

The  
Arlington  
Connection

2020A  
FOURTEENTH STREET

HomeLifeStyle  
PAGE 9

A homeless man walks through the door of the  
Arlington County Homeless Services Center  
to escape the frigid temperatures outside. He has  
been there four months with a bed on the third floor.

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PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

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## NEWS

# New Day for County Board

**New leadership takes hold of Arlington County leadership.**

BY VERNON MILES  
THE CONNECTION



**County Board  
Chair  
Katie Cristol**



**County Board  
Vice-Chair  
Christian Dorsey**

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**T**ell the old story for our modern times,” Katie Cristol began her first address to the county as its newly elected chair. “Find the beginning.’ This lovely phrase is from Homer’s ‘The Odyssey’ as interpreted this past year by the first woman to ever publish a translation in that epic poem’s long history. This narrator’s command to the muse has more traditionally been translated as ‘relate some part of this to me’ or ‘tell me about these things’. In Emily Wilson’s hands in 2017, it became no less spare but considerably more meaningful.”

Cristol said that she found translations to be a way of examining mythologies and histories through a contemporary lenses, a thing she said she hopes to do with Arlington’s guiding framework in 2018. At its meeting on Jan. 2, the County Board laid out its vision for the year to come.

“In 2018, what does it mean to translate Arlington’s history, our community values, even our foundational texts for our modern times?” Cristol asked. “To tell the old story of Arlington is to tell of the fight for inclusion, of defiance to massive resistance to integration of the public schools, of waves of immigrants and refugees shaping the county’s culture and economy. In our current national moment, Arlingtonians rise to affirm these values.”

Cristol said these guiding principles have been interpreted in the modern era to focus on affordable housing as a bedrock issue for the county. Cristol argued that the root of what the community in Arlington looks like and who calls it home is a function of who can afford to live there.

In 2018, Cristol also noted that Arlington will struggle with regional problems like Metro and national problems.

“We were concerned about turmoil in the Trump era and we got it in 2017,” said Cristol. “There’s fear among undocumented residents, upheaval in tax credits that finance affordable housing projects, a paroxysm of hate 100 miles south that left us, like other Virginia cities, grieving and questioning our ability to protect each other.”

Cristol said the county will have to do its best to weather these challenges, and newly elected Vice Chair Christian Dorsey emphasizing Arlington’s role in the future of the Metro system.

“The Metro is a \$40 billion asset we co-own,” said Dorsey. “Essential not only to who we are, but what we want to be. We cannot allow it to be degraded or continue to contribute while governance role is diminished.”

Dorsey also said one of his ambitions for the new year was to establish a consumer protection bureau within the county to handle the frequent complaints about predatory towing and lending practices, rental housing issues, and general contract enforcement complaints. Dorsey said the bureau would not require substantial new funding, instead consolidating resources already deployed across multiple de-

partments and building an online portal to connect local citizens to their county resources.

Other members of the County Board expressed their agreement with Cristol and Dorsey’s vision for the future and outlined a few of their own topics of particular interest. John Vihstadt, an independent who will be running for re-election later this year, said the county should work towards implementing a clear cost/benefit fiscal analysis for every new development, to include a concise study on how each project will impact schools, tree canopy, and infrastructure. Vihstadt said this type of very selective decision making will be more vital in a year where the County Board directed the manager to plan for no tax increase. Libby Garvey, the senior-most member of the County Board with the retirement of Jay Fisette, said one of the issues she’s been pressing most heavily on for the last few years has been the ability for Arlingtonians to pay online for permits. Garvey said last year she believed this possibility would be coming soon, and as of this year it is still not available. However, Garvey said discussions with staff has indicated that the ability to pay online for permits should be available within the next few

months. The newest member of the board, Erik Gutshall, said that he vowed to approach every topic presented to the board with an open mind.

“I will not tolerate a pay to win mentality from any side,” said Gutshall. “I cannot promise everyone will get what they want, but do pledge an inclusive and level playing field with no predetermined outcomes.”

After the meeting, Cristol noted that she supported the ideas put forward by the other County Board members, but that it was going to be a difficult

“I was intrigued by the consumer protection bureau,” said Cristol, “but any new initiative comes with the asterisk that this is a tough year for the budget. But over the long term, I’m intrigued by the proposal.” Over the next few months, Cristol said dealing with the county’s budget will be the year’s most immediate challenge. “This year will feel different in terms of the budget,” said Cristol. “It will probably be familiar to those who lived through the economic downturn and the first impacts of [base realignment]. It’s a year where we are making cuts instead of additions.” Longer term, Cristol said the Metro will be Arlington’s looming crisis that could have a large impact on budgets in years to come. Cristol said if a solution to the Metro’s funding crisis doesn’t come this year, the situation will be even more dire in the next.

The County Board’s next meeting will be held on Jan. 27.

### Saint Ann Catholic Church

**SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:**  
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM  
1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy

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Saturday, 8:30 AM

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Arlington, Virginia 22205  
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**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
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# Homeless Find Warm Spot at Center

**Hypothermia plan expands its welcome mat.**

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he door swings open and a burst of warm air hits the man entering the Arlington Homeless Services Center at 2020 14th Street N. It is New Year's Eve, and 79 people will be spending the night at the center that has 50 regular beds.

As he waits for the elevator, he comments that he has "been at the shelter for four months. They don't turn nobody down. If you've been in prison, they take you back. And they got me my medication and are getting an ID. Everyone on the staff here are really good people."

As a woman gets on the elevator, she comments that she "stays in the shelter almost all day because she doesn't know the area. I like the meatloaf here the best. The chef made it with sausage last time, and the lentil soup."

Kathleen Sibert, president and CEO of A-SPAN, said, "We have a hypothermia plan at the Homeless Services Center which begins on Nov. 1 and ends on March 31 each year. We can take in an additional 25 people in addition to our regular 50-bed shelter and five Medical Respite program so we can go up to 80 people a night. However, in extreme cold (below freezing) we request permission from the county to take in an additional 10 people to accommodate 90 people a night."

She says with the extreme cold tempera-



**Ling Eun Ling, a new A-SPAN staff member, stands at the front desk at the Homeless Services Center with stacks of clean underwear and sweatshirts ready to hand out for those who need them.**



**Scott Miller, senior development director for A-SPAN, sorts through the racks of sweatshirts and jackets in the clothing room at the center. He says Arlington Realtors Care (ARC) recently donated a lot of heavy jackets to the center.**



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

**Kathy Sibert, president and CEO of A-SPAN, responsible for the Homeless Services Center, opens the hypothermia closet. It is stacked high with the mats and bags of sheets and blankets to accommodate extra homeless under the center's hypothermia plan.**



**John Long, a resident at the center, is enrolled in the 8-week kitchen internship designed to give residents a skill when they leave the center. He says he is making an arugula salad with light balanced vinaigrette, delicious but designed to avoid any possible food allergies.**

tures they have been averaging 80 people a night. "But we never turn anyone away," Sibert says it may seem especially cold this year because this is really frigid right now, but there are always cold spells and the hypothermia plan is in effect every year.

Sibert says, to accommodate the extra people, they push back the chairs and tables in the dining room of the center and pull out the sleeping mats and bags of sheets and blankets from the nearby closet. Some of the mats are labeled with names of people from last night who are expected back again tonight.

"We put men on one side of the room and women on the other," Sibert says when they have more people, they move the women to the day room, and the men take over the dining room. She says they have more men than women because many of the women have children and they are in the domestic shelters.

"Of course there are some people who we can't convince to come in. Some people have mental illness and don't want to come in. They have voices talking to them. But," she said, "we know exactly where they are, and we send a team out to check on them, make sure they have blankets."

Even though the numbers can almost double on any one night, the center always has plenty of food "because the two chefs always make plenty. They cook enough for 150 meals a day, so sometimes there are even seconds." Today Bronx Pizza has donated pizza. John Long, a center resident, is making an arugula salad with carrots, mandarin oranges and a classic vinaigrette to accompany the pizza.

He says the homeless in the center have a lot of allergies and some don't even know they have them so "we err on the safe side." His vinaigrette includes three parts oil to one part vinegar plus a little mustard and a bit of sugar for balance. "Just like life has to have a balance," Long is in his fifth week of a kitchen internship to equip him with a skill when he leaves the center.

Sibert says the hypothermia plan calls for two extra staff on both the 4 p.m.-midnight and the midnight-8 a.m. shifts. These staff people check homeless into the center, monitor how they are doing or handle a crisis. Sibert adds the staff also organize the showers and make sure people can do their laundry. "If they take medicine, the staff checks it into the medicine cabinet and remind them to take it."

The homeless may need clean clothes so they can go to the clothing room where there are always clean underwear and socks. Recently the Arlington Realtors Care (ARC) donated a lot of heavy coats that are lined up on a rack with shirts and jackets. "That's what makes this all work," Sibert said, "the support of the community." A-SPAN strives to end homelessness in Arlington through housing and ongoing case management as well as shelter-supported services.

## Celebrating A-SPAN

A-SPAN will celebrate 25-plus years on Thursday, Feb. 8 from 6-9 p.m. at the Hyatt Centric Arlington at 125 Wilson Boulevard. Festivities will include a tasting of Virginia specialties including carving stations as well as craft beers and wine tasting. Valentine's Day raffles and prizes "guarantees 100 percent happiness."

Live music will be provided by local band Barton Street 3. To purchase tickets and learn more about A-SPAN contact [a-span.org/a-spans-25th-celebration](http://a-span.org/a-spans-25th-celebration).

Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN) provides housing, supportive services, shelter, and street assistance in its goal to end homelessness in Arlington.

## Pulling Legal Status from Local Salvadorans

**Bad for communities, bad for the economy, bad for the families, and no upside.**

**I**t's going to hurt right here in Northern Virginia.

As this administration continues its persecution against immigrants, it will move to end protected status for more than 200,000 Salvadorans, tens of thousands of whom live among us as neighbors, coworkers, friends, business owners, homeowners.

These neighbors, Salvadorans who came here in the wake of terrible natural disaster and political unrest, have been living and working here legally since 2001 at least. Temporary Protected Status was given to approximately 217,000 Salvadoran immigrants living in the United States at the time of the disasters.

Their families have added almost as many U.S.-born children. They are intertwined with naturalized citizens and other legal residents from their country, with the withdrawal of protected status affecting a community far larger than the TPS recipients. These communities are concentrated, intensifying the overall impact, and more live here in the D.C. suburbs than anywhere else.

On average, Salvadoran TPS recipients have been in the U.S. for 21 years; one-third have mortgages. These are people who have had legal work permits, who suddenly will not be able to work legally here. Their mortgages, and the mortgages of people who depend on them, will be at risk. Removing the ability of recipients to work legally will increase the risk of foreclosure, with negative economic impact across communities.

Salvadorans with protected status pay sales and property taxes. The communities they live in will be damaged. Their children will be more at risk. Our economy will be damaged.

**THE SALVADORAN IMMIGRANT** population is most concentrated in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, where 165,000 El Salvador-born residents make up 2.9 percent of the population.

Salvadorans in the United States sent \$3.6 billion home to El Salvador in 2012, 16.5 percent of that country's GDP.

Virginia has nearly 45,000 El Salvadoran TPS residents, almost all in Northern Virginia, and

concentrated in particular neighborhoods. Arlington has identified just four census tracts with more than 1,000 Salvadoran residents each (two with more than 1,400). In 2015, the most common birthplace for the foreign-born residents of Virginia was El Salvador, accounting for 96,515 Virginia residents. Fairfax County in 2010 was home to 43,566 Salvadorans.

Analysis shows that when Salvadoran, Honduran, and Haitian workers with TPS are removed from the labor force, the United States will lose \$45.2 billion in gross domestic product (GDP) over the next decade, according to Immigrant Legal Resource Center. When TPS holders lose their work authorization, it will result in a \$6.9 billion reduction to Social Security and Medicare contributions over a decade, as calculated by the ILRC.

All of that shows why this will damage communities and the economy. It says nothing about the harm to families. But the harm is great.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

**Sources:** American Progress, Pew Hispanic, Center for Immigration Studies, U.S. Census, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, local government demographic data.

## Here's What Makes America Great

BY ERIC WOLF WELCH

**I**n the spring of 1937, my grandmother realized she and her family had to leave Germany. My aunt had just come home from school, her hair dyed black with ink and the words "Jew" written all over her clothes. This was the final straw. Within a matter of days, my grandmother, grandfather, aunt, and my mother (only 3 years old) snuck out of the little town of Dudelsheim, Germany, leaving everything behind and paying bribes to officials to obtain visas to exit the country. They boarded a ship to New York and were fortunate enough to have cousins who could sponsor their entry into America.

My aunt and mother were educated in America's public schools and universities. My mother became a teacher and my aunt a doctor. My grandmother worked for the Girl Scouts of America and my grandfather became a die-hard Yankees fan. They became Americans. They loved this country and had a deep sense of patriotism, which continues through their children and grandchildren today. They would not have lived and I would not exist without America opening her doors to my family.

I am a high school teacher in Fairfax County. I teach many students who remind me of my mother and my aunt. These students and their families also came to America to escape violence, poverty, and religious or political persecution. And just like my family, they are Americans (whether a document officially says it or not). They love the opportunity this country has provided to them and want to make the most of it.

Each generation, the American dream is re-

newed and continued, by the ancestors of previous immigrants and by new immigrants. What made America great, and what will make America great again, is immigration. The first European immigrants to America came with the hope of religious freedom and economic prosperity. How is this any different than a family today wanting to come to America from Yemen or Guatemala? John Winthrop, an early leader of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, said America needed to be a "city on a hill" whose light is a beacon. Leaders, such as President Ronald Reagan, have reminded and challenged us to live up to this vision that truly makes America exceptional among the nations of the world.

The current anti-immigration movement, spurred on by President Donald Trump suspending the DACA program, demanding a border wall be built, and calling for an end to so-called "chain immigration," is troubling because it attempts to move our country in a direction different than our past. "Chain immigration" is why I am alive. It's also why students from Iraq, Sierra Leone, and El Salvador are in my classroom, safely learning and thriving, rather than being killed or living in squalor. Should we stop being a beacon to these people?

Unfortunately, the anti-immigration movement is fueled by a belief that to allow others to have the opportunities we have as Americans is going to take away from our own wealth and prosperity. A prime example of this is the argument Virginia state Sen. Richard Black made against DACA students receiving in-state tuition, "Every time you give free stuff to people here illegally, you have to take it away from an American." This understanding of econom-

ics is misguided as well as selfish. History has proven that the contributions of immigrants to America improves our economy, increases our tax base, and creates more jobs and opportunities for all Americans. Our region's economy is a prime example of this. DACA students, and their families, are trying to live the American dream, and in doing so, they are contributing to, not taking away from, what makes America great.

From a moral argument, I am reminded of the story a Lutheran pastor recently told. He said imagine two rooms. One is well-lit and another right next to it is completely dark. When the door is opened, the light from the well-lit room enters the dark room and illuminates it. Yet, as that light spreads, the well-lit room continues to stay just as bright as it was before.

When America opens its doors, we do not lose our own wealth, prosperity, and well-being. Rather, we allow it to grow and spread and become greater than it was before. I urge you to remind Congress, our President, and all of us who make up this country to remember that immigration is what has and will continue to make America great.

*The writer, an Arlington resident, is a social studies teacher at JEB Stuart High School and coordinator of the "AVID" program, an academic mentoring program to help students attend college, many of whom are the first in their family to attend college.*

### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. Letters must include full name, home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Email [arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arlington@connectionnewspapers.com)

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## Choppers Inbound

In addition to the fact that helicopter blades chop through the air, the nickname “chopper” comes from the sound helicopters make as they fly overhead; a distinctive chop chop noise.

It’s a sound familiar to many Arlington locals living along military flight paths. On Jan. 16, a forum hosted by U.S. Rep. Don Beyer at Abingdon Elementary School will give residents an opportunity to speak up about the issue. The meeting is part of a study included in legislation Beyer put forward directing the Pentagon to study flight routes and noise mitigation measures.

“Since I came to Congress my office has received frequent and numerous complaints about excessive noise generated by heli-

copters flying over the National Capital Region,” said Beyer in an email. “My amendment requiring the Department of Defense to study and report to Congress possible changes to flight paths to mitigate the noise problem was included into legislation signed into law in 2016, and that language required [Department of Defense] to meet with the community to solicit feedback on its study before issuing a final report. The meeting which I am hosting on Jan. 16 will allow members of the community to engage with representatives from [Department of Defense] directly to offer their feedback, which I hope will lead to these concerns being addressed.”

— VERNON MILES



**Arlington Public Library joins 100 libraries nationwide in the Winter Reading Challenge with a goal of 9,000 books in January and 50,000 books nationwide.**

PHOTO BY  
SHIRLEY RUHE  
THE CONNECTION

## Help Identify Bank Robbery Suspect

The Arlington County Police Department’s Homicide/Robbery Unit is seeking the public’s assistance in identifying a bank robbery suspect captured on surveillance footage.

On Friday, Jan. 5, 2018, at approximately 10:55 a.m., a male suspect entered the TD Bank located at 3101 Wilson Boulevard and passed the teller a note, demanding money. No weapon was shown or implied. After obtaining an undisclosed amount of money, the suspect fled the area on foot.

The suspect is described as a black male in his mid-20’s, 5’8” tall, weighing approximately 150 lbs with a thin build. He was wearing a gray hoodie, a red knit hat



**Suspect**

and gray Nike sneakers at the time of the incident.

The Arlington County Police Department requests that anyone with information regarding this incident contact Detective R. Munizza at 703-228-4171 or [rmunizza@arlingtonva.us](mailto:rmunizza@arlingtonva.us). To report information anonymously, contact the Arlington County Crime Solvers at 866-411-TIPS (8477).

## Join Winter Reading Challenge

**Arlington sets 9,000 book goal in January.**

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
THE CONNECTION

What could be better than reading and hot chocolate? Arlington Public Library and Alexandria Library have joined a nationwide Winter Reading Challenge. When the reading challenge is complete, there will be a hot chocolate celebration party on Saturday, Feb. 3 at 3 p.m. at the Central Library in Arlington. Arlington and Alexandria are two of 100 libraries nationwide and in South Korea and four libraries in Virginia participating in this event.

Readers of all ages are invited to read and log three or more books between Jan. 1-31. The goal is for Arlington to read at least 9,000 books. If readers read 50,000 books nationwide, Shark Tank investor Mark Cuban will donate \$25,000 to First Book, an organization that provides new books and learning materi-

als to children in need.

Cuban has challenged the libraries to meet a collective goal of reading at least one million minutes and 50,000 books during the month of February. In addition to donating \$25,000 to First Book, Cuban has pledged to give \$10,000 to top performing libraries for their community programs or to donate to local nonprofit organizations. Cuban says his mother used to give him 25 cents for every book he read.

The libraries will use Beanstack, a software program that makes it easy to track the amount of time and books read. Participants may register online or in person at any library location.

On Jan. 3, 162 books had been recorded in Arlington with only 8,838 to go. Books already tallied up range from “Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons,” to “Salt, fat, acid, heat: mastering the art of good cooking,” to “The Formative Years of Relativity: The History and Meaning of Einstein’s Princeton Lectures.”

Julia Karell, program and partnership manager, said, “Winter Reading supports lifelong learning and serves as a great community builder.”

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

**“Crazy for You.”** Through Jan. 14, various times at the Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. A musical comedy with Gershwin tunes including “I’ve Got Rhythm,” “Someone to Watch Over Me” and “Nice Work If You Can Get It” fuse with tap dancing. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org).

**Artists’ Exhibition.** Through Jan. 31, various times at the Courthouse Plaza lobby. Through the Lens of Frank Hallam Day and Anne Rowland images of Arlington’s built and natural environments. Visit [publicart.arlingtonva.us/](http://publicart.arlingtonva.us/).

**Family Skate Night.** Saturdays through March, 6:30-9 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 2nd St S. Bring the whole family to Thomas Jefferson Community Center for Family Skate Night with a live DJ, moon bounces and snack bar, this is a crowd-pleaser for the entire family. Only \$2 to skate and \$3 to rent a pair of wheels (moon bounce and concessions are additional). Cash only. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/thomas-jefferson-community-center](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/thomas-jefferson-community-center).

**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](mailto:csingiser@cfwdc.org) or call 917-733-6402.

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

**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](mailto:DC@velofix.com), or phone 855-VELO-FIX.

**Food Truck Thursdays.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1900 Crystal Drive and 201 12th St. Actual truck schedules are subject to change so be sure to follow your favorites. Visit [www.crystalcity.org](http://www.crystalcity.org).

**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/](http://www.parkrun.us/rooseveltislanddc/).

**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).

**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).

**Open Mic Comedy.** Wednesdays 8-10 p.m. at Ri Ra Irish Pub, 2915 Wilson Blvd. Doors open at 7 p.m. Age 21



## ‘Forty+ Or Minus’

**Jane Franklin Dance performance puts on “Forty+ Or Minus,” on Saturday, Jan. 13, followed by shows on Jan. 18 at 10:30 a.m., Jan. 20 and Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S Four Mile Run Drive.. \$5 - \$22. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com) or call 703-933-1111.**

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.

**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.

**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.

**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).

**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).

## THURSDAY/JAN. 11

**Arlington Historical Author.** 7-9 p.m. at Reinsch Library Auditorium, Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Local author George Axiotis, an amateur historian, discusses “Two Hills: Writing Historical Fiction on Civil War.” Visit [www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 12-14

**Sherlock Holmes.** At Gunston Theatre One, 2700 South Lang St. Join Encore Stage for a night of mystery, action and laughter in this thrilling adaptation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s detective story. Moriarty is after a set of mysterious letters and so is Sherlock Holmes. Before long, Moriarty’s minions have London in a dangerous grip. Sherlock is willing to put his life on the line to stop it. Recommended for ages 6 and older. Visit [culturecapital.com/organization/102/gunston-theatre-one](http://culturecapital.com/organization/102/gunston-theatre-one).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 13

**Family Friendly Cooking.** 10 a.m.-noon at Walter Reed Community

Center, 2909 16th St S. Make healthy, tasty and affordable meals that match your New Year’s Resolutions at our first Families Unplugged in the Kitchen of the new year. Expert nutritionist will guide participants through recipes such as spinach lasagna, winter harvest salad and roasted chickpeas. Register using Activity #730018 for just \$8 per person. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us](http://parks.arlingtonva.us).

**Crafting Saturdays.** Drop in between 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Love crafting for free? Join a Fairlington Community Center Second-Saturday Crafternoon Workshop for oil pastel and ink transfers. All ages are welcome but children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Explore more art workshops through May. Free. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/fairlington-community-center-park/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/fairlington-community-center-park/).

**The Big Meow.** 3-4 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. The story of an ever-hopeful fluff ball who desperately wants to belong to the band of neighborhood cats. \$15 adults/\$10 children under age 10. Visit [www.janefranklin.com/](http://www.janefranklin.com/).

**Forty+ or Minus.** 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday, 2-5 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. A multi-generational dance performance. \$5-\$22. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## SUNDAY/JAN. 14

**Organ Recital.** 3 p.m. at in the Sanctuary of Rock Spring Congregational Church, 5010 Little Falls Road, Arlington. The Rock

Spring Recital Series presents an organ concert featuring Peter Bayer with selections including J.S. Bach, Brahms and Messiaen. Visit [www.rockspringucc.org](http://www.rockspringucc.org).

**Youth Open Mic Night.** 5 p.m. at Busboys and Poets at Shirlington, 4251 S. Campbell Ave. Youth Open Mic Hosted by DC Youth Slam Team \$5 cover (buy your tix online the day of the event). Call 703-379-9757 or visit [busboysandpoets.com](http://busboysandpoets.com).

**Read-a-Thon.** 5 p.m. at Busboys and Poets at Shirlington, 4251 S. Campbell Ave. Read-a-Thon: A Sand County Almanac. Free and open to all. Call 703-379-9757 or visit [busboysandpoets.com](http://busboysandpoets.com).

## MONDAY/JAN. 15

**MLK Day of Service.** 8:30 a.m.-noon at Arlington Career Center, 816 South Walter Reed Drive. Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization is partnering with the Leadership Center for Excellence and Volunteer Arlington for the MLK Day of Service through hands-on service projects and on-site training opportunities. Call 703-892-2776.

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 17

**Locavore Film Series.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Four films with an international flavor include, “The Gauchos of Argentina” and “The Painted Truck,” both by Judith Dwan Hallet, “Voices/Peace” by Amy DeLouise, and “Chinatown” by Yi Chen. Tickets: \$10. Proceeds after the first 50 ticket sales go to the filmmakers. Call 703-486-2345 or visit [arlingtondraffthouse.com](http://arlingtondraffthouse.com).

## JAN. 18-21

**This Is My Brave Auditions.** 8:30 a.m.-noon at Arlington Central Public Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. This Is My Brave is a show about what it’s like to live through mental illness and come out on the other side. Visit [thisismybrave.org/events/](http://thisismybrave.org/events/).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 20

**Opening Reception.** 6-9 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center 3550 Wilson Blvd. Arlington Arts Center presents You, if no one else, featuring 10 contemporary artists and artist collaborations. The title of the exhibition was inspired by poet Tino Villanueva, whose poem of the same name was included in his 1994 collection Chronicle of My Worst Years. Visit [arlingtonartscenter.org](http://arlingtonartscenter.org) or call 703-248-6800.

**Forty+ or Minus.** 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday, 2-5 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. A multi-generational dance performance. \$5-\$22. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

## JAN. 20-MARCH 31

**You, If No One Else.** Wednesday-Sunday, 12-5 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center 3550 Wilson Blvd. Arlington Arts Center presents You, if no one else, featuring 10 contemporary artists and artist collaborations. You, if no one else, looks at the ways in which artists record, reflect, contribute to, rail against, and engage with politics and civic life, bringing dialogue, beauty, and nuance to their involvement in the public sphere. The title of the exhibition was inspired by poet Tino Villanueva, whose poem of the same name was included in his 1994 collection Chronicle of My Worst Years. Visit [arlingtonartscenter.org](http://arlingtonartscenter.org) or call 703-248-6800.

**Michèle Colburn: The More Things Change.** Wednesday-Sunday, 12-5

# ENTERTAINMENT

p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Michèle Colburn's work explores socio-political themes related to domestic terrorism, war, and the costs associated with both. A multidisciplinary artist, Colburn makes mixed-media objects with forays into endurance performance on the streets. Her two- and three-dimensional work incorporates gunpowder, spent bullet casings, and vintage surplus military trip wire. Visit [www.arlingtonartscenter.org](http://www.arlingtonartscenter.org) or call 703-248-6800.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 21

**Singles Brunch and Movie.** Noon at Ireland's Four Courts in Arlington, 2051 Wilson Blvd. Fixed price brunch, followed by movie of choice at AMC Courthouse. Cost of \$35 at door includes brunch, beverage, tip and movie ticket. Advance RSVP required for reserved seats at movies: NewBCarol@verizon.net. Sponsored by New Beginnings, a support group for separated/divorced men and women. Visit [www.newbeginningsusa.org](http://www.newbeginningsusa.org).

## Celebrating African-American

**Opera.** 3-5:30 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. The show will be emceed by Charles Williams, a baritone, voice teacher and opera veteran and will trace the careers of earlier African American vocalists who had to overcome huge odds to make their way into the mainstream opera world. Visit [www.operanova.org](http://www.operanova.org).

## JAN. 20-27

### Complete Dogness on Stage.

Various times at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane

Franklin Dance presents a show about the antics of a little dog. \$15 Adults/\$10 Children under age 10. Email [janefranklindance@gmail.com](mailto:janefranklindance@gmail.com).

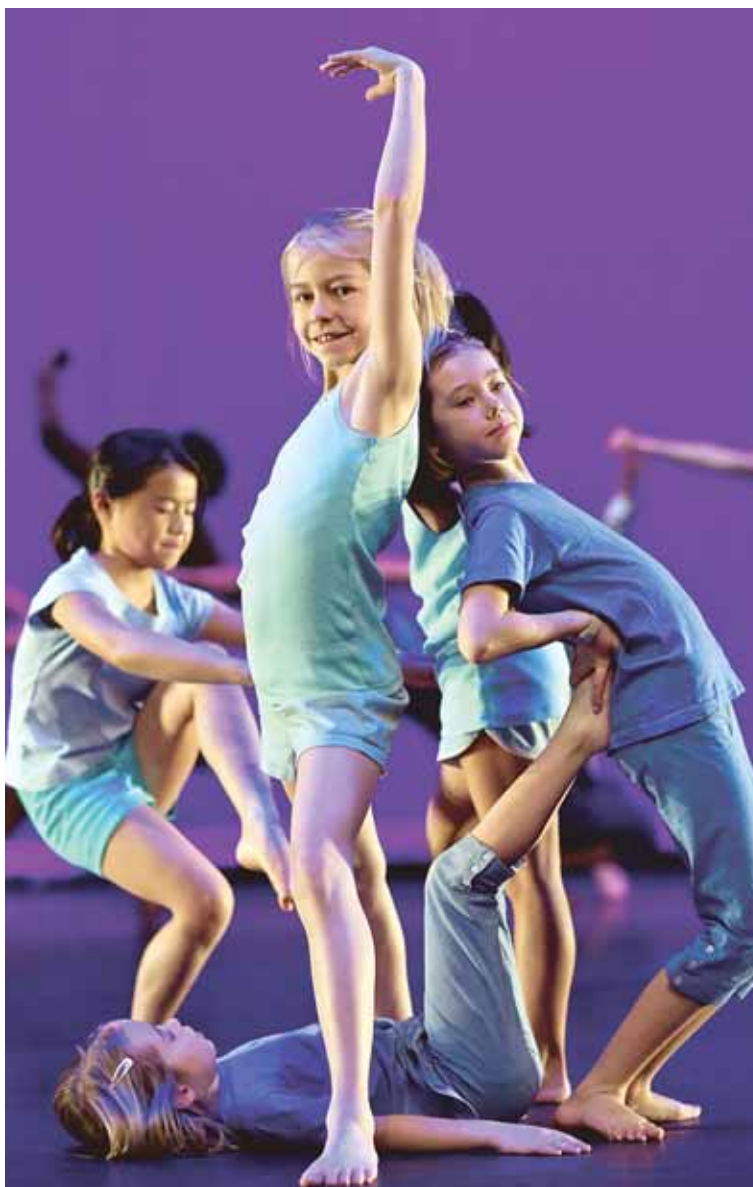
## THURSDAY-WEDNESDAY/JAN. 18-24

**Charity Fundraiser.** Thursday, 1-9 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Monday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Wednesday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Overlee Community Pool - Bath House (Lower Level), 6030 Lee Highway, lower entrance off John Marshall Drive. Purchase fresh citrus, pecans, and maple syrup to support Lions community service projects.

## FRIDAY/JAN. 26

**Fantastic Voyage Mini-Camp.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Take a special day trip with Jane Franklin Dance and enjoy a creative journey of movement, theatre and visual art. Ages 6-10. \$50. Email [janefranklindance@gmail.com](mailto:janefranklindance@gmail.com), call 703-933-1111 or visit [www.janefranklin.com/camps](http://www.janefranklin.com/camps).

**A Night Out at the Library.** 5-7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N Quincy St. Stop by after-hours for the library's first Open House and Happy Hour, featuring friendly librarians, fun activities and information about the library. Enjoy music by DC-based Three Man Soul Machine, and libations provided by the Ballston BID. Light appetizers will also be served. RSVP required for this FREE event. Only patrons who have registered in advance of the event will be admitted. You must be 18+ to enter, 21+ to drink. Visit [library.arlingtonva.us/locations/](http://library.arlingtonva.us/locations/)



## Fantastic Voyage Mini-Camp

Take a special day trip with Jane Franklin Dance and enjoy a creative journey of movement, theatre and visual art. Whether it's camping, beach-going, high in the mountains or in the ocean deep, you'll have a great day with friends ages 6-10. \$50. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Email [janefranklindance@gmail.com](mailto:janefranklindance@gmail.com), call 703-933-1111 or visit [www.janefranklin.com/camps](http://www.janefranklin.com/camps).

[central-library/](http://central-library/).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 27

**Winter Tree Identification Hike.** 1-2:30 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Nature Center, 2845 Marcey Road. Our naturalist is excited introduce participants to his favorite bud. The Tulip Poplar bud of course. Learn tricks to identifying trees in the winter time using bark, buds, leaf scars, and more. Appropriate for adults or families with children ages 10 and older. Meet at the nature center. \$10 per participant. Visit [www.novaparks.com/parks/potomac-overlook-regional-park](http://www.novaparks.com/parks/potomac-overlook-regional-park). **Forty+ or Minus.** 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday, 2-5 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. A multi-generational dance performance. \$5-\$22. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com).

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## TECHNOLOGY

# Viva Las Vegas

## Titans of Tech flock to CES 2018.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Arlington-based Consumer Technology Association opened the CES technology show Jan. 9 in Las Vegas, a four-day event expected to draw close to 200,000 attendees from around the world.

“CES has become a global stage for innovation,” said CTA President and CEO Gary Shapiro. “There will be more than 4,000 exhibitors over 2.7 million square feet of convention space.”

Self-driving cars, 8k televisions and robots offering everything from food service to home security will be debuted at the show, which is now in its 51st year.

“There will be a lot of disruptive technology this year,” Shapiro said. “There’s an increasing focus on life-changing and life-saving innovations, which will lead to empowerment of the elderly and people with disabilities.”

Artificial Intelligence — the ability of machines to learn from experience and perform human tasks — is expected to be a key buzzword as devices featuring Amazon’s Alexa and Google Home Assistant



**Paul Schroeder.**

debut in a host of products, including automobiles.

“This is just the beginning,” said Shapiro. “It’s still early for AI.”

New this year is a Smart Cities zone as well as a conference dedicated to cryptocurrencies. Cybersecurity will again be at the forefront of CES as the consumer technology industry expects to hit records sales of \$351 billion in revenue in the U.S. in 2018.

“Technology is improving our lives in more ways than ever,” Shapiro said. “And consumer enthusiasm is growing just as quickly as companies can bring their innovations to market.”

CES 2018 runs Jan. 9-12. Visit [www.CES.tech](http://www.CES.tech).



**Arlington resident and Consumer Technology Association vice president Karen Chupka, right, is joined by fellow CTA executive Madison Pidgeon at the CES media opening Jan. 7 in Las Vegas.**



**Members of the media get a closer look at the home brewing design of Pico Brew Jan. 7 at CES Unveiled in Las Vegas.**



**Consumer Technology Association president and CEO Gary Shapiro, center, greets members of the press Jan. 7 at the media opening of CES in Las Vegas. Arlington-based CTA has been producing the global technology industry event since 1967.**



**Robotics are a popular attraction at this year’s CES.**



**Johnny Smith, center, answers questions about the Wink Bar, the first connected handlebar for bicycles. Smith is founder of Velco, the Paris-based company that designed the Wink Bar, which was recognized as a Smart Cities Innovation Award winner at CES 2018.**

PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER/THE CONNECTION

# 2018 Color of the Year: Ultra Violet

## Mixed reactions from local tastemakers who offer design ideas.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

It's a moment that interior designers anticipate all year: the announcement of the Pantone Color of the Year. Ultra Violet is the selection for 2018, and local designers are giving it a mixed reception.

"Interiors have gone so neutral, I look forward to suggesting... Ultra Violet, a color [that] can bridge warm and cool gray neutrals," said Moira Denson, interior designer and assistant professor of Interior Design at Marymount University.

"There's nothing subtle about Ultra Violet. It's one-dimensional and difficult to decorate with, except in very small doses," said interior designer Annie Elliott of Annie Elliott Interiors and Bossy Color. "I find the color loud. 'Look at me!' It screams."

The selection by Pantone, the self-described global authority on color, is intended to be a harbinger of the hue that will be on trend in the coming year. The organization's color gurus spend about nine months observing trends in industries ranging from film and entertainment to art and fashion.

This year's pick can add a burst of vibrancy to a home's interior in impermanent ways, advises interior designer Cathleen Gruver of Gruver Cooley. "Some quick easy ways to use the color are adding throw pillows, which are relatively inexpensive and easy to trade out," she said. "Accent plates on a dining table are an option for those who may not want to commit in their home."

"Use this color in extremely small doses," added Elliott. "If you really love this color, I suggest using it as part of a larger pattern. Don't buy a solid purple pillow; choose a pretty floral that has some Ultra Violet in it."

For those with less trepidation about Ultra Violet, interior designer Sarah Glenn of Braswell Design + Build in Alexandria, said, "The powder room is a great place to incorporate deep colors in interesting ways. Install a graphic violet wallpaper behind a bright white pedestal sink, or paint the ceiling a high gloss violet to reflect the decorative lighting in the room."

Dark and dramatic cabinetry, which Glenn says is trending this year, offers an-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOIRA DENSON

**"Ultra violet sets a mood that allows all my landscapes to feel grounded," says artist Moira Denson, who is an assistant professor of Interior Design at Marymount University**

other use for the Pantone pick. "Go bold and incorporate a deep violet island or base cabinets into a new kitchen," she said. "Incorporate a violet glass mosaic tile on your shower floor or as an accent stripe around tub walls. I especially love violet glass paired with the grey and taupe tones of

wooden white marble tile."

Some designers describe Ultra Violet as commanding, particularly when used inside a home. "This shade of purple is a powerful color and one that I would use as an accent," said interior designer Marika Meyer of Marika Meyer Interiors. "A little bit will go a long way. It is also a great color to pair with other colors, it is a very friendly complementary color."

"Good pairings include green and purple, a classic combination, but I've always liked red with purple," added Elliott. "Ultra Violet is a vivid color, so make sure you use equally strong colors with it so it doesn't dominate a palette."

Pair it with gold and yellow tones, suggests Denson, who is also an artist. "I paint skies all the time," she said. "It's what watercolorists do. To me, shades of the ultra-violet are the most pleasing sky. It works super well with what we traditionally think of skies: blue toned. It sets a mood that allows all my landscapes to feel grounded."

In announcing the selection, Laurie Pressman, vice president of the Pantone Color Institute described Ultra Violet as, "a blue-based purple that takes our awareness and potential to a higher level. Ultra Violet communicates originality, ingenuity and visionary thinking that points us toward the future."



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For more information, call 703-797-3814

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**Obituary**

**DEATH NOTICE**

Margaret Ann McMurray of Arlington, Virginia, passed away peacefully on December 31, 2017. She was 90 years old. Beloved wife of the late Houston Moore McMurray, she is survived by her daughter, Mary Clare McMurray, of Leesburg, Virginia. A visitation will be held on Sunday, January 14th at 1:30pm at Murphy's Funeral Home at 4510 Wilson Boulevard in Arlington. A funeral and burial at Arlington National Cemetery to occur at a later date.

**News**

# Wakefield To Host MLK Tribute

**A**rlington will celebrate the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and legacy on Sunday, Jan. 14, 5-6:30 p.m. at Wakefield High School. Held annually for the past 49 years, the MLK Tribute event was created by the community and county staff the year after his assassination in 1968. The goal of the program is to bring the community together and uphold MLK's vision for social equality.

In partnership with Duke Ellington School of the Arts, the program will tell the story of Dr. King's childhood, college life and his leadership roles through his untimely death. Ellington students will participate in musical, dance and spoken word roles throughout the program. Dance Department Chair and Laurence Olivier Award for Best Theatre Choreographer winner Charles Augins will direct.

Program talent will be rounded out by local performers. Spoken word artist Kim B. Miller will perform her original work, "Break the Chains." Arlington resident Karen D. Archer will perform a solo version of the Gospel hymn "I Know I've Been Changed" with accompaniment from Macedonia Baptist Church Minister of Music David Nelson. Freedom Rider and lifelong Arlington resident Joan Mulholland will participate in the program with a reading. Other participants will include Teen Network Board members

and winners of the Arlington Public Schools' MLK Literary and Visual Arts Contest.

The 2018 program was written by Arlington resident Anne Smith, an author, poet, playwright, musician and arts educator. Smith teaches music and drama at Jefferson-Houston School in Alexandria, and directs the Sanctuary Choir and musicians for the Youth Choir at St. John's Baptist Church in Arlington. Smith is the author of the book "Good News: Innovators and Originators of Gospel Music."

The event is free and open to the public. Guests will be seated on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Overflow space with a live stream of the program will be available should the auditorium reach capacity. Guests are encouraged to bring non-perishable goods to donate to Arlington Food Assistance Center.

On Sunday, Jan. 15, from 8:30 a.m.-noon at Arlington Career Center, Volunteer Arlington will host an Arlington-wide MLK Day of Service. Volunteer opportunities include service projects and volunteer training with a number of local non-profit organizations. The event is free, however, registration is required. See <https://volunteer.leadercenter.org/mlk-day-service>.

Learn more about the 2018 MLK Tribute event at [www.mlktribute.org](http://www.mlktribute.org).

**BULLETIN BOARD**

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

**THROUGH JAN. 12**

**Curbside Christmas Tree**

**Collection.** 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at curbside. During the first two full weeks in January, Christmas trees will be collected curbside for residential homes with trash and recycling service. Residents are reminded to place the tree on the curb no later than 6 a.m. on your regular trash collection day and to remove all decorations, nails, stands and plastic bags. The trees are later ground into wood mulch for garden use. Call 703-228-6570 for more.

**MONDAY/JAN. 15**

**MLK Day of Service.** 8:30 a.m.-noon. Join Volunteer Arlington for

MLK Day of Service for hands-on service projects as well as on-site training opportunities for those seeking long-term volunteer opportunities. Free to attend, but registration is required at [bit.ly/MLKvolarl](http://bit.ly/MLKvolarl).

**TUESDAY/JAN. 16**

**Helicopter Noise Discussion.** 7:30-9 p.m. at Abingdon Elementary School, 3035 S. Abingdon St. The forum will be an opportunity for community members to provide feedback to the Department of Defense (DOD) and is part of a study U.S. Beyer had included in the last year's Defense Authorization Act. Call 703-658-5403 for more.

**THURSDAY/JAN. 18**

**Community Talk.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington. Interested in the unprecedented impacts humans are having on the natural world? Enjoy a talk with the co-editor of "Living in the Anthropocene: Earth in the Age of Humans," John Kress, curator of botany at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. The evening will include refreshments and mingling from 6:30 and a presentation by Kress at 7 p.m. followed by a discussion and book signing. Attendees are welcome to pre-order copies of the book when registering for the event. The

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

**Legals**

**Legals**

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

INTENT TO CLOSE A PETROLEUM UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SITE WITHOUT ACHIEVING THE ORIGINAL CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN ENDPOINTS.

There has been an evaluation to close a UST site without achieving the original Corrective Action Plan (CAP) endpoints of a petroleum fuel release from an underground storage tank system at:

Pershing Auto Care  
2717 North Pershing Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22201

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) required the Responsible Party to prepare a Corrective Action Plan Addendum (CAP Addendum) to evaluate the site for case closure without achieving the original CAP endpoints.

If you have questions regarding the proposed changes to the cleanup, please contact:

Mr. Jeff Groblewski, CPG  
Environmental Consultants and Contractors, Inc.,  
43045 John Mosby Highway, Suite 100, Chantilly, Virginia 20152

The evaluation for case closure was documented in a CAP Addendum submitted to the Remediation Division of the Northern Regional Office of the DEQ on November 30, 2017. If you would like to review or discuss the CAP Addendum with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact Mr. Randy Chapman of the DEQ at (703) 583-3816. The DEQ Remediation Division will consider written comments regarding the CAP Addendum for 30 days following the publication date of this notice, and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case: PC#97-3191.

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Northern Regional Office  
Attn: Mr. Randy Chapman  
13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193

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# LETTER

## Erosion Of Freedoms

To the Editor:

In two weeks, section 702 of FISA is set to expire. Section 702 allows for warrant-less surveillance of American citizens. This rule clearly violates both the letter and spirit of the 4th amendment and does little to keep our country safe. I urge Congress to let this provision expire and end the authority granted by the provision before it is abused further.

If you decide to renew it, please support the bipartisan USA RIGHTS Act (S1997, HR4124). This bill provides oversight that protects citizens from intrusive searches on our personal data. It has support from both parties. I encourage Congress to vote for this bill.

In our efforts to keep this country safe, we cannot allow the erosion of the freedoms that set us apart nor turn our backs on the values that define us.

**Phillip Sticha**  
Arlington

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 10

suggested donation for each book is \$30. Free. RSVP by Jan. 16. Visit [www.arlingtonenvironment.org](http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org).

### THURSDAY/JAN. 25

**Child Care Initiative Community Meeting.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Central Library Auditorium, 1015 N. Quincy St. The Child Care Initiative (CCI) is developing solutions to address the accessibility, availability, and quality of child care in Arlington. For more, email [cci@arlingtonva.us](mailto:cci@arlingtonva.us) or 703-228-1380.

## "FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Jan. 16-20.

**Senior centers** will be closed Monday, Jan. 15 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Senior centers:** Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Langston-Brown Senior Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St.; Arlington Mill, 909 S. Dinwiddie St.; Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18<sup>th</sup> St.

**Senior trips:** Potomac Mills, Woodbridge, Tuesday, Jan. 16, \$8; National Gallery of Art, D.C., Wednesday, Jan. 17, \$6; Maryland Live! Casino, Hanover, Md., Friday, Jan. 19, \$9. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

### NEW PROGRAMS:

**Encore Choral rehearsals** begin, Tuesday, Jan. 16, 1:45 p.m., Langston-Brown. Audition not required. Call for fees and information, 703-228-6300.

**Dr. Alfred O. Taylor to speak**, Tuesday, Jan. 16, 11 a.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

**Rubber stamp workshop**, Tuesday, Jan. 16, 11:30 a.m., Lee. Register, 703-228-0555.

**Cardio Boxing for beginners**, Tuesday, Jan. 16, 9 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 18, 1 p.m., \$42/8 sessions, Barcroft Sports & Fitness. Register, 703-228-4771.

**Options for senior living**, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m., Arlington Mill. Register, 703-228-7369.

**Tai Chi for beginners**, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2:45 p.m., \$80/20 sessions, Langston-Brown. Register, 703-228-6300.

**Table tennis beginners**, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 10 a.m. – noon, Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

**Informal painting classes begin**, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 10 a.m., \$49/7 two hour sessions, Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

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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. <b>-Werner Heisenberg</b>			

## Litter Box Humor



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

We have five indoor cats: Biscuit, Chino, Twinkle, Sloan and Andrew, ranging in ages from 11+ years to 5+ years. We live in a two-story converted log cabin with approximately 1,750 square feet, closets not included. Closets in which you're bound to find cats, especially in the winter.

A few moths back, we contracted to have our two full bathrooms, one on each floor, renovated. Given that our house is over 250 years old, not likely a normal renovation. So far the renovation has taken months, as we were told, and as such, we wanted to employ some kind of strategy where we weren't constantly worrying about cats coming and going, sneaking outside, disappearing, and getting in the way of the workman and/or possibly suffering some kind of injury in the process. (Particularly true of Andrew and Biscuit who, uncharacteristic of many cats, are not the least bit put off by unknown people wandering about the house.)

And sure enough, after dinner on the first night FOLLOWING DEMOLITION, Andrew and his sister, Sloane, managed to break through some protective plastic surrounding the door blocking entrance to the upstairs bathroom where they managed to get into the house through an internal wall which had been torn down to the studs. It was their faint meowing which led to their discovery – in the downstairs attic above the kitchen. Their subsequent rescue confirmed that we would need to be extra vigilant to prevent further ado.

To secure the perimeter, we decided to segregate the cats on one side of the house on the first floor: including the kitchen, dining room and my office, with two sets of doors connecting to the living room and to the hall leading past the downstairs bathroom. This disconnect works perfectly because it prevents any escape and it enables the workman to walk in and out of the front door to ply their trade without needing any access to either of the three rooms where the cats are confined.

The cats food and water remains in its usual place in the kitchen. However there is one item (two actually) which has required a major move. You recall I said our cats are 'indoor,' right? And we're confining them to three rooms, right? Have I mentioned their litter boxes yet? Well, I am now.

Not a Herculean task by any means because once cats are shown their litter box's new location, they figure it out. But now their litter boxes which had previously been out of sight and sort of out of mind – one on each floor, have now been placed in two of the three rooms where they've been living most days and they are now most definitely in sight and on my mind.

One box was placed in the dining room where we rarely go at present since it's somewhat cluttered due to the renovation, and the other box was placed in my home office – which box seems to get the most use. (We sort of figured that the kitchen was out of the question.)

My office is approximately eight feet wide by 20 feet long, a space which separates the dining room from the outside wall. The litter box is on the floor at the far end of the room, not at all under foot, but neither out of sight nor out of smell. Where I sit, I am a well-positioned observer of the cats visits to their litter box.

As a consequence of this segregation - designed to secure their safety, and for the subsequent relocation of their litter boxes, in effect, I am now sharing a bathroom with five indoor cats.

All day long I am witness to their litter box proclivities; their arrival and departure, the sights, sounds and smells; their individual tendencies and habits, and of course, their comparative interest in visiting me on my desk before and/or after the paperwork is finished.

Soon we'll have to decide whether to return the boxes to their original location, and risk disrupting yet another new routine. Perhaps we'll leave well enough alone. After all, as any devoted cat owner knows: it's not about us, it's about them.

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

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