

The Arlington Connection

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PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/THE CONNECTION

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A Snowy Owl sitting in a tree near Gravelly Point on Tuesday, Jan. 14.



PHOTO BY MARY KIMM/THE CONNECTION

Bird watchers and photographers line up Thursday, Jan. 16, at Gravelly Point Park in Arlington waiting and hoping for a glimpse of two rare Snowy Owls that have taken up residence at Reagan National Airport.

Rare Arctic Snowy Owl Brings Birders to Arlington

Every afternoon for the last two weeks, for about an hour or so before dusk, the area between the parking lot at Gravelly Point in Arlington and National Airport fills up with folks carrying tripods, cameras, spotting telescopes, and binoculars. They did not come to look at or photograph the airplanes

at the airport. They are there in hopes of seeing or photographing one of the two, rare, Arctic Snowy Owls that have been seen on and around the airport for the last two weeks or so. A few Snowy Owls migrate south from their Arctic breeding grounds into the mid-Atlantic states, and elsewhere, every year. But this year there's a virtual

wave of them; dozens or hundreds have been seen between Maine and down as far as Florida.

The flat, open spaces at an airport look like the flat, open tundra where the owls breed and so they often show up in such places, not to mention that there are often mice and rats around airports, which pro-

vide the owls with familiar food.

There's no way of knowing how long the two at National Airport will stay, there but the folks who come looking every afternoon are thrilled to have the opportunity to see one so close to home.

— DONALD SWEIG

Retail Worries

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

The partial government shutdown was more than an October surprise during the race for governor. Newly available statistics from the Virginia Department of Taxation show the month was also an unexpected boost to sales tax revenues across the commonwealth. Fairfax County, for example, recorded a 15.5 percent spike in sales tax revenue in October 2013 compared to October 2012. But state and local officials says that's because several major department stores neglected to increase their sales tax rate to reflect the new regional tax for transportation when the new fiscal year began in July. So the October numbers represent the backlog of uncollected revenues.

Which retailers flubbed their taxes?

"That's proprietary information, so we can't say," said Marcia Wilds, revenue and economic analysis coordinator with the Fairfax County Department of Management and Budget. "They're big."

The revenue corrections came at a key time for local governments, a month that many expected to be

particularly bleak. Many government workers and contractors were out of work in October, when local governments became concerned that spending habits might reflect a sense of uncertainty about the future. Now budget officials across Northern Virginia are worried about what kind of sales tax revenue they'll collect from the holiday season.

"The sales tax will be back with holiday sales," said Stephen Fuller, director of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. "Over the year there will only a minor weakening."

BUDGET OFFICIALS are not so sure. As local governments across the region prepare for the first round of budgeting next month, a sense of uncertainty looms over the revenue projections and spending priorities. Part of that is the unemployment rate, which remains at about 6 percent across Virginia. That means consumers may hold back on consumption based spending, which would mean lower revenues for local governments on retail sales and restaurant meals.

"If revenues continue to decline, it may be necessary to make up any additional shortfalls with ex-

penditure reductions," wrote Alexandria City Manager Rashad Young in a memorandum to City Council members this month.

The concerns are larger than retail sales. One of the potential problems on the horizon is transient occupancy tax revenues. In Alexandria, for example, the hotel occupancy rate fell from 76.1 percent in October 2012 to 72.4 percent in October 2013. In Arlington, hotel occupancy tax revenues fell 15 percent in November compared to the previous year and 18 percent in December compared to the previous year.

"Am I worried? Yes," acknowledged Arlington Budget Director Richard Stevenson. "But that's what budget directors do. We worry."

EXPERTS WHO FOLLOW local government revenues say jurisdictions are worried for two reasons. The first is the lack of continuity on the part of the federal government. When the shutdown was happening, nobody knew how long it would last or when it would end. That led families to cut back their spending habits and cast a wary eye toward the future.

"That, obviously, is scary," said Frank Shafroth, director of the

month	Alexandria	Arlington	Fairfax
July, 2012	\$2,095,566.17	\$3,209,203.92	\$13,721,734.05
July, 2013	\$2,131,996.31	\$3,035,747.37	\$13,659,947.01
difference	\$36,430.14	-\$173,456.55	-\$61,787.04
percent change	1.74%	-5.40%	-0.45%
August, 2012	\$2,140,318.83	\$3,319,659.04	\$14,475,843.20
August, 2013	\$2,026,859.07	\$3,037,107.38	\$13,530,731.80
difference	-\$113,459.76	-\$282,551.66	-\$945,111.40
percent change	-5.30%	-8.51%	-6.53%
September, 2012	\$2,183,674.38	\$3,285,824.25	\$13,581,370.46
September, 2013	\$2,103,012.61	\$3,067,027.71	\$13,521,411.87
difference	-\$80,661.77	-\$218,796.54	-\$59,958.59
percent change	-3.69%	-6.66%	-0.44%
October, 2012	\$2,027,158.90	\$3,178,335.39	\$13,614,131.71
October, 2013	\$2,208,159.20	\$3,661,773.43	\$15,728,025.92
difference	\$181,000.30	\$483,438.04	\$2,113,894.21
percent change	8.93%	15.21%	15.53%
November, 2012	\$2,078,264.35	\$3,301,839.75	\$14,234,067.26
November, 2013	\$2,062,527.46	\$3,218,338.10	\$13,908,035.89
difference	-\$15,736.89	-\$83,501.65	-\$326,031.37
percent change	-0.76%	-2.53%	-2.29%

Center for State and Local Government at George Mason University. "It means for a family that you always have to leave something aside instead of using it at a local restaurant, store or other facility."

A second reason for worry is that the uncertainty is far from over.

The budget agreement reached between Congress and the president is good through September, leaving open the possibility of yet another battle about bankruptcy and insolvency. That leaves open a

SEE SALES TAX, PAGE 9



ArtJamz

Visitors flock to 251 S. 18th St. to participate in Crystal City ArtJamz on Jan. 12. Families with children ages 3 and up enjoyed drinks, pizza and music while creating art on a canvas.

PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMON/THE CONNECTION



Eliza Chen paints a picture as she participates in Crystal City ArtJamz.



Anissa McGinnis cleans her canvas after she completes her painting.

Criminalizing Conversion

Arlington delegate seeks to outlaw conversion therapy.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

The culture wars are alive and well in Richmond this session, as members of the General Assembly take up a number of efforts aimed at some of hottest social issues of the day. At the top of that list is a bill introduced by Arlington Del. Patrick Hope (D-47) that would criminalize the use of “conversion therapy,” also known as “reparation therapy.” That’s a controversial kind of therapy aimed at changing an individual’s sexual orientation. House Bill 1135 would prohibit licensed health-care professionals from performing conversion therapy on minors.

“We know that changing sexual orientation does not work,” said Hope. “People are born this way.”

Hope said he’s been working with Equality Virginia and the Alliance for Progressive Values to schedule testimony from people who say they have been victimized by the practice. Meanwhile, conservative social organizations are working to schedule testimony from individuals who say the therapy helped them change their sexual orientation and improve their lives. Advocates for conversion therapy say therapists should be able to engage in any kind of treatment they deem appropriate.

“It’s astonishing that a party that claims to defend choice and free speech is bent on limiting both for counselors, parents and kids who are struggling with their sexuality,” said Victoria Cobb, president of the Family Foundation of Virginia. “It’s insulting to thousands of people who have made this change.”

ACCORDING TO the American Psychological Association, all ma-

jor national mental health organizations have expressed concerns about therapies promoted to modify sexual orientation. Although homosexuality was once considered a mental illness, the American Psychiatric Association removed it from its list of psychiatric disorders in 1973. Since that time, advocates and proponents of conversation therapy have debated the wisdom of trying to change sexuality and the potential harm the process might inflict.

Opponents view the effort as part of a cultural strategy.

“This campaign attempts to influence public opinion and justify anti-gay discrimination by inaccurately portraying homosexuality as a mental disorder and a social evil,” wrote Dr. Douglas Haldeman in a 1999 academic paper.

“Conversion therapy, then, is more than just a clinical issue. It figures prominently in the national debate over lesbian and gay civil rights.”

The practice of conversation therapy was tested recently

in California, which outlawed conversion therapy for minors. That law was tested in the courts, as was a similar measure in New Jersey. Advocates for conversion therapy are represented by a group known as Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund, which argues that opponents of the practice were trying to bully the other side.

“They want to establish in law that since homosexuals are ‘born that way’ and cannot change, that they are entitled to protected class status and special rights and privileges,” wrote attorney Charles LiMandri in a written statement about the New Jersey case. “Of course, this means that anyone who disagrees with them will have to be silenced, marginalized and/



Del. Patrick Hope (D-47)

“We know that changing sexual orientation does not work. People are born this way.”
— Del. Patrick Hope (D-47)

Crafting Mental Health Legislation

Across political divide, students find common ground.

BY ISABEL AMEND
THE CONNECTION

Two University of Virginia students, Jarrod Nagurka and Rachel Deitch, both of Arlington, helped craft a bipartisan mental health bill that Del. Patrick Hope (D-47) and Del. Joseph R. Yost (R-12) have introduced to the Virginia House of Delegates. The legislation, officially called HB 206, will require Virginia institutions of higher education to dedicate a portion of their websites to mental health resources available to students on campus.

Additionally, the bill requires college governing boards to educate its students, faculty, and staff on signs of depression, anxiety, self-destructive behavior, or suicidal tendencies.

HB 206 is the product of Legislators of Tomorrow, a group that Nagurka, a self-described proud progressive, founded with Patrick MacDonnell, a Republican student across the aisle. Larry Sabato, the director of the UVA Center for Politics, calls Nagurka and MacDonnell, the “odd couple” due to their polar

SEE CRAFTING LEGISLATION, PAGE 9

Extend Health Coverage in Virginia

General Assembly should not block coverage for as many as 400,000 uninsured.

Standing on what is essentially scorched earth, Republicans in the Virginia General Assembly have condemned hundreds of thousands of poor Virginians to living without health coverage even though it would be fully funded by Federal money for the next three years, and with Virginia paying 10 percent after five years.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe has pledged to do everything he can to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and we encourage him to use every creative option available to make that happen. In Ohio, the governor found a legal way to accept the Medicaid funds despite objections from the General Assembly, for example.

Earlier this week, McAuliffe included an amendment to the FY2014 caboose budget bill authorizing the Governor to act in the event that the Medicaid Reform Innovation and Reform Commission (MIRC) fails to decide

EDITORIAL

whether or not to accept federal funding to cover up to 400,000 uninsured Virginians through Medicaid by the end of the current legislative session.

Business groups and chambers of commerce around Virginia, including the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, support accepting the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia under the Affordable Care Act. One persuasive factor for the business community: The expansion would create an estimated 30,000 jobs. Hospitals support expanding Medicaid which would offset many of the costs of caring for uninsured populations.

It isn't as if there is no health care cost for the uninsured now. Right now, they access health care when they are very sick by going to an emergency room or other clinics, where providers spread the cost of care around. This is inefficient, expensive and unhealthy, including for those of us who do have health insur-

ance. It means unvaccinated and/or sick people are going to work and going about their daily lives putting themselves and others at risk.

As of January 2014, in Virginia, Medicaid eligibility for adults without disability is limited to parents with incomes below 51 percent of poverty, or about \$11,900 a year for a family of four, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Adults without dependent children remain ineligible regardless of their income.

The General Assembly should not be able to block coverage for as many as 400,000 Virginians basically out of spite. The established excuse, that the Feds can't afford it and can't be counted on to pay the money, doesn't hold water in Virginia, which receives more Federal dollars per capita than any other state but Alaska. If legislators are so concerned about Federal ability to pay, you might expect to see them refusing transportation money, for example, or to turn the possible FBI headquarters away, or thousands of other ways that Federal dollars make their way into Virginia.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

State Budget Considerations Begin

BY ADAM P. EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)

Last week, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran of Virginia's 8th District announced he would not seek re-election. For 23 years he has ably represented the progressive values of the people of Northern Virginia. He has been an advocate for our environment, a fighter for equality and a strong champion of universal health care. Northern Virginia is a better place to live and work because of his leadership. I am proud to have been represented by him in Congress, and to have represented him in Richmond. After his many decades of service to our community, I wish him a long and happy retirement.

On Thursday, I presented 12 budget requests to the Senate Finance Committee. One amendment would fund three new forensic scientist positions in order to reduce the backlog in processing sexual assault evidence kits. These kits collect DNA evidence used to document, investigate, and prosecute cases of sexual assault. Another important budget amendment I sub-

mitted would improve the tax refund process by again allowing Virginians to receive their refund via paper check as well as via direct deposit. Currently, the only refund options are direct deposit or plastic debit cards, the latter of which were fraught with fees and not consumer-friendly. I am pleased to report my accompanying bill SB27 to make this change has passed committee and is expected to pass the full Senate this week. I am also seeking funds to provide support services to as many as 6,800 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are on waiting lists for services through an Individual and Family Support Program. Many of these people have been waiting several years for assistance, and this amendment would provide these families much-needed financial flexibility to purchase medical supplies, supplements, respite care and related services.

I am also happy that my bill to repeal the illogical hybrid vehicle tax has advanced through committee and is on its way to passage. I am encouraged by the strong bipartisan support it has received thus far and am optimistic this tax will be fully repealed.

Please join me at upcoming Town Hall Meetings:

♦ Mt. Vernon: Jan. 25, 11-12:30 at Mount Vernon Government Center (2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria) with Del. Scott Surovell and Sen. Toddy Puller.

♦ Lee District: Feb. 1, 10-12, Kingstowne Thompson Center (6090 Kingstowne Village Parkway, Alexandria) with Del. Mark Sickles, Sen. George Barker and Sen. Toddy Puller.

♦ Alexandria/Arlington: Feb. 15, 10-12, Charles Houston Recreation Center (905 Wythe Street, Alexandria) with Del. Rob Krupicka.

If you're in Richmond between now and March 8, please stop by my office and see me. You can also email me at district30@senate.virginia.gov or call 804-698-7530 with your thoughts on legislation or state-related matters. I am active on Facebook and Twitter (@AdamEbbin) and more information is available at www.AdamEbbin.com, where I encourage you to sign up for my email updates.

It is an honor to represent the citizens of the 30th Senate District.

"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Feb. 2-8.

Senior trips: Sunday, Feb. 2, "Rag-time," Little Theatre of Alexandria, \$38; Tuesday, Feb. 4, Potomac Mills and Wegman's, \$8; Thursday, Feb. 6, hear new 7000 piped organ, First Baptist Church, D.C., \$10. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Seniors-only weight room hours, Langston-Brown and Madison, Mondays-Wednesdays-Fridays. \$60/15 sessions. Details, 703-228-4745.

Tom Cunningham Orchestra rehearsal, Monday, Feb. 3, 8 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Details, 703-228-0955.

Madison Chess Club, Mondays, 9:30 a.m., Madison. Free. Details, 703-534-6232.

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

Table tennis, Tuesdays-Thursdays, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

Indoor walking program, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Details, 703-228-6300.

Low impact aerobics, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Aurora Hills. \$60/15 sessions. Register, 703-228-5722.

55+ Travel Program questions answered, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1 p.m., Arlington Mill. Free. 703-228-7369.

Music and movement class, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Super Foods explained, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

How laws are made, Thursday, Feb. 6, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Solving Sudoku puzzles, Thursdays, 1 p.m., Lee. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Arlington Poets, Thursday, Feb. 6,

2 p.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Quotes by Maya Angelou, Friday, Feb. 7, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Latest scams against seniors, Friday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m., Arlington Mill. Free. Register, 703-228-7369.

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

Music appreciation group to discuss Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich, Friday, Feb. 7, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

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Computer Guy

Forward-looking Arlington Chamber of Commerce President Doud to step down.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

When Rich Doud became president of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce in September 1990, the organization used ledger cards to keep member records. Each member of the chamber had an oversized index card with a series of columns and rows to track financial records and membership records. Doud, whose professional background was in computer sales, thought the system was tragically outdated.

"I couldn't believe it. They were spread all over the office. It was a nightmare," said Doud, 70, a man with a dry sense of humor and sharp wit. "So we set about bringing them into the 20th century first, and then the 21st century."

After 23 years on the job, Doud an-

nounced last week he will be stepping down in May. Friends and associates say Doud was instrumental in broadening the organization over the last two decades, modernizing its operation and expanding its reach.

They praise the longtime president for creating the Arlington Business Hall of Fame, developing the Community Action Committee and founding Leadership Arlington.

"Rich is truly Mr. Arlington. He is an integral part of the community," said Kate Roche, vice president of the chamber. "His passion for the chamber and the community is deeply rooted and incredibly sincere."



Rich Doud

A NATIVE of San Antonio, Texas, Doud was raised in Arlington and graduated from Washington-Lee High School in 1961. He studied business at Davidson College before taking a

SEE DOUD, PAGE 9

First home?

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When buying your first home, come to one of the DC area's number-one community banks. Our friendly professionals know every aspect of the mortgage loan process. More important, they'll take the time to get to know you, and find you just the right loan option. Let our mortgage loan experience make yours a great one.



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Inova Alexandria Hospital Inova Fairfax Hospital

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

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.

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 for tickets.

Theater Performance. See "Bang the Drum Slowly" at Gunston Theatre Two, 2700 S. Lang St. The show runs Jan. 10-Feb. 1 with shows Thursdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m. and matinees at 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Visit americancentury.org or 703-998-4555 for tickets.

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. Mount Olivet Players presents "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" Jan. 25-Feb. 8. Performances are Fridays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Dinner theater for Saturday shows at 6 p.m. Located at 1500 N. Glebe Road. Dinner is \$12/adult; \$6/child. Visit mountolivetum.org/event/alice or 703-527-3934 for reservations.

Art Exhibit. See "H2O - Encaustic Paintings by Marilyn Banner and Photography by Peggy Fleming" from Jan. 17-Feb. 13 in the Barry Gallery at the Reinsch Library at Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Free. Visit marymount.edu/barrygallery or 703-284-1561.

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 "CSA: Forty Years of Community-Sourced Art" curated by Laura Roulet at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. The exhibit celebrates 40 years of AAC's role as incubator of talent, and features work by artists whose careers were launched at AAC. Free. Runs Jan. 22 through April 13. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800 for hours.

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.

Register Now. Winter and Spring break classes are open for registration at www.arlingtonartscenter.org. There will be weekend workshops for children, and more.

THURSDAY/JAN. 23

Book Club. 10:30 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Discuss "Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison. Free. 703-228-5946.

Drop-in Story Time: Over 2s. 10:30-11 a.m. or 11:15-11:45 a.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. For children age 25 months-5 years. Free. 703-228-6545.

Drop in Storytime. 10:30 a.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories. 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.

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 "My Favorite Year" (1982). 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.

Teen Fun. 4:30 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Teens can experiment to make the tastiest hot chocolate drink possible. Free. 703-228-6545.

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

Commuter Book Club. 7 p.m. at Le Pain Quotidien, 2900 Clarendon Blvd. Discuss "Death Comes to Pemberley" by P.D. James. Free.

Music Performance. Hear music by Broken Social Scene's Brendan Canning at IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340 for tickets and times.

FRIDAY/JAN. 24

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.

SATURDAY/JAN. 25

Genealogy Class. 10 a.m. at Westover

Arlington Photographer at Sugarloaf

Tomlinson's photos on display at Sugarloaf Crafts Festival.

BY SENITRA T. MCCOMBS
THE CONNECTION

Arlington resident Peter Tomlinson's nature and wildlife photos will be displayed at the 2014 Sugarloaf Crafts Festival from Friday, Jan. 24 until Sunday, Jan. 26 at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly.

Tomlinson has participated in the Sugarloaf Crafts Festival every year in January. However this was the first year he was involved also with the festival in December.

"In January and February it's particularly cold outside so if I can be at an indoor market I'd much prefer to do that," he said.

After more than 20 years in the film and international television distribution industry in London, Paris, Africa and America, he decided to pursue photography full time when he was laid off from a distribution company based in McLean in 2001.

Tomlinson sells most of his photographs at the Georgetown Flea Market on Sundays and Montgomery Farm Women's Cooperative Market year round.

AT THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL, Tomlinson will be displaying a collection of nature and wildlife photography including pictures of Great Falls, Shenandoah National Park and the two Sumatran tiger cubs at the National Zoo.

"I hope to have pictures of Bao Bao, the new baby panda, by the time of the Sugarloaf Festival," he said.

His photography is his livelihood but it is also a hobby.

He is a native of southern England and has an extensive collection of travel photos from his homeland and many other countries he has traveled to including India, Africa, Southeast Asia and Europe. Since childhood, Tomlinson has been intrigued by

Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. Learn about Heritage Quest, the online database that provides researchers access to historical census records and other documents. Free. 703-228-5260.

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.

The Evergreen Scene. 1 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 N. Marcey Road. Take a hike and learn about the species of evergreen trees and shrubs in the park. Free. Appropriate for children over 8 up to adults. Visit www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook or 703-528-5406 to make a reservation.

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs "Penelope's Pesky Pen," inspired by a children's book by Frank Dormer. \$10-\$15/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. meet some of the artists of "CSA: Forty Years of Community-Sourced Art" curated by Laura Roulet at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. The exhibit celebrates 40 years of AAC's role as incubator of talent, and features work by artists whose

careers were launched at AAC. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800 for hours.

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.

RowRemix. 7-10 p.m. at Pentagon Row Ice Rink. Guests will skate on the newly renovated ice rink set to music by a live DJ. Every week, register to win an iTunes gift card. \$7/12 and under; \$8/13 and older; \$3/skate rental. Visit www.facebook.com/PentagonRow or www.pentagonrow.com/visit/visit-the-ice-rink for updates.

SUNDAY/JAN. 26

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs "Penelope's Pesky Pen," inspired by a children's book by Frank Dormer. \$10-\$15/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at Clarendon United Methodist Church, 606 N. Irving St. Hear music from



Tomlinson

photography. However, his true focus is nature and landscape photos.

"Since arriving in America, I've taken quite a few pictures of the Cherry Blossoms in Washington, D.C., the Great Smokey National Park and the Shenandoah National Park," he said.

According to Tomlinson, the greatest challenge with shooting nature or land-

scape photos is having to get out in the elements especially in environments where it is extremely hot or cold or shooting on dangerous cliffs or hills to get a certain shot.

He remembers his wife worrying about his safety when he had to photograph a frozen waterfall in the Great Smokey National Park and to climb a cliff that was very icy.

Some of his favorite photographers include Jim Brandenburg, Steve McCurry and Dutch photographer France Lansing.

The Sugarloaf Crafts Festival, formerly Sugarloaf Mountain Works, was created with the mission of providing a "low-overhead marketplace where artists and craftspeople could sell their unique creations direct to craftlovers." In 1976, the first Sugarloaf Crafts Festival was held in Gaithersburg, Md. with 200 artisans.

This year's festival will be held over three days (Friday, Jan. 24 and Saturday, Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), featuring more than 250 artists.

Adult admission is \$8 online and \$10 at the door, and free for children under 12. Admission is good for all three days of the festival. Free parking is available on site.

For more on the Sugarloaf Festival, show previews, exhibitor lists and admission discounts, see www.sugarloafcrafts.com or call 800-210-9900.

Canada, USA and South America. Free. Visit ibischambermusic.org for more.

Program. 1-3 p.m. at Barcroft Park. Free. Learn about the park, see trees and more. RSVP at vnps20140126.eventbrite.com.

Film. 3-4:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch "Five Broken Cameras" (2011). Free. 703-228-5710.

MONDAY/JAN. 27

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.

Author Event. 3 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. The authors of "African Americans of Alexandria, Virginia: Beacons of Light in the Twentieth Century" will discuss their book and sign copies. Free, books for purchase. 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.

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

Book Club. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. "His Excellency, George Washington" by Joseph Ellis. Free. 703-228-5946.

TUESDAY/JAN. 28

Book Club. 2 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. Discuss "Double Cross: The True Story of the D-Day Spies" by Ben Macintyre. Free. 703-228-5260.

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 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.

Book Club. 7:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Read and then discuss a personal development book of your choice. Free. 703-228-5710.

Spiritual and Philosophical Book Group. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Discuss "God: A Story of Revelation"

by Deepak Chopra. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 29

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.

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

Kids Club. 4:15 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.

Author Discussion. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Steve Weddle will talk about his novel "Country Hardball." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or 703-300-9746.

THURSDAY/JAN. 30

Drop-in Story Time: Over 2s. 10:30-11 a.m. or 11:15-11:45 a.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. For children age 25 months-5 years. Free. 703-228-6545.

Drop in Storytime. 10:30 a.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories. 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.

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. 3-4:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch "Venus" (2006). 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.

Teen Authors Club. 4:30 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Teens can bring works-in-progress or imagination and chat about writing, writer's block and more. 703-228-6545.

FRIDAY/JAN. 31

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-F.

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



Celebrate the New Year

Celebrate at the 7th Annual Chinese New Year Festival at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. The festival will highlight the traditional Chinese value of Filial Piety (loyalty to parents). Miss Vietnam DC will welcome festival guests. Live performances will include Dragon and Lion dances, other cultural events include Han Costume fashion show, writing Chinese names and learning about the language, as well as food, craft and business booths. There will also be a lunar new year dragon parade. Admission is free. Saturday, Feb. 1, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit www.ChineseNewYearFestival.org for more.

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.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Tall Heights will perform. \$12. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

SATURDAY/FEB. 1

Volunteer Work Day. 10 a.m. at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 N. Marcey Road. Volunteer

helping with indoor or outdoor projects. Visit www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook or 703-528-5406.

Get Ready for Groundhog's Day. 1 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 N. Marcey Road. \$5/person. Visit www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook or 703-528-5406 to make reservations.

Music and Dance. 7-10:30 p.m. at NRECA Conference Center, 4301 Wilson Blvd. Teatro de la Luna presents "Moonlight Tangos: a special night of tango music." \$30/adult; \$25/student, senior. Enjoy music by Claudia Gargiulo and Ramon Tasat. Visit www.teatrodelaluna.org or 703-548-3092.

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Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM
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SPORTS

The Washington-Lee hockey team won 11 of its first 12 games this season.



Washington-Lee Hockey Improves to 11-1

The Washington-Lee hockey team improved to 11-1 with an 8-1 win over the Stone Bridge JV on Jan. 10.

The team's lone loss was a 5-2 defeat against Loudoun County on Dec. 13.

Team captain Sam Huffman leads the Generals with 22 points (10 goals, 12 assists). Sandy Harvie has a team-high 11 goals, and Ben Stanley and Trevor McManus each have nine. Ben Pirko has 11 assists.

W-L will face the Yorktown JV at 5:40 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24 at Kettler Iceplex.

Wakefield Boys', Girls' Basketball Beat W-L

The Wakefield boys' basketball team defeated Washington-Lee 86-62 on Jan. 17, giving the Warriors 10 wins on the season.

Wakefield lost to DuVal 72-68 on Jan. 18, dropping the Warriors' record to 10-4. Wakefield will travel to face Thomas Jefferson at 7:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24.

The loss to Wakefield dropped W-L's record to 5-8. The Generals will host Mount Vernon at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 22.

The Wakefield girls' basketball team beat W-L 47-29 on Jan. 17. The Warriors improved to 4-8 while the Generals fell to 2-10.

W-L will travel to face Mount Vernon at 7:45 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 22. Wakefield

will host Thomas Jefferson at 7:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24.

Yorktown Girls' Basketball Wins Three Straight

The Yorktown girls' basketball team improved to 8-4 with a 55-53 win over Chantilly on Jan. 15, giving the Patriots three consecutive victories.

Yorktown defeated Washington-Lee 61-31 on Jan. 10 and Hayfield 65-31 on Jan. 14.

The Patriots will host Fairfax at 7:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24.

Yorktown Boys' Basketball Drops to 7-7

After back-to-back wins against Oakton and Washington-Lee, the Yorktown boys' basketball team dropped three straight to even its record at 7-7.

The Patriots fell to Stuart 49-44 in overtime on Friday, Jan. 17.

Yorktown will travel to face Fairfax at 7:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24.

O'Connell Boys' Basketball Falls to 10-6

The Bishop O'Connell boys basketball team lost to Washington state's Rainier Beach 65-60 on Jan. 18, dropping the Knights' record to 10-6.

O'Connell will host Bishop Ireton at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24.

TJ Swim and Dive Beats South Lakes

The Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology boys continued their winning ways (211-94) at the first meet of the new year against South Lakes.

The boys' 200 medley relay placed first, and TJ boys' 400 free relay teams took both first and second place

The girls lost (171-144), but Carrie Heilbrun (100 fly) and Sophie Bennett of Arlington (500 free) finished first, continuing a strong season. Heilbrun and Bennett were also part of the winning girls 200 free relay with (Charlie Lertlumprasert, Sophia Moses of Arlington).

In boys' diving, CJ Wilson finished first, while Callan Monette took first and Gloria Chen second place for the girls.

TJ Swim and Dive At 5A Invitational

TJ swim and dive team members took

part in the 5A Invitational in Richmond over the holidays. Carrie Heilbrun finished first (200 IM, 100 back), and was part of the winning girls 400 free relay with (Cynthia Zhuang, Sophia Moses of Arlington, Sophie Bennett of Arlington).

TJ Swim and Dive Beats Madison

On Dec. 20, the TJ boys continued their winning streak (170-145) against Madison in the last meet before the winter break. Despite a strong effort and a few personal bests, the girls lost narrowly (161-154).

The boys won all three relays. The girls finished first in 200 free relay (Charlie Lertlumprasert, Sophie Bennett of Arlington, Sophia Moses of Arlington, and Carrie Heilbrun).

Valentina Lohr (Arlington) finished a strong second in girls diving.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 23

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.

Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Get an overview of grant programs, updates to the Guidelines for Funding, application and review procedures, as well as general tips on preparing competitive proposals in preparation for the application deadlines. Free. Visit www.arts.virginia.gov or www.arlingtonartscenter.org or 703-248-6800.

Talk. 6-8 p.m. at GMU-Arlington campus, Founder's Hall, 3351 Fairfax Drive. Learn about the future of the metro in the area. Free.

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.

Preschool Open House. 9 a.m.-noon at St. Clement Episcopal Pre-School, 1701 N. Quaker Lane. Parents of preschool-age children, 2 ½ years and up, are invited to join current parents and administrators for a tour. Call 703-998-8795 or email admin@saintclement.org.

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.

MONDAY/JAN. 27

Meeting. 7-8:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. The meeting will inform citizens about the decision on whether to allow horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing for natural gas in the George Washington National Forest. Free. E-mail gailfendley@gmail.com or 703-868-1833.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 12

Application Deadline. Graduating Arlington county high school seniors can apply for a Fund for Teachers, Inc. scholarship. They must have shown a genuine interest in the field of education and plan a career in that field. Visit acsfft.org for information and applications.

Emily Flickinger, of Arlington, was recently initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Flickinger is pursuing a degree in exercise sciences at Auburn University.

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

Brooh Hailu, a sophomore majoring in global studies, from Arlington has been named to the dean's list at Bridgewater College.

Garrett Cavanaugh, the son of Patrick Cavanaugh and Alison LeMaster of Arlington, was named to the dean's list at Randolph-Macon Academy. Garrett is a senior at Randolph-Macon Academy.

Jessica Neupane, the daughter of Ram and Goma Neupane of Arlington, was named to the dean's list at Randolph-Macon Academy. Jessica is a junior at Randolph-Macon Academy.

Erik Wagner, the son of Karl Wagner of Arlington, was named to the president's list at Randolph-Macon Academy. Erik is an eighth grade student at Randolph-Macon Academy.

First-year **Louis Grimmelbein** of Arlington has been named to Beloit College's dean's list for the fall 2013 semester.

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.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 29

Speech and Q&A. 7-9 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Bernard Kerik will talk about "United Front for Criminal Justice and Prison Reform." Visit www.artisphere.com or www.oaronline.org for more.

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.

FRIDAY/JAN. 31

Lecture Series. 11 a.m.-noon at 601 S. Carlin Springs Road. "The Aging Eye" with Dodge Perry, OD, NOVA Vision Center. Explore the causes and treatments for various age-related vision problems. Free. RSVP to 703-558-6859.

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.

Spring Course Preview. 9 a.m. at GMU-Arlington, Founders Hall, 3351 N. Fairfax Drive. Learn about upcoming classes that Encore Learning is holding. Free. Visit www.EncoreLearning.net or 703-228-2144.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 11

Caroline Connors, of Arlington, qualified for the fall 2013 dean's list at Belmont University.

Four Arlington Public Schools seniors were selected to receive the Posse Scholarship from the Posse Foundation. Each student will receive a four-year, full-tuition scholarship, worth more than \$140,000 each, to a Posse Foundation partnering institution. The four APS students include: **Lysa Diarra** – Washington-Lee High School: plans to attend Lafayette College; **Aynalem Regassa** – H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program: plans to attend Lafayette College; **Edgar Payano** – Yorktown High School: plans to attend Sewanee: The University of the South; and **Marisela Lara** – Washington-Lee High School: plans to attend University of Rochester.

Yorktown High School has chosen nine new members to induct to its Hall of Fame and Inspiration. The nine 2014 inductees, whose plaques will soon be mounted alongside the inductees from 2004 and 2008, are: **Jim Baker**, class of '63, an entrepreneur and inventor whose language speech recognition tool became the basis for Apple's Siri; **Paul McGehee**, class of '78, is an acclaimed painter whose historically oriented works have been purchased by well-known entertainers, government agencies and former presidents; **Melody Miller**, class of '63, was a longtime Kennedy family spokesperson who ended her career as legislative staffer, speechwriter and spokesperson for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy. **Chris Nassetta**, class of '80, is president and CEO of Hilton Worldwide in McLean, who has presided over the company's major expansion; **Nancy Robinette**, Class of '69, is an acclaimed Washington-area stage actress who has received

SEE SCHOOL NOTES, PAGE 11



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Jarrod Nagurka, of Arlington, and Patrick MacDonnell, both students at the University of Virginia, drafted mental health legislation.

Crafting Legislation

FROM PAGE 3

opposite political views. The odd couple knew they would not agree on hot button issues, but could come to a mutual understanding on less partisan issues such as mental health. Nagurka and MacDonnell quickly recruited members through different list serves at UVA. Soon enough Rachel Deitch joined Legislators of Tomorrow and brought her expertise as a third year government student to the table.

Deitch said the bill “would provide a great benefit to students at a low cost.” An ardent Democrat herself, Deitch noted that “being bipartisan, we bring different considerations to the process. For example, we had to balance the desire to provide government services with the interest in being fiscally conservative.” At the end of the day, the 13 members of Legislators of Tomorrow had enough in common to reach significant agreement.

The bill was already in the works when news broke about the son of state Sen. Creigh Deeds, who

took his life due to mental illness. That strengthened Legislators of Tomorrows’ determination to craft meaningful legislation to impact mental health. When it comes to the issue of mental health, Nagurka said, “As college students we all know someone who has, at one point in their life, suffered from mental illness.” He added, “For many students, the pressure of school and being away from home for the first time can manifest itself into depression and risky behavior, and so we wanted to attack the problem from its source.”

The issue of mental health became fodder for potential legislation by the UVA students when the group met in the library one evening and asked themselves what they would do if a friend was exhibiting signs of depression. The room fell silent. No one knew. The group looked online and found that mental health resources were largely obscured on web pages and difficult to find. The group then realized that they could make a difference by simply educating students on what resources were available and where to find them.

Doud To Retire from Chamber

FROM PAGE 5

job at National Cash Register Corporation, which was then transitioning into a company focused on electronics. Doud sold computers for NCR in the late 1960s and early 1970s, a time when computers were poised to take over the world one vacuum tube at a time. When the idea of personal computers emerged, Doud left NCR and launched his own franchise of three computer stores known as Computerland.

After he sold his interest in Computerland, he began financing equipment and business systems. That would eventually lead him to the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, where he eventually took the leadership position in 1990. Doud recalls the chamber he took over 23 years ago as an organization was very different to the one he is leaving today.

“It had a lot of very faithful members who had

been around a long time, and most of them are what I would call first-generation members,” said Doud. “It had a limited offering to its membership, which we have doubled or tripled since then, and it did very little lobbying.”

Doud views the chamber’s heavy lobbying presence one of the accomplishments of his time at the helm. He also says he’s proud to have modernized an organization that relied on ledger cards and hand-written records. Today, the median age at chamber events is much younger than it was when Doud took over. The organization has more committees and requirements for registering for events were loosened.

“The chamber has kept up with the times and grown and evolved to fit the needs of a growing and changing Arlington business community,” said Roche. “He cares so deeply about each and every one of our members.”

Criminalizing Conversion Therapy

FROM PAGE 3

or punished.”

HERE IN VIRGINIA, the fight has not yet reached the courts. But it has arrived at the Capitol, and legislators are set to take up Hope’s bill in the coming weeks. Supporters of the law give it little chance of success, though. Hope said his bill has been assigned to subcommittee three of the Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee, which Hope referred to as “the killing fields.”

“They will do away with this bill,” said Hope. “But not before we have several victims who come forward and talk about how this has impacted their lives.”

Committee members will also hear from individuals who say restoration therapy has improved their lives.

“This bill would seek to stand in the face of people who have left the homosexual lifestyle,” said Cobb. “To not acknowledge that this exists and not acknowledge that this has worked for some people in a free America flies against what this country stands for.”

Sales Tax Error Explains Spike

FROM PAGE 2

sense of doubt for long-term contracts involving everything from bridges and fighter planes to satellite and veterans hospitals.

“With the Federal Highway Trust Fund expected to be insolvent by next year,” said Shafroth, “a key partner in the regional Washington economy is becoming an uncertain one.”

THE NEXT FEW months will detail the extent of the economic damage created by sequester and shutdown. Will the numbers track with expectations? Or will they fall well below the budgets local leaders voted for last spring? That has local governments worried and prepared to make reductions if necessary. Then again, they also don’t want to make spend-

ing reduction that are unnecessary and potentially damaging.

“What you don’t want to do is make cuts that if we recover enough we didn’t need to make,” said Laura Triggs, finance director with the city of Alexandria. “But by law, if it continues to be low then yes I have to cut back on expenditures.”

Part of the problem is revenue growth not meeting expectations. Even if local governments see an increase in revenue from sales tax revenue, failure to meet expectations could spell trouble for balancing the books in the current fiscal year. And that means even more headaches for trying to predict the future in fiscal year 2015.

“Normally our sales tax is increasing at a larger extent than it is right now,” said Wilds.

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Friends Forever

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Since it had been more than a few months, today I summoned up the courage to Google my long-time friend and fellow stage IV lung cancer survivor, Suzanne. Suzanne and I had been years out of touch (for no real reason other than initiative and the geographic consideration that she lived in Barnstable, Ma. and I live in Burtonsville, Md.) and recently back in touch – due to our identical cancer diagnoses. I learned that she had succumbed to her disease back in October, 2013. We last had contact electronically back in the summer. She was extremely weak then, she said, too weak to talk, so e-mailing was best. In that e-mail, ultimately her last, she wrote that the most recent chemotherapy drug with which she was infused was no longer effective and that her oncologist had no other drugs left to recommend. Not that she said it in so many words, but at that point her prognosis was grim. She offered that her two boys were with her and from them she would gain great comfort. The news was very unsettling to me and I was afraid that this e-mail might be our last – and so it was.

Suzanne and I were never boyfriend/girlfriend, but from Elementary School through High School we were extremely close and confidants of the highest order (“thick as thieves,” to invoke a quote from the warden in the movie, “Shawshank Redemption” describing the close relationship between Tim Robbins – “Andy Dufresne” and “Red,” – Morgan Freeman). Our friendship was forged during those formative, pre-adolescent years and maintained on – and then off – until back on again a year or so ago, for nearly 50 years. The reason I hadn’t inquired sooner than today was because I was fearful of what I would find out. Typically her e-mails were fairly random and on the occasion when I would e-mail her, she would rarely respond in a timely manner. I tried not to worry about this last silent interval. Today my worst fears were realized.

Just as cancer survivors draw great strength from those of us still living with this terrible disease, so too are we weakened when one of us dies. Rather than feeling fortunate that I am still alive, I feel sadness that Suzanne is not. When one of us dies, we all die – a little bit, or at least, our resolve to persevere dies a little bit. I’ve always said that there is strength in our numbers, numbers that we cannot afford to lose. (Lung Cancer causes approximately 160,000 deaths a year, the leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States.)

Certainly Suzanne’s death affects her family way more than it affects me. However, learning that she has died has given me pause to consider/reconsider how serious my health situation is. It’s ironic that Suzanne and I were friends for so many years and that ultimately we should be diagnosed with the same disease and given a similar prognosis. It seems only fitting that since we started together, we should finish together. I imagine I’ll see her soon enough. For the moment however, I hope it will be in my dreams – not that other place.

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

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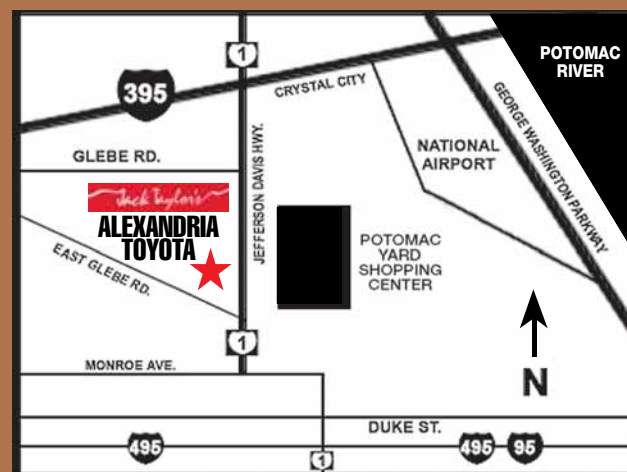
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