

The Arlington Connection

Elle Hawley portrays Viola Gregg Liuzzo, housewife and the Civil Rights activist, as part of Yorktown High School's One-Person Shows. Each Theatre IV student chooses a literary, fictional or historical character and then writes, choreographs, directs, and acts in a 30-minute show about that character. Liuzzo was a notable white woman actively involved in the 1960 civil rights movement in Selma. She fought and gave her life for the cause.

One-Person Shows

NEWS, PAGE 4

Station 8 Task Force Close to Consensus

NEWS, PAGE 3

More Than Just Tolerance

NEWS, PAGE 3

Historic Garden Week

HOME LIFESTYLE, PAGE 11

HomeLifeStyle

PAGES 11



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More Than Tolerance

Arlington community leaders and Muslims meet to discuss challenges of Islamophobia.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

Nader Hasan remembers riding bikes through Shirlington with his cousin. The two of them grew up in the area and watched fireworks together from one of the nearby hills. But the two boys from Arlington grew up into very different men. When Major Nidal Hasan murdered 13 people in Fort Hood in 2009 as part of an attempt to spread fear and hate, it forced his cousin Nader Hasan to confront extremism on both sides of his community and his country.

Nader Hassan's story, in some ways, is a reflection of the situation for Muslim Americans throughout the country who struggle to escape the shadow of extremism. At an April 9 event hosted jointly by NOVA Muslim Americans and Veterans for Peace's "Veterans Challenge Islamophobia" campaign, panelists met at the Arlington Central Library to discuss overcoming intolerance against the local and national Muslim communities. Those speaking on the topic ranged from local students to representatives from the Virginia legislature and a member of the British House of Lords.

Ghizlane Moustaid, chair of the George Mason University Muslim Students Association, said it was challenging to be a student focused on a career while constantly feeling like her identity was being associated with terrorism. Though a generation apart,



Nader Hasan speaks on behalf of his Nawal Foundation at the Muslim Town Hall.

Sonia Klein from NOVA Muslim Americans said that she recently began seeing a slide back into suspicion and mistrust.

While Klein mostly described Arlington as "Pleasantville," she said there were some changes in the aftermath of the San Bernardino shooting. After three years of no issues while working at Walter Reed, suddenly guards questioned her and took away her pass, thinking it was fake. Her daughter came home from school one day and said that the other children had been saying that all Muslims are terrorists. A security guard at George Mason called the police on three Muslim students who were on their way to class.

Klein said the original purpose of the meeting was to bring Muslims in the community together, but by far the majority of the attendees were non-Muslim.

That didn't surprise Nader Hasan, who spoke at the panel on behalf of the Nawal Foundation, a group Hasan founded with Kerry Cahill, daughter of Ft. Hood shooting victim Michael Cahill. He said he had bet Klein that less than 10 percent of those in attendance would be Muslim. According to Hasan, in some ways much of the community is afraid to emerge and speak publically, especially when cameras and television are brought in.

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 4



PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/THE CONNECTION

Baroness Uddin, the first Muslim woman to serve in the Parliament of the United Kingdom, reacted to an earlier statement by state Sen. Adam Ebbin saying that the Virginia General Assembly shouldn't be discussing foreign policy. The comment was made in response to a criticism from an audience member about the Virginia Legislature's 2016 resolution reaffirming support for Israel and condemning a movement to boycott Israeli products. "I'm shocked to hear people say that they don't want to talk foreign policy," said Uddin. "The whole world is aflame. If we don't talk about foreign policy, we're missing opportunities. All of these issues are interrelated."

Station 8 Task Force Close to Consensus

Arlington to get subgroup results April 14.

BY EDEN BROWN
THE CONNECTION

There is optimism that consensus on the relocation or renovation of Fire Station 8 in High View Park is near, according to Alisa Cowen, one of the Task Force 8 members. Cowen said Task Force members had raised so many significant issues during their subgroup meetings that the issue, once fairly simple, became a complex "Pandora's Box" of intersecting problems. That's good news, according to Cowen, who thinks the outcome will be much more holistic for the community.

Task force members were surprised to find, at the beginning of the process, that most of the data provided to the task force was either out of date or incorrectly ana-

lyzed, Cowen said. The response times were not what the data said they were. But more importantly, the task force members began to realize the problem was much bigger than "where should this fire station be located?"

At recent meetings other issues arose as the discussions evolved: the OPTICOM infrared transponders that were put in place 15 years ago after 9/11 are now outdated in terms of technology. It is taking more than two minutes for the 911 call center to respond to calls and dispatch the calls to the appropriate stations: it should take less than 60 seconds. The oxygen recharging equipment at Fire Station Eight is for the whole county and should be located near a densely populated center like Rosslyn or the Pentagon, where a future incident in a high rise or underground facility requiring oxygen would be most likely.

Cowen said the open discussions and Q&As with the fire chief and Arlington County staff about these additional issues helped focus the subgroups: the Task Force 8 effort was a positive experience because

members of the task force saw the best of Arlington's citizens — and the power of those citizens coming together — and the best of Arlington County's staff and leadership collaborating with those citizens — to achieve an outcome that was better for the county.

Part of the reason for this, Cowen said, was Noah Simon, who volunteered his time to reach out to citizens, and in one case, had to be the sole member of the History Subcommittee. Simon told Task Force members that he was too young to remember the era of segregation and civil rights protests, but that what he had learned about the history of Fire Station 8 showed him that the history of that era was something all can learn from and should preserve.

On April 14, the subgroups will report out to the task force and that meeting, open to the public, will provide powerpoint presentations followed by a 30-minute Q & A session. The "site" subgroup, which addressed whether the current site or a different one, would work best for the fire sta-

SEE TASK FORCE, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Memorabilia from Station 8

Yorktown Theatre To Present One-Person Shows



Aryn Geier as Mother Gothel in "Rapunzel," a classic fairy tale from a new point of view. After her young daughter is killed in the witch hunts, Gothel adopts an orphan baby, Rapunzel. Gothel is determined to keep this child safe from the dangers of the world ... at all costs.

Yorktown High School's One-Person Shows are the culmination of four years of the Yorktown Theatre Program. Each Theatre IV student chooses a literary, fictional or historical character and then writes, choreographs, directs, and acts in a 30-minute show about that character. Shows take place in the Yorktown Black Box on: April 21, 7-9 p.m.; April 22, 5-10 p.m.; April 23, 11:15 a.m.-10 p.m.; and April 28, 7-7:40 p.m. For a schedule of individual show topics and times, go to: yhstheatre.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/2016-OPS-Marathon-Program.pdf.

Valerie Yoder as Max in "Where the Wild Things Are." Struggling between fantasy and reality, Max takes a trip back to his childhood dream to regain lost control of his life.



Noah Shoults as Tite Kubo, "Bleach" author. Take an inside look into the private life of world famous author Tite Kubo as he helps a young author find his own strength.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Community Leaders and Muslims Discuss Islamophobia

FROM PAGE 3

"Our community is very shy," said Hasan. We're still a [relatively] young, still a new community [in this country.]"

A deeper problem, as Hasan noted, was that the extremists on either end of the spectrum weren't attending the meetings — people like the cousin he says was slowly poisoned by hate.

"We're not reaching those 25-year-old youth extremists," said Hasan.

While the majority of the panel focused around combating Islamophobia in mainstream culture, Hasan also noted that there was work that needed to be done within America's Muslim community.

"Growing up, I never had to question my culture or my religion," said Hasan. "Post-9/11 kids don't have that benefit ... We've failed to engage civically and politically in the time we've been here. Our community has a lot to talk about. We don't tell our

kids it's OK to be an actor or an athlete. We have issues with gender. These are conversations that haven't happened yet."

Hasan believes a part of that comes from a perception of the Muslim community that is more monolithic than it really is.

"Who are we?" Asked Hasan. "A lot of Muslims own bars. There are a lot of Muslims that don't scrape the bacon away," but then as the audience laughed, Hasan continued, "there are a lot of Muslims that would not find that funny. That's the difficulty in coming to the table. Who are we? Who do we represent? Right now, extremists and the media are controlling the non-Muslim perception of the community. We need to own our own narrative."

Hasan introduced an idea that would become central to other discussions in the panel: that the language of a progressive youth was very different from the kinds of conversation Hasan's generation grew up.

"It's not about just tolerating," said Hasan. "It's not putting up with someone. It's about mutual respect and understanding. We can't just coexist, we need to collaborate and support interfaith communities."

Two freshman members of the County Board, Katie Cristol and Christian Dorsey, spoke at the panel on that topic.

"There is a difference between tolerance and active collaboration," said Cristol. "The difference is between people being OK with diversity and a community genuinely interested in [diversity]."

Like Hasan, Cristol says she hopes to see more members of the Muslim community involved in local politics and civic groups.

"We need your voices and experience to build the kind of community we want to

live in," said Cristol.

For Dorsey, part of that mission was incumbent on those already inside the government and the civic groups.

"We need to make the road [to involvement] less treacherous to traverse," said Dorsey. "But civic engagement requires the courageous step of putting yourself out there. That's easy to say as a non-Muslim, but I know this as an African-American."

While Arlington struggles to find an ideal route to greater diversity, the representa-

tives from the Virginia legislature painted the state-level politics in a more dire condition.

State Sen. Adam Ebbin recalled that legislators were allowed to bring in religious figures, like priests or rabbis, for invocations. When Ebbin invited Imam Johari Abdul-Malik from Dar Al Hijrah to speak, many people walked out. Some had signs asking why Ebbin supported terrorism.

"Islamophobia is alive and well in Richmond," said Del. Alfonso Lopez. Lopez remembered the struggle to try and pass a resolution commending Dar Al Hijrah for its community services. Three other bills were put forward by Republican legislators to not spend any money to help Syrian refugees — bills that passed on a party-line vote.

Like Hasan and the County Board members, the legislators said that more involvement from Muslim Americans in state and local politics is the key to combatting those ideas. Ebbin related his own experience as a minority, a gay man, to the Muslim struggle for empowerment. Ebbin said the key is becoming involved in community service, in civic groups, in nonprofits, and to reach into communities outside of their own.

"We need to make the road [to involvement] less treacherous to traverse."

— County Board Member Christian Dorsey



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

Second Chances

Brian Moran, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security for the State of Virginia, outlines the state's recent legislation addressing the problems and challenges of prisoners. Moran was the keynote speaker at the Offenders Aid and Restoration (OAR) Second Chance breakfast on April 6. He said Virginia now has the second lowest recidivism rate in the country. "In this year's budget we have requested 16 mental health specialists to address the problems of prisoners and we offer free college credits to provide education so they can get jobs on reentry." OAR was founded 42 years ago as a community-based non-profit serving Arlington County and the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church. They provide reentry services for men and women returning home from incarceration. In fiscal year 2015 OAR served 2,698 clients: 1,863 community service clients, 556 reentry clients and 463 pre-release clients.

Haley Receives French Training Grant

Wakefield High School French teacher, Susan Haley, was awarded a training grant from the French government to study for two weeks in Vichy, France. The grant (Stage Pédagogique de Courte Durée) includes housing with a French family, daily classes focusing on teaching French as a Foreign Language, as well as French language and culture. It is sponsored by CAVILAM - Alliance Française. CAVILAM stands for "Centre d'Approches Vivantes des Langues et des Médias", which means "Center for Living Approaches to Language and Media." Additionally, a stipend towards plane and train fares, as well as teaching materials is provided.

In 2016, a total of 20 awards were granted in the United States: 16 awards to teachers of French as a Foreign Language, and four for teachers in French bilingual schools.

The Embassy of France is presenting a program on "How to Create Immersion Classes in French in a Public School" on Wednesday, April 13, from 7-8:30 pm at the Salle Tocqueville, Embassy of France, 4401 Reservoir Road, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008. Entry is \$10 for members of Alliance Française, \$15 for non-members. For more information contact christiane.ciccone@gmail.com or 301-529-7810.



Wakefield High School French teacher Susan Haley (left) with Francoise Duvivier, an English teacher at the Lycée Chanzy in CharlevilleMézières.

For more about awards for French language teaching, see:

http://frenchlanguage.frenchculture.org/sites/default/files/candidature_spdc_2016.pdf

<http://frenchlanguage.frenchculture.org/news/spdc-summer-programs-france>

<http://www.cavilam.com/programmes-et-tarifs/formations-pour-professeurs-de-fle/ateliers-thematiques/pratiques-techniques-fondamentales-lenseignement-du-francais-langue-etrangere/>

— EDEN BROWN

PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Task Force Close to Consensus

FROM PAGE 3

tion, will present drawings by the county showing they can build a fire station on the site which would meet the needs of the community. Earlier views that the property was not adequate appeared to have been premature.

The finance subgroup will respond to the issue of whether building a new fire station on the site will in fact cost more than moving to a different location.

The response time subgroup will address what the right measure is of demand and response is. The subgroup took into account the Virginia Hospital land swap, the ongoing Lee Highway Alliance master planning initiative, and the changing density requirements it would entail: High rise- high density buildings requires different equipment.

The task force is still a work in progress, but members believe it will meet its May deadline for a final report to the County Board. Some of the issues still at play include flexible positioning of equipment based on the demand data (if there are more medical emergencies in one area at one time of day, then equipment would be positioned to handle that), use of motorcycle medics to reach areas faster with medical aid, and taking into account that the nighttime population in Rosslyn is different than the daytime population. Another idea on the table is use of county vehicles, which are on the road all day, armed with automatic external defibrillators to make response time shorter.

The meeting on Fire Station 8 will take place from 7-9:30 p.m. at Marymount University, Crowley Hall, Classroom G127. The public is welcome to attend.



Northern Virginia Transportation Commission Open House and Public Hearing on Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Multimodal Components

Thursday, May 5, 2016

6:00 p.m. Open House – 7:00 p.m. Public Hearing

2300 Wilson Boulevard, First Floor Conference Room, Arlington, VA 22201

The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) is seeking public input on the Multimodal Components submitted for FY 2017 funding consideration as part of the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT's) Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project.

NVTC will select multimodal components for presentation to the Commonwealth Transportation Board for funding using toll revenues from VDOT's Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project. The principal objective of the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project is to select and fund multimodal components that meet the improvement goals, which are to (1) move more people, (2) enhance transportation connectivity, (3) improve transit service, (4) reduce roadway congestion and (5) increase travel options. The improvement goals will benefit the users of the portion of I-66 between I-495 (the Capital Beltway) and U.S. Route 29 in the Rosslyn area of Arlington County.

NVTC urges the public to get involved by learning about and commenting on the proposed multimodal components during the **Open House and Public Hearing on May 5, 2016**. The meeting will be held at NVTC's offices at **2300 Wilson Boulevard, First Floor Conference Room, Arlington, VA 22201**. The Open House will begin at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearing will start at 7:00 p.m.

The list of submitted multimodal components for the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project is too extensive for publication in this advertisement. Beginning April 5, 2016, the proposed project list may be accessed via www.novatransit.org/i66multimodal; by calling NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321); by e-mailing i66multimodal@nvtc.org; or by visiting NVTC's offices at 2300 Wilson Blvd., Ste. 620, Arlington, VA 22201, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Comments may be submitted beginning April 5, 2016 by e-mail to i66multimodal@nvtc.org or via phone at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321). The public comment period will be open from April 5, 2016 through the close of the Public Hearing on May 5, 2016. For additional information on the Open House and Public Hearing on May 5, 2016, contact NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321).

Beginning April 5, 2016 you may pre-register to speak by:

- e-mailing NVTC at: i66multimodal@nvtc.org OR
- calling NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321)

ACCESSIBILITY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OR SPANISH LANGUAGE SPEAKERS: The hearing is located at a facility believed to be accessible to persons with disabilities. Any person with questions about the accessibility of the facility should contact NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321) or i66multimodal@nvtc.org. Persons requiring special assistance or a Spanish language translator must notify NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321). Those requiring interpreter services for the deaf must call NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321) or via Virginia Relay by dialing 7-1-1. All requests for special services must be received no later than April 28, 2016.

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OPINION

Award-Winning Connection Newspapers

Still striving to be the Connection to your community.

Connection Newspapers won dozens of awards from the Virginia Press Association for work done in 2015. Award winners were announced on Saturday, April 9, at an awards banquet in Richmond.

While the papers won awards in many categories, the common underpinning was community journalism, accessibility of information, and reporting on critical issues like transparency in government.

Thematically, the papers won multiple awards for stories and sections that were informative and helped make communities, events and resources more accessible to our readers.

Examples included Ken Moore's reporting on Robert Simon's role in Reston, which included coverage of Simon's 101st birthday, Simon's ongoing influence, and his obituary. The series won first place.

Print newspaper obituaries play a vital role in local communities, reflected in Jeanne Theismann's first place award for three obituaries in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Earl Lloyd was born into "the cradle of segregation" yet persevered to become the first African American to break the color barrier in the NBA. Dr. Robert Wineland,—"Dr. Bob," was a WW II

veteran and survivor of the Battle of the Bulge. He was a beloved local doctor for more than 60 years. And Ferdinand Day was the first African American to be elected to chair a public school board in the state of Virginia.

We are lucky to have cartoonist Steve Artley to skewer and edify many issues, including his first place cartoon that suggests Alexandria could solve parking and housing problems by placing both on barges in the Potomac River.

Jean Card, Renee Ruggles and Laurence Foong have collaborated over several years on the Insider's Guide to the Parks, which won awards in Mount Vernon and Vienna/Oakton, capping several awards for informational graphics.

Our Newcomers and Community Guide to Arlington was described as "Informative, well written, with good use of graphics." Winners included Steven Mauren, Eden Brown, Vernon Miles, Shirley Ruhe, Laurence Foong.

Sarai Johnson, Hope Nelson, Shirley Ruhe, and Steve Hibbard won second place for entertainment pages in the Alexandria Gazette Packet, weekly coverage of arts, entertainment, food and things to do in Alexandria.

Reporting on elections, the environment, health and fitness, and organizations that are designed to help others also garnered awards.

Kenny Lourie won for his ongoing column writing about living with cancer. Lourie both lives and writes with humor and perspective. The judge said, "Though filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emo-

tion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."

Abigail Constantino's photo that shows the great aunt of Natasha McKenna at a protest of McKenna's death in custody, won second place for general news photo. Eudora Paul's sign displays McKenna's last words: "You promised you would not kill me."

Tim Peterson's coverage of McKenna's death won second place in In Depth/Investigative. Peterson garnered the most awards of any Connection staff member, winning seven.

Mary Kimm's editorials on lack of police transparency and local government accountability won second place for editorial writing.

Kemal Kurspahic's opinion pages in the Herndon Connection won third place.

Jeanne Theismann, whose profile includes that she "dreams of one day writing headlines for the New York Post," won second place for headline writing in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Headlines: Some Like It Haute, — story about the 10-year anniversary of a boutique warehouse sale; Soul Providers, a story about volunteers recognized for service to seniors; Something to Wine About,— on the opening of a new wine cellar; Luck Be a Lady,— on the opening of a new bath apothecary called Ladyburg; To the Rescue, about— a nonprofit started by firefighters to collect toys for underprivileged children.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Awards

- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, First Place – Feature writing portfolio included a trip to the farmers market, remembrance of Latin teacher Christine Sleeper and celebration of the one-year birthday of the Silver Line.
- ❖ Marilyn Campbell, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Health, science and environmental writing
- ❖ Kenneth Lourie, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Column writing. Judge: "Though filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emotion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."
- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – General news writing for election coverage. "Excellent coverage. ... Balanced and thorough. Effective at conveying why this is relevant for readers."
- ❖ Jon Roetman, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Sports writing portfolio.
- ❖ Kemal Kurspahic, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Mary Kimm, Oak Hill/ Herndon Connection, Third Place – Editorial pages
- ❖ Ken Moore, Reston Connection, First Place – Feature series or continuing story, on Reston founder Robert Simon. Judge's comment: "This was an in-depth series, very informative and interesting to read." Moore covered several key moments, including celebration of Founder's Day 2015 and Simon's 101st birthday; later, Moore wrote Simon's obituary and covered the celebration of Simon's life.

- ❖ Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles, Vienna/Oakton Connection, Second Place – Informational graphics, Connection Insiders Guide to the Parks.
- ❖ Mary Kimm, Great Falls Connection, Second Place – Editorial writing for multiple editorials on police transparency. Judge: "Brings important pressure to bear on people in power."
- ❖ Ken Moore, Great Falls Connection, Second Place – Health, science and environmental writing; stories covering issues of deer, cleanup of groundwater contamination from gas station and tree preservation. Judge: "Excellent and informative."
- ❖ Laurence Foong, Great Falls Connection, Third Place – Informational graphics, Map of Property Assessments. Judge: "A very interesting concept."
- ❖ Ken Moore, McLean Connection, Third Place – Feature writing portfolio. Judge: "Great reads on interesting topics. Who knew there was such a thing as pinball championship, especially out of someone's basement? Pull out information added neat and tidy facts and/or information."
- ❖ Abigail Constantino, Fairfax Connection, Second Place – General news photo, Natasha McKenna's great aunt holds a sign: "You promised you would not kill me." Judge: "Good capture of emotionally charged event."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Second Place – Personal service writing, coverage of three worthy causes. Judge: "This submission quickly makes the reader care about

the causes championed in the stories.

... There was good detail presented in such a way as to make the reader want to donate to each of these causes by the end of the story — I was ready to get my checkbook out after reading each one."

- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place – Government writing, coverage on aftermath of police shooting of John Geer, Virginia General Assembly. Judge: "A very comprehensive look at the Geer case was well-thought out and I was very impressed with the state legislature package."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place – Public safety writing, stories on sex trafficking, police and fire department training and National Night Out. Judge: "Each of the stories in this submission is comprehensive in its handling of the topic, as well as engaging for the reader. The information offered is very good, and the presentation attractive. There was adequate space given to each story, which was then complemented by excellent artwork."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Burke Connection, Second Place – Education writing. Stories on School Board action on gender identity, graduation of triplets, and renovation of a local school. Judge: "All three stories had outstanding ledes. Quality writing and reporting."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Burke Connection, Third Place – Breaking news writing, about escape of prisoner from hospital and his recapture. Judge: "Excellent art, good storytelling."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection, Second Place –

- Business and financial writing. Stories on Goat Landscaping, sustainable farm, and a handcrafted greeting card company. Judge: "Good business stories with a great features twist. Very enjoyable stories."
- ❖ Steve Artley, Alexandria Gazette Packet, First Place – Illustration. Cartoon: "Alert the council, we've managed to solve the parking problem and the public housing issue in one swoop." Judge's comment: "Excellent image to poke fun at a growing problem. Excellently delivered in a single image."
- ❖ Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet, First Place – Personal service writing. Three obituaries: Earl Lloyd, Dr. Robert Wineland —and Ferdinand Day. Judge's comment: "... an outstanding job ... She provides a wonderful context to the lives of people who may be overlooked in the typical press. Her insights into these individuals reflects her research into the subject and her analysis of the character of that individual. When I go, I hope she writes about me."
- ❖ Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Second Place – Headlines. Judge: "Clever yet informative."
- ❖ John Bordner, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Third Place – Feature photo, Fireworks light up the sky July 11, 2015 as musicians from the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra to celebrate the 266th birthday of the City of Alexandria.
- ❖ Marilyn Campbell, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Third Place – Personal service writing, stories on fitness.

SEE AWARDS. PAGE 7

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Arlington
Connection

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
arlington@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor

703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Vernon Miles
Reporter

703-615-0960
vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor

703-752-4013
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk

Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9411
asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin

Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President

Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief

Steven Mauren

Photography:

Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel

Art/Design:

Laurence Foong, John Heinly

Production Manager:

Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



OPINION

Awards

FROM PAGE 6

- ❖ Sarai Johnson, Hope Nelson, Shirley Ruhe, Steve Hibbard, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Second Place – Entertainment pages
- ❖ Vernon Miles, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Third Place – Government writing
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Mount Vernon Gazette, Second Place – In-depth or investigative reporting on the death of Natasha McKenna, a 37-year-old woman with a history of mental who died while in custody of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. Judge: "Painstaking, persuasive reconstruction of events leading to the death of a troubled woman. ... This careful, thorough reporting is welcome."
- ❖ Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles, Mount Vernon Gazette, Third Place – Informational graphics, Connection Insiders Guide to the Parks
- ❖ Jean Card, Sarai Johnson, Steven Mauren, Arlington Connection, Second Place – Special edition, Children's Connection. Judge: "Clean, crisp, appealing. The design flowed throughout this section."
- ❖ Steven Mauren, Eden Brown, Vernon Miles, Shirley Ruhe, Laurence Foong, Arlington Connection, Third Place – Special edition, Newcomers and Community Guide. Judge: "Informative, well written, good use of graphics."



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ENTERTAINMENT

‘Nice Work If You Can Get It’

The Arlington Players present prohibition-era musical with music by Gershwin.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

The Arlington Players (TAP) is staging “Nice Work If You Can Get It” now through April 23 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre in Arlington. Even though the show was produced on Broadway in 2012 for the first time starring Matthew Broderick and Kelli O’Hara, it has a rather old Broadway aura — with music and lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin. The book was written by Joe DiPietro, and based on material by Guy Bolton and P. G. Wodehouse. Some of its iconic tunes include “Someone to Watch Over Me,” “Fascinating Rhythm,” and “I’ve Got a Crush on You.”

Set in 1927 during Prohibition, the musical harkens back to the Jazz Age with singing and dancing to the Charleston, Black Bottom, Varsity Drag, a Busby Berkeley bubble number, and tap dancing.

“It’s high energy and lots of fun,” said producer Barbara Esquibel. “It’s all Gershwin songs, tap dancing, all sorts of good things. We auditioned 2 1/2 months ago, we had 75 audition, and a cast of 22 members. We have a great talent pool and I think we came up with a really great group. They’ve been rehearsing for eight weeks and for the last five weeks, we’ve been working on the technical aspects.”

She said her job as producer is: “to work with the designers, to make sure that the sets and costumes are moving forward; to make sure my production team stays on budget. I’m a liaison between this production and the board,” she said.

At a “Talk Back” session after last Sunday’s matinee, director and choreographer John K. Monnett said of his cast: “There’s a spectrum of skill levels that came in; they’ve worked really hard for the past eight weeks.

They’re a tremendous group of people. It’s my goal to make everyone look as good as they can.”

He said although the show was written in 2012, its based on some routines that were written in the 1930s. “It’s got all this great Gershwin music, but it was written 80 years after a lot of this happened it’s not meant at all to be a political commentary; it’s meant to be funny... I think a lot of these issues are still relevant today.”

Monnett said the challenge was pulling all of the elements together. “A week ago yesterday was the first time the cast used the set — it’s a big set,” he said. “Choreographing the scene changes, there was a whole, another show happening. The challenge was getting that smooth and having the actors get comfortable with it.”

Cookie McGee, who is disguised as a butler played by Jack Stein, added: “It’s a big dance musical. My experience is you’ve got to get the music and dancing in place. We spent a lot of time running scenes, and to me, one of the biggest challenges was getting the pacing down.”

In one of the scenes with dancing girls and a bathtub, the ladies’ costumes are adorned with bubbles. “It was my homage to the Busby Berkeley musical — the bubbles,” added Monnett who worked with designers to come up with the result.

To prepare for his role as Sen. Max Evergreen, actor James T. Pearson said: “My grandmother was a flapper; my grandfather was a dapper man. I went to my pictures. I remember their stories,” he said.

“For me, the biggest challenge and the biggest joy, was everyone has been working hard for nine weeks; they’ve been serious and diligent and a lot of fun and friendly,” he said. “Over 120 people had their hearts, hands and minds in it. This took brains, heart, and courage to do.”



The Arlington Players is staging “Nice Work If You Can Get It” from April 8-23 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre in Arlington.

Male lead Jimmy Winter, played by Christopher Smith, said the biggest challenge was the endurance. “It was all about making sure that the pacing and the energy was there. Making sure as I walk on, that the character has the same amount of energy throughout the show,” he said.

Maureen R. Goldman played the lead role of Billie Bendix, and although she is a natural blonde, she wore a brown wig for the role. “Once I got in the costume and the wig, you feel her,” she said in preparing for the role. “I spent a lot of time talking about what Billie must have gone through in her childhood. We were able to create a back

story,” she added.

Goldman said she has taken a lot of dance classes but has never been an actual dancer so that was a challenge. “Through John’s choreography, for anyone who’s ever danced on stage, it’s a joy to do,” she said. “This team has made me feel like a dancer, and that is such a gift.”

TAP presents “Nice Work If You Can Get It” April 15-17, 22-23, at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, located at 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204. Tickets are \$20-\$23. Phone: 703-549-1063. Visit the website at www.thearlingtonplayers.org.

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

“The Boys in the Band.” Through April 16, 8 p.m. at Gunston Theatre Two, 2700 S. Lang St. Dominion Stage presents a play with a plot fueled by drugs, alcohol, and bitter resentment. Tickets are \$20. Visit www.dominionstage.org for more.

Scripts in Play Festival. Through April 23, various times at Theatre on the Run, 3700 South Four Mile Run Drive. Avant Bard presents four weeks of theatrical experimentation with an inaugural Scripts in Play Festival. Find more than a dozen readings of plays, classic and contemporary. Free. Visit www.avantbard.org for more.

Spark Fitness. Fridays in April, 6:30 p.m. at 2121 Crystal Drive. The 5K

Fridays race route is flat and fast traveling through the heart of Crystal City. \$20 per race, \$75 for the series. Visit www.crystalcity.org.

“The Flick.” Through April 24, various times at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. “The Flick” follows the story of three employees at a crumbling Massachusetts movie theatre. Tickets start at \$40. Visit www.sigtheatre.org for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 14

Growing Vegetables in Small Spaces.

1-3 p.m. at Walter Reed Recreation Center, 2909 16th St. S. The program will focus on how to improve soil and choose plants to create a thriving vegetable garden in limited space. Free. Visit www.mgnv.org for more.

Book Talk. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Novelist Matthew Quirk shares from his new military thriller, “Cold Barrel Zero.” Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for more.

Becoming Madison. 7 p.m. at

Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road. The Arlington Historical Society will host Michael Signer, who will speak about “Becoming Madison: The Extra Ordinary Origins of the Least Likely Founding Father.” Free. Call 703-942-9247.

Waco Brothers. 8:30 p.m. at Iota Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. The band celebrates the recent release of “Going Down in History.” Tickets are \$15. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/APRIL 14-15

Jim Breuer. 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Arlington Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. After making he joined the cast of NBC’s “Saturday Night Live,” Breuer became a fan-favorite for his original character “Goat Boy” and his impressions of actor Joe Pesci. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.arlingtondrafthouse.com.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 14-17

Arlington Public Library Book Sale. 5-9 p.m. members only on

Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 12-6 p.m. on Sunday at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Find books, movies, music, and more. Free to attend. Call 703-228-5990 for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 15

Leonardo da Vinci’s Birthday

Party. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. One More Page celebrates Leonardo da Vinci’s birthday with a chocolate tasting and a discussion from author Laura Elliott followed by a signing of her new historical Young Adult novel, “Da Vinci’s Tiger.” Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Humming House. 7:30 p.m. at FORUM Arlington, 3304 N. Washington Blvd. Humming House is touring to promote their album “Revelries”. Tickets are \$11.49-16.74. Visit www.forumarlington.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 15-17

The Arlington Players: “Nice Work

if You Can Get It.” 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. A Gershwin musical set in the Roaring ’20s. Tickets are \$24.50, \$21.50 for seniors and children. Visit www.thearlingtonplayers.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 16

Marymount 5K Race. 9 a.m. at Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Marymount University’s Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is hosting its second annual 5K race. The race is being held in conjunction with MedStar NRH Rehabilitation Network. Runners receive a T-shirt, a pint glass and can enjoy a family-friendly post-race party. Registration is \$35, \$10 for Marymount students. Visit www.marymount.edu/5k.

Bark For Life. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Lubber Run Park, 200 N. Park Drive. The American Cancer Society Bark For Life is a noncompetitive event for dogs and owners to raise funds and awareness to fight cancer.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

Registration is \$15 per dog and \$10 per human. Visit www.relayforlife.org/barkarlingtonVA.

Book Talk. 3 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Terry Gaspard chats about "Daughters of Divorce: Overcome the Legacy of Your Parents' Breakup and Enjoy a Happy, Long-lasting Relationship." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Spring SOLOS 2016 Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Celebrate selected artists Gabriela Bulisova, Maggie Gourlay, Adam Hager, Jesse Harrod, R. Mertens, Lauren Rice and Amy Ritter. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 16-17

4th Annual Arlington Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 3003 Washington Blvd. One hundred artists will converge on North Highland Street in Clarendon for a two-day juried outdoor gallery-style art exhibit. A variety of original artwork will be on display and for sale. Free. Visit www.ArtFestival.com.

APRIL 16-JUNE 12

Spring SOLOS 2016. Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Arlington Arts Center announces its Spring SOLOS 2016 artists. Following a call in early 2015, jurors Melissa Ho, Assistant Curator at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C., and Chicago-based artist, Jefferson Pinder, recommended 14 artists for inclusion in center's 2015-16 cohort of SOLOS artists. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

Exhibit: "As You Spread, I am Erased." Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. In her work, Hedieh Javanshir Ilchi explores the notion of "duality," to comprehend her cultural identity as an Iranian-American immigrant and the complexities that emanate from such cultural experiences. Her paintings reflect an interest in the fusion of Western abstraction and Persian Art, with an emphasis on the ornamentations of "Tazhib," or the art of illumination. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

Exhibit: "Emerging Artists of Vacation Lane." Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. This exhibition features works by a group of six high school seniors: Agnes Cheng, Nathan Dobbins, Nana Gongadze, Salome Gongadze, Marie Johnson and Evan McLean, students in the AP art class at H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

Exhibit: "Jeweled Traditions." Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. In Jeweled Traditions, paper-cut scenes depict rituals of local families as remembered and enacted by Melanie Kehoss' summer campers at Arlington Arts Center during the summer of 2015. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 17

Peace Pole Re-dedication. 12:30 p.m. at Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Free. Visit www.uucava.org for more.

Film Screening: "Budrus." 2:30 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Watch a film about Israeli and Palestinian activists saving a village

from destruction by separation wall. Free. Visit www.uucava.org for more.

Shirlington Walkabout. 3-5 p.m. at 4200 Campbell Ave. Attend a Sunday afternoon "Walkabout," hosted by WalkArlington. This guided walking tour will highlight the cultural institutions, recreational facilities, transportation options, shops, and restaurants in Arlington. Dogs are welcome. Free. Visit www.walkarlington.com for more.

MONDAY/APRIL 18

Green Festival. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center at the Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Celebrate Earth Day and 100 years of national parks. National Geographic Society's Pete McBride, an award-winning photographer and filmmaker, will be the keynote speaker for the event. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu for more.

Composting Basics. 7-8:30 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. The program will emphasize how composted material, including leaf litter and kitchen waste, can enrich and improve garden soil. It will cover how to start composting at home, what to put in a compost pile, how to maintain it so the materials break down properly, and how to use compost. Free. Visit www.mgnv.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 20

Young Poets Lab. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Shirlington Branch Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Teen poets are invited to write and recite their work. Free. Visit arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/2372129 for more.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Fashion Show Features Graduating Students

Marymount University's annual student fashion show, "Portfolio in Motion," will premiere Thursday, April 28 in the Rose Benté Lee Center, 2807 North Glebe Road. Premiere-night tickets are \$50. The price includes a 6:30 p.m. reception followed by the show at 8 p.m., where Reem Acra will be honored as designer of the year. This year's show is a nod toward the timeless style and glamour of a classic hotel. Shows will also be held at 8 p.m. on Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30 at the Lee Center. Costs for those nights is \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Visit www.marymount.edu/PIM.



Reem Acra will be honored as Designer of the Year at Marymount's annual student fashion show.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

CALENDAR

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Luncheon and Silent Auction. 11 a.m. at Washington Golf and Country Club, 3017 N. Glebe Road. Celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Birthday. Luncheon and silent auction fundraiser to benefit Arlington and Falls Church high school seniors pursuing their education in community and public service. Tickets are \$75. Call 703-533-3566.

Rock Spring Garden Club Flower Show. 2-4 p.m. at Little Falls Presbyterian Church Friendship Hall, 6025 Little Falls Road. Floral designs, horticultural exhibits, photography and more. Free. Visit www.rockspringgardenclub.com.

Phoenix Bikes Makers' Ball. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 1750 Crystal Drive. Find food, drink, music, dancing, photo booth, roller racing, and a crafts

table to benefit the Phoenix Bikes' youth program. Tickets are \$25, \$30 at the door. Visit www.phoenixbikes.org for more.

Arlington Rotary Educational Foundation Banquet. 6:30-9 p.m. at China Garden Restaurant, 1100 Wilson Blvd. Each year the Arlington Rotary Club sponsors a scholarship fundraising banquet. Proceeds go to the Arlington Rotary Educational Foundation which funds scholarships and stipends to help current and former Arlington students attend college. Tickets are \$50. By tickets at www.arlingtonrotaryclub.org/AREF by April 15.

Book Talk. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Jon McGoran shares from his international thriller, "Dust Up," the third in his Doyle Carrick series. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Book Talk. 7 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Best-selling author Jeff J. Selingo discusses and signs "There is Life After College: What Parents and Students Should Know about Navigating School to Prepare for Jobs for Tomorrow." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 22-24

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday at Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St. Six young spellers come together at a local school to use their talents to decide who will represent Putnam County in the national bee. Presented by Encore Stage & Studio. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.encorestageva.org.

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Historic Garden Week in Virginia

Elegant homes and gardens in Old Town, Arlington and Falls Church will be open to the public.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Some of the most spectacular gardens will be in bloom and on display during the 83rd annual Historic Garden Week in Virginia. The statewide event will include 30 different tours of more than 200 homes and gardens. Old Town Alexandria and Arlington, Falls Church and Fairfax County are participating in the Northern Virginia tours.

"These houses are historic and they all reflect the homeowners' personalities and interests," said Catherine Thompson of the Hunting Creek Garden Club in Alexandria. "Some are owned by young families. Some have small gardens and some have large gardens."

The Hunting Creek Garden Club teamed up with The Garden Club of Alexandria to



The white cast iron furniture is from the late 1800s and the tulip tree in the back yard is more than 150 years old. Both can be seen on the Arlington-Falls Church tour.

organize the Old Town tour, a walking tour which includes five row houses with courtyard gardens. In addition to the private

homes, which were all built during the 1700s and 1800s and still retain many original architectural features, tour goers will have access to the Carlyle House Historic Park, Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, George Mason's Gunston Hall and George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens.

"They are all really wonderful and beautiful homes and gardens and we feel very lucky to have them on the tour," said Thompson. "The homes are within two to three blocks of each other, so unlike some other [areas], we run a walking tour."

From large oak trees planted shortly after the Civil War and gardens bursting with colorful blooms from hydrangeas, camellias, rhododendron, crepe myrtles and wisteria to homes with views of the Potomac River and clematis flowing over a pergola, visitors will be treated to vivid spring displays as five Old Town residents open both their homes and gardens.

"People don't expect to have these amazing gardens behind these homes that can appear tiny from outside," said Amy Bertles of the Hunting Creek Garden Club. "One home has two gardens with amazing sculptures that were done by the home owner who is an artist. She decorated her garden with a few of her sculptures."

In Arlington and Falls Church, Gothic

Historic Garden Week

83rd Annual House and Garden Tour
Old Town Alexandria
Saturday, April 23, 2016
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hosted by The Hunting Creek Garden Club and
The Garden Club of Alexandria
For more information:
oldtownalexandria@vagardenweek.org or visit
<http://www.vagardenweek.org>

Falls Church-Arlington
Tuesday, April 26, 2016
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hosted by the Garden Club of Fairfax
<http://gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com/>

Revival, Greek Revival, Arts and Crafts and Victorian architecture await visitors who take the tour hosted by the Garden club of Fairfax. The gardens include four 100-year old holly trees, an herb garden and a garden of Victorian-era plants. Two of the homes are on the National Register of Historic Places and are Virginia Historic Landmarks. The tour also includes visits to Mason Neck State Park, Gulf Branch Nature Center and The Falls Church.

Properties are chosen for the tour by local garden clubs. "They're looking for properties that they know the public will enjoy," said Karen Miller Ellsworth of the Garden Club of Virginia and director of Historic

SEE HISTORIC GARDEN, PAGE 13

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SPORTS

Wakefield Teammates Compete in Nova Classic

Nhial scores 16 points for Fairfax South All-Stars

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Deng Nhial, Eric Martin and Jonathan Adams helped the Wakefield boys' basketball team win the Conference 13 championship, finish 5A North region runner-up and reach the state tournament. On April 10, the trio suited up for the Fairfax South All-Stars as part of the dmvstream.com Nova Challenge at Marshall High School.

The event featured some of the top talent in Northern Virginia and included two all-star games, a 3-point shootout and a dunk contest. The Wakefield trio competed against the Prince William All-Stars in the first game of the afternoon. Fairfax South led 31-19 at the end of the first quarter but eventually lost 110-107.

Nhial was one of five Fairfax South players to score in double figures. He finished with 16 points, three rebounds, two assists and two steals.

"It's definitely an honor," Nhial said about performing well in a game full of talented players. "Everybody comes out seeing how I perform and it's definitely a great experience."

Nhial averaged 13.3 points and 5 rebounds per game during the 2015-16 season. He was Co-Player of the Year in Conference 13 and earned first-team all-region and second-team all-state honors. Nhial will play basketball for Cheshire Academy, a prep school in Connecticut, next season.

Martin finished with eight points and three rebounds during Sunday's all-star game. He was a second-team all-conference selection.

Adams had four points and four blocks against the Prince William All-Stars. He averaged 10.9 points during the season and was also a second-team all-conference selection.

"Knowing that we're going to be going away, we're probably not going to be playing with each other for a long time," Nhial said, "so [getting] to be together with my boys for the last time is always a great feeling."

West Springfield's Lewis Djonkam earned team MVP honors for Fairfax South. The 6-foot-9 post player scored 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds.

Jordan Jones (T.C. Williams) had 16 points for Fairfax South, Tavaris James (T.C. Williams) finished with 14 and Spencer Askew (West Springfield) added 11.

"It was great," Djonkam said about competing in the event. "Every kid on the court I love. I grew up with half the kids on the court. ... [It was] my last time playing with the kids. It was great. I loved it."

Later in the day, the Fairfax North All-



Wakefield senior Eric Martin finished with eight points for the Fairfax South All-Stars.



Wakefield senior and Fairfax South All-Star Jonathan Adams had four points and four blocks during the Nova Challenge.

PHOTOS BY
JEFF MCQUILKIN



Wakefield senior Deng Nhial scored 16 points for the Fairfax South All-Stars during the dmvstream.com Nova Challenge on Sunday at Marshall High School.

12 points and grabbed four rebounds. He also won the dunk contest, earning a perfect score of 30 on his final attempt, when he jumped, brought the ball between his legs and threw it down with his right hand.

Unterkofer will attend Virginia Tech but doesn't plan to play basketball. He said he could first dunk a basketball in the ninth grade.

"It was pretty cool," said the 6-foot-5 Unterkofer. "I've wanted to be in a dunk contest for a long time because I practice dunking all the time and I never get to show it, so it's really exciting to get to come out and do it."

Stars defeated the Loudoun County All-Stars 108-101.

Langley senior Nate Shafer scored 10 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and blocked seven shots for the Fairfax North All-Stars.

All-star games are known for run-and-gun offense, but Shafer, the 2016 6A North region Defensive Player of the Year, made life difficult for Loudoun County players who tried to score in the paint.

"I can still apply some tactics that we use [during structured basketball] to an all-star game," Shafer said. "I typically find a guy that can't shoot as well so I can camp in the paint and that gives me more blocks and more contested shots and more rebounds, so that sort of pads my stats in an all-star game like this, which is fun."

Shafer, who will play at Swarthmore College, said he enjoyed making defensive

plays in an offensive environment. During one possession, Shafer swatted multiple Loudoun County shots.

"Those kinds of plays get the gym on their feet," he said, "so I like to do that."

Blake Francis, a member of the state champion Westfield Bulldogs, earned MVP honors for Fairfax North, finishing with 23 points, six rebounds and five assists. He knocked down a 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer, cutting the Fairfax North deficit to 64-50. Fairfax North outscored Loudoun County 58-37 in the second half.

Francis, who shot 8-for-17 from the floor and 5-for-12 from 3-point range, is still weighing his college options.

"It's good experience," Francis said, "going against the top talent in the Northern Virginia area."

Centerville's William Unterkofer scored

Yorktown Girls' Lax Beats Hayfield

The Yorktown girls' lacrosse team improved to 3-4 with a 20-8 win at Hayfield on April 7.

Claire Kuwana had three goals and three assists for the Patriots, and Katie Calvo finished with three goals and two assists. Laura Crawford and Sarah Bloomquist each had two goals and two assists.

Freshman goalkeeper Sydney Stropes had nine saves.

Yorktown faced Madison on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Patriots will host Washington-Lee at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15.

Historic Garden Week in Virginia

FROM PAGE 11

Garden Week. "They're looking for beautiful interiors, an interesting history and a really nice garden."

In addition to its aesthetic appeal, Historic Garden Week, which 3,300 Garden Club of Virginia members spend more than a year planning, has a significant economic impact. "[Visitors] travel from 30 states and foreign countries and 25 percent ... spend the night and average \$1,207 on their [Historic Garden Week] trip," said Miller Ellsworth. "As a group, they spend \$2 million in Virginia each spring. The cumulative economic impact over the last 45 years is an impressive \$425 million."

Historic Garden Week began in 1927 when the Garden Club of Virginia organized a flower show and raised \$7,000 to save trees planted by Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. Money raised from the Historic Garden Week tours fund the restoration and preservation of nearly 50 of the Commonwealth's significant historic public gardens as well as a new initiative with Virginia's state parks.

Old Town tour tickets are \$45. Group tours for 10 or more people are \$40 per person. Single-site tickets are \$25. Tickets may be purchased on tour day at any of the homes and at the Alexandria Visitors Center. Advance tickets are available for \$40 per person at www.vagardenweek.org and at the Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St., Alexandria.

Arlington-Falls Church tickets can be purchased online by credit card until April 24 by visiting <http://gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com/> or www.vagardenweek.org/main/tickets.



PHOTO BY DONNA MOULTON

On the Arlington-Falls Church tour is this garden, which consists of six "rooms" each with their own name: Thyme for Roses, the Evergreen Path, the Children's Garden, Herbs & Birds, Garden Work and Rest patio, the Sunken Lawn, the Floral Berms.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 13

Democratic Straw Poll. 7-9 p.m. at the Arlington Cinema & Draughts, 2903 Columbia Pike. Del. Alfonso Lopez (D-Arlington) will host his 2nd Annual Democratic Straw Poll. As House Democratic Whip, all of the proceeds for this event will go to support Lopez's efforts to elect more Democratic candidates to the House of Delegates. Visit <http://bit.ly/1Ri8s5Z> for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 16

Environmental Collection & Recycling Event. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Arlington County will hold its biannual Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE), where residents can safely dispose of hazardous household materials, recycle bikes, small metal items,

shoes, clothing and more. Swap an old CFL lightbulb for a new LED bulb (one per household, while supplies last). For a list of acceptable items, go to www.arlingtonva.us and search "E-CARE."

Celebrate Communication 2016.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College's Ernst Community Cultural Center/Gymnasium, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. An information fair providing resources, exhibits and hearing assistive technologies to better serve those with hearing loss. With over 40 exhibitors, discover a wealth of information in one place and connect with community groups, national and state organizations, relay and interpreting services and purchase art work from deaf and hard of hearing artists and crafters. Free. Visit www.nvrc.org for more.

ACDC Blue Victory Dinner. 6-9 p.m. at Westin Arlington Gateway, 801 N. Glebe Road. Arlington County Democratic Committee Blue Victory Dinner featuring U.S. Rep. Don Beyer and Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam. Tickets available at <https://act.mynpg.com/Forms/-1994964292171593728>. Visit www.arlingtondemocrats.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 20

County Board Candidate Debate.

7-9 p.m. at Mad Rose Tavern, 3100 Clarendon Blvd. County Board Candidate Debate hosted by Arlington Young Democrats. Visit www.arlingtondemocrats.org to register or for more.

Should Parole Be Reinstated in Virginia?

7-9 p.m. at Rock Spring Church, located at 5010 Little Falls Road. Members of the Virginia Commission on Parole Review, appointed by Governor McAuliffe last summer, will report on their findings at a panel discussion sponsored by Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) and Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ in Arlington. All are welcome. The full report and Executive Summary can be found at: parolecommission.virginia.gov/resources/final-report/2015-12-04-parole-commission-final-report.pdf. Visit www.oaronline.org for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Scholarship Fundraising Banquet.

6:30-9 p.m. at China Garden Restaurant, 1100 Wilson Blvd. Support the college education of

Arlington students; eat a large family style Chinese dinner; earn a \$25 tax deduction; participate in a silent auction; and get out of the house for a night of fun. The tax deductible proceeds from the banquet go to the Arlington Rotary Educational Foundation, which funds scholarships and stipends to help current and former Arlington students attend college. \$50 per person, of which \$25 is tax deductible. Purchase your banquet admission online at www.arlingtonrotaryclub.org/AREF by April 15. After April 15, contact Joseph Lott at rotary@lottfamily.com or 703-625-6638.

Camping for Families. 7-9 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Join the Arlington/Alexandria Chapter of Holistic Moms Network, to hear experienced local moms D. Ohlandt and Mary Hackman share what makes for a successful family excursion to the many hiking and camping sites in the area. Free. Contact Rajae Nami at rajaenami@yahoo.com or visit www.facebook.com/events/984361098304687/ for more.

Creating a Lifelong Home



Many of us love the idea of staying in our homes as we age. But what does this really mean? A few simple updates can make a big difference in the comfort and safety of our homes as we get older. And they can often be great for resale purposes as well.

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Elevator Rough-In. If you are planning on adding space to your home now, think about incorporating a rough-in for an elevator. It's much easier to do as you are building than to add later.

Bathroom and Kitchen Features. Incorporating a curbless shower or grab bars in the bathroom or roll out drawers in the kitchen are great features to consider. Not only will they potentially be helpful down the road, but are nice to have at any age.



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-Thomas A. Edison

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21 Announcements

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Robienna, LLC trading as Enjera Restaurant, 549 23rd St S. Arlington, VA 22202. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises & Mixed Beverage Restaurant License to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Robi Mengstab, Manager NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days 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

21 Announcements

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AMA, LLC trading as Cafe Monaco, 1800 Old Meadow Rd. McLean, VA 22102. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Agustin Sanchez, owner NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days 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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Wading is the Hardest Part



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And so it begins, the storm after the calm. Ten weeks or so of relative peace – and some quiet, since my last diagnostic scan. But now, five days ahead of my next scan, scheduled for April 13, I am emotionally behind. Why (aside from the obvious)? Because even though the scan will occur this Wednesday, I/we won't know the results until the following Thursday, April 21, eight days later, when we see the oncologist for a face-to-face appointment. Eight days of waiting, eight days of talking yourself in and out scenarios both good and bad, eight days of dealing with the devil – and hopefully not coming to any agreement; and finally, eight days of rationalizing your prior behavior, justifying your current behavior and wondering whether any future behavior will reflect the past, present or territory as yet uncharted.

And of course, it's the "territory as yet uncharted" (I don't have to explain what I mean, do I?) that worries and scares me the most. Not having been down this road before makes anticipating one's behavior-to-be/ reaction challenging. Oh, I suppose if I thought about it long enough I could develop some sort of action plan. But it's thinking about such a negative eventuality that seems and feels counterproductive. It's almost as if my thinking about such realities can somehow contribute to their actual occurrence, so, if I don't think about it, it won't happen. How's that for intelligent thinking? If I don't then it won't. If only it were that simple.

As the old saying goes: "Denial is more than just a river in Egypt." For a person originally characterized as "terminal" – in February, 2009, with stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer, now living into my eighth year post-diagnosis, life is a bit of a double-edged sword – that cuts both ways: it's a miracle that I'm still alive and given the amazing set of totally unexpected circumstances, it's equally perplexing why I've survived this long. Moreover, how is it possible that I've beaten my original life-expectancy odds so soundly? I mean: am I further from the beginning or closer to the end? Presumably, I was given a "13-month to two-year" prognosis for a reason. Do I simply ignore the underlying facts which led my oncologist to make that statement/prediction? I can't, and that's always my problem during the final few weeks leading up to my quarterly scan and the subsequent follow-up appointment with my oncologist. This can't go on forever, can it?

As much as I'd like to blur my reality, my nature prevents me from doing so. And though I may not dwell on it or allow it to dominate my conversation or become depressed or morose about any of it, I do acknowledge its affect; mostly with humor and off-putting redirection. Figuratively speaking, how does one live with both the weight of the world on your shoulders and the sword of Damocles hanging over your head without ignoring certain facts and figures and making light somehow of an extremely heavy burden?

Generally, I can manage, as you regular readers know. And as friends and family will attest, when there are fissures in my emotional underpinnings, it is during this two-week period – which occurs every 13 weeks, leading up to and then waiting for scan results when I am the most uncomfortable. And though it is all very familiar to me – after seven-plus years, it still doesn't totally minimize my reaction. Let's be honest: my life is at stake here, so how can I possibly act normally? Soon I'll know, but not soon enough. Unfortunately, there's nothing I can do about it in the interim. I just have to wait. Hopefully, the results will be worth the wait.

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



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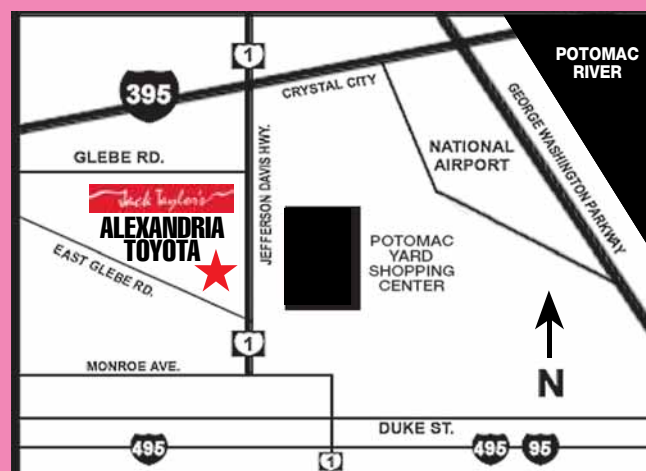


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INCLUDES: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to
5 qts of conventional oil, inspect windshield
wipers, tire rotation, check tire condition,
check battery (with proof-out), inspect and
adjust all fluid levels, inspect air Alexandria
Toyota's 27 pt. inspection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

SYNTHETIC OIL \$10 MORE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER
OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON
MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.
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**WEDNESDAY
IS LADIES' DAY
15% OFF
ANY REPAIR**
Not to exceed \$100

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GENUINE TOYOTA
**SIGHT LINE
WIPER BLADES
\$10 OFF
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Sight Line only

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**15% OFF
ANY ACCESSORIES**
• Apparel • Window visors
• iPad adaptors • All weather floor mats
• Toyota bedliners

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**30000 MILES FACTORY
RECOMMENDED
SERVICE
\$159⁹⁵**

Includes: Synthetic \$10 More
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.

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