

Family, Friends Mourn Death of Rachel D'Andrea

Chantilly toddler, 3, loses her battle with cancer.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
 CENTRE VIEW

There's another angel in heaven — Rachel Katherine D'Andrea, 3, of Chantilly, has died. After a valiant, 18-month battle against neuroblastoma — a childhood cancer with no cure — she suffered a massive stroke Sunday morning, Jan. 9, and passed away that night.

"I'll never get the images of that morning out of my mind," said her father, Jon D'Andrea, Tuesday night. "But Rachel is now free of the pain which she had to endure over the last year and a half."

Normally a bright, cheerful child, Rachel had been especially suffering, the past few weeks, as the disease continued to take its

toll on her little body. Desperate to save her, her parents planned to fly to Orlando, Fla., with Rachel on Monday, Jan. 10, to start yet another medical trial.

But then, said her father, that's when God held up His hand and intervened.

"I truly believe in my heart God felt that enough was enough and didn't want her subjected to anymore chemo, needles, sickness, pills, pain medications or travel, so He took her the night before we could get on the flight," said D'Andrea. "The timing of this could have only come from God."

Doctors diagnosed Rachel's condition in June 2009, two months before her second birthday. While tenderly rubbing her head, one night at bedtime, her mother discovered a hard knot. It proved to be one of two tumors, besides the neuroblastoma found in Rachel's bone marrow and bones.

The toddler immediately received treatment — mainly at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Her mother, Rebecca, remained by her side, while her father shuttled between the hospital and home, where he had to keep work-



JOAN BRADY PHOTOGRAPHY

Rachel, 2 and a half here, shares a laugh with her mom.

ing to pay their medical bills.

Meanwhile, Rachel underwent chemotherapy, radiation and surgeries. Eventually, though, nothing was working and doctors there believed they'd done all they could for her.

But with their child's life at stake, Rachel's

parents researched and found another hospital where they hoped she could be successfully treated. So in October, Rachel entered Children's Hospital of Vermont.

Things seemed promising, at first, but tests in mid-December revealed that cancer masses within her skull, lower back, chest and arms were growing larger. At one point, Rachel was unable to walk.

Frustrated, her father wrote in her CaringBridge Web site, "God forgive me, but I am very angry. I'm a heartbroken father who wants this cancer to stop stealing his daughter's life."

Rachel left the hospital shortly before Christmas and was able to spend the holiday with her parents, sister Kaitlyn, 12, and brother R.J., 14, in their home in Chantilly. But she developed a blood infection and, beginning New Year's Day, Rachel spent five or six days in Inova Fairfax Hospital before returning home again.

Then on Sunday, Jan. 9, around 6:30 a.m., she woke up not feeling well. "She threw

SEE A SAD FAREWELL. PAGE 2

Sewer Project Expands

Extensive project underway in Centreville, Chantilly.

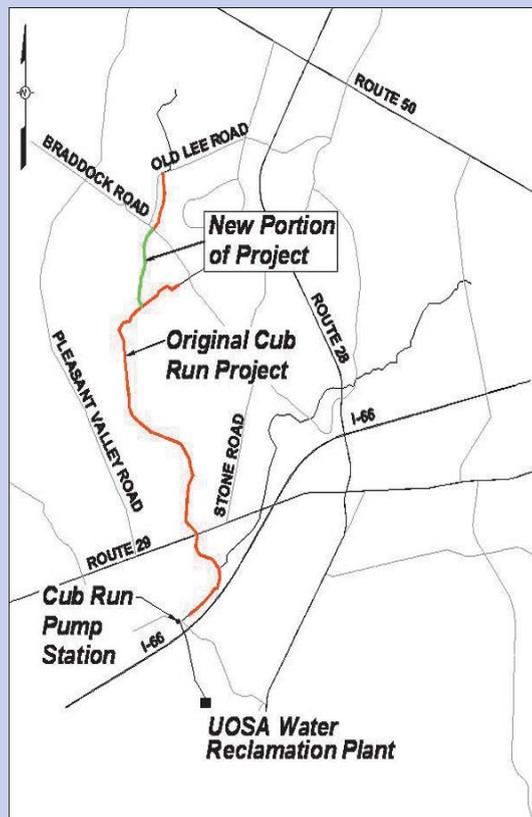
BY BONNIE HOBBS
 CENTRE VIEW

In June 2008, the Upper Occoquan Service Authority (UOSA) got Fairfax County's approval to replace a significant amount of the sewer pipes in Centreville and Chantilly. Now, officials say they should be finished with the project in half the time originally estimated, but they must also replace an additional section of pipe.

UOSA is responsible for wastewater management in the Occoquan Watershed, including western Fairfax County. But when obtaining the go-ahead needed before work could proceed, UOSA representatives explained that, unless it replaced some of its deteriorating, 30-year-old pipes, "sewage overflows" could result.

"We've been in construction a little over a year now," Project Manager Scott Brown told members of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee on Dec. 21.

SEE UOSA. PAGE 15



This map shows where the new, 3,500-foot section of pipe will go.

Blood Drive Slated For Alex Nieves

BY BONNIE HOBBS
 CENTRE VIEW

Virginia Run's Alex Nieves is a championship lacrosse player. He's also a 20-year-old college student who's just been diagnosed with leukemia.

So on Friday, Jan. 21, the Virginia Run community will hold its winter blood drive in his honor. It's from 2-8 p.m. at the Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, off Route 29 and Pleasant Valley Road, in Centreville.

"We want to spread the word about leukemia and that blood is an important part of curing it," said friend and family spokesman

Bob Biagi, also of Virginia Run. "Leukemia patients require a lot of blood transfusions."

An athlete his whole life, Nieves competed on the Virginia Run swim team, the Riptides, from ages 6-15. "In 2000, he and his relay team of 9- and 10-year-olds set an NVSL record," said Biagi. "It stood for 10 years and wasn't broken until last summer."

Alex is the son of Mo and Troy Nieves and is one of four children. His sister Kelsey, 21, is a senior at JMU; sister Gabbi, 16, is a sophomore at Paul VI; and brother A.J., 12, is a sixth-grader at Virginia Run Elementary. Alex graduated

SEE BLOOD DRIVE. PAGE 5

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NEWS

A Sad Farewell to Rachel

FROM PAGE 1

up and her body went stiff and she wouldn't open her eyes," said Jon D'Andrea. "We thought she was still sleepy and tired, so we let her sleep a couple hours. But when we couldn't wake her, we called the ambulance."

Rachel underwent a CT scan at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital and doctors discovered she'd suffered a catastrophic stroke. She was Medivaced to the Children's Intensive Care Unit at Inova Fairfax Hospital, but to no avail.

"They couldn't do anything for her; she was brain dead," said D'Andrea. "Doctors believe there was a tumor behind her eye; the wall of the brain collapsed and the blood rushed in. It affected her brain's complete, right hemisphere."

In the early afternoon, Rachel's parents removed her breathing tube. "She took her last breath around midnight," said her father. "Kaitlyn and R.J. said their goodbyes, but we had them leave the room before the end."

D'Andrea said the doctors told them there was nothing they could have done, no matter where Rachel was.

"They said they couldn't have seen it coming and couldn't have stopped it," he said.

Devastated, D'Andrea said there's no way he can make sense of this tragic loss, but he does believe Rachel's stroke was "one of many signs that God was there with us, all along. He just said, 'It's time for Me to take her.'"

Another sign, he said, was when "the Lord told me to get baptized, three months before her diagnosis. I also believe He placed the bump on Rachel's forehead to get us to take her to the doctor — because neuroblastoma doesn't normally act that way," giving an outward clue of something wrong internally.

The last few weeks, said D'Andrea, Rachel had a great deal of pain in her knee and eye and was on constant morphine and pills.

"But two nights before the stroke, she started acting like herself — and I believe that was another miracle," he said. "God was giving her back to us for a few hours. She wanted to come into the living room, pet the cat, sit on Kaitlyn's lap and play with her toys. She loved her Easy-Bake Oven and wanted to make some muffins."

Then, said D'Andrea, "With a voice that had pain in it, she sat up on the bed and told Rebecca and I, 'I love you, Mommy, I love you, Daddy, and I love BroBro [R.J.], KayKay [Kaitlyn] and Gigi [Rachel's maternal grandmother]. I was happy I had my little girl back for awhile.'"

This week, as word of Rachel's death spread, others who knew and loved her mourned her, as well. Among them were Ginny Grivas, Fouad Qreitem and Joan Brady, who'd all held fund-raisers to help the



JOAN BRADY PHOTOGRAPHY

Jon and Rebecca D'Andrea delight in Rachel's happiness on a swing, last summer.

D'Andreas with their medical bills.

"We fell in love with Rachel when we first read her story in Centre View," said Qreitem, owner of Paisano's pizza restaurants. "Then we met her and her parents at my office, and she was just amazing. She had tubes sticking out of her, but she was singing and dancing for me."

"I've never seen someone with such determination as this little girl... Whenever we're facing trials and tribulations, we'll remember Rachel and her strength and that will spur us on."

— Ginny Grivas, family friend

"This girl really captured the hearts of everyone in my office, the minute we laid eyes on her," he continued. "How courageous she was; it's so sad. Rachel touched so many lives. Even my managers are

devastated — they'd developed a bond with her. And Rachel's smile will forever be ingrained in my heart."

Although Paisano's was able to raise money for the D'Andreas, Qreitem said, "They did more for us than we did for them. Everything about Rachel taught us so much about life. It's truly a time for mourning."

Agreeing, photographer Joan Brady said, "I can't imagine going through what Jon and Rebecca have been through — and what they'll continue to go through. How awful for a family to have a child so young be diagnosed with something incurable. My heart goes out to them."

Brady was also impressed with the "fighting spirit" Rachel and her parents showed, day in and day out. "What incredible strength Rebecca had, dealing with things at the hospital in New York, and Jon running a business at home and driving up there exhausted," she said. "They had such profound faith. I feel lucky to have met such wonderful people and only wish I had met them under happier circumstances. So many people came together and met each other because they cared about Rachel."

At the D'Andreas' request, Brady's creating a photo collage to display at Rachel's funeral. She did four photo sessions with Rachel, and sorting through her photographs for the collage brought back a flood of memories.

"I think about this child with so much promise —

SEE FAREWELL, PAGE 12

Visitation and Funeral Services

♦ Public visitation is Thursday, Jan. 13, from 6-9 p.m., at Chantilly Bible Church, 4390 Pleasant Valley Road in Chantilly.

♦ A Celebration-of-Life service will be held Friday, Jan. 14, from 11 a.m.-noon, also at the church. Interment is private.

♦ In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Rachel D'Andrea Fund, c/o Chantilly Bible Church, 4390 Pleasant Valley Road, Chantilly, VA 20151.

These will help the family with their medical and funeral expenses still to come.

ROUNDUPS

Dykstra Serves Jail Time

Following a trial, July 28, 2010 in Fairfax County General District Court, Centreville's Craig Dykstra, then 51, was convicted of unlawfully filming someone in the nude. Prior to a June 5 pool party at his Hunt Chase mansion after Westfield High's prom, Dykstra placed a camera disguised as a pen inside a changing room there.

Then, without their knowledge, he surreptitiously filmed several teen-age boys and girls – including an 18-year-old girl who was photographed completely nude as she changed out of her swimsuit into pajamas for a sleepover at the home with one of Dykstra's daughters, a classmate of hers.

Another student eventually found the camera, which was given to a parent and then to the police. The 70-minute film was played in court and Dykstra's attorney said his client "deeply regretted" his conduct. Judge Mark Simmons then found Dykstra guilty and sentenced him to 10 days in jail for this misdemeanor offense.

Dykstra immediately appealed his conviction and was given a Jan. 4 appeal date in Circuit Court. But instead, on Dec. 6, 2010, he withdrew his appeal and was jailed that day. Dykstra then served five days behind bars before being released on Dec. 11.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Jan. 13 and Jan. 27, 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.

King Festival Is Sunday

Featuring the theme, "Remembering His Dream: Love, Vision, Democracy and Hope," the Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee (CPMSAC) will present its 17th annual Martin Luther King Festival. It's set for Sunday, Jan. 16, from 4-6 p.m. (snow makeup day, Jan. 23) in the Westfield High auditorium. The program honors King's memory while showcasing the talents of students from Chantilly Pyramid schools.

WFCCA Quarterly Meeting

Supervisor Michael R. Frey (R-Sully) will speak about the state of the Sully District at the quarterly meeting of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA). It will be held Monday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly.

WFCCA Land-Use Committee

The next meeting of the West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee is slated for Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. It will be held in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly. Land-use attorney Tim Sampson will present details of Inova Fair Oaks Hospital's expansion plans.

Financial-Crimes Detective Addresses Committee

The Sully District Citizens Advisory Committee will meet Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly. Tom Polhemus, a financial-crimes detective and retired Fairfax County police officer, will discuss identity theft, fraud against the elderly, credit-card fraud and how people may protect themselves against these crimes.

NEWS

CENTRE VIEW EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
703-778-9415 OR CENTREVIEW@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO COURTESY OF ED MONK

Featuring funny, mixed-up stories, Chantilly High presents a children's show, "Mother Goose's Really Fabulous Fairytales."

Some 'Really Fabulous Fairytales'

Chantilly High School presents children's play.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Like Cinderella and her glass slipper, some things are just meant to go together. But when Mother Goose starts mixing up her fairytales — combining stories and characters in unexpected ways — hilarity ensues.

And that's just what'll happen during Chantilly High's children's play, "Mother Goose's Really Fabulous Fairytales." It'll be presented Friday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 22, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 23, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Actually, the audience will see not one, but seven, different fairytales: "Jack and Jill," "Hansel and Gretel," "The Three Little Pigs," "Rumpelstiltskin," "The Empress's New Clothes," "Sleeping Beauty" and "Jack and the Beanstalk."

Each show is double-cast so, altogether, nearly 70 students will perform. And Director Ed Monk says the creative storylines and energetic acting will make the whole experience a real treat.

"There's a lot of silliness for everyone in the family," he said. "And we have a really strong group of kids; it was wonderful to have that many students audition and get cast. We hope everyone will come out to see it."

Playing Mother Goose is sophomore Chloe Vasquez, who introduces each fairytale. "My character gets hit on the head and gets loopy and forgetful," she said. "Then she mixes up aspects of the different fairytales and changes the characters."

For example, said Vasquez, "The mother in 'Hansel and Gretel' is a gambler, and one of the pigs has a house made of toilet paper. Then the actors get angry at Mother Goose, and she tells them that, if they don't act, they'll have to go back to their jobs at McDonald's and Chuckie Cheese."

Enjoying her role, Vasquez said, "At one point, I become a bird and start screeching. It's fun to play this crazy and humorous person. Overall, I think kids will like the goofy characters with different quirks than they're used to, and unexpected twists in the stories, and parents will like all the jokes."

'JACK AND JILL'

Freshman Lorraine Becker portrays Jill in "Jack and Jill." Initially, she said, Jill's a Southern belle, petite and preppy. "She then changes into a 'gangsta'-type person who's all tough, loud and outgoing," said Becker. "It's fun to play her because I get to fall down a hill, and I like acting and the people I'm doing the play with."

Chris Knarr plays Jack, and Becker said they both put lots of work into their parts. Children's shows are great, she said, because "you get to do big, outgoing characters and motions and go crazy with them."

'THREE LITTLE PIGS'

In "The Three Little Pigs," freshman Austin Vassallo plays the Big, Bad Wolf. "I have a really cool, wolf costume with big ears and fur," he said. "But my wolf has a Russian accent and isn't so big and bad; he's kind of sensitive because people call him big and ugly. It's cool to see how different this fairytale is; it's a nice escape from the normal one."

As a result, said Vassallo, "I can be more animalistic with this character and do a wider variety of things with him. The audience will be laughing at all the changes and will be surprised. It's a lot of fun and they can't predict what will happen."

'RUMPLESTILTSKIN'

Sophomore Greg Baker plays the lead in "Rumpelstiltskin." At first, he said, his character's a nice guy. "He's trying to help a poor woman's daughter who wants to marry a prince," said Baker. "But then he tricks her and takes all the prince's gold. He

SEE FAIRYTALES, PAGE 4

NEWS

Some 'Really Fabulous Fairytales'

FROM PAGE 3

changes because Mother Goose messes up the fairytale and makes him greedy."

Noting that it's his biggest part yet at Chantilly, Baker said, "It's got some funny lines; and in children's shows, you get to do funny voices and movements, plus physical comedy. The show will appeal to people of all ages."

'EMPRESS'S NEW CLOTHES'

"The Empress's New Clothes" features junior Ben Zimmerman as the female emperor of a kingdom, in this unusual take on "The Emperor's New Clothes." She's fashionable and has pretty dresses but, said Zimmerman, "Con artists sell her an ugly dress that they say can only be seen by stupid people. I don't mind wearing it because it's fun to do stuff out of the norm."

Calling his character "arrogant," he said she's shallow and thinks she's better than everyone else. "She's only concerned about clothes and is wealthy and materialistic," said Zimmerman. "I love playing characters different from myself so I have to completely change who I am. And this fairytale's not told that often, so kids will learn about it while being entertained."

'SLEEPING BEAUTY'

Freshman Brooke Johnson plays the lead in "Sleep-

ing Beauty." Portraying "an innocent, teen-age girl who doesn't know what's going on and just does what she's told," Johnson has lots of funny lines. "Mother goose has all the play's actions out of order and changes the presents the fairies give Sleeping Beauty," she said. "The script's really clever and I can be over-the-top. It's like playing pretend when you're a kid."

'JACK AND BEANSTALK'

Playing Jack in "Jack and the Beanstalk," sophomore John Cuddehe said Jack's awkward and hasn't had much interaction with others, so "he's easily excited and laughs at everything at the end of conversations. It's fun being goofy, and I like how the slightest things change these well-known fairytales so much. We even refer to modern things, such as Wii."

'HANSEL AND GRETEL'

In "Hansel and Gretel," Sophomore Michael Hawthorne plays Hansel. "He's fat and German, with an unrealistic accent," said Hawthorne. "He wants to eat everything and, at one point, he asks his sister Gretel if he can eat her multivariable calculus workbook."

In this version, instead of a candy house, there's one made out of broccoli. "Some of the funniest moments are when Hansel and Gretel are still stuck and Mother Goose says it's the end of the story," said Hawthorne. "Then they have to cover for her mistake. The audience will love it."

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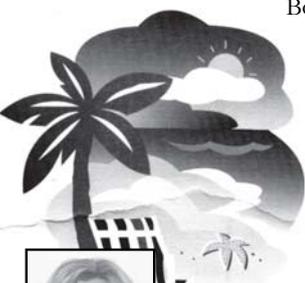



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Working Together

Some students from the Chantilly High School National Honor Society joined senior Girl Scout Troop 6778 to put together holiday food baskets for WFCM (Western Fairfax Christian Ministries) on Dec. 22. The girls collected items and assembled baskets so that give families would have a complete holiday meal.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DENISE HELMS

Basement Fire Causes \$40,000 Damage

A Christmas night fire did an estimated \$40,000 damage to a Chantilly home. Fire officials say the blaze was accidental and was caused by improperly discarded fireplace ashes placed in the basement.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded Dec. 25, around 6 p.m., to a single-family home at 4023 Mapleton Drive in the Brookfield community. Upon arrival, firefighters found smoke and fire showing from the basement of the two-story, split-level home.

Firefighters then conducted an interior fire attack inside the basement and quickly brought the flames under control. Smoke alarms were sounding when they arrived on the scene, but no one was home when the fire broke out.

Damage to the home was contained primarily to the basement area, with minor, residual smoke and

water damage to the upstairs. Two adults and three children were displaced; no one was injured.

As a result of this incident, the fire department is offering the following fireplace-ashes safety tips:

- ❖ Do not discard ashes into any combustible container such as a paper or plastic bag, cardboard box or plastic trash can.
- ❖ Do not place ash containers on decks or porches or in garages.
- ❖ Put ashes into a non-combustible, metal container with a lid.
- ❖ Pour water into the container to make sure the ashes are cool.
- ❖ Keep this can outside the home, away from the fireplace or stove and anything combustible.
- ❖ Teach all family members to be safe with ashes from the fireplace or stove.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Blood Drive Spotlights Leukemia

FROM PAGE 1

from Notre Dame Academy in Middleburg in 2009 and is presently a sophomore, majoring in ancient history, at Maryland's Salisbury University.

He's a midfielder in lacrosse and, as a senior in high school, he was named to the first team, All State. Nieves also plays on Salisbury's nationally ranked lacrosse team and, last May – as a freshman, he participated with his teammates in the Division III national championship game.

Now, however, he'll have to concentrate on beating another foe, ALL – acute lymphoblastic leukemia. He was diagnosed Dec. 20, following a routine blood test after a sports injury and, since then, he's been undergoing several rounds of chemotherapy. According to Biagi, "Doctors are very optimistic about his prognosis."

Meanwhile, family, friends and members of the local community are rallying around Nieves. Although he can't see visitors right now, people may follow his progress on the Facebook page, "Rock the Orange," created by one of his sisters. And friends are asking local residents to wear orange – the color for leukemia awareness – on Jan. 21, to honor Alex and all others currently battling leukemia.

Additionally, by holding the blood drive in his name, Virginia Run is also showing its support of Nieves during this challenging time. During the event, Inova Blood Donor services will be on hand with medical professionals and a blood-donation bus. Free child care and refreshments will be available.

Walk-ins are welcome, but those making appoint-



Alex Nieves (on right) during a college lacrosse game.

ments will be able to reserve their preferred time. To do so, contact Laura Calizzi at lcalizzi@yahoo.com or at 703-830-5724. People may also sign up online at www.inova.org/donateblood; use sponsor code 3204 or look up the drive by the date, Jan. 21.

Attendees are encouraged to bring friends or relatives with them and do a good deed together. Even 16-year-olds may donate blood with a signed consent form. Everyone who completes the donor screening process will receive a long-sleeved shirt courtesy of Inova Blood Donor Services.

Besides the Facebook page, the Nieves family has also set up a CaringBridge site where it may post updates on Alex's condition and friends may post

SEE BLOOD DRIVE, PAGE 12

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Feb. 12 vs. James Madison

Adult - \$48, Youth & Senior - \$24

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OPINION

Be Sure To Let Us Know in 2011

Reaffirming our mission in new year.

As a local, weekly newspaper, the Centre View's mission is to bring the news you need about your community that you are not likely to get anywhere else — to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones in community and people's lives.

At the Centre View, we begin 2011 by looking for more input from our readers.

First, send us photos of you and your pet plus a few sentences for our Pet Centre View, which will appear the first week in February. We'd like to have photos by Jan. 20.

Let us know how we're doing, and let us know what is going on in your part of the community.

We invite you to e-mail us letting us know about something you especially liked or didn't like about our coverage, and to write us letters to the editor.

We learn a lot from readers' ideas and questions. If you see something that you think might be a story, or just something you wonder about, give us a call, or drop us a line.

We want to know if you have an idea for fixing traffic in your part of the world. We want to know if you've had a good or bad experience with local government or your schools.

EDITORIAL

We'd like to hear your ideas about how to make things better. If you know of a person or an organization that is interesting, doing important work, and might make a good feature story, let us know.

We are looking for interesting people to feature in our pages each week. If someone in your family or your community published a book, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon or having art included in an art show, these are all things that we want to know.

The Centre View will publish photos and notes of a variety of community events and milestones, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, school, etc. Email or mail us a photo and a note about the event. Be sure to include the names of all the people who are in a photo, and say when and where the photo was taken.

We also publish notes about news and events in local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees, anniversaries and other accomplishments and events are welcome.

Our calendar of events lets people know about upcoming events. Send the information at least two weeks ahead of the event, and include a photo if possible. Events to be listed in calendars should be free or at nominal cost and open to the public.

In covering the issues, we strive to provide a voice for our readers. We look forward to hearing from you in 2011. We have a new website in the works (our current site has served us well but is best described as an antique) that will open up many more lines of communication. Stay tuned.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



'Paws to Read'

The Chantilly Library went to the dogs on Saturday, Jan. 8, with the most recent installment of the Paws to Read program. Dogs Trevor, Tiger and Mei Mei came to the library with their handler Dian Thomas, of Herndon, to give children the chance to "read to a dog." The dogs are certified therapy dogs. For more information about Fairfax County Library's Paws to Read program, go to its website: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/

Therapy dog Trevor, listens as Reilly Demer of Herndon finishes reading Margery Williams' book "The Velveteen Rabbit."

Pro-Life Slogan Contest

In anticipation of the 2011 March for Life in Washington, D.C., Linda Gott, a teacher at St. Timothy School, in Chantilly, organized a Pro-Life Slogan contest midway through last school year, in which any seventh- or eighth-grade student could participate. More than 200 entries were submitted. Jordan Kijewski submitted the winning slogan: "Life is like a box of chocolates, They're all different kinds, but all are precious" — which was placed on the T-shirts along with the ultra-sound image. Michelle Mencia's slogan — "Choose Life — It's Worth It" — was placed on magnets. Madelene Whitfield's slogan — "My Mommy Is Pro-Life" — was placed on buttons.



Turner and Bokman Wed

Devon Turner and Andrew Bokman were married July 17, 2010, at Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church in Chantilly. The bride is the daughter of Dale and Lynda Turner of Clifton. The groom is the son of Ed and Beth Bokman of Eldersburg, Md. The newlyweds reside in Hagerstown, Md.



CENTREVIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

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A Connection Newspaper

Home Life Style Elegant and Efficient

Less is more as homeowners seek higher quality in smaller spaces.

BY JOSHUA BAKER

Today's homeowners are much more informed and educated about what they want in a home. Travel, home shows, the internet and a greater focus on the importance of transforming a house into a home, have led homeowners to be very particular about what renovations they do and how they go about them.

No longer are people limited to cookie-cutter plans from a builder selecting little more than the color of the tile or carpets. Instead today's homeowners have embraced the idea of actively participating in determining customized solutions that will best suit their family's needs, wants and lifestyle.

Here are remodeling trends that BOWA Builders predicts for 2011.

2011 Trends

PROJECTS – SMALLER AND BETTER

The trend to smaller, higher quality spaces continues as many local residents discover that what they need is not more space, but better space. Often when talking with clients about possible projects we find that making a home larger is not the answer to their concerns. The problem is the bulk of the existing homes in our area were not designed for the way we live today. Small, compartmented rooms, a kitchen that is meant to be occupied by two or three people at most and formal rooms that separate the family from each other are no longer the types of spaces families' desire. As a result today's home remodeling projects often focus on reconfiguring, opening up and otherwise improving existing spaces to better suit the way today's families live, play and entertain. Because many BOWA clients lead hectic schedules outside of the home, they continue to trend toward remodeling projects that create highly usable, comfortable living spaces in their home. Families



A sophisticated media room renovation in McLean allows for much more than viewing movies.

want practical and appropriate spaces in their home retreats because they treasure their time there.

KITCHENS – TRANSFORMATION BY DESIGN

Kitchens are the social center of our homes and need to accommodate a myriad of uses. While sometimes the solution is adding square footage, particularly in homes built 30 or more years ago, frequently the solution lies in re-thinking the layout and improving the connection to surrounding spaces, both interior and exterior. In one BOWA project, the wall separating the formal dining room from the kitchen was removed completely, creating a spacious casual kitchen. The new expanded eating area was a much improved use of the families existing space, and is now consistent with their lifestyle and priorities.

THEATERS – AS LIVING SPACES Media rooms have become more and more preva-

lent as families look for ways to incorporate the latest technology into their homes and lives. While these rooms began as home theaters they are evolving to fit many more aspects of family life. No longer is their sole purpose to showcase a movie while the audience sits quietly in the dark in rows of comfortable seating. Incorporating theater seating with lounge seating and counter space provides an opportunity to socialize with friends during the game or gather the family on a weekday evening. After a recent BOWA renovation, the theater is now used each evening as the family relaxes together with their own focus or project.

REPEAT REMODELERS Requirements for homes change as the family grows and matures. Often what worked wonderfully when a couple is starting out with small children is no longer the best option as everyone gets older and schedules, hobbies and family dynamics evolve. Many families

find that they decide to complete multiple projects during the life of the home. In other cases it just makes sense to phase projects to minimize interruption or spread the costs over time. Year after year, a number of BOWA clients return to us ready to take on the next phase of their home remodeling projects. For one local family, BOWA recently completed its fifth project including a family room expansion, a master suite addition and garage, a guest suite renovation, kids' bath renovations, and an exterior make-over.

HIGH PERFORMANCE HOMES For some homeowners the desire to be "green" and minimize their impact on the environment will drive them to investigate new available options, such as high-efficiency windows. For others it is the desire to reduce the costs of maintaining a home. For still others it is to reduce the contaminants that may exist in our homes. Today's answers to these issues can be flaunted in the design of a renovation or seamlessly incorporated into a home without compromising the integrity of the design. Whatever the goal, we recommend to all BOWA clients that they consider having an energy audit completed on their home before undergoing any renovations. The resulting report will pinpoint many small changes that can drastically improve a home's performance. Often these items can be incorporated into the planned renovation without driving substantial cost increases. These can include adding insulation in unseen gaps in the home envelope, changing the means of heating water or updating outmoded appliances and equipment.

For more, see www.bowa.com.

JOSHUA BAKER IS PRESIDENT OF BOWA BUILDERS.

Top 8 Home design and remodeling trends for 2011.

Case Design and Remodeling identified what they believe will be the top eight trends in home design and remodeling for 2011. Based on emerging industry developments and customer requests, the list was compiled by Bill Millholland, executive vice president at Case.

- 1. LED or compact fluorescent (CFL) lighting** – Homeowners are moving away from incandescent fixtures toward more energy-efficient choices such as LED and CFL bulbs.
- 2. High-quality synthetic materials for home exteriors** – Synthetic materials such as Hardie Plank siding and PVC trim pieces mimic the look of natural materials like wood, but are

much more durable and better able to withstand climate changes.

- 3. Large format bathroom tiles** – Smaller square tiles are being replaced with tiles measuring 12" x 12" or larger, as well as non-square shapes (12" x 18"), producing flooring and walls that showcase more tile and fewer grout lines.
- 4. Multiple finishes on kitchen cabinetry** – Complementary multiple stains and a mix of painted and stained finishes on cabinetry enables homeowners to escape the look and feel of a "cookie cutter" kitchen where all surfaces match.
- 5. Screened porches** – Homeowners

SEE TRENDS, PAGE 9



A predicted trend in remodeling for 2011 is larger bathroom tiles, as in the Reston bathroom remodeled by Case Design.

Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

Top Sales

A look at some of the top sales of 2010



2 1147 Chain Bridge Road, McLean



1 1322 Balls Hill Road NE, McLean



3 10350 Elizabeth Street, Great Falls



23 330 Ayr Hill Avenue NE, Vienna



4 6622 Malta Lane, McLean

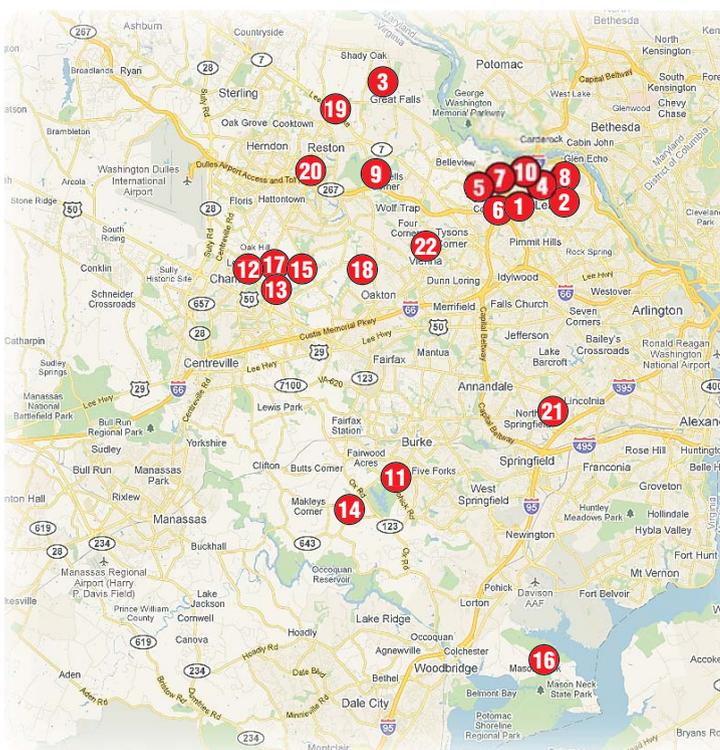
THE TOP TEN

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 1322 BALLS HILL RD NE	7	8	3	MCLEAN	\$10,200,000	Detached	2.05		ELMWOOD ESTS	10/28/10
2 1147 CHAIN BRIDGE RD	12	10	1	MCLEAN	\$8,250,000	Detached	5.63		LANGLEY FARMS	01/07/10
3 10350 ELIZABETH ST	7	10	3	GREAT FALLS	\$6,500,000	Detached	2.71		GOULDMAN ACRES	07/01/10
4 6622 MALTA LN	5	7	1	MCLEAN	\$6,160,000	Detached	1.00		LANGLEY FARMS	03/17/10
5 8113 SPRING HILL FARM DR	5	5	1	MCLEAN	\$4,402,132	Detached	1.17		SPRING HILL FARM	04/15/10
6 7301 DULANY DR	5	6	2	MCLEAN	\$4,335,000	Detached	2.19		ELMWOOD ESTS	08/12/10
7 7681 BALLESTRATE CT	6	6	3	MCLEAN	\$4,000,000	Detached	1.03		THE RESERVE	08/03/10
8 1127 LANGLEY LN	7	5	1	MCLEAN	\$3,850,000	Detached	0.60		LANGLEY FARMS	05/18/10
9 1532 CROWELL RD	5	5	3	VIENNA	\$3,750,000	Detached	2.83		BROWNS MILL ESTATES	11/11/10
10 7029 BENJAMIN ST	5	5	1	MCLEAN	\$3,603,350	Detached	1.10		LANGLEY FOREST	06/11/10

SOME OTHER TOP SALES IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

11 9829 SUMMERDAY DR	4	4	1	BURKE	\$1,175,000	Detached	0.86		BURKE LAKE MEADOW	08/09/10
12 3408 MEYER WOODS LN	5	4	2	FAIRFAX	\$1,310,000	Detached	0.83		THOMPSON ROAD PROPERTY	05/18/10
13 3491 ROSE CREST LN	4	4	1	FAIRFAX	\$1,240,000	Detached	0.99		OAK HILL ESTATES	05/27/10
14 11001 SANDY MANOR DR	5	4	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,685,000	Detached	5.01		SANDY RUN FOREST ESTATES	04/28/10
15 12191 GOLDENCHAIN CT	4	4	2	HERNDON	\$1,445,000	Detached	1.25		SHADETREE ESTATES	09/08/10
16 11191 GUNSTON RD	5	6	1	LORTON	\$3,600,000	Detached	5.26		STONE MANOR ON THE POTOMAC	09/29/10
17 12827 PARAPET WAY	4	5	1	OAK HILL	\$1,350,000	Detached	1.20		OAKTON CHASE	07/23/10
18 2601 GENEVA HILL CT	5	5	1	OAKTON	\$1,475,000	Detached	0.94		HANNAH HILLS	07/29/10
19 11284 STONES THROW DR	5	3	2	RESTON	\$1,290,000	Detached	0.69		ESTATES AT WYNDHAM HILLS	08/12/10
20 11776 STRATFORD HOUSE PL #11043	3	0	0	RESTON	\$1,060,000	Penthouse			STRATFORD	01/29/10
21 5253 MONROE DR	6	5	1	SPRINGFIELD	\$1,075,000	Detached	0.41		EDSALL ROAD PROPERTY	07/20/10
22 330 AYR HILL AVE NE	6	5	2	VIENNA	\$2,200,000	Detached	0.53		VIENNA	07/22/10

SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT WWW.MRIS.COM.



© Google Map data

Home Life Style

Trends

FROM PAGE 7

are extending their living areas with screened porches that allow them to enjoy the outdoors throughout the year without the nuisance of insects.

- 6. "Furniture-like" detailing in kitchens** – Varied cabinet and counter heights, distressed finishes and furniture-style toe kicks provide visual interest and help eliminate the "component" look of many kitchen cabinet designs.
- 7. Heated bathroom flooring** – Heated mats underneath bathroom flooring tiles provide

radiant heat that is proven to keep homeowners warmer than forced-air heating systems, helping to save on energy costs.

- 8. Kitchen cabinet accessories** – With drawer inserts for cutlery, spices or dividers, homeowners are making better use of every available space within their kitchens.

"The remodeling industry is poised for substantive growth in 2011 due to the number of options available to homeowners wanting to revive their living spaces," said Millholland.

For more, see CaseDesign.com or call 800-513-2250.

OPEN HOUSES

SAT./SUN. JAN. 15 & 16



13557 Smallwood Lane, Chantilly • \$574,950 • Open Sunday 1-4
Judy Pfarter, Samson Properties, 703-989-8767

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 and click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Centreville

14406 William Carr La.....	\$325,000	Sun 1-4	Paulina Stowell.....	Long & Foster.....	571-275-8646
6524 Creek Run Dr.....	\$394,900	Sun 1-4	Jason Sanders.....	Long & Foster.....	703-298-7037

Fairfax

5400 Long Boat Ct.....	\$339,500	Sun 12-3	Jay Jack.....	Avery-Hess.....	703-492-6500
5403 Cheshire Meadows Way...	\$340,000	Sun 1-4	Julia Johnson.....	Green Valley.....	703-407-7160
12502 Flatwood Cir.....	\$385,000	Sat 1-4	Sarah Reynolds.....	Keller Williams.....	703-725-3044
10719 Oak Pl.....	\$399,900	Sun 1-4	Denene Crabbs.....	Century 21.....	202-487-4949
4014 Lake Glen Rd.....	\$407,000	Sun 1-4	Pat Bogenn.....	Long & Foster.....	703-961-7104
3911 Green Look Ct.....	\$449,900	Sat 1-4	Denene Crabbs.....	Century 21.....	202-487-4949
3911 Green Look Ct.....	\$449,900	Sun 1-4	Diana LeFrancois.....	Century 21.....	703-930-6682
4950 Wyndham Creek Ct.....	\$499,950	Sun 1-4	Mier Jury Jury.....	Long & Foster.....	703-303-7606
10500 Elmira Ct.....	\$529,000	Sun 12-4	Lena Restivo.....	Weichert.....	703-855-7341
3981 Royal Lytham Dr.....	\$539,000	Sun 1-4	Susan Holbrook.....	Garand Realty.....	703-862-3000
4161 Legato Rd.....	\$639,000	Sun 1-4	Kerry Adams.....	Long & Foster.....	703-587-7841
4125 Trowbridge St.....	\$640,000	Sun 1-4	Kim Darwaza.....	RE/MAX.....	703-856-2254
3800 Lynn Regis Ct.....	\$799,900	Sun 1-4	Pam Milan.....	TTR Sothebys Int'l.....	202-713-3117
5009 Ethel's Pond Ct.....	\$944,270	Sun 2-4	Marilyn Lyren.....	Long & Foster.....	703-930-2813

Chantilly

13557 Smallwood La.....	\$574,950	Sun 1-4	Judy Pfarter.....	Samson Properties.....	703-989-8767
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Clifton

12204 Henderson Rd.....	\$749,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Hermandorfer.....	Long & Foster.....	703-503-1812
7114 Ivakota Rd.....	\$817,900	Sun 1-4	Debbie Besley.....	Long & Foster.....	703-346-5103
12851 Popes Head Rd.....	\$849,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Hermandorfer.....	Long & Foster.....	703-503-1812

Fairfax Station

7114 Lake Tree Dr.....	\$799,950	Sun 2-4	Pat Fales.....	RE/MAX.....	703-503-4365
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Lorton

8516 Blue Bird Woods Ct.....	\$330,900	Sun 1-4	Ray Courchene.....	Coldwell Banker.....	703-980-3628
9205 Treasure Oak Ct.....	\$699,900	Sun 1-4	Maurice Berry.....	Senate Realty.....	301-775-6609

Burke

6616 Bestwicke Ct.....	\$449,900	Sun 1-4	Jennifer Turner.....	RE/MAX.....	571-332-1816
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Kingstowne/Alexandria

5990 Founders Hill Ct. #101.....	\$279,950	Sun 1-4	Tom & Cindy and Associates.....	Long & Foster.....	703-822-0207
7509 Wexford Pl.....	\$375,000	Sun 1-4	Greg Koons.....	Weichert.....	703-209-7678
7469 Collins Meade Way.....	\$469,950	Sun 1-4	Tom & Cindy and Associates.....	Long & Foster.....	703-822-0207
6576 Kiernan Ct.....	\$539,950	Sun 1-4	Tom & Cindy and Associates.....	Long & Foster.....	703-822-0207
5284 Sandyford St.....	\$559,950	Sun 1-4	Tom & Cindy and Associates.....	Long & Foster.....	703-822-0207

Annandale

4503 Holborn Ave.....	\$620,000	Sun 1-4	Eileen Smith.....	Prudential Carruthers.....	703-975-7984
8312 Upper Spring La.....	\$864,900	Sun 1-4	Annie Cefaratti.....	Weichert.....	202-841-7601

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 All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.

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Kent E \$499,900
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Drees HOMESSM

dreeshomes.com or visit us on your phone at mobile.dreeshomes.com

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 13

Networking Lunch. 11 a.m. Free. MidatlanticNetworking.com in conjunction with Greg Nerantzis of Merrill Lynch will be hosting a Networking Lunch. At Vintage 51 Restaurant and Brew Lounge, 25031 Riding Plaza, Chantilly. Register in advance by calling 703-722-2844 for directions. Email Jay@MidAtlanticNetworking.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 15

Fibromyalgia Talk. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Brian Walitt, MD, rheumatologist and medical director of the new Medstar Fibromyalgia Evaluation and Research Center, will present to the Northern

VA Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS, CFIDS, ME), Fibromyalgia (FM), and Orthostatic Intolerance Support group. At the James McDonnell Room, Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly. cfsupport-owner@yahoo.com, 703-968-9818. cfsnova.com

MONDAY/JAN. 17

Training Tomorrow's Leaders. 7 p.m. Free. GFWC-Western Fairfax County Woman's Club will host a spokesperson for Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) and an alumni of HOBY's unique leadership training, service-learning, and motivation building experiences. Learn more about this outstanding leadership program and WFCWC's annual sponsorship of a local high school student to attend state seminars. At the Greenbriar Community Center, 4615 Stringfellow Road. Call Jackie at 703-378-8551

or e-mail us at westernfairfaxcountywc@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 22

Seminar. Free. "The Secrets of Weight Loss for Women." Noon to 1 p.m. With guest speaker Dr. Lucky Bennett. Talk will focus on the importance of achieving and maintaining a healthy weight and the role women's unique biology throughout the lifespan plays in weight management. At the Women's Club Fitness Center and Day Spa, 14175 Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly. Call 703-817-0700 or send an email to womensclub@aol.com to reserve your space.

SUNDAY/JAN. 23

DWC Annual Meeting. 3 to 5 p.m. In the first hour of the meeting, Sen. George L. Barker and Del. Mark Sickles will discuss 2011 General Assembly legislation and redistricting. The

Annual Meeting will follow from 4 to 5 p.m. and will include "Soapbox Time." At Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Email cliftonwomensdems@aol.com or go to www.DemocraticWomenofClifton.org.

MONDAY/JAN. 24

Republican Women of Clifton. 7:30 p.m. Meets for coffee and refreshments at 7 p.m. Bring coats and jackets (any size) for donation to the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter on Lee Highway in Fairfax. Meeting is at Clifton Elementary School.

SATURDAY/JAN. 29

Workshop. Free. Yoga for Weight Loss. Noon to 1 p.m. At the Women's Club Fitness Center and Day Spa, 14175 Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly. Pre-registration is required. Call 703-817-0700 or send an email to womensclub@aol.com.

IT'S THE NEXT BIG THING AT
MADISON CRESCENT TOWN CENTER:
SINGLE FAMILY HOMES.

THE BIG REVEAL

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- Tour 2 Brand New Gorgeous Models!
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ENTERTAINMENT

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Centreville Stitches welcome adults who enjoy knitting, crocheting, or other needlework crafts and conversation. Meets at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Dr., Centreville, VA. Admission is free. If you have any questions, contact Jo at 703-803-0595 or email joknitter@verizon.net.

Tuesday, Jan. 11 — 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
 Thursday, Jan. 27 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
 Thursday, Feb. 10 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
 Thursday, Feb. 24 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

ZUMBA Classes. 7 to 8 p.m. Latin based dance fitness class. The first class is free; afterward it's \$7-\$9 per class. At Cornerstone Montessori School, 4455 Brookfield Corporate Drive, Suite 201, Chantilly. Visit www.gozumbafun.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 14

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the band, Rockin' Bones. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

SATURDAY/JAN. 15

Interfaith Discussion. 1 to 4 p.m. Muslims for Peace, in conjunction with Clifton Presbyterian Church, is sponsoring an interfaith discussion titled "God & Science," and its academic purpose is to examine the compatibility of the belief in God, in light of modern scientific discoveries and advances. Another goal is to promote interfaith discussions and establish and maintain relationships among a variety of religious communities. Speakers will represent Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. A potluck lunch will be served at 1 p.m.; those wanting to bring a dish are asked to contact the organizers in advance, to coordinate, (but a dish is not required to come). Contact Jalal Malik, outreach director, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Northern Virginia, at 202-670-1588 or amc.nva@gmail.com or Jen Dunfee, associate pastor, Clifton Presbyterian Church, at 703-830-3175 or Jennifer-cliftonpc@vacoxmail.com. At Clifton Presbyterian

Church, behind Trummer's in the Town of Clifton.

SUNDAY/JAN. 16

Great Dane Rescue. Noon to 2 p.m. Come out and meet some Danes and ask our volunteers any questions you may have. Sponsored by Mid-Atlantic Great Dane Rescue League (MAGDRL). At Wylie Waggs, Pender Village Shopping Center, 3903-F Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax. Visit www.nova-magdrl.org.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 19

ArtSpeak! 7:30 p.m. Free. Broadway star Rebecca Luker is coming to Westfield High School for a free presentation of ArtSpeak! Luker is a Tony-nominated actress and recording artist. Her credits include Mrs. Banks in "Mary Poppins" and Marion the Librarian in "The Music Man," as well as roles in "Nine," The Sound of Music and many other Broadway and Off-Broadway productions.

FRIDAY/JAN. 21

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the band, King Teddy. Beginner swing lesson from 8:30 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

JAN. 28 THROUGH JAN. 30

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. More than 250 craftspeople will display their handmade works. Hours are Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$7/online; \$9/door. At the Dulles Expo Center, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Call 800-210-9900.

SATURDAY/JAN. 29

Winter Dance Clinic. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For grades 1-8. Participants will learn two dances, and are invited to perform at halftime at the Chantilly Girls' Varsity Basketball game vs. Oakton on Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 7:30 p.m. The cost for the clinic is \$50 includes pizza lunch and a t-shirt. Registration forms can be found at www.chantillysports.org on the Dance Team page under "Camps and Clinics". Contact coach Casey Cassara at chargerdancers@gmail.com.



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REBECCA D'ANDREA

Before chemo, Rachel had long brown hair.

Farewell

FROM PAGE 12

and that huge smile, big blue eyes and spring in her step," said Brady. "I have pictures of her dancing in Central Park, and then I realize she's never going to do that again. It's just heartbreaking. But her parents left no stone unturned in trying to find something that would help her, so I hope they can find some comfort in that."

GINNY GRIVAS held the first fund-raiser for Rachel and has become a close, family friend. "I've never seen someone with such determination as this little girl, and she's causing me and others to re-examine our lives," said Grivas. "Whenever we're facing trials and tribulations, we'll remember Rachel and her strength and that will spur us on."

Referring to Winston Churchill's quote, "The highest reward for a person's work is not what they get for it, but what they become because of it," Grivas said it epitomizes how Rachel and her family have changed her. Soon after Rachel's diagnosis, she felt called to become a caregiver to Rachel's caregivers.

"As a result, I can't help but want to dedicate myself to helping families in their fight against children's cancer," she said. "I believe Rachel was a very special angel lent specifically to Jon and Rebecca. God knew that together they would provide the perfect love necessary for her light to shine so brightly that no one could resist being drawn to it. I'm so grateful for Rachel and so happy I trusted my heart and instincts. Her light will forever shine in me."

For their part, the D'Andreas thank the local community for the kindness and concern shown to their family. "Words cannot express my love and gratitude for every, single person who's followed Rachel's story," said Jon D'Andrea. "I only wish the journey was still going on and Rachel was still here fighting."

Blood Drive

FROM PAGE 2

messages of support. He's only just begun his fight against leukemia, but those who know him remain upbeat.

"Alex is a tremendous athlete," said Biagi. "He's a winner — and that's why we know he's going to beat this."

Of Maximum Importance



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

By the time this column prints on Jan. 12, 2011, I will have met with my oncologist and discussed the results of my end-of-December scans. Given the Jan. 5, 2011 due date of this column however (as was the case with last week's column), it is being written and submitted for copy-editing consideration before the Jan. 7, 2011 appointment with my oncologist will actually have occurred. Ergo the continuing uncertainty.

This kind of waiting and wondering and mind-racing-out-of-control is nothing new for me, nor is it for any patient, terminal or otherwise, who is scanned/X-Rayed and/or examined regularly (women waiting for the results of a mammogram certainly come to mind). And though I don't think I feel any differently (meaning symptomatic/worse), I do feel something. And that something is inevitability. Consider the fact that my oncologist initially told Team Lourie back on Feb. 27, 2009 that I had 13 months to two years to live and Feb. 27, 2011 (the end of that two years) is merely six weeks away, and I'm sure you can imagine the calendar-watching I'm obsessing on.

And as much as I want to, try to, ignore that original prognosis (I hesitate to characterize it as fact since medicine is, after all, a science; it's not arithmetic), it is nearly impossible to do so. Moreover, I have made many changes in my life since first receiving my cancer diagnosis, and they, presumably, along with my attitude, have served me well and likely enabled me to maintain an atypical quality of life (for a terminal patient, I mean) and to outlive that original prognosis. However, as a long-time salesman, I can't shake one of the adages that many of us have learned to live by: "Waiting for the other shoe to drop." Meaning, something negative is lurking — which you can't control. And the corollary to that adage/attitude is inevitability: the longer the news is positive, the closer it gets to being negative. (Or for non-terminal salespersons — in general: "Every 'No' is one step closer to a 'Yes.'")

Not that I'm depressed or on any kind of mental slide, it's more that I'm living a very time-sensitive existence, according to my oncologist. And having been diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer which, generally speaking, doesn't go away, and in my case is inoperable to boot, doesn't exactly enhance what quality of what life you do have. So minimizing anything that is happening to me: symptom-wise, diagnosis-to-date-wise or plain old words-to-the-wise-wise, is challenging to say the least; and the bane of that existence to say the most.

But what else is new? Nothing! This recurring quarterly cycle is of course familiar to me — at this juncture, and comfortable, sort of. I go to the same places, see the same people, follow the same routine. And for me, "same" is good as is "familiar." It lessens the impact and eliminates any of the awkwardness. All of which contributes to managing stress — and stress, as I've been repeatedly told, especially as it effects terminal/cancer patients, is a killer (literally and figuratively). And since being the exception that proves the rule has been my mantra, I am happy to find a path of less resistance.

Still, knowing what I know and doing what I do, doesn't make life any easier, it just doesn't make it more difficult than it already is. And simplifying the cancer tasks (as well as most others, if you want to know the truth) is my goal, because I've reached a point where I can no longer be bothered. I'm already bothered enough.

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

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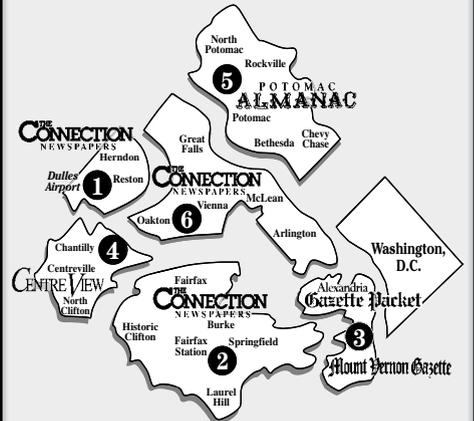
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Having a defective hip implant in your body clearly demands having your own lawyer. You must be very cautious with dealing with the manufacturer or its representative without proper legal representation.

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Chantilly Track Goes Full Throttle Into Stretch Drive

Chargers preparing for upcoming indoor postseason meets.

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

The pre-holidays portion of the winter indoor high school track and field schedule is generally a tune-up for athletes and teams as they prepare for the heavy bulk of the schedule in January and February. For younger team members, the first month or so of the season is about learning their events and becoming acclimated to high school track and field.

Chantilly High, like most teams around the area, has gone through the break-in period of the season and is now ready and hoping for a highly successful stretch run as the postseason meets loom just ahead.

"December always tends to be a little bit of an adjustment period because young kids are trying to get experience," said Matt Gilchrist, the Chargers' head coach. "Some of our freshmen and sophomores could make contributions down the road for us [this season]."

Gilchrist is pleased by what he has seen from his more seasoned athletes.

"A number of our veterans have started off very well and we can realistically expect big things from them," said the coach.

One of the top members of the boys' team is Mohammed Labor-Koroma, a versatile senior whose main event is the 500 but who also will help the Chargers in numerous other events.

"He's having a fantastic season," said Gilchrist. "He has a chance to win the state in the 500."

The past two years have seen Labor-Koroma capture first place in the 500 at both the Concorde District and Northern Region Championships. He placed third in the 500 event at last Saturday's Montgomery Invitational meet in Maryland, where he finished behind two Maryland school runners.

On top of excelling in the 500, Labor-Koroma is a points' earner in several other

running and field events. He competes in the 300 race and the 4x800 relay, as well as the long and high jumps, and triple jump.

Last year he was part of Chantilly's region championship 4x800-relay team. That foursome also included since-graduated star distance runner Chris Foley, a current member of the University of Virginia men's indoor team.

"Mo's an incredibly strong, disciplined [athlete] and has shown the ability to compete in four or five events," said Gilchrist. "We know that will be his role at districts and we'll be counting on him in several events."

The Concorde District championships are less than two weeks away, tabbed to begin on Friday, Jan. 28.

Gilchrist said Labor-Koroma, who began competing in indoor track as a sophomore after wrestling his freshmen year, has progressed as a track athlete with each and every indoor and outdoor season.

"He's gotten a little better each year," said Gilchrist. "Not just as a runner, but as a jumper, high jumper, middle distance [runner]. He was all-district in cross country this [past fall]."

Another key member for the Chantilly boys is sophomore distance runner Sean McGorty, who will be part of the Chargers' 4x800 relay this season. He was district champion and region runner-up in cross country during the fall. At the Montgomery Invitational on Saturday he earned a state-qualifying time in the two-mile race. This indoor postseason will see McGorty competing in the two mile and one mile races, as well as the 4x800.

"He's still a sophomore and needs more racing experience," said Gilchrist. "He's still getting mature as a track athlete. Track and cross country are not the same. But he learned a lot last year working with Chris [Foley]."

Two other boys' athletes to keep an eye on are junior Arthur McDuffy and Miles Ransom.

McDuffy has been an All-District performer in both the long and triple jump events the past two years, and is likely to be a true region contender in both this year.

"This year he's showing consistency at the region level," said Gilchrist.

Ransom will be a district contender in both the 55-hurdles and pole vault events.

Chantilly has a number of superb girls' athletes in senior Nina Ullom and junior Jaquelyn Sieder. Ullom has been All-Region in pole vault each of the last two years in both the indoor and outdoor seasons. Sieder was All-Region in the 500 last year. Another outstanding athlete for the Chargers is sophomore Kendall Cowne (mile, 1,000, 500), a first year member of the Chantilly squad.

"In four meets she's been very competitive," said Gilchrist, of Cowne. "I expect her to be competitive at the district and region level."

CHANTILLY will be competing at the Liberty Flames High School Invitational this weekend in Lynchburg. Gilchrist said he will take 50 of his athletes to the big, two-day meet. Other members of the squad, on Saturday, will be taking part in a meet closer to home at Thomas Jefferson High in Alexandria.

Gilchrist said the weekend in Lynchburg will be an opportunity for Chantilly athletes to really make an impression in

their respective events.

"We're looking for kids to step up and separate themselves," said Gilchrist.

NEXT WEEK, on Jan. 21, Chantilly will return to Lynchburg again for a smaller meet at Liberty. Hopefully for Chantilly, the two weekend meets at Liberty will give the team a boost going into the following week's district meet.

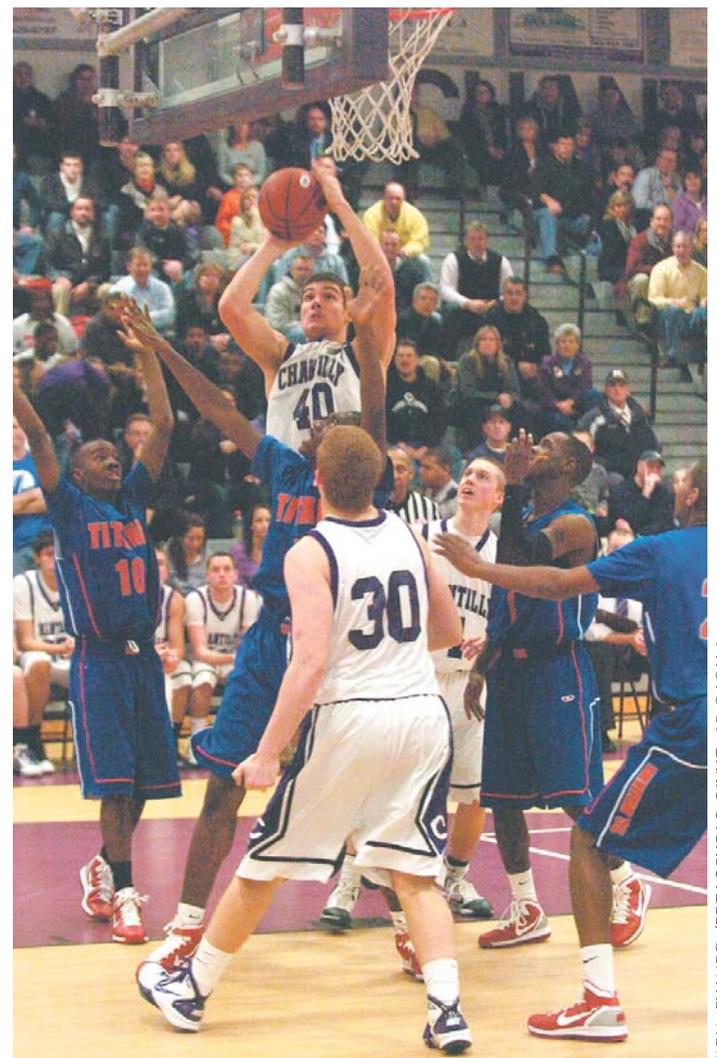


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Chantilly High senior Jake Wiegand goes up for a shot during the Chargers' non-district 59-51 home loss to T.C. Williams last week on Jan. 4. The Chargers (10-3) followed the loss up with a win three days later over visiting Robinson, 76-69. Chantilly will be at Centreville this Friday night.

SPORTS NOTES

The Chantilly High Sports Report Wrestling: The varsity wrestling team made school history by placing third at the Virginia Duals competition this past weekend. The Chargers went 5-1 in the competition to secure a third place finish for the first time.

Swim and Dive: Chantilly competed against Robinson with the Charger boys beating the Rams, 161-153, for a Concorde District upset win on Senior Night. The Chantilly freshmen boys beat the Rams, but had some great swims.

Basketball: The boys' varsity beat Robinson while the JV Chargers lost a close one. The Chantilly freshmen boys were victorious. The Charger girls' varsity lost to Robinson.

Ice Hockey: The Chargers, under

coach Van Nuys, beat Mount View (Stafford), 8-5. Chantilly, in the win, played the final 5 minutes without a goalie as the result of a penalty. Even so, the Chargers tallied a goal during that spell while not allowing any to secure the win.

Cameron Vaughn, an 8th-grader from Chantilly, was selected to play in the 2011 Eastbay Youth All-American Bowl, which took place Sunday, Jan. 9 at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas. Vaughn was scheduled to play at running back position for the 8th-grade, East team.

Pitting the nation's top 7th and 8th graders against one another in an all-star format, the Eastbay Youth All-American Bowl brings together the top youth talent

in the nation. This year, the bowl returned to San Antonio and was webcasted live.

The Eastbay Youth All-American Bowl consists of three East vs. West all-star Games - one for the top 40, 7th graders with a 175-pound limit; one for the top 40, 8th graders with a 185-pound limit; and a third game featuring the top 40, 8th graders with no weight limit.

Leading up to the game, the Bowl week consisted of practices, a skills competition, and break-out sessions with Hall of Famers, as well as current and former NFL stars and celebrities.

The Chantilly Youth Association (CYA) under 12 girls' Freedom White travel soccer team will be holding tryouts to fill vacancies in preparation for the

spring season. Freedom White is a member of the Old Dominion Soccer League (ODSL). Those interested in trying out should contact Coach Scott Hendricks by email at scottandkarenhendricks@cox.net, or by phone at 703-865-4599.

The Westfield High Athletic Hall of Fame is meant to recognize those young men and women who have achieved great success in the classroom and on the field of play. Only a small number of individuals who work hard to improve and give of themselves for the benefit of the team have the opportunity to achieve the honor bestowed upon a Hall of Fame Inductee. The charter class of the Westfield Athletic Hall of

Fame 2010 is as follows:

Team: 2003 State Championship Football Team; 2004 State Championship Outdoor Boys Track & Field Team.

Athletes: Louis Corum (Football, Track & Field); Sean Glennon (Football); Eddie Royal (Football); Lacey White (Volleyball); MaryLynne Schaffer (Basketball); Chris Black (Track & Field); Chris Courson (Track & Field); David Groff (Track & Field); James Scheiner (Track & Field); Alvin Tondereau (Track & Field); Phillipe Tondereau (Track & Field); Carmen Meade (Track & Field); Katherine Pettine (Track & Field); Brandon Snyder (Baseball).

Coach: Terri Towle
Administrator: Francis Dall

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Collecting Food for Those in Need

Salon Antoine in Fairfax became a food drop center over the Christmas season benefiting Clifton's St. Andrew's the Apostle Catholic Church.

Two area ministries the church traditionally aids over the holidays — Our Lady of The Blue Ridge in Madison, Va., and Western Fairfax Christian Ministries in Chantilly — were the primary recipients of the food donations.

Thirty-three boxes with more than 1,000 items of non-perishable food donations were gathered and will help stock the kitchen pantries of both nonprofit organizations. Salon Antoine's Tony Chahine said, "I'm thrilled we could make such a difference for people in need."

The Rev. John D. Kelly, pastor of St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, added, "Businesses like Salon Antoine don't have to do this sort of charitable giving, yet they do. On behalf of St. Andrew's, I thank Tony Chahine and Salon Antoine for their willingness to share."



Salon Antoine's Tony Chahine with the Rev. John D. Kelly.

UOSA To Replace More Sewer Pipes

FROM PAGE 1

"And we've added a 3,500-foot section needed to complete the Cub Run Gravity Delivery System."

That system is 13 miles long and consists of the Upper Cub Run, Middle Cub Run, Lower Cub Run, Flatlick and Rocky Run branches. Wastewater flows north to south through this system, and pipeline in almost all sections needs replacing.

Project cost is \$27 million, with funding coming from UOSA's bond money, plus water-bill payments. The system was built in the 1970s but at that time, the pipe sizes were capped. The existing pipe is just 27-42 inches in diameter, but the new pipe will range from 36-60 inches in size and is expected to last more than 100 years.

The system was designed to take this local service area to the 1990s and a population of 45,000. But when the population here hit 100,000, it became evident that more capacity was needed. And with 108,000 residents now, that need is even more critical.

"We're trying to prevent future overflows — not building it isn't an alternative," said Senior Project Engineer Dave Wieller. "And we need to keep it in the same alignment and general corridor [that it's already in]."

The original pipe is reinforced concrete, but the new pipe is made out of a corrosion-proof Fiberglas. The new section will be some five miles long and will be sized to convey peak flows through the year 2050.

Construction began in September 2009 and is proceeding in phases from south to north. An area 80 feet wide had to be temporarily cleared during the work, but UOSA promised to restore the disturbed area to the property owners' satisfaction.

Currently, between 2 million and 12 million gallons a day of raw sewage come to the Cub Run Pump Station. So sewage is being pumped around the work area to maintain continuous service during construction.

Construction access is at Route 29, Wetherburn

Drive and Hidden Canyon Road in Virginia Run, Honsena Drive in Chalet Woods and Braddock Road near Cub Run Elementary. UOSA agreed to use each entrance equally — for about six months each — to bring in its equipment, and it won't use Route 29 during rush hour.

Wieller said the new section of pipe will go south of Braddock Road, toward Chantilly National Golf Course, and will use the already-existing, Braddock Road construction access.

"A 50-foot-wide area will be temporarily cleared to provide a safe and efficient work space," he said. Since that's 30 feet less than in the rest of the project area, Wieller said, "This will minimize the impact on the surroundings, and then that area will be restored after construction."

Depending on the weather, he said, "We're looking at March or April to begin construction on this section. It should take eight to 10 weeks, ending in June or July."

Since Park Authority land is disturbed when the old pipes are dug up and the new ones inserted, Wieller noted that, throughout the entire project, "Almost 7,000 trees are being planted and we've already planted 1,300-1,500 trees."

In addition, UOSA is building two footbridges over the Cub Run Stream — which will enhance local residents' enjoyment of the area. Wieller said the pedestrian bridge in the vicinity of Oakengate Drive is scheduled to be set in place this month.

The WFCCA then voted unanimously to recommend approval of the extra section of pipe. The Planning Commission has the final say and, according to Sully District Planning Commissioner John Litzenberger, "We've met with several residents and there's been a lot of positive feedback from them."

Furthermore, said Wieller, "The whole project was initially anticipated to take four years. But now, we expect to finish up two years ahead of schedule, so we should be wrapped up by summer."

For project updates, see www.uosa-construction.org.

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A Family Volunteer Day
 Monday, January 17, 2011
 Shift 1: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Shift 2: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 GMU - Fairfax Campus

Families of all shapes and sizes can volunteer at projects benefiting six local nonprofits - in the convenience of one, central location.

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Centreville, VA 20120
(703) 830-4563

Pastor James & First Lady Ada Vanison, Founders

Worship Services:
Sunday Services 11 AM & 4 PM
Wednesday Service 8 PM

Visit us on-line at www.treeoflifebiblechurch.org

 **Centreville Baptist Church**

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8:00 & 9:30 am Celebration Service
11:00 am Contemporary Service

Bible Study
9:30 am & 11:00 am

Ministries Include:
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www.centreville-umc.org
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Corner of New Braddock Road & Route 28

Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Christian Education for All Ages: 9:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: Wed. 9:30 a.m.

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

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11:00 AM
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11:02 AM

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