



Standing (from left) are Erin Colangelo, Karyn Price, Ashleigh Lesson and Jennifer Shanahan; kneeling (from left) are Jackie Wilson and Missy Long.

## Flamingos with a Purpose

**Powell teachers raise money for cancer walk.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

The word "flamingo" usually brings to mind tall, skinny, pink birds — not fund-raising. But six creative and dedicated teachers at Colin Powell Elementary used them to raise money for the upcoming Avon Walk for the Cure.

From mid-January through March 26, people gave them \$25 donations and, in return, they decorated someone's yard with 25, pink, plastic flamingos. And since their school's mascot is the puma, they called their effort "Paws with a Cause."

"It's like TP-ing [toilet papering] someone's yard, with the same adrenaline rush, but for a good cause," said teacher



**Pink flamingos brightened up a snowy yard in February.**

Karyn Price. "We also put out a couple breast-cancer ribbons with each flock of flamingos."

Besides Price, also participating were teachers Ashleigh Lesson, Erin Colangelo, Jackie Wilson, Jennifer Shanahan and Missy Long. Shanahan had done it for a previous fund-raiser and suggested it to the others.

The Walk for the Cure raises funds for breast-cancer research and, to be in the 39-mile event, May 1-2, in Washington, D.C., each teacher had to raise \$1,800. Said Wilson: "Our team goal was \$10,800, but we raised nearly \$12,000."

Each flock of flamingos came

SEE POWELL, PAGE 7

## Housing Market Looking Up

**Older homes and new townhouses selling well in Northern Virginia.**

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
CENTRE VIEW

*This is the third article in a series of three pieces about the local census data. To read more, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com).*

Home values in Northern Virginia, like most other places in the country, have declined, sometimes dramatically, since 2007. But, overall, the last decade was a time of unprecedented growth in local residential real estate, particularly in the very high-end house market.

Even accounting for the recent downturn, the median price of a home in Fairfax and Arlington counties still more than doubled over the last 10 years.

According to U.S. Census data, the median price of a single-fam-

ily detached dwelling in Fairfax was \$233,300. Last January, Fairfax officials said previously-owned single-family homes in 2009 were selling for an average of \$521,050.

The market peaked in Fairfax from 2005 to 2007, when previously-owned, single-family homes had a median price of over \$600,000.

In Arlington, the price of a single-family detached home went from a median price of \$262,400 in 2000 to \$586,200 in 2008, according to census data.

"I don't think in the year 2000, anyone would have predicted their homes would be worth what they are today, particularly if they were living in that home at the time," said Fairfax County Supervisor

SEE HOUSING, PAGE 4

## Chantilly High Unveils Glakas Art Gallery

Chantilly High art teacher since the school opened in the mid-1970s, Debbie Glakas retired in 2004. And during Chantilly's Pyramid Art Show on March 18, the school dedicated the Glakas Gallery in her honor. It's a glassed-in space under the stairs in the front hall where student artwork is displayed.

"Debbie offered innovative courses and got people involved in the art spirit at Chantilly," said art teacher Jo Ann Crawford. "She

took great pride and joy in her students' achievements and prepared hundreds of exhibits showcasing her students' work. So she fought for this space and, with funds from the county and PTSA, she got this designed and built."

There for the gallery unveiling were past and present Chantilly teachers and administrators, including current Visual Art Department Chair John Adams. Glakas's husband Terry and their daughter

SEE CHS, PAGE 7

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Jessica Shy performs a martial arts routine.

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB



The group "East Meets West" (India). In no particular order: Gargi Bhati, Shreya Garg, Trishna Patel, Surveera Sathi, and June Thapa.

# Chantilly High School Hosts International Night

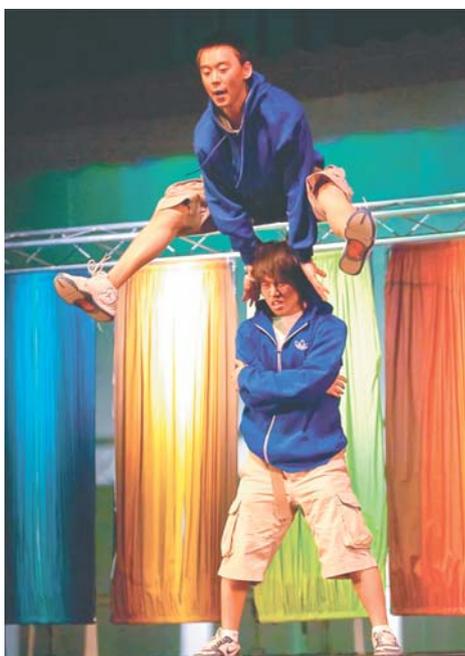
The Chantilly High School ESOL Department held its 13th Annual International Night on Thursday, March 25. The evening was filled with music and dance from around the world, including a martial arts demonstration. Teddi Predaris, director of Fairfax County's ESOL Office, called the night a huge success: "It is great to see students supporting each other."



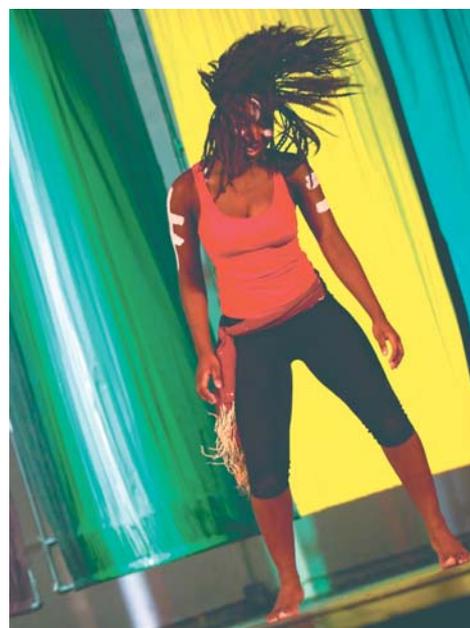
Shaleen Ahmed plays an old Indian Bengali folk song.



"Exquisite" dances to a fusion of traditional Vietnamese and Modern Korean pop. In no particular order: Stephanie Yi, Linh Huynh, Soojin Park, Christina Dang, Jessica Song and Euna Kang.



The group "BYK" (Brian Kim, YJ Choi and Kenny Ly) perform dance moves to Chinese and Korean pop music.



One of the "Afra Diamonds" (Faizah Miller, Sarah Nahire, and Mary Nomugosa). The group performed to an energetic medley of African music.



One of the crowd favorites, "Curry Crew," performs a mixture of high energy Bollywood dance. In no particular order: Diksha Gupta, Rachel Kotiah, Thomas Harmon, Apoorva Veeradeddy, Rohini Basra, Manith Bondugula, Daksa Choudhary, Anu Gupta.

## Three Charged with DWI

Fairfax County police conducted a sobriety checkpoint in the Sully District, from Friday, April 2, at 11:30 p.m. until Saturday, April 3, at 2:30 a.m., to deter and apprehend intoxicated drivers. All motorists were stopped and drivers were checked to assure that their abilities to drive had not been impaired by alcohol or drugs.

Approximately 1,150 motorists passed through the checkpoint in the northbound lanes of Route 28 near the Route 29 intersection. Police charged three people with DWI and issued four summonses for miscellaneous traffic offenses.

## 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.

## 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 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.

## 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.

## Chantilly Community Coalition

The Chantilly Community Coalition will meet Monday, April 12, at 4 p.m., in the Chantilly High media center. Contact Carol Hoffman at 703-378-6155 or cehoffman@fcps.edu.

## Town Hall Meeting on I-66

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf and Supervisors Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and Mike Frey (R-Sully) will host a panel of local, state and national transportation experts, Monday, April 19, at 7 p.m., in the Fairfax County Government Center to explore common-sense solutions to the ever-worsening gridlock on I-66. Members of the General Assembly who represent the I-66 corridor in western Fairfax County have also been invited.

Ideas to be discussed include establishing a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system in the corridor, increasing the use of shoulder lanes, opening the Monument Drive and Stringfellow Road interchanges to non-HOV vehicles outside of normal HOV hours, and improvements to the interchange at I-66 and the Beltway. Area residents are invited to attend and share their ideas, thoughts and comments. The Government Center is at 12011 Government Center Parkway, off Monument Drive, in Fairfax.

## 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. Attendees must register by calling Leah Ann Furr at 703-988-9656, ext. 102.

## Fairfax Real Estate: Then and Now

The year 2000 was the last time the U.S. Census did a precise survey of Fairfax County residents but the federal government also collected information through an American Community Survey from January 2006 to December 2008 in order to determine how the county has changed.

Many of the trends found when comparing the 2000 Census data to the 2008 survey estimates are likely to also show up when the 2010 Census is completed.

	FAIRFAX COUNTY		VIRGINIA		USA	
	2000	2008	2000	2008	2000	2008
<b>Median Household Income</b>	<b>\$81,050</b>	<b>\$106,470</b>	<b>\$54,169</b>	<b>\$61,044</b>	<b>\$41,994</b>	<b>\$52,175</b>
\$50,000 to \$74,999	20%	14.1%	22.6%	19.3%	19.5%	18.8%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	16.9%	13%	13.4%	13.3%	10.2%	12.5%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	21%	27.4%	4.1%	14.7%	7.7%	12.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	9%	13.8%	3.7%	6.2%	2.2%	4.3%
\$200,000 and up	7.5%	17.7%	3.3%	6.1%	2.4%	4.2%
<b>Families Living In Poverty</b>	3%	3.3%	7%	7%	9.2%	9.6%
<b>Individuals Living In Poverty</b>	4.5%	5%	9.6%	9.9%	12.4%	13.2%
<b>Median Single-Family Home Price</b>	\$233,300	\$566,100	\$125,400	\$259,200	\$119,600	\$192,400
<b>Median Monthly Mortgage Payment</b>	\$1,669	\$2,551	\$1,140	\$1,690	\$1,088	\$1,508
<b>Home Values</b>						
\$100,000 to \$150,000	25,911	1,700	373,288	218,153		
	11.8%	0.6%	24.7%	10.8%	23.7%	15.4%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	49,959	2,596	233,999	247,106		
	22.8%	1%	15.5%	12.2%	14.6%	13.7%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	73,026	16,830	209,613	383,416		
	33.4%	6.2%	12.9%	18.9%	11.9%	17.1%
\$300,000 to \$500,000	48,157	88,069	107,093	478,734		
	22%	32.5%	7.1%	23.6%	6.5%	17.4%
\$500,000 to \$1 million	14,153	136,449	28,041	353,049		
	6.5%	50.3%	1.9%	17.4%	2.4%	11.4%
\$1 million and over	1,896	21,424	4,013	55,808		

## Housing Market Starts to Rebound

FROM PAGE 1

John Foust (D-Dranesville).

Foust's district, which includes Great Falls and McLean, has one of the concentrations of high-end housing in Northern Virginia. During the real estate boom from 2005 to 2007, several parts of the Dranesville District saw the value of their homes increase by 20 percent or more in one year, said Foust.

**IN PARTICULAR**, Fairfax and Arlington saw an explosion in the number of very expensive homes that came onto the market.

Fairfax was home to 1,896 single-family detached houses worth \$1 million or more in 2000. By 2008, that number had skyrocketed to 21,424 and the million-dollar-plus homes share of the Fairfax's housing stock had gone from just 1 percent to nearly 8 percent, according to data provided by the U.S. Census.

Arlington County had an even greater increase. In 2000, the locality had about 123 single-family homes worth \$1 million or more. By 2008, that number had increased to 4,721 homes, or about 10 percent of overall stand-alone homes in the jurisdiction overall.

Much of the growth in \$1 million homes, particu-

SEE HOUSING MARKET, PAGE 19

## 'Hair's' How To Help Rachel

Chantilly's Rachel D'Andrea, 2 1/2, is battling cancer — neuroblastoma — and currently undergoing radiation and chemotherapy in a New York hospital. And at a time when her parents, Jon and Rebecca, should "only" have to worry about her survival, they're also dealing with skyrocketing health-insurance rates they can't afford and the possible loss of their house.

So, touched by their plight, Valary Brown — owner of Valon Salon & Day Spa in the Pickwick Shopping Center along Route 29 in Centreville — is holding a fundraiser for them. This 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



Rachel with her dad, Jon D'Andrea.



PHOTO BY REBECCA D'ANDREA

will go to the Rachel D'Andrea Fund for her medical care.

"The D'Andreas have become friends of mine, and my heart goes out to them," said Brown. "We just want to help in any way we can." The salon's spa appointments are already booked that day, but hair

appointments are still available. Call 703-266-7660.

In addition, 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. — BONNIE HOBBS

# Local Men Indicted on Drug Trafficking Charges

Allegedly part of ecstasy, marijuana ring.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

A federal grand jury has indicted two local men in connection with a drug-trafficking ring that reportedly supplied ecstasy and marijuana throughout the Metropolitan Washington, D.C., area.

Both Paul Bang, 18, of Centreville, and Tam Phuong Tran, 23, of Chantilly, are accused of conspiracy to distribute ecstasy and marijuana. Bang is also charged with distribution of ecstasy, and Tran is charged with conspiracy to commit money laundering.

"Ecstasy is a serious threat to our society," said DEA Special Agent in Charge Ava

Cooper-Davis. "Its users are often young and unaware of its potentially deadly side effects. Our community is safer after dismantling [alleged] drug trafficking organizations like [this] one."

Bang and Tran were indicted March 25, along with four others reportedly involved in the ring. A seventh person, Jonathan Pai, 20, of Fairfax, pleaded guilty two days earlier, March 23, in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, to conspiracy to distribute ecstasy and marijuana.

According to the indictment and Pai's statement of facts, from February 2009 to February 2010, Pai reportedly obtained ecstasy and marijuana regularly from Chen Chieh Yam, 29, Hyattsville, Md. Then Pai worked with the others alleged in the indictment to distribute these drugs throughout Northern Virginia and the surrounding area. Those working with Pai would reportedly collect the drug proceeds and provide

SEE SUSPECTS, PAGE 6



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## NEWS

# Suspects Face Drug Ring Charges

FROM PAGE 5

bulk payments to Pai, who would give these proceeds to Yam.

Pai admitted in court that he sold more than 7,000 ecstasy pills to an undercover law enforcement officer through a series of drug buys conducted at the Tysons Corner Center. He also admitted that he and others obtained hundreds of kilograms of marijuana from Yam and that other alleged conspirators operated stash houses to maintain, grow, store and distribute marijuana.

As for the others reportedly involved in these crimes and indicted March 25, both Quang Huy Ho, 22, of Fairfax, and Jeff L. Tsu, 31, of Vienna, are each charged with conspiracy to distribute ecstasy and marijuana. Yam's accused of conspiracy, distribution of ecstasy, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug-trafficking crime, plus money laundering. Tofun Ali Ghasri, 21, of Manassas, is charged with conspiracy and ecstasy distribution.

The indictment alleges that, on or about Dec. 3, 2009, Bang, Yam and Ghasri "did unlawfully, know-

ingly and intentionally" distribute ecstasy. Regarding the money-laundering offense, the indictment also alleges that, from February 2009 through Feb. 26, 2010, Tran and Yam conspired together and with others to "conceal and disguise the nature, location, source, ownership and control of the proceeds of [the reported drug trafficking]."

The conspiracy charge carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum of 40 years. The distribution offense is punishable by as much as 20 years in prison. Money-laundering conspiracy carries a 20-year maximum.

Bang, Tran and Ho are slated for June 8 jury trials in federal court. Pai faces a mandatory minimum penalty of five years in prison and a possible maximum of 40 years behind bars when he's sentenced June 11 by U.S. District Court Judge James Cacheris.

This case is being investigated by the DEA, Virginia State Police and the Fairfax and Montgomery County police departments. Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Grooms and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Tritia Yuen are the prosecutors.

## BUSINESS NOTES

**Paisano's restaurants and the Amphora Group** will participate in the annual Police Unity Tour. From Monday, April 12 through Sunday, April 18, each Paisano's outlet (Herndon, Fairfax City, Fair Lakes, Chantilly, Reston and Bella Pizza in Centreville) will donate \$2 for every pizza sold to the Police Unity Tour. The Amphora restaurant in Vienna and the Amphora Diner in Herndon will be contributing \$2 from every order from the special Police Unity Tour price fix menu. In addition, all lo-

cation restaurants and bakery locations in both Vienna and Herndon will contribute the proceeds of the sale of specially designed police unity tour logo cookies.

**Capital Hospice and Centreville Chiropractic Center** are teaming up to help raise money to help hospice patients. Dr. Jason Brown and Dr. Marla Gebaide, chiropractors at the clinic, are hosting a Grand Opening allowing people to donate to such a worthy cause.

The Grand Opening Event at Centreville Chiropractic Center will take place on Thursday, April 22, at 5-8 p.m. There will be food and prizes given away. For two weeks following the event, patients who give a \$25 donation to Capital Hospice will receive their first day of services which includes a full history, neurological exam, orthopedic exam, X-rays (if needed), and report of findings at no-charge. Centreville Chiropractic Center is at 13880 Braddock Road, Suite 108, Centreville.



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To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and Centre View will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

PhotoCV@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

Centre View,  
"Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"  
1606 King St.,  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

# Powell Teachers Raise Money for Cancer Walk

FROM PAGE 1

with a letter to the recipient, explaining who sent it, why and how to make a donation to the cause or have someone else's home flocked. Then, 24 hours later, the teachers would remove the flamingos and deposit them in another person's yard.

"We ask people to tell us why they want a particular person's home flocked," said Lesson. "We started with our principal [Tom Clement], and he had us flock four people, and it continued from there."

## THE FLAMINGOS

usually came as a big surprise to the recipients. They were planted after dark to be discovered the next morning.

Once, though, Price got stuck in a gated community and had to call the recipient on a speaker and tell her why she was there.

Sometimes, donors would ask to have their own yards flocked. "People also did it for special occasions like birthdays, Valentine's Day and new babies," said Colangelo.

"We've also gone to several cancer survivors' homes," said Lesson. "One person has a diagnosis of one to four months to live, so a friend requested it for her, as soon as possible, and we did." Added Price: "The lady said it cheered up her day."

"Some of the survivors' stories are amazing," said Wilson. "A woman who'd been flocked was having me flock her physical therapist's home. They'd both gone through breast cancer together and had had double mastectomies."

Wilson said the woman who'd contacted them told her she'd taken photos of the flamingos and shared them with her family. "It's just amazing that 25 pink birds can bring someone so much happiness," said Wilson. "It let them know someone was thinking of them."

**"It's amazing that 25 pink birds can bring so much happiness."**

— Jackie Wilson, teacher,  
Colin Powell Elementary

Price said they began with two flocks of 25 birds each — ordered via [www.gotpinkflamingos.com](http://www.gotpinkflamingos.com) — and soon learned they needed four flocks to handle all the requests. "We started doing it only on weekends, but quickly realized we couldn't keep up with it," said Colangelo. "So the six of us did it six days a week," said Lesson.

Since they did the flocking in addition to working full time and taking care of their homes and families, once they got really busy, it was sometimes difficult finding time to deliver and retrieve the perky, pink messengers. "But when people told us how much it meant to them, it was totally worth it," said Wilson.

Added Lesson: "It gave us a new burst of energy."

Colangelo said they drove "all over" with the birds — to Reston, Leesburg, Bristow, Gainesville, Arlington, Herndon, Chantilly and Burke. "We did a ton in Centreville, including the yards of 30 people in this building," said Price. "We could have gone into business. It took on a life of its own, but we were happy about that."

On Sunday nights, Shanahan would give her teammates their flocking schedules for the coming week. Lesson would get directions to each home and then they'd figure out which destinations were closest to their own homes and divvy them up accordingly.

Inevitably, there were a few mishaps. "Once, we did the wrong house," said Colangelo. But, said Wilson, "The letter told who it was going to, so the woman moved it [to the real recipient's yard], two houses down."

Another time, they left a flock at someone's house for a week, during one of the big snowstorms. And now and then, a bird or two disappeared. "Several wandered off and one flamingo got run over," said

Price. Happily, though, said Lesson, "It's now a classroom pet — with a breast-cancer-ribbon bandage on its nose."

**TO DONATE** to the breast-cancer walk, for more information or to contribute to the teachers' team, see [www.Avonwalk.org](http://www.Avonwalk.org), click on "donate" (to a team) and type in "Paws with a Cause."

The Colin Powell team solicited donations from friends and did other fund-raisers, too. Teacher Jennie Skerker held a Silpada jewelry party and donated a portion of the proceeds, and Price designed the team members' T-shirt with "Paws with a Cause" and a puma on it. The six teachers then sold it to school staff. And on March 20, they held a scrapbooking event at Scrapbooks Plus in Chantilly. "They donated the place to us," said Lesson. "Each scrapbooker paid \$20 to register, and that went to the Avon Walk."

"Ashleigh, Jackie and I worked as crew members at last year's walk, and we discussed getting a team together," said Price. "We worried about the fund-raising, but it's been easy."

They also had their own reasons for wanting to take part. "My mom had breast cancer and is at her five-year mark," said Wilson. "And some staff members here have also been diagnosed with breast cancer."

Colangelo is also walking for those colleagues — both the survivors, plus someone who's battling it now — and for her mother's best friend, also currently fighting cancer. It's Lesson's fifth Avon Walk, and she did it initially for those who couldn't. "I wanted it to be a step toward making a difference," she said. "Now my instructional assistant is battling it, so I see [her struggle], myself, every day."

"I started because Jackie convinced me to crew with her last year," said Price. "But the moment the walk started, I just knew it was something I wanted to do for years to come. The feeling you get is amazing; it brings you to tears watching walkers currently battling cancer, survivors, husbands

who've lost wives — even a woman who was eight or nine months pregnant. It's touched everyone's life in some way."

Price also participates because part of the proceeds also go to women who need medical treatment for breast cancer, but can't afford it. And, she added, "It's such an epidemic that we need to make sure everyone has the same opportunities."

Teammate Missy Long is walking in honor of her mother, a 15-year breast-cancer survivor. "My mother has always been a pillar of strength in my family," she said. "I was very young when she had breast cancer and didn't understand much, except that she was sick a lot and had to give herself shots. When I got older and was more able to understand what cancer was, it became even more apparent how strong she was."

Long's also walking to support those now fighting what her mother conquered. "Every year they get closer and closer to a cure and, hopefully one day, we can walk simply in celebration that no woman has to go through this," she said. "Until then, I want to spread the word to get exams because early detection's the best [way] to protect ourselves."

Long also enjoyed fund-raising and called her teammates "hardworking and compassionate" people. She said Colin Powell's staff gave them "overwhelming support," as it always does, through good times and bad.

Shanahan likes making people smile, so the flamingo flocking fit her perfectly. "It's a relatively easy way to make money, too," she said. "It's a fun way for people to participate in a fund-raiser and get something fun in return."

She'll walk in honor of those affected by cancer and to raise money for research, treatment and support. "I've seen my friends fight this so bravely and wanted to do something to help them," said Shanahan. "I hope that some time in my lifetime we will eradicate this disease. With the research possible through funding from groups such as the Avon Walk, this just might happen."

## CHS Unveils Glakas Art Gallery

FROM PAGE 1

Jenni and son Clay were there, as well. Glakas, who still substitute teaches at Chantilly, was delighted. "It's wonderful," she said. "It was always a major goal of mine; the kids deserve it — their work is

wonderful." Having the space named after her, she said, is "humbling. It makes me feel like I have left some kind of a legacy here; it's definitely a moment."

— BONNIE HOBBS



Back row, from left: Jo Ann Crawford, John Adams, Gail Weyant and KT Lynch; (front row, from left) Debbie Santmyer, Debbie Glakas, Sue Bark, Betty Simmons and Theresa DiJoseph.

PHOTOS BY  
BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Debbie Glakas (second from left) with daughter Jenni, husband Terry and son Clay stand outside the Glakas Gallery.



# OPINION

## Cuccinelli Misleads on Costs

Perhaps we need a referendum to decide if and when Virginia will spend time, resources and image on challenging federal actions?

Some of us are probably prepared to admit that we are embarrassed, as two of Virginia's major newspapers warned we might be. But no one predicted that there would be so much to blush about so soon.

Suddenly, Virginia is in the national spotlight, not for being home of the Internet along the Dulles corridor, not for being the place for lovers (too many exceptions apply), not for being the mother of many presidents, not for its history, not for its wine.

No, Virginia is in the national spotlight because our newly elected Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli of Clifton, Fairfax County, has taken to court declaring recently passed landmark health care legislation as unconstitutional. He also sued to stop the regulation of greenhouse gasses and now will challenge new federal standards for auto emissions (even though even the auto industry would rather have federal controls that a patchwork of state regulations).

He opened his administration telling Virginia's dramatically underfunded colleges and universities that they could not include sexual orientation in their anti-discrimination policies.

Last October, before the election, the Virginian Pilot warned: "Cuccinelli's election would bring embarrassment to Virginia." The Washington Post, a few days later: "Cuccinelli would drive away qualified lawyers from an office that

functions as the state government's law firm, and, given his bizarre ideas, he would very likely become an embarrassment for the commonwealth."

**ADDING INJURY TO INSULT**, Cuccinelli denies that these escapades are costing the Commonwealth anything, releasing a statement claiming, for example, that the only costs involved are the filing fees, \$350 in the case of the constitutional challenge to the health care.

That's like saying it didn't cost anything to close the Federal Government in the snow emergency in February. The actual cost was about \$70 million a day.

Cuccinelli owes his constituents a real accounting of the costs, the amount staff time devoted to the efforts. The Office of the Attorney General is Virginia's law firm, and there are established methods for billing and assessing costs.

Most important is admitting the opportunity costs. What is it that his office is not doing because of the time and focus playing national politics?

His two immediate predecessors, Gov. Bob McDonnell and Virginia Supreme Court Justice Bill Mims, both focused on consumer protection. McDonnell launched the "consumer alert of the month," a column which addressed real problems faced by ordinary Virginians in terms of financial fraud, identity theft and

other critical issues. Mims maintained the monthly effort. The columns appeared in media around the state, and served both as a warning and as a means of reaching out to people who had been victims.

The last such "alert" was filed the month before Cuccinelli took office, after monthly entries for four years through 2009. ([www.oag.state.va.us/CONSUMER/Consumer\\_Alert\\_Archive.html](http://www.oag.state.va.us/CONSUMER/Consumer_Alert_Archive.html))

Taking care of Virginian's interests is not at the top of the priorities of the current attorney general.

The 14 duties and powers of the Office of the Attorney General (see [www.oag.state.va.us/OUR\\_OFFICE/Role.html](http://www.oag.state.va.us/OUR_OFFICE/Role.html)) include providing information on identity theft and remediation, help Social Services collect child support, prosecute certain environmental and computer crimes, enforce laws that protect businesses and consumers, represent consumers in utility matters before the State Corporation Commission, in addition to providing legal advice and opinions to the Governor, General Assembly and other state agencies.

Ken Cuccinelli was elected state senator representing the 37<sup>th</sup> District, part Prince William and Fairfax counties, in a special election in 2002. The election drew 16.6 percent of registered voters after state Sen. Warren Barry (R) resigned to take a job with the Warner Administration. Cuccinelli was reelected in 2003 and then in 2007 held onto his seat by less than 100 votes.

— MARY KIMM,  
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Helping Officers' Bike-A-Thon

To the Editor:

In early May of 2009, I met with Master Police Officer Mark Dale of the Fairfax County Police Department. He told me about his involvement with the PUT or Police Unity Tour. Dale explained that he was in training for what I'd learn was a grueling 300 mile, four-day bike-a-thon, an annual ride held to raise awareness of law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty. I was immediately struck by the generous nature of Officer Dale and his commitment to ride for no other reason than to honor fallen police officers who gave their all in defense of the general welfare of others.

With only a few days before the tour began, I decided to involve my six Paisano's restaurants to help raise funds and awareness for this noble cause. In short order, we were able to sell 3,125 pizzas and raise a little under \$6,300 for the local version of the national Tour.

This year, with some lead time and planning, I asked my good friend George Cholakis, owner of Amphora Restaurant and Bakery, to join me in a show of greater support for area law enforcement; George was quick to agree. My friend was especially excited to be a part of a fundraiser that would help build the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, D.C. across from the National Law Enforcement Memorial on Judiciary Square. Together, we pledged to raise \$8,500 for the 2010 Tour (but we'll be disappointed if we don't do that and more).

Each officer is required to raise at least \$1,700 in order to participate in the Tour and if they don't, the strong 'brotherhood in blue' mentality kicks-in and these brave men and women pull money out of their own pockets to make the ride. George and I are trying to make sure that doesn't happen.

Enabling officers to "Ride for Those Who Died" strikes us as the right thing to do. We live and work in Northern Virginia, a community

benefiting by local police whose code of honor and service provide the 'thin blue line' for which we're all thankful.

So from Monday April 12 through Sunday, April 18, each Paisano's outlet (Herndon, Fairfax City, Fair Lakes, Chantilly, Reston and Bella Pizza in Centreville) will donate \$2 of every pizza sold to the Police Unity Tour. As for George and his restaurant, diner and bakeries in both Vienna and Herndon, they will contribute \$2 from every order via a special Police Unity Tour menu and will also contribute the proceeds from sales of specially designed Police Unity Tour logo cookies.

From May 9 when riders leave

New Jersey until May 12 when they arrive in the District, more than 1,000 bikers from all across the country — including 41 cyclists from the Fairfax County Police — will honor the memories of fellow men and women in blue that made the ultimate sacrifice. A candlelight vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in support of their grieving families will take place on May 13. George Cholakis and I are honored to share and be supportive of this journey of love.

**Fouad Qreitem**

*Fouad Qreitem is CEO of Paisano's restaurants. He may be contacted at [www.pizzapaisanos.com](http://www.pizzapaisanos.com)*

## Write

Centre View 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  
Centre View  
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-778-9410.

By e-mail: [centreview@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:centreview@connectionnewspapers.com)

# CENTREVIEW

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# WORTH NOTING

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

## ONGOING

**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](mailto:touchdown.gail@gmail.com)

## 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

**Car Wash.** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Centreville Wolfpack Baseball, a 13-U travel baseball team, will be holding a carwash at the Centre Ridge Exxon (on Multiplex Drive in Centreville). Donations will be accepted. Centre Ridge Exxon has also generously offered a percentage of fuel sales on April 10 to the Wolfpack.

**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](http://www.ScoreBigSportsSale.com) or email [info@scorebigssportssale.com](mailto:info@scorebigssportssale.com).

**Jubilee Christian Center** will host a free seminar 9 a.m.- 2:45 p.m., on "Perpetuating Truth Through Teaching." The seminar/workshop is for Sunday School teachers, children's leaders, youth and adult group leaders. Lunch is included. Call 703-383-1170 to register. At 4650 Shirley Gate Rd., Fairfax. [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

## 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](mailto:Kristen.Brennan@fairfaxcounty.gov), 703-324-5701.

**"Fertilizing Roses."** 7:30 p.m. Free. Learn about the best fertilizing program to produce beautiful rose blooms by Arlington Rose Society President and Consulting Rosarian, Dave Maxwell. Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax, Virginia Refreshments served. 703-371-9351.

## 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](mailto: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.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 15

**WFRWC Meeting.** 7 p.m. Western Fairfax Republican Women's Club meeting. The Hon. Corey A. Stewart will discuss the "in's and out's" of what has been going on in the area and discussing illegal immigration. At the Fairfax County Government Center, Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 16

**Swing Dancing.** 9-11 p.m. Cost is \$15/person. With Gina DeSimone and the Moaners. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road (Route 28 near the airport), Herndon.

## APRIL 16-18

**Used Book Sale.** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Huge selection of adult and children's fiction and nonfiction books, plus audio/video recordings. Sponsored by Friends of the Chantilly Regional Library. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Call 703-502-3883.



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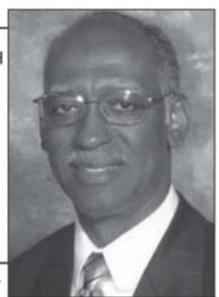
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# SCHOOLS

**Mitchell Macdonald of Chantilly** was selected to play Prince Escalus for the University of Mary Washington production of "Romeo and Juliet." Macdonald is the son of Paul and Vicki Macdonald of Chantilly, and is a 2005 graduate of Chantilly High School. He is a senior theatre major.



Macdonald

**Peter Mowery of Chantilly**, a senior majoring in management in the Pamplin College of Business, was chosen to be the VPI Company Commander in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets for the spring semester 2010.

**Oak Hill Elementary School** will hold Kindergarten Orientation on Monday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m. Parents and children who live within Oak Hill's boundaries are welcome. Rising Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 30, 2010. Contact the school at 703-467-3500.

**Brookfield Elementary School** will hold Kindergarten Registration on Monday, April 19. If your child will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 30, 2010, and you live within Brookfield Elementary boundaries, call 703-814-8700 to

schedule an appointment. Kindergarten Orientation for parents and students will be held during the afternoon of Monday May 17.

**Greenbriar West Elementary School** is now accepting information for next year's Kindergarten classes. If you have a child who will turn 5 years of age by Sept. 30, 2010, call the school office at 703-633-6700 as soon as possible. We will be sending out special invitations for Kindergarten Orientation to be held Monday, April 26, from 2:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. at Greenbriar West Elementary School.

**Lees Corner Elementary School** is gathering information on children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 30, 2010 and live within the school's boundaries. Boundary information can be accessed at [www.fcps.edu/boundary/](http://www.fcps.edu/boundary/). If you have a child who meets these requirements, call Mrs. Nolan at 703-227-3500. Enrollment information and forms will be mailed out prior to the Monday, May 3 Kindergarten

Registration/Orientation. Visit <http://www.fcps.edu/start.htm>

**Greenbriar East Elementary School** will be having its Kindergarten Orientation/Registration on Monday, April 26 at 2 p.m. Contact the school at 703-633-6400.

It is time for the **10th Annual Westfield High School 5K Run/Walk for Scholarships!** On Saturday, May 8 at 8 a.m., runners and walkers 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 WHS, 4700 Stonecroft Boulevard, 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 WHS graduating classes. Runners and walkers can sign up for the event by going to the WHS 5K Web site <http://ptsa.westfieldhs.org/race/index.htm> and either completing an online registration or downloading the form and mailing it in to WHS. Registration costs are \$15 for all FCPS students and \$20 for all others until April 15. The fee goes up to \$25 after April 15th. All entrants

registered by April 16 will receive a T-shirt and are eligible for raffle prizes. Overall and age group winners of the 5K will receive awards!

**Young actors** in the Northern Virginia area can learn about the theatre arts at Young Actors' Workshop June 28 - July 2, from 9 a.m. to noon. This workshop is open to elementary school students in rising grades 3-6. Tuition is \$125 and classes will be held at Westfield High School in Chantilly.

Through word, movement and music, students will engage in individual and group activities that culminate in a shared experience be-

tween the actors and their audience.

Sponsored by Westfield Theatre Boosters and led by Herndon High School Theatre Director Zoë Dillard, Young Actors' Workshop teaches students basic acting, music and movement skills. Westfield Theatre students will serve as counselors in the camp.

Westfield Theatre Boosters is now accepting registrations for Young Actors' Workshop. Visit the Westfield Theatre Boosters website at [www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com](http://www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com), e-mail Patti Dezelick at [patti@dezelick.com](mailto:patti@dezelick.com), or leave a message in the Westfield Theatre Boosters' voice mailbox at 703-488-6439.

## 'All That Jazz' Cabaret April 16

The Westfield High School Theatre Arts Department will celebrate songs, scenes, and dances from Broadway and beyond at its All That Jazz Cabaret April 16 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and seating is general admission.

Students from all grade levels will perform several selections from famous Broadway shows, movies, and television. The 50-member cast includes Adam Thomas, Nick Burroughs, Corinne Holland, Kevin Clay, Colby Dezelick, Connor Scudder, Trevor Knickerbocker, Avery Hobbs, Sarah Bowden, Taylor Aucott, Ben Nelms, John Walsh, Elisabeth Bloxam, Ariauna Heck, Joey Biagini, Brittany Simmons, Chaz Coffin, and Phoebe Dillard, plus many others. The title "All That Jazz" pays tribute to the musical "Chicago," and also to the students' recent trip to Chicago to study drama, comedy, and improvisational theatre. Two production numbers from "Chicago" will be featured in the show, choreographed by Avery Hobbs and Yvonne Henry.

Lori Knickerbocker and Charlie Manship direct the show, which is produced by Westfield Theatre Boosters. All funds raised will be used to support the Westfield Theatre Arts Department. Visit [www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com](http://www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com) or call 703-488-6439.

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3. CONTROLLING: Interrogates you intensely (especially if you're late) about whom you talked to and where you were; keeps all the money; insists you ask permission to go anywhere or do anything.
4. UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS: Expects you to be the perfect mate and meet his or her every need.
5. ISOLATION: Tries to cut you off from family and friends; accuses people who are your supporters of "causing trouble." The abuser may deprive you of a phone or car, or try to prevent you from holding a job.
6. BLAMES OTHERS FOR PROBLEMS OR MISTAKES: It's always someone else's fault if something goes wrong.
7. MAKES OTHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER FEELINGS: The abuser says, "You make me angry," or "You're hurting me by not doing what I tell you."
8. HYPERSENSITIVITY: Is easily insulted, claiming hurt feelings when he or she is really mad. Rants about the injustice of things that are just a part of life.
9. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS OR CHILDREN: Kills or punishes animals brutally. Also may expect children to do things that are far beyond their ability (whips a 3-year-old for wetting a diaper) or may tease them until they cry. Sixty-five percent of abusers who beat their partner will also abuse children.
10. "PLAYFUL" USE OF FORCE DURING SEX: Enjoys throwing you down or holding you against your will during sex; finds the idea of rape exciting.
11. VERBAL ABUSE: Constantly criticizes or says blatantly cruel things; degrades, curses, calls you ugly names. This may also involve sleep deprivation, waking you with relentless verbal abuse.
12. RIGID GENDER ROLES: Expects you to serve, obey and remain at home.
13. SUDDEN MOOD SWINGS: Switches from sweet to violent in minutes.
14. PAST BATTERING: Admits to hitting a mate in the past, but says the person "made" him (or her) do it
15. THREATS OF VIOLENCE: Says things like, "I'll break your neck," or "I'll kill you," then dismisses them with "Everybody talks that way," or "I didn't really mean it."

## And Take Action Today!

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## NEWS

# Four Years Prison for Oak Hill Mom

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

A 21-year-old Oak Hill woman has been sentenced to four years in prison for felony neglect of her two infant daughters. The babies were 3 weeks old at the time and, to protect their identities, The Connection is not revealing their mother's name.

Fairfax County police initially charged her with two counts of child abuse and neglect causing serious injury but, last fall, she was allowed to plead guilty to a lesser charge.

In a July 20, 2009 affidavit for a search warrant, police Det. Nickolas Boffi, of the Child Investigation Unit of the Criminal Investigation Bureau, presented details of the case against her. He sought the warrant to obtain forensic evidence from her person.

He wrote that, on Sept. 30, 2008, the then-20-year-old mother brought her 22-day-old daughter to Inova Fair Oaks Hospital for treatment of a possible injury to her arm. According to the detective, the infant's grandmother had noticed that the child wasn't moving her right arm and it appeared to be swollen.

The hospital confirmed that the baby's forearm had been fractured, and the mother couldn't provide the hospital with an explanation of how such an injury had been sustained. As a result, the treating physician contacted the county's Child Protective Services and that agency followed up on the case.

Then on Oct. 7, 2008, the mother again went to the hospital – but this time, she not only brought

that infant (called Victim 1 by Boffi), but her twin sister, as well, after the grandmother observed bruise marks on various parts of both babies' bodies.

"The treating physician ordered a full, skeletal X-ray of both victims, and it was determined that both had multiple fractures," wrote Boffi. The doctor then ordered both infants taken to Inova Fairfax Hospital for treatment of their injuries.

There, on Oct. 8, 2008, the detective was present while Dr. William Hauta, recognized in Circuit Court as a child-abuse expert, performed a head-to-toe evaluation of the twins. Boffi wrote that Hauta confirmed that both had sustained "non-accidental trauma."

That same day, Boffi obtained arrest warrants for the mother and she was formally charged after turning herself in at police headquarters in Fairfax. She appeared Nov. 18, 2008 in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, and the cases against her were certified to the grand jury – which indicted her on both charges.

Then on Oct. 22, 2009, in Circuit Court, one of her charges was dropped and the other was amended to a lesser offense of neglect of children – to which she pleaded guilty. It's still a felony but – unlike her initial charge, which carried a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison – this one is punishable by no more than five years incarceration.

The mother returned to court on March 19, and at that time, Judge Stanley Klein sentenced her to four years in prison. He also placed her on three years supervised probation, following her release.

## Indoor Farmers Market Is Open

An indoor farmers market has opened 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 selection of products is offered, including winter fruits and vegetables, meats, dairy products, baked goods, gluten-free products and a large 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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# SCHOOLS



PHOTO BY FIRST ROBOTICS

**Chantilly Robotics Team 612 received the FIRST Robotics Chairman's Award at the Washington, D.C., Regional Competition on March 8, qualifying the team for FIRST's International Championship in Atlanta on April 15-17.**

## CHS Robotics Team Competes in Richmond

Chantilly Robotics Team 612 competed in the FIRST Virginia Regional Tournament at Virginia Commonwealth University's Siegel Center in Richmond, from March 18 to 20.

Two weeks earlier it successfully competed in the Washington, D.C. regional at the D.C. Convention Center. The Chantilly team is sponsored by the engineering program at Chantilly Academy and Chantilly High School. Team 612 includes some 60 male and female students from 20 different Fairfax County high schools who attend Chantilly Academy for specialized classes in engineering and technology.

Corporate sponsors who helped the team include Booz Allen Hamilton, SAIC, Northrop Grumman, Noblis, Smith Precision, Micron, OEC Engineering, Scitor, Skene Design, and Crest Cleaners. While students themselves pay a large portion of team expenses, they must rely on sponsorships and fund raising events to cover all of their costs.

On Thursday, prior to practice rounds, the computerized robot was unpacked from its crate, with none of its eight wheels or electrical components attached. However, by the end of the day, a functioning robot had been successfully created.

### MILITARY NOTES

**Air Force Airman Christopher C. Caldwell** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree

Friday, the seeding matches started out rough with new problems arising with the robot's drive train and wiring. Chantilly lost the first two of its four games, making corrections after each game. The team persevered and although competitive in its third match, lost in the final seconds. By the fourth match, further adjustments in the robot's programming enabled it to score a goal during the autonomous period without human intervention. They thrilled spectators by performing their unique end game strategy, scoring 2 points by suspending their robot from the tower vertically. Only one other robot has hung vertically in the two regional competitions Chantilly participated in.

Due to the early losses, Chantilly was not ranked highly in the 60 team standings at the end of the seeding periods. But based on solid performance in the last seeding matches, Team 612 was selected as an alliance partner by the 7th seeded team, The Holy Rollers Team 1033 from Richmond, who also selected The RoboRaiders Team 75 from Hillsborough N.J. Semi finals are determined by winning two matches played in quarter-finals, but Chantilly Team 612's alliance had to play four matches before either alliance won two matches. The first match was lost by 1 point,

the second was a tie, and the third match was won by a score of 3 to 1. It all came down to the fourth match of quarter-finals, and the VCU Siegal Center was filled with the enthusiastic chanting of six teams awaiting the win that would advance their alliance to semi-finals. Chantilly's robot was working well, and its alliance was strong, yet the fourth match did not end well for Team 612 and its alliance.

Through these hard-fought victories and losses, the team did not leave the Virginia Regional empty handed: Chantilly Robotics Team 612 was presented with the Spirit Award sponsored by Chrysler, which recognizes extraordinary enthusiasm and spirit through partnership and teamwork.

The Spirit award complemented the coveted Chairman's Award received at the Washington D.C. Regional two weeks before, which qualified them for international competition.

Team 612 is currently working on raising funds in preparation to compete at the 2010 FIRST International Championship held at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Ga., in mid-April.

To learn more about the team or making a contribution to support their trip to Internationals, visit the team Web site at [www.chantillyrobotics.org](http://www.chantillyrobotics.org).

through the Community College of the Air Force. He is the son of Charlie Caldwell of Wetherburn Drive, Centreville, Va. Caldwell is a 2009 graduate of Westfield High School, Chantilly.

**Navy Seaman Apprentice Andrew L. Chu**, son of Allen Chu of Fairfax, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Com-

mand, Great Lakes, Ill. Chu is a 2007 graduate of Chantilly High School of Chantilly.

**Marine Corps Pvt. Donald W. Sewell**, son of Claudette E. and Romeal Sewell of Chantilly, recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

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## "Choose Civility..."



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

...in Howard County." For some of you readers who may not make forays north into Howard County (think Columbia, Md.), perhaps you're unfamiliar as well with the ever-present, apparently popular and prideful green bumper sticker with the white printing adorned on many of its resident's automobiles promoting/advertising the civilized quality of life in this Maryland county: "Choose Civility in Howard County." As a resident in an adjacent county, I certainly am. And not because of any outreach to Montgomery County residents via radio, television or print (with which I'm familiar, anyway). No, the campaign, to the degree the production and dissemination/availability of these bumper stickers is concerted at all, seems to be a kind of passive-aggressive approach. Not exactly in your face, but likely within your sight, if you're driving behind a Howard County resident and paying attention, which I usually am. But the attention to which I'm now going to pay is somewhat unflattering. Isolated I'm sure, but certainly ironic given the image/brand-building going on through the appearance and presumptive token of their collective self-esteem.

However inadvertent it may have been, and however brief it was, I was nonetheless abruptly reminded, loudly and aggressively, that my driving delay in departing from a stop-light-having-just-turned-green was unacceptable. The driver behind me didn't just "lean" on his horn, if you know what I mean; he rested on it! Sorry, I thought, somewhat aggravated and nonplussed at the same time, as I pressed on the gas pedal and proceeded through the intersection. "Give me a break," (or something to that effect) as I reacted verbally to the tone and frequency of this horn o' plenty blaring directly behind me. "Cool it! Give me a second. Jeez." (I don't believe I swore, to tell you the truth.) And a few seconds later, this driver accelerated and passed me, but not before I noticed the familiar green bumper sticker on his car's rear bumper: "Choose Civility in Howard County." I didn't see whether the driver was a man or a woman, or whether the driver was in uniform or not (although the vehicle was not marked in any way); it simply appeared to be a regular passenger vehicle, not one on any kind of duty/in a hurry, but one proudly promoting the existence of civility in Howard County.

How ironic I thought. How rude I accused. How characteristic – or not, I wondered. I only wish I could have caught the whole episode on tape somehow; then found the Howard County employee/department responsible for this civility campaign; then found the actual driver whose behavior precipitated this pursuit and then presented it all to the County Executive for his/her approval/consideration. (Oh. I forgot to mention, this exchange occurred during the Blizzard of 2010, just to give the circumstances a little context.)

As an advertising consultant for 13 years with Connection Newspapers, I'm somewhat familiar with advertising campaigns. One of the old adages is, frequency matters; continuing exposure to the same message/promotion eventually wins the day (and the night, too). If consumers see/hear/read something enough times, they start to believe it. Previous to this incident, I had seen the Howard County bumper sticker many times, and had begun to wonder if in fact there was any truth/validity to its claim. Now I know better. This driver proved it.

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

# Westfield Baseball Enjoys Orioles Magic in Sarasota

## Former Bulldogs' star Brandon Snyder pulls some strings for his old coach.

BY RICH SANDERS  
CENTRE VIEW

The Westfield High baseball team enjoyed last week's spring break in Sarasota where they played several games, got a chance to see a professional game and even spent some relaxing time at the beach.

"It was a great trip for us," said Westfield head coach Chuck Welch, who said team members were well behaved and focused on becoming a better team. "The kids were awesome."

Westfield, competing in the Sarasota Baseball Tournament, went 2-2 over the course of the week in Florida. The Bulldogs played their first game at 8:30 in the morning on Tuesday, March 30, defeating a team from Palm Coast, 16-4. Later that day, Westfield defeated Bishop Verot High (Fla.), 12-0, in a night game.

The following day saw Welch's club lose a 14-4 decision to Miami Palmetto. And in their final game on Thursday, April 1, the Bulldogs lost to American Heritage (Fla.), 7-4, in a morning game.

A couple of the games were played at the Baltimore Orioles spring training complex in Sarasota. Another game took place at the local Sarasota High School.

"We had some kids who really stepped

up," said Welch.

In particular, Welch said Aaron Scoville, a senior third baseman and pitcher, hit the ball extremely well. Through seven games for the 5-2 Westfield squad this season, Scoville, a right-handed hitting leadoff batter, is batting over .500.

"He's a good contact guy, nothing flashy," said Welch, of Scoville. "He just gets the ball in play."

Also playing outstanding in Florida was senior pitcher Danny Thorpe, who was the lone member of the Westfield squad to be named to the all-tournament team. Thorpe pitched over two games. Overall, in nine innings of work, he allowed one run, while striking out 10 and walking one. A year ago, Thorpe was the Concorde District Pitcher of the Year.

"He has tremendous movement on the ball and very good control," said Welch. "He's truly a pitcher and not just a thrower."

**ONE OF THE WEEK'S** highlights was the Westfield players, coaches and team parents getting a special invitation to watch an Orioles' closed intrasquad scrimmage, which took place at the spring training facilities' main playing field.

Current pro player Brandon Snyder, a 2005 Westfield High graduate who led Welch's team to the Northern Region title

and the state finals as a senior, was the contact who helped set up the special treatment for the Westfield contingent.

Westfield players gained a firsthand look as the Orioles' triple-A team played its double-A team in a scrimmage. Welch said he had the opportunity there to speak with Orioles manager Dave Trembley. The Baltimore skipper told Welch there is a good chance that Snyder, the Orioles' first round selection in the 2005 first year player draft, will be wearing a Baltimore Orioles uniform in the near future.

"Trembley told me he's very, very close to playing in Baltimore," said Welch. "I really believe he'll be there sometime this year."

Snyder is beginning this season playing for the Orioles' triple-A affiliate in Norfolk.

Welch said he has seen Snyder play several times in recent years as an Orioles' minor leaguer. The Westfield baseball skipper said it was fun watching Snyder mingle with his pro teammates in Sarasota.

"You can tell Brandon fits in there," said Welch. "He's almost like a veteran. They all kind of know him and respect his ability."

The Westfield squad returned to Northern Virginia last Friday. The day before returning home, following their final spring break game, the players enjoyed time at the beach.

"A majority of the guys went to the beach just to relax," said Welch.

Westfield was scheduled to play non-region games this week against visiting Battlefield High (Manassas) on Wednesday, April



PHOTO COURTESY/SARASOTA-MANATEE SPORTS

**Brandon Snyder, who led Westfield baseball to the Northern Region crown in 2005, met up with his former team last week.**

7, and at Loudoun Valley this Friday night at 6. Next Tuesday evening, April 13, the Bulldogs will play at district rival Centreville in a 6:30 game.

## SPORTS NOTES

**Chantilly High** senior Kevin McBride signed a National Letter of Intent to compete next school year in soccer for the University of Virginia men's team, which a year ago captured both the ACC and NCAA championships. McBride, a 6-foot-0 defender, has played for DC United Academy and RFC 91 at the club level. He is a 2009 U.S. Soccer Under-18 National Championship finalist and a TopDrawerSoccer Regional Top 20 selection. He captained the U-18 DC United Academy team and is a four-year starter at Chantilly, where he has earned all-metro and all-district recognition.

"Kevin is an athletic center back," said George Gelnovatch, UVA's head coach. "We feel like he can play anywhere in our back four. And he reads the game well."

**Flo Duong and Emily Bollman** scored four goals apiece to lead the Centreville High girls' lacrosse team to a 21-10 win over Falls Church this past Monday night. It was a great win for the Wildcats, who a year ago had lost to the Jaguars by a goal.

Centreville (2-0), coached by Brian Newell, had nine different



PHOTO COURTESY/COMETS PURPLE

**The Chantilly Youth Association (CYA) Comets Purple girls' Under 14 soccer team won the SASA St. Patrick's Day Soccer Tournament. The Comets Purple, at the tournament, went undefeated in four games to capture the title. The team played clubs from Loudoun County, Chantilly, Vienna and Richmond at Pratt Park in Fredericksburg. The Comets Purple scored seven goals and only gave up two the entire weekend. The championship match win was decided on penalty kicks following scoreless play throughout regulation and overtime.**

players score in the win. Along with the big outings from Duong and Bollman, Centreville also received strong scoring nights from Solange Duong and Maggie Dulkerian, who had three goals apiece, as well as Haley Anderson (2 goals, 1 assist), who won the draw consistently to help the Wildcats jump out to a 12-4 halftime

lead. Carolyn Macek had a great first half in goal with five saves.

Twenty-four players participated in the game for Centreville. Two freshmen made their varsity debut — Taylor Marrow (6 saves), who played the entire second half in goal, and Brooke Peterson on defense. Centreville's next game is this Friday night at Herndon.

## Chantilly Boys' Lacrosse Team Finding Its Way

BY RICH SANDERS  
CENTRE VIEW

Thus far, it has been an uneven, up and down season for the Chantilly High boys' lacrosse team. But as the Chargers begin delving into the Concorde District portion of their schedule this week, head coach Kevin Broderick is confident his squad will develop more consistency and begin to reach its potential.

"The Concorde District is the real focus for us," said Broderick, who led the Chantilly program to the Virginia state title two years ago and to the state finals last spring. "It's time to get down to business."

This year's Chantilly team is younger overall than those vastly successful outfits of the past two seasons. But the Chargers have outstanding talent which could, once again,

have them in the running for Concorde District, Northern Region and state crowns later this spring.

"[The past two years] have raised expectations to new heights," said Broderick. "We no longer want to be mediocre."

Chantilly, 3-3 going into this week, has played a demanding, early season schedule. The Chargers opened the season by beating a talented Woodson squad, 10-7, on March 16 at home. But two days later the Chargers fell hard, 13-6, at West Springfield, perhaps the region's elite team this spring. The following week, Chantilly defeated Yorktown, 10-3, in a game played in Arlington on March 24.

Last week, Chantilly competed at the West Springfield Invitational over spring break week. There, the Chargers lost

SEE CHARGERS, PAGE 17

# SPORTS

## Chargers Lacrosse Remain Confident

FROM PAGE 16

their opening game to Loudoun Valley, 7-6 in overtime, in heart-breaking fashion. Chantilly led the Vikings, 6-5, as the game's final seconds ticked down. But Valley, which is from Purcellville, stunned Broderick's team with a game-tying score with two seconds remaining in regulation to force overtime, where the Vikings eventually won.

The following day, Tuesday, March 30, saw Chantilly come back strong with a dominating 17-1 win over Mount Vernon High. However, the Chargers were beaten soundly by private school opponent St. Albans (Washington, D.C.) on March 31 in their final spring break tournament game. St. Albans, annually one of the better teams in the metropolitan area, is a member of the Interstate Athletic Conference.

"We're a real young team," said Broderick, of his team's inconsistent early season play. "We lost 15 players from last year. A lot of the guys don't have great varsity experience yet. We've played some of the best teams in the area."

Chantilly has received good

leadership from senior captains Brendan Waters (attack), Joe Marson (midfield/attack) and goalie Matt Brandenburg, a first year varsity starter in the net.

Both Waters and Marson earned All-Concorde District recognition last year. Marson scored 18 goals with 12 assists in 2009 and Waters added 15 and 12. Four of Waters' goals a year ago were game-winners.

"He's got great field sense and is very unselfish," said Broderick, of Waters' game. "He leads on the field by his overall [positive] demeanor."

Waters will be attending Virginia Tech next school year where he will likely play club lacrosse.

Brandenburg, the varsity backup goalie last year, has played well as the starter this season. He had 20 saves in the Loudoun Valley game and 16 against St. Albans.

"He has studied, practiced every day and worked hard," said Broderick, of Brandenburg's work ethic and determination to become a better goalie. "He's really blossomed. He's a really great teammate who has worked hard. We feel he brings great leadership back there [for the defense]. He's

very vocal."

Other key members of the team include senior left-hander Kevin Egan at attack, quick, senior midfielder Maris Gallegos, junior midfielders Jared Golden and Devon Westerman, senior long stick defenseman Travis Abatamarco and senior defenseman Matt Melchiori.

"Matt is one of the guys we're hoping will grow and have an outstanding year," said Broderick, of Melchiori. "He's a very talented player."

**TIME WILL TELL HOW** far Chantilly can go this season. One thing that is pretty certain is that the Chargers, with a fine, local youth feeder program in the Chantilly Youth Association (CYA) and a dominating high school JV squad, will remain among the region's top echelon of teams for a good long time.

"We've got a great foundation," said Broderick. "We think the success of our program is the JV side. Our JV team hasn't lost a game in four years. From CYA to playing for our JV team, they learn to play as a team before they get to the Chantilly varsity level."

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# Centreville REAL ESTATE

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## Profile in Real Estate – Ken Isaacman

Having grown up in Pennsylvania it was a bit of a change to move down to Northern Virginia in the mid 80's. The hustle and bustle and traffic (even back then) took a bit of getting used to, but my wife and I soon got accustomed to it. We moved into a new neighborhood (Heritage Woods in Centreville) as it was being built in 1986 and haven't looked back. We stayed for 6 years in that townhouse and as our 2 children were getting older, realized we needed a little more room live and decided to make a big move to a single family home. We moved all the way to Chantilly and Poplar Tree Estates, and raised our 3 children there. Katie, now 21, Aaron 19 and our youngest, Sarah now 13. I remember the Real Estate market not being too much different than it is right now. We sold our townhouse in Centreville for a \$16K loss, but we managed to buy our new home for \$40K under its original asking price! Somehow I always find the silver lining in that dark cloud!

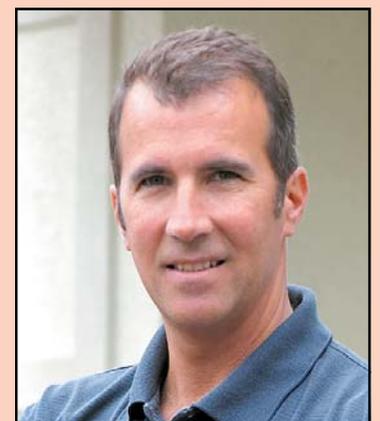
Living in this area has allowed me to continue some of my favorite passions like golfing on some of our fantastic local courses, running some of the expansive trails

in our neighborhoods and getting together with my friends for our weekly basketball games at Liberty Middle School. We've got a group that's been playing together for about 10 years and it helps keep us all feeling younger!

My wife, Angela, got involved in Real Estate after having a passion for it growing up in Kent, England and I followed her into it very soon thereafter. I found my interest in Real Estate piqued by her stories every day after work. I realized I was fascinated with those same stories and decided I wanted to be a part of the business with her. We've been buying and selling houses together ever since and I haven't looked back once. As a husband and wife Realtor Team, we feel we can accommodate most buyers and sellers equally. Her strengths are my weaknesses and vice versa! In fact, we've been named the Top Team for our Chantilly Market Center for the past 2 years running!

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# REAL ESTATE

## Housing Market Starts to Rebound

FROM PAGE 4

Early in Fairfax, can be attributed to new construction, said Stephen Fuller, chair of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University.

"It wasn't the old housing. The brand new housing was the much more expensive housing. There were a lot of \$2 million and \$3 million houses being built during that period," said Fuller.

According to Fairfax County's "Economic Indicators" report, the average newly constructed home in the county sold for more than \$1 million in 2007, compared to just over \$600,000 for a "pre-existing" Fairfax home at the same time.

"Land has gotten so expensive to buy that is hard to build a new home for less than \$600,000 or \$700,000," said Fuller.

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S** real estate market has started to rebound over the last few months, according to Fuller, who has been studying housing market trends in the region for years.

Historically, Northern Virginia home values have appreciated at a rate of 7 percent per year. During 2008 and the first half of 2009, however, the average sales price for a home in Virginia plummeted, sometimes by as much as 30 percent from one month to the next.

Yet, in the last four months of 2009, the growth in home values had turned a corner and returned to an average appreciation rate of seven percent annually, Fuller said. In the first few months of 2010, Fairfax homes were appreciating at a rate even faster than seven percent, said Fuller.

"The market has come back much faster than I expected," he said.

Northern Virginia is poised to recover more quickly from the housing downturn than other parts of the country, in part because of its unusually strong economy, said Fuller.

At 6.9 percent, the Washington region has the lowest unemployment rate of the 15 largest job markets in the United States. Fairfax and Arlington, which have unemployment rates of 4.6 percent and 4 percent respectively, have even stronger economies.

**IN SPITE OF** the rebound, homebuyers are not necessarily behaving the way that they had in 2006 and 2007. Even as the market picks up, sales data shows that prospective buyers appear far more interested in buying a modest house than they were before.

In Fairfax, the number of sales of pre-owned single-family homes and condominiums has increased significantly since 2008, almost reaching 2007 levels. Sales of brand new townhouses are also up, though not nearly as high as in 2007.

The sales of brand new single-family homes, which cost an average of \$270,000 more than a previously-owned house in 2009 and tend to be much larger, still lag behind.

Fuller said that more first-time home buyers, people who don't own property already, are in the



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

**Fairfax County saw the construction of thousands of high-priced single family homes, like these in the Springfield area, during the last decade.**

marketplace than there have been in recent years. These buyers tend to be younger and either can't afford or don't have a need for larger houses with big yards and more than three bedrooms.

Younger people are also more interested in being closer to work and in pedestrian-friendly communities near transit, said Fuller. Newly constructed housing tends to be where land is cheap, farther from job centers and urban areas, and therefore less appealing to some young people.

"New homes tend to be farther out and younger people are looking at used housing that's closer in," he said.

The habits of these new buyers may offer one reason why Arlington and the City of Alexandria have fared better in current housing downturn than their suburban neighbors. When Fairfax saw a double-digit percentage drop in the value of single-family homes last year, Arlington saw a decline of less than five percent in the same type of real estate.

Aside from being transit friendly, Arlington and Alexandria have more condominiums and other more modestly priced housing. The localities also have fewer of the large, newly constructed homes that would act as a drag on other markets, said Fuller.

**BUT FAIRFAX** residents who may have bought property — even a large, newly constructed house — at the height of the real estate boom should rest easy, according to Fuller.

Fuller said he expects a Fairfax house that has lost approximately 20 percent of its value to regain its worth in approximately three years.

"Fairfax houses will gain more value. Even retirees should not sell for a few years so they can get their money back," said Fuller.

Fairfax is more suburban and may not fit the traditional model of an urban community like Arlington or Alexandria but it is also the largest job center in the Washington, D.C. region. Local residents, including younger people, will continue to want to live in Fairfax, not only for the excellent public schools and amenities, but also to be close to work, said Fuller.

Fairfax is also the only regional locality with two major transportation projects under construction, the "high occupancy toll" [HOT] lanes on the Capital Beltway and a new Metro line, which will continue to make it attractive, he added.

**"The market has come back much faster than I expected."**

— **Stephen Fuller, Center for Regional Analysis, George Mason University**

## OPEN HOUSES SAT./SUN. APRIL 10 & 11



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5132 Pleasant Forest Drive.....\$1,293,000. Sat 1-4..... Bob Scherbarth.....Century 21.....703-477-1043  
5132 Pleasant Forest Drive.....\$1,293,000. Sun 1-4..... Ed Duggan.....Century 21.....703-989-7735  
5433 SEQUOIA FARMS DR.....\$415,000.....Sun 1-4..... Maria Leightley.....Long & Foster.....(703) 631-3200  
12930 COLT DRIVE DR.....\$989,000.....Sun 1-4..... Lisa Clayborne.....Long & Foster.....(703) 631-3200

### Chantilly

4356 SILAS HUTCHINSON DR.....\$434,900.....Sat 1-4..... James Vertrees.....Keller William.....(703) 815-5700

### Fairfax

2985 CARIBBEAN CT.....\$829,500.....Sun 1-4..... Mary McGarvey.....Long & Foster.....(703) 938-4200  
10725 Norman Ave.....\$529,000.....Sat/Sun. 1-4..... Ron Fowler.....Weichert.....703-598-0511  
3886 Waythorn Place.....\$429,900.....Sun 1-4..... Helaine Newman.....Weichert.....(703)402-3134  
4032 Fairfax Center Hunt Trail.....\$495,900.....Sun 1-4..... Diana LeFrancois.....Century 21.....703-930-6682  
4636 VILLAGE DR.....\$1,149,000.....Sat 2-5..... Lisa Moffett.....Coldwell Banker.....(703) 938-5600  
3608 DEVILWOOD CT.....\$527,500.....Sun 1-3..... Donna Stoll.....ERA Teachers.....(703) 742-6900  
12542 CERROMAR PL.....\$750,000.....Sun 2-4..... Steven Wylder.....Long & Foster.....(703) 873-5020  
4169 LEGATO RD.....\$650,000.....Sun 1-3..... Sonia Gallegos.....Arbour Realty.....(703) 536-5547

### Herndon/Oak Hill

12711 Taustin Lane.....\$350,000.....Sun 2-4..... Scott Koval.....Samson Properties.....703-625-3446  
1403 Skyhaven Ct.....\$407,750.....Sat 1-4..... Mark Wilson.....Long & Foster.....703-306-1934  
13053 Park Crescent Circle.....\$434,900.....Sun 1-4..... Ronald Layton.....Remax.....703-625-5586  
2101 Capstone Circle.....\$439,900.....Sun 1-4..... Ronald Layton.....Remax.....703-625-5586  
355 Woodgrove Ct.....\$610,000.....Sun 1-4..... Laurie Mensing.....Long & Foster.....703-873-5793  
1069 Cedar Chase Ct.....\$1,045,000.....Sun 1-4..... Dale Repshas.....Long & Foster.....703-408-2626  
12713 Ox Meadow Dr.....\$1,185,000.....Sun 1-5..... Carolina Hurtado.....Weichert.....(703) 309-6051

### Leesburg

713 Longfellow Drive NE.....\$349,900.....Sat 1-4..... Dorian Ritchie.....Century 21.....571-299-9793

### Reston

1556 Northgate Square #21B.....\$209,900.....Sun 2-5..... Virginia Lung.....Century 21.....703-582-9756  
11557 Rolling Green Ct.....\$258,000.....Sun 1-4..... Marck Conrad.....EVenture LLC.....703-774-7843  
2262 Gunsmith Square.....\$319,850.....Sun 1-4..... Karen Kidwell.....Long & Foster.....703-216-7437  
11506 Hearthstone Ct.....\$399,000.....Sun 1-4..... Victoria Robertson.....Coldwell Banker.....703-867-0271  
12000 Market St #274.....\$434,000.....Sun 1-4..... Ann Hogan.....Weichert.....571-216-9614  
12332 Coleraine Ct.....\$439,990.....Sun 1-4..... Angela Bennett.....Samson.....703-851-3867  
11532 Sunder Ct.....\$469,500.....Sat 1-4..... Joyce Braithwood.....ERA Teachers.....703-501-2426  
11738 Great Owl Circle.....\$479,000.....Sun 1-4..... Trudy Severa.....Long & Foster.....703-668-1819  
11418 Summer House Court.....\$514,999.....Sun 1-4..... Mark Wilson.....Long & Foster.....703-307-1934  
2408 Andorra Place.....\$515,000.....Sun 1-4..... Valerie Smallwood.....Century 21 Spring.....202-468-1869  
11467 Washington Plaza West.....\$545,000.....Sun 1-4..... Mary O'Brien.....Coldwell Banker.....703-471-7220  
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11616 Springhouse Place.....\$689,000.....Sun 1-4..... Carol Jackson.....Long & Foster.....703-759-9190  
11613 Bromley Village Ln.....\$699,453.....Sun 1-4..... Chrisopher Pezzana.....Weichert.....703-447-1662  
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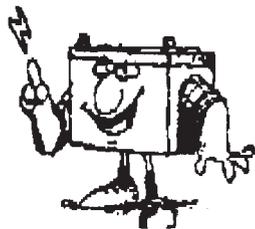
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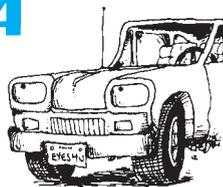
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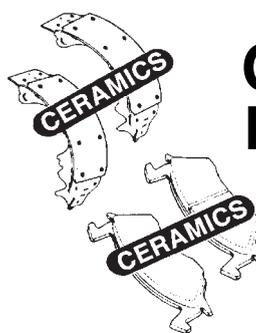
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