



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

St. Baldrick's Day 2004 Westfield High grad Emily Galloway is shaved by Valon Salon stylist Dana Lightel at Sunday's fund-raiser for childhood-cancer research. MORE PHOTOS, SEE PAGE 4

From Fairfax to Iraq and Back

Injured Marine veteran shares experiences with students.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

After serving six years active duty with the Marines, Justin Constantine joined the Reserves. Officers were needed and he answered the call.

In early 2006, he volunteered to go to Iraq. Helping build the country's infrastructure, he was a civil affairs team leader attached

to an infantry unit. But just six weeks into his deployment, he was shot in the head by an enemy sniper.

"A bullet went behind my left ear and out my mouth," said Constantine. "I was knocked unconscious and they thought I was dead, but a Navy Corpsman saved my life with rescue breathing and a tracheotomy. He showed amaz

SEE FROM FAIRFAX, PAGE 3

Involuntary Manslaughter Case Sent to Grand Jury

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Three young men were riding in the bed of a pickup truck, two lighting fireworks and tossing them into the air. When one firework, still lit, fell back into the truck bed, one man jumped out, struck his head on the road and died six days later.

Following an investigation, authorities charged Centreville's Kyle Guthrie, 19, with causing the death of Oak Hill's Dennis Ray Ross Jr., also 19. A Loudoun County judge last week sent the case against Guthrie to the grand jury, and in April he'll learn whether it'll continue on to trial.

The tragedy occurred July 19, 2009; both Guthrie and Ross were 2008 Westfield High grads, out for some fun with three other friends, including Brendan McDonald, 19, who was also igniting fireworks in the back of the 2001 GMC pickup.

Testifying last Thursday, March 11, during Guthrie's preliminary hearing in Loudoun County General District Court, McDonald said Guthrie was on his right. Inside the cab was Billy Sampson and Johnny Pickett was at the wheel.

"We were all hanging out, driving around," said McDonald. "Kyle and I were seated with our backs to the cab and Dennis was seated with his back to the tailgate. Kyle

SEE FIREWORKS, PAGE 5

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NEWS



Learning To Resolve Conflicts

Eleven Poplar Tree Elementary School students attended the 18th Annual Northern Virginia Regional Student Mediation Conference on March 10 at George Mason University. Sponsored by FCPS' Student and Wellness Office, the conference taught students the skills of mediation and conflict resolution to facilitate peer mediations at their schools. The students are, from left, Elaine Chun, Casey Acosta, Kristen Popham, Louie Horinko, Elise Mazzone, Katherine Henriquez, Emily Ready, Victoria Sia, Amber Powers, Liam Corcoran and Bashir Duale. Not pictured is Poplar Tree's Peer Mediation coordinator and counselor, Shari Hirsch.

Suspects in Bank Robberies Arrested

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Fairfax County police believe the woman who's been on a bank-robbery spree in Centreville and Chantilly is now in custody. She and a suspected accomplice were arrested Tuesday morning. They are Shona Jones, 21, of Rapidan, Va., and Joshua Campbell, 26, of no fixed address.

Police charged each one with four counts of armed robbery. They say the pair allegedly robbed local four banks in less than three weeks. One of these heists occurred last Tuesday, March 9, shortly after 5 p.m. A woman entered the BB&T Bank at 5105 Westfields Blvd. in Centreville, approached a teller and passed her a note.

The note implied that the robber had a weapon and demanded money. The teller complied and handed over an undisclosed amount of cash, and the suspect fled. She was last seen jogging towards Sequoia Farms Drive.

The suspect was described as black, with very dark skin, around 5 feet 4 inches and heavysset – possibly 160-170 pounds. She wore a



Jones



Campbell

black shirt and pants, black-and-white scarf around her head and large sunglasses.

The same description of a black, heavy, female robber was also given to police after the Feb. 26 heist at Apple Federal Credit Union at 14260 Centreville Square in Centreville, and the March 2 robbery at Northwest Federal Credit Union at 14419 Chantilly Crossing Lane in Chantilly.

Furthermore, the Town of Vienna Police Department has also brought one charge against Jones and two against Campbell for robberies there. Additionally, Campbell has a detainer from Loudoun County for three offenses there.

Because of the recent bank robberies in Centreville and Chantilly, detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department robbery squad

were conducting surveillance, March 16, on several banking institutions in the Chantilly area. Shortly before noon, they saw a black female resembling the suspect in three previous bank robberies enter the Apple Federal Credit Union at 3915 Centreville Road.

When she left, police approached her, identified themselves and took her into custody for further questioning. Detectives quickly determined that the credit union had in fact just been robbed, allegedly by the woman they had just detained.

At the same time, a vehicle believed to be associated with her abruptly left the credit union parking lot and eventually headed east on Route 50. Officers tried to make a traffic stop, but the vehicle fled. A short pursuit ended at Lees Corner Road and Route 50 in the Brookfield community. The driver then bailed out and fled on foot, but pursuing officers were able to apprehend him.

Jones and Campbell are being held without bond in the Adult Detention Center. Both were arraigned Wednesday morning and have April 7 court dates.

ROUNDUPS

Grand Jury Indicts Lanigan



Lanigan

A Fairfax County grand jury on Monday indicted Centre Ridge Elementary P.E. teacher Sean Lanigan on charges of aggravated sexual battery and abduction by force. Lanigan, 43, lives in Virginia Run and has been at Centre Ridge since 1998.

He was arrested Jan. 29, following a 12-year-old student's allegation that, while at school, he touched her inappropriately, carried her into another room and lay on top of her. She was able to leave unharmed and told her parents, a few days later. Lanigan, who's been placed on unpaid, administrative leave, is currently free on bond and is scheduled for a May 17 jury trial in Circuit Court.

Saturday Night in Suburbs

Westfield High will host its annual, Saturday Night in the Suburbs program Thursday, March 18, at 7 p.m., in the school lecture hall. A panel of high-school seniors will tell parents what's going on when adults aren't looking.

It's a free program for adults, and the topics include drugs, alcohol, parties, driving, sexting and communication between teens and parents. Even parents who believe their teen is behaving are encouraged to come hear about the pressures their children have, or will have to deal with, and what others are involved in.

This event is funded in part by the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and is supported by the Westfield Community Coalition and the Westfield PTSA. For additional information contact Jennifer Cooper at jalcooper@aol.com or Jennifer Campbell at JCcampbellpta@aol.com.

Centreville Immigration Forum

The Centreville Immigration Forum will meet Tuesday, March 23, at 7 p.m., in room 201 of Centreville Presbyterian Church, on Route 29, just west of Pleasant Valley Road. The CIF will respond to a proposal by a local businessman to create a worker center in Centreville. Those interested in this proposal are welcome to attend the upcoming meeting.

Sully District Council Meeting

The Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee will meet Wednesday, March 24, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call Jeff Parnes, evenings, at 703-904-0131. There'll be a presentation on the proposed, FY 2011 Fairfax County budget. The panel will also discuss a proposed amendment to two, previously approved rezonings for the Dulles Discovery South project.

Park Authority To Meet

The Fairfax County Park Authority will meet Wednesday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m., in the Herry Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 900 in Fairfax. Call Judy Pedersen at 703-324-8662.

New Roadway Safety Effort

Sully District police officers are taking a LEAD in traffic safety with their new initiative, Let's Eliminate Aggressive Driving. Throughout March, officers are implementing a variety of enforcement techniques and strategies to curtail dangerous driving behaviors on and around the Sully District and Route 28 corridor. Police will focus their efforts during morning and evening, heavily commuted travel periods. Authorities say aggressive driving often peaks with warm weather and extended hours of daylight.

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 5

NEWS



Maj. Justin Constantine (on left) talks to students in teacher Pete Garvey's (on right) government class at Mountain View School.

From Fairfax to Iraq and Back

FROM PAGE 1

ing courage under fire because the sniper was still firing."

Luckily, there was no brain damage, but Constantine, then 36, was severely injured. He still has a ways to go, but he's recovered sufficiently to get married, hold down a job, start a foundation to help other wounded veterans and share his experiences with others.

Now a major, the Fairfax City native recently spoke to teacher Pete Garvey's government class at Mountain View School. He and Garvey played rugby together at JMU, and Garvey invited him to talk with his seniors studying civic duty and foreign policy. And Constantine made an impression.

"I thought of veterans as older folks from WWII, not younger people," said student Ryan D'Arville. "Now I understand more what it's like to be in his situation and serve in another country."

Gloria Alarcon said Constantine showed them pictures of Iraq littered with trash and having rundown schools. "It made me thankful I'm in a better environment, in a nicer school and have better opportunities to get a good education," she said. "I work and pay taxes, and I think more of this money should go to taking care of the wounded warriors."

Constantine said the trash was more than just unsightly. "Trash meant possible IEDs hidden," he said. He then described an incident to the students in which he was almost blown up.

"Soldiers risk their own lives so we Americans can live a free, fearless life," said student Jose Escobar. "These people don't even know us."

"I still don't know why the U.S. is in Iraq," said Jheferson Robles. "But I respect what Maj. Constantine did."

Hearing him speak, said David Chun, gave him another perspective on the military. "The person I saw wasn't a statistic," he said. "He told us what daily life in a war was like. It makes you think twice, and it shows that these are real people; they have wives and families — they're not just numbers."

WHEN CONSTANTINE was injured in fall 2006, he and his girlfriend Dahlia had been dating about six months. And when he deployed to Iraq, she went to Cambridge University in England to work on her

Ph.D. in education.

But, he said, "When I was shot, she dropped everything to be with me at the Naval Hospital in Bethesda." Constantine had severe facial injuries and had a long road ahead of him, but their love was strong and they faced the future together. They married in October 2008 at the new Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, and Dahlia's been by his side throughout his whole ordeal.

"She helped me through some incredibly tough times," said Constantine. "We now know we can make it through whatever challenge life throws our way." It also helped that his parents live in Fairfax City and could visit him in the hospital often.

"Doctors replaced my upper and lower jaw with bones from my legs and did skin grafts from different parts of my body," he said. "The end of my tongue got shot off, and I only have four original teeth left, so I'm getting dentures."

Constantine was initially hospitalized for six weeks and then received outpatient treatment for eight months. He's still in the Reserves and, eventually, the Marines will assess him to see if he's fit for duty. First, though, he'll have three more surgeries.

"I have vision issues in my left eye and have challenges running, so I doubt if I'll deploy again," he said. "But there are many other jobs I can do in the Reserves."

MEANWHILE, Constantine's applied for a masters from Georgetown University in National Security Studies so, for example, he could work for the FBI or the Department of Defense on national-security issues. He's also served as a military lawyer and currently works on Capitol Hill as a counsel for the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Mountain View student Ciara Adams said she's living her normal life and "the war over there doesn't really affect me." But Constantine's visit to her classroom "really opened my eyes."

Dylan Nigond learned that the U.S. troops went door-to-door, talking to Iraqi civilians. "I thought it was just shooting and war," he said. "But they helped the civilians get water and food and also helped clean things up a little."

"I told the kids the vast majority of Iraqis just

SEE MARINE VET, PAGE 8

COMMUNITY

Hair Today, Bald Tomorrow



COURTESY OF TAMMARA RATLIFF

Westfield sophomore Kyle Stolmack gets shorn by Valon Salon's Dana Lightel.

Twenty people got shaved bald Sunday during the St. Baldrick's Day celebration at Fast Eddie's in Centreville. Amid the music and merriment, the event raised \$18,000 for childhood-cancer research. Participants included Westfield High sophomore Kyle Stolmack, who was diagnosed with cancer in 2005 and, after treatment, was in remission until February — when he learned his cancer has come back. He hadn't yet lost his hair due to chemo, but was a shavee on Sunday because, he explained, "I just wanted to do my part."

Donations are still being accepted at <https://www.stbaldricks.org/events/Centreville>. People may contribute to the event, or go to the participants' pages to donate to particular shaves.



Newly shorn Cub Run Elementary fifth-graders (from left) Thomas Ratliff, William Dzubak, Logan Andrews and Dominic Huffman.



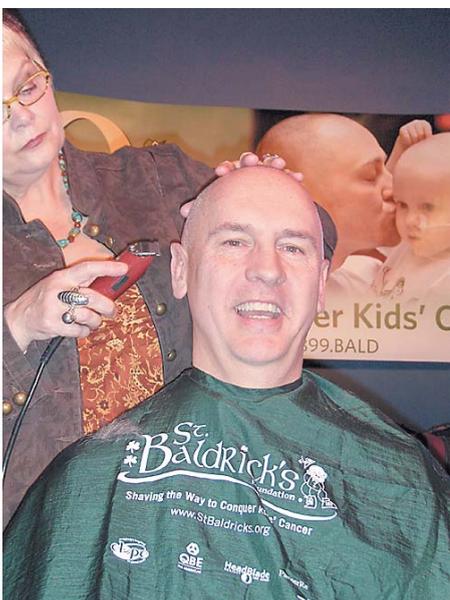
Father and son, Tom and Thomas Ratliff, of Country Club Manor.



Tamra Wooten of Eclipse Salon shaves Suzanne Olijar of Sully Station.



From left are cancer survivors Lauren Herrity, Jack Kettl and Daniel Shank-Rowe.



Centreville High Principal Mike Campbell goes smooth for the cause.



Westfield teacher Ted Penton (right) before his shave from Valon Salon stylist Monica Arrington and after (left).



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/
CENTRE VIEW

Fireworks Lead to Death

FROM PAGE 1

and I were throwing fireworks out of the side of the truck bed; Dennis was just watching us.”

McDonald said they ignited fireworks for about an hour and all was well. But shortly after midnight, one that Guthrie lit and threw landed back where they were sitting. Calling it a “jumping jack,” McDonald said it “just spins and doesn’t blow up. He said it landed between his outstretched legs, below his knees, a few feet away from Ross.

“I saw Dennis shift to the other side of the truck bed,” said McDonald. “I was trying to put the firework out by stomping on it, but it went out by itself. After [that], I looked up, and Dennis wasn’t in the truck bed. I didn’t see him jump out; Kyle told me he did, and we turned around to get him.”

They’d been traveling on Donegal Drive near Mandeville Drive in South Riding, and that’s where they found Ross, face down on the road. “He was on the ground, breathing heavy,” said McDonald. “There was a big lump and a cut on the back of his head, with blood coming out of it and out of his mouth. We called 911.”

Ross’s father, Dennis Ray Ross Sr., testified that he last saw his son when he’d left home, earlier that day, with Sampson. “Dennis was going to see friends before leaving for the Marine Corps, the next day,” he said. “He’d spent the last two weeks in Marine Corps boot camp and was probably in the best shape of his life.”

Crying on the witness stand, Ross Sr. said the next time he saw Dennis was at Inova Fairfax Hospital. “He was being rolled in to have brain surgery,” said his father. Dennis never regained consciousness and died on July 25.

Medical examiner Shane Chittenden also testified. He didn’t go into details about the results of his autopsy on Ross Jr., but his report was entered into evidence. Also made part of the case were photos Loudoun Sheriff’s Deputy Jamie Romba took at the scene.

Loudoun Fire Marshal’s Investigator Brian Kennedy also responded that night and said “jumping jacks” or M-88s, as they’re also called, are illegal fireworks. And both he and Deputy Richard Garris said a “strong odor of alcohol” was emanating from Guthrie’s body.

Later, at the Dulles police substation,

Garris said Guthrie admitted lighting that firework and throwing it over the front of the cab while the truck was moving forward. “[Guthrie] said it went about 20 feet and fell back into the bed of the truck,” said Garris. “He said Dennis overreacted and jumped out of the vehicle.”

After the investigation was complete, in November, Guthrie was charged with involuntary manslaughter. In court last week, Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney Stephen Sincavage defined it as “an accidental, unintended killing due to the criminal negligence of an individual whose actions were so gross, wanton and culpable as to show a callous disregard for human life.”

He said Guthrie consumed alcohol underage and was throwing fireworks, which is illegal. “It was a lit object on fire,” said Sincavage. “When you throw a firework in the direction you’re traveling, it’s feasible that it could fall back at you. Guthrie showed lack of good judgment due to his having consumed alcohol. Somebody should know somebody could get hurt.”

The prosecutor then asked Judge Buta Biberaj to find probable cause that “Guthrie’s actions caused Ross’s death.” But defense attorney Francis Minor said Ross was killed by a head trauma, “not by my client.”

Minor said what happened did not rise to the level of involuntary manslaughter. “This was an accident,” he said. “And not all accidents are necessarily criminal in nature.”

Noting that Ross was present during the whole evening of firework throwing and hadn’t objected to it, Minor said, “The loss of this child was a tragedy and I am truly sorry, but it was not foreseeable that Ross would have jumped out because of a thrown firework. I ask you to dismiss this case.”

Before rendering her decision, Biberaj said, “This incident touched many families, including the victim’s and that of the person held responsible. There are so many unlawful acts in this case — people sitting in a truck bed, illegal fireworks.”

She said the firework that fell back made Ross take action “to avoid something happening to him. A whole series of factors led to his death, and the person who sets them in motion can be held responsible. It is for that reason I’m certifying this to the grand jury.” However, she added, “The court finds probable cause — not guilt or innocence.”

stall 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.

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 8

ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 3

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, March 25, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. No appointment is necessary. But residents should in-

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The Transportation Fix

No help on congestion just a small part of spreading pain from budget.

The Virginia General Assembly has adjourned.

If for some reason your attention lapsed between the campaign for Governor (Gov. Bob McDonnell took office just two months ago) and now, you might expect a transportation plan as one of the outcomes of this assembly session.

Here is the transportation relief proposed and passed and likely to be signed: the maximum speed limit on some roads will increase to 70 miles-per-hour.

This seems like it might violate equal protection standards, since there are very few hours of the day on any Northern Virginia's roads that getting above 55 is possible. Heck, most of us are really happy if traffic on the Beltway or 66 or 95 or Toll Road moves along

at 30 mph without frequent stops.

So in other parts of the state not dominated by congestion, vehicles will be moving faster.

In Northern Virginia, there will be even less money for even fewer efforts at relieving congestion.

The governor's commitment to fixing transportation, the center of his campaign that boosted him to an election victory even in Fairfax County (not Arlington or Alexandria) turned out to be far weaker than his commitment to eschew any new forms of revenue that might be needed to pay for

EDITORIAL

such a fix.

Seriously, the Governor made no major proposal to the General Assembly on transportation.

Many, many people will face hardships that the rest of us can barely imagine because of the greatly pared down budget just passed in the General Assembly, especially people with disabilities of all kinds, working poor families, people who need mental health care, people who are struggling with addictions, families who can't afford health insurance whose incomes are just enough to keep them from getting assistance, etc.

Localities will press to raise property taxes so they can buffer some of the cuts to education, health care and the safety net passed along from the state.

Parents and students and teachers will feel the pain as school districts struggle to adjust priorities in ways that won't sit well.

And everyone who needs to get anywhere will sit in traffic, wait longer for buses, pay more for rides on public transportation of all kinds.

But don't forget that if you are lucky enough to drive through some of rural Virginia on an interstate, you'll probably get to go 70 miles-per-hour. That should compensate for some of the pain.

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It's a work in progress, but The Connection and sister papers Centre View, Alexandria Gazette Packet and Mount Vernon Gazette are now on Facebook at www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers. Please become a fan.

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Legislative Session: The Aftermath

BY JIM LEMUNYON
DELEGATE (R-67)

The 2010 Session of the Virginia General Assembly concluded on Sunday. I'd like to share with you a brief summary of what we accomplished in Richmond and some things that remain to be done next year. Your comments and questions are welcome, especially about topics that may not appear below.

Budget—A House-Senate consensus budget passed on Sunday that is balanced without a tax increase. Contrary to what you may have read in the newspapers, state funding for school funding for Fairfax and Loudoun Counties increased. We stood to lose \$91 million for Fairfax and Loudoun County schools — but didn't lose a penny — in fact we received more — \$19.6 million more for both school systems over two years. With the support of Governor McDonnell, those of us in the Virginia House and Senate from Northern Virginia took a strong, bipartisan stand that our region must receive more tax dollars back from Richmond and we succeeded.

RICHMOND
REPORT

Education —Beyond school funding, H.B. 1390, a bill to streamline the process for applying to establish public charter schools, passed both bodies. I was happy to support this priority of Governor McDonnell's because charter schools can address specific educational needs — ranging from helping at risk students to providing advanced science and math classes not generally available in traditional public schools. In fact, current law requires that half of all charter schools address the needs of at risk kids. By streamlining the application process, localities will be able to more readily establish charter schools when appropriate to address the needs of the school children in their community.

I cosponsored H.B. 208, a bill to eliminate

unnecessary reports required by the state from local school divisions. H.B. 208 passed both bodies and is on the way to the Governor's desk for his signature. This will eliminate more than 700 reports statewide and thus will direct more education dollars to the classroom.

Transportation —The budget includes provisions to sell more than \$400 million in transportation bonds. This is just a small step in the right direction. I cosponsored H.B. 756, a bill to dedicate a significant portion of future budget surpluses to transportation. H.B. 756 passed the House, but not the Senate. While transportation funding is a top priority for our area, this is not the case in other parts of the state. More meaningful transportation legislation will only pass if delegates from Northern Virginia work with those from less populous parts of the state to reach a consensus. I hope to be instrumental in doing so. Developing a more comprehensive transportation plan for Northern Virginia is my top homework assignment between now and the January 2011 session. We need to reform how transportation dollars are spent so that we get the biggest bang for our bucks in terms of congestion reduction. I introduced H.B. 779, a bill to prioritize transportation projects in this manner and am looking forward to working to get this bill passed next year.

Jobs and the Economy —The majority of Governor McDonnell's legislative agenda passed related to attracting new companies to Virginia. I was privileged to assist the Governor in his efforts by sponsoring H.B. 792, a bill allowing certain licensed, small business owners moving to the Commonwealth from other states to obtain temporary business licenses in Virginia, so they can be building their companies and creating jobs here immediately. This bill makes it easier for small businesses to form and grow, and I am happy to report that it passed the House and

Senate unanimously.

Energy Independence —I voted for H.B. 787 to prepare Virginia for natural gas, oil, and wind energy development off the Virginia Coast as soon as federal regulations are changed to permit such development. I also voted to dedicate 80 percent of revenues that Virginia collects from this new industry to transportation improvements. Both bills passed the House and Senate and await the Governor's signature.

Illegal Immigration —H.B. 737, a bill requiring state agencies to use the federal E-Verify program to ensure that Virginia's state employees are legally able to work in the United States, passed both bodies. This is one constructive step Virginia is able to take while Congress considers more comprehensive immigration reform.

Good Government —The House passed my bill, H.B. 778, to require that every member's voting record be easily retrievable by member name on the Internet. It may be hard to believe, but this bill ran into some objections in the Senate and was "carried over" for consideration during the 2011 session. Regardless, you can visit www.lemunyon.com to find my complete voting record from the 2010 session. The House and Senate also passed my bill, H.B. 1306, requiring that jurors provide identification before serving on a jury. This bill is also waiting for the Governor's approval.

The 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly concluded March 14. We return for one day on April 21 to consider any vetoes by the Governor, otherwise, we reconvene in January of 2011.

Now that I have returned from Richmond, I am eager to meet with you and your organizations to exchange ideas and public policy suggestions for next session. If you wish, please contact me at DelJLeMunyon@house.virginia.gov or 703-264-1432 or arrange a meeting.

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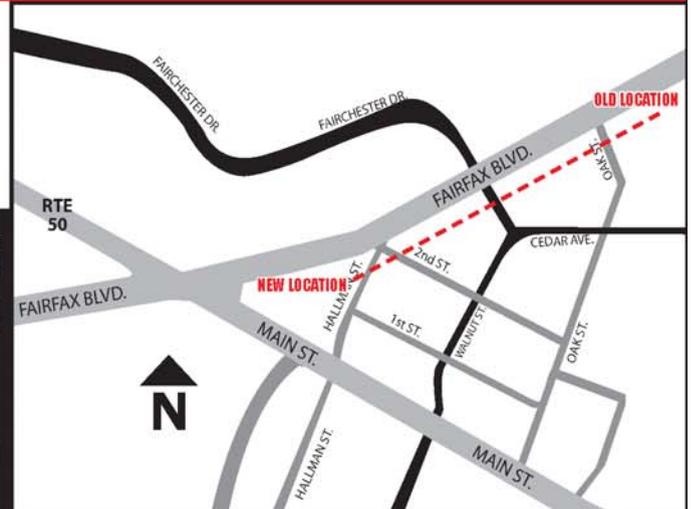
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NEWS

Marine Vet Shares His Story

FROM PAGE 3

wanted to have a good life and the insurgents weren't going to help them rebuild their cities," said Constantine. "I enjoyed speaking with the students because they may have been dealt a rough hand, and they needed to hear that other people may have been, too, and have overcome it."

Constantine also told them there are many ways of giving back to their country. "I said every person has an obligation to do that, when a girl asked me why I joined the Marines," he said. "I was impressed with those kids — they asked really good questions."

The person who shot him was later captured and turned out to be from Yemen. Until he met Garvey's students, said Constantine, "Only the FBI had cared enough to ask me how I knew he was from Yemen. It was encouraging, because it meant the kids were interested in what I was saying and learned a bit. Afterward, some came up, shook my hand and thanked me for talking to them, so it was a good experience."

ADAMS WAS SURPRISED by his positive attitude, despite everything he'd been through. And she was happy his personal life turned out so well. "His injury made him realize how much Dahlia loved him," she said. "She gave up her education, but gained from being with him."

Still, as Constantine recovered, people stared at him because of his facial injuries. They wondered what happened to him, so he created a line of T-shirts to reply. With "Iraq and Back" written across the front, people would approach and ask him about his time in Iraq.

He also realized the shirts could serve a larger purpose. So at <http://iraqandback.com/about-us.php>, people may read his story and buy his merchandise, and part of each sale goes to four charities supporting America's military personnel — especially those who've been injured. Constantine also established www.AfghanistanandBack.com for troops who've been to Afghanistan because they face many similar issues upon returning to the U.S. that Iraq veterans do.

"I've seen relatives go to war and come back, and

ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 5

Exchange Students Need Homes

Hosts are being sought for international exchange students. People opening their hearts and homes to a young person from another culture will be exposed to new worlds and have an unforgettable experience. Contact Kathy Kinter and K.Kinter@international-experience.net or 703-988-9565. for more information, see www.ie-usa.com.

WFCM Hosts Budgeting Class

The Financial Peace University, a budgeting class taught nationally, will be offered Tuesdays, from 7-9 p.m., at Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM), 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly. The free classes are open to the public. New classes begin April 13. However, class size is limited and child care is not available. Attendees must register by calling Leah Ann Furr at 703-988-9656, ext. 102.



Maj. Justin Constantine

they're not the same people," said student Ibrahim Fetterolf. "They're broken and I can't connect with them, anymore. I couldn't do it — but for Maj. Constantine to cope with that, recover from injuries, get married and go on with his life, walk around in public looking like that, and still want to go back [on active duty] is impressive and inspiring."

Constantine bears no ill will toward the man who shot him. "He was there doing his job and so was I," said Constantine. "Had the roles been reversed, I might have done the same thing."

Dahlia's now an ESOL teacher and the couple lives in Arlington. Constantine, 40, said the whole experience brought them closer and "there are no obstacles we can't overcome." He also learned that "you have to tell people how you feel about them while you can, and not put things off 'til later."

Furthermore, he said his ordeal made him more compassionate. "I sometimes struggle with PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder], and Dahlia encouraged me to seek treatment and talk to people about my issues," he said. "You never know what someone's struggling with, when they're irritable to you. I [realize] that now and tell myself to just let it go."

Constantine said he and his wife also believe in giving back: "I'm more attuned now to what our wounded warriors and their families are going through, so we work with organizations taking care of them — and, frankly, I might not have done that before."

The class will be taught by an experienced volunteer interested in helping clients get out of debt, set up a weekly household budget and start savings. All materials will be provided free, and the class will consist of DVD/video sessions, homework and counseling as needed. Class duration is five weeks for basic budgeting, plus another five weeks for a more-advanced concentration, which is optional.

Indoor Farmers Market

An indoor farmers market is open in a storefront within the Fairfax Corner shopping center, off Monument Drive in Fairfax. The address is 11895 Grand Commons Ave., between the Lucy and Il Vino stores, and the market's open for business every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.

A wide selection of products is offered, including winter fruits and vegetables, meats, dairy products, baked goods, gluten-free products and a variety of prepared foods. It's run by Smart Markets which operated last summer's farmers market in both Centreville and Fairfax Corner. The market will be there through April, when it will return to its site in the shopping center's parking lot.

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Five Years Prison for Bank Robbery

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

A Centreville man has been sentenced to five years in prison, and his accomplice has received a suspended sentence in connection with last spring's robbery of a Chantilly bank. They are, respectively, Marlon Negassa, 37, and Zoghanno Holmes, 50, both of 14547 Golden Oak Road in The Meadows community.



Negassa



Holmes

robbery. Judge Robert Smith then set her sentencing for Feb. 26. Negassa was scheduled to stand trial Dec. 1 in Circuit Court, but instead pleaded guilty to use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, plus an amended charge of robbery

bank were able to disarm the robber, subdue him and hold him until police arrived.

The two men sustained minor injuries during the scuffle. The 23-year-old victim was taken to Inova Fair Oaks Hospital and the 42-year-old victim was treated at the scene. Police took Negassa, the robber, to jail. Furthermore, wrote Vickery, patrol officers "arrested Holmes in a nearby neighborhood after she was connected to the male robber and the getaway vehicle."

On Oct. 15, 2009 in Circuit Court, Holmes pleaded guilty to

on or near a street.

He returned for sentencing, Feb. 5, by Judge Lorraine Nordlund. For the robbery, Negassa received 10 years in prison, with eight years suspended, and was placed on five years supervised probation upon his release. He was also given a mandatory three years in prison for the firearm offense. The sentences were run consecutively, for a total of five years to serve.

As for Holmes, on Feb. 26, Judge Smith sentenced her to five years in prison, suspending all that time. He also placed her on five years probation.

Three Years Prison For Fairfax Woman

A 24-year-old Fairfax woman has been sentenced to three years in prison in connection with bank robberies in Fair Oaks and McLean. She is Stephanie Marie Nightingale of 4497 Holly Ave.

On June 5, 2009, a woman entered the M&T Bank, at 11721 Lee Highway in Fair Oaks, around 11:12 a.m., with her face covered. Armed with a handgun, she demanded money and was given an undisclosed amount of cash before fleeing.

Then on July 1, 2009, a woman entered Cardinal Bank at 8270 Greensboro Drive in McLean, around 4:05 p.m. She then approached two female tellers, ages 20 and 42, at the counter, brandished a handgun and demanded money. The tellers complied, and the robber fled.

After an investigation, Fairfax County police detectives developed Nightingale as a suspect in those two robberies and arrested her in the early morning hours of July 2, 2009. They charged her with two counts each of robbery and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.

One firearm charge was dropped, Oct. 7, in General District Court. Judge Ian O'Flaherty certified everything else to the grand jury. On Oct. 19, the grand jury indicted Nightingale on all three charges, and on Dec. 10 in Circuit Court, she pleaded guilty to all three.

She returned for sentencing Friday, March 5, and at that time, Judge David Schell sentenced her to five years in prison for each robbery, suspending three years of each sentence. He also placed Nightingale on two years probation following her release.

In addition, Schell gave her a mandatory three years in prison on the firearm charge and ran all three sentences concurrent with each other. That left Nightingale with three years total to serve.

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WORTH NOTING

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

ONGOING

Craft Show at Centreville High School. The Touchdown Club is looking for crafters and fine artisans to participate in their Craft Show on Saturday, April 17, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit their Web site for information and an application: <https://sites.google.com/site/cvstouchdownclub>. Contact Gail Roman, 703-222-3584 or touchdown.gail@gmail.com

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 11

Storyteller Jim Weiss. 7 p.m. Free. At Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Bring used books to donate at the event and receive a coupon for a free book @ the Geshher Used Book sale. More info or to RSVP gesherjimweissevent@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/MARCH 12

Swing Dancing. 8:30-9 p.m. swing lesson; 9 p.m. to midnight dancing. With the band King Cadillac. Cost is \$15. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road (Route 28 near the airport), Herndon.

Calling all Actors. The next round of auditions for "For the Glory," the movie, will be held at The King's Chapel, 12925 Braddock Road, Clifton. Email fortheglory@1voicefilms.com with the time of day you prefer (morning/afternoon/evening) and someone will reply back with your time slot. Visit www.fortheglorythemovie.com

SATURDAY/MARCH 13

Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. 5-8 p.m. Tickets are \$9/ adults, \$6.50 for kids 5-12, and under 4 are free. At Clifton Presbyterian Church. Located in the Town of Clifton behind Trummers. If you would like to donate to the silent

SCHOOL NOTES

Some 43 Chantilly High School DECA students competed in the 2009-2010 State Leadership Competition in Norfolk, March 12-14. The following student's performances in their respective events qualified them for the International Career Development Conference which will be held April 24-28 in Louisville, KY:

- ❖ Ngoc Duong – 1st place, Restaurant and Food Service Series
- ❖ Justine Ferrari- 1st place, Retail Merchandising Series
- ❖ Tim Harwick- Runner-up, Automotive Services Series
- ❖ Jennifer Hudson- Runner-up, Quick Serve Restaurant Series
- ❖ Kenny Lau – 1st place, Sports and Entertainment Marketing Series
- ❖ Arjun Nair- Runner-up, Retail Merchandising Series

auction, contact Nicole Smith at nicolereeneesmith@cox.net or 703-863-5430.

Yoga for Core Strength. Noon to 1 p.m. Free. At The Women's Club Fitness Center and Day Spa, 14175 Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly. With instructor Rajeswari Tress. To pre-register, call 703-817-0700 or email womensclub@aol.com.

Spring Carnival. Noon to 4 p.m. Greenbriar West Elementary will be hosting a carnival with moon bounces, an inflatable obstacle course, games, food, bake sale, pie and cake decorating contests, cake walk, a prize wheel, stuffed animal walk, 50/50 raffle, music, a professional face painter, and more. Contact Danielle Waterfield at waterfieldfamily@verizon.net or 703-817-0103.

MARCH 13, 14

"Disney's Aladdin Jr." Presented by The Alliance Theatre. Performances are March 13 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.; March 14 at 2 p.m. At Mountain View School, 5775 Spindle Court, Centreville. For tickets, visit www.thealliance theatre.org or call 703-220-8101.

SUNDAY/MARCH 14

Garden Activity in Preparation for a Rose Show. 2 p.m. Presented by Diana Klassy, Consulting Rosarian and winning exhibitor at the 2009 Arlington Rose Foundation Rose Show. At Merrifield's Garden Center, Upstairs, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Call 703-371-9351.

"The Taste of Saint Andrew." 4-6 p.m. Tickets will be sold for "tastes" of a wide variety of dishes — from comfort to gourmet, breakfast foods to dessert. The recipes will be available for purchase, too. All proceeds support the junior high mission trip this summer. At Saint Andrew Lutheran Church, 14640 Soucy Place, Centreville. Call 703-830-2768.

St. Baldrick's Foundation Head Shaving Event. 3-6 p.m. The location is yet to be announced. Go to www.stbaldricks.org. Consider signing up to be a shaver or volunteer and/or make a tax deductible donation to the event. Go to the events page at: <http://www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/eventid/4324/eventyear/2010>. To see photos from last years event at Fast Eddies, go to: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/27757670@N04/sets/72157615430141519/>

MONDAY/MARCH 15

GOP Women of Clifton. 7:30 p.m. Will host a Q&A with Republican

Primary candidates Pat Herry and Keith Fimian for the 11th Congressional District. At Clifton Elementary School. Contact Lynn Falk at 703-802-9005.

Fund-Raiser. 4-8 p.m. For the SYA Xplosion 13U Girls Fastpitch Travel Softball Team. Come meet the players and enjoy the food and fun. 25 percent of the sales will help fund the team's expenses. At Tropical Smoothie Café, Centreville Square Shopping Center, 14220 B Centreville Square, Centreville.

Panel Discussion. 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Reaching Out: To Protect Your Child from the Realities of Substance Abuse. Led by CVHS Principal Mike Campbell. Learn the red flags, signs and symptoms of substance abuse, actions you can take, and available resources. At the Centreville High School auditorium. Contact Jennifer Cooper at JALCooper@aol.com, or Burnette Scarboro at bscarboro@fcps.edu.

Steps to Declutter Your Home. 7 p.m. The program will be presented by Vicki Becker and Donna Fredericks, owners of Clear to Go, an organizing and decluttering business. At the Meeting of the Western Fairfax County Woman's Club. At Greenbriar Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Call President Eileen Chambers at 703-378-7054 or Vice President Randi Weston at 703-266-0428. Visit www.gfwc.org.

Assistance League Meeting. 10 a.m. Promotes literacy and well-being of women and children in Northern Virginia. At the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Call Darlene at 703-848-0623; alnorthervna@yahoo.com; www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org

MARCH 18, 19, 21

Geshher Used Book Sale. Thousands of gently used books, DVDs, CDs and video tapes for all ages from 50 cents to \$2. Open to the public Thursday, March 18, 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, March 19, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Sunday, March 21, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Saturday, March 20. Sunday is also Community Family Day 1-4 p.m. for all ages. Call 703-978-9789. Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax.

THURSDAY/MARCH 18

Orientation Session. 7 p.m. For citizens interested in learning more about the animal foster care program and how to become a foster care provider for the Fairfax County Animal Shelter's animals. At the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax. To attend, citizens should RSVP to asdvolunteer@fairfaxcounty.gov. Call 703-830-1100.

❖ Kristin Perkins – 1st place, Business Law and Management Team Decision Making

❖ Mahil Santram – Runner-up, Marketing Management Series

❖ Marin Shipe-Runner-up, Apparel and Accessories Series

❖ Hannah Strub – 1st place, Business Law and Management Team Decision Making

❖ Surabhi Swarup- Runner-up, Principles of Hospitality and Tourism

The following students earned Top 10 honors in their respective events and are alternates for the upcoming International Conference:

❖ Phillip Bussjaeger – Entrepreneurship Participating Event – Independent

❖ Greg Varley – Sports and Entertainment Marketing Series

In addition to the finalists, 8 other

students received medals for scoring in the Top 10 on either their test or role plays. These students are:

❖ Jessie Bylund – Marketing Management Series

❖ John Crowson – Sports and Entertainment Marketing Series

❖ Emily Hood – Apparel and Accessories Series

❖ Jacki Ingros – Travel and Tourism Team Management

❖ Emily Giangreco – Travel and Tourism Team Management

❖ Camille May – Apparel and Accessories Series

❖ Sean Rogers – Retail Merchandising Series

❖ Ahmed Zuwawa- Automotive Services Series

Chantilly DECA also congratulates

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 11

SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 10

Senior Jasmine Shelton as she prepares to conclude her term as Northern Area Vice President on the Virginia DECA State Officer Team. Jasmine will be attending the International Conference as a representative of the State Officer Team.

“Saturday Night in the ‘Burbs” will be held Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m. at Westfield High School. The program is funded in part by Safe and Drug-free Schools and Communities Act and supported by the Westfield Community Coalition and Westfield PTSA. For adults, an evening of dialogue with a panel of senior students to discuss drugs, alcohol, parties, sexting, driving, and communication between teens and parents.

Chantilly High School’s SGA is hosting a hypnotist show on Thursday, April 15 at 7 p.m. in the Chantilly High School auditorium. Tickets will be \$6 pre-sale and \$8 at the door. All proceeds will go to the Rachel D’Andrea Fund. Rachel is a young girl in our community who has been diagnosed with Neuroblastoma.

Chantilly Academy cosmetology students and former students, who are now professional stylists, are sponsoring a benefit Hair Cut-A-Thon on Wednesday, March 24, from 3 to 8 p.m. at the Academy on the Stringfellow Road campus of Chantilly High School. Total proceeds from the Cut-A-Thon will be donated to the Kids R First nonprofit group. Contact Chantilly Academy cosmetology instructor, Wayne White, at 703-222-7487.

Students at Chantilly High School Diana Saffarini, Astrid Da Silva, and Madeline Welch have planned a fundraiser for the children at Inova Fairfax Hospital. The scheduled event, “Noodles for Kids,” will take place at Noodles & Company in Fairfax, 10296 Main Street, Fairfax, on Monday, April 12 from 4-8 p.m.

Poplar Tree Elementary School will host its annual carnival on Saturday, March 20 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., featuring a Wild West theme with fun for the whole family. Area families are invited to come out and enjoy moon bounces, an 85 ft. inflatable obstacle course, penny pitch, ring toss, goldfish pong and lots of other games with prizes, food, a 50-50 raffle, cake walks, and a themed gift basket raffle and silent auction. At 13440 Melville Lane off Stringfellow Road in Chantilly and tickets are available at the door.

The Chantilly High School Band Department will host the 30th Annual Chantilly Invitational Jazz Festival, Friday and Saturday, March 19 and 20. The event will run from approximately 4 p.m. until 10 p.m. on Friday and 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is free and open to the public.

The festival will feature 35 groups, including many “Combo Bands” on Friday and “Big Bands” on Saturday. Bands attending the event will come from Southern Virginia, Northern Maryland, Fairfax County, and West Virginia. This event has been described as “the premier scholastic jazz competition of the entire East Coast.”

Special guest performer on Saturday will be the Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra. Additional featured performers are The Mark Brandt Trio, The George Mason Jazz Ensemble, and The Shenandoah Conservatory Jazz Ensemble. The festival will conclude Saturday night with the three highest scoring big bands from the day’s competition returning for a true “battle of the bands” at 7:30 p.m.

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- Reduce services for children and teens
- Cut the library budget by nearly 1/3 over two years
- Make per resident library spending for Fairfax County the lowest in the DC Metro area

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Contact the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

- Chairman, At-Large — Sharon Bulova 703-324-2321 chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov
- Braddock — John C. Cook 703-425-9300 braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov
- Dranesville — John W. Foust 703-356-0551 dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov
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Western Fairfax Christian Ministries will be holding its **Annual Golf Tournament** at Chantilly National Golf Course on Monday, April 19 at 11 a.m. Corporations, foundations, business owners, community groups and individuals are invited to participate in the community-sponsored golf event which will provide for the growing number of neighbors in need in Western Fairfax County. The event will include prizes and great food. The registration fee is \$175 per player. The fee will cover carts, range balls, lunch and dinner.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available and are as follows: Gold Sponsor (\$1,500), Silver Sponsor (\$1,200) and Hole Sponsor (\$300). Registration for four players is included with Gold and Silver sponsorships only. All sponsors will be publicly recognized at the event and on the WFCM Web site. Sponsors are encouraged to register by April 1 to ensure that they are publicly recognized on formal signage at the Golf Tournament.

To participate in the event, register at wfcmlva.org/events.php. Or contact Jen Adkins, WFCM Business Manager, via email at admin@wfcmlva.org. For more information, contact Dan Whitaker, Golf Committee Chair, via phone at 571-201-4091.

Two Chantilly High seniors - **Matt Cumpian** and **Chris Foley** - have signed National Letters of Intent to compete collegiately in track and cross country next school year. Cumpian will be competing for nationally ranked, Div. II Harding University (Searcy, Ark.), where he intends to study physics. Foley will be competing for the University of Virginia, where he is leaning towards studying business.

The **10th Annual Westfield High School 5K Run/Walk** for Scholarships will be held on Sat-



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Westfield's **Shelby Romine** guards Oakton's **Caroline Coyer** during a late season high school girls' basketball matchup between the two Concorde District teams. Oakton's season ended at the state AAA semifinals on March 10 with a loss to Princess Anne in Richmond. Meanwhile, Westfield had an outstanding season at 17-5. The Bulldogs, led by Romine, reached the district tournament finals and went as far as the region tourney quarterfinals before a loss to Edison ended their season.

urday, May 8 at 8 a.m. Runners and walkers will have the opportunity to participate in a 5K (3.1 mile) run or walk through the Westfield Business Park. Both the run and walk will begin and end at the high school, located at 4700 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. The 5K uses a certified course that is relatively flat and loops runners through the Westfield Business Park.

Over \$60,000 in scholarship money has been raised from this event for Westfield High graduating classes. Runners and walkers can sign up for the event by going to the WHS 5K Web site at ptsa.westfieldhs.org/race/index.htm. There, they can either complete an online registration or download the form and mail it in to Westfield High.

Registration costs are \$15 for all Fairfax County Public Schools students and \$20 for all others until April 15.

The fee will increase to \$25 af-

ter April 15. All entrants registered by April 16 will receive a t-shirt and will be eligible for raffle prizes. Overall and age group winners of the 5K will receive awards.

Northern Virginia Senior Softball (nvss.org) is seeking players for both men's (50-over) and women's (40-over) leagues. Double-header games will be played on Tuesday and Thursday mornings on Fairfax County fields. The spring/summer season will run from April 13 through Aug. 12. NVSS fields 26 teams, organized into three skill-level conferences. Players are assigned to teams based on their skill assessment (not a try-out). NVSS runs an Indoor Conditioning Program through April 8. The Esprit de Corps Tournament is offered for members who served in the military.

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Three Added to the Local Hall of Fame

Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame inducts Jason Witten, Nick Hilgert and Richard Herman during ceremony.

BY REED S. ALBERS
CENTRE VIEW

Dallas Cowboy Jason Witten might one day be immortalized in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, but his first hall of fame honor is Fairfax's to claim.

On March 14 at the McLean Hilton, the Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame inducted the six-time, Pro Bowl tight end and former Vienna Youth linebacker to its roster of local football legends.

"There's no question that the experiences I had [at Vienna Youth] helped me reach my dreams," Witten said. "Thank you for helping make my dreams come true."

Witten was unable to attend the ceremony due to duties with the NFL Players Association and its yearly meeting in Hawaii, but his award will be held in Fairfax until next year's ceremony and he vowed to claim it in person.

Former Robinson Secondary School head football coach Nick Hilgert joined Witten as one of the three 2010 inductees to the Hall of Fame.

Hilgert, who served as head coach from 1983 to 1996, was the first Robinson head coach to take the Rams to the state football

finals in 1988. Hilgert also worked as an assistant coach at Hammond High School and Marshall High School.

Known for being a likeable coach and teacher, Hilgert used his time at the podium to remind the student-athletes in attendance to strive for excellence in everyday life.

"There's a lot more to [sports] than winning and losing ... you don't just go out for sports to be winners," he said. "Always do your best. If you do your best, then you're not a loser. Learn more, study more, work hard, and don't be satisfied with average."

Richard Herman of Fort Belvoir Sports also was inducted into the Hall of Fame for his decades of service to area youth sports. In 1993, he founded a select basketball program, and in 2000 founded a youth track club.

He currently is the Fort Belvoir youth football commissioner.

"I love children and I'll probably do this until the day I die," he said. "I appreciate this award and I'm very humbled."

IN ADDITION to the Hall of Fame inductions, various service and player of the year awards also were handed out.

Josh Hogan (W.T. Woodson), Kevin Samson (Madison), Anton McCallum



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Damian Caracciola (right), the football commissioner of the Southwestern Youth Association, was the recipient of the Gene Nelson Commissioner's Award at last Saturday's annual Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame banquet in McLean. He is pictured with Rep. Gerry Connolly.

(Hayfield), Brian Laiti (Robinson), Hunter Debutts (Episcopal) and Bo Revell (Battlefield) were named the High School Players of the Year.

Jim Poythress (Lake Braddock) and Mickey Thompson (Stone Bridge) were named High School Coaches of the Year.

Solomon Thompson Jr. won the Karl

Davey Memorial Award. John Page won Official of the Year and Joe Swarm, director of student activities at Marshall High School, won the Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award.

Damian Caracciola, Southwestern Youth Association youth football commissioner, won the Gene Nelson Commissioner's Award.

Chantilly at the State Semi-Finals

Chantilly High's Devin Ballam (3) goes up for a basket during the Chargers' 61-52 state AAA boys' basketball semifinals playoff loss to I.C. Norcum (Portsmouth) on March 10 at the Siegel Center in Richmond. Coach Jim Smith's Chantilly team captured the Northern Region title this season and reached the state final four for the first time in the program's history.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW



PHOTO COURTESY/SYA BASKETBALL

'Cameron Dudley Award' Recipient

Chris Knowlan (2nd from left), a Westfield High student, was given the "Cameron Dudley Award" on Sunday, March 14, in ceremonies held at Centerville High School. The annual award is given by the Southwestern Youth Association (SYA) to an SYA basketball player that most exemplifies Dudley's traits of an exemplary student-athlete and young citizen. Dudley, a former SYA player and a former member of the Westfield High JV boys' basketball team, was killed in a car accident in the summer of 2008. He was an 'A' student striving to become an Eagle Scout at the time of the tragedy. Dudley, who played a variety of sports growing up, had an enthusiasm for both sports and life. He loved his teammates and earned the respect of his coaches and teachers by his positive attitude, joyful spirit and team-first approach. Knowlan, the deserving recipient of the award, is a member of the Westfield High JV boys' lacrosse team and carries a 4.1 grade point average. Here, he is pictured with his brother, Ryan, and Dudley's parents - Mandel and Annita Dudley.

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CENTREVILLE

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11:00 am Contemporary Service

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WHS's Annual International Night

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Highlighting entertainment from Ireland to India to Egypt, students from all over the world will entertain in Westfield High's annual International Night.

Show time is Friday, March 26, at 7 p.m. in the school theater. Tickets are \$5 in advance, during school lunchtimes, March 22-25, or \$7 at the door. During intermission, ethnic food of Korea and possibly India will be available.

New this year, representing American Sign Language, a five-person group called Hands of Joy will perform "Imagine" by John Lennon. Also for the first time, guitarists Philip McNuss and Joe Drzaniecki – performing under the name Patty Snakes – will interpret an authentic, Irish song.

The group, Punjabi Style, will entertain with a Bhangra dance representing Northern Indian culture and the state of Punjab; Classic Bollywood Fusion, from throughout India, will do a group dance; and student Valeria Sierralta will sing a song by the famous Peruvian singer, Gianmarco.

Student Nishi Bugum will dance to a classical Kathak song from Bangladesh; Yara Tawfik will do a traditional, Egyptian belly dance called Saidi, from Upper Egypt; and two groups representing India – Hadippa and Singh is King – will do Punjabi dances.

There's even a couple from East Turkestan – in Xinjiang, an autonomous region in the People's Republic of China – who'll perform a traditional dance under the name Uyghur.

"It's a really important event because we get to see the students in a different light," said Westfield's International Club sponsor, Carmen Danies. "They might not choose to participate in other clubs at school, but they do participate in this one because it ties with their ethnicity. There's a lot of camaraderie that happens."

She said this club also welcomes newcomers to America. "These students are already acclimated because they've been here a couple years," explained Danies. "But they can still share their native culture and language, so the club brings a bit of home to them."

The International Club has 65 members, and all of them either perform on stage or behind the scenes during International Night. "We have a tradition in the club that the curtain-puller is always a beginning ESOL student and, this year, he's Adil Razzaq," said Danies. "And although it may not seem like it, on the surface, this job is central to the show."



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Profile in Real Estate – Scott Koval

Scott Koval with Samson Properties has been a Northern Virginia resident for 45 years. His two daughters, Jackie, 17, and Katie, 18, currently attend Oakton High School. Scott volunteers for both the Field Hockey and Lacrosse teams that his daughters play for. Scott enjoys watching our local sports teams and getting out playing on our local golf courses as well.

After getting his real estate license in 2002, Scott has enjoyed helping people realize their Real Estate dreams. During his real estate career he earned several credentials including Lifetime Top Producer, designation as an Accredited Buyers representative, Short Sale and Foreclosure Resource Certification, as well as earning E-buyer designation.

Scott's goal is to provide the finest real estate services available, based on

the highest standards of ethics, value and customer care so that he can continue to earn the loyalty and trust of his clients.

As a result, Scott has earned a lifelong list of clients and friends because he has placed their interests first. Their referrals always give him a feeling of accomplishment, because a personal referral is the best compliment anyone in Real Estate can receive. Scott belongs to the "By Referral Only" group which stands for first class service to clients.

A good agent must continue learning to keep up with our rapidly changing industry and Scott frequently attends real estate conferences, seminars and courses. He is also currently working on his Associate Brokers license to broaden his expertise in the real estate field.

In the last couple of years Scott has focused on foreclosures and short sales and built a very productive short sale operation that has helped many people who have been in distress. His expertise allows him to help provide clients who are going through a short sale or foreclosure with information that is up-to-date, factual and reliable to achieve the best possible outcome.



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'Talent Fest 2010' at Chantilly High School

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Featuring acts from India, Korea, the Philippines, Africa, Vietnam, Pakistan and Central and South America, Chantilly High presents its annual International Festival.

Called "Talent Fest 2010," it'll be held Thursday, March 25, at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium. Tickets are \$6 during school lunches and at the door.

"It's our 13th year for this show, and it's become one of the highlights of each school year," said

ESOL teacher Naseema Sait, who's chairing the event. "The students have been rehearsing since February and they're so dedicated."

Theater teacher Shannon Khatcheressian is directing the show, which will showcase Chantilly's diversity. The ESOL department sponsors it, and Sait said it's an important event because "It really adds to our school and every nationality here wants to participate."

International Night is also hugely popular. Said Sait: "The auditorium has 600 seats and it's usually sold out." The acts are as

follows:

The Curry Group will perform Bhangra dancing to Indian Bollywood music; student Pooja Patlolla will sing an Indian song; Sarah Park will sing a romantic Korean song called "Fate;" and a group called The Afro Diamonds will perform a medley of modern, African music combined with dance.

Genie, a group of three girls, will do a fun, playful dance to a Korean pop number; another group will sing and dance to Vietnamese and modern Korean pop; under the name, "The BYK," three boys – Brian Kim, Kenny Ly and Y.J.

Choi – will combine Asian hip hop dance with martial arts; and 12 students from Central and South America will dance in pairs to an urban hip hop merengue.

"This program means a lot to the kids," said Sait. "They're representing their countries and identities, and it gives them a chance to show them off. It also means a lot to our

school and to the ESOL department because the proceeds go back to the department to subsidize the field trips and other events we do during the year. In addition, we're establishing our first college scholarship for an ESOL student this year, so part of the money will also go toward that."

OBITUARY

Richard W. Krempasky

The Honorable Richard W. Krempasky, Oak Hill, retired Administrative Judge, Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Contract Appeals and retired Lt. Colonel D.C. Army National Guard, died suddenly on March 9, 2010 surrounded by his family. He was 61 years old.

He was born Oct. 6, 1948, in Washington, D.C., son of the late Joseph and Thelma E. Thompson Krempasky of Clinton, Md. He was married in 1974 to his loving and devoted wife, Ramona M. Oshetski, of Danville, Pa. He is survived by four children, Katrina R. of Oak Hill, Rachel E. of Fairfax, Laura P. Sherman and husband Michael of Herndon, and Richard J. and wife Jennifer (Macken) of Centreville.

He is also survived by two brothers, Joseph R. and wife Mary (Hertzog) of Lewiston, Idaho and John H. of Greenbelt, Md., and two sisters Elizabeth A. Krempasky, Denton, Md. and Alice P. K. Peach and husband Glenn, Virginia Beach.

Judge Krempasky graduated from the College of William and Mary in Virginia in 1970 and from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1973.

His active duty military service was served in the U.S. Army from 1974-1978 in the Judge Advocate General's Corps at Ft. Benning, Ga. and as Post Judge Advocate for Ft. Drum, N.Y.

He was a member of the 428th Judge Advocates

General D.C. Army National Guard from 1983-1992. Upon promotion to Lt. Colonel he was Commander of the 340th Judge Advocates Detachment D.C. Army Reserve National Guard from 1992-1998.

From 1978-1990 he was an attorney for the Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation.

Judge Krempasky was appointed Administrative Judge, Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Contract Appeals in 1990, retiring in 2007.

He was a lifelong avid outdoorsman who loved to fish. He would fish in any body of water, but especially loved fishing the Chesapeake Bay. He loved cooking and spent his retirement trying out recipes on his grateful family.

He was a devoted husband, father, brother and son. His family and many friends will miss him dearly. He was always, by every definition, the most honorable of men.

Judge Krempasky will be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on May 5 at 9 a.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, 6 Herndon Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403 or to Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, 2200 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19806. No flowers please.



Some Recommendations

Principal Clay Sande listens as first grade students in Mrs. Sterrett's class at Lees Corner Elementary read their essays titled "If I Ran the School." From left, they are: Will Baird, Laila Dajani, Sam Fitzhugh and Principal Sande.

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Home Support Clinical Manager

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Randy & Julie Thompson trading as Clifton Wine Shop & Tasting Room, 7145-C Main St, Clifton, VA 20124. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Retail license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Julie Thompson, owner

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-Elizabeth Barret Browning

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

TOWN OF CLIFTON - NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 6, 2010

On Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall, the Clifton Town Council and the Clifton Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing to consider changes in the Zoning Ordinance relating to Parking, Section 9-13 of the Town Code. Members of the public are encouraged to appear at said time and place to present their views on the proposed changes to the parking ordinance. The full text of the proposed zoning ordinance is available for examination on the Town's website and at the Clifton Post Office or by contacting the Town Clerk at kathleen.barton21@yahoo.com or pawnsfins@cox.net.

LEGAL NOTICE

Effective March 29th, cable channel Fox Reality will cease to operate and will become Nat Geo Wild. Like Fox Reality, Nat Geo Wild will be carried on the same channel (219) in the Digital Variety Pak. Nat Geo Wild is dedicated to bringing audiences extraordinary stories of the natural world and the amazing animals that inhabit it. Through unique, powerful experiences and unparalleled imagery, viewers will get closer to animals and nature than ever before.



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21 Announcements

OBITUARY

Mary Stuart
Mary Vance Wallace Stuart, 94, died at home in Chantilly, VA on Thursday, March 11, 2010.

An Elementary school teacher for more than 30 years, Mrs. Stuart was educated at Florence State Teacher's College and was a member at Centreville Presbyterian Church in Centreville, VA.

Mrs. Stuart was preceded in death by her parents, Vance Tellis and Laura Belle Derryberry Wallace and her husband, Raymond N. Stuart.

Survivors include her son, Wally (Peggy) Stuart of Chantilly; grandchildren, Ray (Dawn) Stuart of Chantilly and Laura (Gary) Reidenbach of Kailua, HI; great-granddaughter, Lyndsy Marie Stuart of Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD; sister-in-law, Louise Stuart Philmon of Fairfax, VA; brother-in-law, Bill (Alicia) Stuart of South Pittsburg, TN and nephew, Milton (Carol) Wallace of Sonoma, CA.

Visitation will be at Rogers Funeral Home, South Pittsburg, TN from noon until 1:45PM, CST on Sunday, March 14, 2010.

Graveside service will be at Cumberland View Cemetery at 2:00PM on Sunday, March 14, 2010.

Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.rogersfuneralhome.com.

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"According to Computer Models ..."



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And no, this isn't a take on the James Cameron-directed, special effects phenomenon, "Avatar." This isn't 3D. This is "reality." This is Doug Hill, Channel 7 meteorologist speaking (advisedly). This is weather at presumably its finest and most likely scenario. Weather predictions via man-made machinery; computers specifically, which we've (most of us, anyway) all come to respect and appreciate as tools of the respective trades. But weather itself is not so reliable, nor is it man made. Weather has a mind (track) of its own; predictable, generally, but subject to change/interpretation? Oh my, yes! As sure as the wind blows. We may think we understand nature, nurture it sort of, maybe even relate to it in some anthropomorphic way. But, it doesn't understand us. It doesn't relate to us, and it certainly doesn't seem to care about us. It reacts to its natural (and unnatural) surroundings and acts not according to any weather model, real or imagined. It just reacts, like a pinball on steroids; any which way, including loose.

As a result, the rest of us are left to pick up the pieces, sometimes literally. Otherwise, we pick up the shovels and "Ice Melt," hammer, nails and plywood and clear the walk and/or batten down the hatches, 'cause weather is coming or in some patterns/predictions, may be here already. And if it is, you better have your supplies, at least in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area because if you're late to the dance, there will be no party afterward. And no milk, bread, eggs, toilet paper or water either; that's presuming you can even find and/or fit into a parking space.

But it's nothing us Washingtonians (or transplants) have not grown accustomed to: panic in the streets (and the shopping centers, too). Are we proud are of our overreactions? Hardly. Has our snow-related behavior over the years been typically much ado about a little something? Until this, year, almost always. Has the Blizzard of 2010 finally earned us a little respect, grudgingly though it may be, from Buffalones specifically, and Northerners in general, many of whom have regularly laughed and scoffed at our school-cancellation policy and our many "snow emergencies?" You would think. Moreover, I would say we've earned our snow-shoveling stripes, our plowing medals of honor and our bravery above and beyond the call of reasonable and customary winter duty.

Eventually, life goes on, though. Until the next weather model predicts the formerly ever-scary "wintry mix." Which until this most recent record-setting/smashing blizzard, was as frightful a pair of words ever spoken here (in relation to the weather, that is; after all, this is Washington, D.C., home to the three branches of our Federal Government: the Executive, the Legislative and the Judicial, where snow accumulation, generally speaking, pales in comparison to the more pressing matters of the day; and night and weekends and holidays, too). Now we all know a little bit better.

And I don't believe we would have known better were it not for the local media who went into crisis mode: non-stop coverage preempting regularly scheduled programming. Much of it helpful and in real-time, but some of it redundant; amusing occasionally, informative certainly, but ultimately it was all too much, just like the snow. In general though, the local media made the most of a bad-weather situation. But the television and radio stations can't help themselves any more than the weather/nature can. Their reactions are mostly out of our control. Except we can turn them off. Unfortunately, we can't turn off the weather. All we can do is hope that the next "computer models" are kinder and gentler than the previous ones.

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

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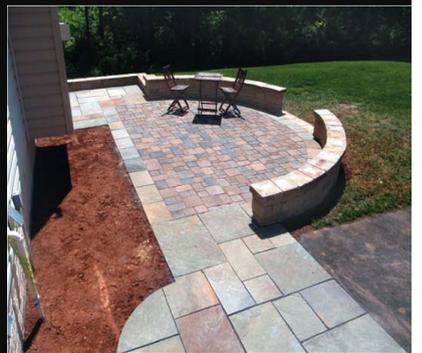
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