

# CENTRE VIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION



## Cast Named for WHS's 'West Side Story'

Westfield Theatre's "West Side Story" features a cast of more than 50 actors including: Front – Trevor Knickerbocker (Action), Nick Burroughs (Diesel), Kevin Clay (Baby John); back – Colby Dezelick (Riff), Taylor Aucott (Tony), Carey Jarosik (Maria), Avery Hobbs (Anita), Max Ehrlich (Bernardo), and Adam Thomas (A-Rab). The musical will be performed Feb. 11-14 at Westfield High School. Tickets are now on sale online at [www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com](http://www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com).

## Hunt vs. Marsden

Voters will choose new state senator in a special election Jan. 12.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
CENTRE VIEW

The last time voters elected a new representative to Virginia's 37th State Senate district in Western Fairfax County was during an August 2002 special election.

Republican Ken Cuccinelli, winning just over 10,000 votes, was the victor in that contest. A little over 18,000 residents participated overall, though the district included well over 100,000 eligible voters at the time.

Despite the low voter turnout, Cuccinelli was able to capitalize on the success of that first political victory seven years ago. He went on to win two more State Senate elections and, last month, Cuccinelli was elected to be Virginia's next Attorney General.

Before he can take on the duties of his new statewide office in January, Cuccinelli must step down from his State Senate seat.

Former Fairfax County School Board member Steve Hunt, a Republican, and Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) are vying to replace Cuccinelli in the 37th State Senate District.

They will face off in a special election Jan. 12, a contest that history shows us is likely to determine who is the state senator for the next several years.

**THE 37TH SENATE** District includes Chantilly, Centreville as well as parts of Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Burke and Springfield. Local political observers consider it to lean Republican, though its electorate has also favored Democrats in some recent elections.

Cuccinelli beat his Democratic opponent by slim margin of 92 votes during the most recent 37th District State Senate contest in 2007. In 2008, President Barack Obama also won the 37th Senate District with 55 percent of the

SEE RACE, PAGE 5

## Learning To Put a Human Face on Immigration Issue

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Right from the start, the Centreville Immigration Forum wanted to get as close as possible to — not just the immigration issue in Centreville — but the immigrants, themselves. Here, both doors and hearts were open, and the members realized they could better help local immigrants if they knew more about them.

CIF member Al Fuentes teaches a course on Conflict, Trauma and Healing at GMU and, as part of it, he had his students interact with the Centreville day laborers. They talked with the men outside the Centreville Regional Library and learned about their struggles, hardships and challenges in this place far from their homes and

loved ones.

"The experience with the day laborers put a human face on what we'd been studying in class," said Fuentes. "It gave the students different perspectives and understanding. They learned their plight, what they're going through and how they're coping with it."

Most are from Guatemala, with some from Honduras and Mexico. The students spoke with them, one morning a week, plus one Sunday afternoon a month when the men

attended a free, English-language class at the library. One of the students, John George-Wheeler, an International Affairs major, shared what happened with the CIF.

"I lived and worked in the Dominican Republic for five months, so I was eager to use my Spanish again," he said. "I met with the day laborers twice and, at the end, we played a soccer game."

Initially participating were 15 day laborers in the ESL class, eight

SEE HUMAN, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW



GMU student John George-Wheeler (on left) addresses the Centreville Immigration Forum while his teacher, Al Fuentes, listens.

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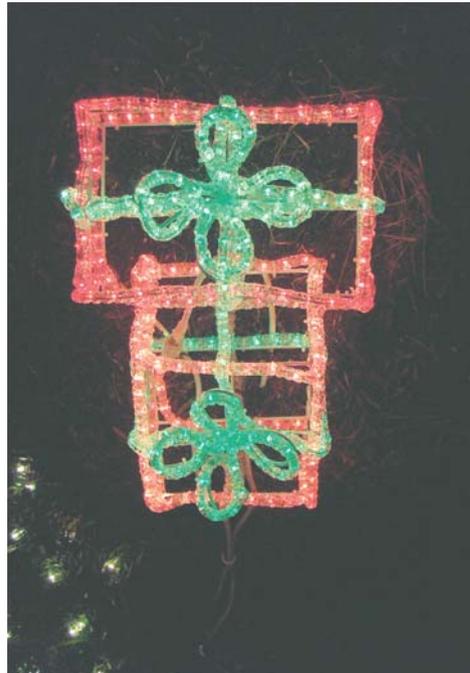
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COMMUNITY

# Twinkling Lights, Holiday Delights

Centreville's Old Mill community, off Route 28, is all aglow for the holidays with lights and decorations to ring in the season.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW



# Communities of Worship

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 15100 Lee Highway, Centreville, VA 20120  
703-830-3333 www.cbcva.org

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www.centreville-umc.org  
6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville VA 20121  
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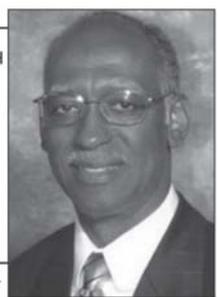
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# Race To Replace Cuccinelli: Hunt vs. Marsden

FROM PAGE 1

vote.

However, this past November, 37th District voters appeared solidly in the Republican camp. Virginia's Gov.-elect Bob McDonnell (R) won 57 percent of the vote in the State Senate District during the 2009 general election.

Approximately 1,900 people also showed up to participate in the seat's Republican primary on Dec. 1, a much higher turnout than local Republican activists expected.

In a three-way race, Hunt won the Republican primary with 955 votes, just over 50 percent of all ballots cast. Opponent Marianne Horinko garnered 479 votes, approximately 25 percent of all ballots cast, and another candidate, William Nance, collected 469 votes, also about 25 percent of all ballots cast.

Fairfax County Republican Committee Chairman Anthony Bedell said Hunt's large primary victory over two other people should give the candidate momentum headed into the special election. The Republican, who was an at-large member of the School Board from 2004-07, also has more name recognition than many other candidates would.

But many people said the Republicans can take nothing for granted in a special election, where very few people are expected to show up at the polls.

**“Special elections are always unpredictable.”**

— Supervisor Patrick Herry (R-Springfield)

“Special elections are always unpredictable. It is always about who comes out,” said Supervisors Patrick Herry (R-Springfield), who is backing Hunt in the election.

**MARSDEN**, who has been a member of the House of Delegates since 2005, is also an unusual Democrat. The candidate was, in fact, an active Republican for most of his life.

Marsden worked for his Republican predecessor in the General Assembly, Del. Jim Dillard (R-41). He also served as a political appointee, the head of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, in former Republican Gov. Jim Gilmore's administration.

Marsden decided to switch political parties as a result of his experience working for both Gilmore and Gov. Mark Warner (D). The candidate



**Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) is running for state senate.**

was still running the commonwealth's juvenile justice agency when the Warner replaced Gilmore in 2002.

“I was in the Gilmore administration and they were very narrowly focused on some very ill-advised public policy matters. The Warner administration was so good when it came in. ... They were interested in helping those of us who were running agencies. They wanted to make us better at what we did and that was very inspiring,” said Marsden.

**MARSDEN** considers himself a political centrist who said he could appeal to moderate Republicans and independent voters.

As a Democrat in the House of Delegates, he voted to eliminate the estate tax, which he saw as barrier for people who want to pass on small family businesses and farms to their children to run.

In the midst of this economic downturn, Marsden has also said he would be very reluctant to raise taxes. Instead, he thinks the General Assembly should focus on providing incentives to the business community, which would create new job and ultimately improve Virginia's economy.

Even when Virginia is short on state funds, Marsden is in favor of preserving the “Governor's opportunity fund,” which provides financial help to businesses willing to bring new jobs to Virginia. Unlike many other Democrats in the State Senate, Marsden is opposed to raising the gasoline tax to help fund transportation, he said.

“We are going to using less and less gasoline. It is not the world's greatest source for transportation funding,” said Marsden.

The Democrat's re-election this past November also proved that he is appealing to some Republican voters in the 37th State Senate seat. As a state delegate, Marsden currently represents just about 28 percent of Cuccinelli's district already.

During the 2009 election, Marsden won re-election by a slim margin of just 1 per-



**Former At-large school board member Steve Hunt, a Republican, is running for state senate.**

cent. But McDonnell won Marsden's seat by 10 percentage points on the same day, indicating the several hundred voters who favored McDonnell also decided to vote for Marsden.

**BUT SEVERAL REPUBLICANS** said Hunt is a far better choice than Marsden for people who are interested in keeping taxes low.

Hunt has signed a “no new taxes” pledge, a commitment that Marsden has not made. Other Republicans point out that Marsden has voted to raise taxes and fees several times over the last four years as a member of the House of Delegates.

For example, Marsden voted in favor of the 2007 transportation-funding package, which allowed local governments to implement an array of new taxes, including those on commercial real estate and vehicle repairs.

“I am hearing that people want government to stop intruding in their lives,” said Hunt. “They want government to stop trying to do things for them and to let them do things for themselves.”

If elected, the Republican said his priorities for the state budget would lean toward “core services” like public safety and transportation, which only the government can provide.

Hunt also considers education to be a core service of the government, though he said a lot more could be done to spend public education dollars more effectively.

“We have to make sure more education money is getting into the classroom. You don't get a more effective education system by just continually throwing money at it,” said Hunt, who added that he has first-hand knowledge of Fairfax County Public Schools' wasteful spending as a former School Board member.

Hunt is also in favor of promoting charter school alternatives, an initiative

McDonnell and Obama have also publicly supported.

“I think there needs to be an alternative in the way we present public education, and I think charter schools are good options, especially in areas where the regular school system is struggling,” said Hunt.

Hunt's other proposals for education reform include more “pay-for-performance” measures for public school teachers and principals. Specifically, Hunt would like to create a bonus or incentive pay system for elementary school principals whose former students excel academically in middle school.

“If students from an elementary school are performing particularly well in middle school, a principal should be awarded for that,” said Hunt.

**HUNT** is considered a conservative when it comes to social issues.

The Republican has worked as an abstinence counselor for high school students, asking them to wait until after marriage to have sex. As a School Board member, he advocated to have some references to contraception and birth control removed from a sexuality pamphlet distributed to Fairfax County students.

While on the Fairfax County School Board, Hunt also pushed for speakers who described themselves as former homosexuals to come speak to local high school students.

The Republican is pro-life and would likely favor most legislation that restricted access to abortion in Virginia.

Hunt also said he would support bills that allowed people to carry concealed guns into Virginia bars and restaurants, as long as they refrained from drinking alcohol. Currently, restaurant and bar patrons are required to wear a weapon “exposed” when they enter a bar or restaurant so that other patrons and the establishment's staff can see that they were armed.

“We need to stop treating law-abiding citizens as if they were guilty first. We should treat people who have not broken the law as people who have not broken the law,” said Hunt about the conceal weapon issue.

Marsden and other Democrats said Hunt's views on social issues are out of the mainstream, particularly for residents living in the 37th Senate District. But Hunt points out that Cuccinelli shares many of Hunt's conservative views on social issues and has represented the district for seven years. He also added that the 37th State Senate District voted in favor of Virginia's constitutional ban on gay marriage.

Moreover, Republicans insist that social issues are not a priority for voters in turbulent economic times like these.

“The issues that matter right now in Northern Virginia are the budget and taxes and how we are going to deal with funding transportation and education. ... I don't know any survey of top issues that includes the divisive social stuff Dave Marsden seems to want to focus on,” said Herry.

# OPINION

## Happy Holidays *A time to reflect, a time to share.*

For the observant of any faith, and even for the more secular among us, the close of the year brings ritual, magic, reflection and hope.

In events around the area, a sense of community has infused holiday parades, Christmas tree lightings, menorah lightings, choral performances, singing of carols, and other traditional events with warmth and joy.

In Great Falls, it was the 19th lighting of the Christmas tree, with holiday songs by the Langley Madrigals. In Reston, Santa arrived by boat across Lake Anne in a snow squall. In Alexandria, the Scottish Christmas Walk announced the beginning of the season despite the wet snow. In Clifton, the Christmas spirit was celebrated in a candlelight homes tour, among other events. In Fairfax, one congregation built a 7-foot-tall menorah out of Legos. And in every community, volunteers have come together to provide food, clothing and some holiday cheer for the needy.

2009 has been a challenging year for many families, businesses, schools, charitable organizations. As the year comes to an end, we can count our blessings. Here in the Washington suburbs most of us have been spared the intense difficulties of the economic downturn. We'll all likely to welcome 2010 with optimism

and relief.

Next week between Christmas and New Years, look for our annual Children's Connection, when we turn our entire paper over to the contributions of area students — artwork of many kinds, poetry and other writing. Our next regular edition will come out the week of Jan. 4, 2010.

From the all the staff here, we wish you a merry Christmas, a happy Hanukkah, joyful holidays and a wonderful beginning to the New Year.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### Give Locally

Remember that more local families are in need right now than ever before; thankfully, most of us are in a position to help. It's not too late to brighten the holidays for a needy family as many organizations are reporting record demand for holiday meals and help with providing children at least one present. The need will continue into the New Year as well.

### Where To Donate

♦ Food for Others  
2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, 22031

ample: Lyme disease is spreading in North America and "warming will continue to shift the suitable range for the deer ticks that carry this infection," they said.

They report that asthma incidence has quadrupled in the U. S. since 1980 and that the "drivers" include "rising CO2 which increases the allergenic plant pollens, some soil fungi and dust clouds containing particles and microbes coming from expanding deserts, compounding the effects of air pollutants and smog from the burning of fossil fuels."

"We expect an increase in hospital admissions for things like pneumonia, chronic lung disease, asthma and other respiratory diseases," said the American Medical Association's President-Elect Cecil Wilson on Nov. 20.

In the D. C. area, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments has predicted more cases of vector-borne, rodent-borne and other infectious diseases such as West Nile virus. Stronger, more frequent heat waves could bring increased rates of heat-related deaths and respiratory ailments. More frequent and more

703-207-9173.

♦ United Community Ministries, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306. UCM's Food Pantry is open weekdays 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. the first Sunday of each month (except January, July and September, open on second Sunday). Enter through gates on right side of building, drive around to opposite side of building and ring bell at green door.

♦ Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), 703-569-9160, www.echo-inc.org. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield weekdays from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 - 9 p.m.

♦ Lorton Community Action Center, 9518 Richmond Highway, www.lortonaction.org.

lca volunteer@msn.com, 703 339-5161,

♦ FACETS, 703-352-5090.

♦ National Capital Food Bank, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia. 703-541-3063, www.capitalareafoodbank.org. Food donations accepted Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fully equipped with refrigeration and freezers, so can accept non-perishable food items, plus produce, any kind of meat or frozen food.

♦ Our Daily Bread, Central Fairfax, 703-273-8829

♦ Western Fairfax Christian Ministries, 703-988-9656

♦ Lorton Community Action Center, 703-339-5161

♦ Koinonia Foundation, 703-971-1991

♦ Northern Virginia Family Service, Oakton, 703-385-3267

♦ Our Daily Bread, 10777 Main St. #320, Fairfax, 703-273-8829

♦ Shelter House, www.shelterhouse.org, operates two homeless shelters in Fairfax County, in Centreville and Seven Corners. 571-522-6800

♦ Fairfax City Area FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 703-222-0880.

♦ Lamb Center, www.thelambcenter.org, Fairfax 703-691-3178.

intense storms could bring more flooding deaths and injuries from debris, reported COG last year.

A year ago, the Virginia Commission on Climate Change found that CO2 emissions in the state climbed 34 percent between 1990 and 2004, nearly twice the national average. Commissioners documented what is happening in Virginia — a 5.4 degree increase in temperatures, a rising Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River and more severe weather events. The Commission called on the state legislature and the U. S. Congress to act.

Global warming is a global problem requiring a global solution. The Virginia General Assembly and the U. S. Congress must act too. President Obama needs our elected officials behind him so he can commit the United States to a clear course of action that addresses what is probably the most serious environmental threat of all time.

Margaret Fisher, M.D.  
Clifton

### Honored by Chamber

Claire Leftwich, career center specialist at Centreville High, was recently honored by the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce as Education Council Member of the Year for 2009. Leftwich was recognized for her work as the chair of the College Access Fairfax and Dulles Regional Chamber's Super Saturday program, which was Fairfax County's largest and most successful in terms of parents and students attending and FAFSAs (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) completed.



IBRAHIM ABDUL-JAWAD/CENTRE VIEW

## CENTREVIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION

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A Connection Newspaper

# COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY ROSS WARREN

## Scouting for Food

Parents, scout leaders, and scouts sort food in front of Deer Park Elementary School. More than 40 scouts from Cub Scout Pack 448 and Boy Scout Troop 1995 collected 4,500 pounds of food for the Western Fairfax Christian Ministries food pantry on Saturday, Nov. 14. This year's collection was one of the Pack's highest, thanks to the generous donations of food from residents in Chalet Woods, County Club Manor and Foxhall Mount. The food was sorted, boxed and weighed before being brought to WFCM. Cub Scout Pack 448 is comprised of boys from Deer Park Elementary School located in Chalet Woods.

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# Murder Charge Goes To Grand Jury

Boyfriend was shot twice in Centreville apartment.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Just three witnesses testified, Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 16, during a Centreville woman's preliminary hearing for murder. But when they were done, her case was certified to the grand jury for possible indictment.

The woman is Maria De Las Mercedes Tizon, 63, of 14325 Climbing Rose Way, No. 105, in the Sanderling apartments in Centre Ridge. The victim was her boyfriend, 34-year-old Ahmed Chouaib of Fran Place in Alexandria.

The incident occurred in the woman's home, Saturday, Aug. 15, around 3 p.m. Afterward, Tizon went to a neighbor's house — taking the alleged murder weapon with her. That neighbor, Pam Parnell, was the first to take the stand in Fairfax County General District Court.

"I heard a knock on my door and Maria was there, crying and shaking," said Parnell. "She said to me, 'I shot my boyfriend; I killed him,' and she pointed to the gun on the ground, outside my front door."

**IN RESPONSE**, Parnell grabbed Tizon, pulled her inside her home, shut the door and called 911. "She was rocking back and forth, with her arms wrapped around herself," said the neighbor. "She was crying

hysterically, with a high-pitched scream."

Parnell said she'd never met Tizon's boyfriend. "The only person I ever met coming out of her unit was her son," said Parnell. "She had just retired."

"Did she try to stop you from calling the police?" asked defense attorney Peter Greenspun. "No," replied Parnell. "The dispatcher asked me if there'd been a fight, so I asked Maria, and she said [her boyfriend] punched her in the heart."

Parnell said Tizon was still rocking back and forth when police arrived and didn't seem fazed, at all, that they were there. She said the officers "were calm and professional to Maria, but she didn't calm down. I asked her for her son's phone number, but she was so upset, she couldn't give it to me."

Officer William Coulter arrived first. "I saw a small, black handgun laying on the concrete, just inside the building," he testified. "A woman was seated inside the house, obviously emotional. I asked her if she was OK." Next, he identified three photos of the weapon that were then admitted into evidence.

He said Tizon was breathing heavily, with her eyes closed. But she did tell him the victim was in Apt. 105. Then more officers arrived, and one stayed with Tizon, one guarded the weapon and one went to that apartment with Coulter.

There they found Chouaib, lying in the hallway inside the door. "He had no shirt

on," said Coulter. "He was lying on his back and he had a wound in the center of his chest that was bleeding."

Coulter returned to Tizon and asked her what had happened. He said she replied, 'He messed with my head; he takes my car and never returns it.'"

Greenspun asked him about Tizon's demeanor, and Coulter said she was "kind of in a fetal position in the chair. I honestly don't think she knew who I was." Coulter said police gave Chouaib CPR, but "it appeared to me he was deceased."

He was officially pronounced dead at 3:58 p.m. at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital. Meanwhile, Tizon was handcuffed, taken to jail and charged with murder and use of a firearm while committing a murder.

**DR. SHANE CHITTENDEN**, with the Virginia Medical Examiner's Office, performed the autopsy on Chouaib and detailed his findings in court. He said the victim had a small abrasion on his left temple, a laceration on his right palm and a healing bruise on his right thigh. But he died because of two gunshots to his upper body.

Chittenden said gunshot wound No. 1 went through Chouaib's body and the bullet entered above the right side of the chest. "It injured the right lung, perforated the aorta and then the left lung," he said. "It exited the body on the left side of the chest."

He said the bullet from gunshot wound No. 2 remained in Chouaib's body. "It entered from the left side of the back, into the left side of the chest cavity," said Chittenden. "It went through the stomach, diaphragm and right side of the heart and came to rest inside the chest, and I recovered it."

He said this wound, alone, would have been enough to be fatal. He then identified photos of both wounds, plus a copy of his autopsy report, and these items were entered into evidence.

Chittenden said the cut on Chouaib's palm and the scrape on his temple happened around the time of his death. He was also able to determine, by gunpowder-fragment marks on the body, that both bullets were fired from no more than 3 feet away. He said he found no evidence of any defensive wounds and noted that Chouaib would have only survived the shooting for "minutes."

Saying there was "no evidence of Ms. Tizon being involved in this, except for making a report of it," Greenspun asked Judge Michael Cassidy to dismiss the charges against his client. But the judge declined. "I do find there's an unlawful homicide here and no evidence of self-defense," said Cassidy. "Having found probable cause, I certify this case to the grand jury." He also allowed Tizon to remain free on bond, pending her next court date. Her case will go to the Jan. 19 grand jury.



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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 Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412.

## WINTER BREAK

**Winter Break Animation Camp.** Stop Motion Animation Camp for children ages 8-11. Children will create their own cartoon character, motion toys, take pictures for their production and develop an art project. Two sessions of two days each: Dec. 23 and 24, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; Dec. 30-31, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. At Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church, Chantilly. Cost is \$130 for one; \$220 for both sessions (includes supplies). Call 703-327-9370 or visit [www.artsmartstudio.biz](http://www.artsmartstudio.biz).

## NOW THROUGH JAN. 10

**Bull Run Festival of Lights.** Features 2 1/2 miles of holiday light displays. Hours are Monday to Thursday, 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Friday to Sunday and holidays, 5:30-10 p.m. Admission is \$15/car weekdays and \$20/car weekends. At Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville. Visit [www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org) or call the Holiday Hotline at 703-359-4633.

## ONGOING

**Music Education Program.** Offered through St. Johns Episcopal Church through the Royal School of Church Music. Learn to sing, read music and music theory. Grades 1-5 meet Sundays at 12:15 p.m. for rehearsal and study; Grades 6-12 meet Sundays at 4:30 p.m. for rehearsal and study. At 5649 Mt. Gilead Road,

Centreville. Visit [www.StJohnsCentreville.org](http://www.StJohnsCentreville.org). Call 703-803-7500.

## Neighborhood Watch Training

**Dates** — The Fair Oaks District Police Station is offering four training dates in 2010, for the Neighborhood Watch Program. They will be held at the police station, located at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, at 7 p.m. in the roll call room and will last approximately two hours. These opportunities are designed for communities that want to expand their existing Neighborhood Watch participation, those who wish to begin a new Watch program or those who would like a refresher course. We look forward to serving you and maintaining the quality of community and police partnerships that we have both come to depend on and enjoy.

The training dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010
- Tuesday, April 20, 2010
- Tuesday, July 20, 2010
- Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 23

**“Ho-Ho Show.”** 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. A student-directed and produced children’s theater show with 100 students comprised of snippets and well-loved holiday stories. Presented by Westfield High School theater. Tickets are \$5/person; \$12/families up to four. At Westfield High School.

## THURSDAY/DEC. 24

**Christmas Eve Services.** Three services: 5 p.m. is for preschool age and young children; 7:30 and 11 p.m. are traditional candlelight services. At Community of Faith United Methodist Church, 13224

night Shabbat service with Cantor Zucker at Little Rocky Run Community Center # 3 on Jan. 15, 2009 at 8 p.m.

For more information and/or directions, contact the Congregation at 703-579-6079, or visit [www.yadshalom.com](http://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 to attend any of

Franklin Farm Road, Herndon. Go to [www.cof-umc.org](http://www.cof-umc.org) or call 703-620-1977.

## TUESDAY/DEC. 29

**IONA Performs.** 1 or 2 p.m. Celtic group with Scottish fiddling. At Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Call 703-427-1794.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 30

**Ship’s Company Chanteymen.** 1 or 2 p.m. Performing songs of the sea and soulful ballads to Sully. Tickets are \$10. At Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Call 703-427-1794.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 1

**Swing Dancing Pajama Party.** 8:30-9 p.m. beginning swing lesson; 9 p.m. to midnight dancing. \$15 admission. With the theme, Milk and Cookies Pajama Party and the band, Eight to the Bar. (Wear your pajamas). At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. Visit [www.gottaswing.com](http://www.gottaswing.com).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 23

**Open House.** Sponsored by Centreville Preschool Inc. Registration packets will be available for the 2010-2011 school year. Morning and afternoon co-op and non co-op classes are available to children who turn 3 or 4 by Sept. 30, 2010. A beginners non co-op morning class is offered to children who turn 2 1/2 by Sept. 30. At 13196 Braddock Road, Centreville. Call 703-830-5656 or email [register@centrevillepreschool.com](mailto:register@centrevillepreschool.com).

our services or events. For more information, a newsletter, or a membership package, call 703-263-2252 or visit [www.BethTorah.net](http://www.BethTorah.net).

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church’s** second location, 13421 Twin Lakes Dr., Clifton, is now open. Everyone is invited to worship services at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Call the church office at 703-323-9500 or go to [www.lordoflifelutheran.com](http://www.lordoflifelutheran.com).

**Shalom Jewish Children** is a fun, hands-on Jewish educational program for young children based on experiential learning. Each session is about Jewish holidays, values and celebrations. Meets in Centreville at the Rocky Run Recreation Center. Contact Gloria Pioso at [yadshalom@yadshalom.com](mailto:yadshalom@yadshalom.com) or call 703-579-6079.

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E 86

HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA

Alexandria was named for the family of John Alexander, a Virginia planter who in 1659 acquired the tract on which the town began. By 1733, the site was known as Henning Creek. In 1749, it became Alexandria. George Washington frequented the town. Robert C. Lee claimed it as his boyhood home. From 1801 to 1802, Alexandria was a part of the District of Columbia and was later occupied by Federal troops during the Civil War. By the 20th century it had become a major railroad center. In 1946, Alexandria created the third historic district in the United States to protect its 18th- and 19th-century buildings.

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## NEWS

# Human Perspective on Immigration

From students, Fuertes and Spanish-speaking CIF member Connie Rojas. "In the beginning, we weren't all comfortable," said George-Wheeler. "But the day laborers' interest and eagerness to learn English made it easier for us to teach them."

"We wanted to delve into their stories and backgrounds and find out about their countries and families and how they liked the U.S.," he continued. "At first, they were reluctant to answer, but eventually they opened up a bit. They said things I could relate to when I was away from home. They missed their families, foods, weather, mountains or beaches, depending on where they were from."

The students found out why the men left their homes in the first place and, said George-Wheeler, "That really gave the immigrant problem a face and more depth. Later, during the soccer game, we stepped into their comfort zone because they were so much better at it than us — and that was cool."

Fuertes said the students and day laborers were able to establish rapport and, at the end, "The ambience between them became very warm and friendly."

"I wasn't surprised that we could have some camaraderie," said George-Wheeler. "But I was a little surprised that we were trusted and accepted by the day laborers as people who didn't want anything from them, except to learn. That was also the best part."

**THROUGH TRANSLATOR** Rojas, Guatemalan immigrant Jose Luis Lucas said the day laborers weren't afraid "because they were students, so they knew they weren't going to turn them in to the police."

Also via Rojas, another day laborer, Jacinto Sanchez, called it "a nice, pleasant experience — not strange in any way. It's a blessing from God that we're able to learn English for free. We can't pay you money for it but, someday, God will pay you."

Similarly, immigrant Domingo Guzman expressed his thanks, saying he believes God sent the CIF members to help him with food and medicine. In exchange, he sent them all "many blessings." And Fuertes said the whole discussion inspired him to continue studying the local immigrants in another class he's teaching next year.

Alice Foltz of Wellspring United Church of Christ, which sponsors the forum, said hearing the day la-

borers' stories was "also a way we could know each other and heal. We learned some of them had fled from difficult situations and seen family members killed. Another man came here so he could get money to send his children to college. I think it's a way of respecting each other as human beings that we listen to each other's stories. It makes for a healthy community."

Fuertes said the experience made his students question themselves and think again about their advantages and what it means to be an American. "Many said they had previously identified with their parents' positions on the [illegal] immigrant problem in America. But once they got to know the day laborers, they saw them as human beings. Some also said there should be a day laborer center where they could gather."

Lucas said he thought amnesty would be best because "then we could start paying our taxes and supporting our community." Add Rojas: "You don't leave your native country if you can survive. You leave because you're poor and it's dangerous there."

**VOLUNTEER ESL** teacher Jennifer Timmons said, "I think the compassion is here for undocumented people without papers. But there has to be some kind of protection for them. If they're sick and need treatment, they need to be able to get it, or we're doing them a disservice."

Agreeing, Foltz said, "Sometimes they work and don't get paid, so that's not humane and not good. Something should also be done to help their home countries to better them so they won't have to flee. We need to do this by changing our policies so we can help their countries."

Locally, she said, there are four churches that offer ESL classes, but more Spanish teachers are needed. She also noted that the Jeannie Schmidt Free Clinic is expanding and moving to Old Centreville Road in Herndon, "so it'll be closer to Centreville and more accessible for people here. But it mostly serves children."

Now that the weather is so cold, Foltz told the forum members, "There's also a need for shelter, so we should think about where the day laborers can go during the day, to keep warm, if they can't get into their homes 'til night. Think and pray about this and maybe we can come up with some solutions."

## ROUNDUPS

### Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Jan. 7 and Jan. 21, 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. However, because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be

inspected. That way, inspectors may have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the proper use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

### Clarification

In the "Parents Examine Boundaries" story in the Dec. 17 Centre View, Al Francese was misidentified; he represents Union Mill Elementary and is co-chair of the Liberty and Other Sites Subcommittee that's part of the Southwestern Regional Planning Study.

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7616 BULL RUN DR	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$640,000	Detached	5.02		BULL RUN EST
5618 VIRGINIA CHASE DR	5	4	1		CENTREVILLE	\$596,500	Detached	0.24		VIRGINIA CHASE
6224 MARTINS BRANDON WAY	7	3	2		CENTREVILLE	\$584,500	Detached	0.31		VIRGINIA RUN
14986 GOLD POST CT	4	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$535,000	Detached	0.48		GATE POST ESTATES
13502 JEB STUART SQ	5	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$532,000	Detached	0.12		FAIRCREST
13717 FRANKFORD CIR	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$531,000	Detached	0.26		CABELLS MILL
14441 SLOPE ST	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$520,000	Detached	0.20		SULLY STATION
6810 FARRAHS CAVALRY RD	5	4	0		CENTREVILLE	\$481,500	Detached	0.21		CONFEDERATE RIDGE
6408 EMERALD GREEN CT	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$475,000	Detached	0.16		GREEN TRAILS
5643 ROCKY RUN DR	5	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$465,000	Detached	0.27		ROCKY RUN
13227 MAPLE CREEK LN	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$460,000	Townhouse	0.07		TOWNES AT FAIR LAKES GLE
5081 SAPPHIRE SKY LN	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$455,000	Townhouse	0.07		FAIRCREST
5457 SERVICEBERRY ST	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$430,000	Townhouse	0.06		FAIRCREST
6371 WOODLAND RIDGE CT	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$430,000	Detached	0.41		NEWGATE FOREST
5240 BELLE PLAINS DR	4	3	0		CENTREVILLE	\$425,000	Detached	0.23		BELLE POND FARM
14419 CARRIAGE WAY CT	4	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$410,800	Detached	0.26		BELLE POND FARM
13540 STARGAZER TER	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$405,000	Townhouse	0.04		FAIRCREST
13730 CABELLS MILL DR	4	3	0		CENTREVILLE	\$402,000	Detached	0.20		CABELLS MILL
5517 SEQUOIA FARMS DR	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$401,987	Detached	0.20		SEQUOIA FARMS
5326 ROSEMALLOW CIR	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$399,000	Townhouse	0.06		FAIRCREST
6547 CREEK RUN DR	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$396,000	Detached	0.10		GREEN TRAILS
5272 JULE STAR DR	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.04		FAIRCREST
5733 ROCKY RUN DR	5	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$380,000	Detached	0.22		ROCKY RUN
14249 WOVEN WILLOW LN#100	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$374,358	Garden 1-4 Floors			CENTREVILLE CROSSING
13963 TANNERS HOUSE WAY	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.07		TANNERS RIDGE
5125 WINDING WOODS DR	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$369,900	Townhouse	0.04		SULLY STATION
14251B WOVEN WILLOW LN	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$362,808	Townhouse			CENTREVILLE CROSSING
14718 BEAUMEADOW DR	3	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$345,000	Townhouse	0.03		SULLY STATION
14253B WOVEN WILLOW LN	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$345,000	Townhouse			CENTREVILLE CROSSING
14622 BATAVIA DR	4	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$340,000	Detached	0.20		COUNTRY CLUB MANOR
13544 PRAIRIE MALLOW LN	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.03		FAIRCREST
5437 CLUBSIDE LN	2	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$335,000	Detached	0.26		COUNTRY CLUB MANOR
14518 LOCK DR	5	3	0		CENTREVILLE	\$330,000	Detached	0.28		COUNTRY CLUB MANOR
14703 BEAUMEADOW CT	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.04		SULLY STATION
5343 ROSEMALLOW CIR	3	3	0		CENTREVILLE	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.04		FAIRCREST
5257 GLEN MEADOW PL	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$318,500	Townhouse	0.04		SULLY STATION
14614 SEASONS DR	3	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$317,000	Townhouse	0.04		BRYARTON
5935 BARON KENT LN	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.03		WOODGATE MANOR
5367 CRIMSON SKY CT	3	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.04		FAIRCREST
14672 SEASONS DR	3	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.04		BRYARTON
14016 BETSY ROSS LN	2	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.04		HERITAGE ESTATES
13677 BARREN SPRINGS CT	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$309,000	Townhouse	0.03		LITTLE ROCKY RUN
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5923 BARON KENT LN	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.06		WOODGATE MANOR
14614 THERA WAY	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$299,990	Townhouse	0.03		WOODGATE CROSSING
6386 JAMES HARRIS WAY	3	3	0		CENTREVILLE	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.03		HARRIS
14739 GROBIE POND LN	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$292,900	Townhouse	0.03		SULLY STATION
6341 ST TIMOTHYS LN	3	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$285,700	Townhouse	0.04		COMPTON VILLAGE
14552 BATTERY RIDGE LN	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$285,000	Townhouse	0.03		BATTERY RIDGE
6401 MCCOY RD	3	3	0		CENTREVILLE	\$285,000	Townhouse	0.05		LEE OVERLOOK
13915 GUNNERS PL	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$281,800	Townhouse	0.03		SINGLETONS GROVE
14251A WOVEN WILLOW LN	2	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$274,832	Townhouse			CENTREVILLE CROSSING
6810 CHASEWOOD CIR	2	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$270,000	Townhouse	0.04		NORTH HART RUN
6860 CHASEWOOD CIR	2	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$270,000	Townhouse	0.04		NORTH HART RUN
5818 ROCK FOREST CT	3	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$266,000	Townhouse	0.04		LITTLE ROCKY RUN
14802 LONDON TOWNE SQ	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.05		LONDON TOWNE
6321 ST TIMOTHYS LN	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.04		COMPTON VILLAGE
14255 HERITAGE CROSSING LN	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$260,000	Townhouse	0.03		HERITAGE CROSSING
14217 UPPERRIDGE CT	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$260,000	Townhouse	0.03		CENTRE RIDGE LAND BAY 1
13826 FOUNT BEATTIE CT	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$255,000	Townhouse	0.03		SINGLETONS GROVE
6234 BATTALION ST	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$251,000	Townhouse	0.03		CENTRE RIDGE
5111 TRAVIS EDWARD WAY#G	2	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$250,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			STONEGATE AT FAIRCREST
5944 SPRUCE RUN CT	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$250,000	Townhouse	0.03		LITTLE ROCKY RUN
14833 HANCOCK CT	3	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$243,000	Townhouse	0.05		LONDON TOWNE
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13377E CONNOR DR #E	2	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$190,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			STONEGATE AT FAIRCREST
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14429 GRINGSBY CT	2	1	0		CENTREVILLE	\$155,000	Townhouse	0.03		NEWGATE
6011 SUNSET RIDGE CT	2	1	1		CENTREVILLE	\$145,000	Townhouse	0.02		SUNSET RIDGE
14567 GOLDEN OAK RD	3	1	1		CENTREVILLE	\$140,000	Townhouse			THE MEADOWS
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# Devastating Flood Leads to New Life

**Hurricane Katrina refugee Annalise Tortorich becomes No. 1 ranked power tumbler after moving to Centreville.**

BY REED S. ALBERS  
CENTRE VIEW

**A**nnalise Tortorich rode out Hurricane Katrina in her Baton Rouge, La., home with her mother Liz and sister Katie, watching as water seeped into their house, knocked over trees and upended their lives forever.

The nightmare that took over 1,000 lives and changed the southern Louisiana landscape also proved to be the catalyst that helped make Annalise the No. 1 ranked 15-year-old power tumbler in the United States.

The combination of a damaged home and a damaged gymnastics community was the first step in moving Annalise to new heights in the power tumbling world.

"There weren't any really good coaches left after [Hurricane Katrina]," Annalise's father, Tommy Tortorich, 56, said. "The best ones weren't available anymore. They all moved for new jobs."

The slow recovery of the greater New Orleans area also began to wear on the Tortorichs.

"After the hurricane, New Orleans was a very depressing place to be," Tommy Tortorich said. "No one felt good about themselves or about the area. Nothing was happening in helping to rebuild the area."

With a lack of coaching near Baton Rouge and a desire to find a new beginning, the Tortorich family packed their bags in 2006, and searched for a new life and a new gym.

They found refuge in the Capital National Gymnastics Training Center in Burke and settled in Centreville.



PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/CENTRE VIEW

**Annalise and Tommy Tortorich moved to Centreville in 2006 after Hurricane Katrina caused many top gymnastic coaches to leave the New Orleans area.**

"I just thought of it as a new beginning," Annalise said. "I could start fresh."

The Capital National Gymnastics Training Center proved to be the perfect place for Annalise to improve her power tumbling skills, a sport that she describes as "floor exercise without the dancing."

"I just really like the coaching here," Annalise said. "They're willing to help you if you need it, they know a lot and you can grow."

**THE SPORT** takes place on a strip, much like the vault, but instead of using an apparatus to launch into the air, the tumbler uses momentum and leg strength to soar through a dizzying amount of back flips, twists and tumbling techniques.

The Centreville High School freshman soon found herself getting back into the swing of the sport, attending competitions and growing accustomed to her new sur-



PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/CENTRE VIEW

**Annalise Tortorich accepts her gold medal at the World Age Group Trampoline and Tumbling Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia. Tortorich is currently the No. 1 ranked power tumbler in her age group.**

roundings.

Annalise then entered into a stressful and time-consuming training regimen that takes up most of her week.

"It's hard," she said. "I wake up, go to school, go home, have two or three hours for homework and then train for two and a half hours."

The young gymnast said toiling over school papers and practice is worth the sacrifice. "I like being really high in the air," she said. "It's just a lot of fun doing the flips and competing."

The dedication is paying off. On Nov. 19, Tortorich stood atop a podium in St. Petersburg, Russia and accepted a gold medal for power tumbling in the girls' age 15-16 group at the World Age Group Trampoline and Tumbling Competition.

How does someone so young deal with the title of best in their sport?

Annalise deflects attention. "I don't like being full of myself," Annalise said. "When I see people who brag about it, I just don't like it. I want to keep it to myself."

Even her friends notice the hushed way Annalise carries her title.

"It's not like she leans into me to whisper, 'Hey, I'm the best power tumbler in the world,'" Annalise's best friend Samantha Mutter said. "She's just Annalise to me, but it's really cool what she does."

**HER FATHER** understandably isn't quite as restrained.

"I'll tell everyone," Tommy Tortorich said. "I'll stop people on the street and tell them."

SEE NEW LIFE, PAGE 15



PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/CENTRE VIEW

**Danny Fenyak closely guards South Lakes' Ramin Shaheedian in the Bulldogs 71-68 loss on Dec. 16.**

12 ♦ CENTRE VIEW SOUTH ♦ DECEMBER 21-28, 2009

## Slow Starts Befuddle Bulldogs

BY REED S. ALBERS  
CENTRE VIEW

**I**n Marcellus Holley's career as a Westfield basketball player, he's never experienced a more frustrating start to a basketball season.

With the team at 1-6 and losing their games by slim margins after poor first-quarter play, no one can blame the senior for being disheartened.

"We're not used [to] starting games like this," the senior said.

"I haven't seen us start a season like this either."

In recent games, the crisp three-touch passing plays the Bulldogs execute during the first half don't produce points and shots career of the rim instead of draining through the net. Breakaways and turnovers lead to points in transition for the opposing team and before long Westfield finds itself clawing out of a deficit.

"We just come out slow and flat and get in a hole," head coach Doug Ewell said.

### By the Numbers

Despite the 1-6 record, Westfield has managed to keep its games close, but in the Bulldog's losses, first quarter play has been their stumbling block.

**5 points** — average point differential in losses.

**1-5-1** — team's record if only the first quarter of play were counted.

**8 points** — average deficit after first quarter of play in losses.

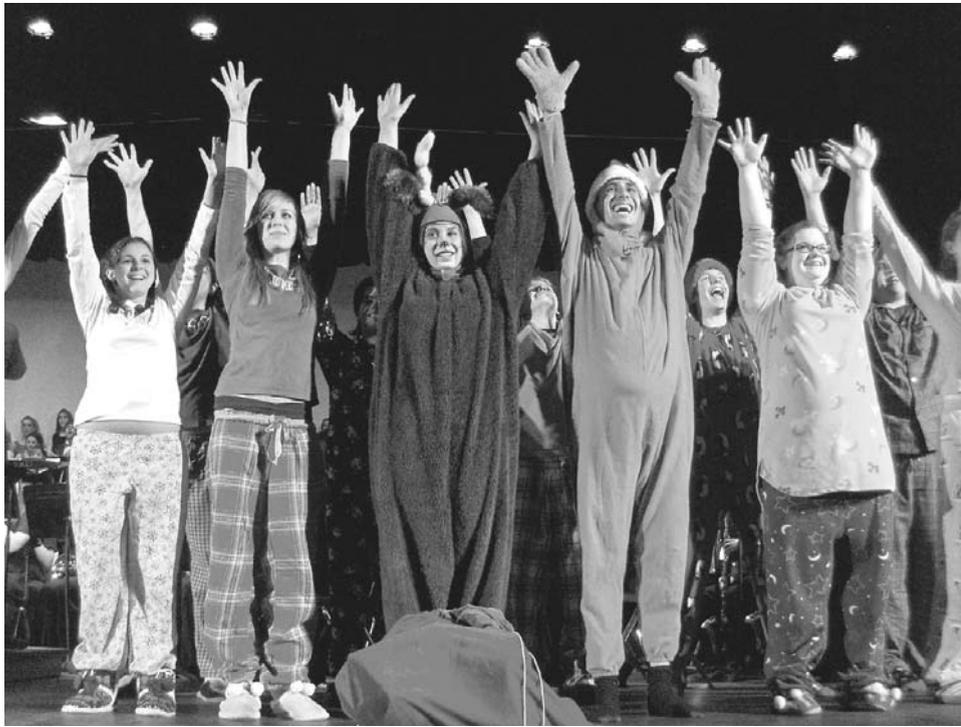
**7.5 points** — average points after one quarter of play in losses.

In the second half, the problems from the first half seemingly van-

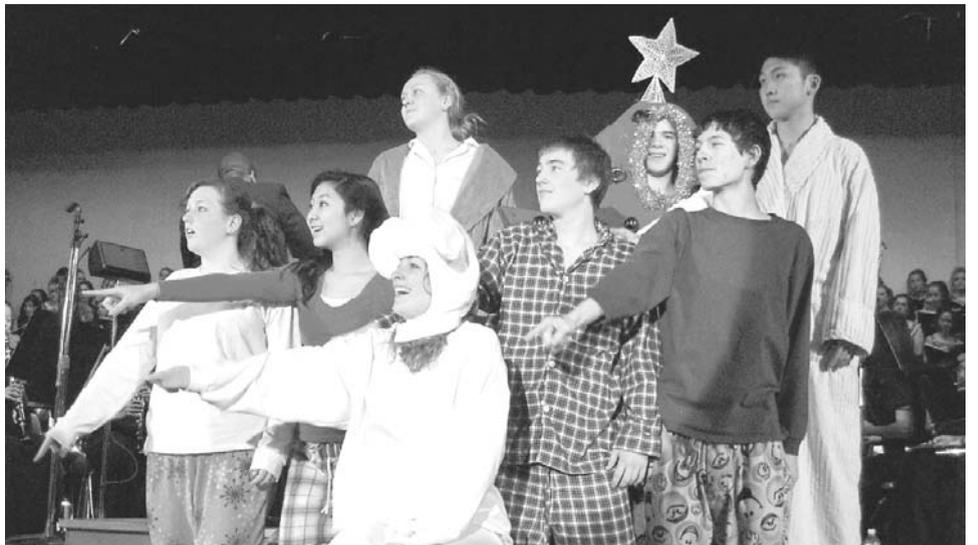
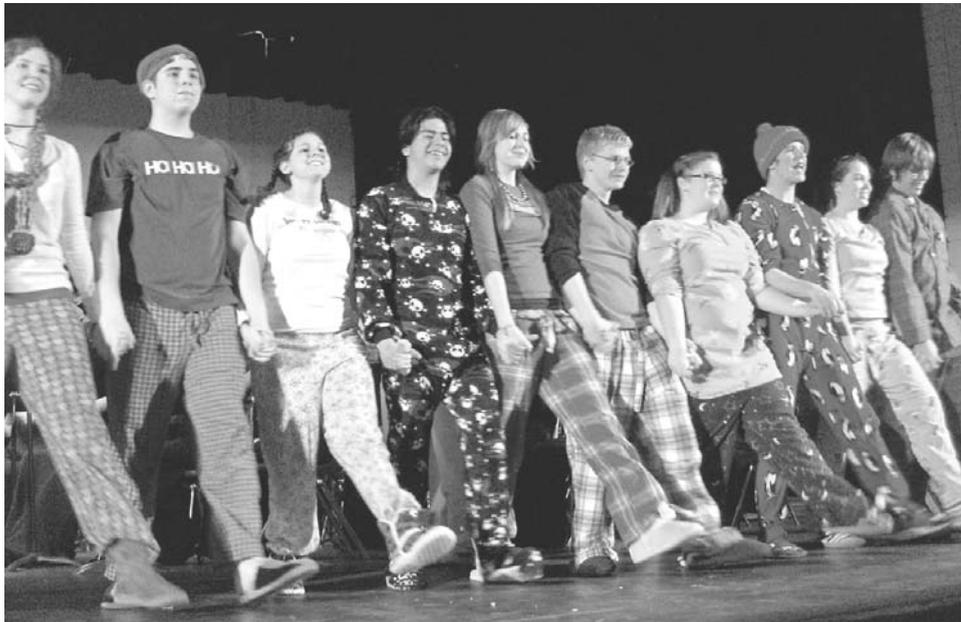
SEE BULLDOGS, PAGE 15

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# Chantilly High Rings in the Holidays



Nearly 300 Chantilly High choral, band, theater and orchestra students entertained local children last Wednesday, Dec. 9, during the school's annual Tiny Tots holiday program.



# 'Tis the Season...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

To be thankful. Let's be realistic; I'm a stage IV lung cancer patient/survivor, eight months into a treatment protocol with a life expectancy initially projected out to between 13 months and two years, so jolly isn't really in the discussion – or in my vocabulary any more. Still, I'm not complaining, just providing a little context for the rest of this column.

It's post-Thanksgiving Sunday and now that the food and festivities are mostly finished (and work looms tomorrow, Monday, for many), reality has once again reared its ugly head. Life goes on (for me, Thank God!) but to not be thankful every day for the "above average"/relative good medical fortune I've experienced (since receiving my quite unexpected diagnosis last March) would be disrespectful to those very Gods who likely control my fate.

Whatever mental exercises in futility I employ to defeat these death-defying cancer demons, I do so without their expressed written consent. It is a battle royal every day (more so the nights) and no doubt it will be a battle to the end, or at least that's my intention. And one of my unique weapons in this war against attrition is my attitude. Inherited from my parents, I guess, programmed somehow into my DNA, I can fight this fight with positive – and realistic optimism, good humor and good sense. But "jolly" I can no longer be, regardless of the season. Thankful though, at every opportunity, I can and will be this holiday season.

And not that I think this "holiday season" will be my last. Hardly. But as a cancer patient, one of the attitudes you are encouraged to embrace is "today." I can still remember Team Lourie's first meeting with my oncologist (how can I forget?) when, after listening to the doctor's reading/reviewing of all my medical reports/scans and biopsy, ending in the diagnosis with which many of you regular readers are intimately familiar, I replied, "Wow, it doesn't sound like I should be working any more;" to which the doctor added, "And you might want to consider taking that vacation you've always wanted to." ("WHAT!?", in my head.) From that moment (the beginning, if you will), it was communicated to me/us (my wife, my brother and me) that tomorrow (the future) has now left the building. At that point, the word "jolly" also left and went right out of my brain for evermore.

But it's eight months later, almost nine in fact, much has transpired in my treatment. I have "tolerated" (a semi medical term commonly used, in my experience, anyway, to describe the body's reaction to whatever the doctor/medication is doing to it) extremely, maybe even exceptionally well, all that my oncologist has "protooled." What happens next? What scenario might play out? It depends on everything that it is dependent upon. Meaning, death and taxes – as they say, are all that's guaranteed, as opposed to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. One is a declaration, the other is a decree, almost.

Every day presents new challenges, mentally and physically. My attitude remains good, great even. "Jolly" it will never be, though. Thankful, it most certainly is.

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

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# CLASSIFIED

## SPORTS Slow Starts Befuddle Bulldogs

FROM PAGE 12

ish as the Bulldogs bring themselves within striking distance of their opponent.

"I guess we just need to start acting like we're losing by 10 at the start of the game," Holley said. "It seems like we don't wake up until we get smacked in the mouth. We're never giving the first blow, we're always taking it."

**THE BULLDOGS ENDURED** another slow-start turned late-finish on Dec. 16 against South Lakes.

After falling behind 24-8 in the first quarter, the Bulldogs rallied behind Zach Elcano's 19-point performance and outscored the Seahawks in the remaining three quarters 60-47.

"We had nothing to lose so we had to leave it all on the court," Holley said. "We needed have some respect in our game [and finish hard]."

With 18.9 seconds left, the Bulldogs came within one point but were not able to wrestle the lead away from South Lakes.

The comeback attempt fell short as the Bulldogs went on to lose 71-68.

"[The team] needs to come out with the same intensity and emotion in the first half as they do in the second half," Ewell said.

**WHATEVER THE PROBLEM** is, Ewell is looking for answers from his team.

"I've been saying it's inexperience after each loss," he said. "But it's got to come to a point where it's not experience."

Sophomore Elcano, who is starting on the varsity for his first season, recognizes the team's tendency to start slow.

"We need to learn how to start a game off better," Elcano said. "We need to figure out how to play 32 minutes. It's just what we need to do to win."

The problems aren't just limited to a lack of hustle in the first half.

"Finishing around the basket would help out a lot," Elcano said. "Maybe we can get better shot selection or get the ball closer to the rim."

With the slow start still plaguing the team, Ewell is hopeful his team's strong second-half play will become the norm.

"We're getting close," he said. "It's all about finishing and if we just start better, it will make finishing easier."

## Devastating Flood Leads to New Life

FROM PAGE 12

Annalise rolls her eyes at her dad, laughs and whispers something into her friend's ear. They giggle, as young teenagers do, but Annalise admits that sometimes she doesn't feel like "the best."

"Everyone just tells me I can do it and that I'm the best," she said.

She admits to feeling butterflies in her

stomach when facing down rival tumblers.

"It's really nerve-wracking," she said. "People from different countries are there and you're competing against the good [competitors from] countries like Russia. I think I don't have a chance [when I'm competing]."

For now, Annalise is just enjoying her title and looking forward to future competitions.

"I just love the sport," she said.

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-Elizabeth Barret Browing

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I Never think of the future. It comes soon enough.  
-Albert Einstein

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.  
-Werner Heisenberg

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### Cardinals End On High Note

The Cardinals Red U-9 SYA youth soccer team finished a stellar youth soccer season with by winning the Bethesda Soccer Tournament in Poolesville, Ma., claiming the title of Chesapeake Division champions. The Cardinals also claimed a tournament victory in August when they finished first at the Dulles National Tournament.

### Championship For SYA Wildcats

On Nov. 14, the SYA 110-pound Central A Wildcats ended their 2009 football season with a County Championship at Marshall High School. The Wildcats defeated the Vienna Tigers 8-6 to claim the title. The team's final record was 8-1, which includes four shutout games against opponents. The Wildcats were coached by John Hagan, Doug Peterson, Tom Healy and Terry Green.

It's great to be great, but it's greater to be human.  
—Will Rogers

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# PEOPLE



## Special Lunch for Veterans

Capt. Gregg Baumann visited Meaghan Moran's second-grade class at Deer Park on Wednesday, Nov. 11, for a special Veterans Day celebration and lunch. Baumann works for the Secretary of the Navy at the Pentagon and brought in some models of ships, submarines and helicopters to share with the children. He talked about what his job entails at the Pentagon and explained to the children the meaning of all his badges. He was then invited to share a special lunch with the children in the cafeteria. Deer Park hosted a number of military men and women for lunch to honor them on Veterans Day.



## At the O'Neill's

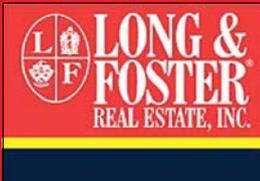
Westfield students at a pre-Homecoming gathering last month at the home of the O'Neill family who live in The Ridings at Virginia Run include: Lesley Marentette, Michael Martin, Jennifer Matthews, Erik Jensen, Erin Balaban, Billy Roberts, Emily Elcano, Josh McDermott, Lauren O'Leary, Mason Bartlett, Tommy Lattimer, Christina Wingfield, Paige Krall, Jack Rooney, Mariana Zechini, Tyler Wilmot, Sam Howell, Devon Ferguson, Mackenzie Morgan, Kevin Katz, Erin O'Neill, Gage Hagen, Jenna Manley, James Crossett, Alicia Brown, Scott Woodward, Stephanie Poppe, Johnny Esposito, Alex Kriss and Forrest Fisher.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTY RIESTER

## Wintry Play

Wes Riestler, Kindergartener at Virginia Run enjoyed the first snow day of the season by building a Star Wars Frosty with his Dad, Matt.



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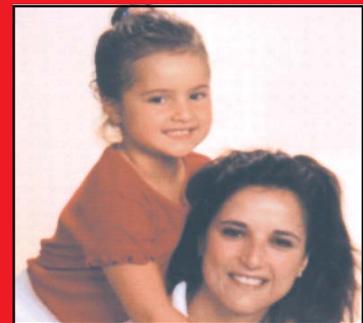
**Jenny Dewenter**  
Producer/Listener of the Month  
Over \$1.5 M



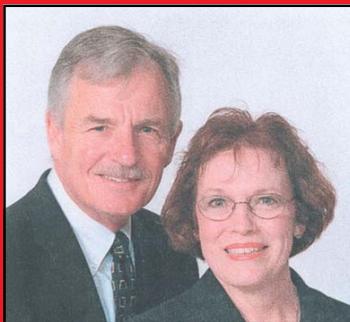
**Darren Marquardt**  
Over \$1.4 M



**Lisa Clayborne**  
Salesperson of the Month  
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