

Chantilly ❖ Fair Oaks ❖ Fair Lakes ❖ Oak Hill

# CENTRE VIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

APRIL 30-MAY 6, 2009

"FULL OF AWARDS" 25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

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## WFCM Expands Its Space

Increased demand, need for revenue are fueling change.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

At Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) in Chantilly, last week, employees were busy setting up a section with baby equipment. They were also creating furniture arrangements, organizing household items and electronics and planning to add more shelving for food.

That's because this group that helps out local residents in need is expanding its physical space by 6,000 square feet. The existing building at 13981 Metrotech Drive is just 4,850 square feet, but the expansion into the adjacent storefront will provide 10,500 square feet total.

"The purpose is twofold — to serve more clients because the demand is so huge, and to generate additional revenue to support the food pantry and other assistance we give," said WCM Executive Director Melissa Jansen. "First, we'll expand our thrift store and then we'll expand the food pantry."

The more income WFCM receives, she explained, the more programs and services it can offer for those in need in western



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

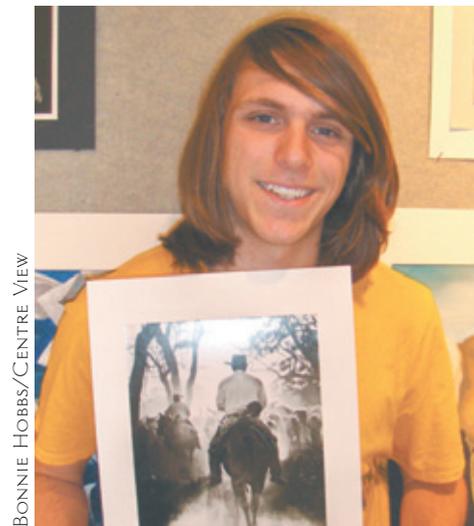
From left, Assistant Thrift Store Manager Marcie Schoonmaker, Store Manager Lillian Diaz and Emergency Services volunteer Andrea Novotny decorate the furniture area.

Fairfax County — Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fairfax Station and Fair Oaks. And in these tough, economic times, an increasing number of people are seeking help.

Jansen said the demand for food has skyrocketed 64 percent since last year at this time, and proceeds from the thrift store help

keep the food pantry afloat and allow WFCM to keep providing clothing, plus financial aid for rent and utilities. The additional space will also enable WFCM to offer its 13-week, budgeting classes on site, instead of at Ox Hill Baptist Church where

SEE LARGER WFCM, PAGE 7



Zach Gibson with his award-winning photo, "Cattle Drive."

## Nationally Recognized

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

When Chantilly High senior Zach Gibson went on a trip to Brazil last summer with his father, little did he think that a photo he shot there of a cattle drive would end up receiving national acclaim.

But that's just what's happened. Gibson, 18, won a silver medal in the 2009 National

SEE SILVER MEDAL, PAGE 2

## Chantilly High's Yearbook Wins NSPA Award

Chantilly High's yearbook, Odyssey, won Pacemaker honors for 2008 yearbook at the JEA/NSPA spring convention, April 18, in Phoenix, Ariz. JEA is the Journalism Education Association, and NSPA is the National Scholastic Press Association.

Pacemaker is NSPA's highest honor for high-school publications, and Chantilly was the only winner from Virginia. The book also was rated second for yearbooks with 325 or more pages. Members of the Chantilly High School yearbook staff, plus advisor Mary Kay Downes, attended the convention, where these national awards for scholastic journalism were presented.

"All credit for this award goes to the students," said Downes. "Our program is blessed with students who strive for excellence in telling the story of the year and extending coverage to as many groups and individuals as possible. They 'get' being student journalists, and I am very lucky to be able to work with them, year after year."

More than 600 yearbooks were submitted for

consideration and, of the 52 finalists, Chantilly's yearbook was not only the lone book from Virginia, but from the entire East Coast. Most of the other winners were from California and Texas.

Edited by 2008 graduates Maya Ahronovich, Joe Fratter and Kelly Tarrent, the book revolved around the theme of Signature and was divided into two main sections: My Signature and Our Signature. The concept allowed for in-depth, personal profiles, as well as traditional coverage around thematic concepts.

Since 1927, NSPA's Pacemaker competition has been considered by many to be student journalism's highest honor. All NSPA yearbook and magazine



Odyssey editor-in-chief Katie Urban holds the NSPA Pacemaker award presented at the JEA/NSPA Convention in Phoenix on April 18.

members are eligible to compete in their respective, national Pacemaker competitions. Yearbook Pacemakers are judged on writing/editing, design, content, concept, photography art and graphics. And Odyssey was one of 24 high-school yearbooks nationwide accorded this honor.

The pacemaker was presented to one of the current Odyssey editors-in-chief, Katie Urban, who accepted the plaque on behalf of the staff. Members of the editorial board present included Urban, Hilary Jensen, Andrew Gass, Kendall Crowther and Samantha Owens.

While at the national convention, the students

SEE ODYSSEY, PAGE 2

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## NEWS

### Odyssey's Odyssey

FROM PAGE 1

went on a day-long tour of Sedona, Jerome and the desert area, attended a Phoenix Suns game and competed in the JEA Write-Off Competition. Hilary Jensen won an excellent rating for Yearbook Copy/Captions Student Life, and Kendall Crouther won honorable mention in Yearbook Copy/Caption Academics.

Overall, said Downes, "This has been a great year for Odyssey at Chantilly. In October, the program was recognized by the Virginia High School League with a presentation of the third Charles Savedge Award for sustained excellence, as the book was named Trophy Class for the 15th year. Gold Medalist honors from Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and All-American [status] from NSPA paved the way to the Pacemaker award."

**Members of the Chantilly High School Yearbook staff pose in front of a 200-year-old cactus in Phoenix while attending the 2009 Spring JEA/NSPA convention. They are, from left, Kendall Crouther, Samantha Owens, Katie Urban, Mary Kay Downes, Hilary Jensen and Andrew Gass.**



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## Silver Medal

FROM PAGE 1

Scholastic Art Competition. He submitted eight or nine photos in a portfolio, plus three single photographs, and his winning entry was his black-and-white "Cattle Drive."

"It was taken in the Pantanal region of Brazil in August 2008," said Gibson. "My dad's a professional photographer, and I was there to photograph with him. He was asked to speak there, and a National Geographic photographer asked him to come to that region. We visited three ranches and lucked out — the cattle drive was happening while we were there."

He lives in Centreville's Fair Lakes Forest community with his parents, Patti and Greg, and siblings, Cameron, 15, and Bret, 13. Gibson's only been taking photos for a couple years, although he's "been around photography forever" and plans to eventually become a photo-journalist. "I prefer photographing people, but I'm trying not to pigeonhole myself into one thing," he said.

**GIBSON LIKES** taking both color and black-and-white photos and learned his craft from both his father and his photography classes

SEE HONORED, PAGE 5

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## ROUNDUP

## Penney's Store Clerk Robbed

Fairfax County police are looking for whoever robbed a store clerk last week at the JC Penney store in Fair Oaks Mall. The incident occurred Tuesday, April 14, at 9:10 p.m. A 42-year-old Herndon woman was working behind the counter when she was approached by a woman who stood behind her, placed an object against her back and demanded the register be opened. The clerk complied and the robber removed an undisclosed amount of cash before fleeing on foot.

The suspect is described as black, about 50, and 5 feet 9 inches with a heavy build. She wore a pink cap, red hooded sweatshirt, gray sweatpants and white shoes. Police are continuing to investigate. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

## Man Robs Chantilly Quiznos

A 23-year-old Fairfax woman was robbed recently while working at the Quiznos Sub restaurant at 13661 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly. The incident occurred on March 28. Fairfax County police say a man approached the employee at the counter, around 8:15 p.m., and ordered a sandwich. When the employee rang up the order, the man produced a knife.

The suspect then removed an undisclosed amount of cash from the register and fled out the front door with the sandwich and the money. The victim was not injured. The robber was described as black, 25 to 30 years old and about 6 feet and 180 pounds. He was clean-shaven and wore a black jacket.

## Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections, Thursday, April 30, and May 7, 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.

## Westfield Community Coalition

The Westfield Community Coalition will meet Monday, May 4, at 3:30 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Contact Jennifer Cooper at 703-966-8304 or [jalcooper@aol.com](mailto:jalcooper@aol.com).

## Foreclosure Prevention Forum

A foreclosure prevention forum will be held Tuesday, May 5, from 7-9 p.m., at Centreville United Methodist Church, 6400 Old Centreville Road (off New Braddock Road) in Centreville. Residents may also learn their rights as renters. Information will be provided by the Homeownership Division of the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Also participating will be the Consumer Affairs Branch of the Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection, and Legal Services of Northern Virginia which will provide Korean and Spanish translation. Seating is limited, so residents are encouraged to register early. Call the Department of Housing and Community Development at 703-246-5264.

## WFCCA Land-Use Elections

Members of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee were re-elected last week to serve another year on the panel. They are: Carol Hawn, At-Large; Judy Heisinger, Bull Run; Jim Katcham, Centre Ridge Regent; Mark McConn, At-Large; Jim Neighbors, Sully Station I; Dorthy Steranka, Willoughby's Ridge; and Chris Terpak-Malm, At-Large. Katcham was also re-elected land-use chairman. Other committee chairmen are: McConn, education; Terpak-Malm, parks and recreation; Steranka, social services and outreach; and Heisinger, transportation.



Jeffrey Virostek's cousins Luke, Meghan, Beth, Tim, the poster showing the organizations that have benefited from the Angel Kisses 5K, Amy, Erin, Katie, Angela, and Michelle at last year's race.

# Angel Kisses on Mother's Day

## 5K/2K event helps families with childhood cancer.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Nearly six years have passed since Chantilly's Jeffrey Virostek died at age 4 of acute myelogenous leukemia [AML]. But he's not been forgotten, and an annual fund-raiser in his honor helps other children battling cancer.

His family still lives in Chantilly's Poplar Tree Estates community, and on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, at 8 a.m., they'll hold the sixth annual Angel Kisses 5K run and 2K walk. It starts and ends at the Poplar Tree Estates Swim and Racquet Club, 13516 Point Pleasant Drive.

"I'm truly honored that this event continues to happen annually in Jeffrey's memory," said his mother, Tasha Virostek. "We're proud that we've been able to give to other families at this tumultuous time in their lives."

Capital Running will officiate the race, and a new technology — a disposable "D" tag attached to the participants' shoelaces — will capture the results. For more information and to register, see [www.AngelKisses-5k.org](http://www.AngelKisses-5k.org). Online registration is: 5K, \$20; 2K, \$15, by May 7.

Afterward, it's \$25 and \$20. Walk-in registration and packet pickup are Friday, May 8, from 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and race day, from 6:30-7:30 a.m., at the Poplar Tree Community Center.

After Jeffrey's death in September 2003, his parents, Tasha and Stephen Virostek, established the Jeffrey Virostek Memorial Fund. And over the past five years, this race has raised more than \$75,000 for it.

The fund donates to organizations and charities including Life with Cancer counseling services, The Red Apple Clown Care Ministry, Colors of Love, CaringBridge, Special Love, Candlelighters and Tears to Rainbows.

Those unable to be in the race, but wishing to make a contribution, may send checks payable to Angel Kisses 5K to 13445 Marble Rock Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151.

Since the Virosteks know firsthand what families go through when their children have cancer, they want to give them the same strength and support they received from their own community when Jeffrey was ill. His four siblings, ages 1-14, participate in the race each year and, said Tasha Virostek, "They have a wonderful time. They're very proud to be a part of this event."

More than 650 people were in last year's race, and she's delighted with the great turnout. "Many people have benefited from the race's proceeds," she said. "We're humbled by the support of the community."

# Hearts N' Motion Raising Funds

## Expressive Therapeutic Movement and Western Fairfax Christian Ministries to benefit on Saturday.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Hearts N' Motion, a special program including dancers and a silent auction, will be held Saturday, May 2, at Centreville Presbyterian Church, 15450 Lee Highway in Centreville.

Besides being an evening of fun and entertainment, it will benefit Expressive Therapeutic Movement (ETM), plus Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM).

With classes in both Springfield and Oakton — and students from throughout Fairfax County, including Centreville, Chantilly and Fairfax — ETM uses music, dance, art and movement to work with people, ages 6-25, with developmental delays. These include Down Syndrome, autism and other learning, emotional or physical delays.

"Proceeds will go toward scholarships to subsidize tuition [to ETM] for people in need," said Lynne

SEE HEARTS 'N' MOTION, PAGE 11

CENTRE VIEW NORTH ♦ APRIL 30 - MAY 6, 2009 ♦ 3

# Celebrating a Life Cut Short

## Friends and family trade memories of slain Oak Hill teen.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
CENTRE VIEW

**V**anessa Saavedra remembered seeing Siobhan Russell's name on the desk next to hers on the first day of school sophomore year and hoping her new classmate would introduce herself, since Saavedra had no idea how to pronounce the name. Russell did introduce herself promptly, with a smile, she said.

During class, the teacher announced a test the following week, and Siobhan—pronounced “Shevaun”—and Saavedra panicked and began talking about fleeing the class immediately. “After meeting Shev, that class became the class I looked forward to each week,” Saavedra said.

Now, she was speaking at Russell's memorial service at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Fairfax. The 19-year-old Oak Hill resident was stabbed to death on Easter Sunday, April 12, in the home of the grandparents of a 17-year-old boy she had been dating. The boy is being charged with her murder.

**BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGAN**, arrivals had circled the packed parking lot before leaving their cars on the lawn or in adjacent neighborhoods. Rows of folding chairs had to be set up behind the church's pews to accommodate the crowd.

King of Kings is not a small church. “She was almost like a magnet. Everyone seemed to be drawn to her,” Saavedra told the crowd.

She recalled the many hours she and Russell had spent talking in their basements, considering the activity a way of killing time because there wasn't anything better to do.

Now, she said, those were the memories of her friend that she cherished most. An “amazing friend, sister and daughter,” Saavedra said, Russell “was on a constant mission to help people, even if it meant getting into trouble, which she did, a lot.”

Russell's 17-year-old brother, Jordan, said he had bonded with his sister through their sibling love and shared writing skills, as well as the way they “used the English language to confuse the Yanks.”

The family had moved to the area from England in 2000.

Jordan Russell recalled his sister as a graceful dancer and gifted writer.

Susan Lee, the special education department chair at Mountain View Alternative High School, said she thought it was fitting that the piece of Russell's art brought to her by the school's art teacher was a flower. “Shevey blossomed at Mountain View,” Lee said.

Russell had enrolled at the school after leaving Chantilly High School. At Mountain View, she earned awards in English, art and social studies, as well as an award for academic excellence and the school's Merritt Family Memorial Scholarship. She was a student speaker at her graduation just three months before she was killed.

In a later interview, her father, Andy, said his daughter had planned to attend Northern Virginia Community College before transferring to a four-year school to study psychology.

Lee recalled one student saying of Russell, “She was impressive. She was inspiring. She was so good at what she did, but she never acted like she was better than anyone else.” The student had told Lee that Russell probably never knew she had made him want to be a better person.

“She focused on self-improvement, not self-pity,” Lee said. Her memories of Russell, she said, were of “her humility, her grace, the way she paid attention when someone spoke to her and when they didn't.”

“She taught me to just go for it,” said Russell's 11-year sister Francesca. She said

## Contribute to the Memorial Fund

Contributions can be made to Mountain View Scholarship Fund, Attn: Pam Rutkowski, Mountain View High School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville, VA 20121; Reference: Siobhan Russell Memorial Award.

she and her sister had both consoled each other and had fun together. “I would comfort her when she was sad and we would have the best of times together,” she told the crowd.

“Shev was my best friend. Some of the best times of my life were with her,” said JoJo Stipa. As children, the two had made up their own sign language, she said. And she remembered using the Movie Maker computer program to make a show called “Love Denied” with Russell and another friend in the sixth grade.

In ninth grade, they had helped to stage a haunted house in Stipa's backyard on Halloween, she said. They were tour guides for the haunted cave and were told to take turns guiding groups through. “We were like, ‘No, we don't think so. We're doing this together,’” Stipa said. They worked out a routine in which they were identical twins and spoke in unison.

**ANOTHER FRIEND**, Megan Thomas, said Russell had taught her to be strong and to appreciate her life. She remembered lying on the beach and watching the stars with her friend, noting that the two had been able to “escape together and lay life's difficulties to rest.” She said Russell had once told her, “If there was a lightning storm, I would run to you with a metal rod on my head just to save you.”

When family friend Matt Stofko met Russell, her wardrobe was “a little on the punk rock side,” he said. However, he said the girl's clothing became more conservative over time, and she came to look more and more like her mother, Lynne. When he saw the two together, he often remarked



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Siobhan Russell

that they looked like twins, which he said delighted Lynne Russell and horrified her daughter.

After her death, Stofko had searched through Russell's writings and found 13 chapters of a novel she was working on. A note on the document asked her parents to read the story and provide input, adding that they could feel free to write on the pages. Stofko said he thought this indicated an uncommon relationship between a teenager and her parents.

The memorial service was to be a celebration of Russell's life, and her father noted that it was not the only such occasion. “We have other friends in other countries who are also celebrating with us,” he said, noting that friends and family in Europe were planting trees and releasing balloons in memory of his daughter as he spoke.

He said he and his family had been consistently surprised by the level of support they had received since his daughter's death. “Siobhan touched many different people in many different ways,” he said.

Preparing to show a video of his daughter's graduation speech, Andy Russell said the speech was “real proof that you can overcome life's challenges.” If it helped one person surmount his or her difficulties, he said, “that would be a real tribute to Siobhan.”

The family has created a Siobhan Russell Memorial Award to help send one Mountain View student to college each year.

## Clem, Blankenship Engaged

Mr. David Alan Clem and Mrs. Tari Tabb Clem of Catharpin, Va. and Mr. Andrew Jonathan Greenfield and Mrs. Laurell Anne Greenfield of Vienna, Va. are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Judith Anne Clem to James Thomas Blankenship, son of Mr. James William Blankenship III and Mrs. Cynthia Lyon Blankenship of Virginia Beach, Va.

Judi is a 2004 graduate of Westfield High School in Chantilly, Va. She graduated magna cum laude from Radford University in 2008 where she studied Elementary Education. Judi is now a fifth grade teacher in Falls Church, Va.

Jimmy is a 2002 graduate of Kempsville High School in Virginia Beach, VA. He graduated from Radford University in 2006 where he studied marketing and economics. Jimmy now works as an outside salesman for Commercial Lighting Sales in the Washington D.C. area.

A December wedding is planned at Bristow Manor Golf Club in Bristow, Virginia. The couple plan to reside in Centreville, Va.



Judith Anne Clem and James Thomas Blankenship

## Walstrom, Crossett Engaged

Jim and Meg Crossett of Centreville announce the engagement of their son, Andrew Peter, to Andrea Rae Walstrom, daughter of Glenn and Darlene Walstrom of Houtzdale, Pa.

Andrew is a 2000 graduate of Centreville High School and a 2004 graduate of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business management. He is employed as a consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton in Herndon.

Andrea is a 1998 graduate of Moshannon Valley High School in Pennsylvania and a 2004 graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture with honors. She is employed as a planner/landscape architect at Dewberry in Fairfax.

Andrew is the grandson of Marjorie Crossett and the late James Crossett of Chantilly, and Patricia Lawless and the late



Andrew Peter Crossett and Andrea Rae Walstrom

Andrew Lawless of Centreville. Andrea is the granddaughter of Verna Walstrom and the late Ben Walstrom of Houtzdale Pa., and the late Joseph and Anna Hansel of Morann, Pa. The couple plans a September 2009 wedding in Altoona, Pa.

# NEWS

## Honored for Photography

FROM PAGE 2

at Chantilly. "I'm in Photography III now, learning harder, more-advanced techniques," he said. "I also learned darkroom printing in class."

He said the most difficult part is "finding something that interests me enough to dig deep and put a ton of effort into photographing it." But he gets great satisfaction "seeing results that I'm pleased with." He mainly uses a Canon 50D digital camera and was just accepted into the VCU Art Department, after graduation.

Gibson won a gold key for his portfolio, including "Cattle Drive," at the district level, plus district-level awards for his photos, "Brazilian Cowboy" and "Shadow Skater." Then at regionals, he won gold for his portfolio and gold and two silver medals for single entries.

In the national competition, he vied against thousands of people throughout the U.S. and, he said, "I was hoping I'd win something at regional level, but didn't expect to win at nationals. So I was excited when I found out."

**"Winning a Silver Key award just validates what anyone who has met Zach already knows — he's an extremely dedicated and creative photographer."**

— **Betty Simmons, CHS photography teacher**

IN JUNE, there'll be a reception in New York where Gibson will officially receive his award, and one of those happiest about it will be Betty Simmons, his photography teacher at Chantilly.

"Zach's sense of composition is amazing," she said "His ability to use that sense in capturing an image — at just the decisive moment — is a trait that will serve him well in the future as a professional photographer. A lot of thought and planning went into his portfolio. Winning a Silver Key award just validates what anyone who has met Zach already knows — he's an extremely dedicated and creative photographer."

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# OPINION

## Call for Mother's Day Photos — and Fathers Too

Also inviting contributions of photos and stories from the community from any local event.

Every year at this time, Centre View puts out the call for photographs of mothers and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10, and once again Centre View will publish a gallery of Mother's Day photos.

Send in photos as soon as possible, including names of everyone in the picture, the date the picture was taken, the ages of the children, a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to include your town name and neighborhood.

We prefer digital photos, but we also accept prints. We will do our best to return hard copies of photos that include a self-addressed-stamped envelope for that purpose, but please do not send us any photos that cannot be replaced.

Email photos to [centreview@](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com)

[connectionnewspapers.com](http://connectionnewspapers.com).

Send photos to Centre View, Mother's Day Photo Gallery, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102.

Father's Day, Sunday, June 21, will be here by the time we blink, and we will also accept Father's Day photos, with the same guidelines.

### EDITORIAL

**CENTRE VIEW'S** photographers, Robbie Hammer and Louise Krafft, won almost every possible award this year in the Virginia Press Association news contest. But they cannot attend even a significant fraction of the many newsworthy, photographic events that occur every week.

Many of our readers are accomplished photographers, and many more perfectly competent with their point and shoot digital camera. We invite you to send us photos and a short write-up of any local event you think might interest us.

Some examples: events, awards or other

happenings at schools; fairs, charity events or any other gathering at a house of worship; a photo celebrating the anniversary of a business; a photo celebrating a local couple's milestone anniversary; engagement and wedding announcements; graduations; Eagle Scout projects and ceremonies; youth sports teams with trophies; community service projects by families, individuals or teams of employees; almost anything else you can imagine.

We prefer digital photos emailed along with the write-up. Be sure to include the name of everyone in the photo including where they live; we will almost certainly not use a photo if people are not identified. Please include age, grade and school for young people. And a paragraph or two that says where and when the event took place and what is happening. Include a phone number in case we have any questions.

Email photos to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

### LETTERS

## Voice of Reason

To the Editor:

This is to extend my sincere thanks to Joe Samaha for converting his unimaginable grief into courageous community activism. Ever since his daughter died in the Virginia Tech shootings, Mr. Samaha and his family have steadfastly devoted themselves to efforts that would help prevent criminals and the mentally ill from purchasing lethal weapons. Most recently, Mr. Samaha has called for the rule of law in closing the gun show loophole in Virginia, a major source of illegally trafficked guns. He has effectively countered extremist arguments that doing so would undermine Second Amendment rights, and that his role in this mission suggests he has somehow permitted himself to be exploited by the enemies of freedom.

As a teacher at Westfield High School, I never had the privilege of knowing Rema Samaha. But I have heard countless reminiscences about her by those who did. By all accounts, Rema was a young woman of extraordinary talent and character.

Notwithstanding the magnitude of Mr. Samaha's loss, Virginia lawmakers should recognize that his words are not merely those of a grieving parent. He speaks in the voice of reason, and his he is backed by a majority of citizens likewise demanding the rule of law.

**Helen Mondloch**  
Fairfax

— BONNIE HOBBS



Striking a pose are (from left) Becca Lamb, Danielle Cuppan, Emily Otis, Emma Van Lahr, Catherine Crossett, Emily Schwab, Reilly Tweddle, Maddie Walsh and Katie Lamb.

## Modeling for a Good Cause

Girl Scouts and Brownies from Centreville, Chantilly, Vienna and McLean gathered Sunday afternoon at the Sully District Governmental Center in Chantilly for Rachel's Tea Party.

They modeled both dressy and casual spring outfits for their families and earned tea party patches or badges after receiving lessons in manners, etiquette, personal hygiene, modeling, looking one's best and choosing healthy snacks. They also did some aerobic dancing and enjoyed refreshments.

This annual event is held in honor of Centreville's Rachel Crossett who died of cancer

in July 2001 at age 6. Her mother, Meg Crossett, later established the local chapter of the D.C. Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation for parents of cancer survivors and those who've lost children to the disease.

The tea party raised funds for the organization by collecting money from the parents of the young models. D.C. Candlelighters serves families in the Washington Metropolitan area; it sponsors monthly, parent-support meetings and offers small grants to families in need who are living with cancer.

# CENTREVIEW

NORTHERN EDITION  
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A Connection Newspaper

To make donations for the food pantry or thrift shop, to volunteer or to receive information on the next free budgeting class, in May, call 703-988-9656.

# Larger WFCM Thrift Shop Opens

FROM PAGE 1

they're held now. "The food pantry will double in size, affording us more space for shoppers and volunteers, as well as food storage," said Jansen. "Now, part of it's stored off-site, which we pay for."

The thrift store is currently open 39 hours/week, with varying hours. But the revamped, enlarged one will be open six days a week, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. And donations will be accepted every day, not just certain days and hours, as is the case now.

"The store will have a new look, with all new merchandise and some higher-end items, too," said Jansen. "There'll be furniture, electronics, household goods, china, silver and premium clothing — including never-worn, designer clothing, still tagged."

**FOOD-PANTRY** customers must be referred by county agencies, but the thrift shop is open to everyone. And with the downturn in the economy, Jansen believes "it's a perfect time to have a larger thrift store because more people are shopping in [them] now. The perception of the thrift store is that it's only open to serve needy clients. But that's not true; we're here to help people, no matter their socio-economic status."

No demolition was involved, but the project included painting, carpeting, electrical work and lots of "elbow grease" from the volunteers, moving merchandise into the new space. Quality of Life Remodeling, owned by WFCM board member Dan Whitaker, did the remodeling of the previously vacant storefront. There's even a new sign outside, and WFCM expects the freshly refurbished and restocked thrift shop to be open for business by this Friday, May 1.

"Because of the generosity of our landlord, Beatty Management, we were able to negotiate the additional space," said Jansen. "They're making it possible for us to better serve more clients in western Fairfax, and this is their way of giving back to the community, too."

The existing building will then be used only for the food pantry and WFCM offices, but it'll be redesigned to make it more efficient for shoppers. And Jansen expects it to be busier than ever.

"In all of 2008, we served 2,400 families with food and assistance," she said. "We gave out more than 24,000 bags of food, and we had 4,000 client appointments for help." But this year's numbers are

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PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW  
From left, WFCM's Lillian Diaz, Andrea Novotny and Marcie Schoonmaker organize baby equipment.



WFCM executive director  
Melissa Jansen

outpacing last year's, at this time.

From January through March 2008, WFCM served 581 families with food and financial assistance and gave out 5,903 bags of food. From January through March 2009, WFCM assisted 882 families and gave out 9,068 bags of food.

"The demand is higher because

more people are in need," said Jansen. "They're losing jobs or homes, are on the verge of foreclosure and aren't able to pay their monthly rent, mortgage or utility bills."

**IN ADDITION**, she said, "The fact that we're able to offer our thrift store clothing and other items below market price, and at or below other area thrift stores, should be more attractive to new shoppers looking for a bargain. And now, donors will have a large, local charity to which they may donate their larger furniture and household items."

Regarding WFCM's larger, improved digs, Jansen said, "We're elated; it's really exciting for us. We feel like the timing and the new opportunity for space is perfect to let us better carry out our mission. Our store manager and volunteers have moved everything into the new store and did the decorating and pricing. Our volunteers are wonderful — they're the backbone of WFCM."

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11:00 AM  
Contemporary Service in the ROC  
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# WORTH NOTING

To have community events listed in Centre View, e-mail to [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com). Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407.

## ONGOING

The **Centreville Farmers Market** will start May 15 and will be operating every Friday until Oct. 30 from 3:30-6 p.m. at 5885 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Vendors will change throughout the season.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 29

**Scoop Night.** 5-10 p.m. at Baskin Robbins in Centreville. Get scoops of ice cream for \$.31. Hear music from local singers. 703-314-8467

## MAY 1-3

The **Sugarloaf Crafts Festival** will be held Friday, May 1 through Sunday, May 3 at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly. More than 225 of the nation's most accomplished fine artists and craft designers will present their wares. Located at 4320 Chantilly Place Center, Chantilly. Hours are: Friday, May 1 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, May 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adult admission is \$7 through online purchase, \$8 for adults at the door, free for children under 12. Admission is good for all three days. Free parking is available. Visit [www.SugarloafCrafts.com](http://www.SugarloafCrafts.com) or call 800-210-9900.

## FRIDAY/MAY 1

**Dancing.** 8:30-midnight at Dulles Hilton Swing Dance. \$15/person. Dance to live music. Visit [www.gottaswing.com](http://www.gottaswing.com) for more.

**Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike. The Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents "The Little Mermaid." \$15/adult; \$10/child. 703-815-7558 for tickets.

**Performance.** 7 p.m. at Pacino Ristorante, 5653 Stone Road, Centreville. Hear Peter Douskalis, WHS graduate. Reservations recommended, 703-222-5885.

## SATURDAY/MAY 2

**Hearts 'N Motion.** Enjoy a dance concert and silent auction to benefit children with special needs and area homeless starting at 4 p.m. and performance at 6 p.m. at Centreville Presbyterian Church, 15450 Lee Highway. Free, but donation of \$15 suggested. 703-218-0751.

**Can't Sit Still Story Time.** 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children 2-4 enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

**Teen Advisory Meeting.** 2 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Teens 12-18 can join the board and help influence what goes on at the library. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

## SUNDAY/MAY 3

**Historic Fashionista.** 2-4:30 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way. Ladies of all ages can decorate hats, see a fashion show and more. Reservations required, 703-437-1794. \$20/person.

**Performance.** 3 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike. The Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents "The Little Mermaid." \$15/adult; \$10/child. 703-815-7558 for tickets.

## MONDAY/MAY 4

**Golf Tournament.** Take part in a charity golf tournament for Erin Peterson Fund at Chantilly National

Golf & Country Club. Visit [www.erinpetersonfund.org](http://www.erinpetersonfund.org) for more.

**Time for Tots.** 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children 2-3 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

**Frying Pan Farm Park.** 2 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children 6-11 can meet a goat, do a craft and more. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

**Book Discussion.** 7 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Discuss "Fairy Tale Detectives" by Michael Buckley. Free. Ages 9-12. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

## TUESDAY/MAY 5

**How's the Weather.** 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children 2-5 enjoy craft, stories. Free. 703-830-2223.

## THURSDAY/MAY 7

**Mother Goose Time.** 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children up to age 23 months can enjoy rhymes and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

**Small Wonders.** 11 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children ages 13-23 months. Stories and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

## FRIDAY/MAY 8

**Dancing.** 8:30-midnight at Dulles Hilton Swing Dance. \$15/person. Dance to live music. Visit [www.gottaswing.com](http://www.gottaswing.com) for more.

**Plant Sale.** 2-7 p.m. at Westfield High

School. Browse through herbs, perennials, annuals and more. Proceeds benefit the Visual Art Department.

**Strategy Games.** 2:30 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children ages 12-18 can play board games. Free. 703-502-3883.

## SATURDAY/MAY 9

**TAG Sale.** Boy Scout Troop 893 will hold its Annual TAG (totally awesome garage) sale from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Tax-deductible donations are also appreciated. The Chantilly/Centreville pickup hotline is 703-222-2333. Drop-offs are welcome Saturday, April 25 and May 2, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday, April 26 and May 3, from noon - 4 p.m. Proceeds from sale fund Troop activities. For more information, go to [www.Troop893.org](http://www.Troop893.org).

**Fund-raising Event.** 6 p.m. at South Riding Golf Club. Enjoy a beer tasting with 12 varieties, buffet, dessert and auction. \$50/person. Donations benefit Assistance League of Northern Virginia. 703-860-8670 by April 24.

**Puma Pounce.** 8 a.m. at Colin Powell Elementary School. Enjoy a 5k or 1.5 mile fun run. Benefits the Powell Playground Fund. Visit [www.cpespta.org](http://www.cpespta.org) for more.

**5k Run/Walk.** 8 a.m. at Westfield High School. Walk or run through Westfield Business Park. \$15/FCPS student; \$25/others. Visit [psa.westfieldhs.org/race/index.htm](http://psa.westfieldhs.org/race/index.htm) or 703-222-4382.

**Dedication Ceremony.** 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. A stained glass memorial will be dedicated to Susan Woodcock. Free, followed by a story time.



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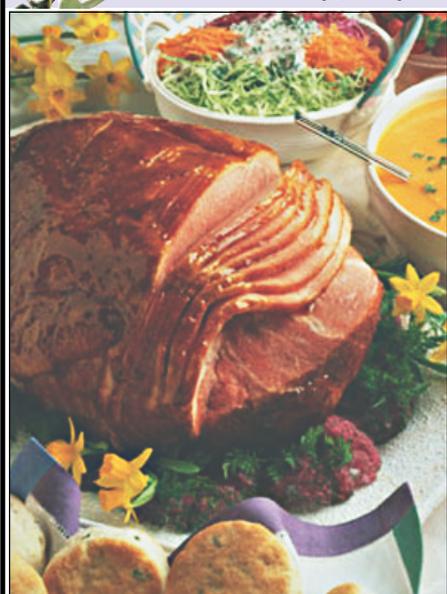
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All listings due by **Mon. at 3 p.m.**

## WORTH NOTING

# Kidfest, Spring Festival in Clifton

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

The Town of Clifton is the place to be, Saturday, May 9, with not just one — but two — springtime events. From 10 a.m.-4 p.m., the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA) is hosting the fourth annual KidFest in the Clifton Town Park. And from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., the Acacia Masonic Lodge No. 16 will hold a Spring Festival at the lodge, CBA barn and the Clifton Presbyterian Church parking lot.

"It's an awesome time and a happy, festive event for families and children," said Kathy Kinter, organizing KidFest 2009. "There's a lot of excitement and it's always a fun-filled day."

KidFest entertainment includes live musical acts, roving clowns, a 27-foot inflatable slide, moonbounces, carnival games and children's arts and crafts. Eggspectations will have food items for sale, and hot dogs, hamburgers, cotton candy, salad and beverages will also be available.

Vendors will offer items such as children's books, T-shirts and wooden toys. The T-shirts are from the company, Girls Like Math, which presents positive messages for girls. Girl Scouts will have a recycling booth with information and games. Other activities include spin art, face painting, colored hairspray and a children's yoga demonstration. Local police will do child fingerprinting for parents, and the Clifton Fire Station on Chapel Road will be open for tours.

Admission to KidFest is \$5 for anyone who can walk, with all proceeds supporting CBA events for

children and raising money for Shelter House, Moms For A Cure and the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program. Each attendee will also receive two, \$1 tickets toward any activity requiring tickets.

And the Bryce Foundation will raffle off a gift certificate of at least \$500 to a local bike shop. This organization supports pediatric-cancer research, plus parental education, advocacy and financial assistance to families.

The Acacia Lodge's Spring Festival also offers fun for all ages. Clowns from the Kena Shriners in Fairfax will be on hand, and the Kena 500 — people driving miniature Corvettes — will perform several times a day in front of the fire station.

From noon-3 p.m., One Night Stand — a five-piece blues band — will entertain on a stage in front of the CBA barn. Then from 3-5 p.m., Wild Card Band will play classic rock. Food and beverages, including adult beverages, will be offered near the barn, and vendors will sell flowers, plants and shrubs, as well as antiques.

The Academy of Dance and the Bull Run Cloggers will give dance exhibitions. The Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program will staff pony rides, and the Appalachian Bowhunter's Association will conduct a taxidermy exhibit.

Admission is free, but there's a \$5 charge for parking.

Proceeds will benefit restoration of the historic Acacia Lodge building, which suffered severe flood damage, a few years ago, and needs other repairs, too. Work has already begun and, during the Spring Festival, the building will be open for tours.

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**Please RSVP by May 1st**  
A complimentary lunch will be provided at both events.

<b>Call 703-383-0060 for reservations.</b>	<b>Call 703-256-0882 for reservations.</b>
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Students from the Expressive Therapeutic Movement program will be performing at the May 2 benefit at Centreville Presbyterian Church.

## Hearts N' Motion Raise Funds

FROM PAGE 3

Bauer, who teaches classes and runs the program. "Many also have physical and speech therapy classes [elsewhere], and their parents need some help financially."

For more information about ETM, plus a detailed list of the silent-auction items, see [www.heartsnmotion.org](http://www.heartsnmotion.org).

"The silent auction is from 4-6 p.m., and we've got some really good stuff," said Pam McCormick of Centreville Dance Theatre, which will be performing. "We have over 100 items."

**THE GOODIES** include airline tickets, a beach-house vacation, designer sunglasses, spa packages and an ice-hockey stick signed by the Washington Capitals team, including star player Alexander Ovechkin.

"There's a wide variety of items to bid on at all prices, such as birthday parties, wine, cheese pizzas, ballroom dance lessons, gift baskets, original artwork, restaurant gift certificates and even a life-coaching session," said McCormick.

"If desired, people can come just for the auction, for free," she continued. "However, the show starts at 6 p.m. and will feature some wonderful performances. Tickets are \$15, tax-deductible donations, available at the door or on the Web site. Those not staying for the show can find out immediately if they've won anything. Or they can check during intermission."

Two dozen of Bauer's students will perform, along with students from Centreville Dance Theatre, plus guest performers Michele Kearney and Dave Ambrose from The Ballroom, another dance studio in Centreville. The program will feature tap, ballet, jazz and ballroom numbers.

One ETM student will read two, original poems; others will do solo dancing or small, group numbers. Bauer and long-time student Jordan Payne, 13, of Alexandria, will perform a lyrical, interpretive dance called "I Can Only be Me," which, said Bauer, "I thought was very appropriate."

Centreville Presbyterian became involved after Bauer met Kathy Taylor, Centreville Dance Theatre's director. Taylor currently teaches three of Bauer's former students — all of whom have Down Syndrome — in her regular classes, and Bauer came to Taylor's studio to see them perform.

"Kathy knew Lisa and Don

Halterman, of Centreville Presbyterian, and their daughter Gretchen is in Centreville Dance Theatre," said Bauer. "And that's how the church came to offer to host the event — which is phenomenal."

"This show is really about celebrating the joy of dance, for people of all abilities," said Bauer. "We're hoping for a good turnout to help us raise money for scholarships and community workshops to bring this program to students in their schools and homes. We also want to show school professionals how dance can be integrated into the curriculum to enhance learning."

**The best test of a man is authority.**  
—Montenegrin proverb

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# 'Boone' Gone, But Not Forgotten

Chantilly High School honors former athlete with *The Cassel's XBC Track Experience*.

BY JASON MACKEY  
CENTRE VIEW

Chantilly High School did not host The Cassel's XBC Track Experience this past Saturday. No, it hosted *The Cassel's XBC Track Experience*. "Boone" would've wanted it that way.

For the fourth straight year, the XBC meet was held in honor of 2005 Chantilly graduate X.B. Cox IV, a 12-season cross-country and track and field athlete who succumbed to leukemia on Sept. 22, 2006.

When Cox — the 'X.B.' is a passed-down set of initials that do not stand for anything, so the family, aware of the difficulty on a youngster of explaining that, applied the nickname — was in high school, he specialized in the 800-meter run and also the 1,600.

**"For me and all the other coaches, it's definitely very personal."**

— Coach Matt Gilchrist,  
Chantilly High

With those running credentials, Cox was a lock for Chantilly's 4x800 relay team, which also included Mark Hubbard, Doug Palmer and Brad Siragusa. After finishing sixth at the 2006 Northern Region outdoor track and field championships, the four-some wasn't exactly of record-setting caliber — at least on the track and not the stand-up comedy circuit, anyway.

"One thing Boone had was a huge ego," said Cox's father, X.B. Cox III. "They decided that we're gonna be *the* 4x800. They started wearing T-shirts and made it a big deal. Everyone knew they were just blowing smoke, but they went pretty far with it."

A 4.0 student, Cox IV attended the University of Virginia that fall but in January was diagnosed with leukemia. A few months later, the meet was started as a way to honor Cox and raise awareness. And despite the fact that he was undergoing chemotherapy at the time, Cox attended the inaugural event. He would've graduated from Virginia this spring.

**AS A COACH** in the Northern Region, Chantilly's Matt Gilchrist has seen a lot of well-put-on events and been in a lot of hyper-competitive atmospheres. The XBC, though, falls under a different category.

Gilchrist started the meet as a way to pay tribute to someone that everyone at Chantilly thought would be a survivor. Now, it's a yearly way for the coach and others to honor someone that was a part of one of the athletic community's most close-knit groups.

"For me and all the other coaches, it's definitely very personal," Gilchrist said. "We call it the XBC track experience because we really want it to be an excellent experience for the athletes, coaches and spectators. It makes us very, very detail-oriented because, in tribute to him, we want to do it right."

The meet also has a tactical purpose. Scheduled during the same weekend as Penn Relays, the XBC serves a more team-oriented purpose by providing a competitive atmosphere for those who aren't yet in peak form, as Penn Relays often require athletes to maximize endurance or strength ahead of schedule.

But no matter how much one might try to focus on the tangible effects of the XBC, there's one figure that remains central in everyone's mind.

"It's a very special day," Gilchrist said. "It amazes me every year of how well it goes off. We have an amazing group of parents and a great staff set up. They really work their butts off, and when I start thinking about Boone, it hits home."

**KELLY COX** and her husband attend the meet every year to present one Chantilly senior with a \$1,250 college scholarship —



PHOTO BY JASON MACKEY/CENTRE VIEW

**X.B. Cox III, with wife Kelly to his left and daughter Jordan to his right, presents Chantilly senior Josh Trikakakis with a \$1,250 college scholarship.**

out of the couple's own pocket. They first, after their son's death, contacted a few foundations for support but didn't find a suitor, namely because they wanted input from the team; those they spoke with didn't.

The scholarship candidates are chosen by team members at Chantilly, with a set of qualifications that best reflect their son's personality as the only guidelines: The candidate must be a senior with at least seven seasons of work in the cross-country or track and field programs and one who has outstanding personal character, an understanding of teamwork and a sense of humor.

"We're giving it to those folks who exhibit the characteristics that we feel that Boone did," Kelly Cox said, "And we felt that instead of it just being awarded by a coach that the other track athletes would be better aware of who meets those qualifications."

After team members choose their top three candidates, the coaching staff makes the final decision, with the Cox family left in the dark, really, until handing over an oversized check. This year's winner, Josh Trikakakis, never met Boone Cox, but the XBC's significance is not lost on the George Mason-bound winner.

"This means a lot to everybody," Trikakakis said, minutes before finishing first in the pole vault. "Even though he graduated a year before all of us seniors, all the people that come back knew him very well and it means a lot to us because we respect all those that graduated ahead of us."

"One of the things that you always find with people who have lost children is that one of their greatest fears is that their children will be forgotten," Cox III said. "It's very satisfying to know that people don't forget your child, especially because this is a program that meant a lot to him."

## 'Cancer Experience'

In May of 2006, X.B. 'Boone' Cox IV, stricken with leukemia, wanted to write a book about his battle with the disease, so, when he won, the world could become a better place by re-living the experience through his words.

Cox didn't get as far he, or anyone else that knew him, would've liked, as he passed away in September of that year. Here is a brief excerpt from those writings:

"I wrote this to share with you my experiences, to show you the huge impact that it had on my life, to show you how painful, how hard and how truly difficult going through something like this can be. Not so you sympathize with me, but so that you realize it can happen to you, your mom, your dad, your girlfriend/boyfriend, your siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, you name it ... I'm not trying to worry anyone, but rather raise awareness as to the wide-reaching effects of diseases such as leukemia.

"My request is simple ... please find a charity, find an organization, find ANYTHING that supports research into a disease such as leukemia, HIV, breast cancer ... ANYTHING ... and support it. Give money, volunteer time, do anything you can, no matter how small and insignificant it may seem. You never know when something like this may be thrown into your lap, and you never know who may be affected by a disease like this ... you think it can't happen to you (I sure didn't) and hopefully, it never will, but so long as you're able to help — why not do it?"

## WEEK IN SPORTS

### Nominations Needed

The Westfield Athletic Booster Club (WABC) is currently accepting nominations for the 2009-2010 Executive Board. The following positions are open for nomination: president, vice president, treasurer, recording secretary and correspondence secretary. The election will be held at the board meeting on Monday, May 4 at 7 p.m. To make a nomination, contact John Cleveland at gorebels1@verizon.net or 703-816-9440, Karen Duncan at wkuncan@aol.com or 703-222-4382 or Lory Sasek at Lorsas@aol.com or 703-222-6080.

MORE SPORTS, PAGE 15

# Comfort and Joy



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

We've had the "Buff Boys," (sandy, beige, frothy white color; and brothers, too), a.k.a. Cappuccino and Biscuit, almost two years. We "rescued" them from Castle Cat Rescue, a cat rescuer of devoted proportions when the boys were about 7 months old. We cat-cornered them home on a Saturday afternoon and upon entering their new home (ours), of course scattered every which way looking for someplace familiar. Finding only unfamiliar places (and no familiar scents), they eventually found refuge together, underneath a couch, which sits in the corner of our dining room. And for a couple of days at least, that's where they remained, despite our coaxing. Not wanting to stress them unnecessarily, that's exactly where we left them. We fed and watered them there and placed their litter box within site and smell as well.

Though we had — and still have — an adult golden retriever in the house (Bailey), his old age prevented him from climbing the two steps required to enter the dining room and interfere with the cat's evolving routine. Certainly the cats wouldn't have known that (and of course, there's no way we could have communicated it to them). But, we knew, so their placement in the dining room was strategically considered with every expectation that over time, after familiarity began to breed courage, the boys would venture out and away from their cozy confines and explore the rest of the house and begin to acclimate.

Within a week or so of observing the boys' movements, we moved their food from immediately in front of the couch to its current location, approximately 10 feet away, still in the dining room but in a more centralized feeding location and one still safely at paws' distance from Bailey. We also moved their litter box to its present semi-private, outside-of-the-dining-room location, carrying the cats in the process and placing them directly in the box so they would know its new permanent location and force them, quite frankly, to have to move throughout the house a little bit. It wasn't a seamless operation for the cats, but as you cat owners know, eventually they figured it out and here we all sit, literally, one big, happy, family; and often together in one room; Kenny, Dina, Bailey, Biscuit, Cappuccino and not to be forgotten, Chester, our rabbit.

As I sit at the dining room table and write, Biscuit is inconveniently lying across the very tablet on which I am attempting to write. "Cino" is curled up on one of the dining room chairs that sits at the head of this table at which I'm sitting and still attempting to write. Bailey, now nearly 14, is still spry when encouraged but content most of the other times to lay in his orthopedic bed on the floor in the adjacent living room or underneath the coffee table in the den sleeping. Chester is in his cage in the kitchen, asleep for the moment, stretched out on his aspen bedding, nose crinkling, ready to pounce at the slightest noise. And so it goes, everywhere I look, an animal, doing things that animals normally do.

Soon, it will be feeding time. The cats will meow, Bailey will pant and Chester will stand up on his hindquarters, front paws grabbing his cage pleading for a cracker. Bailey will be fed first, he's the senior man; next will be Chester because his food is stored between Bailey's and the cats', then the cats will be fed (last) because they're fed in another room (still in the dining room, for privacy sake). If we don't pay attention and watch who eats what, the animals will eat from one another's bowls: Chester will eat the dry cat food and the dry dog food, the cats will eat Bailey's dry dog food and drink from his water bowl, and Bailey will eat from the cat's litter box (if he can remember where it is) and miscellaneous other animal-related droppings he might find (from when the rabbit is out of his cage). After meals, everybody goes to sleep; Chester in his cage, Bailey and the two cats wherever they find comfort.

I was hesitant at first to introduce two kittens into the life of our semi-retired golden retriever, I didn't want them bothering him while he was trying to enjoy his golden years (no pun intended). But the cats seem to have figured out his tolerances and really don't interfere with his winding-down routine. Oh, they run underneath him when he comes back in the house, curl their tails under his jaw when he's walking, stick their noses in his food bowl when he's eating but generally, the animals coexist peacefully (most of the time).

Thanks to Biscuit and "Cino," there is new life and energy in our house, energy that we didn't know was missing. And as it has evolved, energy that was much needed and is very much appreciated. I realize I'm only discussing cats (and a dog and rabbit), but living with love and affection cannot be overvalued. And thanks to the "Buff Boys" our lives are whole again.

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

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**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE**  
Improved by the premises known as  
14844 Basingstroke Loop, Centreville, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Truong Nguyen, dated June 20, 2005, and recorded June 21, 2005, in Deed Book 17417 at page 1636 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

**Monday, May 4, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.**  
the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 133, Section 2-E, London Towne West as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 6161 at page 1392, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 14844 Basingstroke Loop, Centreville, Virginia 20120.

**TERMS OF SALE:** A deposit of \$30,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 5.625 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY  
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:  
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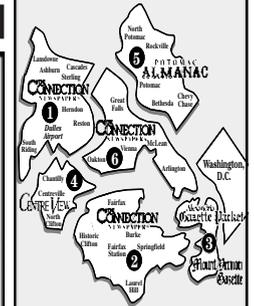
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# SPORTS



The Chantilly Lace U-10 travel softball team went undefeated during the USSSA Spring Fling Tournament during the weekend of April 17-19.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## WEEK IN SPORTS

### Mark Your Calendar

Disappointed at the size of crowds for high school soccer in Northern Virginia, Bill Casey decided to do something about it. So Casey, a Chantilly parent, conducted a research study in conjunction with Chantilly High School students to determine why more fans go and watch the Americanized version of football than the European one. Casey found that he could increase attendance at Chantilly girls' soccer games by focusing on giveaways and community involvement. And on May 6, Chantilly will host Centreville for Youth League and Community Night. The girls' game kicks things off at 5:30 p.m., followed by the boys' game at 7. Youth-league players wearing their jerseys will be admitted for free, with teams encouraged to make the event an annual group outing. There will also be \$1 ice cream from Milwaukee's Frozen Custard, youth-league players as ball kids and a 12-minute exhibition contest during intermission.

at the Potomac Lakes Sportsplex over the weekend of April 17-19.

### Chantilly Tennis Camp

The Chantilly High School Boosters will sponsor a tennis camp this summer. There will be two one-week sessions offered from July 13-17 and July 20-24. The camp will be directed by Chargers tennis coach Doug Kegerreis. The Chantilly girls' tennis program was back-to-back Northern Region champions and state semifinalists in 2005 and 2006. Kegerreis also coached Chantilly tennis star Thomas Nolan to the state singles championship in 2005. Proceeds from the camp will benefit the boys' and girls' tennis programs at Chantilly High School. To request a brochure or for more information, contact coach Kegerreis at Racks@aol.com or 703-932-8927.

### Chantilly Basketball Camp

The Chantilly boys' basketball program will hold four consecutive weeks of basketball camps starting July 6 for boys ages 8 through 15. Cost is \$150 and the sessions will be held at Chantilly High School. For more information, call head coach Jim Smith at 703-222-6306 or visit the Chantilly athletics Web site at www.chantillysports.org.

### Spring Fling Champions

The Chantilly Lace U-10 travel softball team went undefeated in its first tournament of the 2009 spring season. The Lace closed out the tournament with a dramatic 5-4 win in the bottom of the fifth inning as time expired over the Fauquier Fusion. The USSSA Spring Fling Tournament was held

No liberal man would impute a charge of unsteadiness to another for having changed his opinion.

—Cicero

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### Centreville

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### Centreville

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### Falls Church

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and nice lot. A must see at this price! Priced far below tax assessed value, home needs a little TLC to shine again. Great location and close to many commuter routes. Call and take a look today!

**\$224,900**



### Just Listed in Centreville.

Six bedroom Colonial in Cabells Mill, backs to parkland, three finished levels, walk out basement, updated throughout, neutral paint and new carpet. Priced at **\$465,000.**



### Clifton

This one will truly knock your socks off! Best priced detached home in the much sought after Little Rocky Run community! Nothing to do but move on in! Cared for from top to bottom with loads of upgrades! Wonderful open floor plan, Updated KIT & BTHS, freshly painted thru-out, walk out basement, fenced in backyard! A pleasure to show! pools, parks, paths, tennis...

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Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

## Public Information Meetings

### I-66 Transit/ Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Study

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is studying potential short- and medium-term transit and TDM enhancements to increase mobility in the I-66 corridor between Washington D.C., and Haymarket, Virginia. Improvements could include new bus services such as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and commuter choices such as carpooling, vanpooling and park and ride lots.

Public information meetings will include a continuous open house with representatives available to provide information on the study corridor and alternatives under consideration. In addition, a presentation will be given twice (at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.) with an opportunity for questions and answers afterward.

#### Meeting Dates and Locations

Tuesday, May 12, 2009	Thursday, May 14, 2009
Williamsburg Middle School Auditorium 3600 N Harrison St. Arlington, VA 22207	Oakton High School Auditorium 2900 Sutton Rd. Vienna, VA 22181
Wednesday, May 13, 2009	Schedule for all Meetings:
Battlefield High School Auditorium 15000 Graduation Dr. Haymarket, VA 20169	6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. - Open House 7:00 p.m. - Presentation and Q&A 8:00 p.m. - Presentation and Q&A

For more information on the study, visit [www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/I66study.aspx](http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/I66study.aspx).

If you are unable to attend a meeting, comments on the study may be sent to Public Information Office, DRPT, 1313 E. Main St., Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23219, or DRPTPR@DRPT.Virginia.gov. Comments will be accepted until May 22, 2009.

DRPT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs, services and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For special assistance or information, call (804) 786-4440 or TDD 711 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting date.

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