



Home
Tech

MAXSA Innovations founder Skip West of Fairfax Station demonstrates his newest solar security lights at the 2011 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. West also teaches the "Geek to Gazillionaire" course at George Mason University, see page 9.

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/CENTRE VIEW

Recalling 'Joe The Mailman'

Chantilly residents on his route mourn his death.

By BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

His real name was Jose Dalusung Jr., but to the Chantilly residents on his route, he was Joe the Mailman. However, he wasn't just the person who delivered their mail — he was a friend.

"He was a kind soul and a wonderful human being," said Lori Barnes of the Paterra community. "He was a member of our family, woven into the fabric of our community," added Christine Risi.

But Dalusung, 54, of Manassas, died of a heart attack, Jan. 17 — and the people on his route didn't find out until last week. And when they did, they were heartbroken.

"I found out on Wednesday, Feb. 9, when a substitute mailman brought a package to the door," said Barnes. "I asked, 'What happened to Joe? When will he be



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

A grieving Chantilly resident tied a bouquet of white roses on her mailbox in memory of Joe the Mailman (inset).

back?" and he told me Joe had died. I was stunned and shocked; I called his supervisor at the
SEE RECALLING JOE, PAGE 3

Chantilly Thespians Take First at VHSL Regionals

Next: State championships.

By BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

It's on to the state championship now for Chantilly High after its thespians won the VHSL Regional One-Act competition, last Saturday, Feb. 12, at Lake Braddock Secondary.

"We were thrilled to win," said Director Ed Monk. "You never know what your chances are because it's subjective and all the plays are so different."

Monk wrote his students' entry, "AP Theatre," over winter break. "It's a comedy about a kid taking
SEE CONQUERING, PAGE 7

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From left: Joe Kisiday, Chantilly High; Ashleigh Markin, Herndon; Matt Calvert, Chantilly; Thomas Hinds, Oakton; and Danielle Dumas, Westfield, during a dress rehearsal of "Les Miserables."



Westfield's Aidan Quartana, as Jean Valjean, and Madison's Molly Nuss, as Cosette, rehearse a scene.

Iconic 'Les Miserables' Arrives

The ideas and conflicts are timeless.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

The drama and turmoil of the French Revolution will burst upon the stage when Centreville Presbyterian Church's community theater group presents the musical, "Les Miserables." It features a cast and crew of more than 60, with a live orchestra and

students from 26 different schools. "The talent is so high," said Director Zoe Dillard. "The kids are just wonderful, and they've been a pleasure to work with."

Show times are Thursday-Friday, Feb. 24-25, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 26, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 27, at 2 p.m., at the church, 15450 Lee Highway in Centreville. Tickets are \$10 at the church office or via

www.centrevillepres.com. For information, call 703-830-0098.

In the lead role of Jean Valjean is Westfield High sophomore Aidan Quartana. "The music is so beautiful and there are so many different stories within this show," he said. "Valjean is a paroled convict who's led a rugged life. To better himself, he has to break parole and live under a fake name."

Others see Valjean as an outcast, but Quartana envisions him as someone who's "a good guy inside, with a big heart and lots of compassion. Under his fake name, they treat him with more respect. He's also reserved and has a hard time expressing himself."

Quartana calls it an "awesome" part and a big challenge. "I have to act my dialogue within the musical numbers," he said. "He has so much diversity in what he sings — from belting out numbers to doing soft ballads. One number is even a falsetto, so it's challenging mastering all those forms of music. But this type of tortured and misunderstood character is so powerful to play."

His favorite song is "I Dreamed a Dream" because "it's so beautiful. Fantine is lamenting and reflecting on the pain she's been through, so it's emotionally touching." Quartana says the audience will be able to relate to many of the characters, and he believes that "watching Valjean's path to redemption will be very gratifying for them."

Lauren Rowson, a Robinson senior, portrays Fantine. "Although she's only in her 20s or 30s, I see her as a broken-down woman," said Rowson. "She loved a man who then left her. She had his child, Cosette, and had to give her up to keep her a secret. She works in a factory where the other workers hate her and the foreman harasses her."

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SEE 'LES MISERABLES,' PAGE 5

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Victim Finds Own Property

Never doubt the power of the Internet. Angry that someone broke into his car and stole his property, a Greenbriar man reported the theft to police. Then he tracked down his stolen items on Craigslist, arranged to meet the seller and called the police.

According to Fairfax County police, someone broke into the victim's Buick sedan in the 13000 of Pleasant View Lane, sometime during the night, last Thursday, Feb. 10, and stole two GPS devices hidden in the vehicle. The man reported the theft to police and scanned Craigslist in hopes of finding the stolen property. After seeing an item he suspected could be his, he contacted the seller and arranged a meeting, Saturday afternoon, Feb. 12, at a donut shop on Richmond Highway. After recognizing the property as his, he called police and they responded and arrested the alleged thief.

Police charged Patrick Hayward, 20, of Celtic Drive in Alexandria, with receiving and buying stolen goods. They're also continuing the investigation to see whether this incident may be linked to others in the area.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

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.

Fair Oaks CAC To Meet

The Citizens Advisory Council of the Fair Oaks District Police Station will meet Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m., in the roll-call room of the police station. It's at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly.

Centreville Immigration Forum

The next meeting of the Centreville Immigration Forum is Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Korean Central Presbyterian Church, 15451 Lee Highway, in Centreville. It's across Route 29 from Centreville Presbyterian Church, and the meeting will be in room 1002. Opportunities to volunteer in Centreville will be discussed.

Sully District Council Meeting

The Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee will meet Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call Jeff Parnes, evenings, at 703-904-0131.

School Board Chairman Kathy Smith and Kristen Michael of FCPS will present the proposed FCPS 2012 program plans and budget. Information will also be given about the Greenbriar Community Center parking-lot modifications.

Park Authority To Meet

The Fairfax County Park Authority will meet Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m., in the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 900 in Fairfax. Call Judy Pedersen at 703-324-8662.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, Feb. 24, from 5-8:30 p.m., at the station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 16

More to Mailman than Met the Eye

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

There was more to Jose Dalusung — Joe the Mailman — than met the eye. He was also a husband, father and grandfather — and a well-educated man holding down two jobs.

"He had six years of college and was just nine credits shy of graduating," said his wife Robin Dalusung. "He was a math major — an intelligent man who could have done a different job. But he liked being a mailman — being outside, talking with people and hearing about their lives."

"He'd come home and tell me stories about the people on his mail route," she said. "He'd tell me who was doing well, whose child was in college and who I should pray for because they were ill; and they'd give him pictures of their families at Christmastime."

One day, said Dalusung, "He came home and told me I needed to take our kids outside more, because one of the ladies on his route took her kids outside every day, rain or shine. He even kept dog biscuits in his mail truck for the local dogs."

She said her husband also loved St. Timothy Catholic Church and School, also on his route, and got to know many parishioners. And two of the priests were among the 11 priests who celebrated his funeral Mass.

"He always put family and God first," said Dalusung. "He had a special, soft spot for his sister Lourdes 'Dina' Dalusung, who was born with Down Syndrome. His brother Raul lives in Chantilly, and our niece Raissa married her high-school sweetheart, Mike Wilbur, who lived on his route."



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBIN DALUSUNG

From left are Jose, Nichole and Robin Dalusung after Nichole's graduation from GMU.

Married 27 and a half years, Robin and Jose Dalusung had two grown daughters, Nichole and Jessica, and were raising their grandchildren, ages 6 and 4. "He had a very special love for our grandchildren," said Dalusung. "Our grandson Joseph was named after him and they were very close."

For 22 years, Jose Dalusung also worked two jobs to help his family financially. Besides being a mailman, until a year ago he worked at EDS doing third-party processing for banks. "He'd come home between jobs, and those two hours were devoted to family mealtimes and him," said Dalusung. "When he left EDS, it was so nice to have him home a little more. What I miss the most is his corny sense of humor."

SEE MORE TO MAILMAN. PAGE 15

Recalling 'Joe The Mailman'

FROM PAGE 1

Chantilly Post Office to confirm it and to find out his last name and about the services."

However, they'd already happened. "We all would have gone there to tell his family what he meant to us," said Barnes. "I was out of town and had only been back, five or six days, when I learned about Joe."

"Unfortunately, with the snow, cold weather and extended school holiday, it wasn't until last week that I or anyone else in our community had a chance to finally ask the sub if he knew where Joe was," she said. "Our mail has been very erratic lately — and although Joe came like clockwork, we haven't even seen the mailman often, in recent weeks."

So some neighbors gathered last Friday at Barnes's home to commiserate and share their memories of Joe the Mailman. "It's been 48 hours since we found out, and it's still hitting us," said Josie Peters. "Hear-



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/CENTRE VIEW

From left are Josie Peters, Lori Barnes, Christine Risi, Kim Wu and Heidi Tucker.

ing it, for the first time, when I told my daughter about it, I burst out crying — and so did she."

Dalusung was a mailman for 22 years and delivered in Paterra since families moved in, 11 years ago.

SEE RECALLING JOE. PAGE 15

BULLETIN BOARD

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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.

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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.

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.

MONDAY/FEB. 21

Make Herbal Vinegar. 7 p.m. Centreville Garden Club presents a program for garden enthusiasts to make their own custom herbal vinegars. At the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Visit

centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 23

Internet Safety Class. 7 p.m. Father Mullaney, Parochial Vicar at St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Clifton, is offering an adult education session on Internet Safety and the dangers of social networking in St. Andrew's Parish Hall. Due to the nature of the discussion, children will not be admitted. Contact the school office at 703-817-1774.

MARCH 8-9

Free Financial Aid Workshops. 6 p.m. Free workshops on completing financial aid form (FAFSA form). Sponsored by Apple Federal Credit Union. At Apple Federal Credit Union's Fair Oaks Branch, 4029 Ridge Top Road, Fairfax.

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 ptsa_president@westfieldhs.org, or Jennifer Lewis-Cooper at jalcooper@aol.com.

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Church Hosts 'Les Miserables'

FROM PAGE 2

"Fantine struggles to live a clean life before she's forced into prostitution to keep a roof over her child's head," continued Rowson. "And the people caring for her daughter lie to her so she'll give them more money."

This is the first show Rowson saw as a child, so she's thrilled with her role. "Fantine has a strength and pride that she keeps through all her hardships," said Rowson. "Everything she does, she does for her daughter. I usually play comic parts, but this role has such depth, and this character really develops the theme of self-sacrifice. She leaves such a good impression on everyone and is a very moving character."

Rowson especially likes the number, "On My Own," sung by Eponine, the daughter of the family keeping Cosette. "It captures Eponine's character so beautifully. It's about how all the bad things in her life are worth it, as long as she has the hope of someday being with Marius, the young man she loves."

Rowson believes the story will strike a chord with the audience because "it explores people's ability to change and redeem themselves. One of the lines, 'to love another person is to see the face of God,' sums up the themes of mercy, redemption and self-sacrifice running through the show. And all the music is incredible — everyone will leave with a favorite song."

Playing Cosette is Madison High sophomore Molly Nuss. "She's around 17, is very sheltered and doesn't know what it's like in the outside world," said Nuss. "Valjean is very protective of her; she stays within a gated area and doesn't know about her mother. One day, she and Valjean go outside and she meets Marius and falls in love. She's innocent and sweet and wants to be exposed to more of life."

Nuss loves playing Cosette because she connects with her. "I've wanted to play this part since I saw this show at Wolf Trap when I was a child," she said. "I want to be like her because she's so elegant, sweet and pure, the way she presents herself; I look up to her."

Her favorite song is the epilogue when the whole company comes together to sing the last chorus. "That's my favorite part of the whole show because it's so powerful," said Nuss. "The audience will like 'Les Mis' because it has such emotion, plus messages of forgiveness and love. It has a little bit of everything. The costumes are beautiful and elaborate, and we have an amazing set and director. It's going to be a well-put-together production."

Centreville High junior Anthony Ingargiola plays

Marius, a high-school student who "doesn't know what he's getting into," said Ingargiola. "He's very much in love with Cosette. He's caring and gentle and wants to be with her, but he also wants to help his student friends fighting in the French Revolution — and he has to make a choice. He later struggles emotionally after his friends have died, and Cosette helps fill the hole in his heart."

It's Ingargiola's first romantic leading role, and he likes being able to "make many different choices" in portraying Marius. "I love the music, and Marius's part is emotional on so many levels," he said.

He especially likes the song, "One Day More," sung by the entire cast in the Act I finale. "The music is so intense and moving," said Ingargiola. "And it's also the song in which my character decides whether to fight or to stay with the woman he loves." Overall, he said, "The music, set and costumes all fit together as part of the whole experience. The image of this show will stay in the audience's minds."

Police Inspector Javert is played by Langley High senior Nick McDonough. "He's sort of the villain, but what he does is because he's honorable and really strict about the law," said McDonough. "He was born among criminals, so he's distrustful of people and has a hard time believing Valjean has reformed himself. He's just trying to make the world a better place, but goes about it the wrong way."

Calling this his "dream role," McDonough said he loves 'Les Miserables' and, until now, didn't realize he could sing. "A lead's always fun and I like character roles," he said. "Javert's a vicious and vigilant person, but you like him, and I like making the audience feel empathy for him."

His favorite song is "Attack on the Rue Plumet" because of the way Herndon High's Ashleigh Markin, as Eponine, belts out her lines within this number. McDonough also said the audience will enjoy "the amazing and relevant story. It really hits home because the ideas and conflicts are timeless and are still very real in the world today."

Private voice teacher Nancy Smith of Little Rocky Run is the music director. "It's dramatic music — practically opera — because there's no dialogue; the show's all sung, so it's very demanding musically," she said. "But the cast is such a great ensemble, with wonderful cohesion, supportive of each other and of me."

"It's exciting putting it all together and teaching the music to everyone," she said. "The songs' themes are so profound and deal with love, death, passion and jealousy — things larger than life. So there's lots of intensity to the musical numbers — and that's why people really love this show."

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Governor should sign bill that would require limited insurance coverage for needed therapy.

Thanks to Delegates Tim Hugo and Tom Rust, along with state Sen. Janet Howell and a majority of members of the Virginia General Assembly, for passing a bill that would require some insurance companies to provide limited but critically important coverage for therapy for children with autism.

Now, Gov. Bob McDonnell should sign the bill into law.

"With these treatments, you can prevent some of these children from being impacted for life. You can make sure they do not become wards of the state," said Hugo. ... "If we don't do something, we risk leaving these kids in the darkness."

Behavior therapy at an early age can make the difference between a child who speaks and interacts and a child who is non-verbal. But the therapy, often not covered at all by insurance, can cost \$20,000 a year or more per child.

Consider the heartbreak of one family who was able to afford therapy for one of their children with autism. Unfortunately, the family has two children with autism.

As they become adults, children with autism will cost Virginia more if they don't receive early intervention services.

And this is a growing problem.

For example, in Fairfax County Public Schools, one in 83 students has been diagnosed with some form of autism, an 846 percent increase since 1997. Last year, the county's human services department announced that local government's fiscal health would be greatly impacted by providing services to the rapidly growing percentage of young adults with autism diagnoses.

Missing the Point

As the U.S. Department of Justice presses Virginia to provide services for people with intellectual disabilities and more options to live in the community, it's important to remember that it's not just a question of moving some current residents out of training centers.

Families across Northern Virginia and the state are stretching budgets, going into debt and hanging on by their fingernails as they care for family members with intellectual disabilities who should have "waivers" providing for services in the community.

Right now, more than 6,400 Virginians with intellectual and related developmental disabilities are on waiting lists for community-based services, according to the Arc of Virginia. Nearly 3,000 of these individuals are in urgent

need because they live with an aging caregiver, are at risk of abuse or neglect, or are aging out of foster care.

See www.arcovfa.org.

Cheap and Effective Traffic Fix: Telework

While National Telework Week officially began Monday, Feb. 14, last month's commuting-home debacle probably did more to push individuals, governments and companies to contemplate real teleworking measures than any other advocacy.

Increasing the number of people who regularly work from home at least one day a week is the only possible cure for the current traffic nightmare in the region. On most days, rush hour in Northern Virginia is a pain. But it only takes one hiccup (a man threatening to jump of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge or an inch of badly timed snow) to bring the region to a standstill and worse.

Telecommuting can also be good for the environment, good for employee morale, good for families, good for productivity. And anything that decreases the chances of a 10-hour commute or being stranded overnight on the George Washington Parkway is a step in the right direction.

The technology exists to make this work.

- MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Senate Passes Transportation Bill

BY DAVE MARSDEN
STATE SENATOR (D-37)

Let me warn the reader. The following material is a bit dry but essential in understanding the transportation funding issues critical to our area.

The governor's Transportation Bill (SB1446) passed in the Senate this last week. It is a three-year package for accelerating bond issuance from \$300 million to \$600 million per year for road construction based on bonds approved in House Bill 3202 passed in 2006.

This will be paid for through anticipated federal transportation grants to Virginia over the three-year period. These bonds cannot be used for road maintenance.

It also creates an Infrastructure Bank from which localities can receive assistance, to help fund local projects and an Intercity Passenger Rail Operating and Capital Fund to improve intercity rail service.

Finally, the bill increases from \$50 million to \$200 million the total limit on revenue-sharing funds allocated by the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to certain counties, cities and towns in any one fiscal year and increases from \$1 million to \$10 million the per project cap on funds. The House of Delegates' version of the transportation bill involved the use of general funds normally used for schools, public safety and health care. This was not a good bill, and I would have voted against it if I were still in the House. I voted for the Senate version of the bill because we eliminated the use of general funds, which would negatively impact these core services.

This transportation measure does contain some risk, however, in that we cannot be 100 percent certain of federal revenue that will be awarded to Virginia for transportation. Congress is preparing to make significant budget cuts, and we would have to pay back these bonds with state general fund dollars if the revenue does not materialize at the anticipated level.

It is a great time to issue bonds for road construction as interest rates are at historic lows and construction bids are anticipated to be low. We will get a great "bang for our buck." The downside, however, is that the governor has not proposed a long-term sustainable plan for funding transportation. In three years, we will have exhausted construction funds with no capacity to fund anything new. We would then be approaching a maintenance only system. This is a real problem, so it is imperative that the governor propose a long-term funding mechanism for transportation as he has promised.

The jobs created by this transportation plan are important to a construction industry that is on its knees, and those jobs will spur the economy in Virginia. However, we are out of future borrowing options because we have reached our agreed upon debt service ceiling of 5 percent of the budget. We have a balanced budget in Virginia, always have, but passing this bill means that from now on

we will have to pay up front for any transportation projects we want to undertake.

The differences between the House and Senate versions of this bill will be negotiated in conference between members of the Senate and House finance and appropriation committees.

In other news, we passed a balanced budget in the Senate that included this transportation bill, and that too will be negotiated in conference at the end of the current session. The Senate version contains \$100 million in additional funding for schools. Remember, a world-class school system is the key to our home values in Fairfax County.

I have passed 10 bills and a budget amendment in the Senate, which will now be taken up in the House of Delegates. A few of them have already been approved in House committees. As the pace quickens, the differences between the House and Senate must be reconciled. The fate of my bills, and many others, will be the topic for next week's article.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD MIDDLEBROOK

The victorious Chantilly High VHSL One-Act competition team celebrates its win at regionals with its mascot, John Deer.

Conquering One-Act Regionals

FROM PAGE 1

an AP theatre test demonstrating his knowledge of three styles of theater history," he said. "To do so, he has to write three, short plays in those styles about modern teen-agers."

The styles are Bonraku, Japanese theater with giant puppets; Greek Theater and Theater of the Absurd. Monk's cast and crew of 32 first dazzled the judges with their talents, Jan. 31, when they won the District competition at Herndon High.

Then came Saturday's win in Regionals. "The play deals with theater, so the judges are geared to the material, and there are jokes that both kids and adults get," said Monk. "And hopefully, they learn about these styles of theater."

For their efforts, Chantilly's thespians received a trophy for the school, plus medals to go with the patches they got at District level. Now they'll vie against seven other schools, March 5, for the state championship in Charlottesville.

At Regionals, senior Adrian Tafesh portrayed Marco, the evil brother/son in the Greek-style scene. "He's a jock — a varsity football player competing for a scholarship to play football in college," said Tafesh. "He's also competing with his good sister, Amber, for use of the family minivan. He wants it to take keys to a party, and she wants it to drive her Model U.N. team to a competition."

Tafesh called being in that play "fantastic. I'd never done Greek Theater before, so it was a cool learning experience. No more than three actors at a time can be on stage, and the actors wear distinctive masks. There's also a clear distinction between good and evil, which can show on the masks."

He said he's always "incredibly nervous" before performing, but "We're ecstatic to win. We would have been happy to just advance [in the competition], but to win Districts and Regionals was a great feeling. We're still on Cloud Nine, but we're getting focused on States and we hope to do well."

Playing Amber was junior Amanda Miesner. "She's intelligent and caring and wants to fulfill her responsibilities to the Model U.N. team," said Miesner. "It's been fun learning how to talk with a mask on, and to talk directly to the audience, the whole time. You can't talk to the person you're addressing onstage because then the judges wouldn't see your mask." She said the experience was "really great. It's nice to know all the hard work you put into it paid off. The audience enjoyed the show and people think our one-act has a lot of good qualities." Although Chantilly's actors don't know who they're competing against at States, she said they're hoping for the best.

Senior Andrew "Jello" Reid — who's gained local fame for his Jello sculptures — portrayed the college-admissions counselor in the Theater of the Absurd piece. "This style correlates to the plot, but has circus-y twists and is absurdity to its maximum," he said. "My character is very nasty, wears a Grim Reaper cloak, has jerky movements and is very dark and ominous; he tries to instill fear in people."

Reid loved his role because he's never played an evil character before. So, he said, "It was fun and different figuring out what would work and would also be interesting and terrifying. It's probably the most fun I've had in the Drama Department."

SEE ONE-ACT, PAGE 12

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

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. 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.
Thursday, March 10 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 24 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 14 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 28 — 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. 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.

FEB. 18 TO 26

"A Streetcar Named Desire." Feb. 18-19 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.; Feb. 25-26 at 8 p.m. At The Waddell Theatre, NOVA Loudoun campus in Sterling. Presented by Taking Flight Theatre Productions. Scott Pafumi of Westfield High's Drama Department will be playing the role of Mitch. Visit <http://tftheatre.org/>

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

Slave Life Tour. 1 to 3 p.m. Visit Sully Historic Site's original outbuildings and representative slave cabin. The cost is \$6/adult, \$5/student, \$4/senior and child. Includes a tour of the main house with a combination ticket for an additional \$2. Call 703-437-1794. Sully Historic Site is located on Route 28 in Chantilly.

Bluegrass Gospel Concert. 6 p.m. With Bob Stone and The Virginia Gospel Singers from Fredericksburg. A freewill

SCHOOL NOTES

Eileen D. Foley, of Herndon, has made Bucknell University dean's list for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2010-11 academic year. She is the daughter of Thomas and Linda Foley of Herndon, and a graduate of Chantilly High School.

Junior Alexandra Johnson represented Chantilly High School at the Regional Poetry Outloud Competition on Friday, Feb. 11, and she'll now advance to the state competition in March. Poetry Outloud is a national poetry recitation contest sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, and this is the first time Chantilly High has competed in this contest.

Chrystina Ho of Chantilly was named to the fall 2010 Dean's List at University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. Selection for this award is based on completing and passing all assigned courses with no grade below a "C" and attaining an academic average of at least 3.4 for courses taken in the fall semester of 2010. Chrystina is a doctor of pharmacy student.

Jessica Hiemstra, Will Morgan Palmer and Victoria Palmer, of Chantilly High School, will be among the 28 Fairfax County Public School students to perform at Carnegie Hall as members of Flutopia Wind Ensemble on Sunday, Feb. 20. Members of Flutopia are active in their high school bands, community youth orchestras, and area competitions. The ensemble pro-

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

Make Herbal Vinegars. 7 p.m. Centreville Garden Club presents a program for garden enthusiasts to make their own custom herbal vinegars. At the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Visit centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com.

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 westernfairfaxcountywc@gmail.com.

FEB. 24-27

"Les Miserables." Centreville Presbyterian Church's community theater group will present the musical, "Les Miserables," Thursday-Friday, Feb. 24-25, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 26, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 27, at 2 p.m., at the church. The 56 cast members range in age from 12-18 and represent 20 high schools and six middle schools. Tickets are \$10 at the church office or via www.centrevillepres.com. Call 703-830-0098.

FRIDAY/FEB. 25

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$20. With music by The Cutaways. Beginner swing lesson 8:30 to 9 p.m.; followed by dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

FEB. 25-27

Capital Home & Garden Show. More than 750 exhibits. Get ideas, investigate new products, gather information and meet the professionals to make remodeling, renovation or decorating projects a breeze. Hours are Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10/adults online; \$13/door. At the Dulles Expo Center, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Visit www.capitalhomeshow.com.

MONDAY/FEB. 28

"The Great Squeeze: Surviving the Human Project." 7 p.m. Film and discussion. This film examines the converging crises of oil depletion, climate change, and overstressed ecosystems to explore how we might transition to a post-carbon livable future. The program, sponsored by Transition Centreville/Clifton, will include discussion of the film. Transition Centreville/Clifton is a local initiative to help our communities become more resilient and self-reliant in the face of the climate, energy, and economic shocks of the 21st century. At Centreville Regional Library. Visit www.transitioncentreville-clifton.org or call Jackson Harper at 571-208-9245.

FRIDAY/MARCH 4

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the Gas House Gorillas from New York City. 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.

notes community outreach through local ensemble and chamber performances and master classes and workshops. The students will perform in "A Breath of Fresh Air" presented by the Distinguished Concerts International New York series as part of a larger concert. Among the pieces they will perform are "Eyes Wide Open" (Eric Jackson), "October" (Eric Whitacre), "Heaven's Light" and "Fate of the Gods," (Steven Reineke) and the overture to the "Marriage of Figaro" (Mozart).

Sales have now begun for the Westfield High School Mulch Sale, with delivery day scheduled for April 9. This year, there will be a limit on the total number of bags the volunteers will be able to deliver. If you order early, you'll be assured delivery of your high-quality, double-shredded mulch for \$4.95 per bag (with \$2.70 per bag tax-deductible! Minimum order for delivery is 15 bags). Spreading options are available too, for \$2 per bag. Order online at <http://ptsa.westfieldhs.org/mulch-order-form.html>. Contact bulldogmulch@westfieldhs.org.

The following Washington and Lee students have earned dean's list status for the recently ended fall term.

♦ **Alex Harper**, of Oak Hill, a senior at Washington and Lee University.

♦ **Jodi Lebolt**, of Oak Hill, a junior at Washington and Lee University.

Home Life Style

Security, Convenience and Green Innovation

Northern Virginia companies debut home technology trends in Las Vegas.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE CONNECTION

Getting a lot of attention at this year's Consumer Electronics Show were several Northern Virginia companies who were among the more than 2,700 exhibitors displaying some of the world's most cutting edge home technology trends.

This year was all about the "apps" as more than 150,000 people from around the world descended on the Las Vegas Convention Center last month for the 2011 Consumer Electronics Show.

Homeowners can have more control over their homes using many newly developed applications, getting real time information from home security systems even when not at home, controlling room temperatures, raising and lowering window shades or even starting dinner or the laundry from anywhere with an internet connection.

Surveillance Systems, Archerfish: Reston

For homeowners looking for a home surveillance system, Reston's Cernium Corporation has developed the Archerfish Solo, an IP-based wireless camera that emails video clips to your smart phone or computer whenever it senses unusual activity.

"There's been a lot of interest in the Solo," said Debbie Shuey of Archerfish, a CES exhibitor for the last three years. "We've had far more people stopping by this year than the last two."

Homeowners can use Archerfish to view live video via computer, smart phone or tablet devices, as Shuey demonstrated by monitoring the cameras at Reston Skate Quest cameras from the show floor in Las Vegas.

"The number of people interested in this for personal use has multiplied tremendously," Shuey said. "Even our competitors have been stopping by."

Debuting at CES this year was the Archerfish Solo Flood Light Adapter, which allows the camera to be installed simply by screwing it into an existing flood light socket.

"We're continuously developing products to help consumers keep an eye on the places that matter to them," said Cernium president Craig Chambers. "The Archerfish Flood Light Adapter makes installing the Solo as easy as screwing in a light bulb."

WWW.MYARCHERFISH.COM

Tablet Times Two, Entourage: McLean

McLean-based Entourage Systems used this year's CES to launch the Pocket Edge, a portable version of its bestselling Entourage Edge.

"We just launched last year and are doing very well, especially internationally," said Entourage vice president Doug



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/THE CONNECTION

Skip West, founder of Fairfax Station-based MAXSA Innovations, displays his latest home technology solutions at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas last month. West teaches the course "From Geek to Gazillionaire" at George Mason University.

Atkinson. "As a consumer device, we are just getting started and are excited to be here." The mission is to provide an all-inclusive personal technology device that combines the functions of several products.

Both the Entourage and Pocket Edge are dual screen e-reader, Android-based tablet computer, notepad and audio/video recorder and player. Connected to the internet, it can manage any connected home security system or smart appliances. Prices start at \$349.

WWW.ENTOURAGEEDGE.COM

MAXSA Going Green, in Fairfax Station

Skip West is no stranger to the crowds of the Consumer Electronics Show.

"This is my eighth year here and it just keeps getting better," said West, founder and president of the Fairfax Station-based MAXSA Innovations. "I love inventing new products and this is the place to introduce them to consumers."

West debuted a dozen new items at this year's show, most focusing on "green" technology. "We now have solar powered motion activated flood lights, along with our solar walkway lights for decks, stairs and driveways," West said. "We've been taking lots of orders and getting a great response."

MAXSA also offers laser garage parking systems and personal devices such as a reflective safety vest with 16 LED lights, devices to avoid automobile/deer collisions and special flashlights.

"I sold my last company but didn't like being retired," said West, who teaches the course "From Geek to Gazillionaire" at George Mason University. "I love helping

students develop their ideas into successful companies."

West, one of the first to produce the now popular battery powered votive candles, donates part of his salary from GMU to a student business competition.

"I love what I do and have been fortunate in my success," West said. "It's very rewarding to help my students see their dreams become reality."

MAXSAINNOVATIONS.COM

First Impressions, Simplikey: Herndon

If the employees of Herndon-based start-up Simplikey all look young, it's because they are.

"We hired 11 people, all between the ages of 21 and 35," said Carl Guerreri, president of parent company Electronic Warfare Associates, a government contractor. "I told them to wander the world for a year to come up with an idea that best utilized our technology." The result is the Simplikey lock, a remote control electronic deadbolt.

"We wanted to make something worthy of a front door," said D'Vell Garrison, vice president of sales and marketing. "The lock is all metal with a carbon core center deadbolt, concealed light-up keypad and remote key fob that works from up to 50 feet away. ... It's great seeing all the first adapters' eyes light up when they see the lock."

"I started early this morning and haven't stopped talking since," said Simplikey president Jason Pizzillo. "But people love the product and it's been a great show."

WWW.SIMPLICIKEY.COM



Herndon-based Simplikey president Jason Pizzillo, right, demonstrates the new locks to Oracle's Joel Storm at the Consumer Electronics Show.

Northern Virginia REAL ESTATE

Top Townhouse Sales in 2010

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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

8 1227 Stuart Robeson Drive,
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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

2 207 Fairfax Street South,
Alexandria — \$2,840,000

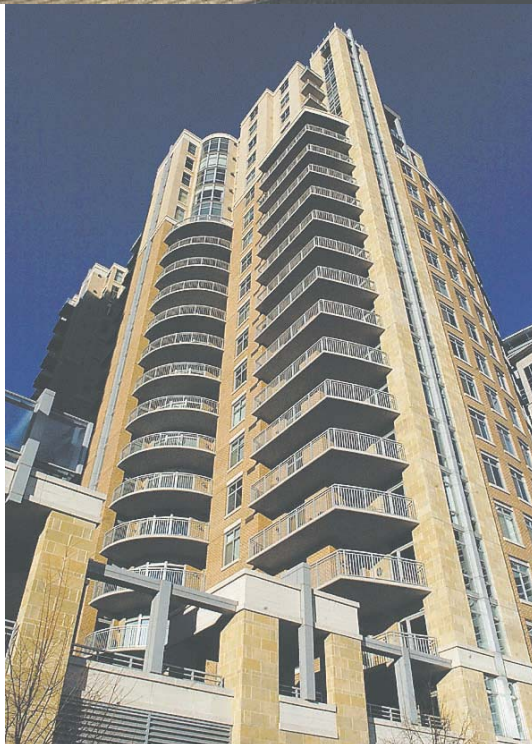


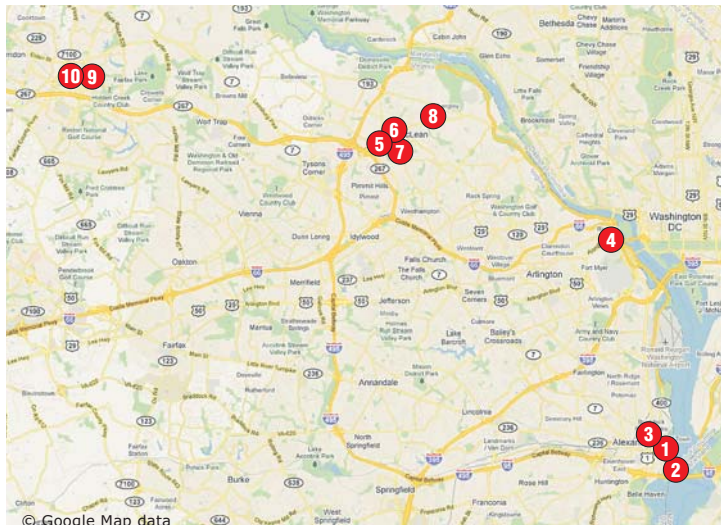
PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

10 11990 Market Street,
Reston — \$1,000,000



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

3 1401 Nash Street,
Arlington — \$2,150,000



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6 1423 HARVEST CROSSING DR	3	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,630,000	Townhouse	0.07	EVANS FARM	06/21/10	
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8 1227 STUART ROBESON DR	3	4	2	MCLEAN	\$1,360,000	Townhouse	0.10	MERRYHILL	04/30/10	
9 11776 STRATFORD HSE PL#11043	3	0	0	RESTON	\$1,060,000	Penthouse		STRATFORD	01/29/10	
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SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT WWW.MRIS.COM.

Capital Home & Garden Show, Feb. 25-27

The Capital Home & Garden Show will feature hundreds of displays and exhibits this year, with a special emphasis on "Going Green." Exhibitors include all aspects of home design and improvement, gardening, kitchen and bath remodeling, flooring, roofing, doors, windows, fencing, pools, interior and exterior lighting, home entertainment, interior designs and much more. Get ideas, investigate new products, gather information and meet the professionals who can help. **Dulles Expo Center, Feb. 25 - 27**, www.capitalhomeshow.com.

10 WAYS TO GOGREENER

SOURCE: Capital Home & Garden Show

1. Energy Efficient Appliances:

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One-Act

FROM PAGE 7

"I love performing, and being part of a competition scenario is awesome — it makes it feel more like sports," continued Reid. "I was extremely happy we won Regionals. One of my best moments of high school was hearing Chantilly's name announced as first place."

The Bonruku portion of the one-act was, perhaps, the most unusual and surprising part of Chantilly's 35-minute piece. Playing a Bonruku puppet named Dakota was junior Kelsey Monk.

"She's the popular cheerleader, equivalent to the school princess," said Monk. "In traditional Bonruku, there's always a princess, but we put it into a modern scenario. Bryce, the nerdy sophomore — also a puppet — is in love with her. But she's snooty, ditzy and into herself, and she uses Bryce to make her ex-boyfriend jealous, without considering his feelings."

Four puppets total were in the scene, with senior Spencer Parkinson doing all the voices — a different one for each puppet — plus narrating in yet another voice. "It was the most challenging role because you can't move your face; it has to be a blank stare," said Monk. "So you have to show your emotions through body language. And two puppeteers per puppet control our movements, so the whole scene has to be almost like a fluid dance."

She said the actors spent "hours and hours" watching videos of Bonruku Theater and learning how to control their bodies as puppets because "Bonruku puppets aren't human — they're wooden. In addition, we have three student musicians who play 14 instruments to also express our emotions, so it's definitely a big production."

Monk said many people at the competition had never seen Bonruku before, and "this play helped us and the audience learn about three, varied styles of theater people don't usually see. And we made the stories deal with problems that modern teen-agers face in high school. This show was so important to all of us because it was such a challenge and a risk. We put our whole life into it, so to win was amazing."

Parkinson was also proud to be part of this endeavor because of what his role required. "I had to do five, distinctly different voices — three of which were female," he said. Parkinson used his normal voice to narrate and did Bryce in a Southern, country accent with a slight lisp. He did Dakota as a "Valley girl," Bryce's mom in a commanding tone and Bryce's friend Ashley in a high pitch.

"It was a lot of fun because I was on stage and everyone was laughing," said Parkinson. "And it was cool being the only one with lines. I got to speak for 10 minutes, and having live music behind me was like having a movie score empower and enrich my words."

Next stop is the state competition, and Chantilly's actors can hardly wait. "It's exciting for the kids to get to go there on a bus and stay in a hotel," said Ed Monk. "And it's fun to go to States and represent the school."

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"Cunancer-drum"



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

Living with cancer and dying of cancer. For many cancer patients, it's a conundrum we attempt to balance every day. "Living" sounds so positive, so optimistic; while "dying" sounds so negative, so pessimistic. When one says the word "living," the inflection in your voice seems to go up. When one says the word "dying," the inflection goes down. The word "living" conjures a smile, almost; the word "dying" not so much. Living is something you want to do, presumably; dying doesn't exactly present the same opportunities — so far as we know, anyway. Moreover, there's not nearly as much future in dying as there is in living. And since I'd just as soon take a definite over a maybe, I definitely would prefer living over dying. (From my pen to God's ears.)

As simple as my preference is however, receiving the terminal diagnosis that I did (stage IV lung cancer) really changes your priorities, and "simple" is the last thing your life will ever be. Consider the effect that shuffling a deck of playing cards has on the previous order of those cards; that's minor compared to a cancer patient's reality. The reality is 52 pick-up — cards scattered everywhere with no rhyme or reason as to how any of the cards got anywhere. Now, try to organize that indiscriminate and random chaos into some kind of meaningful arrangement, all the while enduring physical and mental/emotional obstacles to accomplishing the most important task in your life: trying to make order out of that chaos. Welcome to my/our whirled.

I've been told by many health care professionals that control, anecdotally speaking, is a very effective tool in fighting cancer/any terminal disease. In fact, my original oncology nurse shared the story of how cancer patients who drove more than 20 minutes to their chemotherapy appointments seemed to do better than those who lived closer; so much so, that patients who lived closer would drive an indirect route to the Infusion Center just so the trip took more than 20 minutes. Of course, there was nothing magical in the minutes, the magic was in the presumptive control and commitment that the patient was exhibiting.

Fact or fiction. True or false. Believable or not. Add in the amount of medical information a key stroke away on the Internet, some of it for-profit, not to mention all the solicited — and unsolicited (well meaning though it may be) — advice from family and friends; and the potential for contradictory, misleading and inappropriate courses of action/treatment (for your specific medical history/condition/diagnosis) is off the charts. Combine this with the patient's inability to filter and discern as keenly and objectively as before they were diagnosed and you have a series of disasters waiting to happen. The trick is, there is no trick; it's just life in the cancer lane.

And though it's a road I never thought I'd be on — certainly at age 55 (ever really, considering my immediate family's medical history; no cancer), I'm on it — full time! Trying to make the best of a bad situation is how I approach every day. Pretending — and maybe even denying — (there's no "maybe"), is how I approach every night. I'm not living to die; I'm dying to live (figuratively speaking). Every day, every result, brings new challenges. What matters, what matters not? It's a recurring theme. I wish I had the answer. I don't and that's the problem. Even though I've been on this cancer lane now for two years, there's no road map to direct me. Maybe a GPS would help.

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

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Westfield Wrestling Falls Short in Region Title Defense

Red hot Rams take the title ahead of second place Bulldogs.

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

Despite a great effort last week end by Westfield High to defend its status as Northern Region wrestling champion, the Bulldogs fell a little short at the annual postseason championship event, which took place at Fairfax High School Feb. 11-12.

Robinson Secondary, last year's region runner-up, captured Saturday's region title — its first region crown since 1991. The Rams finished with 260.50 points, finishing ahead of second place Westfield (208). South County (118) finished third place, while Annandale (92) and Hayfield (78) finished fourth and fifth places, respectively. Finishing sixth through 10th place were Lee High (69), Mount Vernon (65), Edison (62), Langley (58) and Lake Braddock (54.50).

Chantilly (44 points) and Centreville (41) finished 15th and 18th place, respectively, at the 30-team event.

Robinson's Jack Bass, the 125-weight class champion, was named the region tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler. Centreville accepted the Sportsmanship Award trophy during brief post meet ceremonies on Saturday night.

Two weeks ago, Westfield started the postseason off by taking first place at the Concorde District championships, edging the runner-up Rams, who tallied 219 points to Westfield's 225.5.

But at regionals, Robinson simply put it all together as nine Rams reached the finals of their respective weight brackets, with seven capturing titles.

"Our team has always been strong and we have a good rival with Westfield," said Robinson wrestler Jake Smith, who captured the 119-division title. "But winning the region really means nothing. We have our eyes on states. That's really all that matters. There's no reason why we shouldn't win the state title."

Robinson will host this weekend's Virginia State AAA championships, set for Friday and Saturday. The Rams have as good a shot as anyone of winning their first state crown since 1985. The team is coached by Bryan Hazard, a member of the Rams' 1991 region title team who is completing his 15th year as the program's head coach.

"I think we have a team that can perform [exceptional] at the next level," said Hazard, whose squad will have 11 wrestlers competing at states. "But we have to do it. We need some heroes."

Four Westfield High wrestlers reached championship finals matches at regionals, with one — Beau Donahue at 140 weight class — coming away with a title.

Beau (56-3), a two-time Concorde Dis-

trict champion and a region runner-up last year, defeated Madison High's Albert Schultz (40-7) by decision, 7-2, to garner the 140 crown.

The finals match win was Donahue's 100th career varsity victory.

"All the way through the season, getting the 100th victory was a goal of mine," said Donahue, who was encouraged by coaches and teammates on his quest to attain the century mark in wins.

Nearly midway through the first period of the championship match, Donahue earned a two-point standing takedown to take a 2-0 lead. Schultz, this year's Liberty District champion, earned an escape point. But in the final seconds of the opening period, Donahue earned another takedown for a 4-1 lead. His lead increased to 5-1 late in the second period before Schultz appeared to get a two-point takedown in the closing seconds of the period. But following a brief officials' conference, the points were taken away from Schultz and he still was down 5-1. He closed within 5-2 with an escape point with 20 seconds remaining in the third and final period before Donahue scored in the final seconds to secure the win.

"I started off a little strong but got a little tired going through the match," said Donahue, of the hard-fought match.

Donahue reached the finals with wins over West Springfield's Idress Yousafzai (second period pin), Langley's Will Baird (second period pin), and South County's Brett Stein (12-4 major decision).

Donahue is now looking forward to states. "Every match at states is going to be tough all the way through," he said.

THREE WESTFIELD WRESTLERS — Tyler DeLeon (heavyweight), Jacob DeLeon (215), and Brett Campbell (112) — made it to the finals before losing and finishing with second place finishes.

Tyler DeLeon (35-11), the defending region champion, lost a 3-2 match in the finals to Robinson's Jake Pinkston (30-11), who broke a 2-2 tie with an escape point early in the final period.

DeLeon had reached the finals with wins over Hayfield's Chris Mulligan (third period pin), Fairfax's Kevin Karsner, 4-0, and South County's Josh Ash, 5-3, in the semifinals.

At 215 weight class, junior Jacob DeLeon (50-10), the Concorde District champion, fell to Fairfax High senior Joe Vanderplas by a third period pin. DeLeon trailed just 2-1 after two periods. Within the final minute of the third period, Vanderplas, ahead 3-1, earned a two-point takedown with 1 minute, 10 seconds remaining and went on to get the pin with 45 seconds left.

DeLeon had reached the finals with wins over Mount Vernon's Jawan Dawkins (forfeit), Langley's Tate Dulany, 6-0, and Hayfield's David Cox, 3-0, in the semifinals.

Westfield's Campbell lost a tough 5-2 decision to Robinson's Dallas Smith in the 112 finals. The match was scoreless after one period before Campbell, with 40 seconds remaining in the second period, earned two



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/CENTRE VIEW

Westfield's Beau Donahue captured the 140 weight class region title with a finals win over Madison's Albert Schultz.

points at the edge of the mat with a reversal to go ahead 2-0. But early in the third period, Smith turned his opponent over and earned five points to take control of the match and ultimately earn the win. It was the second straight region crown for Smith (30-5), who a year ago reached the state finals.

Two weeks ago in the Concorde District finals, Smith lost to Campbell, 4-1.

Campbell, who finished sixth at states last year, reached the region finals with wins over Fairfax's Donald Knowlan (first period pin), T.C. Williams' Ibrahim Banduka (13-3 major decision), and Stone Bridge's Garrett Maged, 7-1.

Westfield had four wrestlers earn third place finishes - Harry VanTrees (152), Nick Lehman (145), Derek Arnold (125), and David Aiello (103).

Van Trees won 152 division matches over Annandale's Allan Cabrera (first period pin) and Hayfield's Brennan Reeder (injury default) before losing 10-8 to eventual champion Konbeh Koroma of Lee. But Van Trees defeated Oakton's Matt Nortterangelo (13-5 major decision) and then defeated Langley's Matt Wilson, 8-2, in the consolation finals to gain third place.

Lehman, at 145, won decisions over both Mike Wickoff of Lee, 3-0, and Wakefield's Victor Leavell, 3-2. He then lost to eventual champion and unbeaten Ryan Forrest of South Lakes in the semifinals, 6-0. Lehman bounced back strong with loser's bracket wins over South County's Tyler Howard, 5-3 in overtime, and Stone Bridge's Pat Taylor, 5-0, to gain third place.

The Bulldogs' Arnold garnered third place at the 125 weight class. He beat Madison's

Connor Eckhardt (17-2 technical fall) in a first round match, then fell to Hayfield's Sahid Kargbo, 5-2. But Arnold came roaring back through the loser's bracket with four straight wins, including a 5-0 consolation finals match victory over Yorktown's Danilo Downing to finish third.

David Aiello, at 103, won matches over Langley's Louis Ives, 6-2, and Wakefield's Henry Vasquez (second period pin) before falling into the loser's bracket with a loss to South County's Hunter Manley, 8-2. Aiello then defeated Eriq Dahlum of Mount Vernon and West Potomac's Ian Thompson, both by 5-0 scores, to secure third place.

Westfield's Stephen Aiello, meanwhile, finished in fourth place at 130 weight class to earn a state seeding for this weekend.

CHANTILLY HIGH'S Bernabe Mejia earned a third place finish at 171 weight class. The top seed going into regionals, Mejia (34-9), a senior, won matches over Edison's Shane Otterstedt (21-6 technical fall) and Lee's Kevin Parada, 5-2. But a tough 5-4 loss to Mount Vernon's Dusty Floyd ended Mejia's title hopes. Still, he came back strong, winning loser's bracket matches over Robinson's Tim Fitzpatrick, 7-5 in overtime, and Parada, 7-4, in the match for third place.

"I could have done some things differently in the semifinals," said Mejia, of the loss to Mount Vernon's Floyd, who won the title. "I felt I wrestled great in the semifinals but made some small mistakes. It was a tough tournament."

Mejia, who earned a fifth place region finish last year, said being the top seed for this year's tournament did not really add extra pressure.

"I didn't worry about it too much," said Mejia, who will be competing at states this week.

Mejia, who never wrestled prior to high school, is looking forward to states this weekend.

"Wrestling at Chantilly has been a great experience," said Mejia, who would like to one day work in law enforcement and also coach wrestling. "The season has gone great and I have some things to improve on for next week."

FROM CENTREVILLE HIGH, Ryan Sepulveda finished in third place at 160 weight class. He won his first round match over Yorktown's Alex Grove, 6-3, but then lost to South County's Christian Merino, 9-8. But he won four straight loser's bracket matches - wins over Jefferson's Will Pyrak (12-2 major decision), McLean's Paval Hovhannisyanyan, 10-5, Hayfield's Chris Stone (10-1 major decision), and T.C. Williams' Marvin Gomez (default win) in the match for third place.

Local wrestlers to earn medals for finishing in the top six were: Centreville's David Chevevey (fifth place at 189), Westfield's Frank Aiello (fifth at 135), Westfield's Dennen Carranza-Kee (fifth at 119), and Chantilly's Wes Litton (sixth at 130).

More to Mailman than Met the Eye

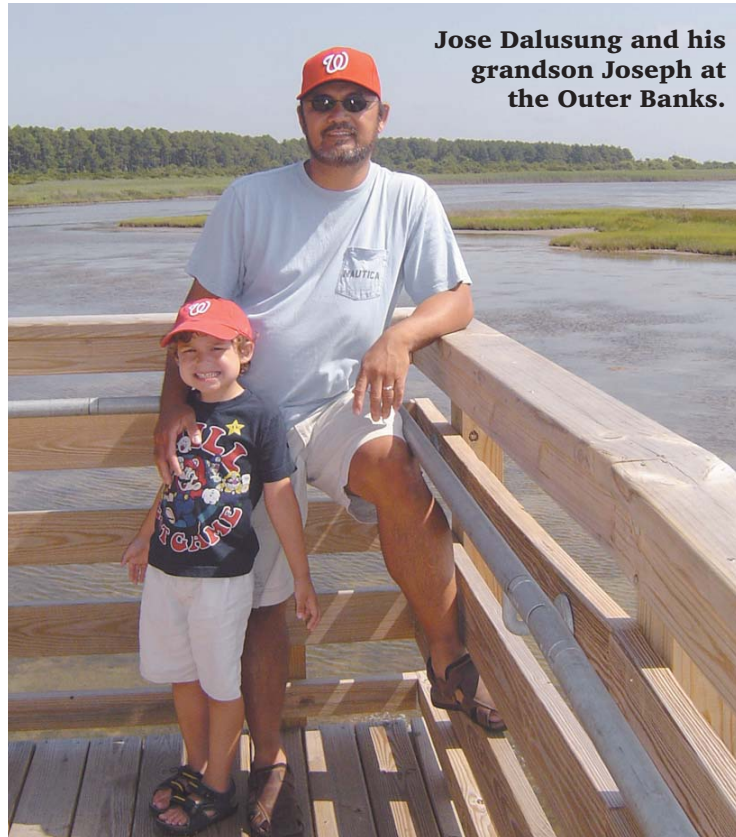
FROM PAGE 3

Two years ago, she said, he was diagnosed with an enlarged heart and was being treated for it. He'd seen his cardiologist in January and was told all was well. But on Jan. 17, he had a fatal heart attack.

"True to my husband's personality and form, he didn't say a word that night about not feeling well," said his wife. "But he went to bed and died in his sleep. The doctors say it was very quick and he didn't suffer."

But those who knew and loved him are grieving deeply. "He was a good and honorable man, and we were each other's one and only," said Dalusung. "We were soul mates and I miss him more than I can describe."

Since both Jose and Nichole Dalusung attended GMU, memorial contributions may be made to the Catholic Campus Ministry at George Mason University, 4515 Roberts Road, Fairfax, VA 22032.



Jose Dalusung and his grandson Joseph at the Outer Banks.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBIN DALUSUNG

Recalling 'Joe The Mailman'

FROM PAGE 3

"He and his wife Robin and their grandchildren came to our block party," said Risi.

"That's why the news of his passing was shocking and devastating to those in the Paterra and Wynmar communities, plus neighborhoods along Poplar Tree and Walney roads who knew and cared about Joe," added Barnes. "And nearly everyone knew him."

"We'd just moved in and were in the front yard when my son Noah, then 5, saw him and ran to his mail truck," said Heidi Tucker. "Joe moved the truck slightly, then Noah moved and then Joe moved. He was playing with Noah, so we knew immediately he was going to be a fun mailman."

"HE ALWAYS HAD A WAVE and a smile for us," said Peters. "We always got a kind word. He was busy, but he always made time to talk to people on the street."

"Day in and day out, he was a quiet, but constant, presence in our community, always going beyond what was expected," said Barnes. "He'd chat with my husband about the Redskins and ask about our families and pets. Now that Joe's gone, he's so missed. This leaves a hole in our hearts and in our community." "He knew our cars and, even if we were just driving by, he'd wave," said Tucker. Dalusung was also caring and compassionate, the women said.

"For all three of my pregnancies, anytime Joe saw me at home, he'd bring the mail to me at the front door to save me a trip to the mailbox," said Risi. "Now I feel like I lost a family member. I called my husband in California to tell him about Joe, and I



Jose Dalusung relaxing during a vacation.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBIN DALUSUNG

could hardly get the words out, I was crying so hard."

Kim Wu said Dalusung stood out as a friendly, special person. "In these times, to know your mailman on a first-name basis or count him as a friend is really something," she said. "It took us back to a simpler time and made us feel like we lived in a small town where people all knew each other. He was just remarkable."

"I think everybody he came into contact with must have felt the same way about him," said Barnes. "It just goes to show the importance of those little moments in life," said Tucker.

One neighbor even tied a bouquet of white roses on her mailbox as a memorial to Dalusung. Said Wu: "It's the friendship and connection with people that he left behind — and that will be his legacy."

"In a time when more people are using e-mail and customer service isn't what it should be, this was a man who not only brought the mail, but touched our lives," said Barnes. Added Risi: "The mail will still come, but it'll never be the same."

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Chantilly House Fire Causes \$40,000 Damage

A fire originating in a prefabricated fireplace caused an estimated \$40,000 damage last week to a home in Chantilly's Pleasant Valley community.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded last Wednesday, Feb. 9, around 7 p.m., to 4518 Silas Hutchinson Drive. First-arriving firefighters saw fire and smoke coming from inside the split-level, single-family home.

Firefighting crews conducted offensive

fire operations on both levels of the house and brought the flames under control in approximately 20 minutes. Fire officials say the blaze fire began in the fireplace located in the recreation room on the lower level and extended into the upper level of the home.

Two adults escaped before firefighters arrived, but are now displaced. One adult female was treated at the scene by paramedics and subsequently transported to Inova Fair Oaks Hospital with non life-

threatening injuries. The home had smoke alarms, but officials say it's unclear if they sounded.

According to fire investigators, the fire was accidental, starting in the chimney chase of the zero-clearance fireplace.


A chimney chase is a decorative surrounding that covers the metal flue inside a chimney. A zero-clearance fireplace is a prefabricated fireplace that makes it possible for a home without a chimney to still have a fireplace.

ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 3

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. Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.



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