

# CENTRE VIEW

SOUTHERN EDITION



**"This is the cream of the crop,"** says Master Police Officer Annie Mack-Evans. MPO Mack-Evans is with Fairfax County Police Department's recruiting division.



**Police Officer First Class Richard Cash (left), an instructor at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice academy observes Nick Rebovich, a junior at Chantilly High School and Fairfax resident, move a 150 lb. "victim" out of harm's way. Below, Centreville High School Sophomore Dani Williams.**



## Tough Enough? Observant Enough?

The Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy hosted the 4th annual High School Criminal Justice Academy Competition Day on Monday, May 3.

First year Criminal Justice students from Fairfax County's High School Academies came together to demonstrate their mental and physical acuity in a challenging — but friendly — competition.

Students ran through an agility course that mimics the one that police academy cadets must successfully compete during their training. They processed mock crime scenes and were judged on their thoroughness and attention to detail. At the end, students connected with representatives from different components of Fairfax County's public safety community.



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

**Police Officer First Class Shannon Briney, a police officer/paramedic, describes the nature of her work to Taylor Christie (far left), a sophomore at Westfield High School, and Stephanie White (middle), a junior at Westfield High School.**

## Work Center for Day Laborers?

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

The Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF) continues to investigate the possibility of a worker center in Centreville for the local day laborers. Now the members are discussing the finer points of what it should offer and how it should operate.

A.J. Dwoskin, who owns most of the Centreville Square Shopping Center, has said he'd provide a trailer for this purpose on property he owns, behind the shopping center. It would not only be a place where employers could go to hire workers, but could also serve as a center where the day laborers could receive English classes, as well as information about services available to them.

Dwoskin would set it up and pay for utilities, but he's asked the CIF to head the daily operation. It would provide volunteer staff

### Frey To Host Meeting June 1

Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) will host a public meeting, Tuesday, June 1, at 7 p.m., to discuss the possibility of having a worker center in Centreville for day laborers. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria of Centre Ridge Elementary, 14400 New Braddock Road, in Centreville.

The owner of the Centreville Square Shopping Center has proposed locating a trailer behind the shopping center so the day laborers currently gathering for work outside the library would, instead, gather at this trailer to obtain jobs. Representatives of this shopping center and Centreville Plaza will attend, and community members are welcome to give their input and participate in the discussion. For more information, call 703-814-7100.

members and determine how best to use them. First, though, said CIF leader Alice Foltz, the CIF should

SEE CENTER, PAGE 5

## Westfield Grad Will Be Biking and Building

Cross-country trip is fund-raiser for affordable housing.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Summertime for college students is usually filled with sunshine and relaxation and, normally, 2007 Westfield High grad Cameron Blake spends his by the pool, coaching Sully Station's swim team.

This year, though, he'll still get plenty of sunshine, but not much chance to chill. Instead, he'll be on a 3,863-mile, cross-country bike trip to raise money for affordable housing efforts. And when he's not pedaling, he'll be building homes.

Currently a junior at UVA, Blake, 21, is majoring in systems engi  
SEE WESTFIELD GRAD, PAGE 13

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## NEWS



RICHARD BRAUN

### Braun House

Homeowners Jane Elizabeth and Richard Braun bought their land in 2004, and along with it came a two-story log cabin that may have belonged to George Washington's half-brother. It's now a guesthouse, and the main residence is a Georgian brick house. The large, country kitchen has just been renovated — but with elements such as beams from old barns and hammered-copper sinks — to give it historic character.

Art and antiques adorn this home on Robey's Meadow Lane. A 17th-century carving from a church in Spain hangs above the fireplace, and a 200-year-old French chandelier lights the dining room. Outdoors are bridges, waterfalls, a pool and tennis court.



BETTY BOSANKO

### Cranston Home

Retired Air Force General Stewart Cranston and wife Peggy designed and built their Cape Cod-style home in 2003. Displays inside include memorabilia from Stewart's career as a test pilot, plus a collection of Civil War sabers. He also hand-made two mantles from oak and walnut trees on their property.

Peggy, an artist, decorated the home with her watercolor and oil paintings and even painted a mural of the Tuscan countryside in their wine closet. She also created the home's elegant and unique drapery treatments. During the tour of their house, visitors may see Stewart's workroom and Peggy's art studio.

## Four Houses and a Garden

### Annual Clifton Homes Tour is May 20.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

Antiques, folk-art carvings, a collection of Civil War sabers and a peaceful, colorful garden — all these things and more await visitors to the 38th Annual Clifton Homes Tour and Marketplace.

Presented by the Clifton Community Woman's Club, it'll be held Thursday, May 20, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 on tour day; single home admission is \$10.

"We have a nice selection and variety of homes," said Homes Tour Chairman Linda Beckman. "There's also a wonderful silent auction and a marketplace with vendors."

Marketplace activities include an art show and sale, silent auction and boutique which run from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. The boutique features fiber-art necklaces and scarves, clothing, glassware, designer jewelry, chocolates, herb mixes and clothing accessories.

The art show is in the fellowship hall of Clifton Presbyterian Church and features the work of local artists. There's also a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate for a local restaurant.

At the Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, people may browse and bid on a variety of silent-auction items such as theater tickets, themed baskets and gift certificates from area merchants, and purchase gifts from vendors at the boutiques. Admission is free to the activities at the church and town hall. For more information, see [www.cliftoncwc.org](http://www.cliftoncwc.org) or call contact Linda Beckman at 703-266-0213.

The event is the woman's club's primary fundraiser. "All the net proceeds go to our Charitable Trust Fund, which supports local charities," said Beckman. "We give college scholarships and help support food banks and places such as the Kate Hanley Family Shelter and the Bethany Shelter for abused family members."

That's why she's hoping for a good turnout. Said Beckman: "Come and enjoy the day, bring friends, support the community and local charities and fall in love with our, little town."

SEE CLIFTON HOMES TOUR, PAGE 5



GINNY AX

### Britt House

This home on Tiffany Court is a reproduction of Hope Plantation — a North Carolina manor house built in the 18th century by that state's governor for his young bride, Hope. Adorning the exterior are Chippendale banisters and a traditional widow's walk.

Inside are period, architectural details in every room, such as wide arches, high transoms and a curved staircase. The living room is done in a deep blue, and highlighting the formal dining room is garnet, damask wallpaper and paneled wainscoting.



GINNY AX

### Posner Home

The Main Street home of Arlene and Paul Posner was the birthplace of two, Hollywood movies. In 1962, William Barrett wrote the book, "Lilies of the Field" there; and years later, Jeff Arch wrote the story which became "Sleepless in Seattle." At Arch's request, the poster for this movie still hangs on a wall in the family room.

Clifton's first mayor, Robert Buckley, built this house for his bride in 1896. A later owner enlarged it by adding back stairs to the master bedroom, plus the current kitchen with fireplace and cabinets with cherry-blossom carvings. Also adorning the home are fanciful and whimsical folk-art carvings.

## Chantilly Gas Station Robbed

Fairfax County police are looking for the person who robbed the Shell gas station, 13704 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly. The incident occurred Saturday, May 1, around 1:40 a.m. Police say a man entered the station's convenience store, approached the clerk, grabbed him, brandished a knife and demanded money. The robber then fled with money and cigarettes; no one was injured.



**Suspect**

The suspect was described as black, 35-40, around 6 feet 3 inches and 200-220 pounds. He wore a light-green, waist-length, hooded raincoat, long white T-shirt and blue jeans. Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

## Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, May 20, 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.

## Lyme Disease Town Meeting

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) will host a town meeting on Lyme disease, along with special guest, Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11th), Saturday, May 15, at 10 a.m., at the Government Center. A panel of experts will present information and answer questions.

## Seminar on Disabilities Act

Breaking Down Barriers is a free seminar on the updated, Americans with Disabilities Act and other employment-related laws affecting persons with disabilities. It will be held Monday, May 17, from 9 a.m.- noon, at the Fairfax County Government Center.

The Fairfax County Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs (OHREP) is hosting it in partnership with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission - Washington Field Office (EEOC) and the ENDependence Center of Northern Virginia.

The seminar will feature an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, an overview of the new Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act of 2008, plus information on filing a complaint and navigating the EEOC and OHREP investigative processes. There'll also be a question-and-answer session.

Obtain information on the rights of persons with disabilities and the responsibilities of employers. Service providers, nonprofit organizations, employers, advocacy groups and individuals interested in the rights of persons with disabilities are encouraged to attend.

Further information and registration is available by contacting Nicole Rawlings at 703-324-2953, TTY 703-324-2900.

## WFCCA Land-Use Meeting

The West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee will meet Tuesday, May 18, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly. Fairfax County staff will present a rezoning for a property in the Centreville Historic District.

SEE ROUNDUP, PAGE 12

# Profile of a Police Commander

## Capt. John Piper heads the Sully District Station.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
CENTRE VIEW

**C**apt. John Piper is the commander of the Sully District Police Station and, with his family background, it's no surprise he chose law enforcement as a career.

"My father retired in 1991 from the [Washington], D.C. Police Department, after 21 years," said Piper. "So I knew, early on, what I wanted to do."

Born and raised in Dale City, Piper, 37, took over the reins at Sully in early December. Former station commander, Capt. Cindy McAlister, was promoted to major and became director of the Criminal Justice Academy.

Piper began his career as a patrol officer at the Mount Vernon station in 1994. After four years, he transferred to the Organized Crime and Narcotics Division and later became a detective on the Regional DEA Task Force.

"We worked on the bigger cases dealing with large distributions of drugs — often involving other counties, states and countries," said Piper. "They were prosecuted in federal court, so that was an awesome experience for me, as a young officer, seeing another side of the law."

Only one of his cases went to trial, he said, because the sentencing guidelines were so high that most of the defendants instead pleaded guilty. "One case involved three brothers selling large amounts of crack cocaine out of Prince William/Manassas," he recalled. "In the end, they got sentences ranging from 10-27 years in federal prison. It stuck out because I empathized with the mother whose three children were going to prison."

Piper worked in narcotics for three years total before returning to Mount Vernon. Then came a promotion and a transfer to the Mason station, where he was a patrol sergeant on midnight and evening shifts during a particularly stressful time.

"I was there while we lived under the cloud of the sniper shootings," he said. "The officers did lots of preparation and planning for a response if he struck here. Our officers had to provide more coverage on the streets and do longer shifts."



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

**Police Capt. John Piper is the commander of the Sully District Station.**

Another thing Piper remembers from his year there was how diverse that area was, particularly Culmore. "We were really immersed in the Hispanic population, so I learned a lot from that experience, such as how to get basic information from them in Spanish.Ó

**THEN, PROMOTED** to second lieutenant, he spent the next 3 1/2 years at the McLean station in

**"Different demands constantly pull at you."**

**— Police Capt. John Piper, commander, Sully District Station**

charge of the Neighborhood Patrol Unit — the police bike team. "It was probably one of the best jobs I've had in the department,Ó he said. "You could get outside in nice weather and it was a great tool for dealing with the community. It was great exercise, too.Ó

Furthermore, Piper also headed that station's Christmas Anti-Theft Team, working mostly at the Tysons Corner I mall. "We had a lot of great cases there and seized lots of stolen cars and guns," he said. "From the day after Thanksgiving to the first week in January, we seized well over \$100,000 of merchandise stolen from the mall."

"People would come from as far as Baltimore and D.C. to steal," he continued. "For example, they'd steal something in Baltimore, try returning it in Tysons and then use the [refund] money to support a

drug habit or other vice."

Piper became a first lieutenant in August 2008 and was assigned to the police department's Dispatch Center. "I was a police liaison commander working with the duty officer in the field, and we'd both make operational decisions for the entire police department," he said. "For example, in a barricade situation, you'd notify up the chain of command. If it was after hours, you'd call out people from CIB [Criminal Investigations Bureau] to come to a crime scene. You were also a resource for the patrol supervisors when their commanders were home."

After a year there, Piper spent nine months as the Sully District Station's assistant commander under Capt. McAlister. "It was my first experience in station command, and I enjoyed being out in patrol and interacting with officers and the community," he said. "It was a year after the police shootings here [in May 2006], and I saw how supportive the community, homeowners associations and citizens were of the police department."

Afterward, Piper worked briefly in the police chief's office before joining the Criminal Intelligence Division to handle cases involving narcotics, stolen property, organized crime groups and gangs. Included was a year-long investigation in Annandale regarding stolen property, untaxed cigarettes, money laundering and illegal firearms. Said Piper: "We ended up arresting 40 people."

SEE PROFILE, PAGE 12

FROM PAGE 1

become a nonprofit organization so it can apply for grants and receive donations to help with this project.

“The Virginia Organizing Project helps small, nonprofits get started,” she told the three dozen people attending the April 27 CIF meeting. “This is the best idea I’ve heard for a way to get started quickly.”

Regarding the center, itself, Bill Threlkeld — who ran the day labor center in Herndon for Reston Interfaith — advised the CIF to “talk to agencies who’ve been involved in working with [such] centers.”

**THE TRAILER** would be a 64x14, modular office with two rooms plus a bathroom. Foltz said Dwoskin’s looking into possibly obtaining a discarded unit from the school system or another entity. She also said Dwoskin wants to know whether the laborers would be willing to go to the center, instead of gathering outside the Centreville Regional Library, as they do now.

Similarly, Centre Ridge resident Jim Katcham asked, “Will the people hiring the workers find it convenient and accessible to park, get out of their vehicles, go in and sign up to hire someone?”

“We want this to be done fairly, so that employers who hire them would pay them for their work,” replied Foltz. “This would discourage them from not paying them.”

Some of Centreville’s day laborers attended the meeting and, at Foltz’s request and via translators, they gave their own thoughts on the matter. A man named Alejandro thanked everyone for “trying to make our lives better, without asking anything in return. I hope you’ll always help immigrants; God bless you.” He said he thought the workers would use the center “so the local residents wouldn’t think badly of us and we could earn more.”

A worker named Jacinto said there are many day laborers in Centreville and they’re “thankful for this. A worker center would be much more desirable than the corner, because of the cold in the winter, and it would be safer and more secure for us.”

Another laborer, Domingo, expressed appreciation for the work the CIF is doing for him and the others. He said he was praying for the center to become a reality “so it can actually work.” He also said the CIF would someday be rewarded for all the good deeds it’s doing.

Domingo said only a handful of day laborers were present at that

SEE FORUM, PAGE 7

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# Clifton Homes Tour

FROM PAGE 2

Homes tour tickets are available at The Clifton Store and Cottage Art, in the Town of Clifton; Adler's Art & Frame, in the Colonnade Shopping Center; Judy Ryan, in the Twinbrooke Shopping Center in Fairfax; Banner's Hallmark in the Centreville Plaza in Centreville; and Five Star Hair, The Picket Fence and Yarn Barn in Burke.

Tickets may also be purchased on tour day, at any of the tour homes, or at the town hall at 12641 Chapel Road in Clifton. Or order them by mailing a check or money order payable to CCWC to: Clifton Community Woman's Club, P. O. Box 229, Clifton, VA 20124. Include a phone number or e-mail address to receive verification of receipt. Tickets will be held for pick-up at the town hall on tour day.



DICK NANTO

## Nanto Garden

Mosako and Dick Nanto live on Wycklow Drive, and their manicured, formal garden is the first garden to ever be part of the homes tour. The idea for it germinated 10 years ago, when Dick Nanto was considering buying his wife a dozen roses. But to give her a more lasting gift, he instead planted rose bushes.

Their garden blossomed from there, and their 2-acre lot is similar to an English, country garden. And within this garden are other, special touches, such as a Japanese garden — complete with koi fish swimming in a pond. There's also a rose garden, rainfall pond and vegetable garden. Whimsical decorations tucked throughout the garden add to its charm.

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CENTRE VIEW SOUTH ♦ MAY 13-19, 2010 ♦ 5

## 'Let us Hear that Concern'

Citizens have a right to know the details of crimes in their neighborhoods and activities of police.

The first paragraph of Virginia Freedom of Information Act, passed by the General Assembly in the 1968, states that all public records "shall be presumed open."

But the legislation includes an exception that allows police to withhold some information.

Police officials in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria have adopted what they call a "blanket" approach to using their exemption. That means they have decided to withhold any information and document they can.

The actual reports filed by police officers about any incident, available to the public and the press in almost every jurisdiction in America, are never released in Northern Virginia.

Leaders in Northern Virginia's police departments continue to assert that most people aren't don't care about the level of secrecy employed by police.

"Let us hear that concern," said a Fairfax County police spokesperson. "We are not hearing it from anybody except the media, except individual reporters."

"I don't think we have to justify it," said Alexandria Police Chief Earl Cook.

It's time to let them hear the concern, and

tell them that they do have to justify decisions to withhold public information. Contact your chief of police, along with your state and local elected officials. We'd appreciate receiving a copy of any letter you send.

Police should move to make as much information open to the public as possible. Should they have the right to redact some information, for example, the name of an undercover officer? Certainly. But withholding information should be a rare exception, not a blanket policy.

### EDITORIAL

But the process of repressing critical information undermines the contract of trust between police and community, like the name of the shooter and exact details when police shoot and kill an unarmed civilian, as in the case of David Masters.

"Citizens truly do have a right to know the details of crimes in their neighborhoods, not summary information the police choose to release," wrote Ryan Donmoyer in a letter to the Alexandria Gazette Packet. "And the press plays a pivotal role in the unfettered dissemination of such essential information."

We continue to be grateful for the service, presence, expertise and judgment of the police officers patrolling our neighborhoods. The misguided decision to abuse the ability to with-

### See for Yourself

Police departments include a wealth of information online, from statistics to the locations of some incidents. But the information is exactly what police choose to release. Each site includes some disclaimer like this one from the Alexandria Police website: "Detailed information from crime reports, such as victim names, specific addresses, and motive, may be confidential and may not be available to members of the public."

### FAIRFAX COUNTY

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/crime/>, and click on mapping or incident reports.

### Get Involved: More Online

For contact information for elected officials, sample Freedom of Information Request letters with contact addresses, and related coverage, see [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com).

Fairfax County Chief of Police, Colonel David M. Rohrer, 4100 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, 703-246-2195

hold every piece of information possible comes from the leadership level. The police officers you come into contact with in your daily activities are not at fault here.

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## Chantilly Academy Competes in AFJROTC Competition



The Chantilly Academy AFJROTC competed on the Virginia State AFJROTC Drill Team and Color Guard Competition in Richmond on April 24. There were 25 schools from all across the state competing. The Chantilly Academy cadets came in second place in the state in Color Guard and Unarmed Drill Team. They placed in more than 15 events in competitions in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina.

### Color Guard Team Members

Isa Abutaa - Chantilly  
Samer Abdallah - Centreville  
William Daybell - Chantilly  
Kevin Sander - Chantilly  
Drill Team Members  
Isa Abutaa - Chantilly  
Samer Abdallah - Centreville  
William Daybell - Chantilly  
Marina Garay - Fairfax  
Joshua Koters - Centreville  
Joshua Langland - Chantilly  
Moo Jin Lee - Fairfax  
Golf Nopnirun - Chantilly  
Radha Rampersad - Chantilly  
Kevin Sander - Chantilly  
Huy Tran - Westfield

# Forum Mulls Worker Center Proposal

FROM PAGE 5

evening's meeting. "There are so many that are scared to come here," he said. "They don't know what's going on, and I'll try to spread the word among them. I thank God for anyone doing anything to try to help immigrants."

**THRELKELD SAID** homeowners often want to hire the workers for yard work, painting, etc., especially in the summer, but feel "intimidated" to approach laborers standing on the corner. But, he said, "When word gets out that the worker center is a hospitable place to hire day laborers, people will go there." He said the center would also provide a way for employers and workers to find each other again.

"Employers would have to give their name, their company's name and address, phone number and license-plate number, and the particulars about the type of work they need done," said Threlkeld. "You also need to attach a many incentives to the center, as possible. For example, it could offer English lessons and information referrals. It should also be a place for workers to meet safely, without fear – like in the square in their home towns – and socialize, plan soccer games, etc."

"We don't know if they have papers, or not, because that's reality," added Edgar Aranda, an advocate with the Legal Aid Justice Center in Falls Church. "The only thing we care about is that each person gets justice. We care about these human beings who've been looking for work on the corner."

Foltz stressed that the CIF has not taken a position on immigration reform, itself. "It's a huge, federal question, and we're providing a local response to the fact that immigration reform hasn't happened at the local level," she said.

Immigration attorney Lisa Johnson worried that, "If employers had to give their own information, it might deter them from using the center." But, replied Foltz, "That's the risk we'll have to take."

"You have to establish something," said Clifton's O.G. Harper. "Set up the rules and then deal with problems as they come."

"Definitely, it's a deterrent to some employers, so you have to educate them about the rules and the law," said Threlkeld. He also noted that "if you're hiring irregular, domestic labor, it doesn't require someone filling out an I-9 tax form."

**AS THE MEETING** went on, about a dozen more day laborers arrived, and Esteban Garces of Tenants and Workers United noted their presence and their earlier words. Said Garces: "The participation of the immigrant community here means they're interested in this center." And Kitty Stapleton, with Centreville United Methodist Church, said she'd make a list of what the workers would like to see in the facility.

Those attending the meeting then broke into groups to discuss specific issues relating to the worker center. One group dealt with its operation. With input from the laborers, the members suggested that it be open weekdays from 5:30 or 6 a.m.-noon; and weekends, from 7 a.m.-noon or 1 p.m. Threlkeld recommended that staff remain there, after hours, to answer phones.

Stapleton asked the laborers how they'd like to be matched up to employers, and they said it should be done according to the names of the workers and the



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

**Day laborer Jacinto, left, addresses the Centreville Immigration Forum while O.G. Harper of Clifton translates his words.**

types of work they're able to do, such as painting, construction, carpentry, landscaping, etc. Workers should also list how many years experience they have and what hours they can work.

"What is a fair way to choose if, for example, someone needs three plasterers and five are available?" asked Stapleton. "By experience," answered the workers.

"Then how would the less-experienced people get work?" wondered Stapleton. "The center would have to monitor that. Also, if a worker has worked for someone previously, and they were pleased, then that employer could request them, by name."

At Herndon's center, said Threlkeld, if certain people didn't work much during the week, they could be chosen first on Saturdays, when there's often the most work. But he said laborers here would have to choose the system that's the most just for them.

Claudia Escobar of Clifton suggested that employers could also call in and say, for instance, "In three days, I'll need workers to do certain jobs," so there could be a database.

Threlkeld said the laborers could be given a colored ticket as they arrived at the center. One half would go into their pockets, and the other half, into a bowl – and employers could select from there. "You could also have different-colored tickets in corresponding bowls, according to who spoke English and who didn't," he said. "This would be for general laborers."

He said the colored-ticket idea could also be used for workers with specialized skills, such as electricians and painters. "The workers would put their tickets in an empty bowl and the employer would choose from there," said Threlkeld. "The workers would have to be honest about their skills and experience, or it would be harmful for all the workers in the future."

Stapleton suggested the workers could attend English classes while they waited for jobs; she also asked if women would come to the center, too. The female laborers at the meeting said they could clean houses, wash cars and do cooking, laundry and gardening.

As a result, Escobar said, "This [center] needs to be geared toward women, too. I think it's crucial."

**"Set up the rules and then deal with problems as they come."**

— O.G. Harper

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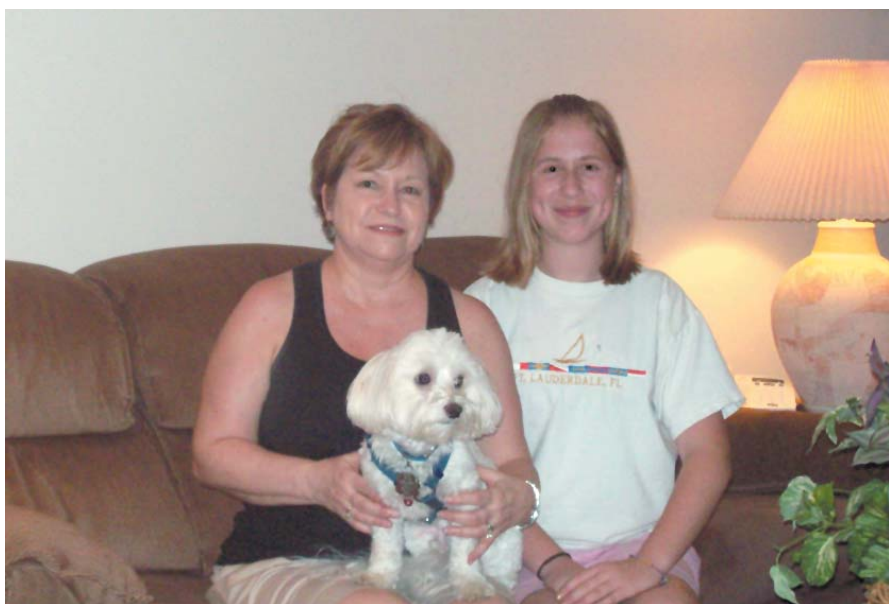


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## Profile in Real Estate- Ron Fowler

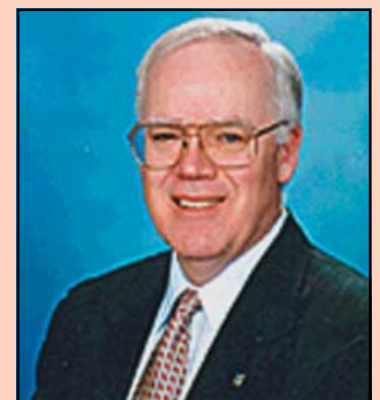
I grew up in Houston, Texas, finishing high school there before going on to college at the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY. I graduated from Kings Point with a 3rd Mate's license and a commission as an Ensign in the US Naval Reserve. I also hold a Masters Degree in Business Administration from New York University. I am the husband of Barbara Fowler who I met while still a cadet at the Academy and am the father of 11 children (6 girls and 5 boys). Barbara was born in Jackson Heights, NY and attended high school in Valley Stream, NY. I have been involved in the community as a volunteer soccer and basketball coach for youth teams and as a Scout Leader. Barbara is a busy housewife, mother and grandmother who watches 4 of our grandchildren and still finds time to volunteer, cooking meals for the homeless and preparing Easter gift packages for needy children.

I worked for 31 years for Mobil Oil Corporation, starting as a 3rd Mate on company tankers and progressing through various positions after coming ashore.

Mobil moved the family to Northern Virginia in 1984. We knew we had to have a large house and couldn't find what we were looking for on the resale market. We bought an acre lot in Fairfax City and had a house built to suit our needs. I have had extensive experience in negotiating large agreements on behalf of Mobil and will give you the benefit of my negotiation and contract skills. After an early retirement from Mobil, I obtained my real estate license and have been associated with Weichert Realtors ever since. I have mentored many new agents and have taught the Principals of Real Estate course which is required in order to obtain a Real Estate license in Virginia.

My enthusiasm and knowledge of the area make me effective when working with Buyers and Sellers. Integrity, professionalism, and dependability, combined with excellent listening and negotiation skills, make me a valuable person to have on your team.

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6065 DEER HILL	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$210,000	Townhouse	0.02	SUNSET RIDGE
13987 GUNNERS PL	2	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$210,000	Townhouse	0.03	SINGLETONS GROVE
5126B BRITTNEY ELYSE CIR #B	2	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$207,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.05	STONEGATE AT FAIRCREST
14004D WALTER BOWIE LN	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$205,000	Townhouse	0.05	SINGLETONS GROVE
14825 BASINGSTOKE LOOP	2	1	1		CENTREVILLE	\$204,000	Townhouse	0.03	LONDON TOWNE WEST
6324 GUN MOUNT CT	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$203,000	Townhouse	0.05	CENTRE RIDGE
14500 BLACK HORSE CT	3	2	2		CENTREVILLE	\$200,000	Townhouse	0.05	NEWGATE
5861 CLARENDON SPRINGS PL	2	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$190,000	Townhouse	0.04	LITTLE ROCKY RUN
14804 HANCOCK CT	3	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$189,900	Townhouse	0.03	LONDON TOWNE
6257 ASTRID CV	3	1	1		CENTREVILLE	\$187,900	Townhouse	0.04	LONDON TOWNE WEST
6026 SUNSET RIDGE CT	4	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$175,615	Townhouse	0.02	SUNSET RIDGE
14202 ROYAL OAK LN	3	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$175,000	Townhouse	0.03	HERITAGE CROSSING
6064 DEER HILL CT	2	1	1		CENTREVILLE	\$165,000	Townhouse	0.02	SUNSET RIDGE
14445 SAGUARO PL	3	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$160,000	Townhouse	0.02	THE MEADOWS
14451 SAINT GERMAIN DR	2	1	1		CENTREVILLE	\$155,000	Townhouse	0.02	THE MEADOWS
14557 GOLDEN OAK RD	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$155,000	Townhouse	0.02	THE MEADOWS
14465 GOLDEN OAK RD	3	2	1		CENTREVILLE	\$151,000	Townhouse	0.02	THE MEADOWS
6015 WEALDSTONE CT	4	2	0		CENTREVILLE	\$140,500	Townhouse	0.10	LONDON TOWNE
14305 CLIMBING ROSE WAY #102	1	1	0		CENTREVILLE	\$125,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.05	SANDERLING
6127 STRASBURG DR #6127	2	1	1		CENTREVILLE	\$119,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.05	THE MEADOWS
14383 SAGUARO PL	2	1	0		CENTREVILLE	\$113,000	Townhouse	0.02	THE MEADOWS

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## REAL ESTATE NOTES

**Karen Trainor, manager of Weichert, Realtors' Fair Oaks office,** announced it raised nearly \$1,500 during the first annual "Spring Fling."  
"We'd like to say thank you to the community for their generosity and wonderful donations," said Trainor. "As a company, we try to give back to the neighborhoods we serve and we hope next year's event will be as great a success as this year's."

Residents from around the area were invited to do some "spring cleaning" and donate clothes, furniture, books and house wares to the event. Subsequently, the items were sold at the Spring Fling event at the office on Saturday May 1 with the proceeds going to benefit the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter.

Any items that were left unsold were donated to the Salvation Army.

**Jeffrey S. Detwiler,** president and chief operating officer of The Long & Foster Companies, announced the appointment of **Thomas Teeple** as president of the Walker Jackson Mortgage Corporation. Walker Jackson is part of The Long & Foster Companies, which also includes Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc., the largest independently owned residential real estate company in the United States; Prosperity Mortgage Company; Long & Foster Insurance Agency, Inc.; and Long & Foster Settlement Services.

Teeple brings more than 20 years of management experience in financial

services, mortgage banking, and managed infrastructure companies.

**Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.** is joining forces with the National Association of Realtors by participating in the National Open House Weekend on April 10-11. With the federal homebuyers tax credit expiring April 30, the open house weekend will provide an opportunity for homebuyers to take advantage of historic home buying opportunities.

To make it even easier for potential buyers, loan officers with Prosperity Mortgage Company will be on site at as many Long & Foster open house locations as possible to answer questions and pre-qualify interested buyers.

# OPEN HOUSES

## SAT./SUN. MAY 15 & 16



**11705 Amkin Drive, Clifton • \$850,000 • Open Saturday 1-4**  
**Courtney Sebastian, Jobin Realty, 703 932 0654**

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

**Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.**

Centreville			
5283 ELLICOTT DR	\$545,000	Sun 1-4	Kim House Long & Foster (703) 961-7102
15343 JORDANS JOURNEY DR	\$649,900	Sun 1-4	Marianne McKittrick RE/MAX (703) 444-3111
6606 McCambell Cluster	\$669,000	Sun 1-4	Spencer Marker Long & Foster 703-830-6123
6269 WELTON DRIVE	\$675,000	Sun 1-4	Helaine Newman Weichert (703) 216-6730
5132 Pleasant Forest Drive	\$1,293,000	Sun 1-4	Denene Crabbs Century 21 202-487-4949

Chantilly			
4531 CUB RUN RD	\$365,000	Sun 1-4	Kathy O'Neal RE/MAX (703) 802-2850
43580 Majestic Prince Place	\$615,000	Sun 1-4	Casey Samson Samson Properties 703-508-2535

Clifton			
11705 Amkin Drive	\$850,000	Sat 1-4	Courtney Sebastian Jobin Realty 703 932 0654
6801 Tepper Dr	\$899,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Hermandorfer Long & Foster 703-503-1812

Fairfax			
3907 Golf Tee Terrace #201	\$249,900	Sun 1-4	Kristine Price Samson Properties 703-328-1025
12102 GREEN LEAF CT #102	\$249,999	Sun 2-4	Pat Stack Weichert (703) 597-9373
3801 RIDGE KNOLL CT #8A	\$257,000	Sun 1-4	Pat Stack Weichert (703) 597-9373
11784 ROCKAWAY LN #62	\$349,500	Sat 2-5	Aliko Mwaisela Prosperity (703) 863-9218
3906 Green Look Ct	\$478,000	Sun 1-4	Diane Lenahan Keller Williams 703-283-7328
3900 GREEN LOOK CT	\$479,000	Sun 1-4	Pat Stack Weichert (703) 597-9373
4023 Werthers Court	\$479,900	Sun 1-4	Spencer Marker Long & Foster 703-830-6123
10725 Norman Ave	\$500,000	Sun 1-4	Ron Fowler Weichert (703) 691-0555
10694 JOHN AYRES DR	\$540,900	Sun 1-4	Barbara Voorheis Weichert (703) 938-6070
12302 CANNONBALL RD	\$629,000	Sun 2-4	Donna Stoll ERA (703) 742-6900
13050 Blackbird Pl	\$689,000	Sun 1-4	Charles Jackson Weichert (703) 863-9957
3522 LAUREL LEAF LN	\$1,125,000	Sun 1-4	Carolyn Wilson Long & Foster (800) 603-7341
4636 VILLAGE DR	\$1,149,000	Sun 1-4	Lisa Moffett Coldwell Banker (703) 938-5600

Oak Hill/Herndon			
2527 James Monroe Cir	\$428,752	Sun 1-4	Gomathi Nagaraj Mantram Realty 703-731-7879
12803 KETTERING DR	\$474,900	Sun 1-4	Lisa Mead Weichert (703) 934-0400
12713 OX MEADOW DR	\$1,185,000	Sun 11-4	Carolina Hurtado Weichert (703) 691-0555

Fairfax Station			
6006 Captain Marr Ct	\$625,000	Sun 1-4	Betty Barthle Long & Foster 703-425-4466
6096 Arrington Dr	\$659,000	Sun 2-4	Betty Barthle Long & Foster 703-425-4466
6542 Little Ox Rd	\$749,900	Sun 1-4	Debbie Mesean Weichert 703-201-7723
11508 Clara Barton Dr	\$750,000	Sun 1-4	Vicki Stottlemeyer Long & Foster 703-873-5111
7407 South Reach Dr	\$829,995	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli Weichert 703-862-8808
7951 Kelly Ann Ct	\$1,200,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Hermandorfer Long & Foster 703-503-1812
11107 Hampton Rd	\$1,890,000	Sun 1-4	Fran Rudd ERA 703-980-2572

Lorton			
11375 River Rd	\$1,197,000	Sun 1-5	Ngoc Do Long & Foster 703-495-6251

Burke			
6110 Wilmington Dr	\$399,999	Sun 1-4	Bill Mackenzie Weichert 571-309-7706
5216 Dunleigh Dr	\$589,000	Sun 1-4	Matthew Ingram Weichert 571-235-3257

Springfield			
5803-A Rexford Dr	\$210,000	Sun 1-4	Kathy Stark Weichert 703-201-9656
5428 Donnelly Ct	\$320,000	Sun 12-3	Cristina Botnari Belinsky 703-914-0400
6448 Blarney Stone Ct	\$359,900	Sun 1-4	Traci Rochon Keller Williams 703-562-1800
5953 Queenston St	\$375,000	Sun 1-4	Bruce & Tanya Tyburski RE/MAX 703-239-2525
8607 Langport Dr	\$429,900	Sun 1-4	Bruce & Tanya Tyburski RE/MAX 703-239-2525
7283 John Ryland Way	\$534,500	Sun 1-4	Sylvia Jurek Coldwell Banker 703-938-5600
7611 Paloma Ct	\$575,000	Sun 1-4	David Unterman Keller Williams 703-815-5700
6452 Summertown Ct	\$589,000	Sun 1-4	Hugo Romero Coldwell Banker 703-518-8300
7217 Calamo St	\$950,000	Sun 1-4	Lee Keitz Libra Realty 240-715-1528

**To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-Mail the info to [kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com) All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.**

# Profile of a Police Commander

FROM PAGE 3

**IN JANUARY 2009**, he was assigned to the CIB's Investigative Support Division at the new, public safety building on West Ox Road. "I loved it," he said. "I was the acting commander, and under that division were crime-scene investigations of major offenses such as shootings, commercial robberies and suicides, plus NOVARIS, the Northern Virginia Regional Identification System."

That system maintains a regional data base of latent fingerprints collected at crime scenes and, when people are arrested, their fingerprints are compared with those in NOVARIS to solve cases. Piper also oversaw computer forensics — which extracts information from computers for crimes such as distribution of child pornography — and electronic surveillance, helping detectives collect electronic evidence of various crimes.

Then in December 2009, Piper was promoted to captain and returned to Sully as the head honcho. "I was pleasantly surprised because not everybody is fortunate enough to get a station command, right off the bat," he said. "But I had a knowledge of the community, and both Cindy [McAlister] and her assistant were leaving, so I fit the bill."

So far, he's enjoyed it. "We're fortunate to have a good mix of senior and younger officers here — 109 sworn officers total," said Piper. "There's also such a great, supportive community that really appreciates what we're trying to do as a station."

Biggest problems here, he said, are speeding and aggressive driving on Routes 50, 28 and 29, and

quality-of-life crimes — vehicle break-ins resulting in the thefts of people's property, especially GPS devices, plus larcenies of tools from work vans.

"So we're going to take an aggressive approach to try to find these people and also educate the public to take steps to reduce these crimes," said Piper. "For example, people should park in well-lit areas, lock their cars and not leave the GPS on its stand."

In addition, he said, "The Centreville area is changing drastically, demographically. Not only do we have the Latinos and day laborers, but a huge increase in the Korean population. It brings unique challenges with both the language barrier and cultural differences."

Piper said police have found it difficult gaining the Koreans' trust because, "In Korea, there's often an inherent distrust of police. People don't like to call them for stuff they feel could be handled internally." However, it's helpful that two Korean-speaking officers are at his station.

With a wife and three, young children, he says the toughest part of his job is juggling work and home. "I've seen the amount of time I want to spend after hours at community meetings, special events, homeowners associations, festivals, etc.," he said. "And you want to be available to your family and to your officers on various shifts. Different demands constantly pull at you."

The most satisfaction, said Piper, comes from "knowing the community respects us and knows we have their best interests at heart, maintaining the officers' morale and keeping them challenged and enthusiastic about doing good police work."

## ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 3

When the county was creating the boundaries for the Historic District, a particular parcel was included. But the owners objected, sued the county to be removed and won. So now, the county will be rezoning their property out of the Historic District.

## Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices — such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous wastes — including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County's "Electric Sunday" events. The next one is slated for Sunday, May 23, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

## Sully District Council Meeting

The Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee will meet Wednesday, May 26, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call Jeff Parnes, evenings, at 703-904-0131. Several local legislators will give their Richmond Report on the recent, General Assembly session. Confirmed, so far, are Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37th) and Dels. Mark Keam (D-35th), Tim Hugo (R-40th), Jim LeMunyon (R-67th).

## Exchange Students Need Homes

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# Grad on Cross-country Fund-raiser

FROM PAGE 1

neering and minoring in engineering business, and he heard about the national Bike & Build program from college buddies who'd done it previously.

"Being a brother of the Delta Sigma Phi National Fraternity, I've learned the values of leadership, community, and service," he said. "This could be my last summer before entering the workforce as an engineer, and I can't think of any better way to spend my summer."

Bike & Build funds construction projects organized and carried out by young adults. In seven years, participants have contributed \$2,305,345 and spent more than 63,500 hours building homes.

The 2010 ride has eight, different routes crossing the U.S., and Blake is cycling in the one going from Providence, R.I., to Seattle, Wash. His group has 31 riders and two leaders.

"We leave from Providence, June 12, and will get to spread the word — in large cities and small towns — about the affordable-housing issue facing America," he said. "And we'll help them become involved in efforts to alleviate the problem. We'll also put on bike-safety presentations for kids."

But that's not all. "There'll be several days where we'll trade our bikes for hammers and help construct affordable homes in 10 cities," said Blake. "We'll build alongside others from organizations like Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together."

He's been interested in Habitat for Humanity since high school, but it's the first time he's committed his entire summer to a charitable cause or to affordable housing. But he's happy to participate and has been busy preparing.

**"AS PART** of my commitment to Bike & Build, I'll be working this spring learning about affordable housing and helping to build homes," said Blake. "We have to do 10 hours of building before the start date, so I'll be building alongside Habitat for Humanity, either in Charlottesville or Centreville."

Every rider also pledges to log at least 500 miles before the start of the trip, to get ready. Blake's longest ride, so far, is 40 miles, but he plans to do some century milers because, on the road, they'll have six or seven days of 100 miles each.

In addition, to take part in the event, each cyclist must raise \$4,000. He's almost reached his goal, but hopes to raise even more for the cause. So on Saturday, May 29, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sully Station's swim team will hold a fund-raising car wash at its community pool. Donations to Blake may also be made by going to [www.bikeandbuild.org](http://www.bikeandbuild.org) and selecting his name.

His group will arrive in Seattle around Aug. 18 and, during the two months the riders are on the road, they'll average 70 miles a day. They'll get up at 6 a.m., eat breakfast, get directions to that day's destination and cycle there.

"Along the way, we can stop and sightsee, if we



**Cameron Blake and his bike, on the UVA campus.**

want," said Blake. "We ride in groups of two to five people; some of the roads are narrow, and it's safer for drivers to pass a small group than 33 people, all at once."

Each person will have 50 pounds of supplies — one change of clothes, besides a biking outfit, plus a sleeping bag. Lunch will typically be peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches, fruit, and water or Gatorade from a van accompanying the cyclists.

"Then we'll continue biking 'til about 2:30 p.m. and the whole group will arrive in town together, all wearing the same thing," said Blake. That attracts people's attention and gives the riders an opportunity to explain what they're doing and why.

**"ROUTE LEADERS** call ahead and set up some meals and places to stay," said Blake. "But not everyone is expecting us, so we hope they'll put us up in churches, YMCAs, on gym floors, etc. We'll be lucky if we get a shower and maybe a hot meal. But previous riders told me they were really pleased at how nice the communities were to them; sometimes they ate potluck dinners at churches."

Eager to get started, he's looking forward to "the experience and challenge of biking across the country; giving back to the communities; the relationships I'll be spending 24 hours/day with, for two months; and seeing America in a different way from how most people see it." Once the trip begins, people may follow his journey and see his blog and photos via <http://bikeandbuild.org/ride/3758>.

Blake said his parents will probably fly to Seattle for the ceremony at ride's end and to bring him home. "School starts the next week, so I've got to get back," he said. At Westfield, he was on the crew and volleyball teams and played French horn in the marching band. At UVA, he's in the Triathlon Club and plays mellophone — which resembles a large trumpet — in the Cavalier Marching Band.

Because of Bike & Build, he said, "I'm sure I'll get a newfound appreciation for community service and for how a community can open up its arms, and I'm just excited to leave. Hopefully, this will inspire other people to get involved in something like this, too."

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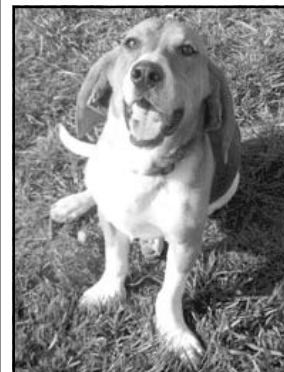
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# PEOPLE



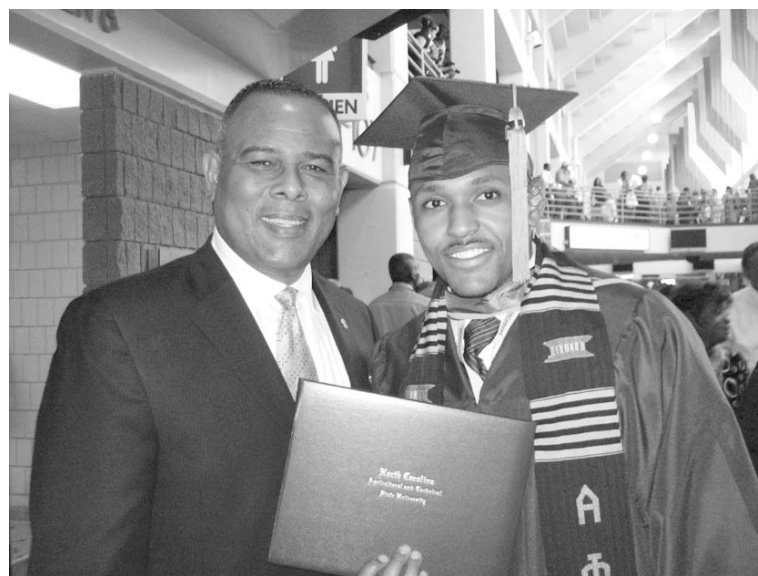
## 'Snow White'

Centreville High School senior Laurie Leaman will be dancing the lead role in the Mia Saunders Ballet production of "Snow White" on Sunday, June 6, at CVHS at 4 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door: Adults \$12, Seniors \$10, Students/Children \$8. Above, standing from left, are Rachel Martin, Megan Brickwedde, Grace Mathias, Laurie Leaman (Snow White), Alice Bremer. In front, from left, are Natalie Caputo, Katie Yusko, Katie Muggleworth, Neha Sharma.



## Helping with Cleanup

Members of the Lane's Mill Daughters of the American Revolution chapter (along with one member's two sons and friends) participated in the Potomac River Watershed Clean Up at Powell Elementary School on April 10. For more information on the chapter, email [jsmithtot@aol.com](mailto:jsmithtot@aol.com).



## Receives Mechanical Engineering Degree

Lorenza Coffin, a 2005 graduate of Westfield High, has received his bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from his father's alma matter, North Carolina A & T State University, in Greensboro, N.C. He's the youngest son of Mary and Chuck Coffin of Virginia Run. Following the commencement ceremony, last Saturday, May 8, some 50 family members and friends attended a luncheon and graduation program and, that evening, a bowling social. In photo, from left, are Chuck Coffin and son Lorenza.



Scoutmaster Ron Campbell awards Michael Lazear his Eagle Scout award.

## Troop 30 Celebrates Eagle Scout Michael Lazear

Boy Scout Troop 30 held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Michael Lazear on April 10. Michael's trail to Eagle started as a Tenderfoot Scout in April 2004. Along the trail, Michael attended summer camp each year, earned 28 merit badges, held numerous leadership positions including Senior Patrol Leader, and completed his Eagle service project. Michael's service project was the construction of 15 blue bird boxes and two barn owl boxes for the Manassas Battlefield National Park which was completed with the help of Troop 30 Scouts

and adults.

The highlight of Michael's trail to Eagle was a 90-mile backpacking trek in the Boy Scout High Adventure Base of Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico. The trek, in July 2009, including hiking over Baldy Mountain, Mt. Phillips and through the Tooth of Time.

Michael is a junior at Westfield High School where he is a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Robotics Club, Cross Country and Track Teams and Future Business Leaders of America.

## Schwartz Joins National Council on Aging

The National Council on Aging (NCOA), a non profit service and advocacy organization for older Americans, has named Centreville native Ken Schwartz as its director of marketing and communications.

Schwartz will lead strategic efforts to capitalize on NCOA's growing brand, including out-

reach to older Americans and NCOA's professional members and partners, promoting member-driven initiatives and NCOA's annual conference, and coordinating media outreach.

Before joining NCOA, Schwartz worked at



Ken Schwartz

leading national and global marketing efforts. His most recent position was international programs manager for the Public Affairs Council. He has an MBA and a BS in marketing from California State University Northridge, Calif.

# 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

**Clifton Town residents Julie and Randy Thompson** will be fulfilling a long time dream of opening a wine shop and wine tasting room. "We will carry unique wines from mostly small vineyards from Virginia and all over the world," said Julie Thompson. "Most of which you can't just get at the local grocery store."

With the recent opening of Paradise Springs Vineyard and Winery just outside of the town of Clifton, this will be another stop in the area for a weekend wine tasting experience. "We will always have something to taste all day seven days a week," said Julie. "But on the weekends we will have formal wine tastings from open to close."

The shop is located on 7145C Main Street in Clifton, on the side of the Heart & Hand (Buckley) building facing the railroad tracks. There will be a grand opening celebration on Saturday, May 15, featuring multiple wine tastings and a five-piece Jazz band.

**Trinity Centre Farmer's Market** — The Trinity Centre Farmer's Market is located at 5875 Trinity Parkway Centreville. It will run May 7 - Oct. 29 from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Come enjoy local produce from the finest farmers and specialty vendors in Virginia. Check out the website at [www.smartmarkets.org](http://www.smartmarkets.org).

**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](http://www.newneighborsvirginia.com)

## FRIDAY/MAY 14

**Swing Dancing.** 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the band, Rock and Roll Relics. Beginner swing lesson from 8:30-9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. With Sue and Gary Caley. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon (Route 28 near the airport).

**Father/Daughter Dance.** Centreville Elementary School is hosting annual dance for all students. Girls are encouraged to invite their fathers, stepfathers, uncles, brothers and grandfathers to celebrate the evening with dancing, refreshments and prizes.

## SATURDAY/MAY 15

**Walk-for-Williams WS Awareness Week.** Registration at 9 a.m.; Walk begins at 10 a.m. At 3567 Armfield Farm Drive, Chantilly (pool parking lot). Registration and pledge forms are available at [wschantilly@gmail.com](mailto:wschantilly@gmail.com). Contact Malia Anderson at 703-478-0987.

**Flea Market.** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Food and home baked items will be available for purchase. At Oakton Baptist Church of Chantilly. Located at Route 50 and Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly.

**Church Yard Sale.** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jubilee Christian Center is hosting a yard sale to raise funds for a Youth Missions trip to Appalachia this summer. Donated items may be

dropped off at the church beginning May 10 at 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Call 703-383-1170 or go to [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

## Rummage Sale.

7 a.m. to noon. Hosted by the Centreville High School Choral Department. Held in front of Centreville High School or in the cafeteria in the event of rain.

**Little Rocky Run Yard Sale.** Little Rocky Run will host its Neighborhood Yard Sale. Contact Tori Ogus at [torigus@cox.net](mailto:torigus@cox.net).

**Greenbriar Yard Sale.** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Many homes in this large community participating. Come find your treasures of toys, clothing, household goods, collectibles, and more. Community access from Stringfellow Road or Route 50 in Chantilly. Rain date Sunday, May 16. Contact: Sandy Williams, 703-378-6984.

**Charity Poker Run.** Registration 10 a.m. to noon; last player returns by 5:30 p.m. Donate \$20/hand and ride your Harley or any other bike, car or means of transportation through predetermined route picking up a card at each stop. Winning hand for the day gets \$300; 2nd Place \$150; 3rd place \$50. All proceeds go to Capital Hospice's Point of Hope Camp for grieving children, teens and adults. At Patriot Harley Davidson, 9739 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Contact Julie Weatherington at 703-396-6199 or [jweatherington@capitalhospice.org](mailto:jweatherington@capitalhospice.org)

**Wellness Conference.** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Topics will include Mindfulness in Daily Living, Spiritual Practices from around the World, an introduction to Yoga, Tai Chi, Qigong; Lessons from A Course in Miracles; Integrative Medicine; and Guided Meditation. Registration fee is \$89, which includes lunch and the choice of a sunrise or sunset beginner yoga class. At the Hilton Garden Inn, 3950 Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax. Register at [www.practicingoneness.com](http://www.practicingoneness.com). Call 703-504-8700.

**Relay for Life Fund-raiser.** Noon to 6 p.m. At Fast Eddie's in the Newgate Shopping Center, Routes 28/29. Sponsored by the Shooting Stars team, and the fun includes a live band featuring Jason Dean, dart and bean-bag tournaments and a 50-50 raffle. Pre-register for the tournaments on Wednesday, May 12, from 4-7 p.m., or May 15 at noon. Games begin at 1 p.m. The Relay for Life raises money for the American Cancer Society.

**Fibromyalgia, CFS, and OI Support Group.** 2-4 p.m. Meeting about Fibromyalgia and Joint Hyper-mobility at monthly meeting of the NOVA Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS), Fibromyalgia (FM), and Orthostatic Intolerance (OI) Support Group. The group also welcomes those with MVPS/ Dysautonomia, multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS), Chronic Lyme, IBS, IC, POTS and similar syndromes. At Sully Governmental Center, McDonnell Room, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly. Contact 703-968-9818 or [CFSsupport-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:CFSsupport-owner@yahoo.com). Visit [www.cfsnova.com](http://www.cfsnova.com).

**2010 Spring Fest.** 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Fair Lakes will be painted green for an afternoon of eco-friendly fun. Highlights local eco-friendly businesses and community groups such as Whole Foods Market, Kane Office Shredding, Bikes for the World and the Smart Markets farmers' market. Held in the General Dynamics' parking lot, 12450 Fair Lakes Circle, across from Kohl's and Dick's Sporting Goods. Visit [www.FairLakes.com](http://www.FairLakes.com).

## SUNDAY/MAY 16

**Seniors Dinner.** 2 p.m. Seniors are invited to a free dinner offered by the

Knights of Columbus, Father Nudd Council. All are welcome to attend. At St. Timothy School cafeteria, 13809 Poplar Tree Road, Chantilly.

## MONDAY/MAY 17

**Western Fairfax Co. Woman's Club Meeting.** 7 p.m. Installation of officers for next club year. Refreshments and social time. WFCWC is nonprofit organization committed to community service. Call Eileen Chambers 703-378-7054 or Jackie Ware 703-378-8551. At Greenbriar Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 19

**Clifton Cup Golf Tournament.** At Westfields Golf Course. Proceeds from the tournament will be dedicated to the renovation of the Clifton Primitive Baptist Church. Catered dinner by Bonefish Grill. Registration will be limited to 100 golfers and is quickly filling up <http://cba.cliftonva.us/cliftoncup5>. Cost: \$175 per golfer.

## MAY 19 TO JUNE 23

**Credit Smart Course.** 6:30 to 9 p.m. Free. A six-week course offered by the non-profit Our Daily Bread. Dinner and child care will be provided at each meeting. Spaces are limited. Call Our Daily Bread at 703-273-8829 or visit the web site, [www.our-daily-bread.org](http://www.our-daily-bread.org). At Chantilly High School, Room 253, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly.

## THURSDAY/MAY 20

**WFRWC Meeting.** 7 p.m. Western Fairfax Republican Women's Club meeting. Ret. Maj. Gen. Richard Secord will be speaking on President Obama's Foreign Policy in the Middle East. At the Fairfax County Government Center, Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly.

**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/advance and \$25/day of tour. Single home admission is \$10. Contact Linda Beckman at 703-266-0213. Visit [www.cliftoncwc.org](http://www.cliftoncwc.org).

**Free 4 All Film and Animation Fest.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Come Vote for the Best Animation and Video Monetary & product Prizes for "Best In Show" and "People's Choice" will be awarded. A panel of professional animators will be there to answer questions about new media careers. At Fairfax High School Auditorium.

## FRIDAY/MAY 21

**Swing Dancing.** 9-12 p.m. Admission is \$15. With the Daryl Davis Band. 8:30-9 p.m. drop-in beginner swing lesson. 9-12 p.m. dancing. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

## MAY 21-23

**Used Book Sale.** Centreville Regional Library is hosting its semi-annual event on Friday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, May 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, May 23 from 1-5 p.m., at 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Friends of the Centreville Library are invited to the Preview and Pre-Sale on Thursday, May 20 (6-8 p.m.). Call the Library at 703-830-2223 or go to <http://friendsofcentrevillelibrary.blogspot.com/>

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# Wildcats on Track To Win Regular Season Baseball Title

Centreville and Westfield tied for first place going into final week.

BY RICH SANDERS  
CENTRE VIEW

If they can win games this week at Concorde District baseball opponents Oakton and Robinson, the Centreville Wildcats would earn at least a regular season championship tie and have the top-seeding at next week's district tournament.

Centreville (12-5 overall, 6-2 district) had built a five-game win streak heading into the final week of the regular season. The Wildcats, this week, were scheduled to play at Oakton on Wednesday, May 12 before taking on host team Robinson on Friday night, May 14 at 6:30.

Westfield (13-4, 6-2) entered the week tied with Centreville for first place with district home games remaining against Chantilly on Wednesday, May 12 and Oakton on Friday, May 14.

Should Centreville and Westfield finish in a two-way tie for first place, they would share the regular season crown. Centreville, however, would be the No. 1 seed at next week's district playoffs as a result of the Wildcats sweeping Westfield in head-to-head games this season, winning both of the regular season meetings.

Morgan Spencer, Centreville's fourth year head coach, was expecting hard games



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

**Centreville's Mark McCormick slides into second base during the Wildcats' Concorde District home win over Herndon on May 4. Centreville concludes the regular season with a game at Robinson this Friday night.**

against Oakton and Robinson. Both the Cougars and the Rams were scheduled to celebrate Senior Night in their games against Spencer's team.

"I think they'll be extremely tough games," said Spencer. "It's the end of the year and everybody is playing for district seeding. Both Oakton and Robinson will have a lot of [added] incentive because it will be their Senior Nights. We're just going to have to stay focused and continue playing well."

Spencer said his team has thrived on playing important, late season games the past

several weeks with first place on the line. The Wildcats have not succumbed to pennant fever pressure, but have instead been near or at the top of their game.

"For our guys, it's a quest they expected to be on," said Spencer, of his team's high expectations in battling for a regular season title. "They are very confident right now and very focused. But they are also very loose and really enjoying it."

**ONE OF THE SEASON'S** biggest wins for Centreville this spring came last Friday night, May 7 when the Wildcats defeated

visiting district rival Chantilly, 7-2. It marked the first time in coach Spencer's four seasons at Centreville that the Wildcats have beaten their nearby foe. Earlier this season on April 20, Centreville had lost at Chantilly, 4-1.

Friday's victory over Chantilly kept Centreville's win streak going and also kept the Wildcats in a two-way tie for first place.

"Any time you can get a district win is big, but that was especially sweet [beating Chantilly] because we hadn't beaten them since I've been here," said Spencer.

Centreville, in the win, got two-run home runs by senior stars Connor Bach and Cam Walter. Bach, a left-handed hitter, belted his homer over the right center field fence in the first inning. It was his fifth round-tripper of the season. Walter, who had three hits in the game, knocked his seventh home run of the spring.

"Any time we're getting production from those two guys, it's real good for us," said Spencer.

Bach also earned the win on the pitching mound with 5-1/3 innings of solid work.

"He did real well and did a good job keeping Chantilly off balance," said the coach, of his southpaw.

Chantilly, trailing 5-2 in the top of the sixth inning, was threatening to get back into the game with runners on first and second base with one out. But Centreville relief pitcher JT Hampel, a third year varsity player for the Wildcats, recorded a strikeout and groundball out to retire the side and end the Chargers' threat.

"That's as big an inning as he's thrown in three years," said Spencer, of the senior right hander.

## SPORTS NOTES

**Beau Donahue**, a Westfield High freshman and a member of the Bulldogs' varsity wrestling team this past winter, finished second in the 140-weight class at the recent National High School Wrestling Championships. The finals took place on March 26. The showcase event, in its 21st year, was organized and put on by the National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA). It was presented by the U.S. Navy and took place at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Donahue advanced all the way to the 140 finals before losing to a state champion from Georgia. This past winter, Donahue was part of a Westfield High team that won its third consecutive Northern Region championship and finished third in the state. Donahue was one of 14 Westfield wrestlers to qualify for the state tournament. Chuck Hoskins, Westfield's head wrestling coach since the school opened in 2000, has worked hard in preparing his team for the highest level of competition while fo-

cus on building the team from within the community. Congratulations to All American Beau Donahue and to Coach Hoskins for a great season.

The **Centreville High girls' lacrosse team** wrapped up its spring season with a first round Concorde District tournament loss to Chantilly last Thursday, May 6. The Wildcats, under first year coach Brian Newell, finished a respectable 5-7 overall, a nice improvement from the year before when the team went 2-11.

"We had huge gains in individual skill level and also in understanding the game," said Newell.

Centreville scored a combined 144 goals this season, while allowing 169. Last year, Centreville scored 98 and gave up 198.

Eight returning starters are expected to be back next school year for the Wildcats. The future does indeed look bright for the Centreville program. The Wildcats' JV team finished an outstanding

9-2 this season.

Eleven members of the Centreville varsity earned All-Concorde District accolades this season.

First Team honors went to sophomore midfielder Hayley Anderson and senior defenseman Rachel Behne. Making the Second Team were: senior attack Solange Duong, sophomore attack Maggie Dulkerian, junior midfielder Flo Duong, sophomore defenseman Molly Donovan, junior defenseman Mackenzie Johnson and senior goalie Carolyn Macek. And making honorable mention all-district were senior midfielder Emily Bollman, freshman attack Katrina Wright and sophomore attack Jessie Dagata.

Centreville's top scorers this season were: Haley Anderson (47 Goals, 6 assists), Maggie Dulkerian (25 goals, 4 assists), Solange Duong (17 goals, 8 assists), Jessie Dagata (12 goals, 3 assists), Erin Sanders (10 goals, 5 assists) and Flo Duong (10 goals, 4 assists).



COURTESY PHOTO

**Westfield High wrestler Beau Donahue (left) and Bulldogs' coach Chuck Hoskins.**

The **Clifton Cup Golf Tournament** will be held at Westfield's Golf Course on Wednesday, May 19. All proceeds from the tournament will be dedicated to the reno-

vation of the Clifton Primitive Baptist Church. There will be prizes and a catered dinner by Bonefish Grill. Registration will be limited. SEE SPORTS NOTES, PAGE 17





PHOTO COURTESY CVHS ATHLETICS SITE

Centreville High School's Seniors were honored during Senior Night ceremonies at home on Friday, May 7.

## Wildcats' Baseball Defeats Chargers on Senior Night

Senior left-handed pitcher Connor Bach pitched into the sixth inning and hit a two-run home run, and senior first baseman Cam Walter went 3-for-4 with four RBI — including a two-run homer of his own — to lead the Centreville baseball team past Chantilly, 7-2, on Senior Night at home on Friday, May 7.

Bach won his third consecutive start and the Wildcats (12-5 overall, 6-2 district) won their fifth straight and remained in sole possession of first place in the district standings heading into the final week of the regular season. The loss dropped the Chargers to 8-9 overall and 4-4 in the district.

Walter, the team's leading hitter this spring, increased his home run total to six and his RBI total to 37 with two road games remaining this week at Oakton and Robinson. Senior Chris Campbell, who missed the previous four games due to illness, returned to the lineup and had two of Centreville's 10 hits.

Senior right handed pitcher J.T. Hampel entered the game in the sixth inning and worked out of a jam with two strikeouts, then senior left-hander Ryan Ashooh pitched a perfect seventh to close the game out.

The pregame Senior Night festivities included honoring each of the Wildcats' 12 seniors — Andy Viands, Leo Montoya, Ryan Ashooh, J.T. Hampel, Chris Mandell, Bach, David DeLorimier,

Campbell, Matt Sarlouis, Walter, Dan Johnson and Kevin Kang — as well as their families. The national anthem was played by sophomore third baseman Bobby San Martin on his trumpet. And there was a flyover by the Fairfax County Police Department helicopter.

The win marked the first defeat of the Chargers in head coach Morgan Spencer's four years at the school.

**Softball:** The CVHS Varsity Softball team defeated Chantilly HS, 4-0, on Friday, May 7 to improve to 8-5 (6-2 in the Concorde District). This win followed two other wins against Herndon and Washington-Lee HS earlier in the week.

**Lacrosse Seasons End:** The Varsity Lacrosse seasons came to an end in the quarterfinal rounds of the Concorde District Tournament. The boys lost to No. 3 seed Westfield by a score of 13-5, while the girls lost to No. 3 Chantilly by a score of 16-6. Earlier in the week, the boys' team honored their graduating team members on Senior Night while defeating Mount Vernon at home by a score of 10-9.

**Soccer:** The Boys Varsity Soccer team beat Chantilly HS 2-1 on

goals by Calder Street and Connor Coward. Both boys and girls teams close out their regular seasons with games against Westfield on Thursday, May 13; the boys play at home while girls play away.

### CENTREVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS NOTEBOOK

**Girls Tennis:** The CVHS Lady Wildcats ended their season in

fourth place in the Concorde District. Twenty-three team members played hard and improved their tennis skills during the season. The following team members played in the Concorde District Tournament, which was held at Robinson Secondary School May 4-7:

Singles: Jackie Lin, Cheryl Mazmanian, Sarah Nguyen  
Doubles: Jackie Lin, Cheryl Mazmanian, Sarah Nguyen, Daniela Medina, Katie Kelly, Christina Park

Tennis Notes: Jackie Lin came in third place in the District Singles event. Christina Park was named 2nd Team All-District in singles and Cheryl Mazmanian received an honorable mention at the District Coaches meeting.

— KAREN FULKERSON

### SPORTS NOTES

FROM PAGE 16

to 100 golfers and is quickly filling up. Cost is \$175 per golfer. Go to [cba.cliftonva.us/cliftoncup5](http://cba.cliftonva.us/cliftoncup5).

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## HOW TO GET YOUR ORGANIZATION'S SPECIAL EVENTS IN CENTRE VIEW

### Calendar Listings

Centre View contains a Calendar of Upcoming Events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every event we receive information about will be listed, here is the information we need for your upcoming event to be considered for the Calendar. We welcome photographs of similar events held previously, which sometimes appear with Calendar items.

*Name of Event:*

*Day of the Week, Date and Time:*

*Name of the Place Event will Be Held:*

*Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:*

*Name and Phone Number for More Information:*

*Three Sentences Describing the Event:*

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. E-mail listings to:

centreview@connectionnewspapers.com

or mail to:  
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For more information, call 703-778-9410.

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# SCHOOLS

**Congratulations to the students** from St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic School, who won first place at the Diocesan Battle of the Books Competition at St. Joseph's School in Herndon on May 11. St. Andrew's team, Erica Markel, Patrick McGurk, and Andrianna Starnes in Grade 5 and Tyler Kurowski, Camille Phillips, and Mark Pilipczuk in Grade 6, mastered 15 books in order to compete against 17 other diocesan elementary schools. Mrs. Teri Robertson, Librarian, and parents Linda Kurowski, Gail Moynihan, and Mary Beth Pilipczuk did year long coaching in preparation for the event.

The local community is invited to **St. Andrew School's 12th Annual Guardian Angel Golf Tournament** on Thursday, May 20 at Westfields Golf Club in Clifton. The cost is \$150 per golfer. Fees includes lunch, golf ticket, golf cart, gifts, complimentary beverages consumed on the golf course (including beer, Gatorade, water and sodas) and dinner prepared by Outback Steakhouse. All proceeds benefit St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic School. For more information, please contact Moira McGinty Klos, PTO President and Golf Tournament Chairman, at 703-815-0473.

**Alexis Deegan of Centreville** received the Michael John Sauer Scholarship during the UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication's year-end scholarship and award ceremony.

The Michael John Sauer Scholarship recognizes students who are pursuing careers in sports communication. The \$500 scholarship honors the life and memory of an aspiring sportscaster whose dream was to major in sports communication in the school. The award was created by his mother, George-Ann Sauer.

### News from Centreville High School:

**The CVHS Chorus Boosters** will be holding a yard sale on Saturday, May 15 from 7a.m.-noon at CVHS. All proceeds will be used to support the CVHS choral department. Donations will be accepted on Friday, May 14 from 5-7 p.m. in the chorus room. Large items can be dropped off on the morning of May 15 in the bus loop from 6 a.m.- 7 a.m. Contact Tori Ogus at 703-802-6137 or toriogus@cox.net.

**The American Cancer Society** is sponsoring The Relay For Life event at Centreville High School on May 22-23. The Opening Ceremony will be at 4 p.m. and the Luminaria Ceremony will be at 9:30 p.m. Entertainment includes the Flock of Eagles Band, the New Life Band, DJ with karaoke, Willow Springs Fox Jumpers, Karate and Hawaiian dance demonstrations, children's area with two moonbounces, games, and team competitions. Go to [www.CentrevilleRelay.org](http://www.CentrevilleRelay.org) or email [CentrevilleRelay@gmail.com](mailto:CentrevilleRelay@gmail.com).

**Standards of Learning (SOL)** tests will be administered at CVHS beginning on Monday, May 24 and extending through Friday, June 11. The majority of the testing will occur on Monday, May 24 through Thursday, May 27 and on June 2. Students who are currently enrolled in the following courses will be involved: Algebra 1 and 2, Geometry, Biology, Chemistry, Geosystems, World History 1 and 2, VA&US History, AP US History, Grade 11 English, AP English Language.

**A poster designed by Kaitlyn Smith**, a Longwood University sophomore from Centreville, was recently selected by a jury of professional designers for a regional poster competition.

The poster, done for a graphic design class she is taking this semester, was one of 64 chosen from among 270 submitted by students and professionals for the AIGA Blue Ridge "Poster Clash." Posters submitted to the competition were posted to the AIGA Blue Ridge web site where the public voted for their favorite posters in a format similar to the NCAA basketball tournament. Smith's poster made it to the round of 32 before being eliminated.

**The following students** from Centreville were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa at James Madison University on March 17, 2010: **Harrison Covall and Christina Gregory**.

**Amjad Hussein of Centreville**, a senior majoring in business information technology in the Pamplin College of Business, was chosen to be the Regimental Information Systems Officer in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets for the spring semester 2010.

## A Date with Destiny, Sort Of



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

Am I glad March 27, 2010 has passed without me having passed. That was the lower end of the infamous "13 month to two years" time frame that my oncologist prognosticated, statistically speaking, that stage IV lung cancer patients have until, well, you know. The next date is two years from the original date of diagnosis/prognosis, meaning next February 27, 2011 – 11 months from now, you know when. It's not like I'm looking at the calendar every day and crossing out days however, marking what time I have left, or not. Still, it's impossible not to be mindful of dates, given the less-than-ideal health situation in which I find myself ensnared.

But somehow, I must. Somehow, I must go on living as if there's no end in sight, go on living as if my prognosis, my disease, is merely a blip on my life's radar rather than the multitude of blips (tumors) that actually appear on the medical scans that I regularly undergo. Having juggled this mental conundrum for more than a year now, I have to admit, I've had better days (and weeks, and months, etc.), but March 28 (the day after) was certainly one of them.

Unfortunately, one date does not a lifetime (normal life expectancy) make. Nevertheless, as a cancer patient currently undergoing treatment, any kind of news, result, answer, date, that can be interpreted as positive is to be embraced and exaggerated (within reason of course). Because finding a path of least resistance, mentally, through the uncharted – and very unpredictable – waters seems to be key to the intangibles working for you instead of against you.

But who knows, really? There are so many opinions, so many studies, so many papers; some educated, some not; some proven (in a manner of speaking), some not; pertaining to fighting and defeating cancer, that knowing what course of action has merit and what course is merely discourse, is yet another mental hurdle. The information available online, from medical professionals, from well-meaning friends and family (with their own anecdotal evidence/information from their respective circles/lives) and from other miscellaneous "educators" is overwhelming. Who to believe? How best to proceed? How much to hope? How much to care? It's much easier said than done. (And it's not that easy to say it, either; it's much easier for me to write it; ergo the cancer columns.)

But finding a way, you must. Because the alternative is grim, and that's no fairy tale. That's reality, the harshest reality there is: between a rock and a hard place (see column of the same name published 4/21/2010), with no place to go except a cliff (metaphorically speaking) on which your oncologist originally said your next 13 months to two years will sort of teeter (I'm paraphrasing a bit, but you get the idea, I'm sure).

And teeter, physically (from the neuropathy and muscle weakness, among other cancer-and the-side-effects-of-the-treatment-of-cancer-related effects) you will and mentally, too, from the obvious strain on your brain, dealing with this new reality. The trick is; heck, there is no trick. There are good days and bad days, and some actual dates that carry you forward (and some that carry you backward, too); some of them meaningful, some of them meaningless. It's mind over matter. Somehow, you have to not mind what matters and not let matter what's on your mind.

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

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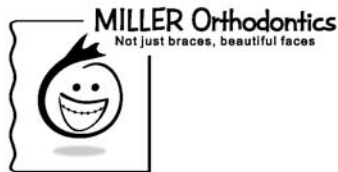
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