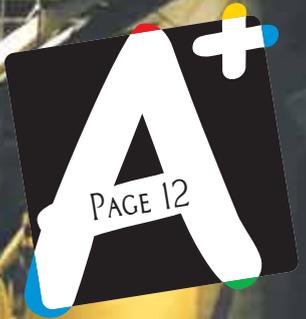




# The Arlington Connection



## Improve Driver Laws, Reduce Road Deaths

NEWS, PAGE 5

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 14

The Northern Virginia Backgammon Club plays in a back corner of Carpool. In April, Carpool will shut down to make way for redevelopment.

# Making Way For Redevelopment

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Long View on Legislative Power

NEWS, PAGE 4

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES / THE CONNECTION

## NEWS



PHOTO BY ROB CANNON

**From left: Arlington Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Kate Bates, Arlington County Board Chair Jay Fissette, Grant Thornton CEO Mike McGuire, Grant Thornton Public Sector National Managing Partner Carlos Otal, Grant Thornton Atlantic Coast Market Territory Managing Partner Jamie Fowler, Arlington Economic Development Director Victor Hoskins, and Rosslyn Business Improvement District President Mary-Claire Burick attend the grand opening of Grant Thornton LLP's new Metro DC office on Feb. 9.**

### Grant Thornton Office Opens

Grant Thornton, an audit, advisory and tax firm, opened a new office in Rosslyn on Feb. 9. The Metro DC office is located at 1000 Wilson Blvd., suite 1400. With the move into Arlington, Grant Thornton is

bringing 994 consultants and staff into an office designed to hold as many as 1,500 employees. The move is a consolidation of offices that had previously been spread across McLean and Alexandria.

### Redesign Coming to Clarendon Circle

Clarendon Circle is being redesigned to make it more accessible and safe for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists traveling through the intersection of Wilson and Clarendon boulevards and Washington Boulevard.

Last month the Arlington County Board approved acquisition of temporary and permanent easements on a piece of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington's property along Washington Boulevard to be used for public sidewalk, curb, gutter, utilities and drainage improvements, at a cost of \$25,000. More easements, from four other properties, are expected to be finalized over the next few months. Design analysis for the intersection has already been completed.

Project work will include:

- ❖ Reducing intersection size

- ❖ Shortening pedestrian crossing distances and widening sidewalks
- ❖ Better aligning Washington and Wilson Boulevards
- ❖ Upgrading traffic signals
- ❖ Improving area lighting and Installing new "Carlyle" streetlights
- ❖ Widening center medians at all crossings
- ❖ Adding on-street bike lanes and improving bike routes
- ❖ Planting street trees

The engineering design phase will wrap up in the next few months and construction is expected to begin in summer 2018. It will take about a year to complete. For more information and for future updates, visit <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/clarendon-circle/>.

### BUSINESS NOTES

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

**United Bank** in Arlington is relocating its south Arlington branch to 2409 Columbia Pike, between South Barton Street and South Adams Street.

**Quinn's on the Corner** restaurant recently opened at 1776 Wilson Blvd. in Rosslyn. Quinn's is the latest venture from the owners of Copperwood Tavern in Shirlington.

**Planned Systems International, Inc.** of Arlington, has named **Richard Lehosky** as Vice President of Homeland Defense Solutions.

In June 2017, **The G.O.A.T. sports bar** will relocate to 3028 Wilson Blvd. in an 8,800-square-foot restaurant space where the redesigned

restaurant will seat 350 guests between three full bars and full service tables.

Roseland Residential Trust, has completed the first phase of extensive renovations for **Crystal House**, a two-building, 825-apartment home community located at 1900 S. Eads Street in the heart of Crystal City.

**Vorsight**, a sales effectiveness firm in Arlington, will undergo a \$105,000 expansion, and will create 112 new jobs for its research and development, sales and marketing, customer success and technology teams.

**Nestlé USA** is relocating from California to 1812 N. Moore St., in Rosslyn. They are moving into a 206,000 square foot building in September 2017 and bringing an estimated 750 jobs.

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## We're Hosting an Open House at The Kensington Falls Church And you're invited!

Saturday, February 18, 2017 from 2pm-4pm  
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Family & Friends Welcome • Tours • Refreshments

**A**fter many months of planning and construction, our beautiful senior living residence at 700 West Broad Street is now open. Please join us for an open house to celebrate this milestone. Meet our team, mingle with families and guests, take a personalized tour and enjoy refreshments.

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We are excited to share our comprehensive spectrum of care and our passion for making a difference. Come introduce yourself and tell us about your family. A warm welcome awaits!

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## Last Call Carpool in Ballston winds down towards an April closing.

BY VERNON MILES  
THE CONNECTION

**F**or many of the bar's patrons, Carpool is the last bastion of the Ballston that was. The bar was built out of a converted car dealership around 1998 and never lost that heritage. The structure of the building looks nearly untouched from the outside. Inside, the bar is covered in old car keys and 1950's car advertisements, with road and gas stations signs hung around the ceiling. In the garages where mechanics worked on automobiles, local lawyers and government contractors gathered drink and play pool. In April, all of that will come to a close as Carpool is shut down to make way for redevelopment.

Years ago, there was a time when Jorge Carcamo, a manager at Carpool for over 21 years, said you could watch the D.C. fireworks from the roof of the building. Old pictures show a blue horizon around the building, occasionally dotted by an apartment complex or office tower. But while Carpool remained mostly consistent, the Ballston around it transformed. For decades, Carpool was a holdout while towering office and apartment buildings rose around it. But in 2016 the bar was sold to developer Penzance and is scheduled to be replaced by a 22-story apartment building. The glass and metal tower will host 8,000 square feet of retail space, an underground parking garage and 330 apartment buildings. Another Carpool location was opened in Herndon and a new



PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/THE CONNECTION

**Carpool in Ballston**



**The auto-themed interior at Carpool helped make it a distinctive local bar.**

Carpool restaurant will open in Fair Lakes, but for those at the original, it's just not the same. The final moments for the popular Ballston sports bar are a little over a month away. At the long bar near the entrance, bartenders and regulars brace themselves for last call sometime in early April.

"Like every business, things changed," said Carcamo. "We started with three TVs, now it looks like an electronics store. When we opened, most of our regulars were in their mid-20s. Now, they're in their mid-30s."

Around him, some of the regulars grunted a solemn acknowledgement of this fact. Many of the regulars, people who come in three or four days of the week, have been coming to Carpool for around 10 years. Jason Saunders, a 10-year regular, said sports brought him to Carpool initially, but it was the people he met during those games or in the nights out on the patio in the warm summers that kept him coming back.

"This is one of the only bars with a group of regulars," said Saunders. "There's about 30 or 40 people who come in here [a

couple] of days each week. If you come in here you're going to run into people you know."

"It's not a flash mob," said William Todd Routzahn, another regular sitting near the bar with Saunders. "You come when you come and you're going to recognize someone you know."

Saunders said when he looks back on the bar, it's going to be running into other regulars whenever he stops in for a drink that he's going to miss.

"Arlington is transient," said Saunders. "There's not many places with a core like this."

"This is a place that transcends time," said William Todd Routzahn. "Carpool is easy. The same bartenders have been here forever... Your regulars are a diverse crowd; lawyers, bankers, government, military from all branches. It's a microcosm of Arlington."

Dragan Kostadinovic has been tending bar at Carpool for four years, ever since he moved to the United States from Europe. Kostadinovic said Carpool has become a second home for him and the staff is his second family.

"The people here have taken me in as a son," said Kostadinovic. "Every second here is a new best memory. It is a family."

Kostadinovic will be transferring to the new location in Fair Lakes. For the regu-

lars, though, it was the bar's closeness to their homes that helped make it such a popular destination.

"I had just moved into the area when I saw Carpool and I immediately loved the set up," said Bobby Freer, who just started regularly coming to the bar last year. "Everyone was so friendly. People were active and hanging out on the patio. I kept coming and then people here start to recognize you. They take care of you. I'm sad to see it go."

In a back corner of the bar, the Northern Virginia Backgammon Club sets up their boards. Like angels of death, the Backgammon Club has been circling around to the bars in the area on the eve of their closing. Before they came into Carpool nearly a year ago, they were at The Green Turtle a few blocks away, which has since been closed and is undergoing conversion into an Applebee's.

"I like it here," said Larry Brown, one of the club's leaders. "They're very adapting.... We're very concerned about finding a new space here. It's hard to find a good spot in Ballston anymore."

A few of the regulars order another round before the happy hour ends at seven.

"When it does close, I'm going to cry," said Routzahn, "then I'm going to be pissed when I'm woken up with the construction on the new site in the morning."



**Carpool regulars Jason Saunders (left) and William Todd Routzahn (right) with bartender Dragan Kostadinovic (center).**

# Longtime Members Remember Era of Democratic Rule

Democrats assigned Republicans to committees that never met, separated them.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION



Democrats in the minority raise their hands to support a bill the Republican majority wants to kill.

PHOTO BY  
MICHAEL LEE POPE

**B**ills killed without consideration in committee. Members in the minority dismissed as irrelevant. Members in the majority lumping dozens of bills into a block vote to dispatch them in one sweeping vote. Those are some of the complaints from Democrats in the minority this year about the Republican majority. But when questioned about those complaints, longtime members in both parties say the same thing.

Democrats were in many ways worse when they were in power, although Republicans have created new tricks of their own.

Until the time Republicans seized power of the House of Delegates after the election of 1999, Democrats had a rock solid lock on control of the oldest continuous legislative bodies in the New World. And the century of unfettered control did not have a positive influence on their leadership style. Sometimes they would kill bills without ever hearing them. Other times, they would lump bills together in a block vote and kill dozens or more in a single vote.

Unlike Republicans, they had a practice of sending bills to committees that never met. Democrats also had a practice of seating Republicans at opposite ends of committee rooms so they were unable to communicate and coordinate during committee meetings. One of the more infamous

**“Just because the Democrats ruled with an iron fist, that’s no reason for us to do the same. I’m sure we both have room for improvement.”**

— Speaker Bill Howell

practices was killing bills that came to the House floor as a matter of revenge, even memorial resolutions.

“Just because the Democrats ruled with an iron fist, that’s no reason for us to do the same,” said House Speaker Bill Howell. “I’m sure we both have room for improvement.”

Democrats say Republicans are no saints. Since taking power almost 20 years ago, they created a system of killing bills in unrecorded subcommittee votes. As a result, a handful of Republicans can kill bills introduced by Democrats without being on the record. And the subcommittee meetings are often scheduled for 7 a.m., when members of the public are not around to object or testify. The longest serving member in the House, Del. Ken Plum (D-36), acknowledges that Democrats would kill bills without ever considering them.

“We heard a lot of complaints about that for a lot of years about how bad Democrats were when they were doing that,” said Plum. “Now we find that is happening in many committees across the Capitol, for example most recently the P&E Committee where they dispensed with the redistrict-

ing bills in one motion.”

**LAST MONTH**, the Privileges and Elections Committee dispatched more than two dozen constitutional amendments in a block vote despite objection from Democrats who wanted a recorded vote on each proposal. A few days later, freshman Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86) called a press conference to complain that Courts of Justice Chairman Dave Albo (R-42) killed her abortion rights bill without ever scheduling it for a hearing. Longtime members recall that Democrats did the same thing when they were in power. Majority Leader Kirk Cox recalls an experience he had as a freshman Republican in 1990, when he had his first bill before the Courts of Justice.

“I literally waited until 1 o’clock in the morning, then the chairman told me that my bill was going to subcommittee number five,” said Cox. “Everyone is chucking in the audience, and I ask why everyone was chuckling, and they tell me there is no subcommittee five.”

Perhaps the most infamous use of power was by longtime Democratic Leader Dickie Cranwell. Longtime Republicans say when Cranwell heard somebody on the other side of the aisle say something he did not like, he would hold up three fingers. When that happened, according to Republicans, the next three Republican bills would die — regardless of what they were about. This would include things like memorial resolutions honoring the lives of people who had

recently died.

“That’s a fairy tale,” said Cranwell, who has now retired from politics. “Now I could be difficult to deal with sometimes, but that three-finger thing never happened.”

Speaker Howell and Leader Cox say they saw it happen, and Cranwell’s three-finger salute is legend in the halls of the Capitol. But it may also be a myth, depending on who is telling the story. One feature of Democratic rule that everyone agrees on, though, is the late-night meetings. Democrats would often hold committee meetings that would stretch on well past midnight on many occasions. Republicans say they believe that was a trick to wear people down, allowing them to kill bills simply because people wanted to go home and sleep. When they took power, they moved those committee meetings to early in the morning.

“In the early years, the only real difference between the Republicans being in control and the Democrats being in control is that when you had a 7 o’clock meeting it was at a civilized hour of 7 p.m. not 7 a.m.,” said Del. Vivian Watts (D-39). “While it may be just a matter of just a different lifestyle approach to things it does freeze out the public.”

Watts says nighttime committee meetings allow members of the public to travel to Richmond and testify, and she saw that happen regularly when Democrats were in power. Now that Republicans consider bills in early morning hours and kill bills in unrecorded votes, the public has been excluded from process because it’s much more difficult for people to come to Richmond at that hour. But timing is not the only change. Longtime members say there are larger changes in the political culture of both parties.

“On most issues, there was somewhat of a coalition of Republicans and conservative rural Democrats that would basically determine the outcome,” said Sen. Emmett Hanger (R-24), who served in the House from 1983 to 1992. “So I think it was not a liberal body at that time. It was actually a more congenial body.”

## IN SESSION

### Ghost of Carter Glass

Meet state Sen. **Carter Glass** of Lynchburg. No, he’s not currently serving in the General Assembly. He was there more than 100 years ago. And is now infamous for creating the poll tax, an addition to the Virginia Constitution specifically designed to prevent blacks from voting. Fast forward more than a century, and Senate Democratic Leader **Dick Saslaw** says a modern-day constitutional amendment on voting rights essentially reinstates the poll tax by preventing people who haven’t paid court costs from voting.

“It’s kind of hard to deal with this topic without thinking about Carter Glass because he did this to keep the blacks from voting,” said Saslaw. “No other reason. That was it.

And he stated that.”

Saslaw was not alone. A handful of Democrats invoked the long-gone senator during a debate on rights restoration. They say Republican-led efforts to prevent former felons from voting has a racial undertone because most former felons are black.

“Don’t invoke what happened in 1902 to try to stir up some emotions on this thing,” responded Republican Leader **Tommy Norment**.

The nod to Virginia history didn’t work. Senators narrowly approved a constitutional amendment that would remove the ability of the governor to restore voting rights for people who have not yet paid court costs. Lawmakers say they should be able to make that decision, not the governor.

### Abortifacient Debate

Before the General Assembly session started in January, Democratic Lt. Gov. **Ralph Northam** staged a press conference in Old Town Alexandria to announce a \$6 million pilot program that would use untapped federal funds to buy IUDs for low-income women. Democratic Gov. **Terry McAuliffe** included the funding in his proposed budget.

But then it hit a wall.

House Republicans did not include money for it in their budget, and the Senate’s budget includes \$3 million for an implantable contraceptive device but not IUDs. Some of the opposition say IUDs essentially cause abortions.

That’s not how IUDs work, says Northam, a pediatric neurologist.

“I think they don’t understand the sci-

ence,” said Northam. “They essentially prevent the sperm from ever meeting up with the egg. And so the egg is never fertilized because of the IUD.”

“Some have an abortifacient effect,” said **Jeff Caruso** with the Virginia Catholic Conference. “What that means is that they would work after fertilization to stop a newly conceived embryo from implanting in the uterus.”

Caruso said the abortifacient effect was only one reason for opposition to Northam’s proposal. He said critics are also concerned that the pilot program might make the contraception available to people under the age of 18. He also said free contraception for low-income people is already available at other locations, so he sees no need to increase availability.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

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# Improve Driver Laws, Reduce Road Deaths

## Virginia's highway safety report card marked in red.

BY BILL BRONROTT  
THE CONNECTION

Clifton resident Debbie Sausville represented Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) at a recent Capitol Hill news conference where Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety (Advocates) issued "report cards" rating all 50 states and the District of Columbia on their progress toward adopting 15 optimal laws

that scientific studies, data analysis and real world experience show are effective at preventing death and injury on roadways.

The D.C.-based highway and auto safety watchdog group unveiled its "2017 Roadmap of State Highway Safety Laws" report as a call to action for lawmakers in every state capital to close gaps in 15 laws covering seat belts, child booster seats, teen graduated driver licensing programs, motorcycle helmets, impaired driving, and texting while driving.

The Advocates' report rated each state Green (good), Yellow (caution) or Red (danger) based on the number of the 15 traffic safety measures enacted into law.

Advocates' vice president of governmental affairs Cathy Chase, a resident of Falls Church, revealed that, "Virginia received a Red report card and was rated among the worst performing states in the nation for having adopted only five of the 15 laws. The Commonwealth is lacking a front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, booster seat law, six of seven teen driving provisions, and an open container law."

The neighboring states of Maryland, West Virginia and North Carolina earned Yellow ratings, and the District of Columbia and Delaware received Green scores.

In Virginia, 753 people died in traffic crashes in 2015, seven percent higher than the 703 fatalities in 2014. The annual economic cost of crashes is nearly \$5 billion in Virginia.

Sausville's stepdaughter Lauren, at age 16, died in a crash in Fairfax County in 2004 after drinking underage. She had only obtained her driver's license three weeks earlier. Over the past decade, Sausville has volunteered with MADD to speak out for greater teen driving safety. She welcomed the new report for "putting a bright spotlight on dangerous loopholes in our laws through which children and adults are suffering needlessly," and called for "our state lawmakers to embrace these lifesaving laws to help keep families safe and whole."

Sausville praised Virginia for having already adopting two of MADD's priorities laws — an ignition interlock requirement for all drunk driving offenders and child endangerment penalties for those who drive drunk with children in the car.

"It is now time to finally ban the possession and consumption of alcohol beverages in motor vehicles in Virginia, which is already the law in 40 states and D.C.," Sausville said.

Chase pointed out that Virginia's seat belt law loophole allows back seat passengers to ride unbuckled and front seat belt use is still a secondary offense in the state, meaning that police cannot stop a vehicle

## Report Card

Virginia's 2017 Highway Safety Laws Report Card (Black = credit; Red\*\* = missing law)

### OCCUPANT PROTECTION

- \*\* Primary Enforcement Seat Belt Law for all front seat occupants
- \*\* Primary Enforcement Seat Belt Law for rear seat occupants
- \* All-Rider Motorcycle Helmet Law

### CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

- \*\* Child Booster Seats: Children who have outgrown the height and weight limit of a forward-facing car safety seat should be placed in a booster seat until at least age eight and 57 inches tall.

### GRADUATED DRIVER'S LICENSING FOR TEENS

- \*\* Minimum Age 16 for Learner's Permit
- \* 6-Month Holding Period: A beginning teen driver must be supervised by an adult licensed driver at all times during the learner's stage. If the learner is citation-free for six months, he or she may progress to the intermediate stage.
- \*\* Supervised Driving Requirement: At least 50 hours of behind-the-wheel training, including 10 hours at night, with an adult licensed driver.
- \*\* Nighttime Driving Restriction: No unsupervised driving from at least 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. seven days a week.
- \*\* Passenger Restriction: No more than one non-familial passenger under age 21.
- \*\* Cell Phone Restriction: No use of cellular devices (hand-held, hands-free, text messaging) by beginning teen drivers, except in the case of an emergency.
- \*\* Age 18 Unrestricted License: A teen driver is prohibited from obtaining an unrestricted license until age 18, and either the nighttime or passenger restrictions must last until age 18.

### IMPAIRED DRIVING

- \* Ignition interlocks for all drunk driving offenders
- \* Child Endangerment Law: Penalties for people who drive while impaired with children in the vehicle.
- \*\* Open Container Law

### DISTRACTED DRIVING

- \* All-Driver Text Messaging Restriction
- SOURCE: ADVOCATES FOR HIGHWAY AND AUTO SAFETY

just because an occupant is not buckled up. Front seat occupants can be ticketed for not wearing a seat belt only if the driver is stopped for another offense.

In 2014, Virginia's seat belt use rate lagged 10 points behind the national average of 87 percent.

An estimated 287 lives were saved by seat belt use in Virginia in 2015, but an additional 113 deaths could have been prevented if all vehicle occupants had been buckled up, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation (US DOT).

"Most states and D.C. have a primary seat belt law for front seat occupants," Chase said, "and their belt use rates are higher than secondary enforcement states like Virginia."

In 2016, states with primary enforcement seat belt laws for front seat passengers had a 92 percent average belt use rate, while belt use in states with secondary enforcement laws was 83 percent, according to US DOT data.

The Virginia-based Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) has found that when states strengthen their laws from secondary to primary enforcement, driver death rates drop by an estimated seven percent.

The theme of the 2017 roadmap report is "Have We Forgotten What Saves Lives?" Chase said that "as a safety advocate and a Virginia parent, I hope the answer to this question is a resounding 'No.' This failing report card should serve as a wake-up call for our state policymakers to advance the 10 basic, effective laws we're currently lacking."

For more information, see <http://saferoads.org/roadmaps/>.

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3701 38<sup>TH</sup> STREET N, ARLINGTON, VA 22207

Join Sun Design, an architectural design-build firm, on Feb 18 to explore a few of the renovation possibilities of this home. If you would like to see your home renovation vision brought to life, please contact Erin Garvey at 703.425.5588 or [erin@sundesigninc.com](mailto:erin@sundesigninc.com) for a free in-home consultation.

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Special Edition

**PET Connection**

Publishes: Feb 22, 2017 • Ads close: Wed, Feb 16, 2017

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets. Reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention.

The Pet Connection will publish on February 22, 2017, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by February 16. We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults.

Find more information about submissions online at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets).

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## Ending Gerrymandering Important to Region

Efforts appear dead for this session, but elections later this year provide new opportunities.

**W**hile three bills that could have reined in the runaway gerrymandering in Virginia made it through the Virginia Senate to crossover, they died on Tuesday morning in a House subcommittee, despite some vocal Republican support.

In Virginia, Democrats have won every statewide election since 2010, and notably Barack Obama won the state in 2008 by more than 52 percent of the vote. Many of these victories have been narrow. In 2009, Republicans won Governor, Lt. Governor and Attorney General by strong margins.

It is reasonable, given these results, to expect that representation at the state level would be approximately even, with either Republicans or Democrats holding a small advantage. Instead, Republicans control the House of Delegates 66 to 34, and the Virginia Senate 21 to 19.

There is little competition for these seats as a result.

According to OneVirginia2021, an advocacy group for ending gerrymandering, 56 candi-

dates in the House of Delegates faced no real competition in the last general election in 2013, with 22 Democrats and 34 Republicans facing no major-party challenger. In the end, only two seats changed parties.

These same lawmakers are set to redraw the the boundaries for state legislative and congressional districts after the 2020 census, and the just-killed proposed constitutional amendments would have required that these not be motivated by partisan politics. By far the best approach would be to turn the process over to a non-partisan commission to draw boundaries in the best interests of Virginia citizens.

One of the proposals, cosponsored by Sen. Jill Vogel (R) and Sen. Janet Howell (D), passed the Senate 31-9, but died in the House subcommittee on a 5-2 vote.

It matters more here in Northern Virginia. Virginia is a Dillon Rule state, which means that localities have only the power specifically given to them by the General Assembly. It means that the economic engines of the state in Northern Virginia provide most of the financial wherewithal but citizens in Alexandria,

Arlington and Fairfax County are often unable to govern themselves as they wish because of control by a far more conservative General Assembly.

Real change starts locally. Anyone seeking change should tune in for this year's elections in Virginia, including all the seats in the General Assembly, plus Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General. Every voter will choose one Virginia Senator and one member of the Virginia House of Delegates.

Nonpartisan redistricting could support the best interests of the population, not the politicians.

**In 2016:**  
Hillary Clinton (D) 1,981,473 (49.75%);  
Donald Trump (R) 1,769,443 (44.43%)

**In 2013:**  
McAuliffe (D) 1,069,789;  
Cuccinelli (R) 1,013,389  
Northam (D) 1,213,155;  
Jackson (R) 980,257  
Herring (D) 1,103,777;  
Obenshain (R) 1,103,612

**In 2012:**  
Obama (D) 1,971,820;  
Romney (R) 1,822,522  
Kaine (D) 2,010,067; Allen (R) 1,785,542

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Gains and Losses in Crossover Week

BY BARBARA FAVOLA  
STATE SENATOR (D-31)

**T**here are only two weeks left in session, but I am still hard at work in Richmond fighting for our values. This past week, I worked to defeat a bill that would have given the state authority to establish charter schools while leaving local school districts with the responsibility of funding these schools. Evidence shows that

students in charter schools do not perform any better academically than the same cohort in public schools. Yet there continues to be pressure to undermine public schools and relax accountability measures for charter schools. The charter school bill passed on a 21-19 vote.

The Democratic senators worked to stop a number of voter suppression bills, but they passed with the support of the Republi-

can majority. A particularly disturbing bill passed that gives a state sanction to individuals who do not want to perform marriage ceremonies for LGBTQ couples. This protection already exists. The patrons of the bill would like to use the levers of the state in a divisive and hateful way. Unfortunately, the Governor will have this and other offensive bills like anti-immigrant measures to veto.

Here is a more detailed update

from this past week.

### Budget

I will continue to fight for more education dollars for our schools. The Senate budget provides school districts with the state share of a 2 percent increase for teachers' salaries. If districts gave teachers an increase last year, the school system can use the money for other expenses. The House takes a slightly different approach, but I expect the final version of the budget will make some dollars available for a teacher pay increase. Virginia teachers currently rank 35th in national rankings on pay and earn approximately \$7,000 less, on average, than teachers making a salary equal to the national average. We must do better. Unfortunately, the acceleration of the VRS payment schedule was not reversed so that remains an unplanned expense for our school systems.

The Senate budget increases funding to higher education, reduces the ID/DD waiting list, slightly, and makes some inroads breaking the cycle of poverty. Three of my anti-poverty and workforce training measures are included in the budget. Because of

work in "domestic violence" services not only in counseling victims, but as a consultant within the Department of Justice and as a trainer to a myriad of organizations throughout the U.S. has been recognized and formerly cited for special awards.

Karen's work in victims services is only the tip of the "iceberg" when it comes to her many skills and talents. She is a free lance writer and an "Expert Contributor/writer" for law enforcement publications. She is listed in the "Who's Who" of American Professional Women.

Karen's contribution to victims of crime stands alone and is the biggest reason she is considered a "woman who makes a difference to all who come in contact with her professionally and otherwise.

**Charles E. Flinn III,**  
Captain Ret.

Prince Georges County, Md.  
Fire/EMS Department

SEE SESSION, PAGE 7

EDITORIAL

The  
**Arlington**  
Connection

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by  
**Local Media Connection LLC**

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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# Two Weeks Left in Session

FROM PAGE 6  
the uncertainty in Washington, the Senate set aside \$40 million in a reserve account.

**Crossover**

Crossover was this week and 15 of my bills made it to the House in some form. You can find a full list at [www.barbarafavola.org/bill-status](http://www.barbarafavola.org/bill-status). Additionally, six of my bills have already been voted out of House Committees and are on their way to the House floor. These bills include:

- ❖ **Children's Safety:** A proposal to require the investigation of alleged child abuse or neglect on children age 2 or younger. This early intervention could help reduce the number of infant fatalities in the Commonwealth. Last year children under two accounted for nearly half of all child fatalities.
- ❖ **Workforce Development:** I am particularly proud of my bill to grant scholarships to foster kids taking trade or certificate programs through the Community College System. This effort will help us reach our goal of 100,000 additional degrees or certificates by 2020.
- ❖ **Community-Based Programs:** A bill to create better reporting on incidents of serious injury from licensed community-based programs serving those with ID or DD. Since there are a number of individuals who are now being served in community group homes who were formerly served at the Northern Virginia Training Center, it is important that we monitor the quality of their care.
- ❖ **Sexual Assault:** I worked with the Attorney

General's office on a bill to require that sexual assault survivors be informed if physical evidence submitted prior to July 2015 contains DNA evidence. My bill flew out of the Senate and I expect it will pass the House. Attorney General, Mark Herring noted that: "We are turning a page in how we are responding to sexual violence in Virginia, away from an older culture of violence or reluctance to bring some of these cases and instead to a broader understanding that survivors deserve compassion and respect and a response that is equal to the seriousness of these crimes."

- ❖ **Aging Issues:** Two of my bills help the Commonwealth deal with our fast growing aging population. One requires the Council on Aging to educate consumers on malnutrition and provide strategies for defeating this issue. Today, 13.9 percent of Virginia seniors are food insecure, a number that we have to work to reduce. The other proposal starts the conversation on the need to better train health professionals on providing geriatric care.
  - ❖ **Housekeeping bills:** VDOT gains authority to use a negotiated process among more traditional cost-based only approaches for determining the best deal in leasing air rights. Another bill grants Local Governments more authority to negotiate leave benefit packages with constitutional officers.
- Once again, I appreciate all of the calls and emails regarding legislation. Please know that your voices are being heard. I will continue to work for my constituents in the 31st District and Virginians throughout the Commonwealth.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Synetic Tackles 'Taming of the Shrew'

Staging a wordless Shakespeare classic.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

**S**ynetic Theater in Crystal City is staging the Shakespeare comedy, "Taming of the Shrew," from Feb. 15 to March 19. This battle-of-the-sexes play will be wordless and enacted with all the acrobatic motion that Synetic is known for. The production, which stars choreographer and associate artistic director Irina Tsikurishvili, is recommended for ages 14-plus for its nudity and sexual situations. It was made into the 1967 movie starring Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton.

Producer Paata Tsikurishvili said he decided to produce the play to show Shakespeare's universality: "This is a play that has some pretty worn out attitudes, and I wanted to show it in a new, more ironic light; this play still has something to offer, by virtue of its being in Shakespeare's canon. I want to prove that this play can not only be funny, but relevant, smart, sexy, and ultimately very charming and romantic. I also wanted to highlight the shallowness of the play's misogyny, by showing how it can only really exist in the most materialistic and manufactured of environments."

He said there were two main challenges for him as a director. "One was combining all of our talents to create a real Broadway-level show; something that's epically funny and does justice to the original text. And the other was combining the play's old-world mentality with our ultra-modern, glamorous, Kardashian-like characters, while still maintaining the play's physical comedy. And to do this without seeming cruel. It was quite a balancing act, especially with our uniquely visual storytelling."



PHOTOS BY JOHNNY SHROCK



Synetic Theater is presenting "Taming of the Shrew" from Feb. 15 to March 19.

Ryan Sellers is the playing the role of Petruchio, a James Dean-type of bad boy. "He is tough and he doesn't ask for forgiveness for the actions he takes. Not unlike the Joker, he isn't bothered if people don't understand or approve of the things that he does," he said. "He has the ability to be harsh, sweet, cruel, and kind, and he seamlessly switches from one extreme to the other in order to achieve his objectives."

He said the biggest challenge in working towards creating lightness, comedy and truth in this show was "working against the natural misogyny that can be easily implied in the actions (and text) of the story."

"To show that, despite all of Petruchio's crudeness and gas lighting, it is Katherina's strength and substance that makes her a match and perhaps even overpower him. What he possesses in physical strength, she surpasses with emotional and spiritual steadfastness," he said.

He added: "It was important to come to a place of not making excuses for Petruchio, but letting him take extreme courses of ac-

tion without questioning or judging that as an actor."

He said what he hopes audiences will take away is: "The show is fun to be in and funny to watch, and it's main goal, from my perspective, is to bring lightness and humor to the audience at a time of great social heaviness. It also has weaved into it by the artistic staff, a story of gender equality and excellent commentary on materialism and celebrity."

Irina Tsikurishvili is playing the role of the spitfire Katherina. "She is someone who has an incredible sense of self awareness and doesn't care what others think of her," she said. "It is because of this awareness, and independent thinking, that she is able to recognize and resent that she has been under the control of her father her entire life, until her father decides she is to be put under Petruchio's control, which she hates even more."

As far as challenges, she said: "While playing this character, I am constantly going from one extreme on the emotional scale

to the other. Always lashing out it seems. It doesn't help that there are a lot of feelings in the air, across the country, specifically about the rights of women, their status and role. It's hard to keep your true emotions at bay and this is a hard play not to politicize right now."

She said she hopes audiences will understand that a play like this, with some very archaic attitudes and stereotypes, can still be relevant and be an example of what to do and what not to do. "I do think it's possible to get that message across; it is Shakespeare, after all. And I think we've found that this play can still surprise us and leave the audience happy, with a sense of joy and satisfaction," she said.

*Synetic Theater in Crystal City is staging Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" from Feb. 15 to March 19. Show times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 to \$60. The venue is located at 1800 South Bell Street, Arlington. Call the Box Office at 866-811-4111 or visit the website at [www.synetictheater.org](http://www.synetictheater.org).*

### CALENDAR

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

#### ONGOING

**The Power of Color.** Through Feb. 24, 8 p.m. at the Gallery Underground, Crystal City Shops at 2100 Crystal Drive. Ancient musical traditions of the griot with a savvy aesthetic engagement in the contemporary moment. Visit [www.galleryunderground.org/the-power-of-color/](http://www.galleryunderground.org/the-power-of-color/) for more.

**Kids in the Kitchen.** Through Feb. 25 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Lane. Encore stage presents two siblings, with their mom at their side, exploring the wonder, excitement, temptation, and nutrition that their kitchen has to offer. For preschoolers. Visit [www.encorestageva.org](http://www.encorestageva.org) for more.

#### Global Phonic Music Series.

Through Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, 1611 N. Kent St. Noura Mint Seymali - Global Phonic Music Series 2017. Visit [arlingtonarts.org](http://arlingtonarts.org) for more.

**"Color Rush!" Art Show.** Through the end of February at the Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive. Member artists were challenged to create dynamic works in splashy wake-you-up colors that will pop off the walls. Opening reception: Friday, Feb. 3, 5-8 p.m. Visit [www.galleryunderground.org](http://www.galleryunderground.org) for more.

#### Arlington Arts Light & Shadow Class.

Through March 29, 4:30-6 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. This new multimedia course focuses on value, arguably one of the most important elements of art. Exercises in charcoal, acrylic, chalk, and collage will lead to dramatic, high-contrast images. \$195. Visit [education@arlingtonartscenter.org](mailto:education@arlingtonartscenter.org).

**"Taming of the Shrew."** Through March 19, various times at the

Synetic Theatre, Theater at Crystal City, 1800 South Bell St. Visit [synetictheater.org/](http://synetictheater.org/) for more.

**Pickleball.** Through March, noon-3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. Call 703-228-7790 for more.

**Cancer Park Runs.** Saturdays, 9 a.m. at Roosevelt Island, George Washington Memorial Parkway. American Cancer Society partners with parkrun USA to promote fitness in the fight against cancer. Free. Visit [www.parkrun.us/rooseveltislanddc/](http://www.parkrun.us/rooseveltislanddc/) for more.

**Friday Night Live.** 8 p.m. Fridays at the Church at Clarendon, 1210 N. Highland St., Suite A. Local musicians perform. Free. Visit [1bc.org](http://1bc.org) for more.

**Culinaire's Winter Lunch.** Tuesdays through Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Art Institute of Washington, 1820 N. Fort Myer Drive, 12th floor. Culinaire, the student-run restaurant of the Art Institute of Washington, is now serving lunch from their winter menu

on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Visit [www.artinstitutes.edu/arlington](http://www.artinstitutes.edu/arlington) for more.

#### Arlington's Historical Museum Open on First Wednesdays.

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

**LGBT & Straight Friends Social.** Tuesdays. Happy Hour, 3-7 p.m.; Mikey's "Bar A" Video Wall, 7 p.m.; start time at 8 p.m. IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. For 21 years and older. Free. Visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://www.iotaclubandcafe.com) for more.

**Open Mic Comedy.** Wednesdays 8-10

p.m. at Ri Ra Irish Pub, 2915 Wilson Blvd. Doors open at 7 p.m. Age 21 and up only. Free show, \$25 cash prize for best joke. Call 703-248-9888 or Visit [www.RiRa.com/](http://www.RiRa.com/) Arlington for more.

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

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

# ENTERTAINMENT

share their poetry followed by open readings. Free. Visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://www.iotaclubandcafe.com) or call 703-522-8340.

**Open Mic Nite.** 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. every Wednesday at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Sign-up times are 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Bring instruments, fans and friends. Visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://www.iotaclubandcafe.com) or call 703-522-8340.

**Karaoke.** 8 p.m. on the first Sunday every month at Galaxy Hut, 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit [www.galaxyhut.com](http://www.galaxyhut.com) or call 703-525-8646.

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

**Storytime.** Wednesdays 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.crystalcity.org](http://www.crystalcity.org).

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

**Art for Life.** Third Thursday of each month. The Hyatt Regency Crystal

City's "Art for Life" Partnership with National Kidney Foundation brings a new artist each month to The Hyatt for a reception. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

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

## THURSDAYS/FEB. 1-28

**Black History Month Events.** 10 a.m.-noon at in National Hall at Reagan National Airport, GW Parkway. A month-long event musical series for airport employees and passengers in celebration of Black History Month. Visit [www.metwashairports.com](http://www.metwashairports.com) for more.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 16

**Bio-inspired Sensing.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Dr. Christal Gordon will discuss examples that illustrate how sensing and processing take place in biological systems. Free. Visit [arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/3131765](http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/3131765) for more.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 17

**"The Lottery Production."** 7 p.m. at Yorktown High School, 5200 Yorktown Blvd. Yorktown Theatre's award-winning production. Free. Call 703-228-5400 for more.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 18

**Arlington's Earliest Amphibians.**



## Mardi Gras Parade

**On Fat Tuesday, Feb. 28, Mardi Gras Parade will march at 7 p.m. on Wilson Boulevard, from Veitch to N. Adams streets in Clarendon, weather permitting. Visit [clarendon.org/mardi-gras/](http://clarendon.org/mardi-gras/) for more.**

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

10-11 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center 3608 Military Road. Wood frogs, spring peepers and spotted salamanders that have spent the winter hibernating will soon begin to move to our ponds. Come learn about Arlington's amazing amphibians. Ages 13 and up. \$5. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/gulf-branch-nature-center/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/gulf-branch-nature-center/) for more.

**Vegetable Gardening Part 2.** 10:30 a.m.-noon at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Review

garden requirements and discuss easy-to-implement practices for selecting the best site and evaluating and improving the soil. Visit [mgmv.org](http://mgmv.org) or call 703-228-6414 for more.

**Keeping Warm Campfire.** 6-7 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center 3608 Military Road. Spend a chilly evening by the warmth of the campfire while making s'mores and learn how animals have adaptations to stay warm and survive winter outdoors.

Ages 3-10. \$5. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/gulf-branch-nature-center/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/gulf-branch-nature-center/) for more.

**Flora & Fauna Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Westover Baptist Church, 1125 Patrick Henry Drive. Under the baton of Artistic Director and Conductor, Dr. Nancia D'Alimonte, "Flora & Fauna" will offer traditional and contemporary music by Durufle, Barber, Orff, Whitacre and others. Visit [www.arlingtonchorale.org](http://www.arlingtonchorale.org) for more.

**Ted Lange Reading Play.** 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Episcopal Church, 166 East Broad St., Falls Church. Lange, who played Isaac the bartender on "The Love Boat" tv show from 1977 to 1986, reads his original play "George Washington's Boy." \$25. Visit [tinnerhill.org](http://tinnerhill.org) or call 571-533-9566 for more.

## FEB. 18-28

**Lions Fundraising Fruit Sale.** Various times, at the Overlee Bath House (Lower Level), 6030 Lee Highway. Fresh Florida and California citrus, Georgia pecans, and Vermont maple syrup. Call 703-528-1130 or email [lionskk@earthlink.net](mailto:lionskk@earthlink.net) for more.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 19

**Free Concert Featuring Cathedra.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's, 2609 N. Glebe Road. An hour of uplifting music in the candlelit nave. Free. Visit [stmarysarlington.org/](http://stmarysarlington.org/) or call 703-527-6800 for more.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 21

**Selling Collectibles.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 S. 16th St. Matthew Quinn, a

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## Curators Spotlight

**From Jan. 21-March 26, the Artist Curators Spotlight will be at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Curators Spotlight provides a platform for new curators, artists, and ideas in the Mid-Atlantic Region to create groundbreaking exhibitions. Opening reception Saturday, Feb. 11 from 6-9 p.m. Gallery talks with selected curators are scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 4, 1-4 p.m. 703-248-6800**

# African-American Composer's 'Treemonisha' Comes to Life

## During Black History Month.

BY MIKE DOAN

**A** local opera company will perform a long-ignored opera by an African-American to give children a message of education and forgiveness for all ages and races.

Opera NOVA, based in Arlington, will hold four performances of ragtime king Scott Joplin's "Treemonisha" for school children and another for adults Feb. 28-March 4, but that is just the beginning.

"It is such a fine work that it should become as familiar to Americans as Aida and Carmen," said Miriam Miller, president of Opera NOVA. "Written in 1910, it was not performed until 1975 because producers didn't believe an African-American could write an opera."

It was also groundbreaking, she says, that a young woman had such a dominant role in pre-women's suffrage times.

An ensemble of world-class talent will perform the abbreviated one-hour opera at Thomas Jefferson Middle School Theater in Arlington, starting at the tail end of Black History Month in February. Among the singers will be Jocelyn Hunt and Elise Jenkins, who have performed with Opera NOVA before.

Children from invited schools will see the program at 10 a.m. on Feb. 28 through March 3. Adults will be able to see it on Saturday, March 4 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The price is \$4 for children and \$8 for adults. Schools that would like their children to attend should contact Miller at 703-536-7557 or

mcdm1@verizon.net. People can use the same contact information for the Saturday performance, which is also intended for the under-served community of seniors, part of Opera NOVA's mission.

Selected in tribute to African-Americans in the community, "Treemonisha" goes beyond the universal romantic love theme of most operas. "Treemonisha" emphasizes Joplin's belief in the importance of education in wiping out superstition, mysticism and prejudice.

The story centers around a group of former slaves living in an Arkansas community in 1884 and plagued by a group of men selling townsfolk expensive bags of luck to hang over their doors. An 18-year-old girl, Treemonisha, persuades them to ignore the superstitions. After the men kidnap her, she gets the townspeople to forgive them.

Though Joplin is known for his ragtime pieces, such as "Twelfth Street Rag," "Treemonisha" is written in the classical opera tradition, marrying music, singing, drama, poetry and dance. Director Roger Riggle and Artistic Director Jose Sacin have assembled an experienced cast of opera performers to put on this opera.

Since 1992, Opera NOVA, previously known as the Opera Guild of Northern Virginia, has been extending the range of the opera audience to children, minorities and others who may not be familiar with this art form. In 2015, the company produced a one-hour version of Puccini's "Barber of Seville" at Thomas Jefferson Community Theater in Arlington for children and adults.

"Our mission is to inspire children through exposure to the magical art of opera" said Jose Sacin. "Opening their eyes and minds provides a world of new opportunities, directions and hopes for them."

regular on Antiques Roadshow and a Falls Church native, will discuss how to address the emotional and financial aspects of liquidating personal possessions. Call 703-228-0935 or visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/) for more.

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 22

**Comedy Club.** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Gunston Community Center, 2700 S. Lang St. Relive the bygone days of comedy and laugh together with video and audio selections of The Honeyymooners, I Love Lucy, Sid Caesar, Milton Berle, Bill Dana and Bob and Ray, Andy Griffith, with Mike Bloom, comedy book author and former Disney writer. Free. Call 703-228-6980 or visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/) for more.

**Romance Novel Lovers.** 5-7 p.m. at The Connection: Crystal City, 2100 Crystal Drive. An evening sharing favorite romance reads, and learning about new authors to try next. Call 703-228-7520 for more.

**Controlling Clutter.** 6:30-8 p.m. at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. A financial education representative from VA Cooperative Extension will provide helpful tips and strategies to reduce clutter, including junk mail and other paper clutter, and make for a healthier lifestyle. Call 703-228-7790 for more.

### FRIDAY/FEB. 24

**Opening Reception.** 6-8 p.m. at the Barry Gallery at Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Opening reception for "Youth Seeking Refuge: Unaccompanied," a photo exhibition by Oliver Contreras. Visit [www.marymount.edu/barrygallery](http://www.marymount.edu/barrygallery) for more.

### FEB. 23-MARCH 26

**The Gospel at Colonus.** Various times at WSC Avant Bard Theater, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Hollywood-set adaptation of one of the Bard's best known romantic comedies returns. Visit [wscavantbard.org/](http://wscavantbard.org/) for more.

### SATURDAY/FEB. 25

**Project DAPS.** Launching Saturday, Feb. 25, an ongoing online exhibition and searchable digital collection of desegregation in Arlington Public Schools at Arlington Public Library system, at [projectdaps.org/](http://projectdaps.org/) built

from thousands of photos, documents and recordings. Call 703-228-5966 or email [localhistory@arlingtonva.us](mailto:localhistory@arlingtonva.us) for more.

**Your Child's Development 2017.** 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road. Parents and caregivers of children aged 0-5 years old can meet and get resources from several County agencies and community organizations. Free. Email [tsfoster@arlingtonva.us](mailto:tsfoster@arlingtonva.us) or call 703-228-1630 for more.

**Wake up, Wood Frogs.** 10-11 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center 3608 Military Road. Learn all about these and other amphibians. Ages 5 and up, \$5. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/gulf-branch-nature-center/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/gulf-branch-nature-center/) for more.

**Wintertime Pruning.** 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. at Bon Air Park 965 N. Longfellow St. Learn hands-on training on the proper way to prune hedges, evergreen and deciduous shrubs, and deadhead perennials. Visit [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org) or call 703-228-6414 for more.

**2017 Feel the Heritage Festival.** 1-6 p.m. the Drew Community Center, 3500 23rd St. S. Live music and dance, a "Hall of History" with photos and artifacts from Arlington's historically African-American churches and organizations. Free. Call 703-228-5725 for more.

**Gospel Play.** 4 p.m. at Kenmore Middle School Theatre, 200 South Carlin Springs Road. "I've Been Changed: A Gospel Stage Play" in celebration of Black History Month. Call. \$30. Call 703-400-6986 or email [tthompson@quadraticsystems.com](mailto:tthompson@quadraticsystems.com) for more.

### SUNDAY/FEB. 26

**U2-charist Service.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. at St Peter's Episcopal Church, 4250 N. Glebe Road. A multimedia Episcopal communion service using music of the Irish rock band U2. Donations. Visit [Saint-Peters.org](http://Saint-Peters.org) or call 703-536-6606.

### MONDAY/FEB. 27

**Intro to Bridge: Teens and Seniors.** 3-3:45 p.m. at Gunston Community Center, 2700 S. Lang St. Learn the basics of the game of bridge alongside the middle schoolers. Free. Call 703-228-6980 or visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/) for more.

**Musical Auditions Begin.** At the Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell

Ave. For current college students and recent graduates to audition for Overtures, a two-week professional training program from June 19-July 1. The program culminates in an audition for local professional casting directors and a fully-staged showcase for the public. Call to schedule 571-527-1857 or visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org) for more.

### TUESDAY/FEB. 28

**St. Mary's Pancake Supper.** 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church, 2609 N. Glebe Road. Preparation for the fasting season during the 40 days of Lent. \$5 or \$10 per family. Call 703-527-6800 or e-mail [Office@StMarysArlington.org](mailto:Office@StMarysArlington.org) for more.

**Mardi Gras Parade.** 7 p.m. on Wilson Boulevard, from Veitch to N. Adams streets. The 2017 edition of the Clarendon-Courthouse Mardi Gras Parade on Fat Tuesday. Weather permitting. Visit [clarendon.org/mardi-gras/](http://clarendon.org/mardi-gras/) for more.

### FEB. 28-MARCH 3

**Treemonisha.** 10 a.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Opera NOVA promotes message that education is the key to a full and free life. \$4 teachers free. Visit [www.operanova.org/](http://www.operanova.org/) for more.

### FEB. 28-MARCH 26

**"Mrs. Miller Does Her Thing."** Various times at the Signature Theatre, The Village at Shirlington,

4200 Campbell Ave. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org).

### WEDNESDAY/MARCH 1

**Wednesday Night Spins.** 6:30 p.m. at the G4 Level, 201 12th St. S. First night of a race series in Crystal City that concludes March 29. Register at [www.crystalcity.org](http://www.crystalcity.org).

### MARCH 1-31

**John Glenn Exhibit.** Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m.; Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m. at Arlington Historical Museum, 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road. Includes his waterski from when he went waterskiing with Jackie Kennedy in 1962 as well as items celebrating his Mercury flight as the first American to orbit the Earth. Glenn lived in north Arlington at the time. He presented the waterski to the AHS, and it is autographed. 571-243-1113 or [garrett.peck@arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:garrett.peck@arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org).

### THURSDAY/MARCH 2

**The Muggle Ball.** 7-11 p.m. at the Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd. A fancy dress, Harry Potter-themed social event for adults with the JEM Jazz Band. \$35. Visit [arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/2832714](http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/2832714) for more.

### SATURDAY/MARCH 4

**Tango Tribute.** 7 p.m. at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theater, 1611 N. Kent St. Omar "El Alemán" Fernández

(invited singer), Ramón González and Peter Fields (guitarists), Jon Nazdin (bassist) and Shadi & René (dancers) put on a show. \$35; \$30 for seniors 60 and older and students. Call 703-548-3092 or visit [www.teatrodelaluna.org](http://www.teatrodelaluna.org) for more.

### THURSDAY/MARCH 9

**Visit with author John P. Richardson.** 7 p.m. at Marymount University Reinsch Library Auditorium, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Discussion of 'Alexander Robey Shepherd: The Man Who Built the Nation's Capital.' Visit [www.marymount.edu/](http://www.marymount.edu/) for more.

### SATURDAY/MARCH 11

**NoVa TEEN Book Festival.** 10 a.m. at Washington-Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford St. Presented by Fall for the Book in conjunction with Fairfax County Public Library, Arlington Public Library, One More Page Books, Loudoun County Public Library, and Washington-Lee High School. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com/](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com/) for more.

### MONDAY/MARCH 13

**Signature in the Schools Play.** 7:30 p.m. at the Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. A production of Silent Sentinels suffragette protests at the White House in 1917. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org) or call 703-820-9771 for more.

# HOME SALES

In December 2016, 224 Arlington homes sold between \$2,700,000-\$128,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$599,000-\$420,000 range. For the complete list, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
3409 WILSON BLVD #406	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$599,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22201	ARC 3409
1600 OAK ST N #1618	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$590,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22209	THE BELVEDERE
1713 S HAYES ST #1	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$577,000	Townhouse		22202	SOUTHAMPTON
4813 13TH ST S	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$571,300	Detached	0.15	22204	ARLINGTON
1091 S FOREST DR	6	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$570,000	Detached	0.17	22204	VIRGINIA HEIGHTS
2 MANCHESTER ST S	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$569,000	Townhouse		22204	MANCHESTER SQUARE
2200 WESTMORELAND ST #520	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$560,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22213	WESTLEE
1837 COLUMBUS ST	1	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$550,000	Detached	0.12	22207	UNKNOWN
1845 COLUMBUS ST	1	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$550,000	Detached	0.27	22207	UNKNOWN
1853 COLUMBUS ST	1	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$550,000	Detached	0.12	22207	UNKNOWN
1101 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD #407	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$549,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22202	REPRESENTATIVE
1205 GARFIELD ST #509	1	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$543,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22201	STATION SQUARE
1321 ADAMS CT N #202	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$542,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		22201	COURTHOUSE
3908 12TH ST S	3	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$537,500	Townhouse	0.07	22204	LONDON SQUARE
714 15TH ST S #A	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$527,000	Townhouse		22202	SOUTHAMPTON
4103 11TH PL N	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$519,900	Back-to-Back	0.02	22201	STAFFORD SQUARE
6701 WASHINGTON BLVD #H	2	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$515,000	Townhouse		22205	LAUREL MEWS
1400 EDGEWOOD ST #512	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$510,150	Townhouse		22204	ARLINGTON VILLAGE
2049 GLEBE RD S	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$509,900	Townhouse	0.03	22204	HENSON PARK
3007 20TH CT S	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$509,000	Townhouse	0.03	22204	HENSON PARK
1211 EADS ST S #1004	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$500,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22202	BELLA VISTA
3800 FAIRFAX DR #1005	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$496,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22203	TOWER VILLAS
1021 GARFIELD ST N #734	1	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$490,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22201	CLARENDON
1020 HIGHLAND ST #215	1	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$490,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22201	THE PHOENIX
3625 10TH ST N #103	2	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$490,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22201	THE MONROE
3600 GLEBE RD #220W	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$485,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22202	ECLIPSE ON CTR PARK CONDO
3912 6TH ST S	3	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$480,000	Detached	0.11	22204	ALCOVA HEIGHTS
2622 UHLE ST S	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$475,000	Semi-Detached	0.06	22206	LONG BRANCH PARK
2059 SOUTH GLEBE RD	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$474,988	Townhouse	0.09	22204	HENSON PARK
2100 LEE HWY #213	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$469,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22201	ASTORIA
4282 35TH ST S	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$469,000	Townhouse		22206	FAIRLINGTON
2436 WALTER REED DR #2	2	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$455,000	Townhouse		22206	WINGATE I
1020 HIGHLAND ST #511	1	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$452,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22201	THE PHOENIX
4141 HENDERSON RD #1024	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$450,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22203	HYDE PARK
888 QUINCY ST N #310	2	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$450,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22203	RESIDENCES@LIBERTY CT
3493 UTAH ST	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$448,500	Townhouse		22206	FAIRLINGTON MEADOWS
2400 CLARENDON BLVD #616	2	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$445,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22201	THE CHARLESTON
4202 32ND ST S	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$444,000	Townhouse		22206	FAIRLINGTON
3205 STAFFORD ST S	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$444,000	Townhouse		22206	FAIRLINGTON
5621 7TH PL S	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$442,000	Duplex	0.09	22204	COLUMBIA HEIGHTS
1045 UTAH ST #2-607	2	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$435,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22201	WINDSOR PLAZA
1805 CRYSTAL DR #610S	2	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$432,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22202	CRYSTAL PARK
836 IVY ST S	2	1	0	ARLINGTON	\$431,000	Duplex	0.07	22204	WESTMONT
3835 9TH ST N #404W	1	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$430,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22203	LEXINGTON SQUARE
2919B WOODSTOCK ST #2	3	1	2	ARLINGTON	\$427,473	Townhouse		22206	COURTBRIDGE
3800 FAIRFAX DR #814	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$425,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22203	TOWER VILLAS
973 TAYLOR ST	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$425,000	Townhouse		22204	BARCROFT
929 TAYLOR ST	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$420,000	Townhouse		22204	BARCROFT

Copyright 2016 RealEstate Business Intelligence. Source: MRIS as of January 13, 2017.



**Blustery Weather** PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/ THE CONNECTION

**Garbage cans blown over by gusts of strong winds line Old Dominion Drive on Monday morning, Feb. 13. Wind gusts were reported to have been up to 50 mph during the night.**

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**MARCH**  
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3/8/2017.....HomeLifeStyle Real Estate & Remodeling Pullout  
3/15/2017.....A+ Camps & Schools  
3/22/2017.....Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment  
3/29/2017.....Connection Families

**APRIL**  
4/5/2017.....Wellbeing: Senior Living Pullout  
4/12/2017.....Spring Parade of Homes

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# Celebrating Black History Month

**Educators say these lessons are urgently needed in current racial climate.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**E**ven though Elavie Ndura knows that it is a daunting challenge to help children grasp the entirety of the African American experience in the shortest month of the year, each February she and other educators give it their best effort. This year, they feel it's more important than ever.

"With all of the racial experiences we're having these days, it's critical that children know their history and are not basing their knowledge on only what they see on television or what they hear from their friends," said Elavie Ndura, Ed.D., professor of education at George Mason University in Fairfax. "Research shows that children who understand their histories do better in school and in society, so it's critical that families teach their children about their history."

Ndura believes that the current racial climate in the U.S. gives this year's Black History Month additional significance. A study released last month by the Pew Research Center shows that among Americans, 61 percent of blacks, 58 percent of Hispanics and 45 percent of whites say that race relations in the United States are generally bad. Local educators say Black History Month offers opportunities to address issues of race by allowing the past to inform the present.

"We have seen for more than a year how people from different political viewpoints, but also races, sexes, cultures, religions, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic statuses related to each other in the present political climate, and it was troublesome," said Mika'il A. Petin, Ph.D., associate director of African and African American Studies at George Mason University. "Teaching the history of Black or African-heritage peoples in this month ... is necessary to starting difficult conversations about ... current race relations ... and social inequalities."

Race relations in our society have been deeply strained during the election and as America adjusts to a new presidential ad-

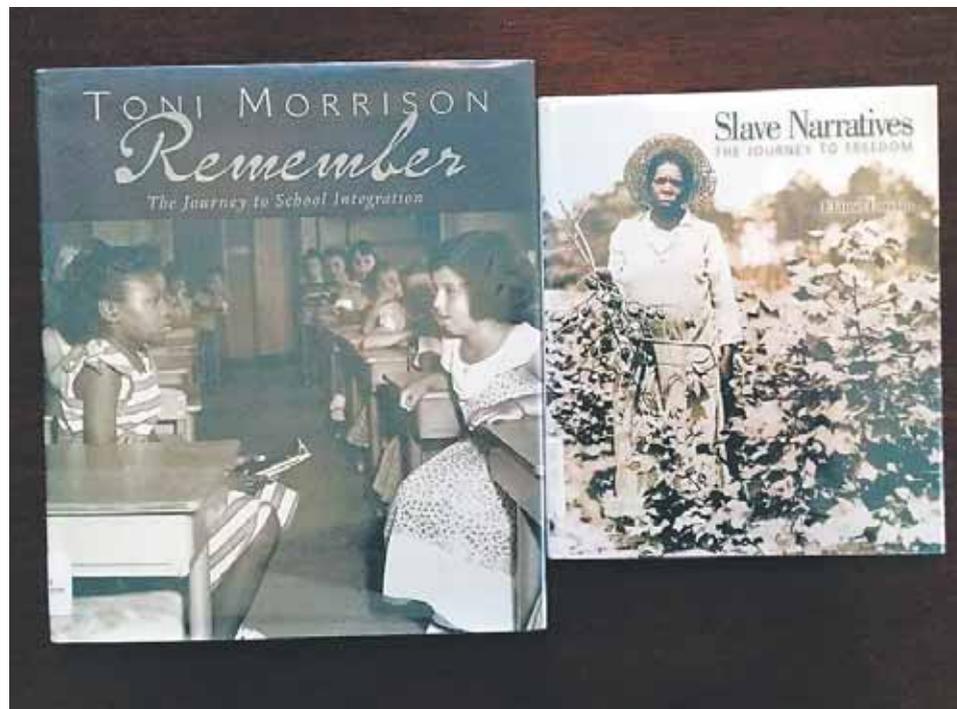


PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

**Books that explore African American experiences are on display at libraries and bookstores during Black History Month.**

ministration. These divisions make African American history lessons critical for all children, but particularly for black children, says Ndura. "As African American parents we have a serious duty to educate our own youth," she said. "Knowing your history grounds and anchors you firmly so that you are not wavered in the wrong direction because of whatever feelings might be caused by what you're seeing on the news."

— **Mika'il A. Petin, Ph.D.,  
George Mason University**

Black history lessons work best when they're intentional and creative, advises Jessica Lewis, Ed.D., assistant professor of education and human services at Marymount University in Arlington. "Children benefit when they are exposed to a variety of perspectives, ideas and stories because it helps expand their view of the world and people living in it," she said. "The ability to understand and identify with others and their experiences is a powerful, life-long lesson."

Lewis advises making a trip to a local bookstore or library to find books that offer a glimpse of African American history and suggests that parents begin with books on subjects that interest their children. "[Parents] may start with readings on sports, or science, or biographies of the accomplishments and hardships of individuals who persisted throughout history to make a difference," she said. "Parents can ... select books by black authors

and illustrators and then take the time to read the story together, discuss the pictures, and ask questions about what the characters are feeling and experiencing."

Other ideas include exploring music with roots in African American history such as ragtime, jazz, gospel and blues, making a timeline of major events that occurred during the Civil Rights Movement, and reading speeches from civil rights leaders and then helping children write their own speech about what they are inspired to change in the world. Such activities can open a natural discussion and need not be complicated to be effective, says Lewis.

"Parents are their children's first educators," said Lewis. "It is important for parents to help their children understand the experiences of other children who are not like them because it builds empathy and a deeper sense of community."

One roadblock to such honest conversations, cautions Petin, is a discomfort with discussions of racial differences.

"Let's be frank, some white Americans who are politically and socially conservative become noticeably uncomfortable with the topic of race, and therefore find difficulty with Black History Month," he said. "Yet, Black History Month — similar to the Black Lives Matter movement — does not express superiority over others. Both the month of celebration and sociopolitical movement are forms of resistance to deliberate attempts to conceal the worthiness of Black or African-heritage people in this country."

Some people "may attack Black History Month and Black Lives Matter as political correctness and identity politics, but I would argue that they are not seeing the humanity in both efforts," continued Petin. He emphasized the importance of taking a purposeful approach to teaching children about black history. "I think that all parents must intentionally search for, study, and celebrate those who are on the margins, living in the shadows, perceived as voiceless, and regarded as invisible. Too often, black Americans were those marginal, shadowed, voiceless, and invisible people. All parents should be honest about that, and should have confidence in the U.S. only being great when they and their children educate themselves on this country's history in more inclusive terms."

Schools often play a significant role in the month's activities. Students at the Bullis School in Potomac, Md., for example, attend a Black History Month assembly each February. This year's event was led by several students who shared their thoughts, essays and other projects on a variety of topics. "Diverse literature is always a great idea," added Allison Ewing, chair of the social studies department at Bullis.

"Twenty-eight days of teachable moments" is one way that Petin characterizes Black History Month. "It is never too early to start preparing your kids for a world that is increasingly more connected and shrinking," he said. "When all parents teach their children how to develop skill sets to understand, value, empathize, and celebrate those who may be different than them, the children are better prepared to function in the world."



**Bullis School fifth graders Elizabeth Martin and Will Simpson look on as their documentaries about the civil rights movement were presented to the school.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF BULLIS SCHOOL

# SCHOOLS

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

**Matthew Rosenberg** and **Amanda Smith**, of Arlington, made the dean's list for the 2016 fall semester at Furman University (Greenville, S.C.)

**Kaitlyn Sabol**, of Arlington, made the president's list at Stephen F. Austin State University (Nacogdoches, Texas) for the fall 2016 semester.

**Adnan Salamah**, of Arlington, was named to the dean's list at Wilkes University (Wilkes-Barre, Pa.).

**Christopher Werbos**, of Arlington, has been named to the dean's list of Macalester College (St. Paul, Minn.) for the fall semester of the 2016-17 school year.

**Claire Wallis Zavrel**, of Arlington, was named to the fall 2016 dean's list at Wofford College (Spartanburg, S.C.).

**Kyra Klontz**, of Arlington, was named to the fall 2016 president's list at Miami University (Oxford, Ohio).

**Lucas G. DeGraw**, a Yorktown High School graduate in Arlington, was named to the dean's list for the fall semester 2016 at Colby College (Waterville, Maine).

**Natalya Beranek** and **Elizabeth Caltagirone**, of Arlington, have been named to the dean's list for fall 2016 at the University of Hartford (West Hartford, Conn.).

The Arlington County Board recog-

nized the Fall 2016 Connect with Kids Champions at its Jan. 31 session. Those honored at the County Board Meeting were **Allen Beland**, a Yorktown High School art teacher who helps young bicycle mechanics master repairs along with business and people skills at the Phoenix Bikes cooperative on Four Mile Run Drive; and **Tara Magee**, director of Arlington County Court Services' Girls Outreach, an after-school program that provides special structure and caring to the lives of court-involved teens.

**Kimberley Reed**, of Arlington, received a sociology degree from the University of Iowa (Iowa City, Iowa) at the close of the fall 2016 semester.

**Erik Hirschman**, of Arlington, was named to the president's list for fall semester 2016 at Gonzaga University (Spokane, Wash.).

**Brogan Felga**, of Arlington, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at The Citadel South Carolina Corps of Cadets (Charleston, S.C.).

**Alexandra Zachem**, of Arlington, earned dean's list honors at Saint Joseph's University (Philadelphia, Pa.) for the fall 2016 semester.

**Adam Michalak** named to the Middle Atlantic Conference 2016 fall academic honor roll at Stevenson University (Owings Mills, Md.).

**Carol Burka** of Arlington, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at Hofstra University (Hempstead, N.Y.).

**Megan O'Briant** of Arlington, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2016



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## National Champions

The 14-under girls NFL Flag Football team won their division on Jan. 27 at the Walt Disney World Wide World of Sports Complex. The team was **Lucy Colaccino, Olivia Baptise, Sophia Bailey, Kira Dann, Jada Brown, Isabel Zamer (kneeling); back row Mike Rivera, Kendall McGowan, Malina Goodwin, Azzi Fudd, Kelechi Osemele (of the Oakland Raiders), Shea Messman and coach Bart Gray.**

semester at the University of the Sciences (Philadelphia, Pa.).

**Garrett Gustafson** of Arlington, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at Grove City College (Grove City, Pa.).

**Clara Elizabeth Balestrieri, Sydney M Coster and Jethro Andrew Torczon** of Arlington, were

named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Al.).

**Patricia Brooke Swafford** of Arlington, earned a master of business admin degree from the University of Memphis (Memphis, Tn.) in December.

**Kyle Bell** of Arlington, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at Marist College (Poughkeepsie,

N.Y.).

**Lars Christensen** and **Alexandra Puletti** of Arlington, were named to the faculty honor's list for the fall 2016 semester at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, Ga.).

**Lisa Marlise Konort** of Arlington, graduated Cum Laude with a degree in health sciences from James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Va.).

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## "Idiot" No More; Well, Sort Of



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

For over two and a half years now, since June '14 — according to my most recent invoice, "idiot" lights on the dashboard of my model year 2000, Honda Accord have warned me that all was not right with our back-up car. But due to intermittent use, amazing self-discipline on my part and little new evidence to the contrary, the Honda has maintained its performance, if you can even call it that. Soon after this last visit to my local mechanic had cleared the pre-2014 dashboard indicators, the "SRS" (seat belt restraint system) came on suggesting that something was once again rotten in Denmark, and Burtonsville, too. Nevertheless, with the ink barely dry on my credit card receipt, and with our second car not being a priority, I decided to let it live and let live and hope for the best. Approximately 32 months later, my hope has been realized. No repairs have been required in the interim. However, over that same time, multiple additional "warning" lights have come on: "brake lamp," "maintenance due," and just recently, the infamous/scourge "check-engine" light to where four lights are now illuminated. And though, to my credit, I have been able to endure and ignore their constant reminders; but when that fourth light, the "check-engine" light came on, I feared my benign neglect had finally come home to roost. So I bucked up, called my local mechanic, and made the arrangements to drop off the Honda. Then I waited for a more detailed assessment of the damage done. A few days later, I got the call. I'll spare you the details since I can't explain them anyway; but the repairs were going to cost around \$1000, as good as could be expected for a 17 year-old car with 95,000 miles on the odometer.

However, what I am most excited about concerning this outcome is — yes 'excited' is the right word — that for the first time in years I won't have to face down warning lights in my car and alarm bells in my head about what potential car trouble and expense I've been putting off and likely making worse. And most importantly, no longer having to exercise the inordinate self-control required to ignore these warning lights and not to be corrupted by their relentless — literally and figuratively — reminders. It's almost as if I can face reality again, breathe normally and not feel under siege.

Having only driven the car barely two miles home since I picked it up from "Tony's," I can't yet say driving is fun. However, I can admit that driving will be less irritating, will require less mental discipline and when I look down at my car's dashboard, I will not long for a bygone era of dashboard neutrality. Once again, as if the Honda is under dealer warranty, I will not see any indicators/lights of something I've neglected to do or of repairs I'm unable to afford.

As much as I'd like to think I'm fairly well-adjusted and know how to process and prioritize things in my life, having cancer does seem to alter these processes and priorities. And when something simple and/or unexpected happens in your life which allows you to regain your composure and equilibrium, it helps that much more to assimilate the cancer-related conditions, effects and challenges you've come to expect. Not that I thought much about this eventuality when I dropped off the car at "Tony's," but now, having not seen any lights, I feel unburdened, as if a weight has been taken off my shoulders and out of my head. Moreover, when you're living in the cancer bubble, burdens expected — and otherwise — tend to pile up — and on — and when one is able to catch a break/brake along the way, the positive effect is disproportionate to reality. It means so much even though it may seem like so little. Whether it's regaining some control, solving a non-cancer-related problem or crossing an item off a to-do list; living one's life with as few distractions as possible, generally speaking, will likely result in some comfort and joy; not the movie, but the peace of mind.

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

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Storage Line of Virginia, LLC (t/a APT Storage), Box 767, Haymarket, VA 20168, pursuant to the assertion of a lien for rental of a storage unit, will hold a public auction for the sale of all goods in storage unit #407B to take place at 11:30 am on Thursday, February 23, 2017, at storage unit #407B located at Sacramento Square, 5401 Claymont Dr, Alexandria, VA 22309, to satisfy the lien. All terms of the sale are cash. Call 800-217-4280 for questions.

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**Public Notice:  
Proposal to Voluntarily Remediate a Property**

There is contamination from Petroleum impacted soil on site at Gilliam Place, 3507 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is working with Gilliam Place LLC c/o Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH) to develop a Remedial Action Plan to address cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbons at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup please contact Vincent Maiden, P.G., Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Northern Regional Office, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23218, Vincent.Maiden@deq.virginia.gov or Jason Beck, C.P.G., Senior Environmental Project Manager, ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC, 703-471-8400, jbeck@ecslimited.com

As part of the remedial action process a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of DEQ on January 10, 2017, which allows for corrective action at the property to begin immediately. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed RAP with the staff of DEQ, please feel free to contact the Corrective Action Project Manager, Vincent Maiden, whose contact information is listed above. You may also contact Jason Beck, the environmental consultant for Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing, whose contact information is listed above. DEQ will consider written comments regarding the proposed Remedial Action Plan until February 24, 2017 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is a significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to DEQ at the address listed above. DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; VRP Case # 00664.

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**OBITUARY**



**Jean (Anderson) Raabe, 85**, died peacefully at home on January 30, 2017 in Alexandria, VA, with her husband Mark and sister Alice at her side. Jean was successfully treated for lung cancer for more than eight years and died of complications which included rapidly progressing dementia. She had in-home hospice care for two weeks but she cheerfully attended a worship service in her downtown church and a string quartet concert at NIH the week before she died.

Jean was born in Aberdeen, South Dakota in 1931, the oldest of four children of Dewar and Elizabeth (Davies) Anderson. Her family moved to Truman, Minnesota, and later to Madelia, Minnesota, where she was Salutatorian of the class of 1949 and the Homecoming Queen. She obtained her teaching degree from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. Jean taught Home Economics for three years in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota before marrying Mark Raabe in 1956. They began their more than 60-year marriage in San Diego, where Mark was stationed on a Navy ship and where she continued her teaching career.

In 1958, the couple moved to Alexandria, Virginia. Jean immediately began taking teaching assignments until she started full-time at Wakefield High School in Arlington where she taught Home Economics for more than 25 years. Jean loved teaching and her students gave every indication of loving her. She led innovative programs in foods and child development classes, that combined her passions for cooking, nutrition, and the teaching and care of children. It was a time when boys began taking Home Ec. In 1967, a Washington Post reporter visited her classroom with an even mix of girls and boys and described Jean as "a tiny woman with a wide smile and an uncanny knack of keeping her teenage charges interested and enthusiastic." A year later, another newspaper account quoted Jean saying, "Boys add a lot to a foods class, and I don't just mean their appetites.... they're interested and enjoy it so. They're more willing to experiment with a recipe and try new things. They'll give you an argument to defend something they've done." After retiring, she volunteered weekly, teaching teenage mothers how to cook in the Alternatives for Parenting Teens Program. Jean was active in her professional groups, the Northern Region of the Virginia Association Family and Consumer Sciences, and the Potomac Home Economists. She was also a member of the Arlington Retired Teachers Association.

After Jean retired, she and Mark purchased a 100-year-old cabin, with a guest cabin, on Woman Lake in northern Minnesota. For the past twenty-five years, they have welcomed many friends and family, especially all their beloved great nieces and nephews, and they have hosted many special family gatherings there. Jean learned how to fish, and she enjoyed catching more and larger walleyes than her husband during their special evening times together on the lake with glorious sunsets.

Jean and Mark traveled extensively with many of their trips focusing on nature, wildlife and birds. In 1973, when bluebird populations were down by 90%, and declining, Jean spotted the couple's first bluebird near Antietam National Battlefield where they had a weekend cabin. This led them to becoming charter members of The North American Bluebird Society, the establishment and monitoring of a 100 nest box trail on the Battlefield, and the fledging of more than 10,000 Eastern Bluebirds over 37 years.

Jean was an early volunteer and passionate supporter of The Children's Inn at NIH, a nonprofit residence for families and their children who are participating in pediatric research at the NIH. She also served for many years on the Board of and volunteered at Community Family Life Services, a nonprofit providing a network of social services for low income and homeless families.

Jean was a faithful longtime member of First Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown Washington, DC, served as an Elder, and participated in many service activities of the congregation.

Jean loved beautiful music, and she and Mark were regulars at concerts of the National Symphony Orchestra and the Manchester String Quartet. She also loved flowers, growing them along with vegetables in her Antietam garden.

Jean will be remembered for many good things, but above all, for her abundant kindness and her generosity towards anyone in need. She was considerate of every person in her life and earned the admiration of those who met her. She held keen insights and strong morals, which she was undaunted in sharing, but she never judged others who believed differently. She was a gracious and generous host, creating environments of comfort, beauty, fine food, and delightful conversation. When Jean told a story, she would captivate the entire room. She was attentive and devoted to her family, making every child and adult feel honored and adored.

Jean is survived by her loving husband of more than 60 years, Mark Raabe, with whom she shared her life completely. She is also survived by her brother Steven (Patricia) Anderson; sisters Alice (Bob) Morrice and Margaret (Dick) Jacobs; brother-in-law Bob Raabe; sister-in-law Rita (Larry) Williams; 17 nieces and nephews; and 26 "greats" (great-nieces and nephews).

A memorial service is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 25, at First Trinity Lutheran Church, 309 E St., NW, Washington, DC.

A second memorial service will be held on June 3rd in Minnesota at their lake cabin on Woman Lake.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate Jean's life. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to The Children's Inn at NIH, 7 West Drive, Bethesda, MD 20814 (designate the Jean and Mark Raabe Education Endowment Fund), or online at www.childrensinn.org/donate; or to CFLS, 305 E St., NW, Washington, DC 20001 or online at www.cflsdc.org/donate.



PHOTO BY EMILY BENSON

**World Marriage Day**

**More than 65 couples showed up at Saint Agnes Church in Arlington for to celebrate World Marriage Day which was Sunday, Feb. 12. World Marriage Day is celebrated in the second Sunday of February every year. Father Thomas Ferguson, Vicar General for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, was the principal celebrant and homilist at this special Mass.**

**BULLETIN BOARD**

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

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

**High School Scholarships.** Through April 7, the National Capital Region Chapter of the National Football Foundation is accepting nominations for five \$1,000 scholarships annually to deserving high school senior scholar athletes who played high school football. The 11th Annual Awards Banquet will be held on April 23 at the Army-Navy Club. Visit [www.footballfoundation.org](http://www.footballfoundation.org) or call 703-440-8955.

**THURSDAY/FEB. 16**

**School Board Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. at the Education Center, 1426 N. Quincy St. For More information visit [www.apsva.us/engage](http://www.apsva.us/engage).

**TRAINING STARTS FEB. 17**

**Tree Stewards.** Tree Stewards of Arlington and Alexandria are volunteers who take the lead within their communities to enhance a sustainable urban forest through volunteer activities. Go to [treestewards.org](http://treestewards.org)

**FRIDAY/FEB. 17**

**iPhone Basics II.** 1-2 p.m. at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 S. 16th St. Free. Call 703-228-0935 or visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/) for more.

**SATURDAY/FEB. 18**

**Community Park Meeting.** 10 a.m.-noon at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Share ideas for a new playground at Jennie Dean Park. Email [kjthomas@arlingtonva.us](mailto:kjthomas@arlingtonva.us) or call 703-228-1843 for more.

**SUNDAY/FEB. 19**

**Blood Drive.** 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Parish Hall of St. Agnes Church, 1910 N. Randolph St. The 2017 annual Troop 111 and St. Agnes INOVA Blood Drive. Email at [tom.hibarger@verizon.net](mailto:tom.hibarger@verizon.net) or visit [inova.org/donateblood](http://inova.org/donateblood).

**WEDNESDAY/FEB. 22**

**Community Meeting: "Getting Started".** 7-8:30 p.m. at Wakefield High School, 1325 S. Dinwiddie St. Enrollment and transfers for schools and programs. Visit [www.apsva.us/engage](http://www.apsva.us/engage) for more.

**Four Mile Run Meeting.** 7-9:30 p.m. at Gunston Middle School Media Center/Library, 2700 South Lang St. Visit [projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/south-park-potomac-yards-land-bay-f/](http://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/south-park-potomac-yards-land-bay-f/).

**Immigration Lawyers.** 7 p.m. at the Walker Chapel UMC, 4102 N. Glebe Road. Visit [www.walkerchapel.org/forum](http://www.walkerchapel.org/forum) or call 703-538-5200 for more.

**Challenges and Opportunities in Black Education.** 7-8:30 p.m., Multipurpose Room, Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 South Walter Reed Drive. Visit [library.arlingtonva.us/locations/columbia-pike-branch-library](http://library.arlingtonva.us/locations/columbia-pike-branch-library).

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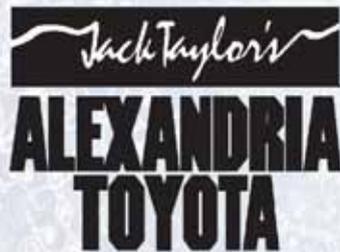
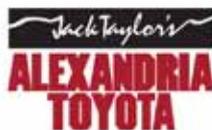
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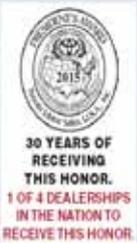
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