

Extreme Recess Hockey

NEWS, PAGE 12

Capital defenseman Tomas Kundratek introduces himself to a sledder at the rink for the third annual Extreme Recess Hockey clinic at the Kettler Capitals Iceplex on Friday, Feb. 8.

Cost of Disclosure

NEWS, PAGE 3

County Lessons At Neighborhood College

NEWS, PAGE 4

W-L Repeats as Northern Region Gymnastics Champion

SPORTS, PAGE 19

Home Remodeling Projects Rebound

HOME LIFESTYLE, PAGE 9



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PEOPLE



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Artist name: Charlie McLenahan
Location: Morayshire, Scotland, United Kingdom
Image caption: I Sent Flowers, 2011. 23" x 33", digital photograph.

Artist Publishes 'Flowers in Art'

Cindy Ann Coldiron's latest book follows floral theme.

BY SENITRA T. MCCOMBS
THE CONNECTION

Arlington glass artist Cindy Ann Coldiron's new book, "Flowers In Art: Contemporary International Artist", is a collection of floral theme artwork from across the globe.

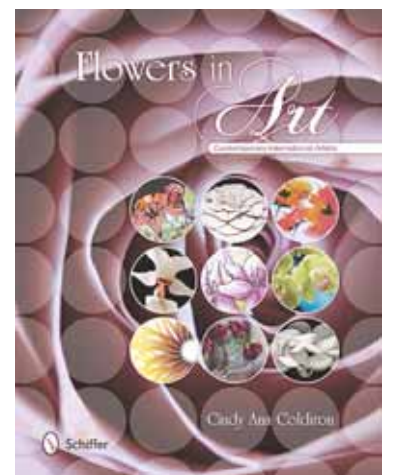
More than 50 well known, established and emerging artists/designers from the U.S., Canada and Ireland and elsewhere are showcased in the book including some local artists from Fairfax and Alexandria.

These local artists include Nadine Beth Schneider of Ashburn, Megan Coyle of Alexandria, Ning Fan of Fairfax and Lubna Zahid of Reston.

Zahid said she was humbled when Coldiron told him that she chose his art work to be in the book. And he was also amazed how her organizational and methodical nature helped to make everything easier.

"I paint flowers in watercolors and with silk dyes on silk. Both of these mediums give me an opportunity to catch a glimpse of their beauty in a delicate and fluid form," Zahid said.

Schneider also commented on the easiness of submitting her work and the joy of working with



Coldiron.

Schneider took some of her inspiration for her "Tree of Life" portrait from a scene in "Cinderella," her daughter's wedding bouquet and a tree outside her living room window.

She hopes readers will see what an intimate part flowers have in our everyday lives.

"Some of the most important events in our lives include flowers," she said.

"Flowers In Art" is divided into two sections. The first section contains the three dimensional work such as glass, ceramic, and wood and the second section contains the two dimensional work like "Pop Art and beautiful paintings."

"My goal for the book wasn't just to show pretty images. You know flowers can show so many emotions like sadness or humor," Coldiron said.

Coldiron's inspiration for "Flowers In Art" came from her love of

SEE LOCAL ARTIST, PAGE 5

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Cost of Disclosure

Arlington police charge for staff time to retrieve public information, large and small.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Want a booking photo in a high profile case? Prepare to pay \$24. Want to see a copy of a report clearing officers who killed an unarmed teenager? Arlington County Police officials won't release the document, and they'll send an invoice for \$31.16 to cover the half an hour of staff time to summarize the secret report. How about copies of all the Freedom of Information Act requests from a given year? Prepare to pay \$573.25.

"I've done some that are \$5.40," said Dave Dailey, commander of Internal Affairs at the Arlington County Police Department. "Every criminal incident summary is different because it depends on how in-depth the case is."

Unlike other police agencies in Northern Virginia, the Arlington County Police Department charges for staff time to access to public information, large and small. Alexandria officials hand over boxes of documents at no charge. And although Fairfax County is often reluctant to share public information, officials there have never charged for staff time for a six-line summary of a document they have decided to shield from the public view.

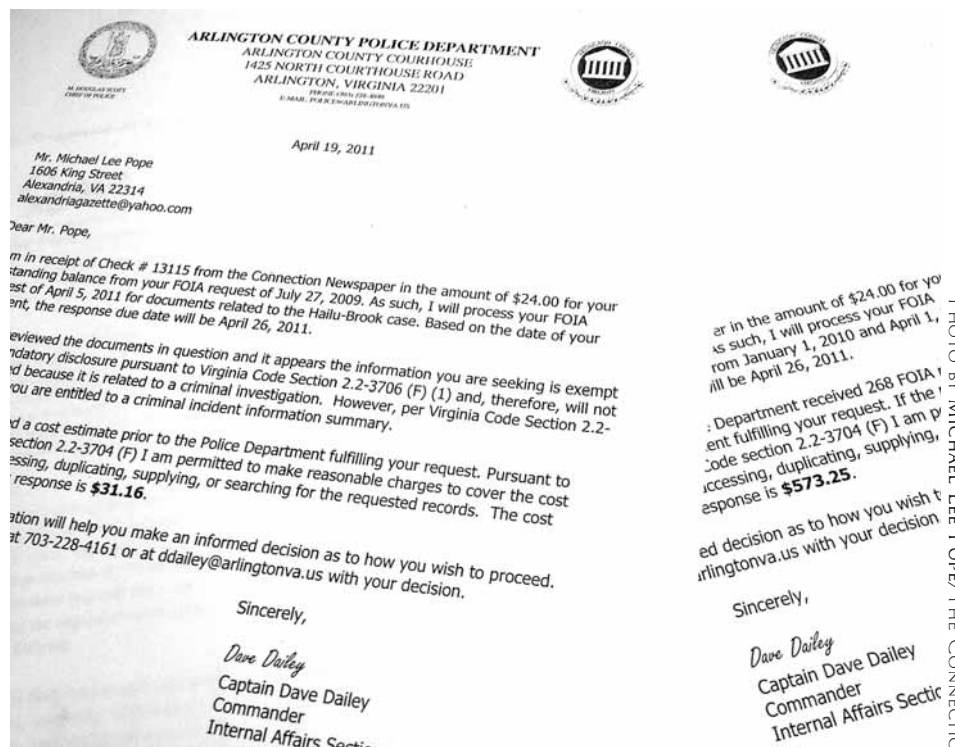
Arlington County has moved in a different direction.

Consider the case of 19-year-old Hailu Brook. Fairfax County police officers chased him into Arlington County. According to the autopsy, three Fairfax officers fired 20 to 25 rounds into the unarmed teenager. Arlington Police officials conducted an investigation, which they could release to the public and the slain teenager's father. But they have decided to use their authority under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to withhold the document from public scrutiny. They've also decided to use their discretion to issue an invoice to cover 30 minutes of staff time for the manpower required to summarize the secret document.

"As you can imagine, that's not a one-line police report," said Dailey. "It's not the amount of time to write, you have to research it, and you have to find the case folder, and you have to go through it, and you have to summarize it."

ACROSS VIRGINIA, very few details are available to the public about crime that happens every day. From petty larceny to murder, Virginia police officials routinely deny access to basic documents such as incident reports. In the case of Hailu Brook, his father Brook Beshah can't even get a copy of the investigation conducted by Arlington County officials detailing how Fairfax County police officers shot and killed his son — even though the case is closed.

"The refusal to provide access to closed investigative files in these kinds of circumstances creates a lack of trust in the



Unlike other police agencies in Northern Virginia, the Arlington County Police Department has a practice of charging for staff time associated with providing public information in a variety of cases. On the left is a cost estimate of \$31.16 for a six-line summary of a report police officials refuse to release. On the right is a cost estimate of \$573.25 for all the Freedom of Information Act requests the police department received in a year.

department," said Claire Guthrie Gastañaga, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia. "And I think police agencies ought to be concerned about that."

Last year, the Center for Public Integrity gave Virginia a failing grade for transparency because the public has such limited access to information. As part of a partnership with Global Integrity and Public Radio International, the State Integrity Investigation ranked and graded each of the 50 states on government accountability, transparency and corruption. Virginia got an F. Now advocates for open government say Arlington County's system of nickel-and-diming the

public and the press serves as a barrier to public access.

"Most do not charge for a simple one- or two-page copying task," said Ginger Stanley, executive director of the Virginia Press Association. "As more and more publications run multiple pages of mug shots, this is becoming an area where police and sheriff departments are starting to find ways to charge and slow down the process."

WHEN THE FORMER ALEXANDRIA chief of police was arrested for drunk driving in Arlington in 2009, the department received seven media inquiries for the booking photo. According to the former commander of the Internal Affairs Department, all seven organizations were sent an invoice of \$24. Only four of the news organizations were willing to pay the fee, creating a revenue stream of \$96 to the department for a jpeg image.

"The actual staff time to collect all the pertinent information related to this case was about 1-2 hours," wrote former Internal Affairs commander Patrick Donahue in an email explaining the charges. "However, in the interest of fairness, we did not want to 'punish' the first requester and charge only them and give the subsequent requesters free responses. So each response was billed the same amount."

Critics say that's not how the law works. The Virginia Freedom of Information Act gives Arlington the right to



THE ARLINGTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

When Alexandria Police Chief David Baker was arrested by Arlington officers for drunk driving in 2009, the Arlington County Police Department sent invoices for \$24 to seven news organizations.

charges for the "actual cost" of supplying the information. Because the actual cost of retrieving the information had already been paid by the first media organization, subsequent media organizations were billed in the name of fairness even though the charge did not reflect an "actual cost."

"That seems to me to be really pushing the limits of the law because it's supposed to be the actual cost," said Mark Caramanica, Freedom of Information director at Arlington-based Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. "If you went through the whole search and review process yesterday, then the next day — even if you find it inequitable to do so — you are bound by the law to charge only your actual costs."

ARLINGTON POLICE officials now say they have changed their practice for booking photos, and that they will now make them available free of charge. But they will continue to charge for staff time associated with tracking down public information. For example, a 2011 request for copies of all Freedom of Information Act requests over the course of a year was met with a cost estimate of \$573.25. When asked to explain the charge, Arlington police officials explained the amount was calculated by charging an hourly rate of \$57.35 for 10 hours of staff time.

"It should not take hours for a staff person to retrieve this," said Thomas Blanton, director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University. "They don't have to charge you fees. In fact, there's a little noticed provision in a lot of agencies' regulations that says if it will cause more work to correspond back and forth about your fee status than it would just to produce the material then you should just produce the material and not worry about the fees."

For now, the Arlington County Police Department is standing by its practice of charging for access to public information.

"Our goal is to be transparent, and to be transparent and be in compliance with the FOIA statute," said Dailey. "And I think we meet both of those goals."



Hailu Brook did not have a handgun when three Fairfax County officers fired 20 to 25 rounds at him, although the press release from the Arlington County Police Department said he did. Arlington Police Chief Douglas Scott later acknowledged that that press release was inaccurate, but he declined to release his department's investigation into the death of the unarmed teenager.

News

Neighborhood College Teaches How County Operates

Seeking to empower residents who could use the lessons most.

By MICHAEL MCMORROW
THE CONNECTION

Arlington County's "Neighborhood College" is: (A) Eight weeks of programs about Arlington government; (B) A means of "leveling the playing field" between residents in well-to-do neighborhoods and residents in less-well-to-do neighborhoods in Arlington; (C) A tool allowing members of Arlington civic groups to become more effective in community affairs; (D) An entry to "The Arlington Way"; or (E) All of the above.

The answer is "(E)."

Residents of many areas in Arlington are well-to-do, highly educated and experienced in business, the military and government. If a county service fails, such citizens know (or know how to find out) whom to contact to correct the situation. These people have little need for "Neighborhood College."

Arlington also has areas that are disadvantaged in terms of income, education and even culture. Residents do not know the full



Brown-Henry



McGonigle

range of county services. When an available benefit does not arrive, they lack knowledge of how to right the situation. Sometimes, they grew up fearful of all public officials and simply let the matter slide. These citizens are the intended audience for "Neighborhood College."

"If you do not know the many services and benefits available from the county or if you do not know how to gain access to those available services and benefits, then 'Neighborhood College' is for you," said Liz McGonigle, a graduate. She viewed enrollment as an extension of involvement with her East Falls Church Civic Association. Upon receiving the "graduation certificate" at a County Board Meeting, McGonigle reflected "It's too bad there is no 'Part II' in this program."

A dozen years ago, local officials recognized that certain clusters of neighbors in

Arlington lacked basic knowledge regarding county programs. It became clear that these geographic areas generally coincided with 11 "disadvantaged districts" identified for another purpose: to qualify for U. S. Housing and Urban Development block grants. On its own initiative and using only local resources, the Arlington County Board created "Neighborhood College."

Official notices describe the curriculum: "Participants will learn how various county departments operate and what services the county government provides, as well as gain and sharpen communication, coalition-building, and networking skills." They also state the goal in plain language: "(Participants) will become more effective community activists and leaders." The latter is converted into a suggestion: Participants should "commit to engage in at least 10 hours of volunteer work in Arlington County" before the end of 2013.

Asked why the program exists, Katie Brown-Henry, lead county staffer for Neighborhood College, explained that "citizen involvement and participation is basic policy in Arlington County. Neighborhood College opens the door for many who otherwise might not join in what some call 'the Arlington Way'."

Approximately 250 Arlingtonians have graduated from the program over the past dozen or so years. They have gone on to

Neighborhood College

Application deadline is March 4, 2013. Visit www.arlingtonva.us and search "Neighborhood College" for the application. Eight class sessions, take place Thursday evenings 6-9 p.m., April 4 through May 23. Class is limited to 25 participants. Dinner will be provided and childcare is available. Contacts are Marianne Liteman, 703-575-8152 and Katie Brown-Henry, 703-228-3819.

Neighborhood College is open to residents of the following areas: Buckingham, Columbia Heights, West, Pike Village Center, Nauck, Arlington View, Long Branch Creek, Radnor/Fort Myer Heights, Barcroft, Lyon Park, Penrose and Westover.

serve the community in many capacities, including civic association president, civic federation president, employment center manager, county advisory board member and elder care advocate.

County Board Member Mary Hynes is a solid supporter of the program. "Neighborhood College has been a terrific program," she said, "I encourage people to apply. The alumni of Neighborhood College have a 'leg up,' so to speak, in that they are already knowledgeable about how county government works ... what their role is ... and how best they can serve their neighborhoods and work to improve them."

Approximate annual cost is \$60,000: For staff personnel, \$40,000, and for other expenses (sign language interpreters, contract facilitator, participant materials and general supplies), \$20,000.

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PEOPLE



Artist Name:
Mary Aslin
Location:
Laguna
Beach, Cali-
fornia,
United States
Image cap-
tion: Roses
Be Glad,
2010. 18" x
24", soft
pastel paint-
ing.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Local Artist Publishes 'Flowers in Art'

FROM PAGE 2

gardening which began at the age of 8. A neighbor gave Coldiron her first plant, a tomato plant, and she has been hooked ever since.

"I've never met a flower I didn't like," she said.

Her favorite flower is the lily. Although she does not have a formal art degree, Coldiron has taken intensive art classes — photography to jewelry making to basket weaving to painting as well — through

the Arlington County parks and recreation department. In addition, she has won two grand champion wins for her entries in the both ceramics and glass at the Arlington County Fair. In addition, she teaches a course called Becoming a Professional Artist for the Arlington County Adult Education Program.

"Flowers In Art" can be purchased at www.schifferbooks.com, amazon.com and local booksellers.

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Casual, business and formal attire from Baltimore designer Christopher Schaffer.

Fashion's Favorites Fifth Crystal Couture rocks the runway.

BY MONTIE MARTIN
THE CONNECTION

Bikinis, suits, and the finest local apparel greeted visitors at the fifth installment of Crystal Couture, held Feb. 5-9. The fashion event drew large crowds as designers shared the spotlight with their creative takes on summer style.

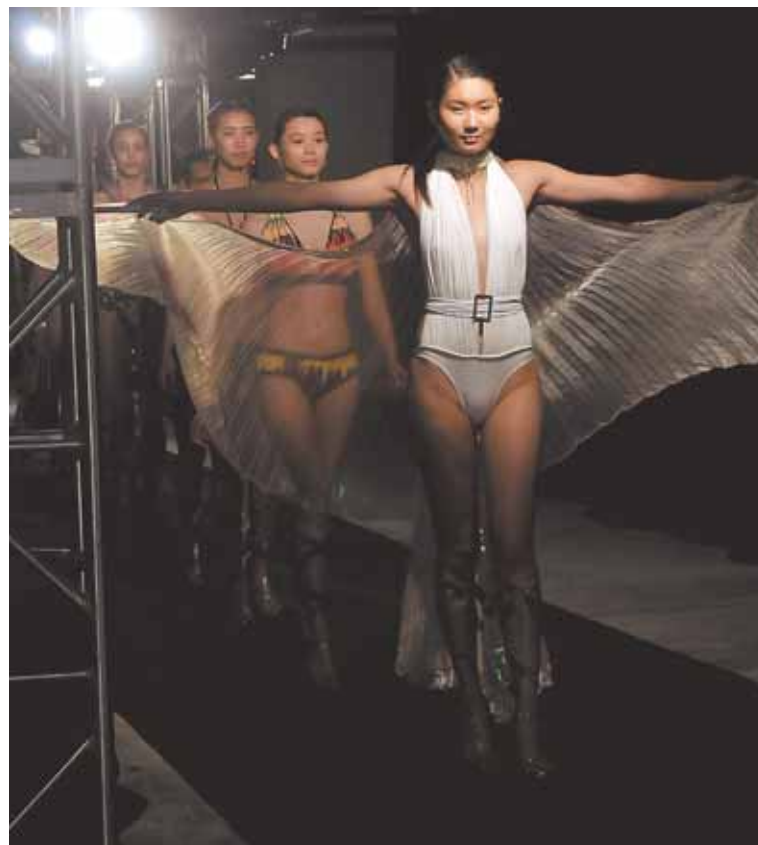
Local models strutted across the 400-foot runway, and sported a variety of designs. Set against the backdrop of a bare-bones 23,000 sq ft. office space at 251 18th St in Crystal City, the location of Crystal Couture 2013 accommodated more than 80 local boutiques, making this year's event the biggest so far. "This is one of our signature events, it's a chance to showcase Crystal City in a different light," said Rob Mandle, chief operating officer with the Crystal City BID. "The best thing is how different and unex-

pected Crystal Couture is."

The spaciousness of the newest location was not lost on designer Christian Schaffer, who creates a stylized look through tailored fits. "I like the use of space. There's a raw office look," said Schaffer. "I've never seen a 400-foot runway, it's a long walk for the models."

Crystal Couture brought together designers of all shapes and sizes, from the Brazilian bikinis of D'Milikah to more traditional designs. While fashion can be competitive at times, for Kourush Chitsaz, who has attended all five of the Crystal Couture events, this year smacked of cordiality and friendship.

"There's more people, more space, and more customers," said Chitsaz, owner of Passport Clothing in D.C. "This is a good bunch of people, I like working with them. All the designers are mostly friends, which isn't too bad considering fashion is a very competitive area."



The final runway walk for the 2013 swimsuit line by Brazilian designer D'Milikah.



DJ Neekola works the music for the Crystal Couture runway show.



Friday evening event host Sarah Fraser of 99.5FM talks with D'Milikah's spokesperson Stephanie Maldonda after the runway show.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
THE CONNECTION



West Potomac High School student Christisha Adams takes a moment out from working backstage at the annual Crystal Couture on Friday evening, Feb. 8. Adams is a senior at West Potomac and is in her first year of the fashion design program.



Event host Sarah Fraser interviews Baltimore designer Christopher Schaffer.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is noon the Thursday before publication. Photos are welcome.

FRIDAY/FEB. 15

Summer Activities Fair. 6-8 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 S. 2nd St. Learn about summer school, recreation programs, day and overnight camps and camps for children with special needs. Teens looking to volunteer will find a list of available options. Free.

SUNDAY/FEB. 17

Meditation and Buddhism

Introductory Class. 12:30-1:30 p.m. at Buddhist Center, 4001 N. 9th St., Suite 105. \$10/class. Enjoy a guided meditation, lecture with questions and answers. Visit www.meditation-dc.org or 202-986-2257.

TUESDAY/FEB. 19

Medicare Explained. 10 a.m.-noon at Arlington Human Services Center, 2100 Washington Blvd. Learn about the basics of coverage and choices. Registration required, 703-228-1700.

Meeting. 7 p.m. at Nottingham Elementary School, 5900 Little Falls Road. Hear a presentation on "The State of Youth in Arlington." Free. 703-534-6837.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Spotlight on Philanthropy. 7-8:30 p.m. at Marymount University's Truland Auditorium, 1000 N. Glebe Road. GiveArlington will highlight local business and community leaders.

FRIDAY/FEB. 22

Free Lecture. 11 a.m.-noon at 601 S. Carlin Springs Road. Terri Remy, M.D. of Medical Associates of Beauregard will present some of the symptoms of menopause, the effects of the changes and how to manage the change. RSVP at 703-558-6859.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

ESOL Tutor Training Workshop. 9:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m. at James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. \$40 for books

and materials. More than 75 new volunteer English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) tutors are needed to help area immigrant adults learn to speak, read, and write English. Currently on a waiting list to be matched with tutors, these adult students are eager to improve their English skills by working one-to-one with a trained volunteer. E-mail volunteers@lcnv.org or 703-237-0866 x111.

Clean-Up and Invasive Plant Pull. 10 a.m.-noon at Benjamin Banneker Park. Visit arlingtonenvironment.org/ register for information and to register.

MONDAY/FEB. 25

Yoga. 6:30 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Free. No registration required. E-mail arlingtonlaughteryoga@yahoo.com for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 26

Free Career Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Embassy Suites Crystal City. Professionals who have a college degree or higher can meet employers who are hiring in the fields of sales, management and more. Visit www.psjobfair.com for more.

"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington's Office of Senior Adult Programs for Feb. 24- March 2.

Arlington senior centers: Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Culpepper Garden, 4435 N. Pershing Dr.; Langston-Brown, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Arlington Mill at Fairlington, 3308 S. Stafford St.; also Madison Community Center, 3829 N. Stafford St.; TJ Comm. Center, 3501 S. 2nd St.

Senior trips: Afternoon Tea at Historic Oakland Tea, Columbia, Md., Sunday, Feb. 24. Cost \$37;

Tour the American History Museum, D.C., Tuesday, Feb. 26, cost \$8; Queenstown Outlets, Annapolis, Md., Thursday, Feb. 28, \$14. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Online travel planning, Monday, Feb. 25, 1:30 p.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722.

Difference between age-related

memory loss and Alzheimer's disease, Monday, Feb. 25, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register early, 703-228-4403.

Strength training, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9 a.m., Thomas Jefferson Comm. Center. \$60/15 sessions, \$4 per drop in. Details, 703-228-4745.

Free legal counsel, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Walter Reed. Call for appointment, 703-228-0955.

Maintaining independent lifestyle, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 11:30 a.m., Lee. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Financial record-keeping tips, Tuesday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Decreasing the risk of falling, Wednesday, Feb. 27, 1:30 p.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722.

Learn to play chess or canasta, Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Arlington Walking Club, Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m., travel by van to walking

sites from Culpepper Garden, \$4. Register, 703-228-403.

Parks Department volunteer opportunities, Thursday, Feb. 28, 1 p.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

Investing in today's market, Thursday, Feb. 28, 4 p.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Lee Woodcarvers share wood-carving tips, Thursdays, 1 p.m., Lee Senior Center. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Arlington Poets group meets, Friday, March 1, 3 p.m., Langston-Brown. Register, 703-228-6300.

Computer classes, beginners, four two-hour sessions, \$20 each. Call for information, Friday, March 1, 703-228-6425 or 703-228-0555.

Fast-paced walking group, Fridays, 9 a.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722.

Open Tai Chi practice, Saturdays, 9:15 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

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OPINION

On Transportation Compromise, in the works, should include indexing the gas tax to inflation.

Virginia needs more options, not fewer, in developing revenue to pay for roads and transportation. Compromise on a plan to increase transportation revenue should not include making Virginia the only state in the nation without a gas tax. The current, ridiculously low gas tax should be indexed to inflation. The last thing the Commonwealth needs is to do away with an existing, major source of money for roads.

Sen. Dick Saslaw proposed raising the tax, now 17.5 cents a gallon, by five cents each of the next two years and then indexing it to inflation. At the least, the tax should be indexed to rise with inflation from its current level.

Possible proposals to cut the tax in half along with increases in the sales tax miss the point, but are still far preferable to eliminating it.

The gas tax is a user fee. It raises money for roads from people and businesses who are using the roads, including drivers pass through Virginia from out of state.

We agree with Del. Scott Surovell, who says: “Funding roads exclusively with sales taxes

disproportionately burdens the elderly who drive less than others and people who do not own cars.”

Medicaid Expansion Progresses

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce said it well when it issued a statement in favor of the Commonwealth embracing \$10 billion in Federal money to expand the number of people eligible for health insurance under Medicaid: “Northern Virginia businesses and taxpayers are already paying for health reform through new taxes levied by the Affordable Care Act. If we do not take advantage of Medicaid reform [and expansion], roughly \$10 billion in Virginia taxpayer dollars will go to the federal government to fund coverage extension in other states. If the General Assembly approves the reform and extension plan, nearly all those taxpayer dollars will remain in-state where they can be put to good use for the benefit of the Commonwealth, its businesses and its citizens.”

Call for Photos for Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish at the end of February, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Feb. 21.

Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo and of your pet, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

We also welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, and drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults.

Email submissions to Arlington@connectionnewspapers.com.

To see our last pet edition, visit <http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/2012/072512/Arlington.pdf>.

Good News on Medicaid and Redistricting

BY ADAM EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)

While I unfortunately usually alert you about troubling developments, I am happy to share some good news from the last week. Two promising developments—redistricting and the Medicaid expansion—give me optimism about the prospects for the remainder of the legislative session.

On the redistricting front, House Speaker Bill Howell ruled the Senate Republicans’ plan to significantly alter all 40 districts was not germane to the bill that they sneakily attached it to! This is a big win for fairness in the legislative process.

Last week the Senate budget proposal was finalized and it included a provision to accept the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia. This makes good sense whether considered from a preventive care, economic, or moral perspective. Among the 420,000 lower-income Virginians who could receive access to health care are people with disabilities, seniors in nursing

homes, pregnant women, and children. The Medicaid expansion would also create about 30,000 good health care jobs.

Currently, Virginia Medicaid covers working adults who earn only up to 30 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL), which is just \$5,727 for a family of three. Newly created health care exchanges (insurance pools) will be available to those who earn above 100 percent of the FPL without coverage from their jobs. The Medicaid expansion is vital because it would help those who earn too much to currently qualify for Medicaid but earn too little to afford health insurance through the exchanges.

The federal government will pay 100 percent of Medicaid expansion costs for the first three years and 90 percent thereafter. If Virginia doesn’t expand Medicaid, our federal tax dollars will go to other states that do. The expansion will increase access to preventive care and allow illnesses to be treated before they reach critical stages and require costly emergency room visits. Those high costs are currently being passed on to everyone with pri-

RICHMOND REPORT

Petrine Ministry on February 28th reflects this spirit of serenity.

“Certainly, we are deeply grateful for his eight years of faithful and selfless service so evident in his homilies, encyclicals and addresses; in his numerous trips around the world, including his visit to our country in 2008; and his sensitive and pastoral concern for the faithful world-wide.

“Thinking of the welfare of the Church which he loves so dearly and is serving so faithfully, our Holy Father is confident that his stepping aside for the election of a new pope truly will benefit the Church and allow him to continue

vate insurance, so the expansion would not only benefit newly eligible Medicaid recipients but in fact all Virginia private insurance recipients through smaller premium increases.

Before the Medicaid expansion becomes a reality, it must pass through negotiations in a House-Senate Conference Committee and be acted on favorably by the Governor.

By the time you read this, all 21 of my bills will have been considered in the Senate and in House Committees or Subcommittees. But there’s more to go. We need to adopt an adjusted fiscal year 2013 budget and complete work on 970 legislative items. That may seem like a lot, but we started with a whopping 2,332 pieces of legislation!

I will be holding two town meetings on Saturday, Feb. 16. At 9:30 a.m., I will be with Del. Scott Surovell and Sen. Toddy Puller at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center (2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306). Then I will be zipping over to Old Town to join Del. Rob Krupicka at the Charles Houston Recreation Center (905 Wythe Street, Alexandria, 22314) at 11 am. I hope to see you on Saturday!

his ministry of prayer for the Church.

“I urge my brothers and sisters in the Church and beyond to pray for the welfare of Pope Benedict XVI and also to ask the Holy Spirit, Who inspired the Pope’s decision, to guide the Cardinals in the upcoming Conclave to elect a new Vicar of Christ and successor to St. Peter. With a similar serenity of spirit, let us pray for and support the Holy Father each day as he moves forward into a new chapter in his journey of faith. We remain confident about the future, recalling Christ’s words: ‘Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age’ (cf. Mt 28:20).”

The
Arlington
Connection

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:
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Steven Mauren
Editor

703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Michael Lee Pope
Reporter

703-615-0960
mpope@connectionnewspapers.com
[@MichaelLeePope](https://twitter.com/MichaelLeePope)

Jon Roetman

Sports Editor
703-224-3015
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
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Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
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CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Linda Pecquex
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COMMENTARY

Bishop Reflects On Pope’s Decision

The Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde, Bishop of Arlington, released the following statement on Feb. 11 in response to Pope Benedict XVI’s announcement that he will resign the papacy:

“As I reflect on the life and ministry of Pope Benedict XVI, I am unfailingly impressed by his serenity; a quiet, peaceful yet certain manner of speaking and acting. This serenity is rooted in his deep faith in the Lord Jesus, a faith that underlies hope and leads to love of God and neighbor. His decision to resign the

Home Life Style



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RJK CONSTRUCTION

The owners of this Fairfax Station master bathroom decided to turn their outdated space into a modern, spa retreat.

Home Remodeling Projects Rebound

Updating kitchens and bathrooms are homeowners' priorities.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Home remodeling projects continue to rebound, and kitchens and bathrooms are at the top of the project list, according to a new report for the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

"I was personally surprised the number of really high-end projects, like those over \$150,000," said Nikki Golden, NARI spokeswoman.

When the owners of a Fairfax Station home decided to turn their outdated master bathroom into a modern spa retreat, they added a black granite vanity, matching shower bench and custom glass shower doors. "This master bathroom has been completely transformed into an oasis," said Fairfax-based contractor Robert Kalmin of RJK Construction. "Imme-



The owners of this Reston kitchen chose stainless steel appliances to create an earthy but luxurious atmosphere.

diately as you walk in, you are greeted by a large double vanity. The cabinetry door style is Centennial from Bertch Bath. Two mirrors with matching trim are hung above each sink and add continuity."

Kalim, who is also a board member of the Washington-region's National Association of the Remodeling Industry chapter, said that a creative use of lighting helped set a relaxing, spa-like tone. "Three sconce lights add direct lighting and flare to this bathroom," he said. "The Key West soaking tub ... would make

SEE REMODELING, PAGE 11



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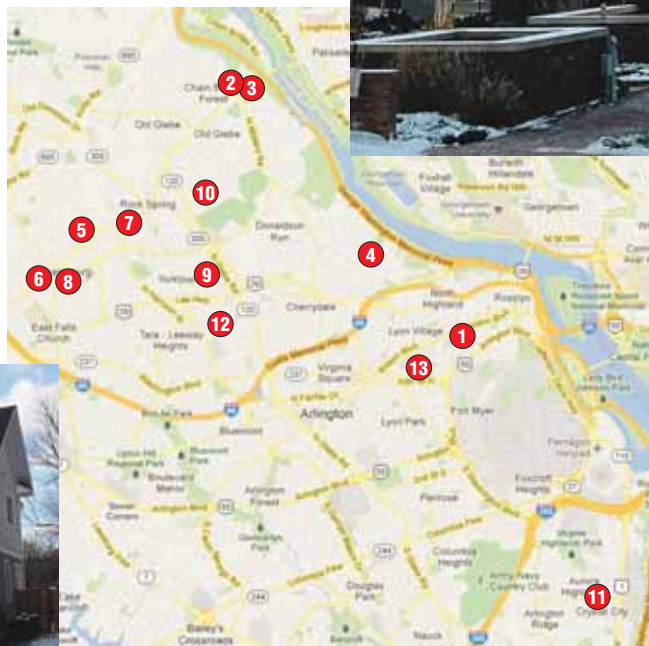


4 3603 27th Street North — \$1,775,000

7 5133 33rd Street North — \$1,535,000



8 6408 30th Street North — \$1,433,000



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1 2001 15th Street North #PH1507 — \$1,950,000



5 3507 John Marshall Drive North — \$1,650,000

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2 4007 RICHMOND ST N	5	..	4	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$1,819,253	Detached	0.27	22207	POTOMAC CREST	12/27/12
3 4009 RICHMOND ST N	5	..	4	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,817,512	....	Detached	....	0.27	.....	22207	.....	POTOMAC CREST	.....	12/21/12
4 3603 27TH ST N	6	..	5	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,775,000	....	Detached	....	0.72	.....	22207	..	DOVER BALMORAL RIVERWOOD	.....	12/31/12
5 3507 JOHN MARSHALL DR N	5	..	4	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,650,000	....	Detached	....	0.25	.....	22207	.....	MINOR HILL	.....	12/19/12
6 3007 ROCHESTER ST N	5	..	5	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,600,000	....	Detached	....	0.35	.....	22213	.....	BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD	....	12/27/12
7 5133 33RD ST N	5	..	4	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,535,000	....	Detached	....	0.24	.....	22207	.....	STRATFORD HILLS	.....	12/03/12
8 6408 30TH ST N	4	..	3	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,433,000	....	Detached	....	0.26	.....	22207	.....	BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD	....	12/14/12
9 2422 COLUMBUS ST	4	..	4	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,255,000	....	Detached	....	0.14	.....	22207	.....	COUNTRY CLUB	.....	12/12/12
10 3252 ABINGDON ST N	4	..	3	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,200,000	....	Detached	....	0.22	.....	22207	.....	COUNTRY CLUB HILLS	.....	12/14/12
11 639 23RD ST S	7	..	5	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,185,000	....	Detached	....	0.14	.....	22202	.....	ADDISON HEIGHTS	.....	12/08/12
12 1913 CAMERON ST	5	..	4	.	1	...	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,075,000	....	Detached	....	0.18	.....	22207	.....	HIGHVIEW PARK	.....	12/27/12
13 2613 11TH ST N	4	..	3	.	2	...	ARLINGTON	\$1,041,262	Detached	0.13	22201	CLARENDON	12/19/12

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Last Minute Valentine's Day Ideas

Subtle accents for the most romantic holiday of the year.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Still looking for Valentine's Day home accents? Local design experts say it is not too late to add touches of romance in time for Cupid's big day.

Laura Smith of the Dandelion Patch in Vienna and Reston, suggests chocolate-scented candles, soaps and shea butter. "They are very pretty and you could put them in a guest bathroom and the candles in the living room," she said. "They smell delicious — almost edible."

Next on her list is a napkin box with cupcake napkins and paperweights. "They are perfect for entertaining, but also beautiful enough to leave out all year round," said Smith. "Napkins and weights can be changed out to make this perfect for any event or time of year."

Judy Philactos of Periwinkle Gifts recommends miniature glass hearts displayed on a tiny serving tray. "Feather heart wreaths also make nice displays," she said.

When it comes to Valentine's Day bouquets and centerpieces, floral designer Evelyn Kinville of Behnkes Florist in Potomac, Md., says there are plenty



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

Heart wreaths are a simple and stylish way to make one's home reflect the most romantic day of the year.

of options. "While Valentine's Day is almost exclusively rose-based, it doesn't have to be," she said. "There are French tulips, which are larger and longer-stemmed than traditional tulips. You can use hyacinths, fragrant hybrid lilies and freesia."

Remodeling

FROM PAGE 9

anyone jealous. A unique feature in this bathroom is the extra cabinet that is adjacent to the bathtub. It adds extra storage space and creates more countertop space for decorative items like candles."

WHEN THE OWNERS of a Reston home decided to remodel their kitchen, they removed a wall that separated the kitchen from the living area.

"Removing a partition wall allowed us to bring out a peninsula into the living area, expanding the kitchen and providing the opportunity for additional cabinetry, countertop space and a bar top," said Suzanne Kalmin of RJK Construction.

The homeowners wanted a durable counter surface so they chose quartz. In addition, "a section of butcher block next to the cook-top serves as a convenient prep space for cutting vegetables or bread," Suzanne Kalmin added. "This kitchen is packed with professional grade appliances, [including] a Viking professional cooktop and oven-microwave combination."

To complete the project, the wood flooring the adjacent living room was refinished to match the flooring in the remodeled kitchen to create a seamless finish.

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What To Do with Farmhouse?

Arlington County is seeking preliminary, informal ideas for the adaptive reuse of the Reeves Historic Farmhouse and its detached garage through a Request for Interest. The site is located at 400 N. Manchester St. within Bluemont Park, overlooking an open-play field and a stream.



The Reeves Historic Farmhouse

Successful ideas will include funding for rehabilitating the site and all the funding for the operation of the farmhouse and any programming at the site.

The Request for Interest is due on March 11 and should describe the goals for the site and ideas to fund these goals. The RFI also requires details about proposed programming — if programming is included in the proposal. Future uses of the farmhouse could include a public or private facility, such as an educational center, museum, community center, or art gallery, or a single family home. All uses must maintain the historic qualities of the site, and must be compatible with the adjacent neighborhood and public park.

For more information visit <http://www.arlingtonva.us/dpr>

Playground Improvements OK'd

The Arlington County Board approved funds on Jan. 26 to reconstruct Tuckahoe Park playground.

The board voted unanimously to approve a \$733,315 contract (including contingency) with Jeffrey Stack, Inc., to reconstruct the playground for school-age children in Tuckahoe Park External link, located at 2400 N. Sycamore St., and to make the park more accessible to persons with disabilities. The playground was last renovated in 1994.

The board also approved, unanimously, \$83,377 for eight Park Enhancement Grant External link projects that were submitted by residents to the Parks and Recreation Commission External link. PEG grants, funded through Pay-As-You-Go Capital Improvement Program funds, offer up to \$15,000 for approved park projects. The approved projects for 2013 include:

❖ Hillside Park — Remove invasive plants and restoring the forest with native plants and trees: \$11,354.

❖ Lubber Run Park — Build a garden and provide the necessary tools and amenities for participants in the Lubber Run Teen Program for a hands-on gardening experience as well as educational programming from the Virginia Cooperative Extension: \$5,500.

❖ Fort Barnard Community Canine Area — Give a facelift, with the construction of a small deck to protect the root system of a mature Pin Oak as well as spading, soil improvements and pruning to enhance the growth of the tree. Funding also will support the purchase and planting of three shade trees, extension of the fence height and construction of a berm: \$15,000.

❖ Thomas Jefferson Middle School — Add four new benches and a wood chip path to enhance their existing garden. The grant also will cover the cost of a garden design plan that will be developed by EarlySpace LLC: \$13,718.

❖ Fraser Park — Install five new benches, an ADA picnic table and an ADA grill: \$10,400.

❖ Alcove Heights Park — Improve the existing volleyball court, with the purchase of new poles and a net, turf improvements, updated landscaping and a 20-foot split rail fence: \$5,523.

❖ John Marshall Drive — Add four benches to a large traffic island, enjoyed by the neighborhood as open space. The space will also receive invasive plant control treatments and turf improvement. This project will be coordinated with a stormwater improvement project at this site currently planned by the Department of Environmental Services: \$9,290.

❖ Woodlawn Park — Build a new concrete path to facilitate pedestrian and bicyclist access through the park between 15th Street, which dead ends on each side of the park: \$12,592.



Sledders and young hockey players and first-time skaters fill the rink at the Kettler Capitals Iceplex on Friday afternoon, Feb. 8, for the Extreme Recess Hockey clinic.

Extreme Recess Hockey

The viewing stands in Kettler Capitals Iceplex at Ballston Commons filled with parents and children and dozens of volunteers as the Washington Capitals took to the ice for practice on Friday morning, Feb. 8.

The visitors went on to enjoy a complimentary lunch in the restaurant/lounge overlooking the skating complex.

Later Capitals defenseman Tomas Kundratek, forward Jason Chimera and goaltender Braden Holtby skated and played hockey with more than 100 children.

The program, Dreams for Kids, is an international youth organization and 501(c) (3) children's charity whose mission is to empower young people of all abilities including those with physical and developmental disabilities through leadership programs and life-changing activities. For the third year the Capitals have teamed up with Dreams for Kids to host the Extreme Recess Hockey clinic.

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All children are paired with volunteers for the third annual Extreme Recess Hockey clinic.



Vincent gets a push around the end of the rink during the early afternoon session on the ice.



Eyes turn to the rink as the Zamboni is driven across the ice to resurface it for the next session.

Volunteers team up with the children as they skated across the ice.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
THE CONNECTION



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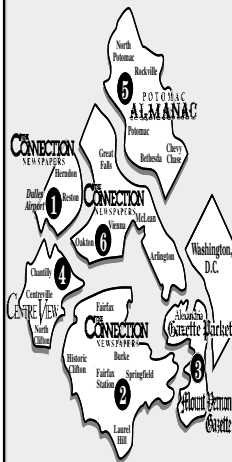
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Warranty Warranted?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

For life, absolutely! As to what happens to my mattress in 10 years or my television in five years – as but a few examples, pales in comparison to what I worry (you'll note I didn't say anticipate) will have happened to me in five or 10 years. Nevertheless, I'd definitely pay extra for that warranty. However, there are no warranties for life, extended or otherwise – and no guarantees either, as I discovered in late February, 2009, when I was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer (or as those of us in the know "acronym it": NSCLC). "Death and taxes," as the old joke says, are the only guarantees. The rest are "hope-to-bees" and "wanna-bees."

A cancer diagnosis (and terminal prognosis – for yours truly, anyway) has a way of sharpening your focus and narrowing your perspective. Initially, after meeting with my oncologist, and for a while thereafter, quite frankly, the three most important people in my life were me, myself and I. For many months post-diagnosis, the three of us didn't care or consider – too much, about what might happen down the road, a road never before traveled. Life's discussions – and decisions – were all about the here and now, not the there and later. What might have been was replaced with what it is and what are you going to do about it.

However, as life – and I, have continued, so too has my understanding and appreciation of my amazing good fortune. To have survived for as long as I have is a blessing and somewhat perplexing to my oncologist. And in that continuing survival and evolution, opportunities have regularly presented themselves that have forced me to consider my past, present and future ("what there is of it"). As much as I don't want to – and quite frankly, prefer not to, have every day-type decisions impacted by my cancer diagnosis, they are. If I didn't/don't consider the context of every decision I make, I would be short-changing myself and forfeiting the future for the present. And even though I had my guarantee pulled in 2009, I'm still trying to live as if any thing's possible.

Certainly there are exceptions to every rule, statistical anomalies in every manner of study and research. Life is not a straight line. Sure death is inevitable, but there shouldn't be any hurry to get there. It will happen soon enough (too soon for some), whether you like it or not. Now whether I outlive my mattress or my television or my car is unknown, but as a cancer patient, I sort of think about whether I will or not. This thought process is a problem – for me. It may be a problem of my own making but as far as problems go, it's a Hall-of-Famer. And by that I mean, it dominates.

Garden variety-type decisions become landscape design-type problems. Previously inconsequential, mundane-type presumptive choices become minefields of negative possibilities/regrets. The short version being: do I really need to do that/buy that/warranty that, if I'm not going to be the true beneficiary – meaning/accepting that some of these rather ordinary decisions might not be about me. And for a terminal cancer patient who has often heard "It's all about you, Kenny," on more than one occasion – from more than one person, assimilating an unanticipated future into an apparently productive present where others matter as much if not more than you do, is almost counter-intuitive. Nevertheless, life certainly appears to be worth living; I'm just not sure how much of it I should pay for in advance.

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

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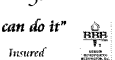
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PHOTOS BY TERESA WOOD

A tight-knit band of boarding school students (from left: Alex Mills, Joel David Santner, Jefferson Farber, and Rex Daugherty) uncover a secret copy of the banned play "Romeo and Juliet" in "Shakespeare's R&J," now playing at Virginia's Signature Theatre through March 3, 2013.



One of a tight-knit band of boarding school students (Alex Mills) attempts to express himself through poetry in "Shakespeare's R&J."



Two students (Alex Mills, left, and Jefferson Farber) share a tender moment during their reenactment of "Romeo and Juliet" in "Shakespeare's R&J."



Students at a repressive boarding school (from left: Rex Daugherty, Alex Mills, Joel David Santner) sneak into the night with a banned copy of the play.



R&J at Signature

Tragic tale debuts at Signature Theatre.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE CONNECTION

At first glance, they are the model of Catholic school conformity, trained to recite in unison as they learn their catechism. But then an illicit copy of William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" is discovered, disrupting the lives of four prep school boys in "Shakespeare's R&J," now playing at Signature Theatre.

The all-male coming-of-age play by Joe Calarco marks two firsts in the 23-year history of Signature Theatre: It is the first staging of a Shakespearean classic as well as the first production performed in-the-round.

Alex Mills, Jefferson Farber, Joel David Santner and Rex Daugherty make a formidable foursome as classmates at an all-male boarding school who unearth a secret copy of "Romeo and Juliet" and steal into the night to recite the prohibited tale of adolescent passion.

As they take turns reading the play aloud, the young men become swept away in emotions that compel them to question the rigidity of their lives and confront their conflicted feelings towards friendship and homosexuality.

Frequently compared to "Dead Poet's Society," the poignant script is expertly guided by the playwright himself, with Calarco directing the ensemble cast through seamless transitions as two stories unfold at once.

"For much of the show you're hearing the text of Romeo and Juliet," wrote Calarco in the Signature notes. "But you're also watching these four young men change because of this play and its power to transform your world. It's really an ode to the teaching power of theatre."

Calarco's production team includes scenic designer James Kronzer, lighting designer Chris Lee and costume designer Kathleen Geldard. Yet aside from their matching school uniforms, there are no costumes and the most significant prop is flowing red silk used to powerful visual effect in moments of passion, hate, love and death.

While the talented Mills, Farber, Santner and Daugherty initially take on multiple roles as the schoolmates read through the forbidden play, it is Mills and Farber who eventually emerge from the tightly-paced dialogue as Romeo and Juliet with a palpable passion as the doomed lovers.

To some, it is the greatest love story ever told, and in "Shakespeare's R&J," the tragedy of Romeo and Juliet's hunger for each other is evocative, mesmerizing and unforgettable.

"Shakespeare's R&J" is playing now through March 3 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Call 703-820-9771 or visit www.signature-theatre.org.

The students (from left: Rex Daugherty, Joel David Santner, Jefferson Farber) bring Juliet's bedchamber to life in "Shakespeare's R&J." The modern adaptation of "Romeo and Juliet" plays at Virginia's Signature Theatre through March 3, 2013.

ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is noon the Thursday before publication. Photos are welcome.

ONGOING

Food Truck Thursdays. In the surface parking lot at the corner of Crystal Drive and 18th Street.

Line Dancing Class. Fridays, 10-11 a.m. Line dancing with Barbara Allen. Covers the basic steps, then combines them to music for a gentle aerobic workout. More experienced line dancers are welcome as they can assist newer dancers. At Aurora Hills Senior Center. Call 703-228-5722.

Family Skate Opening Night. Saturdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., through March 30. Thomas Jefferson Center, 3501 2nd St. Fees: \$2 entry, \$3 skate rental, \$2 re-entry for students attending both family and teen skate. Cash only. Save time in line by bringing skates. Visit www.arlingtonva.us.

Flying Squirrel Lore & More. For (families and children. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Flying squirrels are found throughout the wooded neighborhoods of Arlington, but are seldom seen. Learn about these nocturnal acrobats. After an indoor presentation, go outside to see them glide in for an evening meal. Call 703-228-6535 to register. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road.
 ♦ Saturday, Feb. 16, 6-7 p.m. Program #622953-L
 ♦ Sunday, Feb. 17, 6-7 p.m. Program #622953-M
 ♦ Saturday, Feb. 23, 6-7 p.m. Program #622953-N
 ♦ Sunday, Feb. 24, 6-7 p.m. Program #622953-O

Photo Exhibit. See "Paris by Day, Paris

by Night: Photos by Kevin KasmaiÓ at Cherrydale Library, 2190 Military Road through April 2. Free. 703-228-6330.

Young Choreographers

Competition. Dancers 14-18 years old can enter BalletNova's competition. Applicants must submit a 3-5 minute videotape featuring 3-8 dancers, a short essay and a recommendation from their teacher. Five finalists will be chosen by judges and then the public can vote for their favorite. Through Feb. 17. For more information and applications, contact info@BalletNova.org, or go to the website at www.BalletNova.org.

THROUGH MARCH 3

Theater Performances. Signature Theatre, with Artistic Associate Joe Calarco, presents "Shakespeare's R&J." Performances are Tuesday through Sunday. Tuesday and Wednesday performances are at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening performances are at 8 p.m.; Sunday evening performances are at 7 p.m. Matinee performances are Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$40. Tickets are available by phone at 703-573-SEAT, online at signature-theatre.org, or in person at the Signature Box Office at 4200 Campbell Ave.

THROUGH MARCH 2

Art Exhibit. See Marina DiCarlo's exhibit "Inside/Outside" at Northern Virginia Art Center, 2100 Crystal Drive. The inside of the body is the inspiration for each of the paintings. Free. Visit www.novaartcenter.org.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 13, APRIL 17

Classes for Young Dancers. 2-6 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children ages 5-8 can enjoy the "Big Meow" half day camp. \$100/day. Register at www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 13

Author Signing. 7 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Garrett Peck discusses his book "The Smithsonian Castle and the Seneca Quarry." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

Wild Ones: Fine Porcupine. 4-5 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 6-10 can learn about these prickly animals. \$5 registration fee. 703-228-6535 to register. Program #622923-E.

THURSDAY/FEB 14

Molars and Canines. 3:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, crafts and short hikes in a group. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622913-V.

Whooo Do You Love. 4-5 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children age 6 and up can share which animal in the world is their favorite and learn how to help them in the wild. \$5 registration fee. 703-228-3403. Program #622823-P.

Wine, Comedy and Movie. See "The Princess Bride" at 7 p.m. or 9:50 p.m. The 7 p.m. showing also includes wine tasting with the Washington Wine Academy, which starts at 6:30 p.m. \$8 at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike.

Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com for more.

FEB. 14 THROUGH MARCH 9

Theater Performance. See "Sexo, Pudor y Lagrimas (Sex, Shame and Tears)" at Gunston Arts Center Theater Two, 2700 S. Lang St., on Thursdays at 8 p.m. and Saturdays at 3 p.m. for \$30/adult; \$25/student and senior. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. for \$35/adult; \$30/student and senior. Tickets online at www.teatrodelaluna.org or 703-548-3092.

FRIDAY/FEB. 15

Comedy Performance. 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Adam Cayton-Holland performs. \$20. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com for tickets.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 15-17

SpiritFest: Love is Spirit in Action. Enjoy classes, circles, readings with clairvoyants, tarot readings, numerology, past life regressions and more. Held at Arlington Metaphysical Chapel, 5618 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.arlingtonmeta.com or 703-276-1020 to register.

SATURDAY/FEB. 16

Noche de Luna Reception Performance. 8 p.m. at Gunston Arts Center Theater Two, 2700 S. Lang St. See "Sexo, Pudor y Lagrimas (Sex, Shame and Tears)." \$40/person. Tickets online at www.teatrodelaluna.org or 703-548-3092.

Fundraiser. 7 p.m. at One More Page,

2200 North Westmoreland St. The bookstore hosts Voices in the Glen, a storytelling fundraiser for the Island Park, N.Y. library and other libraries that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

Sneak a Peek. 10-11 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children age 6 and up can use items from night vision goggles to observation hives to see what happens behind the scenes. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622823-Q.

Hanssen Spy Talk. 3:30-4:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Adults can learn about the infamous spy and traitor Robert Hanssen and his connections to the nature center. \$5/person. Registration required, 703-228-6535. Program #622943-O.


Comedy Performance. 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Adam Cayton-Holland performs. \$20. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com for tickets.

SUNDAY/FEB. 17

Invasive Removal. 2-5 p.m. For adults, families and teens. Help improve wildlife habitat. Join for the monthly work parties to remove destructive invasive plants, and make a real difference. No registration required. Free. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. (

Workshop on Pruning Trees and Shrubs. 1-3 p.m. at 4470 S. First Place. Bring own pruning tools. Free. Registration requested. E-mail mgaralex@gmail.com or 703-228-

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17



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STEVE FULLER
University Professor and Schar Faculty
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Monday, February 18 at 7:15 p.m.

The D.C. area's economy is facing a change: growing federal spending that grew the region's private sector for 30 years has slowed and is likely to decline in coming years. Can Washington become a global business center similar to London and Tokyo or will it remain a federally dominated economy, expanding and contracting with changes in budget and policy? To become a global business center we need a sufficient supply of appropriately trained and educated workers, housing for that workforce, and the required infrastructure and amenities. Can we do it?

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

6414.

Where are the Snakes in Winter? 3-4:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children age 5-9 can learn about the wintertime behaviors and then draw three of Arlington's most common snakes. Supplies provided, but feel free to bring own pencil and sketchbook. \$5 fee due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622923-L.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 20

Book Signing. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St., #101. Paul Dickson will talk about his book "Words from the White House: Words and Phrases Coined or Popularized by America's Presidents." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

Movie. 7:20 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Watch "Slap Shot." \$3 or free to Comedy Film Bucketlist members who RSVP. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com to become a member or buy a ticket.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Tiny Tot. 10 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children 18-35 months can enjoy songs, crafts, mini-hikes and more. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622913-I.

FEB. 22 THROUGH MARCH 3

Theater Performance. See Encore Stage & Studio present "Big Bad," a story about what happened to the Wolf after the "Three Little Pigs." Showtimes are Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 11 a.m. or 3 p.m.; and Sundays at 3 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. \$12/adult; \$10/child, student, senior. Visit www.encorestageva.org or 703-548-1154 for tickets.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Music. Lucy's Arl, 2620 S. Shirlington Road will have four bands performing including The Velvet Ants, pool tables available and giveaways.

Hawks in the High Winter Sky. 10-11 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children age 5-9 can learn about the flight patterns and other behaviors of Arlington's most frequently sighted hawks and then draw their feather patterns and arcs of flight. Supplies provided, but feel free to bring own pencil and sketchbook. \$5 fee due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622823-U.

Skunk Cabbage Hike. 3-4 p.m. at Barcroft Parking Garage. Families can meet naturalist Rachael Tolman for a wintery hike to find the first signs of spring, skunk cabbage. Wear galoshes and outdoor clothing. \$5 fee due at registration. 703-228-6535.

SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Get Ready for Wood Frogs. 1-2 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Families with children age 5 and up can learn about these animals. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622853-J.

Naturally Poetic. 3-4:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Adults and teens can explore different styles of poetry and pen own poetry and then reflect over hot cocoa. Free. Program #622943-N. 703-228-6535.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4250 N.

Glebe Road. Hear the chamber orchestra, soloists and chorus perform Vivaldi's "Gloria" and more. Visit www.stpetersmusic.org for more.

MONDAY/FEB. 25

Lecture. 2-4 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. See a dramatic recreation of the notable court case "The Lindberg Baby Kidnapping." Free. 703-228-2144.

Art Show. 6-9 p.m. at Cafe Caturra, 2931 S. Glebe Road. Browse through art created by local artists, enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and more to raise money for Caring Hands Animal Support and Education. Free, but donations accepted. Visit www.chase-alliance.org or 703-403-1019.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

Free Talk. 1 p.m. at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 S. 16th St. Hear a talk on Elizabeth Keckley, an American seamstress and her time in the Lincoln White House. Register at 703-536-7557. There will be raffle for those who registered. Bring a story on a seamstress, how you learned how to sew, who taught you, injuries you sustained or other related stories.

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

Lecture. 6:30 p.m. at Virginia Tech Research Center, 900 N. Glebe Road. Learn about the history of Washington, D.C.'s U Street through a discussion by Blair Ruble, author of "Washington's U Street: A Biography." Free. RSVP to <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4421962208> by Feb. 26.

THROUGH FEB. 28

Art Exhibit. See Morgan Monceaux's exhibit "Hail to the Chiefs: Portraits of the United States Presidents and First Ladies" at Reagan Washington National Airport, baggage claim level. He uses a variety of media, including campaign buttons, jewelry and more. Free.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/MARCH 7-8

The Big Meow Double Day Camp. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, with option for extended day in the morning from 8-9 a.m. or in the evening from 3-6 p.m. For children. \$150/both days; plus \$50 for extended morning or \$75 for extended evening. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

SATURDAY/MARCH 9

Monte Carlo Night. 7 p.m. at Ronald Reagan National Airport Historic Terminal "A." Proceeds support Leadership Arlington's mission and youth programs. \$175/purchased by Feb. 28 and \$225 after. Visit www.leadershiparlington.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 13, APRIL 17

Classes for Young Dancers. 2-6 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children ages 5-8 can enjoy the "Big Meow" half day camp. \$100/day. Register at www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

THURSDAY/MARCH 14

Movie. 7:15 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Watch "Bicycle Dreams." \$10. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com to buy a ticket.

SATURDAY/MARCH 23

Dance Sampler. 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Melton Rehearsal Hall, 641 D. St., Washington, D.C. See a showcase by Jane Franklin Dance. Visit www.janefranklin.com for tickets.

MARCH 25 THROUGH MARCH 29

Penelope's Pesky Pen Spring Break Camp. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, with option for extended day in the morning from 8-9 a.m. or in the evening from 3-6 p.m. For children. \$300; plus \$75 for extended morning or \$100 for extended evening. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

MARCH 22 THROUGH APRIL 13

'Voodoo Macbeth' adapted by Oson Welles, using the imagery and traditions of Voodoo. Presented by The American Century Theater, at Theatre II, Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St. Visit www.AmericanCentury.org.

THROUGH APRIL 2

Photo Exhibit. See "Paris by Day, Paris by Night: Photos by Kevin Kasmai" at Cherrydale Library, 2190 Military Road. Free. 703-228-6330.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13

Dance. 4 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children can watch a 30-minute performance inspired by Frank Dormer's "The Obstinate Pen." Tickets \$10-\$15. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 17

Classes for Young Dancers. 2-6 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children ages 5-8 can enjoy the "Big Meow" half day camp. \$100/day. Register at www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Dance. 4 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children will enjoy "The Big Meow," a family-friendly performance about an orange cat who wants to belong to the band of neighborhood cats, but is ostracized for his loud meow. Tickets \$10-\$15. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Dance. 7 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Performers of all ages showcase a mixed repertory and new dances. \$20. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

Gala. New Hope Housing will have its gala "Rock the House" at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Building. Enjoy a reception, cocktail hour, dinner, silent and live auctions and more. Tickets can be purchased at www.newhopehousing.org or e-mail lpadberg@newhopehousing.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 18

Argentine Festival. 4 p.m. a Thomas Jefferson Theater, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Enjoy crafts, performers directly from Argentina and food for purchase. \$20 in advance at www.tickeri.com or \$30 at the door. See details on www.festivalargentinousa.com.

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Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

ONGOING

Teen Produced Interactive Art and Dance Party. Teens can be introduced to Artisphere's creative opportunities and engage in programming and self-producing art and more. Weekly meetings with varying days. Through Saturday, March 9 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.artisphere.com for information and to register, e-mail slord@arlingtonva.us.

Yarn Bomb Meet-ups + Stitch

Session. Wednesdays through Feb. 28, 6-9 p.m. Free. Create a yarn bombing temporary public art project in Rosslyn. Meet other knitters at Town Hall, 1901 N. Moore St. All ages and experience levels are welcome. Free. Visit <http://pinklineproject.com>.

AT ARLINGTON ARTS CENTER

Art Exhibit. Arlington Arts Center will showcase the finalists for "Interwoven: Art. Craft. Design" at AAC, 3550 Wilson Blvd. See a range of media, including video, murals, photography and more. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

Art Exhibit. See Allison Bianco's "Gram's Beach House" and art by a variety of other artists at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

Art Exhibit. Megan Mueller displays "space+craft" in the Wyatt Gallery at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

Art Exhibit. David Carlson debuts "Work in Progress," a multimedia work that combines abstract painting and video at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

THROUGH SUNDAY/MARCH 24

Exhibit. "Infestation" by Carolina Mayorga is a multimedia project that will slowly invade Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., in the same way that vermin do. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 13

Open Mic. 8 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Free. Guest hosts Todd and James. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

THURSDAY/FEB. 14

Movie. Valentine's Day screening of "Pillow Talk," with Doris Day and Rock Hudson. 8 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. \$8. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

Performance. 7 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Hear Arcology. Free. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

Performance. 9:30 p.m. at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. The Cheaters will perform. Visit www.whitlows.com or 703-276-9693.

Open Mic. 7:30 p.m. at The Comedy Spot located in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

FRIDAY/FEB. 15

Performance. 9 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Hear Juniper Lane. \$12. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

Performance. 10 p.m. at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Hyjinx will perform. Visit www.whitlows.com or 703-276-9693.

Comedy Sportz. 8 p.m. at The Comedy Spot located in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. \$10. Visit comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

The Blue Show. 10 p.m. at The Comedy Spot located in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. \$15. Visit comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

SATURDAY/FEB. 16

Series Finale Screening. Watch "Orange Juice in Bishop's Garden" and then chat with the creators. 8 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

Performance. 9 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Hear King Soul with Kid Goat. \$12. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

Performance. 10 p.m. at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Sophistafunk will perform. Visit www.whitlows.com or 703-276-9693.

Comedy. 3 p.m. enjoy Comedy Sportz for Kids for \$10; 7:30 p.m. enjoy Comedy Sportz for \$15; 10 p.m. enjoy the Blue Show for \$15. All at The Comedy Spot located in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

SUNDAY/FEB. 17

Performance. 8:30 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Hear Mud Rey with Eli Cook Band and Moogatu. \$10. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 19

Performance. 8 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. The 9 Songwriter Series performs. Free. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or www.wearethe9.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 20

Open Mic. 8 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Free. Special guest hosts Todd and James. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21-SUNDAY/MAY 19

International Design Festival. Look around "The Next Wave: Industrial

Design Innovation in the 21st Century" at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Free. Features pieces from Spain, Italy, Belgium, Scandinavia and more. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Opening Reception. 7-10 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Look around "The Next Wave: Industrial Design Innovation in the 21st Century." Free. Features pieces from Spain, Italy, Belgium, Scandinavia and more. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

Performance. 8 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. \$10. Flo Anito performs with Tiffany Thompson and Kelley McRae. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

Performance. 9:30 p.m. at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. White Ford Bronco will perform. Visit www.whitlows.com or 703-276-9693.

Open Mic. 7:30 p.m. at The Comedy Spot located in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21-SUNDAY/MAY 19

Juxtaposed: An Interactive Photo Contest. Participants can send in a photograph that blends objects that convey wit, symbolism and/or deeper meaning. Contest runs in conjunction with "The Next Wave: Industrial Design Innovation in the 21st Century" exhibit. Upload photos to www.flickr.com/photos/apartmentzero1. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 22

Music. C.J. Chenier and the Red Hot Louisiana Band performs at 8:30 p.m. with dance lessons at 7:30 p.m. in the ballroom at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. \$20. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

Performance. 9 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. \$12. Hallelujah the Hills. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

Performance. 10 p.m. at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Flow in the Dark will perform. Visit www.whitlows.com or 703-276-9693.

Comedy. 8 p.m. enjoy Comedy Sportz tng for \$10; 10 p.m. enjoy the Blue Show for \$15. All at The Comedy Spot located in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Performance. 9 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. \$12. Jumpin

Jupiter performs with Izzy and the Catastrophics. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

Performance. 10 p.m. at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. William Walter and Co. will perform. Visit www.whitlows.com or 703-276-9693.

Comedy. 3 p.m. enjoy Comedy Sportz for Kids for \$10; 7:30 p.m. enjoy Comedy Sportz for \$15; 10 p.m. enjoy the Blue Show for \$15. All at The Comedy Spot located in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

THROUGH SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Exhibit. Korean-born artist Si Jae Byun addresses the relationship of nature and architecture in a series of works in Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., that juxtapose images and structures associated with the construction of a city apartment with those of nature and even the human body. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

Performance. 9:30 p.m. at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Performance by 50 Man Machine. Visit www.whitlows.com or 703-276-9693.

SATURDAY/MARCH 2

Panel. 5-6:30 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Enjoy a conversation on "Who's Hot, Who's Not: The Role of Women in Today's Male Dominated Industrial Design Field." A reception follows. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

THROUGH SUNDAY/MARCH 3

Exhibit. MGMT. design created 50 new flags based on the current conditions of a changing nation. They use data visualization in a heraldic form to reveal facts about our country. Free at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

FRIDAY/MARCH 15

Movie and Discussion. 7 p.m. at Artisphere Dome Theatre, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Watch "Design is One: Lella and Massimo Vignelli" and then have a discussion with filmmakers Kathy Brew and Robert Guerra. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

THROUGH SATURDAY/MARCH 16

Exhibit. See "Delicate/Violent (Delicado/Violento)" by David Amoroso at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Features a series of portraits of local rappers and reggaetoneros depicted in violent postures juxtaposed against delicate backgrounds. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Panel. 5-6:30 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Enjoy a conversation on "Oh Say Can't You See: What Happened to American Design." A reception follows. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 15

Talk and Tour. 6 p.m. at Terrace Gallery at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Free. Hear a talk on "Roberto Palomba: Italian Industrial Designer." Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.



Call for Entries

Each year Arlington Arts Center selects artists from across the mid-Atlantic region for solo exhibitions in AAC's seven separate gallery spaces — or outside on the grounds. Artists are encouraged to submit proposals for works in progress, new bodies of work, as well as site-specific installations in any and all media. AAC hopes to give artists the space and the opportunity to realize projects that may have been on the back burner or fully conceived but not yet realized or exhibited elsewhere. Applications must be postmarked by March 15, and artists will be notified by May 3 for exhibition Nov. 1 – Dec. 22, 2013 Arlington Arts Center is located at 3550 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.



W-L Repeats as Northern Region Gymnastics Champion

Generals thrive despite just one top-three individual finish.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

After the Washington-Lee gymnastics team finished its bar routines during the third rotation of the Northern Region meet, Generals coaches stood in a small group and watched their primary competitor, McLean, go through its beam routines with a region champion yet to be determined.

W-L moved to beam for the fourth and final rotation. After watching Maia Mandel and Mary Lynn Clark deliver stellar performances, head coach Joe D'Emidio had no doubt the Generals were back on top of the region.

Mandel posted a 9.6 on beam, Clark followed with a 9.65 and Washington-Lee repeated as Northern Region gymnastics champion with a score of 147.15 on Feb. 6 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.



Lizzy Brown-Kaiser helped McLean place second at the 2013 Northern Region gymnastics meet on Feb. 6 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

McLean finished runner up for the second consecutive season.

D'Emidio said he already knew the Gen-



The Washington-Lee gymnastics team won the 2013 Northern Region title despite Kylie Auble being the only General gymnast to place in the top three in an individual event (floor).

erals had wrapped up the title after their performance on beam.

He wasn't the only one feeling good about

W-Ls chances.

"I felt we were in pretty good shape because everyone had such solid routines," Mandel said. "Everyone was really confident."

Last year, the Generals became the first W-L sports team to win a region championship in more than three decades. This year, they were even better. The Generals' team score was the best in the history of the W-L girls' gymnastics program. They achieved this feat despite having only one gymnast finish in the top three of an event — Kylie Auble placed third on floor with a 9.5.

"It was a team effort," said D'Emidio, who called the experience of repeating as region champion "exhilarating." "If you saw the awards, [just one] of the W-L kids were in the top three of any event. How do we win it? It was a team effort. ... From the best girl all the way to the fourth girl, they all did well."

Clark was W-Ls top individual finisher, placing sixth in the all-around with a total of 37.475. She finished fourth on beam and bars (9.5), and eighth on vault (9.55). Madeleine Sendek, Sophie Hatcher and Jennifer Laredo also competed for W-L.

The top-eight finishers in each event, the top-four all-around competitors and the top-two teams qualify for states.

Seven O'Connell Athletes Sign Letters of Intent

Seven Bishop O'Connell athletes signed National Letters of Intent on Feb. 6. Morgan Reuther signed with the University of Virginia and will be playing soccer for the Cavaliers. Reuther led the Lady Knights in scoring each of the past four years, and was named to the Washington Post All-Met first team this year. With 33 goals and 14 assists this fall, she was named co-player of the year for the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC). She was also named to the All-South Region team by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA).

Kara DeGuisto signed with Elon University and will be playing soccer for the Phoenix. DeGuisto had 14 goals and 22 assists this past season, earning Washington Post All-Met and All-WCAC first team honors. Her number of assists placed her second in the conference in that category. During her sophomore and junior seasons she was named to the Washington Post All-Met second team.

Ashley Cox signed with Slippery Rock University and will be playing soccer for the Pride. Cox, who played in goal for the Knights, was named to the All-WCAC second team this past fall. She was credited with 10 shutouts this year.

Mary Burk signed with Georgia Gwinett College and will be playing softball for the Grizzlies. Burk has been a mainstay in the O'Connell lineup the past three years, dis-

playing her versatility by playing both in the outfield and at first base. She is coming off a strong 2012 season, registering a .310 batting average with four doubles, one home run and 27 runs batted in while also scoring 20 runs. Her .982 fielding percentage ranked among the team's best.

Robert Flott signed with the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and will be playing soccer for the Spartans. Flott is a goalkeeper, who currently plays for the Potomac Academy in the U.S. Soccer Development Academy. During the 2012 fall soccer season, he acted as the goalkeeper coach for both the O'Connell boys and the girls soccer teams. In 2011, his junior year at Bishop O'Connell, he was named to the All-WCAC first team and was given All-Met Honorable Mention recognition by the Washington Post.

Kiko Murphy-Apgar signed with Hampden-Sydney College and will be playing soccer for the Tigers. Murphy-Apgar has been a starting goalie for Prince William Soccer Club (PWSI) on the 94 Courage Red team. His team won the Virginia State Cup in 2011, and made an appearance in the final four in 2012.

Liam Kaylor signed with Wells College and will play men's volleyball for the Express. Kaylor plays for the Chantilly Volleyball Club and has served as a student volunteer assistant coach and manager for the girls' volleyball team at Bishop O'Connell.



Seven Bishop O'Connell athletes signed National Letters of Intent on Feb. 6. From left are (front row) Ashley Cox, Mary Burk, Morgan Reuther, Kara DeGuisto, (back row) Liam Kaylor, Kiko Murphy-Apgar and Robert Flott.

SPORTS BRIEF

Yorktown Crew To Hold 8th Annual Row for Humanity

Yorktown High School crew will hold its eighth annual Row for Humanity/Ergathon on Feb. 23 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Ballston Common Mall in Arlington near the entrance for the theatres. This event raises funds for both Habitat for Humanity and the Yorktown High School rowing team. Through this event, Yorktown crew provides the Arlington Chapter of Habitat of Humanity its largest donation from any school.

More than 100 Yorktown High School student-athletes participate on indoor

rowing machines known as "ergs." Yorktown crew invites interested members of the public to attend this "ergathon" and donate to show their support for the rowers and Habitat for Humanity. The event is part of a nationwide Row for Humanity Day. Universities and high schools across the country hold simultaneous ergathons, with proceeds supporting rowing teams and local chapters of Habitat for Humanity. Donations to Habitat for Humanity support home construction for the less fortunate in communities nationwide.

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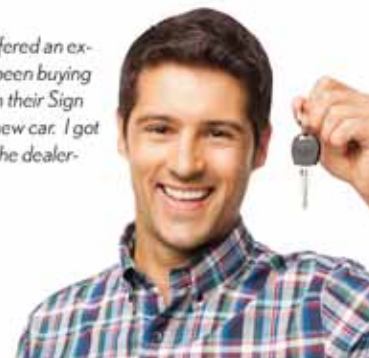
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ACTIVE MILITARY
PERSONEL⁶

(1) OFFERS INCLUDE VA TAX, FREIGHT, \$399 PROCESSING FEE, ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36-MONTH LEASE WITH 12K MILES PER YEAR. TOTAL DOWN PAYMENT PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$399 PROCESSING FEE DUE AT SIGNING. DOLLAR PER DAY AMOUNT BASED ON 30-DAY MONTH. MONTHLY PAYMENTS EQUAL TO: (COROLLA: \$239/MONTH, CAMRY: \$279/MONTH, RAV4: \$289/MONTH). (2) 0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS ON SELECT MODELS. OFFERS FOR WELL-QUALIFIED BUYERS WITH APPROVED TIER1+ CREDIT THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$16.67 PER \$1,000 BORROWED. \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. (3) BASED ON BLACK BOOK TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. (4) COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET. SEE PARTICIPATING DEALER FOR COMPLETE PLAN DETAILS. VALID ONLY IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND ALASKA. (5) TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICE COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH A PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. NOT ALL APPLICANTS WILL QUALIFY. REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD THE AMOUNTS DUE AT LEASE SIGNING OR DELIVERY WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER LEASE OR FINANCE TRANSACTION. (6) REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS, OR TOWARD THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION, OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER FINANCE OR LEASE TRANSACTION. NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE TOYOTA COLLEGE GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN THE U.S. MILITARY. (†) WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (††) FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (†††) 1.9% APR FINANCING ON ALL CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$17.05 PER \$1,000 BORROWED. \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. (††††) *PURCHASERS CAN RECEIVE \$1,000 CASH BACK FROM TOYOTA OR CAN APPLY CASH BACK TO DOWN PAYMENT, TAX, REGISTRATION, INSURANCE, AND DEALER FEES ARE EXTRA. NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. CASH BACK OFFER NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER APR OR LEASE OFFER. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 02/28/13.

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA
TOYOTA / SCION

ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION
3750 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY. | ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305
1-866-616-8420 | ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM