

Ups and Downs in Funding

School board lays out budget.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
 CENTRE VIEW

Starting next year, it seems almost certain that Fairfax County students will miss out on elementary band and strings programs and have to pay a fee to play high school sports.

The Fairfax County School Board voted on its initial budget request to the Board of Supervisors at a Feb. 4 meeting, laying out those programs it intends to ask the county to fund and those it will reluctantly agree to cut at this early stage.

Despite robust lobbying efforts from the community, the school board has not included the elementary school band and strings

SEE BOARD SUBMITS, PAGE 2



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Snow, Snow Go Away ...

This partially buried stop sign seems to contain a message to the weatherman from weary residents tired of this winter's deluge of snow.

Two Firefighters Injured in Apartment Fire

BY BONNIE HOBBS
 CENTRE VIEW

Two firefighters were injured Monday night while fighting an apartment fire at 4224 Hunt Club Circle in Fair Oaks. The blaze also displaced 20 people from 16 apartments there.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to that location, around 6 p.m., with the snow, ice and dangerous road conditions making matters even more challenging, since they had to locate fire hydrants that had been covered up by the recent snow.

Upon arrival, firefighters encountered heavy fire showing from the top floor of the three-story, garden apartment. The Incident Commander struck a second alarm, bringing more than 60 firefighters to the scene. Eight fire

engines and three EMS units responded from the Fair Oaks, Chantilly and Fairfax Center fire stations, along with Centreville's Station 17, and the Frying Pan, Oakton and City of Fairfax stations. The flames quickly spread into the attic and roof, and it took firefighters approximately 40 minutes to bring the fire under control.

Two firefighters were hurt when the third-floor roof collapsed, causing one firefighter to fall from a burning balcony on the top floor to the snowy ground below.

The other injured firefighter suffered from smoke inhalation when his mask was partially dislodged. Both injuries were non-life threatening.

Additionally, one resident was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The blaze began on the bal-

cony of a third floor apartment. According to fire investigators, it was accidental and was caused by improper disposal of fireplace ashes.

The fire department urges residents to clear snow away from fire hydrants in their neighborhoods. Officials recommend asking neighbors to adopt a fire hydrant and then clear snow and ice away from all hydrants so they're easily visible in the event of a fire.

Residents also are reminded that parking is prohibited within 15 feet of a fire hydrant located along the curb line or edge of any public or private roadway. No special curb marking is required for enforcement. Residents should also keep their driveways and walks clear so firefighters and medics may reach their houses, if need be.

The following fireplace safety tips are also offered:

Snowed In

Emergency personnel work around clock to respond to large snowfall.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
 CENTRE VIEW

The Virginia Department of Transportation expected to remove 500,000 tons of snow from Northern Virginia roads this week, and that was before weather teams started calling for a second storm to hit the region this week.

Parts of Fairfax County received as much as 34 inches of snow during the initial storm that started Friday, Feb. 5. A few days later, local emergency responders were bracing for a second wave of winter weather, expected to bring as much as 10 to 20 inches of additional snow on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

A few Fairfax neighborhoods

had not recovered from the first storm, let alone been able to prepare for second wave of harsh conditions. Parts of West Springfield, McLean, Great Falls, Clifton and Kings Park West remained totally unplowed and, in some cases, without power four days after first storm and less than 24 hours before the second storm was scheduled to arrive, according to local elected officials.

"If we get [another] 20 inches of snow, that is going to be a huge problem. I think the next couple of days are going to be harder than the last couple of days," said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), whose neighborhood street in

McLean still had not been plowed

"Salt could be a challenge during the next storm."

— Joan Morris,
 Virginia Department
 of Transportation

SEE AFTER MAJOR, PAGE 3

❖ Have chimneys cleaned and inspected, once a year, by a licensed professional.

❖ A spark arrestor across the top of a chimney will prevent sparks from igniting a roof.

❖ Use the proper fuel (seasoned hardwood, pellets and gas/propane) for the type of chimney system. Never use gasoline, kerosene or other flammable liquids to start a fire.

❖ Fireplaces should have a sturdy screen across the front to

prevent embers from flying or logs from rolling out.

❖ When clearing ashes from the fireplace, be sure to put them into a metal container with a lid — never into a cardboard box or paper bag, because these items can easily catch fire from smoldering embers.

❖ Follow manufacturer's instructions carefully. Many non-masonry fireplace/chimney units have limitations on the amount of heat they can safely withstand.

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
 TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.
 REQUESTED IN HOME 2-11-10

PRSRRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 EASTON, MD
 PERMIT #322



"I consider service the main product, and my fee the byproduct, of a job well done. I believe that you have the right to hear the truth about your transaction, instead of pure sales talk. I contend that the proper role of a real estate professional is to disclose, advise and educate, not merely persuade."



For more information on our team approach, please visit our Web site at www.seln4u.com. We think you will be impressed.



**Experience...
the Difference!**



See Complete School Information and VIRTUAL TOUR at www.seln4u.com

DISCOVER THE DISTINCT ADVANTAGE!



**\$899,900
VIRGINIA
RUN**
Award-Winning Tipco Model Home! Over 7,000 s.f. of

luxury. \$300K of custom features. 4 FP's. FR w/Soaring 18' ceiling. Sumptuous mn lvl mstr suite w/access to deck. MBA w/Italian marble floor, bidet & jetted soak tub. Gourmet Kit & Brkfst rm. Lower lvl rec rm w/full wet bar, Sony projection center w/surround sound & wine cellar. Prof. Landscaping w/7-zoned irrigation syst & much more!
FX7241725

SOLD IN 2010!



SOLD in January!
\$899,900
VIRGINIA RUN



**\$649,900
LITTLE
ROCKY
RUN**
Screened porch.

Cul-de-sac. Side to common area. Gourmet kitchen. Luxury master suite. Workshop. Finished basement with wine cellar and more.

COMING SOON!

Virginia Run
Winchester Homes Raleigh Model. Cul-de-Sac. Gorgeous inside!

The Fairways
Lovely Cape Cod-style home!
Open & airy!

SOLD IN 2010!



SOLD in January!
\$324,900
**CENTRE
RIDGE**



SOLD in January!
\$399,900
**CHALET
WOODS**



SOLD in January!
\$149,900
**WOOD-
BRIDGE**



SOLD in February!
\$499,900
**S.
ARLINGTON**

Call Spencer Today. . it will be the best move you ever make!

**DON'T SETTLE FOR
LESS THAN THE BEST!**

**Spencer
MARKER & Co.**
Long & Foster Realtors

We're [www.seln4u.com!](http://www.seln4u.com)

703-266-SALE • www.seln4u.com

**BUY OR SELL WITH ME—
USE THIS TRUCK FOR**



NEWS

School Board Submits Budget

FROM PAGE 1

program in next year's budget. School board members also seem willing to go ahead with eliminating full-day kindergarten from all but a handful of schools that currently offer it.

There will be new student fees to participate in high school athletics and to take Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests. The school board is moving forward with a plan to eliminate Pimmit Hills Alternative High School and two academic programs in elementary schools with large populations of poor students.

Though the school board can restore such programs after the supervisors approve the public school money transfer in the late spring, it is unlikely board members will have the luxury of restoring funding to programs cut this early on in the budget process.

"We are going to be fighting for any money we can get," said School Board member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill).

CURRENT CLASS SIZE, foreign language in elementary schools and freshman sports are among the programs threatened by cuts that so far are still funded.

The school board budget includes a request for \$81 million more from the county than the approximately \$1.7 billion the supervisors gave the school system to operate last year.

Schools Superintendent Jack Dale had originally suggested the school board only ask the county for an additional \$57.8 million and include several more cuts in the budget.

But school board members found several of Dale's cuts — including freshman sports, foreign language in elementary schools and larger class size — to be too drastic. The school board also restored \$3.8 million in funding for instruction assistants, instructional coaches and assistant principals that Dale had proposed to eliminate.

Without full funding, including the extra \$81 million, the school board will argue that many of the undesirable cuts they have avoided will have to be made, said school board members.

"To make any real difference, this budget has to be fully funded. ... And we have no guarantee that even [the superintendent's] original request will be funded," said School Board member Brad Center (Lee.)

Several supervisors said it is un-

likely Fairfax will give the school system an extra \$81 million, especially when other county agencies and departments are seeing cuts in their funding.

"I think trying to provide an extra \$81 million in funding would be extremely difficult to do in this economic climate. Our board has to be sensitive to taxpayers who are struggling to pay their mortgages and stay in their homes," said Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova (D- At-large.)

Fairfax County already allocates more than half of its general funding to the public school system annually. Since the residential real estate tax generates most of the county revenue, an increase in schools funding would most likely correspond to an increase in real property tax rate for homeowners.

According to county officials, \$81 million is equal to approximately four cents per \$100 of assessed property value this year.

Some supervisors questioned whether the school board had really made all the cuts it could, particularly when it came to central administration staff.

"Until the school system looks at their administrative costs, I think this school board will be hard pressed to spend an additional \$81 million on the school system," said Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield).

When compared to Dale's budget proposal, the school board did vote to reduce spending on central administration functions by \$900,000 in order to fund other

SEE NEXT STOP, PAGE 7

Fairfax Schools Budget So Far ...

The Fairfax County School Board took its first pass at its operating budget for the 2010-2011 school year during a Feb. 4 meeting, tacking on approximately \$23 million in additional spending to the plan originally proposed last month.

Schools Superintendent Jack Dale had presented a \$2.3 billion budget for Fairfax County Public Schools in January. Dale's plan included \$100 million in spending reductions and a request for the Fairfax County government to provide \$57.8 million more to the school system than it did last year.

Fairfax County already devoted more than 50 percent of county revenue, approximately \$1.7 billion, to the school system last year.

The school board amended Dale's proposal slightly, deciding it could not live with some of the cuts that the superintendent had proposed, and asking for more from the county. The school board increased the public schools' funding request to the county by \$81 million over what was provided last year.

During its own budget deliberations, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will decide how much of the county's total revenue to give to the school system. If the amount of funding is less than the school system requested, the school board will have to make additional cuts to the budget currently proposed in the late spring.

The following are some of programs and services the school board would use the additional \$23 million from the county to fund and those programs they have agreed to eliminate.

The school board voted to put the following programs and cuts into the budget:

- ❖ \$17.1 million added to avoid increasing class size by an additional student per teacher
- ❖ \$1.4 million added to keep assistant principals positions
- ❖ \$800,000 added for instructional assistant positions
- ❖ \$1.6 million added for instructional coaches positions
- ❖ (\$900,000) reduction via additional cuts for central administration
- ❖ \$2.2 million added for the Foreign Language in Elementary Schools program
- ❖ (\$110,000) reduction, cutting a fifth grade field trip to the International Children's Festival
- ❖ \$250,000 added to help students from Pimmit Hills Alternative High School transition to another campus or program
- The school board has agreed to eliminate the following programs:
 - ❖ \$1.2 million for "Focus," a special academic program in place in schools with high-risk student populations
 - ❖ \$1.3 million for the Extended Learning Program known as Excel, also in place in schools with high-risk student populations
 - ❖ \$6.3 million for summer school
 - ❖ \$200,000 for two internal auditor positions
 - ❖ \$150,000 for a student suspension program
 - ❖ Elementary band and strings programs
- The school board rejected raising parking fees for most students from \$200 to \$250 annually.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Patrick and Noriya Messina shovel out their car in front of their Penderbrook home.

Is this New England or Virginia?

After Major Snowstorm, Another Set To Arrive

FROM PAGE 1
on Feb. 8.

DOMINION POWER, the largest local utility company, expected to restore service to all their Fairfax customers by the 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 9. As of Monday afternoon, approximately 100 households in the county served by Dominion still had no electricity, said company spokesperson Daisy Pridgen.

A few of the more isolated parts of Great Falls and some older West Springfield developments were still without electricity on the eve of the second storm, according to local elected officials.

“The people without power are my biggest concern. We have seniors without power who are likely at risk,” said Supervisor Patrick Herry (R-Springfield.)

The level of electricity service that had been restored by Feb. 8 was an improvement over the prior two days, when thousands of Fairfax residents were without power, according to Fairfax County spokesperson Merni Fitzgerald.

“It went off all across the district. We had huge patches of Great Falls and McLean without power. Dominion has made very significant progress with getting them back online” said Foust.

In the Springfield and Herndon areas, the highest concentrations of residents were without electricity for long periods of time.

The county opened two emer-

gency shelters at the Robert E. Lee Center in Franconia and Oak Marr Recreation Center in Oakton after the storm, partly to respond to the needs of those communities without electricity, said Fitzgerald. No one showed up at the Franconia location and only two families went to the Oakton location before the county shut both shelters down Feb. 8.

At the Oakton location, one family took hot showers and left immediately. Another family spent several hours there and went home around midnight once they found out their power had been restored, said Fitzgerald.

“The shelters were very well promoted but people found other ways to deal with the lack of electricity,” said Fitzgerald.

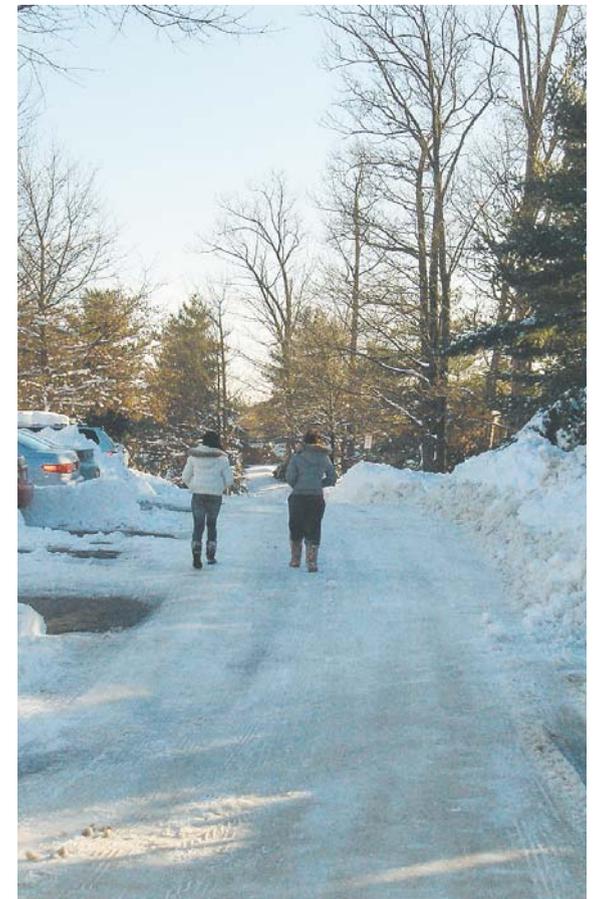
Fairfax will consider opening the shelters again if they needed after the second snow storm, she added.

THOUGH THE POWER had come back on in most Fairfax houses, dozens of subdivisions scattered throughout the county had yet to see a snowplow less with than 24 hours to go before the second storm was expected to hit.

The commonwealth of Virginia, not Fairfax County, is responsible for plowing the vast majority of local roads. Transportation officials said they aimed to make “at least one pass” with a snow plow on every street in Fairfax by Tuesday night, Feb. 9, though the flakes



Megan Davison walks her dog Maize, a 3-year-old Plott hound mix, during a break between snowstorms.



Taking a walk down an icy road.

were expected to start falling again in the middle of that afternoon.

“We are trying to get the plows to every street — it’s a major challenge,” said Joan Morris, Virginia transportation spokesperson.

Virginia’s Transportation department does not have adequate snow removal equipment for a

storm of this size. Hundreds of smaller four-wheel drive trucks that the transportation department typically relies on for plowing have been all but useless in response to this storm.

The smaller plows are built to handle a four-to-six inch snowfall but are not effective at removing the two feet of snow that piled

onto Fairfax streets after last week’s storm. In some cases the snowdrifts on local streets were higher than the smaller plows themselves.

Approximately 1,900 larger trucks from other parts of the commonwealth have been transferred

SEE SNOWED IN, PAGE 13

ROUNDUPS

Police Discuss Narcotics, Gambling, and More

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Sully District Police Station will host a meeting for the public, Tuesday, Feb. 16, from 7-8:30 p.m., at the Virginia Run Community Center. Sgt. James Cox of the Special Investigations Unit in the Organized Crime and Narcotics Division will discuss current trends and how the police department investigates crimes involving narcotics, money laundering, gambling and wire fraud.

Parents of teenagers and young adults will learn what to look for if they suspect their children are involved with drugs. Cox will be available for questions and answers after the presentation. The Virginia Run Community Center is at 15355 Wetherburn Court, off Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road in Centreville.

Suspended Sentence And Restitution

More than a year has passed since Fairfax County police charged a Centreville woman with one count each of conducting an illegal gambling operation and money laundering. Now Diane Thanh Diep Tran, 28, in the Gate Post Estates community has received a suspended jail sentence and been ordered to pay restitution.

Organized crime/narcotics detectives believed she was engaged in a sports-betting operation and arrested her, Dec. 18, 2008. However, the case didn't come to General District Court until Jan. 27 of this year.

On that date, the money laundering charge was dropped and the gambling offense was reduced to permitting illegal gambling. Judge Mark Simmons then sentenced Tran to 30 days in jail, suspending all that time, and ordered her to pay \$3,500 to the police for repayment of the county "buy funds" they used during their undercover investigation of her case.

'West Side Story' Is Rescheduled

Due to inclement weather, the Feb. 11-14 performances of Westfield High's production of "West Side Story" have been rescheduled to March 5-7. The new performance schedule is as follows:

- ❖ Friday, March 5, at 8 p.m. (replaces Friday, Feb. 12).
- ❖ Saturday, March 6, at 2 p.m. (replaces Sunday, Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m.)
- ❖ Saturday, March 6, at 8 p.m. (replaces Saturday, Feb. 13 at 8 p.m.)
- ❖ Sunday, March 7, at 2 p.m. (replaces Sunday, Feb. 14 at 2 p.m.)

All tickets for postponed shows will be honored at rescheduled shows for the reserved seats that were originally purchased. No action is required of patrons holding tickets for Feb. 12, 13 and 14.

However, the Thursday, Feb. 11 show is cancelled and will not be rescheduled. Ticket holders for Feb. 11 have several options; see www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com for details.

Online ticket sales for "West Side Story" will resume Friday, Feb. 19.

WFCCA Land-Use Meeting

The next meeting of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee is Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly. On the agenda are New Vision Community Church and Harvest Chinese Christian Church.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Feb. 25, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. No appointment is necessary. But residents should install the child safety seats themselves so technicians may properly inspect and adjust them, as needed. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

NEWS

Friends Reach Out To Help

Couple has two terminally ill children.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

For most parents, learning that their child is going to die is devastating enough. Learning that both children are terminal is unthinkable. Yet that's the case for the McNeil family of Fairfax.

Daughter Waverly, 6, and son Oliver, 3, both have MPS III or Sanfilippo Syndrome — a degenerative, genetic disease with no cure. So parents Shannon and Matt McNeil are doing all they can to give them as happy a life as possible, while they still have them.

When they watch their children smile and play, it means the world to them. Said Shannon: "You hold onto those moments a little more because you don't know how many more are to come."

So Shannon's former college roommates and close friends, Kamarah Sietsema and Michele Montenegro, are trying to help. The McNeils currently rent a two-bedroom apartment but, as the disease progresses, their children will need wheelchairs. So the friends started a fund called "A Hundred for a Home" to buy the McNeils a house that can be made handicap accessible.

Sietsema and Montenegro hope 4,000 people will donate \$100 each so they can raise \$400,000. Of course, contributions in any amount are welcome. So far, they've raised \$143,000 since October 2008, but still have a long way to go. People may donate online at www.ahundredforahome.com or mail checks payable to McNeil Family Fund, P.O. Box 147, Jamestown, MI 49427.

They and the McNeils attended Taylor University in Indiana, and that's where Matt and Shannon met. They've now been married 11 years and Matt's a foreign service officer with the State Department.

"We planned to live that overseas, diplomatic life," said Shannon. "But everything changed when the children were diagnosed in 2008."

Waverly was 10 pounds at birth, so she was always big for her age, but her gross motor development always lagged behind other children's. She never crawled and was delayed walking. She was 3



Oliver and Waverly snuggling on a couch.

when Oliver was born in January 2007.

"He was in the NICU [Neonatal Intensive Care Unit] for two weeks with heart and lung issues and was released with a hearing loss," said his mom. "We took him to an audiologist who diagnosed the loss as moderate to severe — which was devastating, in itself."

Then the audiologist met Waverly and could tell from the way she was speaking that something was wrong with her, too. "She told us, 'I don't think Waverly can hear either,'" said McNeil. "So she was tested and had the same diagnosis. So we got both children hearing aids and figured that's why Wavy had a hard time being understood."

WHEN OLIVER was four months old, Matt McNeil was transferred to London, so the family moved there. Waverly attended a group-setting class for children with communication disorders. But after a few weeks, her teacher — who was also a speech therapist — said Waverly seemed to be dealing with more than just a speech loss and referred the McNeils to a pediatric neurologist.

"She examined Wavy, ordered tests and also referred us to a geneticist," said McNeil. "We had no family history of any genetic problems, on either side. Wavy's MRI showed abnormalities, but it took months to get the blood-test results because it was a rare and expensive test for the lab to run."

Eventually, not wanting to wait any longer, since Shannon McNeil's originally from Philadelphia, she contacted Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. A neurologist there also examined Waverly and ran tests. Four weeks later, the results came back, and Matt McNeil flew there from Lon-

don to join his family at the hospital.

"When we went into the room, we immediately knew something was wrong because there were too many doctors, plus social workers," said Shannon. "They told us Wavy had MPS III, or Sanfilippo Syndrome."

"The first thing I asked was, 'Is she going to die?' and they said yes," she continued. "My husband and I started crying and asked, 'What can we do?' and they said there really wasn't any treatment."

Oliver was now 15 months, and doctors said there was a good chance he could have it, too — especially since he had the same hearing loss. "We had him tested in Philadelphia and flew back to London," said McNeil. "Four weeks later, we got the results. I was pushing my kids' stroller in a shopping area in London and fell down on the street crying. I called my husband and he came home and we cried all day. It was earth-shattering, devastating."

She said one in 70,000 births have MPS, but type 3A — which her children have — is in "the hundreds of thousands. It's very rare and comes from a recessive gene from both parents. Because of it, both children lack the ability to make a specific enzyme so they can't break down a type of sugar in the body. As a result, the sugar builds up in their liver and brain, causing damage until the body can't take it anymore."

TYPICAL LIFE EXPECTANCY is 10-17 years, but it varies from case to case, and the McNeil children both have severe cases. Since there's no cure for Sanfilippo, doctors advised Shannon and Matt McNeil to use their time to "enjoy and love your kids, and savor ev-

SEE A HUNDRED. PAGE 5

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

'A Hundred for a Home'

FROM PAGE 4

ery minute with them."

They also said physical, speech and occupational therapy would help the children cope with the changes to come. For example, Waverly's already losing dexterity in her hands, so she's working on increasing her hand strength and using larger utensils.

One saving grace, said Shannon McNeil, is that the Oliver and Waverly don't understand they're any different from other children, or that anything's wrong with them. She said Waverly's comprehension is in the 9- 15-month range. She used to be verbal, but doesn't speak now. However, she loves music and will complete missing words in a song. She's in a special-needs class at Vienna Elementary and loves the school and its music program, plus adapted PE. and art.

"Between 3 and a half and 4 and a half, she started losing skills and would get frustrated," said her mom. "But she's far enough along [in the disease] so that, when it happens now, I don't see that, anymore. She has trouble walking, falls a lot and fatigues quickly. But she's also a happy, passive, easy-going kid who enjoys observing other kids playing and having fun."

Oliver's also nonverbal, but understands things well and is just six months shy of where he should be — "which is incredible,"

said Shannon McNeil. He loves going to the playground, and both he and Waverly enjoy swinging and being outside. Oliver also likes painting and doing puzzles and crafts.

SUCH NORMAL, everyday activities are precious to his parents because they know it's only a matter of time before his skills start diminishing. "As much as you enjoy these things, you can't help but think of the inevitable," said McNeil. "In a lot of ways, it's easier knowing about Oliver so I can adjust my expectations."

The situation has drawn her and her husband closer together and "made us more intentional in being honest with our feelings," said Shannon McNeil. "Matt said, 'The disease has taken so much away from us, we can't let it take our marriage away from us, too.'"

She said part of her sees it as a genetic fluke: "And although I haven't fully reconciled the why-does-God-let-things-like-this-happen part, I see Waverly's and Oliver's impact on other people's lives. The blog on the Web site has taught people to cherish what they've been given, and I hope it raises awareness of Sanfilippo and makes them approach special-needs children in their community in a more friendly, open way."

Meanwhile, the McNeils celebrate the little things. "We won't have the typical, first day of school, sports games or sleepovers,"

MPS, or Sanfilippo Syndrome

Sanfilippo Syndrome is an incurable, genetic disorder in children lacking an enzyme essential to break down long sugar chains. The disease goes undetected until sugars build up in their bodies around age 2, after which symptoms appear in stages and progress rapidly.

Stage 1: The child begins to:

- ❖ lag behind his peers in development
- ❖ display difficult behaviors related to a decrease in attention span
- ❖ become hyperactive
- ❖ develop hearing loss
- ❖ develop a decrease in understanding of language
- ❖ encounter frequent diarrhea, cold and congestion and ear infections.

Stage 2: The child begins to:

- ❖ display extreme hyperactivity inhibiting normal functioning in all areas of development
- ❖ become very destructive and display aggressive actions due to hyperactivity
- ❖ develop an insatiable need to chew on everything and anything
- ❖ develop sleep problems and even go for days at a time without sleep
- ❖ lose language skills, further compounding the child's agitation
- ❖ develop extreme safety concerns as motor functioning generally surpasses cognitive functioning

❖ lose any toilet-training skills

Stage 3: The child begins to:

- ❖ slow down; issues associated with hyperactivity and destructive behaviors diminish
- ❖ become more unsteady on feet and eventually dependent for all mobility
- ❖ lose chewing and swallowing skills, possibly needing a feeding tube.

said Shannon. "But, for example, Wavy loves birthdays so, every two months, we celebrate her birthday with a cake and balloons and she has a great time."

With just one income — since she's home with the children — the McNeils can't afford a house here. But between Matt McNeil's job, their doctors at Children's National Medical Center and Waverly's school, they don't want to leave. So when Sietsema and Montenegro approached them about the house fund-raiser, they were both floored and grateful.

"It's amazing and extremely humbling that they're doing this," said Shannon

McNeil. "So many people have greater needs than we have, but we consider this a gift to our children. They want Waverly and Oliver to be able to have the best quality of life in the time they're given."

She said there's not enough children afflicted by MPS to make it profitable for pharmaceutical companies to try to develop a drug for them. "It's so unfair — it's just wrong," said McNeil. "But lots of enzyme-replacement and gene therapy is being done, so we haven't given up. I'm hoping my kids will be able to participate in the trials; who knows what will happen? So I try to stay positive for that — you have to."

CENTRE VIEW

If you do not get Centre View delivered to your home...

FIRST CLASS MAILED SUBSCRIPTIONS

are now available for the first time with timely postal carrier delivery: \$30 for six months. Help us meet the costs of providing first-rate community journalism on newsprint to your household.

Call 703-778-9426 (or -9427) or e-mail circulation@connectionnews.com

career education CEC2301520-07/09



Searching for a new career?

We offer training in: Business Administration, Criminal Justice, Graphic Design, Medical Assisting, Medical Billing and Coding

Call Now for a Brochure
888.792.6444
sbcvienna.com



Sanford-Brown College | 1980 Gallows Rd. | Vienna, VA 22182
Sanford-Brown College is certified by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to operate campuses in Virginia. Sanford-Brown College does not guarantee employment or salary.

- Ongoing Career Services Assistance
- Financial Aid is available for those who qualify to help reduce your out of pocket expenses

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra



2009-2010 Season



Christopher Zimmerman, Music Director

March 13, 2010

Alon Goldstein, piano

- BORODIN:** *In the Steppes of Central Asia*
- DORMAN:** Piano Concerto (**East Coast Premiere!**)
- SIBELIUS:** *The Lemminkäinen Legends*

May 1, 2010

Celebrating Women in the Arts

Julie Albers, cello

- HIGDON:** *blue cathedral*
- ELGAR:** Cello Concerto
- MOZART:** Symphony No. 38, *Prague*
- BARBER:** *Medea's Meditation and Dance of Vengeance*

All concerts at 8:00 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts

Assure your seats for Maestro Zimmerman's exciting first season. Visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org or call 703-563-1990

Please note – programs and artists are subject to change.



Surviving the Blizzard as a Community

Connected neighbors save the day; time to check contingency plans, emergency supplies.

More than 48 hours after more than two feet of snow stopped accumulating, after two nights of single digit temperatures in many areas, there are still tens of thousands of households without power.

During this blizzard, random and not-so-random acts of kindness have made all the difference for stranded families in the cold and dark. A little preparation to “shelter in place” also helped.

In neighborhoods around the region, families with power offered help to those without. Consider a few examples of list-serve messages, all sent with addresses and phone contact information, and instructions to spread the word:

“If any neighborhood residents still need a place to stay, you are welcome to come over. You can hang out for just a while to watch the game or stay overnight. We have lots of room and can accommodate a family with kids and pets — we have a large dog who would love to have a playmate for a while.”

“We have hot coffee, food and beds to sleep in. We also have a 4-wheel drive and if my husband can help with driving please let us know. Happy to help!!”

“We have a warm house and food and beds. Anyone in need is most welcome. We are unplowed, so we can’t drive out ourselves.”

Consider one family’s experience: an elderly mother who lives alone in the suburbs while her children live in other states. Stranded by two-feet of snow, and out of power for the second day, her children lost phone contact with her. While friends tried to get to her by 4-wheel drive, an appeal via list-serve brought multiple offers from “strangers” to hike through the snow to check on her, and offers to provide a place to stay. The friend of the family was able to reach her, and found indoor temperatures of 31 degrees before getting her to a warm, safe place. But another 24 hours in that house could have been disastrous.

EDITORIAL

RICHMOND REPORT

Addressing Energy Independence

BY JIM LEMUNYON
DELEGATE (R-67)

As we near the midpoint of the 2010 General Assembly Session in Richmond, I want to highlight some issues related to energy, transportation, and education.

Yesterday, the House passed H.B. 787 on a 69-28 vote to support oil and natural gas exploration, development, and production 50 miles or more off Virginia’s coast. I voted “yes.” This bill is aimed at ensuring that Virginia is doing its part to achieve energy independence for the United States. If you saw the President’s State of the Union address, you will recall the issue of energy exploration was mentioned by President Obama. The federal government will need to act before exploration can begin, as certain federal restrictions apply to offshore drilling. I also favor greater use of nuclear power and renewable energy sources, although these issues were not considered by the Virginia House this week.

Related to this bill is H.B. 756, which was debated on the House floor this week and is expected to receive a final vote next week. H.B. 756 would require that at least 80 percent of any revenues and royalties paid to the Commonwealth of Virginia as a result of offshore natural gas and oil drilling be deposited in the state’s Transportation Trust Fund. In this way, offshore energy exploration can help improve our transportation system in addition to making Virginia and America more energy independent. This is a proposal that Governor McDonnell articulated during his campaign last year. I expect to vote “yes” on H.B. 756.

This week I also signed a letter to Governor McDonnell, along with 35 other Northern Virginia members of the Virginia House and Senate of both parties, related to education spending in the 2011-2012 state budget. The letter addresses a formula, known as the “local composite index,” that is used to allocate K-12 education funds throughout Virginia. I mentioned this issue in my email message to constituents last week. A budget proposal made by former Governor Kaine in December would have the effect of shortchanging Fairfax and Loudoun County schools by about \$100 million during the next two years. The letter asks Governor McDonnell to reverse this proposal.

Finally, I want to express my thanks to the many people who have completed the constituent questionnaire. Your responses have been very helpful. If you have not yet responded, you may still do so online by clicking here.

Now it’s time to head home from Richmond before the snow gets too deep!

PS: I enjoyed attending the FIRST Robotics competition at Oakton High School on Jan. 30. I met lots of smart kids and their supportive parents. I’d also like to thank the following people who have visited me recently in Richmond: the students from the Loudoun campus of NOVA, Bruce Hutchinson, Bill and Beth Latham, the Fairfax County Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, Cheryl Fulton, Carl Armstrong (Virginia Bail Bondsmen’s Association), John Schumacher (Virginia Aerospace Day), Steve Jones (State Farm Insurance), and Joanna Schuman (Podiatry Association).

It’s hard to fathom the combination of no power, bitter temperatures and no way to get out of the house or the neighborhood.

By the time you read this, written on Monday in the respite between the blizzard and Tuesday’s predicted storm, we may already be dealing with the next round of snow in this record-breaking winter.

It’s a great time to think about emergency contingencies. Do you know who on your block might need some extra thread in the safety net? Elderly, or lives alone, or any other special circumstance? Do you have a way to reach your family members during a power outage? Do you have food and water for a few days without power?

Here are two links to Ready.gov, explaining the basics of an emergency kit and the required elements of an emergency plan.

<http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html>

<http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/index.html>

We welcome your snow stories, snow tips and snow pictures. Do you know of a random act of kindness to share? Please let us know at centreview@connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTER

He’s the Best

To the Editor:

The residents of Ravenscraig Court in Chantilly Highlands would like to formally give our thanks and sincere appreciation to Casey’s Automotive of Chantilly. Bill Casey has repeatedly plowed our court on his own volition, refusing payment of any kind. Considering the volume of snow the county has received this year, Bill Casey has unreservedly shown he is a phenomenal friend of our community and we are grateful for his kindness. I think it exceptional that Bill Casey spends his time and resources plowing out the “forgotten” roads and streets in our end of Fairfax County. He is the best.

**Bob and Betsy Rutherford
Roland King and Paulette
Rogers**

**Bruce and Leslie Doran
Gail Shieler**

**Tom and Alice Zorn
Oswaldo and Kim
Vasconez**

**Greg and Kim Brummett
Mike and Elise Forrester**

**Leah Tarbell
Steven and Martha Baker**

**Jim and Cheryl Nylund
Larry and Tanya Rodrigues**

**Lynn McAuliffe
Liz and Denis Meanor**

NEWS

Next Stop: Supervisors

FROM PAGE 2

programs, according to school system documents.

Still, other supervisors appeared to be questioning whether the school board had looked at all of its options.

"I have serious questions about cost and whether there are things not on the table to be cut," said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

GOV. BOB McDONNELL (R) did offer a silver lining in the discussion about schools funding late in the day on Feb. 8.

McDonnell supports restoring the Virginia state education funding formula to its original 2010 proportions, which means Fairfax will get a larger slice of the financial pie of education funding coming out of Richmond.

Last December, former Gov. Tim Kaine (D) proposed "freezing" the education funding formula to proportions used last year, protecting funding for several school districts downstate from losing money but costing Fairfax County Public Schools \$61 million.

It is unclear whether Fairfax will receive the full \$61 million now that McDonnell has "unfrozen" the formula. In light of a massive budget shortfall, the Virginia General Assembly could cut education funding overall, meaning the pool of money for all school districts may shrink.

But Fairfax County will still receive more money than the locality would have, if McDonnell had stuck to Kaine's original proposal.

"By unfreezing the formula, the Governor had made sure we will see additional money or, at least, some more money that we would have otherwise expected for our school system," said Bulova.

SCHOOL NOTES

Gloria Kim of Centreville, a junior at Virginia Commonwealth University, was awarded a scholarship through the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program. She is a junior majoring in fashion design, and received the scholarship for study abroad at Ewha Woman's University in Seoul, South Korea. The scholarship program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and Institute of International Education.

Northern Virginia students recently graduated from Commonwealth Challenge, a free, statewide quasi-military program for at-risk teens who have dropped out of high school or are in danger of doing so. Commonwealth

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BRRRR...ACE YOURSELF!

MILLER Orthodontics
Not just braces, beautiful faces

6101 Redwood Sq. Ctr.
Suite 305
Centreville, VA 20121
703-818-8860
www.millerorthodontics.com

Are you ready to buy a home?

Are you ready to sell?

Email me today to receive **FREE information** demonstrating how my unique and comprehensive plan will financially benefit buyers and sellers.

See what I do that others don't.

Email request to
buck@bucksimpson.com
or call **703-314-7105**

Buck Simpson
703-314-7105
bucksimpson.com
Prosperity Realty LLC

Working Today...
For Your Tomorrow

bucksimpson.com

Allsports Grand Prix
High Speed Indoor Kart Racing

The Economy Getting You Down?
Let Us Help!

***2 for 1* Racing**
Continues Weekdays in February!
Monday thru Friday
Buy 1 race at \$24.50 and get 1 free!
*Please visit our website for more details and restrictions
www.ALLSPORTSGP.com

Allsports Grand Prix
45915 Maries Road
Dulles, VA. 20166

Office (571) 434-9566
Fax (571) 434-9570
www.AllsportsGP.com

There's Something for Everyone at THE BUNGALOW!

Lunch Time, Dinner Time, Party Time, Anytime!
• Completely Smoke Free • Pool Tables, Games and Darts

WEEKLY SPECIALS

5-8 pm

MONDAY 1/2 PRICE BURGER NIGHT!
and Margarita Specials

TUESDAY HOT LICKS-WINGS & BBQ RIBS!
25¢ WINGS / 1/4 Rack Ribs \$250

WEDNESDAY STEAMIN' SEAFOOD
EXTRAVAGANZA
'Sea for Yourself' Buffet!

FRI-SAT-SUN PRIME RIB DINNER \$12⁹⁵

Don't Forget Your Valentine!
Sunday, Feb. 14th

Come Party with Us!
FAT TUESDAY, Feb. 16th

THE BUNGALOW

"Billiards and Brew & Great Food Too"
Three Convenient Locations

CHANTILLY 13891 Metrotech Dr. Chantilly, VA 20151 (703) 502-3925	MANCHESTER LAKES 7003-C Manchester Blvd. Alexandria, VA 22310 (703) 924-8730	SHIRLINGTON 2766 S. Arlington Mill Dr. Arlington, VA 22206 (703) 578-0020
---	---	--

Visit our website: www.bungalow4u.com

Now Open! Our new concept, The Bungalow AleHouse in Gainesville 571-261-9367

Communities of Worship

To highlight your faith community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

CENTREVILLE

 **Centreville Baptist Church**

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

Bible Study
9:30 am & 11:00 am

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

Come Join Us!

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

Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Christian Education for All Ages: 9:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: Wed. 9:30 a.m.

Our mission is to welcome all people, to grow in our relationship with Christ, and to serve the Lord

Braddock Road and Cranoke Street
Centreville, VA 20120
www.saintandrewlc.org
703-830-2768

 **Centreville Community Bible Church**
A Family Church Where Every Person is Loved And Cared For

Meeting at Deer Park Elementary School
15109 Carlbern Drive Centreville, VA 20120
Bible Study-9:30 a.m.
Worship- 10:30 a.m.
• Programs for Children, Youth & Adults
• Nursery Provided
(703) 815-8860 www.ccbc-va.com Pastor, Gary L. Maines

Spirit Filled - NonDenominational

 **Westgate Chapel** **Sunday Worship 9:30 am**

Current Teaching Series
"Holy Spirit 101: The Person, The Fruit, and The Gifts"

Small, Growing Congregation
Home Cell Groups

www.WestgateChapel.Net
4500 Southgate Place - Chantilly, VA - (703) 773-0456

*Warm People ~ Hot Coffee
Come in for a serving of both this Sunday*

 **Centreville United Methodist Church**

Sunday Worship Services
8:15 AM
9:30 AM
11:00 AM
Contemporary Service in the ROC
11:02 AM



Worshiping God ~ Serving Others

703.830.2684
www.centreville-umc.org
6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville VA 20121
Corner of New Braddock Road & Route 28

Tree of Life Bible Church
In Historic Centreville at Lee Hwy & Braddock Rd

13924 Braddock Road
Centreville, VA 20120
(703) 830-4563

Pastor James & First Lady Ada Vanison, Founders



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

Visit us on-line at www.treeoflifebiblechurch.org

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



Traditional Anglican Service
1928 book of Common Prayer

9:00 - Morning Prayer & 11:00 - Holy Communion (1st, 3rd, 5th weeks of the month)
11:00 - Morning Prayer & 9:00 - Holy Communion (2nd, 4th weeks of the month)

(CHURCH SCHOOL & NURSERY)
13941 Braddock Road, (north off Rte. 29) Centreville, VA
703-830-3176

CENTREVILLE

 **Centreville United Methodist Church**

11:02 AM Contemporary Worship Service
Every Sunday in the ROC (Recreation and Outreach Center)
Contemporary Music ~ Connections Praise Band
Interactive Prayer Stations
Children's Quiet Play Area & Children's Worship Message
Weekly Communion Table Open to All



703.830.2684
www.centreville-umc.org
6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville, VA 20121
Corner of New Braddock Road & Route 28

Come Worship with us at Centreville Presbyterian Church

Sunday Services
8:15 & 9:45am Praise & worship
11:15 Traditional

15450 Lee Highway
Centreville, VA 20120
703-830-0098
www.centrevillepres.com



Mount Olive Baptist Church
PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR TEMPORARY LOCATION
SUNDAY AT 10 AM
LIBERTY MIDDLE SCHOOL
6801 UNION MILL ROAD, CLIFTON, VA 20124
A NEW CHURCH IS BEING BUILT!



SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE AT LIBERTY MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Sunday School:	9:00-9:45 AM
Worship Service:	10:00 AM
Children's & Youth Church:	10:00 AM
Youth Minister: Rev. Bobby Joe Ford, Jr.	
Wednesday Bible Study (Includes Youth Classes)	7:00-9:00 PM

MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Administrative Office:
13924 Braddock Road Suite 201
Centreville, VA 20120
Phone: 703-830-8769
Fax: 703-830-6718
Website:
www.mountolive-church.org
Email:
mtolive@mountolive-church.org



Rev. Dr. Eugene Johnson, Pastor
6600 OLD CENTREVILLE ROAD CENTREVILLE, VA 20121

WORTH NOTING

To have community events listed in Centre View, e-mail to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412.

ONGOING

New Neighbors League Club of Northern Virginia is looking for women who are new to the area, looking to reconnect, or just interested in meeting new people for fun and friendship. Attend one of its monthly coffees or luncheons, then join one of a number of clubs such as bridge, couples bridge, mah jong, gardening, quilting and stitching, bible study, bowling, bunco, Southern living dining, movie outings, cards or board games, couples mixers, book club, nursing home sing-a-longs, and many other activities. For more information visit www.newneighborsvirginia.com

Music Education Program. Offered through St. John's 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. Call 703-803-7500.

Neighborhood Watch Training. The Fair Oaks District Police Station is offering 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. The training dates are as follows:

- ❖ Tuesday, April 20
- ❖ Tuesday, July 20
- ❖ Tuesday, Oct. 19.

FRIDAY/FEB. 12

The Brain Show and Family Food Court. 5-9 p.m. The Brain Show is an educational trivia game show with the look and feel of a real TV game show. Also a food court with Chic-fil-A, Baja Fresh, Cici's Pizza, Sushi Sashimi and more. At Centreville Elementary School.

Swing Dancing. Have a Heart Hop. Valentine's treats and dance floor Valentine deliveries. With the Natty Beaux. Will be raising money for the Fairfax Humane Society by auctioning off many of the dancers. Cost is \$15. Swing lesson from 8:30-9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. With Sue and Gary Caley. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

SATURDAY/FEB. 13

Chocolate Festival and Silent Auction. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit the church's Student Ministry mission trips and the Help Hungry Kids Backpack ministries at Hutchison and McNair elementary schools. There will be games, a silent auction, food, raffles, card making and chocolate. At Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road, Herndon. Call 703-793-0026 or visit the church Web site at www.florisumc.org.

FEB. 13-14

Lunar New Year Celebration. 1-5 p.m. Music, dance, Kung Fu demos, a lantern festival and kids' drawing contests. At Fair Oaks Mall. Visit www.ShopFairOaksMall.com

MONDAY, FEB. 15

Assistance League Meeting. 10 a.m. ALNV is a volunteer organization that promotes literacy and well-being of women and children in Northern Virginia, welcomes new members to its monthly meetings. ALNV runs two reading programs in Fairfax County and provides layettes to newborns and comfort items to sexually assaulted women and children and others in need. At the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Call Darlene at 703-848-0623; alnorthernva@yahoo.com; www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

Western Fairfax County Woman's Club. 7 p.m. Aaron and Katherine Hawthorne, "ambassadors" for Fairfax County's Foster Care and Adoption program will share some of their experiences as foster and adoptive parents, as well as information about how the community can help local children in foster care. Meets at Greenbriar Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. contact President Eileen Chambers at 703-378-7054 or Vice President Randi Weston at 703-266-0428.

TUESDAY/FEB. 16

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. 6-7:30 p.m. At St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 14640 Soucy Place, Centreville.

South Riding Pediatric Dentistry

SHIRLEY F. BETHEL, D.M.D.

Dentistry for Children and Adolescents
Board Certified



4229 Lafayette Center Dr., Suite 1400
Chantilly, VA 20151-1201

Phone 703-378-2000

Fax 703-378-2400

(Participating Provider for Delta Premier, United Concordia and Guardian)

CURRENTLY ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

**"Easy As A Day
At The Beach"**

BLUE IGUANA

VALENTINE'S DINNER SPECIAL SERVED ALL WEEKEND
Regular Menu Also Available

Reserve Early!

Valentine's 3 Course Gourmet Prix Fixe
Feb. 12, 13 & 14 Starting at 5 PM
Only \$35 Per Person

VALENTINE'S SPECIAL SUNDAY BRUNCH Buffet
\$19.95 Sun. Feb. 14 • 10 AM to 2 PM

12727 Shoppes Lane, Fairfax, VA
Reservations Suggested 703/502-8108
www.blueiguana.net

Potomac Paint & Design Center

GO GREEN

Benjamin Moore® Paints

\$5.00 OFF*

Premium Paint Natura & Aura
*Retail Only

FREE Drop Cloth and Roller Cover

13900 Metrotech Dr. (near Lowes)
Chantilly, VA 20151
703-961-1200

A Sweet Deal for your Sweetheart

This Valentine's Day

Be My Valentine Love You

Valentine Weekend Special:
4 Course Dinner for 2-\$69.95*

Includes a Bottle of Fish Eye Wine
Cabernet or Chardonnay

Choice of 1 Appetizer
Ahi Tuna Sashimi, Ka Pow Shrimp, or Southwest Eggrolls

Choice of Salad
Caesar, House or Mixed Green

Choice of Entrée
Filet Mignon, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Shrimp Scampi, or Catch of the Day

Choice of Dessert

BACKYARD GRILL & BAR

Visit Our Two Locations:
13999 Metrotech Dr. Chantilly
703-802-6400

7421 Sudley Rd. Manassas
703-365-0932

* This offer available only at our Chantilly location.

Special Gift for all ladies!

JOIN

Pacino RISTORANTE ITALIANO
Family Owned and Operated

FOR OUR VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION
FEBRUARY 12- 14th • 4-10pm
Reservations Recommended • Limited seating available

Treat your loved one to an exceptional 4 course meal for only \$70 per couple
Includes A Bottle Of Wine!

Sunday Brunch Buffet
Every Sunday 10am - 2pm

- Elegant Entrees
- Omelette Station
- Carving Station
- Salad Station
- Seafood Station
- Fresh Fruit Display
- Huge Dessert Station
- and much much More!

Voted Top 10 Italian Restaurants in VA, DC, MD by WTOP News 103.5!

703-222-5885

5653 Stone Road, Centreville, VA 20120 • fax 703-222-6107
Monday-Thursday 11am-10pm • Friday & Saturday 11am-11pm • Sunday 10am-9pm
www.pacinatoristorante.com

Pacino and the American Red Cross Helping Haiti
Pacino Ristorante Italiano and its staff are gratefully accepting donations for the American Red Cross to help the earthquake victims in Haiti. Donations can be made in person or by phone, (703) 222-5885. The American Red Cross is in need of CASH donations in lieu of food, clothes or water. Please do what you can to help. Thank you.

Centreville REAL ESTATE

also featuring Chantilly & Oak Hill

For information about appearing on this page, contact Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com

On the Market



Centreville – The Search is Ended!

Spacious, modern 4500 sq. ft. center-hall colonial in pristine condition inside and out! Professionally landscaped lot with flagstone front entry plus full-length deck with screened-in gazebo overlooks private backyard. Full walkout finished lower level with custom wet bar, built-in bookcases, gas fireplace, fifth bedroom and full bath with sauna! Main level has gleaming hardwood floors. Renovated granite kitchen with all the modern conveniences: center island/breakfast bar, ample 42" maple cabinetry plus quality appliances including Hotshot instant hot water, trash compactor and Miele dishwasher. Adjacent mud room with laundry, garage and exterior access. Windows galore throughout! Fantastic master suite features a sunny sitting room, dressing area and two customized walk-in closets. This home has been lovingly maintained and continually modernized. Green Trails neighborhood with community amenities and public schools close by.

**For more information contact: The DamonSellsHomes Team,
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, 703-502-8787,
www.DamonSellsHomes.com
Priced at: \$659,000**



Centreville – Great Home!

Spectacular brick front home on bird sanctuary. 2 story foyer w/ curved staircase. Vaulted ceiling in family room, granite countertops, upgraded appliances & cabinets. This 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath plus loft has it ALL & is in mint condition!!

**For more information contact: Russ Day, Century 21 New Millennium,
703-209-3377, www.russday.com
Priced at \$639,900**



Clifton – Prettiest Piece of Land in Clifton

All brick rambler, four level split. Huge kitchen. Bright sunroom off of kitchen. Two cooking centers 8 burners. Silo stone counter tops. Large laundry area with half bath. Formal dining room and living room with bump out bay windows. Large master suite with balcony overlooking the grounds, Complete in-law suite with kitchen and sunroom.

**For more information contact: Lisa Clayborne, Long & Foster Gateway,
703-502-8145, claybornelisa@aol.com
Priced at \$995,900**



Centreville – Great Garage Townhouse

This three level 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath townhouse has a one car garage. Vaulted ceilings for open, spacious feeling, also two bay windows bring in lots of light. Two levels have hardwood floors for easy maintenance. Step down living room, with deck for entertaining. The kitchen has breakfast bar w/ room for stools and a large pantry. Woodburning fireplace in recreation room. The lower level has a walkout basement to fenced yard. Community pool, tennis, and tot lot. Must see!

**For more information contact Angela Bennett, Samson Properties , 703-851-3867,
angelabennett@smartneighborhood.net,
Priced at \$270,000**

Profile in Real Estate – Carolina Hurtado

I have a BS in Decision Science and Management Information Systems from George Mason University. I'm also a Certified Weichert Mentor.

Other personal interests include: I'm a Member of Honor Societies Phi Theta Kappa y Alpha Chi. I have degrees in International Studies and Business Administration. Also a Technical degree in Information Systems! I have more than 10 years of experience as Business analyst and owner and CEO of a Business Process Reengineering consulting firm.

As a result of all this great experience, I am a very strong detail oriented and observation capacity person. I use all these skills to make Real Estate transactions an uncomplicated, clear, honest, and professional process explained at every single step.

I'm local!....As a resident and homeowner in Northern Virginia

(Fairfax) for the last 14 years. I am not only a wife, but a mother of two wonderful children. In my spare time: I do volunteer work with Salvation Army (since 2002), SACC Representative for Daniels Run Elementary 2008-2009 and I'm a member of Architectural and Landscaping Committee in Fair Oaks Green HOA since 2008.

I have experience representing buyers and sellers in Fairfax County. I am very knowledgeable and up to date on current market conditions and very capable of handling the requirements needed to sell and buy properties successfully!

Advice for sellers: Price and condition curves have to meet. The better the condition the better the price (for a specific subdivision) Prepare your home the best you can. Besides buyers, appraisers most likely will see it too.

For Buyers: Be realistic, market conditions are changing. Be prepared to compete for the best homes. Get financially qualified and keep close contact with your lender and Realtor. We all have to work as a Team to reach your goals

My Mission...

To serve you with Integrity, Honesty, and Enthusiasm from beginning Until all your Real Estate goals are satisfied!



Carolina Hurtado
Weichert, Fairfax Office
churtado@weichert.com

SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 7

ChalleNGe is the Virginia component of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program, which focuses on preparing at-risk teens and high school dropouts for the General Educational Development (GED) and future employment, military or higher education opportunities. Local graduates include:

- ❖ From Centreville — **Dominique L. Lewis**, Mountain View HS
- ❖ From Clifton — **Brian Lecea**, Centreville HS
- ❖ From Fairfax — **Jose P. Briceno-Florez**, Robinson Secondary School
- ❖ From Fairfax — **Michael A. Lynch II**, Fairfax HS

Kaitlyn Maher, age 6, America's Got Talent Finalist and Gymboree Music Graduate, will sing from her debut CD, "You Were Meant to Be" at the Sweetheart Party, on Friday, Feb. 12 from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Chantilly Gymboree Play & Music Center. Proceeds from the Party will benefit another Gymboree student, Rachel Dandrea, 2 1/2 years old, who is battling Neuroblastoma, a rare form of childhood cancer. At 14155 Sullyfield Circle, Suite I.

Monica Nguyen of Clifton has been named to the dean's list, in recognition of outstanding academic performance, at George Mason University for the Fall 2009 academic period. She is in her third year studying information technology and psychology.

Clifton Children's Academy will be holding a Registration Open House for Kindergarten and Morning, Afternoon and Fullday Preschool classes Thursday, Feb. 18 and 25, from 9:15 - 11:30 a.m. This is for registration for Fall 2010. Bring one's child and come to tour the school. The school is located at 14315 Compton Road in Centreville. Call 703-968-8455. Registration Info is available on our Web site at www.childrensacademy.com.

The **CVHS Annual Mulch Sale** will be held from March 19-21. The Class of 2010 is offering Premium Double Shredded Hardwood Mulch (3cu.ft./bagged) in support of "Project Graduation". All profits support the alcohol/drug free All-Night Graduation Celebration and senior scholarships programs and activities. Orders must be placed by Monday, March 15. Deliveries will be made on March 19-21.

10 or more bags: \$4.75/bag - free delivery to ZIP codes 20120, 20121 and 20124. 1-9 bags: \$4.75/bag - pick-up mulch at Centreville High School parking lot 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. or \$10 delivery charge to ZIP codes 20120, 20121 and 20124. Order online at: www.cvhsmulch.org.

LOUIS C. FILIPPONE, D.D.S., P.C.
ORTHODONTIST



WE OFFER TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS
Both of our beautiful, modern offices use the latest technology in orthodontic treatment for children and adults.
Flexible interest free payment plans are available
Most insurance plans are accepted
Convenient Saturday and evening hours
BOARD CERTIFIED DIPLOMATE
Of THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ORTHODONTICS

Call for your **FREE** Initial Consultation

Centreville Gainesville
6138 Redwood Square 7521 Virginia Oaks Dr.,
Center, Suite 103 Suite 120
703-815-0127 703-754-4880
www.nvaortho.com

DIPLOMATE
AMERICAN BOARD
OF ORTHODONTICS

**Complete Dental Care
for the Entire Family**

BRUCE R. HUTCHISON, D.D.S.
MICHAEL H. GORMAN, D.D.S.
WHITNEY S. JARRELL, D.D.S.



FAMILY DENTISTRY
14245-P Centreville Sq.
Centreville, VA 20121
703-830-9110
www.smilesforcentreville.com

**Cosmetic, Family
and Laser Dentistry**



Jose Aunon, D.D.S.
6134 Redwood Square Ctr.
Suite 202
Centreville, VA 20121



James Moshier, D.M.D.

703-266-BITE (2483)
Early A.M. & Evening Appts. Available
www.virginialaserdental.com



**Visit your community's answer
to all your natural health needs!**



• Chiropractic • Sports Injuries • Massage Therapy • Work and Auto Accidents
• Custom Foot Orthotic specialists • Weight Management • Fitness and much more!!

Call today and take advantage of our specials:
Massage Therapy package of 3
Special Price of \$225 (savings of \$60.00)
Consultation with Dr Petrie (\$295 value) \$35.00

American Health & Wellness Center
13300-B Franklin Farm Rd., Franklin Farm Village Center
(703)787-7463
www.amwell.com



Let them love the dentist!

DR. MONSALVE
Board Certified Pediatric Dentist
Dentistry for infants, children, adolescents and children with special needs.
Member of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry



- First Visit
- Infant Dental Care
- Sealants
- Sedation Dentistry
- Space Maintainers
- Emergencies
- Se Habla Español

Schedule your child's appointment TODAY!
703-481-1115
Most Insurance Plans Accepted
Carlos H. Monsalve, DDS, PC
13350 Franklin Farm Road, Suite 310 • Herndon, VA 20171

www.teetharefun.com

**OPEN HOUSES
SAT./SUN. FEBRUARY 13 & 14**



12713 OX MEADOW DR • \$1,245,000 • Sun. 1-4
Weichert • Carolina Hurtado • 703-691-0555

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Oak Hill

12713 OX MEADOW DR\$1,245,000Sun. 1-4.....Weichert.....Carolina Hurtado.....703-691-0555

Fairfax

10725 NORMAN AVE.....\$529,000Sun. 1-4.....Weichert.....Ron Fowler.....703-598-0511
3800 LYNN REGIS CT.....\$874,999Sun. 1-4.....RE/MAX Allegiance.....Mary Thyfault Clark.....703-563-2210
5300 ESABELLA CT.....\$675,000Sun. 21st 11-2pm.....RE/MAX Regency.....Christine Kropp.....571-213-1327
5503 CHESTERMILL CT.....\$640,000Sun. 11-3.....NetRealtyNow.com.....Thomas Hennerty.....703-286-7253
12934 GRAYS POINTE RD.....\$193,900SAT 1-4.....Rich Triplett.....Samson Properties703-217-1348
11395 ARISTOTLE DR.....\$163,000SUN 1-4.....Rich Triplett.....Samson Properties.....703-217-1348

Reston

2072 WHISPERWOOD GLEN LN.....\$339,000Sun. 1-4.....Weichert.....David Swartzbaugh.....703-760-8880
2524 TROPHY LN.....\$675,000Sun. 1-4.....Coldwell Banker.....Deb Pestronk.....703-471-7220
1655 FIELDTHORN DR.....\$324,900Sun. 1-4.....Samson Properties.....Donny Samson.....703-896-5825

Fairfax Station

8310 ARGENT CIRCLE.....\$699,950Sun. 1-4.....Weichert.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....703-862-8808
11611 YATES FORD RD.....\$767,500Sun. 1-4.....Keller Williams Capital.....Karen Paris.....571-220-7503

Alexandria

124 N. GRAYSON ST.....\$479,000Sun. 1-4.....Weichert.....Ron Fowler.....703-598-0511

Burke

9532 CHERRY OAK COURT.....\$309,950Sun. 1-4.....Weichert.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....703-862-8808
5502 BEACONSFIELD CT.....\$389,500Sun. 1-3.....Coldwell Banker.....Mark Goedde.....703-938-5600

To add your **FREE** Realtor Open House listing in
Chantilly/Oak Hill, Centreville/Clifton, Fairfax
Contact: Karen Washburn
kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com
All listings due by Monday at 3 p.m.

Good Run for Chantilly Boys at Track Districts

Chargers' solid showing lands them a third place finish.

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

All in all, Matt Gilchrist, the Chantilly High track and field coach, was pleased with his boys team's showing at the recent Concorde District indoor season championships. The Chargers did a lot of good things at the meet and ultimately finished third in the team standings behind district co-champions Centreville and Robinson.

The way Gilchrist saw it, Chantilly gave it a great shot. The coach credited both Centreville and Robinson for putting together exceptional meets.

"I knew we had the potential to be in the top three," said Gilchrist, of the six-team postseason meet. "It was very close between us, Centreville and Robinson. We had talked about winning a championship. For the most part, the boys performed the way we expected. Robinson and Centreville really stepped up. And you can only do your best. We can't be disappointed because our performance was where it needed to be."

The two-day postseason event, held at Prince George's Sports and Learning Center in Landover, Md., began on Jan. 28 with preliminary events. The second and final day of action took place a week later on

Feb. 4 with event finals.

While Centreville and Robinson shared the championship with 108 points each, Chantilly (91.33) took third place and Herndon (67.66) was fourth.

At districts, the top three relay teams automatically advanced to the upcoming Northern Region Championships, which will take place on Feb. 20 at George Mason University. Also, the top six finishers in individual events at districts qualified for regionals. Christopher Foley, Chantilly's outstanding middle/long distance runner, won the 1000 race (2:35.49), finishing ahead of Centreville's Mattson Heiner. Also, Foley finished second in both the one-mile and two-mile races. Centreville's Yazid Zouaimia won both of those events.

Foley and Zouaimia, both seniors, are ranked No. 1 and 2, nationally, in the two-mile. Foley timed at 9 minutes, 14 seconds in the event early in the season at the Montgomery Invitational. Zouaimia has a 9:16 time in the two-mile this winter.

At districts, Zouaimia won the two-mile race with a time of 9:20.51, while Foley timed at 9:35.77. Both runners, a while earlier, had run in the 1600. And in between the 1600 and 3200, Foley had also run in - and won - the 1000. So he was naturally a little fatigued going into the 3200. Gilchrist said the district meet was all about giving it up for the team, and Foley and his teammates certainly gave it their all.

"Chris's big goal is to try to win states in the two-mile and to get closer to nine minutes," said Gilchrist. "But district's is all about 'team.' He did his job for the team."

Foley and Zouaimia have both accepted

partial scholarships to run in college next school year. Foley will run at the University of Virginia and Zouaimia will compete on the men's team at Virginia Tech.

Foley, who a year ago won both the district and region titles in the two-mile before finishing third in the state, has worked hard at his sport during his high school career and is at or near top form this winter.

"He trains hard and takes [running] very seriously," said Gilchrist. "There is a certain sense of confidence when Chris goes into a race that he believes he has a chance to win."

OTHER INDIVIDUAL boys' championships for Chantilly at districts came from junior Mohammed Labor-Koroma, who won both the 500 and 300 races, and senior Chris Menzel, who was first in pole vault ahead of Robinson's John Ro. Menzel also placed fourth in the 55-hurdles.

Labor-Koroma, in the 500, finished ahead of Oakton's Matt Henton. In the 300, he bested Robinson's Ryan Tarpey. He was also a fourth place finisher in the high jump, and sixth in pole vault.

Thursday's second day of competition was a great one for Labor-Koroma, who won his two running events and also celebrated his 17th birthday (Feb. 4).

"Mohamed is phenomenal," said Gilchrist, of the talented 11th grader. "He ran three events on both days [of the meet]. He won two and anchored a relay to a region qualifier. I can't say enough about him. He's Mr. Everything."

Labor-Koroma, who won the region title in the 500-race last year, holds the all-time school record in the event. He loves competing and the camaraderie of his teammates. "Mohammed is so spirited," said Gilchrist. "But when it comes down to performing at big meets, he's all business and will do anything he can for the team. He's strong and healthy now and I think he will do good at regionals and states."

Other Chantilly boys' place finishers at districts came from: sophomore Arthur McDuffy (2nd in triple jump, 5th in long jump); senior Ryan McWeeny (3rd in 55-hurdles, tied for 6th in high jump); and

SEE TRACK, PAGE 15

Girls' Teams Compete at Region Swim Championships

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

Abby McCranie, Yoona Kim and Taylor Avery, finished in fourth place.

The Centreville, Chantilly and Westfield High girls' swim teams were all represented at the Northern Region Championships postseason event held on Thursday, Feb. 4 at the Oak Marr Recreation Center in Oakton.

The meet was shortened due to the snow storm that hit the Northern Virginia and surrounding areas over last weekend. Thursday's preliminary events ended up counting as finals scores. Originally, the region meet was scheduled to conclude on Saturday, Feb. 6.

The region boys' meet, other than diving, never got started. The make-up date for the boys' competition is set for this Friday, Feb. 12 at Washington-Lee High's pool in Arlington. The meet will be shortened to one night with all of the races counting as finals.

Girls' dive competition, meanwhile, is also scheduled to take place on Friday.

Highlights of the girls' meet included Chantilly's Brenna Ferris taking second place in the 200-freestyle race and earning a third place finish in the 500-free. Her Charger teammate, Maggie Shaw, was fourth and sixth, respectively, in the same events. Meanwhile, Chantilly's 400-free relay team, made up of Alexis Regan, Shaw, Ferris and Becca Yost, finished in sixth place.

For Centreville, Natalie Leake finished seventh in the 50-free race. And the Wildcats' 200-free relay team, made up of Leake,

And for Westfield, Carli Molano finished fourth in both the 100 and 50-free races. At the Concorde District Championships, held on Jan. 30 at Cub Run Recreation Center in Chantilly, the Westfield girls finished a strong third place in the team standings, behind champion Robinson and second place Oakton.

The Bulldogs were led by sophomore Molano, who won both the girls' 100 and 50-freestyle races.

"Carli was simply outstanding," said Westfield head coach Bruce Andersen. "She swam lifetime bests in both events. As a freshman last year, there was no doubt that she was talented and driven, but I could tell she wasn't as mature a competitor as the top girls in the region. [At the recent districts] she swam with the same determination as last year, but it was impressive to see how much she had matured. She showed she is one of the top sprinters now."

For the Westfield boys at districts, Kurtis Ratcliff was first in the 100-butterfly race and second in the 500-free.

In the 100-fly race, Ratcliff and teammate Charlie Keith were first and second, respectively.

"Kurtis was stronger than he has been all season," said Andersen. "He had two good solid swims that were season bests, and not far off his lifetime bests. He has been able to get faster late in the season the past two years."



Defeating Oakton John Manning, Chantilly High's junior center, goes up for the block during a regular season Concorde District boys' basketball game at Herndon a few weeks ago. No. 50 for the Chargers is senior forward Matt Howerton. Chantilly (13-6) defeated visiting Oakton, 73-58, last Thursday, Feb. 4.

Snowed In

FROM PAGE 3

to Virginia to respond to the shortage of appropriate plows. But simply putting larger, industrial plows on local community roads is not always practical.

The plows are sometimes unable to physically fit down side streets. In those cases, more specialized snow removal equipment has to be brought to a neighborhood, which clears the roads in a slower and more cumbersome fashion, according to officials.

In general, the supervisors were pleased with the Virginia transportation department's snow removal efforts, saying they thought the agency was doing the best that it could.

"[The Virginia Department of Transportation] is not designed to handle a storm this big because we don't get them this big. You don't plan for the storm of the century," said Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock).

GOV. BOB McDONNELL (R) has deployed 62 members of the National Guard to Fairfax County to help with both snowstorms. The guardsmen arrived Feb. 7, sleeping on cots set up in the Fairfax County Government Center and a few fire stations around the county.

The Virginia National Guard is able to provide back up to emergency responders overwhelmed with hundreds of requests for assistance. For example, on Monday, Feb. 8, the guard transported an 88 year-old dialysis patient who was snowed in to a medical appointment.

"Our mission here is medical transports, employee transports, helping out police and fire squads, and medical assistance," said Specialist Jeremy Anderson, who was stationed at the National Guard's emergency operations center, set up in the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center in Fairfax.

Fairfax officials also said regular citizens have been of great assistance in the storm. Some county residents have been volunteering their four-wheel drive vehicles to transport other people to medical centers and doctor appointments.

In a few cases, regular citizens have also picked up and driven county employees — such a fire and rescue workers — to a job site, said Fitzgerald.

"A lot of the people staffing the shelters were picked up by volunteers and brought here," she said.

INOVA HOSPITALS have seen fewer snow-related injuries during this storm than the mid-December storm, said Tony Raker, the health system's spokesperson.

"We believe the reason is the difference between a 6-inch and 26-inch storm. The larger amount of snow has had a paralyzing effect on activity while the smaller amount has a tendency to generate a bit of over confidence, causing folks not to exercise as much caution in the elements as they should," said Raker.

Some county supervisors have received calls from



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

After plowing a Fair Oaks street, this driver piles up the white stuff in a snow-collection area.

people in sensitive conditions.

In the Braddock District, one woman worried about getting her son to the hospital later this week, when he is scheduled to have surgery. Another woman is nine months pregnant and worried about going into labor and not being able to get to the hospital, said Cook.

"It is the people who have an emergency, those are the ones that we are really concerned about," said Cook.

The second storm may have posed a new set of problems.

Virginia could have run out of the salt before the end of the second snow fall.

"Salt could be a challenge during the next storm — we've been replenishing but the domes aren't full," said Morris.

A few county officials also wonder where all the plowed snow will go once it is cleared, as the shoulders of major roads and large parking lots run out of space.

The transportation department typically hauls snow from the Capital Beltway and Interstate 95/395 to an area under the Woodrow Wilson Bridge near the City of Alexandria.

"Not running out of space [there] yet ... You can check again later," said Morris, in response to a question about snow storage.

Reporter Mike DiCicco contributed to this article.

Gary Kramer, D.D.S.
 DIPLOMATE OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY FOR CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS & THE HANDICAPPED
 703-978-0051
 ©Origin
 SUITE F • 5631 BURKE CENTRE PARKWAY • BURKE, VA. • 22015
 WEEKDAYS UNITED CONCORDIA 24 HOUR
 SATURDAYS • EVENINGS PARTICIPANT EMERGENCY CARE

FALBO THOMAS
 Early Morning, Evening Appointments Available
 Dentistry for Adults and Children
 Most Insurances Accepted!
 Accepting New Delta Dental Patients
 Anthony D. Falbo D.D.S. and Judith A. Thomas D.D.S.
 14245-F Centreville Square (703) 815-0775

BMW, VOLVO & VOLKSWAGEN SERVICE AND PARTS
 Since 1985 Dedicated to keeping your BMW, Volvo and Volkswagen in factory condition with:
 • Factory trained master technicians
 • Genuine BMW, Volvo and Volkswagen parts • Emissions Certified Repair
 • 24 hour drop off and pick up • Most extended warranty policies accepted
 • Rental car reimbursement program
\$20 OFF Oil Change
Viking Automotive ASE CERTIFIED
 14500-B Lee Rd., Chantilly
703-817-0650
 visit us at www.vikingautomotive.com

FROZEN ROPES™
 BASEBALL-SOFTBALL TRAINING CENTER
10% OFF One Class, Rental or Lesson
Spring Training Starts Now!
 Get Ready for your season!
 Winter #2 Classes
 February 15-March 28
 Spring Break Camp- 3/29-4/2
 4080-F Walney Road
 Chantilly, VA 20151
T: (703) 378-9090
frozenropes.com/chantilly
 Programs for all ages & skills
 - Private Lessons
 - Batting & Pitching tunnels- RENT
 - Iron Mike, Jugs & Video Pitching Simulators
 - Born to Play Club (ages 3-4)
 - Rookie Club (5-6)
 - Minor League Class (7-9)
 - Major League Class (10-12)
 - Scope & Rope Hitting
 - Pitching & Catching Classes
 - Diamond Strength, Speed & Agility, Speed Thrills Throwing
 Sign up for our World Membership Program!

MASON NATION 2006 NCAA Final 4
MASON PATRIOTS
GEORGE MASON vs. WILLIAM & MARY
TUES., FEB. 16 • 7 PM
AT THE PATRIOT CENTER
AAA NIGHT
 Mid-Atlantic
 Receive \$5 Off with your Harris Teeter VIC Card
NEXT GAME:
GEORGE MASON vs. COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
ESPN BRACKETBUSTER (HOMECOMING)
SAT., FEB. 20 • 8 PM
AT THE PATRIOT CENTER
GoMason.com
 Group & Mini Packages: 703-993-3270
 Individual Tickets: 703-573-SEAT or visit ticketmaster.com

EMPLOYMENT

ZONE 4:
• CENTREVILLE

CLASSIFIED

703-917-6400
ZONE 4 AD DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

P/T MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Busy medical office in Fair Oaks area has P/T Medical Assistant position available. Must be pleasant & self motivated. No experience necessary but will train. Friendly office. Call: **540-347-9393** or Fax resume: **540-347-9398**

F/T, DENTAL FRONT DESK

Burke, VA. Experience with collections preferred. Softdent and insurance knowledge a plus. Must be personable, reliable, detail-oriented and possess good communication skills. Excellent benefits. Fax resume to 703-978-0423.

GROOMERS • BATHERS & RECEPTIONIST

Featherle Pet Care seeking exp'd and motivated individuals who love dogs, cats and people. English/Spanish preferred. Sterling and Chantilly locations. Call: **540-854-0046**

RECEPTIONIST

Needed for apt comm in Reston. Must have good organizational skills, strong attention to detail, computer knowledge, Microsoft Office experience, filing and able to multi-task. Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Fax resume to:

703-471-1229

Seasonal Garden Center Positions

Bell Nursery, a nationally recognized grower/vendor of plants and nursery stock is looking for hardworking, enthusiastic people to merchandise our products at a Home Depot garden center near you. Weekends are a must. Supervisory and Merchandising positions are available. Please view job descriptions, locations and apply online at bellimpact.com

Internships Available

Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of the newspaper business. Internships available in reporting, photography, research, graphics. Opportunities for students, and for adults considering change of career. Unpaid. Email internship@connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

On Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall, the Clifton Town Council will hold a public hearing to consider adopting a meals Tax ordinance pursuant to Va. Code § 58.1-3840. Members of the public may appear at said time and place to present their views on the proposed meals tax ordinance. The full text of the proposed meals tax ordinance is available for examination on the Town's website and at the Clifton Post Office or by contacting the Town Clerk at (Marilyn, Kathleen insert your contact information.)

21 Announcements

TRUSTEE'S SALE

OF VALUABLE

IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as 14479 Black Horse Court, Centreville, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Fabio A. Espinoza, Rosa Cotrina, Elmer Cotrina, Veronica Garcia and Julia Cotrina, dated May 21, 2007, and recorded May 23, 2007, in Deed Book 19345 at page 433 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 372, Section 4, Newgate, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 5827 at page 169, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 14479 Black Horse Court, Centreville, Virginia 20120.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$30,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 7.275 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

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

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

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

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

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

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

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
David N. Prensley
Chasen & Chasen
5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500
Washington, D.C. 20015
(202) 244-4000

21 Announcements

CYPRESS COVE AUCTION

EXCLUSIVE LAKEFRONT PROPERTIES
Wednesday March 10, 2010 • 12 Noon

Auction Location: Hilton Garden Inn – Suffolk, VA

United Country
A.B. Cole & Associates
Auction & Realty, LLC
VAAF #796

Own a 6,900 sq ft home on Lake Cohoon that has 4 bedrooms and 5.5 baths. Carriage house, in-ground pool, multiple patios. Other available properties include a 2-bedroom home on Lake Meade, or a pair of waterfront tracts where you can build your dream home. One parcel SELLING WITHOUT RESERVE

Toll Free (877) 539-9866 • www.CypressCoveAuction.com

21 Announcements

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXPIRES 1/11/10 *Harry!*

HEATER SALE! 45% OFF

Infrared Miracle Heater
CUT YOUR HEATING BILLS UP TO 50%
Heat up to 1000 sq. ft. for Pennies a day

Was \$499 • Cannot start fires • Full factory warranty
Now Only \$279 • Safe around kids & pets • Money Back Guarantee
W/ COUPON

1-877-497-4427
Must Mention Coupon Code 6566
Call Now, Supplies Limited

21 Announcements

Local Man Gallops 1.2 Miles Without Pain

BEXAR COUNTY – After using Thera-Gesic® pain creme on his sore legs, Tom W. was comfortably romping through town while laughing, according to witnesses. When asked about the laughing, he replied, "The price on this product is silly!"



Go painlessly with Thera-Gesic®



21 Announcements

Buildings for Every Project ~ Solutions for Every Budget

ECONOMICAL AFFORDABLE QUALITY

Financing Available!

...and everything in between...

Building Specials!

24x32x10	\$7,399	40x60x14	\$18,999
30x40x10	\$9,399	40x80x12	\$22,999
30x50x12	\$12,999	60x120x16	\$53,999

Specials include: 10-gauge aluminum • Heavy-duty metal • Delivery & installation

1-877-434-3133 www.cbstructuresinc.com

21 Announcements

MORTON BUILDINGS

Building Value Days
Feb. 11, 12 & 13, "Open House"

Starting at

Size
48'x12'-4"x 80' \$22,857
60'x16'-4"x 120' \$42,603

Call your local Morton office today:

Culpeper (540) 825-3633
Richmond (804) 739-0932
Roanoke (540) 366-3705

(800) 447-7436 mortonbuildings.com

Call today for details and to schedule an appointment. Prices and availability vary by location. Pricing and products subject to change without notice. Offer ends 2/13/10. Photos and illustrations may contain optional features not included in price. Certain restrictions apply. All transactions are subject to credit approval, applicable taxes, and other terms. ©2010 Morton Buildings, Inc. Morton Buildings is a registered trademark. All rights reserved.

Track



Really?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"No turn on red when pedestrians are present." That's what the sign says; many of them say it (print it, actually) throughout Old Town Alexandria (maybe other jurisdictions, too, but I've not noticed them elsewhere). And it's a good thing that it is said, and said/printed so clearly and placed so prominently (on the right side of the road on which I'm idling, staring at the aforementioned red light while contemplating a right-hand turn) because otherwise, I might not react as carefully to the sight of pedestrians walking directly in front of me and my car.

I have to believe that, given the increasing numbers of licensed (and unlicensed) practical drivers out there, a percentage of whom might not read and write English as their primary language, it never hurts to offer refresher-type signage stating the fairly obvious. I mean, drivers have a lot more going on inside their cars (and perhaps even inside their heads) than maybe they used to just a few short years ago.

Cell phones, leap to mind, especially when they're set on ring, are distracting; more so when there's an ongoing conversation, whether hand-holding or hands free. Either way, there's more information in-car (and in-ear) than drivers have previously ever had to assimilate. And of course, this doesn't even take into consideration the demands/activities of any passengers, who we'll assume (for the sake of this column) are not so much interested in, or demanding of, the driver, given their likely involvement within their own hand-held devices (cell-phonning, texting, gaming, video) as in the past.

Speaking of cell phones and distractions, one cannot address the demands on drivers without mentioning the scourge of texting, a silent assassin, if there ever was one. Created presumably to enhance and assure the lines of communication, their use and abuse; anytime, all the time, without regard to time and place, has created an alternative to speaking that unfortunately has led drivers to additional distractions; requiring drivers who decide to reply, something else to do in-car with BOTH HANDS instead of/in addition to HOLDING THE WHEEL AND STEERING.

And lest we not forget the absolute newest distraction to drivers: G.P.S.-type navigation systems, the search-and-hopefully-not-destroy-the-driver, computerized rescue devices that will direct drivers to their destination, so long as they manually enter the correct information into the device (most likely also while in the car and driving), and then actually listen to its calm, reassuring voice advising you where to turn, and/or looking at the pop-up navigation screen for further "directionality." A helpful device for sure, but one often strategically placed out of your line of sight for convenient viewing no doubt, but a location which draws the driver's eyes away from watching ahead (or into the rear- or side-view mirrors) to watching down a bit and to the side. Nevertheless, this is information which has provided countless motorists; verbally, visually, digitally and repeatedly, happy endings to an otherwise potentially harrowing journey. Still, this kind of real-time-type streaming data is imposing itself on drivers in a frequency and duration never before imagined and certainly not one for which there has been any training or driver education.

It's obvious, with so much that is new (technologically speaking, especially), that Alexandria has decided to go old school and offer its local drivers a reminder of one of their basic behind-the-wheel responsibilities: to respect their fellow non-drivers. It sounds/reads simple enough, "No turn on red when pedestrians are present," but considering all the cell-phonning, texting, gaming and navigating going on in the car, apparently it made sense to "sign in" while drivers were signing on.

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

FROM PAGE 12

freshman Sean McGorty (5th in 3200).

FOR THE CHANTILLY GIRLS, who finished fifth at districts, multi place finishers were: junior Nina Ullom, who was second in pole vault and third in the long jump; sophomore Jacquelyn Sieder, third in the 500 and sixth in long jump; and senior Rachel Grochowski, second in the 1000, fourth in the 1600, and fifth in the 3200.

Other place finishers for the Chantilly girls were: freshman Samantha Lull (4th in high jump); senior Olabisi Abisogun (5th in long jump); senior Sarah Meier (3rd in shot put); junior Tiffany Mitchell (5th in 55 dash); and senior Tyeisha Jarrett (6th in 55 dash).

FOR THE WESTFIELD GIRLS, who finished fourth in the district, senior Kaylin Newman earned a championship in the shot put event, finishing ahead of Robinson's Chioma Onyekwere. In the 55-hurdles race, Westfield seniors Rachel Dillon and Leigh Serroka finished first and second, respectively. Dillon was also third in triple jump and fourth in long jump.

Senior Emma Stewart was third in pole vault and fourth in triple jump. Other place finishers for the Bulldog girls were: senior Elizabeth Reilly (5th in pole vault); senior Leah Carroll (6th in 1600, 6th in 3200); senior Rachel Hohman (6th in 500); and sophomore Amanda Cameron (3rd in 1000).

For the Westfield boys, senior shot putters Zachary Stickles and Alex Falcetti finished second and third, respectively, behind first place finisher Kirk Nguyen of Herndon. Other place finishers for the Bulldog boys were senior Jordan Lehman (6th in 55 dash) and senior Taylor McGough (4th in 1000).

SPORTS NOTES

Ryan Wever (Westfield High, Class of 2007), a junior defensive back for the Christopher Newport University (Newport News) football team, earned USA South Second Team All-Conference honors for the second straight season. Wever, over the course of last fall's football season, was third on the team in tackles (71). He also had a fumble recovery. Wever was a three-year varsity football player during his football career at Westfield High.

The **Tennis For Nature** men's and women's doubles event will take place at Worldgate Sport & Health Club (13037 Worldgate Dr., Herndon) on Saturday, Feb. 13. All doubles divisions available - men's, women's and mixed (3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0). Cost is \$55 per player. Register online at SportsForNature.com. For more information, call 571-244-7248.

The **Freedom Purple** 11-under girls' soccer team, a part of the Chantilly Youth Association (CYA), is looking to add one player for the spring season and beyond. The team competes in WAGS and is professionally trained by Soccer Performance International. Contact head coach Len Rosenblum at lrbblue85@yahoo.com for more information.

SYA Girls Lacrosse is looking for players to round out teams for the upcoming spring season. Registration is now open at www.syasports.org. No experience is necessary. Tryouts start Feb. 6 at EC Lawrence Park.

HOME & GARDEN

703-917-6400

ZONE 4:
• CENTREVILLE

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.COM

ZONE 4 AD DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

CLEANING

Y & Y CLEANING

13 yrs Exp.
Excellent Refs,
Guaranteed Satisfaction,
Call Yamilet
703-967-7412

CARE MORE
CLEANING SOLUTIONS

Residential & Commercial
10% Senior Citizen Discount
703-862-5904
OR
703-780-6749
caremorecleaning.com

A CLEANING SERVICE

Since 1985/Ins & Bonded
Quality Service at a Fair Price
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Comm/Res. MD VA DC
acleaningserviceinc.com
703-892-8648

ELECTRICAL

ELECTRICAL

K & D ELECTRIC

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated
Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabeling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...
Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Office 703-335-0654
Mobile 703-499-0522

GUTTER

GUTTER

Metro Gutter

Clean/Install/Repair
• Wood Replace & Wrapping • Pressure Washing
• Chimney Sweeping & Repair
20 YEARS EXP.
703-354-4333
metrogutter.com

PINNACLE SERVICES, Inc.

• LEAF REMOVAL
• GUTTER CLEANING
703-802-0483
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE
FREE EST

HANDYMAN

RCL HOME REPAIRS

Handyman Services
Springfld • Burke • Kingstowne
Light Electrical • Plumbing •
Bathroom Renovation • Ceramic Tile •
Drywall Repair
703-922-4190
LIC. www.rclhomerepairs.com INS.

GUTTER

PINNACLE SERVICES,
• GUTTER CLEANING
• SMALL REPAIRS
• SCREENING
• POWER WASHING
703-802-0483
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE
FREE EST

HAULING

ANGEL'S TRASH HAULING
Construction Debris,
Residential, Office
& Tree Removal
703-863-1086
New# - 571-312-7227

AL'S HAULING
Junk & Rubbish
Concrete, furn., office,
yard, construction debris
Low Rates NOVA
703-360-4364
703-304-4798 cell
7 DAYS A WEEK

IMPROVEMENTS

The
HANDYMAN
A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION

BATHROOM REMODELING
REPAIRS, CERAMIC TILE,
PAINTING, DRYWALL,
CARPENTRY, CUSTOM
WOOD REPAIR, LT. PLUMBING &
ELECTRICAL, POWER WASHING
Since 1964
We Accept VISA/MC
703-441-8811

IMPROVEMENTS

LANDSCAPING

ANGEL'S
LAWN MOWING
• Trimming • Edging
• Mulching • Yard Cleaning
• Hauling • Tree Work
703-863-1086
New# 571-312-7227

PAINTING

PATRIOT
PAINTING

www.PatriotPainting.net
Wallpaper Removal,
Carpentry,
Power Washing.
Int/Ext Painting
Free Est. • Satisfaction Guar.
Lic./Ins. Int./Ext.
703-502-7840
Cell
571-283-4883

ROOFING

Roofing & Siding
(All Types)
Soffit & Fascia Wrapping
New Gutters
Chimney Crowns
Leaks Repaired
No job too small
703-975-2375

TREE SERVICE

ANGEL'S
LAWN MOWING
• Planting • Mulching • Patios
• Decks • Driveways • Concrete
• Retaining Walls
703-863-1086
New# 571-312-7227

IMPROVEMENTS

R&N Carpentry
♦ BASEMENTS ♦ BATHS ♦ KITCHENS
Foreclosure specialist/Power washing
♦ Exterior Wood Rot More!
Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches
No jobs too large or small
Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured
703-987-5096

R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring,
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,
Siding, Roofing, Additions &
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting
We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic
Phone: 703-887-3827 Fax: 703-830-3849
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail

M. C. Lynch
Home Improvement
Family Owned & Operated

Rotten Wood, Wind Damage, Trims,
Windows, Doors, Deck, Stairs, Vanity,
Basement Framing, Garbage Disposal,
Painting, Power Wash, Siding Repairs.
Licensed, Bonded, Insured
703-266-1233

SPORTS

Kohn Set To Enjoy Winter Olympics Ride

U.S. bobsledder, Chantilly High grad earned bronze at 2002 Games in Salt Lake City.

By RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

For United States Olympian Mike Kohn, one newspaper announcement back in 1990 has proven to play a dramatic impact on his life.

Kohn, a 1990 Chantilly High graduate, learned of a U.S. bobsledding team tryout through his then-high school football coach Mark Bendorf, who had learned through a newspaper announcement of the tryout taking place at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Bendorf, now the Robinson Secondary head football coach, immediately thought of Kohn, an athletic, driven individual who had played wide receiver position over two years as a member of the Chargers' varsity.

"I talked to Mike and read to him [from the tryout notice] what they were looking for and what tests would be done and said, 'This is right down your alley,'" said Bendorf. "He jumped right into it full speed, went to the tryout, made the cut and went to [the U.S. bobsledding team headquarters in Lake Placid [N.Y.]]."



Mike Kohn

Thus began Kohn's 20-year odyssey as a U.S. bobsledder, which includes earning a bronze medal as part of a four-member U.S. sled at the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City and earning a spot on this year's U.S. Olympic bobsledding team, which will be competing at the Vancouver Games over the next couple of weeks.

Kohn, who was a U.S. Team alternate at the 2006 Olympic Games in Torino, Italy, was a late addition to this year's team. He was not originally named to any of the three, four-member sleds set to represent the U.S. in Vancouver. But a training accident to teammate Todd Hays, a driver on one of the U.S. sleds, opened up a door for Kohn, who went on to accumulate enough points during American Circuit competitions to replace the injured Hays and become a driver on the No. 3 U.S. sled.

"The last month has been a whirlwind," said Kohn, a 1997 George Mason University graduate who resides in Fairfax and serves as a sergeant in the Virginia Army National Guard. "I thought I'd hang it up



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMANDA BIRD/U.S. BOBSLEDDING

Mike Kohn, 37, was a late addition to the 2010 U.S. Olympic bobsledding team. In Vancouver, he will compete in both four-man and two-man sleds.

because I didn't hold hope [of making the Olympics team]. But I did hang in there and I'm glad I did."

Kohn and the entire U.S. bobsledding family were concerned first and foremost about Hays' health following his bobsledding accident, which occurred in Germany. But a phone call from Hays helped put Kohn at ease.

"He wished me luck and asked me what he could do to help me get qualified [for the Olympics team]," said Kohn. "I asked him about his health. He had a pretty serious injury."

KOHN, 37, GREW UP in Columbia, S.C. before moving with his family to Northern Virginia when he was 12. He attended Langston Hughes Middle School in Reston from seventh through ninth grades before going to South Lakes High School. His family moved to Chantilly following his sophomore year and Kohn was enrolled at Chantilly High, where he competed on both the football team as well as the track and field squad.

He loved his overall experience at Chantilly. His best friend there was Doug Ewell, the current head boys' basketball coach at Westfield High. The two would ultimately be in the same graduating class at GMU.

In track, Kohn excelled in the sprint events. He was ninth in the state in the 300 race during the winter indoor track season of his senior year. The Chantilly boys' track and field coach at that time was Greg Sullivan, who currently is an assistant football coach at McLean High.

"The thing I liked most about Coach Sullivan was he was equal across the board to everyone," said Kohn, who as a senior was the Chantilly boys' Team MVP of the winter season before earning the Coach's Award that outdoor season. "If you worked hard, you would be rewarded for it. If not,

you wouldn't be."

Sullivan said Kohn's ability, leadership and outstanding work ethic shined at Chantilly.

"Mike was one heck of a hard worker," he said. "He was a track kid for me and also played football. He definitely was a leader on the track team and the kids looked up to him. When he made up his mind he was going to do something he did it. He worked hard and didn't play around in practice. That was the tone he set for all the sprinters."

Following high school, Kohn attended the University of South Carolina where he made the football team as a walk-on. He never played a down during his two seasons with the Gamecocks, but he was thrilled just to be a part of the team.

"It was like the 'Rudy' story," said Kohn, chuckling in recalling the famed movie of the Notre Dame football walk-on. "But by the end of my second year, I realized I wasn't going to be going to the NFL."

True enough, but Kohn had already become involved with another sport he was growing a passion for — bobsledding. He had attended and excelled at the tryout camp at Maryland a couple years earlier and, following that, had gone to Lake Placid and been placed on one of the U.S. Team's four-member sleds.

"I caught on right away," said Kohn, of the sport. "My first ride [in Lake Placid with the team] was pretty rough. It was not what it looks like on TV. It's a pretty violent ride. There are no shock absorbers or comfortable seats. There are no big padded tires to run on."

Bendorf, who had grabbed notice of the tryout announcement that led to Kohn's escapade into the world of bobsledding, said Kohn was the perfect candidate to delve into such a sport.

"He was the only one I approached because I thought he was costumed for that,"

said Bendorf. "He had the athleticism and was a fast, explosive kid and he had drive. He had that stick-to-it [nature] to him."

BOTH BENDORF and Sullivan helped Kohn prepare for those bobsledding tryouts at Maryland in 1990, which proved somewhat comparable to a track and field decathlon event. Kohn had to prove his prowess in numerous events that tested his running, jumping and body strength. According to Sullivan, athletes had to accumulate a point package of 600 or better to qualify to join the team in Lake Placid. Kohn scored 630 points.

The U.S. Team put Kohn, who weighed about 175 pounds at the time of his tryouts, on a regimented strength conditioning and nutrition plan over the next nine months. He put on 40 pounds but his body fat dropped 8 percent. He improved his 100-dash running time from 11 flat to a world class 10.4.

Kohn ultimately earned a spot on the 2002 U.S. Olympics Team and, as a member of a four-man sled, earned a bronze medal in Salt Lake City.

Brian Shimer was the driver on the U.S. sled of which Kohn was a part of at the 2002 Olympics. The foursome was in fourth place going into their final run on last day of competition. One place away from a medal, the Shimer team came up big in that last race to land a third place finish and the bronze. A German team won the gold, and another U.S. team took the silver.

Four years later, Kohn served as an alternate on the U.S. team at the 2006 Games in Torino, Italy.

"Being an alternate is better than nothing," said Kohn, who during those Games also served as a tutor to NBC telecasters as they covered the sport. "I helped the TV people understand the sport better, which was great. But it definitely didn't compare to Salt Lake City."

ONE OF KOHN'S favorite things about bobsledding is the teamwork that goes into both a four-member and two-member sled.

"You become real close to the four guys you work and train together with," he said.

In four-team sleds, each member lifts a part of the 500-pound sled at the start of a race. Then, as a unit, the foursome begin running together in order to gain momentum for a fast ride. One by one, each team member, starting with the driver, jumps into his respective seat. By the time each is seated, the sled is whooshing along the icy course path. Ultimately, Olympic caliber bobsledders will reach up and past 90 miles per hour. A fast start, which entails team members running 50 meters in less than five seconds before jumping in, is crucial for a team's success.

"If we get off the start block in first place, that's the best place you can be because you can [overcome later] mistakes," said Kohn.

Kohn is scheduled to compete on Feb. 20 (two-man sled competition) and Feb. 26 (four-man).