

The Arlington Connection



In Rehearsal

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Maddie Ashton (Princess Fiona) and Thomas Muir (Shrek) rehearse in Washington-Lee High School's production of "Shrek - The Musical."

Taxes, Fees To Increase

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'Onward with Erin'

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

APRIL 23-29, 2014

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Tax Burden Targets Low-Income in Northern Virginia

MAJOR STATE AND LOCAL TAX BURDENS FOR A FAMILY OF THREE RESIDING
IN SELECTED WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA JURISDICTIONS
CALENDAR YEAR 2012

TAX	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY	ALEXANDRIA	ARLINGTON COUNTY	FAIRFAX COUNTY
\$25,000 INCOME LEVEL						
Income	(319) 1/	(172) 1/	(172) 1/	144	144	144
Real Estate	2,095	2,095	2,095	2,095	2,095	2,095
Sales and Use	721	554	558	661	657	592
Automobile	213	394	456	428	503	212
TOTAL	2,710	2,871	2,937	3,328	3,399	3,043
RANK	6	5	4	2	1	3
\$50,000 INCOME LEVEL						
Income	1,179	1,349	1,301	1,123	1,130	1,103
Real Estate	1,197	1,739	2,229	2,079	1,969	2,239
Sales and Use	945	731	743	801	797	710
Automobile	257	502	584	554	697	264
TOTAL	3,579	4,321	4,857	4,557	4,593	4,316
RANK	6	4	1	3	2	5
\$75,000 INCOME LEVEL						
Income	2,410	2,540	2,807	2,200	2,210	2,181
Real Estate	2,082	2,609	3,343	3,118	2,953	3,359
Sales and Use	1,434	1,138	1,159	1,244	1,236	1,095
Automobile	458	931	1,096	1,035	1,320	810
TOTAL	6,384	7,219	8,406	7,597	7,719	7,445
RANK	6	5	1	3	2	4
\$100,000 INCOME LEVEL						
Income	4,157	4,518	4,426	3,393	3,389	3,352
Real Estate	2,968	3,479	4,458	4,158	3,937	4,479
Sales and Use	1,589	1,255	1,277	1,351	1,343	1,184
Automobile	551	1,012	1,178	1,087	1,377	825
TOTAL	9,265	10,263	11,339	9,989	10,046	9,840
RANK	6	2	1	4	3	5
\$150,000 INCOME LEVEL						
Income	7,534	8,027	7,888	5,624	5,595	5,553
Real Estate	4,738	5,218	6,687	6,237	5,906	6,718
Sales and Use	2,340	1,889	1,925	1,968	1,949	1,719
Automobile	543	1,405	1,702	1,692	2,517	1,433
TOTAL	15,155	16,539	18,201	15,521	15,967	15,423
RANK	6	2	1	4	3	5

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.
1/ Negative numbers result from a refundable Earned Income Tax Credit.

Average tax burden for low-income workers is highest in Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Families that are struggling to make ends meet in Northern Virginia are the target of local governments in Northern Virginia, which has the highest tax burden in the region for low-income workers. Wealthy people face the highest tax burden in Prince George's County and Montgomery County. But here in Virginia, poor people face the biggest tax burden in Arlington, according to a new study by the Office of Revenue Analysis in the District of Columbia. Alexandria ranked second, and Fairfax County ranked third.

"People of color and low-income people are being pushed farther and farther out," said Jon Liss, founder of Tenants and Workers United. "The whole anti-immigrant backlash from 2006 to the present in Prince William was against the influx of people of color, particularly immigrants, being priced out and taxed out of this area and moving down there."

The study included the average tax burdens for five different income levels, starting at a family that earns \$25,000 a year and ending with a family that earns \$150,000 a year. The families at each income level are assumed to own a single family home, although those in the \$25,000 are assumed to live in rental housing and own a vehicle.

The combination of income tax, sales tax and automobile tax hit people at the bottom end of the scale hardest.

"There is no deliberate policy to impose a disproportionate tax burden on the lowest income residents," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center of State and Local Leadership at George Mason University. "Rather, it's a lack of

state-delegated authority to use other kinds of taxes, which would provide greater options to create a more responsive tax policy in each of these two booming jurisdictions."

ARLINGTON RANKS the highest for families that earn \$25,000 — a very low income for families who live inside the Beltway. The median household income in Arlington is about \$103,000, which means the study was looking at families who are struggling to make ends meet in a county where most families pull down salaries that are about four times larger. County officials say the tax burden tells only part of the story. Arlington leaders say the county offers a number of significant services to low-income residents, including public education and housing support.

"I believe we are the only Northern Virginia locality still providing housing grants to lower income families and seniors," said Jay Fisette, chairman of the Arlington County Board. "We provide four to five times the level of support to help make housing affordable as do our closest Northern Virginia neighbors."

As people earn more money, the tax burden decreased on Ar-

"We reside in a low-tax state. So there is both a greater burden on local governments to raise taxes than in Maryland, but limited state authority on what kinds of taxes may be levied."

— Frank Shafroth, director of the Center of State and Local Leadership at George Mason University

lington residents.

The same is true of people who live in Alexandria, which ranks second overall for people who are at the bottom end of the earnings scale. Alexandria also has the third highest tax burden among families with a \$50,000 and \$75,000 income level, and the fourth highest tax burden among families with a \$100,000 or \$150,000 income level. Residents in the District of Columbia have the lowest tax burden in all five of the income brackets.

SEE TAX BURDEN, PAGE 5

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Sean Gilley as Lord Farquaad sings with the townspeople.



In back row are Katherine Humphries and Maddie Ashton with Maddie Holiday in front.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Tax and Fee Burden To Rise 4.6 Percent

Real estate tax rate set at \$0.996 for every \$100 of assessed value.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Hold your wallet. The Arlington County Board is moving forward with a budget that would increase the overall tax and fee burden for the average homeowner by 4.6 percent. That's an additional \$27 a month.

"Arlington County is greedy," said Arlington County resident Mark Downey shortly before elected officials voted on the budget. "Just because the real-estate values go up does not mean they have to raise taxes."

This year, the average residential property assessment increased 5.3 percent. So even though the County Board approved a budget that reduces the tax rate by one penny, property owners will still end up paying more. The water-sewer rate will increase 3.4 percent, and the household solid waste rate will increase by 4 percent. Arlington officials say part of that increase will be used to fund year-round collection of yard waste, a service provided by several neighboring jurisdictions.

"The board had to make some tough decisions," said Arlington

County Board Chair Jay Fiset. "In order to give some break to homeowners who have seen their assessments rise, we limited the growth of the county budget, launched no new major initiatives and focused on funding schools and maintaining our core services and existing infrastructure."

COUNTY BOARD members provided a total of \$440.6 million to schools, adding \$19.6 million to base funding and another \$8.4 million for school construction or other one-time expenses. School leaders are struggling to figure out how to deal with growing enrollment, a process that has caused tension between neighborhoods

New Spending

- ❖ \$3 million for economic stabilization
- ❖ \$1.6 million to provide a high-speed fiber connectivity for Arlington businesses
- ❖ \$700,000 to staff and operate a new homeless services center
- ❖ \$300,000 to plow snow from bike trails
- ❖ \$200,000 for tourism marketing
- ❖ \$73,000 for a mental health coordinator to train first responders
- ❖ \$25,000 for police participation in a regional gang task force
- ❖ \$52,000 for a new sexual assault hotline
- ❖ \$42,000 for police overtime to manage pub crawl enforcement

and school leaders.

"It's obvious to me and many others that major stovepipes and noncommunication are prevalent between county government and the Arlington public school system," said Jim Hurysz, who lives near Abington Elementary School.

The board also added funds for another school clinic aide and three new school resource officers. Under the budget for fiscal year 2015, Arlington will once again lead the region in per pupil spending costs — more than \$19,000 for

each student in the public school system. Aside from raising the tax and fee burden for citizens, one of the reasons Arlington is able to con-

tinue increasing its budget every year is who gets hit with the tax burden. A recent study by the Office of Revenue Analysis of the District of Columbia concluded that Arlington imposes the greatest regional tax burden on the poorest citizens, those who make \$25,000 a year. [See story, page 2.] County officials said they suspected the study might not have been accurate because it made the D.C. government look good.

"It appears that D.C. may have specifically selected categories in which it performs well," said Diana Sun, director of communications. "For example, D.C. ranks lowest in tax and fee burden in six of six income categories calculated."

Rehearsing for 'Shrek - The Musical'

The Washington-Lee High School drama department is in rehearsals for the spring performance of "Shrek - The Musical." Performances will be Thursday, May 1- Saturday, May 3 at 7 p.m., in the school's auditorium.

Tickets are \$10 at the door, or \$7 in advance. It is appropriate for all ages.

Advance tickets can be reserved through <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F45ADAE2CA46-macbeth1>



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'Onward with Erin'

Team seeks to raise funds for National Brain Tumor Society.

ASHLEY CLAIRE SIMPSON
THE CONNECTION

Erin Kelly spends her professional life tending to critically ill children as a pediatric nurse on the cardiac intensive care unit at Children's National Medical Center. What patients and their parents may not know is that she has spent the last three years in her own health battle, one with a stubborn brain tumor. The 26-year-old Arlington resident will be running the National Race

for Hope on May 4, a 5K run in Washington D.C. that raises funds the National Brain Tumor Society.

Kelly, a native of Massachusetts, moved to Arlington in 2009 to work at Children's Hospital. Two years later, she would begin to experience symptoms that would force her to spend much of her personal time in medical centers.

"I went to see a doctor in November 2011," Kelly said. "I had symptoms for six months. I just had headaches to start with, and then it got progressively worse. I started throwing up and had headaches every day. The doctors kept telling me I had migraines. What made me go see a neurologist were changes in my vision."

Kelly said that symptoms of brain tumors can vary, and she did not even experience seizures, a very telling sign of a tumor.

SEE RAISING FUNDS, PAGE 6

Alone on the Road

Study raises concerns about amount of time Northern Virginia drivers spend in single-occupancy vehicles.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

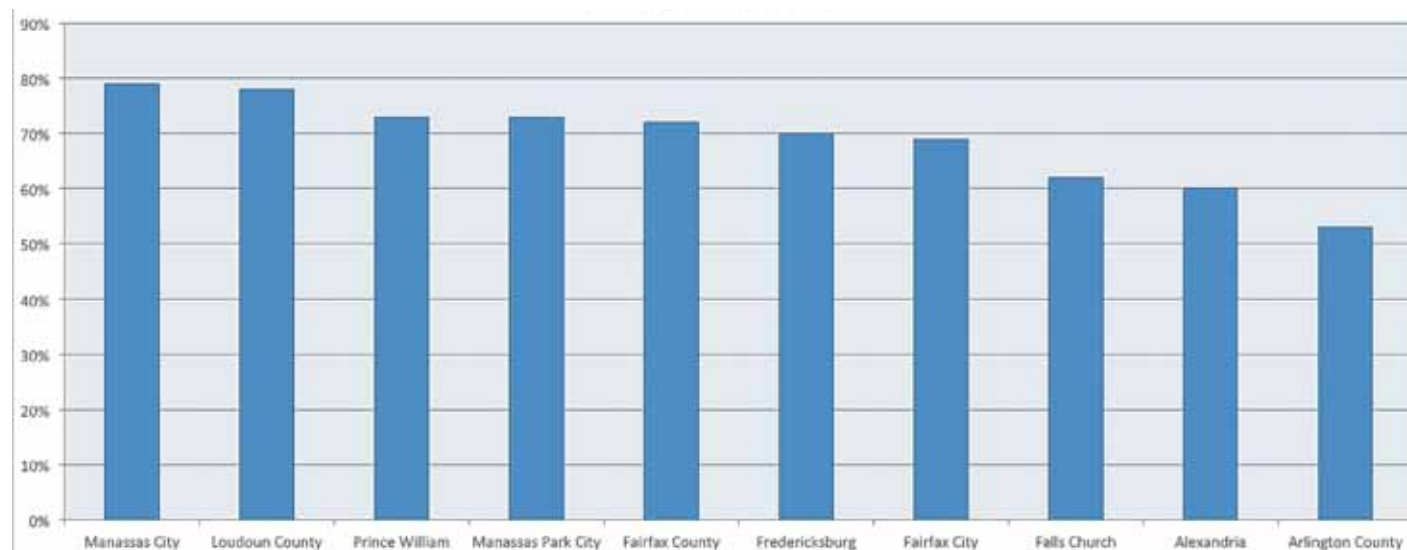
Despite the decades-long war against the single-occupancy vehicle, seven out of 10 workers in Northern Virginia drive to work alone every workday. And half of those drivers are alone in their cars for more than 30 minutes each day. These are some of the conclusions of the County Health Rankings, a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

"It should be unacceptable to everybody," said Kitty Jerome, action center director at County Health Rankings. "This should be seen as too high a figure when we look at the rate of obesity in America, when we look at the air pollution in America, when we look at the lack of physical activity and we look at the outcome of social isolation and stress."

The good news for Northern Virginia is that most jurisdictions are below the state and national average for the use of single-occupancy vehicles, which is 76 percent nationwide and 77 percent in Virginia. The average in Northern Virginia is 69 percent. The bad news is that the drivers who are alone in their cars are in for a long commute. Of those who commute alone to work, 33 percent of Americans spend more than 30 minutes alone in their car, and 38 percent of Virginia single-occupancy vehicle operators have a commute that's longer than a half hour. The average for Northern Virginia is 47 percent.

"I've seen this phenomenon in some of my nationwide research on private-vehicle commuting where commuter rail absorbs some commuters and those who live beyond the reach of the Metro, in the case of D.C., have no other choice than to drive to work," said Ed Zolnik, assistant professor in the School of Public Policy at George Mason University. "This makes driving commutes longer on average the further away you get from the reach of the Metro."

Because Northern Virginia has access to



SOURCE: COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS

Percent of the workforce that drives alone to work.

the Metro, rates of drivers who are alone in their cars during the daily commute are lower than other parts of Virginia or the country. Arlington County leads the region, with 53 percent of workers using a single-occupancy vehicle each day. Only Lexington County has a lower rate, which is 51 percent. Arlington's relative success in reducing single-occupancy vehicles is a function of decades of land-use decisions, although the county still has one out of every two workers driving alone to work each day.

"Alexandria and Fairfax County are struggling to catch up from the far-sighted efforts undertaken by Arlington," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Leadership at George Mason University. "These efforts will matter more as the federal commitment to transportation infrastructure continues to remain bankrupt."

Perhaps more vexing to people who live in the region is the length of the daily commute for people who are alone in their cars, which is far greater in Northern Virginia than the rest of the commonwealth or nation. According to the Bureau of the Census, the longest average commute times are all in Northern Virginia: Stafford County, Fauquier County and Prince William County all have average commutes near 40 min-

utes.

"We know that if you're driving alone for very long periods of time, that's costing you in the opportunity to be with other people," said Julie Willems Van Dijk, deputy director of the County Health Roadmaps program at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. "And we know that having good social support and good interaction with other folks is also very helpful to supporting good health."

THE DEBATE about single-occupancy vehicle use is slowly moving from a conversation about social behavior to a discussion about economic incentives. When the 95 Express Lanes open in Northern Virginia in early 2015, every vehicle using the HOV lanes will need an E-ZPass or E-Z pass Flex to use them lawfully. Drivers riding alone won't always be able to use Interstate 95's High Occupancy Vehicle lanes during off-peak hours the way they can now, a significant shift from the way the system works now.

"In Northern Virginia and in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, we suffer from the worst congestion in the area," said John Townsend, manager of public and government affairs at AAA Mid-Atlantic's Washington office. "People are so exasper-

ated and so fed up with congestion that they are willing to pay their way out of it."

The 95 Express Lanes begin in Stafford County and include a portion of I-395 between the Capital Beltway and Edsall Road in Fairfax County. Drivers who choose to use the HOV lanes between Edsall Road and D.C. will be subject to current HOV rules for peak hours. Experts say the shift is not only about using transportation policy to influence social behavior. It's also about raising money to build infrastructure, a trend that has grown in recent years as drivers are asking to pay for a premium services, sometimes known as "Lexus lanes" because of the cost associated with using them.

"There's a lot of capital expenditure that's going on that's being paid for by private investors, either lenders or equity investors," said Jonathan Gifford, director of the Center for Transportation Public-Private Partnership Policy at George Mason University.

"These folks are interested in having their loans paid back or generating earnings on their investment, so why would you operate a road for free and say, 'Yeah, come and use our facility for free?' If you have the right to charge for it, you're going to charge for it."

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Tax Burden Targets Low-Income in Northern Virginia

FROM PAGE 2

"Talk to people in D.C., and they wish they had better services — EMS service, for instance, better police response times, more recreation centers," said Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille. "So it's what you invest in and reinvest in in terms of providing outreach and services to your taxpayers."

VIRGINIA HAS a reputation as a low-tax

state, so the relatively high tax burden on low-income people is counter-intuitive. For example, the Washington-based Tax Foundation ranks Virginia as the 25th lowest among states levying an individual income tax. When the organization looked at state and local income tax collections, though, it ranked Virginia as the 11th highest nationally.

"We reside in a low-tax state," said

Shafroth. "So there is both a greater burden on local governments to raise taxes than in Maryland, but limited state authority on what kinds of taxes may be levied."

Among the Northern Virginia jurisdictions that were part of the D.C. government study on tax burdens, Fairfax County had the lowest tax burden in all income brackets. That means that Arlington and Alexandria impose a greater tax burden on their residents

than in Fairfax County. But as families earn more money, the tax burden decreases in Fairfax County.

"Saying that Fairfax has a lower tax burden than Arlington is like saying that Mount McKinley is not as high as Mount Everest," said Arthur Purves, president of the Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance. "Fairfax County's tax burden and spending is still way too high."

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Supporting National Brain Tumor Society

FROM PAGE 3

She sprang into action with her treatment the second her neurologist at Washington Hospital Center mentioned the word "tumor."

"I had been up for almost 24 hours and Johns Hopkins [University Hospital] was at that point the closest to me," Kelly said. "My doctor wanted me admitted that night. They didn't even have an initial read, so they had me go to the Emergency Room at Hopkins right away."

Kelly wasted no time on wallowing. She said she was glad in some ways to finally be confronting the issue head on, and that she had not been imagining the symptoms she had been enduring for months.

"I almost felt a relief because for so long I felt like I was making up those symptoms," Kelly said. "It kind of all clicked in my head. I didn't have to see the MRI to believe it. I just knew what it was."

Kelly had surgery at Hopkins that was supposed to rid her brain of the tumor. She said she was supposed to be in the clear for another 15-20 years. The foreboding headaches returned, though, 18 months later.

"THAT'S WHEN I had my second surgery, this past summer at Hopkins," she said. "Then I went home to Massachusetts after that."

She spent a few months at home for chemo, radiation and other treatment. She returned to Arlington and her job at Children's Hospital as soon as she could. She feels her time is better spent helping her patients at work than dwelling on her own issues.

"I have been back in Arlington



Erin Kelly after her last radiation treatment on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013.

since December," she said. "I left Massachusetts a week after I finished radiation. I would much rather be thinking about other peoples' problems than my own."

Kelly said a lack of research contributes to doctors being in the dark regarding her prognosis, and that she hopes much more is done in the next decade so that there will be more hope for her and other people facing brain cancer.

"They honestly don't know my prognosis because there are no studies on it," she said. "There are no large sample groups and outcomes vary widely among people who have it. So, they hope it's good and that they were able to get the entire tumor out. We hope so but there is no prediction."

To Help

People can donate to Onward with Erin at: http://www.braintumorcommunity.org/site/TR/TeamraiserEvents/RFH-DC?team_id=68878&pg=team&fr_id=2220.

People can donate to Erin's Boston Brain Tumor Ride by visiting Erin's page at: http://www.braintumorcommunity.org/site/TR/TeamraiserEvents/BostonBrainTumorRide?px=2979188&pg=personal&fr_id=2241.

Kelly still has two rounds of chemotherapy ahead of her. Between treatment and other doctors' appointments, she maintains a positive attitude and a normal routine for a 20-something.

"I just don't let it interfere with my day to day," Kelly said. "I live my life as if I had never been diagnosed. I do what I need to do to treat it, but don't let it run my life"

She participates in multiple fundraisers and events for the National Brain Tumor Society. Her current efforts include fundraising for the Race for Hope in Washington D.C. on Sunday, May 4, and the Boston Brain Tumor Ride on May 18.

Kelly's friends put together a team, Onward with Erin, for the 5K. This is her first year doing the road race, though she and her family have made the Boston Brain Tumor Ride in Massachusetts an annual event.

KELLY'S COWORKER and friend, Betsy Focht, started the race team in honor of her friend, who she said is impossible not to admire.

"I have so much respect for Erin, as a friend and a co-worker, so I was really, really upset when she told me the tumor had come back," Focht said. "Over the last several months, I've watched her plow through her recovery from

brain surgery and then treatments with nothing but strength and grace. She hated missing work after her surgery, missed her patients and co-workers and looked forward to coming back as soon as possible. I don't think I've ever heard her complain about the circumstance she's in. She just keeps going, dealing with things with a smile."

Focht said she and her husband couldn't think of someone better to rally around for the Race for Hope next month.

"I thought starting a team would be a good way to gather friends, family, and co-workers to celebrate Erin's hard work and progress, and hopefully raise some money for a worthwhile cause," Focht said. "'Onward with Erin' was the team name that best reflects her continual, inspirational progress."

Team Onward with Erin's fundraising goal is \$1,000. Kelly's goal for the Boston Brain Tumor Ride is to raise \$2,500 for the National Brain Tumor Society.

"They are very, very far behind in research, so whatever money can be raised is great," Kelly said. "Brain cancer has one of the lowest survival rates. We need more money for the Brain Tumor Society. Right now, we have done the maximum treatment that we can. For now, anything more is experimental."



Perfectly dressed for the occasion, Gwen Florkowski from Arlington, was ready for the hunt. She just turned 1.

Easter Fun Arrives at Upton Hill

The Easter Bunny welcomed warmer weather and perfect sunny skies as he greeted the kids at Upton Hill Park in Arlington on Thursday, April 17. Participants hunted for eggs and worked on activities and crafts. There were several very young Easter enthusiasts, including a few who were experiencing Easter for the first time.

Games included the bunny bean bag toss and several tables were set up for coloring activities. However, the big bouncy house in the shape of a tiger proved to be the most popular.

— VERONICA BRUNO



Amy Jackson, from Springfield and visiting friends in Arlington, brought Bryce Jackson along to meet the Easter Bunny at Upton Hill Park. At just 10 weeks old, this was his first Easter.

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Connection

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Visual Art and Sound. Thursday, April 24-Sunday, Aug. 10 at the Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Fermata, a celebration of sound, mixes visual art and sound. Opening reception Thursday May 8, 7-9 p.m. Other special events throughout exhibit. Visit www.artisphere.com or call 703-875-1100.

Art Exhibit. See “George McQuinn: Arlington’s All-Star First Baseman” at the Arlington Historical Museum, 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road. The exhibit, which runs through April 27, includes original baseball cards, a 1944 World Series program, a McQuinn model bat and gloves, and photos of McQuinn and his career. The museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Visit www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/visit/arlington-historical-museum.

Art Exhibit. See “Bodies of Work: Art in Series” in the main gallery at Gallery Underground in the Crystal City Shops, 2100 Crystal Drive. The exhibit will showcase works by the gallery’s 43 members. The show runs through April 30. Free. Visit www.galleryunderground.org or call 571-483-0652.

Mural Painting. No Kings Collective and other artists will create a temporary large-scale graffiti-style mural in the 1900 block of Crystal Drive during April to celebrate the Crystal City FRESHFARM Market. To learn when the group is actively painting, follow @NoKingsDC and @ccbid on Twitter. Visit www.crystalcity.org.

Art Exhibit. May 1-31 at Gallery Underground, in the Crystal City Shops at 2100 Crystal Drive. “Mayhem” is a juried exhibit. Gallery hours 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Opening reception 5-8 p.m. Friday, May 2, with a modern dance performance by the ACW Dances Troupe. Contact info@galleryunderground.org or 571-483-0652, or visit www.galleryunderground.org.

High School Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, May 4 at the Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Features art from 55 high school students from 12 local high schools submitted to the Congressional Art Competition.

Theater. Synthetic Theater presents a new adaptation of Jerome K. Jerome’s “Three Men in a Boat (To say nothing of the dog),” May 8-June 8 at 1800 S. Bell St., Arlington. Tickets \$35+. Wednesday, May 14 is young professionals night with ticket discount and pre-show reception; during the Sunday, May 18 performance childcare is provided at Synthetic Studio for \$5. Call 866-811-

4111 or visit www.synthetictheater.org. **“Tender Napalm.”** Through May 11, Signature Theatre presents the Washington, D.C premiere of Philip Ridley’s play. A tragedy has plunged this couple into an imaginary world, stranded amid the wreckage of their love. Tickets available at signature-theatre.org or by calling 703-820-9771.

Derby Registration. Register for the Phoenix Derby, a garage race and fundraiser on Saturday, May 17 2-6 p.m. at the underground parking garage at 1851 S. Bell St. Some of the events are free, some have cost. Visit phoenixderby.kintera.org/home to register and find information.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Introduction to Voice Acting. Arlington Public Schools, in conjunction with Voice Coaches, will present Getting Paid To Talk, an introduction to the world of voice overs on Monday, May 12 and Monday, June 23, at Washington Lee 2013, 1301 N. Stafford St., Arlington. Attendees will record a mock commercial. \$55 for Arlington residents. Enrollment limited, registration required. Call 703-228-7200. Visit <http://registration.arlingtonadulthood.org/ShowSchedule.awp>.

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 Drive. Visit www.encorestageva.org for a list of classes.

Summer Art Camps. Summer camps for children and teens meet daily in several sessions throughout the summer at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Classes range from portfolio development to drawing, acrylic painting, and contemporary landscapes with oil paint. Members receive 10-15 percent off class tuition. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org/aacsummercamps. Original art classes for all ages and all skill levels are offered year-round.

TUESDAY/APRIL 22-SUNDAY/JUNE 1

“The Threepenny Opera.” Running through June 1 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. The MAX Theatre transforms into London’s gritty underworld in this reimagined futuristic dystopia for “The Threepenny Opera,” an adaptation of John Gay’s 1728 ballad-opera The Beggar’s Opera, a satirical commentary on politics, poverty, injustice and corruption at all levels of society. Visit signature-theatre.org or call 703-820-9771.

FOOD & DRINK

Donations from Dining. During May, the Curious Grape in Shirlington Village, 2900 South Quincy St., will donate 15 percent of each meal to Healwell — donation is not automatic, tell server you are dining to support Healwell. Healwell provides massage therapy to adult and pediatric inpatients in area hospitals focusing on decreasing pain, managing symptoms and bringing comfort to people living with advanced disease and those at the end of life. Visit www.healwell.org.

Clarendon Farmers Market. Year-round, has locally produced breads and pastries, organic vegetables, flowers, soap, sorbet and more. Saturdays and Sundays, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at Courthouse Parking Lot, 3195 North Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Also year-round on Wednesdays from 3-7 p.m. at Clarendon Metro Station. Visit www.Clarendon.org. Call 703-812-8881.

Arlington Farmers Market at Courthouse. Adjacent to the Arlington County Courthouse Parking Lot, at the intersection of N. Courthouse Road and N. 14th Street. This is a ‘producer only’ market with more than 30 producers. From January through March, the market is open on Saturdays at 9 a.m, closing at noon. Visit www.arlingtonfarmersmarket.com for a list of vendors.

The Crystal City **FRESHFARM Market** is open April-November on Tuesdays, 3-7 p.m. with a selection of foods and goods from local producers, in front of 251 S. 18th St. Visit www.crystalcity.org for more.



Ballet Nova dancers at the 2013 Move Me Festival.



PHOTOS BY DAVID MOSS

Learning Yoga at the 2013 Move Me Festival which took place at Virginia Hospital Center.

Get Moving

Anticipating nearly 1,000 attendees, Move Me is a free, family-friendly celebration of the arts and culture, promoting healthy lifestyles through movement and the arts; and featuring performances and artistic activities by local arts partners with the support of The JBG Companies and honorary hosts Senator Barbara Favola and Delegate Patrick Hope. Experience the fun and excitement of Latin and South America, the exhilarating rhythms of Flamenco and Middle Eastern dances, the magnificent traditions and original art forms of Europe, North America, and the Pacific Islands; and the mysteries of South Asia. The festival culminates with a performance by Arlington’s own Bowen McCauley Dance and special performances by BMD’s Kenmore Junior Company and the students in BMD’s Dance for PD program.

The 5th Annual Move Me Festival takes place Saturday, April 26, 1-5 p.m. at Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road. Visit www.bmdc.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23

Civil War Lecture. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Ronald Beavers will discuss what it was like to be a civilian in Alexandria and Arlington during the Civil War, when the area was fortified by the Union Army and occupied by thousands of soldiers.

Book Launch. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Party is for “Hollow World,” a new sci-fantasy thriller from Michael J. Sullivan. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

World Book Night. At One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Volunteers nationwide will give away free books and provide useful resources. One More Page books is a community base for local givers. Call 703-300-9746 or visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or www.us.worldbooknight.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 24

One Person Shows. 6-9 p.m. at Yorktown High School’ Black Box Theatre, 5200 Yorktown Blvd. The One-Person Shows are 30-minute productions written, staged, and acted by the senior Yorktown theatre students. The productions are a culminating project in the Yorktown Theatre Arts Program. Admission is free. Visit www.apsva.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=14459.

Fundraiser Banquet. 6:30-9 p.m. at China Garden Restaurant, 1100 Wilson Blvd., Rosslyn. Fundraiser to benefit the Arlington Rotary Education Foundation scholarships and stipends for graduating Arlington high school seniors. Keynote speaker will be Dave Foster, former chair of the Arlington County School Board, other events include a silent auction, information on the scholarship program, and mahjong gaming. \$50 per person or \$95 per couple (cash or check made out to AREF). A cash bar is available. Visit www.arlingtonrotaryclub.org

Arlington Reads: Richard Ford. 7 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Jeffrey Brown of “PBS NewsHour” interviews author Richard Ford about his work, including “The Sportswriter.” Visit <http://library.arlingtonva.us> or call 703-228-6321.

THURSDAY/APRIL 24-MAY 18

Live Performance. 8 p.m., at the Gunston Arts Center, Theater Two, 2700 S. Lang Street., Arlington. “Turkish Tango” by Rafael Bruza, takes to the stage under the artistic direction of Mario Marcel. \$25-\$40. In Spanish with English subtitles. Visit www.teatrodelaluna.org, www.ticketplace.org or www.goldstar.com for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25

One Person Shows. 4-9 p.m. at Yorktown High School’ Black Box Theatre, 5200 Yorktown Blvd. The One-Person Shows are 30-minute productions written, staged, and acted by the senior Yorktown theatre students. The productions are a culminating project in the Yorktown Theatre Arts Program. Admission is free. Visit www.apsva.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=14459.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 25-26

Intergalactic Nemesis: Book One. 8 p.m. at the Spectrum Theater at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. This period adventure story created by writer, director and producer, Jason Neulander and his collaborators is also a live-action graphic novel celebrating 1930s radio serials, comic book culture, Star Wars and every other adventure story you’ve loved as a child. Visit www.artisphere.com or call 703-875-1100.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

Used Book and Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Walker Chapel Church, 4102 N. Glebe Road. Cafe with breakfast, lunch and bake sale. Books, CDs, DVDs, plants and mulch. Proceeds go to charity.

Green Living Expo. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mason Founders Hall, 3351 Fairfax Drive. In partnership with the Mason Arlington Earth Week Community Fair. Learn how to green homes, apartments, communities and lifestyles. Featuring green vendors, seminars, a raffle, food sales, a DIY tent, craft sales, and a kid’s activity zone. Suggested donation of \$5/ person. Visit arlingtonenvironment.org for more.

Spring Beer Festival. Noon-7 p.m. at The Village at Shirlington, 4001

Campbell Ave. Capitol City Brewing Company will host its inaugural Spring Beer Festival. Sample select handcrafted beers from more than 45 breweries and cuisine from a variety of Shirlington Village eateries and local vendors. \$30 for beer drinkers, additional drink tickets \$1; free for non-drinkers. Visit www.capcitybrew.com for more.

One Person Shows. 1-10 p.m. at Yorktown High School Black Box Theatre, 5200 Yorktown Blvd. The One-Person Shows are 30-minute productions written, staged, and acted by the senior Yorktown theatre students. The productions are a culminating project in the Yorktown Theatre Arts Program. Admission is free. Visit www.apsva.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=14459.

Move Me Festival. 1-5 p.m. at Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road. Bowen McCauley Dance presents the fifth annual, “Move Me Festival.” Travel with Bowen McCauley Dance “Around the World” and experience live performances and interactive activities in dance, music, theater, and arts and crafts. Visit www.bmdc.org/outreach/move-me-festival.

Wine Tasting Fundraiser. 4-6 p.m. at Grateful Red Wine & Gift Shop, 2727 Wilson Blvd. Meet Habitat NOVA volunteers, board members and staff, while sampling 15 spring wines and cheeses. \$25 tickets benefit Habitat NOVA. Visit http://gratefulredwine.com/Habitat_Tasting.html.

Spring Solos Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Spring Solos features seven emerging artists. Free. Wine and refreshments provided. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

Book Launch. 6 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Launch party for “SmokeLong Quarterly: The Best of the First Ten Years, 2003-2013.” Six contributors to SmokeLong Quarterly will read selections: Grant Bailie, Jeff Landon, Laura Ellen Scott, Art Taylor, Virgie Townsend, and Brandon Wicks. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

Gala and Fundraiser. 7:30 p.m. at the Fort Myer Officers Club, 214 Jackson Ave, Fort Myer. The Northern Virginia Urban League Young Professionals Network will host its 5th Annual Black Opal Awards Gala and Fundraiser. This year’s theme is Honoring Our Nation’s Heroes. Proceeds from the gala will support a \$5,000 annual scholarship fund as well as community-focused programs such as College Survival 101 and Opportunity to Thrive. Tickets begin at \$85, visit www.nvulypn.org/blackopal/ for more.

Music Tour. 8:30 p.m. at the Iota Club and Café, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Nashville-born, New York City-based singer-songwriter Laura Cantrell hits the road April 6 for a spring and summer tour. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 26-27

Studio Crawl. At Columbia Pike Artist Studios, 932 S. Walter Reed Drive. Saturday 6-9 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. Open house party and studio tour with 27 artists in various media. Visit columbiapikeartiststudios.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 27

Rocky Run Park Celebration. 2 p.m. at the park, 1109 N. Barton St. Members of the Arlington County Board and the community celebrate

SEE ENTERTAINMENT. PAGE 8

BULLETIN BOARD

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

GRIEF CAMP VOLUNTEERS

Comfort Zone, an organization that helps give grieving children a voice, a place, and a community in which to heal, grow, and lead more fulfilling lives, seeks volunteers. There is a volunteer training Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the VT/UVA Northern Virginia Center, 7054 Haycock Road, Falls Church. To register, visit www.comfortzonecamp.org/volunteers/application.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Clothing for Family. The Mount Zion Tutoring Program is trying to assist the survivors of a house fire in their community, including a 2-year-old girl. Email tutoring@mountzionbaptist.com for clothing details or to make a monetary contribution.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23

Social Security Planning Workshop. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Certified financial planner and Virginia Cooperative Extension volunteer Mike May will discuss Social Security considerations for retirement planning. Free. Contact jabel@vt.edu.

THURSDAY/APRIL 24

Community Memory Screening Day. 9 a.m.-noon at Langston-Brown Senior Center. Virginia Hospital Center and Care Options will be sponsoring free, confidential memory screenings to promote proper

detection of memory problems. The one-to-one, noninvasive screening takes 5-10 minutes and is administered by a qualified healthcare professional. Call 703-237-9048.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25

Health Lecture: Common Foot Problems. 11 a.m.-noon at 601 S. Carlin Springs Road. Dr. Matthew Buchanan explains minor problems from everyday wear and tear. Call 703-558-6859 or visit www.virginiahospitalcenter.com.
Arbor Day Tree Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Virginia Cooperative Extension's Horticulture Help Desk in Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Master Gardeners and certified arborists will answer questions about tree selection and care. Bartlett Tree Experts will also be present to talk about trees and to hand out 100 Swamp White Oak seedlings.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

Community Cleanup. 9 a.m.-noon at five locations along Four Mile Run. Cleanup volunteers needed at Madison Manner, Glen Carlyn, Arlington Mill Community Center, Barcroft Park and Shirlington Park. An adult must accompany children under 16 years of age. Call 703-525-0168 or ParkRangers@arlingtonva.us.
Health Fair. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Hosted by the Northern Virginia Section, NCNW. Includes information on health screenings such as blood pressure, diabetes and women's health, with exercise demonstrations

and door prizes. Free. Call 703-830-4820 or visit www.novancnw.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

Application Deadline. High school students can apply to the "House Student App Challenge." The contest is open to all high school students who live in or are eligible to attend public schools located in the 8th Congressional District. Students must provide a YouTube or VIMEO video demo explaining their app and what they learned through the competition process by the competition deadline on April 30, 2014. More details on submitting a contest entry, the rules of the competition, and helpful programming resources can be found at U.S. Rep. Jim Moran's page at moran.house.gov/house-app-contest or through StudentAppChallenge.house.gov.

THURSDAY/MAY 1

Application Deadline. Arlington Rotary Club Education Foundation is accepting applications for the annual Arlington Rotary Scholarship. Applicants should be completing high school this year and planning to attend college in the 2014-2015 academic year. The scholarship is worth a total of \$8,000 and is paid out over 8 semesters of college. The scholarship is designed to help a deserving Arlington high school senior and is based on merit, community service and need. The application form has been sent to high school counselors in Arlington and can also be found at the Arlington Rotary website. Visit www.arlingtonrotaryclub.org for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 2

Chamber of Commerce Luncheon. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at WETA, 2775 S. Quincy St. Meet and greet with Shannon Flanagan-Watson, Arlington's new Business Ombudsman. \$35 for members, \$50 for others. Register by noon April 30 at www.arlingtonchamber.org or call 703-525-2400.

SATURDAY/MAY 3

Plant Sale. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Wakefield High School, 1325 S. Dinwiddie St., on the Dinwiddie Street side of the building. Annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetables and flowering baskets available. Place an order before April 12 in the school main office; drop it off or mail it in. Order forms are available on the Wakefield Website <http://apsva.us/Page/17411>.

Guided Tree Walk and Selection. 1-3 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Kirsten Conrad Buhls, Virginia Cooperative Extension Horticultural Agent for Arlington County, will speak on tree selection guidelines and lead a tree walk. Free, registration encouraged. Contact 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Celebrating a Legacy. 6-11 p.m. at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Pentagon City Hotel, 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway. Proceeds fund scholarships to local high school graduates as well as the organizations' community service programs and projects. Tickets are a donation of \$150 and can be purchased by email at fundraising@dstnovac.org or online at www.nvdecs.org/calendar/calendar.htm Visit

www.dstnovac.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 4

Sunrise Photo Shoot. 5-7 a.m. at Arlington National Cemetery. As part of the celebration of Flickr's 10th birthday, Arlington National Cemetery hosts a sunrise photo shoot. Meet on Memorial Avenue by 5 a.m. for escort. Free and open to the public, but registration is required. Visit www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Events/Calendar.aspx or contact Arlingtoncemetery.pao@mail.mil by noon May 2.

MONDAY/MAY 5

History Lecture. 3-4:30 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 Quincy St. "Spies Next Door: Three stories of espionage and counterintelligence in Arlington" presented by Dr. David Robarge, Chief Historian of the CIA. Public welcome. Sponsored by Encore Learning and the Arlington Public Library. Call 703-228-2144.

TUESDAY/MAY 13

Community Input. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S Stafford St. Arlington County has received a request to have a farmers' market established at Fairlington Community Center and is seeking community input to be sure a market is the right fit for the location. Share comments, concerns, and learn more about the request and the process for establishing markets on Park property. Meetings will be April 21 (to gather input) and May 13 (to discuss major themes). Call 703-228-7872.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 8
the completion of Phase 1 of improvements to Rocky Run Park. Free activities for children include face painting, obstacle court and scavenger hunt. Visit <http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/rocky-run-park>.
Choir Concert. 4 p.m. in the Reinsch Library Auditorium on Marymount's Main Campus, 2807 North Glebe Road. "Spring into Happy" from the Marymount University Blue Harmony Show Choir. Free concert and reception. Contact 703-284-1611 or vstovall@marymount.edu.

MONDAY/APRIL 28

Book Club Launch. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. The Holistic Health & Wellness Book Club meets to discuss "Gaining Ground: A Story of Farmers' Markets, Local Food, and Saving the Family Farm" by Forrest Pritchard. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

TUESDAY/APRIL 29

Art Fundraiser. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Event benefits Freedom in Creation, which promotes art as therapy and entrepreneurship education. Visit www.freedomincreation.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

Author Visit. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Author and lexicographer Paul Dickson discusses and signs his newest book, "Authorisms: Words Wrought by Writers." Presenting stories behind each word and phrase, Dickson enriches our appreciation of the English language. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 1-3

Theatre Performance. 7 p.m., in the school's auditorium at Washington-Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford Street, Arlington. Washington-Lee High School Presents, "Shrek: The Musical."

Tickets are \$10 at the door, or \$7 in advance. Visit www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F45ADAE2CA46-macbeth1.

FRIDAY/MAY 2

Art Exhibit Opening Reception. 5-8 p.m. at Gallery Underground, in the Crystal City Shops at 2100 Crystal Drive. "Mayhem," a juried exhibit, opens with a modern dance performance by the ACW Dances Troupe. On display through May 31. Contact info@galleryunderground.org or 571-483-0652, or visit www.galleryunderground.org.

Wine Tasting. 6:30 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Blind Date with a Book includes wine tasting. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

Concert. 8 p.m. at the Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars, the inspirational band and subject of a 2005 documentary, returns to Artisphere. The past 10 years for the band have been a journey from the squalor of refugee camps to the world's biggest stages. \$25-\$35. Visit <http://sierraleonesrefugeeallstars.com> or www.artisphere.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 2-4

Ballet. At the Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. "Paquita & Other Works" by the BalletNova Center for Dance. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$5-23. DanceTalk with American University professor Irina Wunder 6 p.m. Saturday, \$5. Behind the Scenes Education program for children 12 and under 1:30 p.m. Sunday, \$5. Visit www.balletnova.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 3

Gardening Info Session. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at The Ball-Sellers House on 5620 S. Third Street. The Ball-Sellers House will partner with the Arlington Food Assistance Center to host "Ask the Gardeners." Visit www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.



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O'Connell Baseball Sweeps Doubleheader from Ryken

Knights making to look playoff push in WCAC.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Bishop O'Connell baseball team swept a doubleheader from St. Mary's Ryken in urgent and aggressive fashion on April 19.

The Knights scored five runs in the first inning of a 6-1 victory in the opener and followed with a nine-run first frame en route to a 15-4, five-inning win in the second game at Bishop O'Connell High School.

"We've been saying it: we think we have a good team this year, and you need to establish that early in a game and we did a good job of that today," O'Connell head coach Kyle Padgett said. "It's a mindset. Our guys come out sometimes and they kind of want to go through the motions early on and feel their way through the early innings of a ball game and it's hurt us a couple times this year where we let the other team flip the script on us and put up a four or five spot in the first and we're chasing from behind. That's a tough position to put yourself in."

"These guys came out with a good mindset today, where they were in attack mode, aggressive at the plate, and did a good job with that."

Padgett is in his second season as Knights head coach and has the team poised for a playoff run. After posting an 8-16 record last year with several freshmen in the lineup, O'Connell is now enjoying the fruits of the experience gained by several young players during the 2013 campaign.

The Knights defeated Bishop McNamara 12-1 on April 21, improving their record to 10-8, including 8-4 in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference.

"Last year, we kind of took our lumps," Padgett said. "We had some young guys getting playing time and we knew we were going to go through some struggles — guys like Myles [Hudzik] and guys like Rafi [Vasquez]. That experience was invaluable to what they're doing now. They're making



Bishop O'Connell sophomore Corey Burch pitches against St. Mary's Ryken on April 19.

the adjustments, they're making the jump and it's just fun to watch sophomores come a long way from freshman year."

Hudzik hit his first home run of the season and nearly hit a second during the doubleheader sweep of Ryken. Vasquez earned the win on the mound in game one, allowing a single unearned run in seven innings. He also went 2-for-3 with an RBI against McNamara. Left-hander Corey Burch, another sophomore, earned the win in game two against Ryken. Patrick Ryan has been another key sophomore for the Knights. "Corey's going to be a guy, he's still a sophomore, so the [velocity] is going to come, but for right now, he's a guy who's

got to have his changeup and his breaking ball working, keeping hitters off balance," Padgett said. "... He did a good job. He stayed in the strike zone ... and the defense really took care of the baseball."

Hudzik went 4-for-4 in the 15-4 victory over Ryken and Ryan finished 3-for-4. Junior Brian Murray, senior Drew Tessier and junior Brett Riddick each had two hits.

Padgett said the Knights are focused on earning a top four seed in the WCAC tournament and advancing to the second round.

O'Connell was scheduled to face Bishop Ireton on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Knights will host Langley at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23.



Drew Tessier and the Bishop O'Connell baseball team swept a doubleheader from St. Mary's Ryken on April 19.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION



O'Connell sophomore Will DiGiulian went 1-for-3 with an RBI in the first game of a doubleheader against St. Mary's Ryken on April 19.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Puletti's Hat Trick Propels Yorktown to Victory

Senior midfielder/forward Alex Puletti scored three goals against Oakton on April 21 and the Yorktown girls' soccer team improved to 6-1 with a 3-1 victory against the Cougars in Vienna.

Rachel Logue finished with an assist.

Yorktown faced Washington-Lee on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Patriots will host Lake Braddock at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 24.

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos are welcome.

Marymount University's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is sponsoring a "Battle of the Sexes" competition Sunday, April 27, 1-3 p.m. to raise money for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Teams of four females or four males in various games, including cornhole, minute-to-win-it and can jam. Each team is required to raise at least \$200 to participate. There will be monetary prizes for the top two teams, including bonus points awarded to the

teams that raise the most money. Marymount aims to raise \$10,000 for St. Jude's. Visit <https://waystohelp.stjude.org>, click "search for an event" and select Virginia to contribute.

Bayard B. Roberts has been selected for membership in the St. Lawrence University chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon, the national mathematics honorary society. Roberts is majoring in mathematics. He is a member of the Class of 2016. Roberts graduated from St. Mark's School.

Elizabeth Osborn, a graduate of The Madeira School, and **Anna Wissler**, a graduate of Bishop Ireton High School, were named to the Lafayette College dean's list for the fall 2013 semester.

Randolph-Macon Academy has announced the students who were named to the honor rolls for the second quarter of the 2013-14 school year. **Jessica Neupane**, the daughter of Ram and Goma Neupane of Arlington, was named to the Dean's List. **Erik L. Wagner**, son of Karl Wagner of Arlington, was named to the Principal's List.

Where Am I?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



"I'm sitting in the rocking chair, good buddy," (a "Smokey and The Bandit" reference, if you're not of a certain vintage), between two 18-wheelers where the police radar can't find me – further referencing the C.B. radio days. Updating to the "Kenny-with-cancer" days, I'm a month or so past my last very encouraging CT Scan, the one I wrote about when my oncologist offered me a congratulatory handshake, a gesture he had not made in the five-plus years since we've been tangling with this damn disease; and I'm approximately seven weeks away from my next CT scan, "intervals" every three months at present. Seven weeks is far enough away where I'm not even thinking about it, or the possibility of its discouraging results that I'll know about on or about June 9th. I am cruising, emotionally, and savoring the excellent results from the last scan and not yet worrying, wondering, hoping, praying (too much) about my next scan. This means, at the moment – or moments, I should say, I am enjoying a relatively stress-free and blissful ignorance to what may – or hopefully may not, be happening in my lungs. I am, to quote a Three Stooges line: "as safe as in my mother's arms."

Let me admit for the record, when you're originally scheduled as terminal by your oncologist ("13 months to two years"), grasping at straws, rationalizing, wishful thinking and denial (which as you regular readers know is more than just a river in Egypt...an "NYPD" reference), become de rigueur, a sort of standard operating procedure – whether you intend it to be or not. And whether these days – or should I further admit and characterize them as daze – are simply a grand illusion, or a type of non-arrogant delusion, is another distinction I'm not the least bit worried about. The reality, for me, is that I can breathe easily – figuratively and literally, thank God? (And to be fair, thanks also go to my oncologist and to myself as well; for we've both played a part in this cancer battle.)

And why shouldn't I be exceedingly – and perhaps naively – grateful, for my still being alive and reasonably well. Only 16 percent of lung cancer patients survive beyond five years; I'm at five years and two months now. Whatever good news I receive, whatever positive spin I can give my results, whatever smiles and handshakes I elicit are crucial to this pursuit of life that I live every day. The only recurring and disturbing thought I have, now that I'm past this statistically relevant five-year survivability measure (and this is not about being in remission, which I'm not; I'm still undergoing chemotherapy) is: I can't help juggling in my mind whether being five years post-diagnosis makes me closer to the end of my life or further away from it. As such, when I experience a kind of break in my action, when I'm between halves, so to speak, when the past and future of my cancer life is not front and center but instead more off to the side, these are days to relish and I don't even like condiments. But that's what a cancer diagnosis, particularly a terminal one, will do: change everything. Rolling with the punches is how one has to learn to live: good with the bad, bad with the good, the last scan, the next scan, comparing the results from your ongoing lab work and your occasional face-to-face appointments/exams with the oncologist are what drive this cancer bus that you'd rather never have been on. But you're on it, all the time. This experience is a never-ending (hopefully never ending, let's be honest) roller coaster-type ride of emotions, treatment options, preoccupations and mental gymnastics. Anything and everything I can do to find some peace in the life-expectancy challenged and very unexpected medical circumstances in which I find myself so immersed, is what I do. I'm in a good place right now. It won't last given the timing of what my life's cycle is at present (scans and all), but no matter. I'm not stressing backwards or worrying forwards. This is as good as it gets, realistically speaking.

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

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PEOPLE

SCAN Honors Heather Stowe



Stowe

SCAN honored six Northern Virginians with 2014 Allies in Prevention Awards earlier this month. The awards were presented at SCAN's 12th Annual Allies in Prevention Awards Luncheon, with emcee Leon Harris from ABC7 and Keynote Speaker Dr. Terry Morris, the NASA scientist who shared his personal story of experiencing child abuse and the foster care system.

Among those honored was Dr. Heather Stowe, director of Social Services in the Arlington County Department of Human Services. In her current role she manages a budget of \$22 million while integrating a variety of child-serving programs.

Stowe received her master's degree in English language and literature from Glasgow University, and a post master's qualification in "Youth and Community Work" from Jordanhill College in Scotland. She received her master's and doctoral degrees in social work from Howard University. She has published in the field of trauma and recovery and has consulted nationally on system change.

SCAN of Northern Virginia has been working for more than 25 years to promote the well-being of children, improve parent-child relations and prevent child abuse and neglect by educating the community about the scope, nature and consequences of child abuse and neglect and the importance of positive, nurturing parenting; providing direct parent education; and advocating for children in the community, the legislature and the courts.

"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for April 28 - May 3.

Senior trips: Sunday, May 4, Hollywood Casino, W.Va., \$9; Wednesday, May 7, Dodona Manor, Leesburg, \$15; Friday, May 9, tour Frederick, Md., \$8; Saturday, May 10, Arena Stage, "Smokey Joe's Café," \$69. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Tom Cunningham Orchestra rehearsal, Monday, May 5, 8 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Details, 703-228-4403.

Just Playin' Country Musicians, Monday, May 5, 10:15 a.m.-noon, Lee. Free. Details, 703-228-0555.

Tennis, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Bluemont Courts, Wilson and N. Manchester, free. Details, 703-228-4745.

Strength training, Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 9 a.m., Thomas Jefferson Community Center, \$60/15 sessions or \$4 per drop-in. 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.

Behavioral finance concepts, Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

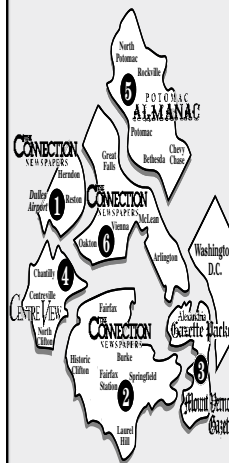
Preparing for emergencies, Tuesday, May 6, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Table tennis, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

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with courage
makes a
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-Andrew Jackson

21 Announcements

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small to know,
and nothing too
big to attempt.
-William Van Horne

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21 Announcements

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LEGAL NOTICE

William Licamele MD will be retiring and closing his practice of Child Adolescent and Adult Psychiatry on June 26th, 2014. Until that date he can be reached at his office at 6760 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean Va. 22101--- phone 703-734-6927 for any questions, referrals, or follow-up. After June 26th, he can be reached at PO Box 338, McLean, Va. 22101 for any requests for information, records, referrals. Etc.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

John P Steg MD will be retiring and closing his practice of Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychiatry on June 26, 2014. Until that date he can be reached at his office at 6760 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean VA 22101 -- Phone 703-442-8116. After that date he can be contacted at his billing address: 1837 Baldwin Dr, McLean VA 22101 -- Phone 703-893-4836.

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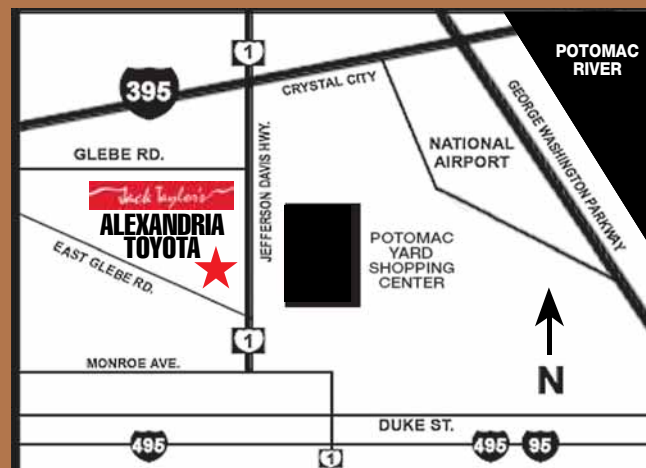
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Winning Design of Arlington Architecture

BY VERONICA BRUNO
THE CONNECTION

Winner of the first EPA Smart Growth Award and the Coalition for Smarter Growth's Capital Region Visionary Award, Arlington County has created some neighborhoods built on transit-oriented development, affordable housing and human-scale transit and street design.

"Arlington really cares about the public realm. This extends to parks as well," said Scott Matties, president of the American Institute of Architecture Northern Virginia. "The citizens of Arlington are very engaged and participatory. In Arlington they spend a lot of time on the quality of the public realm."

On the Cover

The Church at Clarendon, located at Highland Street in the heart of Lyon Village, occupies the first two floors and shares space with an eight-story affordable apartment building, The Views at Clarendon. The mixed-use building completed a renovation two years ago.

PHOTO BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE CONNECTION

A great urban plan makes a town both user-friendly and beautiful. You can find many examples of this throughout Arlington, particularly the urban centers of Rosslyn, Clarendon and Ballston.

According to the American Institute of Architects (AIA), there are specific recommended design principles that go into making a community vibrant, successful and healthy. Providing a variety of choices for its residents contributes to a greater quality of life. Having a range of options in housing, shopping, recreation, transportation, cultural resources and employment provides an enriched neighborhood experience that inhabitants admire.

The urban communities of Arlington incorporate this level of care throughout the streets, sidewalks, plazas, corners and parks of the city. The communities have added landscape enhancements to traffic islands, planters, park entrances and tree pit areas seasonally to provide a pleasant pedestrian experience.

One example is Central Place in Rosslyn. Located at the construction site at the corner of Wilson Boulevard and N. Moore Street, it is a temporary rain garden that offers casual sitting and eating space for pedestrians. Rather than let a construction site sit

SEE WINNING DESIGN, PAGE 6



Ten-story mixed-use office building at 800 North Glebe Road was designed by architect Cooper Carry with a curtain wall façade made of three "sails." The ground floor includes a public plaza and restaurants Protein Bar, the Mussel Bar and Pizzeria Vinoteca.

PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE CONNECTION



Arlington integrates on-street bike lanes throughout the county. Designated bike routes are incorporated into multi-use trails and street designs where they share space with cars and buses. There are several Capital Bikeshare spots interspersed throughout Arlington neighborhoods.

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What to Expect Buying or Selling

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Real estate agent Joan Caton Cromwell says she lost a home bidding war last week in Falls Church even though her client was a strong contestant.

"We were one of five contracts and we even waived the appraisal," said Cromwell of McEneaney Associates. "Any house that is close-in [to Washington, D.C.] and that is in nice condition, is going to attract a lot of attention."

Real estate agents say spring is one of the busiest times of the year for home sales and there is dearth of available homes in popular neighborhoods. "The lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties," said John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty in Arlington. "I expect

all sectors of the market to see price gains and demand to remain high."

HOME PRICES are on the rise. "If you put a home on the market and it gets multiple offers, the eight other people who didn't get the house will bid on another house," said Cromwell. "In a market where there are

"We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located."

— Marsha Schuman,
Washington Fine Properties

multiple offers it definitely drives the prices up and it drives them up quickly."

Anthony B. Sanders, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Real Estate Finance at George Mason University said, "Very simply, this is still an area that is growing, so housing home sales will continue to rise, but more slowly than during the real estate bubble."

Still, agents are optimistic as they enter the spring buying season. "The state of the real estate market is great," said Marsha Schuman of the Washington Fine Properties' Schuman Team. "The weather is behind us and there is a momentum going into the spring market that feels very positive."

The spring market in the Washington, D.C. area is aligned with academic calendars. "It starts in April and May in the suburbs," says Cromwell. "Those in the military or who work for the World Bank for example, put their homes on the market in spring to prepare to relocate during the summer."

Proximity to public transportation increases desirability. "For example, Reston is popular because of the Silver Line," said

"The lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties."

— John Eric, TTR Sotheby's in Arlington

Cromwell. "North Arlington and Falls Church are popular. Anything that offers a decent commuting experience for someone who can't afford what they want in the city will be sought after."

SEE WHAT TO EXPECT, PAGE 7

A Picture Perfect Home

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Realtors Marsha Schuman and Betsy Schuman Dodek drive up to a home to show it to a prospective buyer, they know that they have only one chance to make a good first impression. Potomac-based Dodek and Schuman of the Schuman Team of Washington Fine Properties say a home's curb appeal matters.

"When we think of curb appeal we think of the lawn and landscaping, front door, windows, roof and how it all looks," said Dodek. "Buyers want to buy from someone who has taken really good care of their home and that translates in to curb appeal."



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRUPLACE

Realtors say this Oakton home exemplifies ideal curb appeal, a critical factor when selling a home.

Schuman added, "If things are not nice on the outside, then [potential buyers] wonder what the house will be like on the inside."

REAL ESTATE AGENTS SAY buyers want to purchase a well-cared for home, and the exterior aesthetic of a home creates that impression. Whether you're planning to put your house on the market or would just like a clean and fresh exterior to welcome you home each day, local real estate experts offer advice on enhancing a home's exterior.

McLean-based realtor Chris Pritchard of McEneaney Associates suggests starting by

critiquing your own home. "Stand in front of your house and take a look," she said. "Walk up the driveway, ask yourself what you would want to see if you were shopping for a house."

The yard should be pristine and vibrant. "Trimming, mulching and planting some colorful plants are key," said Pritchard.

"Add color with flowers, pots with plants, choosing things like geraniums and pansies," said Dodek. "Adding color just makes such a difference. It makes the yard pop."

Consider safety. "Is the yard hazard-free?" asks Dodek. "It needs to be freshly mowed and mulched with dark mulch because that

makes the greenery pop. Make sure your bushes are trimmed and proportionate. Look at trees to make sure they aren't blocking the size of the house."

"One of the next areas we look at are patios, walkways and fences," continued Dodek. "Do they need repairs? Is there loose mortar?"

"The sense of arrival is very important — you never get a second chance to make a first impression."

— Chris Pritchard

McLean Realtor Ann McClure of McEneaney Associates says that a home's exterior should be well-lit. "You need good looking and functional lighting which should be on in the evening."

Examine the entrance. "Take a look at the front door," said Dodek. "Does it need painting? We had a recent listing and we painted the door red and added new hardware and a kick plate and that made it stand out. That is something that is very cost effective to do."

SEE PICTURE PERFECT, PAGE 7

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Spring Real Estate & New Homes

Local Designers Help Unveil DC Design House

Area tastemakers dream home, currently on the market for \$3.85 million.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Local designers showed off their master work when the 2014 DC Design House was unveiled recently. From Arlington to Burke, and Alexandria to Potomac, Md., the area's top designers competed for an opportunity to donate their talent to transform a local, grand home into a showcase home.

The home, which is on the market for \$3.85 million, is now open to the public for tours. It features six-bedrooms, five full-and two half-baths. Built in 1929, the home features a three-car garage and a pool. The stone house offers three levels and nearly 8,000 square feet of living space, which local designers transformed.

THE HOME'S FRONT FAÇADE was designed by David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac's Rill Architects. Inspired by the stately stone home, the duo decided to add a bit of detail and interest in the form of "style appropriate light fixtures, shutters, furniture and accent colors." When choosing a paint color for the front door, they wanted a hue that was traditional, but unexpected. Their choice: a "high-gloss verdigris green-blue [that] immediately catches your eye from the street. They replaced the existing solid wood single door with a glass-paned French door that "pulls outside views sand daylight into the entry hall."



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown, of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, designed the family room of the DC Design House. The duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months.

Victoria Sanchez of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. "I wanted to create a room with a casual and cozy feel," she said. The room, which has large picture windows that offer uninterrupted views of nature, connects the kitchen with butler's pantry/wine tasting room. Sanchez choose woven rattan furniture to fill the space.

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria designed the family room, which overlooks the pool and patio. The design duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months. They created "cascading light down the hand-woven wall covering..." The room is filled with organic textures, tone-on-tone colors and "nods to both a mid-century flair and modernism."

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling Inc. Mann describes the small space as "chic, classic and timeless ... a jewel box bath." The room features Calcutta marble flooring in a herringbone pattern and the acoustic "Moxie" showering system that allows one to listen to music while bathing. Mann was able to preserve and refinish the home's original iron bathtub.

Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer, of Cleveland Hall Design created a guest



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling. The room features Calcutta marble flooring in a herringbone pattern and the acoustic "Moxie" showering system that allows one to listen to music while bathing.

bedroom in the home. In an effort to create a light and airy space, the duo selected wall paper in a pink floral pattern. "We choose streamlined furniture and fabrics to accent the Asian feeling of the wallpaper." The room, designed whimsically in pink and green, features twin beds. The art in the room was painted by Donelson's mother,



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The master bedroom was designed by Nancy Colbert, of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to allow for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving.

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"I wanted to create a room with a casual and cozy feel."
— Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria At Home in Old Town Alexandria

PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. The room, which has large, picture windows that offer uninterrupted views of nature, connects the kitchen with butler's pantry/wine tasting room.

Janice Donelson, a classically trained artist.

THE MASTER BEDROOM was designed by Nancy Colbert of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to al-

low for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving. Colbert discovered a painting that she thought would be perfect for a master bedroom, and designed the room around it. She chose an ivory turned-post king bed that she furnished with silk bedding in parchment and seafoam

green. Colbert added crown molding for additional detail. "One of the room's multi-purpose features is a silver toned gilded butterfly side table that was created by a newly discovered artist. It is a work of art and a table."

Beth Boggs, Teri Lohmann and Lynne



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

The home's front façade was designed by Rill Architects' David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac.

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PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown, of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, designed the family room of the DC Design House. The room is filled with organic textures, tone-on-tone colors and "nods to both a mid-century flair and modernism."

Parmelee of C2 Paint, Potomac Paint & Design with locations in Alexandria, Arlington and Chantilly, added color to the back staircase. The team chose paintable wallpaper in shades of plum, lilac, and spring green. Paintable wall paper "conveniently camouflages old plaster wall cracks, provides durability for high-traffic use and creates a

striking textured design."

Now in its seventh year, the annual event is a fundraiser for Children's National Health System, formerly Children's National Medical Center. The D.C. Design House has raised more than \$1 million and attracted more than 55,000 visitors over the past six years.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer, of Cleveland Hall Design created a light and airy guest bedroom in the DC Design House. The room, designed whimsically in pink and green, features twin beds. Art in the room was painted by Donelson's mother, Janice Donelson, a classically trained artist.

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Winning Design of Arlington Architecture

FROM PAGE 2

idle for years, neighborhood citizens along with the JBG Companies, Rosslyn Renaissance and the Rosslyn Business Improvement District created a sun-filled space that the community could enjoy in the interim.

THE INCLUSION OF MIXED-USE development is key to the preservation of urban centers, another recommendation from the AIA, reduces the need for new infrastructure and promotes stability within city neighborhoods.

“Over time you can swap out one use of the building for another,” says June Williamson, City College of New York’s Associate Professor of Architecture. “The key is to design good buildings. These buildings have proved to be resilient.”

What brings all this together is the variety of transportation options available to Arlington residents, many of whom use mass transit or bike instead of rely on cars. This reduces traffic congestion, a goal for Arlington which led to the decision to construct Metro’s Orange Line under the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor, rather than aboveground in the middle of I-66.

“Arlington was able to pull the Metro underground, which allowed for the maximum density along the corridor. They implemented it well,” said Matties.

Today, Arlington has 50 million square feet of transit-oriented development in the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor and has done so without an apparent increase in traffic. Arlington also continues to make investments in bicycle and pedestrian facilities and bike share.

Compact developments can offer higher tax revenue with lower per-unit infrastructure costs. There are cost savings in terms of community services as well: compact communities generally have fewer traffic fatalities and faster police, fire and ambulance response times. Williamson said, “You are organizing space in a logical way.”



PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE CONNECTION

Artisphere, located two blocks from the Rosslyn Metro station, is an art center that is free and open to the public. The structure includes four performance venues, three visual art galleries, a 4,000-square-foot ballroom, studio space, social gathering spots, food service facilities, lounge areas and outdoor terraces. A mix of art mediums are showcased and performed there.



Northside Social, a popular coffeehouse, wine bar and casual restaurant is an example of the type of vibrant neighborhood spots that add richness to the Clarendon area of Arlington. Located on Wilson Boulevard, it is within walking distance of residences, retail establishments and the metro line.



A public space and working rain garden, Central Space, is temporarily located at the construction site of Central Place, a future office space in downtown Rosslyn Arlington. Central Space was designed by the JBG Companies, Rosslyn Renaissance and the Rosslyn Business Improvement District as an inviting open community space for nearby office workers while the construction site sat dormant. Neighborhood volunteers made the finishing touches on the communal place, which includes a stage, plantings, fragrant flowers, and plenty of sitting and eating space in a colorfully painted locale.

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What to Expect

FROM PAGE 3

Schuman said, “We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located. They want an easier life. Convenience is the new real estate buzzword. Property becomes compelling when buyers see value.”

Sanders said some communities are especially competitive. “Virginia has two of the wealthiest counties in the country, Loudoun and Fairfax counties, so those communities should see a fairly short turn over.”

NOT EVERYONE IS KEEPING with the trend. “We’re not seeing middle class families buying homes through the mortgage

market,” said Sanders, the GMU professor. “Their income was devastated during the housing bubble burst due to foreclosures. Real household income has fallen since 2007. So the American middle class is worse off than it was in 2007. It’s more high-income families with cash or investors who are buying homes.”

Schuman says that homes priced below \$1.3 million “are being snapped off the market if they are well conditioned and fairly priced. The ultra-luxury market, homes over \$2 million, is a little bit slower paced at present, but there are signs that these buyers are out there and wanting to buy.”

Cromwell agrees, “The 600-900K price point is very busy for a house in good condition.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF TTR SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty says lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties like this Arlington home.

A Picture Perfect Home

FROM PAGE 3

A clean appearance is critical. “There should be no algae stains on the roof,” said McClure. “The homeowner should make sure that if they have siding that it doesn’t need power washing.”

“Power wash driveways, walkways and even the house sometimes,” said Pritchard. “The house should be washed before it is painted. Do any kind of painting or touch up painting of siding trim and doors that needs to be done. Sometimes you don’t have to paint at all if you do power washing. All homes get dusty. Sometimes paint fades and needs repainting.”

“Another easy thing is the windows,” said Dodek. “Remove screens and wash the win-

dows. You want your house to sparkle inside and out.”

Pritchard said, “Curb appeal also goes to having a fence in good shape: washed and painted or washed and sealed. The home’s deck should be in good shape. More often than not a deck should be power washed and painted or stained or sealed or whatever the appropriate finish is.”

Minor touches can make a major impact. “Take a look at your mailbox,” said Dodek. “Is it upright? Is it tilted? Does it need to be painted?”

Don’t hide your amenities. “If you have a swimming pool, we get them to remove the cover,” said Dodek. “There’s nothing more beautiful than a beautiful blue swimming pool.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTON FINE PROPERTIES

This Potomac home exemplifies ideal curb appeal. Marsha Schuman and Betsy Schuman Dodek, of the Schuman Team of Washington Fine Properties, say a home’s curb appeal is critical.

Realtors: Great Kitchens Help Sell Homes

Designer Jacquelin Lluy, of Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths in Springfield, recently transformed the kitchen of a home in Mantua, in Fairfax, from a small, dark space to a light-filled, free-flowing culinary oasis.

“The kitchen was built in the ‘70s with a small, dark eat-in kitchen table for four,” Lluy. “The family wanted a view of their expansive wooded lot and an island built for entertaining and family meals with their young boys.”

The new kitchen includes an island made of maple. “The two-height island has a ‘truffle’ finish [and] was designed for game nights, football watching, entertaining friends on the higher level while the lower level is used for quick weekday meals and easy clean up with sink, trash/recycle and dishwasher located there.”

BEFORE PUTTING ONE’S HOME on the market, real estate agents encourage homeowners to spruce up the kitchen. Well-designed, free-flowing kitchens like Lluy’s can often

make or break the sale of a home say some local Realtors.

“I think a kitchen is one of the top things that a buyer looks at,” said Arlington Realtor Michelle Sagatov of the Michelle Sagatov group at McEneaney Associates.

Alexandria-based Realtor Elizabeth Lucchesi of the LizLuke Team at McEneaney Associates said, “Kitchens are the nucleus of the house. It is where everybody hangs out. The kitchen has to look good and feel good.”

Ken Nies, of Two Poor Teachers in Annandale, recently remodeled the kitchen in a Falls Church home adding “custom window millwork, lighting, a backsplash, a large center entertainment island and farm sink.” Nies advises using “different materials on your island to give a custom look.”

Realtors suggest investing in quality cabinetry and countertops. “Granite is something people look for but there are other materials that people can use like caesarstone and quartz,” said Sagatov. “Choose nice, solid counter tops that compliment the cabinetry.”

FOR THOSE WHO WANT to update a kitchen and think they will be selling their home within five to seven years, Sagatov suggests that homeowners think about the resale value before remodeling. “Make the kitchen timeless,” she said. “Don’t put too much of your personality into the kitchen. If you want to show off your personality, do that with paint or kitchen decorations, but make the things that cost a lot of money neutral and timeless, so when you go to sell your home, it appeals to a much broader audience.”

If you plan on renovating the kitchen, do it early, “not when you’re about to sell so that you can enjoy it too,” continued Sagatov.

HOWEVER, ONE DOESN’T need to remodel an entire kitchen before putting a home on the market. Real estate agents say there are a few changes that homeowners can make to help their kitchen sparkle.

“If you don’t have an updated kitchen there are things that you can do to make it look updated, clean and fresh,” said

Sagatov.

Make sure the kitchen has matching appliances that are in good working order. “It doesn’t matter if they are stainless steel, black or white as long as they match,” said Lucchesi.

An open kitchen appeals to buyers. “Having a kitchen area where you can cook while spending time with family, is important,” said Lucchesi. “Having it open into a living area allows the cook to be connected to others.”

Don’t underestimate the power of lighting. “Under-counter mounted lighting makes all the difference in the world,” said Lucchesi. “It gives the illusion that you have a lot of countertop space when in reality maybe you don’t.”

Spruce up dated cabinetry. “Painting cabinets a crisp white goes a long way,” said Sagatov. “A lot of older kitchens have dark wood. Putting a coat of fresh paint and new hardware goes a long way and is an investment that gives you so much money back.”

Sagatov said, “Another easy fix would be painting the walls. Taupe or grey paint on the walls in the kitchen would be soothing and go well with the white

cabinets. Those fixes don’t cost a lot of money.”

Fixtures are another minor element that can make a big impression.

“Make sure that cabinet pulls are updated with materials like glass or brushed nickel,” said Lucchesi. “Great faucets are like a nice pair of shoes or a good belt.”

Lucchesi speaks from experience. “We sold a 1940s house recently with a small kitchen,” she said. “We added new appliances, a new faucet, new cabinets and it sold for \$24,000 above the list price in four days with seven offers.”

“When enhancing a house for sale, you want to appeal to the broadest audience,” said Lucchesi.

Polished and updated kitchens create appealing pictures.

“Sexy kitchens photograph well,” said Lucchesi. “When people are looking at kitchens in online photos, we don’t want to give them a reason to tell their agent, ‘No I don’t want to see that house.’”

By Marilyn Campbell

Arlington REAL ESTATE

Top Sales in February, 2014

PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE CONNECTION

IN FEBRUARY 2014, 167 ARLINGTON HOMES
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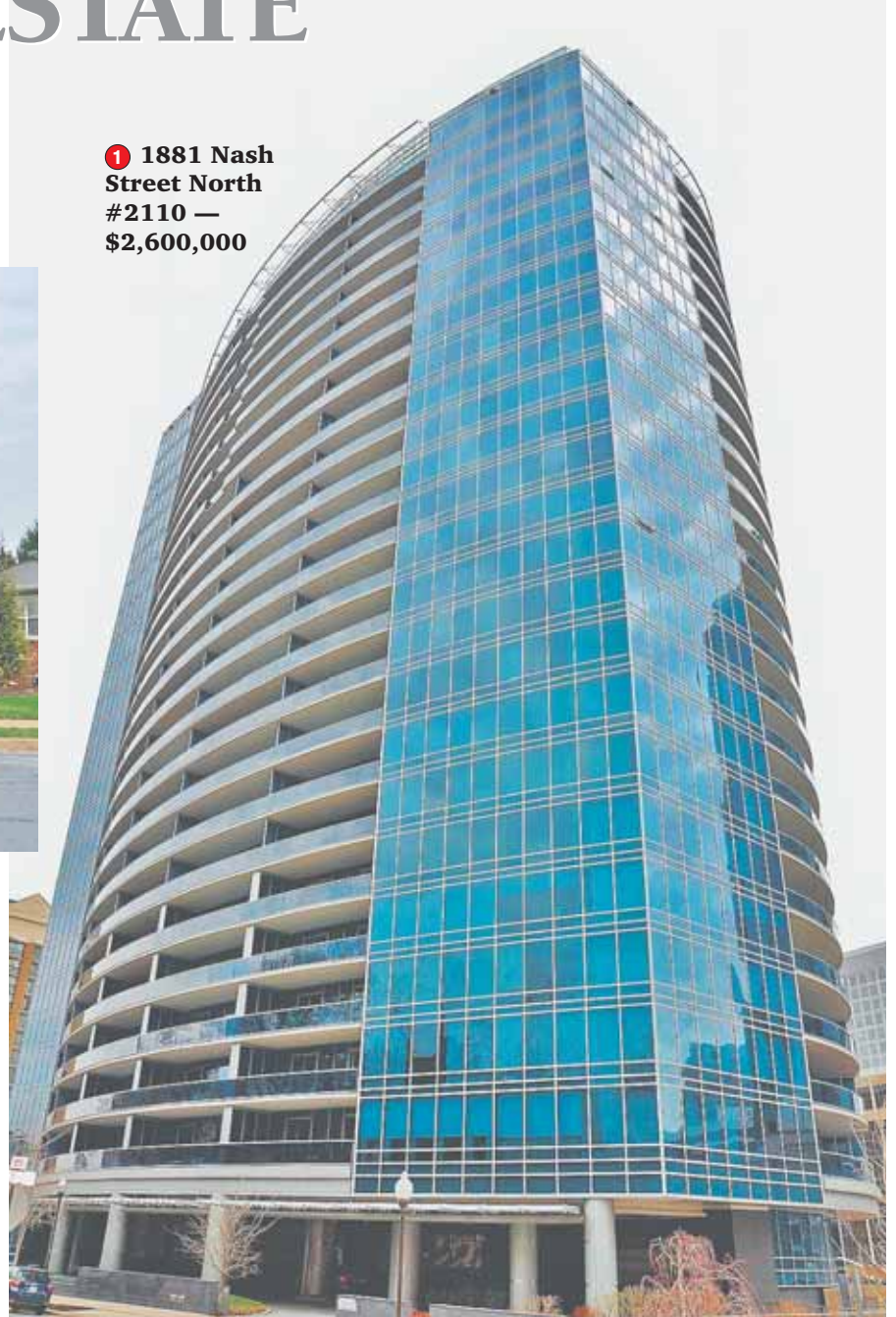
2 3415 Edison Street North
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3 6250 22nd
Road North —
\$1,585,000



1 1881 Nash
Street North
#2110 —
\$2,600,000



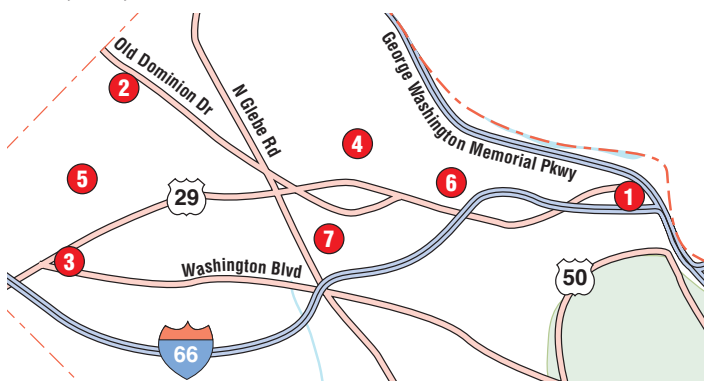
4 2315 Randolph Street North —
\$1,500,000



5 2616 Ohio Street — \$1,499,001



7 4430 19th Road North — \$1,350,000



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1 1881 NASH ST N #2110	2	..	2	.	1	ARLINGTON	\$2,600,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	22209	TURNBERRY TOWER	02/27/14		
2 3415 EDISON ST N	5	..	5	.	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,850,000	....	Detached	....	0.31	.....	22207	.....	WILLIAMSBURG VILLAGE	...	02/14/14
3 6250 22ND RD N	5	..	5	.	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,585,000	....	Detached	....	0.20	.....	22205	.....	OVER LEE KNOLLS	.....	02/21/14
4 2315 RANDOLPH ST N	5	..	4	.	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,500,000	....	Detached	....	0.13	.....	22207	.....	LORCOM RIDGE	.....	02/28/14
5 2616 OHIO ST	6	..	5	.	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,499,001	....	Detached	....	0.16	.....	22207	.....	ALLENCREST	.....	02/28/14
6 2821 23RD RD N	5	..	4	.	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$1,389,500	....	Detached	....	0.22	.....	22201	.....	MAYWOOD	.....	02/19/14
7 4430 19TH RD N	6	..	5	.	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,350,000	Detached	0.18	22207	WAVERLY HILLS	02/06/14

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