

CENTRE VIEW

NORTHERN EDITION

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25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Portraying patients watching a sports competition on TV are (from left) Daniel Braunstein, Ozzy Tirmizi, Nick Burroughs, Chaz Coffin, Trevor Knickerbocker, Max Ehrlich and Adam Thomas.

Jack Nicholson Classic at WHS

Thespians present
'One Flew Over
the Cuckoo's Nest.'

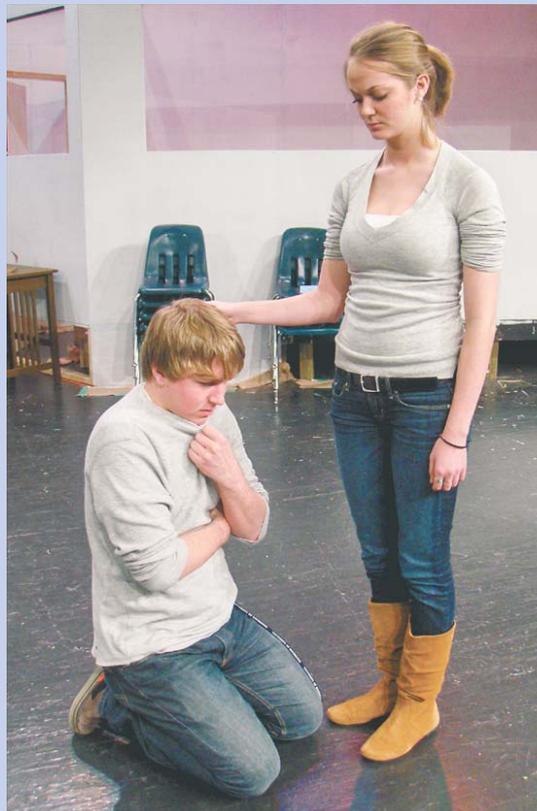
BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Never afraid to tackle tough, challenging material, Westfield High's theater students will perform "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." The show features a cast and crew of 50, and the curtain rises Friday-Saturday, Feb. 18-19, at 7:30 p.m. each night, and Sunday, Feb. 20, at 2 p.m. www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

The story takes place in the mid-1960s in a mental institution in the Pacific Northwest. When a charming convict is sent there and tries to shake things up, he profoundly affects the other patients while locking horns with the head nurse.

"I'm very proud of the work the cast has been doing on this play, portraying older characters who are fragile, misunderstood and outcasts in society," said Director Susie Pike. "To work on a piece such as Cuckoo's Nest takes a great deal of maturity and sensitivity, and the cast has been working diligently on their acting and character por

SEE JACK NICHOLSON, PAGE 9



From left: Nick Burroughs and Taylor Reese play a patient and Nurse Ratched, respectively.

Raising Funds For Staffing

Worker center funding, rules are discussed.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

The slogan of the Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF) is "Bringing neighbors together to create a more peaceful community." One way of doing that is by getting day laborers off the streets and into a worker center where they could more easily find jobs.

"Our mission is broader than just running a worker center," said CIF head Alice Foltz. "It's to bring together the many, diverse elements that make up Centreville."

Currently, though, that center is the group's main focus, as its members try to come up with the money needed to open it. Al Dwoskin, owner of the Centreville Square Shopping Center, agreed to provide the space for the facility and pay its utility bills. But much work remains.

"We've been trying to reach out and sell the idea to the community," said Foltz, at the CIF's Jan. 25 meeting. "We're also doing fund-raising — actively seeking grants and donations — so we can open the center without government money."

Terry Angelotti, who heads the CIF's Finance and Fund-Raising committee, told the group, "It's looking good, but we still have a long way to go." Since the December 2010 meeting, she said, the CIF has received \$6,000 in dona-



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Laborer Carlos Gonzalez explains the worker center's rules and regulations.

tions.

Angelotti said a total of \$1,800 came from individuals and the rest from organizations. For example, she said St. Charles Catholic Church in Arlington gave \$1,800 and Blessed Sacrament Church in Alexandria contributed \$1,900. Monetary donations also came from churches in Vienna and Washington, D.C.

THE GROUP IS also holding fund-raisers, the first of each month, at Pizzeria Uno in Manassas and has also applied for several grants. Angelotti also encouraged CIF members to reach out to their friends and family, explain what they're doing and ask for donations. "Sometimes, those one-on-one presentations are the most powerful," she said.

SEE WORKER CENTER, PAGE 5

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NEWS

Free Income-Tax Preparation

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program provides free, tax-preparation services at no cost to working families and individuals whose annual earned income is less than \$49,000. Last year, volunteers donated approximately 13,200 hours of their time to help low-income families receive more than \$5.5 million in federal tax refunds.

To take advantage of this program, go to the Chantilly Regional Library on Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., now through April 9. If married and filing a joint return, both spouses must attend. For more information, visit <http://www.nvacash.org>. Participants must bring the following items:

- ❖ Photo ID for taxpayer (and spouse if filing jointly).
- ❖ Social Security cards and birthdates for the taxpayer, spouse and dependents.
- ❖ If married and filing a joint return, both spouses must be present.
- ❖ Wage and earnings statements: W-2, W-2G, 1099-R.
- ❖ Unemployment compensation, Form 1099G.
- ❖ Interest and dividend statements.
- ❖ Child care expenses paid in 2010 and the child care provider's name, address and federal ID number.
- ❖ Student loan interest payments.
- ❖ Record tuition, purchase of books and/or student loan payments, 1098-E.
- ❖ A copy of last year's federal and state returns (if available).
- ❖ A check or deposit slip if you want direct deposit.
- ❖ Record of any sales tax paid on new vehicles purchased in 2010.
- ❖ Record of any real estate taxes and mortgage interest payments made in 2010.
- ❖ Record of any Economic Recovery Payment received from Social Security Administration (SSA), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) or Veterans Administration.

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Sully police department through Feb. 4.

LARCENIES

14500 block of Meeting Camp Road. License plate stolen from vehicle.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ROUNDUPS

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Feb. 10, and Feb. 24, 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 correct use of the child seat. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Shelter Hosts 'Be Mine, Feline'

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter is currently hosting a special adoption, through Feb. 28, called "Be Mine, Feline," highlighting cats and kittens available for adoption. The shelter is including a special assessment of each cat's personality to help prospective adopters find the right feline for their family.

In November 2010, the shelter received 161 cats from a hoarding case at a single home. Many of those cats are now healthy and ready to go to safe, loving, permanent homes. Many other cats and kittens staying at the shelter this winter are also available.

To view cats (and other animals) available for adoption, visit the shelter Tuesdays through Fridays, noon-7 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Or, to adopt other types of animals, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police to see the shelter's Adopt-A-Pet feature and learn more about an animal in search of a loving home. For more information, call the shelter at 703-830-1100.

Sully District CAC Meeting

The next meeting of the Sully District Citizens Advisory Committee is Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

Help Plan Centreville Day

Members of the community are invited to help plan Centreville Day 2011. A meeting is slated for Thursday, Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library. Needed are people with imagination, energy and organizational skills – people who want to learn more about and support their community. Committees include entertainment, logistics, history, vendors and more. For more information, contact Cheryl Repetti at cbrepetti@verizon.net or 703 830-5407.

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, Feb. 27, 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.

Tree, Shrub Seedlings Available

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is currently holding its annual seedling sale. Two packages are available:

- ❖ The Deer Resistant Shrub and Small Tree package costs \$15.95 and includes two of each of the following species: Red osier dogwood, silky dogwood, serviceberry, spicebush, and pawpaw.

- ❖ The Wildlife Friendly Tree Package sells for \$10.95 and is ideal for common areas or larger suburban yards. It includes two of each of the following: Black oak, sycamore, and American hornbeam.

All seedlings are native to Northern Virginia. To download an order form or for more information visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>. For more information, contact Nick Kokales at 703-324-1420 or nicholas.kokales@fairfaxcounty.gov.

NEWS

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



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

The cast of "Lockdown" (back row, from left) Matt Darling, Emily Dwornik and Danny Jackson; (middle row, from left) Rachel Hollenbeck, Faby Argondona-Robles, Sydney Battle and Keegan Collins; and (front row, from left) director Kristina Rathjen, Ashley Rosenstein and Binta Barry.

CVHS Presents Dramapalooza

'In Facebook Wii Trust' also to be performed.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Featuring a variety of thought-provoking and entertaining scenarios, Centreville High presents its annual, one-act play festival, Dramapalooza. Seniors will direct all seven plays, taking the stage Friday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

Saturday's program will also include, at no extra charge, "In Facebook Wii Trust," the one-act Centreville performed in VHSL competition. Written by a high-school student in Texas, it envisions what would happen if people only interacted via the Internet.

"We saw this show at the International Thespian Festival last June in Lincoln Nebraska and loved it," said Centreville Theater Director Mike Hudson. "We were the first group to produce it."

He's also excited about Dramapalooza. "We have seven, very talented directors this year, and I'm sure the audience will enjoy their work. I believe all students learn by doing, so every director will have a new appreciation for their art."

"Our one-act play festival showcases the creative talents of senior actors and allows them to experience the stress, thrill and satisfaction of directing," continued Hudson. "They're responsible for the en-



DeAnna Hundley directs "A Night without TV, Music and Gossip."

tire production of their play. They have to acquire the rights, cast the show, run rehearsal and arrange for the set and all technical aspects. They generally find it an eye-opening experience."

'A NIGHT WITHOUT ...'

Directing "A Night without TV, Music and Gossip" is DeAnna Hundley. Playing the leads in this six-person cast are Jessie Lamke and Heather Vass.

"Some high-school girls are at a sleepover and are being too loud, and a neighbor who's a witch asks them to quiet down," said Hundley. "But they don't, so she

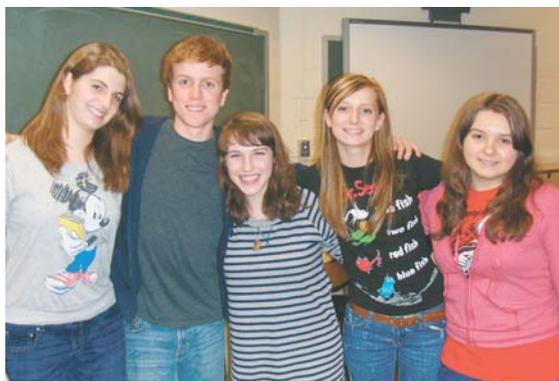
casts a spell on them so they can't watch TV, listen to music or gossip — which is what you do at a sleepover."

"The play is about learning the value of friendship," continued Hundley. "But they wouldn't have found this out if they were doing all those other things."

She's enjoying directing because "you get to put your own, creative ideas into a play, and you can also see what your teachers go through to put together a show. It's definitely harder than it looks. The hardest part is telling your fellow students what to do; you're friends, but you also have to be stern."

Hundley said directing has taught her to listen to others' ideas "because they might have an idea that's better than yours. And in the end, the final product

SEE ONE-ACTS, PAGE 12



From "Boy Meets Girl: A Young Love Story" are (from left) Sara Emsley, Daniel Lindgren, Emily Berkley, director Lucy Stratton and Carly Eads.



Representing "Check Please" are (from left) Tori Sancho-Bonet, Heather Vass, Anthony Ingargiola and Maddie Assel.

SCHOOLS

Residents Share Complaints about School Boundaries

Despite movement of thousands, relative few show up to testify at hearing.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
CENTRE VIEW

A few more than 50 people showed up Monday, Feb. 7 to testify at a public hearing on a school redistricting proposal that would shift several thousand students to different elementary schools in central and southwest Fairfax County over the next two years.

Fairfax County Public Schools had originally scheduled two nights for public testimony but cancelled the second public hearing when a relatively small number of people signed up to speak on the matter.

Over the past three years, school boundary changes that affected far fewer families have been known to draw 200 residents interested in sharing their comments with the Fairfax County School Board. During a high school boundary change 2008, the School Board held at least three days of public hearings — including one all day session on a Saturday — in order to fit in all the speakers who signed up to testify.

The current redistricting proposal would move the boundaries of 21 schools that span Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Burke and Springfield. Fairfax County would spend \$15.1 million on eight-room building additions at a handful of these schools — Greenbriar East, Union Mill and Fairfax Villa — so they could accommodate a larger student population. The school system would also relocate an eight-room classroom modular to Centreville Elementary, according to a description of the changes.

The proposal also addresses the closing

of Clifton Elementary, which the school board voted to shutter last July. Current Clifton students would attend Union Mill, Fairview and Oak View elementary schools next year if the staff recommendation is approved.

RESIDENTS WHO DID SPEAK at the public hearing were, for the most part, displeased with the school system's staff recommendation.

Many of those who were upset had children who would have to move schools if the current school redistricting proposal passed. Several also came from 11 schools where the local Parent Teacher Association [PTA] or Parent Teacher Organization [PTO] had signed a petition asking the school board to postpone the vote on the redistricting recommendation.

Under the new plan, parent Scott Boalick complained that about 50 Fairview Elementary students, including his own son, would be taken out of their current school and attend one of two schools Oak View and Bonnie Brae. Boalick said his son had already taken three years of Chinese at Fairview and that his new school did not offer that language.

"I grew up in a military family so I know what it means to move from school to school. I did not want that for my child," said Boalick.

Mike Ryu, a Poplar Tree Elementary School parent, said he had found it hard to keep up with the adjustments the school system had been making to its recommendation over the past few weeks. School system staff released what seem like a near

final proposal in the middle of December but then came out with another revised plan, which became the final recommendation, in mid January.

"With how quickly the options are changing, we are lost," said Ryu, who said he and his wife had overextended their budget just so they could buy a house in the Poplar Tree school district.

Under the new proposal, his child would be attending Brookfield Elementary School, a school which receives extra federal funding because it has a large number of poor students.

"Why would you shuffle kids to a school that needs more attention?" said Ryu.

MANY OF THE SPEAKERS also used the public hearing to continue to air their angry feelings about the closing of Clifton Elementary.

William Holloway, mayor of the Town of Clifton, said many of the justifications the school board had given in July for closing Clifton have been discredited. The school system has discovered a way to address the school's water quality issues and the school population has not declined this year as the Fairfax County officials had predicted it would, he said.

"You should consider the options that provide extra space at no additional cost," said Holloway, calling for Clifton to remain open, at least until 2012.

Many Clifton parents have made no secret of the fact that they are hoping to delay the closing of their school until the end of next year. In addition to two lawsuits, Clifton residents recently got their local school building designated as historic, partially with the hope that it could be used as leverage against the school's closing, or at

"I grew up in a military family so I know what it means to move from school to school. I did not want that for my child."

— Scott Boalick, Fairview Elementary parent

least slow down the overall process, said Elizabeth Schultz at a community meeting in December.

Several members of the current school board who voted to close the Clifton school face challengers in November election or have announced they will be retiring in December. With significant turnover on the school board in 2012, some Clifton parents hope to convince the new members to revisit the decision to close their school next winter.

If they cannot successfully keep Clifton open, a small group of parents has been pursuing a charter school application, which would need approval from the school board. The proposed Lewis and Clark School would open at the site of the current Clifton Elementary. The new school could offer an elementary international baccalaureate program with a Chinese language focus. Clifton parent Charlie Rau, who has been working on the charter application, said the school system should postpone voting on boundary changes — particularly in Clifton — until next year. If the new charter school opened in 2012, it would likely absorb some of the excess capacity the school redistricting proposal seeks to address and school boundaries would not have to move nearly as much, he said.

No charter school application has ever been approved in Fairfax County.



Fans

Second graders at Lees Corner Elementary show support for their favorite Super Bowl team.



CYA Night

Shannon Prosser (Little Rocky Run), Mallory Mahoney (Westbrook), Emma Prosser (Little Rocky Run), and Tori Sedlock (Little Rocky Run) say hello to the Centreville Boys Varsity Basketball team as they head to the locker room to prepare for their upcoming match with Chantilly High School. The girls are wearing their Chantilly Youth Association team jerseys because it was CYA night at Chantilly High School. Centreville lost to Chantilly, 44 to 55.

Worker Center Funding, Rules Are Discussed

FROM PAGE 1

Area residents and businesses are also welcome to contribute toward the effort. Checks may be made payable to the CIF's fiscal agent, Virginia Organizing. Write "Centreville Immigration Forum" on the memo line and mail them to Virginia Organizing, P.O. Box 81, Centreville, VA 20122.

Donations may also be made online at www.virginia-organizing.org. Check "donate" and find Centreville Immigration Forum in the list of organizations.

"Our goal to open is \$80,000-\$85,000 to cover the salary of a full-time director, plus expenses," said Angelotti. Foltz also noted that the \$1,800 the CIF received from individuals in the previous month were in very small amounts.

"I think that's incredible," she said. "It shows the large donors that a lot of people support having a worker center here. We've received a total of \$15,000 so far, and every donation helps and makes a difference. We're working on getting nonprofit status but, right now, we're partnering with Virginia Organizing — which is a nonprofit — because it takes care of the details for us."

Another presentation at the Jan. 25 meeting came from members of the worker committee creating the rules and regulations for the worker center. Bill Threlkeld of Reston Interfaith ran the worker center in Herndon, and he discussed the proposals so far, while

worker Carlos Gonzalez translated his words into Spanish for the day laborers attending the meeting.

The new worker center would be open Monday-Saturday, from 6 a.m.-noon.

Threlkeld said that, in Herndon, workers usually received \$10/hour for their labor, and a minimum of \$40 for four hours of work or less. Here, they're considering \$50 for three hours of work or less.

Regarding the rules of work distribution, the first two or three people arriving at the beginning of the day would be on the employee list in order of attendance, in accordance with their skills.

After that, jobs would be distributed by means of a lottery within each particular skill. However, employers would have the option to choose a worker they already know. The details are still being fine-tuned, though.

"Most employers are in a hurry — they want to take one or two workers and go," said Threlkeld. "They don't want to spend time with a lottery. And what about people who are at the center for one or two weeks and never win the lottery to get work? And if they do get work, how will we keep track of that?"

Angelotti said she pictured workers being in different lotteries for different jobs, such as construction workers or landscapers. "A person could put his name in as many

lotteries as he has the skills for," she said.

"They'd all hold their tickets with their names on them and, when an employer said, for example, 'I need a landscaper,' they'd all throw their tickets in the hat," said Threlkeld. "And if they didn't win that job, they could try again for another job."

WORKERS MUST also be honest about their abilities. "At Herndon, if a person exaggerated his skills, we'd get complaints from the employer saying, for example, 'This guy can't hang drywall, at all,'" said Threlkeld. "Then we'd try to weed out this worker."

A woman attending the meeting asked what the employer's liability would be if a worker is injured on the job. Threlkeld said it depends on the employer's homeowners-insurance policy. But, he added, "It's a gray area and we tried not to get involved in those issues, at all."

The workers also devised rules of conduct, plus punishments for violating them. These rules include no damaging, destroying or stealing the property of fellow day laborers or the center, and no fighting or offensive behavior. Threatening or offensive language directed at other workers, employers or center staff is prohibited, as is showing up under the influence of drugs or alcohol or bringing these substances onto the center's property.

Workers are also banned from standing around the center after it closes, possessing firearms and gambling. They're also forbidden to listen to music loudly unless they're wearing earphones.

Foltz advised the laborers to do some more work on how the lottery system should run. "What's good is all the emphasis on respect, honor, communication and working together," she said. "It's a wonderful document, and I appreciate the spirit of cooperation with which they put that together."

"The worker center's success depends on the positive spirit and good nature of everyone involved," she continued. "We believe some large donations and grants will come through, so we feel that we will be ready to open in the foreseeable future. Therefore, we're going to start looking for someone interested in running this center as the director."

Foltz said the director should have a college degree and communication skills and speak Spanish as well as English. She also noted that this person should be "someone even-tempered who can keep his or her cool."

Once the center opens, volunteers will also be needed, and Foltz said FACETS has offered to train them "so they'll be clear about what they need to do to work at the center."



Sue Avino-Dorna and Robert LaTour,

formerly of Creative Cuts in Centreville, are back for an ENCORE in Fairfax!
The show has re-opened – our ensemble includes both new and familiar faces – five Master Colorists! Curious? Don't miss the performance!

Cast

Jean Knotts Production Director	Cindy Hamilton Stylista Extraordinaire	Antonia Peach Queen of the Brazilian Blowout
Megan Purvis Scissors Dominatrix	Jessica Yeasmis Shampoo Grip	Olivia Westbrook Assistant House Manager

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Make It a Real Happy Valentine's Day

'Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

These words, conceived in 1923 by Alice Paul, who was jailed at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton for demonstrating for women's right to vote, were approved by the United States Congress in 1972 as the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution.

To amend the constitution required the approval of 38 states; 35 voted in favor. Virginia was not among them.

This year, some of Northern Virginia's representatives in the General Assembly reintroduced the measure, and a resolution supporting the Equal Rights Amendment passed in the Virginia Senate 24-16, with all of Northern Virginia's senators voting in favor.

Thanks especially to state Sen. Patsy Ticer for advocating for what could have been a gift to all the women of Virginia and the United States, and thanks to Senators George Barker, Mark Herring, Janet Howell, Dave Marsden, Chap Petersen, Toddy Puller, Dick Saslaw, and

Better than roses or chocolate, ratify equal rights for women; 35 states have done, but not Virginia; 38 states needed to amend the constitution.

Mary Margaret Whipple for voting in favor of equal rights for women.

Delegates Mark Sickles, Kay Kory and Scott Surovell sponsored the same legislation in the Virginia House of Delegates, but the measure, which previously died in the Virginia General Assembly in 1980, languished in subcommittee.

EDITORIAL

With equal pay for women still just a goal or dream in the United States as just one example ongoing limits to women's rights, ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment would be welcome at the state and national level, and a worthy Valentine's Day present to the mothers, wives, daughters, sisters in Virginia and beyond. With women's rights as a concern worldwide and a consideration in U.S. foreign policy, such a step

Politics of the Bizarre Kind

Democrat introduces bill on ABC privatization plan proposed by Republican governor.

BY DAVE MARSDEN
STATE SENATOR (D-37)

If you ever want to see politics at its most bizarre, you only have to witness what has transpired over the past two weeks regarding ABC (State Liquor Store) privatization. I'm still scratching my head.

First, the governor spends an entire year making the case that ABC stores can be privatized by selling licenses to private enterprise. The sale of these licenses, he believes, would generate a one-time windfall of \$200 million-\$400 million that would be dedicated to transportation. That's fine but no feasibility study has indicated that the \$250 million per year that is currently generated for the state could be maintained under privatization. The governor's number is \$47 million short per year, would drive up the cost of liquor 15 percent according to the University of Richmond, triple the number of liquor outlets and leave Virginia open to untold numbers of unanticipated consequences — increased alcohol related social problems, DUIs, family discord, etc. There are very few delegates or senators who believe this is a good idea. Now for the fun part.

Del. Bob Brink (D-48) of Arlington, hijacked the governor's bill and introduced it in the House of Delegates. The governor praised this action but the Speaker of the House won't bring the bill to the floor because, even with a Republican majority, there are not enough votes to pass it. This would be embarrassing if the governor's own party would not back him, so enter from stage right Sen. Mark Obenshain

(R-26) from Harrisonburg who introduces the bill in the Senate. The reason? Have Democrats, who have the majority in the Senate, kill the bill and the governor would be able to blame them for the failure of this unworkable idea.

Look, very few people think Virginia should have ever entered the alcohol business in the 1930s after prohibition ended. The problem is, we do it too well. It makes money through taxes and mark-ups that keep other taxes like those on food and income down.

RICHMOND DIARY

It is not a core function of government, but then neither is bilking money from people — mostly lower income — through the State Lottery. At least this foolishness is not taking up valuable legislative time this year, but it is comical.

My bill to help families save money and plan for their disabled child's future is through the Senate and on its way to the House of Delegates (SB 1175). Helping people help themselves is always a good policy.

My bill to get traffic moving on the Beltway after minor fender benders is also out of the Senate and on its way to the House.

Tomorrow, we vote on my bill (SB 768) to allow Burke Centre to install flashing school zone lights, at their expense, on either side of Terra Centre Elementary to slow traffic on the Burke Centre Parkway. The Virginia Department of Transportation and the school system say it is not needed. I think it is and so do the 200 residents who signed a petition, which was offered in testimony, which really helped me get this bill out of committee.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 357

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia hereby ratifies and affirms the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution proposed by the United States Congress on March 22, 1972, and ratified by 35 state legislatures.

would send the message that the U.S. is committed to women's rights at home and beyond.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

The bill I introduced to create a license plate that would honor the 32 young people killed at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007 is out of the Senate and on to the House. The House will not approve it until 350 people have signed up. The cost is \$25. Please go to: <http://vtvfoundation.wsiefusion.net/license-plates.html> for more information on how to get this plate. Come on all you Virginia Tech grads!

Lastly, kudos to the governor. Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) has proposed spending a projected \$152 million surplus to pay back part of the Virginia Retirement System funds we did not put in last year, add money to the Rainy Day Fund and relieve retail sales businesses of having to accelerate their tax payments to the State. These are great choices. Thank you Gov. McDonnell.

Big vote on the governor's transportation package tomorrow. Will discuss that next week.

Write

Centre View Newspaper welcomes views on any public issue.

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

Letters to the Editor
Centre View
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call 703-778-9410
E-mail
centreview@connectionnewspapers.com

Alliance To Present 'Annie Jr.'

Annie (Samantha Dempsey) is the story of an orphan who befriends President Roosevelt (Adam LeKang) and finds a new home with billionaire Oliver Warbucks (Luke Wilbur) and his assistant Grace (Chelsea Townsend).

Alliance Theatre will present the musical, "Annie Jr.," Saturday, March 5, at 2 p.m.; Sunday, March 6, at 1 and 5 p.m.; Friday, March 11, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 12, at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., and Sunday, March 13, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 at www.thealliancetheatre.org. All shows will be at Mountain View High School, 5775 Spindle Court, in Centreville, off Braddock Road and behind Glory Days Grill.

Group tickets are available at 703-220-8101. The Girl Scout program includes pre-show discussions, March 5, at 12:30 p.m.; March 6, at 11:30 a.m.; and March 12, at 9:30 a.m., for all ticket holders. Custom-made patches are available for purchase; Girl Scout order form is online.

In the story, Annie and her friends live in an orphanage, and FDR and Warbucks help expose the

plots of Mrs. Hannigan (Alison Koenigsberg), the director of the orphanage; her brother, Rooster (Nick Ingargiola) and Rooster's girlfriend, Lily (Nora Leibold).

The director is Annie Ermlick; producer, Dawne LeKang; artistic/tech director, Maggie Swan; choreographer, Cathy Arnold; and music director, Beth Atkins. They say the audience will also enjoy the set, costumes, dance numbers and recognizable songs, such as "Hard Knock Life," "Maybe," "You're Never Fully Dressed without a Smile" and "Tomorrow."

Portraying the orphans are: Beth Ann (Georgia Cerisano); Lainey (Alana De Voe); Tessie (Cameron Fischer); Cathy (Danielle Holsinger); Maggie (Lindsey Jacobson); Kate (Lindsay Jones); Judy, (Catie Moore); July (Bryce Nabulsi); Pepper, (Julia Recto); Duffy, (Payton Robertson); Molly, (Grace Shields). Head Servants are Mrs. Pugh (Jessica Bogert) and Drake (Diego Encarnacion).

Rounding out the rest of the cast are Madalyn Farmer, Ashley Leightley, Amanda Holsinger, Christopher Lang, Michael McCabe, Joey Cronin, Natalie Spitzel and Tayler Fischer.

SCHOOL NOTES

The Goddard School in Chantilly is accepting applications for its annual \$10,000 Anthony A. Martino Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is given to

one Goddard School alumnus each year and helps to finance the tuition of the college or university of the student's choice. The application deadline for the Anthony A.

Memorial Scholarship is Feb. 11, 2011. Eligible applicants can access the scholarship application on Goddard's Web site at www.goddardschool.com.



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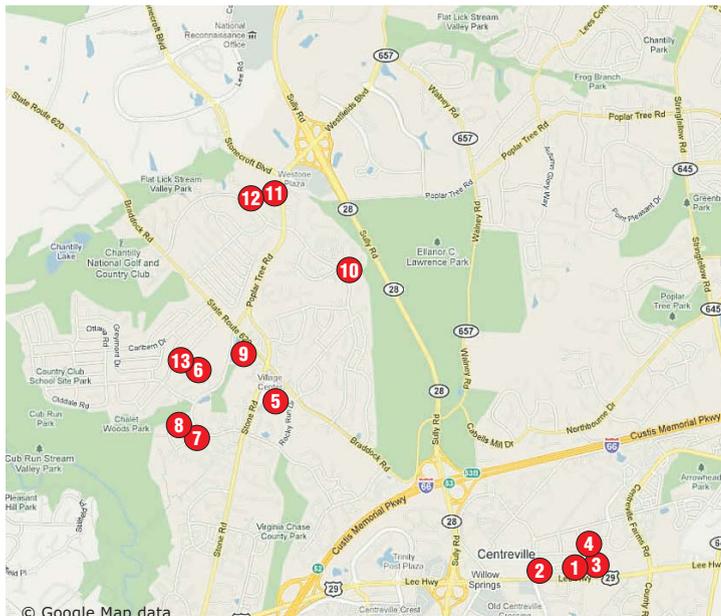
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6 5602 Flagler Drive, Centreville — \$475,000



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4 5659 FAIRCLOTH CT	3	3	1	CENTREVILLE	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04	SULLY MANOR	12/17/10
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12 14512 EDDY CT	3	3	1	CENTREVILLE	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.06	SULLY STATION	11/05/10
13 14724 JARNIGAN ST	3	2	1	CENTREVILLE	\$332,460	Detached	0.27	SULLY STATION	12/28/10

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Jack Nicholson Classic at WHS

FROM PAGE 1
trayal.”

“They’re such fine actors and human beings that it’s a joy to come to rehearsal every day,” she continued. “I would not attempt this play with just any high-school theater department — it takes a special group to handle such mature material.”

SENIOR ADAM THOMAS plays R.P. McMurphy, who’s loud, boisterous and manly and has a huge ego. “He’s like a 20-year-old in a 38-year-old’s body,” said Thomas. “He likes to have fun and party; and because of that, he committed a couple crimes — gambling and assault — and is sent to prison.”

But to get out of his work there, McMurphy acts up so he’ll be transferred to an asylum — which he thinks will be easier than prison. He also believes he’ll be released in five months — the time remaining on his sentence. He doesn’t realize that, once admitted there, he can be held until the doctors decide he’s ready for society.

Playing a role Jack Nicholson made famous in a movie, Thomas knows he has big shoes to fill, so he’s doing his own thing, instead. “It’s so much fun because no one else in the play even comes close to McMurphy’s style,” he said. “The other patients are quiet and reserved and succumb to Nurse Ratched’s demands, and he’s the exact opposite. He leads them out of introversion and they follow him because they see they can break the status quo. He’s an anti-hero — devious and manipulative — but doing a good thing for the others.”

Calling the play entertaining, Thomas said, “There’s never a dull moment. I hope the audience will fall in love with McMurphy and see that he’s benefiting these patients. I’m excited; it’s a great role. Even before auditions, I started working on this part over the summer.”

Portraying Nurse Ratched is senior Taylor Reese. “She’s a very cold woman,” said Reese. “She’s not heartless, because she thinks she’s doing the right thing, but she comes off as shrill and harsh. She’s the head honcho there, even above the doctors, because of her power and control. She also has an unspoken power over everyone, just in the way she carries herself and reacts to people.”

Reese said Ratched “stays composed and detached, even when patients are pouring out their hearts during group meetings. Interestingly, she has OCD and has a lot of the same problems the patients do. It would be hard for her to survive in the outside world without that authority.”

“I love playing her,” said Reese. “I always wanted to do this role because it’s so different from my usual, comedy roles. I wanted to challenge myself. She’s not a typical villain who plots things — she thinks that’s the way things should be. When she walks into a room, everyone gets quiet and there’s no more fun. Her humor is more adult and her snide remarks are amusing to the doctors and nurses, but not to the patients. So it’s interesting to get laughs from something I wouldn’t find amusing.”

Reese said the audience will like how real the play is. “I feel like you’d see a lot of the same things in a mental hospital,” she said. “We’re not going for laughs — we’re trying to get into the characters more so the audience can relate to them and really get into the story.”

Senior Max Ehrlich plays Chief Bromden, a Native American patient. “He’s sort of the narrator, but watches over everybody,” said Ehrlich. “He’s supposedly catatonic, but actually knows what’s going on and comments about it to himself. He even speaks to his dead father. He makes the biggest change — from quiet and not speaking to eventually talking

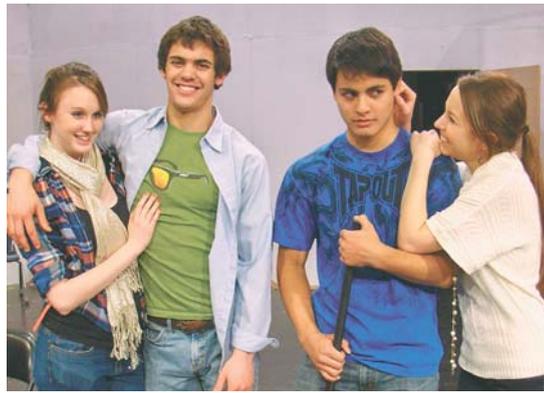


PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

Posing in character are (from left) Michelle Lerch, Adam Thomas, Max Ehrlich and Avery Hobbs.

and partying with everyone and feeling friendship toward McMurphy.”

It’s a challenging role, but Ehrlich likes exploring this different character-type. “I’m able to find particular acting moments that I never thought I’d have a chance to play,” he said. “It also helps me become a better actor to develop this character and portray the change in him — which is both difficult and exciting.” For example, since Bromden is robotic for most of the play, Ehrlich has to focus on having every, little movement he does portray his character.

He says the audience will enjoy watching McMurphy “break the social norms of this psychiatric environment. They’ll be able to laugh but, at the same time, it’s a very dramatic piece — and it’s going to be good.”

Playing Dale Harding is senior Trevor Knickerbocker. “He has problems with self-confidence and control, so he’s a voluntary patient and is there to get help,” said Knickerbocker. “He puts himself above the other patients, who he thinks have more overt and serious problems. He likes to think he’s Nurse Ratched’s right-hand man; but to her, he’s just another patient. He’s head of the patient counsel at group therapy and thinks it’s a big deal — and the patients respect that title — but in the grand scheme, it means nothing.”

Before McMurphy comes, Harding is conservative and won’t admit his feelings of vulnerability. “But afterward, he’s more comfortable with himself and begins relating to and interacting with his fellow patients,” said Knickerbocker. “He comes out of his shell; McMurphy liberates him.”

The role’s fun, yet challenging, said Knickerbocker, because “It’s so far from my real life. But it makes me put myself in another person’s shoes and investigate someone else’s situation — and I’m thankful for that.”

Also enjoying her job is student director Mandy Sachs. “I help the director with creative ideas, such as having girls from another ward come in and sing nursery rhymes — specifically the one with ‘One flew over the cuckoo’s nest’ in it,” she said. “It shows how Nurse Ratched’s power extends over the whole institution.”

Sachs says the language is toned down a bit to make it more audience-friendly; and, she added, “It’s fun, not only watching the script come to life, but seeing that the actors are able to do this show.”

As for Director Pike, she hopes the play “touches the audience and helps them understand those who may have a difficult time with everyday life.” She also thanked Theodore Penton from Westfield’s Psychology Department for his support and suggestions. “He comes to rehearsals and consults on the behavior of mental patients and the effects of medications,” she said. “It’s a true learning experience for all of us.”

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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.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

Mountain View High graduate who was murdered by her ex-boyfriend in April 2009. Registration 8:30 to 9 a.m. Cost is \$15 per walker. At Dulles Town Center.



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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.
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.

THURSDAY/FEB. 10

"Race To Nowhere" Screening. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10/online; \$15/door. Chantilly High School PTSA, Rocky Run Middle School PTA and the Franklin Middle School PTA are hosting a screening of the documentary film. The film is about the pressures faced by schoolchildren and their teachers in a system and culture obsessed with the illusion of achievement, competition and pressure to perform. Visit www.racetonowhere.com.

FRIDAY/FEB. 11

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. Have-a-Heart Hop with the Fabulettes. 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.

FEB. 12-13

Wine and Food Showcase. More than 300 different wines produced by Virginia's leading wineries as well as food and wine demos and pairings. Also 14 demonstrations and seminars led by food and wine experts. Tickets per person run \$45 at the door, \$36 online, and \$20 for non-drinkers. Hours are Saturday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. At the Westfields Marriott Hotel, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. Visit www.vawineshowcase.org.

Lunar New Year Celebration. 1-5 p.m. Free. Music, dance, kung fu demos, a lantern festival and kids' drawing contests. Up to 200 performers from 10 countries will be featured. At Fair Oaks Mall, Grand Court, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Visit www.ShopFairOaksMall.com.

SUNDAY/FEB. 13

DASH at Dulles 5K Mall Walk. 9 to 10 a.m. A fund-raiser for Dating Abuse Stops Here (DASH at www.datingabusestopshere.com). Created in memory of Siobhan Russell, a 19-year-old Franklin Farm resident and

FAITH NOTES

Congregation Yad Shalom, located in Centreville, provides a variety of programs in a traditional format with a modern flair. It invites inquiries about participation in these special activities by the local community. There are a number of activities for the family:

- ❖ Join the congregation for a dinner and Friday night service with Cantor Zucker on Feb. 11, at Little Rocky Run Community Center # 3. Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m.

- ❖ Join the congregation for a Saturday morning Shabbat service with Cantor Zucker on Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. at Little Rocky Run Community Center # 3.

- ❖ Join the congregation for a Friday night service with Cantor Zucker on March 4 at 8 p.m. at Little Rocky Run Community Center # 3.

- ❖ For more information and/or directions, contact the Congregation at 703-579-6079, or visit www.yadshalom.com.

Temple Beth Torah is a Reform Jewish congregation and member of the Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) that meets at St. Johns Episcopal Church in the heart of Centreville. Religious school is held at the Goddard School in Chantilly, Virginia. The congregation offers the Northern Virginia Jewish community services that provide numerous spiritual, educational, support and social opportunities including religious school for member children age 3 through Bar/Bat Mitzvah and confirmation. Our congregation welcomes all members of the community to attend any of our services or events. For more information, a newsletter, or a membership package, call 703-263-2252 or visit www.BethTorah.net

Lord of Life Lutheran Church's second location, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton, is now open. Everyone is invited to worship services at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Call the church office at 703-323-9500 or go to www.lordoflifelutheran.com.

MONDAY/FEB. 14

Marriage Seminar. 7 to 8 p.m. Free. "Falling in Love Again: Rekindling Romance and Restoring Hope in Your Marriage." Presented by Marriage Coach Lynn M. Griesemer at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Rd., Chantilly. Reservations accepted, but not required. lynn@marriagecoachlynn.com. Visit www.marriagecoachlynn.com/Feb14Flyer.html.

THURSDAY/FEB. 17

PTSA Parent Program. 7 p.m. Westfield High's program geared toward social media entitled, "Help! My teen is textually active. What families need to know about Facebook, Twitter and blogging." Presented by Devra Gordon, MSW, Westfield High School social worker in the Westfield High School Lecture Hall. Contact Jennifer Campbell with questions at ptsa_president@westfieldhs.org.

Centreville Day Planning Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Meets at Centreville Regional Library to help plan Centreville Day 2011. Looking for people with imagination, energy, and organizational skills who would like to learn more about and support their community. Committees include entertainment, logistics, history, vendors, and more. Contact Cheryl Repetti at cbrepetti@verizon.net or 703 830-5407.

FRIDAY/FEB. 18

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$20. With London's Jive Aces with special guest Toni Prima. 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 (Route 28 near the airport), Herndon.

SATURDAY/FEB. 19

Bluegrass Gospel Concert. 6 p.m. With Bob Stone and The Virginia Gospel Singers from Fredericksburg. A freewill offering will be received. At Oakton Baptist Church, 14001 Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly. The church is located on Route 50, 1/5 mile east of the Route 28 overpass on the corner of Route 50 and Sullyfield Circle. Call 703 631-1799.

MONDAY/FEB. 21

Travelogue on Greece and Turkey. 7 p.m. Free. Lois Price, retired Fairfax County teacher and long-time member and former President of the GFWC-Western Fairfax County Woman's Club (GFWC-WFCWC), will present a travelogue on her tours of Greece and Turkey at the WFCWC meeting. At the meeting room of the Total Wine store in the Greenbriar Plaza Shopping Center, 13055-C Lee Jackson Highway, Chantilly. A tasting of selected South African wines will follow the presentation. Call Jackie at 703-378-8551 or e-mail westernfairfaxcountywfc@gmail.com.

BUSINESS NOTES

SpaceX is opening a new office in Chantilly to serve customers looking for reliable, affordable launch solutions. The community is home to some of the world's leading Internet and high-tech companies. SpaceX is a leader in launch services with a family of rockets and spacecraft that increase the reliability and performance of space transportation, with a goal of ultimately reducing costs by a factor of ten.

Washington Property Company (WPC) has acquired 9.41 acres in Chantilly, which is Site Plan-approved for the development of a 143,667 square foot office building known as Stonegate III. The pad is the third phase of a three-building office campus in Westfields Corporate Center. WPC purchased the site, located on Conference Center Drive, from SA Stonegate III, LLC, which was represented by Chip Ryan, Jim Kornick and Matt Clinebell of Northmarq Investment Services.

Want to improve one's communication skills? Be more effective in meetings? Get a point across more concisely? Then visit the TASC Toastmasters Club and learn how membership can help one succeed. Meets Wednesday afternoons from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Northrop Grumman Building, Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. Contact Adim Okwudishu at 410-227-0177 or Email: adimkris@gmail.com. Visit www.tasctoastmasters.org

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

ONGOING

Attention crafters: Save \$10 on your registration fee when you sign up for the 31st Annual St. Timothy Craft Fair, Nov. 19, 2011, before Feb. 28, 2011. Download an application at www.sainttimothyschool.org or call 703-814-7986.

Learn English! Classes now available for adult English-language learners in Northern Virginia. 16 locations meet once or twice a week. Teachers are trained volunteers who support mission of welcoming immigrants to our community. Cost is \$30 to register for these classes at local churches. Visit www.eslim.org or contact English as a Second Language and Immigrant Ministries at 703-841-0292.

Senior Fall Prevention Classes are held in a heated indoor pool and are designed to work on balance and core muscles in order to prevent injuries and falls. Classes are held Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Mondays and/or Fridays from 2-3 p.m. at The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Registration required. Call 703-667-9800 to register as space is limited. Cost is \$10 per class.

Fair Oaks Parkinson Support Group for people living with Parkinson's disease, caregivers and family, meets on the 4th Saturday, from 10 am-noon at Sunrise at Fair Oaks, 3750 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-378-7221. www.ParkinsonFoundation.org

Parkinson Aquatic Exercise Classes for people living with Parkinson's disease and caregivers meets 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, The Woodlands, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. People living with Parkinson's \$10, caregivers \$5. Registration required. Sonia Gow 703-378-7221

Ladies, do you have a Revolutionary Patriot in your family tree? Membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) honors and preserves the legacy of your Patriot ancestor. Any woman is eligible for membership who is no less than 18 years of age and can prove lineal, blood line descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American independence. Admission to membership is by invitation through a Chapter. Interested in learning more? Contact the Lane's Mill Chapter at lanesmillchapter@hotmail.com

New Neighbors League Club (NNLC) 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. Come to one of the monthly coffees or luncheons to meet us. Then join one of the numerous clubs such as bridge, couples bridge, mahjong, gardening, quilting and stitching, Bible study, bowling, bunco, Southern living dining, movie outings, cards or board games, couples mixers, book club, nursing home sing-alongs, and many other activities. Visit the Web site www.newneighborsvirginia.com or Newneighborsleagueclub@yahoo.com

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

ESL Classes. 7 to 9 p.m. starting Feb. 8. Cost is \$10 plus \$25 for textbook. At Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. Call 703-323-9500.

STARTING FEB. 7

Financial Planning Class. Monday nights at 7 p.m. starting Feb. 7. The class is Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

(www.daveramsey.com). At New Life Christian Church in Chantilly (www.newlife4me.com). Contact Caroline Ferhat at cboyer.ferhat@gmail.com or 570-617-2517.

THURSDAY/FEB. 10

"The Year of the Business." 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Presented by the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce. The event is hosted by the Asian Business Committee of the Chamber and features Becky Lee, a local celebrity and attorney who has appeared as a contestant on "Survivor" but whose true vocation is expressed in her charitable organization, Becky's Fund. At Korshi Steak Restaurant, 5728 Pickwick Road, Centreville. Contact Jae Om at 571-323-5304 or email her at info@dullesregionalchamber.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 19

Food Donations. A Fastran bus will be parked from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to collect food donations for the needy at the Fair Lakes Center Bloom, 13065 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Sponsored by Neighborhood

and Community Services, the Office of Public Private Partnerships and MV Transportation Inc. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec/news/nr2011/fstb.htm>. Call 703-222-9764, TTY 711.

SUNDAY/MARCH 13

Fundraising Rally. 6:30 p.m. Free. Northern Virginia Fellowship of Christian Athletes fundraising rally with speaker Jerry Leachman, former Washington Redskins chaplain. At NOVA Community College. Reserve a seat at www.novafca.org or call 703-225-0070.

THURSDAY/MARCH 17

Saturday Night in the Suburbs. 7 p.m. An evening of dialogue with a panel of senior students to discuss drugs, alcohol, parties, driving, sexting, Facebook, and communication between teens and parents. To be held in the Westfield High Lecture Hall. Contact Jennifer Campbell at pta_president@westfieldhs.org, or Jennifer Lewis-Cooper at jalcooper@aol.com.

REAL ESTATE NOTES

Local Northern Virginia Realtors were honored on Thursday, Jan. 6 for completing the 2010 Northern Virginia Association of Realtors Leadership Institute. Graduates received their completion certificates at an annual leadership meeting at the association's Fairfax headquarters. The group fulfilled a year-long training course designed to prepare its members to assume positions of leadership in the real estate community.

These local Realtors graduated from the 2010 Leadership Institute: **Scott MacDonald** - RE/Max Gateway, Chantilly, and **Kate Casey** - RE/Max Gateway, Chantilly.

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One-Acts

FROM PAGE 3

is going to be amazing.” This one-act is dedicated to Dimitris Zayas, the theater student who died, Oct. 6, 2010. Said Hundley: “His death taught me to appreciate the small things in life and to appreciate your friends.”

‘LOCKDOWN’

Kristina Rathjen is directing “Lockdown,” which has a cast of nine and is about a high school on lockdown. “It’s unexplained why — which was fun because we all brainstormed endings to it,” she said. “At first, things are chill. Then the fire alarm goes off, a student runs out of the classroom and the P.A. system keeps telling them everything’s all right. But they’re starting to doubt it.”

Calling “Lockdown” the only “serious, scary drama” in the show, Rathjen said it’s going to be a good play. “People will like its mood, intensity and special effects,” she said. “We have a nine-person ensemble cast, rather than leads, and they’re all doing a great job.”

“I’ve acted before, but directing is so different,” said Rathjen. “It’s fun to be in control of all the pieces, and getting ideas from the actors and pulling everything together has been great. There’s a lot of creativity. Time constraints, winter break and snow put us back a little on our rehearsals, but we’re focused.”

‘BOY MEETS GIRL ...’

Directing “Boy Meets Girl: A Young Love Story” is Lucy Stratton, and Daniel Lindgren and Emily Berkley are the leads in her cast of four. “The main characters are in kindergarten and have a little-kid, boy-girl relationship,” said Stratton. “But what makes this play different is that they act more like teen-agers and their relationship problems parallel adults’.”

Initially, she didn’t want to do a play about dating. “But then I found this one online and read it and was converted by the sheer adorableness,” she said. “There are innuendos, but as kindergartners, what they’re saying is cute, not offensive.”

Stratton said her biggest challenge was finding a place for rehearsals because “it’s hard to find rooms for all seven plays to rehearse inside the school, as well as outside.” She said it’s also tough sometimes conveying what she wants her actors to do.

“But when I do, it’s really rewarding,” said Stratton. “I have a really energetic cast, and it’s amazing to see my ideas come to life on stage. Our play is going to be a 30-minute laugh-fest.”

‘CHECK PLEASE’

Tori Sancho-Bonet directs a 10-member cast headed by Heather Vass and Marcus Schmidt. “A guy and a girl go on separate blind dates, all of which end up disastrous,” said Sancho-Bonet. “Then they meet each other, like a light at the end of a tunnel.”

“It’s hilarious to see all the possible things that could go wrong when you’re dating,” she continued. “It makes people feel their situations aren’t so bad, compared to what could happen.”

SEE ONE-ACTS, PAGE 15

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Minding My Own Business



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I haven’t been writing much the last few weeks. Heck, I haven’t felt much like writing at all the last few weeks. And when I woke up this morning with some ideas on which to write, the reason for this not writing/not feeling like writing became clear: it had to do with my having cancer (doesn’t everything?). However, my reasons for this specific inactivity had to do with the rather serious (to me, anyway) subject matter on which I had written the last few weeks: outliving my original prognosis and dealing with my now unknown life-expectancy/future as well as the as-yet undetermined treatment protocol going forward. Can you say angst? It seems, however, that after meeting with my oncologist on Friday, Jan. 7, and receiving the continuing good news that I did, we agreed on a treatment plan that’s not nearly as reactive as I feared it might be, and as a result – in my opinion, my mind took a break, a time-out, if you will, from all the doom and potential gloom and non-stop pressure a terminal diagnosis can exert.

And though I have some deficits and some anti-cancer (pills and such) routine that I follow from which I never take a break – or need to take a break, and which I have assimilated into my daily – and nightly activities, it’s the emotional stuff that can take its toll and exact a price. Sometimes I pretend. Sometimes I deny. Sometimes I get depressed. (“Sometimes?”) And often I write. And recently I had written about the end of my original 13-month-to-two-year prognosis (Feb. 27, 2011). Heavy doesn’t begin to describe the weight – and wait of that reality. So much so that I spent four columns writing about it. After seeing my oncologist on the 7th, apparently, my instincts for self-preservation took over and instructed my brain, subconsciously, to stop the cancer focus for awhile and give myself a mental rest.

Certainly there are ebbs and flows, highs and lows in this cancer battle; things you can control, things you can’t. Knowing when to give in to the emotion (and how to get out of it when you do) and when not to, are the constants in this battle. And after a particularly stressful crossroads-type of moment (“Moment?” More like a month), I gave in and decided to exhale and give myself some time to breathe normally and wander emotionally and get off the cancer train, for however long I could. It didn’t mean I stopped thinking about it, it meant I stopped focusing on it – as best I could.

And for a few weeks, I really didn’t have a cancer thought worth writing/venting about. I was out of the woods for another quarter or so (the frequency of the all-telling scans), and I was going to try and get out from underneath the shadows as well. And I largely succeeded until today. I do consider the fortnight a success, though. When you’re terminal and/or a cancer patient (stage notwithstanding), a minute away, an hour away, a day away from its grip, is heaven on Earth and time worth savoring. So even though I didn’t have anything to say these last few weeks, I’ve enjoyed all the time not saying them.

Life goes on though (thank God!) and my cancer thoughts are back. To tell you the truth, I’m glad to have them. It means – to me – that all systems are go and I can return to normal, as normal as a 56-year-old life-long non-smoker, diagnosed with inoperable stage IV lung cancer, can be. But it’s nothing I can’t live with, as I have already done so going on two years. This is my new normal. It’s the abnormal I’ll likely have some difficulty adapting to.

Next week: The “cunancerdrum” of living with cancer continues.

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

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Westfield Wrestlers Begin Postseason With District Title

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

The Westfield High wrestling team captured first place at last weekend's Concorde District Championships, held Feb. 4-5 at Centreville High School.

The champion Bulldogs won with 225.5 points, edging a strong second place Robinson squad (219). Taking third place was Chantilly High (119), which finished ahead of fourth place Oakton (94), fifth place Centreville (67) and sixth place Herndon (22).

Westfield individual champions at districts were Tyler DeLeon (heavyweight), Jacob DeLeon (215), Harry Van Trees (152), Beau Donahue (140), and Brett Campbell (112).

Tyler DeLeon, the No. 1-seed going into the tournament, defeated Robinson's Jake Pinkson, 5-3, in the heavyweight finals. At the 215 finals, meanwhile, Jacob DeLeon, also a top seed, earned a finals round pin win over Centreville High's Joey Steinback.

Van Trees, in the 152 division, reached the finals as the No. 2 seed. There, he was an 8-4 winner over Chantilly top seed Ricky Lopez. At the 140 finals, Donahue, the No. 1-seed, defeated No. 2-seed Shon Topper of Robinson, 13-3. And, at 112 weight class, Campbell, the top seed, was a title match winner by technical fall over Oakton's Eddie Gerow, the No. 2-seed.

Westfield's Brian Bentz, the No. 2 seed at 189 division, made it to the finals with a semifinals round win over Centreville's David Chenevey. In the title match, Bentz fell to Oakton top seed Austin Murga.

Another second-place finisher for Westfield was No. 3-seed Nick Lehman (145), who reached the finals before being edged by top seed Zak DePasquale of Robinson, 7-6. Lehman was a 7-1 semifinals winner over Chantilly No. 2-seed Sam Cronin.

Westfield's Frank Aiello finished second place at 135 weight class as the No. 2 seed. He was a semifinals pin winner over Chantilly's Walter Carlson before falling in the title match to Robinson top seed Brooks Martino.

Other second-place finishes from Westfield wrestlers came from Stephen Aiello (130), Dennon

Carranza-Kee (119), and David Aiello (103).

Stephen Aiello, as the No. 3-seed at 130, earned a hard-fought, 3-0, semifinals round win over Chantilly's Wes Litton before losing, 7-3, to top seed Santiago Valdez of Robinson in the finals. Carranza-Kee, the top seed at 119, was a semifinals pin winner over Herndon's Ramon Reyes before losing his finals match to No. 2-seed Jake Smith of Robinson, 6-0. David Aiello, the No. 2-seed at 103, pinned Oakton's Alex Schlegel in a semifinals match, then lost an 8-3 decision in the finals to Robinson top seed Lucas Sodergren.

Other top four place finishers for Westfield were fourth place Jacob Millson (171 division), third place Tyler Morson (160), and third place Derek Arnold (125).

CHANTILLY HIGH'S Bernabe Mejia captured the 171 weight class championship. The top seed, Mejia, following a round one bye, won his semifinals round match over Centreville's John Horoho, the No. 4 seed, to reach the finals. In the championship match, Mejia was a 6-3 winner over Robinson No. 2-seed Tim Fitzpatrick.

Second place finishes for Chantilly came from Ricky Lopez, the top seed who fell to Westfield's Van Trees in the 152 finals; and Ryland Arnold, a No. 2-seed at 125 who fell to Robinson's Jack Bass in the title match.

Other top fourth-place finishers for Chantilly were: fourth place Ian Schircliff (heavyweight); third place Sam Little (215); fourth place Joe Scholnick (160); third place Sam Cronin (145); fourth place Krish Perumbala (140); third place Walter Carlson (135); third place Wes Litton (130); and fourth place Kyle Smith (119).

CENTREVILLE HIGH had two wrestlers reach the finals — Joey Steinback at 215 and Ryan Sepulveda at 160.

Sepulveda, the No. 3-seed, defeated Westfield No. 2-seed Tyler Morson, 3-2, in a semifinals match to reach the finals, where he lost to Robinson's Wes Jones, 8-2. Centreville's Steinback, at the 215 finals, fell to Westfield top seed Jacob DeLeon.

Steinbeck had beaten Oakton's Spencer Conely, 3-1, to reach the



PHOTO/SUBMITTED BY SYDNEY SAWYER

The SYA MatDogs put together an outstanding showing at Saturday's Wildcat Junior Classic Wrestling Meet. The locals finished fourth overall among 20-plus teams. (Front row, left to right): coach Jason Tibbitts, Brandon Grammes, Hunter Tibbitts, Jonathan Nail, and coach Mike Nails. (Back row): Josh Nails and Jay Aiello. (Not pictured): John Farley, Gavin Legg and Griffin Brown.

SYA MatDogs Take 4th in Wildcat Junior Classic

The Southwestern Youth Association (SYA) MatDogs captured fourth place out of a field of over 20 teams at the 21st Wildcat Junior Classic Wrestling Meet, held in St. James, Md. last Saturday, Feb. 5. Trophy winners included Jonathan Nail, who brought home the gold in the 7-under, 55-pound division. Nail also earned a second-place finish wrestling up in

the ages' 8-to-9 year old group. Hunter Tibbitts finished a strong second place in the 65-pound category. Brandon Grammes finished the day with two tournament championship trophies in the 85-pound weight division — one in the 10-11 age group and a second in the 12-14 age division. Josh Nails won a close finals match to secure the gold in the 90-pound weight class. Griffin Brown also earned his way to the champion-

ship mat in the 90-pound division and was awarded points through a top performance that helped the MatDogs finish strong as a team. Gavin Legg walked out of the arena with his well-deserved third-place trophy and John Farley succeeded to earn a fourth-place trophy. Jay Aiello also claimed an important fourth-place finish in the 125-pound, 12-14 year old division.

Fairfax Adult Softball (FAS) Hits Grand Slam

Participants, family, friends and supporters of Fairfax Adult Softball, Inc. (FAS) united together on Sunday, Jan. 30 for the 11th Annual Bowling Tournament to benefit Northern Virginia Special Olympics and Fairfax County Park Authority field improvements. Over 200 participants contributed their time and spirits to raise nearly \$11,000 in this year's tournament!

As the largest softball group in the metro area, FAS was approached by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and her staff in 1988 to assist in establishing a pilot program where Special Olympians play softball alongside FAS volunteers, known as Special Partners. This commitment of FAS continues today. Hundreds of Special Olympians over the years have gained not only the enjoyment of competitive sports, but also the camaraderie, training and health benefits that only sports can offer.

"I am extremely proud of the work of FAS and delighted

with the success of this year's event which realized our greatest benefit to date," said FAS President John Carney, who attends and volunteers annually at the bowling tournament. "This is our 21st year of raising funds for Special Olympics and the Park Authority. I am overwhelmed by the generous businesses and dedicated volunteers who continually undertake the commitment to give back to our community."

The day's high scorers at the annual Bowling Tournament were the following: Male High Games - David Massey (259), Billy Cunningham (253); Male High Series - Henry Starkey (690), Keith Weaver (649); Female High Game - Elaine Wood (220), Estelle Miller (202); Female High Series - Elaine Wood (570), Beth Reese (555); Team High Game - Team 26, Jim Chmielewski (1060); Team 39, Diane Bombard (986); Team High Series - Team 26, Jim Chmielewski (2967); Team 23, Estelle Miller (2831).

title match.

Centreville third-place finishers were: No. 4-seed Andrew Burgess (heavyweight), who defeated Chantilly's Schircliff in the match for third place; David Chenevey

(189), who defeated Robinson's John Buono in overtime to earn third place; and John Horoho (171), a No. 4-seed who won his third place match over Westfield's Jacob Millson. Finishing fourth

place for Centreville was Jerry Cowman at 125.

The Northern Region Championships will take place this Thursday through Saturday (Feb. 10-12) at Fairfax High School.

NEWS



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW



From left are "Drugs are Bad" director Mitchell Cole and cast members Nicholas Cole, Daniel Lindgren and MaryKate Goff.

From "Shark in the Bathtub" are (from left) Kiersten Farrell and Mitchell Cole with director Melissa Michael.

CVHS Presents Dramapalooza One-Acts

FROM PAGE 12

Sancho-Bonet said directing's more difficult than she thought it would be. "My cast is one of the largest ones, and working around everyone's schedules to get everybody together at one time is challenging," she said. "And all the responsibility comes back on the director if the actors don't have the props, costumes, etc. prepared."

But, said Sancho-Bonet, "It's been a fun experience to work with people and see something I've produced come together."

'DRUGS ARE BAD'

"Drugs are Bad" is a parody on a TV after-school special. "Brad comes home to find his parents sitting in the living room," said director Mitchell Cole. "Something they found in his bedroom concerns them — an algebra book."

"They insist that Brad be involved in sex, drugs and rock and roll, but he goes behind their backs and, instead, goes to school," continued Cole. "It's really funny; the audience will like that it's something different they wouldn't expect, and there's a twist at the end."

Enjoying directing, Cole said he likes "being able to picture what I want the play to look like and then making that happen. The toughest part is wanting everything to come together the way you want it to but, in the end, having to make some sacrifices because not everything [you envision] is realistic."

'SHARK IN THE BATHTUB'

Directed by Melissa Michael, "Shark in the Bathtub" is about a married couple in their 30s that uses sarcasm to point out each other's flaws. But in the end, they show their love for each other.

The play gets its name from the way the characters circle around the truth when they're arguing and their fights serve no purpose. Said Michael: "It's really funny and is filled with sarcasm and things that are relatable to all age groups."

She said directing has been fun, but challenging, "figuring out where the actors should move, where the set pieces should go, where to find these pieces and where we can actually rehearse."

"I didn't know how much work it was going to be

to have your cast focused and here on time," said Michael. "It's also hard trying to work things out in your head while people are in front of you, both acting and talking to you. But the best part is seeing them take the criticisms and fix what they do on stage."

'THOMAS PAINE PANTHER'

The "Panther" is the newspaper of Thomas Paine High, and a senior named Heather is the editor. "She put out an April Fool's issue, which was pulled by the superintendent," said director Sarah Hollenbeck. "She blames it on the journalism teacher, Mr. Smith; but you later learn the real reason she's angry at him."

Anna McKittrick and Tommy Reynolds portray the leads in "The Thomas Paine Panther's" eight-person cast. "Directing is very rewarding because I feel like I can really interact with my cast members and help them develop their acting skills," said Hollenbeck. "And it also helps me better understand theater as an art." She was surprised how hard it was to cast a play, but she said her actors came together quickly and grew. "I was amazed at what they were able to show me after just a short while," said Hollenbeck. "This is a dark comedy, so the audience will really like the way the comments and banter lighten the mood of the show."



Representing "The Thomas Paine Panther" are (from left) Jeremy Pritchard, director Sarah Hollenbeck, Sarah Wills, Samantha Zazero, Tommy Reynolds, Anna McKittrick, Kent Clingman, Kelly Strauch and Arjun Rao.

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Accused Child Molester Arrested in Houston



Portillo-Saravia

A man authorities have been looking for since the end of last year has been found and apprehended in Texas. He is Salvador Portillo-Saravia, 29, and he's accused of sexually assaulting an 8-year-old girl, Dec. 26, 2010, in a Centreville home.

Police say the crimes allegedly occurred in the London Towne community and the suspect is an acquaintance of the child's family. He was inside the residence around 10:30 a.m. when the assault reportedly happened.

Afterward, Fairfax County police obtained felony rape and sodomy warrants for Sterling resident Portillo-Saravia, but he was nowhere to be found. Now, though, things have changed; following a massive manhunt by a joint effort of several organizations, he was arrested Sunday, Feb. 6, in Houston.

Working together to nab him were the Fairfax County Police Department Child Abuse Squad, the Fugitive Operations teams of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Enforcement and Re-

moval Operations in Texas and Washington, U.S. Marshals Service National Capitol Regional Task Force and multiple law-enforcement agencies in Virginia and Texas, especially the Houston Police Department.

"The location and arrest of this fugitive, wanted by Virginia authorities on some of the most egregious charges that ICE investigates, is an example of seamless cooperation among law-enforcement agencies in Northern Virginia and Houston," said Enrique M. Lucero, field office director for ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations

in Washington, D.C.

Portillo was remanded into the custody of the Houston Police Department and will be extradited to Virginia to face criminal charges in court. Actually, it's not his first brush with the law. In 2003, he was arrested by a Prince William County gang task force and was subsequently deported to El Salvador; but he later re-entered the U.S., unbeknownst to authorities.

— BONNIE HOBBS

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