

CHS's Class of '14 Says Farewell

GRADUATION, PAGE 4

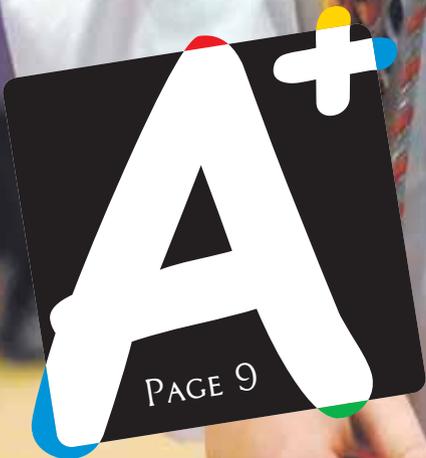
Julie Estrada receives the 2014 Chantilly High School Faculty Award.

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Cookies
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Westfield Girls'
Lacrosse Wins
State Championship
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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION



Chantilly Students Win National Art Medals

Diana Tsoy honored for photography, Jason Ly for printmaking

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

This month was one for awards — the Tonys, the Cappies and the National Scholastic Art and Writing honors. And on Friday, June 6, in New York City's Carnegie Hall, national medals for art were officially awarded to two Chantilly High students.

Senior Diana Tsoy won a silver medal for her photography portfolio and classmate Jason Ly won a silver medal for printmaking. And Chantilly Art Department Chair Donna Sinclair couldn't have been prouder.

"The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the longest-running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in the U.S.," she said. "The judges look for works that best exemplify originality, technical skill and the emergence of a personal voice or vision. I congratulate Diana and Jason for their outstanding achievements."

Tsoy has been actively doing photography since her sophomore year. "I love capturing different moments in nature that you can't prolong and might not notice, otherwise," she said. "For example, at sunrise, when the light changes — rare moments that most people don't have time to appreciate."

She also photographs people and, recently, began doing underwater photography. She picks a theme, explores it and then moves on to another.

For the Scholastic contest, Tsoy submitted a portfolio of eight photographs on one theme — all done in film-noir style. "Mine told a story of the irony of a crime in which the perpetrator ends up being the victim," she said. "The work is very dramatic and

shows contrast, the thought process and different angles."

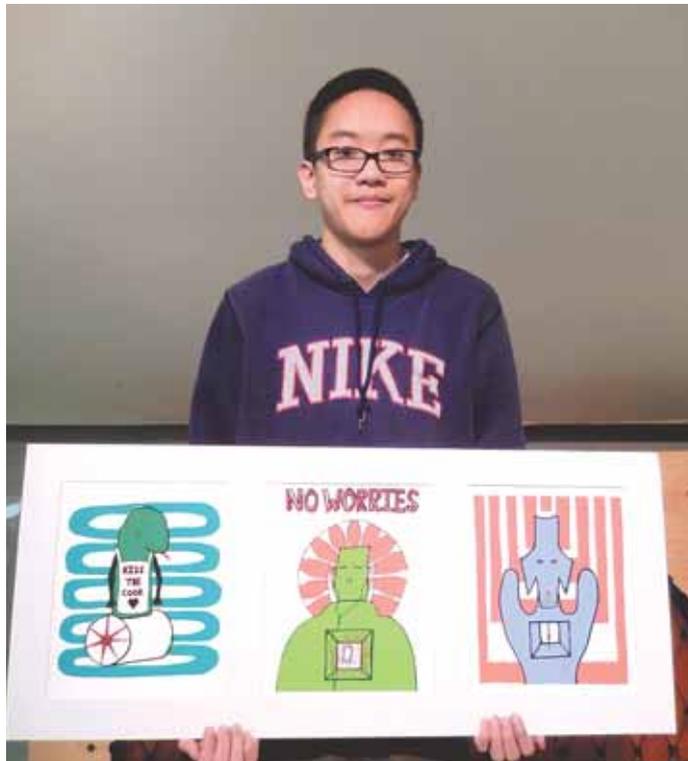
But she was really surprised to win an award for it. "Personally, it's not my favorite work; I thought my paintings I'd submitted were stronger." She also praised her teachers at Chantilly for making her a well-rounded artist.

"I get a good, painting-and-drawing experience with Ms. Sinclair, and she told me about colleges and their programs and scholarship opportunities," said Tsoy. "And I've learned about photography from Ms. [Betty] Simmons, plus different techniques for studio photography and film development."

In addition, she takes a fashion-design class at the Fairfax Academy. "And I'm doing an internship with a handbag designer in New York, [Washington] D.C. and Houston," said Tsoy. "It helps me see the industry and figure out if I like it."

After graduation, she'll either attend Pratt, in Brooklyn, one of the top design schools, or the Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia. "I want to do design management, ultimately leading a visual-design team," she said. "I'd be the creative director heading a team comprised of photographers, graphic designers and advertising experts. I want to design interior spaces, probably for commercial businesses."

As for Ly, he took a printmaking class this year from teacher Zach Winfrey and is interested in silkscreen printing. "You bond a design onto a screen made of silk with an



Jason Ly with his award-winning prints, (from left) "Kiss the Cook," "No Worries" and "Doggy."



Diana Tsoy poses by some of her award-winning photographs.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

exposing unit and clean off the screen to expose the design underneath," said Ly.

Next, he said, "We squeegee ink on top of the design, doing one color at a time on four different screens — and drawing each design individually. Then we print the design onto paper which we cut, ourselves. We use registration marks at the bottom of the print to align all four designs together. Then we squeegee the last color on top, laying it on paper to print the design."

Ly especially likes making "abstract, whimsical things with bright, contrasting colors and some sort of hole inside the body. The designs come from doodling; I just do what seems cool to me." He applied to four, different colleges and will hopefully continue with art, but hasn't yet decided on a career.

At Chantilly, he said, "The teachers are good at making me take the initiative to do things." For the Scholastic competition, he

submitted three designs as one entry. "I didn't think I'd get a medal because I thought I made mistakes in the printing," said Ly. "So I was surprised, but happy."

Sinclair teaches AP Drawing to Tsoy and Studio Art to Ly. "I'm very proud of them," she said. "Scholastic really opens a lot of doors because it's a nationally known award, and they deserve it. They both consistently work on their Art. Diana's always painting and creating, and Jason's in here before and after school, every day, working on his printing."

Simmons, Tsoy's photography teacher, said her award "couldn't have gone to a better person because Diana works on her craft all the time. She's self-motivated and she deserves everything she's gotten."

And that's the point, added Sinclair: "Scholastic created this competition 90 years ago so students in art and writing would get the same recognition as athletes."

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ROUNDUPS

Eight Charged with DWI

Fairfax County police conducted a DWI checkpoint Saturday night, June 14, at Route 28 and Old Mill Road in Centreville to search for drunk drivers. Some 536 vehicles passed through the checkpoint, and police charged eight of them with DWI.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, June 19, from 5 p.m. to dusk, 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.

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. (The inspection may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather). Call 703-814-7000, ext. 5140, to confirm dates and times.

Safetypalooza for Children

A Safetypalooza for children will be held this Saturday, June 21, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the Sully District Police Station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Children will rotate through various stations to learn about fire, bike and school-bus safety, plus stranger-danger. The event was designed by Westfield High sophomore Alex Battani as his Eagle Project for Boy Scout Troop 893 in Centreville.

Strawberry Festival on Saturday

An old-fashioned strawberry festival will be held Saturday, June 21, from 1-3 p.m., at E.C. Lawrence Park, off Route 28 in Chantilly. The fun includes ice-cream making, badminton, croquet, crafts, people in 1890s costumes and a tour of the historic grounds.

Fair Oaks CAC to Meet

The Citizens Advisory Council of the Fair Oaks District Police Station will meet Tuesday, June 24, at 7 p.m., in the roll-call room of the police station. It's at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Chantilly.

Sully District Council Meeting

The Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee will meet Wednesday, June 25, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call Jeff Parnes, evenings, at 703-904-0131.

The topic is the proposed Arbors of Fairfax, a 48-unit assisted-living facility dedicated to serving senior citizens with Alzheimer's and other memory disorders. It's planned for construction at 13622 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, on the north side of Route 50 and east of Downs Drive.

Help Fairfax County Succeed Economically

For the past year Fairfax County has been updating its vision for creating an environment conducive to continued economic success. County leadership and staff members have worked with the Board of Supervisors' Economic Advisory Commission (EAC) to develop "The Strategic Plan to Facilitate the Economic Success of Fairfax County," an update of the 2011 plan. The draft update includes four, main focuses – people, places, employment and governance.

But the plan also needs residents' and business owners' input, so two stakeholder-input sessions are slated. They're set for Wednesday, June 25, Session 1 – 8:30-11 a.m., Session 2 – 1:30-4 p.m.; and Thursday, June 26, Session 1 – 8:30-11 a.m., Session

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 7

NEWS

CHANTILLY CONNECTION EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
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Trophies and Cookies

CHS wins its eighth state economics championship.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Sure, a school might win the state championship in economics one or two times — but Chantilly High recently won it for the eighth time.

And team member Tim Reid, a senior, is the only student in the history of the Virginia Economics Challenge to repeat as a state champion, having been on his school's 2013 and 2014 award-winning teams.

The event was the Adam Smith Division (advanced economics) of the 2014 Governor's Challenge in Economics and Personal Finance. Reid's teammates are senior Gopal Hari and juniors Drew Glinsman and Jack Skopowski, and their coach is AP economics teacher Joe Clement.

"I'm really proud of them," said Clement. "They worked really hard, but I never had a doubt [about them]. I knew they'd do well because I knew what they were capable of. They're very talented and bright — and the best part is that they're all extremely nice people."

More than 3,000 students participated in the preliminary rounds, with 161 qualifying for the day-long championship this spring at VCU. Chantilly made it to the national semifinals, but only the top four teams went to nationals — and Chantilly finished fifth.

Still, eight state championships in economics is no small achievement. To prepare, the students all took AP macro and microeconomics classes. Macroeconomics is about the U.S. economy and how international trade affects it; microeconomics examines companies, such as the soft-drink industry.

Those interested in being on Chantilly's team took an online test and the top four scorers made the grade. Both micro and macro questions were on the test, plus current and international events.

For example, said Skopowski, "If the euro depreciates, what does that do to European exports to the U.S.?" There were also trivia questions, such as how many people are on the Federal Board of Governors.

When they took that test, though, they still hadn't finished all the microeconomics curriculum, so they met after school with Clement to learn it. And they were thrilled to later make states.

"I was really excited to say I participated, even if we didn't win," said Glinsman. Skopowski said Chantilly's reaching states each year is "probably owed a lot to Mr. Clement's teaching, since that's the only common denominator." Glinsman said he's the school's only AP economics teacher and they all take that subject.

"It was a valuable experience and a good feeling to be part of the team," said Skopowski.

"Anytime you can say you participated at state level, it's a big honor," added Hari. "And we actually won states, so it's a big deal."

At states, said Glinsman, they vied against 12 other teams from throughout Virginia. They began by each answering on paper 30 micro and macroeconomics questions in 40 minutes. The scoring was 10 points per right answer; 0, no answer and -5, wrong answer.

"Then there's a 15-question, group test on international events and current affairs," said Glinsman.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE CLEMENT

Chantilly's state economics champs (from left) Tim Reid, Jack Skopowski, Gopal Hari and Drew Glinsman at VCU with their individual trophies.

"It's written, but we could confer with each other."

"It was harder than our previous tests because the answers were more technical and specific," said Skopowski. "And you had to know more economic jargon to answer them."

"I thought the international events/current affairs questions were harder because we had to learn them on our own," said Glinsman. "We could reason through the economic questions."

But Hari, disagreed. "I thought there was more pressure in the paper-and-pencil round than in the buzzer round," he said. "Once we made it to the buzzer round, we were more relaxed."

After the earlier scores are tallied, the two top teams go head-to-head in the buzzer round. "The moderator reads a question and either team can buzz in with the answer," said Hari. "Several times, we buzzed in after he said just one word — and we were right. Mr. Clement told us that, if we knew where a question was heading after only one word, we were probably right."

For example, said Hari, after a question starting with "A factory's pollution," he told Reid to buzz in and say "negative externality," which was correct. Reid was the team captain so, although the members could all confer and buzz in, only he could say the answer.

"He was usually the fastest on the buzzer, anyway, because he's on Chantilly's It's Academic team," said Skopowski. "So that gave us a little advantage." As

SEE TROPHIES, PAGE 7

GRADUATION

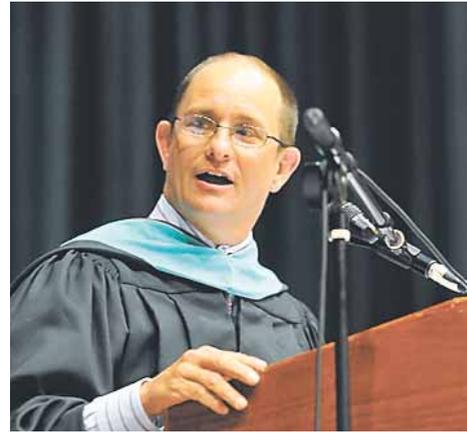
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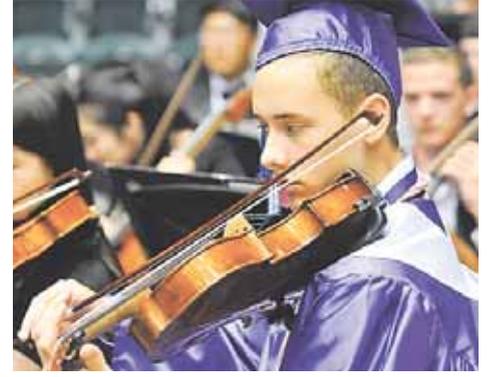
Senior class president Lucas Brennan and vice president Mary Mun take their places outside the Patriot Center at George Mason University for the graduation processional on Tuesday evening, June 17, at the Patriot Center.



Senior class president Lucas Brennan welcomes all to the 2014 Chantilly High School Commencement Exercises. Lucas also received the 2014 Charger Award.



Chantilly High School football coach Phil Cronin.

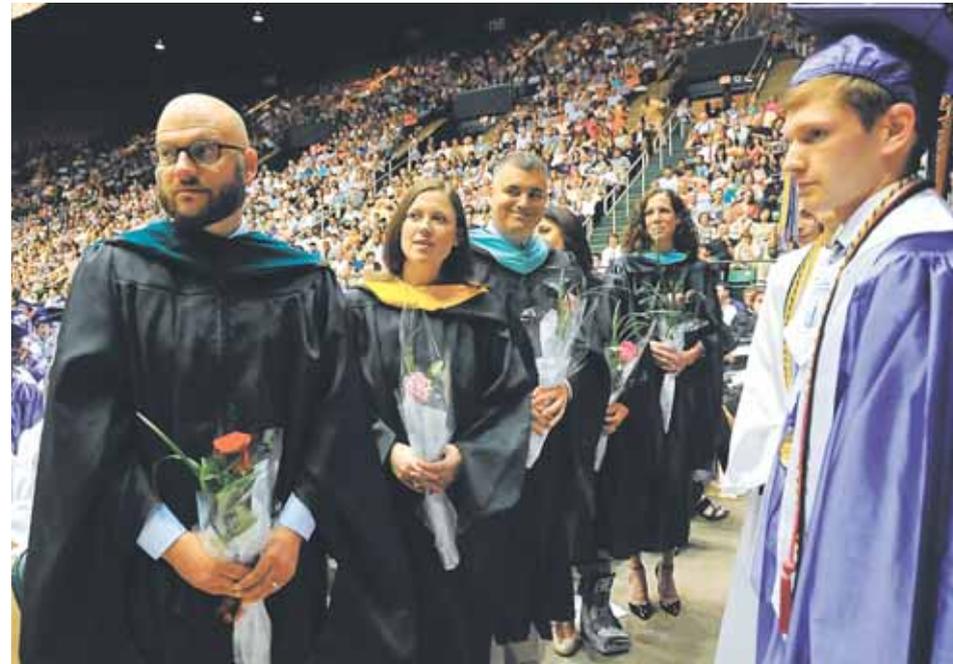


Senior Lucas Foley performs with the Chantilly Symphonic Winds and Orchestra in the Commencement Concert.

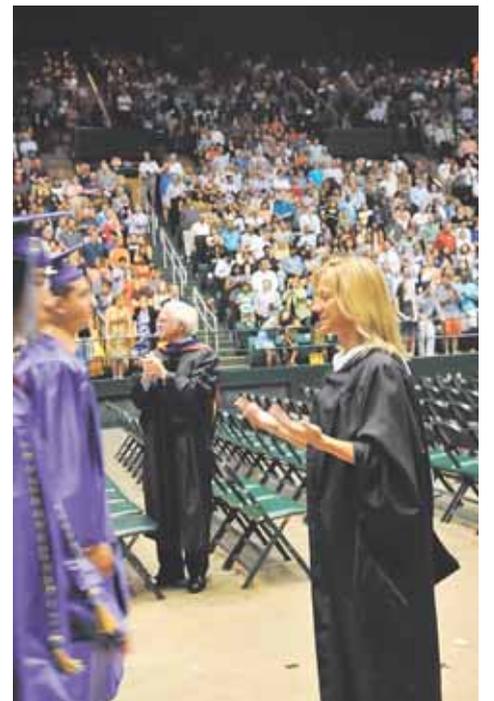
Class of 2014 Bids Farewell to CHS



Director Aaron Mynes conducts the musicians in the Commencement Concert at the Patriot Center.



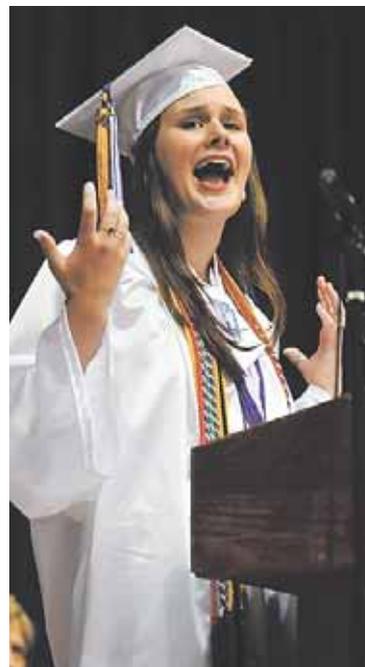
Senior class officer and graduation co-chairs present bouquets to the class counselors.



Kristina Crawford directs the students into the processional line.



Chantilly High School faculty applauds the class of 2014 graduates.



Honor Graduate Speaker Katharine Scott.



The Chantilly Chamber Chorale sings the National Anthem.

'He's a Shining Star Amongst Our Staff'

PFC Rick Cline is Sully District Station's Officer of the Month.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

PFC Richard J. "Rick" Cline is the Sully District Police Station's Citizens Advisory Committee's Officer of the Month for May. He was honored at the CAC's May 14 meeting following a report written about him by his supervisor, Lt. Brooke Wright.

"Most detectives will admit that the diligence and skill of patrol officers is instrumental in obtaining vital information needed to close their cases," she wrote. "Recently, several cases have been furthered and closed due to the persistence and expertise of one such officer."

For example, on Feb. 8, police from the Sully District Station were dispatched to a call for help in Centreville. There, a man was driving through a shopping center when a group of juveniles intentionally walked in front of his truck to make him stop. One of the teens then pulled out a gun and pointed it in the man's face.

When the man realized that the weapon was a pellet gun, he tried to grab it away. But the teen holding it punched the victim in the head several times and then struck him in the head with a skateboard. However, officers arrived quickly, took the juvenile into custody and recovered the pellet gun. The teen was transported to the Sully District Station for questioning and the incident was investigated further.

"Cline took the lead in this case," wrote Wright. "He exercised incredible patience and impressive interviewing skills. Shortly after beginning the interview, Cline obtained verbal consent from the arrested subject to search his phone.

"In doing so, Cline located a video depicting the suspect and other unknown juveniles committing a robbery against another unknown juvenile. PFC Cline returned to interviewing the suspect and obtained confessions on both the [weapon] brandishing and the assault on the man in the shopping center."

According to Wright, further discussion led to another confession in the robbery case recorded on the suspect's phone. Cline was able to obtain information regarding the robbery victim and other participants in the case. He then coordinated with the School Resource Officer at Westfield High and the



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS

Capt. Ed O'Carroll (left) congratulates PFC Rick Cline.

CIS [Criminal Investigations Section] detective to confirm the identity of the others involved in the crime.

"Cline's efforts assisted in closing the robbery case which had been reported on Feb. 2," wrote Wright. "In addition, CIS determined the same suspects are involved in other cases being investigated."

She also noted another case that Cline was instrumental in solving. In this one, he came to the aid of a police officer from the Fair Oaks District Station. Over the radio, the officer let other police know that he was in pursuit of a vehicle.

Cline headed toward the area where they were and the suspect bailed out of the vehicle and fled into the Greenbriar Town

Center in Chantilly. He disappeared for awhile, but Cline didn't give up.

Instead, Cline stayed on the scene and waited for the suspect to emerge — which he eventually did, from a dumpster. Police arrested him immediately, and Cline was later commended by the Fair Oaks District supervisors for being so alert to cover a dumpster.

"PFC Cline believes in the value of the work we do as peacekeepers in the community we serve," wrote Wright. "He comes to work with a can-do attitude and displays a great work ethic as part of the team. Cline could easily move into the job of a detective, with his impressive interview techniques, report-writing skills and coordination efforts."

"However, he enjoys his duties as a patrol officer and his endeavors have proved to be very effective," continued Wright. "Because of the hard work and determination exhibited by PFC Cline, I recommend and submit him for Officer of the Month for the Sully District Station."

At the May 14 ceremony honoring Cline, that station's commander, Capt. Ed O'Carroll, praised his efforts in the Fair Oaks case. "His intuition led him to stay there and be patient," said O'Carroll. "He's a shining star amongst all our staff."

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More Affordable Housing Needed

Anticipated job growth to exacerbate problem.

In Northern Virginia, affordable housing means more than human services or helping those who are less fortunate. It means more than housing the chronically homeless, although that is not optional.

In Northern Virginia, having enough affordable housing is critical to economic health, based on housing the workers needed at a variety of income levels. It is also critical to traffic management. If workers on the lower end of the income scale can't afford to work near their jobs, those workers will have to drive longer distances, creating gridlock and air pollution.

Consider that in the Washington Metropolitan Region, the established median rent for a two-bedroom apartment, according to HUD, is \$1,589 monthly. To afford that rent, paying no more than 30 percent of gross income, requires an income of about \$60,000 annually. And it is obvious that rents in Northern Virginia are more expensive than the region.

Consider for example, that right now in Alexandria, there are more than 8,300 workers in the accommodations and food service industry who earn on average \$470 weekly, or less than \$25,000 a year. (Employment statistics from Virginia Employment Commis-

sion.)

In Arlington, there are more than 15,400 workers in accommodations and food service, with an average weekly wage of \$491, or \$25,500 annually.

In Fairfax County, in food service and accommodations, there are more than 48,400 workers with an average wage of \$426 weekly or an annual income of just over \$22,000.

These are people working full time in jobs that are important to our economy who cannot afford market rate rents, and rents are climbing.

The George Mason University School of Public Policy Center for Regional Analysis forecasts that, based on predicted job growth, over the next 20 years this region will need an additional 344,624 single-family units and 203,674 multi-family units.

From the report:

"The region's new housing must be priced so that it is affordable to these new workers. Based on the housing need forecasts, 44.1 percent of rental units will need to have rents of less than \$1,250 a month, while only 2.4 percent of the rental demand will be for units priced at \$2,250 a month or more. About 16.4 percent of the owner-occupied units forecasted need to be valued at less than \$200,000 and only 13.5 percent at over \$600,000."

For example, the report predicts adding more

than 71,000 health services workers with a median income of \$39,500; more than 45,000 hospitality workers with a median income of \$18,300; and 17,700 retail workers with a median income of \$22,500.

The units to house the current and future workforce will not materialize on their own. It will require a variety of incentives and interventions to make sure those units are part of new development.

As the Silver Line opens, it's important to remember that the coming years will bring the last great boom in building in Fairfax County. No matter what the immediate impediments, the local economy cannot thrive unless developing affordable housing is built into all of those development plans, current and future.

—MARY KIMM

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EDITORIALS

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Later Start Times Can Benefit Community

To the Editor:

To set the record straight, there is nothing worse for traffic than a car crash, and sleepy teen drivers are like drunk drivers in terms of performance behind the wheel. Later high school start times are safer for teens and also for the rest of us as they have been shown to significantly decrease car crashes in young drivers.

When you read letters opposing this effort, please ask yourself whether the letter-writer has a personal vested interest in retaining the status quo. Last week's letter, "Later Start Times Affect Commuters," was filled with misinformation and scare tactics.

The letter made it sound as if there are only a small number of children impacted by the morning start times that are among the earliest in the nation. Fairfax County high schools start classes at 7:20 a.m. Only 10 percent of schools in the nation start before 7:30 in the morning. Seventy-two of 95 counties in Virginia start high schools at 8 a.m. or later. Perhaps the letter writer would prefer that FCPS start school at 5 a.m. to ensure that our children are all out of the way before the morning commute? The reality is that Fairfax County Public Schools are a massive part of the traffic flow for the entire morn-

ing commute. It will remain that way with any of the new schedules as well.

The majority of FCPS high school students are sleep deficient. Only 15.5 percent of seniors get 8 hours of sleep per night on school nights and medical experts recommend about 9 hours for adolescents. In 10th grade, only 25 percent are getting at least 8 hours of sleep per night. The letter writer seems to be suggesting that 75 percent or more of our students pay for unnecessary medical tests and ask doctors to write medical excuses for a problem that is the norm, not the exception to the rule. Perhaps he is unaware that there is compelling medical and educational evidence that very early school start times are a problem and that the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics has a position in favor of later high school start times for students in Virginia as does the Medical Society of Virginia and the Medical Society of Northern Virginia.

For more than a year, FCPS has partnered with Children's National Medical Center and has met with stakeholder leaders from more than 45 different organizations, agencies, and community groups. Transportation experts and stake-

holder leaders studied about 20 scenarios before the School Board selected four potential scenarios to bring to the community for input. The School Board has been extremely slow and deliberate in this process. Children's National Medical Center has been working to include input from all stakeholders, including principals, social workers, leaders from the teacher organizations, PTAs, the athletic council, the Park Authority, School Aged Child Care providers, the middle school after school program, Safe Routes to School, and others. In July, there will be a work session with a report to the board. School Board members have suggested that the Blueprint for Change may be one of the four options or it may be a hybrid based on the community input.

Montgomery County's superintendent delayed implementation of any high school start time changes, but he will not be able to close the door on the need for later morning schedules because it is critical to his desire to close the achievement gap. Seventy-eight percent of the parents polled in Montgomery County supported the change despite what seems to be an inflated cost estimate. Dr. Starr made the mistake of wrapping the later start time proposal

Call for Pet Photos

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 23, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 16.

Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans. Identify everyone and give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish them, just your town name). Email to editor@connectionnewspapers.com.

into a wish-list idea to extend the length of the elementary school day and combined the cost estimates making both look more expensive.

Abundant research on this topic is clear: When schools have delayed the start of the school day, students have shown improved physical and mental health, less depression, reduced car crashes and improved performance in the classroom and on the field. Schools also report reduced tardiness and sleeping in class, as well as improved attendance, graduation rates, and standardized test scores.

Thankfully, Fairfax County has also been able to find solutions that are less than a third of the cost of Montgomery County's plan, including more efficient bus routing that may reduce commute times for some students.

Multiple organizations have studied and support this change and community members who care about child health and safety as well as their own commutes should support this change as well by signing the petition at sleepinfairfax.org.

As Dr. Owens from Children's National Medical Center says, "To do nothing is to do harm." I firmly believe that.

Phyllis Payne
Fairfax

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NEWS

Trophies and Cookies for Chantilly

FROM PAGE 3

for negative externality, Skopowski said it's when someone not part of what causes pollution is adversely affected by it. So that whole question was: "A factory's pollution and secondhand smoke are examples of what?"

Glinsman liked the buzzer round best because "I knew we could win from there. And we got off to an early lead, which pressured the other team to buzz in before they were ready. So we could relax and just finish."

"My favorite part was holding up those [individual] trophies at the end, saying we were state champs, and enjoying the car ride home with everyone," said Hari.

So what did Skopowski like best? "At lunch, we got chocolate chip cookies the size of a dinner plate, and it made the trip worthwhile," he said. "Even if we didn't win, I would have come for the cookies."

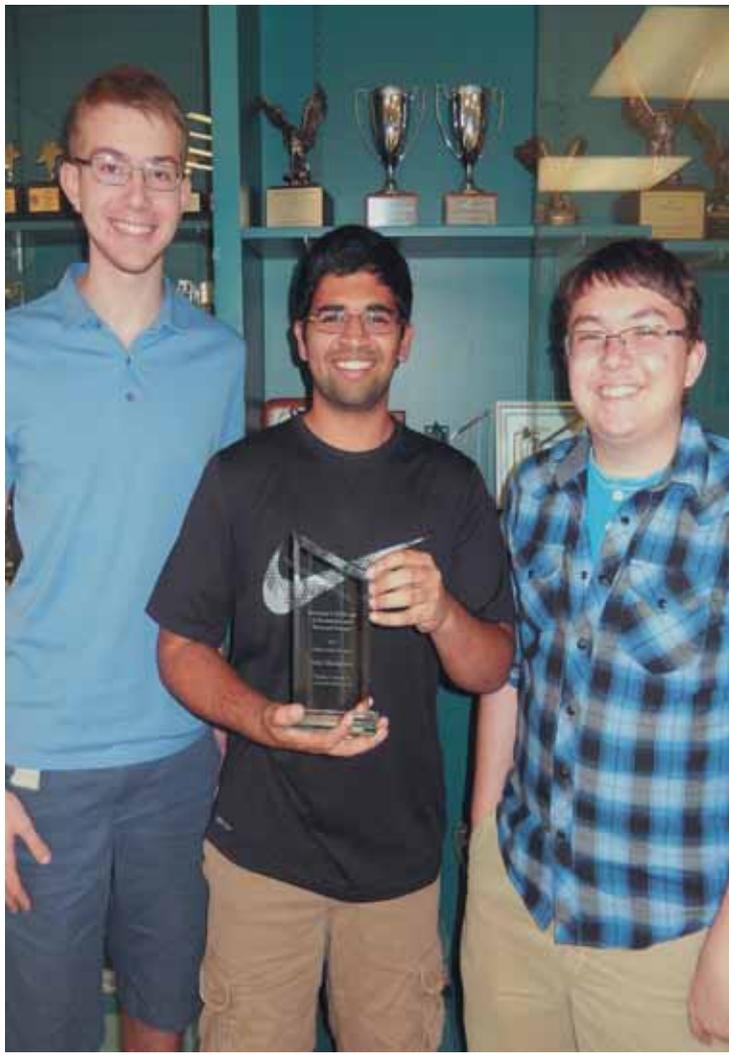


PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left are Jack Skopowski, Gopal Hari and Drew Glinsman before placing their school's trophy in a trophy case in the front hall. (Not pictured, Tim Reid).

ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 3

2 – 1:30-4 p.m.; in conference rooms 9/10 at the county Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.

People will be able to tell the decision-makers what they need from the county to help them, their businesses and their community achieve economic success. To register for one of the sessions, email Charles.Suddith@fairfaxcounty.gov by June 20. Due to limited space, provide first and second session-choices in the email.

CarFit Event June 27

The Sully District Police Station will host a CarFit event on Friday, June 27, from 1-3 p.m. It's a program designed to help older drivers find out how well they currently fit their vehicles. The program highlights actions they can take to improve their fit and greatly increase not only their safety, but the safety of others.

CarFit is voluntary and confidential, and CarFit staff won't make any changes to the vehicle, but might recommend some adjustments be made. No appointment is necessary, but the event will be cancelled in case of inclement weather exists. The Sully District Station is at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly.

2014 Fairfax 50+ Plan

Fairfax County projects a dramatic increase in its older population. Between 2005 and 2030, the county expects the 50-and-over population to increase by 40 percent and the 70-and-over population by 88 percent. So the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, together with the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging and local residents, has been working with the community to create the 2014 Fairfax 50+ Plan.

What's proposed is at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/fairfax50plus.htm> under the topic headings of Safety & Health, Housing, Transportation, Community Engagement, Services for Older Adults & Caregivers, and Long-Range Planning & Trends Analysis. Comments may be emailed to DFSCCommunity@fairfaxcounty.gov until June 30.

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TO BENEFIT

Westfield Girls' Lacrosse Wins State Championship

Bulldogs beat Cougars in 6A state final.

BY DAVID BALICK
THE CONNECTION

The Westfield girls' lacrosse team was playing the Oakton Cougars for the third time in the past three weeks. The first two games were for the Conference 5 and 6A North region championships, and the Cougars came out victorious.

But in the biggest game of the year, the Westfield Bulldogs came out firing and brought home the program's first state championship with a 13-11 victory on June 15 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Oakton came into the game with a 15-2 record. The Cougars were experienced winners with 11 seniors who had already won a state championship in 2012. But Westfield would not be intimidated.

Off the opening faceoff, senior Grace Horgan stormed down the field and scored the first goal of the game 13 seconds in.

Oakton responded a few minutes later with a goal, but then senior Meghan Heck scored three of her five goals on the day in a 5-minute span. Combined with another goal from Horgan, Westfield now had a 5-1 lead.

"Without our seniors this year, we never could have made it this far," Westfield head coach Katie Ruch said. "They were everything we needed tonight."

Following this spurt, Oakton head coach Jean Counts took a timeout in an effort to inspire her players, and they responded.

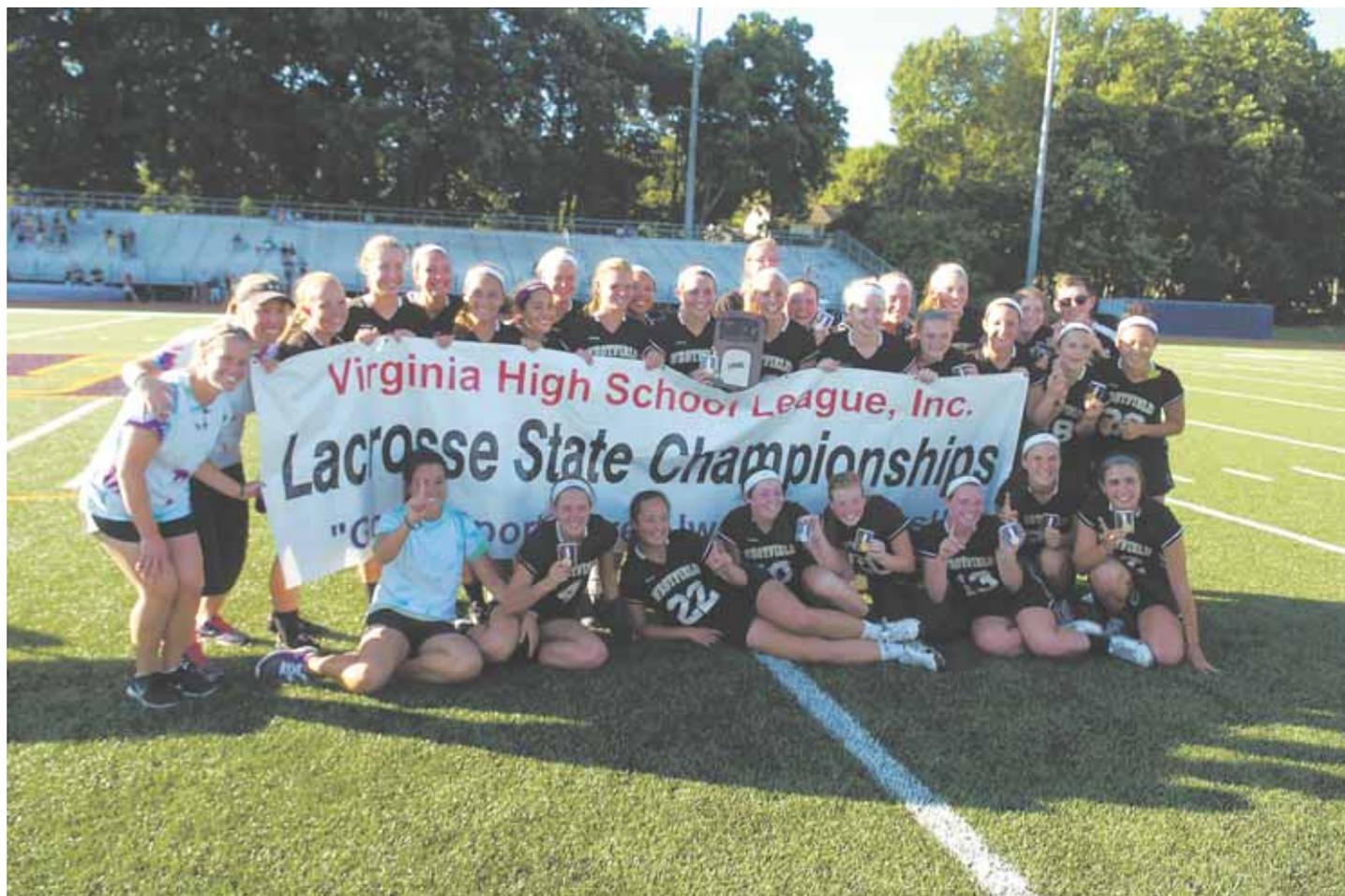
Oakton went on a 5-1 run of its own in the final 10 minutes of the half to tie the game at 6 heading into halftime.

The question coming out of the half was who would come out with momentum to start? Heck answered this question with a goal immediately off the opening faceoff, giving Westfield the lead. This goal took only 8 seconds to materialize.

However, Oakton refused to take a back seat to the Bulldogs and continued to fight. The game was tied at 10 with 13 minutes left. But then senior captain Molly O'Sullivan gave Westfield the lead for good.

Down the stretch, freshman goalie Abby Smith came up with save after save to preserve the victory.

"We had lost to them twice in title games



The Westfield girls' lacrosse team won the 6A state championship on June 15.



Westfield girls' lacrosse coach Katie Ruch, left, receives a celebratory bath after the Bulldogs won the 6A state championship on June 15.

this season," Ruch said, "so we had nothing to lose tonight."

Westfield dominated possession throughout the game. Heck played well in the final game of her career, scoring five goals and rallying her team to victory. Grace Horgan and O'Sullivan also added three goals of their own for the Bulldogs.



Members of the Westfield girls' lacrosse team celebrate winning the 6A state championship on June 15.

Westfield finished the season with a 15-3 record. The Bulldogs came into the season with one goal in mind. They beat the defending champions from Madison in the semifinals and finished the season off with the taste of victory on Sunday night.

Chantilly Baseball Falls to Western Branch in State Final

BY TOMMY VALTIN-ERWIN
THE CONNECTION

The Chantilly baseball team couldn't find its rhythm early in the Virginia 6A state championship game as Western Branch pitcher Colin Selby held the Chargers to one hit through three innings and scoreless until the fifth. They came alive

in the top of the fifth, though, taking a 4-3 lead before losing it in the bottom of the inning.

Western Branch struck fist in the third inning, taking a 1-0 lead when first baseman Alex Abbey drove in Jordan Mason from second. The Bruins would continue in the next

SEE CHANTILLY BASEBALL, PAGE 11



The Chantilly baseball team finished state runner-up, losing to Western Branch in the state final on June 15.

Avoiding Awkward Conversations

Suggestions for conversation starters for talking to new graduates.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Lisa and Erik Brown beamed with pride after their oldest son graduated from high school in Northern Virginia. They hosted a post-ceremony soiree and invited a host of family and friends. The celebration was dampened somewhat, however, when a family member made an innocent, but still critical remark about the college their son had chosen.

“He’s the first person in our family to go to college,” said Erik Brown. “It was rude and disrespectful for them to talk badly about the college he’s chosen, especially in front of our other guests.”

While graduation is a time of excitement and celebration, it can also be a time of not only change but stress for many graduates and their parents. Innocent questions and comments like the Browns’ relative’s can cause embarrassment or frustration for recent graduates. Local mental health professionals offer suggestions for avoiding such a post-graduation faux pas while still expressing excitement and pride.

“When talking to a graduate, focus on their accomplishment,” said Linda Gulyn, Ph.D., a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. “They should be proud of having earned a degree, especially a college degree.”

Instead of commenting on the college they selected or the major they chose, offer support and encouragement. “Rather than saying, ‘What are you going to do with that art history degree?’” said Gulyn, “an adult can offer to be a source of networking and support. They can say, ‘Best of luck. Let me know how I can support you.’”

Conversations with graduates can be adapted based on whether the person is graduating from high school, college or graduate school. “Most high school graduates know what their plans are in terms of going to college, taking a gap year or getting a job,” said Karen Prince, a Bethesda, Md., based licensed clinical social worker. “It is always good to focus on the positive and the current situation, which is a huge milestone.”

Dialogue with a recent college graduates can be more complicated, however, because some already feel pressured to have a plan in place. “It is more loaded for college,” said Prince. “It is best to ask questions that are easy to answer, like ‘What classes did you enjoy most in

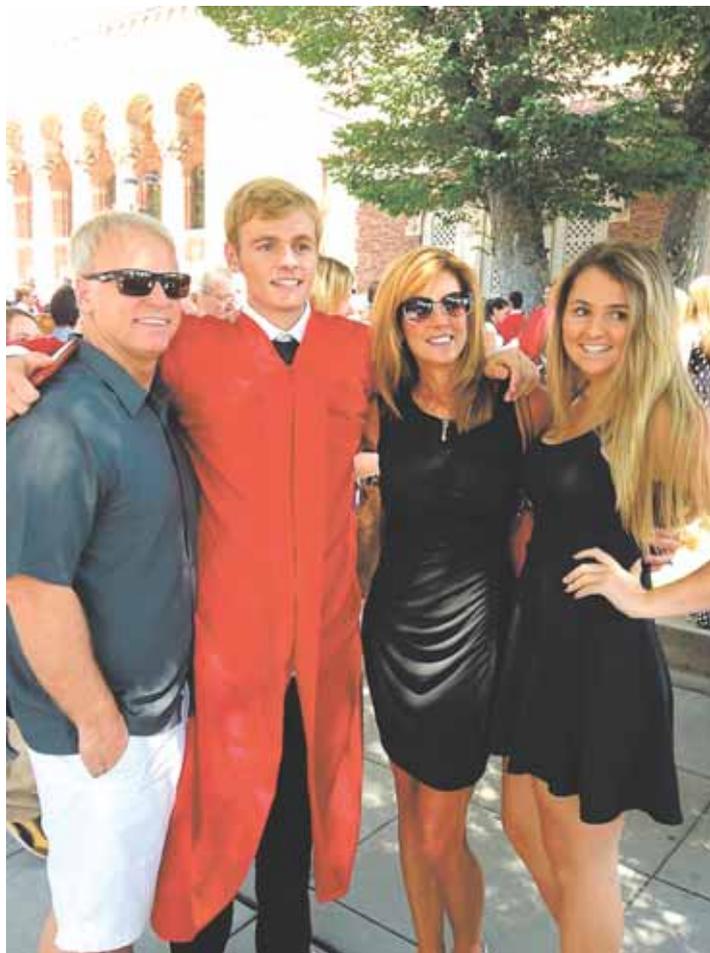


PHOTO COURTESY OF LISA BROWN

Erik, Jason, Lisa and Jamie Brown celebrate Jason’s high school graduation. This rite of passage can be a time of excitement, but also a source of stress for some.

college? Did you know in high school that you wanted to choose that major? What made you decide on that major?” Those questions are easy to answer because they’ve already accomplished it.”

Gulyn said to focus on the current accomplishment, not future expectations: “It’s good to say, ‘That sounds like a really interesting major. I wish I’d taken more art history classes. You must have learned about history, art and life. Liberal arts degrees can open a student’s mind and teach them to write well.’”

Gulyn adds that it is acceptable and even normal for recent graduates to be uncertain about their future plans. “I talk to my college students all the time and ask them, ‘How many of you are sick and tired of hearing now that you’re graduating what you are you going to do?’ They all raise their hands. It’s OK for a recent graduate to have no idea about what they want to do with their future. This is a time to explore. Saying ‘I have no idea’ is the right answer at this state in their lives.”

Finally, Gulyn discourages conversations that pressure college graduates to make immediate decisions about graduate school. “Students should give themselves a couple of years to make sure they are committed to getting a graduate degree,” she said. “If I had to do it over again, I would have waited until I was committed and saved money for graduate school.”

“When talking to a graduate, focus on their accomplishment. They should be proud of having earned a degree, especially a college degree.”

— Linda Gulyn, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington

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Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Town Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton, Virginia. The purpose is to consider amendment and revision of the Signs regulations within the Zoning Ordinance, found in Chapter 9, Article 2 General Regulations, Section 9-14 of the Code of Town of Clifton, Virginia.

The proposed revision is available for review on the Town website <http://clifton-va.com> under the Town Council - News from the Council drop-down menu.

A hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton, Virginia. All interested parties are encouraged to attend the Public Hearing to express their views with respect to the proposed amendment and revision of the Signs section of the Zoning Ordinance.

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A Dream Come True, Sort Of



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

(Not a cancer column, by the way.)
Growing up in the 60s, if you loved sports, as I did/still do, you spent hours listening to games on a transistor radio. There certainly wasn't "Cable" television back then; heck, there wasn't even color television, let alone "HD," "interactive," or whatever else television technology has evolved into. And of course, there were no "big screen" television sets either. We had a 19" Zenith black and white television and we received three channels: 4, 5 and 7 (in Boston), and as much as sports was/is important in Boston/New England, viewing options, given the limited VHF/UHF band frequencies, meant listening to games on radio - AM radio. Games were regularly televised on weekends, more so if the home team was playing on the road.

As the decades have passed, so too have transistor radios, black and white televisions and limited viewing on only three channels. Between "Cable," computers, and more recently, the introduction of hand-held devices, access to and familiarity with sports has grown exponentially. Add in the explosion of sports-talk radio and the abundance of sports-themed content on television (regardless of whether the games are at home or on the road) and one could be in his "man cave" for hours on end "channeling" his - or her - passion, for any team, in any city, at almost any time.

I don't have a "man cave," but I do have a passion. Annually, I buy the MLB Baseball package so I can watch my beloved Boston Red Sox whenever and wherever they play. It is not the bane of my existence, it is quite the opposite; it is my *raison d'être*, if truth be told. And instinctively, whenever I'm in the car driving somewhere, if the Orioles or Nationals are playing, I am listening to them on radio, as a long-time habit. It conjures images, memories and dreams of a lifetime (adolescence, really) stretching back over 50 years: Curt Gowdy, Ned Martin and Ken Coleman on radio for the Red Sox, the legendary Johnny Most for the Celtics and Fred Cusick and Bob Wilson for the Bruins. I hung on their every word nightly during the week, and afternoons on weekends; typically when their games were played. What I heard affected my life - to this day. As a result (partially), I am a "sports" guy. Not a "tool" guy. Not a "car" guy. Not a "do-it-yourself/fixer-upper" guy. Nor am I any other category of "guy" you know of or can think of. "I yam what I yam." Though I've never been a sailor man, either.

And as a "sports" guy, my dream was to play in the Major Leagues for the Boston Red Sox. As much as I practiced, it didn't happen (although I did play for the Little League Red Sox from 1964-67, ages 9-12). But through the staying power of radio - and the frequency of baseball games (162-game schedule) - I have realized my dream of playing in the Major Leagues, or at least hearing my last name called during Major League games.

There is a player for the Toronto Blue Jays named Brett Lawrie, an infielder, third baseman, mostly. When the announcers call his last name, it sounds nearly identical to mine, Lourie. And when I hear his name called on radio by Oriole's radio voices, Joe Angel and Jim Hunter (the Blue Jays were in town this past weekend for a four-game series), it almost brings a tear to my eyes. Obviously it's not me they're "calling," but it sure sounds like it. And for that moment, my dream seems like a reality.

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

SPORTS

Chantilly Baseball

FROM PAGE 8

inning when Kyle McPherson, who was 3-for-4 on the day, drove a solo home run to left field on the second pitch he saw.

Later in the fourth, Justin Hayes doubled to drive in Western Branch's third run of the day, giving the Bruins a 3-0 lead with three innings to go.

Looking down and out, Chantilly center fielder Mike Sciorra reached second base on an error to bring home Tommy Vance, to get the scoring started. With two outs, Colby Ryan and Aaron Osbourne both put the ball in play to take a 4-3 lead.

Despite Chantilly's best efforts, however, Western Branch responded immediately in the bottom of the fifth with three hits in four at bats to regain the lead for a final time, 6-4.

"It was great that we stuck with it and scored four runs," Sciorra said. "Credit to those guys though ... they put the bat on the ball and hit where we weren't on the field."

Chantilly's season may have ended in defeat, but the season was a victory.

"I couldn't be more proud of my boys," Sciorra said. "I've been friends with them since Little League. We're the best team in Chantilly history, and we're walking away with our heads held high."

Chantilly head coach Kevin Ford applauded the way the Chargers fought throughout the season.

"For our guys to come together and make a run in the playoffs after losing our district final, it was just unbelievable," Ford said. "These guys never gave up."

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to chantilly@connection newspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Chapman Sklar of Fairfax, a member of the class of 2015 at Washington and Lee University, has earned Dean's List status for the 2014 winter term.

Rocky Run Middle recently recognized the champions of its fourth annual Poetry Slam competition. In the dramatic category: **Eric Kim** won first place, **Rachel Besalel** won second place, and **Mavis Manlota** won third place. In the humorous category: **Zoe Hutcheson** won first place, **Max Read** won second place, and **Andrew Lindgren** won third place.

Amanda Nichole Ploetz of Oak Hill graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Clemson University after being named to the President's List for the spring 2014 semester.

Westfield fine arts teacher **Kerry Johanson** was selected as a finalist for the 2014 FCPS Teacher of the Year. Johanson was one of four finalists and one of thirty-eight nominees from Fairfax County who were honored Wednesday evening at the FCPS Honors Ceremony held at the GMU Center for the Arts.

Ian Hartin, of Oak Hill, made the Dean's List for Franklin & Marshall College's fall 2013 semester. He is the child of Megan B. Hartin and Bryan J. Hartin and a graduate of Oakton High School.

ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Fine Arts Open Exhibition. Through Aug. 19. at Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia will be opening its annual art exhibition to highlight the work of new members, staff and the community. All media will be represented, from drawing to ceramics. Entry fee is \$10 for members and \$18 for nonmembers. Contact 703 323-0880 or visit www.jccnvarts.org for more information.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Girls Basketball Camp. The Chantilly High School Girls Basketball Program will be hosting its summer basketball camp for girls ages 7-15 this summer. Session II runs June 30-July 3, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. for ages 7-13 only. Tuition is \$120. Session III runs July 7-July 11, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., for ages 7-15. Tuition is \$150. Session I has been canceled.

Visit www.chantillysports.org under Varsity Girls Basketball, Camps and Clinics. Walk-ups for each session are welcome.

Young Actors Workshop. For elementary students in rising grades 2-6 to learn about theatre arts. Runs July 21-25, 9 a.m.-noon at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Tuition is \$125. Sponsored by Westfield Theatre Boosters and led by Westfield Theatre alumni and current students. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com for or call 703-488-6439. Space is limited.

Boys Basketball Camp. Centreville and Westfield High School work together to offer three sessions of basketball camp for ages 7-15. Session I runs from July 7-11, session II July 14-18 and session III July 28-Aug. 1, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. daily. Cost is \$160 per session for June registrants and \$170 in July. Discounts available. Contact coach Doug Ewell at DPEwell@fcps.edu or Coach Patrick Hally at patrickhally@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 20

Opera Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Umberto Giordano's *Andrea Chénier*, set in the late 18th century. Riverbend Opera's production has more than 35 singers, accompanied by a small orchestra, with projected English surtitles. \$25, \$15 students.

Visit <http://riverbendopera.com>.

SATURDAY/JUNE 21

Plant Clinic. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Master gardeners with provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. Call 703-502-3883.

Book Signings of Aviation and Space Related Books. 12-5 p.m. at Boeing Aviation Hangar Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly. Author Col. Wolfgang Samuel signing "German Boy." Admission is free, parking is \$15. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/events/book-signings> for more.

Lego Mania. 12:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Children in kindergarten through second grade can show off their Lego-building skills. Call 703-502-3883.

Bouncin' Babies. 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

SUNDAY/JUNE 22

Book Signings of Aviation and Space Related Books. 12-5 p.m. at

Boeing Aviation Hangar Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly. Admission is free, parking is \$15. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/events/book-signings> for more.

Art Guild of Clifton. 4:30-7 p.m. at Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane. Art Guild of Clifton presents the completed works of artists who painted outdoors, on location, this weekend. Visit www.artguildofclifton.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 23

Imagination Day. 9 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at Laurel Hill Elementary School, 8390 Laurel Crest Drive. Sessions throughout the school day will introduce students to new hobbies and activities, sparking new passions in their imaginations. Contact Heather Hitz at hhitz@fcps.edu.

Bouncin' Babies. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 11:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

TUESDAY/JUNE 24

Toddlin' Twos. 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.

at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Early literacy storytime with stories, songs and activities. Age 2 with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Time for Tots. 11 a.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Stories and activities for ages 2-3 with adult. Call 703-830-2223.

"Flights of Fancy" — Stories for Children. 11 a.m. at Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. Free. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/visit/udvar-hazy-center/things-to-do/story-times.cfm>.

Diggers. 2:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Tracey Eldridge presents an interactive musical celebration of the creatures who sleep under our feet. Please register each adult and child separately. Call 703-502-3883.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 25

"Flights of Fancy" — Stories for Children. 11 a.m. at Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. Free. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/visit/udvar-hazy-center/things-to-do/story-times.cfm> for more.

Bouncin' Babies. 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

A Novel Society. 7 p.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. "A Thousand White Women" by Jim Fergus. Call 703-830-2223.

THURSDAY/JUNE 26

Reptiles Alive. 10:30 a.m. at Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. See how these animals cling, climb and chase in the wild. Presented by Reptiles Alive. For ages 6-12. Call 703-830-2223.

"Flights of Fancy" — Stories for Children. 11 a.m. at Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. Free. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/visit/udvar-hazy-center/things-to-do/story-times.cfm> for more.

Ask an Expert. 12:30-1 p.m. at Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. A talk about "Sa-7 Shoulder-Fired Anti-Aircraft Missile." Meet at the nose of the SR-71 in the Boeing Aviation Hangar. Free. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/events/ask-an-expert/#hazy>.

FRIDAY/JUNE 27

Bouncin' Babies. 3 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for babies up to 11 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

Small Wonders. 4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Rhymes, songs, stories and activities for children 12-23 months with adult. Call 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY/JUNE 28

The Ice Cream Race 5k. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Bull Run Regional Park Special Events Center, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. The Ice Cream Race 5k is a family fun run, includes an obstacle course. \$69 registration. Visit www.theicecreamrace.com.

War Art Sale and Book Signing. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at The Stuart-Mosby Civil War Cavalry Museum, 13938 Braddock Road. The Stuart-Mosby Civil War Cavalry Museum will be selling Civil War prints and oil paintings and will also have a book signing by various Civil War authors. Email dhakenson@verizon.net.

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