



The Arlington Connection

**"Seeing Buildings"
by Ozan Terzi-Rowe,
kindergarten at
Nottingham
Elementary School.**

Children's Connection 2015

DECEMBER 30, 2015 - JANUARY 5, 2016

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

Welcome

Dear Readers:

This week, the Arlington Connection turns over its pages to the youth and students.

We asked principals and teachers from area schools to encourage students to contribute their words, pictures and photos for our annual Children's Issue.

The response as always was enormous. While we were unable to publish every piece we received, we did our best to put together a paper with a fair sampling of the submitted stories, poems, drawings, paintings, photographs and other works of art. Because of the response, we will continue to publish more artwork and writings throughout January.

We appreciate the extra effort made by school staff to gather the materials during their busy time leading up to the holidays. We'd also like to encourage both schools and parents to mark their 2016 calendars for early December, the deadline for submissions for next year's Children's Connection. Please keep us in mind as your children continue to create spectacular works of art and inspiring pieces of writing in the coming year.

The children's issue is only a part of our year-round commitment to cover education and our local schools. As always, the Connection welcomes letters to the editor, story ideas, calendar listings and notices of local events from our readers. Photos and other submissions about special events at schools are especially welcome for our weekly schools pages.

Our preferred method for material is e-mail, which should be sent to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com, but you can reach us by mail at 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314 or call 703-778-9415 with any questions.

— EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN

SWANSON MIDDLE SCHOOL



Dominick Coccozza, grade 8



Miranda Kibler, grade 7



Lui Shipper, grade 8



Emily Larsen, grade 7



Emma Stowell, grade 8

The Arlington Children's Connection

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SWANSON MIDDLE SCHOOL



Sofia Brodsky, grade 7



Bryce Wilmoth, grade 8



Amina Luvsanchultem, grade 6



Brenna Meehan, grade 7



Anika Tripathi, grade 6



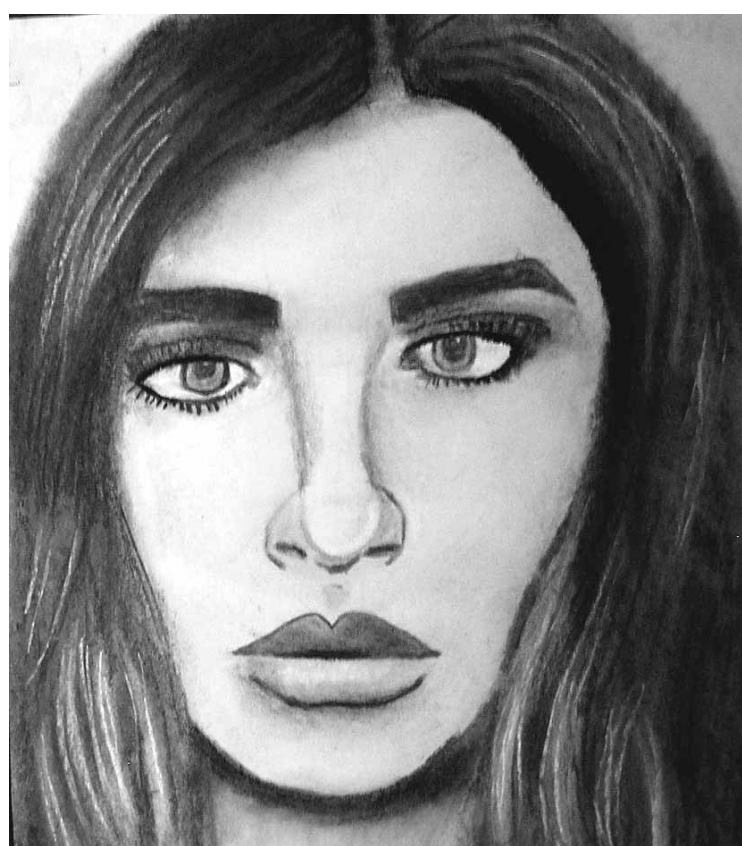
Sophie Finkelstein, grade 7



Tor Bauman, grade 8



Grace Lynch, grade 7



Milena Gungor, grade 8

TUCKAHOE ELEMENTARY



Noah
Starck,
Corinne
Chon and
Lena
Naltchayan,
grade 1



Annie Young, grade 5



Ellis Kuhn, grade 1



Celeste Boyer, grade 5



Josie Naltchayan, grade 5



Grade 3
collaboration

CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY

My First Skydiving Ride

When I was 8, I went to an amusement park. I decided to try the skydiving ride. Also, I was tall enough for the ride. I was getting into the suit, straps, and other gear, and then I realized that I was a little scared. Soon I was lifted up so high. The machine started to swing. When it started to swing, I kept thinking to myself, "This ride is not gonna kill me, it's only gonna swing, it's like a swing but on your belly." Then my fear went away and the most unbelievable thing happened, I started laughing. I couldn't even believe myself that I started liking such a scary ride. After the ride, I got off and I was like, "Wow, I can't believe that I survived," and I started laughing again.

After the ride, I was able to join my family in a restaurant. I ate fries and a hamburger. After eating, I went to the water park and got water dumped on my head. It was an exciting day. But also an unbelievable day for me. I was so proud of myself that day that I went on that scary ride and I will always be proud of that.

— CHENCHUYUN ZHOU, 10.
GRADE 5

The Time I Went to Bolivia

I was so happy when I went to Bolivia. I saw a lot of amazing things when I took this trip. My dad said if I went, he would buy me a Wii. My brother and I said, "Yes." But my little brother was scared and said, "No." My dad let us go.

When I got on the plane, I knew that I wasn't going to see my parents for a very long time. Then, I entered the plane, took my seat, and the plane started moving. When we were in the sky I looked down and the view was very pretty spectacular and scary. When I look down I always get butterflies in my stomach. Halfway through I started crying because I missed my parents so much... I was calling my mom and dad every hour on the plane.

When I arrived, I saw everyone waiting for us. When we got off, my grandmas and grandpas, uncles, aunts, and cousins hugged me and kissed me. After that, they all discussed who was going to take care of us first. I think it was for one day and then we switched. I stayed with my dad's parents first. On the first day they brought us to the plaza, and bought us any-

thing we wanted. We got chicks, chickens, and there were already dogs, so it was awesome. My uncle has a computer lab and let my brother and I play for free!

When it was time to leave, I was mostly sad, and a little happy because I was going to see my family. They bought me a new dress and shoes to wear when I left. When we were done picking out clothes, I went to my grandmother's house and we all said bye to each other. When I was heading to the plane I remembered I left a lot of my personal items behind.

I had a wonderful time in Bolivia. I loved Bolivia. It was awesome meeting my relatives. I really want to go back some time!!!!

— EMELY LOZA GONZALES,
10, GRADE 5

The New Beginning

It was July 7, 11:53 PM. Our dad told us to wake up. We were going to the hospital. Our baby brother was about to be born! I was so overwhelmed. All of my family was in a rush and running everywhere getting coats, blankets, cameras, and some other objects.

We managed to get all of our objects into the car with my mom as well. We were headed to the hospital. Our mom told us that the hospital that we were going to was the same hospital we were born in. I thought that was really cool that my sister, my almost born baby brother, and me were born in the same hospital. Then I got this weird feeling in my stomach. It was bothering me. I thought it was just that I was overwhelmed from the surprise that my baby brother was going to be born.

After all the weird feelings, we finally got there. When we walked in, it smelled like fresh cotton. I liked it. The smell calmed me down. Then our parents started talking to some people who then led us into a room. They handed my mom a gown to put on. After she put it on she lay down on this chair that looked like a big bed. Afterwards our dad called one of my mom's friends to drive us back home. She came and after talking to our parents she told us everything would be okay.

The next thing that happened was that I woke up and I was in my bed! After waking up my body, I went to my parent's room and my dad was laying on his bed looking on his phone. He said "Good morning, how did you sleep?"

SEE CAMPBELL ES, PAGE 13

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Joseph Pozo, 4, PreK



Keimi Yamasaki, 4, PreK



Michael White, 5, PreK



Maximo Fernandez, 4, PreK



Evander Wallace, 4, PreK



Alaa Boughaba, 4, PreK



Anthony Hernandez Castillo, 4, PreK



Jeremiah Ramos, 4, PreK

ARLINGTON TRADITIONAL SCHOOL



Robeen Lashhab, 4, PreK



Peter Dominguez-Byers, 4, PreK



Bethany Sanchez, 5, PreK



Janell Navia, 5, PreK



Adonia Mackey, 4, PreK

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LONG BRANCH ELEMENTARY



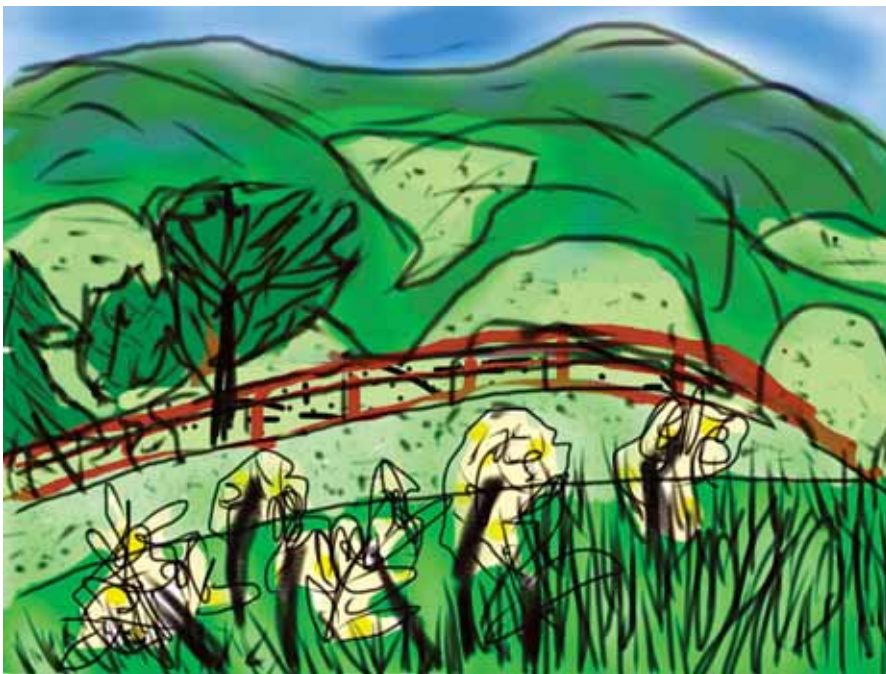
Nadia Karell, grade 1



Jacques-Cesar Badiane, grade 1



Jeidy Romero Lopez, grade 1



Harriet Shapiro, grade 4



Penny Wagner, grade 4



Iveel Bulgantamir, grade 2



Claire DeLancey, grade 2

LONG BRANCH ELEMENTARY



Elbethel Zebdewos, grade 1



Arvand Fiske, grade 1



Vivianna Wells, grade 2

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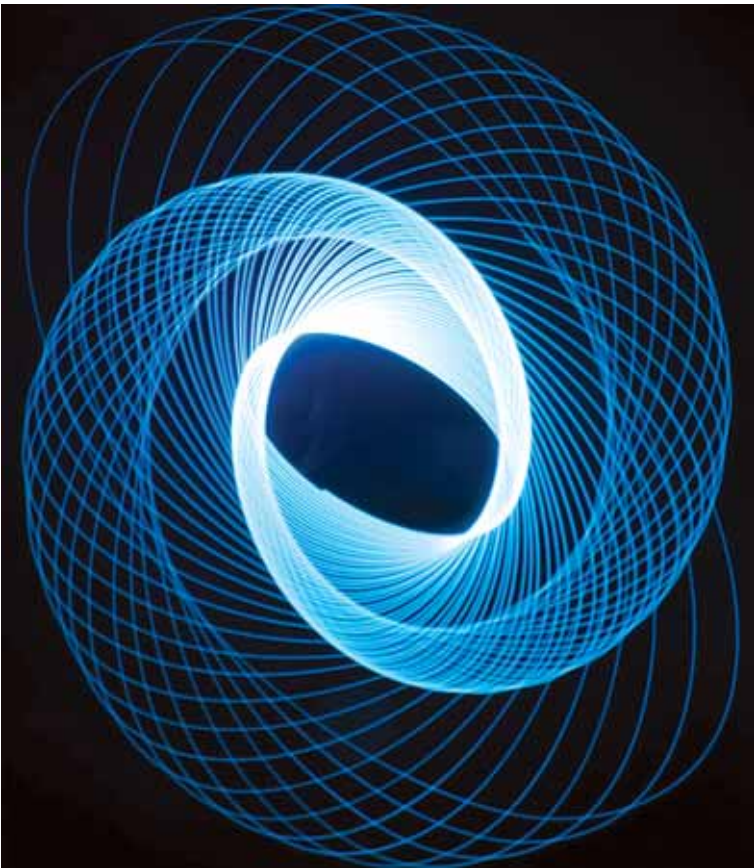
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YORKTOWN HIGH SCHOOL



Spirography,
Cormac
O’Harrow, 14,
grade 9



Zoë Dohrmann, 16, Grade 11 — “Bike Lane”



Dylan Duhamel, 15, Grade 9



Parker Christian, 16, Grade 11



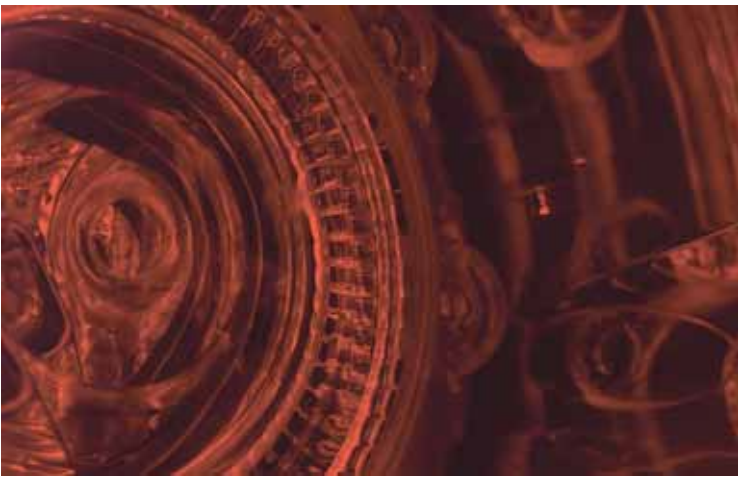
Sloane Gartner, Grade 11 — Profile in Color



Sloane Gartner, Grade 11 — Profile in Black and White



Madelyn Decker, 15, Grade 10



Stephanie Erdmann, Grade 12

NOTTINGHAM ELEMENTARY



Eile Campbell, grade 1 — Sunflowers



Conrad Schofield, grade 5 — Unusual Proportion Crayons



Sophie Neuman, grade 4 — Celebrating the Arts



Nora Schrag, grade 3 — Imaginative Animal



Eloise Herzfeld, grade 2 — Autumn Tree

CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY

FROM PAGE 5

"Fine," I said.
 "We are going to the hospital to visit your mom in an hour or so."
 "Okay," I said. After realizing what was going on I went to my room to change and wake up my sister. We went downstairs to eat breakfast. When we finished, we went upstairs to brush our teeth and hair. We put on our shoes, and went with our dad to the car.

When we got there, we went to the third floor. We entered this room where my mom was laying on the bed-like chair. She was holding my new baby brother. He was small and his skin was soft and pink. I could not believe that I just had a new baby brother! My mom said "Say hello to your new baby brother." This was a new beginning.

— SOFIA DOPAZO, 10, GRADE 5

My Trip to Michigan

My mom, my brother Hugo, and I took a long trip to Michigan. I was thinking that the trip was going to be so awesome!!!!!!!!!!!! I was even more excited when I found out my cousins, my grandma, my uncle, and my aunt were coming!

A few days before we left, my mom told me about the trip. This was a really big surprise to me. We drove to Michigan a couple of days later. It took about 8-10 hours.

When we got there my eyes widened in shock. The house was so big! It had 5 TV's, 6 bedrooms, and 5 bathrooms! Later we unpacked all of our belongings. After that, we walked around by the lake. It was so big that my cousin asked if it was an ocean. My aunt then said, "No, it is a lake." We played at the lake and once it started getting dark we walked to the

house. Then we started exploring the house.

We found two big bean bag chairs and played a game. The way we played the game was we ran up to the bean bag chairs, slid on them, and crashed into each other. We were also trying to knock each other off the bean bag chair. Later, after playing the game for about 30 minutes, we had to go to sleep.

The next morning, I woke up first and I ate breakfast. Then, I watched TV. The other days we just went to the lake and hung out.

On that day, it was my mom's birthday. My mom went out shopping with everybody except my grandma, Hugo, and I because we did not want to go. I started watching TV. and then I fell asleep at about 4:00 P.M.

When everybody got back they saw me and started sticking food in my mouth and in my nose. Later they started eating cake. The next morning, I was still the last one to wake up (I was asleep for 15 hours).

One day, we rented canoes and rode the canoes on a river. After about 45 minutes of paddling we got stuck in a marsh. We got out by pushing off objects and paddling hard. It took about 45 minutes to get out.

The next day my uncle took my cousin and me in his plane to Illinois. My uncle, my cousins, my aunt, and my grandma live in Illinois. Hugo, my other cousin, and my aunt drove to Illinois. My mom and my grandma also drove. Obviously my uncle, my cousin, and I arrived there first. First we ate lunch. Next we went swimming. Later, when everybody got there we had to go to some soccer event for my cousins.

I wish I could stay with my cousins and everybody else longer. My trip to Michigan was absolutely amazing. I really hope everybody who came can go back to Michigan again sometime.

— EUAN BELL, 10, GRADE 5

BURGUNDY FARM COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL



Tyler Friedl, kindergarten

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 Free admission

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At the Old Firehouse Teen Center
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 Friday, Jan. 15, 7-9 p.m.
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Family Fun Bingo
 Friday, Jan. 15, 7-8:30 p.m.
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 Free for children up to 36 months old.

Onstage @ The Alden
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 Saturday, Jan. 16, 2 p.m.
 \$15/\$10 MCC district residents

Martin Luther King Jr.
Day Celebration
Peggy Wallace Kennedy:
"A Walk to Redemption"
 Sunday, Jan. 17, 2 p.m.
 \$25/\$10 MCC district residents

The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org
Home of the Alden Theatre
www.aldentheatre.org



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CARLIN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY



Thanksgiving Tree A school-wide mural at Carlin Springs Elementary



Donovan Miller, Grade 5, Inspired by Pablo Picasso - Cubism



Yordanos Delle, kindergarten



Elmer Espinal Martinez, kindergarten

CARLIN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY



Ann Richard, grade 3



Valeria Aguayo Lopez, grade 3



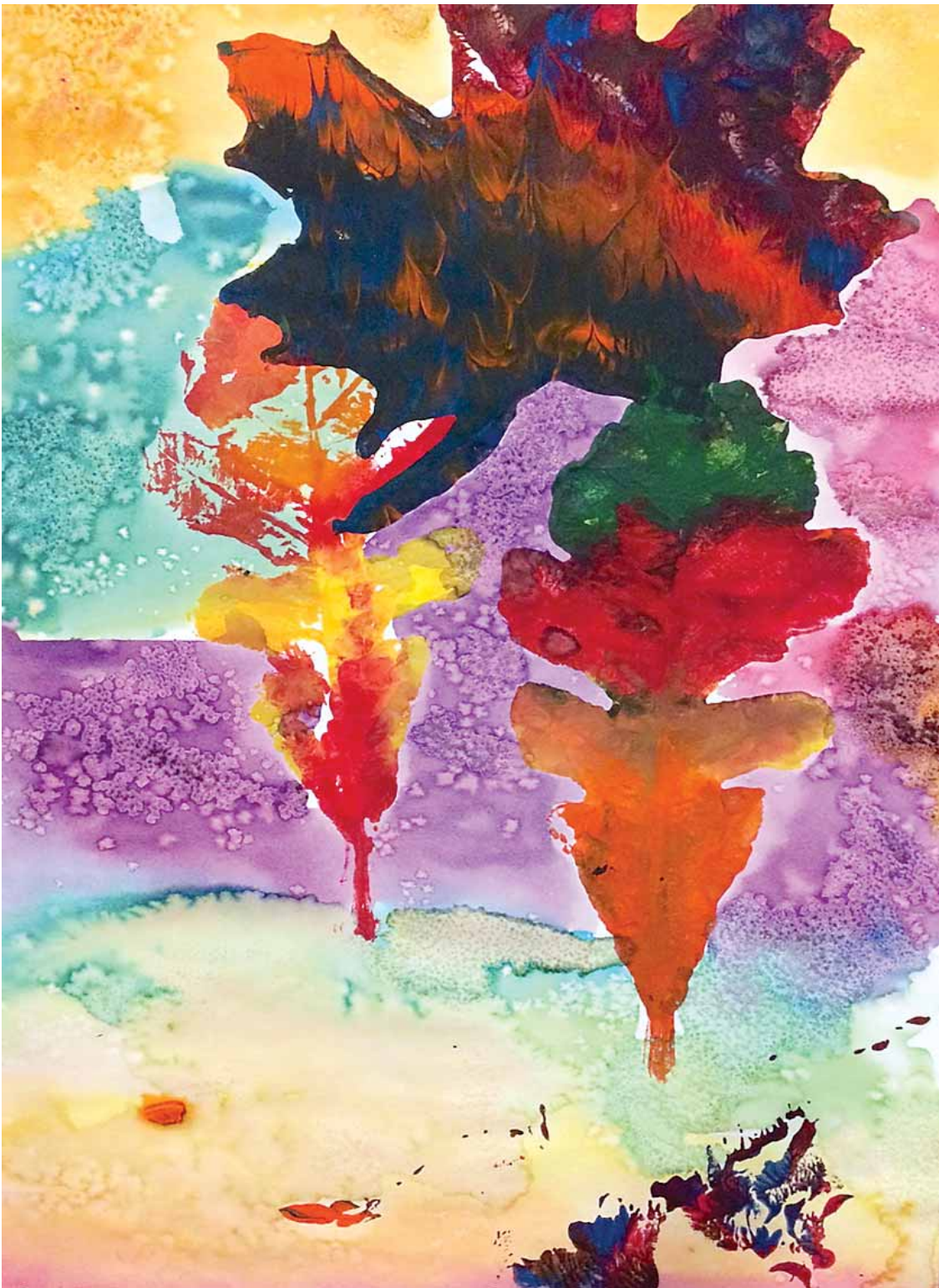
David Salome Cipriano, Grade 5



Daniela
Chavez
Sandoval,
grade 4



Christo-
pher
Zelaya
Flores,
grade 3



Michelle Orellana Torrico, Grade 3, Autumn Leaves — Printmaking

CARLIN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY



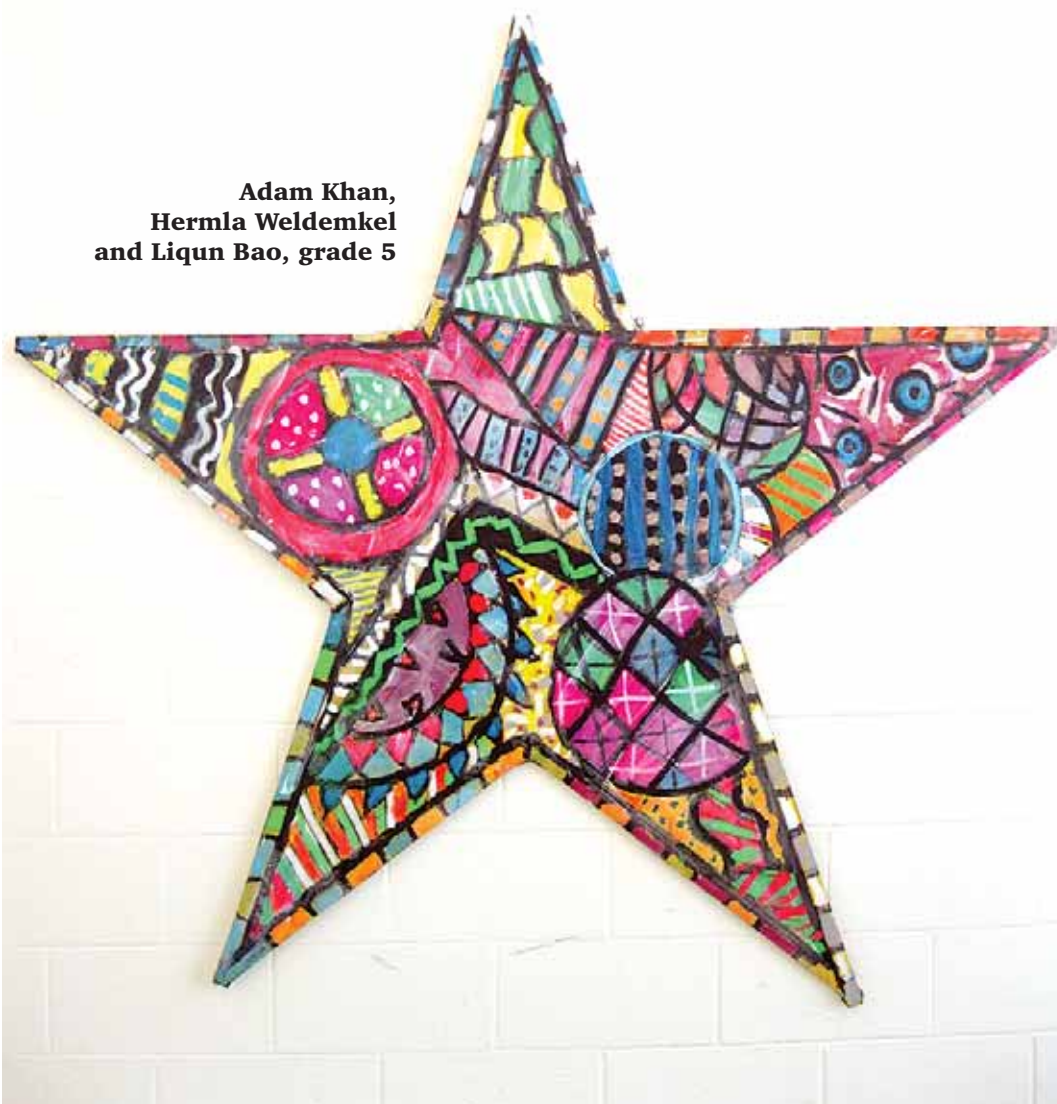
Diana Anaya, grade 2



Angie Patarroyo Torres, grade 3



Anna Keffler, Grade 5, Day of the Dead Skull



Adam Khan,
Hermla Weldemkel
and Liqun Bao, grade 5

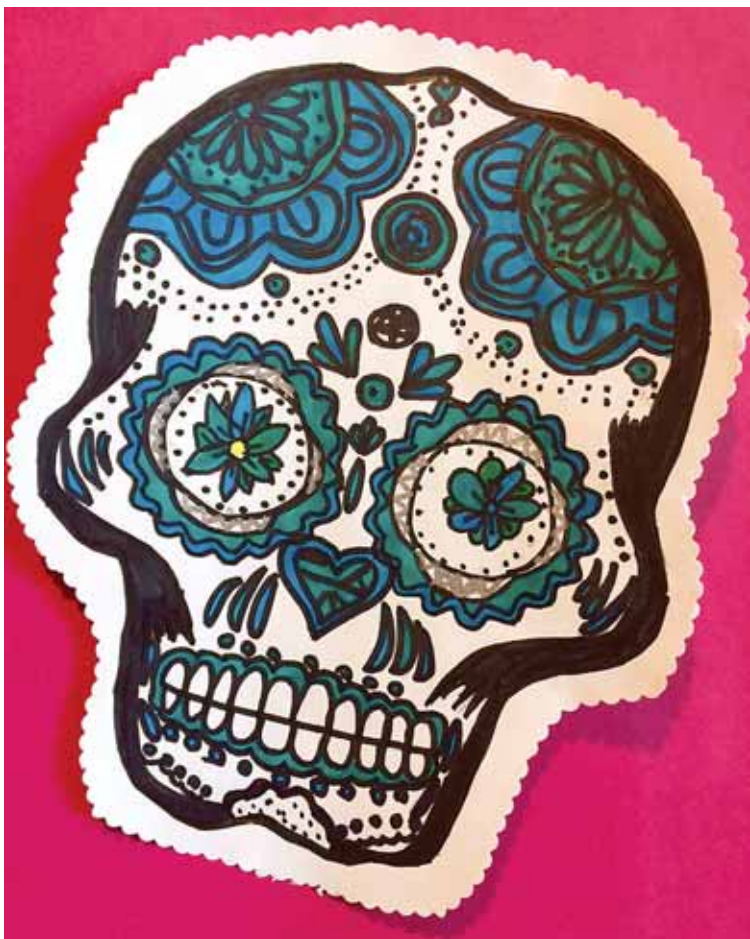


Alan Macias Ornelas, grade 3, Leaves — Oil Pastels & Watercolor



Jonathan Lewis, grade 2

CARLIN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY



Amy Fabara, Grade 5, Day of the Dead Skull



Sophie Moret, Montessori, Mondrian
Shapes and Lines



Manuel Pineda Zelaya, grade 4



Mellanie Maldonado Martinez, Grade 4, Starry Night —
Mixed Media



Marcus
Dudley,
Grade 3,
Leaves —
Printmaking



Griselda Cortez Hernandez, grade 4

GRACE EPISCOPAL SCHOOL



Phillip Williams
Fifth Grade
Phillip Williams, 11, grade 5

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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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The Time Is Now, And Then Some



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I sit and write, I am 25 days out from my next CT Scan. Which ordinarily, wouldn't cause a blip in my thinking; having been scanned and "resulted" over 25 times in the last seven years (usually, once every three months). However, this time the scan will occur after a quarter in which I've changed my infusion schedule from every three weeks to every four, as written about in a recent column entitled "All Four It." In doing the math: 13 weeks divided by three; 13 weeks divided by four; as a result of this modification, I am now receiving one fewer dose of chemotherapy. And this change was made not because I was in remission or my tumors had shrunk. No, this change was made because of a less-than-desirable quality of life. Also, as written about in a previous column, one entitled "Slippery Hope," feeling miserable one out of every three weeks was not contributing much to the quality of that life so in sharing these feelings with my oncologist, the change in frequency was agreed to. But my CT Scan schedule remains quarterly. Ergo this column's angst.

Given this rather significant change – and the correlating reduction in medicine administered, this next scan is hardly just another few slides in and out of the computerized tomography. No. This may very well be a crossroads in my treatment. If the scan shows no growth, then off I can continue infusing into the wild blue yonder (at least for the next three months until my next scan). If, on the other hand, the scan shows growth and/or movement, then perhaps I have crossed over onto a path going who knows where. And since my frequency change was made without discussing the what-if scenarios (which my oncologist prefers not to do), I am free to speculate without the benefit of any professional insight. Presumably, we'll either go back to infusing every three weeks (continuing with Alimta) and see what appears – or not – on the CT Scan (three months hence) or we'll change medications/protocols entirely and then, as we say in Boston: "It'll be Katie 'bahr' the door;" meaning, watch out/hang on for dear life (no pun intended) because new and different drugs don't necessarily equate to an improved/ "normal" quality of life. In short, my situation/health could get worse. And my request/desire to alter my previously effective infusion schedule – so far as keeping my tumors stable is concerned – from three weeks to four, may be the direct cause. Wanting to improve the quality of my life may now have led to a reduction in the quality of that life. And though I certainly understand how unreasonable it is for a patient/survivor to expect to have his cake (sugar-free preferably) and eat it too; still, I was hoping I had a few more bites at the apple.

I'll know soon enough – not, and that's the point of this column. Unfortunately, I'm already worrying about the results and the consequences of my actions. Usually, the associated anxiety starts about two weeks before the scan. Now, considering the stakes, I am worrying about it nearly four weeks before. Double the trouble and none of the fun. And believe me, it's not as if worrying this far ahead of the next scan serves any purpose whatsoever. Nor will it speed up the process or affect the scan results. All that happens is that I will be nervous and anxious about something I can't control, and make worse a situation (the waiting) that I've previously been able to manage.

Well, at least I'm not blaming myself – totally, anyway. This is all premature and nothing is pre-ordained. And considering that I've been on chemotherapy for almost seven years, and survived way beyond my oncologist's original "13 months to two-year" prognosis, perhaps my tumors won't be effected and life will go on as-per-usual. Who knows? Maybe infusing less will actually help me more?

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

CALENDAR

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.

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 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 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 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.

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.

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 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/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.

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.

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. 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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 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 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 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 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 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

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.madrosetavern.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 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 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 for more.

Stand-Up Comedy: Pete Davidson. 7:30 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 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 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 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 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 10th 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 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 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 for more.

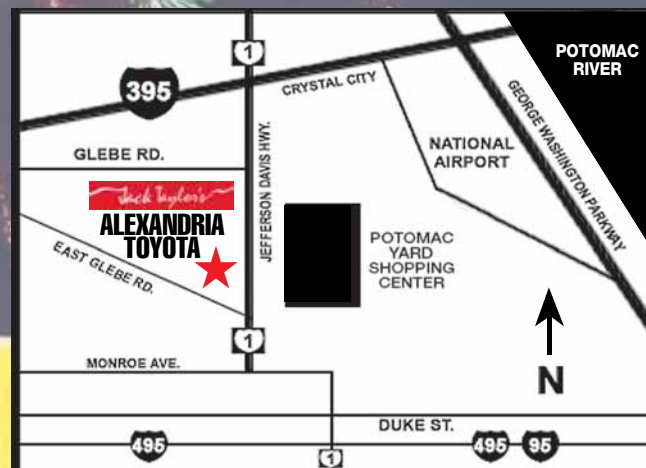
Hockey 'n' Heels. 6-9:30 p.m. at Kettler Capitals Iceplex, 627 N. Glebe Road. Hockey 'n' Heels is held each season exclusively for Scarlet Caps members and features instructional sessions and on-ice demonstrations targeted towards the Capitals' female audience. Tickets are \$75, \$65 for season ticket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

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