



The
Arlington
Connection

Cue the Music

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Clara (Cassie Downing) admires her godfather's gift in a rehearsal of Ballet Nova's upcoming performances of "The Nutcracker."

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NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 3, 2013

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Clara's godfather Drosselmeyer (Jim Selway) and Hailey Ramsay.



Joe Ogren (Nutcracker Prince) and Cassie Downing (Clara)

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Ballet Nova To Present 'The Nutcracker'

Dancers fill the hallways of Ballet Nova studios, reading books, texting and stretching limbs as the final rehearsals are underway for

the upcoming performances of "The Nutcracker" which opens Dec. 5 in the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre. This year's performances are Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 6, at

7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. The Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre is located at 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Tickets may be purchased online by visiting www.balletnova.org Advance Sale: \$15-35. Youth/Senior discounts are available. Tickets are also available at the door for an additional \$3.

BalletNova Center for Dance is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Programs are supported in part by Arlington County through the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources and the Arlington Commission for the Arts, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, and the Arlington Commission on the Arts.



Lea Winston



Cadence Rolland



The mice enter the parlor at midnight. Kaili Randolph (in front), Marjorie Bruke, Elizabeth Whelan, Kate Bopp, Sabine DuMoulin, Helena DuMoulin, Frances O'Malley and Eleanor Larson



While battling the gingerbread soldiers, a mouse is wounded and carried off.

Usury Explosion

Northern Virginia becomes hotbed for car-title lending industry.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

In the last three years, dozens of new car-title lending businesses have popped up in neighborhoods across Northern Virginia — the result of recent regulations opening the door to a business that charges as much as 264 percent a year on loans. Since 2010, when the Virginia General Assembly gave the green light to the industry, the total number of locations has more than doubled from 184 to 395. And locations are opening every week.

"It's a trap, and although it's presented as a loan it's really loan-sharking," said Jay Speech, executive director of the Virginia Poverty Law Center. "People who get into this end up much worse off than when they started."

Lenders have always charged a range of interest rates for loans, but what's happening now in neighborhoods across Northern Virginia is unprecedented. Back in 2010, after then-Attorney General Bob McDonnell went after the car-title lending industry for violating Virginia law restricting how soon

collections could begin on loans, members of the Virginia General Assembly crafted legislation that set rules specific to car-title lenders. The legislation created some restrictions that prevented lenders from going after borrowers for additional money if

"People who get into this end up much worse off than when they started."

— Jay Speech, executive director, Virginia Poverty Law Center

they had already repossessed an automobile, prevented lenders from charging more than 50 percent of the value of a car and capped the interests rate at 264 percent a year.

SEE REGION, PAGE 12

Help Animals For the Holidays

AWLA gala raises \$80,000 for animal shelter.

BY CAMILLE THOMPSON-CLOWNEY
THE CONNECTION

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA) is the county's only humane society and helps around 3,000 animals each year. About 9,000 Arlington-area residents benefit from AWLA's services annually, including microchip and rabies clinics as well as spay and neuter programs. According to its annual report, the shelter's 2013 fiscal year, running from July 2012 through June 2013, saw 283 dogs, 699 cats, and 154 small companion animals, such as rabbits and birds, adopted. The organization also serves as animal control for the county.

AWLA also helps all kinds of

animals beyond typical household pets. The shelter works with wildlife rehabilitators, taking in animals like deer and squirrels that have been injured. The rehabilitators care for the wildlife temporarily and release them back into the wild.

"We're a progressive organization and always striving to put our animals in the best situation possible to create positive outcomes for them," said Kerry McKeel, Communications Manager for the AWLA. "We're not just an adoption center, but also a resource with services that are often free to the community."

When an animal is taken in, it is evaluated medically and behaviorally. Depending on how the assessment goes, the animal is either put up for adoption, or if their well-being and quality of life is extremely compromised, they are euthanized.

"Shelters across the country are doing an incredible job reducing

SEE AWLA GALA, PAGE 6

PEOPLE

Annual Holiday Design Event Supports Garden Club Programs

Arlington's Rock Spring Garden Club held its fourth Annual Holiday Design Event on Thursday, Nov. 21, attracting a sold-out crowd of more than 200 to watch experts demonstrate how to craft a variety of floral arrangements for Thanksgiving through New Year's Day.

Sarah von Pollaro, owner of Urban Petals and host of the WETA special "Flower Empowered," was joined by club member Sheila Moore in demonstrating creative uses of colors and containers at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association conference center.

RSGC member Dorinda Burroughs initiated the program several years ago to raise funds for the club's community-outreach programs. "We have a wonderful evening to start the holidays, plus we raise the money to do things like send children to camp at Arlington's Outdoor Lab," she said.

The floral arrangements were auctioned off after the demonstration. In addition, pumpkin flower arrangements, design materials and buckets of greens were sold as participants enjoyed refreshments provided by club members and winners of door prizes and



Floral designer Sarah von Pollaro

raffles were announced. Funds raised during the event



PHOTOS BY MARY COTTRELL

Rock Spring Garden Club members (from left) Janice Haines, Renee Bayes and Dorinda Burroughs, who founded the fundraiser several years ago.

also are used to support Rock the Year program, and educational activities in area schools.



PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/THE CONNECTION

Hockey 'n Heels

The Washington Capitals hosted the sold-out Hockey 'n Heels on Nov. 13, at Kettler Capitals Iceplex in Arlington. The event was held exclusively for Club Scarlet members in partnership with 97.1 Wash FM and featured instructional sessions and on-ice demonstrations targeted towards the Capitals female audience. To learn more about Club Scarlet visit www.scarletcaps.com/.



PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/THE CONNECTION

Homebrew Day

Alex Spencer demonstrates how to make beer using different ingredients during a homebrew day event outside Westover Beer Garden on Nov. 2.

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Artful Weekend at the Historic Hendry House

Arlington Artists Alliance held the 10th Annual Artful Weekend at the Hendry House, Ft. CF Smith this past weekend. The art show and sale featured the works of more than 30 Arlington-based artists, and included paintings of many genres, ceramics, sculpture, artists' cards, unframed works and more. On Sunday, The Stardust Dance Band performed in the Hendry House during the show and sale. The Arlington Artists Alliance is a non-profit organization serving and supporting artists in Arlington County. The Alliance is headquartered in Crystal City, at the Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive. The Alliance's Art Academy conducts classes at St. Andrews Episcopal Church & The Gallery Underground in Crystal City. The Alliance also works with participating local businesses, churches, and educational institutions to hold art shows in their spaces.

The Arlington Artists Alliance was established in 2000 to serve and support visual arts in Arlington County. The Alliance seeks to provide professional development activities for local artists, and to serve the community through exhibits, instruction, scholarships, mentoring and outreach projects. The Alliance also provides a support network to members, allowing regional artists to share ideas. Coming for the month of December is a small works show at Cassatt's Cafe and Art Gallery. The show is located at 4536 Lee Highway Arlington, Virginia and is open Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., and Sunday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Phone: 703-894-0540.

For more information on the Arlington Artists Alliance visit www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org.



Up the Hill by Bryan Jernigan



Flight by Meg Mackenzie in watercolor and acrylic.



Taking Flight by Ira Crowe



Looking Out the French Window by Rebecca Croft

Members and friends of the Arlington Artists Alliance take turns at the reception area of the Artful Weekend show and sale on Saturday afternoon. Included are Debbie Taylor, Parry Crowe, Rebecca Salzinger, Sandra Goiol, Lieve De Wulf and Ginnie Luster.



A Day Just Like This by Dennis Crayon.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
THE CONNECTION

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AWLA Gala Raises \$80,000 for Animal Shelter

FROM PAGE 3

euthanasia, but it's still too high," said Neil Trent, AWLA president and CEO. "We have never euthanized for space or time so 92 percent of our animals go to forever homes compared to a national average of 50 percent."

AWLA has two main fundraisers each year including a Walk for the Animals held in the spring and, a new event for this year, the Golden Paw Gala and A-Cat-Emmy Awards.

The gala and awards were held earlier this month on Nov. 2 at the Westin Arlington Gateway, Ballston. AWLA reports that the sold-out event raised \$80,000 to benefit shelter and homeless animals, as well as community programs and services supported by the organization. In addition, three of the six VIPooches featured during the red carpet walk were adopted.

"The money raised at the recent gala goes straight to operations for day-to-day costs of taking in animals," said Trent. "Some [animals] need medical help, some have behavioral issues and the money raised provides resources to put animals through evaluation to make sure they're fit and healthy for their forever homes. We do encourage new adopters to develop a relationship with a veterinarian, but we don't want them to be immediately facing medical issues that require a vet's attention."

Foster volunteers are important for animals that are nervous in the shelter or need a break if they've been waiting a while to be adopted. Margaret Pratt is one of 57 foster volunteers that have helped AWLA. She has fostered nearly 50 cats and kittens over the last three years.

"I've been trained to foster cats and it's been fun," said Pratt. "It can be a lot of work, but ultimately is very fulfilling. The fundraising events help pay for foster supplies so I'm not out any money at all. I get to have fun for free in a sense."

November has been quite the month for the AWLA — beyond a successful fundraiser, Arlington County issued a proclamation declaring November Animal Welfare League of Arlington Shelter Appreciation Month. The honor recognizes AWLA for its efforts to operate one of the top open admission shelters in Virginia and for implementing programs to ensure that over 90 percent of companion animals leave the facility.



Pepper with guests at AWLA's Golden Paw Gala and A-Cat-Emmy Awards on Nov. 2.

"It is gratifying to be recognized by the county for our animal welfare efforts. We strive everyday to protect vulnerable animals as well as to find loving and permanent homes for all companion animals in our community," said McKeel. "It is because of Arlington County residents and individuals throughout the D.C. metro area who share in our mission, that we are able to increase our efforts, better serve the community and improve the lives of animals."

Whether it is a commitment to adopt an animal or simply sharing a Facebook post, there are several ways the public can demonstrate their support for AWLA Shelter Appreciation Month, now and through the holidays:

- ❖ **The Gift of "Home Sweet Home"** – The shelter animals would like nothing more than to find their forever home for the holidays. On Black Friday only (Nov. 29), AWLA will extend half price adoption fees on all animals.

- ❖ **It's a Wrap** – Bring gift purchases to AWLA on Black Friday from 12 to 5p.m. and let the League elves do the gift wrapping. The League will be accepting donations of \$3 per gift wrapped item or \$10 for four gift wrapped items.

- ❖ **A Pawsitively, Purrfect Gift Certificate** – Surprise a loved one with an AWLA gift certificate redeemable for a pet adoption

fee, retail or bakery items or a microchip and rabies vaccination clinic. Gift certificates are available for purchase at the League or over the phone 703-931-9241.

- ❖ **Sweet Treats for Fido** – Looking for a stocking stuffer for your pooch? A five inch tall, custom Rudolph cookie treat by Dogma Bakery & Boutique is on sale exclusively at AWLA for \$3 per treat or \$5 for three treats. Proceeds from each purchase will benefit AWLA shelter animals.

- ❖ **Collars for Canines** – This holiday season AWLA is holding a "collar drive" for shelter dogs.

The league is in need of Quick Release Snap Martingale Collars. Collars can be purchased and shipped directly to the League from an Amazon wish list.

- ❖ **Purchasing a 2014 AWLA Calendar** – Features inspirational stories and photos of League adoptions. Calendars can be purchased for \$20 at the League to benefit shelter animals.

- ❖ **Contributing on "Giving Tuesday"** – You know about Black Friday and Cyber Monday, but are you aware of Giving Tuesday? Kick off the holiday season of giving by making a tax deductible donation to the shelter animals at AWLA on Tuesday, Dec. 3. Visit <http://givingtuesday.razoo.com/story/Awla> for details and to make a contribution.

\$10/four gifts. All proceeds benefit the shelter. There will also be dog treats, a collar drive and more. Visit www.awla.org for more.

SATURDAY/NOV. 30

Small Business Day. The goal of the program is to increase the level of awareness, and to promote the diverse offering of locally owned small businesses and service providers in the Arlington community, and to encourage residents to shop local between Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Participating businesses are encouraged to offer special discounts, services, contests, giveaways, and in-store events to promote ASBD. A special event is also planned to showcase local home-based and online businesses. Contact Shana Lawlor at shanalawlor@yahoo.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 29

"Home Sweet Home" Promotion. The Animal Welfare League of Arlington, 2650 S. Arlington Mill Road. All adoption fees will be half-price for all animals. From noon-5 p.m., bring gift purchases and let AWLA wrap for \$3/gift or



Maggie walks the red carpet.

- ❖ **Give the gift of time** – In the spirit of the season consider "gifting" time as a foster guardian. The shelter can be a stressful environment and some animals just need a break. AWLA is seeking individuals or families that can temporarily open their home to an animal in need of fostering. AWLA provides foster training and covers all expenses associated with caring for a foster animal, including feeding and medical expenses.

- ❖ **Spread the Word** - Follow AWLA on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube and share stories of its adoptable dogs through social media to increase awareness and help find them homes.

To learn more about becoming a foster, volunteer, donor or AWLA's diverse selection of companion animals including: dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, and hamsters visit www.awla.org or download the free Arlington Pets App.

AWLA is also one of the first shelters to create an app which is available for both Apple and Android devices. Ron Novak, a VP at Segue Technologies and AWLA board member, came up with the initiative and Segue Technologies donated the resources.

"If I'm at an event or talking to someone looking for a pet, I can pull up the app and people are amazed," said Trent. "It's been a wonderful boom and resource for us."

SUNDAY/DEC. 1

Tree Nomination. Have a local tree you love? Nominate it for an Arlington County Notable Tree designation. There's no cost to nominate and no obligation to the tree owner, but the favorite tree will be recognized by the County Board as an important natural resource to the community. Visit www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/parks/ParksRecreationScriptsParksNotableTree.aspx for more information. Nominations due Dec. 1.

MONDAY/DEC. 2

DESIGNArlington Submission Deadline. Arlington County's biennial design awards program, DESIGNArlington, is now accepting

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 12

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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

HOLIDAY NEEDS

The Rosslyn BID's annual **winter clothing drive** to benefit clients of A-SPAN (Arlington Street People's Assistance Network) has started. Look for a gift-wrapped donation box in the lobby of your building. Donate new or gently used winter coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, hats, gloves, socks and jeans. Or bring donations to the BID offices, 1911 N. Fort Myer Drive.

VACCINES

Virginia Hospital Center is offering **flu shots and**

Tdap vaccines through its Outpatient Pharmacy. Visit the Outpatient Pharmacy Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. to receive the vaccinations. No appointment is necessary. The Outpatient Pharmacy is located on the first floor of 1701 N. George Mason Drive. All credit cards are accepted, most insurance plans are accepted, and direct insurance billing is provided. Flu shots cost \$30 without insurance; Tdap vaccines cost \$65 without insurance. Walk-ins welcome. Visit www.virginiahospitalcenter.com.

SCHOOLS



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Walk and Bike to School Day

About 1,000 students and parents participated in the International Walk and Bike to School Day on Oct. 9 from 7:15 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. at Swanson Middle School in Arlington. The event encourages parents to walk and bike safely with their children to school. Buses dropped off students a little further away than usual so they could walk along the path with the other walkers and bikers. After the walk, Arlington Schools Superintendent Dr. Pat Murphy addressed the crowd with Principal Bridget Loft, School Board Chair Abby Raphael, School Board member Sally Baird, and Arlington County Board Vice-Chairman Jay Fiset in attendance. Chris Eatough of BikeArlington spoke of the benefits of staying fit while walking and biking. A pep band performed in the soccer field. Students also brought in books for a book swap.

McGrail, Pierson Named Rhodes Scholars

Two Arlington residents — Brian W. McGrail and Emma Pierson — are among the 32 people representing the United States. Rhodes Scholarships provide all expenses for two or three years of study at the University of Oxford in England.

The Rhodes Scholarships were created in 1902 by the Will of Cecil Rhodes, British philanthropist and African colonial pioneer, and are provided in partnership with the Second Century Founder, John McCall MacBain and other benefactors. This year approximately 1,750 students sought endorsement; 857 were endorsed by 327 different colleges and universities.

McGrail is a senior at Williams College where he majors in political economy and history. A Truman Scholar and elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior, McGrail is doing research on the effect of tax rates on income inequality, and on behavioral responses to taxation. Politically active, he is president of the Williams College Democrats, and interned on the Eliza-

beth Warren Senate campaign. He also serves on several college councils and committees. He has volunteered to help those with low income prepare their taxes, is a teaching assistant and peer tutor, and is a four-year member of the Williams varsity cross country team. At Oxford, he plans to do the M.Sc. in comparative social policy.

Pierson graduated from Stanford in June with a B.S. in physics and an M.S. in computer science. Her classroom work was augmented by research in cognitive psychology and biocomputation. Pierson is now working for Coursera, which provides free online education. She was president of the Stanford Debate Society, and won second place in the U.S. national debate championships. She also has done statistical analyses of sexism in sports and in responses to sexual assault trials, and has volunteered as a tutor. She intends to do a D.Phil. in computational biology at Oxford.

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Saint Ann Catholic Church

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OPINION

Holidays Are About Giving

So many needs, so many great organizations, give locally where your heart leads you.

The holidays are about giving. They are about children. The holidays are about sharing, about joy, about alleviating suffering for others. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation.

Most of us live in neighborhoods that are very homogenous. There are exceptions, but most people reading this live in affluent areas where the houses are mostly in the same price range, and while there might be some ethnic diversity, there is little in the way of economic diversity.

It's easy to forget that there are massive unmet needs, hungry children, homeless families most with at least one working parent, homeless individuals with jobs and without jobs, people who don't know for sure whether they will have enough to eat or be able to be warm enough, people who are choosing between medical care and car repair when forgoing the car repair could mean losing a job.

In Arlington County Public Schools, for example, more than 7,000 of the 22,800 public school students qualify to receive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty. That's about 30 percent, but some schools have a much higher percentage of poor stu-

dents. While Yorktown High School has about 13 percent of students qualifying for subsidized meals, at Wakefield, it's more than 48 percent. Elementary schools in Arlington where the majority of students are poor: Abington, 50 percent; Barcroft, 61 percent; Barrett, 52 percent; Campbell, 56 percent; Carlin Springs, 85 percent; Drew Model, 54 percent; Hoffman-Boston, 65 percent; Randolph, 73 percent.

Arlington schools have about 300 students who are homeless any one time, and those students often don't know when they will get their next meal when they are not in school. Arlington Food Assistance Center, in addition to feeding 3,500 adults and 1,500 children each week, provides weekend backpacks of food for homeless students to help see them through until the next school day.

In fact, many poor students rely on breakfast and lunch at school as their reliable meals, and several groups work to provide weekend snacks for these students as well, although the need outstrips the help available.

It's hard to imagine more than 7,000 students going hungry in Arlington; it's obvious that children who aren't sure they will be able to eat when they are hungry are not going to have joyous holidays filled with family meals, gifts and special activities.

Where To Give Locally

In no particular order:

Arlingtonians Meeting Emergency Needs (AMEN) provides one-time, same-day emergency financial assistance to Arlington residents facing a financial crisis, and also has programs to help prevent homelessness. 703-558-0035 www.emergencyneeds.org

Doorways for Women and Families provides services to help women out of domestic violence and homelessness toward safe and stable lives, Arlington www.doorwaysva.org 703-504-9400

The Arlington Food Assistance Center provides supplemental food assistance to Arlington County residents, on average serving 3,500 adults and 1,500 children a week, plus weekend backpacks for about 300 homeless children attending the public schools in Arlington. 2708 South Nelson Street, Arlington, VA 22206 <http://www.afac.org/> 703-845-8486

Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia, Arlington, 703-521-9890

Arlington Free Clinic provides medical care for low-income, uninsured adults in Arlington. www.arlingtonfreeclinic.org 2921 11th St. South, Arlington, VA 22204 703-979-1425

Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless, 703-525-7177, www.aachhomeless.org

A-SPAN provides services for Arlington's street homeless. Our mission is to secure permanent housing for one of Arlington's most vulnerable populations. P.O. Box 100731 Arlington, VA 22210 703-820-4357 <http://www.a-span.org/>

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas. We welcome suggestions for other groups.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Locally Inspired: Sad Thanksgiving Ballad

Civil War death inspires timeless song.

BY MICHAEL MCMORROW
THE CONNECTION

A century and a half ago, with the Civil War mere months old, a young officer's body was pulled from the Potomac River and quickly buried with several others on the Virginia shore near the Chain Bridge. Once identified, the remains were added to the family plot in New England. A soldier's death, a disfigured corpse recovered, a tale to be repeated thousands of time in the coming few years. This event would differ because a poet was moved to write from the heart and a composer was intrigued by the words published anonymously.

The Battle of Ball's Bluff was another in the series of losses by the Federals in the months following the debacle of First Manassas. Marked today by one of the small-

est national cemeteries, the site sits atop a cliff rising 150 feet over the Potomac River, two miles northeast of Leesburg. Its importance is less military than political: The defeat led to the first of Congressional investigations that would second-guess President Lincoln for the rest of the war.

BEGUN AS A RECONNAISSANCE on Oct. 21, 1861, opposing commanders introduced units piecemeal through the day. As dusk approached, the Federals were perched on level ground with their backs to the precipice at the river and with Confederates facing them from yet higher ground. Discarding weapons and equipment to trip down the hill, those fleeing merged with comrades arriving from the Maryland shore. It ended with a Confederate "fish in the barrel" fusillade upon the mass of blue uniforms in the water and on the flood plain at the shore. Bodies shot or drowned clotted the stream.

At first hidden in the watery

SEE SAD BALLAD, PAGE 14



The Potomac River

The
Arlington
Connection

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HOME SALES

In October 2013, 264 Arlington homes sold between \$2,500,000-\$87,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$2,500,000-\$835,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	.....	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	....	Postal	Code
1881 NASH ST #2210	2	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$2,500,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0.50	22209	
2607 24TH ST N	5	...	4	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,499,000	Detached	0.18	22207	
6105 22ND ST N	5	...	5	...	2	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,462,500	Detached	0.18	22205	
1908 TAYLOR ST N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,450,000	Detached	0.30	22207	
3165 MILITARY RD N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,445,000	Detached	0.16	22207	
3815 WAKEFIELD ST N	4	...	3	...	2	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,400,000	Detached	0.14	22207	
3805 18TH ST N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,392,000	Detached	0.27	22207	
3712 ALBEMARLE ST	6	...	5	...	2	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,385,000	Detached	0.15	22203	
518 NORWOOD ST N	4	...	3	...	2	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,376,000	Detached	0.59	22207	
3608 27TH ST N	5	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,375,000	Detached	0.18	22202	
2707 IVES ST S	4	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,371,750	Detached	0.16	22205	
5213 11TH RD N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,360,000	Detached	0.32	22201	
2311 18TH ST N	3	...	3	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,328,000	Detached	0.31	22207	
4903 WILLIAMSBURG BLVD	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,300,000	Detached	0.18	22205	
6101 18TH RD N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,280,000	Detached	0.19	22207	
4714 25TH ST N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,259,900	Detached	0.23	22213	
2727 WESTMORELAND ST	5	...	5	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,200,000	Detached	0.19	22207	
3021 POLLARD ST N	4	...	4	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,180,000	Townhouse	0.04	22209	
1534 COLONIAL TER N	3	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,175,000	Detached	0.30	22207	
3483 VENICE ST	4	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,070,000	Detached	0.19	22205	
1401 ILLINOIS ST N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,062,500	Detached	0.18	22202	
1100 21ST ST S	3	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,050,000	Detached	0.21	22204	
3417LOT 27 9TH ST S	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,046,614	Detached	0.15	22203	
409 FREDERICK ST N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,035,000	Detached	0.15	22207	
3848 DITTMAR RD	4	...	3	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$1,000,000	Townhouse	0.02	22201	
1114 JOHNSON ST	4	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$990,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0.15	22201	
1881 NASH ST N #312	2	...	2	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$990,000	Detached	0.17	22205	
227 EDGEWOOD ST N	5	...	3	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$975,000	Detached	0.29	22207	
6719 19TH RD N	4	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$975,000	Detached	0.14	22201	
3306 PIEDMONT ST N	3	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$969,000	Detached	0.16	22202	
3319 23RD RD N	4	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$965,000	Detached	0.23	22207	
1307 24TH ST S	4	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$965,000	Detached	0.19	22201	
3626 LANCASTER ST N	5	...	4	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$955,000	Detached	0.18	22202	
3008 2ND RD N	3	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$950,000	Detached	0.16	22205	
1331 19TH RD S	4	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$925,000	Detached	0.21	22205	
5131 9TH ST N	5	...	4	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$900,000	Townhouse	0.02	22203	
1400 22ND ST S	3	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$899,000	Detached	0.19	22207	
807 N. WOODROW ST #13	3	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$896,935	Detached	0.21	22205	
301 FILLMORE ST N	4	...	3	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$896,400	Detached	0.06	22207	
5800 22ND ST N	4	...	2	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$890,000	Detached	0.08	22207	
1725 N. WAKEFIELD ST	3	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$862,000	Detached	0.19	22207	
4724 24TH ST N	4	...	3	...	1	.....	ARLINGTON	\$862,000	Detached	0.15	22201	
4734 20TH ST N	5	...	4	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$859,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	0.11	22205	
1417 VERNON ST	3	...	2	...	2	.....	ARLINGTON	\$849,900	Detached	0.19	22205	
1610 QUEEN BLVD N #245	2	...	2	...	0	.....	ARLINGTON	\$841,000	Detached	0.25	22207	
2001 MADISON ST N	4	...	3	...	0	ARLINGTON	\$841,000	Detached			
6324 22ND ST N	4	...	3	...	1	ARLINGTON	\$841,000				
4434 19TH ST N	3	...	4	...	0	ARLINGTON	\$835,000				

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The National Parks Conservation Association recognizes **Rep. Moran's** strong commitment to preserving our national heritage as demonstrated by his votes on seven key pieces of legislation raised in the 112th Congress. Thanks to **Rep. Moran's** voice, places like Yellowstone, Shenandoah and Petersburg National Battlefield will be preserved for our children and grandchildren for years to come.

Old Course Altered for Older People

AARP improves driver training for seniors.

BY MICHAEL MCMORROW
THE CONNECTION

For years, AARP has offered a driver improvement course for senior citizens, a project endorsed by insurance companies and state governments from coast-to-coast. Effective Jan. 1, things will change.

Reasons to improve driving skills remain the same, with two always topping the list. Virginia and other states require insurance companies to offer premium discounts to those completing approved training courses, whether in the classroom or online. Saving money is the first reason. The second reason is self-imposed. It is the natural and personal commitment to take reasonable steps to avoid injury and damage to anyone and anything. A universal fear is killing or injuring a child while in the driver's seat.

The old course relied on technical parts of the driver's manual everyone had studied to obtain a driver's license in the first place. Salted throughout, snippets of wisdom were directed at the up-in-age stu-

**AARP
Instructor
Lincoln C.
Cummings**



dents. In other words, seniors were viewed through the lens of "driving." The words "Safe Driver" appeared in the course title.

AARP's revised course materials spring from a different premise. Knowledge of the driver's license instructional booklet is presumed; only a few basic reminders of factual information from that source are presented. The new approach changes perspective to one of "being a senior — who decided to drive." The course name now uses the words "Smart Driver."

According to volunteer instructor Lincoln C. Cummings, not only the course content has changed. Under the old system, preparation to teach amounted to passing the course itself and self-studying AARP's manual. The new approach requires training in course content, added training on how to be an instructor and then passing examinations for certification.

"The new AARP philosophy is that self-awareness of the natural changes in our bodies is crucial to safe driving in our se-

Finding a Course

A training location finder for AARP classes exists on the organization's website: www.aarp.org. Additionally, each city and county in Northern Virginia has an office serving seniors or offering a broad range of classes to the community-at-large. Information on driving improvement classes is available with a telephone call.

nior years," according to Cummings. "Compared with our younger years, we can't see as well, can't hear as well and are not as flexible physically. The good news is that we can compensate for most such changes." He adds that mental processing of information also slows down over time. Here, too, systematic "exercising" of the mind — playing bridge, doing puzzles, taking formal classes — can compensate to some degree.

Cummings explains that a senior's path to better driving begins with "honest self-evaluation in the face of such changes." Inviting a trusted friend or family member to help with (or confirm) the evaluation adds more value to the process. The next step, according to Cummings, is to be aware of changes apart from "self," meaning constant attention to new features in vehicles and new styles in road construction.

Driving is so commonplace that people hardly think about it. The design of AARP's new course underscores that driving is a very complicated "process," one that demands constant attention to each factor if the driver — especially the older driver — is to be safe and responsible.

Degree Applications Welcomed Now

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Be a Part of CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

During the last week of each year, the Arlington Connection devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students. The results are always remarkable, and the editions have won many awards. It is a keepsake edition for many families.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through e-mail or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be provided in .jpg format. Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Please provide the submissions by Friday, Dec. 6 for publication the week of Dec. 26.

E-mail submissions to: smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Connection, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

**THE
CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS**



"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Dec. 9-14.

Senior trips: Monday, Dec. 9, GardenFest of Lights and dinner, Richmond, \$51; Wednesday, Dec. 11, Bull Run Festival of Lights and dinner, Manassas, \$34; Thursday, Dec. 12, Newseum's JFK exhibit, D.C., \$32; Friday, Dec. 13, Vienna Boys Choir, Patriot Center, \$61; Saturday, Dec. 14, U.S. Army Band Holiday Concert, Ft. Myer, \$7. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Lee Jammers, Monday, Dec. 9, 10:15 a.m., Lee. Free. Details, 703-228-0555.

Line dancing for beginners, Mondays, 11 a.m., Thomas Jefferson Community Center. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Ice skating, Mondays, 8 a.m. – 9:10 a.m., Kettler Capitals Iceplex, Ballston Mall. \$1. Register, 703-228-4745.

History roundtable, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 11:15 a.m., Lee. Discuss villains who affected history. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Demonstration of healthy holiday sweets, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Foreign language conversation groups, Russian, French, Spanish, German, Langston-Brown. Call for days and times, 703-228-6300.

Pickleball, Tuesdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Call to register, 703-228-0955.

Making evergreen centerpieces, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m., Lee. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Coping with hearing loss, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m., Lee. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Advanced line dancing, Thursdays, 1:30 p.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Lee Woodcarvers, Thursdays, 1 p.m., Lee. Free. Details, 703-228-0555.

Holiday sing-a-long, Friday, Dec. 13, 12:30 p.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

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

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

Encore Choral Holiday Concert, 100-plus senior singers accompanied by Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia, Sunday, Dec. 15, 3 p.m., Kenmore Middle School. Open to the public. Details, 703-228-4721.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Stephen Morrissey, a 12th-grade student at Kent School in Kent, Conn., was named to the honor roll for the fall term of 2013-2014.

Alexander Malchow, of Arlington, was awarded a scholarship at Denison University. Malchow, a member of the class of 2017, received a Denison Alumni Award. The Denison Alumni Award is based on academic achievement, leadership and personal merit.

Arlington resident **Emma Wright** has been chosen to partake in the Alice M. Baldwin Scholars Program at Duke University.

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Region Becomes Hotbed for Car-Title Lending Industry

FROM PAGE 3

“Under this law, Mister Speaker, the industry will not grow,” said Del. Terry Kilgore (R-1) when the bill was debated on the House floor. “It will shrink.”

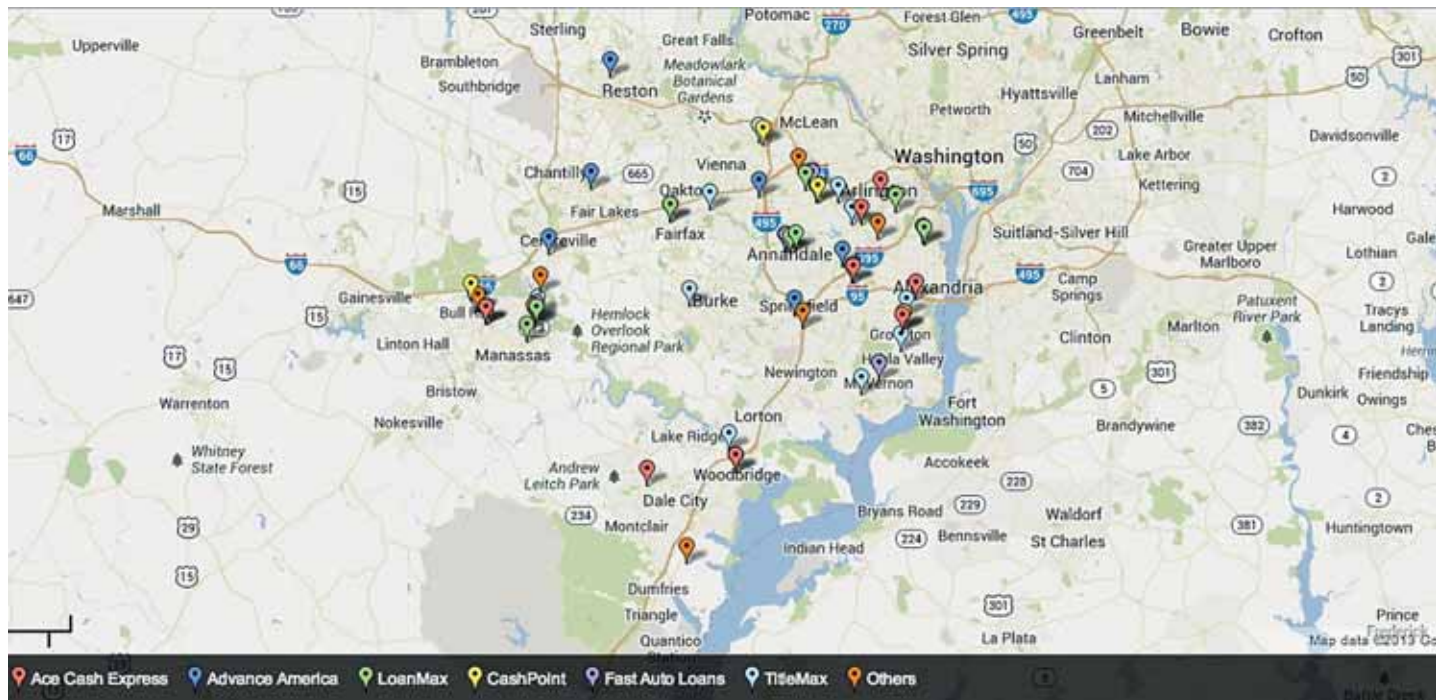
THAT PREDICTION ended up being wrong. When the 2010 legislation passed, Virginia had 125 car-title lending locations. By the end of the year, that number had spiked to 184 locations. By the end of 2011, according to a report from the State Corporation Commission, the industry had 378 locations across the commonwealth. And the industry was clamoring for more. In 2011, a year after the new rules were created, the General Assembly considered another piece of legislation that undercut one of the restrictions created by the previous bill — preventing lenders from accepting titles of out-of-state cars.

“If you want to see car-title lenders do more loans in the state of Virginia, then you want to vote yes,” said Glenn Oder (R-94), who brought a plush shark to the House floor to help him make the point. “But if you agree with me that the law we passed last year was sufficient, then you want to vote no.”

A number of Northern Virginia legislators disagreed with Oder and supported the legislation to expand the reach of car-title lenders outside the boundaries of the commonwealth. The Senate passed the legislation on a 32 to 3 vote, with every member of the Northern Virginia supporting legislation that was introduced by Senate Democratic leader Dick Saslaw (D-35). On the House side, the vote was much tighter — 51 in support and 47 in opposition. The coalition in support of the bill was bipartisan, including Del. Bob Brink (D-48), Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34), Del. Kaye Kory (D-38), Del. Tim Hugo (R-40) and Del. Mark Sickles (D-43).

“All these laws do is let people get a car-title loan,” said Del. Dave Albo (R-42), who also voted in favor of the bill. “People can determine if this is a good choice for them or if it’s a bad choice for them.”

INDUSTRY LEADERS contributed generously to members of the General Assembly



Car-title lending operations in Northern Virginia.

and lobbied heavily to get their way. Since 2009, LoanMax contributed more than \$500,000 and Fast Auto Loans contributed more than \$200,000. Saslaw received the largest individual contributions, receiving \$22,000 from Fast Auto Loans and almost \$20,000 from LoanMax. Many of the other legislators voting in support of the industry also received financial support from car-title lenders. When asked about his support of the 2011 bill, Del. Bob Brink (D-48) had little to say.

“No comment,” said Brink, who received \$1,500 from LoanMax and \$500 from Fast Auto Loans.

A map of car-title lending operations in Northern Virginia shows they are clustered in areas with high poverty and low salaries. Manassas has 11 locations. Annandale has four. South Arlington has two. The Route 1 corridor in southeast Fairfax County has seven, and another one is about to open at the intersection with Huntington Avenue. Some say they are concerned Northern Virginia is becoming a place where unscrupulous lenders can take advantage of people in need who come from the District of Co-



This site is soon to become the latest addition to the series of car-title lending operations that have opened along the Route 1 corridor since legislators opened the door to the industry back in 2010.

lumbia or Maryland — a fear that will become more pronounced when a new casino opens in Prince George’s County.

“Route 1 has become the car-title lend-

ing capital of Northern Virginia,” said Del. Scott Surovell (D-44). “And that’s the last kind of economic development we need on the corridor.”

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

submissions for great design in new construction, renovations, additions or adaptive re-use projects. Eligible projects must have been completed within the last 10 years and may fall into any number of categories. The 2013 Call for Entries can be downloaded from www.arlingtonva.us for detailed information about the awards process, submission requirements and an entry form. Submissions on CD or thumb drive must be received by the County by 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 2.

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

Pesticide Certification Preparation Training Course. Virginia Cooperative Extension agents in northern Virginia are holding the course to prepare those

who need certification as registered technicians or certified commercial pesticide applicators for the VDACS exam/s. Contact Kisha Simpson at 703-228-6400, fortunec@vt.edu.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

Pesticide Certification Preparation Training Course. Virginia Cooperative Extension agents in northern Virginia are holding the course to prepare those who need certification as registered technicians or certified commercial pesticide applicators for the VDACS exam/s. Contact Kisha Simpson at 703-228-6400, fortunec@vt.edu.

THURSDAY/DEC. 5

Meeting. 12:15 at La Cote d’Or, 6876 Lee Highway. The Arlington Rotary Club election of officers. Visit

www.arlingtonrotaryclub.org.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 5-8

Citrus “Sweet” Fruit Sale. The Arlington Host Lions will sell grapefruits, oranges, tangerines, nuts, peanuts and more at the Wells Fargo Bank parking lot at the corner of Lee Highway and N. Glebe Road. Proceeds benefit community non-profits supported by the Lions Club. Visit www.arlingtonhostlions.org or 703-598-8266.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 6-7

Open House. Learn about Arlington Mill Community Center to learn about the center’s programs, classes, drop-in opportunities and more. There will be activities such as a climbing wall and giant Jenga on Saturday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Visit www.arlingtonva.s/arlingtonmill for

more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Living Nativity. 6-8 p.m. at Cherrydale United Methodist Church, 3701 Lorcom Lane. Warm up with carols, cookies and cocoa. Free. E-mail cumc@erols.com or 703-527-2621.

Worldwide Candle Lighting Service. 6 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 5533 N. 16th St. The service is hosted by The Arlington Chapter of the Compassionate Friends and will honor the memory of children, siblings and grandchildren who have passed. Bring a picture or a small remembrance of your child/sibling/grandchild for display and a refreshment. For more information, contact: Elaine Anzevino at eanzevino@aol.com. Visit

www.compassionatefriends.org for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 9

Informational Mixer. 8-9 a.m. at Leadership Arlington, 4420 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 102. Learn about Leadership Arlington from current members and ask about the program or application process. RSVP to www.leadershiparlington.org or 703-528-2522.

Conference. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Founder’s Hall, 3351 Fairfax Drive. Northern Virginia Language Access Leadership Conference’s theme is “Make it Happen.” Participants can learn about and discuss language services in government. Free, breakfast will be served. Register at novalanguageaccessleadership.eventbrite.com.

"Scanticipation"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

When I get CT-Scanned on Wednesday, November 27th, it will be nearly four months since my last diagnostic scan. That occurred during my hospital "staycation" during the first week of August, when I was admitted due to the extremely abnormal fluid buildup in my left lung. The surgery to drain the fluid went well, as you regular readers know, but as a consequence of this procedure/hospital stay – and its recovery, my subsequent chemotherapy infusions were delayed for about a month and naturally the follow-up scans were as well. This meant/now means that my every-three-month scan has become at least for this particular set of time circumstances, a four-month interval, the longest such interval in my full-time cancer career since I was first diagnosed with stage IV, non-small-cell lung cancer back in February, 2009.

I'm not nervous about the outcome this time, however, as I have written about in previous columns: "Scanxiety," "Scanning the Horizon" and "Scantastic." These are all examples of the emotional roller coaster a cancer patient rides when scans are in the offing. Regarding (you'll note I didn't use "concerning,") this upcoming scan, I feel more curious and calm than I have felt before. Aside from being more experienced with this process/cycle, and continuing as well to be relatively asymptomatic, my most recent lab work has been encouraging or at least not discouraging in that certain results/levels are improving. Now I don't know if these improved results (specifically my creatinine and bilirubin levels as well as my GFR/glomerular filtration rate) have any effect on the metastatic tumors in my left lung, but the improving levels do mean that my body is tolerating the every-three-week chemotherapy infusions that I've been receiving since September 20th. And "tolerating" is about as good as it gets, considering there are few drugs still available that my oncologist would feel are suitable for my condition. More to the point, when I asked my oncologist how do I really know (other than the lab results) that I'm tolerating the drug, he said, "You wouldn't be a very happy camper if you weren't." To which I replied, happily: "Well, I'm a long way from that." And not that the camping reference was lost on me, but I've been camping very few times in my life, and on those few occasions, I was happiest when I was leaving the campsite heading home.

Camping experiences aside – and not misunderstood, I am looking forward to the results of this next scan and really not stressing about it, either. Nor am I anxious. If anything, I'll admit to being naive. Moreover, I won't admit to being positive, since there's so much about the human body that I don't understand and after five years of having cancer-type symptoms and/or feelings, or not having cancer-type symptoms and/or feelings, with varying outcomes, I never know what to make of any of it. What I am positive about is how mysterious it all is and how few guarantees there are in any of it. Nevertheless, I'm grateful for a definite maybe; I can live with that, as I have been.

Time will tell, soon enough. Although, a long Thanksgiving weekend might slow down the e-mail which my oncologist will send with the results. But I can't worry about that either. I feel good. My labs were good. My reaction to yesterday's chemotherapy was good. The Red Sox just won the World Series for the third time in 10 years; that's all good, great in fact. For a terminal cancer patient from Boston five years post-diagnosis who wants to live and loves his hometown team, it doesn't get much better, realistically speaking.

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

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-William Van Horne

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-William Van Horne

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSAL TO CLEANUP AT UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK SITE

There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at:

Former Exxon
9901 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, Virginia 22066

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring Fairfax Petroleum Realty, LLC to develop a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address cleanup of methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) in groundwater at the site. If you have questions regarding the cleanup, please contact:

Kleinfelder
1340 Charwood Road, Suite I
Hanover, Maryland 21076
(443) 925-6048
Attention: Mark Steele

The CAP was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of the DEQ on November 22, 2013. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed CAP with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact Alex Wardle (Alexander.Wardle@deq.virginia.gov) at (703) 583-3822 after the date of the CAP submittal. The DEQ Northern Regional Office will consider written comments regarding the proposed CAP until December 27, 2013. Due to public interest, the DEQ will hold a Public Meeting on December 10, 2013, at 8:30 PM at the Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA. The public meeting will follow the Great Falls Citizens Association Monthly Meeting, which will begin at 7:30 PM and include information about the proposed plan. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; PC# 2010-3028.

Department of Environmental Quality
Storage Tank Program
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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OPINION

Sad Ballad

FROM PAGE 8

depths, natural decomposition would raise may corpses downstream in the coming weeks Add to that an especially heavy storm which hit the entire mid-Atlantic area the last week in October causing flooding, as well as damage to structures like the Long Bridge. People on both sides of the river were horrified when no less than three dozen bodies were found afloat and ashore.

John William Grout was one of them. The 18 year old was familiarly known as "Willie" in his hometown, Worcester. As a second lieutenant in Company D of the 15th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, he stood in the thick of the fight the whole day. Driven into the water and shot in the back of the head, he submerged. An obituary mentioned the unsuccessful journey of the young man's father to find the body, and then said, "Let us hope, however, that the Potomac ... will yet yield up the youthful dead." It did and he was buried at home. Thanksgiving Day 1861 was only days away.

ON THAT HOLIDAY, whether planned or by habit, the family table was set as usual. The chair at Willie's place was empty. Poet Henry S. Washburn was an invited guest; his son and Willie had been friends. Struck by the sadness pervading the event, Washburn saw in it the scene that would be repeated countless times in the course of the war; indeed, in all wars. He wrote "The Vacant Chair." In time, Washburn's friend and fellow Massachusetts native George F. Root provided the tune. As the next year's Thanksgiving Day approached, words and music were published by Root in Chicago and met with popular acclaim. The subtitle was "We Shall Meet But We Shall Miss Him (Thanksgiving, 1861)."

"The Vacant Chair" was published and performed on both sides of the battle lines throughout the Civil War. No color of uniform could hide the universal sense of loss captured by the words and carried by the music.

Nor did the story end there. The piece, known near-and-far, was revived in later wars, especially the Spanish-American War and World War I. Concert performances were frequent during the former. The advent of recorded music before the latter spread its fame farther as tune and message attracted the most famous performers. Musical tastes changed greatly in the years preceding World War II and interest in "The Vacant Chair" waned. Today, like the battle that prompted it, the song is all but forgotten.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS has created a free-access, online library of recorded songs that have played a significant role in our cultural history. Several versions of "The Vacant Chair" are included for that reason. Taking a few minutes to listen would be an appropriate way for any holiday gathering to recall, with thanks, the sacrifice of the many "Willies" and the enduring sadness of their families.

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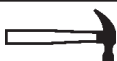
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ENTERTAINMENT

Navigating Local Holiday Craft Shows

Supporting local artisans and getting one-of-a-kind gifts.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Madeline Marzilli plans to start making her Christmas list right after her Thanksgiving house guests leave this weekend. On her list will be one-of-a-kind items for family and friends that she hopes to pick up at some of the local holiday craft shows.

"I am primarily looking for hand-knitted scarves and sweaters, said Marzilli, who lives in Oak Hill. "I'd like to get some jewelry for my mom and my daughters, and a piece of pottery or two for myself."

As the holiday shopping season starts in earnest, craft shows may seem ubiquitous, but local show directors say one of the advantages of shopping for presents at craft markets instead of large retail stores is the ability to purchase original items while supporting local artists.

Jean P. Freeman, a professor of interior design at Marymount University in Arlington, Va., uses American Craft Council Shows as a source for purchasing art.

"One of the great sources that I use are the American Craft shows," said Freeman. "Not only are there the usual paintings, but all sorts of other types of wall hanging, sculpture [and] crafts. The breadth and depth of the shows will have something for everyone. In the American Craft shows the buyers are supporting the artists themselves and not a huge industry-made product."

Local craft show directors say the same is true for smaller holiday craft shows. Sam Roberts, director of special events at the McLean Community Center, is organizing the 31st annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show. "These shows will have a lot of specialty arts and crafts," said Roberts, who has been running the show for 25 years. "The items that will be here will be unique because they are handcrafted by the exhibiter. We've worked hard over the years to make sure our craft show stays personal and one-of-a-



FILE PHOTO

Artist Jeff Jacobs shows one of his carved birds to shoppers at Washington-Lee's 2012 Holiday Bazaar. Vendors filled the school cafeteria offering jewelry, knitted hats and scarves, cosmetics, one-of-a-kind gifts, chocolates and sweets.

kind, not commercialized."

Patrice Roe of Holly & Ivy: A Christmas Marketplace, which is sponsored by Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Vienna said, "We sell everything from jewelry, which is ubiquitous at holiday bazaars, to hand-crocheted and knitted items. We will have 40 vendors over two days."

Sabrina Anwah, communications director for the McLean Community Center suggests that to avoid feeling overwhelmed by the magnitude of buying options, showgoers should arrive with an idea of what they are looking to purchase.

"We'll have everything you can imagine, like wood items, ceramics, pottery, holiday

decorations, jewelry and gourmet food items," she said. "It is a good idea to come with a list of who [you] are buying for and what the person might want."

Anwah suggests that before making buying decisions, visitors should take a look at the entire fair. "It is good for people to see what is here first and talk to the vendors about what they have to offer," she said.

"The people who made the product will be on hand and can answer questions."

Since most items will be one-of-a-kind, Anwah suggests asking the vendor questions before making a purchase. "Ask them to explain how it was made," she said. "Ask if it can be customized.

"Artisan items will be unique because they are handcrafted by the exhibiter. People will be getting something that they can't get anywhere else."

— Sam Roberts, director of special events, McLean Holiday Crafts Show

CALENDAR

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is noon Thursday. 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. The Crystal City **FRESHFARM Market**

is open on Tuesdays from 3-7 p.m. with the same selection of foods and goods from local producers, in front of 251 S. 18th St.

Theater Performance. Through Sunday, Dec. 8, see Christine Lahti in "Pride in the Falls of Autrey Mill" in the ARK Theatre at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Tickets on sale. Visit www.signature-theatre.org for times and tickets.

Art Exhibit. See "Spirit Sojourn" paintings and mixed media by Chris Tucker Haggerty at Marymount's Barry Gallery, 2807 N. Glebe Road through Dec. 9. Free. Hours are Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit marymount.edu/

barrygallery.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Yes, It's Colored Pencil" from Dec. 2-28 at Gallery Underground, in the Crystal City Shops, 2100 Crystal Drive. Free. Features works by members of the Colored Pencil Society of America. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Visit www.galleryunderground.org or call 571-483-0652.

Art Exhibit. See "Faces of Afghanistan: Images by Arlington Photographer Kenneth Chadwick" at Cherrydale Branch Library, 2190 Military Road. On display through Jan. 6. Hours are Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday from

1-9 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free.

Art Exhibit. See "Season's Greetings from Arlington: Christmas Cards & Ornaments to Decorate the Holidays: 1920-1940" at the Arlington Historical Museum at the Hume School, 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road. Hosted by the Arlington Historical Society. Free. Runs from Nov. 30 through Jan. 19. Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Visit www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org for more.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Theatre Classes. Encore Stage & Studio is holding classes and mini

camps for children in grades K-8 at on Saturdays at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road and Tuesdays and Wednesdays after-school at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Visit www.encorestageva.org for a list of classes.

Registration. Jane Franklin Dance presents "Forty+," a workshop series for dancers past the age of 40. Runs Tuesdays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 5-Jan. 14. Register at www.janefranklin.com/adult-dance-education/forty-plus or 703-933-1111.

Boutiques & Bazaars

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Holiday Boutique. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Hall, 800 23rd St. Browse vendors selling Alpaca wovens, ceramics, local honey products and more. There will also be a bake sale, lunch items, raffle and more. Visit www.ahwc.org for more. Proceeds benefit Operation Renewed Hope Foundation and the Arlington Historical Museum.

Holiday Bazaar. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Washington-Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford St. Browse the wares of more than 60 local artisans including jewelry, clothing, collectibles, artwork and more. Free. Food will be available for purchase. Music by the Madrigals and other groups. 703-228-6200.

Art+Pints Bazaar. 2-5 p.m. at P. Brennan's Irish Pub & Restaurant, 2910 Columbia Pike. Beer will be sold to benefit the Arlington Food Assistance Center. There will also be artisans selling their art, a silent auction, games and more. Free, but bring a non-perishable food item for donation. Visit greendrinks.org/arlington for more.

Chrome for the Holidays. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Browse barware, books, furniture, clocks and more for gift ideas. \$10. There will be a special preview from 9-11 a.m. \$25/advance; \$35/door. Hosted by The Art Deco Society of Washington. Visit www.adsw.org or 202-298-1100.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Chrome for the Holidays. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Browse barware, books, furniture, clocks and more for gift ideas. \$10. Hosted by The Art Deco Society of Washington. Visit www.adsw.org or 202-298-1100.

SATURDAY/DEC. 14

Holiday Craft Fair and Bazaar. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Wakefield High School, 1325 S. Dinwiddie St. Enjoy demonstrations, music and dance performances and more while browsing items from artisans and crafters. Free.

Ask what materials it was made from and how it functions."

Roe, who is also director of development for Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church and School adds that Holly & Ivy: A Christmas Marketplace will offer the works of three fine arts vendors, including two professionally trained artists. "We have one vendor who raises alpacas and makes hand-made items like hats, gloves and scarves."

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

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ENTERTAINMENT



FILE PHOTO

Amara Forsley is Clara Stahlbaker in BalletNova's 2012 production of "The Nutcracker" at Thomas Jefferson Community Center.

Holiday Ballet

There are many performances of "The Nutcracker" in the area, including those by BalletNova, Classical Ballet Theatre and The Virginia Ballet Company and School. See the entertainment calendar for specific performances.

Classical Ballet Theatre holds performances at Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater on Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Tickets are \$18-25. Visit www.cbntva.org/nutcracker. Military families, Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts can call Kim Brummett for the discounted tickets at 703-471-0750.

The Virginia Ballet Company and School also performs at Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale campus in the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Tickets are \$20-\$30. Visit www.virginiaballetcompany.org.

BalletNova performs at Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 3501 S. 2nd St. Tickets range from \$13-\$35 with discounts for students and seniors. Watch a **petite performance** of BalletNova's "The Nutcracker" at BalletNova Center for Dance Studios, 3443 Carlin Springs Road, Falls Church. Performances are 45 minutes and include a narrative of the story and highlights from Act II. Appropriate for children ages 3-5. Tickets are \$15-\$20. Add \$3 at the door. Visit www.BalletNova.org, or call 703-778-3008 for tickets.



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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 15

SATURDAY/NOV. 30

Ballet Performance. 2 p.m. or 8 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater on Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Watch "The Nutcracker" performed by Classical Ballet Theatre. \$25/adult; \$20/senior, student or child; \$18/military, Girl Scout or Boy Scout. Visit www.cbntva.org/nutcracker. Military families, Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts can call Kim Brummett for the discounted tickets at 703-471-0750.

Pop-Up Retail Event. 11 a.m. at the Ballston BID's Launch Pad space in the Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. The event will showcase local home-based and online businesses. Local author Lindsey Jensen Berke will read from her book; Tippi Toes Dance will hand out gift bags for children at select locations in Arlington. Visit www.arlingtonsmallbusinessday.org for locations.

SUNDAY/DEC. 1

Ballet Performance. 2 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater on Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Watch "The Nutcracker" performed by Classical Ballet Theatre. \$25/adult; \$20/senior, student or child; \$18/military, Girl Scout or Boy Scout. Visit www.cbntva.org/nutcracker. Military families, Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts can call Kim Brummett for the discounted tickets at 703-471-0750.

MONDAY/DEC. 2

Talk. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. George Wunderlich, from the Civil War Medical Museum in Frederick, Md., will discuss some of the medical practices used during the Civil War. Free.

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

Tiny Tot. 10 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 18-35 months can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622814-A.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

Adult Bird Walk. 9-11 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Take an informal walk through the park and look for resident and migratory birds. All levels of bird watchers welcome. Free. 703-228-6535. Program #622944-A.

Tiny Tot. 10 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 18-35 months can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622814-B.

Tiny Tot. 1-2 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 3-5 years can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622814-I.

THURSDAY/DEC. 5

Ballet Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 3501 S. 2nd St.

Watch BalletNova's "The Nutcracker." Tickets range from \$13-\$35 with discounts for students and seniors. Visit www.BalletNova.org, or call 703-778-3008 for tickets.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

Opening Reception. 5-8 p.m., meet some of the artists of "Yes, It's Colored Pencil" at Gallery Underground, in the Crystal City Shops, 2100 Crystal Drive. Free. Features works by members of the Colored Pencil Society of America. For more information visit www.galleryunderground.org or call 571-483-0652.

Ballet Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 3501 S. 2nd St. Watch BalletNova's "The Nutcracker." Tickets range from \$13-\$35 with discounts for students and seniors. Visit www.BalletNova.org, or call 703-778-3008 for tickets.

Miracle on 23rd Street. 6:30 p.m. at Linden Resources, 750 S. 23rd St. "Miracle on 23rd Street" is the traditional kick-off of the local holiday season with a tree lighting, Santa Claus arriving on an Arlington County fire truck, holiday music, vendor gift fair and children's activity. Free and open to the public. Visit www.Linden.org or call 703-521-4441.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Watch "A Christmas Carol" from The Providence Players. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Young Hearts Foundation. \$17/person. Visit www.providenceplayers.org or 703-425-6782.

Tiny Tot. 10:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-2 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 3-5 years can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622814-J or #622814-K.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Breakfast With Santa. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 3022 Woodlawn Ave. Enjoy crafts, snacks and more. Free. Visit www.htluther.org or 703-532-6617.

Ballet Performance. 1 p.m. or 5 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 3501 S. 2nd St. Watch BalletNova's "The Nutcracker." Tickets range from \$13-\$35 with discounts for students and seniors. Visit www.BalletNova.org, or call 703-778-3008 for tickets.

Volunteer Work Day. 10 a.m. at Potomac Overlook Park, 2845 N. Marcey Road. Help with indoor and outdoor projects. Free. 703-528-5406.

Animal Feeding 101. 1 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Park, 2845 N. Marcey Road. Help staff gather insects, worms and then learn how to take care of and feed turtles. Appropriate for all ages. \$5/person. Registration required. 703-528-5406.

Wild Ones: Long Branch Rocks. 3-4 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 6 and up can find out where rocks come from. Climb up a hill to find an ancient riverbend, hunt fossils and more. \$5/due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622924-A.

Campfire: Winter Wildlife. 6 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families can learn how animals stay warm. SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

A great man is one who can have power and not abuse it.

—Henry L. Doherty

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

ONGOING

- Comedy.** Every Saturday at 3 p.m. at Comedy Spot, in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd., children can enjoy ComedySportz for Kidz. \$10. Visit www.comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.
- Comedy.** Every Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. is ComedySportz ("clean") and at 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday is the Blue Show ("unclean"), both at Comedy Spot, in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. \$15 each. Visit www.comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.
- Poetry Series.** 6-8 p.m. second Sunday of the month at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Hosted by poet Miles David Moore. Featured artists share their poetry followed by open readings. Free. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.
- Open Mic Nite.** 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. every Wednesday at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Sign-up times are 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Bring instruments, fans and friends. Featured musicians will perform from 9:30-10 p.m. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.
- Karaoke.** 8 p.m. on the first Sunday every month at Galaxy Hut, 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-8646.
- Pub Quiz.** 8 p.m. every Sunday at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Prizes for 1st place. Free. Visit www.whitlows.com or call 703-276-9693.
- Art Exhibit.** See works by Kristina Bilonick, Amy Chan, Matthew Fishel and others at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Exhibit runs through Dec. 22. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or 703-248-6800.
- Solo Exhibit.** See works by Katie Lynch

Thibault at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Exhibit runs through Dec. 22. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or 703-248-6800.

Exhibit. See "Western Mountain: Lovesong" through Jan. 4 in the Mezz Gallery at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See artist in residence Emily Francisco through Jan. 12 at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. every Friday from 6-10 p.m. and Saturdays from noon-6 p.m. Her exhibit is called "May I Have the Piano Delivered to You?" Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or call 703-875-1100.

Art Exhibit. See "Everything You Are Looking For" by Alicia Eggert from Nov. 21 through Feb. 2 in the Terrace Gallery at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. The exhibit draws on her background in sculpture, design and dimensional studies. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or call 703-875-1100 for tickets.

Theater Performance. See the "Silent Shakespeare" adaptation of "Twelfth Night" from Jan. 9 through Feb. 16 at Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$35, with a student, senior and military discount. 866-811-4111 or visit www.synetictheater.org for tickets.

CLASSES

Fall Classes. Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. New fall classes and public programs for all ages and in a variety of media are available. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800 for a schedule.

SUNDAY/DEC. 1

Music Showcase. 7:30-11:30 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Alchemical Records presents Emmett

At Iota on Black Friday

The Dawn Drapes, Money Cannot Be Eaten and The Post perform on Black Friday at Iota. Friday, Nov. 29 at 9 p.m. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. \$10. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340. Find the bands at www.facebook.com/thedawndrapes, www.facebook.com/thepostdc and www.facebook.com/moneycannotbeaten.



Kate Jarosik and Chelsea Bryan of The Post.

Williams, Spencer Joyce, reggae/rock band Higher Education, End of Silence and Charles the Hammer will perform. Visit www.alchemicalrecords.com or www.iotaclubandcafe.com for more.

THURSDAY/DEC. 5

Opening Reception. 7-10 p.m. Alicia Eggert will talk about her exhibit "Everything You are Looking For" in the Terrace Gallery at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. The exhibit draws on her background in sculpture, design and dimensional studies. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or call 703-875-1100 for tickets.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Music Performance. Sofia Rei will perform at 8 p.m. at Artisphere's Dome Theatre, 1101 Wilson Blvd. She explores the connections between the various traditions of South American folklore, jazz and electronic sounds. \$18. Visit www.artisphere.com for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Music Performance. 4:30 p.m. at Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre at Artisphere, 1611 N. Kent St. The National Chamber Ensemble will play seasonal music, classical masterpieces and feature 12-year-old Avery Gagliano, who will play the violin and piano. \$30/adult; \$15/student. Visit www.nationalchamberensemble.org or 888-841-2787.

"A Joyful Christmas Concert." 4 p.m. in the Reinsch Library auditorium on Marymount's main campus, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Hear Marymount's Blue Harmony Show Choir, Chapel Choir and special guest Julia Nixon. Free. A reception will follow. 703-284-1611.

THURSDAY/DEC. 19

Holiday Comedy Songfest. 8 p.m. at Iota Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Watch "JEW MONGOUS," a comedy song concert featuring Cynthia Kaplan and Mike Hunter. \$15/person. Visit iotaclubandcafe.com or 703-522-8340 for tickets. Visit www.jewmongous.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 17

during winter while tasting treats and more. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622954-K.

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Watch "A Christmas Carol" from The Providence Players. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Young Hearts Foundation. \$17/person. Visit www.providenceplayers.org or 703-425-6782.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Ballet Performance. 1 p.m. or 5 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 3501 S. 2nd St. Watch BalletNova's "The Nutcracker." Tickets range from \$13-\$35 with discounts for students and seniors. Visit www.BalletNova.org, or call 703-778-3008 for tickets.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at Arlington Presbyterian Church, 3507 Columbia Pike. NoVA Lights Chorale will present "Winter Variations," featuring jazz, swing, classical and more. Free. Visit www.novalightschorale.jigsy.com for more.

Holiday Wreath Workshop. 1-4 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Adults and children ages 12 and up can use all-natural items to create decorative

crafts. Bring hand pruners, wire cutters or any extra materials or special decorations you want to add. \$30 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622944-D.

Remove Invasive Plants. 2-4 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Adults, families and teens can keep the park free of destructive plants. Free. 703-228-3403.

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Watch "A Christmas Carol" from The Providence Players. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Young Hearts Foundation. \$17/person. Visit www.providenceplayers.org or 703-425-6782.

TUESDAY/DEC. 10

Tiny Tot. 10:30 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 3-5 years can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622914-J.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 11

Holiday Nature Crafts. 4-5 p.m. or 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Families with children ages 5 and up can make nature-themed gifts and decorations. \$7/child due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program

#622854-G or #622854-H.

Tiny Tot. 10:30 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 3-5 years can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622914-K.

THURSDAY/DEC. 12

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Watch "A Christmas Carol" from The Providence Players. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Young Hearts Foundation. \$17/person. Visit www.providenceplayers.org or 703-425-6782.

Tiny Tot. 10 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 18-35 months can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622914-A.

FRIDAY/DEC. 13

Ballet Performance. 5 p.m. at BalletNova Center for Dance Studios, 3443 Carlin Springs Road, Falls Church. Watch a petite performance of BalletNova's "The Nutcracker." Performances are 45 minutes and include a narrative of the story and highlights from Act II. Appropriate for children ages 3-5. Tickets are \$15/child; \$20/adult. Add \$3 if

purchased at the door. Visit www.BalletNova.org, or call 703-778-3008 for tickets.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Watch "A Christmas Carol" from The Providence Players. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Young Hearts Foundation. \$17/person. Visit www.providenceplayers.org or 703-425-6782.

Tiny Tot. 10 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 18-35 months can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622914-B.

SATURDAY/DEC. 14

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. 8 a.m. at Potomac Overlook Park, 2845 N. Marcey Road. Join the park staff in the annual Christmas Bird Count by keeping eyes and ears open while walking all the trails of the park to survey what birds are hunkering down for the winter at Potomac Overlook. Meet in the shelter building at the main parking lot. Some binoculars available, but feel free to bring a pair. Call 703-528-5406.

Winter Wonderland. 10 a.m. at Market Common Clarendon. MIX 107.3 will be on site accepting donations of toys and cash in support

of the US Marine Corps' Toys for Tots drive from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and from 2-5 p.m. there will be free holiday activities and entertainment, including visits and photos with Santa Claus, who will be arriving by fire truck. For event information, call 703-785-5634, and visit www.marketcommonclarendon.com.

Theater Performance. 1 p.m. or 3 p.m. at BalletNova Center for Dance Studios, 3443 Carlin Springs Road, Falls Church. Watch a petite performance of BalletNova's "The Nutcracker." Performances are 45 minutes and include a narrative of the story and highlights from Act II. Appropriate for children ages 3-5. Tickets are \$15/child; \$20/adult. Add \$3 if purchased at the door. Visit www.BalletNova.org, or call 703-778-3008 for tickets.

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Watch "A Christmas Carol" from The Providence Players. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Young Hearts Foundation. \$17/person. Visit www.providenceplayers.org or 703-425-6782.

Tiny Tot. 10 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 18-35 months can discover nature through a themed program. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #622914-C.



Wakefield junior Dominique Tham will be expected to carry more of the offensive load for the Warriors during the 2013-14 season.



Senior forward Re'Quan Hopson has taken on leadership role for the Wakefield boys' basketball team.



Wakefield boys' basketball coach Tony Bentley talks to the Warriors during a scrimmage at South Lakes High School on Nov. 23.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Wakefield Returns Three Starters from Playoff Team

Warriors must overcome loss of leaders Moore, Nega.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The bad news for the Wakefield boys' basketball team: Khory Moore and Ermias Nega, last season's leading scorer and rebounder, respectively, have graduated.

The good news: The Warriors return three starters from a team that reached the Group AAA state semifinals — the most talent coach Tony Bentley has had return from a state playoff team.

Wakefield burst onto the scene during the 2012-13 campaign. The Warriors won the National District championship, lost in overtime of the Northern Region final and fell one win shy of reaching the state championship game. While Bentley doesn't like to saddle teams with lofty expectations, it's hard not to see the potential of the 2013-14 Warriors.

A big reason for optimism is junior Dominique Tham. The 6-foot-4 center came on strong during the end of his sophomore season, showing his potential as a scorer, rebounder and shot-blocker. Facing Robinson in the region semifinals with a state tournament berth on the line, Tham recorded a triple-double, scoring 15 points, grabbing 11 rebounds and blocking 12 shots.

Tham showed his versatility during a re-

cent scrimmage at South Lakes. After grabbing a pair of offensive rebounds and scoring on a putback, Tham headed to the other end of the floor to play defense. Moments later, he came up with a steal, drove the length of the court and scored while being fouled.

Senior forward Re'Quan Hopson is a returning starter who has taken on a leadership role. Senior guard Jalen Carver is the other returning starter. Both will be looked upon for scoring.

Junior guard Marqua Walton is a perimeter threat for the Warriors. As a sophomore, Walton lit up Stonewall Jackson for 26 points and six 3-pointers to help the Warriors win the consolation title at their holiday tournament.

Senior point guard Kyle Davis, a transfer from Washington-Lee, will take over pri-

mary ball-handling duties. Junior forward Riley Wilson, a transfer from Yorktown, should give Wakefield an inside presence.

While Wakefield has the talent to succeed, the Warriors will have to make it happen without Moore, who now plays for Virginia Wesleyan, and Nega. In last year's season-opener against Fairfax, Moore scored 22 points and knocked down six 3-pointers. Nega scored 24 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Near the end of the season, the duo was still producing at a high level. Moore scored 37 points and buried six 3-pointers in an overtime loss to Woodson in the region championship game, and Nega scored 32 points and grabbed 13 rebounds against Mountain View in the state quarterfinals.

Wakefield opens at home, Dec. 7, against TC in the annual Hoffman-Boston/Parker-Gray memorial game.

SPORTS BRIEF

Group 6A North Region Football Playoffs

Three of four favorites advanced during the 6A North region football quarterfinals on Nov. 22, with Langley being the lone high seed to fall short.

The Saxons, seeded No. 5 in the region, lost to No. 13 Stonewall Jackson 51-48 in the region's highest-scoring game of the weekend. Stonewall Jackson will travel to face No. 1 Centreville in the semifinals. Undefeated Centreville beat No. 8 South County 55-35 in the quarterfinals on Friday.

No. 2 Lake Braddock beat No. 7 Yorktown 40-7 to earn a trip to the semifinals, where the undefeated Bruins will host No. 3 Westfield. The Bulldogs beat No. 11 Robinson, 21-14.

Lake Braddock and Westfield faced one another during the regular season, with the Bruins winning 28-24 on Sept. 20. At the time, it was Westfield's first regular-season loss since 2010.

Emergency Winter Shelter Available

Arlington's Emergency Winter Shelter is open through March 31, 2014. This is the final winter season that the county plans to operate this shelter before replacing it with a Homeless Services Center, scheduled to open in the fall of 2014. Daily hours are from 4 p.m.-9 a.m. Hours may be extended on especially cold days.

The shelter offers Arlington men and women who are living on the streets a safe place to sleep through the cold winter months. It provides food, shower and laundry facilities, and access to services through A-SPAN, the Department of Human Services and other partners. Arlington has other shelter options for families.

The Emergency Winter Shelter can accommodate up to 74 people, and is located in a county-owned building at 2049 15th Street North. Other facilities have been designated to handle overflow in the event of extremely severe weather.

Call the Department of Human Services Community Assistance Bureau's Clinical Coordination Unit, at 703-228-01300, for help.

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brakes & tires, clean & adjust brakes, rotate 4 tires, replace front wiper
inserts (if applicable) and multi-point inspection.

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10% OFF

BG FLUID
EXCHANGE

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4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT



\$89.95

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire
wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints,
struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION

Includes: Inspect tires, brakes, wipers, lights,
belts & hoses & fluid levels.

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