

TJ Vinsavich and Maddy Ingram re-
hearse a scene in Westfield Summer
Stage's production of "How to Succeed
in Business without Really Trying."

Summer Stage: 'How to Succeed ...'

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Westfield Summer Stage Presents Hit Musical

New show is 'How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying.'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Featuring a cast and crew of 85, the musical, "How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying," is ready to burst upon the stage. A production of Westfield Summer Stage, all performances are at Westfield High.

The curtain rises Friday-Saturday, July 18-19 and July 25-26, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, July 20, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance; \$15, at the door. Seating is reserved; buy tickets at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

"It's a fun show, good for all ages," said choreographer Yvonne Henry. "Our leads are Cappie-nominated and winning students, which lends itself to a phenomenal song-and-dance show." This is also the 14th stage production that Henry's choreographed, and her 40th musical overall.

"The story follows the meteoric rise of J. Pierrepont Finch, who uses a handbook called 'How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying' to climb the corporate ladder at World Wide Wickets," said Director Lori Knickerbocker. "He goes from lowly window washer to high-powered executive, tackling [challenges including] the aggressively compliant company man, the office

party, backstabbing co-workers, caffeine addiction and, of course, true love."

Rehearsals began before school ended in June and, said Henry, "We've made great progress in a short amount of time. Westfield grad Rachel Shirley is co-choreographing, and there are nine big production numbers, plus some smaller ones. Some even include everyone in the cast dancing among some large set pieces."

The two-level set depicts an office with a cityscape behind it. And thanks to theater moms Patti Dezelick and Karen Perigard plus the designers, said Henry, "The costumes are gorgeous. It's a great story with an awesome set and wonderful actors. The

kids are from all over, and they've formed great friendships because they share the same passions."

"I look forward to doing this all year long because I love teaching dance," she continued. "I love the kids because they keep me energized and having fun. And after 14 years, Westfield Summer Stage has a great reputation of putting on stellar productions."

New Westfield grad TJ Vinsavich, who'll major in theater at VCU, plays Finch. "He's ambitious and charismatic and uses a book to trick people to get ahead in the business world," said Vinsavich. "Yet, at the same time, he's very likeable. It's fun experimenting with new ways to say his lines because he acts differently with different characters to manipulate them."

Vinsavich's favorite number is "Brotherhood of Man," the musical's last big number. "It's really energetic," he said. "There's exciting choreography and the show builds to a crescendo with this song. The audience will like the show's funny characters, plus the satire – poking fun at the business world and its inefficiency – and how everybody is so focused on image that they don't realize how foolish they are."

Portraying secretary Rosemary Pilkington, who wants to marry Finch, is Robinson Secondary grad Maddy Ingram. "She wants to be a typical, 1960s housewife," said Ingram. "She's naïve, but driven, and can be a bit of a ditz; but she's also passionate about becoming a wife."

Ingram likes the "Act I Finale" number because "it's the first time Finch realizes he's actually in love with Rosemary and it's not just her chasing him. The show spoofs the 1960s ideal, is fast-paced and has so much going on that it's fun to watch; and the audience will love all the good one-liners."

Centreville High senior Joshua Ewalt

plays company President J.B. Biggley.

"He's the big boss, but he's not the one in charge when it comes to his wife and mistress," said Ewalt. "Despite being an authoritative type, he also likes things like knitting because it calms him. He's attached to his college, Old Ivy, and he uses different voices on the phone, depending who he's talking to."

He's fun to play, said Ewalt, because "he's a goofy character with so many parts of his personality and mannerisms at odds with each other. And I get to make funny voices and faces." Ewalt especially likes the song, "I Believe in You," which Finch sings to himself in a mirror, because "it's an amazing ballad and one of the show's high points."

"It's an incredibly funny musical," he continued.

"There's slapstick for kids and smart jokes for adults and tons of wonderful music. Our sets and costumes are excellent, and it's a colorful and vibrant show."

Playing Biggley's nephew, Bud Frump, is Robinson grad Jamie Green. He knows the role well, since he understudied it in Robinson's 2012 production of this show. "Frump's snide, arrogant and not a good worker," said Green. "He has neither the talent, nor the will, to strive in his job. He only has it because he's the boss's nephew, and he does lots of nefarious plotting and blackmail."

It's fun to play, said Green, because "Who doesn't want to be a snide, annoying, little brat? He's never dull, and I have lots of good lines and a song to myself." He said the audience will enjoy this show's "cheeky dialogue and attitude – everyone's plotting against somebody else. And the set's really impressive; it's huge and even has a working elevator. There's a talented cast and I'm really happy to be part of it."

Westfield junior Shaina Greenberg plays Smitty, a secretary in personnel.

"She's Rosemary's rational side and nerdy best friend," said Greenberg. "She wears quirky glasses and is a distinct character. She also helps Rosemary get with Finch and is the glue that holds the office together. She's sarcastic and dry, and it's fun playing someone I can connect with so well because my dad and brother are sarcastic, too."

Greenberg likes the song "Coffee Break," because it's "super-physical and the dancing's fun to do."

And I like singing it because it takes something so common and makes it really dramatic – and the music, itself, is great." As for the show, she said, "People who've worked will be familiar with what goes on in this office. But with all the business, love and comedy, there's something for everybody."



The show's leads are (from left) Shaina Greenberg, Maddy Ingram, TJ Vinsavich, Joshua Ewalt, Nora Winsler (Centreville High) and Jamie Green.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MADELINE BLOXAM



Joshua Ewalt, as Finch, explains an idea to TJ Vinsavich, as J.B.

ROUNDUPS

Farmers Market on Thursdays

Each Thursday, from 3-7 p.m., the Fairfax County Government Center hosts a farmers market in its parking lot. The Government Center is at 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fair Oaks. The next markets are slated for July 10 and July 17.

WFCCA Land-Use Committee

The West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee will meet Tuesday, July 15, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly. The panel will receive its second presentation on the Arbors of Fairfax project.

It's a 48-unit, assisted-living facility dedicated to Alzheimer's patients. It's proposed for construction on the north side of Route 50 in Chantilly, east of Downs Drive. The WFCCA is slated to make a recommendation on the application during this meeting.

Free Carseat Inspections

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free, child safety carseat inspections Thursday, July 17, 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.

Host a WFCM Food Drive

WFCM needs the community's help over the summer months when it has a critical shortage of food. "For instance, of the 24 schools that we serve, one has over 900 students who count on free and reduced lunches during the school year," said WFCM Community Outreach Manager Jennie Bush. "This creates a financial strain on families looking for food help."

But she said local residents can make a tremendous difference by hosting a food drive with their sports team, camp, swim team or place of employment. To arrange a food drive for WFCM, contact the organization's summer intern, Annie Cecil, at intern@wfcma.org.

How to Hire CLRC Workers

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) serves businesses and homeowners needing help with just about any home remodeling or maintenance project. And local residents who'd like to hire a worker from the CLRC may do so easily. Either call 703-543-6272 or go to www.centrevilleLRC.org and click on the "How to Hire" link. Tell what kind of work is required, how many workers are needed and when.

The CLRC will match the needs to its registered workers' skills and set up the job. The price for work will be negotiated. After the job is completed, employers are encouraged to provide the CLRC with feedback to ensure that the work was done well and to their satisfaction and to make sure the workers are fairly paid.

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/>

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NEWS



Pam Fruit, the backpack coordinator for Centreville Baptist Church, poses with some of the more than 150 backpacks her church provided last year via WFCM for students in need at London Towne Elementary. The photo was taken on delivery day.

WFCM Reaches Out for Help

Group is collecting 2,000 new backpacks for local students.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

It's challenging being a poor child in Fairfax County who'll go back to school this fall hungry, wearing old clothes and without backpacks and school supplies. So WFCM (Western Fairfax Christian Ministries) is doing all it can to help.

It operates a food pantry for local families in need, plus a thrift shop where they can purchase clothing for a small amount. And now, for the fourth year, WFCM is partnering with the county, Fairfax County Public Schools and several local, nonprofit organizations to provide high-quality, school backpacks via the county's Collect for Kids Back to School program.

But to make it work, WFCM needs community residents, businesses and other groups to open up their hearts and their wallets and either donate the backpacks or the funds with which to purchase them.

"WFCM's goal is to provide backpacks for 2,000 qualified, needy children who attend schools in the Centreville High School, Chantilly High School and Westfield High School pyramids," said Jennie Bush, WFCM community outreach manager. "In 2013, WFCM assisted 1,995 children in those schools. Due to continued demand, WFCM is looking to slightly increase its program capacity this year in hopes of assisting every child who needs a backpack."

The most-needed backpack size is a larger one for high-school students. It should have at least two compartments to hold multiple books and binders and should be 18-19 inches tall, 13 inches wide and 8-10 inches deep.

"It is incredible to think that 50,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools receive free or reduced-price meals."

— Jennie Bush, WFCM community outreach manager

Another nonprofit, KidsRFirst, will provide the school supplies to fill the donated backpacks.

"It is incredible to think that 50,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools receive free or reduced-price meals," said Bush. "Their parents are struggling to put food on the table, and the prospect of buying backpacks and school supplies is stressful for them. So we hope the community will respond generously, as they have in the past, to ensure that children whose families are in crisis are able to return to school this fall with all the tools they need to succeed."

She said WFCM is grateful to those sponsoring the 2014 Collect for Kids Back to School program, including KidsRFirst, and to the many supporting churches and businesses who join with WFCM to provide backpacks to students in need in Centreville and Chantilly schools.

Donated new backpacks may be brought to WFCM's Client Services Office and Food Pantry at 13888 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly (next to Papa John's Pizza), Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., and Wednesday and Thursday, 4-7 p.m., until Aug. 13.

For suggestions on where to purchase backpacks, and the sizes requested, go to www.WFCMVA.org. For more information on donating or sponsoring a school, contact

Bush at jbush@wfcma.org.

The nonprofit WFCM is a volunteer-based organization focused on easing the struggles of low-income families in western Fairfax County. Besides offering food and clothing, it provides emergency financial assistance for rent and utility-bill payments.

In addition, WFCM runs several financial literacy programs, including financial mentoring; free, monthly budgeting classes; and free financial counseling. For information, contact 703-988-9656 or visit www.WFCMVA.org. Community members interested in helping support WFCM programs may contribute via its secure Web site or mail checks to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIE BUSH



The Boyle School of Irish Dance.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Westfield High's Improv team as people complaining at a town-hall meeting.

Remembering Reema with Music and Dance



Westfield grad Josh Braunstein recited his poetry slam, "Shooting the Messenger," for which he came in second in national competition.

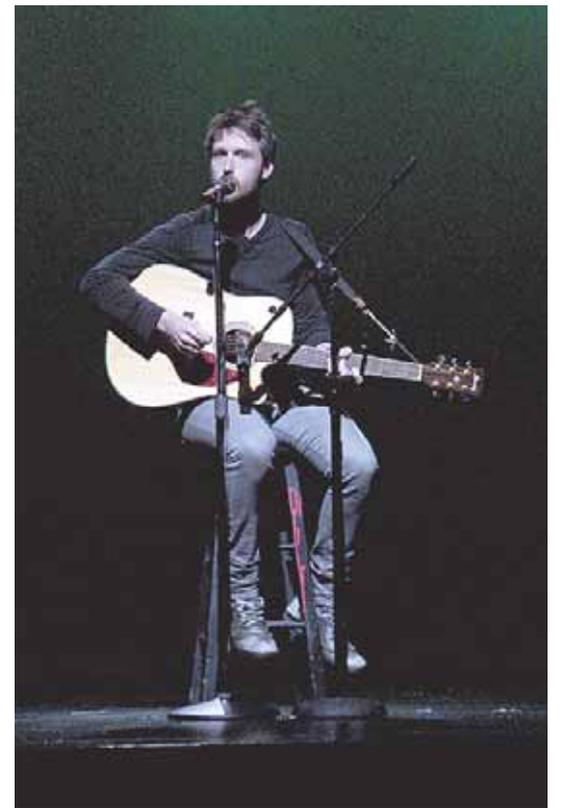
The Remembrance Cabaret for Reema Samaha was June 14.



Shu-Chen Cuff of the Gin Dance Co.



Reema's family (from left) siblings Randa and Omar, and parents Joe and Mona, addresses the audience.

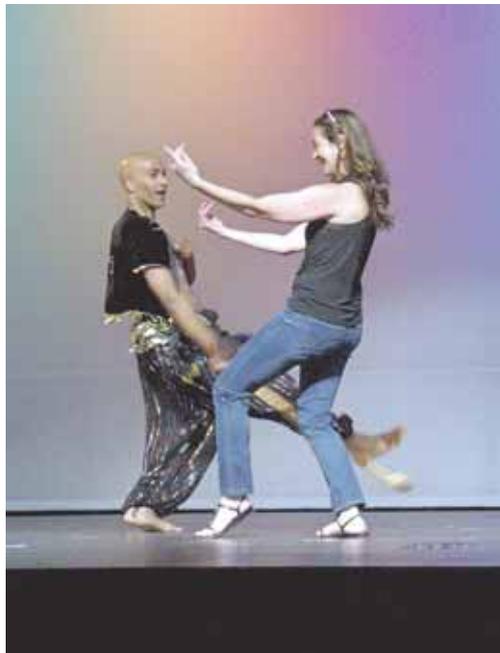


Westfield grad Jon Lawlor performs "Around Me Again."

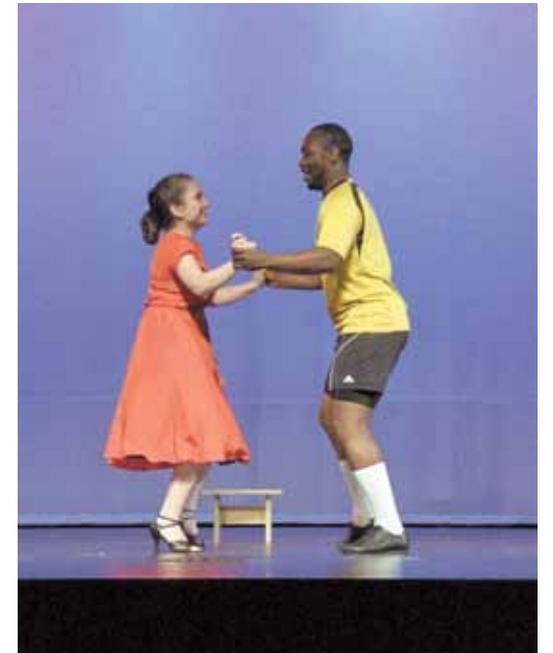
Westfield grad Jade Jones sings "What a Piece of Work is Man."



Virginia Tech's Contemporary Dance Ensemble performs "Andaloosia."



Ahmad Maaty and Joye Thomas perform "Raqa for Reema."



Dancers with Ritmo DMV perform to "La Pelota."

School Board Decreases Suspension Time

Student Rights and Responsibilities revised.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

Starting this fall, suspensions for certain student offenses in Fairfax County will decrease, thanks to a revision of the school system's Student Rights and Responsibilities.

The school board voted unanimously at the end of June to change the discipline handbook, which will now focus on in-school suspensions to preserve time in school. Offenses that come with mandatory punishments are decreased under the updated handbook.

Sully District School Board member Kathy Smith said at the meeting that the focus remains to have safe schools, but to ensure that children are kept in school so they can continue to receive their education.

"The changes to the SR&R were made to better align with best practices, to reduce suspensions, and to include changes that have been made to the Code of Virginia," said School Board Chairman Ilryong Moon in a press release. "The adopted changes emphasize the School Board's desire to keep students in class by promoting alternative forms of discipline and reducing the length of suspension for certain offenses. However, serious infractions will still be dealt with in a manner that protects students and staff."

The Student Rights and Responsibilities provides a guideline of

rules for students of Fairfax County Schools and the consequences for breaking those rules. Students are required to sign it each year.

CHANGES ALSO INCLUDE adjustments to a marijuana-related punishment. First-time use of marijuana that does not take place on school grounds or during a school-sponsored activity will be extended expedited review, meaning disciplinary actions other than expulsion may be used.

A motion was also approved that requires the collection of data on cases involving first-time possession and use of marijuana cases each semester. Principals are also given more independence in assigning disciplinary decisions.

Superintendent Karen Garza said at the meeting that disproportionality in school suspensions will continue to be examined.

"Are we there yet with the Student Rights and Responsibilities? No. I think we have to keep working on it and keep making it better," Garza said.

Under the updated handbook, the suspension time for many punishments is decreased from 10 to five days.

"We wanted to reduce the number of days students miss school due to disciplinary infractions. We need to hold students accountable, but can we do that in a way that still supports our educational mission, and I think we've made

progress there," Garza said.

A required 10-day suspension with a referral to the Division Superintendent has also been eliminated.

"Everything we know at the national level of research is, when you pull children out of their

school building, when you pull them even out of the classroom, they fall further and further behind," said Lee District School Board member Tamara Derenak Kaufax. "When we look at the things that we as a system can try to control and improve upon for student achievement, it's important that we recognize that this is why getting our discipline practice

right is so important, because this is how we will help improve student achievement and narrow the achievement gap."

FAIRFAX COUNTY'S ADOPTION of the new Student Rights and Responsibilities will be a model for the rest of Virginia, said

SEE SUSPENSIONS, PAGE 9

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First Place

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Maria Royal of Maria Royal's Grooming won first place in the terrier class at the DC Groomfest on June 7. She also has won many other grooming awards in the past few years. Royal specializes in the terrier breeds and small dogs.

Hurray for Full Day Mondays

Hoping that later start times for high schoolers follows quickly.

For decades, Fairfax County schools have sent elementary school students home after half a day on Mondays. This was never a good idea, and it has been more damaging to family schedules and student learning with the increase over the years of two-income households and greater economic diversity.

EDITORIALS

That is about to change. Karen Garza, superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, has demonstrated in several ways that she understands tackling the challenges of educating all of Fairfax County's students will require deviation from the status quo.

Not only will half day Mondays come to an end, but it will come to an end in two months, in September 2014, a remarkable accomplishment for a bureaucracy the size of Fairfax County Public Schools.

The change will also come with 20 minutes of recess a day. Research shows (and common sense confirms) that recess and physical activity benefit student learning.

It's an important step showing responsiveness to the needs of families and students. Nearly one third of the county's kindergarteners are poor. How do we think

those parents are managing the need for child care on Monday afternoons? FCPS has resisted meeting the needs of the whole child, but cannot expect to successfully educate its 186,785 students without this kind of change.

Programs to identify gifted and talented students among poor and minority students, summer school, year-round modified calendars for some schools, and many other changes will need to be considered and fast tracked for the county school system to succeed.

Consider: About 50,000 of the county's public school students are poor enough to receive subsidized meals. About 30,000 of the county's public school students are receiving specialized instruction to better learn English.

More than 25,000 of the county's public schools students are receiving special education services. White students make up 42 percent of the student body; 23 percent are Latino; 19 percent are Asian American; 10 percent are African American.

Fairfax County is by some measures the wealthiest county in the nation, or at least in the top five.

If success educating this population of students is possible anywhere, it should be here, but there is nothing simple about it and will require much more change.

More Sleep for Teens

Later start times for high school is slated as another top priority for change in FCPS, and we agree.

New research continues to pile up about sleep deprivation and the damage it does to

teens. A rigorous study published in February demonstrates that reduced quantity of sleep in adolescents increases risk for major depression, according to research at the University of Texas School of Public Health.

The Centers for Disease Control: "Sleep is increasingly recognized as important to public health, with sleep insufficiency linked to motor vehicle crashes, industrial disasters, and medical and other occupational errors. ... Persons experiencing sleep insufficiency are also more likely to suffer from chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, depression, and obesity, as well as from cancer, increased mortality, and reduced quality of life and productivity."

According to Judith Owens, M.D., director of Sleep Medicine at Children's National Medical Center: "The scientific evidence is irrefutable: chronic sleep loss and disruption in circadian rhythms associated with early high school start times are associated with negative consequences including poor academic performance, increased sport-related injuries, and potential long-term increases in cardiovascular and metabolic (i.e., type 2 diabetes) health risks."

We know that delaying high school start times increases total sleep time and positively impacts academic achievement and school attendance. There are also documented mental and physical health benefits for students that include reductions in rates of depression and fewer drowsy driving crashes."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Guiding Entrepreneurs to Start-Up Success

BY MARY AGE
PRESIDENT AND CEO
NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVICE

For many working poor, the challenges of conquering the barriers to education, childcare and transportation are too great to overcome. Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS), the nonprofit known for providing food and shelter, health and dental access, and Head Start programs for more than 36,000 local residents a year, also is working to alleviate poverty with its innovative entrepreneurship program.

One of the organization's clients, Roberto Lopez, was formerly a biologist and agronomist consulting with UNESCO in his native Nicaragua; but took a job with the maintenance staff of a public institution when he moved to Virginia. Like many immigrants, his degrees were not valid in the U.S. and his lack of English skills limited his job prospects. Throughout the repetitive days of monitoring scrubbing and sweeping (and even with a subsequent promotion to manager), Roberto dreamed of a way to apply his biology and agronomy knowledge to start a business. He slowly formed a plan to grow vegetable and herb gardens for the residents of Virginia, optimizing the garden ac-

COMMENTARY



Roberto Lopez

ording to light, soil quality, space and plant combinations. To move the idea from concept to reality, Roberto needed guidance and capital.

That is when he visited the Hispanic Entrepreneurship Program of Northern Virginia Family Service. The program provides integrated,

long-term support for the economic success of Hispanic entrepreneurs. Their business consultants guided Roberto through licensing, business planning, and most importantly, obtaining capital.

NVFS is an approved trustee of Kiva Zip, a SEE NVFS'S, PAGE 7

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns, Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail: chantilly@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9438
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor, 703-752-4013
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
e-mail: sales@connectionnewspapers.com

Karen Washburn
Display Advertising, 703-778-9422
kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com

Kim Taiedi
Display Advertising, 703-778-9423
ktaiedi@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Linda Pecqueux
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



OPINION

NVFS's Entrepreneurship Program

FROM PAGE 6

program launched by Kiva.org to crowdfund microloans with 0 percent interest. Once NVFS helped Roberto develop a solid business plan, the agency endorsed him on KivaZip.org. Roberto's profile shared the details of his qualifications and his business idea. NVFS' endorsement described why Roberto would achieve success and pay back the loan responsibly. From there, people from Northern Virginia – and around the world – began to crowdfund his loan. With as little as \$5, nearly 50 individuals showed their support for Roberto and lend to his business. Many will stay involved as potential customers, business advisers and brand ambassadors.

In Roberto's case, the metrics of a traditional bank loan would have immediately disqualified him as a borrower. Banks have to rely on time in business, credit score, collateral, available cash and other factors that a new business created by a new, low-income immigrant will not have. Kiva Zip, on the other hand, relies on trustees like NVFS who vouch for the borrower's character and business plan. NVFS currently ranks as the top Kiva Zip trustee in Virginia and #9 in the country, boasting a 100 percent repayment rate from its borrowers.

"I see tons of entrepreneurs like Roberto who are extremely well-educated with bright business ideas. They are challenged to learn English, computer skills, and a new culture while often stuck in unskilled, low-paying jobs," reflected Adrienne Kay, coordinator of

NVFS' Hispanic Entrepreneurship Program. "Through our partnership with Kiva Zip, I'm thrilled that we can create more opportunity for these entrepreneurs and hopefully more jobs in Northern Virginia."

Roberto's business quickly became a reality. Ladybug Landscape, LLC, now serves two embassies in D.C. and dozens of residents in Northern Virginia. This past year, he created two full-time jobs and two part-time jobs.

From Roberto's first Kiva Zip loan of \$4,000, he invested in efficient landscape equipment and in his webpage (www.ladybuglandscapellc.com). After fully paying his first loan, Roberto returned to fundraise on Kiva Zip for an \$8,000 loan to build out his truck to hold more plants and equipment.

"Roberto's experience mirrors that of so many entrepreneurs in the U.S. and around the world. People who have the passion and the plan, but who lacked just a little bit of capital to get their ideas off the ground," said Premal Shah, president of Kiva. "Through crowdfunding their loans, we can begin to fill the lending gap and be a part of their journeys of success."

"I was so inspired by everyone who believed in my business," Roberto said. He now volunteers as a guest speaker for NVFS business planning classes and aspires to become a trustee himself for entrepreneurs in his home country of Nicaragua.

Find out more about NVFS' latest Kiva Zip endorsements here: <https://zip.kiva.org/trustees/294>

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to centreview@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

The following students have qualified for the dean's list at James Madison University during the spring 2014 semester:

Arianna Ackman of Herndon, **Kamille Aiello** of Herndon, **Adnan Al-Karagholi** of Chantilly, **Kate Athearn** of Herndon, **Emily Bagdasarian** of Herndon, **Mary Ball** of Fairfax, **Chandni Bansal** of Oak Hill, **Mirwise Baray** of Chantilly, **Patricia Barry** of Oak Hill, **Korey Beckwith** of Chantilly, **Katherine Bishop** of Fairfax, **Jean-Philippe Bourgon** of Herndon, **Thomas Braudaway** of Oak Hill, **Long Bui** of Fairfax, **Jessica Bur** of Herndon, **Erin Butler** of Oak Hill, **Danling Chen** of Herndon, **Kyle Chipman** of Herndon, **Gabriella Dill** of Fairfax, **Riley Fergus** of Herndon, **Kayla Filipour** of Herndon, **Sarah Florjancic** of Oak Hill, **Matthew Galle** of Herndon, **Katelyn Gleason** of Chantilly, **Jenna Goffe** of Chantilly, **Heather Guryansky** of Fairfax, **Victoria Hafner** of Chantilly, **Shannon Hardtke** of Herndon, **Jacqueline Herrick** of Herndon, **Jessica Hogarth** of Herndon, **Cara Howley** of Herndon, **Kenneth Huynh** of Chantilly, **Khanh-linh Huynh** of Chantilly, **Kevin Ichord** of Fairfax, **Carly Isakowitz** of Oak Hill, **David Jenkins** of Herndon, **Lauren Jewell** of Oak Hill, **Alexis Keene** of Oak Hill, **Michael Kruczkowski** of Chantilly, **Zachary Krukowski** of Herndon, **Olivia Landrum** of Fairfax, **Shelby Lemmon** of Chantilly, **Skylar Lisse** of Herndon, **Brian Miller** of Fairfax, **Laura Morales** of Fairfax, **Bradley Mundt** of Chantilly, **Julianne Naquin** of Herndon, **Joshua Park** of Chantilly, **Anh Pham** of Fairfax, **Melody Pham** of Herndon, **Madison Ray** of Fairfax, **Chelsea Reed** of Chantilly, **Rachel Reinhardt** of Oak

Hill, **Paul Revesman** of Herndon, **Ciara Robinson** of Fairfax, **Shannon Romulus** of Fairfax, **Heather Sasala** of Oak Hill, **Christopher Shuping** of Chantilly, **Elijah Smith** of Herndon, **Sarah Solomon** of Herndon, **Christine Stevens** of Oak Hill, **Kayla Sweeney** of Herndon, **Melanie Vassallo** of Chantilly, **Amanda Walker** of Fairfax, and **Stephanie Yi** of Chantilly.

Lauren Pettigrew of Chantilly was initiated in Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Five Fairfax County schools have been named winners of the Best of the Web contest are **Woodson High School**, **South County Middle School**, **Centerville Elementary School** and **Keene Mill Elementary School**.

Whitney Diamond has been named to the dean's list at the University of Hartford for spring 2014 and

graduated with a bachelor's degree in voice performance.

Morgan Lluy was named to the chancellor's honor roll at the University of Mississippi.

Abhay Bagul, of Fairfax, earned a B.S. in information technology from UMass Lowell's College of Sciences.

Lydia Rachel Eng, of Chantilly, was named to the dean's list at the University of North Georgia.

Angie Rollett, of Chantilly High School, and **Christine Watson**, of Daniels Run Elementary School in Fairfax, have been selected to participate in the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Summer Teacher Institute.

Andrew Shontz, of Oak Hill, graduated from Missouri University of Science and Technology with an M.S. in geotechnics.

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Beloved Children's Book Comes to Life on Stage

Local students acting in "Pippi Longstocking."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Children's classic comes to life when The City of Fairfax Theatre Company and Truro Anglican Church present "Pippi Longstocking: The Family Musical." It'll be held at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road in Fairfax.

Show times are Friday, July 18, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, July 19, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Friday, July 25, at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, July 26, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10, adults; \$5, children 12 and under, at the door or via www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org.

"It's a fun, upbeat story with pirates, clowns, stage combat, monkeys, a horse and an expanded circus element," said Director Matt Lanoue-Chapman. "And all these features should be a recipe for a really entertaining show."

As the audience arrives, there'll be clowns in the lobby, plus people doing card tricks, making balloon



Posing in character are (standing, from left) Lizzie Bayer, Sierra Hoffman, Owen Grannis, Sharon Petersen, Bella Lanoue-Chapman, Maggie Slivka and Judy Zakreski, and (kneeling) Lourdes Navarro.

animals and face painting. That way, said Lanoue-Chapman, a 1995 Chantilly High grad, "People will feel some of the circus energy

as they're coming in the door."

The story's about a little girl who's on her own after her mom dies and her pirate dad is shipwrecked. So she turns her community upside down, teaches people to have fun and brings a new spirit to the town.

The cast and crew of 60 have been rehearsing since May and are a mix of children and adults from throughout the area. "We're excited and we've been working hard," said Lanoue-Chapman. "It's slapstick in some places, so kids had to work on their comedic timing. They've also learned all the choreography and stage combat, so a lot's being asked of this group, but they're having a good time with it."

"We have a really dynamic set showing Pippi's house, a circus tent, pirate ship, tea party and classrooms, with lots of scene changes," he continued. "Chantilly High senior Mia Rickenbach designed it and Centreville High grad Nick DeMello built it, and the audience will be as impressed with the great set as they are with the singing and acting."

Pippi's a strong female heroine, so the costumes will be vibrant and colorful, with different colors representing particular groups within her world.

Choreographer Erik Sampson created the show's 14 dance numbers, and all but three are ensembles. "It's very energetic, and

we're pushing the envelope with the level of dance we're introducing to the kids," he said. "[Having so many dances] presents a neat opportunity for the ensemble kids to be more involved in the show than they'd be otherwise."

Added Lanoue-Chapman: "It's a really fun, visual experience, with creative lighting and unusual movements."

"I made some of the choreography more abstract than Broadway," said Sampson. "And I'm bringing the dancers into the audience, and changing how they move, to make the audience feel like they're actually part of the story and make it come alive for them."

"In every scene, there's something funny or surprising happening," said Lanoue-Chapman. "And the numbers are zany and built around Pippi's wild energy and idea of having fun all the time."

"This show touches all the emotions," said Sampson. "It's about building family and friendships and asks if the norm is necessarily the best."

Portraying Pippi on alternate weekends are Bull Run Elementary fifth-grader Maggie Slivka and Lanoue-Chapman's daughter, Bella, 11. "Pippi's outspoken, unique and flat-out weird," said Maggie.

"There's no one controlling her so she doesn't jump off roofs. Her stories run away with her and she

has adventures people don't usually have. It's the biggest role I've ever gotten and I'm happy to play it. I really like theater, and playing the lead is a dream-come-true."

Maggie's favorite song is "Strongest Girl in the World," which she sings, because "the choreography's awesome and it describes Pippi's freakishly strong powers." With so much talent onstage, she said, the show will amaze the audience with what such young actors can do.

Bella said Pippi doesn't allow herself to be sad. "Instead, she tells stories to make herself and other people happy," said Bella. "I like that she's funny and a sneaky prankster, if someone's after her. In the song, 'Call Me Pippi,' she tells everyone who she is, the things she likes and does, and about her family."

The audience will like the show's humor, said Bella. "It's a children's musical, but adults will love it, too," she said.

"There are jokes for the adults, and the kids will laugh at how funny Pippi is and how she out-smarts all the grownups."

Playing part of a horse is Poplar Tree Elementary sixth-grader Lizzie Bayer. "I like it a lot; it's fun to make the horse noises," she said. "The horse helps Pippi and is on her team. He's funny and waves with his foot; he also pets a monkey with his hoof."

The hardest part, said Lizzie, is "moving together with the other person inside the horse costume and knowing when to [whinny]." She said the audience will like all the costumes and "how fun the story and the whole show are."

Fairfax High sophomore Eva Petersen portrays bumbling police officer Constable Clang. Growing up, "Pippi Longstocking" was one of Petersen's favorite books because "Pippi's so independent and irreverent – and that appeals to kids because adults are always telling them what to do. This show's a nice, friendly way to introduce them to the theater, and the costumes are phenomenal – they look fantastic."

Classmate Sierra Hoffman plays a kleptomaniac tea guest. "Throughout the tea party, I grab things and stuff them in my purse," she said. "And at the end, Pippi smears cream cake over all the guests' faces." Overall, said Hoffman, "This show has something for everyone – action, a circus, proper schoolchildren, crazy Pippi, cops and robbers, and pirates."



Bella Lanoue-Chapman (left) and Maggie Slivka both play the strong and fearless Pippi Longstocking.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Brother's Brother Celebrates One Year in Fairfax

Charity uses local resources, volunteers to reach overseas.

By ALEXIS HOSTICKA
THE CONNECTION

With a mission to serve overseas, Brother's Brother Foundation is utilizing Fairfax and the D.C. area as a second home-base for its operations.

Brother's Brother Foundation is originally based in Pittsburgh and opened its Fairfax location in May 2013. On July 26 from noon-2 p.m., they are celebrating over a year of success with an open house at the warehouse featuring a keynote speaker, a cake cutting and heavy hors d'oeuvres

According to Debbie Baucom, National Capital Area Office Co-Director, the event is open to the public and she invites anyone interested in finding out more about or getting involved in the work that Brother's Brother does.

Brother's Brother is non-profit organization founded in 1958 that sends medical and educational supplies overseas to countries and people in need. The organization works primarily by collecting supplies that hospitals can no longer use or no longer need.

"Supplies comes to us and there can be very good stuff that comes to us and items that were parts of kits or surgical packs," Brother's Brother president Luke Hingson said. "Or you have hospitals that are donating wheelchairs or IV poles and part of the reason for that is that they want to stan-



Regular volunteers Jack Murphy and Gene Barksdale help process medical supplies at the Brother's Brother Foundation warehouse.



Amy Hammer, a Brother's Brother Foundation Advisory Board member, helps plan fundraising events for the organization.

dardize."

Another reason that Hingson pointed out that hospitals can no longer use perfectly good equipment is new weight capacities for U.S. hospitals. This type of equipment is great for Brother's Brother.

"For example they could give a wheelchair to us because it could hold 200 pounds but now they need to be able to handle a larger person, but it's not worn out, it just doesn't have the right capacity," Hingson said.

To collect, sort, organize, and pack the equipment from various locations, Brother's Brother uses the help of many volunteers.

"We need lots of volunteers," Baucom said. "We often get mixed supplies from hospitals. We have a big truck and it will all be mixed up and our volunteers will go through these boxes of supplies and rebox them with like items."

Much of what Brother's Brother receives is operating room packs. These packs often come with pieces missing or with pieces not compiled and hundreds of items must be sorted through. Ruth Anderson, National Capital Area Office Co-Director, said there are also volunteer opportunities in a more managerial way.

"There are people who help with publicity and management and event planning," Anderson said. "We love when volunteers join our event planning teams. (Volunteering with Brother's Brother) supports this global mission that we have whether it's an event planner or sorting medical supplies, it all supports the mission."

Anyone interested in helping Brother's Brother in some way can contact Anderson directly at randerson@brothersbrother.org.

"We couldn't function without our volunteers. They are the backbone of the organization," said Dr. Barry Byer, a board and trustee member for Brother's Brother. "We need them to provide the manpower to do the sorting inventory and packing at the warehouse. We love them and they mean so much to the organization."

Byer became a part of Brother's Brother after being a part of Cross Link, a smaller organization in the D.C. area that did similar work. When Brother's Brother started the new location in Fairfax, it took over Cross Link to create a bigger and even more

effective organization.

In addition to helping with work state-side, Byer is a physician and travels overseas to do hands-on medical work with his team.

"With the supplies and equipment [Brother's Brother] provides we're able to do surgeries, some of which are life changing," Byer said. "My team has done cleft lips and palates. We've been doing children with crossed eyes who are a year to three or four years and they come in with their eyes crossed and the surgery takes 30 minutes and they leave with their eyes straight. That isn't life saving but it sure is life changing."

Byer takes two or three trips a year to Honduras and has been doing so for about 15 years. Through those many years and surgeries, Byer has an image that always stayed with him.

"What has stuck with me is that you have the mother coming in holding the child; the mother is very concerned and the child is just looking around the room," Byer said. "And after the surgery the mother sees [her] child's eyes and the child is typically crying but their eyes are straight. But the mother is beaming, she is elated. From those mothers we get these thank you's over and over and how much they appreciate us."

Visit the Brother's Brother Foundation website at www.brothersbrother.org for more information about the organization.

Addressing Suspensions

FROM PAGE 5

Ted Velkoff, member at large.

"School boards are going to be looking at ways to respond positively to students without doing zero tolerance," he said.

Electronic cigarettes and hookah pens were also added to be classified as tobacco

products under the updated handbook.

A motion was also approved that requires data to be collected regarding in-school and out-of-school suspension, as well as the number of those students not suspended, out of the total number of referrals to the superintendent for discipline infractions, to be reported each semester.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to centreview@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.

SUMMER MEALS FOR CHILDREN

Fairfax County Public Schools will participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's summer food service program for children who qualify for free and reduced lunches during the school year. Free meals that meet federal nutrition guidelines will be provided to children at approved sites throughout Fairfax County. To find a location, contact the FCPS

Office of Food and Nutrition Services at 703-813-4800.

SCAM ALERT

Scammers, identifying themselves as deputy sheriffs, are calling residents of Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax and the Towns of Herndon and Vienna, threatening that they will be arrested unless they purchase a money card, or wire money through Western Union. The Sheriff's Office is in no way associated with this scam. Sheriff's deputies will not call to ask individuals for money nor threaten arrest. Hang up immediately on threatening phone calls related to jury duty or tax payments. Do not give out personal information and

regularly monitor all accounts and always use strong passwords. To confirm a jury duty summons, contact the Circuit Court jury duty clerk at 703-246-7816 (press 0). For information about tax scams, visit the IRS consumer alerts page, www.irs.gov/uac/Tax-Scams-Consumer-Alerts.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Residents can now "e-cycle" at the I-66 transfer station. It is free but residents may be asked to show proof of residency. Personal waste only. The I-66 station is located at 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax and open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. from Monday-Saturday and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sundays.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 10

Rental Choice VA. 1:30-2:30 p.m. or 7-8 p.m. at the Pennino Building, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Room 324, Fairfax. A meeting to discuss the pros and cons of giving someone with an intellectual or developmental disability who lives in a Medicaid ID Waiver group home or nursing facility an opportunity to move to safe, affordable rental housing they can lease on their own or with a friend. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/services/rental-choice-va.htm for more. Please

RSVP to jcumml1@fairfaxcounty.gov.
Civil War Lecture. 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. "Battle of Cold Harbor, June 1864," by author and historian Robert Dunkerly. Call 703-830-2223 for more.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English with other students. Call 703-502-3883.

SATURDAY/JULY 12

ESL Book Club. 11 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Adults learning

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 13

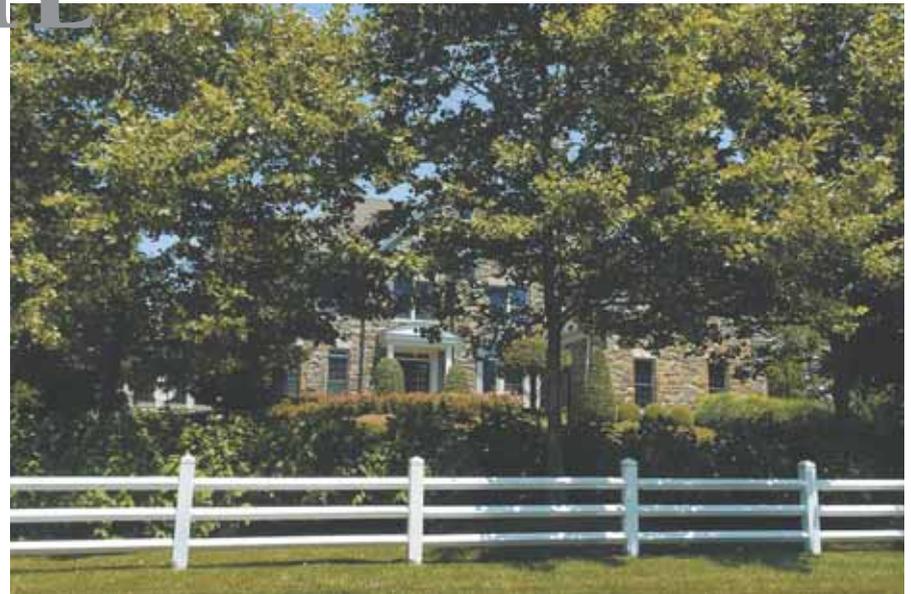
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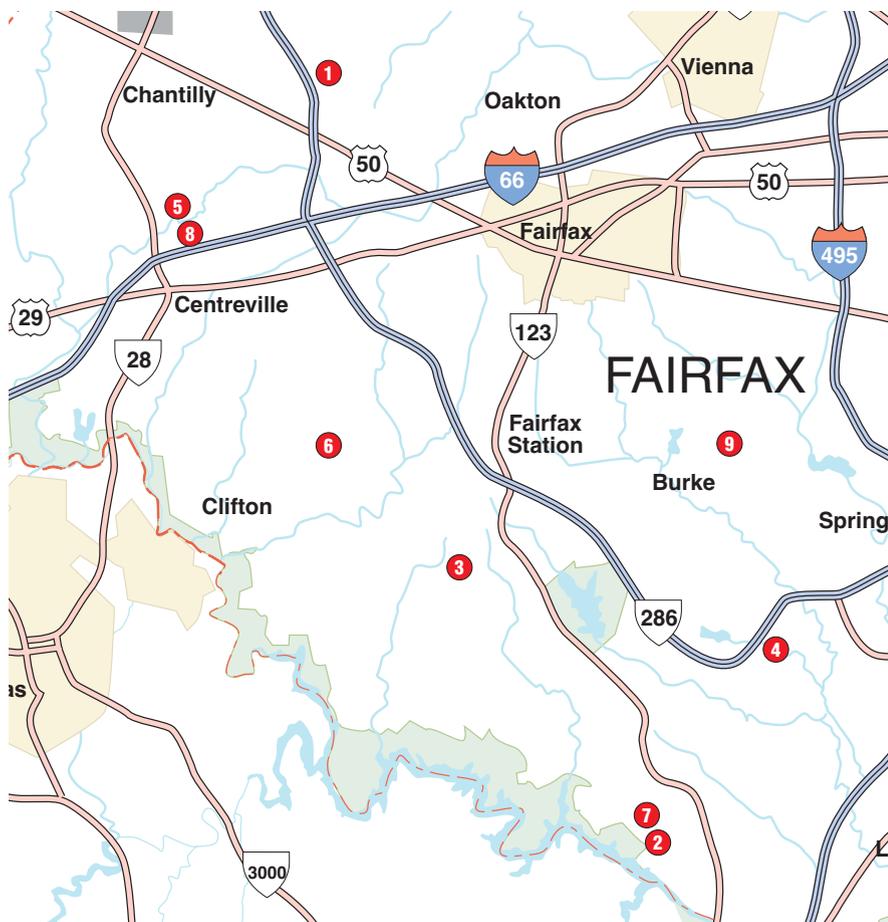
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A New Work Order

Local designers help create organized and stylish home offices.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Whether it's a nook, in the kitchen or a designated room, a home office is the place where ideas come to life. Local designers dish about the secrets to creating a workspace that is organized and functional yet stylish.

"You're going to spend a lot of time in it so aesthetics do matter," said Patricia Tetro of BOWA Builders Inc., in McLean.

Thinking about how a space will be used is the first step in the design process. "An office is as unique as a person," said interior designer Julie Sproules of the Art Institute of Washington in Arlington. "Each person has a different way of working and therefore a different set of needs. If you are working from home, you'll be spending a lot more time there than if you are using it to keep the household paperwork in order."

There are a series of questions that one might consider: "How will you use the office? Is it just for you? Do others come in and meet with you? Do you tend to do most of your work on the computer?" asks Tetro. "Do you do things by Skype? If so, the placement of the computer becomes more critical."

Storage and the placement of it is one of the most important home office design decisions. "Where do you want to keep things?" asks Tetro. "When sitting in a chair, do you need to have your entire realm within arm's reach?"

Getting creative with storage supplies is a technique that Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors in Chantilly, uses to avoid compromising style for order. "A floating shelf will help to keep a clean look, but have it organized," she said. "You can also get decorative boxes in a variety of colors."

Sproules uses labeled storage bins to create home office space that has a place for everything. "There are a million different kinds out there, from wood to rattan to linen," she said. "Get a bookshelf that you can fit the bins in. ... Leave some room ... for a filing binder and books, but anything small should go in a bin. This way you can just throw all the markers, yarn, buttons and [other miscellaneous items] into their bin and not have to worry about them being misplaced."

Don't forget to save a space for smart phones and tablets. "You might need charging spaces with electrical outlets that are easily accessible," said Tetro.

GET CREATIVE when selecting a desk to add interest and express your personal style. "You can use an old writing table, side table or console table to use with a nice parsons chair," said Kjos. "This makes more inviting space that is decorative but functional."

Choose seating that incorporates style and comfort. "This doesn't have to mean a task chair," said Sproules. "Task chairs are great if you're sitting in them many hours a day, and there are some attractive options, but I prefer ... a small lounge chair to give it more of a homey feel. Just make sure it can be pushed under the desk or table when not in use. ... I have even used small metal side chairs or stools like an old classroom."

A person's occupation and work style should be considered. "Stools are especially great if you get up and move a lot as a part of your working routine,"



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREY HUNT INTERIORS

Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors created a home office for herself in the corner of her kitchen. She personalized it by adding plants and family photos.

said Sproules. "You can swivel from one side of the table to another and being on a bar-height stool means you're more likely to get up and walk around routinely. If you do choose a bar-height stool, make sure your desk or table is either height-adjustable or standing-height."

Proper lighting is another key component of a well-designed home office. "Consider overhead lighting" said Goldstein. "[It] will not take up space like a lamp. You can run an eight-foot [lighting] track though the middle of the room and turn the lights toward the desk."

Incorporate more than one lighting source into a room's design.

"This helps you modulate the light for the task that you're doing," said Sproules. "You should have one general light: an overhead light or a floor lamp that ... provides general, diffused light and a task light for more focused work," such as a small, adjustable lamp with dimming capabilities.

ROOM DESIGN should reflect one's profession and personal needs. "Are you dealing with paperwork, mail and working on the computer, or would you be better off with a set up that is more like an artist's studio, with a clean table for 'making' and another area for the 'office' side of things [with a] bookshelf, table and storage?" asked Sproules. "How many hours a day or week to you plan on being in that space?"

Sproules believes that one's occupation can be a source of design inspiration. "As an interior designer, I have an excessive collection of pens and markers that are organized in small boxes along a wall, like an art store," she said. "It's a nice way to personalize the space with your specific type of work without having it get too messy. And there's always a pen when I need one."

"There is one accessory that no home office should be without," said Sproules. "Everyone needs a tack board," she said. "If you're more of the artistic type, use cork board tiles. They come in all sorts of colors, and you can paint them too. [You can] cover a whole wall or a large section to use as an inspiration board. If not, you should still tack up images that you find inspiring, or at least peaceful."

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World Cup Fever

Area soccer coaches, players share
2014 World Cup viewing experiences.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Even on his wedding day, Robinson boys' soccer coach Robert Garza couldn't escape World Cup fever.

Garza married his wife, Jennifer, on June 21 at the Hendry House at Fort C.F. Smith in Arlington. During that Saturday in Northern Virginia, Garza and a group that included his best man, West Potomac boys' soccer coach Andrew Peck, watched the Ghana-Germany match in the groom's suite. Later, when the group was taking pictures, Peck had the match streaming on his cell phone.

What was Jennifer's reaction?

"She laughed when she found out," Garza wrote in a twitter message. "She married a soccer coach."

Garza is among the local residents who have closely followed the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

As the competition nears an end, soccer coaches and players from Northern Virginia shared their memorable experiences from the month-long event, and their predictions on who would emerge victorious from the tournament's final four teams: Brazil, Germany, Argentina, and the Netherlands.

Garza wasn't the only one making an effort to watch the World Cup. Oakton boys' coach Todd Spitalny, who owns a kitchen and bath company in Manassas, said he had DirecTV installed in his office specifically to watch the World Cup.

South Lakes girls' coach Mike Astudillo took in some of the action at Reston Town Center, and Lucas Belanger, a 2013 Mount Vernon High School graduate and rising sophomore goalkeeper at American University, watched the United States matches at National Harbor in Washington. T.C. Williams rising senior Eryk Williamson downloaded an app on his phone to receive live updates if he wasn't able to watch.

Laila Gray, a 2014 Chantilly High School graduate and rising freshman on the Virginia Tech women's soccer team, said watching others on the pitch can help improve one's ability.

"Watching soccer is so important if you want to become a better soccer player," Gray wrote in an email. "It builds your soccer IQ, creativity and love for the game."

Along with following the action at home — and on a cell phone during his wedding day — Garza, a 1991 Hayfield graduate, has watched the World Cup at the Bungalow and Lucky's Sports Theatre in Kingstowne.

"The atmosphere has been phenomenal," Garza wrote, "with so many fans coming out to watch."

Much excitement centered around the performance of the United States men's national team, which competed against Ghana, Portugal, and Germany in Group



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO
Robert Garza

G, nicknamed the "Group of Death." The U.S. emerged from group play with a 1-1-1 record, including a 2-1 victory over Ghana on June 16, and advanced by virtue of a goal-differential tiebreaker over Portugal. The United States' World

Cup appearance ended on July 1 with a 2-1 loss to Belgium in extra time in the round of 16.

"Like we all should, I've been supporting the U.S.," Joe McCreary, a 2014 Yorktown graduate and rising freshman on the James Madison University men's soccer team, wrote in an email. "I think soccer in America the next four years is on the rise after team USA advanced from the group of death."

In four matches, the U.S. produced some memorable — and forgettable — moments. Against Ghana, Clint Dempsey scored the United States' first goal in the opening minute. John Brooks scored the winner in the 86th minute.

In the United States' second group match, an early defensive miscue led to a 1-0 deficit in the fifth minute against Portugal. The U.S. battled back to take a 2-1 lead, only to allow the tying goal in the final minute of stoppage time.

The USMNT lost to Germany 1-0 in its final group match, but advanced via tiebreaker.

While the USMNT fell short against Belgium in the round of 16, goalkeeper Tim Howard produced a record 16 saves, holding Belgium scoreless until the 93rd minute.

Garza, who has coached at Robinson for two seasons after spending nine years at Mount Vernon, said while the performance of the USMNT gives fans hope for the future, he wishes the team had taken a more aggressive approach.

"I wish [head coach] Jurgen Klinsmann would have taken a more attacking approach this World Cup," Garza wrote. "I was a little disappointed that he changed his philosophy after [forward Jozy]

Altidore went down [with an injury]. It looked like he had no substitute for him and his decision to sit back a lot was very disappointing — especially against Belgium when he started with three forwards. He did however, give us hope for 2018.

"One thing I really did enjoy was seeing so many US fans coming together — letting the world know soccer is here to stay in the U.S."

It wasn't just the USMNT or its players generating interest, however.

Washington-Lee rising junior Maycol Nunez scored 37 goals in 2014 and helped the Generals advance to the Group 6A Virginia state final. Nunez lived in Honduras before moving to the United States four years ago at the age of 12.

He cheers for his native country during the World Cup, along with Belgium and Argentina.

Honduras finished last in Group E with a 0-3 record, scoring its lone goal in a 2-1 loss to Ecuador on June 20, but that hasn't stopped Nunez from enjoying the experience.

"Honduras is probably one of worst teams in the World Cup, but the fact that they are there means a lot," Nunez wrote.

"... Honduras [scoring] their first and only goal in the World Cup against Ecuador has been definitely one of my favorite moments in this World Cup so far. ... Words cannot describe what watching Honduras in the World Cup means to me. It's just such an amazing feeling that I can't even describe."

Astudillo, who has coached the South Lakes girls' team the last two

seasons and used to coach at Chantilly, has extended family from Colombia. Along with cheering for the U.S., Astudillo followed the Colombian team that won Group C with a 3-0 record, and defeated Uruguay 2-0 in the round of 16 before falling to Brazil 2-1 in the quarterfinals.

"Best tournament in our history," Astudillo wrote. "[I'm] so proud and we have so many young players. Look out Russia 2018!"

Williamson, who led T.C. Williams to the 2014 Group 6A Virginia state championship, said he is a passionate supporter of host Brazil, though he also cheers for the U.S.

"I'm a huge Brazil fan," Williamson wrote. "I just love the way they play. However, growing up I always used to cheer

for France. Now that they've been knocked out, I've been all about Brazil. ... Both of my parents are American so, at heart, I cheer for the U.S."

Belanger was a goalkeeper on Mount Vernon's 2013 state championship team. He made a pair of key saves during the Majors' penalty-kick shootout victory against Cosby in the state final.

Belanger said he has enjoyed watching goalkeepers perform during the World Cup.

"I have always been a huge U.S. fan, even though they have been disappointing up until this World Cup, but I've also been rooting for a few individual players (mostly goalkeepers) such as Gianluigi Buffon for Italy and Thibaut Courtois for Belgium," Belanger wrote. "Being a goalkeeper myself, I have learned to appreciate the difficulty [of] some of the saves they make, and I always enjoy watching a goalkeeper have a great game."

"... I always love watching penalty-kick shootouts, but I have enjoyed watching all the games where the goalkeepers performed well, like Costa Rica, Nigeria, and especially the United States."

The semifinals had yet to be played when coaches and players were interviewed. The first semifinal match, Germany versus Brazil, was played Tuesday. The Netherlands and Argentina faced one another Wednesday. The majority said Germany would win it all. Williamson said Brazil would have a tough time getting past Germany in the semifinals without star forward Neymar (back injury) and captain Thiago Silva (cards).

Nunez picked Argentina to win "because they have Messi and the other teams don't."

Astudillo had far less praise for the Argentine star.

"I know I sound like a hater, but I'm not a Lionel Messi fan," Astudillo wrote. "I grew up watching Diego Armando Maradona single-handedly carry [Argentina] to a World Cup championship in Mexico in 1986. Teams would triple team him because he had zero help on that squad, but it didn't matter. He always found a way to make those around him better. If Lio can't deliver a World Cup to his native Argentina, I think we should hold off on considering him one of the greatest ever."

The championship match is scheduled for Sunday, July 13, providing the final opportunity for a memorable World Cup viewing experience.

"This World Cup, we saw so many come together — friends, family, strangers — all to see the world play," Garza wrote. "Compared to previous years, this World Cup has been huge. Every U.S. game I have watched with family and friends and fellow coaching colleagues from the high school ranks. Each time, we easily took up quite a few tables, getting to the pubs quite early to secure space."

"Watching soccer is so important if you want to become a better soccer player. It builds your soccer IQ, creativity and love for the game."

— Laila Gray, a 2014 Chantilly High School graduate and rising freshman on the Virginia Tech women's soccer team

PEOPLE

RRMS Science Team Wins Grant

A team of four seventh graders from Rocky Run Middle School in Chantilly — Ravi Dudhagra, Diego Gutierrez, Rishabh Krishnan, and Adityasai Koneru — won a STEM-in-Action grant worth up to \$5,000 in the U.S. Army Educational Outreach Program's eCYBERMISSION (<http://www.ecybermission.com>) competition.

The team, named CyberRams and advised by Diego's father Felipe Gutierrez, was one of only 20 teams in the nation that competed in the eCYBERMISSION finals the week of June 16 at the National Conference Center in Leesburg, out of more than 4,400 teams that entered.

The online collaborative learning competition, administered by the National Science Teachers Association, cultivates student interest in science, technology, engineering and math by encouraging sixth through ninth-graders to develop solutions to real-world challenges in their communities.

The team is working to address the problem of noise-induced hearing loss, an irreversible problem that is increasingly seen in young people. It created a prototype mobile computer program, Decibel mApp, which uses GPS technology to provide the user with a map showing decibel levels the user experienced at different locations during the day.

To learn more about noise-induced hearing loss, the team consulted with Dr. Vicki Owczarzak, a pediatric otolaryngologist with Otolaryngologist Associates, P.C. in Fairfax County; Dr. Michael Ardaiz, Chief Medical Officer for the U.S. Department of Energy, and experts at the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders.

To understand issues relating to GIS, computer programming and mobile platforms,



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

CyberRams presenting at the eCYBERMISSION National Showcase are, from left, Adityasai Koneru, Ravi Dudhagra, Diego Gutierrez and Rishabh Krishnan.

the team consulted with Meera Chattaraman, a lead engineer at a cybersecurity company in Herndon and Ramesh Balakrishnan, a lead engineer at Dropbox.

The CyberRams were awarded a STEM-in-Action grant because their implementation plans were deemed to provide the greatest possible impact within their community. With the grant funding, the team intends to bring their final app to market in one year.

The CyberRams earned their place in the finals by being named Seventh Grade Virginia State Winners and Seventh Grade Regional Finalists, earning each team member \$3,000 for their wins.

At the eCYBERMISSION finals week, the teams participated in such STEM challenges as designing a parachute system for a sonobuoy, like those used to search for the missing Malaysian Airlines plane; testing and analyzing food packaging structures that can be used for Mars missions; manufacturing items on 3-D printers; collecting and analyzing DNA; and designing a signaling device only visible with night vision goggles.

Students who would like to enter next year's free eCYBERMISSION competition can get more information at www.ecybermission.com.

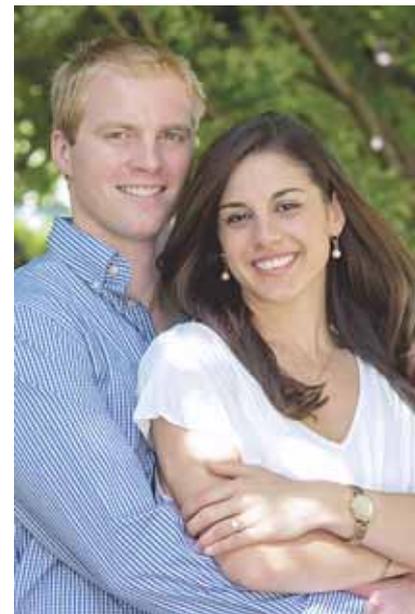


PHOTO BY JOHN BRINDLE

Brittany Elizabeth Hurst and Thomas Barrick Mitchell

Hurst, Mitchell Engaged

Dr. and Mrs. James Marshall Hurst of Chantilly announce the engagement of their daughter, Brittany Elizabeth Hurst, to Thomas Barrick Mitchell, son of Dr. and Mrs. John David Mitchell of Centreville.

Future bride and groom are high school sweethearts and graduated from Westfield High School in Chantilly.

The future bride graduated from Virginia Tech in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in apparel housing and resource management. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Science in occupational therapy at Jefferson College of Health Sciences in Roanoke.

The future groom graduated from Virginia Tech in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering. He is employed as an applications engineer at Altec Industries in Daleville, Va.

An August 2014 wedding is planned and the couple will live in Roanoke.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

English meet to discuss a book chosen by the group. Call 703-502-3883.

English Conversation Group. 3:30 p.m. at the Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Practice English with other students. Call 703-502-3883.

MONDAY/JULY 14

ESL Book Club. 7 p.m. at the Centreville Regional

Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive. Adults learning English meet to discuss a book chosen by the group. Call 703-830-2223.

JULY 14-AUG. 1

Volunteer Opportunity for Centreville HS Community. July 14 - Aug. 1 at local elementary schools. Volunteer through The STEMbassadors Team for Centreville High School community as a teacher's aide or as a

mentor to young children. Volunteers are accepted during various weekdays to accommodate student schedules. Email stembassadors@tjhsst.edu to get involved and indicate the preferred school to help.

TUESDAY/JULY 15

English Conversation Group. 10:30 a.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Practice English. Call 703-502-3883.

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It's Time to Think Football!

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This is a **non-contact** camp for players of all skill levels between ages 9-14.

Interested participants from clubs outside of CYA are also welcome!

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ROUNDUPS

Not That I'll Ever Be Out, But...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"Just when I thought I was out...they pull me back in." Although this quote is from Michael Corleone from "The Godfather: Part III," it very much characterizes my daily struggle being a terminal cancer patient; non small cell lung cancer, NSCLC, is like that, almost always. Even though I don't want to think about the fact that I have cancer, or not let it affect my judgment on life – or perspective; or let it impede my path to a happier existence, more often than not, it does.

Not that I'm morose or depressed or a dismal Jimmy, I am however, as Curly Howard of The Three Stooges so regularly said: "I'm a victim of soycumstance." And not that I dwell on having lung cancer either; it is what it is, and of course, I am extremely happy to still be alive. Nevertheless, having lived post-diagnosis now for five years and nearly four months, (after initially being given a "13 month to two year" prognosis by my oncologist), doesn't necessarily make my circumstances any easier.

I won't bore you with the details, both mentally or physically, facing cancer patients as they/we endure a rather difficult set of challenges. Suffice it to say, there are good days and bad days – and many in the middle, to be honest. I've been fortunate to have many more good days than bad. And it's those good days that we try to hang on to and harness somehow when the inevitable bad days begin to overwhelm. And as often as I try to compartmentalize the cancer effect, it still manages to rear its ugly head: consciously, subconsciously, literally, figuratively, generally, specifically; and/or any other word or phrase you can imagine. As much as I don't want to feel its effect, emotionally I do.

Practically speaking then, how do I forget that I have cancer? How do I control the uncontrollable? Given my daily routine of pills, supplements, special drinks, food choices and lifestyle changes and alone time, how do I not let the fact that I have an incurable form of cancer dominate how I live and breathe; especially when my breathing is often compromised and my life is one continual set of immune-system boosting, anti-cancer activities and behaviors? Believe me, it's not easier written that it is said and certainly neither is its doing. And it certainly beats the alternative, if you know what I mean? However, it is something that I am mostly able to do. I give myself a "B," because I'm able to remain/"B" positive.

But, and it's a huge but, to say the process is not one gigantic emotional ball and chain would be denying the very reality in which I'm immersed 24 hours a day. Still, how much additional good would it serve to focus on it more exclusively than I presently do? However, if I don't focus on it, perhaps I don't consistently do the things that I need to do to stay alive and maintain the reasonably good health with which I've been blessed. As much as I'd like to be "out," I'd just as soon not have the cancer "pull me back in" every single day.

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

FROM PAGE 3

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.

Food Donations For WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry urgently needs donations of canned vegetables (no green beans), vegetable oil; dry pasta, flour, canned fruit and meat, white or brown rice (1- or 2-lb. bags), cold cereal, pancake mix, powdered and evaporated milk. Also needed are toilet paper, diapers, shampoo and baby wipes. (WFCM clients cannot purchase toiletries with food stamps).

Bring all items to WFCM'S food pantry, weekdays, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at 13888 Metrotech Drive, near Papa John's Pizza and Kumon Learning Center, in Chantilly's Sully Place Shopping Center.

Thrift-store needs include spring and summer clothing, quality shoes and like-new houseware. The store is at 13939 Metrotech Drive. In addition, food-pantry volunteers are needed Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. Contact Annette Bosley at 703-988-9656, ext. 110, or abosley@wfcma.org.

Citizens Police Academy

People interested in law enforcement and who'd like to learn about the Fairfax County Police Department and meet many of those who serve in it may now do so. They may apply to join the Sept. 11-Nov. 15 session of the Citizens Police Academy. It's a free, 10-week program put on by the Police Department and is open to people who live or work in this county.

Participants complete some 40 hours of learning to gain a better understanding of and appreciation for police via a combination of lectures, tours and hands-on activi-

CRIME REPORT

The following incidents were reported by the Sully District Police Station.

BURGLARY, 14700 block of Pan Am Avenue, July 6. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

ROBBERY, Sunset Ridge/ Little Rocky Run Court, June 30. A 17-year-old male and a 16-year-old girl were approached by four to five teenage males while walking along the sidewalk. One suspect struck the male victim, knocking him to the ground. The other suspects then struck the victim and took property from him. The female victim ran away. Neither victim required medical treatment.

BURGLARY OF OCCUPIED DWELLING, 14900 block of Rydell Road, July 1. Residents in the home were awakened by a man inside a room. The suspect fled and jumped off the balcony when the residents challenged him. Cash was taken from the home. The suspect could only be described as white, about 5 feet 8 inches tall and 135 pounds.

ASSAULT ON POLICE/DWI, 5900 block of Fort Drive, June 28, 12:48 a.m. A police officer performed a traffic stop on a speeding vehicle and subsequently arrested the driver for driving while

intoxicated. The driver resisted arrest and assaulted the arresting officers, who then employed the conductive electrical device to gain compliance. The drive was charged with assault on police, DWI and possessing an open container of alcohol.

BURGLARY, 14000 block of Pittman Court, June 29. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

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

Long-Term Care Advocates

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities. Training is provided in March. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Give Caregivers A Break

Fairfax County needs Respite Care volunteers throughout the county to give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Volunteers are matched with families in or near their own neighborhoods. Support and training provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

How to Help The CLRC

The Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) needs volunteers to lead vocational training workshops to increase the work-

ers' job skills. A Wednesday morning ESOL instructor is also needed; contact Molly Maddra at coordinator@centrevilleLRC.org.

In addition, end-of-year contributions to CLRC may be made at www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org. The organization is supported totally by grants and donations; it receives no government funding.

Drive Seniors

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults or email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Trainer Needed

The Sully Senior Center, at 5690 Sully Road in Centreville, needs a certified personal trainer – preferably, one with experience working with older adults – for one hour, two days a week. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Women's Self Defense Program

The Fairfax County Law Enforcement Foundation is partnering with the Fairfax County Police Department to offer the Women's Self Defense Training program. It's based on the SAFE program formerly provided by the Police Department, but now being taught by C&J Security Corp.

The program is a two-day class that will meet on consecutive Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:15-9:30 p.m. It's currently offered free and all class materials are included. Program funding is provided through the Fairfax County Law Enforcement Foundation.

The course is offered to females, age 13 and older. A female guardian must accompany girls 13-18. No men other than the instructors are permitted to be present during a class. Call 703-246-7806, e-mail WSD@fairfaxfoundation.org or go to www.fairfaxfoundation.org.

5100 block of Westfields Boulevard, liquor from business

14800 block of Basingstoke Loop, bicycle from location

7300 block of Bull Run Post Office Road, property from business

14300 block of Chantilly Crossing Lane, purse from location

14500 block of Lake Central Drive, purse from vehicle

6000 block of Saint Hubert Lane, property from vehicle

13600 block of Bent Tree, laptop computer from residence

4300 block of Chantilly Shopping Center, purse from business

Lee Highway/Stone Road, cash from business

5600 block of Rocky Run Drive, money from residence

STOLEN VEHICLES

6800 block of Drifton Court, 2008 Chevy Suburban

14100 block of Red River Drive, 2004 Toyota Tundra

13300 block of Caswell Court, Honda Civic.

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

Art Gallery: Panolia. Through Aug. 2. 7 p.m.-midnight. at Epicure Cafe, 11104 Lee Highway, Fairfax. A collection of paintings and mixed media work by local artists, curated by The Bunnyman Bridge Collective. Free admission, one item purchase required. Visit www.epicurecafe.org or www.facebook.com/TheBunnymanBridgeCollective.

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.

Evenings on the Ellipse Summer Concert Series. Thursdays through Aug. 28. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000

Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Rain or shine. Free. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/ellipse.htm> for more.

D-Day: Normandy 1944. at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. A movie about D-Day and those who gave their lives. Free. Visit www.si.edu/Imax/Movie/133.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

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. The musical theatre camp includes theatre games, improvisation, acting exercises, songs and dances and culminates with a show from musical comedy classics. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com for or call 703-488-6439. Space is limited.

Whodunit? Mystery Workshop and Performance. Monday-Friday, July 21-Aug. 1, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Center for the Arts, 9419 Battle St., Manassas. Teens and adults can hone their mystery skills at this performance camp. Register at www.center-for-the-arts.org or call 703-330-2787.

THURSDAY/JULY 10

Fairy Tale Writing Workshop. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional

Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Learn to write a fairy tale, for grades 3 and 4. Call 703-502-3883.

"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.

The End, Or Is It? Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Book discussion group. Call 703-502-3883.

FRIDAY/JULY 11

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.

Campfire Program. 8 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. The best stories are those told around a campfire with the fire blazing and the marshmallows toasted just right. \$6 for in county, \$8 for out of county. Call 703-631-0013 to sign up.

SATURDAY/JULY 12

Kaleidoscope Adaptive Storytime.

10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Stories, songs and movement in a welcoming atmosphere for children of all ages on the autism spectrum and with other developmental challenges. Call 703-502-3883.

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

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 12-13

WWII Weekend. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Veterans and active military will be admitted for free. \$8 adults, \$6 for children and seniors. Call 703-437-1794 for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JULY 12-26

Theater. Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. and Sundays, 2 p.m. at Westfield High School, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. "How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying." Tickets: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Seating is reserved. Visit www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com to buy tickets.

MONDAY/JULY 14

Read Yourself Silly with Flow Circus. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional

Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Juggling, magic and more recreates the circus for ages 6-12. Call 703-502-3883.

TUESDAY/JULY 15

Toddlin' Twos. 10:30 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.

"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.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Wear pajamas, bring stuffed animals or a blanket for storytime, for ages 3-5 with caregiver. Call 703-502-3883.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 16

"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.

THURSDAY/JULY 17

Fairy Tale Writing Workshop. 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Learn to write a fairy tale, for children in grades 3 and 4. Call 703-502-3883.

"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. "Explaining Apollo to a New Generation," Presented by Dr. Allan A. Needell. Meet at the nose of the SR-71 in the Boeing Aviation Hangar. Free. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/events/ask-an-expert/#hazy> for more.

Lego Block Party. 7 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Legos provided; come show off building skills. For children in grades 3-6. Call 703-502-3883.

U.S. Air Force Band. 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Summer Concert Series, "Celtic Celebration." Free. Visit www.usafband.af.mil, or call 202-767-5658.

FRIDAY/JULY 18

Ready for School Storytime. 2 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road. Early literacy storytime program for children ready to be on their own without caregivers or siblings. Age 4-5. Call 703-502-3883.

Professional Magician. 8:30 p.m. at The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Professional magician Max Major will perform. General Admission: \$40; VIP Seating: \$55. Contact Tracey Lucas at 202-638-0200 for more.

www.clinftonfilmfest.com for more. The www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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