

Centreville ♦ Clifton ♦ Little Rocky Run

# CENTRE VIEW

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"BURIED"

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Is this New England or Virginia?

## Collecting Money for Haiti

Students find loose change can make a difference.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

To most high-school students in Fairfax County, 50 cents or a dollar doesn't amount to much. But to children in Haiti, it could mean the difference between life and death.

Just 50 cents a day can provide 20 packets of high-energy biscuits developed especially for malnourished children. For \$1 a day, 20 children may be tested for malaria — which is treatable when diagnosed, but can be fatal if not treated.

SEE LOOSE CHANGE, PAGE 2

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Featuring a variety of topics, Centreville High presents "Dramapalooza," its annual showcase of student-directed, one-act plays. The curtain rises Friday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 20, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

"I am very proud of the directors and their casts," said Centreville Theater Director Mike Hudson. "[These] plays are a culminating directing activity for seniors in the theater department. Students begin planning during

their junior year."

The directors must acquire production rights to their shows, pay royalties, buy scripts and also act as producers. "This extensive process serves a valuable purpose in their theater education," said Hudson. "The directors not only learn to appreciate the planning and work that goes into a production, but also have a wonderful opportunity to show their creative genius."

Cast members see fellow students take leadership roles and many plan to do likewise, when they're older. As soon as this show closes, assignments will be offered

to students interested in directing next year.

### 'Courting 101'

Directed by Ian Lyons, "Courting 101" is a comedy about a college professor who has a class teaching students how to pick up and court girls. Said Lyons: "He's eccentric and has a boy and girl play out scenes showing the different stages of dating."

The seven-member cast has been rehearsing two months, and the leads are Mary Kate Goff, Aaron Sulkin and Julien Guh. "It'll be really appealing to the high-

## Snowed In

Emergency personnel work around the 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



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

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

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 on Feb. 8.

**DOMINION POWER**, the largest local utility company, expected

SEE STORM, PAGE 5

## Centreville High To Present One-Act Play Festival

school audience," said Lyons. "They should really enjoy the kind of humor and the subject matter."

He's learned directing is a lot different from acting. "I'm put in

a position of authority over my friends and peers, and it's weird having that," he said. "But it's

SEE ONE-ACT, PAGE 4

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## NEWS

# Loose Change

FROM PAGE 1

So Centreville High is stepping in to help fill the need with its Class Change Challenge. Students, faculty and staff held a change drive, Jan. 21-28, and they're not done, yet. If all goes well, they could raise as much as \$5,000 for the American Red Cross's efforts in Haiti.

"We're all hurting for money, but these people are hurting much, much more," said Director of Student Activities Jimmy Sanabria. And, he added, lending a hand to those in need has always been an integral part of the Centreville High fabric.

"I've been here 16 years and, year in and year out, this community goes to bat for everybody," he said. "When someone or something needs help, these kids and this school come through to the nth degree — and we always wish we could do more."

Fifteen SGA board members banded together to create the project. Then four SGA classes of 50 students each — one class per grade level — oversaw the drive, along with SGA faculty advisors Demby Banbury and Jenn Powell. But the whole school participated in the collection.

**CLASSES COMPETED** to see which one could raise the most money. The freshmen

SEE COLECTING, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Standing by the collection money-meter poster in the school hallway are (from left) Dylan Galloway, Demby Banbury, Jenn Powell, Jimmy Sanabria, Amanda Smith, Gina Masters and Lance Diamond. In front is Carl Ehinger.

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**From left:** Desiree Johnson and Suzan Moskal pose with their game and booth about wildlife bridges.



Sixth-graders (from left) Will Duong, Hunar Berzangi, Kevin Yeo, Allison Tickner and Joseph Le constructed a model of the Millau Bridge in France.



**James Mbualungu with his project on the Magdeburg Water Bridge, a water bridge in Germany.**

## Bridges to Learning at London Towne

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

In most museums, children are told to look, not touch. But at London Towne Elementary's Interactive Bridge Museum, it was just the opposite.

Fifth- and sixth-grade AA (Advanced Academics) students had created booths containing replicas of bridges, plus games and hands-on activities that beckoned to visitors to join in the fun. And they did so under the guidance of Resource Room teacher, Jennifer Pradas.

"The kids were given various topics and were told to create something interactive dealing with bridges," she said. "They built them during classroom time and incorporated English, history, geography, ecology and physics. An engineer came and talked to them about the physics and mechanics behind bridge-building, and they created games to illustrate their projects."

Four AA classes participated — about 40 students total. "They worked on this for 2 and a half months," said Pradas. "They learned which bridges — such as arched, pedestrian, natural, suspension and drawbridge — are best for which purpose. They even researched idioms using the word, 'bridge,' and learned about the use of bridges in myths, legends and fables. I wanted them to think of bridges in as many ways as possible."

Fifth-graders Desiree Johnson and Suzan Moskal made a replica of a wildlife bridge and presented facts about such bridges on a posterboard display. They also made a board game for students visiting the museum to play.

"The blue cards ask questions, and the answers are on the poster," said Suzan. "The first one to cross the bridge wins. A lot of people said this was an awesome game, as they played it."

She said animal wildlife bridges are important because "animals need help crossing the road; sometimes they get run over. Some are very simple, like turtle bridges, with pebbles going across a railroad track."

Desiree said they selected wildlife bridges to investigate "because we love animals and wanted to find out more about them. Our project also includes information about rope bridges, fish ladders, amphibian crossings and natural bridges. I like that many animals can be helped by bridges; I didn't think people built fish bridges."

Sixth-graders Mariah Smith, Coryn Gregory and Allison Tickner researched the history of bridges. "We got pictures of older bridges and modern ones, and we have a timeline of which bridges were built when," said Allison.

For their game, said Coryn, "We had pictures of bridges, and people had to put them in order from oldest to newest."

"I thought it would be interesting to learn the history of bridges and why they were made," said Mariah. "And we made a model of a cofferdam, invented by the Romans."

"They were used to take out water so people could put in piers for the bridges," explained Allison. "We also built simple bridges used to cross over water; ours is a log over stones."

"Now that we know the history of the bridges, they're more interesting," said Coryn. Added Mariah:



**Mariah Smith (standing), plus (seated, from left) Coryn Gregory and Allison Tickner** researched the history of bridges.

"I thought it would be boring, but I learned a lot about bridges."

Meanwhile, sixth-graders Will Duong, Hunar Berzangi, Kevin Yeo, Joseph Le and Allison constructed a model of the Millau Bridge in France — the highest, cable-stay bridge in the world. On these bridges, the roadway deck is suspended by cables anchored to one or more towers. Suspension bridges have cables connected to hangers, with the hangers connected to the towers.

"We used wood, string, cardboard, paint, construction paper and screws to build our bridge," said Hunar. "It took about two days," added Kevin.

"It was fun building it," said Joseph. "We learned how bridges were made and how they work."

"We also learned how the bridge curves when it's moving so people would be interested when driving on it," said Will. "It would also keep them paying attention to where they're driving."

James Mbualungu, also in sixth grade, did his project on the Magdeburg Bridge in Germany. "It goes across the Elbe-Havel Canal and took 80 years to build," he said. "They started building it before WWII and finished in 2002."

He made his replica of this bridge out of construction paper and enjoyed researching it because



**Michael Baylock, in fifth grade, learned about military bridges and displays the pontoon bridge he built.**

he "got to learn why it's special — since there's water on this bridge, people can walk across it and boats can go across the middle."

Fifth-grader Michael Baylock, constructed a military bridge called a pontoon bridge. "I used Styrofoam meat trays, taped together in a line, and placed them over plastic food containers," he said. "I liked making a smaller version of a real bridge."

Pontoon bridges are strong, lightweight, float on water and are easy to transport, said Michael. "I had no idea they floated on water — that was cool to me," he said. "I

SEE LEARNING, PAGE 11

## ROUNDUPS

### Police Discuss Narcotics, Gambling

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](http://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.

However, because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. That way, inspectors may have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the proper use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

### Two Charged with DWI

Fairfax County police charged two people with DWI during targeted patrols last week to deter and apprehend intoxicated drivers in the Sully District. The patrols ran from Thursday, Feb. 4, at 11 p.m., until Friday, Feb. 5, at 3 a.m. Motorists were checked to assure that their abilities to drive had not been impaired by alcohol or drugs. Approximately 29 motorists were stopped; besides the DWI arrests, police issued 10 summonses for miscellaneous traffic offenses.

### AARP TaxAide Program

AARP TaxAide is an all-volunteer program that provides free tax counseling

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 7

## NEWS

### One-Act Play Festival

FROM PAGE 1

working out great. I didn't know what was expected of me, so I had to find a way to guide the actors in the right direction. I had to respect their choices as actors, while keeping in mind my vision of the show so it would all flow together."

Lyons is pleased that, rather than being part of a cast, he gets to determine where the show is going and be in command. "There's a lot more involved in directing, and more thought goes into it," he said. "You have to consider every actor and character."

Overall, he said, "I think we have a lot of talented directors and actors, and good shows. I think Dramapalooza is going to go over really well."

scenario, Ed becomes the perfect guy."

"I think the audience will enjoy it," she said. "I've gotten positive feedback from some people who sat in on a rehearsal. Women, in particular, will like it because it's a funny look at finding the guy of your dreams. And my actors are great — they've worked really hard."

Rathjen said it's a new experience being on the other side of a production, "having your own vision and seeing others make that real. I respect my directors [at Centreville] a lot because they have to do a lot of planning and be well-rounded in order to create a show, and I hope people come see this one."

### 'The Worker'

"The Worker" is a dark comedy about a man who's suddenly taken on extra work in his office because entire departments have been let go. Meanwhile, said director Andrea Monzon, "As he's freaking out, his wife — in her loneliness — is pretending a doll is a baby because her husband wouldn't let her have one. He thinks it might seem like he's not as committed to the company and they'd fire him, too."

Comprising the three-person cast are Danny Lucas, Krista Catalfamo and Lucy Stratton. Monzon said the story will make people uncomfortable because "the characters are selfish and unpleasant. It's like watching the downfall of two people."

She said directing is difficult because she's not someone who feels at ease criticizing her friends. "So for me, it's about balancing criticism and praise. I try to lead in a way that's coherent and solid. When directors put a lot of thought into a show, it can come across as being easy to do. But you really have to do some homework and think about the direction of the show."

### 'Sure Thing'

Annemarie Scerra directs "Sure Thing," a romantic comedy starring Daniel Lindgren, Sarah Wills, Anthony Ingargiola, Kelly Strauch, Ian Lyons, Zaida Schebish and Binta Barry. There are three couples and a competition to see which couple will date each other first.

"Binta is the Master of the Universe and controls what they say and everything," said Scerra. "Whenever someone messes up and says the wrong thing, she rings a bell and [the game] moves on to the next couple."

She said this play's "really funny and quirky. The actors change their characters' attitudes and personalities when the bell rings. A lot of these situations are realistic and the audience can relate to the characters."

Initially, Scerra didn't expect to like directing, but it's turned out to be fun for her. "I know what people are capable of and what things to try, so it's a great power to have," she said. "I learned that you have to break down the script, piece by piece, to block it and figure out how the characters will say every line and how they'll move. I didn't realize I'd have to do all that, but I do enjoy it a lot."

### 'Regency Romance'

Under the direction of Mandi Rathjen, "Regency Romance" is a romantic comedy with four cast members, Anna McKittrick, Andrew Meyers and Mandi's siblings, Kristina and Jeremy — a fifth-grader at Centreville Elementary.

Two friends are extremely fed up with their husband and boyfriend, so they act out how they'd like their own romances to be. The show begins with Sandy, her boyfriend Ed and her friend Mary in Sandy's apartment.

"Sandy and Mary are obsessed with Regency Romance — a genre of novels that's overly romantic and has the perfect guy fall in love with the heroine," said Rathjen. "So after Ed leaves, they act it out and, in their

**“Salt could be a challenge during the next storm.”**

— Joan Morris, Virginia Department of Transportation

# After Major Snowstorm, Another Follows

FROM PAGE 1

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 Herring (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 emergency 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 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 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 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 as 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 overconfidence, causing folks not to exercise as much caution in the elements as they should,” said Raker.

Some county supervisors have received calls from 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.

## CVHS Students Collect Money for the Needy in Haiti

FROM PAGE 2

class won and will receive \$100 from the SGA for its general fund.

“We had six jars — four for the four classes, one in the main office for parents and staff, and one in the mailroom for faculty and staff,” said SGA board member Amanda Smith, a senior. “Then during lunch in the cafeteria, students brought in whatever change they had — pennies, nickels, quarters, dimes, even \$20 bills — and dropped it into the jars.”

Students were reminded of the drive, each morning, during announcements over the PA system. “We explained that \$2.50 — the cost of a bagel or a latte — would buy basic surgical equipment in Haiti,” said Banbury. “That way, they understood where their money was going and the good it could do.”

The drive yielded \$703, plus \$1,500 donated by the SGA from its own funds. In

addition, the school’s yearbook staff will contribute \$797 to make the total amount collected \$3,000. But, said Banbury, “We’ll be donating more because the school plans more fund-raising activities. We’re very proud of our kids, and I’m impressed with this school.”

**THE COLLECTION** will also get a boost from the Athletic Department. “We’ll contribute all proceeds from one of our last, home basketball games,” said Sanabria. “Money from ticket sales and concessions that would normally go into the athletic fund will go into [the change challenge]. It could be as much as \$2,000.”

Hearing about the devastating, 7.0 earthquake in Haiti was “really scary,” said junior Gina Masters. “And to think that they didn’t have anything, and everything was destroyed, made me want to help. I’m ac-

tually shocked that we got that much money and the school came together to collect for something so far away.”

“Things we take for granted, like electricity, the people of Haiti may not see for a long time,” said Powell. “So the students needed to stop and think about somebody other than themselves. Sometimes, you have to remind them of the big, global picture — not just their Centreville bubble.”

SGA board member Lance Diamond, a senior, was glad to do his part. “After seeing what happened in Katrina — and knowing this was much worse, and in a poorer country — you knew they’d need more help,” he said. “And in a way, you felt obligated.” Diamond said the total amount contributed was more than he expected, but “We didn’t need to push that much because people donated freely.”

According to senior Wes Jones, also an

SGA board member, “A lot of kids want to help, but don’t know how to, or don’t want to take the initiative to start something, so we gave them an outlet. I donated a bunch of change I had lying around; whenever I found any, I dumped it in. It’s an easy way to do something good and help somebody else.”

Delighted with everyone’s generosity, Smith said, “I knew I was able to help, so why wouldn’t I? If you can afford to help someone else, I really think you should. You give up a coffee a day, and it’s \$4 — and that’s eight high-energy biscuits for eight people. You give up a movie, you’ve just fed an entire village.”

“It was amazing to me to see how our community was willing to help people we don’t even know, so far away,” she continued. “It really says a lot about the Centreville High School community.”

# OPINION

## Surviving the Blizzard as a Community

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

**M**ore 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."

### EDITORIAL

"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.

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](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM,

[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## No More Partisan Redistricting

To the Editor:

CentreView deserves congratulations for supporting the Redistricting Commission bill offered by Delegate Plum (D, Reston). Civil redistricting can most certainly affect all of us.

Every 10th year as required by the Constitution, a census is taken and the boundaries of all Virginia House and Senate Districts and Congressional Districts are re-

drawn. In this way every District is redesigned so that populations are balanced and every vote has equal weight. It is the responsibility of every state administration to do this but it has not always been done fairly or properly. By drawing boundaries so that voters of specific parties are included or excluded, districts could be designed, and were designed to group voters favoring a specific

political party over another. This was called "gerrymandering." It can and has caused serious political problems and abuses.

Delegate Plum's proposal to create a Bipartisan Redistricting Bill would prevent misuse and abuse of the redistricting process. Very similar proposals have been previously submitted in the Virginia legislature but have been rejected. Now is the time to correct this process. Delegate Plum's bill is designed to protect the rights of all

citizens by allowing them to vote freely, without distrust or compromise.

The Bipartisan Redistricting Bill establishes a seven-member commission that would prepare redistricting plans subject to approval by the House, Senate and Virginia's governor. Two members would be chosen by the Senate, two by the House and one from each major political party. The seventh member would be chosen by the appointed members or by the Supreme Court if disagreement should prevail.

The commission's plan would be in the usual form of a bill, and would be submitted to the legislature for action. The bill would provide for the Commission to comment on matters regarding modification or changes to the redistricting plan developed in the course of legislative action.

This process would bring transparency and fairness to what is now a murky, unclear and suspicious procedure. It should improve confidence and assure fairness in our voting process. I hope that every citizen and voter would join in supporting this legislation. Let all our senators and delegates know your views — they all have phones and email (and some may Tweet) ...

Larry Baldwin  
Centreville



Blizzard  
Worthy

Lauren Day of Jarnigan Street, Centreville, spent from 10 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. making this snow man during the blizzard. He is 9 feet 8 inches tall. "I just wanted to make something special for my street and make a snowman worthy of this blizzard."

# CENTREVIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

Newspaper of  
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Little Rocky Run  
A Connection Newspaper

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
To discuss ideas and concerns,  
Call: 703-778-9410  
e-mail:  
[centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com)

Steven Mauren  
Editor, 703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

Bonnie Hobbs  
Community Reporter, 703-778-9438  
[bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com)

Julia O'Donoghue  
Education & Politics, 703-778-9436  
[jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com)

Ken Moore  
Projects, 703-917-6417  
[kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com)

Rich Sanders  
Sports Editor, 703-224-3031  
[rsanders@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:rsanders@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Editor & Publisher  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

Editor in Chief  
Steven Mauren  
Managing Editors  
Michael O'Connell, Kemal Kurşpahić  
Photography:  
Robbie Hammer, Louise Kraftt,  
Art/Design:  
Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,  
John Heinly, Wayne Shipp,  
John Smith  
Production Manager:  
Jean Card

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426  
Circulation Manager:  
Linda Pecquey

CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS,  
L.L.C.  
Peter Labovitz  
President/CEO

Mary Kimm  
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer  
703-778-9433  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

Jerry Vernon  
Executive Vice President  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

Wesley DeBrosse  
Controller  
Debbie Funk  
National Sales, 703-778-9444  
[debunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

A Connection Newspaper

# ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 4

and preparation services for low and moderate income and elderly residents. The services began Feb. 1 and are available through April 15 at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germaine Drive, in Centreville. Hours are Thursday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Tuesday, noon-7 p.m. Appointments are not needed.

## School Board Survey Offered

The Fairfax County School Board wants to improve communications with and outreach to parents and the larger community. Those interested may complete a survey at: <http://www.fcps.edu/survey/> to help the School Board understand how to better serve its constituents.

## 2010 Census Jobs Available

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These short-term jobs offer good pay, flexible hours, paid training and reimbursement for authorized, work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work.

To qualify, applicants must be able to read, write and speak English; be U.S. citizens, legal permanent residents or non-citizens with appropriate work visas and a unique bilingual skill; be at least 18; have a valid Social Security number; take a written test; have a valid driver's license and pass a background

check. Go to [www.census.gov/field/www/](http://www.census.gov/field/www/)

## How To Help WFCM Food Pantry

The Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) food pantry is in great need of food to help serve its many clients in the local community. Especially needed are: Soup, canned meats and tuna, dry pasta, dried beans, oil, pancake mix, syrup, baked beans, Hamburger Helper, canned fruits and beans, and cake and frosting mixes.

Also needed are size 5 diapers and toiletries, as well as flour, sugar, fruit juice, dried beans, hot cereal, coffee, tea, condiments, and canned evaporated and sweetened condensed milk. Items may be brought to the food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive (near the Backyard Grill and Bar) in Chantilly.

## WFCM Needs Donations, Volunteers

With the downturn in the economy, Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) could use some help meeting its increased demand from local residents for food, clothing and financial aid. To make donations for the food pantry or thrift shop, to volunteer or to receive information on the next free budgeting class, call 703-988-9656.

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



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Wednesday Service 8 PM

Visit us on-line at [www.treeoflifebiblechurch.org](http://www.treeoflifebiblechurch.org)



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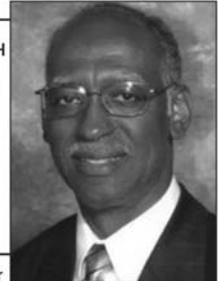
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| Children's & Youth Church:                        | 10:00 AM     |
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# WORTH NOTING

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

## ONGOING

### New Neighbors League Club

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, bunc, 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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; [alnornvirgina@yahoo.com](mailto:alnornvirgina@yahoo.com); [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://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.

**Sully District Police Station's Citizen Advisory Committee** 7-8:30 p.m. Sergeant James Cox of the Special Investigations Unit in the Organized Crime and Narcotics Division will discuss how the police department investigates violations of law including: narcotics, money laundering, gambling and wire fraud.

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 17

#### Alcohol/Drugs and Today's Teens

7 p.m. Speaker: Diane Eckert, prevention specialist, Student Safety and Wellness office, FCPS. Come and find out what is going on with alcohol/drug use and other negative behaviors among youth. At Chantilly High School, Lecture Hall, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly.

### FRIDAY/FEB. 19

#### Swing Dancing

Jack and Jill Dance off with King Teddy. 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.

### FEB. 19-20

#### Dramapalooza

Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. Centreville High presents its festival of student-directed, one-act plays. Five one-acts filled with comedy light and dark, romantic and tragic. They are: "The Worker," directed by Andrea Monzon; "Courting 101," directed by Ian Lyons; "Regency Romance," directed by Amanda Rathjen; "Sure Thing," directed by Annemarie Scerra; and "Trunk," directed by Marlo Clingman (and written by CVHS graduate and former Theatre student Andrew Kaberline.) Tickets are available at the door and are \$5, general admission. At Centreville High School.

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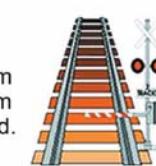
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# Centreville REAL ESTATE

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Carolina Hurtado  
Weichert, Fairfax Office  
[churtado@weichert.com](mailto:churtado@weichert.com)

## 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.

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# NEWS

## Learning by Building Bridges

FROM PAGE 3

learned a lot by doing this project; before, I didn't really think bridges were that interesting."

Amanda Zehring, a fifth-grader, investigated bridges featured through the years in literature, movies and music. Then she found pictures of them and mounted them on a board. Books in which bridges were prominent included "The Three Billy Goats Gruff," "The Bridges of Madison County" and "The Bridge to Terabithia."

Movies she included were "The Bridge at Remagen," "Horton Hears a Who," "The Bridge on the River Kwai" and "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince." She also had a photo of Simon and Garfunkel's album, "Bridge Over Troubled Water."

"It was fun because I created a Web page with the full, video trailer of the movies, 'Bridge to Terabithia' and 'Broken Bridges,' with the 'Broken Bridges' lyrics and music video," said Amanda. "And since we had to make it interactive, I found a computer game called Cargo Bridge and linked to it from the Web site." Overall, she



**Fifth-grader Amanda Zehring stands by her display of bridges featured in literature and pop culture.**

said, "I learned bridges are important for life's needs."

Because the students looked at bridges from myriad points of view, said Pradas, "They also learned about architects and art. They learned that bridges can be art, themselves, or used to display art; they can also be the subject of artwork."

She said the children also discussed things people can do on bridges besides driving, such as bicycling, running, bungee jumping and climbing. "We tried to make it as varied as possible," said Pradas. "They did really well and were very creative in their games, too. I'm hoping they'll look at bridges in a totally different way."

### 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.

**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 Full Day 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 its Web site at [www.childrensacademy.com](http://www.childrensacademy.com).

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# SPORTS

## Wildcat Boys Gain Share of District Track Title

**Centreville boys led by seniors Zouaimia, Barbour and Kennedy.**

BY RICH SANDERS  
CENTRE VIEW

**E**ver since last spring when the Centreville High boys' track and field team fell just two points short of capturing the Concorde District outdoor crown outright, the Wildcats have been especially focused on garnering a championship.

And last Thursday, Feb. 4, the motivated, determined Wildcats realized their goal when they earned the title of co-district indoor season champion with Robinson. Both Centreville, under head coach Givon Holmes, and the Rams finished the two-day event with 108 points. And while the Wildcats certainly would have rather won the title outright, they were still thrilled to have gotten a piece of it.

"In the spring we lost the title by one point to Oakton," said Kelley Devlin, a Centreville assistant coach. "So we certainly are happy to have the [indoor] title and to share it with Robinson."

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, 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.

**CENTREVILLE, IN WINNING** the district boys' indoor crown for the first time since 2007, had numerous outstanding showings at the postseason meet.

One of the best outings came from long distance running sensation Yazid Zouaimia, a senior who has committed to run collegiately next school year at Virginia Tech. Zouaimia won both the mile and two-mile events at districts, finishing ahead of Chantilly's Christopher Foley in both races. Both Zouaimia and Foley are nationally ranked high school runners.

Last winter as a junior, Zouaimia finished sixth in the one-mile race at the Northern Region Championships before finishing 10th at states. Devlin said the 12th grader runs with passion and determination.

"He is tough as nails," she said. "He's just a strong, motivated individual. He puts it out there and is very driven and gutsy."

Devlin, currently in her second year at Centreville after having been the co-head coach at Robinson for six years, said Zouaimia was thrilled to receive a partial scholarship to Virginia Tech.

Centreville, at districts, also had a two-event champion in senior Paul Barbour, who won both the long and triple jumps. Barbour bested runner-up Enoch Cha of Robinson in the long jump, and finished ahead of Chantilly's Arthur McDuffy in the triple jump. Barbour was also third in the 500.

Senior Terrance Kennedy placed in four events. He was second in high jump, fourth in long jump, fourth in the shot put and fifth in the 300. Another senior, Mattson Heiner, was second in the 1000 race and fourth in the 1600.

Other place finishers for Centreville were: junior David Choi (5th in 55 hurdles); senior Chris Mbaidande (2nd in 55 dash); and senior Joey Hannah (6th in 1000).

The Centreville boys' 4x800 and 4x400 relay teams both finished first.

The Centreville boys have numerous seniors, a solid level of talent across the roster and a good work ethic. And this winter it all added up to a district championship.

"It's a really talented group with a lot of seniors who have been with the program so many years," said Devlin. "They were really excited to bring a title to Centreville."

The Wildcats will look to keep things rolling at regionals next week.

"We can certainly look for a top three [team] finish," said Devlin, who said the Wildcats have a team-first mentality and approach to competitions.

**THE CENTREVILLE GIRLS** finished sixth at districts. Senior Katie Bannon won the pole vault event, finishing ahead of

Chantilly's Nina Ullom.

The Wildcats' other place finishers were: junior Kelsey Kallapos (5th in triple jump); senior Solange Duong (4th in 55-hurdles); sophomore Haley Anderson (4th in the 1000); senior Katie Hickey (5th in 1000); junior Jessica Mejia (5th in 300); and junior Juli Cuono (4th in 3200).

Centreville's 4x800 girls' relay team captured first.

**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).

## Girls' Teams Compete at Region Swim Championships

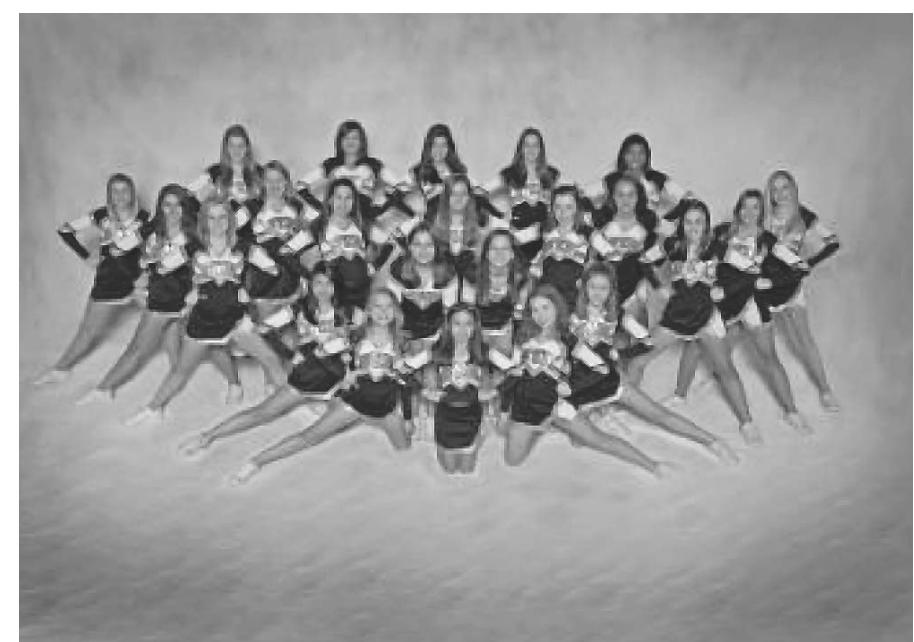
**Ferris, Leake and Molano shine at weather-shortened event.**

BY RICH SANDERS  
CENTRE VIEW

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

SEE COMPETING, PAGE 13



### Performing at GMU

**SYA Extreme, a competitive cheerleading squad, is scheduled to perform before the George Mason University men's basketball game on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. The Extreme is a group of fourth through ninth grade girls that compete at cheerleading competitions in the area as well as competitions along the East Coast from Ocean City, Md. to Williamsburg. They compete at an advanced recreational league level that includes extensive tumbling, intricate choreography, and stunts with a high level of difficulty.**

## SPORTS

# Competing at Region Swim

FROM PAGE 12

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.



### National Finals

The Centreville Black Belt Academy had an outstanding weekend winning one Grand Championship, eight First Places, two Second Places, and two Third Places at The World Cup Martial Arts Organization's 2009 National Finals. The competition was held at the Sheraton Reston Hotel on Jan. 15-16. Participants included, top row from left: Kelly Dahbura, Sebastian Jimenez, and Abigail Muller. Kneeling from left: Coach Neil Ehrlich, Max Ehrlich, Marco Jimenez, and Jimi Wilson. Seated: Jacob Ehrlich. Missing: Krissa Rehberg. Visit [TheBlackBeltAcademy.com](http://TheBlackBeltAcademy.com) or call 703-803-4477.

## Centrewood Plaza Donates \$1,000

The merchants of Centrewood Plaza in Centreville donated \$1,000 to Centreville Elementary School as part of the shopping center's holiday shopping spree promotion. The school received the donation thanks to Marty Davidson of Centreville who listed Centreville Elementary as her favorite school on the entry form she filled out for a shopping spree drawing. In addition to a \$1,000 donation to the school,

Davidson won a \$500 shopping spree to Centrewood Plaza for herself. This is the seventh year Centrewood Plaza has donated funds to a local school and the first time Centreville Elementary has won. Previous winning schools include Westfield High School, Centre Ridge Elementary School (twice), Clifton Elementary School, Stone Middle School and Cub Run Elementary School.



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21 Announcements

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

21 Announcements

## TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

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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:

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**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 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, 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. Prensky  
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# 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-phoning, 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: GPS-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-phoning, 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.*

It was a tight race and in the end both the Robinson and Centreville High boys' indoor track and field teams were pronounced Concorde District Champs last week. Both squads got to take celebratory laps around the track with the victory banner. The championship meet, held in Landover, Md., saw the top two teams go back and forth with the lead. Going into the final event, the Wildcats were down by six points to the Rams. But Centreville won the 4x400 relay to gain 10 points and pull ahead in the team standings. The Rams, however, earned four points with their fourth place relay finish to give both squads 108 points total. Things got really confusing as a result of a scoring change in the earlier high jump event which, correctly, increased Robinson's points total. It was incredibly too close all night.

In the end, both teams finished with 108 points to gain a share of the district title.

## CENTREVILLE HIGH NOTEBOOK

Individual district champs for Centreville: Yazid Zouaimia in the 1600 (4:20.96) and 3200 (9:20.51); Paul Barbour in the long jump (21-06.00) and triple jump (42-02.00); Katie Bannon in the pole vault (9-09.00); the girl's 4x800 relay of Juli Cuomo, Isabela Medina, Hayley Anderson, Katie Hickey (9:53.05), which went in with a 4th place seed before dropping significant time and getting the big win; boys 4x800 relay of Bobby Kelly, Joey Hannah, Chan Young Lee, Yazid Zouaimia (8:22.18); and the boys' 4x400 relay of Austin Erikson, Mattson Heiner, Terrence Kennedy, Paul Barbour (3:33.41).

Athletes finishing sixth place or better automatically advanced to the upcoming regional meet at GMU on Feb 20. The following were place finishers: Terrance Kennedy—Long Jump 4th, Shot Put 4th, High Jump 2nd, 300 5th and part of the 4x4 and 4x2 relays; David Choi—55 dash (5th place); Chris Mbaide—55 dash (2nd place); Mattson Heiner—1600 (4th place), 1000 (2nd place); Paul Barbour—500 (3rd place); Joey Hannah—1000 (6th place); Solange Duong - 55-hurdles (4th place); Hayley Anderson—1000 (4th place); Katie Hickey—1000 (5th place); Jessica Mejia—300 (5th place); Kelsey Kallapos—Triple Jump (5th place); Juli Cuomo—3200 (4th place).

The Centreville girls finished with 42 points, much better than the 11 points scored last year at districts. There were many seventh place finishes on the girls' side who were right on the bubble for qualifying for regionals. So the upcoming outdoor season will be exciting. Isabela Medina broke 12 minutes in the 3200, which is huge for a freshman girl! She ran 11:51 and just missed top 6 by a second. Mariana Mastriano just missed top 6 in the 500, running 1:23.27, barely behind the 6th place finisher (1:23.16). Many close finishes for the girls team.

— KAREN FULKERSON

## 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.

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. Contact head coach Len Rosenblum at lrblue85@yahoo.com for more information.

**SYA Girls Lacrosse** is looking for players to round out teams for the upcoming spring season. The league is for girls ages six to 14 who want to learn to play "the fastest game on foot." Registration is now open at [www.sysports.org](http://www.sysports.org). No experience necessary. Tryouts start Feb. 6 at EC Lawrence Park.

**SYA Boys Lacrosse** is also looking for players for its spring season. The league is for boys ages six to 11 (U9 and U11 teams). Register online at [www.sysports.org](http://www.sysports.org). No experience necessary.

## SNOW DAYS



PHOTO BY JAY RICHARDSON

### From the Sea

Barbara Bourgeois of Caliper Court in Centreville built these sea creatures in her front yard. Next? A surfing penguin.



### Showing Fortitude

From left to right: Virginia Run Elementary School students Andrew Van Lahr (1st grade), Corey Richardson (5th grade) and Jake Richardson (3rd grade) built a snow fort during the unexpected break from school caused by the recent winter storms.



### First Time

Christopher Watkins 8 months old of Centreville plays in the snow for the first time.

PHOTO BY KIMBERLY WATKINS

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