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The Washington-Lee Madrigals entertained shoppers and vendors with a selection of holiday favorites throughout the afternoon at Saturday's annual school holiday bazaar.

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"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Dec. 14-20.

Senior centers: Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Langston-Brown, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Culpepper Garden, 4435 N. Pershing Dr.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Arlington Mill, 909 S. Dinwiddie St.; Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.

Senior trip: Monday, Dec. 22, U.S. Botanic Garden, D.C., \$7. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Pickleball games and instruction, Mondays, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Strength training, Monday-

Wednesday-Friday, 9 a.m., T.J. \$60/15 sessions; \$4 drop-in. Details, 703-228-4745.

Seated exercise, Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 9 a.m., Madison. \$60/15 sessions; \$4 drop-in. Details, 703-228-4878.

Madison Chess Club, Mondays, 9:30 a.m., Madison Comm. Center. Free. Details, 703-228-0555.

Ice skating, Mondays, 8:10 a.m. - 9:20 a.m., Kettler Capitals Iceplex, Ballston Mall, \$1. Register, 703-228-4745.

Seniors-only weight room hours, Langston-Brown, \$60/15 sessions. Details, 703-228-6300.

Foreign language conversation groups, free. Details, 703-228-4721.

Bilingual Spanish/English book club, Tuesday, Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Drop-in volleyball, Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Beginners full fitness exercise, Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Lee. \$60/15 sessions or \$4 per class. Details, 703-228-0555.

Arlington Mill Trekkers, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. Free. Register, 703-228-7369.

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

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

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Mothers, Children Reunite at Detention Center

Winter holidays event allows incarcerated mothers to hold their family.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

Christian Parker had seen her children when they'd come to visit, but Dec. 8 at Arlington Detention Center was the first time since she'd been incarcerated that she'd been allowed to hold her daughters.

"I'm so excited. I've seen them regularly, but I see them behind glass," said Parker. "It feels a lot different. Behind the glass, it feels like we're separated. Here I can hold them and kiss them, we feel connected."

Christian Parker was one of the 12 mothers who'd been allowed to spend a few hours with their children at an event hosted by the facility. According to Kristen Cane, the program manager for the Detention Center, the program has been going on for at least 13 years. Twice a year, the program allows mothers who go through a parenting program and have a record of good behavior to visit with their children. There is a similar program offered once a year for fathers, though it typically is more difficult



An inmate, holding her daughter, looks at the Christmas tree in the Arlington Detention Center.

to get families to attend.

"Some people back out or don't show up," said Cane. "Our population of women has been as low as 30 people, mostly short term. Some families are also hesitant to bring the kids to a jail. I had to talk families into it. They had to RSVP. We do everything to make

it seem like a party."

"Last year, we only had four mothers," said Captain Vicky Bandalo with the Arlington Sheriff's Department. "There were six mothers signed up, but only four whose family showed up."

While children were being allowed into

the room, three of the mothers huddled around a corner near the door and waited anxiously, looking through the window in hopes of seeing their son or daughter in the hall. Downstairs, the family members that bring the children are treated with coffee. Bandalo said they were taken care of while the children were upstairs visiting and try to make them as relaxed and comfortable as possible.

Arlington County Sheriff Beth Arthur said the program is part of their facility's emphasis on helping inmates return to productive lives in the community.

"[The program is] good for the kids and it's good to remind the moms why they need to leave here and stay focused on the right path," said Arthur. "Whether you're a mom or a dad, it's about raising good kids."

One of these programs is a GED class offered at the facility. Attendees in these classes range from 50- or 60-year-old inmates who never received their high school diploma to younger ones hoping to get a stable job once they graduate.

Parker is one of those inmates who took the GED class and hopes to enroll in medical assistant's school when she is released. Parker passed every subject on the GED except math, which she retook that morning and was anxiously waiting for the result.

SEE REUNITING MOTHERS. PAGE 5

Arlington Celebrates Richard Thompson

Local cartoonist's work exhibited in film and book at Arlington Central Library

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

Nick Galifinakis and David Apatoff had a problem. They wanted to keep meeting at the home of fellow cartoonist Richard Thompson, creator of Washington Post comic Richard's Poor Almanac and his nationally syndicated comic Cul de Sac, to chat and to pour over his work, but were afraid that Thompson would kick them out if they didn't come up with a good reason to stay. This was the origin of "The Art of Richard Thompson." Though likely apocryphal, the story is indicative of the reverence and humor with which the editors compiled the collection.

At an event at the Arlington Central Library on

"I was visiting him this spring and saw a draft of his new book with his self-portrait showing him as a newly hatched chick."

— Andy Hemmendinger

"Richard's a longtime friend and neighbor," said Andy Hemmendinger, president of GVI. "I was visit-

Saturday, Dec. 6, four of the book's five editors spoke at a panel where they discussed cartooning and their experience with Thompson. Thompson himself was seated in the front row of the event, though with declining health he was unable to take questions directly from the audience.

Thompson announced in 2009 that he had been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, which in 2012 forced him to stop working on his comics.

"Richard and I were on National Public Radio together and we shared a cab afterwards," said Michael Cavanaugh, an editor at the Washington Post and the event moderator. "As we got in that cab, Richard went to do his seatbelt. The whole time, all the months, I'd never seen his drawing hand shake. Richard couldn't do his seatbelt that day. Honestly, at that moment, I realized 'oh no, Cul De Sac is going to end.'"

The event began with a short film about Thompson by GVI, a video-production company. The film focuses on Thompson's work and the impact on the world of comic strips.

"Richard's a longtime friend and neighbor," said Andy Hemmendinger, president of GVI. "I was visit-



Cartoonist Richard Thompson meets local fans and supporters.

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

SEE CELEBRATING. PAGE 7



Members of the Woman's Club of Arlington Pat Fisher, Jeanie Payne and Sandy Newton offer ribbon wreaths and a selection of handmade gift ideas for sale at the bazaar.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Members of the Direct Relief International Club — Richard Luu, Fatoumata Diallo, Claire Bapriste and Hanan Seid — offer Rice Krispies treats and candy canes for sale at the bazaar.

Holiday Bazaar at Washington-Lee

Holiday music drifted through the hallways and the cafeteria as the Washington-Lee Madrigals sang their way through and around the vendor tables at the annual school holiday bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 13. More than 100 school clubs and vendors filled the first floor of the high school offering holiday gifts and treats for sale.



Ed Peetz of State College, Pa., offered handmade wooden decorations and toys at the fair. Peetz who will be celebrating his 90th birthday this month

began making the toys when his first grandchild was born.



Leukena Khy and Zaafira Jaya walk around as sandwich board ads promoting the Direct Relief International Club's bazaar sale table. The club host fundraisers year-round to raise money for people affected by poverty or emergency situations by mobilizing and providing essential medical resources needed for their care.



Students and their families took seats on the floor of the school cafeteria to listen to the performance by the Washington-Lee Madrigals.



Mariale Bonilla of Lamimi Boutique wears and displays a selected of her whimsical crocheted hats. For more information visit www.lamimiboutique.etsy.com



The dollar bracelet booth drew a steady stream of shoppers throughout the day.



Janis Theunissen of JJ's Whimsies shows one of her cork-faced birdhouses.

Reuniting Mothers and Children

FROM PAGE 3

"It was hard," said Parker, "but I think I did an OK job."

Reuniting mothers and their children was initially awkward for some. There were games set up around the room, an impromptu bowling alley, and sugar cookies with decorating kits, all to give the parents something to do with their children to ease the transition. While some of the youngsters ran around and knocked over the pins, and almost all of them were decorating cookies, for many of the parents and children it was enough just to be able to hug and talk face to face.

"The youngest one took a minute for her to get adjusted to me," said Parker. "She's only two years old. She hesitated for a minute, but after she saw who I was she calmed down."

"Some of these moms with kids don't miss a beat," said Bandalo. "There's one woman who's been in and out of jail forever, but the kids are still very comfortable around her."

On the other side of the room, Lilian Hernandez was sitting with her high school and middle school aged daughter and son, a little older than Parker's. Hernandez said she sees her children on the other side of the glass in the center's two 20-minute sessions every week.

"It's nice, but it doesn't heal everything," said Hernandez. "[This program's] a good incentive to behave while we're here. We have to complete a parenting class; it's another incentive to be good. The first five months here I stayed in my room just to keep out of trouble, because there are people who

like to pick on you."

She asked her daughter about a boy in her school and her daughter lamented that her grandmother wouldn't allow her to spend more time blogging. Hernandez rolled her eyes when she saw her daughter's new nose-ring, and then had a somber revelation. "She got a piercing while I was gone ... there's a lot of things I'm missing, like her first year of high school."

Hernandez said she has a job lined up for when she gets out of the facility and has an apartment she's ready to move into.

She said she appreciates all of the items that are crafted for prisoners and said she'd like to participate and give back once she leaves, and expressed a similar desire to have her children come with her and volunteer at these organizations. Her children were more reluctant to this proposal.

Hernandez says she's lucky to have plans for when she gets out, a lot of other inmates she's with don't, but she said that she doesn't know for sure when she'll be able to leave.

Parker was helping her youngest daughter drink some hot chocolate while her middle daughter was looking for more apple juice. Though she'd only been around her children for a few minutes, she was fully back into mom-mode.

"That's how they are all the time," said Parker, while her oldest daughter took her mother's hand and admired her nails. "If you stop biting them, you'll have some too."

Parker is expecting to be released on April 13. She says it's almost here, but it can't come fast enough.

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Saturday, Dec 13th | 10am - 5pm
Sunday, Dec 14th | Noon - 5pm

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OPINION

Make a Plan, Talk About It

Here is help in keeping impaired drivers off the roads.

The holiday party season is upon us, and with it an increase in drinking and driving. It's up to you to make a plan to get home safely.

Plan to bring a designated driver. Plan to take public transportation. Plan to celebrate at home or someplace where you can spend the night. Plan to abstain.

And if all of that fails, the Washington Regional Alcohol Project has a safety net for you.

WRAP, a local nonprofit organization, will offer free cab rides to would-be drunk drivers throughout Northern Virginia during the winter holidays.

More than 10,000 people died in drunk driving related accidents in 2012, including more than 200 in Virginia and 160 in Maryland. Tens

of thousands more were injured. Holidays lead to an increase in impaired driving, the Christmas and New Year season in particular.

The annual Holiday SoberRide program will operate nightly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. starting Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, and continuing until Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk, holiday period.

During these times, area residents celebrating with alcohol can call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home. Callers will be responsible for fare amounts over \$30.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided more than 61,000 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

We know that many young people over 21 are living at home with parents, or will be visiting for the holidays. Parents, be brave. Have a conversation with your children whether they are under or over 21. Be sure those over 21 have a plan, and are equipped with the

SoberRide number.

SoberRide is not available for underage drinkers, but parents still should talk to their children about their plans, and tell them out loud that you expect them not to drive impaired and not to get into a car with an impaired driver.

Tell them to call you, and you'll come get them if necessary. The news has been full of teachable moments about the consequences and vulnerabilities of drinking to excess, drinking and driving and beyond. Don't let the opportunity to talk about it pass you by.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

HOLIDAY GIVING

Clothing Drive. Runs through Dec. 12 at Rosslyn BID, 1911 N. Fort Myer Drive. Donate new or gently used warm clothing for Arlington Street People's Assistance Network. Visit www.rosslynva.org/do/holiday-clothing-drive for more.

HOLIDAY SAFETY

Free Cab Rides. 10 p.m.-6 a.m. daily, Friday, Dec. 12-Thursday, Jan. 1. Washington-metropolitan area

residents celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home. Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 61,002 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area. Visit www.soberide.com.

APPLICANTS NEEDED

Arlington Commission on Long-Term Care Residences needs advocates who work or live in Arlington. The Commission is currently seeking prospective commission members and volunteers willing to serve as liaisons to long-term care residences. For more information or an application, go to

the Commission on Long-Term Care Residence's website: commissions.arlingtonva.us/ltrcr/, or contact the Agency on Aging 703-228-1700, via TTY (703) 228-1788, or via e-mail ArlAAA@arlingtonva.us.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 10

Community Forum. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria, 1301 N. Stafford St., Arlington. County Manager Barbara Donnellan and Superintendent Dr. Pat Murphy invite the public to a joint forum on strategies for balancing their Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 budgets. They are seeking community input as they work to balance their proposed budgets to be presented to the Arlington County Board and School Board,

respectively, in February 2015. Visit www.arlingtonva.us for more.

Monthly Dinner Meeting. 7 p.m. Marymount University, 2807 North Glebe Road. The meeting will educate attendees about the Task Force Report and what the future of housing in Arlington might be. Visit www.arlingtoncommitteeof100.org for more.

THURSDAY/DEC. 11

16th Annual James B. Hunter Human Rights Award. 7-9 p.m. County Board Room, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Recipients will be honored with the award for human rights achievements. Call 703-228-3929 or 703-228-4611 (TTY) for more.

Bringing History Alive. 7 p.m. at Arlington Central Library Auditorium, 1015 N. Quincy St. The Arlington Historical Society will host Cathy Bonneville Hix, social studies supervisor, who will present "Bringing History Alive: Teaching Social Studies in Arlington Public Schools." Call 703-228-5990 for more.

FRIDAY/DEC. 12

Healthy Aging Lecture Series. 11 a.m.-noon at 601 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. What You Should Know About Joint Replacement with Niamia Roland, CPAN. An orthopedic joint procedure is designed to help regain mobility and return to activities of daily living (work, exercise, running errands, etc). Knowing what to expect before, during and after surgery will provide the best possible outcome. Free. Call 703-558-6859 to RSVP.

Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. 11:30 a.m. at Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 South Orme St. Senior Vice President of the Boeing Company Timothy Keating will give the keynote address. Call 703-525-2400 or visit communications@arlingtonchamber.org for more.

Parents Night Out. 6-10 p.m. at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 16th St. Children will enjoy an evening of games, art and fun. Call 703-228-0935 for more.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL MCMORROW/THE CONNECTION

Snapshot

Ready for Santa at 1713 N. Quebec St.

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Celebrating Richard Thompson

FROM PAGE 3

ing him this spring and saw a draft of his new book with his self-portrait showing him as a newly hatched chick. It got me thinking about his view from inside of the egg, his endless hours staring at a blank sheet of paper, his self-imposed confinement in his basement studio and the constraints of Parkinson's."

Hemmendinger said it has always surprised him that Thompson was extremely well known within the comic strip community but not as much to the general public.

After the film, the book's editors Galifinakis and Apatoff took the stage with Cavna. They were later joined by Mike Rhode and Chris Sparks, two of the book's other editors. Bill Watterson, cartoonist most well-known for his comic strip Calvin and Hobbes, was the book's fifth editor but was unable to attend the panel.

The four editors at the panel discussed the days spent at Thompson's home pouring over his collection of artwork. According to Galifinakis, at the end of the "rough cut" stage of the project, they were still at 20,000 pages. The editors had to sort between what they considered great, brilliant, and genius.

For Apatoff, Thompson's process was one of the most impressive aspects of his work. When going through his body of work, Apatoff said they'd find

dozens of sketches and drafts for a single caricature, each with barely discernable differences.

"There's no software, there's no corporate funding involved," said Apatoff. "What you have is one gentle guy who sits alone at his drawing board and uses very ancient tools."

Eileen McGervey, founder and owner of One More Page Books in Arlington, said her first experience with Thompson was when she nervously approached him about doing a signing at her store.

"When I first got ready to open the bookstore, someone gave me Richard [Thompson]'s contact information," said McGervey. "I hesitantly reached out to him about coming to our store and doing an event. To my surprise, he very graciously agreed, and that's when I realized how very cool it was to own a bookstore."

McGervey said that when Thompson came to her store, they had to move the furniture out onto the sidewalk to fit the customers into their store.

"When I think of Richard, I don't think of Richard the artist," said Galifinakis, looking right at Thompson sitting in the front row. "He's the guy who was swinging on the pole on the subway with a big smile on his face when I asked him to stand with me at my wedding. He's the guy who I was sitting in the waiting room with when [my] first child was about to be born."

"What you have is one gentle guy who sits alone at his drawing board and uses very ancient tools."

— David Apatoff



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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

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HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays...	12/10/14
Hanukkah begins December 16.	
★Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II..	12/16/14
A+ Camps & Schools.....	12/16/14
CHILDREN'S CONNECTION.....	12/24/14

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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARKET COMMON CLARENDON

Santa will arrive on an Arlington County fire truck for free photos and visits with children in the gazebo at Market Common Clarendon's Winter Wonderland.

Winter Wonderland

Find holiday fun Saturday, Dec. 13 from 12-3 p.m. at Market Common Clarendon, 2700 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington. At noon, Santa will arrive on an Arlington County fire truck for visits and free photos with children. All are invited to enjoy the season's cheer with family fun and entertainment including the making of flying-reindeer magic dust, seeing characters in a life-size snow globe, ice carvings, music, samplings, and surprises. New, unwrapped toys and donations will be collected for the annual U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. Call 703-476-9377 or visit www.marketcommonclarendon.com.



At Market Common Clarendon this Saturday, Dec. 13, the U.S. Marine Corps will be accepting donations and new, unwrapped Toys for Tots at Winter Wonderland, noon-3 p.m.

At Winter Wonderland at Market Common Clarendon this Saturday, children can make their own Magic Flying Dust to attract reindeer on Christmas Eve.



CALENDAR

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Fall SOLOS. Through Saturday, Dec. 20, artists from across the Mid-Atlantic region are selected for solo exhibitions to take place in one of AAC's seven separate gallery spaces, or outside on the grounds. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org/solos/ apply for more.

Gothic Adaption of Beauty and the Beast. Through Jan. 4, 2015; Wednesday-Saturday 8 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m., excluding Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Synetic Theater, 1800 South Bell Street, Arlington. Based on the classic fairytale. Tickets: \$35 and up. Student tickets start at \$20. Senior citizens and military receive \$5 off. Group discounts are available. Visit www.synetictheater.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Runs through Jan. 5. at Cherrydale Branch Library, 2190 Military Road. "We Are Arlington," an exhibit of vintage photographs and memorabilia. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, 1-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5p.m. Call 703-228-6330 for more.

"Floating, Flying and Racing." 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays only, at the Arlington Historical Museum, 1805 South Arlington Ridge Road. The Arlington Historical Society celebrates the holidays with a new temporary exhibit every year. For the 2014 holiday a collection of more than two dozen toys and models antique toys is on display until Jan. 18. Visit www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

Family and Teen Skate Nights. Through March 28 at The Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 300 N. Park Drive. The evenings start with

Family Skating from 6:30-9 p.m. and close with Teen Nights from 9-10:45 p.m., for middle and high school students. \$2 per person/\$3 skate rental. Visit parks.arlingtonva.us/kids-events/roller-skating-nights-skate-parties-thomas-jefferson for more.

LGBT & Straight Friends Social. Tuesdays. Happy Hour, 3 p.m.-7 p.m.; Mikey's "Bar A" Video Wall, 7 p.m.; start time at 8 p.m. IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. IOTA Club & Cafe has designated every Tuesday LGBT & Straight Friends Social Night for those 21 years and older. Free. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com/ for more information.

Open Mic Comedy. Wednesdays 8-10 p.m. at Ri Ra Irish Pub, 2915 Wilson Blvd. Doors open at 7 p.m. 21 and up only. Free show, \$25 cash prize for best joke. Call 703-248-9888 or visit www.RiRa.com/Arlington for more.

Invasive Plants Removal. Work parties are held every month to keep the parks free of destructive invasive plants. Teens, adults and families welcome. Every second Sunday of the month 2-4:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road; call 703-228-3403. Every third Sunday of the month 2-5 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road; call 703-228-6535 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us. Free, no registration required.

Comedy. Every Saturday at 3 p.m. at Comedy Spot, in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd., children can enjoy ComedySportz for Kidz. \$10. Visit www.comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy. Every Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. is ComedySportz ("clean") and at 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday is the Blue Show ("adult"), both at Comedy Spot, in Ballston Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd. \$15 each. Visit www.comedyindc.com or 703-294-LAFF.

Poetry Series. 6-8 p.m. second Sunday of the month at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Hosted by poet Miles David Moore. Featured artists

share their poetry followed by open readings. Free. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Open Mic Nite. 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. every Wednesday at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Sign-up times are 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Bring instruments, fans and friends. Featured musicians perform from 9:30-10 p.m. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Karaoke. 8 p.m. on the first Sunday every month at Galaxy Hut, 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-8646.

Pub Quiz. 8 p.m. every Sunday at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Prizes for first place. Free. Visit www.whitlows.com or call 703-276-9693.

Storytime. Mondays and Fridays, 10:30-11:00 a.m. at Kinder Haus Toys, 1220 N. Fillmore St. Storytime with Ms. Laura. Call 703-527-5929.

Lego Club. Monthly on the first Wednesday. 4-5 p.m. Glencarlyn Branch Library, 300 South Kensington St. The library provides tubs of legos and a special challenge and after the program the creations are displayed for everyone to see. No registration required. Call 703-228-6548 for more.

Family Nights. 7-9 p.m. on the first Friday of the month at Arlington Mill Community Center. E-mail DPR-YouthandFamily@arlingtonva.us. or call Emily Thrasher at 703-228-4773 for more.

CAMPS, 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.

Synetic Theater. Synetic Studio, 2155

Crystal City Plaza Arcade T-19, Arlington. Synetic offers an introduction to the world of physical theater, acting and dance through energetic and athletic feats that inspire students to creativity. Classes include programs for elementary, middle and high school students, as well as adults. Discounted packages and payment plans are available. Visit www.synetictheater.org/studio or call 703-824-8060.

Class registration is now open at **Arlington Arts Center**, 3550 Wilson Blvd. This fall Arlington Arts Center is offering after school classes for children, weekend sessions for teens and evening classes for adults — not to mention special workshops like Day of the Dead, Art's Cool! Art School and Gift Mania. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

❖ **Saturday/Dec. 13:** Gift Mania — weekend workshop by age group: 4-6, 7-10 and 11-14

TUESDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 9-14

Citrus Sale. Runs through Sunday, Dec. 14. The Lions of Arlington Northwest will be selling fresh Florida citrus, Georgia pecans and Vermont Maple Syrup at the Overlee Main Pool Pump House, 6030 Lee Highway, Arlington. The table will be open Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 703-528-1130 for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 10

Book Club Meeting. 5 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. The teen book group will discuss "Let It Show" by John Green, Maureen Johnson and Lauren Myracle. Call 703-300-9746 or visit onemorepagebooks.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 12

Holiday PhoneGrams. Place an order

for a holiday phonegram to be delivered by a Potomac Harmony Chorus quartet 7-9 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 16 or Thursday, Dec. 18. Six holiday songs to choose from. \$5. Call 703-764-3896 by Friday, Dec. 12 to order. Visit www.potomacharmony.org for more.

Book Club Meeting. 11 a.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. The daytime book group will discuss "Flight Behavior" by Barbara Kingsolver. Call 703-300-9746 or visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for more.

Upcycling Pinecones. 4-5 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Learn different things to do with pinecones over the holiday season. Registration is \$5. Call 703-228-6535 for more.

Book Signing. 7 p.m. at the Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Andy Ankovitz, an Arlington resident, will be signing copies of his book, "The Middle East At Street Level View." Call 703-768-6700 for more.

FRIDAY-TUESDAY/DEC. 12-23

Holiday Follies. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. The fun begins with a new spin on the seasonal revue Holiday Follies. The series, now in its fifth season, will feature performers Gannon O'Brien (Miss Saigon, Gypsy), Stephen Gregory Smith (Elmer Gantry, Hairspray), Delores King Williams (Show Boat) and Bayla Whitten (Elmer Gantry, Chess) under the direction of Walter Ware III with musical direction by Howard Breitbart. With a "Choose Your Own Adventure" spin to the festivities, the cabaret set list is built to change from night to night with the help of the audience. Show times vary. Visit www.signature-theatre.org for more.

❖ Friday/Dec. 12 at 8 p.m.
❖ Saturday/Dec. 13 at 2 and 8 p.m.
❖ Sunday/Dec. 14 at 2 and 7 p.m.
❖ Tuesday/Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m.
❖ Wednesday/Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m.
❖ Thursday/Dec. 18 at 8 p.m.

- ❖ Friday/Dec. 19 at 8 p.m.
- ❖ Saturday/Dec. 20 at 2 and 8 p.m.
- ❖ Sunday/Dec. 21 at 2 and 7 p.m.
- ❖ Monday/Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Tuesday/Dec. 23 at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY/DEC. 13

Winter Wonderland. Noon-3 p.m. at Market Common Clarendon, 2700 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington. At noon, Santa will arrive on an Arlington County fire truck for visits and free photos with children. Enjoy the season's cheer with family fun and entertainment including the making of flying-reindeer magic dust, seeing characters in a life-size snow globe, ice carvings, music, samplings and surprises. New, unwrapped toys and donations will be collected for the annual US Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. Call 703-476-9377 or visit www.marketcommonclarendon.com for more.

Holiday Workshop. 12:30-3 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Students will have the chance to create handmade gifts for loved ones. Call 703-248-6800 for more.

Fall Solos Gallery Talk. 1-4 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Enjoy an artist talk and reception for the 2014 Fall SOLOS. Tour the exhibitions with the participating artists and AAC staff. Call 703-248-6800 for more.

Free Holiday Concert. 3 p.m. at Washington-Lee High School Auditorium, 1301 N Stafford St., Arlington. More than 150 Encore Chorale singers from five Northern Virginia chorales will perform a repertoire that includes traditional favorites for Christmas and Hanukkah, as well as music that reflects holiday traditions around the world. Admission is free. Visit www.encorecreativity.org for more.

CPRO's annual Holiday Bazaar, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Columbia Pike community vendors, Arlington Career Center students, and Wakefield High School students will offer crafts, treats, and services for sale. See Arlingtonholidaybazaar.org for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 14

The Nutcracker Tea. 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City, 1250 S Hayes St. Guests will receive a framed picture of themselves with the Sugar Plum Fairy, afternoon tea, coloring crafts and the chance to win a raffle prize. Tickets are \$68. Visit www.BalletNova.org for more.

Visit from Santa. 1-4 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 N Marcey Road. Come visit Santa during his only visit to Potomac Overlook this year. Visit www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook for more.

Book Club Meeting. 3 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. The mother-daughter book club will discuss "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. Call 703-300-9746 or visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Sing-Along. 4 p.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 125 South Old Glebe Road, Arlington. Potomac Harmony Chorus will present "Holiday Joy: Music and Memories," its annual holiday concert and sing-along. Free. Voluntary donations will be accepted to benefit Casa Chirilagua (casachirilagua.org). Visit www.potomacharmony.org for more.

Annual Holiday Concert. 4:30 p.m. Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre at Artisphere, 1611 N. Kent St. This show brings classical masterpieces and holiday classics together in one program for the whole family. Visit www.NationalChamberEnsemble.org or call 888-841-2787 for more.

FOOD & DRINK

Clarendon Farmers Market. Year-round, has locally produced breads and pastries, organic vegetables, flowers, soap, sorbet and more. Saturdays and Sundays, 8 a.m.-noon at Courthouse Parking Lot, 3195 North Wilson Blvd. 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 9 a.m.-noon. Visit www.arlingtonfarmersmarket.com for a list of vendors.

Arlington Mill Community Center Plaza. Wednesday, 3-7 p.m. at 909 S Dinwiddie St., Arlington. A new farmers market will be open weekly. Visit www.columbia-pike.org/events/?event=1049 for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 15

Holiday Cabaret. 8 p.m. at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Enjoy Christmas tunes from Barbra Streisand, Joan Rivers, Liza Minnelli, Julie Andrews and Patti LuPone. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.signaturetheatre.org for more.

TUESDAY/DEC. 16

Book Club Meeting. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. The mystery and suspense book club will discuss "Gorky Park" by Martin Cruz Smith. Call 703-300-9746 or visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 17

Holiday Show. 8 p.m. at Ballston Common Mall, 4328 Wilson Blvd, Arlington. Take a break holiday shopping and enjoy Potomac Harmony Chorus singing songs of the season under the tree at the Ballston Food Court. Free. Visit www.potomacharmony.org for more.

FRIDAY/DEC. 19

Science and the Christmas Star. 6:30 p.m. The Friends of the Planetarium offers a screening of "An Astronomer Looks for the Christmas Star." All ages. The digital show will be followed by Q&A with Dr. Alice Monet, president of the Friends of the Planetarium, and Planetarium Director Jonathan Harmon. \$2 for children (up to age 12), \$2 for Seniors (60+), and \$3 for teens and adults. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org.

Screening of Season of Light. 7:30 p.m. One of the most popular shows at the David M. Brown Planetarium, Season of Light is an annual holiday program about the coldest and darkest of seasons — a time which holds some of the warmest and brightest celebrations of the year. This multicultural presentation traces the history and development of many of the world's most endearing holiday customs, all of which involve lighting up the winter season. \$2 for children (up to age 12), \$2 for Seniors (60+), and \$3 for teens and adults. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org.

SATURDAY/DEC. 20

Christmas Bird Count. 7:30 a.m. at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 N Marcey Road. Come walk all the trails of the park to survey what birds are hunkering down for the winter at Potomac Overlook. Visit www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook for more.

Turtles in Winter. 10-11 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Learn about how Arlington's aquatic and box turtle adapt to winter and sketch. Registration is \$5. 703-228-6535.

Ready for Winter. 10:30 a.m. at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 N Marcey Road. Learn the secrets of how many of our local animals prepare for and survive the

winter. Visit www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook for more.

Science and the Christmas Star.

The Friends of the Planetarium offers a screening of "An Astronomer Looks for the Christmas Star." All ages. The digital show will be followed by Q&A with Dr. Alice Monet, president of the Friends of the Planetarium, and Planetarium Director Jonathan Harmon. \$2 for children (up to age 12), \$2 for Seniors (60+), and \$3 for teens and adults. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org.

Childrens Choir Concert. 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4250 N Glebe Road, Arlington. The 25th Anniversary Holiday Concert will feature international carols, Hanukkah and New Year songs from around the world. Visit www.worldchildrenschoir.org.

Screening of Season of Light. 7:30 p.m. One of the most popular shows at the David M. Brown Planetarium, Season of Light is an annual holiday program about the coldest and darkest of seasons — a time which holds some of the warmest and brightest celebrations of the year. This multicultural presentation traces the history and development of many of the world's most endearing holiday customs, all of which involve lighting up the winter season. \$2 for children (up to age 12), \$2 for Seniors (60+), and \$3 for teens and adults. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 21

Winter Solstice Hike. 3-4:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Enjoy a hike on the shortest day of the year. Registration is \$5. Call 703-228-6535 for more.

Flying Squirrel Workshop. 5-6 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Learn about flying squirrels and their habits. Registration is \$5. Call 703-228-6535 for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 22

Book Club Meeting. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. The holistic health and wellness book group will chat about "How Yoga Works" by Gesne Michael Roach. Call 703-300-9746 or visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

TUESDAY/DEC. 23

Book Club Meeting. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. The spirituality book club will discuss "Ties that Bind: Stories of Love and Gratitude from the First Ten Years of Storycorps" by Dave Isay. Call 703-300-9746 or visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

Winter Hike. 10-11 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Enjoy a winter hike discovering what is outside in nature during the season. Registration is \$5. 703-228-6535.



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Winter Wonderland

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DINING Baja Fresh, The Cheesecake Factory, Fuego Cocina y Tequileria, IOTA Club & Café, La Tasca, Nicecream Factory, ZAIKA

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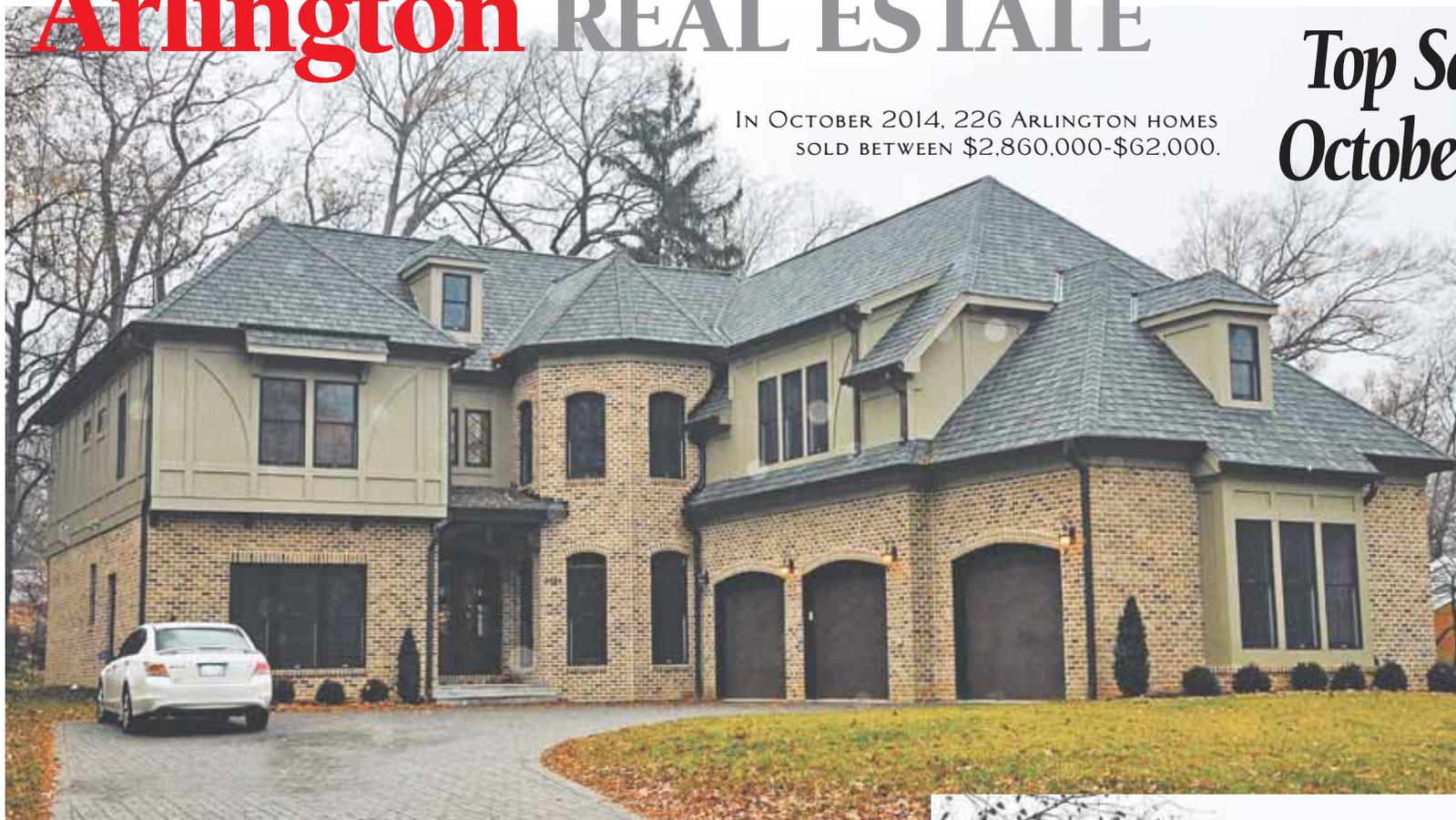
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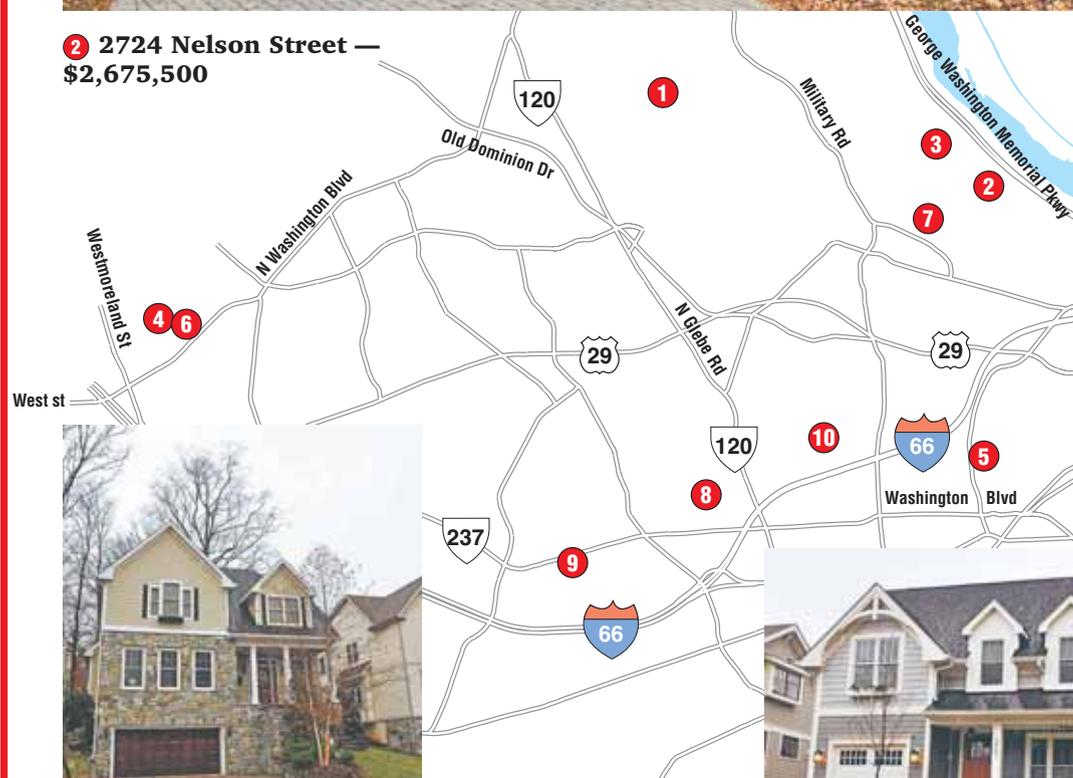
PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE CONNECTION

Top Sales in October, 2014

IN OCTOBER 2014, 226 ARLINGTON HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,860,000-\$62,000.



2 2724 Nelson Street — \$2,675,500



5 1504 Johnson Street North — \$1,800,000



9 1163 Ivanhoe Street North — \$1,440,000



8 1507 Buchanan Street North — \$1,455,000



7 3812 25th Street North — \$1,460,000



10 1601 Tatlor Street North — \$1,425,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold	
1	4502	32ND	RD	N	ARLINGTON	\$2,860,000	Detached	0.33	22207	COUNTRY CLUB HILLS	10/22/14	
2	2724	NELSON	ST	ARLINGTON	\$2,675,500	Detached	0.55	22207		RIVERWOOD	10/30/14	
3	2753	QUEBEC	ST	N	ARLINGTON	\$2,000,000	Detached	0.28	22207		DOVER	10/31/14
4	6620	32ND	ST	N	ARLINGTON	\$1,825,558	Detached	0.25	22213		BERSHIRE OAKWOOD	10/30/14
5	1504	JOHNSON	ST	N	ARLINGTON	\$1,800,000	Detached	0.18	22201		LYON VILLAGE	10/28/14
6	3011	TRINIDAD	ST	ARLINGTON	\$1,750,000	Detached	0.31	22213		OAKWOOD	10/27/14	
7	3812	25TH	ST	N	ARLINGTON	\$1,460,000	Detached	0.19	22207		CRYSTAL SPRING KNOLLS	10/31/14
8	1507	BUCHANAN	ST	N	ARLINGTON	\$1,455,000	Detached	0.14	22205		WAYCROFT WOODLAWN	10/22/14
9	1163	IVANHOE	ST	N	ARLINGTON	\$1,440,000	Detached	0.15	22205		LACEY FOREST	10/31/14
10	1601	TAYLOR	ST	N	ARLINGTON	\$1,425,000	Detached	0.14	22207		WAVERLY HILLS	10/24/14

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Gifts for the Home

Local shop owners offer suggestions to make holiday shopping easier.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

While holiday shopping is part of the spirit of the season, for some choosing a present for everyone on their list can be overwhelming. Local small business owners come to the rescue with gift ideas for the home.

Give the gift that keeps on burning long after the holidays. Autumn Clayton, owner of Covet, a boutique in Arlington that specializes in local and handmade gifts, recommends hand-poured, soy candles by Sydney Hale in Purcellville, Va. Among the exotic fragrances are tobacco sandalwood and fir and blue sage.

"They are 100-percent soy and we carry a wide variety of scents," said Clayton. "10-percent of the sales from these candles benefit Lost Dog Rescue."

"The nice thing about these fragrances is that they smell great, but they're not overpowering," added Covet's Ximena Bryce.

At \$30 each, the candles have 50-hours of burn time and come in a glass that can be re-used for drinking when the candle is gone.

For the cook, Clayton also recommends hand-stitched kitchen towels by Nesta Home. "They make great hostess gifts and last longer than a bottle of wine," she said. "No one wants to come to a party empty-handed. You can even wrap a bottle of wine in the towel." The towels are \$14 each.

Wreaths with a nod to nature are among the top picks of Lauren Gregory of JT Interiors in Potomac, Md. "They will dry and turn brown and are made in such away that they can be stored and pulled out again next year," said Gregory.

They range in price from \$60 to \$185 and come in natural materials like pine cones, cinnamon sticks



Hand-poured, soy candles by Sydney Hale in Purcellville, Va., in fragrances like tobacco-sandalwood and fir and blue sage are available at Covet in Arlington.

and magnolia leaves.

Gregory also recommends electric hurricane lamps, which come on a strand and are priced at \$103 for a 90-inch strand, and prayer bowls. "They are made by a woman who survived cancer and had a family who was praying for her kept their prayer intentions in a bowl," she said. "When the woman found out about it she was touched. The prayer bowls make a great gift because they tell the story behind them."

Limited edition ornaments by Mark Roberts are the choice of John Brown of J Brown and Company in Old Town Alexandria. "They're beautiful and they're all jeweled and come in colors like red, green white and robin's egg blue" said Brown. Handcrafted with an old-fashioned flair and embellished with crystals, the figurine-ornaments are a collector's item.

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Tham-Led Warriors Blast Titans in Season Opener

Wakefield no longer intimidated by T.C. Williams.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The previous two seasons were filled with accomplishments for the Wakefield boys' basketball program.

The Warriors won National District and Conference 13 championships. They appeared in a pair of region finals, winning the 5A North title in 2014, and played in two state tournaments.

Wakefield's motto for this season: "One thing left."

"We've got a district championship, we've got a regional championship," head coach Tony Bentley said Friday night. "We're missing that state [title]. Our goal and our mindset is 'one thing left.'"

The 2014-15 VHSL 5A state championship game is still three months away. On Friday, Wakefield opened the season with a convincing victory and another notable accomplishment.

The Warriors traveled down the road to Alexandria and thumped T.C. Williams 74-46 in the annual Parker-Gray/Hoffman-Boston game on Dec. 5 in "The Garden." The Titans (Parker-Gray) and Warriors (Hoffman-Boston) wore throwback jerseys honoring historically black schools in Alexandria and Arlington.

Wakefield had won its previous two meetings with T.C. Williams, but Friday's victory was the first time the Warriors won on the Titans' home court since 1996.

"Coming over here [and] winning in Alexandria against T.C. Williams [is big]," Bentley said. "Whether they're down, up, it doesn't matter, that's still a good T.C. program, so for us to get that win, it's just going to propel us to the next games."

Bentley in previous years said his teams were intimidated when facing T.C. Williams, a perennial power in the region before struggling of late. The Wakefield coach said experience has helped his players get over the fear of facing the Titans in "The Garden."

"You've got to understand, we've got experience now," Bentley said. "... They just said we're not going to come over here and be scared. We've got a gym just like this at Wakefield now, so we're not afraid of the gym anymore."

Senior forward Dominique Tham, the 2014 5A North region Player of the Year, spearheaded Wakefield's dominant performance, totaling 25 points and 22 rebounds. When Tham was a sophomore, Wakefield lost at T.C. Williams during the regular season, but the Warriors defeated the Titans in Arlington in the opening round of the regional tournament. Last year, Wakefield hosted T.C. Williams during the regular sea-



Wakefield senior Dominique Tham scored 25 points and grabbed 22 rebounds during the Warriors' Dec. 5 victory over T.C. Williams.



Wakefield senior Marqua Walton leaps for the ball during the Warriors' season-opening victory over T.C. Williams on Dec. 5.

son and won, 56-51.

"I feel like I've grown up, so I'm not intimidated by anybody," Tham said. "I'm not scared of anybody. I'll go up against anybody. Throughout the years, I've gotten more mature."

Bentley said Tham is at his best when he's having fun on the floor.

"When he's smiling and having fun — it's not arrogance, he's just out there having fun," Bentley said. "Oh my God. Just watching him play. He's special, man. He's special."

"When Domo has a smile on his face," teammate Marqua Walton said, "he's the best person on the court."

Walton, a senior sharpshooter, finished with 14 points for Wakefield, including a trio of 3-pointers. Sophomore point guard Alan Treakle, a transfer from West Potomac making his first start for the Warriors, finished with 10 points.

"He fits in well with us," Bentley said of Treakle. "He can fit in on any team. He's tough, he gets to the hole with the best of them and he's a great teammate to these guys. Last year, he probably had to do some scoring. He doesn't have to score as much here. He can just run the offense for us. He's a great fit for us."

Jordan Jones led T.C. Williams with 13



Wakefield boys' basketball coach Tony Bentley talks to the Warriors during their 74-46 win over T.C. Williams on Dec. 5.

points and Tavaris James finished with 11.

"I feel like we got out-worked," Jones said. "We need to work harder in practice and be confident on ourselves."

T.C. Williams, led by new head coach Bryan Hill, will travel to face West Springfield at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 12. Wakefield faced Eastern High School in

Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Warriors will host Stuart at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 12.

"We're not going to take any game light, because we have a target on our back," Tham said, "but we're going to have some confidence going into our next game on Tuesday."

Police Investigate Two Deaths

The Arlington County Police Department's Robbery/Homicide Unit is investigating the suspicious deaths of two Arlington County residents.

At 3:57 p.m., Dec. 8, Arlington County Police received a "check on the welfare" call for a resident who resides in the 1200 block of N. Kensington Street. Responding officers were able to gain entry into the locked apartment utilizing a key. The bodies of two victims, a 29-year old male and a 31-year old female, were discovered inside. Detectives and crime scene technicians are conducting the ongoing investigation.

According to police, there does not appear to be an immediate threat to the community.

Whipple Named to State Board

Gov. Terry McAuliffe has appointed former state Sen. Mary Margaret Whipple to the Virginia Board of Health. Whipple is currently employed as the regional director for community and member outreach for the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association. Whipple will fill the seat vacated by Eric Deaton, who resigned his seat on the board to take a position outside of Virginia.

Whipple represented the 31st District in the Virginia State Senate from 1996 until her retirement in 2012. She chaired the Senate Rules Committee and, as chair of the Senate Democratic Caucus, was the first woman to hold a leadership position in the Virginia General Assembly. In the Senate she served on several standing committees, including the Finance committee, as well as legislative commissions including the Virginia Housing Commission. While in the Senate, she was both a member and chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Committee on the Environment. As a member of the Arlington County Board (1983-1995), she worked on transportation issues and served on the WMATA board of directors. A former instructor at Northern Virginia Community College, Whipple was appointed to the Arlington County School Board in 1976, and was chair in 1978. She is currently president of the Alliance for Housing Solutions; vice chair of the Virginia Women's Monument Commission and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Arlington Community Foundation.

Park Supporters Submit Petition

Friends of Thomas Jefferson Park has collected 2,330 signatures in a three-month petition drive from citizens who visited its information tables at events, viewed its web site at www.savetjpark.org, and met directly with petition supporters, including 1,575 signatures from Arlington residents.

"We collected these petition signatures one-by-one, house-to-house, without going to churches and senior-citizen centers," said Jay Jacob Wind, Friends of TJ Park secretary and curator of the petition. The petition said: "Save Thomas Jefferson Park: We, the undersigned residents of Arlington and others, oppose any action by Arlington County Board or Arlington School Board that would reduce the parklands at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, including green space and sports facilities. Note: The parklands are the north and east parts of Arlington County parcel 24011037 and all of parcels 24011028 and 24011029."

The group released the full list of signatures to Arlington County Board and Arlington School Board on Sunday, Dec. 7.

Ameriprise Addresses Hunger

Ameriprise Financial advisors, employees and clients recently came together to help ensure Arlington area families have nutritious meals to share this holiday season. Organized by Matthew Felber and Marie Isabel Laurion of Ameriprise Financial in Vienna, 11 people volunteered at the Arlington Food Assistance Center to stock food shelves, repackage bulk food items and assemble holiday meal packages. This effort was centered around helping the one-in-six Americans who struggle with hunger. The event was part of an annual national day of service organized by Ameriprise in partnership with Feeding America, an anti-hunger organization.



Honoring Leaders

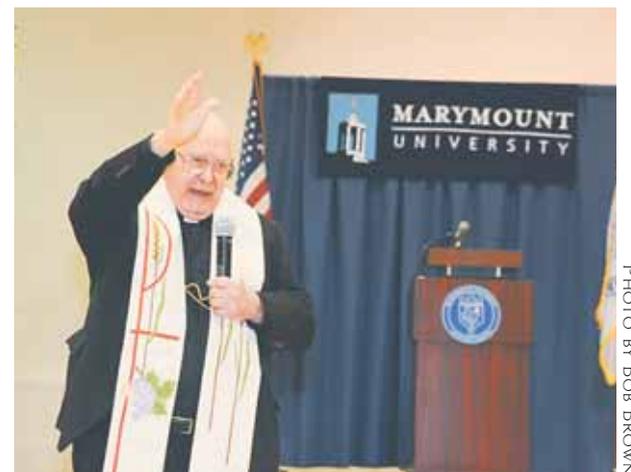
At a sold out event with almost 300 people in attendance, Leadership Arlington held its first annual 40 Under 40 at Army Navy Country Club on Dec. 4 recognizing 40 emerging leaders under the age of 40 who demonstrated impact personally and/or professionally through their leadership in the D.C. metropolitan region. The honorees included Salim Adofo, National Black United Front; Nyambo Anuluoha, Arlington Community Federal Credit Union; John Ayers, REDLattice Incorporated; Mike Barnes, YHR Restaurant Group & BluePrint IT Solutions; Cindy Benavides, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC); Katherine Bianco, DC Modern Luxury Magazine; Scott Brodbeck, Local News Now LLC; Ginger Brown, Arlington County Planning Commission; Billy Buck, Buck & Associates, Inc.; Nadia Conyers, Arlington Employment Center, Arlington County Government; Jeffrey DiLisi, Virginia Hospital Center; Laura Gamse, Daydream Reels; Erika Gleckel, Deloitte Consulting, LLP; Scott Gold, IBC, a DBS Company; Nick Gregorios, Avison Young; Chris Hamm, U.S. General Services Administration FEDSIM; Julia Hamm, Solar Electric Power Association; Sarah Hillware, Girls Health Ed & Cumulus Media; Paul Holland, Marstel-Day LLC; Jennifer Hovis, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Melissa Impastato, Clark Construction Group LLC; Krysta Jones, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran/US House of Representatives; Elizabeth Jones Valderrama, Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR); Kim Klingler, American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO); Matthew Kulkin, Squire Patton Boggs LLP; Dania Matos, Latinas Leading Tomorrow; Ann McCarty, Arlington County Public Schools; Ron Novak, Segue Technologies, Inc.; Joseph Petty, Crystal City Business Improvement District; Mike Richardson, Chain Bridge Bank; Kate Roche, Arlington Chamber of Commerce; Andrew Schneider, The College of William & Mary - Raymond A. Mason School of Business; Kelly Shooshan, The Shooshan Company; Marcio Silveira, Pavlov Financial Planning; Terron Sims, II, District Equity, LLC; Paul Singh, Disruption Corporation; Elaine Turville, Accenture; Andy VanHorn, The JBG Companies; Kedrick Whitmore, Venable LLP; and Steven Yates, Opower. Visit www.leadershiparlington.org.

Marymount Packages 10,000 Meals

Seventy Marymount University students and staff members packaged 10,000 meals to be sent to the impoverished West African nation of Burkina Faso on Nov. 18. The event, called Helping Hands, was a collaboration between Catholic Relief Services of the Arlington Diocese and the organization Stop Hunger Now.

Nickie Sene of Catholic Relief Services shared her firsthand experiences of working in the landlocked nation that is considered the third poorest in the world.

Marymount President Matthew D. Shank addressed the volunteers and Arlington Bishop Paul S. Loverde blessed the food before it was shipped. Each sealed, airtight package will provide a family of six a meal that consists of dehydrated vegetables, soy, rice and vitamin supplements.



Arlington Bishop Paul S. Loverde blesses the 10,000 packaged meals before they were shipped to Burkina Faso in West Africa.

PEOPLE NOTES

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

House Democratic Leader David Toscano (D-Charlottesville) has appointed Del. **Alfonso Lopez** (D-Arlington) to serve as the Campaign and Political Chair of the House Democratic Caucus for the upcoming 2015 Election cycle.

Del. **Alfonso Lopez** (D-Arlington)

has earned a 100 percent rating for his voting record during the 2014 General Assembly Session from the Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club. He was one of only six legislators in the entire General Assembly and the only legislator in Northern Virginia to receive a 100 percent or A+ score.

The Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club represents more than 15,000 members across the Commonwealth and works to build healthy, livable communities, and to conserve and restore the natural environment.

To view the full scorecard and see how each legislator voted, visit <http://vasierraclub.org/2014/11/2014->

virginia-general-assembly-scorecard/.

Each year the Arlington Gay & Lesbian Alliance (AGLA) presents two Equality Awards, one to an individual and one to an organization, in recognition of their record of working to improve LGBT equality in Arlington. This year the AGLA Board voted unanimously to honor Clerk of the Circuit Court of Arlington **Paul Ferguson** and the **Four Seasons Garden Club** with the 2014 AGLA Equality Awards. The 2014 Equality Awards were presented at AGLA's Annual Holiday Party on Dec. 9 at Freddie's Beach Bar & Restaurant in Crystal City.

"Quality of Life"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If I've heard it once – from my oncologist – I've probably heard it a dozen times over the last nearly-six years. In fact, at the very first Team Lourie meeting with him on February 27, 2009, after the initial examination, followed by a review of my previous doctor's (emergency medicine, pulmonary and thoracic) appointments and diagnostic procedures completed (two X-Rays, one CT Scan and one P.E.T. Scan), he gave us my diagnosis: "stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer," and my prognosis: "13 months to two years." After the shock wore off, he told us in no uncertain terms that he could "treat me but he couldn't cure me," and he was hardly enthusiastic or encouraging about any of what he had said. However, he perked up slightly when he suggested to me that "perhaps you should take that trip you've always dreamed of;" his first attempt at helping me find some quality in my life. Considering the context in which it was said, the suggestion fell on deaf ears and I started chemotherapy the very next week.

This concern about my life, this awareness of my life-expectancy-challenged reality has been an ongoing and recurring theme during the regular discussions Team Lourie has had with my oncologist. Whether I was feeling bad during heavy-duty chemotherapy ("we can stop or take a break anytime if it's too much?" he would ask) or feeling good ("since you're feeling so good, maybe we should stop for a while; enjoy your good quality of life"), the quality of my life away from the Infusion Center has always been a consideration. And given what he knew and I didn't, perhaps I should have listened, but I didn't.

Not that I ever felt that he had, or was, giving up on me; or that he was imposing his perspective on me/us; it was more like he was fulfilling his legal/fiduciary-type responsibility/moral obligation to educate me about choices, realities even. These conversations about life/living and death were/are always the most difficult for me. The figurative weight of it all almost becomes literal. There's nothing really that prepares you for the process. I keep thinking that someone with more experience, who's lived longer and seen more of life than I have, should be advising me. Ultimately though, decisions concerning life and death, the most personal of all decisions, really fall to the patient.

Now whether taking control and being responsible for one's own cancer fight does keep the cancer at bay, no one really knows. But after being "diseased" at such an unexpected and early age, 54 and a half, it feels good sometimes to exert some control. At this point in my survival, living is likely more about quality than it is quantity – or so I've been told, repeatedly, in a good and honest way. Nevertheless, I'm not ready to give up on the latter while embracing the former.

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

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NEWS

FBI Offers \$15,000 Reward

Series of robberies targeting pharmacies.

Chief Doug Scott, Arlington County Police Department, represents one of nine law enforcement agencies combining efforts to identify and locate a suspect responsible for multiple robberies spanning multiple jurisdictions.

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$15,000 for information that will lead to the identification, arrest and conviction of the subject in this investigation.

Investigators believe robberies occurring in the counties of Henrico, Hanover, Arlington, and Prince William; and the cities of Fredericksburg, Williamsburg, Hampton and Newport News are the work of the same individual.

The most recent robbery occurred on Nov. 17, when a black male subject entered the Rite Aid on J. Clyde Morris Boulevard in Newport News and approached the pharmacy counter demanding "oxy" from the pharmacist. The subject, covering his face with a white t-shirt, was further described as 5'8" to 5'9" with some facial hair, wearing a black zip up sweatshirt, white shirt, dark pants, black shoes and a white ball cap with a black logo and a flat bill.

On July 15, a black male subject entered the CVS located on Woodman Road in Henrico County approached the pharmacy counter with a white cloth over his face and revealed a black handgun tucked in his waistband to the attending pharmacist. The subject demanded Oxycodone pills and cash from the register before fleeing the store. The subject was described as 5'10" to 6'0", 180-200 pounds, average build, light complexion, black beard and wearing a yellow jacket and baseball hat.

On July 26, a black male subject entered the CVS located on Charter Gate Drive in Mechanicsville approached the pharmacy counter and motioned for the pharmacist. The subject, holding a white cloth over his face, displayed to the pharmacist a handgun in his waistband and demanded all of the Oxycodone pills.

In a moment of hesitation, the subject entered the work area behind the counter and systematically gathered Oxycodone and Percocet pills himself before exiting the building. The subject was described as 20-35 years of age, 5'6" to 5'8", 150-175 pounds, wearing a gray and blue shirt, blue pants, dark tennis shoes, and a white ball cap with red lettering.

On Aug. 13, a black male subject with a white cloth over his face entered the CVS located on Jefferson Davis Highway in Fredericksburg, approached the victim pharmacist and demanded the store's supply of Oxycodone while implying he had a weapon in his waistband. Again, in a moment of hesitation, the subject forced his way behind the counter into the work area and acquired the pills.

The subject also attempted to acquire Percocet and Xanax without success, but did grab cough syrup on his way out. The sub-

ject was described as approximately 25 years of age and wearing a black short sleeved t-shirt, khaki/tan knee length shorts, black high-top sneakers, and a black baseball hat with the letter "B" on it and a large sticker on the brim.

On Sept. 16, a black male subject holding a white cloth over his face entered the CVS located on Richmond Road in Williamsburg, displayed a handgun in his waistband and demanded the store's supply of Oxycodone from the pharmacist. Once the subject received the pills, he exited the store. The subject was wearing a red shirt and a red and white hat.

On Oct. 10, a black male subject entered the Rite Aid on South Joyce Street in Arlington, approached the pharmacist and asked where the Oxycodone pills were kept as he displayed a black handgun in his waistband. The subject was unsuccessful in his attempt to obtain pills and exited the store. The subject, covering his face with a white cloth, was described as 5'8", 160 pounds, wearing a black long-sleeved sweater with a small product logo on the rear neck area, dark blue jeans, dark sneakers with white trim and red laces, and a white and orange baseball hat.

Also on Oct. 10, a black male subject with a white cloth over his face entered the CVS on Touchstone Circle in Woodbridge and demanded Oxycodone pills from the pharmacist while exposing a black handgun in his waistband. The subject repositioned himself behind the counter and verbally threatened the pharmacist until he was presented with the pills and Oxycodone in liquid form. The subject was described as 20-30 years of age, 5'10", 170 pounds and wearing a black sweater and a white and red hat.

Oct. 26, a black male subject holding a white cloth over his face entered the CVS on West Mercury Boulevard in Hampton and demanded Oxycodone pills in specific doses from the pharmacist while displaying a handgun in his pocket. Once the pills were turned over, the subject exited the store. The subject was described as light-skinned, 5'7" to 6'0", 150-165 pounds, wearing black pants, a gray short-sleeved shirt with a patch on the left sleeve, and a white baseball hat.

In several of these robberies, the subject was observed leaving the premises in a light colored, possibly white or silver, Dodge Nitro SUV.

Investigators from the FBI, the Henrico County Police Division, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office, the Fredericksburg Police Department, the City of Williamsburg Police Department, the Arlington County Police Department, the Prince William County Police Department, the Hampton Police Division, and the Newport News Police Department encourage the public to contact authorities with tips that may lead to the identification and/or location of this suspect.

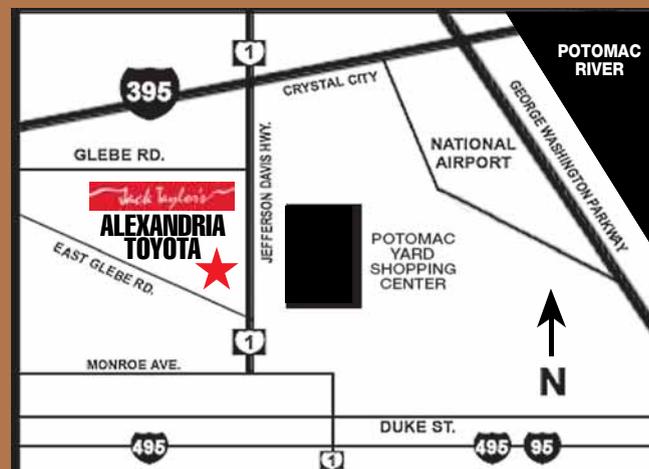
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<p>BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR \$1.00</p> <p>& GET A 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT FOR \$39.95</p> <p>PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE ON ANY OEM TIRES</p> <p><small>GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION. SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	<p>4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT \$89.95</p> <p>PREVENT UNEVEN WEAR</p> <p>Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.</p> <p>INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	<p>TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL \$139.95</p> <p>INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION</p> <p>Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month prorated. PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connections.</p> <p><small>Does not apply to hybrid batteries. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>
<p>WINTER DETAIL SPECIAL \$119.95</p> <p>Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior. Vans & SUVs add \$20.00.</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>	<p>5K, 10K, 20K, 25K, 35K MILE MINOR FACTORY RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE SERVICE \$54.95</p> <p>SYNTHETIC OIL ADDITIONAL \$10.</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	<p>BRAKE SPECIAL \$79.95 PADS</p> <p>Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.</p> <p>MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.</p> <p><small>DOES NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>
<p>OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL \$5.00 OFF</p> <p>Includes: Change oil, install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>	<p>WINTERIZATION SPECIAL \$59.95</p> <p>Includes: Drain and fill radiator with genuine Toyota anti-freeze inspect belts hoses and water pump. Lifetime anti-freeze \$10 more</p> <p><small>SOME MODELS HIGHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. GOOD THRU 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY.</small></p>	<p>DETAIL SPECIALS</p> <p>\$39.95 Wash & Vacuum</p> <p>\$139.95 Hand wash, wax & interior cleaning</p> <p>\$295.95 Full premium detail</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>
<p>15% OFF WIPER INSERTS & WIPER BLADES</p> <p><small>SOME MODELS HIGHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. GOOD THRU 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY.</small></p>	<p>WINTERIZATION SPECIAL \$59.95</p> <p>Includes: Drain and fill radiator with genuine Toyota anti-freeze inspect belts hoses and water pump. Lifetime anti-freeze \$10 more</p> <p><small>SOME MODELS HIGHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. GOOD THRU 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY.</small></p>	<p>EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR VEHICLE! BG FLUID EXCHANGE SPECIAL</p> <p>TRANSMISSION FLUSH \$189.95</p> <p>POWER STEERING FLUSH \$139.95</p> <p>BRAKE FLUSH \$139.95</p> <p>FUEL INDUCTION FLUSH \$139.95</p> <p>FOR TRANSMISSION FLUSH, TYPE T OR WS FLUID ADD \$50.00</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>
<p>WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.</small></p>	<p>NITROFILL SPECIAL \$39.95</p> <p>We will purge the tires of air and refill them with nitrogen.</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</small></p>	

Jack Taylor's **ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA / SCION**

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