

# The Arlington Connection

## Christmas Wishes

It is 75 degrees in Arlington on Sunday afternoon but Santa has kept his scheduled stop at Potomac Overlook Regional Park to get Christmas lists from children counting down the days until Christmas. Sam Miller, 6 years old, confided he wants a police LEGO set. His 3-1/2 year old sister, Campbell with her list in her hand, tells Santa her top present is "dress up" clothes for Elsa from Frozen. They inform Santa they will be in Georgia visiting their cousins. Santa says he is greatly relieved to know because he would have gone down the wrong chimney.

Jefferson Site: From  
Rejection to Approval

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Arlington House Resonates  
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Foster Families Celebrate  
Christmas Together

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# Foster Families Celebrate Christmas Together

Foster parent describes county's fostering program as "awesome."

BY EDEN BREOWN  
THE CONNECTION

They came in the door of Carlin Springs Elementary School holding hands. One "50-ish" woman and one "10-ish" girl, the latter in black patent leather shoes and a silk party dress in Christmas colors. They were chatting, like any mother and daughter out for a party. The girl's face was lit up with anticipation; the woman's face was full of patience and attention.

Patty and Tom Downie's Christmases have included foster children for four years. In that time, they have sponsored four long-term stays in their home, and seven or eight "respite stays" of short duration. They started when the last of their four children was still at home; three had gone off to college. They felt their home in Arlington had room for children and their hearts did as well. They, and their daughter Heather, who took the sponsoring course with them, were ready to start fostering when they got the first call: would they take three siblings who needed a home, that night?

"Oh my gosh!", Patty Downie remembered, "We had dinner plans ... so ... we cancelled them." The children arrived, and they thought: this is great: we are three sponsors and three children. We aren't outnumbered. But it took a while for the children to settle, and it was a learning experience. Patty Downie had forgotten how hard it was to get three children out of the house in the morning to school or how to get dinner on the table for six. How tough it was on children to adjust. Those children stayed a year. And other children stayed a year.

Now the Downies have settled into a routine where fostering is part of their lives, something they do because it needs to be done, and because they enjoy it. Patty Downie said the children are fostered for a variety of reasons, but each of them has had a rough period of time when a parent was either unable to take care of them, or sick,



Yorktown's Chamber Choir led by Roger Oliver sings Christmas carols for the foster families.

or otherwise taken out of the child's life temporarily. Although privacy is strictly protected, and Downie could not reveal information about "her kids," she said her goal is not to replace the parents, but to care for the child in a way that offers the least amount of disruption to their lives. She said she makes a point of having their current foster child call her mother every night, so the mother-daughter bond can be strong despite the separation. They love watching the families come back together again. And Heather, who has since married, will start fostering once more as soon as her husband finishes the sponsoring course, which involves 30 hours of training, done in the evening or Saturdays.

Eighty-seven children, of the 105 Arlington County has in care, attended the holiday program at the Carlin Springs Elementary School and received a gift. All other children in the program will receive their holiday gifts before next week. Many of the

## Details

Arlington County's next information session on fostering will be Saturday, Jan. 9 at 10 a.m.-noon at the Department of Human Services, 2100 Washington Blvd, Lower Level. Interested individuals can email: [openheartsopenhomes@arlingtonva.us](mailto:openheartsopenhomes@arlingtonva.us) or call 703-228-1559 for more information. See also [www.arlingtonva.us/fostercare](http://www.arlingtonva.us/fostercare)

children came with birth parents, many came with foster parents, and some came with both. Some would be reunited with their parents for the holidays. They received lunch and entertainment, in addition to gifts, and spent the time decorating plates or coloring.

Erica Serrano, the resource parent recruiter for Arlington's Child and Family Services' foster family program, said she is always looking for help with foster children, whether to donate time or gifts, or to lo-

cate people who can parent for the short or long term.

Pattie Downie says she started doing this because her dad was raised in foster care. It means a lot to her to give back to a system that gave him a family he otherwise would not have had. "And Arlington County makes it so simple," she said. They offer support, they know how to help foster parents be good at fostering, and they are always there when needed. "Arlington really knows how to do foster care," she said.

Serrano said she could not stress enough the need for foster families here in Arlington so that they can help keep the children in foster care connected to their community. There is always a need for sponsors. Arlington County's next information session on fostering will be Saturday, Jan. 9 at 10 a.m. Interested individuals can email: [openheartsopenhomes@arlingtonva.us](mailto:openheartsopenhomes@arlingtonva.us) or call 703-228-1559 for more information. See also [www.arlingtonva.us/fostercare](http://www.arlingtonva.us/fostercare).



Erica Serrano is resource parent recruiter for Arlington County's Department of Human Services, Child and Family Services Division. She said this is the biggest event of the year for her organization, and is often the point in the year when families are reunited. She applauded the Arlington community for their generosity in donating time, food, gifts, and money to make the event a real treat for children. But, she still needs more foster parents.



Jordan Dixon of the Yorktown Chamber Choir put on her elf slippers to help get the children into the Christmas spirit.



From left: Thomas Miller, Karuna Shipper, and Youssef Thomas sang at the event.



Rose Stroman and Elaine DelBianco welcome foster families at the registration table. Stroman volunteers every year at this event and DelBianco is a George Mason intern.



## Jefferson Site: From Rejection to Approval

County decision ends year-long fight over traffic congestion and park space.

BY VERNON MILES  
THE CONNECTION

At its first 2015 meeting in January, the Arlington County Board voted not to approve Arlington Public Schools' (APS) plan to build a new elementary school adjacent to the Thomas Jefferson Middle School. At the time, County Board Chair Mary Hynes said the schools had not presented a compelling enough argument to the surrounding neighborhood. But on Dec. 15, at the last meeting of 2015, the County Board unanimously accepted the same proposal.

Hynes said that the plan had initially been an "elegant solution" but that she had been dissuaded by the lack of support from the community. However, since the initial proposal, Hynes said she was happy with the work done by APS on engaging the community.

While the proposal had a few supporters in the audience, the majority of local residents were not as enthusiastic as Hynes had characterized them. Increased traffic congestion and the closure of park land were two of the most commonly cited problems from the new elementary school's neighbors.

"We want our neighborhood to remain a fine place to live," said Philip Rotondi, president of the board of directors Dominion Square Townhouse Association, "The traffic congestion situation must be mitigated."

Rotondi said traffic had been cited as one of the primary concerns from the County



The new Thomas Jefferson Elementary School will be built on former county park land.

IMAGE CONTRIBUTED

Board when the proposal was initially brought forward in January, and that nothing had been done to fix the congestion.

"I'm not aware of any actions that we've taken in the interim," said acting County Manager Mark Schwartz.

**IN ADDITION** to congestion, Rotondi and other speakers also noted that the new school would replace an existing parking lot and only further add to the parking shortage in the neighborhood.

"The truth of the matter is, every single place that we look at has major traffic issues," said Hynes. We will struggle with parking ... but as I look at this solution, what I see is the opportunity to take what

is a parking lot now ... and work collaboratively to try to figure out a way to address that parking issue."

Many of the local residents lamented the loss of park land, though the current park land being considered for development is a parking lot and does not extend to any of the nearby green space. County Board member Walter Tejada asked for assurances that no trees would be torn down to make room for the school, which Schwartz confirmed.

Anne Cumming questioned why the school was being built in one of the areas of lowest population density in the county.

"Why aren't we building schools where the students are?" asked Cummings. "I appreciate the need for more school space, but

fewer than 20 percent of Arlington residents have children in the schools. Those of us who use the green space at the parks remain very concerned that, during construction, we would lose access to those facilities."

Despite the unanimous approval, there were still misgivings from the County Board, many of whom recognized that the solution was not ideal.

"Building on what is technically county park land does set an uncomfortable precedent," said County Board member John Vihstadt, "Yet, the need for a new south Arlington school has never been more urgent. There is unlikely to be a perfect space for just about anything anymore."

## Arlington House Resonates with Christmas Carols

Robert E. Lee celebrated Christmas during winter leave from the army

BY EDEN BROWN  
THE CONNECTION

Arlington House, the Lee-Custis residence General Robert E. Lee left behind when he agreed to lead the Confederate Army, once again resonated with the sounds of Christmas, with handbell ringing on Saturday, Dec. 12, and Yorktown's Chamber Choir on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 13, from 2-4 p.m.

The bell ringers attracted visitors from all over the cemetery, who were there to lay wreaths on each grave, and heard the sound of the bells coming from the house on the



Clare Fitzgerald and Kayley Tuite sit on the steps of Arlington House.

Defne Tunceliler, Lydia Hecmanczuk, and Jordan Dixon take a break between performances at Arlington House.



PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

SEE CHRISTMAS CAROLS, PAGE 5



# OPINION

## Merry Christmas

We wish you hope, peace, love and joy during this holiday season.

The pages of the Connection have been full of holiday spirit for more than a month. Menorah lightings, group and individual efforts to help the needy, stories of giving, secular celebrations, religious celebrations. Shopping locally. Giving locally.

Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you believe the Christmas story literally or in spirit, you know it is the story of joy, hope and love, the promise of redemption.

EDITORIAL It is also about embracing the teachings of Jesus: to love thy neighbor as thyself; to help the needy; to feed and clothe the poor; to care for those who are sick; to treat others as you would have them treat you.

Matthew 7:12 "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 25:35-40 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or

thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?"

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

So let us share the verse relating the birth of Jesus from the Bible, Luke 2: 4-19:

"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.'

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.' And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

**Editor's Note** about the rest of 2015: This is our last regular edition of 2015. Next week, after Christmas, we will publish our annual Children's Connection, devoted entirely to the artwork and writing of local students. Our next regular editions will publish Jan. 6-7, 2016, with deadline for content and advertising of Dec. 30 (late ads accepted).

In the meantime you can reach the editors at editors@connectionnewspapers.com and sales/marketing/advertising at sales@connectionnewspapers.com.

Digital replica editions of the most recent week's papers are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

Past issues of the Connection back to 2008 are available at http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Sydney Stryker and Julianna Jaime at work making baby blankets.**

**Marymount resident assistants Becca Bateman and Maddy Kellen stand in front of the fabric used to make baby blankets at the holiday service party on Dec. 4.**



## Students Blanket Crisis Center with Love

Madelyn Kellen was hoping the third year would be the charm and that at least 100 volunteers would show up at Bernie's Café on the Marymount University campus to help make fleece-tie blankets for a local crisis pregnancy center.

Nearly twice that many — 185 people — turned out for the holiday service party she organized. They made 268 blankets and raised \$1,500 for HOPE in Northern Virginia, Inc., a nonprofit that offers pregnancy counseling and assistance. The now campus-wide event began two years ago with Kellen and 10 friends making 21 blankets.

"When we started this, I had no idea it would grow as it did," said Kellen, a junior resident assistant majoring in hospitality management.

"I'm very grateful for everyone who participated and helped out."

The event, sponsored by the Office of Campus and Residential Services, has grown so much that Kellen has had people say, "Hey, you're the blanket girl" when they meet her on campus.

She said it was a perfect event to be held on the First Friday of December, following the university's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

Kimberly Dodds, executive director of HOPE in Northern Virginia, said the blankets mean a lot to its clients. "When they have their babies, we try to give them nice things that they're proud to bring home," said Dodds. "These beautiful, handmade blankets are made with

love and mean so much to them."

The nonprofit, staffed with two part-time employees, relies on volunteers and is supported entirely by donations. It helps clients until their babies turn two.

In addition to the annual blanket donations, Marymount students aid the organization in other ways, giving gifts during the holidays, collecting financial donations, organizing its garage, and volunteering to translate or babysit for parents during classes on child birthing or using baby seats.

Participating organizations providing volunteers included St. Ambrose Honor Society, the Student-Athletic Advisory Committee, Respect Life Club, Yarn Club and the Film Club. The Honors Program and SGA donated funds.

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Connection

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# News



PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Kayley Tuite, Lauren Mead, Amelia Lowe, Emma Theunissen, and Clare Fitzgerald on the steps of Arlington House.



Christian Hudspeth and Thomas Miller in period dress.



Sophie Cummings against the backdrop of Washington.



Joyce Lopez next to the columns on the porch of Arlington House.



Henry Torres-Gomez and Bradley Davis enjoy the Christmas spirit.



The view out the original windows of Arlington House.

## Christmas Carols

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hill.

Catherine Dowling, a volunteer at the house, said the music and the wreaths, indications that those who gave their lives for the country were not forgotten, moved some to tears.

On Sunday, the Yorktown Chamber Choir arrived in the morning. Dowling was on the scene, helping to dress the girls, whose outfits included hoop skirts, lace col-

lars, many buttons, petticoats, and ribbons. Christmas is celebrated at Arlington House as authentically as possible, said one guide, because Robert E. Lee's military career offered him a long winter break, when he was able to return home to spend time with his seven children. Lee was a warm and fun-loving father, and he made sure the season was bright. The house was abuzz with Christmas events, then as now.

## Usable, Accessible, and Universal Design: What's the Difference?



Most people are familiar with the word design. In fact, we base many of our decisions on design. When things look good we are tempted to choose them over the things that are more useful. But it actually is possible to combine great design with function. Here are three practices that do just that.

**Usable Design** refers to the act of creating an environment or products that are not only efficient, but also easy-to-use. When talking about usability there are three aspects to consider: Learnability, Consistency and Efficiency.

**Accessible Design** is a design process in which the needs of people with disabilities are specifically considered. It is about creating an environment that allows for independence and safety in day-to-day life. Curb-less showers are an example of this.

**Universal Design** is the design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. Grab bars or rollout drawers in the kitchen are popular universal design products.



Russ Glickman, founder of Glickman Design Build, is a Master Certified Remodeler and Certified Aging in Place Specialist. The award-winning Glickman Design Build team has completed thousands of general remodeling and accessible design projects in the Metro DC area and is passionate about the work they do. Their work has been featured in a variety of publications. Visit [GlickmanDesignBuild.com](http://GlickmanDesignBuild.com) or call 301.444.4663 to learn more.

**Saint Ann Catholic Church**

**SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:**  
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM  
1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy

**DAILY EUCHARIST:**  
Weekdays  
Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM  
Saturday, 8:30 AM

5312 North 10th Street,  
Arlington, Virginia 22205  
Parish Office: 703-528-6276

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to [arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

## ONGOING

**Wordless Shakespeare: “As You Like It.”** Through Jan. 17, Various times at Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St. Synetic Theater presents a completely physical interpretation of “As You Like It.” Tickets start at \$35 for adults, student tickets are \$15. Visit [www.synetictheater.org](http://www.synetictheater.org) for more.

**“West Side Story.”** Through Jan. 24, various times at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. For Signature Theatre’s adaptation of classic musical “West Side Story,” no audience member will be further than 20 feet from the stage. Tickets start at \$40. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org) for more.

**Christmas With Nova Y. Payton and Friends.** Through Jan. 24, various times at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Star of “Dreamgirls” and “Hairspray” sings some of her favorite holiday tunes. Tickets are \$35. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org) for more.

**“The Civil War Grand Review.”** Through Feb. 1, Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tuesday-Wednesday 1-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Cherrydale Branch Library, 2190 Military Road. View “The Civil War Grand Review: Photos of the Sesquicentennial Reenactment Parade.” Free. Call 703-228-6330.

**Sci-Fi Book Club.** Third Wednesday of each month, 7-8:30 p.m. at Java Shack, 2507 N. Franklin Road. Free. Visit [www.library.arlingtonva.us](http://www.library.arlingtonva.us).

**Arlington’s Historical Museum Open on First Wednesdays.** The Arlington Historical Museum is open to the public on the first Wednesday of every month from 12:30-3:30 p.m. The museum consists of exhibits chronicling Arlington County’s history from Native American settlements up to the present day. The museum will continue to be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free. The museum is located in the former 1891 Hume School building at 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road. Contact Garrett Peck at 571-243-1113 or at [garrett.peck@arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:garrett.peck@arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org).

**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. For 21 years and older. Free. Visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://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. Age 21 and up only. Free show, \$25 cash prize for best joke. Call 703-248-9888 or visit [www.RiRa.com/](http://www.RiRa.com/) Arlington for more.

**Food Truck Thursdays.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the corner of North Irving Street, and Washington Boulevard. Find a round-up of regional food trucks. Free to attend. Visit [www.dmvfta.org](http://www.dmvfta.org).

**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](http://registration.arlingtonva.us). Free, no



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER MUELLER

## ‘West Side Story’ Now Playing at Signature Theatre

In Signature Theatre’s latest interpretation of classic musical “West Side Story,” no audience member will be seated more than 20 feet from the stage. The show will run through Jan. 24 at 4200 Campbell Ave. Tickets start at \$40. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org) for more.

registration required.

**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](http://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. Visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.whitlows.com) or call 703-276-9693.

**Storytime.** Mondays and Fridays, 10:30-11 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 S. 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.

**Ball-Sellers House Tours.** Saturdays, April-Oct., 1-4 p.m. at The Ball-Sellers House, 5620 3rd St. S. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Arlington Historical Society receiving the house from Marian Sellers in 1975 for \$1. Free. Visit [www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org).

**Crystal City Sparket.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Wednesdays at 1900 Crystal Drive. Sparket — A Creative Market

is an extension of DC’s Eastern Market with arts, crafts, and handmade goods. Free to attend. Visit [www.crystalcity.org](http://www.crystalcity.org).

**Open Mic Night.** Wednesdays, at 8 p.m., sign ups are at 7:30 and 10 p.m., at Iota Club & Café, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit <http://www.iotaclubandcafe.com/>.

**Art for Life.** Third Thursday of each month. The Hyatt Regency Crystal City’s “Art for Life” Partnership with National Kidney Foundation brings a new artist each month to The Hyatt for a reception. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

**Brunch at Freddie’s.** Third Saturday of every month, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Freddie’s Beach Bar, 555 23rd St. The Arlington Gay and Lesbian Alliance gathers for an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet (\$9.99). All are welcome. No reservation is required. Visit [www.facebook.com/events/700174390103305](https://www.facebook.com/events/700174390103305).

## THURSDAY/DEC. 24

**Candlelight Mass.** 7-8 p.m. at Wilson Boulevard Christian Church, 3850 Wilson Blvd. The community is invited to evening service. Free. Visit [www.wilsonboulevardcc.org](http://www.wilsonboulevardcc.org).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 26-27

**Second City: Holidazed & Confused.** 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Saturday; 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Sketch and improv comedy ensemble the Second City will perform a Holiday Revue. Tickets are \$30. Visit [www.arlingtondrafthouse.com](http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com) for more.

**SUNDAY-TUESDAY/DEC. 27-29**  
**Virginia Ballet Company: “The**

**Nutcracker.”** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus in the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Virginia Ballet Company and School with present its 66th season of “The Nutcracker.” Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for children, plus \$3 service fee. Visit [www.vaballet.org](http://www.vaballet.org) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 30

**Holiday Jeopardy.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at Culpepper Garden Senior Center, 4435 N. Pershing Drive. Test your skills in this interactive holiday version of Senior Jeopardy. Free. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us](http://parks.arlingtonva.us) for more.

## THURSDAY/DEC. 31

**New Year’s Eve at Twisted Vines.** 7 p.m.-2 a.m. at Twisted Vines Bistro & Bottleshop, 2803 Columbia Pike. Enjoy a four-course prix fixe menu, dancing, and more. Tickets are &75. Visit [www.twisted-vines.com](http://www.twisted-vines.com) for more.

**New Year’s Eve at the Drafthouse.** 7:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Watch New Year’s Eve celebrations from around the world on the Drafthouse theater screens. Tickets are \$15. Visit [www.arlingtondrafthouse.com](http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com) for more.

**New Years’ Eve Bond Ball.** 8 p.m.-2 a.m. at Westin Arlington Gateway, 801 N. Glebe Road. Find signature cocktails, champagne, and more. A VIP ticket buys a three-course meal. Tickets are \$199-219 plus service fee. Visit [www.newyearsevedmv.com](http://www.newyearsevedmv.com) for more.

**New Years’ Eve Casino Night.** 8 p.m.-3 a.m. at Hyatt Regency Hotel, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway. Find

casino games, show girls, karaoke, burlesque, and more. Tickets are \$60-\$150. Visit [www.eventbrite.com/o/social-architects-terry-frasier-1124509851](http://www.eventbrite.com/o/social-architects-terry-frasier-1124509851)  
**New Years’ Eve MADsquerade Ball.** 9 p.m.-2 a.m. at Mad Rose Tavern, 3100 Clarendon Blvd. Celebrate the New Year with food, drinks, and a live showing of the Ball Drop in Times Square. Tickets start at \$35. Visit [www.madrosetauern.com](http://www.madrosetauern.com).

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JAN 1-2

**Piff The Magic Dragon.** 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Friday; 7 and 10 p.m. on Saturday at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Piff the Magic Dragon is a dragon costume-wearing comedian who performs magic tricks. Tickets are \$20. Visit [www.arlingtondrafthouse.com](http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com) for more.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 7

**Fireships.** 8:30 p.m. at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Fireships, a collaboration between Honey Brothers and Andrew Vladeck, will launch their tour. Tickets are \$10. Visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://www.iotaclubandcafe.com) for more.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 8

**Book Signing and Musical Performance.** 6:30 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Musician turned author Korby Lenker will be signing his new book of short stories, “Medium Hero and Other Stories.” He will also perform. Free. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com) for more.  
**Stand-Up Comedy: Pete Davidson.** 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Arlington



# ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY SHERVIN LAINEZ

**Indie-folk band Fireships will perform on Thursday, Jan. 7 at Iota Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd, at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://www.iotaclubandcafe.com) for more.**



Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Pete Davidson is a Saturday Night Live cast member. Tickets are \$30. Visit [www.arlingtondrafthouse.com](http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com) for more.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 8-10

**“Snow White.”** 7:30 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, and 3 p.m. on Sunday at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Encore Stage & Studio presents the classic tale of a princess who is banished by her evil, jealous stepmother. Tickets are \$10 or children, student, military and seniors, and \$15 for everyone else. Visit [www.encorestageva.org](http://www.encorestageva.org) for more.

## JAN. 8-FEB. 7

**“Georgie: The Life and Death of George Rose.”** Various times at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. In a limited engagement, Signature Theatre will host the world premiere of “Georgie: The Life and Death of George Rose,” a one-man play written and performed by Ed Dixon detailing Dixon’s relationship with friend and mentor George Rose, a Broadway character actor. Tickets are \$25-45. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 9

**Stand-Up Comedy: Pete Davidson.** 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Pete Davidson is a Saturday Night Live cast member. Tickets are \$30. Visit [www.arlingtondrafthouse.com](http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com) for more.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 10

**Arlington Philharmonic: “Ritmos Festivos.”** 3 p.m. at Wakefield High School, 1325 S. Dinwiddie St. The Arlington Philharmonic continues its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season with “Ritmos Festivos” featuring Spanish influences on classical music from the Old World to the New. The repertoire includes Borne’s “Carmen Fantasy,” a flute solo, by Aaron Goldman, based on Bizet’s themes, directly from Spanish folk influence. North America will be represented by Gershwin’s “Cuban Overture” and Moncayo’s Mexican dance

(Huapango). Admission is free, \$20 suggested donation. Visit [www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org](http://www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org) for more.

## MONDAY/JAN. 11

**Meditation Made Easy.** 7-9 p.m. at Teal Center, 4001 N. 9th St., Suite 230. Learn techniques for an effective meditation practice. The fee is \$40. Visit [www.lightyourfiremeditation.com](http://www.lightyourfiremeditation.com) for more.

## TUESDAY/JAN. 12

**Sip & Sample.** 6-8 p.m. at Bistro 360, 1800 Wilson Blvd. This reception will benefit Bowen McCauley Dance company. Tickets are \$50. Visit [www.bmdc.org](http://www.bmdc.org) for more.

**Hockey ‘n’ Heels.** 6-9:30 p.m. at Kettler Capitals Iceplex, 627 N. Glebe Road. Hockey ‘n’ Heels is held each season exclusively for Scarlet Caps members and features instructional sessions and on-ice demonstrations targeted towards the Capitals’ female audience. Tickets are \$75, \$65 for season ticket holders. Visit [www.scarletcaps.com](http://www.scarletcaps.com) for more.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 14

**“How the C&O Canal and W&OD Railroad Shaped Arlington.”** 7 p.m. at Marymount University–Reinsch Library auditorium, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Leader of C&O Canal Trust and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Michael Nardolilli will discuss the connections between the towpath, trail, and the history of Arlington County. Free. Call 703-942-9247 for more.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 15

**Tom Green Live.** 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Tom Green of MTV’s “The Tom Green Show” (1996-2000) will give a live stand-up comedy performance. Tickets are \$25. Visit [www.arlingtondrafthouse.com](http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com) for more.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 15-17

**“Snow White.”** 7:30 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, and 3 p.m. on Sunday at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Encore Stage &

Studio presents the classic tale of a princess who is banished by her evil, jealous stepmother. Tickets are \$10 or children, student, military and seniors, and \$15 for everyone else. Visit [www.encorestageva.org](http://www.encorestageva.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 16

**“Mouse in the House.”** 3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance gives a performance of an adaptation of the book by Elizabeth Spire, “Mouse in House,” which reveals a friendship between a mouse and reclusive 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson. Tickets are \$10-15. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

**Tom Green Live.** 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Tom Green of MTV’s “The Tom Green Show” (1996-2000) will give a live stand-up comedy performance. Tickets are \$25. Visit [www.arlingtondrafthouse.com](http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com) for more.

**“Niche.”** 7:30 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. “Niche” follows an unremarkable couple with a new house, big careers, and odd neighbors. 2-D cut-outs projected via ‘old school’ technology supply visuals. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 20

**Pet Therapy.** 10:15-11 a.m. at Walter Reed Senior Center, 2909 S. 16th St. The public is invited to meet Zoe, a therapy Yorkshire Terrier. Free. Call 703-608-8314 for more.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 21

**Forty+ Performance.** 10:30 a.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Forty+ is a group of performers past the age of 40 that study with a local choreographer at Jane Franklin Dance studios. Tickets are \$5. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## FRIDAY/JAN. 22

**The Accidentals & Kevin Heider.** 7 p.m. at FORUM Arlington, 3304 Washington Blvd. Live music. Tickets are \$10-15. Visit [www.arlingtonforum.org](http://www.arlingtonforum.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 23

**1K Beer/Wine Walk.** 2-6 p.m. at 1750 Crystal Drive. Pass the start line and sip your way along the race course, stopping at “Wine” and “Beer” hydration stations along the course. Sample 20 wines or 20 beers. Tickets are \$20 online and \$25 at the door. Visit [www.crystalcity.org](http://www.crystalcity.org) for more.

**“Mouse in the House.”** 3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance gives a performance of an adaptation of the book by Elizabeth Spire, “Mouse in House,” which reveals a friendship between a mouse and reclusive 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson. Tickets are \$10-15. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## Rosebud Film Festival Nominee Showcase.

2-8 p.m. at Navy Heritage Center, 701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington D.C. The Rosebud Film Festival, a project of Arlington Independent Media will showcase 20 short films made by nominees. Tickets are \$15. Visit [www.rosebudfestival.org](http://www.rosebudfestival.org) for more.

**Forty+ Performance.** 5 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Forty+ is a group of performers past the age of 40 that study with a local choreographer at Jane Franklin Dance studios. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 for seniors 65+ and children 17 and under. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

**“Niche.”** 7:30 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. “Niche” follows an unremarkable couple with a new house, big careers, and odd neighbors. 2-D cut-outs projected via ‘old school’ technology supply visuals. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## SUNDAY/JAN. 24

**Forty+ Performance.** 1:30 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Forty+ is a group of performers past the age of 40 that study with a local choreographer at Jane Franklin Dance studios. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 for seniors 65+ and children 17 and under. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

**“Niche.”** 4 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. “Niche” follows an unremarkable couple with a new house, big careers, and odd neighbors. 2-D cut-outs projected via

‘old school’ technology supply visuals. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## Rosebud Film Festival Awards Gala.

7-10 p.m. at Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd. A panel of judges, drawn from the area’s rich media arts community, selected the 20 nominees from which five winners, including one Best of Show, will be chosen. Festival winners will each receive a cash prize and will be announced at the Rosebud Awards Gala. \$15 ticket to the showcase allows free admission to the gala. Visit [www.rosebudfestival.org](http://www.rosebudfestival.org) for more.

## MONDAY/JAN. 25

**Pet Therapy.** 1:30 p.m. at Walter Reed Senior Center, 2909 S. 16th St. The public is invited to meet Zoe, a therapy Yorkshire Terrier. Free. Call 703-608-8314 for more.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 30

## Yoga to Benefit Arlington Free Clinic.

9-10:30 a.m. at Top of the Town, 1400 14th St. N. Take a yoga class with Sun and Moon Yoga Studio’s Nancy Carter followed by an inspirational talk by Spiritual Coach Andrea Haynes: “Stress Less, Live More!” Tickets are \$50. Visit [www.arlingtonfreeclinic.org/yoga](http://www.arlingtonfreeclinic.org/yoga).

**“Mouse in the House.”** 3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance gives a performance of an adaptation of the book by Elizabeth Spire, “Mouse in House,” which reveals a friendship between a mouse and reclusive 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson. Tickets are \$10-15. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

**“Niche.”** 7:30 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. “Niche” follows an unremarkable couple with a new house, big careers, and odd neighbors. 2-D cut-outs projected via ‘old school’ technology supply visuals. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## SUNDAY/JAN. 31

**“Capitol Steps.”** 7 p.m. at Yorktown Theatre Arts, 5200 Yorktown Blvd. Satirical comedy troupe The Capitol Steps will perform to help raise money for the Yorktown Theatre Arts program. Tickets for the show alone are \$35, dinner at the Pre-Show Cafe is an additional \$10. Visit [www.yhstheatre.org](http://www.yhstheatre.org).

## MONDAY/FEB. 1

**Sigworks: Heather McDonald.** 7 p.m. at Signature Theatre–Ali’s Bar, 4200 Campbell Ave. Listen to a reading of “Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity” by Heather McDonald. Free to attend. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org).

## THURSDAY-SATURDAY/FEB. 4-6

**Crystal Couture Show & Sale.** 6-10 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and 2-10 p.m. on Saturday at 1750 Crystal Drive. More than 30 area boutiques, designers, and retailers, take part in a runway show. Guests can shop discounted merchandise both on the rack and on the runway as models showcase select offerings. General admission is free, VIP tickets are \$20. Visit [www.crystalcity.org](http://www.crystalcity.org) for more.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 7

## St. Ann Annual Giant Used Book Sale.

8 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Ann Church–Parish Hall, 5300 10th St. N. All genres available. Also find a bake sale and free coffee. Free to attend. Visit [www.stannchurch.org](http://www.stannchurch.org) for more.



# Top Arlington Sports Moments from 2015

## Wakefield football wins first conference title.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**A** program first, a stellar ending to a prep career and a show of consistency were part of the year 2015 in Arlington high school sports.

The Wakefield football program continued its turnaround under head coach Wayne Hogwood, Washington-Lee gymnast Sophie Hatcher ended her high school career with some championships and the O'Connell softball team bounced back from a disappointing loss in the WCAC championship game.

The following is a look at some of the top moments in Arlington sports from the year 2015.

## Wakefield Football Wins First Conference Title

The Wakefield football team closed the regular season with a 50-18 victory over Lee, giving the Warriors the Conference 13 championship.

It was the first time in program history that the Warriors won a regular-season conference title, according to Wakefield historian Frank Haddock.

Sophomore quarterback Colton Poythress threw four touchdown passes and ran for one against Lee, and senior running back Leon Young carried 18 times for 277 yards and two touchdowns.



**Washington-Lee gymnast Sophie Hatcher, second from the right, won the 2015 6A North region all-around title.**

PHOTO BY  
JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

Wakefield's season ended with a 21-6 loss to Potomac Falls in the opening round of the 5A North playoffs on Nov. 13, but the Warriors' record of 8-3 meant Wakefield produced back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1982-83, according to Haddock.

Young earned Conference 13 Offensive Player of the Year honors.

## Yorktown Swimmer Dolan Wins State Titles

Yorktown swimmer Suzanne Dolan took home individual state titles in the 50 freestyle (22.81 seconds) and the 100 breaststroke (1:02.48).

## W-L Gymnast Hatcher Wins Region All-Around Title

Sophie Hatcher was part of a Washington-Lee gymnastics program that won three consecutive region championships from 2012-2014. The Generals' streak ended in 2015 as W-L placed third at the 6A North region meet, but that didn't stop Hatcher from leaving her mark as an individual.

Hatcher won the region all-around championship with a score of 37.65 on Feb. 11 at Lake Braddock Secondary School. Yorktown's Bella Kane placed second with a score of 37.

Hatcher went on to place fifth in the all-around at the VHSL individual state meet with a score of 37.325 on March 8 at Patriot High School. Hatcher placed third on floor (9.55), tied for fifth on vault (9.6),

finished 12th on beam (9.15) and took 14th on bars (9.025).

Hatcher also won the Conference 6 all-around title.

## O'Connell Softball Wins Another State Title

The Bishop O'Connell softball team defeated Paul VI 5-2 in the VISAA Division I state championship game on May 15, giving the Knights four consecutive state titles and 12 in 13 years.

The victory came six days after O'Connell lost to St. Mary's Ryken in the WCAC championship game for the second straight year. The Knights had won the previous 10 WCAC titles.

O'Connell finished the season with a 27-3 record.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Leon Young and the Wakefield football team won the Conference 13 championship in 2015.**



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Olivia Giaquinto, seen during a game against Lake Braddock, and the Bishop O'Connell softball team won the 2015 VISAA state championship, giving the Knights four in a row and 12 in 13 years.**



## BUSINESS

# Concannon Joins NVAR Board

**G**enevieve Concannon, director of Custom Home Division for Arlington-based real estate development firm Smith | Schneider, has been appointed to serve on Northern Virginia Association of Realtors' (NVAR) board of directors.

In accepting the honor, Concannon said that she hopes to "empower members and fellow Realtors ... and continue on the path of innovation and education to help keep NVAR on the forefront of homeownership matters."

Concannon was nominated for the Director-at-Large position on NVAR's 2015/2016 board of directors to serve a one-year term. She was selected to represent small brokerages, builders and developers, and will continue to serve on the Public Policy Committee and Legislative Review Task Force. Additionally, Concannon will co-chair NVAR's Public Policy Committee for 2016.

"I detected great leadership skills in Genevieve, which is why I chose her," said Virgil Frizzell, the 2016 NVAR chairman of the board in a statement.



Concannon

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"One of next year's initiatives will be to enhance our relationship between Realtors and builders. With her professional background and experience, as well as her participation on NVAR committees, Genevieve was an easy choice since she understands our end of the real estate industry as well as newly constructed

home sales."

Concannon says that she's passionate about sustainability in both home and business development. She is a certified Military Residential Specialist, EcoBroker, EarthCraft Real Estate Professional and Earth Advantage Broker STAR.

— MARILYN CAMPBELL

## BUSINESS NOTES

Email announcements to [arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arlington@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos welcomed.

**The GW Medical Faculty Associates** has chosen Arlington's 3811 N. Fairfax Drive as its new headquarters. The GW Medical Faculty Associates expect to move in March 2016.

**Marymount University's master's degree program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling** has been ranked fourth nationally among mental health counseling programs by GraduatePrograms.com, a website that compiles ratings and reviews from current or recent students.

**GHT Limited**, an area mechanical, electrical, and plumbing consulting engineering firm, has welcomed 14 new team members to the firm in the past six months. The firm's staff count is now 78.

**Sigal Construction Corporation** has received an Award of Excellence from NAIOP Northern Virginia.

**Cyrus Bonnet**, of Windermere Real Estate and the founder of SoldiersAgent.com, has become affiliated with AgentHero, a national network of professional real estate agents, all of whom are veterans or military spouses.

**TD Bank** has promoted **Ronald P. Mugga** to assistant vice president,

## Supporting Culpepper Garden

**Billy Buck, CEO, and Delk Hamaker, COO, of Buck & Associates, Inc. presented a \$5,000 donation to Culpepper Garden's Executive Director**

**Linda Kelleher at Buck's office in Clarendon. Culpepper Garden is an award-winning, affordable, nonprofit residential community in Arlington with 340 apartments for seniors aged 62 and older.**



Store Manager of the location at 5510 Lee Highway. Mugga joined TD Bank in 2013 as a customer service representative and later served as a financial services representative before his most recent positions as assistant store manager in both the Van Dorn Street store in Alexandria and the Lee Highway location.

**Robert T. Hicks** has joined **Bean, Kinney & Korman** as a shareholder.

Architectural artist **Leisa Collins** has completed the first phase of a series of original pen and watercolor architec-

tural portraits featuring Arlington homes. She will reveal these portraits to the community and is currently working to publish a coffee table book.

**Arlington Endodontics** has recently relocated and the office at 4350 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 160 Arlington has closed. Patients or referring doctors with questions or concerns relative to the endodontic therapy contact Dr. Feimster at 571-312-3762 or [Feimster@arlingtonendo1.com](mailto:Feimster@arlingtonendo1.com).

**LMO Advertising** has received DC Inno's "50 on Fire" award.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

### THROUGH JAN. 1

**Holiday SoberRide.** 10 p.m.-6 a.m. Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the annual Holiday SoberRide program will provide free cab rides up to \$30. Call 1-800-200-TAXI.

### SUNDAY/JAN. 10

**TreeStewards Application Deadline.** The TreeStewards of Arlington and Alexandria are

volunteers dedicated to improving the health of urban trees through educational programs, tree planting and care, demonstrations and tree maintenance throughout the community. New volunteer training will be held Tuesday evenings, starting Feb. 2-April 12, 2016, with some Saturday mornings. Free. Visit [www.TreeStewards.org](http://www.TreeStewards.org).

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

**"Topping Out" of the Springs Apartments.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at APAH Tent-First Presbyterian Church, 601 N. Vermont St. The Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing will celebrate the new new building reaching its highest level with the placement of its final beam. Free. Visit [www.apah.org](http://www.apah.org) for more.

### MONDAY/JAN. 11

**"Moving Words" Poetry Contest Deadline.** Six poets will have their work printed and displayed inside area buses April-September. Winners will also each receive a \$250 honorarium, and will be invited to give a public reading of their work in April 2016 during National Poetry Month. This contest will be juried by poet Francisco Aragón. Free to enter. Visit [www.arlingtonarts.org](http://www.arlingtonarts.org) for more.

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 20

**Money Talk: A Financial Course for Women.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

### JANUARY

1/6/2016..... Wellbeing, Renewal, Resolutions

1/13/2016..... HomeLifeStyle

*Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Jan. 18*

1/20/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools

1/27/2016..... Community Guide

1/27/2016..... Winter Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment; Valentine's Preview

### FEBRUARY

2/3/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts I

2/3/2016..... Wellbeing – National Children's Dental Health Month

2/10/2016..... HomeLifeStyle

2/10/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts II

2/17/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools

2/24/2016..... Pet Connection

E-mail [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) for more information.



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- Springfield Connection
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# CLASSIFIED

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The Sycamore School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

#### Notice of Trustee's Sale

2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204  
Arlington County

In execution of a Deed of Trust dated October 11, 2013, in the original principal amount of \$555,000.00, recorded as Deed Book 4732 at Page 1740 of the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Arlington County, Virginia, the undersigned Trustee will on **Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**, by the front main entrance to the Arlington County Courthouse, 1425 N. Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22201, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder, the following property, with improvements thereon commonly known as **2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204** and more particularly described as follows:

Parcels 2,3, and Part of Lot 2, Estate of Benjamin Perry Improved by premises known as 2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA and as more particularly shown on plat attached hereto and made a part of hereof entitled "Lot 2 of the Partition of the Estate of BENJAMIN PERRY and a Vacated 16.5' Outlet Road" by Alexandria Surveys International, LLC, dated Mark 5, 2002, as the same is duly platted and attached to the corrected Deed recorded in Deed Book 4196 at page 1179 among the Land Records of Arlington County, Virginia.

RPC: 31024007

This sale is subject to any reservations, restrictions on use, covenants, obligations, rights of way, conditions, easements, leases and mechanic's liens, if any, whether of record or not of record, to the extent any of the foregoing apply and take priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.

Deposit of \$20,000.00, or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check, shall be required to qualify as a bidder prior to the sale, except for the Noteholder.

The deposit, without interest, is applied to the purchase price at settlement. Settlement will be held on or before fifteen (15) days after the sale. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser.

The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or cashier's check, or wire transfer. Settlement shall be at the offices of the undersigned Trustee, or other mutually agreed upon location. The property and any improvements thereon shall be sold in "as is" condition without any warranties. The successful bidder shall assume all loss or damage to the property from and after the time of the sale. Purchaser shall be responsible for all costs of the conveyance, which shall be by special warranty including, but not limited to, the preparations of the deed, Regional Congestion Relief fee, and the grantor's tax. Real estate taxes shall be adjusted as of the sale date. The sale is subject to such additional terms as the Trustee may announce at the time of sale. The purchaser will be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale incorporating all the terms of the sale.

George J. Shapiro, Trustee

#### FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

George J. Shapiro, Trustee  
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## 21 Announcements

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Present Accounted For



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Last week I was "naive and delusional." This week, not so much. Meaning: I'm well aware of my circumstances and not minding what usually matters. To that point, there's no doubt there are days/weeks that are more challenging than others. And even though I'm a veteran of the cancer wars, seven years and counting come this Feb. 27, I have been to have been blessed with the proper temperament and attitude for the task at hand: enduring the stress and strain of dealing with a cancer diagnosis and all its effects and affects and not going negative/dark in the process. It's not as if cancer has become my new best friend, more like a roommate I've learned to accept — who's not moving out any time soon, but I have learned to manage, mostly. (I am a Libra after all, and balance is my symbol.)

Still, over time, you do get used to the demands. You find a way to ignore the symptoms, not so much that it risks your health, but enough so it doesn't "anguish" your daily life. Because there's definitely no future — or rather not much of one, when every day becomes an emotional battle to the hopefully-not, death, so to speak. I don't want to give cancer too much credit but, it's a fairly powerful adversary and contributing to its strength serves no purpose and creates no advantage. It doesn't need any help doing all the harmful physical, emotional and spiritual, things it does. Granted, nipping it all in the bud is much easier in the garden than it is in the doctor's office/infusion center, but unless you become the master of your domain, the king of the castle, the lord of the manor, the more difficult your cancer experience will be.

This is not to imply that a positive attitude cures cancer. (But I doubt it hurts.) This is more to say that being miserable, feeling sorry for yourself or "woeing" is me, though understandable under the circumstances is boring and as Prince Kuragin (a character from Downton Abbey) said: "Nothing is more tedious than other person's misfortunes." And I certainly don't want to be tedious and boring. As a matter of fact, I'll make the extra effort — even when I don't feel like it, to avoid being thought of as anything but healthy and dare I say, normal. The more positivity I can exude, the more positivity I likely will receive in turn. It's not exactly chemotherapy, targeted treatment or immunotherapy, but "Good Vibrations" is more than just a Beach Boys classic. It's a way to my heart and soul, and hopefully to my lungs as well.

When it comes to being a cancer patient, I know what I know/what I feel, and more importantly — in my mind, anyway, I know what I don't know. Facts, figures, protocols, drugs, clinical trials, I don't know. As my wife's deceased, maternal grandmother, Franny would say: I'm as "dumb as a post." For me, ignorance is sort of bliss. I don't worry about what I don't know; I already have enough trouble worrying about what I do know.

Ergo my strategy: take the good with the bad — which is easy, and when there is bad, compartmentalize it somehow; put it in "the vault." To summarize; and with all credit and respect to Bing Crosby (singing in "White Christmas"): I must "Accentuate the positive. Eliminate the negative. Latch on to the affirmative." Moreover, I have to believe if I want to feel good, I have to think good — thoughts that is. And the more humor and normalcy I have in my life, the better I'll feel and think. I don't know if my future will be any better because of it but my present sure will be.

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

### Board Appoints Fire Station #8 Task Force

The County Board has appointed Noah Simon as chair of its Fire Station No. 8 Task Force. The task force is charged with reviewing viable sites for a replacement Fire Station 8 (currently located at Lee Highway and North Culpepper Street).

Simon is an Arlington resident who served on the School Board in 2013-2014. He is a former Capitol Hill staffer and previously worked for the American Red Cross. The board appointed 11 other residents to the task force:

- ❖ Alisa Cowen – Old Dominion Civic Association
- ❖ Michael Hogan – Old Dominion Civic Association
- ❖ Marguerite Gooden — John M. Langston Civic Association
- ❖ Rodney Turner – John M. Langston Civic Association
- ❖ Anne Wilson - Donaldson Run Civic Association
- ❖ Frank McDermott — Bellevue Forest Civic Association
- ❖ Richard Samp – Old Glebe Civic Association
- ❖ Jim Pebley – Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission
- ❖ Patrick Bogenberger – Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission
- ❖ James Schroll – Planning Commission
- ❖ Terry Prell – Arlington Civic Federation

The task force will make its report to the County Board in May 2016.

### Police Conclude Death Investigation

The investigation of the in-custody death of 53-year-old Edward Straughn on Oct. 10, by the Arlington County Police Department's Homicide/Robbery Unit has concluded. In conjunction with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, it has been determined that Straughn died of natural causes due to an extensive history of medical issues.

Deputies with the Arlington County Sheriff's Office found Straughn unresponsive in a medical unit cell at approximately 6:55 a.m. on Oct. 10. Resuscitation efforts were performed by deputies and nurses on scene prior to Straughn being transported to Virginia Hospital Center where he was pronounced deceased at approximately 7:38 a.m. Straughn was arrested on Oct. 9 for drunk in public and it was determined at that time he had failed to arrive for weekend detention. He was placed in jail by the Arlington County Sheriff's Office. This incident marked the second in-custody death in 2015. It was determined by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in the first incident that the inmate had also died of natural causes.

### County to Renovate Tuckahoe Park Fields

The County Board on Dec. 15 approved a contract for nearly \$1 million to renovate two diamond sports fields and supporting

facilities at Tuckahoe Park. Through a donation from Bishop O'Connell High School, the fields also will get a new electronic scoreboard, which will be shared by both Bishop O'Connell High School and the county. The high school will pay for the scoreboard.

The board voted 5 to 0 to award the contract to Bennett Group, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The capital improvements also will include accessibility improvements for people with disabilities and a bio-retention pond to improve storm water runoff and better support the health of our waterways. Construction is set to begin in early spring of 2016 and be completed by the fall.

These renovations are part of the FY 2015 Parks Maintenance Capital program to improve existing parks and update their facilities for area residents. A community open house was held on March 26 at nearby Tuckahoe Elementary School to gather input on community needs and interests for the fields.

The fields to be renovated are mainly used by Arlington Babe Ruth, Arlington Soccer Association, Arlington Girls Softball Association, Bishop O'Connell High School and for drop-in community play. Besides renovating the fields and adding the electronic scoreboard, additional work includes updating the batting cages, spectator bleachers, player benches and bullpens and picnic tables.

### Transitway to Open In Spring 2016

Arlington's Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway, which will complete the area's first dedicated transit lanes, is now expected to be completed in spring 2016, according to county officials.

"We had complications during construction that caused delays and threatened to push the project over budget," Acting County Manager Mark Schwartz said in a project update to the County Board. "But we have made changes, including scope modifications, that will ensure we finish this project within budget and get it done by next spring."

Arlington began building the Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway, a joint project with the City of Alexandria, in summer 2014. The county's portion of the project includes 0.75 miles of new transit-only roadway, 1.5 miles of on-street dedicated transit lanes, seven new stations and traffic signal upgrades along the Transitway route. Alexandria's portion of the project, running from Potomac Yard to Braddock Road, opened in August 2014.

In an update on the project to the County Board made during the Tuesday, Dec. 15

### BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

Quincy St. This course is designed specifically for women. This session will cover financial basics. Free. Visit [www.bit.ly/VCEFinancePrograms](http://www.bit.ly/VCEFinancePrograms) to register.

**THURSDAY/JAN 21**

**Leadership Arlington Town Hall. 6:30-8 p.m.**

Recessed County Board Meeting, staff explained that crews encountered a number of issues as they dug into the ground along the Arlington route, including unmarked utilities, poor soils and obstructions such as abandoned railroad structures, which slowed roadway and station work. The project team also was unable to find a supplier for the size and type of roof panel needed for the Transitway station design.

### New County Board Auditor Appointed

The Arlington County Board has appointed Jessica A. Tucker as its first County Board Auditor. This newly-created position reports directly to the board and is responsible for developing short- and long-range work plans for the systematic review of county programs.

Tucker will conduct, at the direction of the Audit Committee, independent program and operational audits and reviews of county departments, operations and/or county-funded programs, focusing on program efficiency, effectiveness and transparency. The County Board auditor will augment the existing internal audit function within the Department of Management and Finance.

Tucker will start her new position on Jan. 25, 2015. The board approved her contract by a vote of 4-1, with Walter Tejada voting no.

Tucker has 15 years of government audit experience. She is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA). Since 2010, she has served as deputy auditor of the board for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including a one-year term as acting auditor of the board.

Previously, she served as a senior-level information technology auditor for the Inspector General of the Library of Congress. She also served as a senior performance auditor and senior financial auditor for the Arizona Auditor General, and as an auditor/evaluator with the California State Auditor.

### Holiday Closings

Arlington County Government offices and facilities will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 24 and Friday, Dec. 25 for the Christmas holiday.

They will also be closed on Friday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day. However, the County Board will hold its traditional New Year's Day meeting in the County Board Room at 11 a.m.

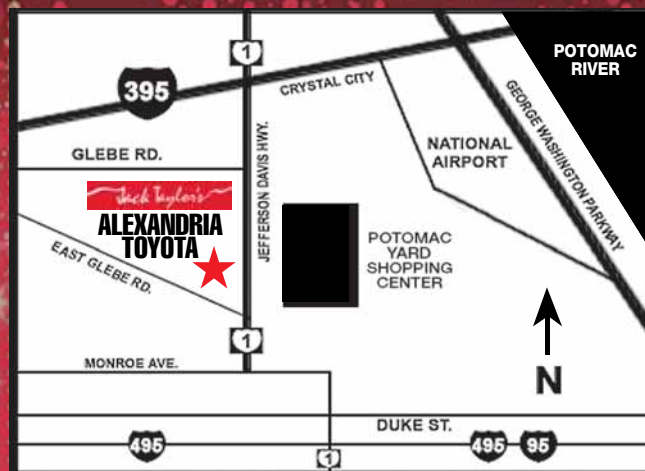
Trash and recycling services will operate on a normal schedule. Parking meters and parking permit zones will not be enforced.

at George Mason University's Arlington Campus, 3351 N. Fairfax Drive. Leadership Arlington in conjunction with co-host, George Mason University, and supporting partner, Arlington Chamber of Commerce, invites citizens who live, work, or have interest in the Arlington County community to attend its annual Meet the Chair. Free. Visit [leadershiparlington.ejoinme.org/MTC2016](http://leadershiparlington.ejoinme.org/MTC2016) to register.



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