

CENTRE VIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION

JAN 7-13, 2010

"QUEST FOR PEACE" 25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

VOLUME XXIV, NO. 1



PHOTO BY LORI KNICKERBOCKER

Music Director Charlie Manship rehearses Westfield grads (from left) Kevin Manship ('06), Dan Hrebenak ('08), Jeremy Rommel ('09), Dallas Sweezy ('06) and Ben Reese ('08).

'A Decade of Excellence'

Westfield High School presents 10-year cabaret.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Westfield alumni Branson Reese and Reeves McElveen re-creating their Cappie-winning scene from "Hamlet," theater grad Jade Jones belting out a song from "The Wiz" and a sneak peek at the school's upcoming musical, "West Side Story." All this and more are part of Westfield High's "10-Year Cabaret - A Decade of Excellence."

For one night only — Saturday, Jan. 16, at 8 p.m. — (snow date, Jan. 23), Westfield's Theatre Arts Department will celebrate a decade of the school's memorable performances as more than 100 former and current theater students reprise some 25 songs and scenes from past productions. Seating is reserved and \$10 tickets may be ordered online at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com. Proceeds will go toward upgrades of the auditorium's sound system.

"Alumni will be here from all over the country," said director Lori Knickerbocker. "we have kids flying in from Utah, Chicago and up and down the East Coast. Rehearsals were when they were home over Christmas break." Her son Kevin and Sarah Cowdery, both theater alums, helped her

organize the show.

"We've been working on this several months because the logistics were pretty challenging," said Knickerbocker. "But it's been rewarding to see and catch up with everybody. It's really great to see the older and younger students together and know they're all part of the Westfield Theatre family. It doesn't matter what year they graduated — they all speak the same language."

Some of the students' favorite numbers from 10 years of shows will be presented, with the original cast, where possible. "We picked things that would appeal to the general public," said Knickerbocker. "And the featured soloists are either still studying this or doing it professionally. The caliber of the talent is phenomenal."

"... it's been rewarding to see and catch up with everybody."

— Lori Knickerbocker, director

SPONSORED BY the Westfield Theatre Boosters, the event is part of the school's year-long, 10th-birthday celebration. Westfield's first principal, Dale Rumberger, will join current Principal Tim Thomas, Assis-

tant Principal Dave Jagels and Westfield Theatre Director Scott Pafumi as hosts. Knickerbocker and Charlie Manship (music director) are directing, aided by Ashley Dillard, Carol Jones (vocal director), Emily Howell, Yvonne Henry (choreographer), Susie Pike, Zoë Dillard and others.

"Things are going wonderfully," said Henry. "The best part is having all the kids I've been fortunate enough to work with, the last 10 years, come back

SEE WHS, PAGE 3

Festival To Honor Martin Luther King

Achievement Committee holds annual event.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Hundreds of students from local elementary, middle and high schools will gather Sunday, Jan. 17, in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee (CPMSAC) will hold its 16th annual King Festival from 4-6 p.m. in the Westfield High auditorium. (Snow date is Jan. 24).

The free event is a blend of entertainment and education, as well

as a showcase of the students' array of talents as they honor King and everything for which he stood. Co-chairs are Kim Graham, Brenda Johnson, Wanda Tanks-Gregory and Deneen Vaughn.

"This program is a way of carrying on Dr. King's legacy and maintaining awareness of his contributions," said Tanks-Gregory. "CPMSAC wants to invite the community to celebrate his life."

This year's theme is "We Dream a World of Love, Vision, Democracy and Hope," and each group or individual performing will illustrate one of these concepts. Westfield High Principal Tim Thomas will welcome the crowd, and two Chantilly High seniors, Malcolm Gregory and Alexis Askew, will be, respectively, the master and mistress of ceremony

SEE KING, PAGE 2

Food for the Needy

Nearly 10,000 cans are collected.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Usually, Paisano's is in the business of selling food — pizza, pasta and other Italian specialties. But for three weeks after Thanksgiving, it also focused on collecting food to give

to local people in need.

"People often give to national organizations, but we wanted to do something to help Fairfax County residents — people in our own backyard," said Fouad Qreitem, Paisano's president.

So he contacted St. Andrew the

SEE FOOD, PAGE 5



Shaking hands in front of some Paisano's automobiles filled with food are (from left) Father John Kelly and Fouad Qreitem, Paisano's president.

PHOTO BY ED FULGINITI

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NEWS

King

FROM PAGE 1
nies.

The program is still being finalized, but several performers have already signed up. Franklin Middle School eighth-grader Jonesha Fullerton will sing, "When You Believe," and a 25-member chorus from Colin Powell Elementary will sing, "The Quest for Peace."

Bringing 80 students each are Lees Corner and Brookfield elementaries. Lees Corner's fifth-grade chorus will perform, "I Have a Dream," and Brookfield's chorus will sing, "I Am But a Small Voice."

Rocky Run Middle seventh-grader Kathryn Young will perform a classical number on the piano, and the McNair Elementary Singers and Recorder Club will entertain with "There Will be Peace."

Several Westfield students will also take the stage. Devin Simpson will dance, as will the school's dance team, coordinated by coach Cindy Kilmer. The Westfield drumline will perform, guitarist and singer Clayton Mouzon will entertain, and Avery Hobbs and Taylor Aucott will sing a duet.

Also participating will be students from Centreville and Chantilly high schools, plus Oak Hill Elementary.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service
Monday, January 18, 2010
from 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
George Mason University's Johnson Center

Families of all shapes and sizes can volunteer at projects with Fairfax 4-H, FACETS, the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia and the Orphan Foundation of America – in the convenience of one, central location.

To register to participate, visit www.volunteerfairfax.org.

Walk-in registrations will be accepted as supplies are available; pre-registration is encouraged. Projects best suited for elementary-aged children.

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ROUNDUPS

Crash Claims Fairfax Sisters

Two Fairfax sisters died last Monday, Dec. 28, in a car crash on West Ox Road. Both Fairfax High graduates, they were identified as Victoria Stefan, 25, and Elizabeth Stefan, 22. Fairfax County police say the incident occurred just before 2:30 a.m. and “both women died on impact.”

According to police, they were traveling in a 2003 Jaguar, southbound on West Ox Road near the intersection of Route 29 when the driver, Victoria, tried to turn right onto the ramp to Route 29. However, say police, the vehicle continued through the intersection and struck a jersey barrier head-on.

Investigators have not determined the final cause of the crash, but police believe the victims had their seat belts fastened and that “speed may have been a partial factor.” Crash Reconstruction detectives responded to the scene and are continuing to investigate the incident.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text “TIP187” plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

Fire Causes \$100,000 Damage

An early morning, two-alarm fire, Dec. 21, caused an estimated \$100,000 damage to a home in Centreville’s Virginia Run community. Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded, around 6:50 a.m., to a single-family home at 15183 Wetherburn Drive.

Upon arrival, firefighters encountered a large amount of fire coming from the attached garage in the front of the home. However, firefighters advanced a hose line inside the first floor of the two-story home and brought the fire under control in approximately 30 minutes.

The Incident Commander struck a second alarm, bringing approximately 60 firefighters to the scene — and they were able to keep the blaze from spreading to the entire home. The fire did extend to the second floor and attic area. Responding were engines, EMS and medic units from both Centreville fire stations 38 and 17, plus the Fair Oaks, Chantilly, Fairfax and Oakton stations. Neighbors driving nearby saw the fire and called 911 and then stopped and helped search for any occupants inside, prior to the arrival of emergency personnel. No one was home when the fire broke out. Two adults were displaced and no one was injured. Cause of the fire is under investigation.

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.

Westfield Community Coalition

The Westfield Community Coalition will meet Monday, Jan. 11, at 6 p.m., at Moe’s Southwest Grill, 505 Westone Plaza in Chantilly. Contact Jennifer Cooper at jalcooper@aol.com.

H1N1 Shots at Fair Oaks

Inova Health System is offering 2009 novel H1N1 vaccinations as well as seasonal influenza vaccinations to children and adults at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital.

- ❖ Saturday, Jan. 16 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the Medical Plaza Building Conference Room, 3700 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax.

- ❖ Saturday, Jan. 23 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the Medical Plaza Building Conference Room, 3700 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax.

Call 703-750-8818 (or call 1-877-895-5BUG, toll-free) or visit inova.org/flu.

NEWS

More www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com, call 703-488-6439 or see Facebook events at www.facebook.com/home.php#/event.php?eid=177053315661&ref=ts.

WHS Hosts 10-Year Cabaret

FROM PAGE 1

and share their love of theater, one more time. We’re having so much fun, and they even remembered the original choreography from these shows.”

Alumni performers include Pat Mitchell ('02), Courtney Reed ('03), Reaves McElveen ('04), Kevin Knickerbocker ('04), Kevin Pearson ('04), Jon Lawlor ('04), Carolyn Agan ('05), Megan Meadows ('05), Michelle Murgia ('05), Laura Fraase ('06), Branson Reese ('06), Michelle Polera ('05), Dallas Sweezy ('06), Kevin Manship ('06), Ashley Dillard ('06), Sarah Cowdery ('08), Ben Reese ('08), Daniel Calabrese ('08), Sarah Pike ('07), Jonathan Goldsmith ('08), Jeremy Rommel ('09) and Claire Manship ('09), plus current students.

There’ll be vignettes from Westfield shows including “Once Upon Mattress,” “The Glass Menagerie,” “Into the Woods,” “Brighton Beach Memoirs,” “South Pacific” and “Guys and Dolls.”

Ashley Dillard’s done theater workshops and studio gigs in Washington, D.C., since graduating in 2006 and is assistant directing the cabaret. “This is a great collaboration of Westfield’s tremendous amount of talent and excellence, over the years, and to come,” she said. “It’s a broad spectrum from Shakespeare to musicals.”

Noting the songs Kevin Manship, Jade Jones and Martina Green will perform, Dillard said, “Their voices are amazing — they’ve gotten even better since high school.” Dillard and four others will sing “Matchmaker” from “Fiddler on the Roof.” One of them, Carolyn Agan, is now a professional, Equity actress.

DILLARD CONTACTED the alumni and helped rehearsals run smoothly. She called the show “a celebration of how much we’ve achieved over the years, all our hard work and the dedication of our theater teachers, choreographers and parents.”

2006 grad Branson Reese is currently doing standup comedy and improv in New York and studying with the Upright Citizens Brigade. He has an improv group called Cookie Puss and is in a children’s theater company that takes stories children write and turns them into sketch comedies.

He and the other alumni keep in touch on Facebook but, said Reese, “It’s cool to see everyone in person. Dallas [Sweezy], Reeves



PHOTO BY LORI KNICKERBOCKER

Helping with the cabaret’s production are (from left) Lindsay Thomas ('08), choreographer; Ashley Dillard ('06), assistant director; and Courtney Reed ('03), choreographer.

and I are doing comedy sketches from ‘Monty Python.’ It’ll be interesting to see the old shows done with new casts and some original cast members. I’m really looking forward to performing with my friends that I haven’t performed with for years.”

Classmate Kevin Manship is a senior, majoring in musical theater, at Elon University in North Carolina. He plays in a rock band that hopes to go professional. “If that doesn’t fly, I’ll use my degree and start auditioning,” he said. “In some way, I’ll be performing professionally.”

In the show, he sings “Kansas City” from “Oklahoma,” a number from “Forever Plaid” and a duet with alumni Jon Lawlor. “We’ll do ‘Halleluliah’ by Leonard Cohen that Jon and I — in different years — performed in cabarets,” said Manship. He called it “kind of weird” returning to Westfield because he’s older and doesn’t know many of today’s theater students.

“But it’s good to see the adults who are still doing the same thing,” he said. “And it’s good to see my old friends. I think this’ll be a lot of fun and something many people will come out of the woodwork to attend.”

2007 grad Sarah Pike is a social work major and nonprofit studies minor at JMU. She hopes to be a social worker who creates system changes in food justice and evaluates programs for nonprofits. In the cabaret, she’s doing a mother-daughter scene from “Our Town” and is among the singers in “God Bless the Lord, My Soul” from “Godspell.”

“I feel I almost haven’t left [Westfield] because my mom [theater teacher and director Susie Pike] is still here and gives me updates on what’s happening in the department,” said Sarah. “But there were lots of people I haven’t

seen since graduation; and it’s cool to see so many generations of people who’ve shared the same passion on the same stage.”

“I think all the acts will be amazing, so it should be a really entertaining show for everyone of all ages,” she continued. “Anyone who enjoys theater will enjoy watching this production because there are so many people in it who love theater.”

Jade Jones, 2008 grad, is studying theater at Ferrum College in Ferrum, Va. She acted in “The Good Person of Setzuan,” a musical called “Baby” and “The Vagina Monologues” and is artistic director for The Black Mask improv team. In this show, she’ll sing “Don’t Nobody Bring Me No Bad News” from “The Wiz” and will be in the “Bless the Lord” number from “Godspell.”

She said it’s “absolutely wonderful being back because, in college, you don’t have the same feeling and closeness that you have on stage in high school. It feels like I haven’t seen most of these people in years, but I’m so familiar with everything here; nothing’s changed in the theater.” Jones said the audience will enjoy seeing scenes from the older shows, such as “Godspell,” “Fiddler on the Roof” and “Our Town,” because “they haven’t been revisited in awhile, and seeing them all will bring people back home.”

2008 grad Kevin Knickerbocker has a business degree from UVA and works at a law firm in Chicago. He’s also taking classes at Improv Olympic. He’s excited about being in the “Bless the Lord” ensemble because “it’ll be a reunion of people who were in Westfield’s ‘Godspell’ plus people who were in sixth grade then and attend the school now.”

He hopes to combine song sections from every Westfield musical and put them all together as a tribute. He said it seemed like the only thing that’s changed at the school is the number of theater posters on the wall. “When I was there, we’d only done eight shows,” he said. “Now, they’ve done about 22.”

Classmate Sarah Cowdery, a sophomore at Temple University, is studying film and communications and doing some improv in Philadelphia. “I’ll be in the Monty Python sketch with Dallas and Branson, and the balcony scene from ‘Romeo and Juliet’ with Jeremy Rommel,” she said. “[Returning to Westfield], it was kind of surreal to see all the different generations there together, but cool.”

OPINION

Happy New Year

Contact Us

For the Centre View, email centreview@connectionnewspapers.com or contact editor Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6431.

Keep in touch.

At the Centre View, we invite our readers to fill us in, literally. As we begin the New Year, we are reminded that we need to hear from our readers.

As local, weekly newspapers, the Centre View's mission is to bring the news you need about your community, to give you the information you need to enjoy the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to call attention to unmet needs, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in community and people's lives.

To succeed at any of that, we need your help. Let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, call us or send us an e-mail.

We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an e-mail letting us know about something you especially liked or didn't like about our coverage.

We appreciate readers' ideas. If you see something that you think might be a story, or some-

thing you have a question about, give us a call, or drop us a line.

If you know of a person or an organization doing important work, something that might make a good feature story, we are looking for people to feature each week.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon or having art included in an art show.

We publish photos and notes of a variety of personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. E-mail us a photo and a note about the event. Be sure to include the names of all the people who are in a photo, and say when and where the photo was taken.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees, anniversaries are welcome.

It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at

least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos. Events for our calendars should be free or at nominal cost and open to the public.

In covering the issues, we strive to provide a voice for our readers. We look forward to hearing from you.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Get Involved

The first day of the 2010 General Assembly session is Wednesday, Jan. 13.

The House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees will hold a Regional Public Hearing on Friday, Jan. 8, at 10 a.m., at the Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus. The hearing will focus on the Governor's proposed 2010-12 Biennial State Budget and is open to the public.

Fairfax County's delegation to the General Assembly will hold a pre-session public hearing on Saturday, Jan. 9, at 9 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center. Sign up to speak by calling the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at 703-324-3151.

EDITORIAL

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Positives of Global Warming

To the Editor:

Margaret Fisher's editorial in your Dec. 21-28, 2009 edition "Global Warming Affects Health" was so full of errors that I simply could not let it pass unremarked. Her main assertion is that man-made greenhouse gases will cause enough of a rise in global temperature to have impacts on human health and that all of those impacts will be negative. Her outrageous conclusion is that this "is probably the most serious environmental threat of all time," apparently eclipsing the bubonic plague and the last ice age.

One scarcely knows where to start disassembling such hyperbole. In contrast to her opening muse about international leaders grappling in Copenhagen with curbing greenhouse gas emissions, it would be more appropriate to ask "as the very underpinnings of anthropogenic global warming (AGW) theory advanced by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) are crumbling in light of recent revelations of data manipulation, why are we rushing forward at huge expense to 'fix' something that may not be broken and over which we have dubious control?"

Dr. Fisher repeats almost verbatim former President Clinton's

2000 chant about "heat waves, extreme weather events, more intense storms, rising sea levels, and more flooding." Yet none of these have been borne out in reality. For example, Landsea et al. describe a steady decrease in the average sustained wind speed of Atlantic cyclones over the last 60 years. The oft-quoted IPCC found that "Overall, there is no evidence that extreme weather events or climate variability, has increased, in a global sense, through the 20th century"

"The seas are rising!" OK, where — and by how much? Even the most conservative current IPCC estimate of sea level rise between 2000 and 2100 predicts no more than a 19" increase. In the first 10 years of the century even this small rate of increase has not been observed. Reacting to and mitigating this modest rise would be orders of magnitude less expensive and far more effective than trying to alter atmospheric composition.

There is little dispute that the planet has warmed slightly over the last century, mostly before 1940. It is also well-known that the concentration of greenhouse gases (GHG) in the atmosphere and the portion of anthropogenic vice natural sources has increased slightly as well. However, the connection among these facts is less clear. Also, what is frequently not mentioned in the hysteria over "carbon foot-

prints" is the fact that natural sources of GHG dwarf those of man. By far the most important greenhouse gas is water vapor — so far thankfully not listed as a "pollutant" and over which man has virtually no control. The IPCC itself noted in 2001 that "probably the greatest uncertainty in future projections of climate arises from clouds and their interactions with radiation."

Dr. Fisher notes that an increase in plant pollens has occurred — supposedly to the detriment of those with allergies. Yet she fails to ask the logical question — why? The only possible source of increased pollen is increased plant activity. Could it be that higher atmospheric CO2 levels have increased plant growth? To admit that obvious fact would be to open the door to the idea that some impacts of increased atmospheric CO2 — whatever the source — might be good!

Here is another comforting thought: most of the warming observed during the last century has occurred where it is actually beneficial — at night, in areas with the coldest climates and in winter! The net health benefit of higher minimum winter temperatures more than offsets any negative impact of higher maximum summer temperatures. Why are these well-documented benefits suppressed and imaginary or exaggerated detriments endlessly put in their place

in the public forum?

The answer is that the entire global warming "crisis" has very little to do with the environment and a lot to do with politics. The statisticians are using this as one more lever to increase the power of government (and thereby their own influence), restrict individual liberty (a free people being the greatest threat to a totalitarian state) and redistribute wealth from those who earned it to those who did not. One only has to look at the demonstrators in Copenhagen to make this connection. Banners with "Capitalism is Evil" fly alongside "Stop Global Warming."

This strategy is designed to perpetuate the statist grasp on power by making as many people as possible dependent on the state (and therefore them.) That is why those who challenge the AGW orthodoxy must be intimidated into silence. The science is incidental — the statisticians want power any way they can get it. If that means permanently reducing the standard of living of prosperous countries and condemning struggling countries to decades more suffering from disease, hunger and war, well, that is simply the price we all have to pay for their self-anointed vision and ascendancy.

Stephen J. Hatch, P.E.

CENTREVIEW

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A Connection Newspaper

NEWS

Food for Those in Need

FROM PAGE 1

Apostle Catholic Church, on Union Mill Road in Clifton. "It was close to one of my stores, I have friends who attend there and I knew they work with a couple organizations in need of food," Qreitem said.

The restaurants involved in the food drive were the Paisano's in Chantilly, Fair Lakes, Fairfax City, Reston and Herndon, plus Bella Pizza (also owned by Qreitem) in Centreville. When customers called to place an order, employees taking their calls told them about the food drive and asked — in a low-key way — if they'd like to help.

"I was thinking, if we could collect 500 cans per store, it would be a good thing," said Qreitem. "But they all did great. The first two days we did it, we raised 1,500 cans."

By the time the drive ended, Paisano's had amassed nearly 10,000 cans — as well as boxed food items and 20 bags of clothing.

"A real thank-you goes out to our clients and customers," said Qreitem. "They were so gracious and generous. Some would order food from us, four days a week, and would donate four days a week. It was truly humbling and amazing."

Each restaurant served as a drop-off site, but Qreitem said about 85 percent of the contributions were given when Paisano's employees delivered food to customers. "It was great to know that people helped other people," said Qreitem. "The office was just stacked with cans. We estimated that we had enough food to feed a couple thousand people."

Then, the morning of Dec. 22, several automobiles from Paisano's delivered the food to St. Andrew, with Father John Kelly there to receive it. The church then shared the bounty with Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM), House of Mercy, Choices and Our Lady of the Blue Ridge.

WFCM runs a food pantry and thrift store in Chantilly for people in need in Western Fairfax County, and House of Mercy provides food and clothing for the poor in Manassas. The latter, said Kelly, was "established by Jack Fullen, a priest formerly from our diocese."

Choices operates a shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and Our Lady of the Blue Ridge is a Catholic parish in Madison, Va. "A lot of the people

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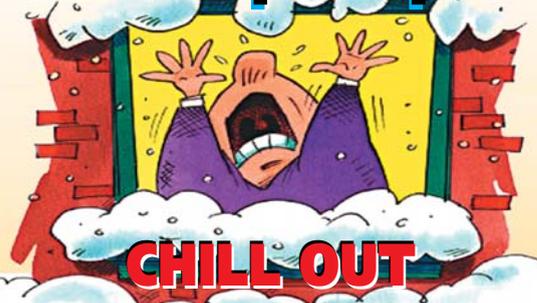
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SEE COLLECTING, PAGE 7

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NEWS

Collecting For Needy

FROM PAGE 5
in the mountains there are very poor," said Kelly. "So we send them food, clothing and baby supplies all year long, plus gifts and gift cards at Christmas."

Therefore, he said, when Qreitem contacted his church about its food drive, he was overjoyed to learn about the effort and delighted to channel the food items to those needing them most. St. Andrew also accepted non-perishable food donations at the parish office, weekdays, and in the parish hall after all Sunday masses, and those, too, added to the total collected.

"We've seen a big increase, in the past six months, in people needing assistance with food," said Kelly. "The effect of the economy is still being felt here. So when Paisano's said they wanted to do this, we were more than happy to jump on the bandwagon with them."

Kelly said the response from Paisano's customers was remarkable, and their generosity "confirms the goodness in people's hearts and their willingness to share and help others less fortunate, even when their own financial picture isn't as stable as it once was."

All in all, he said, "We were touched that a business would reach out to the community at large, and the [four recipient organizations] were impressed and grateful for the help. They were overwhelmed by [all the food that was donated] and were happy to be able to help the people that were depending on it."

But Qreitem, for one, wasn't surprised. "I was 100-percent confident this food drive would be a success," he said. "I know the capacity for caring among the greater Fairfax County community is second-to-none."

He, too, was pleased knowing what had been accomplished. "It was as gratifying to my managers, and us as a unit, as it was to the people who received the food," said Qreitem. "The community supports us, year 'round so, for us, it was the least we could do. We went home at night feeling like we'd really done something to help."

WORTH NOTING

SUNDAY/JAN. 17

Search for Owls. 6-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$10/family. Join a Fairfax County Park Authority naturalist at Cabell's Mill in E.C. Lawrence Park for a brief evening hike to search for owls. Return for a roaring campfire to roast marshmallows. At 5235 Walney Road, Centreville. Call 703-631-0013.

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Stories To Watch for in 2010

With 2009 over-and-done, here's a look at some of the teams to follow and how they fared in 2009.

BY REED S. ALBERS
CENTRE VIEW

Basketball Play Heats Up

With the holiday tournaments over and just about every local high school basketball team about to enter the bulk of its district play, the basketball scene is primed to heat up the frigid month of January.

Fresh off their victory at the Pohanka Chantilly Classic Basketball Tournament, the Chantilly boys' basketball team is entering January with a 7-3 record.

The boys' are lead by a talented group of juniors and 7-foot center John Manning.

Chantilly's girls' team is off to strong 6-3 start to its season. After losing the season opener on Dec. 3, the girls' surged back with four straight wins.

The girls' team will begin the majority of its Concorde District play with a Jan. 8 bout with Robinson.

The Westfield boys' basketball team is still struggling to find consistency, but will look to January's district play earns some wins.

The Bulldogs have a 2-7 record and will face Robinson on Jan. 12.

For the Lady Bulldogs, the 8-2 record the team earned in December has helped Westfield set itself

apart from local teams.

Westfield's girls' team will face-off with Centreville on Jan. 8.

Centreville's boys' basketball team almost escaped December with a perfect record, but will have to settle for 8-1 following a Dec. 18 loss to West Potomac.

The boys' team did manage to win the Westfield Bulldog Bash holiday tournament during the winter break.

For the girls, the Lady Wildcats sit at an even 4-4 and face stiff tests in early January opponents W.T. Woodson and West Springfield.

Baseball and Softball in 2010

With the winter sports season nearing the midway point, it's not too soon to be thinking about spring training and the upcoming baseball season.

Here's how the local teams fared in the 2009 season.

Chantilly's baseball team enjoyed a dominating 18-6 season in 2009. Despite the strong season, the team's region title aspirations were

cut short in a 1-2 loss to West Springfield in the Northern Region tournament.

The Lady Chargers' softball team endured a losing season in 2009, but will be seeking a chance to rebuild from their 4-12 record.

Westfield's historically strong baseball season continued its winning tradition with a 21-2 season that saw the Bulldogs capture the Concorde District title.

The Bulldog boys' weren't the only team enjoying a strong 2009 season. The Lady Bulldogs' softball team capped the 2009 campaign with a



FILE PHOTO

The Centreville girls' softball team won the Concorde District title and finished with a dominating 21-7 record in 2009.

16-6 record, but were unable to capture the Concorde District title last season.

Centreville's baseball team is poising itself for a run at the Concorde District title after finishing 2009 with a 10-13 record and reaching the semi-finals in the district tournament.

The team will be led by a batch of four talented players who are committed to play NCAA baseball.

For the Centreville softball team, 2009 proved to be a banner-year for the Lady Wildcats.

The girls' softball team captured the Concorde District title, reached the Northern Region finals and ended the year with a 21-7 record.

Area baseball and softball teams will also be looking to battle for home-field advantage in the state playoffs.

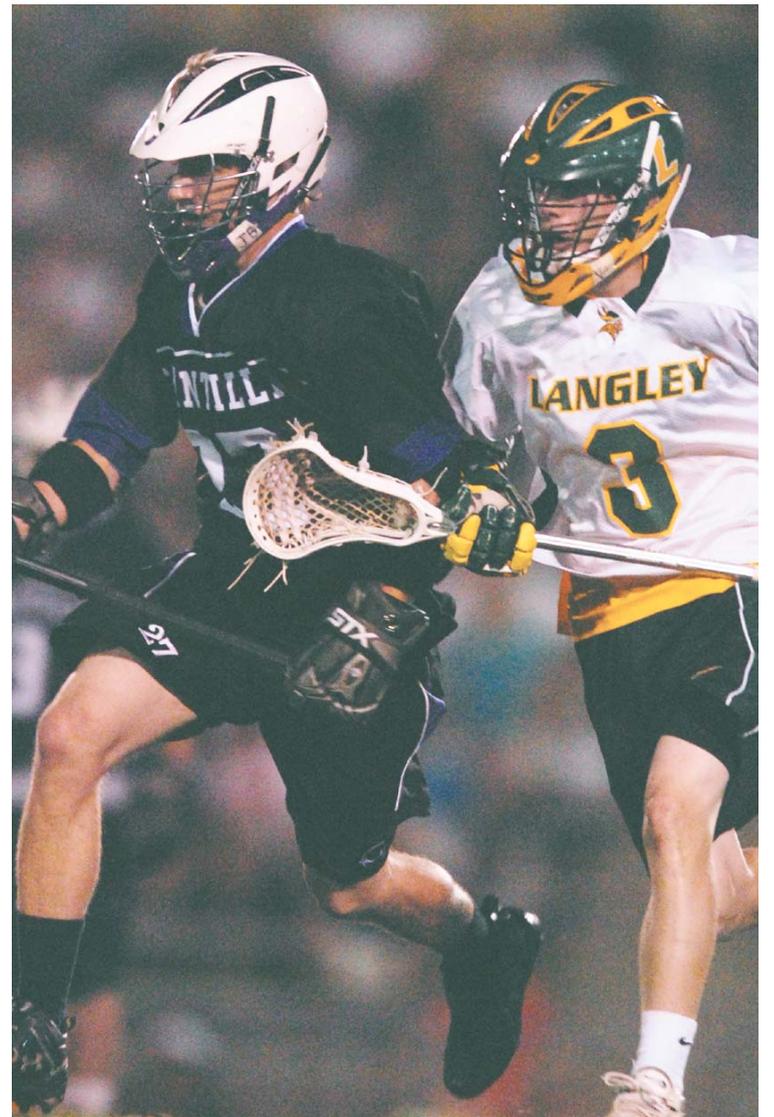
Westfield will be hosting the VHSL State Baseball Finals in 2010 and if local teams can garner top seeds, they'll enjoy playing in the comfy confines of Fairfax County instead of journeying around the state in June.

Spring Soccer Fever

Those hankering for some soccer before the FIFA World Cup in South Africa arrives in mid-June should check out the high school soccer scene.

For the first time in school history, the Chantilly Lady Chargers won the Virginia State Soccer Championship.

The Chargers defeated Mills Godwin 2-1 and finished the season with a 20-2-1 record.



FILE PHOTO

Chantilly's boys' lacrosse team reached the state finals in 2009, but were beaten by Langley 3-4.

With a state title to defend, the Chargers will be one of the top teams to watch this spring.

Chantilly's boys' soccer team will be seeking improvement in the 2010 season after their 2009 campaign ended with a 2-10-2 record.

For the Wildcats, Centreville's girl's soccer team finished 2009 with a 6-6-1 record, a minor improvement from the 2008 season's 6-7-1 campaign.

Despite finishing with a 7-6-2 record, the Centreville boys' soccer team advanced to the Concorde District finals in 2009, but were unable to defeat Robinson.

The Westfield girls' soccer team is looking to 2010 as a year for improvement. The Bulldogs opened the 2009 season with eight consecutive losses, but were able to muster four wins including a 7-1 blowout of T.C. Williams.

Local Lacrosse Action to Watch

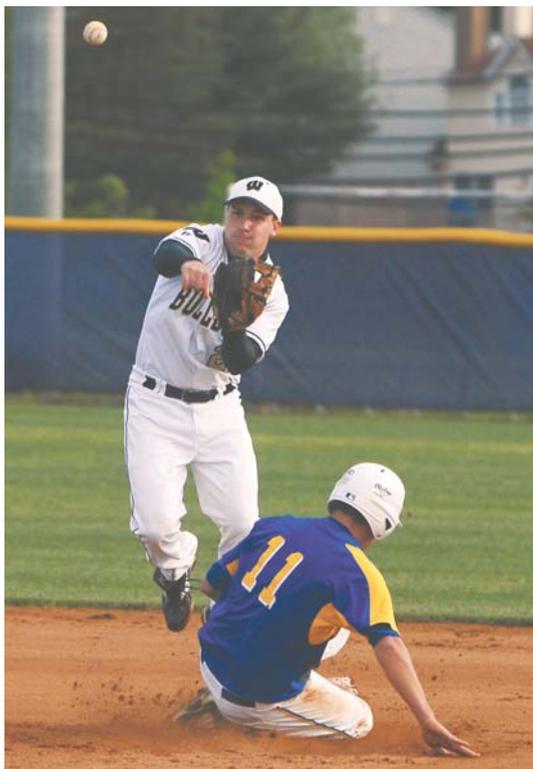
If soccer or baseball is too slow for some spectators, perhaps the fastest game on two feet, lacrosse, might be the best sport to keep an eye on this spring.

Concorde District powerhouse Chantilly came within a goal of winning a state title in 2009, but fell short in a 3-4 loss to Langley on June 7.

With the loss serving as a motivator, Chantilly is a good place to start when watching local lacrosse action. The Chargers ended 2009 with a 16-3 record and won the Concorde District championship.

Westfield's boys' and girls' teams will use 2010 as a season to improve upon the records they earned in 2009. The boys' finished the year with a 7-8 record, while the girls found themselves at 8-6.

Along with Westfield, Centreville's boys' team will seek an improvement upon their 5-8 record in 2009. The girls' will be led by a new head coach, Brian Newell, in their attempt to avenge a 2-10 record in 2009.



FILE PHOTO

Westfield's boys' baseball team capped a 21-2 season in 2009 with a Concorde District baseball title at the end of the season.

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Can't Handel It



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I imagine the confession I'm about to make likely will get me banned from future similar cultural events (good!). But, since I'm sitting here (here being the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.) semi-listening to their Choir & Baroque Orchestra, I have to do something, even if some might consider writing on the very program describing the music, musicians, conductor and author to which I'm listening (I didn't say subjected; after all, it was with my consent that I agreed to this outing) a defamation of my character (or lack thereof) and a defacing of sacred text. Nevertheless, as Popeye the Sailor Man said so famously, "I'yam what I'yam." And what I am not, as has been proven by this musical interlude is, a fan of George Frederick Handel's Messiah, (God forgive me) "arguably the most widely shared musical experience in our culture. Each year the oratorio is sung by tens and perhaps hundreds of thousands of people." And it is "mid nave" that I find myself not so enthralled on Sunday, Dec. 6.

And though the National Cathedral is an elegant and magnificent environment for this most traditional of presentations, I am not sure if my eyes and ears can truly appreciate its suitability. However, as I am writing (and then pausing and thinking about what to write next) I have to admit, the music and words (many of which I can't actually discern) do provide a soothing backdrop, conducive almost, to this creative process. I don't imagine, though, that the cognoscente of this music appreciate it for its inoffensive/barely noticeable/backdrop-type white noise as I do.

I mean, the Cathedral is nearly full, at \$54 a ticket – not exactly a cheap thrill (and in a challenging, shall we say, economy to boot). Apparently, these many listeners put their money where their ears are. It's only people/non-patrons of the arts like me who don't know any better and can't process the melodies sufficiently to find joy in "them thar" notes and we're nearly two-thirds ("Part The Second") through this holiday tradition. (The extremely famous "Hallelujah!" chorus is close, I'm told.)

Let me be clear, none of this commentary has anything at all to do with the amazingly talented musicians, soloists, conductors and choir performing this evening. Nor is it a reflection of the courteous and patient staff ushering (voluntarily no doubt) the hundreds of ticket-holding Handel enthusiasts to their assigned seats. It's more about an experience I have now shared with many before me, and heard much about, that I officially "don't get." I wouldn't say attending this event was worth the money we spent (like The Allman Brothers concert I saw in October was) but in an odd way, I do feel better having experienced it.

Would I go back? No. Do I regret having gone? No. Am I planning my next cultural soiree? Absolutely not! For me, enjoying such fare is an "achored" taste. A taste which I have not yet acquired. (I did find a great parking space on Wisconsin Ave. directly across from the Cathedral, though.)

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

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Centreville Venture, LLC trading as Ledo Pizza & Pasta 14115 St. Germain Dr, Centreville, VA is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Akim Alam, Member, Owner

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LEGAL NOTICE
On Tuesday, February 2, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall, the Clifton Town Council and the Clifton Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing to consider adopting an ordinance amending the Low Impact Commercial Zoning District, codified in Section 9-23B of the Town Code, to allow all uses permitted in the Residential Zoning District. The proposed amendment to Section 9-23B is available for examination by contacting the Town Clerk by email kathleen.barton21@yahoo.com

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LEGAL NOTICE
On Tuesday, February 2, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall, the Clifton Town Council will hold a public hearing pursuant to VA. Code Section 15.2-1800 on the proposed sale of the Old Town Hall property, identified as Fairfax County Tax Map Number 0754 02 0021A.

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SYA Spring Sports Registration

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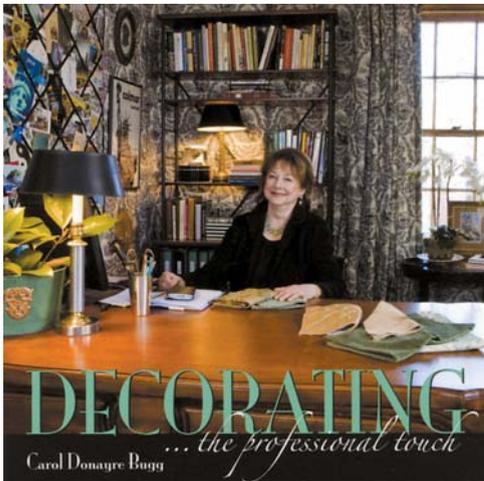


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