



The Arlington Connection

Barbara Kanninen, School Board member, with her son Marcus Wolf at Yorktown High School's graduation at DAR Constitution Hall on June 21.

Graduates Bid Their Farewells

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Neighborhood Fights Proposed Lights

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Celebrating Fourth of July

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FAMILY CONNECTION

PAGE 11



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Honoring One of Their Own

Celebration and mourning
at Washington-Lee's
2017 graduation.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

Three graduations. Three different atmospheres. One location. One day.

On June 21, Arlington Public School's three different high schools flooded the Daughters of the American Revolution's Constitution Hall with celebration.

At Washington-Lee High School's graduation, the morning's celebrations were mixed with grief. Jayant Tripathi, a senior at the school, died from natural causes on April 20. His father came to the stage as the ceremony began to receive his son's diploma.

"Today is a day of loss, courage, and accomplishments," said Tannia Tolente, a School Board member whose son was graduating.

Many of the students wore pins on their caps with Jayant's face, showing solidarity for their classmate.

Kay Tiernan was one of the busiest parents on graduation day. She was at the Washington-Lee graduation to support her son, Jon Tiernan, then at the Wakefield graduation that evening for her two daughters. Jon Tiernan attended Washington-Lee to attend the international baccalaureate program and will be going to Virginia Tech to study computer science.

"It feels great," said Kay Tiernan. "I'm very excited. He loved being at Washington-Lee."



Washington-Lee High School's 2017 Class graduates.



Members of the Washington-Lee Class of 2017



Ajai Tripathi accepts his son's diploma.



From left: Alex De Lazzari, Noah Hall, and Marco Viola.



Eric Weiner (center) with his family. Weiner will be attending Harvey Mudd College to study computer science.



Staff Sgt. Jhosue Escate, a Marine Corps recruiter, attended the Washington-Lee High School graduation to support Xavian Henson.



Valedictorian Niki Kowsar addresses her graduating class.

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/THE CONNECTION

Dancing Into the Future

Lively celebration marks the 2017 graduation.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

At most graduations, students walk across the stage to receive their diplomas. At Wakefield High School, they dance. Many of the students crossing the stage to get their diplomas did so with a twirl, a salute to the audience, or a dab. One proudly carried a Guatemalan flag with him. Ana Tiernan, a student with special needs, held her degree over her head in celebration after she recieved it to a thunderous standing applause by the audience. At Wakefield High School, graduations are an expression of pride with a personal touch.

"It's an emotional day," said Kay Tiernan. Two of her daughters were graduating from Wakefield. Elizabeth Tiernan will be attending Virginia Commonwealth University in the fall. Anna Tiernan will be attending the Arlington Career Center to eventually transfer into a program at George Mason University. "My girls had a great experience at Wakefield. [Elizabeth Tiernan] did Spanish immersion and [Anna Tiernan] did cheerleading."

The graduating class of 2017 also marks the first class to have spent all four years in the new high school building.

"We survived the lack of wifi and broken water fountains," said Nishita Barua, Senior Class co-president. "This is not a class I need to worry about. The juniors on the other hand ..."

The last graduating class of Arlington Public Schools in 2017 gathered outside the Constitution Hall June 21, meeting with their parents and saying goodbye to their classmates.

"It's overwhelming," said Rickeye Hill, attending Northern Virginia Community College and studying journalism. "It didn't hit me until I was in line to receive my diploma. These four years have been a long journey; a memorable one."

Hill said one of her favorite memories was a student who spontaneously started dancing in the town hall, the gathering place at Wakefield. Hill said everyone around him stopped and started cheering him on.

"It feels amazing," said Sarah Vest, attending St. Joseph's to study English. "I've known some of these people for 13 years. It feels like we made it. We've been reaching for this."



Wakefield High School class of 2017 inside DAR Constitution Hall on June 21.



Michael N. Sampson (left) and Nishita Barua, senior class co-presidents.



Leo, Nick, and Steven Cantros are blind triplets who earned their diplomas from Wakefield High School.



Rickeye Hill (center) with her family.



Sarah Vest (center right) with her family.

Neighborhood Fights Lights

Residents feel ambushed by change in proposal to light fields.

BY EDEN BROWN
THE CONNECTION

Gail Harrison and Larry Suiters moved to a house behind Williamsburg Middle School (WMS) because their yard wouldn't face a busy road in the front, and would be full of shade trees and quiet in the back. "Our son was 2 years old and our previous home had no backyard and the driveway had a steep downhill slope that fed right into Military Road. So we moved to the area near Williamsburg for the green space and trees behind our home, the quiet nights and lack of traffic. The nine children who lived in or near our cul de sac would chase fireflies and play hide and seek in the evening in the 60-foot wide wooded area between the houses and the WMS fields."

County Manager Mark Schwartz will announce this week whether or not to proceed with a plan to light the playing fields next to Williamsburg Middle School (WMS) with 21 lamp displays of blue light at 5,700 Kelvin (K) level, for the benefit of those who want to play after the sun sets. Those players aren't the 5-14 year-olds in the neighborhood who go to school there. Many are members of select soccer teams, drawing elite level players from all over the region, high school ultimate Frisbee squads or adult sports leagues that include members who do not live or work in Arlington County. Such teams pay rental fees to Arlington's Department of Recreation for use of the space.

According to more than 500 residents who have signed a petition opposing the lights, the approval process seems to have missed a step: making sure the project would not harm human health, the environment and the character of the surrounding neighborhood.

Timeline

WILLIAMSBURG FIELD LIGHTS

- ❖ County Manager Recommendation - Week of June 26
- ❖ County Analysis and Recommendation Presentation to Commissions
- ❖ Environment & Energy Conservation Commission (E2C2) - Monday, July 24
- ❖ Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) - Tuesday, July 25 " Sports Commission (SC) - Thursday, July 27 (date to be confirmed)
- ❖ County Manager's Draft Board Report to Planning Commission - Friday, Sept. 1
- ❖ Planning Commission (PC) Hearing - Wednesday, Sept. 6 " Planning Commission Recessed Hearing - Thursday, Sept. 7
- ❖ Final County Manager's Report issued for distribution - Friday, Sept. 8
- ❖ County Board Hearing - Saturday, Sept. 16
- ❖ County Board Recessed Hearing - Tuesday, Sept. 19

Residents say at no time were those whose houses are sometimes as close as 60 feet to the playing fields told they would have 5,700 K lights installed so close to their homes. Lights would not be the only unwelcome addition to the neighborhood: parking overflow from the fields, and noise level from practices and games would be other "non-residential" aspects to the lighted fields, residents say.

Arlington County has one vendor for such lighting, and that source, Musco Lighting is providing the expertise on how the lighting will look and affect the neighborhood: there is no expert on the county staff and no photometric data (luminaire light distribution measured in a photometric laboratory) which can serve as a check on the vendor's portrayal of impact, residents said.

Residents believe they were misled during the approval process. "Those playing fields were never even meant to be lit at night," said Gail Harrison, whose deck overlooks the fields. "And because of the way the fields are configured, the lights opposite my house would have to be angled to cover a 500-foot expanse — the width of the two fields and the run-off areas on either side of them — because the space between the two fields is too narrow to place poles between them without risking injury to players."

Residents also suspect the beaming angle will be tilted toward the homes in order to be able to light the 500-foot expanse of both fields.

Another issue is how late the fields will be open to play if lit. The county standard curfew is 11 p.m. and that is usually negotiated with each neighborhood. The lights at Yorktown, for instance, were negotiated for a 10:30 p.m. curfew but that usually extends to 10:45 p.m. according to those who live in the neighborhood. The county also reserves the right to hold special events on the playing fields. A standing committee usually meets to decide the hours and limitations, but there is no such committee for Williamsburg; even if there were, according to residents, there are only three representatives from the neighborhood on the committee normally, and they are outnumbered by county staff, Arlington Public Schools, and sports club representatives.

Since there was no independent expert to ask about the lighting at WMS, residents of the area pooled their resources to hire lighting expert Nancy Clanton, president of Clanton & Associates. Her conclusion? "The standards the county is applying are not the right ones; there is no way the county's pro-

SEE LIGHTS, PAGE 10



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Leaving Yorktown

A class shares memories at its 2017 graduation.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

Yorktown High School filled DAR Constitution Hall with an atmosphere of accomplishment.

"To me, this represents the best class of all," said Diana Calderon-Nolasco, the class speaker. "For me, this moment signifies something truly beautiful ... I won't miss the school lunches or going to classes just for the credit. I will miss the people, all of you, who are a part of who I am today."

Yorktown High School is part of the Miller family. Holley Miller watched her son graduate from the same school as his brother two years earlier and where she graduated in 1989.

"He had a great time at Yorktown," said Miller. "He's graduating with honors and going to Virginia Tech to study engineering."

Miller said her son was in the school choir and loved performing in the school musical, "Pippin."

"It feels so surreal," said Christian Cleaveland, the senior class president attending Duke University in the fall, maybe studying applied math. "I had the date saved in my calendar but it felt a mile away. It's sad, this will be the last time I see some of them. I've been in Arlington schools all my life, I've grown up with a lot of them. We did this together."



Grace Stroup, valedictorian of the class of 2017.

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/
THE CONNECTION



Yorktown High School class of 2017 inside DAR Constitution Hall on June 21.



Senior Class President Christian Cleaveland.



Dr. Raymond Pasi, retiring this year as principal of Yorktown High School.



Yorktown High School class of 2017 inside DAR Constitution Hall on June 21.

The
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Connection

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Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires

Even employer provided insurance would suffer; coverage caps and exclusions of pre-existing conditions could return.

The U.S. Senate bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act would take more than \$600 billion (yes with a B) from poor children, poor elders and people with disabilities to give a tax cut to people who make more than \$200,000 a year. Households with income of \$1 million, would gain \$50,000 in tax cuts per year. It is a massive transfer of wealth to the wealthiest households in America taken from the most vulnerable and neediest people. It would lead to more sick people and thousands of preventable deaths every year.

EDITORIAL While much of the damage is done by massive cuts to Medicaid, affecting poor children, people with disabilities and most people in nursing homes, some of the changes will result in damage to the quality of insurance for those who get their insurance from their employers as well.

What could go wrong?
❖ Millions of people lose their health insurance — 22 million fewer would have health insurance by 2026 according to the Congressional Budget Office analysis.

❖ Loss of coverage for pre-existing conditions, including cancer survivors, people who had transplants, people with asthma, arthritis, high cholesterol, hypertension, obesity, mental health issues, ADD, etc.

❖ States could opt out of the law's essential

health benefits measure, which requires insurers to cover 10 main benefits, including hospitalization, prescription drugs and other services. That is, companies could sell health insurance that wouldn't actually be health insurance. Would Virginia be a state that opts out? Quite likely.

❖ Ending annual and lifetime coverage caps would also impact people who get health insurance from their employers and the private insurance market. For example, a serious accident or an illness that requires repeated surgeries or bone marrow transplants could put any one of us over the coverage cap.

❖ Medicaid pays public schools for many services for special education students, but the Senate bill removes schools from eligible Medicaid providers, costing Virginia an estimated \$40 million annually; \$3 million in Fairfax County; \$2 million in the City of Alexandria.

❖ \$800 billion plus in cuts to Medicaid puts the funding for most people who are currently in nursing homes at risk. Many of these are people who were middle class and but outlived their savings and coverage.

❖ In Virginia, the proposed changes to Medicaid would cost the state \$1.4 billion over seven years.

❖ Medicaid pays for much of the fight against opioid addiction, including treatment. Cuts would be devastating to efforts to counter the wave of overdose deaths and other effects of

addiction.

❖ Coverage for mental health treatment, including addiction treatment, is threatened both by cuts to Medicaid and by changes in the private insurance market.

❖ There will be greater need for Medicaid over time. More seniors will be poor, as fewer people who are retiring have pensions or adequate retirement savings. The demand for nursing home beds will be increasing as the population ages.

(This is by no means a comprehensive list of problems.)

If a version of the Senate bill were to pass, the results will be harmful to tens of millions of Americans. Call your senators. Virginia's U.S. Senators, Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, are both Democrats in the forefront of pushing back against this bill. But let them know you expect them to do the extraordinary to hold this up. Call the senators listed below and tell them to vote against it.

Ask family and friends to call their senators today.

If you have family or friends who live in West Virginia, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, Alaska or Ohio, their calls are especially important. Senators Shelley Capito (R-WV); Bill Cassidy (R-LA); Susan Collins (R-ME); Dean Heller (R-NV); Lisa Murkowski (R-AK); Rob Portman (R-OH) are among those reported to be possible opponents of this proposal.

The U.S. Capitol Switchboard number is 202-224-3121, and a switchboard operator will connect you directly with the Senate office you request.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Rhetoric Must Cool Down

To the Editor:

I have lived in Virginia for most of my life — over 35 years — and for the first time, I am ashamed to call Virginia my home. The home of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, George

Mason, Patrick Henry, and, yes, Robert E. Lee and Nat Turner. And now home to the most recent attempted political assassination on American soil. I am ashamed, but not surprised.

The Del Ray ballpark assault of early June 7 came just hours after Virginia primaries that were preceded by campaign invective and rhetoric that set new standards for

both irrelevance and hatred. In primaries to nominate candidates for state elections to state offices, state issues were rarely mentioned. Federal policies on immigration, international agreements and foreign affairs, Federal judicial decisions, the “mess” or “swamp” in Washington, the President, and Congress were mentioned (and usually reviled) time

and time again. But the 2017 Virginia election can change none of these. Public sentiment on them may be strong, but to fan the flames of resentment on Federal matters in an election where no peaceful and legitimate change to those matters can be effected invited a violent and illegitimate response.

SEE LETTER, PAGE 14

Attractive Upgrades that Make for a Safer Bathroom



Times have certainly changed when it comes to the bathroom. The very things that make your bathroom safer and easier to navigate—large, walk-in showers; higher toilets; natural lighting—are also some of the latest design trends.

The terms have changed over the years but their purposes have remained the same. Grab bars are now being called “shower rails”. Higher-seated toilets are “comfort height.” And easy-to-use lever handles and handheld showers are “ergonomic.” Items once avoided by homeowners are not only sought after, but in high demand.

What's wonderful about incorporating these design components into your bathroom is how it relates to “visability” which means making your home welcoming to people of all ages and abilities.

Some features to consider when planning for safety in the bathroom:

- Create the right lighting with natural light, sconces and a night-light
- Widen doorways and switch from knobs to levers
- Enlarge the shower and go curb-less
- Use wall mounted sinks that allow space underneath for someone seated
- Look for slip-resistant tile or vinyl
- Choose grab bars that match towel racks and other fixtures
- Think about a walk-in tub



Russ Glickman, founder of Glickman Design Build, is a Master Certified Remodeler and Certified Aging in Place Specialist. The award-winning Glickman Design Build team has completed thousands of general remodeling and accessible design projects in the Metro DC area and is passionate about the work they do. Their work has been featured in a variety of publications.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Rosslyn Rocks Concerts. Through June 29, 6-8 p.m. at Central Place, N. Moore Street at Rosslyn Metro Station. Free live music every Thursday evening in June at Central Place Plaza. Each week will feature a different cover band. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. June 1 features local band White Ford Bronco. Visit www.rosslynva.org for more.

Summer Bootcamp. 2-7 p.m. Monday and Wednesdays through July 1; 9:30-10:30 Saturday at Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Hwy. \$35. Visit www.rosslynva.org/do/summerbootcamp for more.

“Jesus Christ Superstar.” Extended through July 9 at the Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Visit www.sigtheatre.org for more.

Rosslyn Cinema and Pub in the Park. Fridays through August 25, 6 p.m. at Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway. On Fridays, Rosslyn Cinema brings you games, drinks, dinner and free outdoor movies this summer. Visit www.rosslynva.org for more.

Arlington Farmer’s Market. Every Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon at the corner of N. 14th Street and N. Courthouse Road. A weekly celebration of local food including fresh produce, meats, dairy, cheese, baked goods, free range eggs, specialty items, cut flowers, plants and herbs. Email csingiser@cfwdc.org or call 917-733-6402.

Cycling Volunteers Needed. The 20th annual Armed Forces Cycling Classic needs volunteers for the June 10-11 race. Email info@arlingtonsports.org for more.

FRESHFARM Market. 3-7 p.m. on Tuesdays at 1900 Crystal Drive. Shop from local farmers and producers with seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh-cut flowers, container plants and herbs, farm-raised eggs, all-natural meats, artisan baked goods, and specialty foods. Visit www.crystalcity.org for more.

Mobile Bike Repair. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on Thursdays at 1900 Crystal Drive. Drop off your bike on Thursday morning and have it tuned up and ready to ride before heading home. Email DC@velofix.com, or phone 855-VELO-FIX for more.

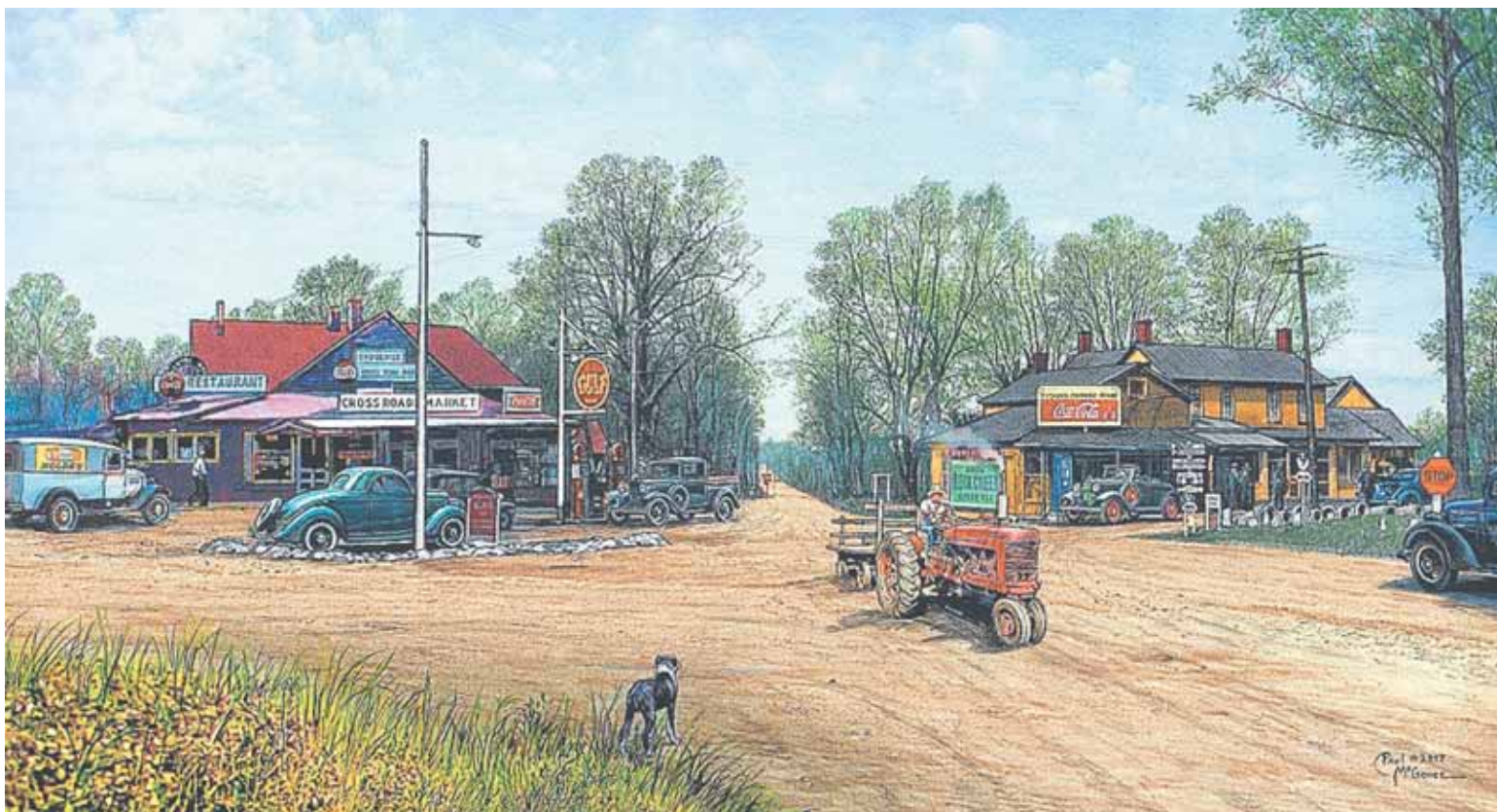
Food Truck Thursdays. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1900 Crystal Drive & 201 12th St. Actual truck schedules are subject to change so be sure to follow your favorites. Visit www.crystalcity.org for more.

Crystal Ball: Street Hockey. 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at 1900 Crystal Drive. A coed social league, in partnership with the DC Fray, hockey enthusiasts compete competitively and recreationally in Crystal City. Games are played weekly and champions are crowned at the end of each season. Visit www.crystalcity.org for more.

Healthy Lifestyle 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/ 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 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



By PAUL MCGHEE

1940 Tysons Corner

Paul McGhee’s Artshow is on display through June 30 at Art Recollections, Inc., 3505 N. Quebec St. Paintings of local scenes, past and present. Visit www.paulmcgeheeart.com for more.

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 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.

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 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/ 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.

Invasive Plants Removal. Work parties are held every month to keep the parks free of destructive invasive plants. Teens, adults and families welcome. Every second Sunday of the month 2-4:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road; call 703-228-3403. Every third Sunday of the month 2-5 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road; call 703-228-6535 or Visit

registration.arlingtonva.us. Free, no registration required.

Poetry Series. 6-8 p.m. second Sunday of the month at IOTA Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd. Hosted by poet Miles David Moore. Featured artists share their poetry followed by open readings. Free. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

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

Karaoke. 8 p.m. on the first Sunday every month at Galaxy Hut, 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-8646.

Pub Quiz. 8 p.m. every Sunday at Whitlow’s on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Prizes for first place. Free. Visit www.whitlows.com or call 703-276-9693.

Storytime. 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.

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

Art for Life. Third Thursday of each month. The Hyatt Regency Crystal City’s “Art for Life” Partnership with National Kidney Foundation brings a new artist each month to The Hyatt

for a reception. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

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

THROUGH JUNE 30

Paul McGhee’s Artshow. Various times at Art Recollections, Inc., 3505 N. Quebec St. Paintings of local scenes, past and present. Visit www.paulmcgeheeart.com for more.

JUNE 24-OCT. 1

Jung Min Park: Memoryscape. Various times at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Jung Min Park creates memorable urban and architectural scenes through first-hand experiences and observations of cities and sites. Call 703-248-6800 for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 30

Shepherd’s Center Fundraising Meals. 7 a.m.-midnight at the The Locker Room, 502 W. Broad St., Falls Church. The Locker Room restaurant will donate 15 percent of its sales from breakfast, lunch and dinner to the Shepherd’s Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church. Visit www.scmafc.org or contact Nancy Murray at 703-734-8353.

Some Like It Hot. 6-11 p.m. at Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway. Part of the Rosslyn Cinema + Pub in the Park movie series, featuring a movie and food from one of the food trucks on site. Visit www.rosslynva.org/go/gateway-park for more.

2017 Ms. Virginia Senior America Pageant. 7 p.m. at the James Lee Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Virginia senior women compete and celebrate

through dance, song, and performance to the theme “Putting on the Glitz.” Requested donation of \$10. Call 703-549-7012 for more.

TUESDAY/JULY 4

Independence Day. 5-10 p.m. at the Long Bridge Park, 475 Long Bridge Drive. Family-friendly activities including live music, food vendors, games, and a view of the Washington, D.C. fireworks display. Games and activities will include face painting, balloon art, moon bounces (weather permitting), cornhole, bocce, and more. No on-site parking at the event. Free event shuttles will run continuously from 4:30-10:30 p.m. between Long Bridge Park and the Pentagon City and Crystal City Metro stations. Free. Visit parks.arlingtonva.us/july-4th/ for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 7

Golden Eye. 6-11 p.m. at Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway. Part of the Rosslyn Cinema + Pub in the Park movie series, featuring a movie and food from one of the food trucks on site. Visit www.rosslynva.org/go/gateway-park for more.

JULY 7-22

Fabulation, or the Re-education of Undine. 8-10 p.m. at Gunston 2, 2700 S. Lang St. Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage, tells the story of Undine Barnes Calles, a businesswoman who has created a successful public relations firm and suddenly sees her once-balanced life completely fall apart. \$20; \$18 Seniors. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 8

Cool Creek Critters. 10-11:30 a.m. at the Alcova Heights park fire ring, 901 S George Mason Drive. Dress to get wet and spend some time exploring waterfalls, trying to catch water

ENTERTAINMENT

striders, and taking a closer look at some creek critters. Please wear closed-toe water shoes. Call 703-228-3403 for more.

Lord of the Flies Audition. 1-3 p.m. at Synetic Theater, Studio Violet, 2155 Crystal Plaza Arcade T-19. The Synetic Teen Company will stage William Golding's "Lord of the Flies," adapted for the stage by Nigel Williams. Visit synetictheater.org/teen/ or email tori@synetictheater.org.

Seashell Workshop. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Discover the unique feeding methods of mollusks like the moon and cone snails. Look at their shells and the signs they leave behind on their prey. Ages 7-12. Call 703-228-3403.

R.I.P. - Remove Invasive Plants. 2-4 p.m. at the Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Work parties are held every month and are making a real difference, with the return of ferns and wildflowers, and the animals that depend on them, in areas once covered in destructive invasive plants. Call 703-228-3403

Terrific Turtles Campfire. 7-8 p.m. at the Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. This engaging program will be filled with entertaining activities that may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and of course, S'mores. Call 703-228-3403 for more.

'70's vs '80's Retro Party. 8 p.m. at the The State Theatre, 220 N Washington St., Falls Church. Venture into the retro and dance the night away with funk, disco, new wave, pop and rock. Costumes encouraged. Ages 18 and older. Visit www.thestatetheatre.com for more.

JULY 8-9

St. Mary's Booksale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, and 8 a.m.-noon on Sunday at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 2609 N Glebe Rd. Annual book sale to benefit the Arlington Pediatric Center Visit stmarysarlington.org/ or call 703-527-6800.

MONDAY/JULY 10

Registration Begins. For the Northern Virginia

Senior Olympics through Sept. 2. The NVSO includes about 70 events that exercise the mind as well as the body. To qualify for the Olympics participants must turn 50 years old by Dec. 31. RSVP Northern Virginia at 703-403-5360 or email RSVP at rsvp@volunteerfairfax.org. For a complete list of events and venues please visit www.nvso.us.

JULY 11-AUG. 29

Drawing: The Natural World. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. This eight-week course will focus its attention on the natural world, and teach you to record what you see, using materials like graphite, charcoal, and ink. \$250. Ages 18 and older. Call 703-248-6800, or visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org for more.

JULY 12-AUG. 30

Drawing and Painting: The Figure. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Beginning, returning, and advanced students learn drawing and painting in this course on the human form. \$280. 18 and older. Call 703-248-6800, or visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 14

The Father of the Bride. 6-11 p.m. at Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway. Part of the Rosslyn Cinema + Pub in the Park movie series, featuring a movie and food from one of the food trucks on site. Visit www.rosslynva.org/go/gateway-park for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 15

Bilingual Campfire (Spanish/English). 7-8 p.m. at the Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. This program will be filled with entertaining activities that may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and S'mores. Call 703-228-3403 for more



PHOTO BY RON STALEY/NVSO

NVSO Registration

Registration begins on Monday, July 10 for the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics through Sept. 2. The NVSO includes about 70 events that exercise the mind as well as the body. To qualify for the Olympics participants must turn 50 years old by Dec. 31. RSVP at 703-403-5360 or email rsvp@volunteerfairfax.org For a complete list of events and venues visit www.nvso.us.

SATURDAY/JULY 16

R.I.P. - Remove Invasive Plants. 2-4 p.m. at the Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Work parties are held every month and are making a real difference, with the return of ferns and wildflowers, and the animals that depend on them, in areas once covered in destructive invasive plants. Call 703-228-3403 for more.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 19

Project Linus Blankets. 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Learn how to make a Project Linus blanket for a child in need of comfort, and work on it for the rest of the summer to finish it, before dropping it off at the library for donation. Visit www.projectlinus.org/about/ or call 703-228-5260 for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 21

Moana. 6-11 p.m. at Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway. Hawaiian themes, part of the Rosslyn Cinema + Pub in the Park movie series, featuring a movie and food from one of the food trucks on site. Visit www.rosslynva.org/go/gateway-park for more.

JULY 24-28

Vacation Bible School. 5:30-8 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 415 S. Lexington St. Bible school with hero theme. Preschool-fifth grade. \$35 for the week, \$20 for each additional sibling. Visit www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org or call 703-671-6834.

FRIDAY/JULY 28

The Wizard of Oz. 6-11 p.m. at Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway. Part of the Rosslyn Cinema + Pub in the Park movie series, featuring a movie and food from one of the food trucks on site. Visit www.rosslynva.org/go/gateway-park for more.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Free Sober Rides. Tuesday, July 4, 7 p.m. through Wednesday, July 5, 2 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code SOBERJULY4 in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code. Visit www.soberride.com.

FARE INCREASES

❖ **The ART adult fare** will increase from \$1.75 to \$2 and the ART discount fare for seniors, students and people with disabilities will increase from \$0.85 to \$1.

❖ **STAR Zone 1** fare will increase from \$3.50 to \$4, the **STAR Zone 2** fare will increase from \$5 to \$5.50 and the **Zone 3 fare** will increase from \$9 to \$9.50. The increases will keep the Zone 1 fare at double the ART adult fare, while also helping to offset increases in STAR operating expense.

FEMALE MENTORS NEEDED

Designing, crafting building, innovating...at **Space of Her Own (SOHO)**, preteen girls experiment with art and uncover unique talents with the encouragement of caring mentors. Girls are paired with professional adult female volunteers and engage in visual arts and life skills lessons to open their worlds to new possibilities. Pairs meet in a group setting one night a week for the initial program year, which ends in a team effort to give each girl's bedroom a makeover.

Information sessions for potential mentors will be held:

❖ **Thursday, July 6,** 6-7:30 p.m. at Dr. Oswald Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria

❖ **Wednesday, July 19,** 6:30-8 p.m., Arlington Career Center (in the Common Area), 816 S.

Walter Reed Drive.

To register, visit www.spaceofherown.org. For more information, email Sarah Maroney at recruitment@spaceofherown.org.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 28

Gardening Talks & Demonstrations. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. The Arlington Food Assistance Center and the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia will sponsor a series of talks and demonstrations about gardening. In addition to basic gardening techniques, topics will include wild edibles, pollinators, food preparation and preservation, and more. For a complete schedule, visit www.afac.org/.

THURSDAY/JUNE 29

Comment Deadline. The Virginia Department of Transportation accept community input on lighting alternatives for the W&OD Trail Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge over U.S. Route 29 (Lee Highway). The alternatives are based on input received during a planning workshop held in April and a public meeting held in May. Visit VDOT's project page. Email your comments or questions to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Mail written comments to Ms. Amanda J. Baxter, Special Projects Development Manager, VDOT Northern Virginia District, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Reference "W&OD Trail Bridge" in the subject line. Visit Transform66.org for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 30

Nomination Deadline. Leadership Center for Excellence seeks nominations for its regional 40 Under 40 event. Honorees will be recognized for the positive personal and/or professional leadership impact they make in the community at a luncheon in November. Visit leadercenter.org/40-under-40/.

Neighbors Fight Lights

FROM PAGE 5

posals can be executed without affecting the character of the neighborhood. In addition, no photometric data was provided by the lighting company.” Clanton also pointed out in her report that the height limit under the Arlington County zoning ordinance is 68 feet: the proposed poles in the WMS scenario are each 80 feet tall. “This is more than double the 35-foot maximum height of surrounding dwellings under the ordinance.”

The purpose of a zoning ordinance is to have new structures blend into neighborhoods, not stand out from them. John Seymour, a member of the Williamsburg Field Working Group (WFWG) which examined the appropriateness of lighting the fields cautioned that “even with a zoning amendment allowing the erection of 80-foot tall poles and broad lighting arrays, the vendor’s data still shows significant exceeding of acceptable standards of glare (light that causes discomfort to the human eye) for historically dark residential neighborhoods.”

Local residents also hired an arborist to assess the impact on woods in the area. It was the arborist’s conclusion that a minimum of one or more mature trees would have to be removed to make room for the lights and prevent overhanging leaves from blocking light from the array. Construction of the light poles would cause damage to the area, since a semi-truck, large crane, and tons of equipment would have to enter the area to set up the massive light poles, per the arborist.

While the medical issues associated with LED lights are still being researched, the American Medical Association (AMA) has said LED street lights shouldn’t have Kelvin levels above 3,000. High Kelvin lights can cause suppression of melatonin in humans and in wildlife; disturbing the sleep cycles and circadian rhythm of the natural habitat of animals and people. Neighbors are worried about potential sleep problems suffered by field users and close-in residents, said Seymour.

Harrison says the issue consuming Arlington residents right now is how to use dwindling available green space. Arlington’s Parks and Recreation Department has a symbiotic relationship with sports-user groups, she noted, and has to negotiate supply and demand. Most playing fields are crowded on weekends and additional playing ground space is in demand. Conversely, natural green space is also in demand and county residents are anxious to maintain woods and trees in the area.

WFWG members have identified alternatives to increase field capacity without harming residential neighborhoods. Options include a new lighted field at Long Bridge Park, and installing organic synthetic turf on four existing lighted natural grass fields and 10 most heavily used unlighted grass fields.

WFWG was appointed by the County Board in July 2015, comprising neighbors, independent experts and others; they have been actively analyzing proposals for lighting the fields and their impacts for nearly two years. A majority of the WFWG (nine out of 14 members) signed the section of the group’s final report that’s entitled “Opposed to Lighting.”

County board members have not indicated how they will vote on the issue. Katie Cristol said, “This situation and decision, about whether to light the

Health Concerns

Health concerns related to the intense lighting proposed for WMS playing fields:

- ❖ A September 2016 independent analysis conducted by Nancy Clanton, president of Clanton & Associates, concluded that impacts of lighting one or more of the WMS fields cannot “be mitigated sufficiently to protect the character of the neighborhood and provide a reasonable quality of life to the nearest neighbors.”

- ❖ 5700 Kelvin LED lights pose human health and environmental risks identified by the American Medical Association (AMA) and International Dark Sky Association.

- ❖ A June 2016 report by AMA’s Council on Science and Public Health recommended that LED roadway lights be limited to no more than 3000 Kelvin. The State of Colorado and City of Denver have adopted this 3000 Kelvin LED standard.

- ❖ AMA warned of human health and environmental risks associated with exposure to high Kelvin (over 3000K) street lights. Risks include disruption of circadian rhythms disturbing day/night cycles and causing reduced sleep time, nighttime awakenings, impaired daytime functioning and obesity.

- ❖ AMA also highlighted risks of discomfort and disability glare from high Kelvin lights, especially among the elderly, individuals with cataracts and children, and others with implants and vision-related disabilities.

fields at Williamsburg, has been particularly challenging to me as a board member because we lack clear criteria for determining when and whether more intensified recreational uses (artificial turf, lighting) are appropriate or optimal for a given facility. Both the Williamsburg Field Working Group (WFWG) and the Public Spaces Master Plan Update process (POPs) have deliberated extensively on developing these criteria for future decision making, however. So my hope is that future decisions will be more grounded in their good thinking.”

Roy Gamse and Gail Harrison say residents were never told there was a plan to install synthetic turf and lighting on the fields. They were told the opposite during the public processes leading to construction of the new Discovery Elementary School. As the process evolved, whenever the question came up, the answer was always that the fields would be natural grass and unlit at night. In late summer 2013, after the gavel came down on the Discovery public processes, then-County Manager Barbara M. Donnellan called for synthetic turf to be installed with the understanding it would lead to lights.

The current county manager has previously indicated that once a decision is made to have synthetic turf, the fields have to be lighted at night to make the investment worth it. At a meeting on the lights which took place May 20, 2013, lifelong Arlington resident Larry Suiters said, “Not since Custer has a group been ambushed this badly.” Mary Curtius, media relations spokesperson for Arlington County government, responded to a query on this issue on June 26 saying, “The manager will be posting his recommendation on Williamsburg Middle School field lights to the county website by the end of this business week. County staff will brief the relevant county commissions on that recommendation in July. The manager’s recommendation, formed following extensive public comment, will be considered first by the Planning Commission and then by the County Board in September. We will have no further comment until the recommendations are posted on our website.”

“And because of the way the fields are configured, the lights opposite my house would have to be angled to cover a 500-foot expanse...”

— Gail Harrison

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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 July 26, 2017, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 19. 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.**

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- Oak Hill/Hemdon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

CONNECTION FAMILIES

A Week of Area Independence Day Celebrations

FRIDAY/JUNE 30

Independence Fireworks. 6-9:45 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Fireworks with Mansion Tour: \$34 for adults; \$24 for youth; No Mansion Tour: \$30 for adults; \$20 for youth. Call 703-780-2000 or visit www.mountvernon.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 1

Fireworks at Lake Fairfax Park. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. The Water Mine Park, boat rentals, live music, food, puppet show, camping and fireworks. \$10 per car. The rain date is Sunday, July 2. Call 703-471-5414 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lakefairfax/.

Workhouse Arts Center Festivities. 5-9:30 p.m. at The Workhouse, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. \$20. Golf course lecture, hole-in-one challenge, fireworks. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

Independence Fireworks. 6-9:45 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Fireworks with Mansion Tour: \$34 for adults; \$24 for youth; No Mansion Tour: \$30 for adults; \$20 for youth. Call 703-780-2000 or visit www.mountvernon.org.

MONDAY/JULY 3

History Day Tours. Tours at 11 a.m. through 3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Test your knowledge of U.S. history at Sully Historic Site with political trivia, games and fun facts. \$7 for adults, \$6 for students, and \$5 for seniors and children. Call 703-437-1794 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

TUESDAY/JULY 4

Firecracker 5K. 8-10 a.m. Reston Town Center, Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Live music and American flags while rooting for the runners in the "Battle of the Branches" competition. Call 703-912-4062 or visit restontowncenter.com.

Autism Speaks 5K. 8 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, Md. Fundraiser for autism. Registration, packet pick up at 6:30 a.m. Call 202-955-3111 or email AutismSpeaks5K@AutismSpeaks.org.

Great Falls Hometown

Celebration. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at at Great Falls Village Centre, 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. Great Falls 5K Walk/Run starts at 8 a.m. and then view the floats, antique cars,



FILE PHOTO

People capture the firework display on cell phones and cameras during the 2016 celebration of Alexandria's birthday.

horses and the bike brigade in the 4th of July Parade at 10 a.m. After the parade, food, music, field games and festivities on the Village Centre Green. At 6 p.m., the gates open at Turner Farm Park featuring music, games, contests and food trucks until the Fireworks Show gets underway just after dusk. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

Mount Vernon Independence Day. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Troop inspection, wreath laying, citizen naturalization, music, fireworks and cake. Call 703-780-2000 or visit www.mountvernon.org.

Fairfax Independence Day Parade. 10 a.m. On Main Street in downtown Fairfax. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/independence-day-celebration.

City of Fairfax Evening Show. 5:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run. Children's activities (inflatables, face painting, and balloon artists), Oon-stage entertainment with a fireworks display that follows. The rain date for the fireworks only is July 5. Items that may puncture the synthetic turf, smoking, alcohol and animals (except service animals) are not permitted on the football field. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov or call 703-385-7855.

Fairfax Station Holiday Crafts

Day. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Crafts will highlight the holiday and the railroads. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, or call 703-425-9225.

Great Falls Fireworks. 6 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. As part of the Village of Great Falls Independence Day celebration, Christ the King Lutheran Church invites members, friends, and members of the community to gather on the church's front lawn to enjoy the fireworks from this premium vantage point. Visit www.gflutheran.org or call 703-759-6068.

Arlington Independence Day. 5-10 p.m. at the Long Bridge Park, 475 Long Bridge Drive, Arlington. Family-friendly activities including live music, food vendors, games, and a view of the Washington, D.C., fireworks display. Games and activities will include face painting, balloon art, moon bounces (weather permitting), cornhole, bocce, and more. No on-site parking at the event. Free event shuttles will run continuously from 4:30-10:30 p.m. between Long Bridge Park and the

Pentagon City and Crystal City Metro stations. Free. Visit parks.arlingtonva.us/july-4th/.

Vienna July 4 Festival and

Fireworks. 6:30 p.m. at at Yeonas Park, 1319 Ross Drive SW, Vienna. Food available from the Vienna Little League snack bar, those who register can get their taste of America in the form of two eating contests: Children ages 5-10 can sign up onsite to participate in a pie-eating contest. Adults can give their chomping skills a try in Vienna's second annual hot dog-eating contest. Visit viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

McLean Independence Day. 6:30 p.m. at Churchill Road Elementary School, 7100 Churchill Road, McLean. Musical entertainment by a local disc jockey, as well as food trucks selling a variety of entrees and snacks. Off-site parking and shuttles available. Admission is free. In case of inclement weather, the fireworks show will be presented at 8 p.m. on the rain date, Wednesday, July 5. Call 703-790-0123, or visit www.mcleancenter.org.

Herndon Independence Day

Celebration. 6:30-9:30 p.m. in Bready Park at the Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave. Family-fun event featuring games, patriotic arts and craft activities, live music, family games,



PHOTO BY TOWN OF VIENNA

Celebrate Independence Day at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Food, water games, pie eating contest and more. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

bingo, food, balloon artists and more. Visit herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/4th-of-july.

Falls Church Celebration. 7-10 p.m. at George Mason High School, 7124 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Live music. Visit www.fallschurchva.gov/.

Montgomery County Sparkles. 7:30 p.m., Albert Einstein High School, 11135 Newport Mill Road, Kensington. Montgomery County celebrates Independence Day with live music featuring Gringo Jingo. Fireworks are at 9:15 p.m. Shuttle bus at Westfield Wheaton North Building. Handicap parking only available at Einstein High School. Food vendors on site. Raindate is July 5 for fireworks only. Call 240-777-0311.

Free Sober Rides. Tuesday, July 4, 7 p.m. through Wednesday, July 5, 2 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code SOBERJULY4 in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code. Visit www.soberride.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 6

Patriotic Music. 1-2 p.m. at Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Wheaton. \$2 or free for residents. Visit www.holidaypark.us/.

Summer Under the Stars Concert. 8 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater (adjacent to City Hall), 10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax. Main Street Community Band. Visit fairfaxva.gov or call 703-385-7855.

SATURDAY/JULY 8

USA/Alexandria Birthday Celebration. 5-10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Event to celebrate the 241st birthday of the USA and the 268th birthday of the City of Alexandria, featuring entertainment, cannon salute during the 1812 Overture, food and beverage sales, and fireworks at 9:30. Call 703-746-5592 or visit www.visitalexandriava.com/alx-bday/.

Riverfront Fundraiser. 7:30-10:30 p.m. Del. Mark Levine's house, at 805 Rivergate Place, Alexandria. Refreshments include "impeachment punch," "Orange Russians," wine and beer, soft drinks, and food. And great views of the fireworks which begin at 9:30 p.m.

Come early to get a good lawn seat or come later after the festivities next door at Oronoco Park.

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Farewell to H-B Woodlawn

Stories of courage and dedication at graduation.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program is a little different. It only makes sense that the graduations are unique as well. There are no caps and gowns. There is no valedictorian speeches. With less than 100 graduates, the whole senior class gathered around with their teachers who shared anecdotes about each of them at the school on Tuesday, June 20. Some stories evoke laughs, others tears. Nearly all of them end in a hug.

Every graduate was a story. Adam Duvede came to the school as an exchange student from Sweden and always offered keen observations on things other students and staff took for granted. According to teacher Graham McBride, he was also a great volleyball player.

For Ethan Sattler, the school was a refuge. His teacher, Teri Doxide, said that family tragedy forced him to step up in his home life, but that he persevered and will be attending Brown University. Doxide said some of her favorite memories of Sattler are their frequent discussions about politics and the changing roles of technology. At the graduation, Doxide gave him a very old calculator as a reminder of those talks.



PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/THE CONNECTION

The H-B Woodlawn Class of 2017 gathers for its graduation on Tuesday, June 20.

Casey Robinson, principal of H-B Woodlawn, said this diversity of students and all their individual stories makes it impossible to broadly categorize any graduating class.

"This was a great class," said Robinson,

"lots of unique individuals. It was a dynamic group; always lively and fun."

For Robinson, this class was special because they had started as sixth graders the same year she joined the school as an administrator. Robinson said there's something

special about a graduation for students that she's seen change and really get to know.

"They were adventurous and spirited," said Robinson, and remembering some of the mischief. noted, "they always loved to push the envelope."



Patti Walsh (left) said her student, Juno Cardiff (right), was a confident and active student who taught Walsh a lot about gender identities. Walsh said Cardiff is patient with questions and observations, a skill she applied to her senior experience working in therapeutic writing.



Paul Weiss (left) with his student Colin Obrist (right). Weiss said Obrist loves studying history; looking at it not from the viewpoint of nostalgia but with continual self-improvement in mind. At the graduation, Weiss gave Obrist a t-shirt that says "History: Don't Make Me Repeat Myself."



Christine Wanda (left) and Erin Claeys (center) with their teacher Cecilia Allen.



Jennifer Moreno-Sosa (left) will be going to Northern Virginia Community College to become a teacher. Her teacher, Michael Coughlin (right), presented her with a thesaurus.



Bill Podolski, H-B Woodlawn theater teacher, with Katherine Barnes.



Bill Podolski, H-B Woodlawn theater teacher (left) with Samuel Guseman (right). Podolski shared with the audience a time, during a performance, Guseman broke character on stage and sang "In My Life (I Love You More)" by the Beatles and dedicated the song to his mother. Podolski ended the story with singing a few stanzas of the song to Guseman.

News



A larger than usual turnout filled the bottom of Nationals Park for the June 15 annual U.S. Congress baseball game.

Witnessing Bipartisan Sportsmanship

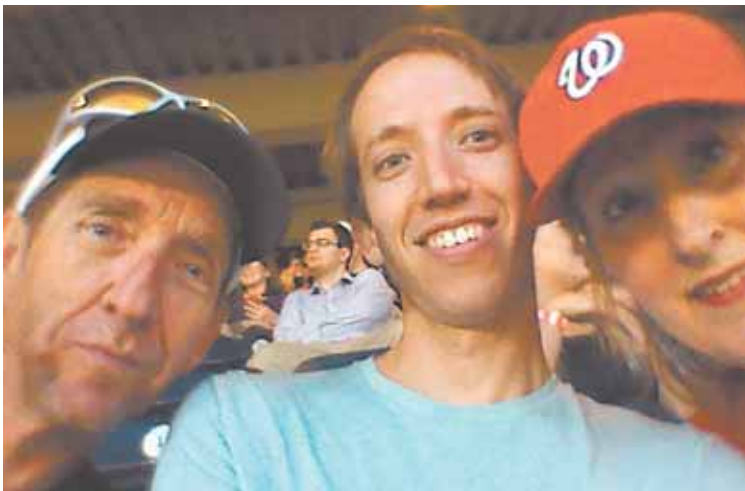
BY MARTI MOORE
THE CONNECTION

It was the third consecutive year for Arlington resident Nina Hurley, who said she had never seen so many people attend this year's baseball game between Capitol Hill legislators. The 24-year-old government employee and 2010 graduate of Bishop O'Connell High School claims the line Thursday evening, June 15, to the entrance of Nationals Park in Southeast Washington was at least two or three blocks long. The whole bottom of the stadium was filled, she noticed.

Although Democrats defeated

the Republicans 11-2, Hurley saw players and fans on the left side of the aisle showing support for the right following the mass shooting the previous day against Republican teammates during an early morning baseball practice in Alexandria. She was impressed by signs Democrats waved to boost the morale of all hurt by the attack, especially the five people hit by gunfire — including House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, the Republican congressman from Louisiana wounded from a rifle shot to his right hip that fractured bones, injured internal organs and

SEE SPORTSMANSHIP, PAGE 15



Carla, Rob and Chris Aaront at the annual baseball game between Capitol Hill legislators.

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Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Proposed Federal FY 2018-2020 Goal

Arlington County Government hereby announces its Federal FY 2018-2020 goal of 13 percent for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) participation. The goal and its rationale are available for inspection from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Local Time) at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard Suite 900, Arlington VA 22201, for 30 days following the date of publication of this notice. Written comments on this goal will be accepted for 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Comments should be addressed to:

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-Werner Heisenberg

News

Cappies Gala Honors High School Theater

The 18th Annual Cappies Gala honoring high school theater was held Sunday, June 11 at The Kennedy Center in the District. Winning the top prizes for the Best Musical was West Potomac High School for "Billy Elliot," and winning Best Play was Duke Ellington School of the Arts for "The Bluest Eye." This year's Masters of Ceremony were Judy Bowns and Janie Strauss with Erich DiCenzo and Phil Reid as Lead Players.

The show included 59 public and private high schools in Fairfax County, Arlington, Fauquier, Loudoun, Montgomery, and Prince William counties, and the Cities of Falls Church, Alexandria, and Washington, D.C. This year's awards were pretty much evenly distributed across all of those regions. The Cappies season extended from late October to early May.

Cappies shows were attended, on average, by 45 student critics who wrote 300-599 word reviews. More than 300 student-written reviews were published or broadcast in local newspapers, including The Connection, Patch, Falls Church News Press, Times Community Newspapers, Loudoun Now, Maryland Theatre Guide,



STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The award for Best Sound is Conrad Burns of Arlington, "In the Garden of Live Flowers," Wakefield High School.

and Fairfax County Public Schools and other media.

The Cappies program was launched in the summer of 1999 by Judy Bowns, the Theatre Arts resource teacher with FCPS, and the late Bill Strauss (director, Capitol Steps), in cooperation with area theater teachers, for the purpose of celebrating and bringing public acclaim to high school theater.

— STEVE HIBBARD

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 7

This has no place in Virginia. If local elections can be conducted with civility and based on local issues anywhere, it should be here. There are plenty of local issues to be discussed: Virginia energy, environmental and social policies; Virginia infrastructure and transportation; and Virginia finances, taxes and budget, to name a few. As Virginians, we must insist that the candidates and campaigns focus on these. We must not allow

the candidates' consultants, advisers, and financial backers to turn the 2017 Virginia election into something like the Spanish Civil War. We Virginians must insist that our interests be put first.

The rhetoric must cool down and focus on Virginia. It must do so now, before another four months of extremely negative campaigning, and before, not after, the body count gets higher.

Thomas M Leahey
Arlington

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

WEDNESDAY/JULY 5

Gardening Talks & Demonstrations. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. The Arlington Food Assistance Center and the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia will sponsor a series of talks and demonstrations about gardening. In addition to basic gardening techniques, topics will include wild edibles, pollinators, food preparation and preservation, and more. For a complete schedule, visit www.afac.org/.

FRIDAY/JULY 7

Application Deadline. The Arlington County Police Department is now accepting applications for the fall Citizen's Police Academy. The 21st Citizen's Police Academy will begin on Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017. The Academy will consist of 12 sessions that meet on Thursdays from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at police headquarters, located at 1425 North Courthouse Road. Individuals who wish to apply will be subject to a background check. Applications are due no later than Friday, July 7, 2017. Contact the Training and Career Development Unit at 703-228-4247 or by email at ACPDTraining@arlingtonva.us.



SPORTS

Thunderbolts Defeat Pirates

In its opening home meet of the NVSL Division IV season, the Donaldson Run Thunderbolts beat the Poplar Tree Pirates with a final score of 246-174.

Double individual race winners for Donaldson Run were: Sean Conley (boys' 13-14 50 free and 50 fly); Charlie Greenwood (who broke his own boys' 9-10 50 backstroke team record and 50 breast); Grace Jansen (girls' 11-12 50 breast and 50 fly); Elsa Leichty (girls' 11-12 50 free and 50 back); Miles Nelson (boys' 8 & Under 25 back and 25 fly); Thomas Rodman (boys' 9-10 50 free and 25 fly); and Jack Tsuchitani (boys' 11-12 50 breast and 50 fly).

The team's single winners were (in order of age and event): Henry Royal (boys' 8 & Under 25 free); Charlie Taylor (boys' 11-12 50 free); Andrew Rehr (boys' 15-18 50 free); Rachel Conley (girls' 9-10 50 back); Emily Brooks (girls' 15-18 50 back); Hayden Hill (boys' 8 & Under 25 breast); Drew Harker (boys' 13-14 50 breast); Anna Trainum (girls' 13-14 50 breast); Grace Motta (girls' 15-18 50 breast); Ellie Wertzler (girls' 8 & under 25 fly); and Emma Hutchison (girls' 15-18 fly).

Winning relay teams included: Aram Connable, Jay Lineweaver, Miles Nelson, Peter Madden (boys' 8&U 100 free relay); Ellie Wertzler, Josephine Brooke, Evie Maloney, Ryan Clark (girls 8&U 100 free relay); Will Taylor, Charlie Greenwood, Jimmy Egan, Thomas Rodman (boys' 9-10 medley relay); Hank Holley, Jack Tsuchitani, Charlie Taylor, Braylon Meade (boys' 11-12 medley relay); TJ Hutchison, Drew Harker, John Ford, Sean Conley (boys' 13-14 medley relay); Emily Brooks, Grace Motta, Audrey Engel, Sarah Conley (girls' 15-18 medley relay); Jack Tsuchitani, Charlie Greenwood, Sean Conley, Andrew Meighan (boys' mixed age relay); and Grace Jansen, Rachel Conley, Anna Trainum, Emily Brooks (girls' mixed age relay).

Sportsmanship

FROM PAGE 13

caused severe bleeding, according to reports.

"They were very unifying, saying they were on Team Scalise," Hurley said. A June 17 medical update posted online at scalise.house.gov, stated the congressman's condition was serious but showed signs of improvement following surgery.

A Congressional Sports for Charity press report says the June 15 game set a record with 24,959 tickets sold. More than \$1.5 million was raised from corporate sponsors, \$10 general admission sales and other donations for organizations that benefit area children and youth – Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Nationals Dream Foundation, Washington Literacy Center – plus charities that support the U.S. Capitol Police officers and those injured by the shooting.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

Infusing is Rarely Amusing

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Four weeks out of every five, it appears as if I don't have cancer. Fortunately, I don't look the part. Nor do I act the part – in my opinion. However, there is one week out of every five when I most definitely feel the part: the week after my chemotherapy infusion, when eating is a particular challenge. The look, feel, taste and thought of food and/or drink is nearly impossible to swallow – literally and figuratively. And though I'm not in any pain during this post-chemotherapy weak, I am compromised nonetheless.

Friends and family who are familiar with my "normal" eating habits (I'd order off the children's menu if I could) have joked that since I'm unable to eat any of the usual and customary Kenny selections, perhaps I should try eating foods that I would never select: Brussels sprouts, grapefruit, tuna fish in a can, fresh fish on a platter, all condiments other than mayonnaise, all legumes and a million other foods that you probably love. Plain and boring is how I roll (a potato roll is my preference), repeatedly.

The problem is that when I'm post chemo, nothing satiates: salty, sweet or "snacky;" hot, cold or medium; fast or slow; store-bought, home-made or restaurant-ready. It's all merely a variation on a theme where my back stiffens, my head tilts back and down and my eating mind says "no." It's been this way for about two and a half years now. And though I don't look the least bit undernourished, I am overwhelmed by these week-long post-chemotherapy eating fits and non-starts.

Naturally I have discussed this side effect with my oncologist. When asked how long this situation lasts, my seven-ish day struggle seems about average, according to my doctor, maybe even slightly shorter than some other patients he treats who are infused with the same chemotherapy drug as I am. Apparently, there are other patients where the eating challenges last even longer than mine. And since there's nothing to be prescribed/recommended to affect this eating problem/lack of outcome, all I can do is live with the consequences of my treatment. Live being the operative word. So unless I stop treatment, this eating challenge will persist, presumably. (Although, there's scant clinical information regarding side effects on stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer patients still living after eight years and four months as we're a patient population that doesn't much exist. We're not exactly unicorns, but neither are we ponies at the Fair.)

Fairness – and normalcy for me was officially gone on Feb. 27, 2009, the date of my diagnosis and the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist. But so what. As of that date, my perspective/orientation became about living forward, not recriminating backward. Sure, the present was important, but the future was more important, and the past, well, it had passed. No more could I afford to consider who, what, where, when, why and how I ended up in this predicament. My goal was to remain positive, take the bad with good, survive until the next drug approval by the FDA (of which there have been half a dozen in the last two years specifically for the treatment of lung cancer) and try not to impose my problems on anyone else.

Which I believe I've succeeded in doing. Oh sure, I've imposed myself on you regular readers, but what I've imposed on you have been my experiences. Considering the context, I'd like to think I've shared, not self-indulged. Moreover, I'd like to think we're all better off for the 'experience.' I know I am.

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

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