



The Arlington Connection



Kelly Horinek (back) and her son, Cash Horinek, on the burlap-sack slide at the Arlington County Fair.

All's Fair at County Fair

NEWS, PAGE 1

Farewell to Martha Ann Miller, 106

NEWS, PAGE 2

Celebrating Friendship

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 5 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 6

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/THE CONNECTION

United

FROM PAGE 4

Lee High School.

Because we are a county, Arlington currently does not have the authority to rename state highways such as Jefferson Davis Highway and Lee Highway. We do have the authority to name local roads, and we exercised it in 2012 to rename Old Jefferson Davis Highway as Long Bridge Drive.

Arlington is committed to seeking the authority from the General Assembly to rename both Jefferson Davis and Lee highways within our boundaries. Our legislative delegation is committed to putting legislation forward on Jefferson Davis Highway. Arlington believes that local governments should have the authority to name any roadways within our borders.

Because it is a city, neighboring Alexandria controls all roadways within its borders. The City Council voted in September 2016 to rename its stretch of Jefferson Davis Highway, and graciously included two Arlington residents in the advisory panel it formed to seek suggestions from the public for a new name. That panel will make a recommendation this fall, and the Alexandria City Council will act.

We expect that the name Alexandria selects will be suitable for our section of Jefferson Davis Highway as well. Anyone in Arlington who wants to suggest a new name for Jefferson Davis Highway can do so on the City of Alexandria's website (www.alexandriava.gov/news_display.aspx?id=99021) through Sept. 25.

While we are not aware of any Confederate statues on county-owned land in Arlington, we support Governor McAuliffe's recent proposal that all Virginia localities relocate Confederate statues in Virginia to museums, and be given the legal authority to do so.

Finally, the name of Washington-Lee High School and all other public schools in Arlington falls under the authority of the School Board. We know that the School Board will be speaking to this issue in the near future.

Although this is a painful time for us all, ultimately, Arlington's story is an inspiring one of racial and social progress, of moving forward and overcoming the deep wounds inflicted by slavery, the Civil War, Jim Crow and the legacy of segregation. Our past can never be erased, but we can and will continue to learn from it.

Arlington today is a vibrant, diverse and inclusive community that treats each individual with respect and champions human and civil rights.

We will not allow a resurgent hate movement that distorts history and threatens our future to take us backward. Together, we will continue to strengthen the bonds that unite us.

Jay Fisette

Arlington County Board Chair, on behalf of the County Board

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Two, Hopefully for Won



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Being diagnosed with cancer; then having cancer/living with cancer, is like having a second job. A job that unlike many, requires and/or imposes a 'round the clock-type 24/7 adherence to protocol, policy, procedure, presumptions and principle. To live not like you're dying takes more than scoffing at a country music song that twangs an alternative vision. Believing in what routines you're following and any lifestyle changes you've made allows (I didn't say enables) a cancer survivor to thrive under the most difficult and demanding of circumstances.

Unfortunately for those reading this column looking for answers/guarantees, there aren't any other than: if you abuse the privilege of post-cancer-diagnosis survival, the ends will likely justify the means; meaning, you are responsible for your own actions and "inactions." The prognosis one is given at diagnosis is a reasonably thought out prediction. However, as grim as those words sound and seem at that moment, that prediction is not cast in stone. I'm living proof of that. The words you hear are based on the past. Your ensuing treatment is more about the present and future and what you decide to do living forward. Being open and unassuming, and by 'unassuming' I mean: not taking anything for granted, presuming facts not in evidence, considering that which has happened to somebody else - either good or bad, could happen to you and of course, asking as many questions in as many ways as necessary to get the answers you need, will help you co-exist with this terrible burden. Being diagnosed with a heretofore "terminal" disease presents one with innumerable challenges but not the slim pickin's (choices not the actor) of yesteryear.

Integrating/assimilating all of the facts, fiction and philosophy into one's daily cancer conundrum is a task often complicated by one's day job/intention to remain on that job. The thinking being, at least in my mind/experience: living as normal a life as possible and staying as true to one's usual and customary self as well as to one's wishes, desires, hopes, prayers, etc., will enable (not 'allow' this time) you potentially to live longer and prosper more and trek "where no man has gone before." For us cancer survivors/patients, where we hope to 'trek' is beyond the prognosis given to us by our oncologist.

I can boast of such an accomplishment, but I'd rather write it quietly and consistently as encouragement to others similarly diagnosed and "prognosed" than brag about it loudly. However, the changes/choices I've made might not suit another's personality. I regularly receive suggestions about additional anti-cancer pursuits. Some I embrace, some I don't. Some are conventional (Western), some are alternative (Non-Western). Many sound reasonable and "integratable" into my lifestyle. Many others don't. But given that my life is at stake, how can a suggestion's incompatibility with my personality matter? We're talking life versus premature death here; not sit-down Italian versus take-out Chinese. And though food certainly matters, it is of course to no comparison to living versus dying. Still, I don't always say "yes."

This is the yin and yang of my life and probably the lives of many other survivors of serious/terminal-type diseases. I want to feel like I'm winning. But I'm deathly afraid of losing.

Moreover, I want to live my life as normally as possible, but not if it has adverse consequence. And how would I know anyway? Symptoms can be misleading and scans are quarterly. And though I remain positive about my very negative circumstances, occasionally the reality of those circumstances interfere with that normalcy. When that happens, I usually put pen to paper and try to write myself out of it.

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

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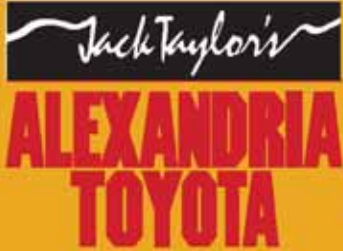
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