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Arlington
Connection

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Jack Frost welcomes families and neighbors to the Winter Wonderland fair at Market Common Clarendon in December.

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JANUARY 8-14, 2014

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News



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Gifts That Give Hope

Visitors attend the third annual Gifts that Give Hope Alternative Gift Fair inside Calvary United Methodist Church on Dec. 14. At the event, families could purchase a meaningful donation to be received by other families and children in need during the holiday season.

The sponsor
of the event
Louis J.
Andors and
the organizer
Tara Bibb
greet guests
as they arrive
at the alterna-
tive gift fair.



Cohnor Kinzer and his mom just made a donation the Arlington Food Assistance.



Nikkoli Baugh gets his face painted as the Green Lantern inside the church during the alternative gift fair.

"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Jan. 21-24.

Note: Senior centers will be closed Monday, Jan. 20.

Senior trip: Fri., Jan. 24, tour Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Center, Chantilly, \$9. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Emergency preparedness, Tuesday, Jan. 21, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Pickleball clinics, beginners and intermediate, Tuesday, Jan. 21, 12 p.m., Arlington Mill. \$24/4 classes. Register, 703-228-7369.

Zumba cardio dance exercise classes, Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2:15 p.m., Lee. \$36/8 sessions. Register, 703-228-0555.

Cardio boxing for beginners, Tuesday, Jan. 21, 9 a.m., Walter Reed. \$80/16 sessions, Register,

703-228-0955.

Minimize stroke damage by acting quickly, Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1 p.m., TJ. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Women's basketball skills clinics, Wednesday, Jan. 22, 7 p.m., Langston-Brown. \$24/4 sessions. Register, 703-228-4771.

Boomer Boot Camp begins, Wednesday, Jan. 22, 9 a.m., Arlington Mill. \$35/7 sessions. Register, 703-228-7369.

Pros and cons of life insurance, Thursday, Jan. 23, 1 p.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Dance fitness class, Thursday, Jan. 23, 9:30 a.m., Walter Reed. \$72/16 sessions. Register, 703-228-0955.

Seated exercise classes, Thursday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m., Fairlington. \$28/7 sessions. Register, 703-228-4745.

Capital Debate

Streetcar funding to take center stage during consideration of capital improvement plan.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

For years, the debate over streetcars has been about planning and vision.

Now members of the Arlington County Board are about to reach into the pockets of taxpayers, including the \$300 million project in the capital improvement plan. That means the debate over the project is about to take center stage during the upcoming budget discussions, especially after County Manager Barbara Donnellan issues her budget proposal in February.

“Fixed rail attracts choice riders, those who would not ride a bus, and it also opens up more of Arlington to tourists,” said Chairman Jay Fisette during the annual New Year’s Day organizational meeting. “Transportation and land-use planning have been integrated at every step. Such a thorough, broad-based decision-making process should not be easily disrespected or reversed.”

Fisette devoted a significant portion of his New Year’s Day speech to the issue, an indication that it will be at the top of his agenda for the coming year. But opinions are sharply divided about the wisdom of spending hundreds of millions of dollars. The chairman took aim at critics who call for a bus-rapid transit system along Columbia Pike instead of a streetcar system. He said that a BRT system requires a dedicated lane for a major portion of the route.

Whatever a system of modern and high-tech buses is called, critics of the streetcar say, the cost would be less than half of the \$300 million to \$400 million of installing a streetcar system.

“As I look around the country

and see what’s happening in other jurisdictions with streetcars, my alarm about this project only grows,” said County Board member Libby Garvey. “I hope we never build a streetcar.”

THE PUBLIC DEBATE about the streetcar system has become increasingly polarized in recent months, and opposing sides disagree on basic facts. One is the definition of what constitutes a bus-rapid transit system. Fisette says it requires a dedicated lane, although critics say that’s not necessarily so. Columbia Pike won’t have a dedicated lane for the streetcars either. And then there’s the money. The federal government estimates the project is most likely to come in at \$310 million, and it could be as much as \$410 million. But county officials say the project will be closer to \$249 million.

“I understand there are those who are not aware or who choose to ignore the lengthy public process in the finest Arlington tradition,” said County Board member Walter Tejada. “This transit system, a joint project with Fairfax County that has been a decade in the making, will be a tremendous benefit to the entire Arlington community.”

Supporters of the streetcar initiative say the County Board has already voted on the issue, and

that many of the county’s recent land-use decisions were made predicated on the assumption that Columbia Pike would have a streetcar. Nevertheless, Garvey says she will oppose the plan during procedural votes and budget discussions. That includes the upcoming debate over the capital-improvement plan, which will fea

SEE STREETCAR, PAGE 5

ARLINGTON CONNECTION ♦ JANUARY 8-14, 2014 ♦ 3



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN-AVERY SIMON/THE CONNECTION

Winter Wonderland

Families and neighbors stand in line during a freezing rain to meet Santa Claus during the Winter Wonderland holiday festival at Market Common Clarendon on Dec. 14.



The Sugar Plum Fairy hands out candy canes to children as they wait their turn to meet Santa Claus.



Children chase Ebenezer Scrooge around Market Common Clarendon wishing him a merry Christmas.

Aquatics Facility Underwater

County officials delay \$80 million facility after construction bids bust the budget.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Shortly after determining that the annual operating subsidy would be about twice as much for the new aquatics center as anticipated, County Manager Barbara Donnellan made another startling disclosure about the project. Construction bids came in “significantly higher” than estimates, so she would not be bringing the construction contract to the County Board in early 2014 as expected. Now county officials have launched an investigation to determine why the bids were so high

and what the county’s next steps should be.

“The high bids were particularly disappointing because the county had done extensive due diligence to ensure that the estimate was sound and within the available budget,” said Donnellan in a written statement. “We took an additional step of contracting separately with an engineering firm to review design and construction documents and provide independent third-party cost estimates.”

Back in 2012, voters approved a bond measure allowing the county to spend \$40 million on the design and construction of a 50-meter competition pool as part of a new aquatics center at Long Bridge Park, near the border with Alexandria near the site of the historic Long Bridge. Last month, county officials acknowledged that the annual operating subsidy was likely to be about \$4 million, which is twice as much as the original \$2 million estimate — largely because of staffing and maintenance needs were larger than anticipated.

SEE AQUATICS, PAGE 5

'Task Force Smile' To Help Critically Ill Children

Effort begins with Walter Reed.

BY ASHLEY CLAIRE SIMPSON
THE CONNECTION

For more than a decade, Alexandria resident and Realtor Linda Wolf has been collecting toys for hospitalized children in the Washington D.C.- metropolitan area. An independent volunteer and toy collection organizer at National Children's Medical Center for 11 years, she moved her efforts over to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) with a program she started, "Task Force Smile," under the non-profit America's Adopt a Soldier. "Task Force Smile" will start at Walter Reed, but the plan is for it to ultimately reach all military hospitals treating critically ill military children.

"The long term goal is to raise \$1.6 million, which will fund toys, toy bins, storage, and transportation of the toys to all military hospitals nationwide caring for our critically ill military children," said Mary Keeser, president of America's Adopt a Soldier. "We realize this level of fundraising will take some time so we will be focusing our near term efforts on our local military hospitals, with WRNMMC as our initial project."

Keeser said AAAS named Wolf as director of Task Force Smile, and in 2014, the program is concentrating on Walter Reed's pediatric patient rooms and clinics, the intensive care units and the oncology and hematology clinic.

As a new program, there is no official timeline or set deadline for donations. As she always has, Wolf will be accepting donations at any time.

Wolf said that providing as much joy as possible to critically ill children was always a priority for her, but she is especially excited about the transition to help critically ill children of military families.

"We are committed to bring smiles to the faces of these children that are going through such difficult times," Wolf said. "As a country, we are safe because of the sacrifices made by our military families. Their



From left: Dr. Philip Rogers, Walter Reed National Medical Military Center; Dr. Arthur Lyons, Pentagon; Dr. Margret Marino, director of Children's Unit at Walter Reed National Medical Military Center; Linda Wolf, director of Task Force Smile, and Mary Keeser, director of America's Adopt A Soldier.

children need to be our priority. 'Task Force Smile' gives us an opportunity to say 'thank you' in a meaningful way."

Six weeks ago, Wolf officially teamed with the already established non-profit organization, America's Adopt a Soldier so that the program is integrated into an established military and family support organization. Grouping with a 501(c)(3) organization will also make all donations to Task Force Smile tax-deductible.

"Last year when we filled a truckload of toys, I knew I had to become a part of a 501(C)(3). That was the beginning of my partnership with America's Adopt a Soldier," Wolf said.

Wolf began her project as an independent volunteer and fundraiser for National Children's Medical Center, each year collect-

ing toys from clients and friends and delivering them to the cancer unit. She made the switch to WRNMMC when she realized how much more military children would benefit from her toy donations.

Conversations with one mother whose terminally ill son had doctors at both Children's Hospital and WRNMMC played a major role in the decision to move her project.

"I have been doing this for Children's National Medical Center for 10 years, and then I met a young woman who was my inspiration to do it," Wolf said. "She was a military wife stationed in Germany and her son was diagnosed with leukemia. Mother and son were flown back to the States, praying for a miracle. Most of his treatment was at Walter Reed, before his family lost him months later."

Wolf said that while Walter Reed's medical staff is absolutely exceptional, they are a government entity and thus cannot solicit donations. As a result, there are not as many games and toys for sick children as there are at private centers, like National Children's Medical Center.

"Regardless of the situation, we want the children to be able to laugh like children should, even when they are undergoing life-saving and likely uncomfortable procedures," Wolf said. "My goal is to have enough toys to last a year for the children coming to the unit, for the children in the intensive unit, and children in the chemotherapy and hematology unit."

Task Force Smile's goal for NWRMMC starts with toys and ends with revamped patient rooms and playrooms.

"I want to redo the playroom," Wolf said. "We have a local Alexandria artist who is nationally known and he has offered to help us put murals on the wall. We also want to put play stations in all the patient rooms and also in the pods where children get their infusions."

She said that she plans to start "Task Force Smile" playroom renovations as soon as possible in 2014, and that other volunteers that have joined Task Force Smile will help make her this possible.

"As Americas Adopt A Soldier director of Task Force Smile, I will be joined by other volunteer members to work with the staff at WRNMMC to initiate the projects," Wolf said. "We would love to make a real difference in 2014."

She added that Task Force Smile will start its first project as soon as money is available, but she has her sights loosely set on the spring.

"I hope by spring we have collected enough money to start checking off our list," Wolf said.

Wolf said she is confident that linking with America's Adopt a Soldier will help her reach her goal to ultimately improve all critically ill military children's hospital experiences. She said she can think of no better place to start her quest, either.

"Walter Reed National Military Medical

SEE HOLIDAY CHEER, PAGE 6

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Streetcar Project To Take CIP's Center Stage

FROM PAGE 3

ture the first major installment of money for the project.

"There are options that will work much better for a lot less money," said Garvey.

EVER SINCE the federal government declined to kick in \$60 million for the streetcar system as part of the Small Starts program, opponents have been calling for a cost-benefit analysis. Like many aspects of the debate about the streetcars, various sides are in disagreement about whether or not a cost-benefit analysis has even been conducted. Supporters say all the necessary studies have been conducted and that calls

for a cost-benefit analysis are just a veiled effort to delay and obstruct.

"Without the additional transit capacity, motor-vehicle gridlock will make these neighborhoods far less livable," said Mary Hynes. "The corridor's businesses will be less viable, and Arlington's economy will suffer as a result."

Opponents say the study supporters point to as a cost-benefit analysis is actually a return-on-investment study that was conducted as part of the failed bid for federal money. They say the county has never produced a side-by-side analysis showing economic development benefits of a bus-rapid transit system or an articulated bus system compared to a streetcar line. Now that

county officials are putting together a new funding plan for the system, opponents say, the time is right to compare the two systems so Arlington residents have a more complete picture.

"I think the trolley is an incredible waste of money, and it's going to be bad transit for Columbia Pike," said John Antonelli, one of the leading opponents of the system. "A bus-rapid transit system allows the vehicles to change routes on a whim if something

happens like a fire or road construction. That can't happen with a trolley."

Meanwhile, one of the streetcar's leading advocates, County Board member Chris Zimmerman is stepping down to take a job at Smart Growth American. The special election to replace him features two candidates who support the streetcar system, Alan Howze and Peter Fallon. It also features two candidates who are critical of it, John Vihstadt and Cord Thomas.



COURTESY OF ARLINGTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND PUBLIC RECREATION

View of the sport and fitness pool.

County Delays Facility

FROM PAGE 3

"This is something that happens all the time when we are working on projects," said Mark Schwartz, deputy county manager. "We refine the estimates, and I will promise you that the numbers will change again."

THE LONG BRIDGE Aquatics, Health and Fitness Facility has been designed to be an regional draw to Arlington, that could host international competitions. In addition to the 50-meter competition pool, the facility will have teaching, family and therapy pools as well as "wet classrooms" and "party rooms." Donnellan describes the center as an "ambitious project" to transform a "once-industrial wasteland" from a brownfield to an "iconic gateway."

"This pool was being built to international specifications specifically to make sure it would be an East Coast critical site for hosting national and international meets," said Frank Shafroth, director of the George Mason Center for State and Local Government Leadership. "So you're really competing against pools in North Carolina, Florida, Indianapolis and California in this county as well as Mexico City and places like that across the country."

Shafroth says the revised budgeting might involve charging more for people to use the

facility, which would offset the operating cost to taxpayers. For now, though, county officials have to figure out why construction bids were so high. Although Donnellan called the cost differential as "significant," county officials say the Virginia Public Procurement Act prevents them from detailing the numbers.

"Those bids are still open, so if we were to say anything about it we would be in violation of the code of Virginia," said Schwartz. "And you wouldn't want us to do that."

IN THE NEXT few weeks, Donnellan will present her proposed operating and capital budget to County Board members, initiating the budget season of public hearings and debate. Budget officials say the county is facing a potential budget gap of \$20 million to \$25 million in the next fiscal year, which will mean projects like the aquatics center and the streetcar proposal are certain to take center stage.

"I think we should circle back to our community and have perhaps a difficult but I think very important conversation and discussion about the aquatics center — how it will benefit Arlington, and what it will cost — before we move forward," said County Board member Libby Garvey in her New Year's Day speech last week.



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- Install proper insulation in your home.
- When you're not using a fireplace, close the flue.
- Replace your furnace filter once a month.
- Turn your hot water heater down to warm or low, never more than 120 degrees.
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- Wash full loads of laundry and dishes.

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

CLASSES

Winter Youth Classes. Jane Franklin offers classes for children 4-7 years of age Jan. 15-March 12 at 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Workshop Series. Jane Franklin Dance will hold a workshop Jan. 16-Feb. 27 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Open to dancers of any age or level of experience.

THURSDAY/JAN. 9

Free Program. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. The Arlington Historical Society presents "When Metro Came to Town" with Kevin Craft. 703-228-5990. For more information, visit www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

SATURDAY/JAN. 11

ESOL Tutor Training Workshop. Become a volunteer ESOL tutor, no teaching or foreign language skills required. \$50/books, materials and ongoing resources. Must be able to meet for all three weeks of training. After training is complete, each tutor will be matched with a student. Takes place at James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Visit www.lcnv.org/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities or call 703-237-0866 ext. 111.

Information Session. 10 a.m.-noon at Arlington Department of Human Services, 2100 Washington Blvd. Learn how to become a foster/adoptive parents. Free. 703-228-1559.

TUESDAY/JAN. 14

Meeting. 7 p.m. at Park Operations Building, 2700 S. Taylor St. Learn more about a proposal by Phoenix Bikes to building a building on Walter Reed Drive and the W&OD Trail. Visit www.phoenixbikes.org for more.

The ABCD's of Medicare. 2-4 p.m. at Arlington County Human Services Center, 2100 Washington Blvd. Learn about medicare. Free. Register at 703-228-1700.

Introductory Buddhism and Meditation Class. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, 601 N. Vermont St. Learn how to meditate and more. Free. Visit www.meditation-dc.org or 202-986-2257.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 15

Presentation. 10 a.m. at Ernst Cultural Center on the NVCC Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike. LLI/NOVA will host Dr. Kalahn Taylor-Clark, who will discuss the Affordable Care Act. Parking is \$2/hour. Visit www.lli.nova.org or 703-503-0600.

Application Deadline. The Alexandria Childhood Obesity Action Network is partnering with the Virginia Cooperative Extension to expand the Master Food Volunteer Program in Alexandria. Virginia Cooperative Extension is looking for applicants to become Master Food Volunteers. Volunteers help to lead Extension's many nutrition programs in the community. Training will be held in March, but applications are due Jan. 15. Contact Katie Strong at kstrong@vt.edu or 703-324-5369 or Jennifer Abel at jabel@vt.edu or 703-228-6417 for the brochure or information.

Debate. 7 p.m. at the NRECA Building in Ballston, 4301 Wilson Blvd. The Arlington Young Democrats will host the democratic candidates for Arlington County Board. Free.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 16-19

Annual Citrus Fruit Sale. Arlington Host Lions will hold its annual Citrus "Sweet" Fruit sale at the Wells Fargo Bank parking lot at the corner of Lee Highway and North Glebe Road. The Lions will be selling pink/white grapefruit; Navel oranges; Honey Bells; tangelos; Hamlin juice oranges; and tangerines. They will also be selling honey maple syrup, pecans, cashews, mixed nuts and Virginia peanuts. The proceeds from the sale benefit community non-profits supported by the Lions Club. For more information go to www.arlingtonhostlions.org or contact Liz Schindler at 703-598-8266.

TUESDAY/JAN. 21

Introductory Buddhism and Meditation Class. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, 601 N. Vermont St. Learn how to meditate and more. Free. Visit www.meditation-dc.org or 202-986-2257.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 22

The ABCDs of Medicare. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Arlington County Human Services Center, 2100 Washington Blvd. Learn about medicare. Free. Register at 703-228-1700.

THURSDAY/JAN. 23

Charity Fundraising. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.



PHOTO BY LASHAWN-AVERY SIMON/THE CONNECTION

Remembering

Thousands of volunteers arrive at Arlington National Cemetery to lay more than 100,000 wreaths on soldiers' headstones in the annual Wreaths Across America last month.

The Arlington Northwest Lions will be selling Florida citrus, Georgia pecans, pure Vermont Maple syrup and more at the Overlee Pool, 6030 Lee Highway. 703-528-1130.

FRIDAY/JAN. 24

Charity Fundraising. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The Arlington Northwest Lions will be selling Florida citrus, Georgia pecans, pure Vermont Maple syrup and more at the Overlee Pool, 6030 Lee Highway. 703-528-1130.

SATURDAY/JAN. 25

Charity Fundraising. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. The Arlington Northwest Lions will be selling Florida citrus, Georgia

pecans, pure Vermont Maple syrup and more at the Overlee Pool, 6030 Lee Highway. 703-528-1130.

TUESDAY/JAN. 28

Introductory Buddhism and Meditation Class. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, 601 N. Vermont St. Learn how to meditate and more. Free. Visit www.meditation-dc.org or 202-986-2257.

THURSDAY/JAN. 30

Meet the Chairman. 6-8 p.m. at George Mason University's Arlington Campus in Founders Hall, 3301 N. Fairfax Drive. Jay Fisette will take questions from the audience. \$20. To register for this event, visit the Leadership Arlington web site at www.leadershiparlington.org or 703-528-2522.

SATURDAY/FEB. 1

Open House. 10 a.m.-noon at Arlington Unitarian Cooperative Preschool, 4444 Arlington Blvd. All classrooms will be open. Meet teachers, members of the board and parents of current students. Children welcome to attend. Visit www.aucpva.org or 703-892-3878.

TUESDAY/FEB. 4

Introductory Buddhism and Meditation Class. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, 601 N. Vermont St. Learn how to meditate and more. Free. Visit www.meditation-dc.org or 202-986-2257.

Holiday Cheer for Children

FROM PAGE 4

Center is the one hospital in the world that has the most advanced technology and treatments and all critically ill military children from around the country come to WRNMMC," Wolf said. "The playroom needs to be done right, and we will work as a recognized charity supporting WRNMMC to ensure it is the best possible environment for our military children."

Keeser said America's Adopt a Soldier was honored to accept Task Force Smile as part of the organization and to appoint Linda Wolf as director of Task Force Smile.

"Having known Linda for many years, and knowing how driven she is towards the success of

her project, we were honored to embrace her project," Keeser said. "We at America's Adopt A Soldier are honored to embrace this most important project to ensure our critically ill Military Kids receive a Toy – we collectively named the project: 'Task Force Smile' and to appointed Linda as the volunteer director of Task Force Smile. Our initial plans, under Linda's leadership, are to develop distribution PODs for these toys within these clients, ensuring every critically ill military child receives a toy through our year-round project."

To contribute to this cause, visit www.americasadoptasoldier.org/ and click on "Make a Donation." Note "Task Force Smile" on the purpose line.

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VIEWPOINTS

“What is your New Year’s resolution?”



Maggie Cuddy, 23, grad student:

“My New Year’s resolution is to improve on my half marathon time. I did a training program last year, but didn’t finish it. I plan on finishing it this year so I can improve my time.”



Micky Feliciano, 23, technology analyst:

“To be proactive when dealing with achieving my goals in higher learning. I want to get the ball rolling for grad school — that’s my goal for this upcoming year.



Brielle Heslep, 25, teacher:

“Just to put more emphasis on my relationships, especially with my family; to go home and visit [my family] more and spend more time with them.”



Kyle Lorenz, 23, business banking relationship manager:

“To invest my time, energy and resources into something greater than myself.”



Rosanna Decoud, 26, accounting associate:

“To live a healthier lifestyle by working out more and eating healthier.”

BY JENNIFER BENITZ

The FISHBURNE EXPERIENCE

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PEOPLE NOTES

To have engagements, weddings, obituaries, or other significant personal events listed in *The Arlington Connection*, e-mail arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is noon the Thursday before publication. Photos are welcome.

Karyn Miller has joined Arlington Arts Center as the new director of exhibitions. In this role Miller will be responsible for conceiving and delivering a year-round exhibition schedule including public programs for three distinct exhibitions programs. For more than six years Miller headed the visual arts and communications at CulturalDC where she directed the artist recruitment and selection at Flashpoint Gallery while leading exhibition efforts for public projects like Construct and CONNECT 4. Prior to this she served as gallery director for five years at Connorsmith giving her more than 11 years of experience in her field. Along with her work in the arts, Miller has also served on panels and given talks at various institutions including the Smithsonian’s Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Corcoran College of Art + Design, and will be serving as an adjunct faculty member at George Mason University this spring.

The Arlington Young Democrats held elections for their 2014 Executive Board at the NRECA Building in Ballston. The board results are: **Max Burns**, president; **Alex Williams**, vice president; **Matthew Brown**, secretary; **Amanda Herrmann**, political director; **Harry Blackwood**, outreach director; **Maggie Davis**, community service director; **Wendy Lue**, treasurer; and **Joshua Katcher**, party representative.

George F. Allen, former Virginia governor and U.S. senator, has joined the Arlington-based corporation VT

Group as a strategic advisor, supporting integrated technical solutions, particularly Passive Optical LAN solutions. In 2007, Allen founded George Allen Strategies. He holds a B.A. with distinction in history and a law degree from the University of Virginia.

Ralph Duncan is the new vice president of business development at BMT Designers & Planners. A University of New Mexico, Naval Postgraduate School and Stanford University graduate, he has more than 30 years’ experience in the marine engineering sector. He has worked as an analyst and senior marine engineer, and has held a number of senior roles for Seattle-based naval architecture and marine engineering firm Art Anderson Associates, most recently as VP Marine Design and Research. His new role at BMT will see him take responsibility for identifying emerging market trends, whilst developing and qualifying commercial marine engineering opportunities, to support the company’s continued expansion and development.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments has presented Arlington County Board Member **Mary Hynes** with the organization’s highest honor, the Elizabeth and David Scull Metropolitan Public Service Award. Hynes’ career in public service began as member of the Arlington School Board. She was first elected to the County Board in 2007, and she has been a champion for connecting development and affordable housing to sound transportation planning. She also has played a key role in promoting the Council of Government’s Region Forward vision, the Transportation Planning Board’s upcoming Regional Transportation Priorities Plan, and Metro’s Momentum vision.

Comfortable Independent Living

Vinson Hall Retirement Community is a well-respected, nonprofit CCRC located in McLean, VA offering independent residential living for military officers, their immediate family and select government employees of equal rank.

Arleigh Burke Pavilion Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Care
and The Sylvestery Memory Support Assisted Living
do not require military affiliation.

VINSON HALL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
supported by Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation
6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22101
Please Visit Us at www.vinsonhall.org
703-536-4344

ENTERTAINMENT

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

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 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 “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 through Jan. 19. Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Visit www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

Theater Performance. Jan. 1-19 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., “Late: A Cowboy Song” will be showcased. Tickets start at \$31. Visit www.signature-theatre.org/ or call 703-820-9771 for tickets.

Theater Performance. See “The Little Mermaid Jr.” presented by Encore Stage and Studio at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Performances are Jan. 10-19, Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Visit www.encorestageva.org for more.

Theater Performance. Through Sunday, Jan. 26, see “Gypsy” at Signature Theatre’s MAX Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Performances run Tuesday through Sunday evenings, with matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets start at \$40. Visit www.signature-theatre.org.

Art Exhibit. See “Everything You Are Looking For” by Alicia Eggert 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” 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.

Art Exhibit. See “Evidence of Civilization,” featuring Arlington artist Marsha Slater, through Feb. 24 at Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road. See photographs, paintings, ceramics and more. Free. 301-299-7087.

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.

Choral Rehearsal. Encore Chorale’s spring season will start Jan. 14 from 2-3:30 p.m. at Langston Brown Senior Center, 2121 Culpeper St. Anyone over the age of 55 can participate. Registration information is available at encorecreativity.org, or by calling 301-261-5747 or via e-mail to info@encorecreativity.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 9

Drop-in Storytime: Over 2s. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. For children age 25 months to 5 years. Free. 703-228-6545.

Drop-in Storytime. 10:30 a.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-6330.

Drop-in Storytime: Under 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5715.

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-E.

Drop-in Storytime: Over 2s. 11:15 a.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. For children age 2-5. Free. 703-228-5715.

Film. 3-6 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch “The Lion in Winter” (1967). Free. 703-228-5710.

Bilingual Story Time. 4:15 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children can enjoy stories, songs and crafts in English and Spanish. Free. 703-228-5990.

Knitting Group. 6:30 p.m. at Glencarlyn Library, 300 S. Kensington St. Drop-in for knitting support and instruction. Free. 703-228-6548.

Talk. 7:30-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Arlington resident Charles Smith will discuss “Grasses in VA Plant Communities.” Hosted by Virginia Native Plant Society. Free. 703-642-5173.

Music Performance. 8:30 p.m. at Iota Club and Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Dom La Nena will open for Mother Falcon. \$12. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com/ for more.

FRIDAY/JAN. 10

Story Time: Baby Steps. 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children up to 1 year old can enjoy stories. Free. 703-228-5710.

Story Time: Baby Steps. 10:30 a.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children up to age 1. Free. 703-228-5260.

Story Time: Over 2s. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015



PHOTO BY JOHANNES MARKUS

Richie Montgomery (Bruce) with Evan Crump (“Author”), in American Century Theater’s production of “Bang the Drum Slowly.”

‘Bang the Drum Slowly’ Opens

The American Century Theater begins the new year with its production of “Bang the Drum Slowly” by Mark Harris and adapted for the stage by Eric Simonson. A look at life, loyalty and America’s pastime, the drama unfolds during a season with the Mammoths, focusing on the friendship between a world-wise star pitcher and a country boy catcher struggling to cope with devastating news. “Bang the Drum Slowly” opens Friday, Jan. 10 and runs through Saturday, Feb. 1 with a Pay-What-You-Can preview on Thursday, Jan. 9 at 8 p.m. and a Pay-What-You-Can performance on Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 8 p.m. There is a post-show talk-back on Thursday, Jan. 16. Regular show times are Thursday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. with Saturday/Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. (no matinee Saturday, Jan. 11). Visit americancentury.org or call 703-998-4555. The American Century Theater performs at Theatre Two in the Gunston Arts Center, located at 2700 South Lang Street.

N. Quincy St. Children age 25 months to 5 years. Free. 703-228-5946.

Story Time: Under 2s. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5946.

Story Time: Wobbly Walkers. 10:30 a.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children age 13-24 months. Free. 703-228-5260.

Daytime Book Club. 11 a.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Discuss “American Dervish” by Ayad Akhtar. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

Wild Ones: Bats in Winter. 4-5 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 6-10 can help out bats, decorate a bat cave and try sleeping upside down and eating bugs. \$5/child due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #622824-L.

ArtJamz. 5-9 p.m. at 251 S. 18th St., 11th floor. Enjoy wine, beer, pizza and music while creating art on a canvas. \$20 for a two-hour session. Ages 21 and over. Visit artjamzdc.com/20-artjamz-crystal-city for tickets.

SATURDAY/JAN. 11

Drop in Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-228-5710.

Drop in Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-228-5710.

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “Mouse in House,” adapted from the book “The Mouse of Amherst” by Elizabeth Spire. \$15/adult; \$10/child. Visit

www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

ArtJamz. 6-10 p.m. at 251 S. 18th St., 11th floor. Enjoy wine, beer, pizza and music while creating art on a canvas. \$20 for a two-hour session. Ages 21 and over. Visit artjamzdc.com/20-artjamz-crystal-city for tickets.

Dance Performance. 7 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “See” a performance that combines live performance with experimental video. \$20/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

SUNDAY/JAN. 12

ArtJamz. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 251 S. 18th St., 11th floor. Families with children ages 3 and up can enjoy drinks, pizza and music while creating art on a canvas. \$10 for a two-hour session. Visit artjamzdc.com/20-artjamz-crystal-city for tickets.

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “Mouse in House,” adapted from the book “The Mouse of Amherst” by Elizabeth Spire. \$15/adult; \$10/child. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Jazz in January. 4 p.m. at Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ, 5010 Little Falls Road. Hear music by Lena Seikaly and her ensemble. Donation of \$10 is suggested. Visit www.rockspringucc.org for more.

MONDAY/JAN. 13

Story Time: Under 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Glencarlyn Library, 300 S. Kensington St. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-6548.

Drop-in Story Time: Under 2s. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at

Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-6545.

Story Time: Baby Steps. 2 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. For children up to age 1. Free. 703-228-5946.

Film/Panel Discussion. 3 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Watch “An Ordinary Hero” and then discuss the movie about Arlington Freedom rider Joan Mulholland. Free. 703-228-5946.

Paws to Read. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs for 15 minutes. Each dog is part of PAL. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-5946.

Meet the Artist. 6-8:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Meet members of WSC Avant Bard cast and artistic director Tom Prewitt. Free. 703-228-6545.

Drop in Family Storytime. 6:45 p.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. For all ages. Free. 703-228-6330.

Nonfiction Book Club. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Discuss “The Happiness Project” by Gretchen Rubin. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. Discuss “Midnight in Peking: How the Murder of a Young Englishwoman Haunted the Last Days of Old China” by Paul French. Free. 703-228-6330.

TUESDAY/JAN. 14

Tiny Tot. 10:30 a.m. or 3:30 p.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-O (10:30 a.m.) or #622914-P (3:30 p.m.).

Story Time. 4:15 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-5260.

Drop-in Story Time: Over 2s. 4:30-5:15 p.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. For children age 25 months to 5 years. Free. 703-228-6330.

Paws to Read. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs for 15 minutes. Each dog is part of PAL. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-5710.

Paws to Read. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs. Free. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-5260.

Family Story Time. 6:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. For all ages. Free. 703-228-5946.

Author Event. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Book blogger Jennifer Lawrence will interview local author Alma Katsu on the launch of “The Descent.” Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 15

Nanny Club. 10 a.m.-noon at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-5710.

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-Q.

Drop-In Story Time: Over 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children

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age 25 months-5 years. Free. 703-228-5260.

Stop in for Stories. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-5946.

ASL Club for Children. 4 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children in grades K-5 can learn American Sign Language through activities, songs and rhymes. Free. 703-228-5710.

Kids Club. 4 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children in grades K-5 can enjoy activities and more. Free 703-228-5710.

Family Story Time. 6:30 p.m. at Glencarlyn Library, 300 S. Kensington St. For all ages. Free. 703-228-6548.

History Talk. 7-8:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. “The Art of the Civil War” presented by senior curator at the Smithsonian’s American Art Museum, Eleanor Harvey. Hear how artists and writers wrestled with the ambiguity and anxiety of the Civil War and used landscape imagery to give voice to their misgivings as well as their hopes for themselves and the nation. Free. 703-228-5990.

THURSDAY/JAN. 16

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-R.

Drop-in Storytime: Over 2s. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. For children age 25 months to 5 years. Free. 703-228-6545.

Drop-in Storytime. 10:30 a.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-6330.

Drop-in Storytime: Under 2s. 10:30 a.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5715.

Floral Design Talk. 11 a.m. at Little Falls Presbyterian Church, 6025 Little Falls Road. Sandi Smith Piccirillo, a member of the National Garden Club, will speak on traditional and Ikebana floral designs. Free, with an optional \$5 lunch. RSVP by Jan. 9 to www.rockspringgardenclub.com or rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com.

Drop-in Storytime: Over 2s. 11:15 a.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. For children age 2-5. Free. 703-228-5715.

Film. 3-5:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch “The Stunt Man” (1980). Free. 703-228-5710.

Bilingual Story Time. 4:15 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children can enjoy stories, songs and crafts in English and Spanish. Free. 703-228-5990.

Paws to Read. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs. Free. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-5715.

Author Talk. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Local mystery authors Donna Andrews, Barb Goffman, Tracy Kiely, G.M. Malliet, Sandra Parshall and Lane Stone will discuss their latest novels and the craft of mystery fiction. Free. Hosted by One More Page Books. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

FRIDAY/JAN. 17

Story Time: Baby Steps. 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children up to 1 year old can enjoy stories. Free. 703-228-5710.

Story Time: Baby Steps. 10:30 a.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children up to age 1. Free. 703-228-5260.

Story Time: Over 2s. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children age 25 months to 5 years. Free. 703-228-5946.

Story Time: Under 2s. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5946.

Story Time: Wobbly Walkers. 10:30 a.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children age 13-24 months. Free. 703-228-5260.

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-O.

SATURDAY/JAN. 18

Drop in Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-228-5710.

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “Mouse in House,” adapted from the book “The Mouse of Amherst” by Elizabeth Spire. \$15/adult; \$10/child. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Family Film. 3-4:30 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Watch “Despicable Me 2.” Free. 703-228-6545.

Paws to Read. 3-4 p.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs. Free. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-6330.

Dance Performance. 7 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs “The Trickster,” a multidisciplinary work in collaboration with percussionist Tom Teasley. \$20/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

SUNDAY/JAN. 19

“From Board Game to Book”

Workshop. Noon-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Create a hand-bound notebook or journal with a board game as the cover. \$48/member; \$53/non-member. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org/ bookmaking to register.

Staged Reading. 3 p.m. at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Lane. Hear “The Busy World is Hushed,” a play by Keith Bunin, perform as a staged reading. Free. Donations accepted. 703-522-1600.

Book Dating for Singles. 6 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Adults in their 40s and older can bring a couple of books to share – favorites, disappointments or ones to be read. Free. RSVP to 703-228-6545.

MONDAY/JAN. 20

Poetry Workshop. 7 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Members write and read original poetry and exchange constructive criticism. Free. 703-228-6545.

Author Visit. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Local author Jill Foer Hirsch will discuss her memoir “When Good Boobs Turn Bad: A Memoir.” Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. Discuss “Midnight in Peking: How the Murder of a Young English Woman Haunted the Last Days of Old China” by Paul French. Free. 703-228-6330.



The poster for Alexandria Restaurant Week features a dark blue background with white musical notes and swirls. At the top, there are icons of a chef's hat, a campfire, a steaming cup, salt and pepper shakers, a teapot, and a hard hat. The date "January 17-26, 2014" is written in a large, white, stylized font. Below the date, the word "EXTRAORDINARY" is in a red box with white text. The word "Alexandria" is in a large, white, cursive font, and "restaurant week" is in a large, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a row of colorful, stylized buildings. Below the buildings, the text "OVER 45 RESTAURANTS WITH \$35 MENUS!" is in white. The website "AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com" is in white. Below the website, there are Facebook and Twitter icons, followed by the text "Browse Menus" and "Make Reservations" in white. At the bottom, there is the OpenTable logo and the text "POWERED BY" and "© 2013 ACVA".

January 17-26, 2014

EXTRAORDINARY

Alexandria

restaurant week

OVER 45 RESTAURANTS WITH \$35 MENUS!

AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com

f t

Browse Menus

Make Reservations

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Arlington REAL ESTATE

2013 Top Sales



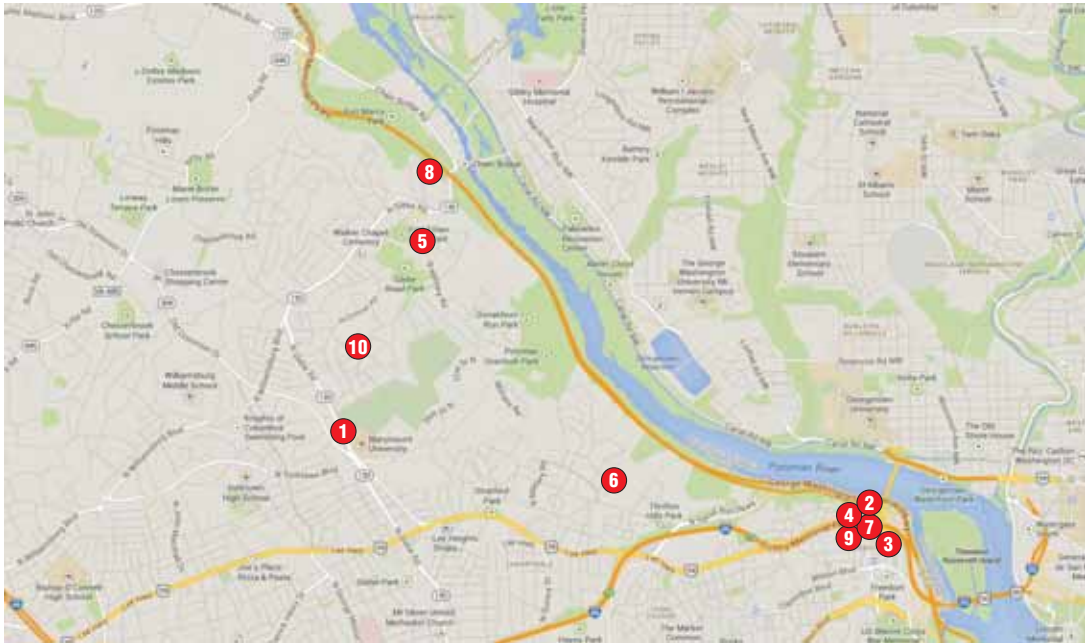
1 2923 Glebe Road North — \$4,500,000



5 3812 Military Road — \$2,850,000



8 4109 Randolph Court — \$2,523,750



© Google Map data

Address	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	....	Sold Price	....	Type	.....	Lot AC	..	PostalCode	.....	Subdivision	.....	Date Sold
1 2923 GLEBE RD N	4	..	4	.	2	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$4,500,000	....	Townhouse	..	0.09	.....	22207	CATHEDRAL VIEW TOWNHOMES	06/26/13	
2 1881 NASH ST #2101	3	..	4	.	1	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$3,600,000	....	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	.....		.....	22209	TURNBERRY TOWER	....	02/26/13
3 1111 19TH ST N #2801	3	..	3	.	1	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$3,008,000	....	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	.....		.....	22209	WATERVIEW	.....	08/08/13
4 1881 NASH ST N #2311	3	..	3	.	1	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$2,965,000	....	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	.....		.....	22209	TURNBERRY TOWER	.....	09/13/13
5 3812 MILITARY RD	5	..	4	.	2	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$2,850,000	....	Detached	....	0.64	.....	22207	ARLINGWOOD	.....	04/05/13
6 2501 LINCOLN ST N	5	..	5	.	1	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$2,750,000	....	Detached	....	0.42	.....	22207	DOVER BALMORAL RIVERWOOD	09/20/13	
7 1881 NASH ST N #2202	3	..	3	.	1	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$2,642,000	....	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	.....		.....	22209	TURNBERRY TOWER	.....	03/31/13
8 4109 RANDOLPH CT	6	..	6	.	1	....	ARLINGTON	....	\$2,523,750	....	Detached	....	0.43	.....	22207	THE WOODS	.....	06/04/13
9 1881 NASH ST #2210	2	..	2	.	1	ARLINGTON	\$2,500,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	22209	TURNBERRY TOWER	10/01/13
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Home LifeStyle

Top Designs of 2013

Local builders look back on their most impressive spaces.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

From outdoor patios with the comforts of indoor family rooms to a stark white bathroom replete with Carrara marble flooring, local designers said they've created some spectacular living spaces in 2013. Their personal favorites may be surprising, and include a lot of kitchens and bathrooms.

JOSHUA E. BAKER, founder and cochairman of BOWA Builders, Inc. names two condominium projects as his company's best.

"As some of our clients are moving in closer to the city and sizing down, they're looking to bring with them the luxury and residential feel of their single family homes," said Baker. "Projects range from pull-and-replace kitchens to remodeled master suites to whole-unit renovations."

For example, the kitchen of an Arlington condominium includes a custom-designed range hood that was built on site, and a space in Chevy Chase, Md., features intricate woodwork. Baker says these rank among his company's chicest spaces.

"The [Chevy Chase] project really shows how a simple, boring condo hallway can be transformed into a beautiful, customized gallery," said Baker. "Custom woodwork in the walls and built-ins ... in the hallways maximize space."

KEN NIES, owner and cofounder of Two Poor Teachers in Reston, says an Arlington bathroom remodel ranks as his company's top project. His crew installed, "floor-to-ceiling glass tile that went from dark to lighter, and incorporated 'wood tile' (tile that resembles hardwood) for a rustic feel," Nies explained. "[The space] was modernized with LED lights. The shower is a steam unit that was enclosed with a frameless



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWO POOR TEACHERS

Ken Nies of Two Poor Teachers says floor-to-ceiling glass tile used in the remodel of this Arlington bathroom helps make it one of his company's most spectacular projects of 2013.

glass pivot door. A Jacuzzi tub and pendant lighting spruced it up even further."

JOE STARKEY, of Old Town Kitchen and Bath in Alexandria, also gives an Arlington space the top honor. "We had many projects throughout 2013, but the one that comes to mind was a kitchen on Washington Boulevard in Arlington," he said. "By expanding slightly into an adjacent area, we managed to turn a dated, awkward kitchen and miniature powder room into fully functional, comfortable, useable, family-friendly area."

Starkey said that the homeowners have children and trying to prepare meals had



PHOTO COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.

This wine cellar was added during the remodel of a Falls Church home by Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. Bill Millholland, the company's executive vice president, says it ranks among the company's top projects for 2013.

become difficult. "By completing the redesign, we were able to make a genuine improvement to someone's life," he said. "That makes for a memorable job."

"By completing the redesign, we were able to make a genuine improvement to someone's life. That makes for a memorable job."

— Joe Starkey of Old Town Kitchen and Bath

BILL MILLHOLLAND, executive vice president of Case Design/Remodeling, with offices in Bethesda and Falls Church, said there are three projects that that he considers among his company's best work of 2013. He gives a nod to a McLean renovation by Allie Mann and Steve Scholl: "This project involved the total renovation of a kitchen, including opening it to the family room and breakfast room, as well as creating a mudroom," he said. "The scale of the kitchen as well as its crisp, all-white, transitional look and high-end finishes make it a standout project."

Also noteworthy, said Millholland, is a Falls Church project by Jim Wrenn. The owners wanted to improve their home's layout and add amenities such as a wine cellar. "This project involved several additions, including digging out a basement to add a wine room [with] a staircase up to a new exercise area, screened porch and patio," said Millholland. "The renovations also include a reoriented staircase leading from the family room to the upper level bedrooms, including a new master suite."

A condominium renovation by Valery

Tessier that included both a kitchen remodel and a new master bathroom is also among the most impressive spaces completed by Case in 2013 says Millholland. "The contrast of the rich espresso cabinet stain with the cool palette of the countertop, backsplash and walls is very soothing, but gives an edge to this kitchen," said Tessier. "The galley layout with the peninsula offers multiple work areas and the open shelves lighten up the corner."

BETH WALTERS, spokeswoman for Sun Design, Inc., which has offices in Fairfax County, listed projects in Vienna, Great Falls and Oak Hill as the company's best for 2013.

In Vienna, a construction project tied a home's indoor entertainment space with the outdoors. The new space includes a rear, screened porch with a pizza oven, lounge and dining areas. Tile flooring, recessed lighting, pendant lighting, a chandelier, a tray ceiling with handcrafted wood trim and an outdoor surround sound give this outdoor space the feel of a cozy family room.

In Oak Hill, a kitchen renovation created an open floor plan that allows the cook to move freely while guests relax at an expansive, triangular center island. The kitchen includes a coffered, wave accent tile featuring both Carrara mosaic tiling and black marble borders over the range, two full-sized refrigerators in the kitchen, one hidden behind cherry wood facing to match the cabinets.

A Great Falls master bathroom is another project of which Sun Design is proud, said Walters. The new space, which includes his and her vanities, a large walk in shower and foot ledge for shaving, allows two people to use it simultaneously.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUN DESIGN, INC.

This Oak Hill kitchen by Sun Design, Inc., features a coffered wave accent tile with both Carrara mosaic tiling and black marble borders over the range.

SPORTS

Washington-Lee Hockey Starts 10-1

The Washington-Lee ice hockey team is off to a 10-1 start this season, including 7-1 in league play. W-L hockey, which is in its seventh season, has already surpassed its previous best win total of eight, set last season.

W-L is led by eight seniors who helped produce the program's first winning season when they were freshmen. Sam Huffman, a four-year player and the club's all-time leading scorer, is the Generals' captain and leads the team with 21 points (10 goals, 11 assists) this season. Senior four-year players Drew Layman, a standout defenseman, and Matt Stewart, a goalkeeper, are assistant captains.

"Matt Stewart's play in net has been solid and consistent over the past four years," W-L head coach Matt Seney wrote in an email. "Over the years, he's kept us in games we maybe shouldn't have been in. I think he's the best goalie in our league."

Trevor McManus, Chris Leo, Julian Leiter, Sam Douthit and Blake Rundle are the Generals'

other seniors. McManus and Leo are second and third, respectively, on the W-L all-time scoring list.

W-L plays in the lower level of the Northern Virginia Scholastic Hockey League. The Generals defeated Bishop Ireton, which plays in the upper level of the NVSHL, 4-3 on Nov. 25. W-L also defeated defending league champion Lake Braddock/Marshall 12-3 on Jan. 3.

"Our senior class has meant so much to W-L Hockey, not just this season, but over the past four years," Seney wrote. "The day they showed up as freshmen, the program changed direction and improved. On the ice, we have been very successful in terms of wins and losses, but even more important is the high standard of leadership, work ethic, and respect that our seniors have established as a foundation for the club and future players."

W-L will face the Stone Bridge JV at 8:10 p.m. on Jan. 10 at Kettler Iceplex.

— JON ROETMAN



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Washington-Lee hockey team won 10 of its first 11 games this season.

SPORTS BRIEFS



Rowdies Red Win at Disney

After a slow start, the U16 Girls Arlington Rowdies Red fought back to win the Disney Soccer Showcase Tournament (Gray Division) over the New Year's break.

The Rowdies lost the opener 3-1 to the southern Ohio-based Tri-State FA Elite. Valaria Erostequi provided the Rowdies' only score.

The team fell behind 2-0 in Game 2 against Florida Kraze Krush before Grace Hersey scored for the Rowdies on a turning shot. Tara Dolan tied it from close in after a free kick. With time running out, Haley Roy reached the back of the net for the Rowdies' go-ahead goal and a 3-2 win.

In Game 3 against Tennessee SC Premier 16, the Rowdies took the lead on a breakaway by Grace Hersey. Eva Snaith ensured the 2-0 victory and a berth in the championship with a free kick from outside the 18.

In the championship game, Haley Roy scored first after great combination passing. The Super Nova FC Pennsylvania East team came back to tie, but a Hersey-to-Roy play put the Rowdies ahead for good. Fine goalie play throughout the tournament by Marisa Shotwell and Hannah Semmes stifled opponents in the final and throughout the tournament.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Arielle Kingsbury of Arlington, is a candidate for a graduate degree during commencement ceremonies on Dec. 14 in Albert Taylor Hall inside Plumb Hall at Emporia State University. Kingsbury earned a master of science degree in gifted education.

Erik L. Wagner, the son of Karl Wagner of Arlington, received the Coaches' Award in middle school cross-country for the 2013 fall sports season at Randolph-Macon Academy. Erik is an eighth grade student.

Garrett Cavanaugh, a senior at Randolph-Macon Academy, has received the Most Improved Player Award in varsity football for the 2013 fall sports season. He was also named to the Patriot Football Conference 1st Team for quarterback and Honorable Mention for defensive back. He is the son of Patrick Cavanaugh and Alison LeMaster of Arlington.

Brevard College has named **Ryan RisCassi**, of Arlington, to the honor roll for the fall semester of the 2013-2014 academic year.

Nahdeya Quarles, of Arlington, made the dean's list for the Fall 2013 semester at Louisburg College.

This winter, **John Michael Payne**, from Arlington, will study abroad in Barbados through the University of Delaware.

The following 24 teachers from Arlington Public Schools have been certified in the following National Board certificate areas: **Paul Bui** -

Washington-Lee: career and technical education; **Jennifer Burgin** - Oakridge: generalist; **Nancy Caruso** - H-B Woodlawn: exceptional needs specialist; **Shyara Cherubim** - Arlington Science Focus School: generalist; **Judith Concha** - Barrett: literacy: reading-language arts; **Mercedes Dean** - Henry: generalist; **Angela Finch** - Yorktown: mathematics; **Kim Godfrey** - Drew: literacy: reading - language arts; **Courtney Greco** - Yorktown: social studies history; **Jennifer Hall** - Arlington Science Focus: physical education; **Elizabeth Kuleski** - Oakridge: generalist; **Kelly Kurtis** - Arlington Science Focus: generalist; **Thomas Lenihan** - Yorktown: social studies history; **Blandine Liguidi** - Barrett: generalist; **Josh McLaughlin** - Barrett: literacy: reading-language arts; **Stephanie Nichols** - Washington-Lee: mathematics; **Matthew Przydzial** - Washington-Lee: mathematics; **Nadia Robles** - Gunston: science; **Jaclyn Scott** - Jamestown: generalist; **Elizabeth Sites** - Campbell: literacy: reading-language arts; **Heidi Smith** - Hoffman-Boston: generalist; **Anne R. Stewart** - Yorktown: social studies history; **Molly Toussant** - Barrett: generalist; and **Nicole Turgeon-Williams** - Yorktown: social studies history.

Harris Teeter, through its Together in Education program, will donate \$4,125.22 to **Randolph Elementary School's** PTA.

Larry Chen, of Arlington, a senior secondary education-mathematics major at York College of Pennsylvania, has been named to the dean's list.

Trendiest Color: Radiant Orchid

Local designers offer tips on using this exotic hue.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

It has been called exotic, vibrant and even magical. Now it has been named the 2014 color of the year: orchid, or radiant orchid to be exact.

Pantone, color authority and provider of professional color standards for design industries, says this shade of purple will be everywhere in 2014. Local design experts agree that this lively hue can add bursts of energy to almost any interior when used tastefully. But before you lay radiant orchid marble in your powder room, remember that Pantone will crown a new shade in less than 12 months.

"I would use this color in 'easily changed' items such as linens and accessories to add a pop of color to a space," said Bill Millholland, executive vice president at Case Design/Remodeling, with offices in Bethesda and Falls Church. "I think of the Pantone selection as primarily fashion focused. As a result, it has a limited lifespan and is not appropriate for tile [and] cabinetry ... that you want to look great for a long time."

Jim Nicolson, of Tech Painting Company in Alexandria, said, "We might get a request for an accent wall in a deep purple or violet, but it would be fashion-forward type people who uses those colors, at

least in the Washington area."

Instead, designers say to look for radiant orchid in textiles. "A great complementary color is navy blue," said interior designer Sallie Kjos of GreyHunt Interiors in Chantilly. "You can inject these colors into your home by using throw pillows and throws. Replace rugs with navy blue and white indoor-outdoor rugs, [using] the pops of orchid on the pillows and artwork. ... Look ... for orchid pillows in solids and mix [them] with a geometric pattern in navy blue."

Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria at Home in Alexandria, said, "Orchid is going to be the new blue for the bedroom. It will take the place of blue and can be paired with similar neutrals."

Sanchez predicts that soft colors will also be popular in 2014. "Neutrals are here to stay," she said. "We'll still be enjoying grays, taupes and shades of ivory with their soothing palettes."

Lisa Magee, project designer at Case Design/Remodeling anticipates seeing shades of gray this year. "Grays are where it's at. We're moving away from the earth tones and into the cooler colors like grays and blues."

Nicolson said that "Grays were big last year, a lot of shades of gray, and that doesn't seem to be changing, but that could very well be unique to Washington."

As a neutral, gray would work with radiant orchid as well. But if such a bright color still makes you a little gun shy, Kjos offers a simple solution: "For your coffee table, purchase a live orchid to bring in the color."



PHOTO BY GREGORY TINUS

While radiant orchid might be the color of the year, Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria at Home in Alexandria, says "Neutrals are here to stay."

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Living With My Decisions

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



On multiple occasions throughout my nearly five years of being treated for stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer, my oncologist has given me opportunities to stop and/or take a break from my treatment, or to consider alternatives to the normal protocols – for the expressed (literally) purpose of sustaining/enhancing the unexpected, above-average quality of life I have mostly experienced during my nearly non-stop, every three-week chemotherapy infusions which began in early March, 2009. The goal being to enable me to enjoy my life and not be subjected to/beaten down by the ravaging and debilitating effects of chemotherapy.

As many of you probably know, chemotherapy is hardly a cure for what cancer ails you; in many cases, it is the last line of a faltering defense against the indefensible: a terminal prognosis. When your oncologist characterizes you as “terminal,” and gives you “13 months to two years” to live, the presumptions, the logic, the understanding is that whatever treatment you endure is not likely to save your life. Stage IV means inoperable, incurable (though “treatable”); words which are not used indiscriminately. They are used, as is the “stage,” to define a set of medical conditions that are extremely serious and based on the most current and best-known medical knowledge available at the time, and are not likely to result in a happy ending. As I’ve said previously, “being called ‘terminal’ is all it’s cracked up to be.”

In spite of everything – all the discouraging words, all the chemotherapy, all the varying lab work (good and bad) and miscellaneous results from CT Scans, MRIs and the occasional bone scan and X-Ray – I have managed to outlive the original prognosis offered by my oncologist. My body has held up to the rigors of chemotherapy (I’ve never been a candidate for radiation as my tumors are too numerous and too spread out for the targeting strategy to benefit me, if I understand the process clearly) amazingly well. Still, there are limits of effectiveness. Your body can only take so much before it begins to work against you.

Nevertheless, when offered a respite from treatment and given an opportunity to live life to the fullest and enjoy what time I have remaining – not hooked up to an I.V. – I have always opted to continue treatment. Regardless of the oncologist’s motivation in suggesting these breaks (though they are discussions we have together; it’s hardly unilateral, one way or the other), it’s always felt to me as if I were giving up and/or giving in. Diagnosis-to-date/treatment-to-date, it’s never appealed to me. In retrospect, I imagine I was being naive to think that my overall very manageable quality of life as a lung cancer patient/survivor would/will continue, so why stop now when the worst-case scenario seems to be have been/is a bit overstated? I don’t know if that’s hubris on my part, stupidity or wishful thinking (certainly that), but my feeling is that if I think I’m going to die, I probably will (sooner rather than later is what I mean). And not that this whole strategy of mine has been about trying to out-think cancer by being positive and optimistic; hardly. But I will admit this: given my current alive-and-reasonably-well status, I wouldn’t say it’s worked against me.

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

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

UUCA's new \$6 million addition at the corner of Arlington Boulevard and George Mason Drive.

Building on Its History

Arlington Unitarian Church displays its social justice roots.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington has built a place for meeting, singing and advancing social justice and responding to this need for a community connection. In November, UUCA dedicated its most recent \$6.8 million building addition. And, at the same time celebrated the UUCA's 65th year anniversary as a church.

Clergy from several faith communities took part in the ceremony: Fr. Andrew Merrow, from St. Mary's Episcopal; Rev. James Victor, from Mt. Olive Baptist; Fr. Tuck Grinnell, from St. Charles Borromeo; and Rabbi Joshua Ackerman, from Etz Hayim — each gave a blessing and encouragement for interfaith connections. The most celebrated attendee of the day was founding member of the church, Robert Eldridge.

The ceremony dedicated the UUCA Center building as a meeting place, intended to bridge between community needs, members and the future. Through the years, the UUCA has expanded its physical space several times. Its original brick meeting hall had an education wing added in 1952. At that time it was a little church in the woods at the corner of Arlington Boulevard and George Mason Drive. In 1964 the church built its current sanctuary closer to the major corner — a modern structure designed by architect Charles Goodman. The sanctuary has received several architectural awards; one an

award for excellence from the Metropolitan Washington Board of Trade. The church added a \$3.7 million administrative and classroom wing to the sanctuary in 1994. UUCA's latest \$6 million addition includes a large hall space on the upper level for meetings and theatrical performances and on the lower level an activity room for multi-purpose uses.

In 1949, the Unitarian Church of Arlington, sponsored a racially integrated summer camp program, a time when Virginia held strong to its segregated ideals. In 1958, a UCA (at that time it was the Unitarian Church of Arlington) member, an African-American woman, defied Virginia's segregated seating law by attending the church picnic in Bon Air Park in Arlington and subsequently was arrested. In 1959, the church made headlines when it received a bomb threat when a rabbi was invited to give the sermon. UCA was active in the struggle for civil rights in the 1960s and named its original church building "Reeb Hall" after James Reeb, a Unitarian minister who was murdered in Selma, Ala. in 1964.

The UUCA's 65th anniversary celebration featured an art exhibit that highlighted the many activities of the church groups along with ecumenical and community groups over the years. They included accomplishments such as the development of affordable housing for the elderly through helping to found Culpepper Garden. Church groups advocated for development of foster care homes in Arlington, shelter for refugees, shelter for the homeless, LGBT community and other social justice issues.



Founding member Robert Eldridge participated in the ribbon cutting.

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