Wakefield junior Dominique Tham scored a career-high 31 points, grabbed 23 rebounds and blocked eight shots against Mount Vernon on Feb. 15.
Animal Welfare League Launches CAT Campaign

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington has launched the Care And Transform capital campaign to secure a $670,000 in funding for a building renovation that will improve the intake and quality of life for feline and small companion animals at the shelter.

Annually, AWLA receives approximately 900 cats with an average length of stay of 35 days. With no time limit for any of its animals, some cats may live at the shelter for as long as a year prior to finding permanent homes.

The renovated cat and small companion quarters will be designed by Animal Arts, an architecture firm specializing in animal shelter and veterinary clinic design and will adhere to the Association of Shelter Veterinarians guidelines.

The new facility will include more cageless cat colonies; larger cat cages with spaces for hiding, perching and stretching; enlarged windows to provide more natural light; private “get acquainted” rooms; new cat receiving and isolation rooms; and a state-of-the-art HVAC system.

The CAT campaign committee is comprised of community and business leaders including Mark Treadaway, Jeanne Broyhill, Joanne Hannett, Diane Greenlee, Pat and Bob Ragan, and Debra Rose. The committee has raised more than 35 percent of the campaign goal with lead gifts from John Kaparakis, Debra and David Rose, Mark Treadaway and Bob Kenney, Jack and Dona Hobbs, Lisa Kirschner, Gillian McPhee, Bernice Barbour Roundation, Pat and Bob Ragan, Susan and David Sherman, Neil Trent, Jeanne Broyhill and Joe Ventrone, Jennie Barnes, George Depaoli, Susan and Kevin Murname and American International Group.

To learn more about the CAT campaign or AWLA’s available companion animals, visit www.awla.org or download the free Arlington Pets App.

AWLA is located at 2650 S. Arlington Mill Drive and is open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, noon-7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays, noon-4 p.m.
Replacing Baird

Three candidates vie for Democratic nomination to School Board.

By Michael Lee Pope
The Connection

Arlington County schools are at a crossroads. Enrollment is steadily rising, and parents have become upset about the amount of standardized testing that takes place in schools across the county. Meanwhile, two-term School Board member Sally Baird says she will not seek another term, opening up the seat to a new generation of leadership.

“The advice for the next School Board member is to make sure that you are hearing everybody,” said Sally Baird, who said she had no interest in running for County Board. “At the same time, you have to make sure all the school community folks see the bigger picture of the entire school system and not just one school.”

Although the Arlington School Board is a non-partisan race, three candidates are seeking the Democratic endorsement for the office. While that doesn’t necessarily mean they will sail into office, the candidate with the nod from the party almost always wins the election. Democrats are planning a firehouse primary on May 15 at Drew Middle School and May 17 at Washington-Lee High School. Leaders in the Arlington Democratic Committee say voters will be looking for candidates who can use their experience to help guide the school system.

“They are looking for someone who is going to do an excellent job managing the challenges of increasing enrollment at a time when budgets are hard to come by,” said Arlington County Democratic Committee Chairman Kip Malinosky, a civics teacher in Fairfax County. “We’re looking for a commitment to excellence in our schools, and reducing the burden of standardized testing.”

GREG GREELEY says Arlington Public Schools are not ready for the enrollment spike that’s about to happen. Since he joined the school system’s facility advisory committee three years ago, he says Arlington schools “are very much in the process of juggling the challenges of growth at a time when budgets are so tight.”

Candidates

Greg Greeley, 49: A native of Toledo, Ohio, Greeley was raised in Temperance, Mich. He has a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in computer science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After he received his undergraduate degree, he was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Air Force, where he was on active duty for four years at the Pentagon. He is currently a program manager for Energy Enterprise Systems, which does work for the federal government. He lives in the Douglas Park neighborhood, and he votes at the Four Mile Run precinct. He has a son, adopted from foster care, who graduated from T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria and a son in seventh grade at Jefferson Middle School.

Barbara Kanninen, 50: A native of Richland, Wash., Kanninen was raised in Columbus, Ohio. She has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Ohio University and a master’s degree in economics from Texas A&M and a doctorate in agricultural and resource economics from the University of California at Berkeley. She is currently a data specialist and owner of BK Econometrics and the author of a line of children’s books. She lives in the Rock Spring neighborhood, and she votes at the Williamsburg Middle School. She has two children in Arlington Public Schools, one at Yorktown High School and one at the Arlington Career Center.

Nancy Van Doren, 53: A native of New York City, Van Doren was raised in New York and Cornwall, Conn. She has a bachelor’s degree in Humanities and International Affairs from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and a master’s degree in management from the Hartford Graduate Center, now known as Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She lives in the Ashton Heights neighborhood, and she votes at Clarendon United Methodist Church. She has four children, three at Washington-Lee High and one at Thomas Jefferson Middle School.
Fundamental Freedom To Choose To Marry

Virginia is historically slow in extending rights.

In 1967, Virginia was one of 16 states that banned interracial marriage and had criminal penalties for violators. Mildred Jeter, an African-American woman, and Richard Loving, a white man, married in 1958, were convicted and banished from living in Virginia for 25 years to avoid serving a one-year prison sentence. On June 12, 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Loving v. Virginia, overturned the convictions of Mildred and Richard Loving, declaring the ban on interracial marriage unconstitutional.

Chief Justice Earl Warren wrote the opinion: “Marriage is one of the ‘basic civil rights of man,’ fundamental to our very existence and survival. … To deny this fundamental freedom on so unsupportable a basis as the racial classifications embodied in these statutes, classifications so directly subversive of the principle of equality at the heart of the Fourteenth Amendment, is surely to deprive all the State’s citizens of liberty without due process of law. The Fourteenth Amendment requires that the freedom of choice to marry not be restricted by invidious racial discriminations. Under our Constitution, the freedom to marry, or not marry, a person of another race resides with the individual, and cannot be infringed by the State.”

More than 50 years ago, it was still illegal in Virginia, punishable by prison time, for a white person to marry someone of another race.

Judge Arenda Wright Allen last week on Valentine’s Day, ruled that Virginia’s ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional. In the opening of her order, Allen quotes Mildred Loving in a statement she made in 2007 on the 40th anniversary of Loving v. Virginia: “We made a commitment to each other in our love and lives, and now had the legal commitment, called marriage, to match. Isn’t that what marriage is? … Today’s young people realize that if someone loves someone they have a right to marry. Surrounded as I am now by wonderful children and grandchildren, not a day goes by that I don’t think of Richard and our love, our right to marry, and how much it meant to me to have that freedom to marry the person precious to me, even if others thought he was the ‘wrong kind of person’ for me to marry. I believe all Americans, no matter their race, no matter their sex, no matter their sexual orientation, should have that same freedom to marry. Government has no business imposing some people’s religious beliefs over others. … I support the freedom to marry for all. That’s what Loving, and loving, are all about.”

Judge Allen’s written decision is compelling and well worth reading. You can find a copy of it on the Connection website.

“The Declaration of Independence recognizes that ‘all men’ are created equal. Surely this means all of us.” — Judge Arenda Wright Allen

Mental Health and Budget Items

By Adam Ebin
State Senator (D-30)

You most likely heard that my colleague, Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-Bath County), underwent a horrible ordeal last fall with his son Gus, who was suffering from severe mental illness. The Deeds family had realized that Gus needed urgent help and were doing everything they could to ensure his well-being, but a psychiatric bed could not be found for him when it was desperately needed. In a horrific turn of events, Gus critically stabbed his father and then took his own life. Senator Deeds has shown remarkable resilience and courage to see that other families do not endure similar tragedies.

I have co-sponsored two of Senator Deeds’ bills that will make much-needed improvements to our mental health system. Senate Bill 260 would allow an Emergency Custody Order of up to 24 hours while a bed is sought by an individual in need of critical help. Currently, an individual like Gus can only be detained for 4-6 hours if a bed is not found; nearly every other state provides for up to 24 hours. Creigh informed me that less than one person per day on average in the entire Commonwealth has been turned away for lack of a bed; while this number is fortunately small, each of these cases can be life or death. This bill would require the development of an electronic database of all psychiatric beds statewide to be available to Community Services Boards (CSBs) when an individual needs help. A state bed would be offered as a last resort if no private beds are available. I also co-sponsored Senate Joint Resolution 47 calling for a See Mental Health, Page 5
Opinion

Mental Health and Budget Items

FROM PAGE 4

study of our entire state mental health system.

On Sunday afternoon, the Senate Finance Committee unveiled its version of the two-year budget to take effect July 1. Although Virginia’s economy is doing better than most states, revenue collection has not been as strong as previously forecast. With that in mind, the Finance Committee has prudently decided to propose a budget that is more in line with the revised estimates. Especially given these circumstances, I am extremely happy that the Finance Committee granted my request to hire three new forensic scientists to reduce the backlog in the processing of Physical Evidence Recovery Kits (PERKs). These kits collect DNA evidence used to document, investigate and prosecute cases of sexual assault. Processing these kits more quickly will allow law enforcement to place suspects in custody sooner, prevent further crimes and provide closure to victims.

Thanks to all of you who joined Del. Rob Krupicka and I for our Town Hall Meeting this past Saturday in Alexandria. I enjoyed the opportunity to answer questions and provide an update on the legislative session.

You can email me at district30@senate.virginia.gov with your thoughts on pending legislation or other state matters. I am also active on Facebook and Twitter (@AdamEbbin).

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

“Flourishing After 55” from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for March 3-8.

**Senior trips**:
- Monday, March 3, International Culinary School, Arlington, lunch, $41; Wednesday, March 5, National Geographic. “Women of Vision” exhibit, $18; Thursday, March 6, Philadelphia Flower Show, $86. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.
- **Seniors only weight room hours**, Langston-Brown and Madison. Monday-Wednesday-Friday, $60/15 sessions. Call for days and times, 703-228-4745.
- **Strength training classes**, Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 9 a.m., Thomas Jefferson. $60/15 sessions. Details, 703-228-4745.

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For more information, please call Vanessa Spevacek at 202.349.3400.
Incorporating Math and Science Into a Child’s Day

Maria Kennedy was driving her 5-year-old son to preschool when he asked a question that stunned her. “Mommy, why is the sun following us?” Kennedy, who says she was stuck in rush-hour traffic and running late for work wasn’t sure how to respond.

“Looking back, it was an excellent opportunity for a simple arithmetic lesson,” said Kennedy. “At the time, I wasn’t sure how to break it down for him and didn’t have time to figure it out.”

Math and science education experts say there are countless opportunities to enhance a child’s math and science learning. Resources abound to aid parents in their quest to boost their child’s education. “It is absolutely important that parents encourage math and science learning outside of the classroom,” said Padmanabhan Seshaiyer, Ph.D., professor, Mathematical Sciences; director, STEM Accelerator Program; director, Center for Mathematics Professional Outreach and Educational Technology in the College of Science at George Mason University. “I believe strongly that children have different learning styles. We have to look for ways to engage our children in math and science and get them to be curious.”

Seshaiyer said that parents should be deliberate in their efforts to engage their children in science and math. “For example, while going for a walk in the park, you can observe something interesting about a tree,” he said. “While walking down the steps, children can count the number of steps or count the odd or even numbered steps.”

Usha Rajdev E.D.D., professor of Math and Science at Marymount University said that opportunities to learn about math and science are virtually everywhere. “If they are in the parking lot, you can ask, ‘How many red cars do you see?’ ‘How many sets of tires do you see?’ There are four tires on each car. How many sets of tires are there if you see three cars?’ These types of activities are so overlooked.”

The Washington metropolitan area offers opportunities for “family field trips” that are goldmines of math and science lessons. “For all age groups I believe that what they do outside the classroom is just as important as what they do inside the classroom,” said Peggy Weldon, math and science teacher at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, Md. “The Octagon Museum downtown is a great one for architecture and math lessons. Any of the Smithsonian museums are great.”

“Children experience the wonder of science and math every day,” said Donna Ryan, a Kindergarten Teacher at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. “They just may need a spark from adults to ignite their perpetual curiosity. Two websites that can add to that spark are: bedtimemath.org and wonderopolis.org. They are daily imaginative and fascinating windows into the world around us.”

Michael Moynihan, Head of Upper School, at The Heights School in Potomac, Md. said that there are many resources available to help with math and science education. “Parents can set up accounts on Khan Academy [“a not-for-profit with the goal of changing education for the better by providing a free world-class education for anyone anywhere”] to monitor their child’s progress through particular areas of math,” he said. “Even encouraging good habits of critical reading of texts through taking notes on reading can be effective. Parents with limited time should convey expectations and goals in terms of effective learning strategies more than provide direct help.” Visit www.khanacademy.org.

Consider creative projects that include adding, subtracting or multiplying.

“Rub Goldberg machines are a good way to get kids motivated about math and science,” said Seshaiyer. “Puzzles are also good.” Visit www.rubegoldberg.com.

In fact, said experts, some of the best lessons are through tangible experiences. “I am a big proponent of learning by doing,” said Seshaiyer. “For example, how many halves are in four? Take a Hershey chocolate bar and ask them how many half pieces are in the bar. They will cut it and quickly see that it is eight. It gives them something concrete to do and lets them justify their answer.”

In April, Seshaiyer encourages parents to take their children to The USA Science & Engineering Festival in Washington, D.C., “It is the largest science festival in the country,” he said. Visit www.usasciencefestival.org.

A new world indoor rowing record was set in Alexandria at the 29th MidAtlantic Erg Sprints, which was held in the Gerry Bertier Gymnasium at T.C. Williams High School on Saturday, Feb. 1.

The record was set by Tom Darling of the Cambridge Boat Club in Massachusetts. Competing in the 2000-meter race for veteran men age 55-59, Darling blasted the hinges off the previous world record by covering the distance in a time of 6:12.6, which was over six seconds faster than the previous world record of 6:18.6 set by Dick Cashin in 2009.

This year’s competition featured more than 1,500 athletes competing on 120 ergometers that were set up on the race floor inside the Gerry Bertier Gymnasium. The athletes ranged in ages from under 10 to over 70.


Next year’s MidAtlantic Erg Sprints will be held on Jan. 31, 2015. For the complete results of this year’s competition, visit www.ergsprings.com.
Seeking Slot on School Board

FROM PAGE 3

Greeley says, he has come to the conclusion that Arlington needs a master plan to deal with an enrollment of 30,000 students by the next decade.

"Do we want to stick with three comprehensive high schools?" asked Greeley. "If we want to stick with just those three, we need to be comfortable that those three are going to get larger."

Greeley said he doesn’t have a proposal, although he thinks the schools system needs to launch a process that would allow the community to make a decision. If the community decides to stay with three high schools, he said, that would mean that the size of the schools would increase from 1,500-1,900 students to schools that would have 3,000 or more — common for Fairfax County, but not for Arlington.

"It’s little things like tackling Velcro to the underside of the desks so that kids can rub their fingers along it, and it gives them some sensory input but it also allows them to focus," said Greeley. "The county needs more of those kinds of consistent applications of common sense measures to help kids through their classes."

BARBARA KANNINEN says she is running for the School Board because she is passionate about children and education, spending years as an advocate and volunteer. Now she wants to use her experience with statistics and sustainability on the Arlington County School Board. Her top priority is pressing forward with a high-tech curriculum that also has room for arts education and culture.

"We have a situation where we have a wide variety of how much science we teach in the schools, especially elementary schools," said Kanninen. "And the minute we mention science, we have to balance the other pieces," said Kanninen. "For me to answer that question than say get rid of X, Y or Z test."

Van Doren says, she hears from parents that they believe students spend too much time taking standardized tests. She says she’s also heard from teachers who have said they believe standardized testing doesn’t necessarily inform them as to what they should be doing with the children. As a result, she said, the county needs to focus on tests that are necessary and do away with tests that are extraneous.

"To me, it all goes back to the individual child and what do you need to know about that child? So what do you need to know about that child?" said Van Doren. "(And I want to be a voice at the table that will be pressing for that.)"

NANCY VAN DOREN has spent the last decade volunteering in a number of capacities. Her experience ranges from the County Council of PTAs and the Advisory Council on Instruction to the Career Center Parent Advisory Committee and the Multi-Modal Transportation and Student Safety Special Committee. Now she wants to bring that experience to the Arlington School Board, focusing on making sure the county’s instruction prepares students for colleges or careers.

"The reason I’m doing this now is that I just have so much knowledge and spend a great deal of time advising School Board members," said Van Doren. "It’s time for me to be at the table helping to make decisions rather than advising."

On the campaign trail, Van Doren says, she hears from parents that they believe students spend too much time taking standardized tests. She says she’s also heard from teachers who have said they believe standardized testing doesn’t necessarily inform them as to what they should be doing with the children. As a result, she said, the county needs to focus on tests that are necessary and do away with tests that are extraneous.

"To me, it all goes back to the individual child and what do you need to know about that child? So what do you need to know about that child?" said Van Doren. "That’s why it’s more complicated for me to answer that question than say get rid of X, Y or Z test."
Junior's career-best night leads Warriors to victory.

Mount Vernon on Feb. 15.

Wakefield junior Dominique Tham blocks a shot during the Warriors' 70-48 win over Mount Vernon on Feb. 15.

Wakefield’s Tham Thriving in Leadership Role

Junior’s career-best night leads Warriors to victory.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

Mount Vernon senior Brendon Maturey attacked the basket early in the third quarter—Saturday when Wakefield junior Dominique Tham stepped up to defend the lane.

Tham, a 6-foot-4 presence in the paint, is known for swatting shots. During this session, however, No. 32 took a different defensive approach.

Rather than leap and attempt to add another block to his already impressive total, Tham stood his ground and took a charge, giving possession back to the Warriors.

“I don’t take charges,” Tham said after the game, confirming head coach Tony Bentley’s claim that it was the first charge Tham had taken all season.

Whether the result of using a foreign defensive technique or simply bad luck, Tham also took a shot to the groin during the play and headed to the bench shortly after. Pain was about the only thing that could slow him down during an otherwise career-best performance.

Tham scored a career-high 31 points, grabbed 23 rebounds and finished with eight blocks during as the Wakefield boys’ basketball team concluded the regular season with a 70-48 victory over Mount Vernon.

On Saturday night, Tham was simply too much for Mount Vernon to handle. He helped Wakefield close the third quarter on a 10-0 run with a three-point play. He scored the Warriors’ first eight points of the fourth quarter, including a tip-in to give Wakefield a 64-44 lead with less than five minutes remaining.

“Dominique wasn’t the man last year. It was Khory’s team,” Mount Vernon head coach John Wiley said. “He had a heck of a game. Our game plan was to put a body on him because we know he roams from elbow to elbow and camps out in the paint, it just didn’t work.”

Hopson, a senior forward and another key player from last year’s state tournament appearance, finished with 12 points, including a transition dunk. Junior guard Marqua Walton knocked down four 3-pointers and also scored 12 points.

Wakefield faced Thomas Jefferson in the conference tournament quarterfinals on Tuesday, after The Connection’s deadline. The semifinals are on Wednesday, Feb. 19 and the championship game is Friday, Feb. 21.

“You don’t want to backtrack,” Hopson said about Wakefield’s goals for the postseason. “We don’t feel like we lost too much to change our goals, so the goal is just the same thing — to go back to states.”

W-L, Yorktown Grapplers Compete At Regionals

The Washington-Lee wrestling team had two grapplers place and Yorktown produced one during the 6A North region meet on Sunday at Centreville High School.

W-L senior Narankhuu Ganbaatar placed third in the 126-pound bracket, falling to Battlefield’s Trevor Mello in the fifth-place match. Robinson won its third team title in the last four years.

The state meet will be held Feb. 21-22 at Robinson Secondary School.

Umpires Needed

The Northern Virginia Baseball Umpires Association is in need of umpires for youth leagues, high schools, and collegiate-level baseball and volleyball games. Experience is helpful, but not required. Will give classroom and field training to aid you in acquiring skills needed. Contact Rob Porter at 703-359-1044.

Points by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

Wakefield senior Re’Quan Hopson dunks against Mount Vernon on Feb. 15.
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, 4218 Wilson Blvd., children can enjoy ComedySports for Kids. $10. Visit www.comedyindy.com or 703-294-LAFAF.

Comedy. Every Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. is ComedySpot (“clean”) and at 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday is the Blue Show (“unclean”), both at Comedy Spot, in Ballston Common Mall, 4218 Wilson Blvd. $15 each. Visit www.comedyindy.com or 703-294-LAFAF.


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 Whittow’s on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Prizes for 1st place. Free. Visit www.whittows.com or call 703-276-9693.


Winter Cabaret Festival. See a variety of cabarets while enjoying a drink in the ARK Theatre at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Performers include Tracy Lynn Olivera, Chelsea and Geoff Packard and more. Runs through March 1. $35/season subscribers; $45/non-subscribers per session or $90/9 all-access pass. Visit www.signature-theatre.org.

Teacher Performance. See “La Vida Que Me Dias: no me alietan (A Life You’ve Given Me… and it’s not enough)” Feb. 13-March 9 at Gunston Arts Center - Theater Two, 2700 S. Lang St. Performances are Thursdays at 8 p.m. ($15/person), Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. ($35/regular; $30/students, seniors) and Sundays at 3 p.m. ($25/person). Visit www.teatrodelaalma.org for tickets. Performances are in Spanish with English subtitles.


Teacher Performance. See Virginia Woolf’s “Orlando” at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Performances run Feb. 26-March 23. Pay-what-you-can previews Feb. 21-23 and Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. Pay-what-you-can Saturday matinees March 12-2 at 2 p.m. All other performances are Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800 for hours.

Teacher Performance. Encore Stage & Studio presents “The Secret Case of Sherlock Holmes” from Feb. 28-March 9 at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Performances are Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Recommended for ages 4 and up. Visit www.encorestageva.org for more.

Teacher Performance. See “Oklahoma!” Feb. 28-March 16 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m., with an additional matinee on Saturday, March 15 at 3 p.m. $20/child; $15/student, senior. 703-892-0202 ext. 6 for tickets.


Teacher Performance. Synetic Theater remakes its original “silent Shakespeare” production “Hamlet — the rest is silent” from March 13-April 6. Performances are Wednesdays through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 p.m. at Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St. Tickets start at $25/ student tickets start at $15. Visit www.synetictheater.org for tickets.

Art Exhibit. See “SNBA: Skyline and Today: Images by Arlington Photographer Greg Embore” at Cherrydale Branch Library, 2190 Military Road. Runs through April 7. Hours are Monday and Thursday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday 1-9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free.

Art Exhibit. See “CSA: Forty Years of Community-Sourced Art” curated by Laura Rosulet at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. The exhibit celebrates 40 years of CSA’s role in the arts community, and features work by artists whose careers were launched at CSA. Free. Runs Jan. 13 to April 26. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800 for hours.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS
Teacher Classes. Encore Stage & Studio presents “Teen Theatre: Acting” in classes and mass. See ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11

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By KENNETH H. LOURIE

Notice.

Ever make parole, it is life nonetheless, and of a life sentence. And though it’s unlikely I’ll sis, it certainly sounded like a death sentence; speaking), ignoring certain facts as they were you. And though I’m certainly mindful of back because you never know who’s chasing battle of mind over what may or not matter ing, analyzing, introspecting; it’s a constant turns I’ve taken until my oncologist advises me diagnosed, I don’t suppose I’ll know what saying/joking. And as many changes as I’ve antness down the road – as I’m semi-fond of right now, given my diagnosis/prognosis, Moreover, even though there’s relative calm Notice.” Whenever I’m asked by those in my ity of life with which I’ve been blessed – for a tune and the unexpected above-average qual- anticipate good, bad or indifferent; living day tests, waiting anxiously for results, trying not to this is how I roll. Worrying about upcoming face-to-face appointment with my oncologist, CT Scan followed by my every-three-month super-positive feedback with which I can live.rances while reclining in my while being infused and receiving a big smile/ flushing on the character’s face as she looked up rather a falling pie which ultimately landed Stooges version, but there was some imminent sword of Damocles, I only know the Three know the proper historical context of the ceiling and there it stuck, hanging precariously wherein a non-Stooge was innocently standing out-of-context Three Stooges reference whereby a non-Stooge was innocently standing over the character’s head. Now I still don’t know the property in the context of the sword of Damocles, I only know the Three Stooges version, but there was some imminent danger involved (not death, mind you), but rather a falling pie which ultimately landed flush on the character’s face as she looked up to make further inquiries. Nonetheless, pie/issue references notwithstanding, having seen my oncologist today while being infused and receiving a big smile/ “you’re going great/thumbs-up set of ges- tures/reactions while reclining in my Barcablounger with a chemotherapy IV. dipp- ing medicine into my right arm, is the kind of super-positive feedback with which I can live. Along with my every-three-week pre-chemo- therapy lab work and my every-three-month CT Scan followed by my every-three-month face-to-face-appointment with my oncologist, this is how I roll. Worrying about upcoming tests, waiting anxiously for results, trying not to anticipate good, bad or indifferent; living day to day and trying to appreciate every good fortune and the unexpected above-average qual- ity of life with which I’ve been blessed – for a terminal cancer patient, that is. Ergo, the title of this column: “Until Further Notice.” Whenever I’m asked by those in my know how I’m doing, I typically respond: “I’m doing fine, until further notice.” And “further notice” is my way of lighting the emotional load under which I live and thankfully still breathe, although at a storm, you might say. Moreover, even though there’s relative calm right now, given my diagnosis/prognosis, there’s likely to be some inevitable unpleas- antness down the road – as I’m semi-fond of saying/joking. And as many changes as I’ve already made to diet and lifestyle since I was diagnosed. I don’t suppose I’ll know what turns I’ve taken until my oncologist advises me after my miscellaneous test results have been analyzed. As much as I’m doing internally, I still feel as if the news will come externally. As a result, I feel pressure every day; self-assess- ing, analyzing, introspecting; it’s a constant battle of mind over what may or not matter yet. And of course, I can never forget the pie. The great Satchel Paige joked to not look back because you never know who’s chasing you. And if I’m correct, even death and what’s chasing me (figuratively speaking), ignoring certain facts as they were presented to me by my oncologist is much easier said than done. When I first learned about my medical situation/diagnosis/prognos- is, it certainly sounded like a death sentence; now, five years later, it has evolved into more of a life sentence. And though it’s unlikely I’ll ever make parole, it is life nonetheless, and though there are some days when it’s not very pretty, these are days I didn’t anticipate hav- ing. And so far there’s been no pie or sword to diminish them – all things considered.

Kerry Louis is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Anacostia & The Connection Newspapers.
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ENTERTAINMENT

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THURSDAY/ FEB. 20
Drop-in Story Time: Over 2s. 3-4:30 p.m. or 10 a.m.-noon at Arlington Public Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-5260.

Drop-in Story Time: Under 2s. 10 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5260.

Drop-in Story Time: Under 2s. 10 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Reighland, Arlington. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5715.

Drop-in Story Time: Under 2s. 10 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5715.

Garden Plant Discussion. 11 a.m. at Little Falls Presbyterian Church, 6025 Little Falls Road. Learn about native plants, soils, and controlling weeds during the monthly meeting of the Rock Spring Garden Club. Free with an optional $5 lunch. RSVP by Feb. 13 to www.rockspringgardenclub.com or rockspingt3gardenclub@gmail.com.

Film. 3-4:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch "Romantics Anonymous." (2010). Free. 703-228-5710.

Twee Art Afternoons. 3-5 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. Children in grades 4-6 can do art projects. Free. 703-228-5260.

Bilingual Story Time. 4-5 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. 5-5:30-6:30 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.


FRIDAY/ FEB. 21
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 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 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5094.

Story Time: Wobbly Walkers. 10-10:30 a.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children aged 12-24 months. Free. 703-228-5260.

Mystery “Diet” Friday. 2 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Hear the new release of Dashahll Haanmert mystery story read aloud. Free. 703-228-5710.

Comedy Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Colin Jost, the new co-anchor of Saturday Night Live’s Weekend Update, will perform. $24. Visit www.arlingtondrathouse.com for tickets.

SATURDAY/ FEB. 22
Tiny Tot. 10:30 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 2190 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children ages 18-35 months can discover nature through a themed program. $5 due at registration. Free. 703-228-6535. Program #622914-G.

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