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"Smackdown"

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VOLUME XXIII, NO. 18

Musical Fairytales with a Message

Westfield High presents "Into the Woods."

BY BONNIE HOBBS Centre View

ractured fairytales with a message and music hit the stage in Westfield High's production of "Into the Woods." Featuring songs by Stephen Sondheim, this Tonyaward-winning musical boasts a cast and crew of 76 — including both theater and choral students — plus a live orchestra.

Show times are Friday, May 15, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, May 16, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, May 17, at 2 p.m. in the school theater. Tickets are \$10 at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com, or at the door; all seating is reserved.

"The students are doing fantastic," said Director Susie Pike. "It takes a tremendous amount

SEE WESTFIELD, PAGE 4



Aucott, her prince; and Carey Jarosik, the witch.

Schnippel Is Found Guilty

Centreville man convicted of heroin distribution resulting in death.

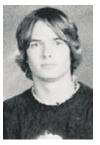
By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

fter her daughter Alicia overdosed on heroin on Aug. 12, 2007, Donna Lannes sat at her kitchen table in Centreville and spoke with Alicia's boyfriend, Skylar Schnippel. Knowing her daughter had been traumatized by something in her past, she wanted to protect her from further harm.

"Skylar said he'd never done heroin and wasn't involved in it," Lannes testified in court Monday at Schnippel's trial for causing Alicia's heroin-related death, seven months later. "He said it was Alicia's idea to use heroin and he'd do his best to keep her away from

But Schnippel's words were lies and he never kept his promise. And on March 5, 2008, as Alicia,

19, lay dying in her basement bedroom after using heroin he'd given her, he still did nothing to help her. When they texted each other and she stopped re-



Schnippel

sponding, he didn't call her parents and tell them to go downstairs and check on her, nor did he call 911.

Instead, he called friend Michael Bonner, who'd gone with Schnippel earlier on March 4 to buy the heroin from Daniel Nash. "Around 3 a.m., he asked me to check on her because he thought she was overdosing and might be

SEE SCHNIPPLE, PAGE 2

Statewide Honor for Colin Powell Elementary Principal

Hull is Virginia's 2009 National Distinguished Principal.

By Bonnie Hobbs Centre View

olin Powell Elementary Principal Brian Hull has received two of the highest honors a principal can get. Yet he won them both not by any conscious effort to garner personal accolades, but by doing each day what he does best — being an extraordinary school leader.

In 2008, he was named Fairfax County Public Schools' Principal of the Year. And now, he's just been selected as Virginia's 2009 National Distinguished Principal by the National Association of Elementary

U.S. Department of Education.

"I am humbled beyond belief that they've given it to me," said Hull. "I'm just honored by what's happened here. Our instructional teams have worked so collaboratively and explicitly to support student achievement and the high expectations we

have in this building, and our students work very hard to meet those expectations."

In his 29th year in FCPS, he's been at Colin Powell Elementary since it opened in September 2003. Prior to School Principals (NAESP) and the that, he was principal at Franklin



Brian Hull

"I'm not in this for recognition." Brian Hull, principal, **Colin Powell Elementary**

Sherman, Willow Springs Brookfield elementaries, acting principal at Jermantown Elementary and assistant principal at Brookfield.

In the mid- to late-1980s, Hull was principal at both the Fair Hill and Bush Hill centers for the physically disabled. And before that, he was a

teacher for seven years. He taught

special-ed students in Milwaukee

and then taught math in the specialed program at Fairfax High.

"This is my 25th year as a principal, so I've had the good fortune to work in a great variety of schools and communities," said Hull.

But he's truly left his mark on Colin Powell — so much so, in fact, that it was his colleagues in the Centreville Pyramid who nominated him for the NAESP award. However, instead of crowing about it, he praised his fellow principals — saying, "I feel very grateful to work with such incredible professionals."

AND THAT'S how Hull's faculty and staff feels about him. "We are just so pleased and excited he's receiving this award," said office as

SEE HULL, PAGE 3

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News

Schnipple

From Page 1

in trouble," testified Bonner.

"Alicia's mother, a registered nurse who'd saved her before, was upstairs, and Schnippel never called 911," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Grooms. "Only after four hours passed [since she took the heroin, around 1 a.m.] did someone else call 911, at 5 a.m. She died, and the defendant walked away."

This time, though, Schnippel, 20, of Centreville's Virginia Run community, is going nowhere except to prison. After a bench trial, Monday-Tuesday, May 4-5, in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, he was found guilty of heroin distribution resulting in Alicia Lannes's

He was also convicted of conspiracy to distribute one kilogram or more of heroin resulting in death, possession with intent to distribute heroin resulting in death, and obstruction of justice. He pleaded guilty to the obstruction charge, but was found guilty of the others and will be sentenced

Schnippel was part of an extensive, two-year-long, heroin-trafficking ring based in Centreville and begun by people who knew each other from Westfield High, where many of them were once students. It went on under the radar, at first; but when young men and women began dying from heroin overdoses, federal authorities got involved.

AN INVESTIGATION dubbed "Operation Smackdown" by the FBI and Fairfax County police resulted in 16 arrests; 15 later pleaded guilty, with only Schnippel opting for a trial. At the outset, Grooms said, "Conspiracies take on lives of their own — things change and members come and go. But in this one - despite overdoses, arrests and deaths — there was one constant, Skylar Schnippel."

Every day of those two years, said Grooms, multiple grams of heroin were bought and used. "Schnippel introduced J.R. Quick, David Schreider and Daniel Nash to heroin and drove them to Washington, D.C., to get it. When Alicia Lannes overdosed on Aug. 12 and Oct. 18, 2007, there was the defendant. And when she died, there was [Schnippel]. But it changed nothing for him. Even in October and November 2008 fully aware of the federal investigation — there was the defendant

SEE SCHNIPPLE PAGE 4

ROUNDUP

Chantilly Man Is Killed Crossing Route 50

A 25-year-old Chantilly man, Pedro Ceto-Chavez of Summer Hollow Court, has died, a week after being struck by a car while trying to cross Route 50 on foot. The tragedy occurred Sunday, April 26, around 11:25 p.m. According to Fairfax County police, he was near the intersection of Chantilly Road — outside of the crosswalk and against the light.

Police say Ceto-Chavez was hit by a 2003 Honda Odyssey traveling west on Route 50 as he crossed the lanes. He was rushed to Inova Fairfax Hospital where, last Sunday, May 3, he succumbed to his injuries, around 2:43 a.m. Police say the Honda driver, a 22-year-old woman from Columbia, Md., will not be charged.

Free Carseat Inspections Scheduled

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections, Thursday, May 7 and May 14, 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.

Park Authority To Meet

The Fairfax County Park Authority will meet Wednesday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m., in the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 900 in Fairfax. Call Judy Pedersen at 703-324-8662.

'Electric Sunday' May 17 At I-66 Transfer Station

On Sunday, May 17, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Fairfax County residents may recycle televisions, computers and peripheral electronic devices — including keyboards, speakers, printers and external drives — at the I-66 Transfer Station at 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. Devices from businesses will not be accepted. Residents should not bring small or large kitchen appliances, CDs, DVDs, video cassettes or stereo equipment. Items need not be in working order. For more information, see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling or call 703-324-5250.

WFCM Needs Some Donations, Volunteers

With the downturn in the economy, Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) could use some help meeting its increased demand from local residents for food, clothing and financial aid. 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.

Needed items in WFCM's thrift store include: Clothing for all ages, denim, coats and jackets, shoes, jewelry, accessories, seasonal items, furniture, linens, small appliances, books, music, movies, kitchenware, sporting goods and baby items

News

Hull Is Tops in Virginia

From Page 1

sistant Kim Burke. "He's very deserving, and it's nice that he's been acknowledged by the entire commonwealth. He's a wonderful leader — hands-on, visible and involved — and he listens to the children, parents, staff and faculty."

Calling him approachable, Burke said, "You can go to him to discuss any topic. He's knowledgeable, supportive, professional, friendly and nurturing, and I'm happy to be working with him. He's a great motivator and really sets the pace and the high standards for the school."

A mom too shy to give her name for publication spoke of Hull's kindness to her child, a fourth-grader there. "My son interviewed Mr. Hull for a writing project for his class," she said. "And he was so excited and honored that the principal took the time to do it."

The Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals (VAESP) conducted a statewide search for its nominee, but Hull didn't know he was even in the running until December. Then, after he was notified, he had to complete four essay questions on school leadership, setting high student goals and being responsive to the community.

"It wasn't difficult because I just wrote about what we do here," he said. "A month later, they said I was a finalist and was invited to come for an interview in Richmond on March 10. I expected a panel of eight to 10 people, but it was 25-30 people — principals from around the state, and they were all on the VAESP executive board"

AT FIRST, Hull was a bit intimidated, but then relaxed and had fun. "I was speaking from the heart," he said. "I talked about what we've created here, and about school leadership — but through the

lens of Colin Powell Elementary."

Then in February, a three-principal team came to the school and interviewed the PTA president, reading specialist and staff members. They also walked around the building and visited classrooms to get an understanding of the school's culture.

"They were surprised at the rich diversity we have here and were impressed with our high level of achievement," said Hull. "We have an incredibly strong instructional staff, and I could not be more proud of the quality of educators we have in this building."

And it was while meeting with those educators that he learned of his award. Said Hull: "I was in the midst of my monthly staff meeting, on April 21, when the door opened and in walked my wife Laura, [FCPS] School Superintendent Jack Dale, Deputy Superintendent Rich Moniuszko, Cluster VII Assistant Superintendent Linda Burke and several principals."

Also there were VAESP and NAESP representatives, plus incoming VAESP President Jim Baldwin, principal of Centre Ridge Elementary, and the Colin Powell PTA executive board – President Jason Ahn and officers Bethann Lockert, Angelo Africa, Dawn Fraioli and Patrice Mortson.

"It was such a surprise," said Hull. "I was just honored to be nominated. I'm not in this for recognition; I'm passionate about



First-graders in teacher Corin Harmon's class gather 'round Colin Powell Elementary Principal Brian Hull in the hallway.

"He knows

how to bring

out the best

Deborah Vitus,

ESOL teacher

in people."

what we can do and what we as a school community can provide our students — that's what it's all about."

In addition, through VAESP and NAESP, he's become a certified mentor for new principals around the state. He's currently mentoring two assistant principals and two administrative interns in four, different counties.

"That's been such a rewarding experience, having the time to talk with them, one on one, on a weekly basis," said Hull. "I feel like I'm helping the next generation of administrators, and that's exciting."

Colin Powell is also a professional-development school with GMU. Year-long interns from the college function as part of the staff while learning the latest teaching methods from particular faculty members, and half-year interns work as student teachers.

"The kids and the community love it," said Hull. We have five interns this year and they've

been enthusiastically embraced by the staff. And the interns have enjoyed the opportunity to be on the cutting edge of what's happening in public education."

As for his award, he'll receive it during a program, Oct. 22-23, in Washington, D.C., along with 58 other principals from throughout the U.S., plus private and overseas schools.

"AT THE HELM of every successful school is a successful principal," said NAESP Executive Director Gail Connelly. "Our National Distinguished Principals program provides us with an opportunity to recognize the outstanding leadership of these principals and their commitment to creating successful learning communities. Because of them, students thrive academically, teachers grow professionally and communities are strengthened."

Teachers at Colin Powell know this firsthand and couldn't be happier for Hull. Just ask ESOL teacher Deborah Vitus, who's been at the school three years.

"He's wonderful," she said. "He knows how to bring out the best in people and is always cool, calm and collected — the consummate professional. And he has a heart for children — and for all people. Many of us were a little weepy when we found out about his award. We have incredible pride in him and in being part of the community he spearheads."

Schnipple: Guilty on All Counts

introducing heroin to [someone else], even on the day he was arrested."

Grooms said Kevin Zuiker and his girlfriend Anna Richter first introduced Schnippel to heroin and then Schnippel bypassed Zuiker and began buying it from a man called "T." He's actually Antonio Harper, 33, who'll be sentenced July 17 in federal court on the same heroin charges as Schnippel, plus possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drugtrafficking crime.

"Schnippel brokered deals and got heroin for himself and others, [including] regularly for Lannes," said Grooms. "Others told him to stop supplying heroin to her because she could die," but he didn't listen.

Defense attorney Rod Leffler said, "These kids got mixed up with heroin, their junior and senior years at Westfield, and continued another year afterward. Dozens of classmates who pooled their money became addicted to heroin. Their recklessness and boldness will shock the court. These young people did heroin in their parents' homes, in their cars, in school while doing AP projects, while being runners in restaurants and while babysitting. They were rabid heroin users."

Both he and Grooms agreed that, unlike many drug-distribution conspiracies, this one wasn't profit-driven. Instead, said Leffler, "The heroin addiction got so bad among all these kids that their primary goal was to buy heroin and use it, themselves."

FROM SUMMER 2006 through November 2008, Schnippel and others worked together to obtain heroin from Washington, D.C., and Maryland to use and distribute to others. In court Monday, Quick, Schreider, Nash and Lokesh Rawat each already sentenced to prison for their roles in the con-

Lannes Family, Authorities Respond to the Verdict

n Tuesday, U.S. Dis-o trict Court Judge Leonie Brinkema found Centreville's Skylar Schnippel guilty of three heroin-distribution charges, including giving his girlfriend, Alicia Lannes, the dose that proved fatal to her.

Afterward, her father, Greg Lannes, said his family was pleased with Brinkema's verdict. "The evidence presented in the trial clearly showed how deep Skylar was involved in this drug conspiracy," he said. "Our hearts go out to the Schnippel

family and friends during this difficult time."

But, he added, "The thing that still surprises me is the fact that there are many people in our community who believe drugs are not an issue. The evidence in this trial clearly shows that we have a big problem with drug abuse and it must be addressed now. Inhalants, PCP, cocaine, heroin, prescription drugs, along with a host of other drugs I've never heard of, are being consumed by our youths. We all need to chip in and stop the non-sense of drug abuse in our community."

Law-enforcement authorities also responded to the judge's findings of guilt.

"Today's conviction should be a warning to other young people dealing deadly drugs," said Dana J. Boente, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. "If any of these youth from Centreville had stopped to consider the consequences of their actions, this death may have been prevented. Our thoughts are with the Lannes family and the other families who lost loved ones as a result of this conspiracy."

"Many of our investigators have

children of their own; and drug cases like this, where a child dies, are particularly heartbreaking," said Joseph Persichini, Jr., Assistant Director in charge of the FBI Washington Field Office. "Sometimes it's hard to determine when a good kid will turn bad. But, we know for sure that parent involvement is an essential deterrent. We urge parents to speak with their children openly and frankly about this case, which has changed more than a dozen lives forever."

Bonnie Hobbs

spiracy — detailed the extent of the operation, as did Zuiker, who'll be sentenced May 29, along with Richter and Tayler Gibson.

Zuiker first got heroin from Angela Aycock, whose supplier was Harper. (Aycock's sentencing is June 5). Zuiker then purchased directly from Harper, who'd sell him six bags for \$100. Said Zuiker: "I'd get an average of \$600 worth each time, one to three times a week."

Then in late summer/early fall of 2006, Zuiker began selling heroin to Schnippel and eventually to Schreider and Quick, until those three began buying from Harper, who sold it cheaper. Zuiker lowered his prices to \$40/one bag; \$70, two and \$100, three, and continued distributing until he was arrested in May 2008 for distributing Xanax.

The end of 2007, he switched suppliers to a Baltimore source he'd obtained from Richter. He then paid \$125/gram, usually buying 5 grams each time for \$625. He went to Baltimore once or twice a week and, in return, he said Richter would get free heroin for herself.

Schreider said Schnippel first sold him cocaine and ecstasy. Then in spring/summer 2007, Schnippel introduced him to heroin. "Skylar said, 'It's nice; you should try it," said Schreider, who then purchased \$50 bags from him before switching to Zuiker and then Harper. Eventually, Schreider distributed heroin with Quick.

"We got it multiple times a week," said Schreider. "We'd spend about \$1,000/trip, keep a little for personal use and sell the rest." When he and another person were arrested, he said, "We had 60 bags between the two of us."

Quick said Schnippel started him on heroin, too, and he also became a dealer. For \$1,000, said Quick, they'd both get 50 or more bags at a time from Harper, every other day, and sell it in Centreville and use it.

In December 2007, Quick began buying it in Baltimore, instead, and that's where he purchased it, March 4, 2008, to give to Nash for Schnippel — who then gave it to Lannes. But neither her death, nor his own arrest, a month later, stopped the heroin pipeline. "After your arrest, your girlfriend Tayler Gibson took over your route, correct?" asked Leffler. "Yes," replied Quick.

Nash — whose addiction was so intense, federal agents feared he'd die of an overdose before they could arrest him - was also hooked on heroin by Schnippel and later distributed it. Nash said Schnippel got heroin from him "at least once a week after Alicia died." Rawat testified that Schnippel got him to inject heroin, saying it was "more potent than snorting it." He, too, had multiple sources and dealt it to others.

SEVERAL WITNESSES described Lannes's previous overdoses. She briefly shared a Centreville apartment with Nicole Anderson, who testified that, on Oct. 18, 2007, she came home to find Alicia unconscious, struggling to breathe and turning blue. Anderson's boyfriend administered CPR and she called Schnippel. Said Anderson: "He said he was with her earlier and she began to become unconscious and he left." Meanwhile, Lannes's mother, Donna, went to see Alicia, unaware what had happened, but concerned after her husband found Schnippel's caller I.D. on their phone. Lannes said his mother told her he wasn't away at college, as Lannes had thought, and had "a horrible heroin addiction." So she went to the apartment, got no answer at the door and walked to the back - catching Schnippel about to leave.

They went inside and discovered Alicia had stopped breathing, so Lannes gave her "rescue breathing" until paramedics arrived. A few days later, said Lannes, "Skylar said he'd used heroin in August and that he was all clean and doesn't do it anymore. He promised us that, if Alicia ever wanted it again, he'd call us before obtaining it for her so we could call her

On March 5, 2008, Schnippel did call, around 5:20 a.m. — less than 30 seconds before police pounded on the Lannes's door after receiving a 911 call about their daughter. But by then, it was too

Westfield High Drama To Present 'Into the Woods'

From Page 1

of focus and dedication to pull off a show like this, but they're acting like true professionals. The first act is all about what we want, and the second act is deciding if that's what you really wanted — and dealing with the consequences."

Junior Carey Jarosik plays the witch. "She's not your normal witch," said Jarosik. "She casts spells, but all the characters have inner issues you wouldn't expect. So the cool thing about her is that she does mean

things because of her insecurities."

The witch cast a spell on a baker so he can't have children. The baker and his wife try to break it, and the other fairytale characters have the ingredients for a potion to

Jarosik loves being the villain because "she's dramatic, sarcastic and witty. And she sings an interesting range of music — everything from ballads to rap. The audience will like the lyrics' funny plays on words and double meanings."

Portraying the baker is senior Russell Wagoner. "Through his methods of undoing the spell and experiencing the repercussions, he learns about himself and his relationship with his wife," said Wagoner. "It's all about finding the balance between the masculinity the part requires and the Anderson. "She doesn't know if she wants character's vulnerability."

As his wife, senior Taylin Frame is "a strong, courageous, independent woman who just wants a child. So she goes into the woods with her husband to help him break

the spell, even though he doesn't want her to go. I like her because she's serious about what she wants, but she has lots of humor and spunk."

PLAYING CINDERELLA is senior Micaela a prince or to be her step-family's servant and not have to make decisions," said Anderson. "She's clumsy, but becomes more mature and a mother figure for Little Red

SEE 'INTO THE WOODS'. PAGE 7

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

News

Jones Receives Pamplin Leader Award

ora Brittany Jones, daughter of Shawn and Pamela Jones of Fairfax, is the recipient of the 2009 Pamplin Leader Award at Westfield High School.

The Pamplin Leader is a oneyear, \$1,000 tuition scholarship to Virginia Tech.

It is presented annually to a top student from each public high school in Virginia.

It was established by Robert B. Pamplin, Sr. (VT, Class of '33) and Robert B. Pamplin, Jr. to acknowledge students with a record of outstanding academic achievement that is balanced with a commitment to community service and leadership experience.

Nora will be pursuing a degree in engineering this fall at Virginia



Nora Brittany Jones

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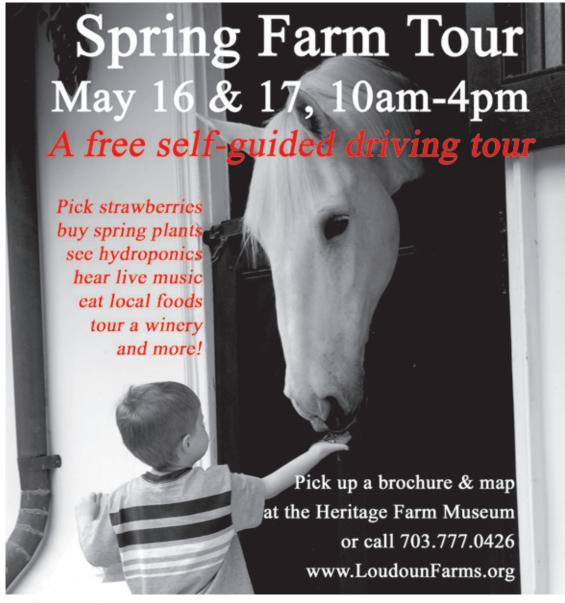
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OPINION

Hopeful Home Sales

First time homebuyers get shot at affordable homeownership; domino effect helps all homeowners.

look at the records of more than 1,000 homes that sold in March, 2009 in our area offers a glimpse of a sales at the top and bottom of the market.

In March in Northern Virginia, hundreds of homes, mostly condos and townhouses, sold for less than \$250,000.

About half or more of these were likely fore-

EDITORIALS

closures or distressed properties, but all movement in the real estate market is a good sign, clearing out inventory.

Many of the families whose homes sold and closed in March are now able to move up in the market; there are unusually good prices available on homes at all entry points right

In the City of Alexandria, at least five townhouses sold for under \$250,000, with more than two dozen condominiums selling for under \$200,000. At the other end, five homes sold for more than \$1 million.

In Arlington, 14 sales closed for under \$200,000, and 14 more between \$200,000 and \$250,000. There was movement at the high end too, with the sale of one condominium for \$5.65 million, plus eight more homes selling for more \$1 million in March alone.

Looking for a single family home under

\$200,000? Among the nearly 50 March sales of condos and townhouses for under \$250,000. under \$200,000 in Sterling were a dozen single family detached homes, with many more under \$300,000.

More than 20 townhouses sold in Herndon for under \$200,000.

In Mount Vernon, the top home sold for \$2.65 million, while nearby a variety of bargains sold for remarkably low prices in the Route 1 corridor, including 29 condos and townhouses for under \$100,000. Twenty more condos, townhouses and duplexes sold in March in the area for between \$100,000 and \$200,000.

In Reston, one condo sold for \$1.1 million, while there were 13 sales of condos and townhouses for under \$200,000.

In Burke, 15 homes sold for under \$250,000 in March, mostly townhouses.

In Centreville in March, 22 townhouses sold for under \$200,000.

In Springfield in March, there were 31 sales

In Fairfax Station and Clifton, 22 homes sold for more than \$500,000, with two sales over

for less than \$500,000, but there were five

In McLean, one home sold for \$3.4 million, with eight more homes selling in March for more than \$1 million. A handful of condos sold

more than \$1 million, while nine condos and townhouses sold for under \$300,000.

April home sales will be posted after May 20.

— Mary Кімм, MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

\$1 million in March. In Lorton in March, 10 townhouses sold for under \$200,000. In Great Falls, only one home in March sold

homes sold for more than \$1 million.

in McLean for under \$250,000. In Vienna, eight homes sold in March for

For specific addresses and home sales by town for March, see http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article = %20328003&paper = %2059&cat = 228.

In the Interests of Public Health

no one really has any idea what the future holds for us and the so-called swine flu. It's reasonable to predict that in the next few weeks, it will turn up in Northern Virginia.

With the Centers for Disease Control calling for the closing of schools where cases are confirmed, we might well be facing one or more schools that are unexpectedly closed.

But we question whether such a policy is considering all aspects of public health. When an elementary school, for example, is closed, how do families that depend on two incomes

hile it's a huge topic for discussion, or single parent families cope? In any less affluent area, what percentage of children might be home alone because parents have no sick leave or vacation time?

> In middle school, students are nominally more able to be home alone for some period of time, but we know there are consequences to unsupervised adolescents in terms of risky behavior.

> Let's take the actions necessary to stem a crisis, but let's not lose sight of other risks in the process.

> > MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

'Harvey' Makes Impression at Chantilly High

By Leila Giles of Homeschool Teens N Theatre

eta Louise Simmons just wants what any woman of the 1940s would: a respectable place in society, a good husband for her daughter Myrtle — and for her brother Elwood to forget about the six foot tall rabbit named Harvey who he insists is his best friend. And that's only the beginning of the classic comedy "Harvey," a show recently brought to life by the students of Chantilly High School.

CAPPIES REVIEW

When Veta decides Elwood must be committed to the Chumley's Rest sanitarium, the play quickly grows to include several side plots. including a romance between two

of the sanitarium staff. Soon, Veta has been mistaken for the crazy one, and confusion and hilarity follow as calm, amiable Elwood inadvertently sets the lives of all around him upside down.

The story of "Harvey" was first told by Mary Chase in 1944, and the play soon earned her a Pulitzer Prize. In 1950, she helped adapt "Harvey" into a movie starring James Stewart and Josephine Hull as Elwood and Veta.

In Chantilly High School's production, Chris Albrigo portrayed Elwood P. Dowd with charm. His sincerity and sweetness, combined with skillful comedic timing, made each of his scenes enjoyable to watch. As the hysteria prone Veta Louise Simmons, Maggie Monk adeptly used her voice and body to create a believably aged character.

The chemistry between Dr. Sanderson and Nurse Kelly (played by Miles Drawdy and Angela Virostek) was strong, and the two played nicely off each other. Drawdy's tense, serious demeanor around his boss and awkwardness around Nurse Kelly fit his character well. Virostek's varied emotions from assertive to tearful also added realism to her portrayal.

Adrian Tafesh also contributed to the acting quality of the sanitarium staff. In the role of Wilson, Tafesh created a dynamic character by putting lots of energy and motion behind his lines and practicing active listening throughout the play. Andrew Dugan's pacing was spot on during an important monologue as cab driver E.J. Lofgren. However, several actors could have made better use of the large stage and some actors showed only a small range of

Clark Church, Helen Ellis, Michael Vasquez, and Andrew Isenhour designed an impressive set that beautifully captured the settings of both the wealthy Dowd home, and later, Chumley's Rest. The on-stage stars of tech, however, were the Chantilly Stage Crew. The crew made magic with their elaborately choreographed scene changes that involved moving two-story walls. The period appropriate costumes by Rizhna Chener, Ashley Nguyen, Theresa Gordon, and Karen Foster worked well for each character.

Kelley Malloy, Theresa Gordon, Rizhha Chener, and Ashley Nguyen's attractive makeup designs skillfully captured each character. Hair and make-up for the older characters were especially impressive.

With a striking crew and fun cast, the students of Chantilly High School made a positive impression as big and grand as a six foot tall white rabbit.

Cappies is a high school critics and awards program involving more than 50 schools in the Virginia, Maryland and D.C. areas.

NORTHERN EDITION www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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A Connection Newspaper

News

'Into the Woods' at Westfield

"The woods are

- Colby Dezelick,

where it's at."

From Page 4

Riding Hood. I'm in choir and band, so I've never done this before, but I embrace the challenge.'

Junior Taylor Aucott plays Cinderella's prince. "He's extremely pompous, but kind," said Aucott. "He thinks he's better than anyone else, but he's not rude. He's the big brother of Rapunzel's prince, but feels

superior to him. And he's in love with Cinderella, but other people, too. He says he was 'raised to be charming, not sincere."

It's enjoyable to play someone over-the-top and "so out of my element," said Aucott. "And although he's a jerk, the audience loves him because he's extremely amusing. They'll also love the show because

it's a spectacle and, when we're singing, we're telling a story."

Portraying Rapunzel's prince is freshman Colby Dezelick. "He's adventuring into the woods because the woods are where it's at," said Dezelick. "You have to go through the woods to get anywhere, and Rapunzel lives in a tower in the forest. He's also pompous and royal. He's fun to play — a prince with great lines. It's amazing to see how the characters' paths intertwine, but in far different ways from the originals, so you look at them in a new light.'

Senior Nathan Neeley plays a mysterious man who's "eccentric, pops from behind trees and talks in riddles. He helps the baker, without the baker re-

alizing it. He has little quirks; he's always hunched over and speaks in an odd voice. And he has funny, bewildering moments with other people." Neeley says Sondheim "mixed up all these fairytale characters, added twists and created something new. He put in dark humor so it's more adult, but still family-

Cinderella's stepmother is played by senior Leslie

Roth. "I'm rather officious and take strides to demean Cinderella and keep her in her place because I'm so wrapped up in my own daughters," said Roth. "Later, my daughters and I join Cinderella and the prince to live in the palace and see things from a different perspective, and it's humbling to us. It's exciting to be part of this operetta, and I even have minia-

ture solos sprinkled in." Senior Kim Perrow, playing daughter Lucinda, said, "The stepsisters act rudely to Cinderella because we're jealous of her beauty and goodness." And junior Phoebe Dillard, playing daughter Florinda, called Cinderella's stepsisters coldhearted. "We're close, but materialistic and selfish," said Dillard. "We only care about looks, pretty things, status and becoming royal. It's fun because we're friends in real life and we bring that camaraderie to the stage."

A narrator, senior Andy Nye describes the action. "All my lines are new moments in the show, so I don't

SEE AT WESTFIELD, PAGE 11



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WORTH NOTING

To have community events listed in Centre View, e-mail to 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.

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, 703 503 3882

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 for more.

Plant Sale. 2-7 p.m. at Westfield High School. Browse through herbs, prennials, 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.

to 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 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 ptsa.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.

Bilingual StoryTime. 10:30 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Children ages 2-5 can enjoy stories. Free. 703-830-2223.

Storytime. 11 a.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Families. Free. Registration required, 703-502-3883.

Presidents and Chiefs. 2 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain. All ages enjoy stories of great leaders using art. Free. Registration required, 703-830-2223.

Community Theater Cabaret. 7-9 p.m. at Centreville Presbyterian

Church. \$5/donation and a new or used tool. Visit

www.centrevillepres.com for more.

Great Escapes. 6-9 p.m. at South Riding Golf Club. Enjoy beer tasting, silent auction, food and more. \$50/ person. Benefits Assistance League of Northern Virginia. Visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org or 703-860-8670.

SUNDAY/MAY 10

Angel Kisses Run/Walk. 10 a.m. at Poplar Tree Community Center, 13516 Point Pleasant Drive, Chantilly. Proceeds benefit Jeffrey Virostek Memorial Fund. To register, visit www.angelkisses-5k.org.

Mother's Day Brunch. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Westfields Golf Club, 13940
Balmoral Greens Ave. Includes breakfast items, entrees and more. \$31.95/adult; \$15.95/child. Reservations recommended, 703-631-3300.

TUESDAY/MAY 12

Knitting Group. 6 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Adults 16 and up can bring a project and get help. Beginners welcome. Free. 703-830-2223.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 13

Fund-raiser. 5-8 p.m. at Moe's Southwest Grill, 5005 Westone Plaza, Chantilly. Proceeds benefit Forever Home Rescue Foundation. Visit www.aforeverhome.org for more.

Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. at Chantilly Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults call for title. Free. 703-502-3883.

See Worth, Page 10

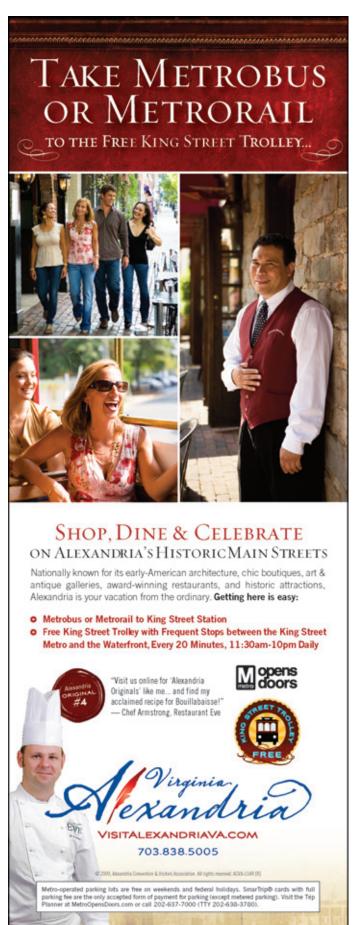


Mom & Me

First freshman at Virginia Tech! Mom enjoys an early fall with her children at Virginia Tech where her oldest is a freshman. From left to right: Maryellen Silsby; Shannon Silsby, 16, a Junior at Chantilly High School and Captain of next year's Swim Team; Megan Silsby, 19, Chantilly High School graduate and Hokie Freshman; and Patrick, 13, seventh grader at Rocky Run Middle School. Chantilly residents Maryellen and Robert Silsby (who took the photo) will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this July.







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Worth Noting

FROM PAGE 9

THURSDAY/MAY 14

Civil War Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Learn about "Second Manassas." Free. 703-830-2223.

Dinner. 6 p.m. at Vespucci's Italian Seafood Grill, 10579 Lee Highway. New Providence Republican Women's Club. \$35/person. 703-591-7368 for reservations.

FRIDAY/MAY 15

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

SATURDAY/MAY 16

Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Weaver House. Browse a variety of items, proceeds benefit the Clifton Town Park. Free. 703-815-0992.

Active Girlz Expo. Girls 8-18 can enjoy music, fashion shows, speakers, and more. \$10/for both days. Visit www.activegirlzexpo.com or 703-328-4531.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at St. John Neumann Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. Hear the Voce Chamber Singers. \$20/adult; \$15/senior; \$10/student. Visit www.voce.org or 703-277-7772.

Community Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Virginia Run is holding its Spring sale. Pick up map of locations of sales at corner of Wetherburn Drive and Pleasant Valley on the day of. 70-216-6730 or 703-402-6730.

SUNDAY/MAY 17

Active Girlz Expo. Girls 8-18 can enjoy music, fashion shows, speakers, and more. \$10/for both days. Visit www.activegirlzexpo.com or 703-328-4531.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Hear the Voce Chamber Singers. \$20/adult; \$15/senior; \$10/student. Visit www.voce.org or 703-277-7772.

MONDAY/MAY 18

Sully Book Club. 10 a.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Discuss "The Worst Hard Time" by Timothy Egan. Free. 703-830-2223.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

Homes Tour and Marketplace. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. for homes tour; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. for marketplace at Clifton Presbyterian Church. Tour five Clifton area homes. \$20/advance; \$25/day of. Visit www.cliftoncwc.org or 703-266-0213.

Historical Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Discuss "Big History: From the Big Bang to the Present" by Cynthia Stokes Brown. Free. 703-830-2223.

FRIDAY/MAY 22

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

TUESDAY/MAY 26

A Novel Society. 7 p.m. at Centreville Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Adults discuss "The Master and Margarita" by Mikhail Bulgakov. Free. 703-830-2223.

News

At Westfield

From Page 7

have anyone to play off of, "he said. "Me and Heather Doubleday, the other narrator, are always addressing the audience. But I love it — it's a lighthearted show."

Playing the steward of Cinderella's prince is senior Jordan Wilson. "I'm a servant and a snob and feel privileged to be 'part' of the royal family," he said. "I'm very shallow. It's purely comedic and fun to play arrogance." His favorite song is "Stay with Me," which the witch sings to Rapunzel. "Sondheim's genius shows through," said Wilson. "It's musically brilliant and humanizes the characters, making them 'real."

Westfield Choral Director Jessica Lardin is the music director, conducting the orchestra and vocals. "It's a pleasure collaborating with Susie [Pike] on this," she said. "About half the students are mine and this is one of my favorite shows. I've been singing Sondheim music since I was in high school, so it's near and dear to my heart."

SCHOOL NOTES

A free program from 6:30 - 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19 in the Chantilly High School Media Center (library) will feature strategies for increasing a student's appeal to colleges.

Young actors in the Northern Virginia area can learn about theatre arts at the Young Actors' Workshop June 22-26, from 9 a.m. to noon. This workshop is open to elementary school students in rising grades 3-6. Tuition is \$100 and classes will be held at Westfield High School in Chantilly. This year's theme "Steppin' Out on Broadway!" will allow participants to explore the world of musical theatre with an original children's production. Westfield Theatre Boosters is now accepting registrations for Young Actors' Workshop. For enrollment information about camp, visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

Eight Chantilly AP Economics students who make up two teams distinguished themselves in the State Economics Challenge in Richmond. The team of Sarah Germain, Matthew Litton, Suraj Malladi and Shawn Vo were first recognized for having the highest score for the on-line competition held state-wide to determine which schools and teams would go to Richmond. The team of David Harsh, Marisa Reed, David Sabo and Muhammed Shakeri won the cham-

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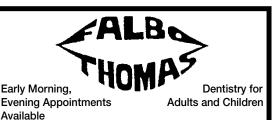
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Sports

Westfield's Zhang Back for More

With Concorde District tourney under way, local netters look to make their mark.

> BY JASON MACKEY Centre View

uring first-round play at Robinson Secondary School on Tuesday afternoon for the Concorde District girls' tennis tournament, Westfield senior Yilian Zhang did what amounted to a victory lap, though it wasn't done with the intention of showing off or drawing attention to

The complete opposite, really.

Shy and soft-spoken, Zhang finished her 10-0 win over Herndon's Phuong Nguyen so quickly that she had time to wander slowly around the chain-link fence, watching other players that she may face in the days ahead.

"I think there's more pressure because it's the state champion coming back and I want to prove myself."

- Yilian Zhang, senior, Westfield High

"Yilian is a tournament player," said Westfield coach Stephen Lombard, "and as a tournament player, you have skills above the other players in the district because you've committed yourself to playing.'

That Zhang is even playing on the high

school circuit comes as a bit of a shock this spring. After winning the Concorde District, Northern Region and Virginia AAA state titles as a sophomore, Zhang spent her junior year playing United States Tennis Association (USTA) matches and focusing on the college recruitment process.

It worked. Zhang earned a scholarship to play tennis this fall at East Carolina University. But, before she departs, the talented player has her sights set on replicating that sophomore sweep.

"I really want to win again," said Zhang, who is 13-0 this season and has not allowed her opponents to take more than six games in the process. "I think there's more pressure because it's the state champion coming back and I want to prove myself."

FOR THE First time in seven years, Chantilly's girls' team did not advance to the Northern Region tournament, but for the first time in three, the boys' team did. While the girls' team started off this spring by winning five of its first seven matches, the Chargers finished up at 7-5 and just missed that top-two fin-

"We just had a lot of new kids playing together," head coach Karen Kegerreis said. "We were always alive going into our doubles matches, so we always had that shot. But when it came to pulling out wins when it counted, we couldn't pull them out."

The boys' team, meanwhile, got stronger as the season wore on, according to coach Doug Kegerreis, who splits the Chantilly coaching duties with his wife. And though the Chargers suffered what would appear to be back-to-back losses to Robinson at the end of the season, one match kept getting postponed throughout the season.

"Our team improved," Doug Kegerreis said. "They got in better shape and their shot selection was better. They kept believing."

That belief has Chantilly (8-4) eagerly anticipating the regional tournament, which is scheduled to begin on May 12. In the meantime, David Yang and

SEE WESTFIELD, PAGE 12



At 13-0 this spring, Westfield's Yilian Zhang (East Carolina) is looking to repeat her 2007 Concorde District, Northern Region and Virginia AAA state titles.

WEEK IN SPORTS

Around the Diamond

As the Concorde District tournament draws near, area baseball teams find themselves jockeying for playoff positioning, with Westfield and Chantilly entrenched up top and the rest left to follow suit. The Bulldogs held a 10-0 mark against district opponents before Wednesday's too-late-forthis-edition showdown — pending rain — with Chantilly (15-3, 9-1 Concorde).

Westfield improved to 15-1 overall this season with a 5-0 win over Herndon on May 1, as Aaron Hoover threw a complete-game shutout, allowing only two hits. Ryan Williams hit his sixth home run of the season for the Bulldogs and Kevin Reardon had four

The same night, Chantilly's Jordan Johnson tossed complete game of his own in an 11-5 win over Robinson. Johnson needed only 82 pitches to get through all seven innings and didn't walk a batter. Matt

RBIs, while Danny Bates had a pair of doubles and RBIs.

Centreville was 7-10 as of Wednesday morning with games remaining against Fairfax and Herndon. Two wins by Centreville and a Robinson loss against Oakton Wednesday night would create a scenario where both teams went 6-6 against district opponents and split the regular-seasons series.

The No. 7 seed will play the No. 6 seed to open the district tournament on May 11, and all other action will begin on May 13. The district title game is scheduled for May 18 at Chantilly.

Soccer Shorts

As was expected at the beginning of the season, the Robinson girls' soccer team has claimed the regular-season Concorde District title with a 6-0 mark, but Chantilly is

Dewitt finished with a home run and six not too far behind at 9-2-1 overall and 4-1-0 against district opponents. The Chargers squared off with Centreville Wednesday night to conclude their district slate, but the match ended too late for this edition. ... Centreville, meanwhile, was 5-3-1 in out-of-district competition while compiling a 3-2-0 mark against Concorde opponents.

he Wildcats' scoring has been widespread this spring, with Jenna Richmond's five goals leading the squad. Katie O'Donnell has three goals and Molly MacDonnell has two. ... First-round play for the district tournament starts with quarterfinal play on May 11, the semifinals on May 13 and the Concorde District final on May 15.

Westfield Basketball Camp

The Westfield boys' basketball program

will hold a series of four camps throughout the end of June and all of July. The first four-day session runs from June 29 through July 3; the second runs from July 13-17; the third from July 20-24; the fourth from July 27-31.

For more information, contact Doug Ewell at 703-488-6406 or via email at douglas.ewell@fcps.edu.

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.

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SPORTS

Looking To Make Their Mark

From Page 12 Eric Shih both dropped first-round singles play decisions.

AS A FIRST-YEAR coach for Westfield's boys' tennis team, Tracy Castleburry instituted a policy that she hopes others will follow. Castleburry had 32 players come out for tryouts and had 32 players on the first day of practice, instituting a no-cut policy.

Others sports such as track and field and swim and dive hold this same ideology, arguing that if the students are already playing the sports, why not allow them to represent their school?

"If kids want to be out there playing tennis — and a lot of them work on their game during the course of the year — that doesn't seem fair to cut them loose once the season starts," Castleburry said.

"When you get three courts, and you

have a varsity team that you want to work with on specifics, if you have 20 other kids who are not necessarily at the varsity level yet, there's a balancing act," she continued, "and some people aren't willing to do it. I'd say at times I've done it well, and there were times where I didn't do it so

Castleburry was pleased that overall her team's play was consistent, and never did the Bulldogs seem overmatched. Westfield finished its season at 8-4 but missed out on regionals because it lost twice to secondplace Chantilly.

On Tuesday afternoon, Will Datta won his first-round match — despite trailing 9-3 at one point. Datta rallied back to force overtime and eventually escaped with an 11-10 win, advancing to Wednesday's second round, which ended after this edition went

FAITH NOTES

Centreville Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Community Theater Cabaret on Saturday May 9 from 7-9pm \$5 donation and a new or used tool. For more information www.centreville pres.com or contact Don Halterman at don@centrevillepres.com.

Wellspring Church will celebrate the achievements of both mothers and students this Sunday. Pastor Al Fuertes will lead worship, and there will be flowers and recognitions for graduates of various schools, and for all mothers. Sunday worship is at 11 a.m., at the chapel on Route 29, 13510 Lee Highway, Centreville. Sunday School for children meets during the worship hour. Following worship this week there will be fair trade coffee and treats, and all are welcome.

"Living the Questions" Bible study meets in Centreville and Manassas on May 19, and the Immigration Forum meets at 7 pm, May 21. There is a prayer meeting on May 15 in Centreville. Visit wellspringucc.org, or call Sara Little at 703-368-7650 for information on these and other special

Congregation Yad Shalom, located in Centreville, Virginia, provides a variety of programs in a traditional format with a modern flair:

❖ Ask about the K – 2 Hebrew school for the children for the spring semester. We invite you to check out an extensive variety of educational opportunities with the congregation.

Join the congregation for a Saturday morning service with Cantor Zucker at 10 a.m. on May 23 at Little Rocky Run Community Center # 3.

For more information and/or directions, contact the Congregation at 703-579-6079, or visit 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 children age 3 through Bar/Bat Mitzvah and confirmation. The congregation welcomes all members of the community. For more information, a newsletter, or a membership package, call 703-263-2252 or visit www.Beth

The Hazak Active Retirees Chapter of Congregation Beth Emeth, Herndon, offers the following events:

May 19 — Speaker from Embassy of Israel June 16 — Year-end Luncheon

The CBE Hazak Chapter presents a uniquely Jewish program on the third Tuesday of each month - September through June - at 1 p.m. Meetings feature prominent speakers and entertainers, providing area Jewish seniors with a time to socialize and learn. There is no cost and light refreshments are served. Call 703-860-4515, ext. 127. Congregation Beth Emeth is located at 12523

Is a teen angry? Hurt? Struggling? Get Real Youth Outreach partnering with New Life Christian Church. This 13-week support group addresses the challenges teens face in fighting their hurts through peer support, adult mentoring, and a certified curriculum. Groups will meet at Westfield High in Chantilly, Sunday's from 9:30-11 a.m. Contact Lucy Martinez at 703-220-5022.

Conversation is the image of the mind. As the man is, so is his talk.

> —Publilius Syrus





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