
- 35 Precious
- 36 Not permeated (with)
- 37 Silly
- 38 1938 Physics Nobel
- 39 Campaign asset
- 40 Support provider
- 44 Nigh
- 45 Terre's opposite
- 46 A lonely place, so they say
- 47 Store, as fodder
- 48 Ad dressing?
- 51 Let —
- 53 Successively
- 55 Power stats
- 56 Tanks
- 57 Certain camera, for short
- 58 Baseball's Brock

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Lincolnian Senior Residences, an Assisted Living Community in Alexandria, VA is seeking Registered Medication Techs. Qualified candidates should have experience working with the elderly and good clinical and interpersonal skills. VA License is required. Apply in person at Lincolnian Senior Residences, 4710 North Chambliss Street, Alexandria, VA 22312. EOE.

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A Banner Memory



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I watched Paul Pierce and Ray Allen hoist the Boston Celtic's 17th NBA/World Championship banner to the rafters on TNT Tuesday evening, Oct. 28, the first ever in the "new" Boston Garden, (presently known as the TD Banknorth Garden), it reminded me, as sports often does, of my recently deceased father. (Dec. 2, 2008 will be the three-year anniversary of his death.)

As is the case between many parents and their children, sports was our bond. My father was the father who showed up to all his sons' little league, junior high school, high school and Babe Ruth-league games. He was the well-behaved model of parental involvement and decorum. Everyone knew him. He would encourage me before, during and after games, sometimes from his seat in the stands, and other times from even closer. Often, between innings, he would walk down to the team's bench, pat me on the back, and offer some words of wisdom: stop dragging my right leg, (I was a right-handed pitcher), keep my eye on the target, try to take a deep breath between pitches, etc. My father was the consummate professional (for lack of a better phrase) father; he was always there, always where he needed to be, and always what I expected and wanted him to be.

And while growing up, where my father, brother and I were every year around this time (the beginning of the NBA season), was in the old ("venerable" as it was so often described) Boston Garden for the first Sunday afternoon game of the season (my father's only off day). Typically, this game would be versus the Philadelphia 76ers, that meant Bill Russell against Wilt Chamberlain, with supporting casts of Hall of Famers and All Stars too numerous to mention. As a little boy, as a Boston sports' fan, going to a Boston Celtic's game against our arch rivals, was as good as it could possibly be. How he got tickets, I'll never know.

I can still remember being on the court and walking underneath the Celtic's basket, holding my father's hand and tilting my head up to see Bill Russell, all six foot nine of him, his goatee unmistakable in the glare of the stadium's klieg lights; he seemed like he was 10 feet tall, just like my father always did.

Never more than when he was dying, slowly, the debilitating affects of multiple strokes and old age gradually taking their destructive toll. For the last few years of my father's life, physically, he was not the man he would have wanted to be; he suffered indignities not uncommon to people requiring 24-hour care. But through it all, he never lost his sense of humor and never stopped caring about my mother, my brother and myself; always asking how we were doing, in spite of how difficult it was for him to express his thoughts. And even though the family's focus was almost entirely on him (for the three years between his first stroke and his last day), he never made it about him. He did whatever he could, limited as he was by his circumstances, to make it about us, just as he had done all those many years ago when he would get tickets for the Celtic's first Sunday afternoon game of the season.

My father owned a jewelry store in downtown Boston. He worked Monday through Saturday and a few nights in between. He left after breakfast (the years when he wasn't driving the neighborhood kids to elementary school) and came home in time for dinner. Sundays were his only day of rest. However, what he did with one of the first Sundays in the fall was to take his two sons to the Boston Garden to see the perennial World Champion, Boston Celtics. It wasn't exactly a schlep, but neither was it a simple undertaking, and he did it for years; all the time, whenever he could, however he could; he'd arrange it, that was my father.

When I see those Championship banners hanging from the rafters at the TD Banknorth Garden, I see my father's face up there as well, because that's what he was, a World Champion dad.

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

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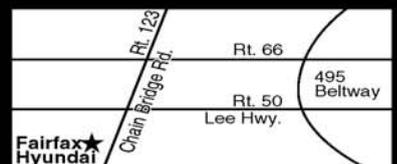
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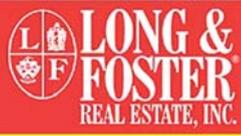
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