

Possible Worker Center Is Being Considered

Would remove day laborers from streets.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Nothing is set in stone and, in actuality, it's currently no more than an idea. But a local businessman is proposing a worker center where Centreville's day laborers could go for employment.

"It's not a done deal," said Alice Foltz of the Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF). "We're just looking into the possibility. But if it comes to pass, it would be a place where the day laborers could wait for work. They would be off the corners and would be better regulated."

Previously, Centreville's day-laborer population stood outside the old, rundown, Knolls of Newgate apartment complex waiting for prospective employers to drive by and offer them jobs – mainly in construction. But when the apartments were torn down and replaced with new, luxury condos, these would-be workers migrated closer to the Centreville Regional



BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Day laborers wait for work on St. Germain Drive, Tuesday afternoon, alongside the Centreville Regional Library.

Library.

Their presence concerned some parents going to the library with their children. Merchants in the nearby shopping centers complained when the men collected outside their stores, as well.

So in early February and on March 10, several people gathered to discuss the possibility of creating a small, worker center here. Present were Sully District Police Commander John Piper, Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully), Fairfax County service providers and social workers, Foltz and representatives from the County Executive's office, FACETS, the li-

brary, Reston Interfaith and the Legal Aid Justice Center.

Also there were a representative from Rappaport, which manages several local businesses, and A.J. Dwoskin – who owns most of the Centreville Square Shopping Center. And they discussed Dwoskin's offer to provide a mobile center – a trailer – on property he owns, adjacent to the shopping center.

"It would add to the workers' safety and would better satisfy the general public," said Foltz during last week's CIF meeting. "It would also provide a place where the men could receive English classes SEE WORKER CENTER, PAGE 5

Frey, Library Manager Respond to Proposal

New center for laborers to gather?

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

With a possible worker center on Centreville's horizon, Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) and Christine Jones, branch manager of the Centreville Regional Library, gave their opinions about what it could mean for this area.

"The library is happy to get a workable solution for the community," said Jones. "There's no agenda to move anybody, but this gives the laborers a place to be and makes the process safer, both for them and the people who avail themselves of their services."

Because job arrangements will then be more organized, she said, "People will log in and out to assure that the laborers will be paid." Jones said the library gets complaints from residents, from time to time, about the workers standing outside the library. In response, she said, "I tell them it's public

property."

Frey said he's "willing to look into" the possibility of a worker center. "In December, Al Dwoskin called me and said his merchants were complaining to him," said Frey. "They'd heard from customers, and we've certainly heard from the community. So he suggested finding a gathering spot for the workers that was less visible, less prominent."

First, though, said Frey, questions about the site, itself – the land slope and traffic circulation – must be answered. "Does it need SEE GENEROUS OFFER, PAGE 5



A giggling Rachel loves her mommy's kisses.

Valon Salon Holding Rachel Fund-Raiser

Money needed for child's cancer treatment.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

At times, it must seem to Chantilly's Jon and Rebecca D'Andrea that, if it weren't for hard luck, they'd have no luck, at all. Their health-insurance premiums have just risen astronomically, they're trying to keep their house, their toddler is fighting for her life in a New York hospital – and doctors have just discovered a new tumor in her spine.

Rachel, 2 1/2, has neuroblastoma – an as-yet incurable

childhood cancer. Although she's received treatment at Inova Fairfax Hospital and Children's National Medical Center, she's mainly being treated at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where Dr. Michael La Quaglia is doing cutting-edge work.

The news of a new tumor stunned her mother, who'd taken Rachel to Sloan-Kettering for more treatment and to hand-deliver some test results from the hospital here. "I am in shock," she said, early Friday morning. "I am praying that it's a mistake on the CT scan. I'm digging deep for my faith and [trying] to find hope."

Unfortunately, though, the scan was correct. An MRI confirmed that a tumor is pressing

SEE MOTHER'S PLEA, PAGE 4

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NEWS

A Spritz of Learning

Centreville High teacher receives statewide award.

BY MELISSA RIFE
CVHS

Walking down the science hall of Centreville High School toward the open AP Biology door, the first thing one will hear is a loud rolling laugh of teacher Heather Fehr. Getting closer, there's a lot of activity, and a sarcastic comment being thrown around. If lucky, one may even see an appearance from a spray bottle, spritzing water to wake up a snoozing student.

However unconventional her practices may seem, they have led Fehr to being named as the recipient of the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement for the state of Virginia. The award honors one teacher from each state as an example of excellence for teaching either AP math, science or technology.

Based on the high-achieving performance of Centreville High School in The College Board's Advanced Placement Report to the Nation, the school was invited to nominate one teacher for the award. "Heather has amazing rapport with her students," said Sue Reese, the science department chair, who, with math chair Amy Balint, nominated Fehr for the award. "In the years I have known Heather, no matter what her adversity or stress level, she has always been there to lend a hand no matter what the need of the department — a real team player, a dedicated educator."

THE NEXT STEP required Fehr to complete seven essays for the application. Topics included her philosophy on education, how to reach underachieving students, and her experience outside of the classroom to promote science.

Although her essays showed her involvement in the school, and creative lessons in the classroom, Fehr believes that what really pushed her application to the front were the testimonials by previous students. Putting out a call for descriptions of how her class had influenced them, a cascade of responses began flowing into Reese's inbox. "Reading what the kids wrote made me ball," said Fehr.

When it comes to an educational philosophy, Fehr said that she believes that all kids can achieve, "if I push them enough." In fact, the best part about teaching may just be that moment when the lightbulb goes off, and the student makes a connection. In that moment, where a student realizes, for example, that their understanding of AP chemistry is increased because of what they have learned in biology, Fehr feels she has succeeded.

What makes her classroom so special? According to 2008 graduate Cait Forgiore: "Rather than teaching her students as if they have to learn, she teaches them as if they want to learn. She banters with her students and jokes around in the classroom, always looking for new ways to make biology exciting."

This includes keeping things lively and energetic through lots of labs and acting things out. "She doesn't just sit up at the front of the room and lecture. She encourages us to get up and interact and answer questions," said current Centreville junior Emma Soderstrom.



PHOTO BY IBRAHIM ABDUL-JAWAD

Heather Fehr: Recipient of the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement for the state of Virginia

MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, though, the thing that she likes to call "her shtick" is the sarcasm she shares with her students. "My kids know they can make sarcastic comments and it's OK because I give it back." The result of this traded sarcasm is a rapport with her students that Fehr claims to be one of the best parts of being at Centreville.

And then there's the spray bottle. Known even among students who have never even had Fehr, she keeps a spray bottle filled with water to wake sleeping students. "If you say something irrelevant or obnoxious, that is when she sprays you," said Soderstrom.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in zoology at the University of Washington in Seattle, and a master's in education at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Fehr taught for one year in Durham, N.C., before coming to teach at Centreville. For eight years now, she has been part of the biology team, teaching all the levels at one time or another.

However, Fehr has not always wanted to be a teacher; she never thought about teaching when she was younger. So what did this outstanding teacher want to do as a child? She wanted to go into business management, but soon found that the subject was too boring for her. In the end, she decided to go from dealing with loads of paper in business to grading stacks of paper as a teacher.

In the future, Fehr wishes that she could take a year off and do some kind of research in genetics and reminisces about the days when she was just in school and learning. After talking to another of graduates, Rania Qabbani, who is taking in-depth classes like the study of human tissue, Fehr admits to a slight jealousy. Her biggest goal for the future, though, is to continue fulfilling one of her prime goals in teaching: "I love science and I just want to share my nerdiness with the world."

"I love science and I just want to share my nerdiness with the world."

— Heather Fehr

COMMUNITY

Westfield High Holds International Night

Westfield High School held its international night last Friday, March 26th. Choreographing their own dance routines and, in some cases, composing their own music, students treated the audience to a colorful and energetic trip around the world. The camaraderie and welcoming spirit among the students was apparent to all — particularly as the evening ended in an impromptu dance party on the stage.



Yara Tawfik performs a Saidi Belly Dance. (Egypt)



A member of the Trio de Hot Club da France performs a guitar solo (group members: Joe Drzemiecki, Alex Mann and Philip McNuss).



Ambika Babbar, performs a fusion of Bollywood and classical Kathak stories. (India)



Amanda D'Urso performs a self-composed song, "Pace," on the Italian accordion. (Italy)

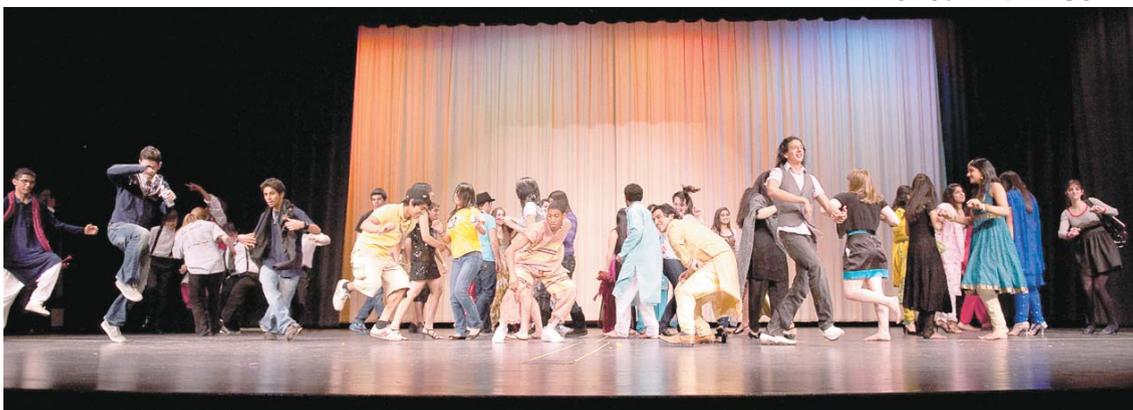


Yireda Jilili and Nijat Aiecken perform a Uyghur dance from East Turkistan.



Nishi Begum, performs to a Bangla folk love song.

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB



Show participants end the evening with an impromptu dance party on the stage.



The group Virasat Punjab (Manisha Gokale, Kunaal Mehrotra and Natasha Sareen) perform N. Indian Punjabi Bhangra. (India)



The dance group Hadippa includes Amar Kalbulgi, Ambien Kalbulgi, Supriya Pattanaik, Anusha Ghosal, and Nain Kerawala. (India)



The Patty Snakes (In no particular order: Joe Drzemiecki, Alex Mann, and Philip McNuss). (Ireland)

Local Legislators Discuss Session

Chantilly High's PTSA will host a town-hall meeting on what transpired during the just-completed session of the Virginia General Assembly. Participating will be Dels. Tom Rust (R-86th) and Jim LeMunyon (R-67th) and Sens. Mark Herring (D-33rd) and Dave Marsden (D-37th). It'll be held Wednesday, April 7, from 7-8:30 p.m., in the school lecture hall.

In response to the economic downturn, state legislators and the governor have made significant cuts in programs and services to balance the state budget. Residents are invited to share their opinions and ask questions on subjects including the budget, education, transportation and taxes.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, April 8 and April 22, 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 provide the best quality service and have enough time to properly instruct the caregiver on the proper use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Westfield Community Coalition

The next meeting of the Westfield Community Coalition will be Thursday, April 8, at 6 p.m., at Moe's Southwest Grill, 505 Westone Plaza in Chantilly. Contact Jennifer Cooper at [jalcooper@aol.com](mailto:jcooper@aol.com).

Child Safety Symposium Set

Police from the Fair Oaks District Station will present a Child Safety Symposium for the public, Friday, April 9, from 7-9 p.m., at Fair Oaks Church, 4601 West Ox Road in Fairfax. Discussion topics will be Internet Safety, Sexting, Stranger Danger, What is Suspicious, Proactive Safety Efforts and Reactive Safety Efforts. The presenters are Crime Prevention Officer, MPO Sophia Grinnan; Child Abuse Detective, PFC Nicole Christian; and Child Exploitation Detective, MPO J.J. Sorrentino. RSVP to Sophia.Grinnan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Two Charged with DWI

Fairfax County police conducted DWI directed patrols throughout the Fair Oaks and Sully Districts, from Saturday, March 27 at 9 p.m., until Sunday, March 28 at 3 a.m., to deter and apprehend intoxicated drivers. Motorists stopped for suspicion of driving while intoxicated were checked to

assure their driving abilities had not been impaired by alcohol or drugs. Approximately 49 motorists were stopped; two were charged with DWI and 35 received summonses for miscellaneous traffic offenses.

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. 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.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Commemorating National Night Out

On March 16, Dan and Leslie Jenuleson, of the Sully District Station's Citizens Advisory Committee, presented the station with framed, photo collages of the 2008 and 2009 National Night Out events in Centreville's Sully Station community. Standing (from left) are Station Capt. John Piper, Dan Jenuleson, Lt. John Trace, Doug Munger and Pfc. Brett Katinsky. Kneeling (from left) are Bill Worthington and Leslie Jenuleson.



Mother's Plea: 'Pray for a Cure'

FROM PAGE 1

on Rachel's spinal cord, so doctors will have to attack her disease on yet another front. Making matters worse, said friend Ginny Grivas, on Thursday, April 1, the family's health-insurance premiums skyrocketed from \$900/month to \$4,000/month.

BEFORE Rachel's diagnosis, last summer, the D'Andreas began their own, small, accounting and bookkeeping firm. But their COBRA health insurance from Jon's previous job ended March 31, and the new payments are more than they can handle.

"So they're applying for a loan modification for their house," said Grivas. "But if they can't get it, they might have to short-sell their house and find something to rent. It's bad enough for them without having to deal with the financial hardship – and that's something we can do something about."

Touched by Rachel's story and the family's plight, Valary Brown – owner of Valon Salon & Day Spa in the Pickwick Shopping Center along Route 29 in Centreville – is holding a fund-raiser. On Sunday, April 11, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. the beauty salon will be doing haircuts, manicures, pedicures, spa treatments, facials and waxing, and 100 percent of the proceeds will go to the Rachel D'Andrea Fund for her medical care.

"I have nine stylists and three spa people who are donating their time, that day, to help Rachel," said Brown. "The D'Andreas have become friends of mine, and my heart goes out to them. We just want to help in any way we can."

When she posted a sign about the event in the salon, she said, each and every one of her staff members signed up for it, without

hesitation. "Several of them had [previously] read about Rachel in Centre View and signed up with tears in their eyes," said Brown. "I can't say enough about how wonderful they are to give up their day off and come in to do this on a Sunday."

Valon Salon has also had a donation box for Rachel on display, the past three weeks, and Brown said her clients have contributed to it generously. "Some even included encouraging notes to Rachel," she said. "One woman said she'd found \$20 in a parking lot, a few days earlier, and hadn't decided what to do with it. But when she came in and learned about the fund-raiser, she donated it and said she just knew that money was meant to go to Rachel. Everybody sees her face on our flier and wants to help."

And Rebecca D'Andrea couldn't be more appreciative of the salon's efforts. "We are so blessed to have Valary Brown in our circle of friends," she said. "We met Valary back in July 2009 when she cut Rachel's long hair in anticipation of her losing it, due to chemo. The bob cut was so adorable."

The salon's spa appointments are already booked for the fund-raiser, but hair appointments are still available. Said Brown: "We're hoping to raise over \$5,000." Call 703-266-7660 to schedule appointments. For more information, see www.valonsalon.com.

"I think it's going to be a really neat event," said Grivas. "Jon and Rebecca are grateful to everyone for any help anyone can provide. We just have to keep chipping away because they really need help."

Those unable to participate, but still wanting to help may also do

so in other ways. Contributions payable to The Rachel D'Andrea Fund may be sent to the fund, c/o Chantilly Bible Church, 4390 Pleasant Valley Road, Chantilly, VA 20151.

IN ADDITION, every Monday, all day, for every large pizza Paisano's Pizza sells, it will donate \$2 to the fund. All Paisano's stores in Chantilly, Fair Lakes, Fairfax City, Reston and Herndon are participating, along with Bella Pizza in Centreville.

Meanwhile, while Jon's home working, Rebecca is with their daughter in the hospital. Because of the tumor in Rachel's spine, she said the doctors are surprised Rachel doesn't have any loss of movement in her legs, and they're "very concerned." So she's currently undergoing 14 days of radiation, plus chemotherapy.

It's difficult for a mother to see her child in pain, and all the stress, strain and worry is hard on Rebecca. Friday night, she said, "I had a good long cry, after a night of not sleeping. It felt good to cry, although it was tough to allow myself to do it."

"My heart aches for my only child," she continued. Rebecca also yearns for a return to a normal existence with Rachel. "I want to enjoy each smile, hug, kiss, dance, laugh," she said. "I want to take her to the beach, to Disney, to ballet class and to kindergarten. I want her healed now, and I want to end this nightmare."

Rebecca keeps a journal about Rachel on the CaringBridge Web site, and in a recent entry, she wrote, "I must dig deep for patience, for grace, for a positive attitude." She then ended that day's entry by imploring all who read it to "Please pray for a cure."

Worker Center Discussed

FROM PAGE 1

and people could talk to them about services available to them.”

She said having an actual center would “discourage the hiring of workers by people who wouldn’t pay them. I think employers would like it better, too. Contractors would have a better way of hiring and would be more likely to find workers with the skills they need.”

Since the March meeting, Dwoskin has been working with the county to hash out the details. Another meeting is planned with him, Frey and the CIF to discuss the center’s operation.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Edgar Aranda

has to be a part of it.”

However, she stressed, “It doesn’t mean that we, as a forum, are taking a stand on U.S. immigration reform. We are simply responding to a specific request from a local businessman.”

Edgar Aranda, with the Legal Aid Justice Center in Falls Church, was pleased with what he heard. “I think it’s a great approach,” he said. “And it’s great to see people gathered together to try to find a solution. I will be involved and will offer to talk with the workers and provide my help, in any way I can.”

Threlkeld said step one should be to find out from the county “what can and cannot be done, by right, on this property. See what the zoning will allow. And if you can’t do it by right, then you’re faced with public hearings where anyone from anywhere can come in and speak.” If it is feasible to put the trailer on Dwoskin’s property, said Threlkeld, then “you have to reach out to businesses, homeowners, churches, the day



Bill Threlkeld gives some advice to the CIF

workers and the employers and tell them about it.”

He said the staff should develop codes of conduct for people using the worker center, plus a budget. “Personnel costs are usually your largest expense,” said Threlkeld. “Will you give the center manager benefits, in addition to a salary? What office machines will you need – and can you get them donated? If you use volunteers, instead, they must be serious, committed, reliable people – with substitutes when they can’t be there.”

THE CIF MEMBERS then broke into groups to do specific tasks. One will visit other worker centers to help determine this one’s operation; another would research fundraising grants, plus donations from individuals and groups. Another group would focus on spreading the word about the CIF and the worker center. Said Foltz: “It’s important that we be open and transparent so the community knows what we’re doing.”

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“Dwoskin said he’d pay to set up the center, pay for utilities on an ongoing basis and provide other, unspecified services,” said Foltz. “Bill Threlkeld, with Reston Interfaith, has experience in [running a worker center] and has been a big help to us.”

She said Dwoskin asked the CIF to be in charge of the center’s day-to-day operation. “We’d provide staff and work out how volunteers could be used,” said Foltz. “I think the operating hours could be limited; perhaps, 6-11 a.m., Monday-Friday, and 7 a.m.-noon, on weekends. Staff must be there when it’s open, but we have to decide how many people would be needed.”

Staff members would register the workers, take requests from employers and match them. “Maybe there’d be a lottery system,” said Foltz. “We could keep a running list of who’d worked recently and who hadn’t. And I think the workers’ voice also



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Generous Offer

FROM PAGE 1

a site plan and a building?” he asked. “Would it have to be an office use, and could employers get in and out easily, without backing up traffic?”

“We could keep the status quo, but the community said it doesn’t like it,” said Frey. “So the question is, can we put [the workers] somewhere that doesn’t generate the concern people have now? Personally, I think it’s better to have them in one location, away from the front entrances of a shopping center and a library. But ultimately, we’ll have to get community input. I’ll call a public-information meeting and give people a chance to learn about it and to vent.”

Right now, he said, “We’re looking at whether it’s feasible and do we want to do it? I don’t have all the answers. I understand the perceptions of a day-labor center. The way I look at it, we’re moving the workers. If we don’t, they’ll be where they are. And we can’t just arrest them or chase them

out; they’re not doing anything illegal. Loitering is standing around on public property and committing an offense that’s prohibited, such as obstructing people’s way or harassing them.”

If a worker center is achievable here, said Frey, it won’t be done with county funds – it’s a private project. Still, he added, “I think there needs to be some degree of community buy-in. I’ve heard from people who think it’ll attract more day laborers, but I don’t think so, unless it would bring more jobs. They’re not going to come here from Manassas for the trailer, and there’s no organized effort to arrange transportation to it from elsewhere. The number of employers would drive the demand.”

Basically, said Frey, “People have made clear to me they think there’s a problem. I can’t make it go away, but we can try to make it better. I think it was very generous of Dwoskin to offer to do this; but at this point, we’re just taking it one step at a time.”

OPINION

Poetry in April

April is National Poetry Month according to the Academy of American Poets, and we invite our local poets to send submissions for us to print.

The National Poet Laureate serves as consultant to the Library of Congress and “seeks to raise the national consciousness to a greater appreciation of the reading and writing of poetry.”

Virginia also has a poet laureate, a position established by the General Assembly and appointed by the governor from nominees submitted by the Poetry Society of Virginia. The current poet laureate of Virginia is Claudia Emerson, claudiaemerson.org.

Emerson won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for her collection “Late Wife.” She is a professor of English and Poetry at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg.

But some residents are lucky enough to have local poetry as well.

On April 10, 2007, the Alexandria City Council named Mary McElveen as the city’s poet laureate for a three-year term; her replacement for the next three years is set to be announced shortly.

Arlington sponsors poetry competition, one open to all, one for Arlington public school stu-

Poem a Day for April

Go to www.poets.org to sign up to receive a poem emailed daily.

Moving Words

READ AND RIDE

Launched in 1999 during National Poetry Month, MOVING WORDS makes poetry a part of daily life for commuters in Northern Virginia and promotes the work of local writers. The poems of six local poets selected through an annual competition are displayed on Northern Virginia Metro buses and viewed by approximately 1.3 million Metro bus riders every month. The poems are exhibited in Metro buses that traverse Arlington County, Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax County, and Fairfax City. Read the poems of the six winners and seven finalists at <http://www.arlingtonarts.org/cultural-affairs/moving-words/moving-words-2010.aspx>

MOVING WORDS POETRY READING

Winners of the 2010 Poetry Competition featured at IOTA Club & Cafe’s “Second Sundays Poetry and Art Hang,” Sunday, April 11, 8:15 pm., IOTA Club & Cafe www.iotaclubandcafe.com, 2832 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington.

dents, culminating in the display of winning poems (all limited in length) on Northern Virginia Metro busses.

This is one service local government could expand even in these economic times; Fairfax, Arlington counties, the City of Fairfax, the towns of Herndon and Vienna could consider appointing their own poets laureate.

The Alexandria Poet Laureate will promote an appreciation of poetry as an art form, encourage creative writing and reading of all

forms of literature, and promote literacy through poetry.

Are you a poet? The Connection will print poetry submitted by readers this spring and occasionally throughout the year. We welcome student poetry as well, please list the student’s age, grade and school on the submission.

Send poems to centreville@connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

The Boat

By Jagan Doodala

The water spins and churns,
In the open sea,
As a boat gently pushes by.
The sails flutter with their
Unstoppable plea,

The thunder booms with
A resounding clap,
The lightning strikes
In a quick array,
But the boat still goes
On in the ocean’s enormous lap,
The clouds seem to have
Not remembered that they should go away.

So the sea is hurting the boat with its
unstoppable fights,
But the boat still goes on.
The ocean has not given a sight,
Of a single, shining light,
Luckily, the wind is already gone.

In a distance is a miniscule dot,
Mother Nature’s credit,
For how the small but mighty boat had fought.

Jagan Doodala is in 6th grade of Colin Powell Elementary School.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: info@connectionnewspapers.com



Fired Up for Reading

Deer Park students have participated all year in an event called Fired Up for Reading. Children have read books throughout the year and, for every book read, the children would place their name on a “scale” as part of a dragon’s body which was outside of their classroom. In total, over 7,000 scales were placed on dragons throughout the school. As a celebration of their accomplishment, a dragon paraded around the school while children participated in DEER (Drop Everything Enjoy Reading) time in the hallways.

CENTREVIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Newspaper of
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Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper

Local Man Sentenced: 20 Months in Prison

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

A Centreville man has been sentenced to one year and eight months in federal prison in connection with the trafficking of contraband cigarettes. He is Lin "Leo" Xiao, and details of his case were contained within his statement of facts, filed Dec. 17, 2009 — the date he pleaded

guilty in U.S. District Court in Alexandria.

He was one of 14 people charged as the result of a 14-month investigation begun by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. It involved individuals paying or trading more than \$8 million, nearly 40 firearms and drugs to purchase 388,000 cartons — totalling more than 77 million contraband cigarettes — to sell in New

York.

"The defendants admitted that they sold illegal cigarettes, dealt drugs, guns and even hired someone for murder," said U.S. Attorney MacBride. "The work of dedicated law-enforcement officers has made our community safer."

Added ATF Acting Special Agent in Charge Brownlee: "This investigation highlights the illicit profits and potential violence associ-

ated with those who illegally traffic in contraband cigarettes."

In Xiao's statement of facts, Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven D. Mellin wrote that, had Xiao's case gone to trial, the following facts would have been proven: "From August 2008 to Nov. 5, 2009, Xiao did unlawfully, knowingly, and intentionally conspire with others to unlawfully and knowingly ship, transport, receive, possess, sell,

distribute and purchase contraband cigarettes."

THE PROSECUTOR wrote that, on Jan. 21, 2009, Xiao arrived at a pre-arranged location to meet with a co-conspirator and "purchased approximately 800,000 contraband cigarettes for approximately \$73,800 in U.S. currency from undercover, law-enforcement SEE XIAO SENTENCED, PAGE 15

Be not curious to know the affairs of others, neither approach to those that speak in private.
—George Washington

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SCHOOLS

The Westfield High School Band Program will present the United States Navy Band on Friday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westfield High School Auditorium, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Under the leadership of LCDR Richard H. Bailey and the conductors for this performance, MUC Russell Graves and MU1 Andrew Skaggs, the U.S. Navy Band will feature a wide variety of musical selections, including wind ensemble classics, marches and patriotic favorites. Additionally, musicians from Westfield will join the band in performing a march by John Phillip Sousa. Admission is free and everyone is invited to this event.

Eric Adamshick of Centreville High School is a winner of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra's annual Dorothy Farnham Feuer Memorial String Competition.

A principal cello player in the Centreville High School Philharmonic Orchestra, Eric took the stage on March 13th during an FSO performance that included the East Coast premiere of a new work by Avner Dorman.

Eric is in his third year in the National Symphony Orchestra's Youth Fellowship Program where he studies with cellist Loran Stephenson.

Through this program, Eric has performed on The Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage — two times solo, and twice in chamber ensembles. He is co-principal cello of the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as a founding member of the Ellipses Quartet. He played principal cello in the 2008 All Virginia Orchestra, as well as principal in both the 2007 and 2009 Northern Virginia Senior Regional Orchestras.

He plans to use the scholarship money of \$1,250 to help pay for tuition next year as he pursues a major in cello performance.

❖ **Congratulations to the following CVHS Key Club members** for awards received at the Key Club convention this past weekend: Michael Chon was voted as a distinguished Key Club President, Eunice Ko was selected as the Outstanding Club Vice President, Sapna Rao was voted as a distinguished Key Club Treasurer, Kinera Atluri was voted as a distinguished Key Club Secretary. They also received 2nd place for the Key Club Poster and Honorable Mention for their Non-Traditional Scrapbook

❖ **Congratulations to Tricia Hajela**, sophomore, for being selected as a 2010 District PTA Citizenship Essay award finalist in the High School Division.

The Citizenship Essay theme this year is: Strong Citizens - Strong Communities

❖ **Sadie Hawkins Dance** with a preceding Spirit Week: Spirit Week will run April 12-16, and the Dance will be in the cafeteria on Friday, April 16.

❖ **Many scholarships** are available through the Career Center. These include the PTSA scholarship for seniors who are members of the PTSA and the Jeffrey Kaylor Memorial scholarship. Students may visit the Career Center to view the listing and obtain hard copies or view it on the Career Center Web site at http://www.fcps.edu/CentrevilleHS/career_center.htm.

❖ **Spring College Fairs** — These events are particularly good for juniors, but all are welcome to attend. Parking is free, and there is no registration required.

April 7th-SEC (Southeastern conference) College Fair 6-8:30 p.m. at Oakton High School. Admission representatives from the SEC will be hosting a Fair just for Fairfax County Students. For a complete list of the 12 colleges who are members of this conference, go to their web site: www.secsports.com

WHAT IF...

Truth can be a dodgy affair. At New Life Christian Church, we're in the business of sorting out fact from myth. Come ask the hard questions with us this Easter at a location near you.

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WORTH NOTING

To have community events listed in Centre View, e-mail to centrevue@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/cvhtouchdownclub>. Contact Gail Roman, 703-222-3584 or touchdown.gail@gmail.com

Trummer's on Main Restaurant in Clifton has opened its third floor as a gallery space to showcase artists from the Northern Virginia area. Celebrate the works of The Portrait Artists and photographer Dale Dimmick and partner Donna Alija along with Tyler Charlton. The restaurant is owned by Stefan and Victoria Trummer. At 7134 Main Street, Clifton. Go to www.trummersonmain.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

Music Education Program. Offered through St. John's Episcopal Church through the Royal School of Church Music. Learn to sing, read music and music theory. Grades 1-5 meet Sundays at 12:15 p.m. for rehearsal and study; Grades 6-12 meet Sundays at 4:30 p.m. for rehearsal and study. At 5649 Mt. Gilead Road, Centreville. Visit www.StJohnsCentreville.org. Call 703-803-7500.

Neighborhood Watch Training. The Fair Oaks District Police Station is offering training dates in 2010, for the Neighborhood Watch Program. They will be held at the police station, located at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, at 7 p.m. in the roll call room and will last approximately two hours. These opportunities are designed for communities that want to expand their existing Neighborhood Watch participation, those who wish to begin a new Watch program or those who would like a refresher course. The training dates are as follows:

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

FRIDAY/APRIL 2

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

SATURDAY/APRIL 3

Easter Bunny Visits Cox Farms. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bunny games, egg coloring, Spring farm animals (goats, chickens, bunnies). The Egg hunt is open to members only and requires pre-registration. Also, the Centreville Market opens Thursday, April 1, with bedding plants, vegetable plants, container gardens, perennials, hanging baskets and pottery. At the corner of Pleasant Valley and

Braddock roads.

FRIDAY/APRIL 9

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

SATURDAY/APRIL 10

The Score Big Sports Sale. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Collecting gently used sports equipment, sports gear, sports clothing and footwear which can be dropped off at five area business locations. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Centreville. At Hoop Magic Sports Academy in Chantilly. Visit www.ScoreBigSportsSale.com or email info@scorebigssportssale.com.

MONDAY/APRIL 12

Mental Wellness Conference. 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hosted by the Fairfax Partnership for Youth. At Fairfax Community Church, 11451 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Contact Kristen Brennan at Kristen.Brennan@fairfaxcounty.gov, 703-324-5701.

TUESDAY/APRIL 13

Free Business Network Expo. 3:30-6:30 p.m. Come network with other businesses for up to three hours. The array of vendors at this event include the following businesses: Cruises, Inc.; PS Business Parks, PMA Insurance Services, Ameriprise Financial Services, Relocation Systems plus many more. At Park East Corporate Center, 14048 Park East Circle, Chantilly. Contact Terry Jones of Cruises Inc. 703-793-9386 or biznetworkexpo@gmail.com

Budgeting Class. 7-9 p.m. Free. Learn to get out of debt, set up a weekly household budget and start some savings. Every Tuesday for five weeks. By the Financial Peace University. Register by calling Emergency Financial Services Manager, Leah Ann Furr, at 703-988-9656, ext. 102. At the Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) office, 13981 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly.

APRIL 16-18

Used Book Sale. Friday-Sunday. Friends of the Chantilly Regional Library Book Sale. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Call 703-502-3883.

MONDAY/APRIL 19

GFWC-Western Fairfax County Woman's Club Meeting. 7 p.m. Cliff Fairweather, Audobon Society naturalist, will present a program on how to build a habitat in your backyard to attract wildlife like songbirds and butterflies. At the Greenbriar Community Center. Call President Eileen Chambers at 703-378-7054 or Vice President Randi Weston at 703-266-0428.

APRIL 23-MAY 2

Capital Cabaret. Sponsored by Alliance Theatre. Show times are Show times are Friday-Saturday, April 23-24, and April 30-May 1, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 25 and May 2, at 2 p.m. Bringing Broadway to Virginia, this year's production spotlights music from "Fiddler on the Roof," "Singing in the Rain" and "Rent" and features a tribute to Andrew Lloyd Webber. Tickets are \$10 at the door or via www.thealliancetheatre.org. At Mountain View School in Centreville.

SATURDAY/APRIL 24

Book Discussion. 1 p.m. Laura Johnston will present her book Common Cents: Easy Essentials to Budget for Life. At Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Free; Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-502-3883.

THURSDAY/MAY 6

Helping Older Adults. 7-9 p.m. Deciding when and how to help an older adult can be a difficult decision. Common concerns include driving, safety, health, and finances. Learn how and when to step in and how to find help assigning financial and medical oversight to a more competent relative at the appropriate time. At the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call 703-324-5205.

THURSDAY/MAY 20

Clifton Community Woman's Club 2010 Homes Tour. 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Guided tours of four homes and a garden in the Clifton/Fairfax Station area. In addition to the Homes Tour, there will be a Silent Auction, Boutique and an Art Show and Sale by local artists. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 on the day of tour. Contact Linda Beckman at 703-266-5791 or dunleavyjl@aol.com or visit www.cliftoncwc.org.

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SCHOOLS

Mr. Centreville Goes to Richmond

BY MELISSA RIFE
CVHS

When four Centreville seniors ventured to Richmond on March 4 to defend a bill at the State Capitol, they expected to walk into a room with committee members, themselves, and perhaps another person or two. What awaited them, though, was the committee plus a room full of educational “bigwigs” ready to take their bill down.

“I was surprised at how many people’s days we disturbed,” said Peter Lizza, one of the four students.

As a reward for winning the annual mock election government project, Chumma Thean and Lizza defended Senate Bill 682, along with the bill’s writers, Ashley Hendrickson and Fady Sidhom, in front of the Education Subcommittee. The content of the bill requires each local school board to report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction any recycling policies voluntarily implemented or in place in any of its schools.

As stated in the summary provided to the committee, “The report shall include the types of items recycled, the number of schools participating in the recycling program, and an approximation of the amount of materials being recycled.” According to Hendrickson, “It was a lot of work getting to the point where we were able to actually present the bill, and by that time it was a different bill entirely.”

After practicing their speeches on the drive down, the students stood one-by-one and gave testimony on the cost factor, other state initiatives dealing with recycling, the benefit to the environment, and the effect it would have on student awareness. What the students hadn’t counted on was the crowd that had gathered to also comment on this bill. “At first I thought they were just there to watch,” said Thean, of the group of roughly 30, in her estimation, who had gathered in the committee room. “Then I realized they were there to talk against our bill.”

WORKERS for the superintendents of both Loudoun and Fairfax counties were there to state the problems with such a bill. The students had already been warned by Sen. George Barker, who officially introduced the bill to the Senate, that they had meetings earlier in the day for another bill, in which the county representatives had spoken about the number of reports and paperwork they have to fill out for the state, and the desire to keep any more from being created.

In the end, although their bill was carried over for later discussion next year, Thean feels, “it was just a nice way of killing the bill because we were there.”

More important — than whether or not the bill passed — was the experience of being able to take part in such a journey. “It was like nothing I have ever done before and has given me a new appreciation for my civic responsibilities,” said Hendrickson. This appreciation is the main



Chumma Thean is introduced by Activities Officer Brian Cochran during the final gubernatorial debates at Centreville High.

goal of the project that brought these four students to this point.

The “road to Richmond” took months for these students. For a number of years, the government team at Centreville has organized a senior class-wide project in which they hold a mock election, complete with campaigning, debating, speech writing, and even a promotional ad. This year, starting in mid-November, each government class selected one person to run for Governor of Centreville High School, and also a running mate for Lieutenant Governor. From there, the rest of the class took up jobs from speech writer to photographer to web designer to videographer.

IN ADDITION to the previous year’s work, this year, teacher Cathy Ruffing suggested adding an element that uses Wiki-sites online, in which each candidate had to publicize their views on actual issues such as abortion, education, illegal immigration, gay marriage, and also the building of the HOT lanes in Northern Virginia. These topics were then used as a basis for questions asked by the government teachers during the student debates.

After a class-wide vote in mid-December, the group of candidates was whittled down to two, one for A-Day and one for B-day, according to the school schedule. This left Thean squaring off with Julien Guh for the gubernatorial position, and Lizza with Kay Dhabir.

In a final debate of the issues, the entire senior class watched as the two candidates presented their views, as well as attack ads that they had been asked to make as part of the final step. Thean and Lizza’s video featured students around school stating all the things they “would rather do than vote for Julien and Kay.”

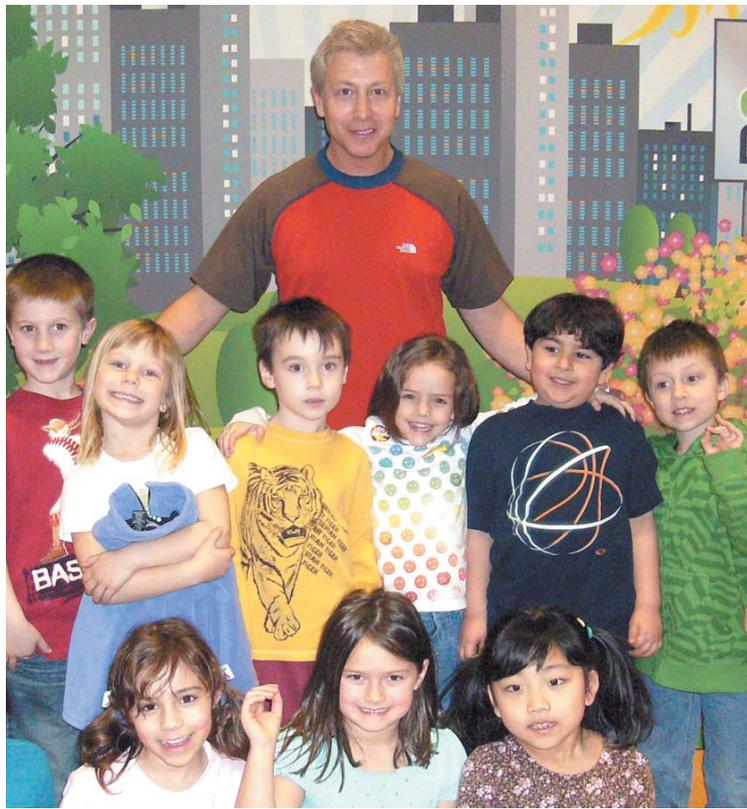
The final piece of the project beyond the campaigning was that each class also had to come up with a bill that they would want presented to the State Senate. Topics ranged

SEE MR. CENTREVILLE. PAGE 11

SCHOOLS

'Green Magic'

Motivational performer Joe Romano performed "Green Magic" to the students at Virginia Run Elementary School on March 18. He transported students to a world where recycling becomes fun. The students witnessed a soda can being recycled in the blink of an eye. An animatronics bird came to life to educate the children on the dangers plastic bags pose on our planet. The students were motivated to "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle."



Region Champions

The Odyssey of the Mind Division 1 team from Greenbriar West Elementary School won the Region 13 Competition for the problem of "Return to The Gift of Flight." They will next compete at the state level on March 27, in Newport News. Pictured (from left) are Cecilia de Perio (assistant coach), Vihn Nyugen, Ana Morris, Ahsish Tondwalker, Ian Anspaugh, Mandy Batar, Rachana Krishnan, Roshni Yaradi, and Priya Krishnan (coach).



Mr. Centreville

FROM PAGE 10

from changing the drinking age to requiring universities to increase the quota of in-state students they accept to legalizing medical marijuana. Once Thean and Lizza were declared winners, they chose five of the bills, which they would most like to see presented. From there, it was in the hands of Barker.

Government teacher Terri

Ritchey first got Barker involved with the project three years ago, when she proposed that they work together. Since then, he has brought a bill to the floor on behalf of Centreville. Two years ago, the bill presented, which required reflector stickers be placed on all street signs, was passed. Last year, the bill, which required that backseat passengers also be legally required to wear seatbelts

was shelved, much like the bill this year. However, rather than this just being a way of "softly killing the bill," it was revised and reintroduced this year, has passed and is waiting for a signature from the Governor.

"The whole experience has been extremely educational and has made me realize just how much participation we can have in government," said Hendrickson.

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SPORTS

Centreville Baseball Tuning Up in Sunny Sarasota, Florida

Wildcats, 3-1 going into their spring break trip, have experience, talent.

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

Coach Morgan Spencer's Centreville High baseball team, off to a fast start this season, is spending spring break week in Florida where it is fine-tuning its game in preparation for the bulk of the upcoming Northern Region spring schedule.

The Wildcats, who are competing this week in the 32-team Sarasota Baseball Classic in the sunshine state, left for Florida last Friday, March 26. They spent parts of Saturday and Sunday enjoying the local Sarasota beaches. On Monday morning, Centreville took a batting practice session as it prepared for the tournament games set for the week ahead. The team is scheduled to return home this Friday, April 2.

"Our goal is to win the tournament," said Spencer. "But a bigger goal is to come back to Northern Virginia a better baseball team. We want to make sure they enjoy spring break and bond as a team."

Centreville won three of its first four games prior to leaving for the spring break trip. The Wildcats, who have a talented, experienced team, won their season opener over visiting private school opponent Leesburg Christian, 11-0, on March 17.

A couple days later, Centreville headed towards the tidewater area of Virginia for games against Greenbriar Christian (Chesapeake) on March 19 and Cape Henry Collegiate (Virginia Beach) on March 20. The Wildcats won both games, defeating Greenbriar Christian, 5-4, and Cape Henry, 9-3.

Centreville, upon returning home, then lost for the first time this season, 8-6, to visiting Battlefield High (Manassas) last Thursday, March 25.

"So far we've played very good," said Spencer, in his fourth year as the team's head coach. "We're happy with our 3-1 record. Greenbriar Christian is very good every year, so we were pretty excited about that win. We have 12 seniors and they are all good players."

Five of Centreville's 12th graders have already made commitments to play baseball or another sport in college next school year. Starting southpaw pitchers Ryan Ashooh (University of Virginia) and Connor Bach (Virginia Military Institute) will play baseball on scholarship. Senior shortstop Chris Campbell, meanwhile, is tabbed to play baseball on scholarship at Mount St. Mary's University (Emmitsburg, Md.).

Also, second baseman Andy Viands is set to play baseball at Div. 3 school Christopher Newport University (Newport News). Cam Walter, the Wildcats' first baseman, will play football at VMI.

Centreville pitcher J.T. Hampel has received lots of looks from various college baseball programs but has not yet chosen where he will go.

Ashooh, one of Centreville's two lefty starting pitchers, is 2-0 this season. He is coming off a 2009 season in which he went 6-1 with a 0.53 ERA and a region best 79 strikeouts. His outstanding season resulted in him earning Co-Concorde District Pitcher of the Year honors.

"He's had a good start to the season," said Spencer, of Ashooh. "He throws hard but doesn't throw anything straight. He has good mound presence."

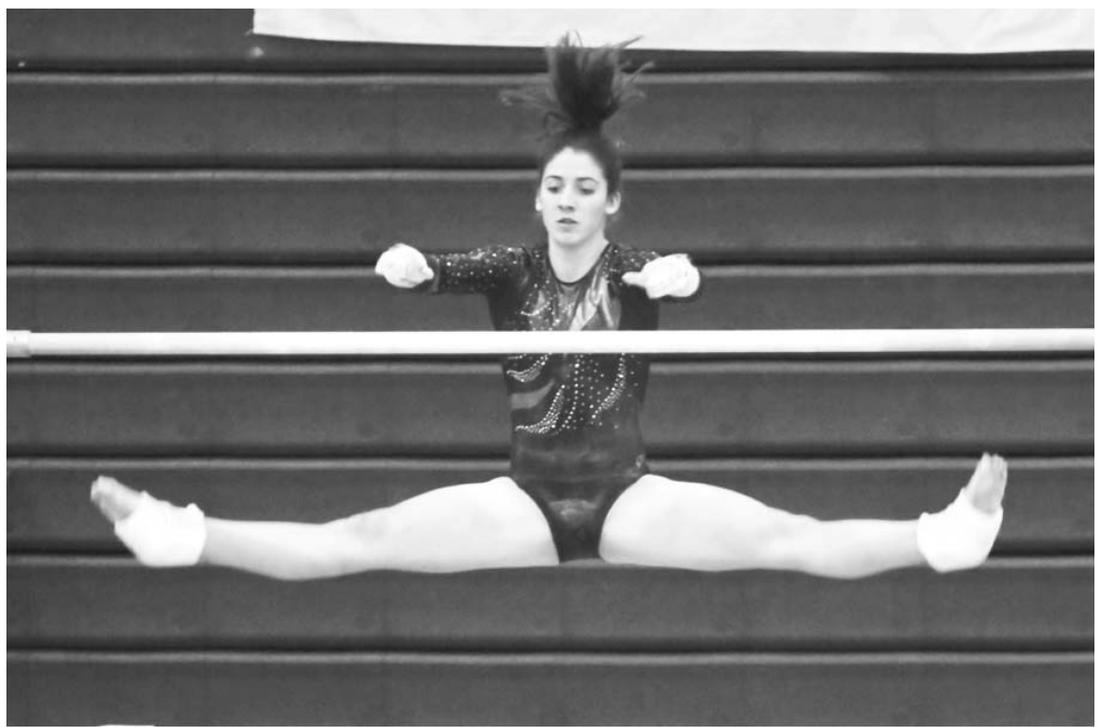
Bach, also a left-handed starter, earned All-District Honorable Mention accolades last year.

"He does a nice job throwing strikes and just controlling the game," said Spencer, of the 6-foot-5 inch Bach.

CAMPBELL, meanwhile, is beginning his third year as Centreville's starting shortstop. The left-handed hitting Campbell, who made Second Team All-District last year when he batted .312, is hitting in the No. 3 position of the Centreville line-up.

"He's a really good player and very smooth defensively," said Spencer, of his talented shortstop. "He makes the plays he should make."

Walter, the Wildcats' first baseman, played the first seven games a year ago before being sidelined with an injury the remainder of the season.



Centreville's Lia Salzano is Third in All-Around

Lia Salzano, a junior at Paul VI Catholic High School, competed in the Virginia State USAG Level 10 gymnastics meet in Fredericksburg on March 20 and placed third all-around with a score of 36.575. Lia currently works out at Capital Gymnastics in Burke and has recently accepted a gymnastics scholarship at West Virginia University for 2011.

He is back and healthy and hitting clean-up for the Wildcats.

"I think he's one of the best defensive first basemen around," said Spencer. "We didn't have him [much] last year. His potential is tremendous."

Hampel will be a key pitcher for Centreville as the season moves on. He was the winning pitcher in the Wildcats' first round district

playoff win over Oakton last year.

"He's really come along and he finished last year real strong," said Spencer. "He's got a good fastball and a very good curveball. He's made tremendous strides."

Centreville appears to be even better than last year's Wildcats' squad that went 13-11 and won a first round Northern Region playoff game over Liberty District

champion McLean before seeing its season end with a second round loss to Lake Braddock.

Centreville's first game after returning from Florida will be next Wednesday night, April 7 when it hosts non-region opponent Loudoun Valley at 6:30 p.m. The Wildcats' district opener is scheduled for Tuesday evening, April 13 at 6:30 against Westfield.

CENTREVILLE HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

The Centreville boys' varsity soccer team improved to 1-1-1 with a 2-1 overtime victory over Oakton High School on Tuesday, March 23. Sophomore Connor Coward scored the winning goal on an assist from junior Ty Lawrence. Senior Adam Garrity had an unassisted goal during regulation. The boys' team tied the McLean HS Highlanders on Thursday, March 25. The goal was scored by freshman Luis Navarro. The Wildcats are now 1-1-2 on the season and next play at home against Robinson HS on Tuesday, April 6 at 7 p.m.

The girls' varsity soccer team lost at home to Oakton HS on Tuesday, March 23 with a final score of 1-0. They then lost on the road at McLean HS on March 25, 1-0. Their record is now 1-2-1. They will play at Robinson HS on April 6.

CVHS's baseball team lost at home to Battlefield HS on Thursday, March 25 by a score of 8-6.

Game Reschedule: The Feb. 26 girls' lacrosse games against Falls Church HS have been rescheduled for Monday, April 5 due to field conditions.



The Centreville High girls' JV lacrosse team, coached by Katie Ross, won its season opener against visiting Fairfax High, 11-0, on March 20. The Wildcats' next game is scheduled for next Friday evening, April 9 at 6 versus visiting Concorde District rival Herndon.

The Centreville High School Athletic Boosters and General Dynamics would like to invite you to the 6th Annual **Wildcat Classic Golf Tournament** at the Fred Couples' designed Westfield Golf Club in Clifton. The sponsorship of a foursome is \$600. Fee includes: greens fees and golf cart, goodie bag, range balls, and dinner at the awards receptions. Prizes will be

awarded to the top teams (net and gross). On-course contests will include both long-drive and closest-to-the-pin. All participants who purchase a mulligan will be guaranteed to win a raffle prize. Visit: www.cvhsgolf.org/wildcatclassic.html or contact the Tournament Director Geordi Bigus at geordie.bigus@fcps.edu



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBURTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Ayanna Childs, 4, of Chantilly eyes the finishing line of the Easter Egg Roll.

Of Eggs and Egg Rolls

Jubilee Christian Center hosts annual Eggstravaganza for local children

On Saturday afternoon, March 27, children from around the area enjoyed games, face painting and, of course, Egg Rolling at Jubilee Christian Center's annual Easter

Eggstravaganza. This year's event took place on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center. Prizes were raffled off and participants dined on Egg Rolls.

Award for DAR Chapter
Centreville based Lane's Mill Chapter DAR received recognition for creating Outstanding Table Centerpieces at the Virginia DAR State Conference held March 13 in Richmond. Regent Jane Shackelford holds the certificate and stands beside one of the centerpieces that were comprised of books that were donated to DAR schools.



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Make Mine A Double



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Wow! My oncologist sure sobered me up the other day and I hadn't even been drinking. But I sure felt like grabbing a stiff one – or three – after we spoke. What he said wasn't anything he hadn't said previously, but it was something I hadn't heard in a long time, 11 months to be exact. It was cancer related. It was responsible – and perhaps even considerate, of him to tell me. It was my future as the statistical averages see it. It was straight forward (as my doctor knows I prefer to hear it). It was, if nothing else, a reminder, and an advisory to boot (not really a kick at all, though).

What he suggested was, since my appointments with him are now scheduled to be every three months instead of every three weeks (as they have been for the past year), that I try to make those appointments after I've completed my quarterly scans (MRI, CT and Bone) and to bring along a family member as well, in case there's bad news. (WHAT?!) Then, in response to my usual life expectancy/prognosis question, he reiterated that cancer patients with my diagnosis live, on average (and he was careful to explain what average really meant, using a cliff reference) 13 months to two years (this appointment occurring around the 12-month anniversary – some anniversary!). We then proceeded with my physical exam, which I passed with flying colors. After which, we exchanged our final pleasantries ending with the doctor saying casually: he "hopes to see me in three months." "HOPES?!" I knee-jerked out loud. "What do you mean, 'hopes?' You're not supposed to say 'hopes,' you're supposed to say you'll see me in three months or something like that." Unsettled didn't begin to describe my emotional state (state of panic, state of anxiety, state of fear cumulatively, might have though).

In fairness, none of this was/is new information. In fact, it's old news. News my wife, my brother and I were given on March 5, 2009, the date of our initial Team-Lourie meeting with my oncologist. And it wasn't given then, any more then it was given now, for shock value or effect even. It was provided then as now, as useful and timely information, crucial information, for a stage IV lung cancer patient to have. However, it was a conversation we hadn't had in almost a year. And not that I forgot much from that first life-changing doctor-patient exchange, but after the last year of treatment, scans, medical appointments, lab work, and all, it's not all that I have to remember, so its place, its dominance in my brain/life has become less intense. I have learned to live with my diagnosis and all the cancer-related activities, as previous columns have indicated.

Still, there's nothing quite like a metaphorical 2x4 to the head to shake out the mental cobwebs. Not that I thought I was getting – or had become complacent in my coexistence with cancer, but given my mental state after this thwack, perhaps I had. I mean, the light's always been on, definitely, but maybe I haven't been home as often as I think/though.

But that's how I've coped – and hoped; by focusing less on the negative and more on the positive. I haven't obsessed about cancer and as a result, I don't believe I've regressed because of it. Life has gone on (thank God!) and I'm grateful that it has. The uncertainty of the future (heck, the present, too) remains a constant and disturbing companion, however. The doctor's courtesy/responsibility in reviewing my timetable the other day struck directly at the heart of that day-to-day existence which scares the living daylight out of me (if you want to know the truth). I know exactly why I wanted that drink, to forget.

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

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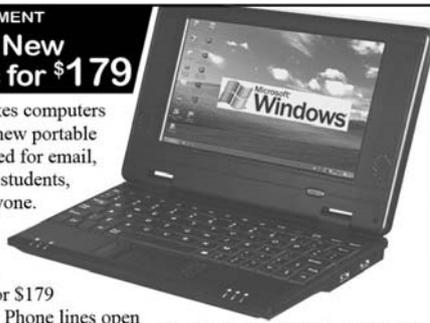
21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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NEWS

Xiao Sentenced to 20 Months in Prison

FROM PAGE 7
agents.”

On Feb. 26, 2009, Xiao again met with a co-conspirator and bought some 1,200,000 contraband cigarettes for about \$139,000 cash – also from undercover agents.

The same thing happened May 20, 2009 and, this time, Xiao purchased about 1,500,000 contraband cigarettes for roughly \$145,000 in cash — again from undercover, law-enforcement agents. As partial payment, he provided these agents with some 33,000 fraudulent tax stamps that he'd obtained from another co-conspirator.

Then on July 23, 2009, Xiao bought some 1,600,000 contraband cigarettes for approximately \$183,000 in cash from undercover agents.

“All of the cigarettes bore no stamps, nor any other evidence of the payment of applicable state or local taxes,” wrote Mellin. “None of the co-conspirators in this case had any legal right to possess, transport, receive or distribute such cigarettes.

HE NOTED that the acts described above were done intentionally and with full knowledge that they were illegal. All in all, wrote Mellin, “The defendant was person-

“The defendant was personally involved in unlawful conduct relating to contraband cigarettes — resulting in a tax loss of more than \$1,000,000 and less than \$2,500,000.”

— U.S. Attorney Steven D. Mellin

ally involved in unlawful conduct relating to contraband cigarettes — resulting in a tax loss of more than \$1,000,000 and less than \$2,500,000.”

On Dec. 17, 2009, before U.S. District Court Judge Gerald Bruce Lee, Xiao pleaded guilty to conspiring to traffic in contraband cigarettes. He returned to court March 5 to receive his punishment and, at that time, Lee sentenced him to 20 months in prison. Following his release, Xiao will be on two years supervised probation.

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CENTREVILLE

Centreville Baptist Church

Good Friday Services
6:00 & 8:00 pm Friday, April 2

Easter Worship Services - April 4

6:00 am Sunrise Service
8:00 am Celebration Service
9:30 am Celebration Service
11:00 am Contemporary Service

Bible Studies

9:30 am & 11:00 am

www.cbcva.org

15100 Lee Highway, Centreville, VA 20120
703-830-3333

Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion 7:30 P.M.

Good Friday Tenebrae 7:30 P.M.

Easter Festive Services of Holy Communion
8:00 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 11:15 A.M.

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

Braddock Road and Cranoke Street,
Centreville, VA 20120

www.saintandrewlc.org
703-830-2768

Centreville Community Bible Church

A Family Church Where Every Person is Loved And Cared For

Meeting at Deer Park Elementary School

15109 Carlbern Drive Centreville, VA 20120

Bible Study-9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

- Programs for Children, Youth & Adults
- Nursery Provided

(703) 815-8860 www.ccbc-va.com Pastor, Gary L. Maines

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Westgate Chapel

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9:30 am

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

Centreville United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 AM
9:30 AM
11:00 AM

Contemporary Service
in the ROC
11:02 AM



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www.centreville-umc.org

6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville VA 20121
Corner of New Braddock Road & Route 28



Centreville
United Methodist Church

11:02 AM

Contemporary Worship Service

Every Sunday in the ROC
(Recreation and Outreach Center)

Contemporary Music ~ Connections Praise Band

Interactive Prayer Stations

Children's Quiet Play Area &
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Weekly Communion Table Open to All



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www.centreville-umc.org

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In Historic Centreville at Lee Hwy & Braddock Rd

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

Pastor James & First Lady Ada
Vanison, Founders

Worship Services:

Sunday Services 11 AM & 4 PM
Wednesday Service 8 PM

Visit us on-line at www.treelifebiblechurch.org



PLEASANT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

43987 John Mosby Highway, Chantilly, Virginia 20152-1363

703 327-4461

www.pleasantvalleyumc.net

Rev. Justin S. White, Pastor

Holy Thursday - April 1 @ 7pm
Worship and Communion

Good Friday Service - April 2 @ 7pm

Easter Services - April 4

"Sonrise" Service - 8 am

Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt - 9am

Sunday School - 10am

Traditional Easter Worship - 11am

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



Traditional
Anglican Service

1928 book of
Common Prayer

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

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

(CHURCH SCHOOL & NURSERY)

13941 Braddock Road, (north off Rte. 29) Centreville, VA

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Mount Olive Baptist Church

New Worship Location Starting March 14, 2010!!

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Clifton, VA 20124

A NEW CHURCH IS BEING BUILT!



SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE AT
CENTREVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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

MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Administrative Office:

13924 Braddock Road Suite 201

Centreville, VA 20120

Phone: 703-830-8769

Fax: 703-830-6718

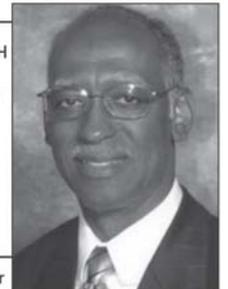
Website:

www.mountolive-church.org

Email:

mtolive@mountolive-church.org

Rev. Dr. Eugene Johnson, Pastor



6600 OLD CENTREVILLE ROAD CENTREVILLE, VA 20121

Come Celebrate "Holy Week"

March 28 - Palm Sunday

8:15 & 9:45 am Contemporary Worship
11:15 am Traditional Worship

April 1 - Maundy Thursday

7:30 pm a casual communion service

April 2 - Good Friday

7:30 pm a reflection on the crucifixion of Christ

April 4 - Easter Sunday

7:00 am Sunrise Service at Stonewall Memory Gardens

8:15 & 9:45 am Contemporary Easter Service

11:15 am Traditional Easter Service

Centreville Presbyterian Church

15450 Lee Highway, Centreville, VA 20120
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Centreville
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH