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News



In rehearsal, from left, are Paige Little, Dorie Sullivan, Anne Kellogg, Hannah Schultz, Garret Neal, Jacqui Anders and Jade Mellor.

'Alice in Wonderland' Opens Thursday

orktown High School theatre students, under the direction of Carol Cadby, technical direction of Maiba Bodrick, and choreography by Brooke Weber and Ryan Sellers, will present "Alice in Wonderland" this week in the school's auditorium.

In the 1860s, English author Charles Lutwidge Dodgson wrote "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" under the pen name Lewis Carroll. Both stories chronicle the journey of a 7-year-old girl named Alice as she breaks through a mirror and falls down a rabbit hole into an imaginary world populated by peculiar creatures and conventions.

Using mime, puppetry, and creative casting, Yorktown Theatre's production will follow her adventure through both books and once again explore the fantastical and disjointed world of a

Show times are Thursday, March 6 at 7 p.m.; Friday, March 7 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 8 at 2 and 7 p.m. Admission is \$10.



From left are Aryn Greier, Juliet Smith and Jacqui Anders.

Рнотоѕ ву LOUISE KRAFFT



From left are Valerie Yoder, **Kimberly** Estoque, Katy Scruggs, Hugh Vasquez, Dorie Sullivan, Warren McQueary, Tanya Voronetska, Erin Sweeny and Jacqui Anders.

\$16 Million More Sought for Schools

School officials scramble to fund rising enrollment in challenging budget environment.

> By Michael Lee Pope The Connection

rlington Superintendent Patrick Murphy's proposed budget for the coming school year would scale back a program aimed at helping students older than age 22, add trailers to deal with the crush of new students as well as add four new bus drivers and create a new coordinator for transporting special-equation students. Murphy presented a \$439.4 million budget for fiscal year 2015 during a School Board meeting last week. The proposal is about \$16 million more than last year's budget, a a 3.1 percent increase. The superintendent's proposal opens a two-month budget season that will last until School Board members vote on a final spending

"There are a lot of tough deci-

sions, and they are not easily made," said Murphy. "I understand that there is a lot of passion and emotion and commitment."

In the coming year, county schools are expected to welcome about 24,000 students, which is more than 800 students more than the system currently has. School budget officials estimate the additional students will cost about \$7.5 million, a total that includes hiring new teachers and other school-based staff to service the growing enrollment.

Perhaps the most controversial proposal in Murphy's budget is the \$1.6 million reduction in services to students who are older than 22, a population that supporters of special-needs students says is one of the most vulnerable.

"This could be something that could make a difference for some

SEE MORE STUDENTS, PAGE 11

Budget Reductions

- ❖ \$1.6 million in reductions of service delivery for adult high-school students
- * \$1.3 million to reduce post-employment benefits contributions
- ❖ \$1.1 million to eliminate 21 elementary library assistant positions
- ❖ \$780,000 reduction in special education classroom assistants
- \$304,000 in reduced health-insurance costs ❖ \$250,000 in savings from rehiring retirees
- ❖ \$190,000 in reduction to Virginia Retirement System creditable compensation
- ❖ \$170,000 to eliminate two middle school librarians
- ❖ \$160,000 to eliminate technology logistics and procurement coordinator ❖ \$160,000 to reduce extra day days for teachers during summer months
- ❖ \$160,000 reduction in non-mandated field trips
- ❖ \$150,000 to reduce instructional and innovative technologies budget
- ❖ \$140,000 to integrate two instructional supervisors \$140,000 to increase adult education fees
- ❖ \$100,000 reduction to redesign of professional library
- * \$80,000 in change of model of service delivery for twice exceptional teachers
- ❖ \$80,000 reduction in special education coordinators
- \$80,000 for changing the clerical factor for secondary Asperger's assistants
 \$60,000 to reduce professional services

New Spending

- ❖ \$1.7 million for integrated reading and support initiative
- ❖ \$1 million to expand instructional time at two elementary schools
- ♦ \$500,000 for technology infrastructure needs
- ❖ \$310,000 to restore high school resource teachers for the gifted
- ❖ \$300,000 to redesign summer school
- ❖ \$247,000 for four additional bus drivers
- ❖ \$240,000 for professional development for teachers
- ❖ \$160,000 for International Baccalaureate world languages
- ❖ \$90,000 to provide additional SAT preparation options \$88,000 for a new special needs bus routing co
- \$78,000 to fund two special education vision assistants
 \$62,000 to fund half of a position for a coordinator of counseling
- * \$45,000 to fund half a position for substance abuse counselor ❖ \$40,000 for professional development for school counselors
- ❖ \$190,000 contingency fund for special education classroom assistants
- **\$** \$180,000 for legal fees
- ❖ \$120,000 for a new budget analyst
- ❖ \$110,000 for a new design and construction project manager

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WELLBEING

Creating a Harmonious Family Life

Local experts offer tips for keeping a family happy.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

s Elizabeth Rees drove her daughter and two of her daughter's friends to a library reading group recently, the Alexandria mother of three admits that she felt like a chauffeur at first. But she had a change of heart after hearing sounds of laughter.

"They were giggling and so sweet in the back," said Rees, the associate rector at Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church in Alexandria. "Suddenly that moment of grace turned it all around and I felt privileged to be there. I think that sort of thing happens all the time if only we are paying attention."

What are the keys to paying attention and creating a happier family life? Experts say it's important to stop trying to do everything 100 percent and make other things a priority. They offer their top tips for creating balance.

"With three young kids, a two-career marriage and way too many activities, I find this balance as hard as everyone else and am absolutely preaching to myself," said Rees.

EXPERTS SAY living in a competitive area like the Washington, D.C., region can make creating balance even more challenging. "I see children who are stressed to always be the best," said Dr. Bruce Pfeffer, a Potomac, Md.based child psychiatrist.

Parents play a critical role in helping children create a healthy balance of work and play, he added, explaining that "parents must serve as rudders to guide their children [toward the] peace of mind that comes with a supportive home environment, emphasis on gaining joy in life, along with appropriate goals and achieving."

M i c h a e l Moynihan, head of the Upper School at The Heights School in Potomac, Md., agrees. "The most significant obstacles to harmonious family life today are over scheduling and

over connectedness ... resulting in families that are pulled in many different directions for activities, and when they have those brief moments together, are often plugged into various electronic devices," he said.

Make finding uninterrupted family time a priority. "The solution is to schedule family time such as meals together — without electronic devices — and to protect this time from other activities," said Moynihan.

Rees suggests being present and engaged. "So much of life is spent in work and preparation and accomplishments that it's hard some-



Elizabeth Rees, the associate rector at Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, says laughter, forgiveness and gratitude are among the factors that create a harmonious family life. Here she is pictured on a family vacation with her daughter Maya, 3; her husband Holden Hoofnagle; her son Dylan, 7; and daughter Sophia, 10.

times to live in the moment," she said. "Maybe some days the only time you have together is in the car. ... Try to remember to make the most of even those moments."

Colleen Vesely, Ph.D., an assistant professor of early childhood education and human development and family science at George Mason University, said "It's also important to find joy in the mundane and to give one's self and others a break ... to be patient, empathic and compassionate with yourself and with your coparent. ... But that doesn't mean not holding everyone accountable to the family system, which is also critical."

Rees encourages stressed parents to give themselves time alone as well. "I am part of a prayer and listening group on Tuesday nights. We come together and have a time of silence and share where we are in our lives. For me, that's my chance for renewal, refreshment, and it makes me return home with a completely different attitude. ... For others, it might be a

"The most significant obstacles

to harmonious family life today

- Michael Moynihan, head of Upper School,

are over scheduling and over

connectedness."

walk in the woods or coffee with a good friend, or an hour at the gym. It's hard to make space for yourself, but it can make a big difference in how you treat the people around you."

When it comes to building a har-

monious family life, which elements matter most? "Love, obviously, is essential," said Rees. "But that's a big and amorphous word and really has to be much more about how we live than what we feel when it comes to daily relationships. When we are stressed or worried or tired, our closest relationships are the ones that take the biggest hit. It is in those all-too-frequent moments that we have to work the hardest at things like kindness, respect, thinking of how the other person feels."

The Heights School

The willingness to forgive oneself and one's family members is also vital to family harmony.

"We all do and say things without thinking all the time with our families," said Rees. "They bear the brunt of all the weight we carry. Try to remember that in the heat of the moment and put aside petty grudges."

Sometimes, says Rees, it's small, often overlooked actions that can have a major impact. "Little things matter so much in family life," she said. "Replacing the soap in the soap dish, or asking someone about their day and really caring about the answer, or giving a hand when you see someone struggling. When my husband hears my car in the driveway when I return from the grocery store and comes out to help carry the bags ... I notice and I feel cared for."

Bethany Letiecq, Ph.D., an associate professor of human development and family science at George Mason University adds, "With myriad external stressors and pressures on family systems, it is really important that families ... work together to model positive coping strategies and moderate conflict and anxiety levels. Parents can model healthy conflict resolution practices and support their children's positive coping and adaptation. This often takes a lot of work, learning skills that we may not have picked up from our own family systems [such as] practice, cooperation and patience."

"Learn and implement effective communication skills," said Rees. "Share what you are feeling with those all-important 'I statements' that we know about but find so hard to use in the heat of the moment. Stop what we are doing when there is something we really need to listen to, and then really listen with empathy and love. ... Not just thinking it, but saying 'I love you,' 'I'm sorry,' 'I forgive you,' 'thank you."

Manage expectations. "Reasonable expectations seem like a big piece of this, for ourselves, for our kids, for our partners," said Rees. "Remember to step back and think about what really matters and try to place less importance on the rest."

Parents are a child's best role models for dealing with setbacks. "Parents must help their children be resilient when goals are not met," said Pfeffer. "Sometimes the best growth can be gained by resilience after a disappointment."

News

Encore Presents 'Sherlock Holmes'

oin Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson as they set out to solve their first case in the 21st century. There they meet Marilyn Monroe, George Washington, Tarzan, Count Dracula, and other characters - or so they claim. Sherlock and Watson are in the Freudley Institute, so it's no wonder Holmes gets treated like any other patient. Will Sherlock be able to prove he is the real Sherlock Holmes and solve a murder on the grounds of the Institute? This mystery is recommended for ages 4 and up.

Showtime's are Friday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 8 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; Sunday, March 9 at 3 p.m. in the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road.

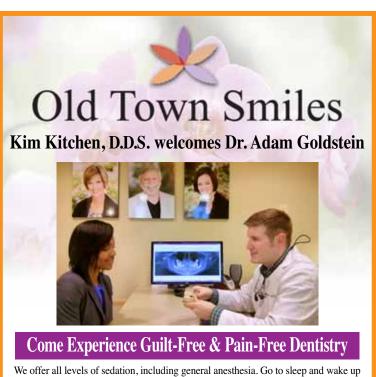
Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased at www.encorestage.org or by calling the box office at 703-548-1154.

Tickets are \$12 for adults; \$10 for children, students, military and seniors. Group discounts, birthday party packages, and discount ticket bundles are available.



Dr. Watson (Sam Barrett) and Sherlock Holmes (Topher Wagner) are ready to solve their first case in the 21st century.

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Entertainment

The cast of "Beaches" performs at Signature Theatre in Shirlington.



Photo by Margot I. Schulman

Signature Stages 'Beaches'

Lively musical based on the book and movie plays through March 30.

By Steve Hibbard
The Connection

ignature Theatre is presenting the musical "Beaches" about a 40-year friendship based on the 1988 movie starring Bette Midler and Barbara Hershey, now through March 30.

The play, which is Signature's third world premiere musical this season (and 18th total), is adapted from the 1985 novel by Iris Rainer Dart and directed by Eric Schaeffer (Broadway's "Follies," "Million Dollar Quartet"). It stars Mara Davi as Bertie White and Alysha Umphress as Cee Cee Bloom destined for fame

Opening in Atlantic City in 1951, the play stars child actors Brooklyn Shuck and Presley Ryan, and progresses through reunions at various beaches. The settings span Pittsburg/Bronx in the 1960s using teen actors Maya Brettell and Gracie Jones to the disco '70s, and addiction '80s in Brighton Beach; Miami Beach; Sarasota, Fla.; and Carmel, Ca.

"What was interesting on this show is that we have three different actors playing each of the two leading women — young, teen and adult Cee Cee and Bertie," said Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer. "It was fun having them all work together so their body language matches their mannerisms and more. Seeing the six actresses work together has been a real joy in building their friendship both on the stage as well as off."

The children become fiercely-loyal friends who become teen pen-pals whose letters are sung back and forth in seamless transitions. There's an ensemble of a dozen or so actors singing, dancing and wearing multiple wardrobes thanks to costume designer Frank Labovitz. The action is centered around the over-the-top Cee Cee striving to make it in show biz — starting out in seedy dives, then Broadway ("The View From Up Here") and Hollywood.

Umphress demonstrates a larger-than-life personality with her rich vocals and delicious acting chops in both solitary scenes and duets with her uppercrust, introverted socialite buddy Bertie — played by the equally talented Mara Davi.

"I can certainly relate to her big, bold qualities, but I think she's actually quite a softie under her hard, acerbic exterior," said Umphress. "I've really tried to play up her sensitivity."

What interested Davi in her role was the variety of challenges that made it interesting. "We live through a range of ages, emotions, relationships, styles of music, etc.," said Davi. "I feel stretched in every direction, and it feels great."

Added Davi, "My upbringing and personality are quite similar to Bertie's so I get to bring a lot of myself to the role."

Umphress said she enjoyed getting to play a role that spans 30 years. "It was sort of up to me to find ways to make her the same person throughout the play," she said. "But also to show how she grows and matures (and immatures at times)."

Both friends become roommates and romantic rivals in life struggles and career changes, while getting married and divorced along the way. One standout scene was when the duo performed harmonies with nurses and Arthur (Michael Bunce) singing "Normal People" while in Sarasota. Bertie eventually develops terminal cancer and has Cee Cee caring for her and her daughter Nina (Svea Johnson). As Cee Cee's career takes off, she performs Bette Middler's classic, "The Wind Beneath My Wings" with tenderness at a recording studio in Hollywood.

The stage walls are adorned in a smorgasbord of dusty-white dressers, chairs, tables, bureaus, benches and lamps by creative scenic design by Derek Mclane, with a boardwalk-like floor that serves as the oceanfront to the different beaches. The minimal sets are wheeled in and out as the ocean lighting changes when the beach scenes change.

The creative team includes choreography by Tony nominee Dan Knechtges; Musical Supervisor Mary-Mitchell Campbell; orchestrations by Lynne Shankel; scenic design by Tony Award-winner Derek; costume design by Frank Labovitz; lighting design by Chris Lee; sound design by Lane Elms; Production Stage Manager Kerry Epstein; and Assistant Stage Manager Stephanie Junkin.

Performances for "Beaches" run Tuesday through Sunday evenings, with matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$40. Single tickets are available in person at the Signature Box Office, by calling Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT, and online at www.signature-theatre.org. Signature Theatre is located at 4200 Campbell Ave.

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

ONGOING

Theater Performance. See "La Vida Que Me Das...y no me alcanza (Such 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.teatrodelaluna.org. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Theater 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 Saturday matinees March 1-22 at 2 p.m. All other performances are Thursday-Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Visit www.arlingtonarts.org/ for more.

Theater 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.

Theater 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/adult; \$15/student, senior. 703-892-0202 ext. 6 for tickets.

Art Exhibit. See Arlington resident Howard C. Smith's "Over Kansas," featuring watercolor paintings at House of Steep, 3800 Lee Highway, through March 31. The show is an exploration in color and space, and includes abstracts inspired by the photo, along with a series of still lifes. Visit www.bethsinger design.com/watercolors or

www.houseofsteep.com for more. **Art Exhibit.** See "Illuminations" the art of Linda Maldonado and Elise Ritter at Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive. Both artists use acrylic, watercolor, and collage to achieve imaginative expression in abstract and symbolist styles. The exhibit runs March 3-28. Free. Visit www.galleryunderground.org or 571-483-0652

Theater Performance. Synetic
Theater reimagines their original production "Hamlet ... the rest is silence" from March 13-April 6.
Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. at Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St. Tickets start at \$35; student tickets start at \$15. Visit www.synetictheater.org for tickets.

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.

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 6
Grand Opening with Bill Cosby.

10:30 a.m. at Ben's Chili Bowl, 1725 Wilson Blvd. Bill Cosby, who has dined at Ben's U Street location since 1958, will attend the public grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony at Ben's Chili Bowl's new Rosslyn location. Visit benschilibowl.com.

Author Visit. 7 p.m. One More Page, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Bruce Holsinger shares from his new historical thriller, "A Burnable Book," set in Chaucer's London. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

FRIDAY/MARCH 7

Opening Reception. 5-8 p.m., meet the artists of "Illuminations" at Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive. Both artists use acrylic, watercolor, and collage to achieve imaginative expression in abstract and symbolist styles. The exhibit runs March 3-28. Free. Visit www.gallery underground.org or 571-483-0652.

Wine Tasting. 6:30 p.m. One More Page, 2200 North Westmoreland St. "We're Ready for Spring!" wine tasting features fresh, crisp white wines from California, Austria and Australia. Visit www.onemorepage books.com or call 703-300-9746.

Dance Performance. 7 p.m. at Sprenger Theatre, 1333 H St., N.E., Washington, D.C. Bowen McCauley Dance will perform at the Atlas Intersections Festival. \$22/general; \$16.50/student, senior. Visit http:// intersectionsdc.org/ for tickets and information.

SATURDAY/MARCH 8

NoVa Teen Book Festival. 9:30 a.m. at Washington-Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford St. There will be panels, breakout sessions and author signings. More than 20 authors will take part, including Marie Lu, Claudia Gray, Diana Peterfreund and Jessica Spotswood. Free.Visit novateenbookfestival.tumblr.com.

Home Show & Garden Expo. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Jefferson Community Center, 3501 2nd St. Enjoy seminars, get questions answered at "Ask an Expert," learn about remodeling kitchens and baths, and get some of your art, jewelry or antiques appraised by a certified antiques appraisal. Free. Visit www.arlington homeshow.org.

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

Children's Trunk Show. 11a.m.-1p.m. at 251 18th Street South, eighth floor. Quality pre-owned children's clothes, maternity wear, nursery furniture, high chairs, swings, strollers, books, and toys for all ages, etc. Tickets are \$10 for adults, kids are free, and JLW Members receive Membership Credit. Cash or check only for merchandise purchases. Visit www.crystalcity.org/item/the-junior-league-of-washingtons-tossed-and-found-returns-to-crystal-city for more.

Radical Reptiles. 2 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Park, 2845 N Marcey Road. Join naturalist staff to learn about local lizards, snakes, turtles, and more. The program will also cover reptile handling techniques for both wild and captive reptiles. This program is geared for families with children ages 6 and older. \$5 per child. Call 703-528-5406 to reserve.

Singles Dinner and Movie Night.
Fixed price dinner beginning at 5
p.m. at Rock Bottom Brewery,4238
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Cost of \$30 at door includes dinner,
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required. Sponsored by New
Beginnings, a support group for

separated/divorced men and women. Call 301-924-4101 or visit www.newbeginningsusa.org.

Multimedia Concert. 7:30 p.m. Celebrate Vivaldi's birthday with "The Extraordinary Four Seasons" presented by the National Chamber Ensemble at Artisphere's Rosslyn Spectrum, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.artisphere.com or call 703-875-1100. Family-friendly concert. \$30/ adult; \$15/student. Buy tickets at tickets.artisphere.com, 888-841-2787, or at the door. Reception will

Annual Jazz & Tap Dance Festival.

7:30 p.m. doors open, show starts at 8 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College – Annandale Campus Theater, Dance Unlimited Jazz Dance Company will host area dance companies that will showcase creations in jazz, tap and hip-hop. \$25/adult; \$23/student. Visit www.jazz-dance-show.org for tickets or buy them at the door.

SUNDAY/MARCH 9

follow

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at the Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ, 5010 Little Falls Road. The Rock Spring Recital Series presents Elisabeth Adkins, violin, and Edward Newman, piano, in concert. Program will include music by Bach, Beethoven and Pierne. Free, donation requested. Visit www.rockspringucc.org.

MONDAY/MARCH 10

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-

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 p.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. Discuss "The Language of Flowers: A Novel" by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. Free. 703-228-6330.

TUESDAY/MARCH 11

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-

Family Story Time. 6:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. For all ages. Free. 703-228-5946. Book Club. 7 p.m. at Central Library,

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Sports

Regional Champs: Wakefield Boys' Basketball

Warriors defeat previously unbeaten Potomac, 70-66.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

ast season, the Wakefield boys' basketball team had a region championship in its grasp, leading Woodson by 19 points entering the fourth quarter of the AAA Northern Region final. But the Warriors let the opportunity slip through their fingers and lost to the Cavaliers 75-70 in overtime.

Thanks to VHSL re-alignment, Wakefield entered this season as a talented team in a new region. While the Warriors graduated some key players, the memory of last season's meltdown never left.

"It was always there," senior Re'Quan Hopson said. "[Head coach Tony] Bentley would never let [us forget]. ... He would constantly [remind us to] never get comfortable."

One year after failing to capitalize on a large lead, Wakefield returned to the region championship game. This time, the Warriors took care of business.

Wakefield defeated previously unbeaten Potomac 70-66 on March 1 at Wakefield High School to win the 5A North region championship — the program's first region title since 2005. The Warriors will face either Henrico or Maury in the state semifinals at noon on March 8 at Robinson Secondary School.

Potomac entered Saturday's contest with a 26-0 record, but that didn't stop Wakefield from pulling out a back-and-forth contest in which the score was tied 12 times and the lead changed 22 times.

Six-foot-4 junior Dominique Tham and junior guard Marqua Walton each scored 18 points for the Warriors. Tham grabbed nine rebounds and Walton made a pair of 3-pointers.

"We weren't intimidated at all," Tham



Re'Quan Hopson, seen earlier this season, and the Wakefield boys' basketball team captured the 5A North region championship on March 1 with a 70-66 victory over previously unbeaten Potomac.

said. "... We knew what we had to do. Our mindset was to win the championship from the beginning."

Senior guard Jalen Carver played all 32 minutes, finishing with 17 points and shooting 3-for-3 from 3-point range. Bentley said he considered Carver to be the tournament MVP.

"He hit some big shots," Bentley said. "... He just came through for us."

Kyle Davis had four points, five rebounds, seven assists and three steals in 32 minutes. Hopson had 11 points and five rebounds in 32 minutes.

Wakefield played its last nine games at home, starting with its final three regular



Wakefield boys' basketball coach Tony Bentley, seen earlier this season, guided the Warriors to their second consecutive region championship game and first region title since 2005.

season games and continuing into the Conference 13 and 5A North region playoffs. Now the Warriors will hit the road, starting with Saturday's game at Robinson. If Wakefield wins its semifinal matchup, the Warriors would travel to Richmond for the state championship game at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 14 at

VCU.
The Warriors scheduled games in Chesapeake and Virginia Beach this season to help the team get used to traveling, Bentley has said. Wakefield also has several athletes who expenses

rienced last season's AAA state tournament appearance, which included a trip to VCU. that they could do it," Bentley said. "They just continue to believe in themselves."

"It's definitely going to help us," Tham said. "We bonded [while] going places."

Tham, a 6-foot-4 post, was named Conference 13 Player of the Year and 5A North region Player of the Year. Hopson was a first-team all-conference and first-team all-region selection. Bentley was named region

Coach of the Year.

Walton and Carver received second-team all-conference hon-

Wakefield enters the state tournament with a 24-4 record, a Conference 13 championship and a region title.

"No one thought

"No one thought that they could do it. They just continue to believe in themselves."

— Wakefield boys' basketball coach

also has several

athletes who expe-



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Entertainment

From Page 7

1015 N. Quincy St. Discuss "The Awesome Girl's Guide to Dating Extraordinary Men" by Ernessa T. Carter. Free. 703-228-5946.

Author Talk. 7 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Brad Parks will promote his new book "The Player." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 12

Children in the Garden. 3 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. Children in grades K-5 can enjoy a hands-on program. Free. Register at the library or call 703-228-5260.

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 13

Film. 3 p.m. at Columbia Pike, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch "The Savages," starring the late Philip Seymour Hoffman. Free. 703-228-5710.

Philip Seymour Hoffman. 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.

History Talk. 7-8 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. "How Arlington's Location and Geography Make it Unique" presented by Don Hawkins. Free. 703-228-5990.

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Book Club. 11 a.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. The Daytime Book Club discusses "Beautiful Ruins" by Jess Walter. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

Film. 2 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St.

Watch "Julie & Julia." Free. 703-228-5946.

Theater Performance. 6:30 p.m. at Carlin Elementary School, 5995 S. 5th Road. Educational Theatre Company presents "Return Through Time," created by and starring selected students of Carlin Springs Elementary School. Free. donations welcome.

Free, donations welcome. **Author Visit.** 6:30 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Stephen H. Grant will celebrate and sign his book "Collecting Shakespeare: The Story of Henry and Emily Folger." Free. Visit www.onemorepage books.com or call 703-300-9746.

SATURDAY/MARCH 15

Plant Workshop. 9 a.m. at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 S. 16th St. Professor John Kirby will talk about reporting bonsai and then will lead a workshop. Free for visitors and observers. E-mail greese67@msn.com or 703-860-3374.

Swanson Spring Fling Arts & Crafts Show.
10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Swanson Middle School, 5800
N. Washington Blvd. Artists will be selling

jewelry, bird houses, pottery and more. Free. **World Children's Choir Celtic Celebration.** 6-10 p.m. at Falls Church Episcopal, 115 E. Fairfax St., Falls Church. \$20/adult; \$15/student, senior; \$10/child age 3-11. There is an optional meal and drinks for sale. Visit www.worldchildrenschoir.org for more.

Monte Carlo Night. 7 p.m. at Ronald Reagan National Airport, historic terminal A. Proceeds will support Leadership Arlington's mission and youth programs. Enjoy a silent auction, live auction, dancing, buffet dinner, casino-style gaming tables and more. \$175/by Feb. 28 or \$225/beginning March 1. Visit www.leadershiparlington.org for tickets.

Owl Prowl. 8 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Park, 2845 N Marcey Road. Join a naturalist for a presentation on owls at Potomac Overlook. Meet one of the park's permanent resident owls, learn the secrets of owl calling and try to call in a wild owl in the park. This program is for adults and children aged 8 and older. \$5 per person. Reservations required, 703-528-5406.

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Not Yet, Really

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

While we're exchanging pleasantries here, in semi real time – although this column will not be most read until March 6th (I need to submit it on Monday, March 3rd as we go to press on Tuesday, March 5th), I feel the obligation, given how last week's column ended, to update you on the results from my February 26th CT Scan. Presumably, by the title you all have determined that as of this writing, Saturday, March 1st, I have not heard back from my oncologist. Typically, I would have already heard from him, electronically. But so far, not a peep, electronic or otherwise and believe me, I've been checking, as you might imagine.

This non-communication has happened twice before that I can remember. The first time, my oncologist did not e-mail results to me because he said, as a presumptive courtesy, he doesn't like to share bad news in an e-mail. The second time he neglected to send a post-CT Scan e-mail, the news was good and sort of not worth mentioning, he said, because the news wasn't bad; if that makes any sense at all. Either way, the silence is hardly golden. And the longer I live, the less patience I have for such irregularities.

And what complicates my interpretation of this most recent electronic silence is that I have previously made it clear to my oncologist that my not receiving these post-CT Scan results, however good, bad or indifferent they may be, is far more difficult for Team Lourie than actually receiving them. So now, after we've established these communication guidelines (expectations, requirements even) it is a bit perplexing as to why we've not heard anything. But is it cause for concern? I'll tell you what it's cause for: unnecessary and barely controllable anxiety and stress concerning the interpretation of what any of it definitively means.

Maybe it means nothing because there was an internal computer problem that "sent" e-mails into cyberspace, rather than their intended recipients? Perhaps the staff Radiologist called in sick that day or had to leave town unexpectedly and no replacement could be found - in a timely manner, to read all the X-Rays, CT Scans, MRIs, etc. that day and as a result, results and communication of said results have been delayed? Maybe my oncologist is on vacation or out sick himself or had to leave town unexpectedly and my scan results/his assessment/summary of them are sitting in his in box and were not sent because, as I would understand, he prefers to send out his own e-mails? Heck, there might even be protocol/privacy issues that prevent such communications from being forwarded unless all parties agree in advance. In fact, never before have I received e-mails from any other oncologist. It's always been Dr. "H." Or maybe, the results are so bad that, despite our previous conversations on the subject, my oncologist is ignoring my preference in order to tell me in person, since he will be seeing me on Friday, March 7th for our regularly scheduled post-CT appointment? Or maybe the results are so good, he wants to tell me in person and see for himself the joy and relief his care has brought to a patient of his whom he originally characterized as terminal and gave a "13-month to two-year" prognosis? Or, as Paul Harvey never said: you don't know the rest of the story.

Consequently, what one experiences, as maybe you can tell from the previous paragraph, is a non-stop rearranging and reinterpreting of one's medical circumstances, potential medical circumstances, real and/or imagined medical circumstances, and anxiety over any and all of

Still, I've been through this kind of waiting before for medical results. It's not easy, but I can handle it. Nevertheless, it sort of seems like a waste of my ability to handle such things, given the seriousness of what I may yet have to handle.

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

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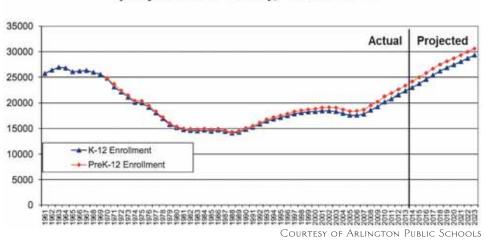


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NEWS

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More Students, More Costs

From Page 3

body to be successful in integrating into the community or not," said Heather Alderman, a member of the special-education advisory committee. "I know there are some very hard choices to make, but whether or not this is the right hard choice to make I really don't know."

THE SUPERINTENDENT wants to combine Arlington Mill High School and the Langston High School continuation program at the Arlington Career Center. The reorganization would eliminate 19 staff positions from the budget, consolidating four secondary alternatives at three high schools to one initiative in the Adult Education Program. Budget officials estimate that redirecting adult learning to the Adult Education Program will reduce the number of students attending Arlington Mill by more

"The program is going to look different," said Murphy. "It is going to be much smaller than it exists now."

Another controversial proposal by the superintendent addresses the issue of transportation.

Murphy wants to add four new bus drivers, a move that he says would allow the school division to avoid relying on substitute bus drivers. He also wants to create a new coordinator position that would coordinate special needs bus routing, a proposal that some say needs work.

"Our bus routes continue to be, in my opinion, very inefficient. They are very circuitous and they don't necessarily take a direct path," said Donna Owens, the mother of a special-education student. "Just because a child is in special education doesn't mean they need special education. We have more special needs buses than we have a need for, and therefore we are putting kids that don't need it on those buses and I'm not sure that's right."

THE PROPOSED budget would increase instructional time by eliminating early release at two elementary schools to implement a foreign language program in the elementary schools that will cost about \$1 million. It would also support a reading program intended to focus on early literacy at a cost of \$1.7 million, which will provide technology devices for second and sixth grade students. And a \$2.3 million initiative will add three summer school sites, expand SAT preparation, restore high school resource teachers for gifted students and provide contingency funds for classroom assistants.

"This is really just the beginning of the formal budget process," said School Board Chairwoman Abby Raphael. "So we have lots of opportunity to hear from the community."

"Flourishing After 55"

Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for March 16-21. **Senior trips**: Sunday, March 16, Irish music by

The Chieftains, GMU's Center for the Arts, \$65: Tuesday, March 18, National Museum of Women in the Arts, D.C., quilt exhibit, \$19; Wednesday, March 19, new Tanger Outlets, National Harbor, Md., \$7; Thursday, March 20, National Aquarium, Baltimore, Md., \$40; Friday, March 21, behind-thescenes tour of Nationals Stadium, D.C., \$17. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Fraditional and Gentle classes begin week of March 17. Call for details, 703-228-4745.

Seniors only weight room hours, Langston-Brown and Madison. Monday-Wednesday-Friday, \$60/15 sessions. Call for days and times, 703-228-4745.

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

Poker games, Mondays, Aurora Hills, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Lee, 10 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Details, 703-228-5722 (AH), 703-28-0555 (Lee).

Cardio boxing for beginners, Tuesday, March 18, 9 a.m., Walter Reed. \$40/8 sessions. Register, 703-228-0955

Cooking healthy demonstration, Tuesday, March 18, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Modern approach to low impact aerobics, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Aurora Hills. \$60/15

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

Watercolor painting classes begin, Wednesday, March 19, 1 p.m., Arlington Mill. \$50/ 6 sessions. Register, 703-228-7369.

Preparing homes to age in place, Wednesday, March 19, 1:30 p.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722.

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

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints. ocks, tire condition and set tire pres

SPRING DETAIL SPECIAL

conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

BRAKE SPECIAL **\$QQ**95

SERVICE PRICE \$99.95 \$50 VISA CARD \$50.00

YOUR COST \$49.95

PLUS 50 VISA GIFT CARD Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.

MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

DOES NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOHOTA VEHICLES: CINLY OFFER EXPIRES 303 Hz. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP, VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA, TAX AND SHOP SUPPLES ADDITIONAL.

BREATHE EASY SPECIAL

Includes: Replace cabin air filter and inspect Air conditioning system

WE WILL

MBET OR BEAT

ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S

CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE

SPECIALS



oludes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month proration, PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connections.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

COMPLIMENTARY

MULTI-POINT INSPECTION

Includes: Inspect tires, brakes, wipers, lights

belts & hoses & fluid levels

BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR





GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION ICE MATCH GUARANTEE. SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS

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BASIC MINOR SERVICE PERFORMED EVERY 5,000 MILES OR 6 MONTHS
WHICHEVER COMES FIRST

> 79^{88} 2003 & NEWER

INCLUDES: Replace engine oil, replace engine oil filter, drain olug washer, check & top off fluids(as needed), inspect brake lin ings/drums & brake pads/discs, rotate best tires to front, clean brakes(if applicable), perform multi-point inspection, & road test vehicle(as needed).

ROTATE & BALANCE SPECIAL

Includes: Rotate and balance all

TH ANY CITHER OFFER OR COUPOR TOHOTA VEHICLE STRIPS COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME VALSO ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOHOTA.

\$4995 from us allows you to shine and restore 4 wheels and inspect brakes and tires. headlights to like-

Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road Vans & SUVs add \$20.00.

DETAIL SPECIALS

\$3995

Wash & Vacuum \$139⁹⁵

Hand wash, wax & interior cleaning

\$29595 Full premium detail

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP, VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

HEADLIGHT RESTORATION

SPECIAL \$8995

Plastic lenses can yellow with age. reducing the vehicle's market value Headlight brightness & the overall safety during nighttime driving. The headlight lens restoration

new conditions.







ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION

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