

The Arlington Connection

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLOOK

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WINTER FUN

PAGE 8

Mike Shallenberg, born and raised in Nebraska and an avid outdoorsman looks down his 90-yard driveway, shakes his head and says, "This is going to take a while to clear out. I can't even get my truck out of the garage." His wife Michele said she remembers the storms as a child in the Midwest when you just crawled from a drift onto your roof.

Digging Out

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Reshaping Arlington

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLOOK, PAGE 3

25 Years of Counting Birds

PEOPLE, PAGE 11

Wintry Snapshots



Mid-afternoon Sunday, a driver in a VDOT snow truck slowed down at the corner and waved as he buzzed down Glebe Road, which was mostly cleared for two-way traffic.



These squirrels poke their heads in and out of a hole in the snow as they play hide and seek before scampering off to chase each other along the wooden fence stretching along a backyard.



A startled mourning dove jumps backwards and a male and female cardinal dive bomb off a feeder in an Arlington backyard. They had been fighting off sparrows, a blue jay and a house finch for the best “no mess” selection of seeds.

PHOTOS BY
SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION



By Sunday morning one lane had been plowed on N. Woodstock Street but cars sat by the side of the road completely covered in snow.



Picnic anyone? This patio table and chairs have been turned into a snow sculpture in an Arlington yard. They join the grill also piled high with inches of snow.



Arlington entered Phase 3 of its snow operations as of Monday, Jan. 25. This meant that crews were widening primary and secondary arterial roadways, and beginning the process of cleaning residential streets.



What a difference a day makes. These pictures were taken on a 38th Place cul de sac in a sequence beginning Friday before the big storm and ending Sunday morning.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLOOK

ARLINGTON CONNECTION EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
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Columbia Pike corridor population projected in 2025

Projected population growth along Columbia Pike.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Lee Highway and the surrounding communities.

(1) Wheels Turning along Columbia Pike

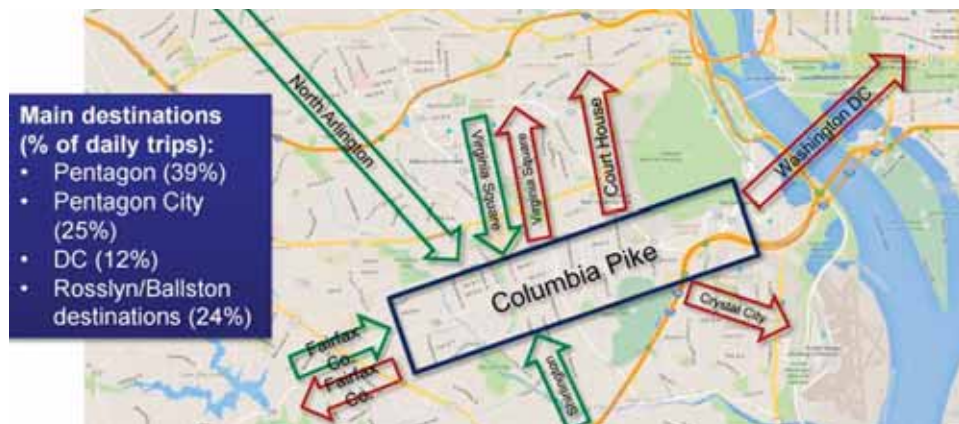
Columbia Pike is the fastest growing area of Arlington. The Columbia Pike corridor is estimated to experience a 21 percent population growth, twice Arlington County's anticipated 11 percent growth. But to facilitate that growth, the county will need to figure out how to transport all of that population.

At the beginning of this year, County Board Chair Libby Garvey expressed frustration at the delays in the Columbia Pike transportation. Garvey moved that the county manager present the new plan for Columbia Pike's transportation network at the County Board's Jan. 23 meeting. But Snowstorm Jonas forced the County Board to cancel its Jan. 23 meeting.

The Transit Development Plan is designed to replace the streetcar service, cancelled two years ago following public outcry against the cost. According to the plan, the current Columbia Pike buses are already at

capacity, and the county estimates a 21 percent increase in demands for mass transit in Columbia Pike over the next 10 years. Some bus stops currently experience "bunching," jams where buses are forced to wait for a spot to pull in.

The Columbia Pike Transit Stations Project calls for longer bus stop platforms that should help reduce bunching. Longer term, the Transit Development Plan calls for more connections between Columbia Pike and Crystal City or the Rosslyn-Ballston



Transit routes and demand to and from Columbia Pike.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

(2) Village Life on Lee Highway

After a series of community meetings in late 2015, Arlington County staff and the Lee Highway Alliance are ready to present a vision for the congested North Arlington neighborhood.

While the final vision is still to be presented to the County Board in its January meeting, if the community meetings have been any indication, the focus will be around cohesive community identity. At a community charrette, more connections between local biking and walking paths were identified as one of the major priorities.

Ginger Brown, one of the main organizers for the Lee Highway community events, said that the main messages out of those meetings was a focus on open space and retail-oriented urban villages.

The urban village design centers around community-serving retail built around open plazas and public meeting spaces. Amy Groves, principal and senior project director for Dover, Kohl & Partners, said that the biggest takeaway from the community meeting was the universal demand for better bike transit options as well as more trees along the sides of the streets and in the County's open spaces. The tradeoff, both Brown and Groves acknowledged, will be greater residential and retail density around the intersection of Glebe Road and Lee Highway.

— VERNON MILES

corridor, major metro hubs.

— VERNON MILES

SEE TRANSFORMING, PAGE 5

ARLINGTON CONNECTION ♦ JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 2, 2016 ♦ 3

OUT & ABOUT



Trees on N. River Street, photo by Alison Ming, a 9th grader at Yorktown High School.



PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Snowfall in Arlington during the 2016 blizzard.

**Wonder Woman and
Rudolph's friend
"Bumble" explore the
snowfall in Arlington.**

PHOTO BY
LORI HOFFER



And the flag was still there!

It's the Law: Shoveling Required

Arlington is known as a walkable community but that reputation can get buried when snow comes down and ice builds up. Clear pedestrian routes after a snowstorm ensure access to work, schools, services and everyday mobility, which is why Arlington has a snow removal ordinance. All property owners are required to clear public sidewalks adjacent to their property.

❖ Snow and ice must be removed from the entire width of the sidewalk up to 3 feet wide (to accommodate wheelchairs, strollers, and adults with children in hand)

❖ Snow and ice must be removed within 24 hours after a storm when accumulations are less than 6 inches, and within 36 hours when 6 or more inches of snow accumulate, as measured at National Airport by the National

Weather Service

❖ Snow and ice from private property may not be deposited onto public property including roadways and sidewalks

❖ Those who are over the age of 65 or are physically unable to comply are exempted.

Last winter the county received more than 600 complaints about uncleared sidewalks. It issued 25 citations after inspections. The snow removal ordinance was adopted by the County Board following the winter of 2009-2010, the snowiest season on record for the region. Although the ordinance remains in effect, due to the volume of snow, the county did not issue citations Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 25-26. Visit emergency.arlingtonva.us/weather/snow-ice/snow-removal-ordinance/ for more.

Blizzard Update

Arlington has entered Phase 3 of snow operations as of Monday, Jan. 25. This means that crews are now widening primary and secondary arterial roadways, and beginning the process of cleaning residential streets.

It may take until Tuesday night to reach all the streets. Residents can help identify trouble spots by reporting issues online at gis.arlingtonva.us/mapapps/snowpublic/index.php. Check plowing progress at emergency.arlingtonva.us/weather/snow-ice/snow-plowing-status/. It is challenging work, as plows not only need to maneuver in tight spaces, but also figure out where to put the volume of snow. As of press deadline, Arlington Public Schools have canceled school for Tuesday, Jan. 26 and Wednesday, Jan. 27. Many, but not all, Parks and Recreation activities are also cancelled Tuesday and Wednesday in line with the department's Inclement Weather Policy.

Madison, Lee, Carver and Drew Community Centers remained closed on Tuesday, Jan. 26. Gunston Community Center was scheduled to open at 2:30 p.m. and all other community centers, including joint use facilities located at Langston and Thomas Jefferson, were scheduled to open at noon, Tuesday, Jan. 26. Synthetic fields and Powhatan Springs Skate park remains closed through Friday, Jan. 29.

Visit emergency.arlingtonva.us/closings-delays-cancellations/ for details.



PHOTO BY ALI HENRY

Bear watches the snow fall at home in Arlington.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLOOK

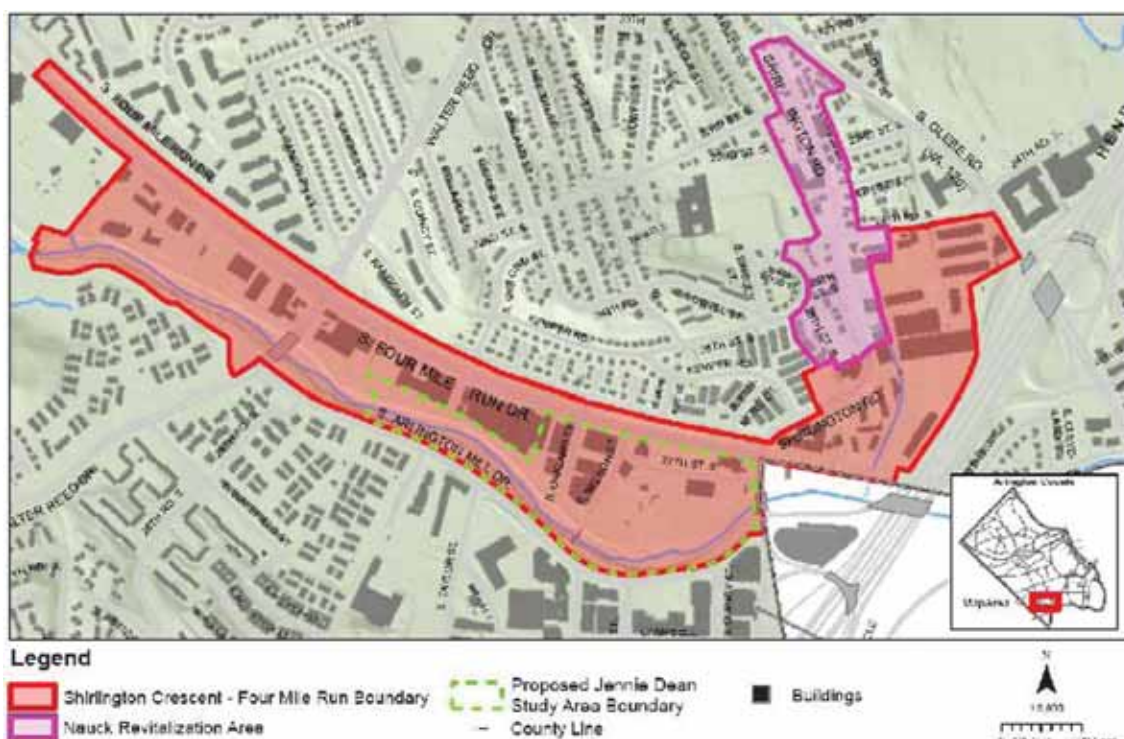


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The outlined scope of the upcoming Four Mile Run Planning Study.

Transforming Four Mile Run

FROM PAGE 3

(3) Four Mile Run

Four Mile Run isn't exactly a neighborhood. It's the only area in Arlington zoned for industrial/heavy service commercial, but it also encompasses nearby residential areas like Shirlington and Nauck. But in 2016, Arlington County will begin a community planning process to transform the neighborhood with the Four Mile Run Planning Study. The county's goals focus around reevaluating land use goals for a stretch of Arlington largely defined by auto repair.

2016 has already seen new changes for the area. New District Brewing Company, Arlington's first brewery, opened on Four Mile Run near Jennie Dean Park on Jan. 9. Owner Mike Katrivanos' family is from the neighborhood, and says the community has been very supportive of his business, with more than 1,200

visitors at the brewery's opening day ceremony.

But Robert Duffy, Arlington's planning director, said that transforming the neighborhood is going to be slow work. The area's widespread use of by-right zoning means that the storage space and auto service industries that own much of the land have full rights to buy or sell the land without County permission as long as it maintains the current type of industry. According to Duffy, this means a storage company can, and most likely will, continue to sell their land for other storage companies to build on. The county can take steps to enhance the neighborhood by removing the bus lot from Jeanne Dean Park. At a Jan. 10 tour of the neighborhood, County Board Chair Libby Garvey promised local residents that, by the end of the year, the buses would be removed and the community would have their park back.

— VERNON MILES

BULLETIN BOARD

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

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS IN JANUARY

Pop-Up Library Hours. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesdays, 2-6 p.m. on Thursdays at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. Find a selection of books and DVDs, get a library card, and get one-on-one tech help. Free. Visit www.library.arlingtonva.us for more.

TUESDAY/JAN. 26

"Arlington's Food Shed: Past, Present, and Future." 7-8:30 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 South Stafford St. Arlington County's Friends of Urban Agriculture will explore "Arlington's Food Shed: Past, Present, and Future" at their meeting. Featured speakers will include: William Gray from the Wallace Center, a nonprofit that supports entrepreneurs and communities as they build a new, 21st century food system that is healthier for people, the

environment, and the economy; and Hui Newcomb, co-owner of Potomac Vegetable Farms. Their Vienna location is the last remaining farm in Fairfax County. Visit <http://topics.arlingtonva.us/urban-agriculture/friends-of-arlington-urban-agriculture/> for more.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 27

Money Talk: A Financial Course for Women. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. This course is designed specifically for women. This session SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15



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'Disappointing, Not Surprising'

Bills to rein in predatory lending die in Senate committee.

Have you ever paid 36 percent interest on a loan or credit card? Not likely. It's an outrageous rate, especially given that the actual cost of money is close to zero right now.

But right now, some people in Northern Virginia are paying more than 200 percent on loans secured by their car title. These are people who are both financially desperate and financially unsophisticated, who likely assume that regulation would keep a lender from bleeding them dry with unrestricted interest rates.

Predatory lending is a local issue, with car title lenders congregating in lower income areas like along Route 1 in the Mount Vernon area, and also queuing up near the border with Prince George's County, Md., where car title lending is illegal.

Earlier this week, a Virginia Senate committee killed a bill that would have capped consumer loan interest rates at 36 percent. It's hard to believe, but right now there are no limits to the interest rates that can be charged in Vir-

ginia. And car title lenders, which are not consumer loans, often have effective interest rates of more than 200 percent.

"Predatory lending is a major problem in the U.S. 1 Corridor," said Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36), who introduced the failed legislation to curb predatory lending. "Car title lenders have been abusing this loophole by charging rates over 200 percent. ... To rein in car title lender bait and switch tactics, I am proposing to limit interest rates on consumer finance loans at 36 percent." But that effort died in a Virginia Senate Committee this week.

Between 2010, when the Virginia General Assembly gave the green light to the car title lending industry, the total number of locations more than doubled from 184 to 395.

Some legislators claim this is a free market and personal responsibility issue, that people who have no other options should be able to turn to high interest lending as a last resort. But most people who turn to these loans would be better off without this last resort.

"It's a trap, and although it's presented as a loan it's really loan-sharking," said Jay Speech, executive director of the Virginia Poverty Law Center. "People who get into this end up much worse off than when they started."

We all pay the price when an industry preys on the poor. People who lose their cars can lose their jobs, then relying on the frayed and in-

Listen to Michael Pope's reports on predatory lending on WAMU

Visit wamu.org/the_debt_trap

adequate safety net.

Michael Pope, who wrote about car title lending abuses when he worked for the Connection and Gazette Packet, recently completed a multi-part investigative series on predatory lending for WAMU, which you can listen to here: http://wamu.org/the_debt_trap

When his series concluded, the message of the damage of predatory lending seemed to resonate. Legislation to rein in the abuses of 200 percent interest seemed destined to make a difference.

This year, it will not.

Attorney General Mark Herring tweeted, "disappointing, not surprising" on Monday in response to the news that all four bills that sought to limit predatory lending were voted down in committee.

Disappointing, but not surprising. A sad commentary.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Lopez Submits 2016 Legislative Agenda

BY ALFONSO LOPEZ
STATE DELEGATE (D-49)

My legislative agenda reflects the values and priorities of our community. As the voice for our district in Richmond, I will continue to champion legislation that expands economic opportunity, preserves our environment, and keeps Virginians safe. These bills represent small steps towards a more sustainable, inclusive and prosperous Commonwealth.

Supporting Small Business

HB 971 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; implementation of certification programs.

For the past four years, I've introduced legislation to improve Virginia's definition of small business in the Small, Women, and Minority-owned (SWAM) public procurement program. Under the current definition, all businesses are required to have fewer than 250 employees or less than \$10 million in annual revenue. This overly broad, one-size-fits-all standard makes it difficult for truly small, women, and minority-owned businesses to compete with large companies that still qualify under the definition. Last year, the General Assembly agreed to adopt the U.S. Small Business Administration's small business size standards, but required a task force to evaluate this change outside of session. Throughout the year, we've reviewed the legislation and identified additional changes that need to be made. This



legislation makes this change permanent so that business in Virginia are classified as small based on their industry in a fairer and more transparent process.

Affordable Housing

HB 972 Virginia Housing Trust Fund; revenue deposits

Last year, I introduced legislation to dedicate a portion of Virginia's recordation tax collection to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund in order to support affordable housing projects and grant programs throughout the Commonwealth. While the bill was unsuccessful, the Virginia Housing Commission studied this idea outside of session and recommended that the General Assembly dedicate 20 percent of the recordation tax collection each year over \$325 million to the Housing Trust Fund. With the Housing Commission's endorsement and bipartisan support in the House of Delegates, I am hopeful that we will be able to create a dedicated source of funding for Virginia's Housing Trust Fund this year.

Clean Energy

HB 973 Renewable energy; efficient biomass. This bill redefines biomass in Virginia's definition of renewable energy to ensure that only energy sources with a low carbon footprint are considered renewable. The current definition allows large-scale biomass generation to be considered renewable, which can

emit about 50 percent more CO2 per unit of energy than coal.

Protecting Our Environment

HB 976 Special orders issues by environmental boards.

According to a recent study conducted by Environment Virginia, the Commonwealth was named as the fifth worst state for toxic dumping. We need to increase the penalties for violating Virginia's environmental protections in order to send a clear message to polluters their actions will not be tolerated. This legislation increases the maximum fine per violation from \$32,500 to \$50,000 and raises the allowable cap from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 for all violations.

HB 977 Discharge of deleterious substance into state waters; notice. Under current Virginia law, polluters have 24 hours to notify the Department of Environmental Quality or the appropriate board if there has been a pollution spill in state waters. In order to increase our chances of effectively mitigating any damage, we need to shorten the notification requirement to 12 hours.

"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

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

Senior trips: Thursday, Feb. 4, Verizon Center, D.C., Washington Capitals vs NY Islanders, \$70; Friday, Feb. 5, Okra's Cajun Creole Mardi Gras lunch, Manassas, \$40. Call Arlington, County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

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OPINION

A Blizzard of Bills and Budget Amendments

By ADAM P. EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)



Last week the General Assembly kicked into high gear holding committee hearings to review the thousands of bills considered during the “long” 60-day session. Seven of my bills have passed through committee and I am proud to report that two of them — one providing photo identification cards for private investigators, the other protecting the safety of asbestos workers — have passed the Senate by comfortable margins.

COMMENTARY The annual tradition of gun safety groups and Second Amendment advocates converging on Capitol Square continued on Martin Luther King Day as I met with people on both sides of the issue to hear their perspectives. I am sponsoring three measures to prevent gun violence this year, the first of which would have penalized adults for allowing toddlers 4 and younger to handle firearms; sadly, this bill did not survive committee.

A second piece of legislation to require universal background checks was combined with another member’s bill and awaits further consideration, while the third — prohibiting in-

toxicated people from carrying loaded weapons in public — will be considered this week.

Last Thursday, the Senate Finance Committee heard each senator present their budget amendments to be considered in the

Senate budget that will be released in mid-February. I proposed several budget amendments, including funding to foster the development of the unmanned aerial systems industry, the creation of an Office of Immigrant Assistance, and the addition of new Department of Labor and Industry safety and health inspectors to bring us up to the federal government’s recommended benchmark employment level. I also submitted a budget amendment to fund a Commission Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage. I will continue working with colleagues to see that as many of these amendments as possible are included in the final budget that the General Assembly sends to Governor McAuliffe.

Due to last week’s blizzard, two of our town hall meetings have been rescheduled. I hope Mother Nature will be more cooperative so that

you can join me at one:

❖ Arlington: Saturday, Feb. 6, 10-11:30 a.m.
Walter Reed Community Center – 2909 16th Street South, Arlington, 22204

with Del. Alfonso Lopez
❖ Alexandria: Saturday, Feb. 6, 2-3:30 p.m.
Mt. Vernon Community School – 2601 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria, 22301 with Del. Mark Levine

❖ Mt. Vernon: Saturday, Feb. 20, 12:30-2 p.m. Whitman Middle School – 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306 with Sen. Scott Surovell and Del. Paul Krizek

❖ Lee District: Saturday, Feb. 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Hayfield Elementary School – 7633 Telegraph Rd, Alexandria, 22315 with Sen. Scott Surovell, Del. Mark Sickles and Del. Paul Krizek
Please share your thoughts on legislation and other state-related matters with me by emailing district30@senate.virginia.gov.

Follow me on Twitter @AdamEbbin and Facebook at www.facebook.com/EbbinCampaign.

You can sign up for my weekly email updates and check town hall postponement notices at www.AdamEbbin.com.

It is my continued honor to represent the citizens of the 30th Senate District.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tone Deaf County

To the Editor:

Once again, the Arlington County government has proven to be completely tone deaf when dealing with residents. The duality of hiding under the parasol of being a sleepy Southern town, the government of which cannot properly plow after snow in a timely fashion, while acting high handed to our needs reached new heights after the blizzard.

Just hours after the snow stopped falling this week, the county issued emergency text alerts and Facebook postings reminding residents that they had until Monday noon to clean off their sidewalks. Citing some ridiculous ordinance requiring they

clear the entire width of sidewalks 36 hours after a snowfall of six inches or more, the county completely failed to take note that they had neither plowed or even looked at most neighborhood streets. Unlike Mayor Bowser in Washington, D.C., Arlington officials neither waived this ordinance nor originally gave residents a few more days to comply. (After some outcry they did say they wouldn’t cite anyone until the 27th. I suppose we were to be thrilled with that.)

When challenged, the county tried to hide under the hard work of the emergency workers and plow truck operators asking for our patience with street clearing. Understanding the pressure the plow crews and emergency workers were under was not issue. These people are doing an incredible amount of work with appar-

ently an inadequate supply of equipment and a lack of proper training. The issue is with the total lack of understanding, feeling or awareness on the part of those officials responsible for not only issuing such an absurd ordinance but for sending out warning notices even before plowing commenced in most neighborhoods.

If Arlington wishes to have a snow removal ordinance, here are some steps needed for improvement:

❖ Give homeowners 36 hours from when the county does its job — that is removing snow and trash. Often when the trucks do come through they toss the snow back into the sidewalks making the residents’ work mute.

❖ Purchase enough equipment to deal with our blizzards which we have with regularity.

❖ Teach drivers how to maneuver in blizzard conditions to prevent them from being stuck and how to bank snow so it doesn’t fall back on sidewalks as much as it now does or block cleared driveways.

❖ Work with neighborhood associations to identify elderly and disabled residents and establish an active and ongoing program to organize people to assist with their snow removal and other emergency needs.

Since raising taxes doesn’t seem to be an issue in the county, I am sure it can find money somewhere to accomplish these goals.

At the very least, striking a sympathetic and apologetic chord while they figure out how to do their own job would be a nice start.

Joan Porte
Arlington

Five Must-Dos Before Beginning a Remodeling Project



Embarking on a home remodeling project such as a whole house renovation, addition or even kitchen remodel is very exciting. Being as prepared as possible will help ensure a smooth process on your way to your dream home or room. Here are five things to consider before you start your next (or first!) remodel.

Be Fully Committed
Remodeling your home is a great luxury. Thinking positively will help you get the most out of it.

Think Clutter-Free
Move items from rooms to be remodeled to other rooms, the garage, or a storage unit. Try to keep only what you absolutely need.

Plan Out Usable Space During the Remodel
Think about where you could house a temporary master bedroom or bath or even a makeshift kitchen.

Design for the Future
When planning your new space, think about not only how you will use the remodeled space now, but down the road as well. This will ultimately save you time and money.

Enjoy the Process
This is your chance to create the room or home of your dreams. Be sure to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!

 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 or call 301.444.4663 to learn more.

Saint Ann Catholic Church

<p>SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:</p> <p>Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM</p> <p>Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM</p> <p>1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy</p>	<p>DAILY EUCHARIST:</p> <p>Weekdays</p> <p>Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM</p> <p>Saturday, 8:30 AM</p>
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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

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

“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.

“The History Boys.” Through Jan. 30, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday at Gunston Theatre One, 2700 S. Lang St. This play features boys at a British boarding school guided by a young history teacher and a veteran English teacher. Tickets are \$20. Visit www.dominionstage.org for more.

“Georgie: The Life and Death of George Rose.” Through Feb. 7, 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.

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” Through Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. at Gunston Theatre Two, 2700 S. Lang St. Avant Bard presents a new take on “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” Director Randy Baker will reimagine Shakespeare’s dream using Indonesian-inspired shadow puppets, accompanied by an actor-generated percussion orchestra. Tickets are \$10-35. Visit www.wscavantbard.org for more.

“Photography by Jan Bender and Richard Weiblinger.” Through March 30, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday at The Barry Gallery-Reinsch Library at Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Photographer Jan Bender focuses on film, using traditional techniques, Weiblinger’s photographs and plant photographs are hand-printed. Free. Visit www.marymount.edu/barrygallery.

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.



PHOTO BY SAHIBA KAUR CHAWLA

Kiran Ahluwalia



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Lulacruza

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.

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.crystallcity.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/



Rodrigo Amarante

Global-Phonic Music Festival Takes Spectrum Theatre Stage

The Global-Phonic Music Festival was designed to represent some of the diversity in the D.C. metropolitan area. First, Brazilian musician Rodrigo Amarante will perform at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, 1611 N. Kent St on Feb. 21. On March 4, Indian musician Kiran Ahluwalia and her husband, guitarist Rez Abbasi, will perform contemporary Indian music, followed by Lulacruz on March 11. Free. Visit www.arlingtonarts.org for more.

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JAN. 27-APRIL 3

“King of the Forest: Adventures of BioPerversity.” Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. This exhibit features the work of 13 contemporary artists from the mid-Atlantic region whose work explores the interactions between humans and non-human species. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org for more.

“Daydreams in the Anthropocene.” Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. In the Jenkin’s Community Gallery, Arlington Arts Center will present Instructor Select 2016, featuring work by both students and instructors. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org for more.

Instructor Select. Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. In the Jenkin’s Community Gallery, Arlington Arts Center will present Instructor Select 2016, featuring work by both students and instructors. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org for more.

THURSDAY/JAN. 28

Author Talk. 7 p.m. at One More Page

WINTER FUN

Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Writer, editor and French teacher Marianne Bohr shares from "Gap Girl Year: A Baby Boomer Adventure Across 21 Countries." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for more.

Book Talk. 7-8:30 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Hear author and Arlington resident Eric Lotke discuss his latest novel, "Making Manna," a tale in the tradition of Horatio Alger. "Making Manna" follows Libby Thompson, just 14 years old, who flees her abusive home with her newborn son, Angel. Free. Visit www.library.arlingtonva.us for more.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/JAN. 28-30

H-B Woodlawn: "Pirates of Penzance." 7 :30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, and a an additional 2 p.m. performance on Saturday at H-B Woodlawn High School, 4100 Vacation Lane. The H-B Woodlawn Fine Arts department presents a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera. Tickets are \$7-14. Visit www.hbwoodlawn.tix.com for more.

FRIDAY/JAN. 29

"Poetry Out Loud." 1 p.m. at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Twelve students from the region including public, charter, private and homeschool students will compete at the competition. Free. Visit www.arts.virginia.gov for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 29-31

"Deathtrap." 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Glebe Road. The Arlington Players present "Deathtrap," a comedy-thriller. Tickets are \$21.50, \$15.50 for children 18 and under and \$16.50 for seniors 60 and older. Visit www.arlingtonplayers.org 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.

Music and Dancing Through the Decades. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Dancing to music from the 1950s to the present including ballroom, swing, hand dancing, and moonwalking. Free. Call 703-228-4711 for more.

The Book Divas. 2 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. The Book Divas — authors Puja Guha, B. Swangin Webster, Dee Lawrence, and K.R. Raye — chat about their books in the romantic suspense, new adult, drama, and thriller genres, along with sharing their writing journeys. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com 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.

Piano Concert. 4-5 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 3022 Woodlawn Ave., Falls Church. Dr. Sarah Masterson will perform music by 20th century American composers, including a set of arrangements of folk songs, the solo version of Rhapsody in Blue, and a concert

fantasy on the spiritual "Wade in the Water." Free. Visit www.holytrinityfallschurch.org.

92nd Annual Arlington Business Gala. 6:30 p.m. at The Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City, 1250 S. Hayes St. The Arlington Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating its 92nd year in business with area business leaders and Chamber members at the 92nd Annual Arlington Business Gala, hosted by 2016 Chamber Chair Todd Yeatts, The Boeing Company. Tickets are \$225. Visit www.arlingtonchamber.org/events for more.

Rodef Performs! 7:30 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. This "beit café" (coffeehouse) show will feature musical performances in a wide variety of genres, including jazz, folk, rock, classical, klezmer, and stand-up comedy. Tickets are \$18. Visit [www.rodefperforms.eventbrote.com](http://www.rodefperforms.eventbrite.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.

"O Rosa Bella." 8 p.m. at St. George's Episcopal Church, 915 N. Oakland St. Hear music by Machaut, Dufay and Ciconia performed with voices, vielles, other bowed instruments, and recorder, by Tracy Cowart, Elena Mullins, Sian Ricketts, David McCormick and Niccolo Seligmann. General admission tickets are \$25, \$10 for students 18 and younger. Visit www.capitolearlymusic.org for more.

SUNDAY/JAN. 31

Arrangement Seminar: "Fun with Roses." 2-4 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center- Fair Oaks at 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. The Arlington Rose Foundation will host an interactive demonstration of design secrets for rose arrangements. Free. Call 703-371-9351.

"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.

MONDAY/FEB. 1

"Slaves of Mount Vernon." 1-2 p.m. at Arlington Woman's Club, 700 S. Buchanan St. In honor of Black History Month, attend a presentation by Mary Thompson a researcher/ author with George Washington's Mount Vernon Home and Farm. Learn more about Mount Vernon's 18th Century slave culture. Free. Email womansclubarlington@gmail.com.
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 for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 2

Grasses for the Masses. 7-8:30 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 St. Stafford St., Room 118. Learn to grow native plants indoors during the winter months, and install them in the spring where they can provide environmental benefits. The fee for the workshop is \$40. Visit www.cbf.org/grasses to register.

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




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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

School Integration. 6 p.m. at H-B Woodlawn Secondary School, 4100 Vacation Lane. Arlington Public School invites the community to hear the memories and reflections from those who were involved in Integration and discuss why these events matter for Arlington. Free. Visit www.apsva.us for more.

St. Olaf Band. 8 p.m. at Yorktown High School, 5200 Yorktown Blvd. The St. Olaf Band's national tour program will feature the premiere of David Maslanka's "Angel of Mercy," commissioned for the 125th anniversary of the band. Admission is \$10, free for students. Visit www.stolaf.edu/stolaf-band for more.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 3

Opening Reception: "Art on the ART Bus." 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Sehkraft Beer Garden & Haus, 925 N. Garfield St. The 15th Season of the Art On the ART Bus Mobile Gallery launches with paintings based on the inspiring stories of four Arlington entrepreneurs. Celebrate the exhibit by touring a bus and listening to a brief talk with the artist and curator Cynthia Connolly. Free. Visit www.arlingtonarts.org for more.

THURSDAY/FEB. 4

Valentine Cafternoon. 4 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Kids and teens are invited to make a valentine treat. Free. Visit library.arlingtonva.us for more.

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



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Advance Screening of 'Maestro'

The Arlington Philharmonic will host an advance screening of "Maestro" about conductor Paavo Jarvi on Feb. 11 at Rosslyn Spectrum Theater, 611 N. Kent St. For two years, a film crew follows Jarvi and works to capture the "pressures of self-expression, the rush of performance, and above all, the power of a universal language." Audience Q&A with the film's director and producer, David Donnelly will follow. A reception with live music and light fare begins at 6 p.m. and the film at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$40 at the door. Visit www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org for more.

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 for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/5-7

"Deathtrap." 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Glebe Road. The Arlington Players present "Deathtrap," a comedy-thriller. Tickets are \$21.50, \$15.50

for children 18 and under and seniors 60 and older. Visit www.arlingtonplayers.org for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 6

Grasses for the Masses. 9:30-11 a.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 St. Stafford St., Room

118. Learn to grow native plants indoors during the winter months, and install them in the spring where they can provide environmental benefits. The fee for the workshop is \$40. Visit www.cbf.org/grasses to register.

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 for more.

MONDAY/FEB. 8

Lecture. 4-4:30 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 Quincy St. Kenneth A. Daigler will discuss "Early American Spies, American Revolution Spy Craft and Tactics. Free. Call 703-228-2144 for more.

Anti-Valentine Day Party. 7 p.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. Find chocolate, crafts, coloring, and more. Free. Call 703-228-5715.

TUESDAY/FEB. 9

Workshop: Vegetable Gardening. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Walter Reed Recreation Center, 2909 16th St. South. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, (Arlington and Alexandria) present a workshop for the beginning vegetable gardener will address best management practices for site selection, soil requirements and soil improvement. This planning program provides guidance on crop selection and planting schedules. Free. Call 703-228-6414.



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NEWSPAPERS



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PEOPLE

Young Leads 25th Christmas Bird Count

Spotting some new species locally and missing others.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

It is 7 a.m. at Theodore Roosevelt Island on Dec. 19, windy and expected to warm up to the 40s. Almost seven hours later, Bill Young and his team of eight will have recorded 2,533 birds with 60 different species in Subsector 5 for the Audubon's 116th annual Christmas Bird Count.

"This is one short of our best count ever and tied with the best count if one includes a count week

William Young has been participating in the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count where he has been compiling the numbers for the last 25 years, reporting the day's tally into a central historical data base. This year they have seen 60 different species and 2,533 birds total. Young says, "this is one short of our best count ever."



Pine Warbler I saw yesterday," Young said.

Over the 25 years Young has been compiling the numbers, they have recorded 53,115 birds with the average over the 25 years to be 2,125 birds in a year's count and an average of 48 different species. "One of the reasons our species numbers are higher than in previous decades is that we now have a greater number of skilled

counters who provide greater coverage of the subsector. This year we had the highest totals ever in our subsector for seven of the species — Double-crested Cormorant, Bufflehead, Kildeer, Downy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Dark-eyed Junco and Common Grackle."

The subsector includes Roosevelt Island, Roaches Run, Columbia Island/LBJ Memorial Grove, Gravelly Point, the Pentagon, and the George Washington Parkway. He said the count itself is also like having a tour of D.C. Besides birds, "We see the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Kennedy Center, Watergate, Jefferson Memorial, Capitol Building, Teddy Roosevelt Monument, etc. During the 25 years I have been the compiler for the subsector, we have seen 16 of the 100 different species each year."

But this year he notes they missed some of the species they have seen in past years. "Black-crowned Night-Herons used to be fairly regular, but this year marks the sixth time during the past eight years that we did not see one." In addition, Young says they did not see a Swamp Sparrow for the first time in the past six years. "We have not found a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in our subsector since 2011."

There have been a lot of changes in bird populations according to Young. "We used to see quite a lot of waterfowl both at Roaches Run and in the Potomac. Twenty years ago, we saw a dozen species of ducks. This year we saw only five, and with two of those species only one individual." But they are making up the difference with explosions in Double-crested Cormorants which before 2011 were scarce. "This year we counted more than 100." But he notes that changes on Roosevelt Island over the last 25 years have not been good for bird populations



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

"Whish whish whish." William Young is pishing, attempting to draw out the Orange-crowned and the female American Redstart warblers spotted in the bushes by the Boundary Channel earlier on the annual Christmas Bird Count. Young is the official counter for Subsector 5 that encompasses LBJ Memorial Grove. He says "the Orange-crowned Warbler is unusual for this time of the year but the American Redstart is bizarre and the first we've seen on the count in the 25 years I have been counting."



William Young searches the water for birds on Dec. 19 at the Christmas Bird Count. This Audubon-sponsored event takes place annually from Dec. 14-Jan. 5. He spots a blue heron but says the Black-crowned Night-Heron who used to be a regular "in that tree right back there" seems to have disappeared in recent years. And ducks seems to be diminishing while the Double-crested Cormorant population has exploded.

with invasives, tree damage due to storms and quite a few deer who pick at the understory that some birds need for protection.

Six Bald Eagles were recorded near Memorial Bridge with three adults in the air at the same time and two juveniles recorded together at 8:30 a.m. An Orange-crowned Warbler was spotted in a mixed flock at LBJ Grove that also included an American Redstart, both kinglets and chickadees. "The American Redstart is the new species this year that brought our total to 100 different species, a highly unusual sighting three days before the Winter Solstice."

Young shares some memories from the last 25 years. There was the year he did the Christmas bird count alone. One year the count was snowed out because of Snowmageddon. "Mayor Williams told people to stay off the streets, so we did the count in January." Another year he said, "We do the count on Roosevelt Island so [we] had to sneak onto the island through a hole in the fence the year the Federal government was shut down." The most memorable sighting was the Snowy owl last year in his subsector. "No snowy owls had yet been seen in the area that winter and none had been seen on the Christmas count since 1949."

The Christmas Bird Count is conducted between Dec. 14-Jan. 5 each year. There is a specific methodology with each count taking place in an assigned 15-mile wide diameter circle. Volunteers follow a designated route counting every bird they see or hear that day. The count compiler keeps records of species, numbers and locations of the birds and sends it to a central location where thousands of reports across the United States and Canada are added to a historic database.

"These people are volunteers. I deeply appreciate that so many people have been so faithful in coming back year after year," Young said. "My sector is one of the most popular because we have a mixture of habitats, we are centrally located and easy to get to."

Young is a local birder whose travels have taken him to Panama, Africa and the Galapagos. He lectures locally, posts videos on U-tube on everything from "A Snowy Owl Stumped" to "Panama Hummingbirds" to "Blue-footed Boobies in the Galapagos Islands." In May 2014 Dover published his book, "The Fascination of Birds: from the Albatross to the Yellowthroat."



William Young took this picture of the American Redstart in the brush at LBJ Grove a few days after the Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 19.

Beyer Reviews His Work in Congress

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

It's been a little over a year since U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) took office, and both the first term congressman and his political opposition have been busy in that time.

Beyer had what he calls "two and a half" bills passed this year. It's not high profile legislation, but for a congressman in the minority, Beyer says he's proud of them. The half-bill was part of legislation attached to the highway bill. Beyer's amendment returned control over towing to local jurisdictions, the beginning of a process to stop the predatory towing that's troubled Arlington County in recent years.

The first full legislation was a science prize bill — essentially, a bounty on the American scientific communities toughest problems.

"NASA has been using cash prizes for years to engage people to solve math problems," said Beyer. "This extended that to the National Institute of Health and the Center for Disease Control. It's engaging more citizens in solving

some of the nation's most difficult problems."

The other legislation was a bill supporting resources to the National Science Foundation for research into the causes and treatment for dyslexia. Beyer's cosponsor on the bill was Lamar Smith, a Republican representative from Texas. While politically opposed on many issues, Beyer says he was surprised by how cordial relations were between members of the two political parties.

"It's actually friendlier than I thought," said Beyer. "The outside perspective is that it's dysfunctional and everyone hates each other, but that's not true. It's very easy to walk on either side of the aisle and have positive conversations. A lot of people, I think their votes would be different if they were secret, but the great fear is being primaried and facing attacks from the extremes in their party."

In his own district, Beyer doesn't face any pressure from more hardline Democrats challenging his reelection bid, at least not yet.

However, the Republican challengers are already starting to line up. The loudest voice of opposi-

tion so far has been Mike Webb, a Republican and a retired army officer. Webb has attacked Beyer on everything from climate change to Beyer's handling of minority groups within his district. Webb's campaign has started as grassroots as they come in the 21st century, with a Facebook page, and then local farmer's markets and churches when that started gaining a following. While no candidates have officially filed paperwork for the November election yet, the name of the facebook page, "Mike Webb for Congress," could be an indication of Webb's intention to run against Beyer. The page has 658 likes, the currency of the social media movements, which leaves him with a gap if he hopes to catch up with Beyer's 3,033 likes by the November election.

Webb is unabashedly conservative. "I have a straight conservative message," said Webb. "I'm not watering that down. I'm not a progressive or a liberal."

Webb's priorities sync up with his image as a true-red conservative.

"My main issue of concern is the

Right to Life," said Webb. "I do not understand how we can forget those without a voice and call it 'pro-choice.'"

While the legalization of abortion was ultimately a Supreme Court decision, Webb says he would support everything from defunding Planned Parenthood to a constitutional amendment to stop abortions. On the topic of removing funding from Planned Parenthood, an organization that has been at the center of national controversy, Webb said that taking away government funding from the group was necessary.

"Legislation isn't a scalpel," said Webb. "It's not a surgical remedy, but you can apply a hammer to things that are wrong. When you're killing innocent babies, there's nothing more wrong than that."

As a military veteran, Webb also expressed concern that the United States is not sufficiently supporting its armed forces. Webb said that his priority would be ensuring that the military, especially the overburdened special operations branches, receive sufficient funding for their operations. Webb also

noted that, had he been in Congress at the time, he would not have supported a nuclear deal with Iran.

The 8th District hasn't had a Republican representative since 1990, when Jim Moran unseated Republican Stanford Parris. In the 2014 election, Beyer claimed 63 percent of the vote, with a 64,292 vote lead over Republican challenger Micah Edmond. On the surface, Webb admits he and Edmond share similarities. Both are conservative African-Americans with a military background. However, Webb says the similarities end there. Webb says Edmond failed to capitalize on the strong African-American communities of faith. For that matter, Webb says Beyer has also neglected the African-American communities of faith.

Webb says his campaign has two things going for it: Webb's strong roots in the local African-American community, and an incumbent he has accused of "not doing his job."

"[Beyer] says 'critical pieces of legislation have passed', but one is an amendment for towing legislation," said Webb. "it's not the most important issue."

But Beyer says he spends as much time in Congress playing defense as he does pushing forward legislation.

"On the [House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology], we tend to be dominated by climate change skeptics and deniers," said Beyer. "We often have to speak in defense of existing [environmental legislation] and resist attempts to overthrow them."

But as the minority, Beyer says he doesn't always come out on the winning side of that fight. In particular, Beyer says he's been fighting against H.R. 2295, a bill that would allow natural gas pipelines rights-of-way through all federal lands, including National Parks.

"I fought that at committee level and floor level, and I lost both times," said Beyer, "but I don't think it will pass the Senate or President. In the meantime, we've created a lot of arguments about why that was a bad bill."

There's not a lot of instant gratification in legislation, one of the lessons Beyer has learned from his first term in congress, and one he hopes he'll be able to expand on in a second term.

"You have to be patient and take the long view, especially being in the minority party," said Beyer. "My top priority is still the carbon tax and economic dividend ... but, you also realize you're not going to get it done in the 114th Congress. But maybe I can get it done in the 115th or 116th. I just have to make the case as best I can."



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Wakefield's Tham Got into Sibling Snowball Fight

A snowstorm caused Arlington County Public Schools to cancel classes and athletic events from Thursday, Jan. 21 through Wednesday, Jan. 27. Parts of Northern Virginia received more than 20 inches of snow during the weekend, according to the National Weather Service, creating a break from competition for local high school athletes.

SNOWSTORM Q&A

Wakefield senior defensive lineman Anthony Tham, a first-team all-region and VHSL second-team all-state selection in, shared his storm experience via email.

Q: How did the amount of snowfall in your neighborhood compare to what you thought would fall?

A: I didn't expect as much snow as we got, at all. There was so much snow that my entire backyard is practically blocked off.

Q: What, if any, preparations did you and your family make for the storm?

A: We bought enough groceries to last about three days. We also had our shovels and salt ready before the snow started to fall.

Q: What did you do to pass the time during the storm?

A: Played video games with my brothers and watched the Michigan State vs. Maryland game and both NFC and AFC championship games.

Q: Did you play in the snow? If so, what did you do?

A: I went sledding with a couple

of friends and had a snow ball fight with my siblings.

Q: Do you play a winter sport at Wakefield? If not, are you preparing for a different sport?

A: I'm preparing to play lacrosse for the first time this spring.

Q: Were you able to exercise/practice during the storm? If so, what did you do?

A: I did sit-ups during the commercials to kill the time.

Q: Do you have college plans? Will you be playing a sport?

A: I plan to play football at a [junior college] next year. I'm not sure yet, though. I'm looking at several schools, currently.

— JON ROETMAN



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Wakefield defensive lineman Anthony Tham (72), seen during his junior season, earned VHSL second-team all-state honors in 2015.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Looking for Umpires

Northern Virginia Baseball Umpires Association is in need of umpires for youth leagues, high schools, and collegiate-level baseball and volleyball games. Experience is helpful, but not required. Will give classroom and field training to help in acquiring skills needed. Contact John Porter at 703-978-3601 or assignor@umpires.org.

Field Hockey Registration

Registration is now open for Potomac Field Hockey's spring FUNdamental program for Pre-K through second grade and Youth Rec league program for grades 3-8. No experience necessary. Once-weekly team practices with games on Saturdays. Technical skills sessions included. Season begins March 28 and runs through June 4. Visit www.potomacfieldhockey.org or email info@potomacfieldhockey.org.

Coaches, Umpires Needed

Coaches and umpires are needed for our upcoming spring season. Umpires needed for youth games on Saturdays. Send coach inquiry to info@potomacfieldhockey.org; send umpire inquiry to umpire@potomacfieldhockey.org.

Open House

Potomac Field Hockey will be holding open houses March 1 and 3 from 5-7 p.m. Drop in. Equipment provided. Visit www.potomacfieldhockey.org.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Jennifer Browne graduated with a Doctor of Physical Therapy from The College of St. Scholastica (Duluth, Minn.) in December 2015.

The following students graduated with honors during the Dec. 19, 2015 commencement exercises at James Madison University: **Timothy Ryan** graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in international affairs and **Beatrix Haddon** graduated Cum Laude with a degree in media arts and design.

Hannah Grace Madison graduated Magna Cum Laude from Clemson University (Clemson, S.C.) Dec. 17, 2015, with a Bachelor of Arts in English.

Samuel Murphy, Instructional Assistant program student, was named to Western Technical College (La Crosse, Wisc.) President's List of High Distinction for fall semester 2015.

Kyra Klontz was named to the Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) dean's list. Klontz is earning a Bachelor of Art majoring in music education, music performance.

Joseph Breslin of Arlington was among more than 1,550 students named to The University of Scranton (Scranton, Pa.) dean's list. Breslin is a senior neuroscience major in the University's College of Arts and Sciences.

The following Furman University (Greenville, S.C.) students are included on the dean's list for the 2015 fall semester: **Taylor Jensen**, son of Michael Jensen and Mary Jensen; **Matthew Rosenberg**, son of Mary Howard and Charles Rosenberg; **Amanda Smith**, daughter of Kendrick Smith and Neal Smith; **Nathan Thompson**; and **Thomas Thompson**, son of Loren Thompson and Thomas Thompson.

Anthony Box, a student from Arlington, recently traveled to Stockholm, Sweden to experience Nobel Week. Anthony was one of 24 members of the National Society of High School Scholars selected for this study trip in December 2015. This trip gave students the opportunity to witness first-hand the

legacy of NSHSS Co-founder and Chairman Claes Nobel, senior member of the family that founded the Nobel Prize. The NSHSS students attended several Nobel Week activities including the 2015 Nobel Prize Ceremonies, the Nobel Lectures, and the Nobel Week Dialogue. Visit www.nshss.org.

Arianna Hume and **Abigail Spires** achieved the dean's list at Belmont University (Nashville, Tenn.) for the fall 2015 semester.

Caroline McCune has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2015 semester at the University of Vermont (Burlington, Vt.). McCune is a class of 2018 business administration major in the Grossman School of Business.

Wakefield High School senior **Rebecca**

Mercado-Rios was selected to receive a four-year, full-tuition scholarship from the Posse Scholarship Foundation to attend partnering institution Bucknell University (Lewisburg, Pa.).

Jasheem McRae was named to the Columbia College (Columbia, Mo.) dean's list for the August-October and October-December 2015 sessions.

Lucas Codispoti placed second in the preliminary round of the American Bankers Association Lights, Camera, Save! video competition. Codispoti, a student at Gunston Middle School in Arlington was selected as the runner-up for his video, "Everyone Has A Reason to Save." He will receive a \$100 gift card from Burke & Herbert Bank. His teacher, **Harry Costner**, will receive a \$50 gift card for his support.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Shared Goals

Arlington Public Library staff presented the The Reading Connection with a check for more than \$2,400 — representing a \$1 donation from the Friends of the Arlington Public Library for each person who completed 2015 Summer Reading. From left are Nico Piro, Judy Hijikata (The Reading Connection's communication director), Margaret Brown (The Reading Connection's board member), Lindsey Berke, and Alex Zealand. The Reading Connection is dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk children and families by helping them create and sustain literacy-rich environments and motivation for reading.

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21 Announcements

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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

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"Your Blood Pressure is a Little High, Mr. Lourie"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"You think? I'm a little nervous right now. I'm waiting for scan results from last week." (I mean, it's not as if my life depends on them or anything.) As much as my blood pressure, heart rate and temperature are vitally important, the CT Scan of my chest matters more. Although, I'm not so naive to think that those other readings couldn't indicate trouble/potential trouble. Nevertheless, I still feel, with the limited knowledge I have, that – and I don't want to get political here – my CT Scan trumps your vital signs. "If you need to get a reading, why don't you come back in 15 minutes after I've met with the doctor?"

Thankfully, the scan results were/continue to be, amazingly encouraging. When my oncologist came into the examining room where I was sitting and waiting – and trying to remain calm, with my life/immediate future hanging in the balance, he said, rather nonchalantly, that my "scan was great" and that I was his "miracle patient": surviving nearly seven years now since my stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) diagnosis in late February, 2009. He then sat at the computer and asked me the standard questions about pain, headaches, stroke-like symptoms, the neuropathy in my feet, need to re-order any prescriptions, new or worsening symptoms; all of which I answered in a non-complicating way: "No. No. No." He typed in my responses and then suggested, while smiling, that we were negotiating. Not completely understanding his reference, I asked what he meant. And what he meant was, given my "miracle" status, the possibility of extending, yet again, the interval between my chemotherapy infusions, from four weeks to five (see column dated 11/25/15 entitled "All Four It") and extending as well my every-three-month CT Scan to every four or even six months and likewise extending the interval for my PET Scan to yearly. All of which sounded wonderful, but we were still "negotiating."

My oncologist's concern/goal/intention in these discussions is, and always has been, the quality of my life (after all, I do have cancer). And when I've had a particularly difficult post-chemo week, as I experienced most recently, and told him as much, he feels as if it's a week of my life that he's sort of taken away and won't be able to ever give back. Extending the intervals is his way of trying to get me more good weeks and/or increasing the length of time between bad weeks.

However, there are no protocols, clinical studies or history even, for him to consult to determine how best to treat me: "me" being a stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer patient who's alive, reasonably well and still undergoing treatment SEVEN YEARS after originally being "prognosed" to die within "13 months to two years." At this point, he said, it's more common sense and patient preference that dictates how we proceed.

Ergo, these conversations are all about me. My doctor makes suggestions/considerations and listens to my concerns (make that anxieties) and DOES NOT direct/push/control the outcome/decisions that are ultimately made. Together, we attempt to sort through my objections/assumptions/presumptions/misunderstandings, etc., to figure out a way forward that balances the quality of my life with the effectiveness of my treatment.

Unfortunately, there's no patient handbook – that I know of – called "Cancer for Dummies." If there were, perhaps I wouldn't mind navigating this minefield of life-altering, death-defying – hopefully – choices, that constantly present themselves. Then again, at least I'm still alive to have choices – and normal blood pressure, most of the time.

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

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

will cover insurance basics. Free. Visit www.bit.ly/VCEFinancePrograms to register.

THURSDAY/JAN. 28

I-66 Inside the Beltway. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria, 1301 N. Stafford St. The Virginia Department of Transportation, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, will host design public hearings for the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project. Visit www.Transform66.org for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 30

"Bottle Babies." The Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA) has joined forces with the National Kitten Coalition (NKC) to prepare, train and support volunteers interested in fostering kittens. The first workshop, 10-11:30 a.m., will focus on the care of "Bottle Babies," kittens too young to eat on their own. The free workshop will be held at AWLA, 2650 Arlington Mill Drive. Online registration is required at: <https://www.awla.org/event/care-of-bottle-baby-kittens/>.

SUNDAY/JAN. 31

Saint Ann Catholic School Open House. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at 980 N. Frederick St. Saint Ann Catholic School will be hosting an Open House for prospective families. Families interested in applying for the 2016-2017 school year are invited to take a personal tour of the school and to learn more about the admissions process. Free. Visit www.stann.org for more.

FEB. 1-APRIL 18

Tax Preparation. Tuesday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Taxpayers who meet qualifications are invited to bring photo ID, Social Security cards, tax documents, and prior year tax return to receive help with tax preparation. Free. Visit www.aarp.org for more.

MONDAY/FEB. 1

Community Update. 5-6 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 North Quincy St. Attend the release of the report, produced by the Marymount University Nonprofit Resource Center in Partnership with the Arlington Community Foundation, that describes how the safety-net nonprofits have worked together to leverage resources to accomplish their missions and multiply their impact by working collaboratively with each other and Arlington County. Question and answer period to follow. Visit <http://library.arlingtonva.us/locations/central-library> for more.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 3

Money Talk: A Financial Course for Women. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. This course is designed specifically for women. This session will cover investing basics. Free. Visit www.bit.ly/VCEFinancePrograms to register.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/FEB. 4-6

Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources.

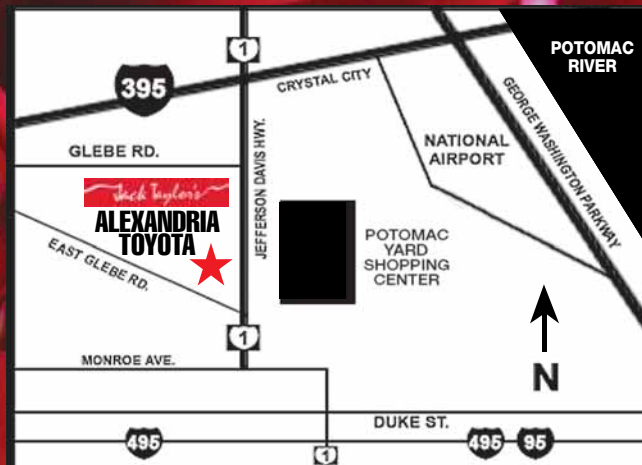
Come to a public meeting to provide input on and ask questions about the changing needs for parks, recreation, and natural resources. Each meeting will feature interactive stations, brief presentations by the project consultants, and different opportunities for the public to provide input to help updated Arlington's Public Spaces Master Plan.

- ❖ Thursday/Feb. 4, 7-9:30 p.m. — Public Meeting at Langston Brown Community Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St.
- ❖ Friday/Feb. 5, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. — Open House at Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Blvd.
- ❖ Friday/Feb. 5, 10-11 a.m. — Chat with Parks Director at Courthouse Plaza
- ❖ Friday/Feb. 5, 5-7 p.m. — Happy Hour at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd.
- ❖ Saturday/Feb. 6, 9:30 a.m.-noon — Public Meeting at Arlington Mill Community Center 909 S. Dinwiddie St.

Visit <http://parks.arlingtonva.us/2016/01/pops-a-plan-for-our-places-and-spaces/> for more.

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MAINTENANCE SPECIAL**

\$59.95

INCLUDES: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil*, inspect windshield wipers, tire rotation, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air Alexandria Toyota's 27 pt. inspection & cabin air filters

SYNTHETIC OIL \$100.00 MORE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL

\$139.95

INCLUDES: BATTERY INSTALLATION
Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month prorated, PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connections.

Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

**NITRO-FILL
\$39.95**

Includes one year FREE nitro gas top off.
We will purge the tires of air and refill them with nitrogen.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT
\$79.95**

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

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BRAKE SPECIAL

\$99.95

INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.

MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

DOES NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES. PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
PREMIUM DETAIL SPECIAL
Regularly \$259.95

\$249.95

Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior. Vans & SUVs add \$20.00.
By Appointment Only

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

WEDNESDAY IS LADIES' DAY

**15% OFF
ANY REPAIR**
Not to exceed \$100

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR VEHICLE!

BG FLUID EXCHANGE SPECIAL

TRANSMISSION FLUSH **\$189.95**

POWER STEERING FLUSH **\$139.95**

BRAKE FLUSH **\$139.95**

FUEL INDUCTION FLUSH **\$139.95**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**WE WILL
MEET OR BEAT**

ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S
CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**Purchase Site Line Wiper
Blades and Receive 1 year
RAINEX OPTIMAL
PERFORMANCE APPLICATION**
Includes FREE touch ups.
**Dramatically improve wet
weather driving visibility.**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**ROTATE & BALANCE
SPECIAL**

\$59.95

INCLUDES: Rotate and balance all 4 wheels and inspect brakes and tires.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

**15% OFF
ANY ACCESSORIES**

• Apparel • Window visors
• I-pad adaptors • All weather floor mats
• Toyota bedliners

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

**30000 MILES FACTORY
RECOMMENDED
SERVICE**

\$159.95

Synthetic \$10 More
INCLUDES: Change engine oil & filter (up to 5 qts), rotate tires, inspect wear and adjust pressure, measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout, replace cabin air filter (if equipped), replace engine air filter, reset maintenance reminder light (if applicable) and multi-point vehicle inspection.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

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SAVINGS**



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Scion iMs and iAs**

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