

APRIL 12-18, 2012

25 CENTS NEWSSTAND PRICE

Virginia Tech Tragedy: Five Years Later

Erin Peterson's family then and now.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

For Celeste and Grafton Peterson, on April 16, 2007, the world as they knew it changed forever. That was the day their daughter — and only child — Erin was killed in the massacre at Virginia Tech.

Five years have passed since then, but time hasn't dulled the pain or filled the holes in their hearts.

"Grief is forever," said Celeste Peterson. "When you lose a child, you never come out of it. You just flow in life's mainstream differently."

A 2006 graduate of Westfield High, Erin was just 18 and in her freshman year at VT when a friend of Peterson's who'd been watching the news on TV called her. Said Peterson: "She said, 'There's been a shooting at Virginia Tech — have you talked to Erin?'"

Both worried and scared, Peterson desperately tried reaching her daughter, to no avail. "I kept calling her and there was no answer," she said. Her friend later

called back and said the number of people shot had reached 20.

Before it was over, a mentally unstable student, Seung-Hui Cho, would kill 32 people and then take his own life. Most of the victims — including Erin and fellow Westfield grad Reema Samaha — were in Norris Hall. Erin and Reema were in French class there together.

"I had Erin's password to get onto her computer to see what class she was in," said Peterson. "I found out she was in Norris. I had a sinking feeling because I knew that, if Erin was all right, she would have called me or Grafton right away."

Peterson saw a message posted on the school Web site at 9:26 a.m. that there'd been a "shooting incident" there. She and her husband were both at work, but immediately left and headed for VT. "I was praying," said Peterson. "I knew something was really wrong, though."

When they arrived, the scene was chaotic. "They sent the parents to the Inn at Virginia Tech and said there'd be information about our children, but there wasn't any," said Peterson. "Then they sent us to two hospitals [in case Erin was there]."

Returning to the inn, she said, "We were quickly hustled into a room filled with sher-



Erin Peterson

SEE BLESSED WITH FAITH, PAGE 14

Reema Samaha's family still grieves

BY JOE SAMAHA
SPECIAL TO CENTRE VIEW

A 2006 Westfield High grad, Reema Samaha was a talented dancer and actress. The daughter of Mona and Joe Samaha of Centreville, she was also one of the victims at Virginia Tech. Below, her father reflects on his feelings, five years after that tragic day.

On April 16, it will be 1,826 days since Reema was killed. There is not a day that goes by that I do not think about Reema, her fellow VT classmates, professors and survivors.

There is not a day that I do not think of what we can do better as a society to make our institutions better in preventing school and campus shootings. Mona calls it my other full-time job.

Ken Feinberg [the attorney who oversaw the U.S. government's Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund] called it "God's work." I say it's the least I can do to honor everyone we lost on that fateful day who cannot speak or advocate for themselves. I know that those great kids and educators who died on April 16 would be doing this work if they



Reema Samaha

had survived.

I know this because the survivors of April 16, 2007 have indeed dedicated their lives, in one way or another, to make this world a better place to live and honor the 32 [who died].

When I learned of the shootings at VT that morning, I heard the death toll on the radio. Two students killed. I immediately turned on the TV and, in a matter of minutes, the death toll was climbing. Eight, 10, possibly more. Reports of students being shot "execution style". Twelve, 18 — this can't be possible.

Oh wow, Norris Hall; it's in an engineering building. Reema couldn't be in an engineering building at 9-something in the morning. She has to be OK. So I called. No answer. That's OK; maybe she's in lockdown like she was the very first day of classes back in August 2006. A shooter who had killed two deputies was near the campus, and Reema had called me and told me that they were locking down the school and she was heading back to her dorm. I assumed she would be doing the same that day.

As the minutes passed and Reema was

SEE WORKING, PAGE 14

Raising Money and Awareness of Kidney Disease

Local resident, TV reporter participating in 2012 Kidney Walk.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Chantilly resident Jummy Olabanji has the distinction of being an on-air reporter with WJLA, the local ABC TV affiliate; and in 2002, she was part of the first class to graduate from Westfield High.

She's also one of 26 million adults in the U.S. who've been diagnosed with kidney disease. And on Sunday, April 22, at 3 p.m., she'll participate in the National

Kidney Foundation's 2012 Kidney Walk at the Reston Town Center.

Normally, Olabanji doesn't seek the limelight herself or want to be the subject of the news. But for this event, she's stepping out and speaking up to help others.

Diabetes and high blood pressure are the two main causes of kidney disease. And the groups



Olabanji

most affected by it are African Americans, Hispanics, Pacific Islanders, Native Americans and senior citizens. So when Olabanji's blood pressure started rising, she didn't ignore it.

"I'd started to notice my blood pressure was higher than normal and I didn't know why," she said. "But being an African American and knowing my family has high cholesterol, kidney disease and high blood pressure, I've always been health-conscious."

So she saw her doctor and, in

spring 2011, received her diagnosis. "My uncle is on dialysis and I've known other extended family members who have kidney disease," said Olabanji. "So you always know it's there, but don't know for certain it'll happen to you."

Luckily, she said, her case "isn't bad, at all. But because I carry the

gene and it affected my blood pressure, [the doctors] just wanted me to be more aware. I'm healthy, active and not overweight, but I've had to change my diet and add more exercises."

Before her diagnosis, Olabanji loved snacking on chips and would often salt her food. Now, she no

SEE KIDNEY WALK, PAGE 7



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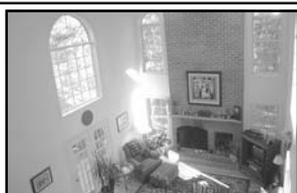
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NEWS

Gershwin Songs, Dazzling Dancing
Westfield presents the musical, "Crazy for You."

By BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Featuring a cast and crew of 50, Westfield High presents its Cappies entry, the George Gershwin musical, "Crazy for You."

Show times are Friday, April 20, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 21, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, April 22, at 2 p.m. at the school. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, for the general public, and \$10 for students with a valid student ID. Seating is reserved and tickets are available at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

It's the story of a stage-struck, New York City playboy in a Nevada mining town chocked full of romance, mistaken identities and dazzling dances. It won three Tony Awards on Broadway, including Best Musical.

"This is more of a vaudeville-type production than any of our past musicals," said Director Susie Pike. "It's full of one-liners and silly humor and highlights the talents we have in this department."

Senior Colby Dezelick choreographed the show and plays the lead role of Bobby Child who loves dancing and wants to be in theater. But his mother wants him to work in a bank with her, so she sends him to Dead Rock, Nev., to foreclose on a property. He doesn't fit in there, but falls in love with Polly Baker, the only woman in town.

The property is an old theater, and Child decides to save it by putting on a show. Polly falls in love with him, too; but once she learns who he is, she thinks he's just tricking her. He then disguises himself and pretends to be a New York producer. There are also other love involvements and mix-ups in this romantic-comedy musical, but things eventually work out.

"Bobby's in his late 20s and all he wants to do is be on stage and dance," said Dezelick. "So it's funny to put the city boy into a small town in Nevada. He's friendly, energized and likes to have fun. He's never seen anyone like Polly before — full of gusto, instead of being prim and proper. I love this role and have always loved this show; it fits my personality because he wants to dance, sing, perform, help people and put on a show."

Dezelick's favorite number is "Slap that Bass" be-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY NELMS

Top row, from left, are Bryan Pitt and Joey Biagini; (middle, from left) Colby Dezelick and Mitchell Buckley; and (front row, from left) Allie Koenigsberg and Madeleine Bloxam.

cause "It's a really cool jazz piece that was a blast to choreograph. At one point, the girls become the bass that's being played." This show has some 10, big production numbers, and he's been choreographing them since last summer. Said Dezelick: "The closing song of Act I, 'I Got Rhythm,' has a seven-minute dance break that's high-energy and very entertaining, and the audience will love it."

He said the whole show is funny and all ages will enjoy it. "Younger people will like the dancing, costumes and sets," said Dezelick. "And older ones will like the classic, Gershwin music and will be humming the tunes when they leave."

Playing Polly Baker is junior Allie Koenigsberg. "She's tomboyish, growing up around men all her life," said Koenigsberg. "Her mom, a former stage performer, died when she was young, so she's very close with her dad. She's outgoing and treats the people in town like they're part of her family. And then along comes Bobby, someone new and different."

Koenigsberg's also enjoying her role because she sees a similarity between her and Polly. "She presents herself as having a hard exterior; but in reality, she's soft on the inside," said Koenigsberg. "She's such

SEE GERSHWIN SONGS, PAGE 4



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Second graders at Lees Corner Elementary School hold Native American Day on March 30 to celebrate all they have learned about the Pueblo, Powhatan and Lakota Indians. This group of students is using dyed macaroni to make jewelry.



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/CENTRE VIEW

Second graders at Lees Corner Elementary School show off the headdresses they just made.

Lees Corner Elementary Celebrates Native American Day

The entire second grade of Lees Corner Elementary School and a bevy of volunteers held the school's first Native American day on March 30 as a capstone to months of learning about Native Americans. The Native American unit is a critical part of the second grade curriculum and the second grade team,

Veronica Turner, Vicki McGorty, Melissa Carbonara, and Leslie Barnes thought that the event would be a good way to celebrate the youngsters' hard work. Students decorated fringed t-shirts, ate foods like jerky and three-sisters stew, made jewelry, drums, and headdresses, wrote and told pictograph stories, and played games.

Second grader Ashna R. Tells a pictograph tale to her classmates that she has written on a "deerskin" during the Native American Day Festivities.



Second graders at Lees Corner Elementary School sample foods like three sisters soup (beans, corn and squash), jerky, dried berries, corn bread, pumpkin seeds and buffalo meat.



Kayla C. tells her pictograph story, written on faux deerskin as part of the Native American Day activities.



From left: Laaibah 5., Raashi C., Molly S. and Isis R. show off the fringed shirts, jewelry and headdresses they have made.

Gershwin Songs, Romance And Dazzling Dancing

FROM PAGE 2

a fun, charismatic, lively character to play. She marches to her own drum and is comfortable in her skin."

Koenigsberg especially likes the song, "Someone to Watch over Me." She sings it; and, she said, "It's the moment when Polly breaks her outer shell and the audience falls in love with her and starts rooting for her." She said the show is filled with so many different kinds of numbers and costumes and "the sets are amazing. This musical has so much to offer."

Senior Corinne Holland portrays Patsy, a ditzzy showgirl from the follies in New York. "She's outgoing, but kind of in her own, little world," said Holland. "She's one of the dancers that help bring the show to life. She's a happy character and I'm happy, too, so playing her comes easily."

Holland's favorite number is "Entrance to Nevada." It's the first time the New York girls come to Nevada, and the males in town are excited to see other women. Said Holland: "It's a quick and upbeat song with a grand ending." She said the audience will also like the show's costumes. "Most of them are handmade, and a lot of work went into them," she said. "They look fabulous."

Playing Irene, Bobby's fiancé in New York,

is junior Madeleine Bloxam. "He doesn't love her, but she's convinced they're getting married, so she follows him to Nevada," said Bloxam. "She's a rich debutante — stuck up, self-centered and nasty. Even while being rude to people, she maintains her class."

Bloxam likes her role because she gets to be "kind of sultry toward the end and that's fun. But it's harder to get into character, so it's more challenging." She likes the song, "Naughty Baby," best because "it's where Irene changes and lets loose." She said the audience will like how the cast performs Gershwin's songs. "They'll bring back memories to a lot of the audience," said Bloxam. "It's special that they still have all their power today, 60 years after they first came out."

Marketing and Publicity is a new Cappies category this year, so she and senior Chaz Coffin took on that task, too. "We never knew it took so much work to publicize a show, but we enjoyed doing it," said Bloxam.

"It's great to show what we can do, not just as actors, but on the business side of the production," added Coffin. "I learned you need to plan and do everything ahead of time so everything goes smoothly."

Director Pike noted, as well, the "creativity, sense of style and research" that stu-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY NELMS

The follies girls pose with male leads (from left) Joey Biagini and Colby Dezelick in Westfield's "Crazy for You."

dent costume-designers Bayleigh Aschenbrenner and Zoe Hawryluk brought to their craft. Their adult mentors were parents Chris Hobbs, Patti Dezelick and Ginny McLaughlin. "The costumes are magnificent," said Pike. "They're bright, colorful and sparkly."

Yvonne Henry is choreography and props mentor; Carol Jones, music director; and Dolly Stevens, vocal director. Producer and assistant director is Lori Knickerbocker; stage manager is Olivia Witt, assisted by Ally

Engelbrecht and Shannon Douglass.

The sets show a New York theater and a Nevada saloon that'll revolve to show their interiors as well as exteriors. There's also an old theater that's become a post office.

"This show highlights our great dancers, and there are lots of wonderful character roles, too," said Pike. "And the Gershwin music is so appealing, widely recognized and memorable. People will go away happy, tapping their feet and impressed with our tremendous talent."

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'Eggceptional Fun' The Walowsky family of Chantilly: Lori, Scott, Sarah (front left) and Anna (front right) were recipients of four of the 30,000 tickets to the 134th annual White House Easter Egg Roll on the grounds of the White House on Monday April 9. The event included music, crafts, activities and, of course, an egg roll. Says Anna Walowsky, "It was eggceptional fun."

ROUNDUPS

Parkway to be Repaved

Over the spring and summer, VDOT plans to repave 24 miles of the 32-mile, six-lane Fairfax County Parkway between Route 7 in Dranesville and Rolling Road in Springfield. The \$19 million maintenance project will take place mostly at night and on weekends and will require lane closures and occasional detours.

In advance of the work, VDOT will hold community meetings to discuss the work plan and schedule. Locally, one will be held Tuesday, April 24, at 7 p.m., at the VDOT District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, (off West Ox Road, across from Costco) in Fairfax.

While work will begin in April and be completed in October, the heaviest traffic impacts will be scheduled from June until Labor Day, when schools are out for the summer. Parkway sections that won't be repaved include the construction work-zone area at the Fairfax Lakes Parkway and locations that were paved in the last five years.

Become a CASA Volunteer

A new case of child abuse or neglect enters the Fairfax County Domestic & Juvenile Relations Court system once every 38 hours. These children need caring advocates to help ensure that they grow up in safe and permanent homes. Fairfax CASA trains volunteers to advocate for a child's best interests in Court.

To become a volunteer position with a serious purpose that can create real change, attend Fairfax CASA's upcoming information session at the Centreville Regional Library on Saturday, April 14, from 11 a.m.-12 noon. For reservations or information, contact Elisa Kosarin, associate director, Recruitment and Training, at 703-273-3526, ext. 22, or at ekosarin@casafairfax.org, or visit www.fairfaxcasa.org.

Free Income Tax Preparation

People who worked in 2011 and earned less than \$50,000 may qualify for free, income-tax preparation. It's available Saturdays, through April 14, from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly. If married and filing a joint return, both spouses must be present. For a list of items participants must bring with them, go to www.nvacash.org and click on "free tax preparation."

WFCCA Quarterly Meeting

The West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) will hold its quarterly meeting Monday, April 16, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly. At that time, elections will be held for WFCCA president and Land-Use Committee members.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, April 19, 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.

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 9

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OPINION

On Funding the Silver Line

Commonwealth will collect the dividends, but refuses to invest; Northern Virginia pays.

Northern Virginia localities should together commission a study now to determine how much growth is stimulated by the opening of the Metro stations in Tysons and along the toll road out to Dulles, how many new jobs created, quantify how much that growth leads to increased income and sales tax, and how much revenue (taxes) would get shipped off to Commonwealth coffers.

There should be a way to keep that money here in Northern Virginia.

Residents from around the region will pay for the majority of the construction of rail to Dulles via the Dulles Toll Road.

Virginia is all too happy to benefit from one of the biggest drivers of the Northern Virginia economic engine, Dulles Airport. Rail to Dulles, part of the plan for the airport since its conception, is a key part of supporting the expected volume growth in passengers and other commerce at the airport. But at every turn, the state has pushed paying for the rail line onto Northern Virginia, onto Fairfax and Loudoun county governments, onto property owners in the cor-

ridor and especially onto drivers on the Dulles Toll Road.

While Virginia had committed to contributing an additional \$150 million to the rail project, and at various points the governor and the General Assembly dangled \$200-300 million, it now appears that money will not be forthcoming. It was never enough.

This is one more example of the Commonwealth of Virginia happily collecting revenues, including income and sales taxes, generated from the economic vitality of Northern Virginia, then forcing Northern Virginia residents to pay for the infrastructure of that economic activity out of local funds and personal pockets.

The most recent Virginia Department of Aviation report identifies at least \$17.5 billion in annual economic activity in Virginia from Dulles and Reagan National airports, with Dulles providing the majority of that. The number of jobs created and maintained by this activity is staggering, and in Virginia, the state collects 100 percent of the income tax; there is no local income tax.

The state collects the income tax from the good jobs generated here in Northern Virginia by the airports, by the high tech firms, by the business innovators, by proximity to the Pentagon and the federal government. Then the governor celebrates the result, that Virginia is top ranked as business friendly.

The Commonwealth collects much of the tax revenue that results from this activity, but would pay only three percent of the \$6.2 billion cost of rail to Dulles. This will force more than 80 percent of the costs of building rail to Dulles to local drivers and property owners. The toll road contribution is projected at 57 percent of the total.

Having major airports adequately served by rail and other transportation options is more than an amenity, it is part of sustaining the economic benefit that comes from major airports. The question is not whether we should be building rail to Dulles, but about who benefits and who pays.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Unnatural Selection

State and local leaders clash over responsibility of secondary roads.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
CENTRE VIEW

Who is responsible for fixing potholes on Fairfax County roads? State leaders in Richmond want to hand over control to transportation officials at the Fairfax County Government Center. But Chairwoman Sharon Bulova is joining with leaders in Loudoun County and Prince William County to oppose the move. In a joint letter to the General Assembly, the local government leaders in the three Northern Virginia jurisdictions and Chesterfield say that they oppose the shift in responsibility as an unfunded mandate, one that would hurt taxpayers.

“To put it bluntly, devolution would require a local tax increase,” the joint letter concluded.

State control of local roads dates back to the Great Depression, when leaders in Richmond stepped in to handle infrastructure needs that were going unmet because local governments were broke. Some say the system is outdated and ill-equipped for the modern era, especially because local governments can respond more effectively to needs in Fairfax County than state officials in the Virginia Department of Transportation headquarters on East Broad Street in Richmond.

“Listen, I’m a child of the ’70s,” said Transportation Secretary Sean Connaughton, a former chairman of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors. “I’m a big fan of Devo, which was short for devolution.”

Connaughton says Virginia is one of the only

states in the country where state officials have the responsibility of maintaining local roads. Cities and towns already take care of their own roads, and Arlington County has long maintained its own infrastructure. That’s why the secretary and others want the three largest jurisdictions in Northern Virginia to assume an increased responsibility. Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland says the concept could work, but only if the state is willing to fork over enough cash to go along with the responsibility.

“It would be essential that the money follow

“Listen, I’m a child of the ’70s. I’m a big fan of Devo, which was short for devolution.”

— Transportation Secretary Sean Connaughton

the devolution,” Hyland said. “Or else you are going to have revolution on the part of local governments.”

THE COALITION of local government chairmen says that after years of neglect, Virginia’s transportation funds are nearly depleted. The Virginia Department of Transportation estimates that 34 percent of secondary roads in Virginia are substandard, which means that state officials would be handing over substandard resources with little or no way to pay for improvements. Even if hundreds of millions could be earmarked to bring these roads up to standard, the local governments would be on the hook to pay for maintenance in the future.

“Our roads are in deplorable shape,” the leaders wrote in the joint statement to the

General Assembly. “As the nation pulls from the constraints of recession, the risks associated with devolution pose an even greater threat to the vitality of Virginia.”

Bulova likes to compare the process of devolution to ownership of a car that has failed all the inspections. All of the tires in Bulova’s metaphor are flat. It needs a paintjob. Many repairs are needed. Like the state’s system of secondary roads, which she says are “deplorable,” the imaginary car is more of a burden than an asset.

“It’s as though the state coasted it into the driveway of the county and said, ‘Here, it’s yours. Take it,’” Bulova said. “And now it’s our responsibility to fix it up.”

ALTHOUGH LOCAL LEADERS usually argue for more power, the debate over devolution turns the traditional paradigm on its head. The five chairmen acknowledged in the joint statement that responsibility of the commonwealth’s secondary road system is an example of an instance where “constituency and economics of scale” point to state-level responsibility.

The stakes are high because if Connaughton is successful in shifting responsibility in Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William and Chesterfield, more jurisdictions will be asked to step up in the future.

“Other counties in the commonwealth also recognize that devolution will not stop at our borders,” the joint letter concludes. “In the coming years, proposals to devolve road maintenance to more and more localities would come before the General Assembly.”

CENTREVIEW

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to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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Kidney Walk To Raise Funds, Awareness

FROM PAGE 1

longer uses table salt and asks restaurants not to put any additional salt on her meal. She also reads food labels to check out the sodium content because, she said, "Sodium isn't good for your heart and blood pressure."

In addition, she now does cardio exercises a couple times a week at a gym and checks her blood pressure at home. The 2006 Virginia Tech grad is also looking forward to participating in the upcoming Kidney Walk.

The nonprofit National Kidney Foundation is dedicated to preventing kidney disease and supporting people and families affected by it, while promoting the importance of organ donation. Funds from the 5K or 1-mile memorial walk will help it carry out its goals, and that's why Olabanji is taking part.

"I'm a busy, young professional who hesitated to say anything about my condition to anyone because lots of people are in worse shape than I am," she said. "I'm fine. I'm simply trying to shed light on the wonderful work the Kidney Foundation is doing to raise money and help people in the community with preventative care and early detection."

"They're able to offer free, kidney-disease screenings because of the money they raise," continued Olabanji. "So anything I can do to help them, I'm happy to do."

Kidney Screening

A Kidney Early Evaluation Program screening will be held Sunday, April 29, from noon-4 p.m., at the Vienna Adventist Academy, 340 Courthouse Road S.W., in Vienna. It's free to people, 18 and over, with risk factors for kidney disease, diabetes or high blood pressure. To make an appointment, call 202-244-7900

She said she'll be pleased if she can encourage or help anyone who may be at risk to go to a screening and get checked for high blood pressure, diabetes or kidney disease. "You may be healthy, you may be fine," she said. "But it's better to get checked and know for sure."

Most people don't even know diabetes is the number-one cause of kidney failure, said Olabanji. "You hear so much about other diseases but, for many people, this is a silent killer — and they don't know anything's wrong until it's too late. Just recently, for example, [celebrity] Nick Cannon just collapsed and had no idea his kidneys were shutting down."

April is National Organ Donation Month and, at the Kidney Walk, she'll be walking in honor of her uncle Diran Idowu who suffers from kidney disease and is searching for a replacement kidney. That's why she says she's become "kidney smart" and truly realized there's no cure for kidney disease.

"There are thousands of people across this country, just like my uncle, in need of a new

kidney to live a longer, healthier life," said Olabanji. "So many people die every year, waiting for a kidney. But you only need one kidney to survive; so I hope some people will share their spare."

The April 22 walk falls on Olabanji's birthday, and she's delighted to spend it that way. Joining her in the 5K walk around the Reston Town Center will be nine of her close friends and family members. Their team name is Teal Team Six.

"I picked the name after I heard about the amazing heroism shown by the U.S. Navy's elite Seal Team Six squadron," she said. "They took down one of the world's most-feared terrorists, and my team is going to fight for awareness of kidney disease. Teal happens to be one of my favorite colors, as well." Olabanji hopes to raise \$1,000 for the event and has already collected \$745 in donations from friends, co-workers and relatives. Contributions to the Foundation may also be made at http://donate.kidney.org/site/TR/Walk/NationalCapitalArea?pg=entry&fr_id=4311.

Usually, Olabanji does her talking on ABC-TV's "Good Morning, Washington" show. But this time, she said, "I'm using my voice and energy for those who can't. Come out and walk, bring the family, donate if you can — and support the Kidney Foundation and the great job they're doing in the Washington, D.C., area."

Kidney Disease Facts

Chronic kidney disease is characterized by a gradual loss of kidney function over time. It increases the risk of heart and blood vessel disease. Early detection and treatment can often prevent it from getting worse. When kidney disease progresses, it can lead to kidney failure, requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant.

❖ There are 10,146 patients on dialysis in Virginia, 765 in Fairfax County and 49 in the City of Fairfax.

❖ The Washington, D.C., area leads the nation in kidney disease, with more than 700,000 cases.

❖ Each year, more than 87,000 Americans die from causes related to kidney failure.

❖ Of the more than 112,000 Americans currently awaiting organ transplants, nearly 90,000 are waiting for a kidney.

❖ In 2010, there were 16,901 kidney transplants performed in the U.S. — illustrating the gap between the number of people waiting for a kidney and the number actually receiving one.

❖ Every day, 18 people die while waiting for a transplant of a vital organ, such as a kidney, heart or lung.

❖ Kidney disease hits minorities disproportionately, with African Americans affected at three times the rate of Caucasians.

❖ Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of people with CKD.

❖ Just one organ/tissue donor can save or improve the lives of up to 50 people.

Symptoms

Most people may not have any severe symptoms until their kidney disease is advanced. However, they may notice that they have:

- ❖ trouble concentrating
- ❖ a poor appetite
- ❖ trouble sleeping
- ❖ nighttime muscle cramps
- ❖ swollen feet and ankles
- ❖ puffiness around the eyes, especially in the morning
- ❖ dry, itchy skin
- ❖ less energy and feel more tired
- ❖ the need to urinate more often, especially at night.

— Source: National Kidney Foundation

PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Mom"

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

Or to mail photo prints, send to: Centre View, "Me and My Mom Photo Gallery," 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

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

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ENTERTAINMENT

TUESDAYS IN APRIL

Family Nights at Chick-fil-A. Free. Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. At Chick-fil-A at Chantilly Place.

- ❖ Tuesday, April 17 - Family Fitness Night with nZone and Balloon Art with Marsha G
- ❖ Tuesday, April 25 - Family Music Night with Mr. D; customers will also receive a free Kid's Grilled Nugget Meal (4-count) with the purchase of an adult meal.

TUESDAY NIGHTS

World-Class Jazz. 6 to 9 p.m. Paul Langosch on bass and Rick Whitehead on guitar. At the Copper Canyon, 5815 Trinity Parkway, Centreville. Call 703-830-6600 for reservations.

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Centreville Stitches welcome adults who enjoy knitting, crocheting, or other needlework crafts and conversation. Join us at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Dr., Centreville. Admission is free. Contact Jo at 703-803-0595 or email joknitter@verizon.net.

- ❖ Thursday, April 12 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- ❖ Tuesday, April 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES IN CHANTILLY

Latin-based dance fitness classes — no gym membership required. Mondays and Wednesdays 7 to 8 p.m. Go to WWW.GOZUMBAFUN.COM.

FRIDAY/APRIL 13

An Evening with Kathryn Erskine. 7:30 p.m. Meet National Book Award winner, Kathryn Erskine, author of Quaking, Mockingbird and The Absolute Value of Mike. Cosponsored by the Friends of the Chantilly Regional Library. Books available for sale and signing. Age 10 to adult. At the Chantilly Regional Library, Stringfellow Road, Chantilly.

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the band, JP McDermott and Western Bop. Drop-in beginner swing lesson from 8:30 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

Country Dance Night. 8 p.m. Cost is \$15. Choice of Two-Step or Line Dance Lesson taught by professional teachers. Attire is cowboy or cowgirl. Proceeds will benefit the Clifton Dance Academy. At Clifton Town Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Visit www.CliftonDanceAcademy.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 14

Spring Upscale Resale. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission. The Salvation Army Fairfax Corps will host a gigantic sale of personal treasures and sundries donated from their members and several estates. At the Salvation Army Fairfax Corps, 4915 Ox Road in Fairfax. Call 703-893-1113 or 703-356-4058.

School Clean-Up. 9 a.m. to noon. Help serve your community at the annual Colin Powell Elementary Community Clean-Up. Staff, students, parents, and community members are invited to help clean up the school and its surrounding community. It is suggested that participants wear long pants, long sleeved shirts, and bring work gloves. Trash bags will be provided by the school, along with water and snacks. Contact CMABt@fcps.edu.

Westfield High School Mulch Sale. Cost is \$2 per bag. To place an order, go to <http://ptsa.westfieldhs.org/mulch-order-form.html> and place your order online. Delivery is scheduled for April 14. Proceeds will go toward the All-Night Grad Party. For questions, contact bulldogmulch@westfieldhs.org.

3-D Art Work. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cox Communications hosts interactive event at Fair Oaks Mall featuring 3-D Work by world-renowned artist, Kurt Wenner. Visitors can also enjoy free face-painting, win prizes and learn about Cox Communications products and services. Artwork will be on display until May 13. At Fair Oaks Mall Grand Court, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax.

SUNDAY/APRIL 15

N Gauge Train Display. 1 to 4 p.m. The Northern Virginia NTRACK members will have a display and N Gauge trains running. Cost is \$3/adults; \$1/children. At the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Visit www.fairfax-station.org phone 703-425-9225.

MONDAY/APRIL 16

Strawberry & Literary Festival. 7 p.m. Hosted by the Centreville Garden Club Meeting. Members share favorite books and magazines that have a garden-related focus. Strawberry celebration & desserts. At Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Meetings generally 3rd Monday each month. Learn more at centrevillegardenclub.blogspot.com or centrevillegardenclub@gmail.com. Visitors welcome. Call 703-830-2942.

Republican Women of Clifton. 7:30 p.m. Guest Chet Nagle, author of the book Iran Covenant. Talk will focus on the military options the U.S. and Israel face regarding Iran's nuclear weapons program. Meeting at Centreville High School Media Center, Union Mill Road, Clifton.

TUESDAY/APRIL 17

DASH at Famous Dave's. 5 to 9 p.m. Dating Abuse Stops Here invites you to a fundraiser commemorating the 3rd Anniversary of Siobhan Russell in whose memory the organization was founded. At Famous Dave's, 14452 Chantilly Crossing Lane, Chantilly. Visit

www.datingabusestopshere.com.

APRIL 17 TO 19

Space Shuttle Discovery Arrival and Welcome. On Tuesday, April 17, the space shuttle Discovery is expected to fly low over Dulles Airport around 10 a.m. and land. On Thursday, April 19 at 11 a.m. is the ceremony to receive the shuttle at the Museum. To be held at the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Parkway, Chantilly. The ceremony is open to the public, free of charge. There will be standing space for thousands of people. There is a \$15 parking fee. Visit <http://www.nasm.si.edu/udvarhazy>.

FRIDAY/APRIL 20

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With Boogie Woogie Hall of Famer Carl Sonny Leyland. 8:30-9 p.m. drop-in beginner swing lesson; 9 p.m.-12 midnight dance. At the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon.

SATURDAY/APRIL 21

Gospell Concert. 6 p.m. Featuring All4Hym Bluegrass Gospel Band from Front Royal. 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.

Clifton Turns 110. At 2 p.m. Celebrate the Town of Clifton's birthday at the Gazebo in the Clifton Town Park. Cake, beverages and singing. There will also be a bench dedication in honor of Paul and Louise Longbeam.

Fire and Rescue Family Fest. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. The event will feature an appearance by the children's music group, Silly Bus, a 2009 Mom's Choice Award winner. For a \$10 donation, attendees will receive a raffle ticket and a Mini-Moo and a Pev's Paintball Pass. A fundraiser for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. At Bull Run Regional Park Special Events Center, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville.

Roots & Shoots Earth Day Event. 9 a.m. to noon. Participants will interact with nature and learn about the environment and endangered species. Activities include planting, weeding, mulching, trash clean-up, and crafts for kids. Participants must be at least five years old (ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult) and should bring a water bottle, sunscreen, hat garden gloves, and insect repellent. At Cub Run RECenter, 4630 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Contact Debbie Lodato, volunteer manager at 703-817-9423, or deborah.lodato@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Global Youth Service Day. More than a dozen nonprofits are offering volunteer projects throughout Fairfax County. To view a project near you and reserve a spot, visit www.volunteerfairfax.org. For questions, contact Elaine Lydick at 703-246-3533 or elydick@volunteerfairfax.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 22

Going Green in Your Rose Garden. 2 p.m. Free. Arlington Rose Foundation presents speaker, LeeAnn Seeley, a self-described "Earth Angel". Learn about organic and low risk pesticides. Door prizes. Upstairs at Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks location. Contact 703-371-9351.

Fair Lakes Community Clean-Up. The Ed Lang Team of Re/Max Premier will provide all the clean-up supplies that are needed on the day of the clean-up. Volunteers will receive a VDOT orange trash bag, a pair of latex gloves, and a designated location to clean! At the end of the clean-up, every volunteer will get to enjoy free pizza provided by Tony's New York Pizza in Fair Lakes Shopping Center. Drop by the Re/Max Office at 13135 Lee Jackson Hwy #115, Fairfax, and pick up your free Earth Day clean-up supply kit. Free kits will be available throughout the month of April, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For details or to sign up as a volunteer, visit: www.GoFairLakesEarthDay.com

2012 Holocaust Commemoration. 2 to 5:30 p.m. Includes survivor-teen dialogues (2-4pm), name readings (2-4pm), art exhibits, presentation of the Youth Tolerance Project award and a commemoration in song, readings & remembrances (4-5:30pm). At the Geshur Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax.

MONDAY/APRIL 23

Kindergarten Orientation. Cub Run Elementary will conduct a kindergarten orientation/registration. Parents will receive an overview of the curriculum and meet the teachers. Last names beginning with A-L are from 1:30-2:30 p.m. and M-Z are from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Kindergarten students will visit the classrooms while parents are registering. Parents need to bring with them an original birth certificate, proof of residency (lease or deed) and physical/immunization records. Call 703-633-7500.

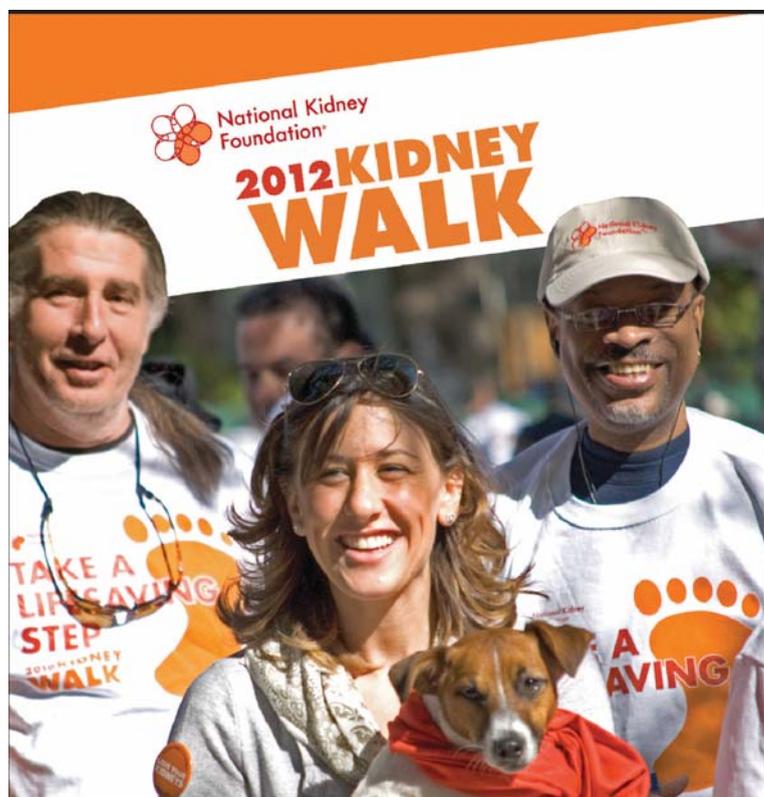
TUESDAY/APRIL 24

Tea and Shakespeare. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$25. Celebrate Shakespeare Day with a traditional English Tea of sweets and savories. Hear how tea has impacted history since William Shakespeare's day. Listen to dramatic readings of the Bard's work and try your hand at composing your own sonnet. At Sully Historic Site. Call 703-437-1794.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

Understanding Medicare, Medigap and Medicare Part D. 3 to 4:30 p.m. Part of the 2012 Seminars for Family Caregivers series. At the Sully Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov, or call 703-324-5205, TTY 711.

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National Kidney Foundation
2012 KIDNEY WALK

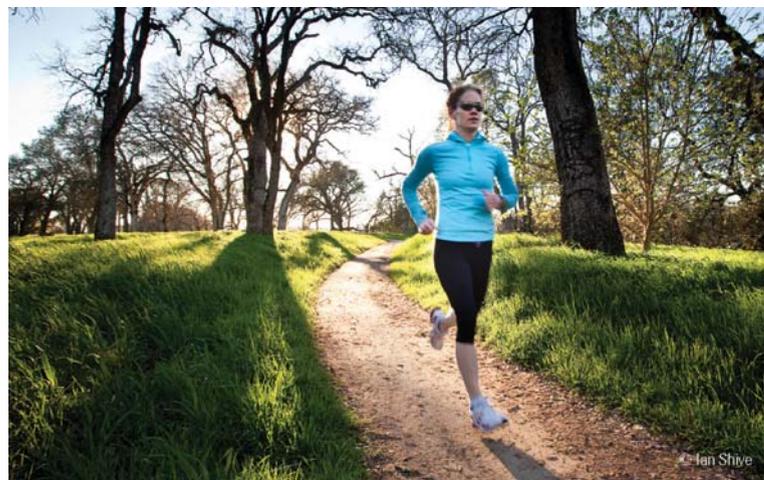
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ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 5

County Shelter Receives Awards

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter received accolades from the Metropolitan Council of Governments for two programs and a large-scale animal rescue in 2010 - 2011.

The Fairfax County Animal Services Division won the Council of Governments' Animal Rescue Story of 2010 - 2011 award for a case that involved the rescue of more than 160 cats. These cats were found in a single family home in which animal control officers worked for several days to remove. Shelter staff and volunteers provided care and treatment for the cats throughout a five-month period to get many of the cats adopted or transferred to rescue organizations.

The shelter also received the Community Impact Award for its spay/neuter program which provides high-quality, low-cost spay/neuter for citizens' animals and free trap, neuter and return (TNR) for feral cats.

Shelter volunteer Theresa Baker also received the council's Humane Education Award for her efforts with the shelter's pit bull adoption program. Baker fosters pit bulls providing training to ready them for adoption.

Police Seeking Auxiliary Officers

The Fairfax County Police Department is seeking people to join its Auxiliary Police Officer (APO) program. An all-volunteer, civilian force comprised of 108 men and women, APO's play a role in supplementing the sworn personnel in essential, public-safety operations. They perform a myriad of duties such as staffing sobriety checkpoints and protecting the integrity of crime scenes; they may also be deployed to natural or manmade disasters at any time.

APO's come from a variety of backgrounds that enhance the FCPD with their unique sets of knowledge, skills and abilities. A blend of retirees and employed, APOs like to learn and have the time to commit. Once they pass a background check, they're required to undergo training at the Criminal Justice Academy in Chantilly. It runs two evenings a week and a few Saturdays a month during a 16-week academy slated to begin in January 2013.

Applications are now being accepted. To learn more about the APO program or request an application, call 703-280-0576 or e-mail AuxiliaryPolice@FairfaxCounty.gov.

or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteersolutions.htm.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Fairfax County needs Meals on Wheels drivers in Chantilly and group Meals on Wheels coordinators in both Chantilly and Fairfax. Contact Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 711, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov

WFCM Seeks Food, Volunteers

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) food pantry urgently needs donations of oil (48 oz. or smaller); flour (2-5 lb. bag); sugar (2-5 lb. bag); canned meats; salad dressing, jelly; jam; spaghetti sauce, canned fruit; canned

beets, spinach, greens, potatoes and mixed vegetables; pancake mix and syrup; mayonnaise, baby food (stages 1 and 3); cocoa, coffee, ketchup and mustard. Also needed are laundry detergent, toothpaste and shampoo.

Bring all items to WFCM's food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive (near Backyard Grill and Bar) in Chantilly. Volunteers are also needed:

Thrift store: Volunteers needed Mondays and Fridays, for two or three hours between 9 a.m.-

6 p.m. Volunteers needed Tuesdays and Thursdays, for two or three hours between 1-6 p.m., as well as Saturdays, from 2-5 p.m. For more information, contact Volunteer Manager Annette Bosley at 703-988-9656.

Food pantry: Volunteers are needed Mondays and Wednesdays, from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Furniture ministry: One person is needed to help move furniture that will be given to clients in need.

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Fixtures For Sale

New Mark Downs Taken!

Mae's Dress Boutique, the premier After 5 store you've trusted for over 35 years, is closing the doors forever. Beginning Wednesday, we've taken new mark downs on hundreds of items throughout the store. Hurry in for the best assortment while we still have stock and sizes available.

- Take **ONE THIRD OFF** our entire stock of cocktail dresses!
- Take **ONE THIRD OFF** day and evening suits!
- Take **ONE THIRD OFF** all casual blouses!
- Take **ONE HALF OFF** selected knits!
- Take **75% OFF ALL** clearance items!

New mark downs taken in every category, from After 5 to casual separates! Receive 500,000 bonus prize points for every SPECIAL ORDER and always receive 20% off! Choose from Daymor, Ursalla, Jovani, JSS Knits, Damianou, and Sara Mique! Subject to designer availability. (these offers good through 4/17)

Mae's Dress Boutique
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Store Hours: Monday - Saturday, 10am to 5:30pm. Sale Terms: All Sales Final. No adjustments. We Accept: Visa, MC, Discover, AMEX.

Wall-To-Wall...Nothing Held Back!

Directions: NORTH on the Beltway take Exit 46B onto Rt. 123N.-McLean. Go 3 miles- Turn right onto Old Dominion Dr. (Rt. 309). Go 1/2 mile thru two traffic lights. We are on the right next to Shell Gas. SOUTH from Md.- Cross over the Amer. Legion Bridge.- Take the VERY first right Exit 43-44 to VA 193 toward Langley - Go 1/2 mile and turn right onto Balls Hill Rd. Go .9th mile - Turn left onto Old Dominion Drive - Go thru 3 traffic lights - We are on the right next to Shell Gas. We are less than 5 minutes from the Bridge.

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Bring in coupon for
100,000 points

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2. Canon PowerShot Camera, \$400.
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4. Canon Camcorder, \$290.
5. DeLonghi Food Processor, \$250.
6. Garmin GPS System, \$160.
7. Keurig Coffee System, \$160.
8. Frigidaire Toaster Oven, \$150.
9. Kick Sound System, \$115.
10. Tiger Rice Cooker, \$100.

Game Ends 6/16/2012

No Purchase Necessary

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

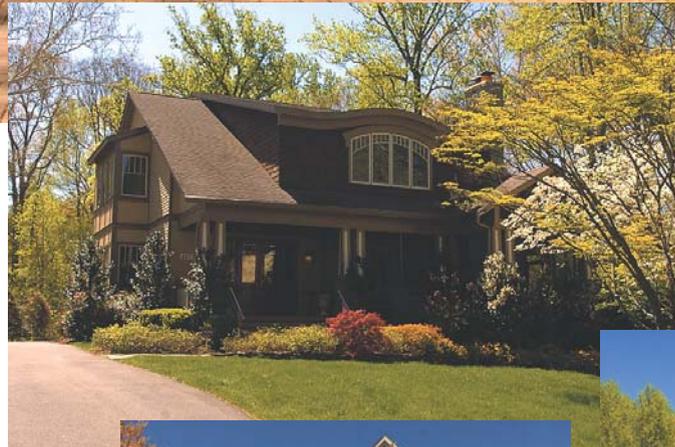
Top Sales by Town in February, 2012



1 701 Gouldman Lane, Great Falls — \$3,650,000



2 1880 Massachusetts Avenue, McLean — \$2,400,000



8 207 McHenry Street Southeast, Vienna — \$1,550,000



16 7951 Kelly Ann Court, Fairfax Station — \$1,075,000



14 11660 Preference Way, Herndon — \$1,250,000

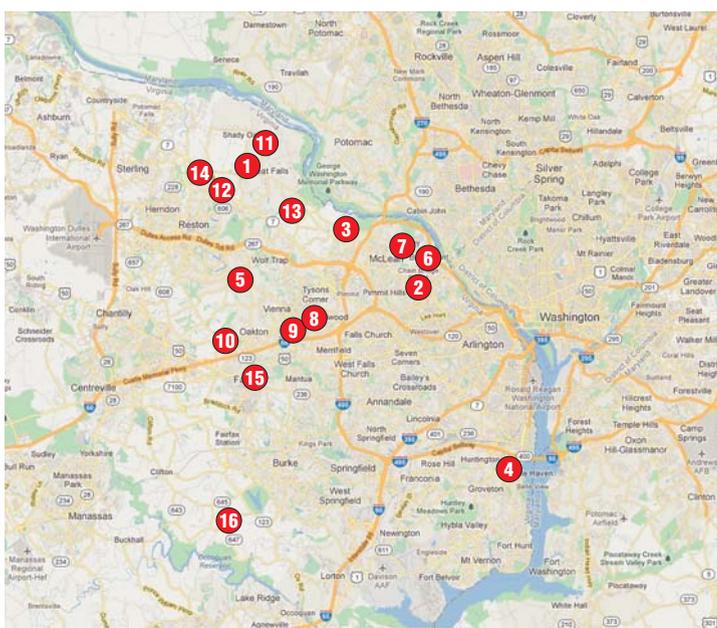


10 3359 V Lane, Oakton — \$1,500,000

15 3813 Daniel's Run Court, Fairfax — \$1,120,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 701 GOULDMAN LN	5	7	2	GREAT FALLS	\$3,650,000	Detached	5.39	22066	GOULDMAN ACRES	02/09/12	
2 1880 MASSACHUSETTS AVE	5	5	2	MCLEAN	\$2,400,000	Detached	0.57	22101	FRANKLIN PARK	02/28/12	
3 7820 LOUGHRAN RD	4	3	2	MCLEAN	\$2,300,000	Detached	1.17	22102	GARFIELD PARK	02/17/12	
4 6238 RADCLIFF RD	7	6	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,865,000	Detached	0.26	22307	BELLE HAVEN	02/29/12	
5 1671 HUNTING CREST WAY	5	5	1	VIENNA	\$1,786,175	Detached	1.81	22182	BACHMAN PROPERTY	02/29/12	
6 6000 CLAIBORNE DR	7	7	0	MCLEAN	\$1,700,000	Detached	0.45	22101	POTOMAC HILLS	02/15/12	
7 6507 RIDGE ST	6	5	1	MCLEAN	\$1,600,000	Detached	0.34	22101	LANGLEY FARMS	02/13/12	
8 207 MCHENRY ST SE	5	5	2	VIENNA	\$1,550,000	Detached	0.46	22180	MCHENRY HEIGHTS	02/21/12	
9 122 KINGSLEY RD NE	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,528,705	Detached	0.63	22180	VIENNA ACRES	02/28/12	
10 3359 V LN	6	5	1	OAKTON	\$1,500,000	Detached	0.83	22124	WESTOAKS	02/19/12	
11 405 WALKER RD	5	4	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,450,000	Detached	1.73	22066	RIVER BEND WALK	02/16/12	
12 1155 FIELDVIEW DR	5	4	1	RESTON	\$1,365,000	Detached	0.58	20194	ESTATES AT WYNDHAM HILLS	02/15/12	
13 1036 LEIGH MILL RD	5	6	2	GREAT FALLS	\$1,275,000	Detached	5.64	22066	COLD STREAM FARMS	02/07/12	
14 11660 PREFERENCE WAY	5	5	2	HERNDON	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.86	20170	CARIS GLENNE	02/16/12	
15 3813 DANIEL'S RUN CT	5	5	1	FAIRFAX	\$1,120,000	Detached	0.20	22030	FARRCROFT	02/03/12	
16 7951 KELLY ANN CT	5	5	0	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,075,000	Detached	5.00	22039	BRIARLYNN ESTATES	02/22/12	

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Creating a Dream Bathroom Local pros share the latest design trends for this essential space.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
CENTRE VIEW

Updating or renovating a bathroom can be a daunting project. From selecting tile and fixtures to choosing a tub and vanity, options are overwhelmingly plentiful. One source of inspiration when transforming a boring bath into a luxurious, spa-inspired retreat is the newly released National Kitchen and Bathroom

“We’re seeing the emergence of the bathroom as a retreat or spa experience.”

— Megan Padilla of Aidan Design

Association’s annual design trend survey. The 2012 list offers a snapshot of the latest in bathroom decor. Local designers and association members discuss the list and share their ideas for making stunning visual statement in this essential space.

FREESTANDING TUBS. The focal point of any bathroom is the tub. Local designers say a freestanding tub can transform a bathroom into serene sanctuary. “It is like your master bathroom is like a hotel,” said designer



PHOTO COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING

April Case Underwood used a freestanding tub and large tile to create a spa bathroom in this Reston home.

Megan Padilla of Aidan Design. “We’re seeing the emergence of the bathroom as a retreat or spa experience.”

POLISHED CHROME. Bathroom accessories are increasingly bright and shiny as polished nickel and chrome finishes gain popularity. “Polished chrome tends to work

especially well with grays, blues and white. It is also an easy choice if you are budget-conscious,” said Falls Church-based designer Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling. “Another choice is polished nickel. It has nice brown undertones that can pair well when you’re going outside the traditional white and grey tones.”

Some designers say that brushed metal finishes are still a practical choice for many homeowners. “Many people prefer brushed nickel because it shows fewer water spots and looks cleaner,” said David Doughton, kitchen and bathroom designer at the Kitchen and Bath Factory in Arlington.

SEE BATHROOM DESIGN, PAGE 12

From Home to Dream Home: Split Foyer to French Colonial

Sun Design Remodeling’s design solution for Mulligan home tops category in “Contractor of the Year” Awards.

BY JOHN BYRD
SPECIAL TO THE CONNECTION

Tastes change; so, too, an owner’s requirements of their home. In the early 1960s, for instance, no floor plan concept seemed better suited to the demands of modern life than the split level — which deployed half-levels to apportion interior space into sleeping zones, family gathering rooms and service areas.

Carrying the social engineering a step further, designers next introduced the “split foyer” which directs traffic up and down from a locale between two floors — giving equal value to kitchen and bedrooms above;



The biggest challenge to re-designing a split foyer is the mid-level front door. Raising the entry half a level and introducing a wrap-around elevation porch is logical and an appropriate choice for the home’s wooded setting.

family recreation and laundry below. But such schemes aren’t for everyone and, more to the point, after years of application, restrictive rules — like walls — can wear thin.

Consider, for instance, the case of Gini and Bob Mulligan, 25-year occupants of a circa-1960s split-foyer situated on a wooded setting in Fairfax.

“We were really attracted to the extraordinary country setting when we bought this house in 1988,” Gini Mulligan said. “It’s very private, wooded acreage that really brings your attention to the beauty of nature. We were less attracted to the house itself, but thought, well ... we can make some changes once we’re settled in.”

Fast-forward a couple of decades, and the re-thinking process is still underway. “We solicited ideas from a lot of remodelers, but modifications to a split foyer that worked for us weren’t easy to come by. In the end, we decided that our surroundings called for a farmhouse with a big welcoming porch.

SEE DESIGN WINS, PAGE 13



PHOTOS BY BRYAN BURKIS

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Home Life Style

Latest in Bathroom Design

FROM PAGE 11

WATER CLOSETS. Designer April Case Underwood of Case Design/Remodeling has seen a spike in the demand for bathrooms with a separate room for the toilet. "If the bathroom is large enough, a lot of people like to add water closets. Even though they are sharing a bathroom with a spouse or partner, water closets give them the opportunity to be a little bit more private when they are using the toilet."

MEDICINE CABINETS. As homeowners look for effective ways to add additional storage space, shelving and cabinetry in the bathroom, the time-tested medicine cabinet is making a re-emergence after a decline in popularity.

"In [the Washington, D.C. area] where bathrooms are small, every inch of space is premium," said Doughton. "Medicine cabinets are definitely a must in this area. I've even made units that are 60 inches tall that go behind a door to give people the ample amount of storage space."

Another option is a furniture-style vanity cabinet. "They are different from traditional cabinets because they look like a piece of furniture and can add a 'wow' factor to a bathroom," added Doughton.

SOLID SURFACES. When it comes to vanity tops, granite, quartz and marble are the top choices. "Quartz vanity tops are low maintenance, but some people want the natural look of granite," said Doughton.



COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING

Falls Church-based designer Allie Mann incorporated several 2012 design trends, including polished chrome fixtures, gray paint and large tile in the bathroom of this Arlington home.

As an alternative, Mann suggests an engineered stone known as Cambria. "It is man-made and is a good solid surface," said Mann. "It is not a porous material and does not require a lot of maintenance."

A National Kitchen and Bathroom Association survey found that another trend is the use of glass vanity tops. "It gives a bit of flair," said Mann. "It adds a little bit of interest to the space and gives it a little bit of charm and personality."

SHADES OF GRAY. While whites

and off-whites continue to be the most popular color for bathrooms, gray is gaining ground as a versatile option. When used skillfully, gray color schemes can provide a distinguished backdrop without overpowering a design.

"What's nice about gray finishes is that it can accent just about any palette, especially blues or greens," said Doughton.

Mann used gray paint and white marble to turn an Arlington bathroom into a tranquil sanctuary. "Gray is pleasing and calming," she said. "It has become the new neutral. [Designers] say it has become the new beige."

TRANSITIONAL OVER TRADITIONAL. For the first time since the National Kitchen and Bathroom Association began tracking annual trends, traditional is no longer the most popular design style. Replacing it is transitional style, a combination of traditional and contemporary elements that creates a classic, timeless design.

"I think some people may be afraid to commit to one style over another," said Doughton. "Transitional allows them to incorporate things that they like from both realms and blend them together. What you pair with it really determines which way it sways on the line between modern or contemporary or traditional."



DAVID DOUGHTON/KITCHEN AND BATH FACTORY

When it comes to vanity tops, solid surfaces are clear favorites. Granite, quartz and marble are the most popular choices. Arlington-based designer David Doughton installed marble counter tops in the master bathroom of this McLean home. He also added tub-cabinets for additional storage space.

Home Life Style



Window walls, glass-facing sliders and other glazing solutions mean that any seat in the primary living area is visually linked to the wooded setting.

PHOTO BY BRYAN BURRIS

Design Wins 'Contractor of Year' Award

FROM PAGE 11

Unfortunately, the conceptual drawings we received mostly just showed we weren't being heard. It was very frustrating."

Compounding the issue was the couple's extensive "wish list" — which included a large master bedroom suite; a gourmet kitchen; substantially enlarged living and entertainment spaces; private places for billiards and studio painting, and lots of natural light and visual continuum in all directions.

Ranked above all this, however, was a call to dramatically re-design the front façade. "A split foyer puts the front door midway between the first and second levels," Gini Mulligan said. "How do you modify a feature like that?"

Enter Craig Durosko, founder and chairman of Sun Design Remodeling.

"A split foyer is a fascinating challenge," Durosko said. "For starters, you have to eliminate the mid-level front-facing stairwell, and create alternatives that really advance the owner's vision. Typically, this is going to entail structural changes and a re-definition to the home's basic architecture."

The starting point is to concentrate on solving functional considerations, Durosko said. This drives the search for an architectural language that satisfies a broad criteria including the appropriateness of the home's design to its setting.

Interesting, then, that what evolves out of routine space-planning is a rural variant of French Colonial style, associated with Louisiana and the Delta states — places where the indoor-outdoor component is a lifestyle essential.

"Relocating the front door to the second floor main level wrapped by a porch called for distinctive front stairs," Durosko said. "We designed the pavilion roof to reconcile the porch to the higher pitch of a new third level hipped roof. Three dormer windows — needed for natural light — followed from this."

THE NEW STYLE emerges in the details. The entry way is a glass-facing double French door. Six divided light windows now grace the re-imagined front elevation. \Porch support piers are perfectly aligned with its roof columns. The broad flaring stairway narrows towards the top. Old brick was deployed to ex-

tend the existing chimney. In its essence, Durosko and team create a spot-on evocation of a "raised rural" French Colonial, a look originally created in the 18th century for just such a country setting.

By contrast, the remade interior explores "open" floor plan sensibilities — emphasizing uncluttered sightlines and easy circulation.

A footprint above the garage is allocated to a sizeable master suite with 15-foot cathedral ceilings and generous views of the leafy lot from front and back. Three small bedrooms on the home's south side are converted into a generous guest suite complete with its own rear entrance.

Front-facing rooms are converted into a library (which accesses both suites) and the new locale for a mid-house staircase linking both the existing lower level and a new third floor.

Other small changes expand the home's primary living area. Deleting just 90 square feet of mid-level foyer permitted designers to reconfigure the living room and dining room into an L-shaped "great room" wrapping a new gourmet kitchen which opens on two sides.

The kitchen's cathedral ceiling — crowned with an extensive window wall — invites natural light and visual continuity. As Gini Mulligan tells it: any seat in the primary living area is visually linked to the wooded setting from all sides.

On a similar note, relocating the stairwell and opening some walls transforms the lower level into a light and airy family entertainment center. The third floor — which Gini Mulligan plans to use as an art studio — likewise, gains light from dormers in both the front and the back.

For the Mulligans, though, what really matters is how well the new house validates a long-forested personal vision.

"Rocking on the front porch in the morning or the evening surrounded by trees is just deliciously satisfying," Gini Mulligan said. "The house is a perfect realization."

On this point, others concur. The makeover was recently named the region's best residential addition in the \$100,000-\$250,000 category by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry's metro Washington chapter.

Sun Design Remodeling

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors tours of recently remodeled homes as well as workshops on home remodeling topics. Headquartered in Burke, the firm will be opening a McLean office this Spring. Contact Sun Design Remodeling at 703-425-5588 or www.SunDesignInc.com.

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Blessed with Faith and Community

FROM PAGE 1

iffs and clergy. I think I saw Joe Samaha [Reema's father] in another room or across the hall. They still didn't have any information. My husband was focused on finding out where Erin was. I didn't say anything to him, but I still hadn't heard from her — and I knew."

Erin had just gotten into a coed honors fraternity, Phi Sigma Pi, and her big brother from it stayed with the Petersons while they waited in the inn's lobby with the other parents. At midnight, they were told the coroners wouldn't be identifying any more bodies that night. "I wouldn't have stopped," said Peterson. "I would have worked all night, knowing parents were waiting to hear whether their children were dead or alive."

The next morning, a state trooper who had a friend in common with Erin's dad was there. "Grafton gave him a picture of Erin and said, 'This is my baby; can you find her?'" said Peterson. "He came back after awhile, with some other

"You have to be rooted and grounded in Christ before you get to a tragic situation."

people, and said the news wasn't good. They told Grafton first and then came up to our room and told me."

For her husband, it was the second time he'd lost a child. His first daughter died of cancer at age 8.

Peterson said what happened after they learned of Erin's death is still foggy. She remembers people calling her from all over — and the bitter reality that her daughter was gone. Then came overwhelming sorrow that she discovered couldn't be tempered by sharing it with her husband.

"Grief, to me, is individual," she said. "You're really inside your mind. Erin was our everything. And even though Grafton and I had loved the same child, we each grieved differently."

Peterson couldn't do shared grief counseling, either. "It's too much pain in the room for me," she said. "I couldn't comfort others because I couldn't comfort myself. I didn't even find help in grief books; the best help was when I saw a therapist. I still see her once a month. Talking to her validated what I was feeling."

She asked the therapist questions such as, "How long will this



Erin Peterson

pain last?" There was no real answer to that one but, said Peterson, "She was motherly and made me feel comfortable. The first time, she hugged me afterward and it felt so good. You just wanted to have someone tell you it was going to be all right."

For a long time after Erin's death, said Peterson, "I didn't know how I could go on. I wanted to be invisible. But people were here to help me, and I still have friends who stay pretty close. I could call them day or night and they'd listen to me — one friend especially; we cried together."

Still, she said, "People desperately want me to say I'm all right. They want you back to you so that they can be better, too. When we lost Erin, it was like a bomb went off — and now we're picking up the pieces, bit by bit. The shrapnel hurts other people, as well; but at first, you don't realize that."

Through it all, said Peterson, "Grafton and I leaned on each other for comfort. And not a day goes by that we don't talk about Erin. We feel that she's still here with us, but has just gone on the path we all have to go, ahead of us." And that's where faith comes in.

"You have to be rooted and grounded in Christ before you get to a tragic situation," said Peterson. Then, if the worst happens, she said, "You're part of a good church family that's praying for you while you can't pray for yourself."

She also spoke to God in an effort to make some kind of sense out of something incomprehensible. "I didn't understand what was going on," she said. "Did I not do those things He'd asked me to? You have a frank conversation, like a disagreement with your best friend."

Peterson also considers herself blessed to have had her church,

Mount Olive Baptist, plus her community, family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to help her work through her feelings and just be there to offer support. And she needed them all.

"In the beginning, the day-to-day living was hard," she said. "But eventually, the holidays became the hardest, particularly Mother's Day, Christmas and Thanksgiving. They meant a lot to Erin because our celebrations were a legacy she could pass on to her own children someday."

Both thanksgiving and Christmas were shared with Erin's extended family and, for the latter, the Petersons adorned their home with beautifully wrapped presents, Christmas trees and decorations in every room.

"It was really over the top," said Peterson. "But we don't put up a Christmas tree or decorations anymore. I threw all that stuff away."

Also difficult for her, she said, is back-to-school time and "seeing commercials of kids getting packages from their parents, because that's what we did for Erin. I can't stand to watch them now." Meanwhile, she prays and talks to God regularly.

"I believe he puts the right people in my life at exactly the right time," said Peterson. "My faith is the most important thing that's gotten me through. The world is a big bully, so you need to talk to someone bigger. When I ask God what His plan was [when Erin died], I hear Him ask me, 'Where were you when I put the stars in the sky and created man?'"

Because God created man with free will, and not perfect, she said, "There's been some evil. I believe what was unleashed that day happened because of free will. But God didn't want it to happen — I know He wept, too."

Still, Peterson sees God as the "benevolent father" and wants Him to use her to help others. "God sacrificed his only child and He's able to still stand," she said. "It's because of Him that I can, too. I just hope Erin's proud of me; I sometimes wish God would allow a phone call."

But it eases her mind to picture Erin walking alongside her. "I feel her pressing up against me and I listen for her voice," said Peterson. "And it's comforting to know I'll see her again in heaven."

She said the tragedy seems like it happened yesterday, and the anniversary of her daughter's death isn't any worse than any other day. "Grafton and I buried our only child," said Peterson. "I can't imagine anything tougher."



From left are Reema Samaha, her cousin Adrienne Fadoul and her sister Randa Samaha in November 2006.

Working on Campus Safety

FROM PAGE 1

not responding to my calls, texts and e-mails, I decided to track her down through her friends and hall mates. Her roommate was doing a semester abroad. I also called our nephew, also attending VT, to search for Reema. He thought the same thing I did: She couldn't possibly be in Norris Hall. With each unanswered call I got more anxious.

I recalled that Reema had two morning classes and one on Monday was French. I called the French Department at VT and asked one of Reema's teachers if by chance there were any French classes in the morning? Her reply was yes, at 9 and 11.

My next question to her was, "Were there French classes given in Norris Hall?" "Yes," was her response. My heart dropped. I called Mona [who teaches] at Herndon Elementary School, and I told my children, Omar and Randa, that they had to come home. We were headed to VT to see if we could find Reema.

Our 90 mph journey on I-81 to find out Reema's fate began at 3 p.m. My heart was hopeful, but my mind was preparing me for the worst while keeping Mona, Omar and Randa encouraged. I knew deep inside that the news in Blacksburg was not going to be good.

[Now, five years later], I reflect on the victims' search for truth, accountability, apology and, ultimately, forgiveness. I reflect on broken bodies, broken hearts, broken minds from the tragedy and broken laws and institutions that must be addressed.

So as victims we can do one of two things: We can succumb to our grief or we can take action in it. Since June 10, 2007, many of the families of the survivors and survivors decided to choose the lat-

ter.

The Angel Fund was formed by my family to educate our community and Virginians about the "whys" and the "whats" of the causes of the April 16 tragedy and how we can address them. Safer schools and Safer Communities has been our motto.

Besides the Angel Fund, the families and survivors formed VTV Family Outreach Foundation, a 501c3 [nonprofit]; see www.vtvfamilyfoundation.org. The mission of VTV is to advocate for school and campus safety nationwide, as well as for outreach and help for victims of campus shootings and violent crime.

We are now creating, with the best school-safety minds in the country, a national program called 32 NCSI [National Campus Safety Index]. It is our trademarked, national program that will be launched sometime this year and will establish a standard for campus safety and security. Students and parents will want to review it when making their college choices.

It's a tall order. But then again, those we lost on April 16, 2007 deserve nothing less as their living legacy.

I have never looked back on the choices I made after [that] April 16. Though the daily hurt will never go away, Mona, Omar, Randa and I have always felt Reema is not far away. In fact, I feel she and the other [victims] guide us in what we do.

They, in a way, participate, and we keep their tremendous spirits involved. It's no longer about "us." It's about everyone else and what we can do to help them. It's about preventing another young person from being killed at school and another parent not having to shed a tear. There is no "self" any

SEE REEMA, PAGE 15

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Reema

FROM PAGE 14

longer. There is the mission. I guess you can say this has been my therapy.

Mona and I handled the loss of Reema differently, as did our other children. Omar has been a public-safety advocate for some time now, and a Realtor, and is also enrolled in the MA [masters] Real Estate Program at Georgetown University. Randa is an RN2 at INOVA Fairfax in the PICU [Prenatal Intensive Care Unit] and was just accepted to do her nurse-practitioner studies at George Washington University. We have learned that we can address the loss of a child or sibling by taking different roads — either through advocacy, spirituality, activism or resilience. But you should always hold hands throughout the journey and never let go. I will tell any other family that you should not and can not go through such a loss without the support of family, friends, your community and their love. We are blessed to have had our Centreville/Chantilly/Herndon communities to lean on over these past 1,826 days.

Interest in Budget Slows as Economy Picks Up

By VICTORIA ROSS
CENTRE VIEW

Rising property values, a relatively low unemployment rate, and the lack of hot-button issues — such as full-day kindergarten — have reduced public involvement in Fairfax County's proposed \$6.7 billion budget compared to recent years, according to county leaders.

During last year's budget cycle, Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-at-large) said she heard from nearly 1,000 constituents advocating for their portion of the pie. This year, that number plummeted to 30.

"At budget time, I clear the decks to see as many people as possible," Bulova said. "My dance card is full."

Attendance at town hall meetings on the budget has also been low, according to several supervisors.

"The number of people who have signed up to speak is way down from last year," said Supervisor John Cook, (R-Braddock). "There is no one issue that's got people riled up. People are not scared. Things have stabilized. We're in a flat spot after several years of cuts."

Next week, the public will have the opportunity to weigh in on County Executive Anthony Griffin's proposed \$6.7 billion budget for the county's 1.1 million residents.

And supervisors want residents to know that their voice matters.

"Often testimony has caused us to adopt changes to the advertised budget," Bulova said. "It is critical that the community is engaged and at the table with us as we consider changes to what has been advertised."

IN HIS FINAL YEAR as county executive, Griffin has proposed a budget based on the current property tax rate of \$1.07 for every \$100 of assessed value, which means the

average homeowner, will pay \$4,801 in property taxes, \$33.85 more than last year, and \$45.36 less than in fiscal year 2007.

The proposed General Fund total is \$3.5 billion, up \$143 million over fiscal year 2012. More than half of the budget (52.5 percent or \$1.85 billion) is earmarked for the school system.

To mitigate potential shortfalls, the board voted to advertise a 1-cent tax increase to \$1.08 per \$100 of assessed value. Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) called the one-penny increase an "insurance policy" against any funding shortfalls.

In addition to allowing the rise in property taxes, Griffin's budget also imposes several new fees, including a storm water fee would increase from 1.5 cents for every \$100 of assessed value to 2.5 cents for every \$100 of assessed value.

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-Werner Heisenberg

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Look What I Saw, Really



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

A male patient sitting directly across from me being infused with his unique chemotherapy cocktail, a bit too far for a conversation, but certainly close enough for a knowing/empathetic glance. He didn't look too well; jaundice in the face, a baseball cap covering up a chemotherapy-affected hair line (as I can similarly attest) and a thin physique exuding the type of stress commonly found in cancer patients being infused. Dressed casually in blue jeans and a long sleeve cotton shirt; with his sneakers pointing toward the ceiling resting on the elevated foot support of the Barcalounger as the I.V. continues its drip. Accompanied by his wife, as I overheard her described, sitting supportively to his left.

Though I had never seen this man during my three-plus years of regular (every month, basically) infusions, he looked eerily familiar, or at least his circumstances and appearance did. The more I thought about it, more so after I had left the facility, the more obvious it became: he looked like me, or rather, I looked like him. It wasn't quite like looking in the mirror, but it was a bit like seeing the truth (of my appearance). Whatever I thought I looked like (see 3/7/2012 column titled "Look What She Saw, Really") or denied what I actually looked like, it became ever more apparent and clear the longer the two of us sat across from one another. Then the clincher: I found out from my oncology nurse that this man and I were approximately the same age. Which was extremely distressing because, by looking at his gaunt and frail appearance, I would have guessed that he was much older than me. Finding out that we were close in age was in fact was unsettling. Unsettling because this revelation came on top of my observation that he and I looked similar. And if I thought he looked much older than me, then maybe I too looked much older – and less healthy than I thought I did. If so, then maybe the woman in the supermarket whom I wrote about in my March 7th column had every reason to stare at me the way she did that day.

Seeing my fellow patient for what he and I apparently are, was not exactly like seeing a ghost, but it wasn't like seeing George Clooney, either. Whatever I think in my head about how I feel/how I look; presumably, if looks could kill, I'd be dead already. And since I don't want, nor think that I am dead already, considering now that my appearance might actually reflect the severity of my underlying diagnosis – in spite of how I think I feel and in spite of how people say I look, would be (A) news to me and (B) news that isn't very good.

The question is, whether it's news with which I can live. I have always tried to take this cancer diagnosis in stride and not let it effect my demeanor. Part of that strategy has involved a bit of denial to the seriousness/inevitability of it all. Seeing this fellow cancer patient sitting across from me, however, looking so familiar – and similar to me, caused not my life to pass before me, but rather my death. It's not what I had in mind when I went to the Center that day and it's rarely how I want to begin my day. Nevertheless, his image and its reality is in my head now. No wonder I felt the need to write about it.

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

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Chantilly's Gembarowicz Tosses Softball Perfect Game

Charger pitcher fans 19 in spring break tournament win.

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

The Chantilly High girls' softball team received perhaps the best pitching outing by a Northern Region player thus far this season when senior Emily Gembarowicz, during the Chargers' spring break trip to Myrtle Beach last week, tossed a perfect game, no-hitter in her team's 6-0 win over Jamestown High (N.Y.) on the morning of April 3.

Chantilly was in the Gamecock State competing in the Grand Strand Tournament. The game against Jamestown was the second of three the Chargers were scheduled to play on the trip. A day earlier, on Monday, April 2, the Chargers had lost a noontime game versus Berea High (Greenville, S.C.), 7-2.

The following day, Chantilly met the Jamestown High team in a 10 a.m. ball game. There, Gembarowicz threw her complete game (7 innings) gem, a perfect game in which she allowed no base hits, walked none, and struck out 19 batters.

The only times Jamestown hitters were able to make contact of the ball were two foul balls towards first base, including one that was caught by Chargers' first baseman Alex Sallberg, and a game-ending, infield pop fly that was caught by senior second baseman Rachel Major.

"It was really exciting to be a part of," said Chantilly coach Carmen Wise, of the Chantilly win and the pitching performance by Gembarowicz.

One of the game's highlights on offense for Chantilly came on a perfect slap hit to second base by Charger freshman Kaitlyn Reis, who ended up rounding the bases and scoring on the play as a result of a defensive throwing error in which the ball wound up at the center field fence.

The following morning, Chantilly played its third and final game of the trip, winning a 4-



PHOTO/COURTESY CHANTILLY SOFTBALL

The Chantilly Chargers, shown here as a team during last week's spring break trip to Myrtle Beach.

2 decision in a contest that began at 8 a.m.

Chantilly returned home having won two of its three games on the spring break trip and

holding onto a 4-3 overall record on the season.

Earlier this week, on Tuesday night, April 10, Chantilly was scheduled to play its Concorde

District opener at Westfield High. This Friday night, April 13 at 6:30, the Chargers will return home for a meeting versus district opponent Oakton.

Brandon Snyder's New Life as a Texas Ranger

Former Westfield baseball star is no longer part of Orioles' organization.

BY RICH SANDERS
CENTRE VIEW

Westfield High graduate Brandon Snyder, the first round baseball selection of the Baltimore Orioles in the 2005 first year player draft, made the 25-member Texas Rangers roster which broke spring training camp to begin the new season last week.

Snyder, a first baseman with the Orioles who spent seven years in the Baltimore minor league system with only a handful of call ups to the parent major league club, was sent to the Rangers, the defending American League champions, this past offseason.

Over spring training in March, Snyder, who was the Washington area's High School Player of the

Year while at Westfield back in the spring of 2005, impressed the Rangers coaches with his versatility and ability to play multiple positions.

"We know he can play third base, first base, catch a little bit [behind the plate], and I want to see him more in the outfield," said Rangers Manager Ron Washington, in an interview on the Texas Rangers' Official Website. "He's a right-handed batter and sees the ball well. We want to see the type of versatility he can show us and see if he can play left field."

Through Texas's first four games, including the Rangers' 11-5 home win over Seattle on Monday in Arlington, the 26-year old Snyder, who made his big league debut with Baltimore on Sept. 10, 2010, had not seen any game action.

Snyder, during the interview on the Rangers' site, appeared somewhat excited, in his own toned down way, about having made the Texas roster. His comments came just a day or so prior to Opening Day last week.

"I just want to go out and play each position as well as I can," said

the 6-foot-2 inch Snyder, who both bats and throws right-handed. "It's been great that they've given me an opportunity. I can play some third base and first base, outfield, and catcher. I'm just working hard to get better at each position. It's fun for me to play different positions and to use a different glove every day. It keeps me mentally ready to play."

Snyder grew up playing the hot corner position at third base. While in the Orioles system he spent most of his time at first base.

"I really enjoy playing third base," he said. "It's something I grew up doing. The last couple of years with the Orioles I played mostly first base."

AT TRIPLE-A NORFOLK last year in the Orioles' chain, Snyder played 86 games at first, 16 at third, one in the outfield, and one behind the plate. For the season in Norfolk, Snyder batted .261 with a career-high 14 home runs and 71 RBI. He also rapped 21 doubles. He usually batted in the No. 3, clean-up, or No. 5 slots in the Tide batting order.

SEE SNYDER, PAGE 19



PHOTO COURTESY OF ORIOLES

Brandon Snyder was predominantly a first baseman in recent years in the Baltimore organization. Now with Texas, the 26-year old could help the Rangers at a number of positions this season.

SPORTS

Snyder Makes Texas Rangers Roster

FROM PAGE 18

Snyder had two short stints with Baltimore in 2011: May 18-24 and June 10-11. He made four starts at first base for the Orioles. In his brief time in the big leagues over the past two seasons (2010, 2011), Snyder, in 16 games, has nine hits in 33 at-bats for a .273 average. He is hoping for much more big league time this season with Texas, although playing time will be tough to

come by in the Rangers' talent-laden line-up.

Snyder said he approaches each at-bat he has as an opportunity to do something positive for his team.

"I try to get quality at-bats, move base runners over and get guys [across home plate]," he said.

He said he has felt at home in the Rangers' system this spring, Snyder's first professional experience away from the Orioles.

"It's been such a welcoming feel-

ing," he said. "It's a great clubhouse and the manager [Ron Washington] has been great. It starts at the top with [team president] Nolan Ryan and [general manager] Jon Daniels. It's been an awesome atmosphere to be a part of."

Snyder will hope for some playing time as Texas plays home games this week against the Mariners through Thursday before starting a weekend series in Minnesota.

NEWS BRIEFS

Fairfax Assists in Murder Investigation

On July 14, 1996, Thelma Scroggins was found dead in her home on Batna Road in Lignum (Culpeper County), Virginia. Scroggins was shot multiple times and died as a result of her injuries. Raymond Morrogh, the Fairfax County Commonwealth Attorney, has been appointed as a special prosecutor in the case. The Fairfax County Commonwealth Attorney's Office along with the assistance

of the Fairfax County Police Department is currently investigating the death of Scroggins.

Anyone with information regarding the murder of Thelma Scroggins is asked to contact Detective Chris Flanagan with the Fairfax County Police Cold Case Squad at 703-246-7860, or the Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131, or Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS. Callers may remain anonymous.

County To Honor Police Volunteers

Meet the Fairfax County Police Department's volunteers on Friday, April 13, at 7 p.m. in the Fairfax County Government Center Board Room. The keynote speaker will be the Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli.

From patrol to photography to providing spiritual solace, FCPD volunteers serve in roles essential to public safety. In 2011, Fairfax County residents dedicated nearly 65,000 hours to the Fairfax County Police Department and every year since 1983, they have contributed significant hours of their own time volunteering with the department. In June of 2011 the Auxiliary Police Officer program surpassed the one million hours of service mark.

The 207 members of the department's Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), Auxiliary Police Officers (APOs) and Chaplains are assigned to every local district police station and other police facilities. They come from a variety of backgrounds and offer a variety of skills and abilities to the agency.

More than 80 awards will be presented to Friday, including:

- ❖ Awards for 500 up to 25,000 committed hours

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Sully police department through April 6.

ROBBERY

4100 block of Hamlin Court, March 30, 2:45 p.m. The victim was beaten and robbed of cash by two unknown individuals. The victim was taken to the hospital for non-life threatening injuries.

ANIMAL BITE

1200 block of Hunter Mill Road, March 31, 10:45 a.m. A 2-year-old child was bitten by a Vietnamese pot belly pig after placing his arm in the holding pen. All the pigs in the pen were current on vaccinations and quarantined for the next 14 days.

LARCENIES

14600 block of Iuminati Way. Cell phone

to the department

- ❖ President's Call to Service Award (4,000 or more service hours)

- ❖ Joyce McDermott Award for Outstanding Auxiliary Police Officer

- ❖ 25 years or more of service to the department (Auxiliary Police Officers)

- ❖ VIPS/APOs of the Year for Patrol, Administration, Crime Prevention and Training

- ❖ Innovative Project Award for the Reston District Station 2011 Safe December Anti-DWI Campaign.

To get involved with the police volunteer programs, visit the Fairfax County Police website (search by keyword: VIPS, APO, Citizens Police Academy); or go directly to:

- ❖ VIPS: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/vips.htm>

- ❖ APO: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/jobs/auxiliarypoliceofficer.htm>

- ❖ Citizens Police Academy: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/citizens-police-academy.htm>

from business.

5800 block of Waterdale Court. Wallet from residence.

13900 block of Woods Run Court. Electronic tablet/Ipad from residence.

MONDAY/APRIL 16

Kindergarten Registration. 6 to 8 p.m. Colin Powell Elementary School in Centreville will conduct Kindergarten Registration on Monday, April 16 from 6 - 8 p.m. and on Monday afternoon, April 30 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Forms and other information are available on line at: <http://www.fcps.edu/parents/start/kindergarten.shtml>. Registration is for parents only. Kindergarten orientation for newly registered kindergarten students and parents will take place on Monday, May 21 at 2:30 p.m. Parents will receive an overview of the curriculum and meet the teachers. Call 571-522-6000.

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