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The

**Arlington**

Connection

HomeLifeStyle

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# Honoring Veterans

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Representatives from Veterans Service Organizations prepare to carry their respective flags into the Memorial Amphitheater Nov. 11 to open the National Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery.

Arlington Achieves Zero Homeless Veterans

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An Amazonian Deal

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PHOTO BY MARK MOGLE/THE CONNECTION ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 7 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10



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## Public Meetings

### Fall Transportation Meetings: Updated Schedule

You are invited to participate in public meetings held by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. The meetings will begin with an open house followed by a public comment period. At the open house you can learn about various transportation initiatives, as well as Virginia's project prioritization process (SMART SCALE), Virginia's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and the VTrans Multimodal Transportation Plan. Representatives from the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment and Departments of Transportation and Rail and Public Transportation will be in attendance to highlight their transportation programs and discuss your ideas and concerns about Virginia's transportation network. The open house will be followed by a public comment period, where you can provide comments about the various initiatives. Comments will be accepted at the meeting and may also be submitted via email or online at [www.CTB.Virginia.gov](http://www.CTB.Virginia.gov).

**Updated Schedule: Area Public Meetings will be held at the dates, locations and times listed below:**

<b>Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.*</b> NOVA District Office Potomac Conference Room 4975 Alliance Drive Fairfax, VA 22030	<b>Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 4 p.m.*</b> Fredericksburg District Office Auditorium 86 Deacon Road Fredericksburg, VA 22405
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Fall meeting materials will be available at:  
<http://www.ctb.virginia.gov/planning/fallmeetings/> beginning October 15, 2018.

\*Please note that these dates have been changed from previous listings.

If you cannot attend a meeting, you may send your comments on highway projects to Infrastructure Investment Director, VDOT, 1401 E. Broad St., Richmond, Virginia 23219, or <a href="mailto:Six-YearProgram@VDOT.Virginia.gov">Six-YearProgram@VDOT.Virginia.gov</a> .	You may send comments on rail, public transportation, and transportation demand management to Public Information Officer, DRPT, 600 E. Main St., Suite 2102, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or <a href="mailto:DRPTPR@drpt.Virginia.gov">DRPTPR@drpt.Virginia.gov</a> .
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Comments will be accepted until December 13, 2018.

*The Commonwealth is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, its services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on these policies or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Compliance Officer at 804-786-2730 or the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation's Title VI Compliance Officer at 804-786-4440 (TTY users call 711).*

## NEWS



Union Station, D.C. (circa 1917)

## Educating about WWI

### Lecture commemorates veterans.

BY CATHERINE FRONDORF  
 THE CONNECTION

By just four days of the 100th anniversary of the armistice, a lecture was held at Arlington Central Library last week in honor of fallen soldiers. Nonprofit community organization Arlington Sister Cities Association (ASCA) which promotes "Citizen Diplomacy," united with the Arlington WWI Commemoration Task Force — an extension of the Centennial Commission created by Congress in 2013.

The commission was created to educate citizens about the "causes, courses and consequences of the war, honor the heroism and sacrifice of Americans who served, and commemorate through public programs and initiatives."

Ordained priest and board chair of ASCA Malcolm Phillips introduced speaker Col. Robert J. Dalessandro (U.S. Army-Ret.), an expert in military history and author of two books on the subject. He addressed Armistice Day to a group of Arlingtonians on Nov. 7

and was joined by vice chairman of U.S. WWI Centennial Commission Edwin Fountain and historian Allison S. Finkelstein, Ph.D.

The lecture, titled "The American Expeditionary Forces Go to War: How the American Army Came of Age in the Decisive Battles of World War I" was started by Dalessandro. As a battlefield tour guide, he gave a play-by-play of the crucial moments leading up to the end of the war.

Fountain, the concluding speaker, said WWI was "considerably the most consequential event in world history and American history, which profoundly changed the role of many sectors of American society." Specifically, women might not have won the right to vote in 1920 if not for WWI; the assimilation of immigrants into the country was accelerated; the civil rights movement gained momentum; and the role and relationship of the government to its people is still a topic under debate.

Finkelstein, who is part of the collaboration with Sister Cities

SEE ARMISTICE, PAGE 11



Edwin Fountain, vice chairman of U.S. WWI Centennial Commission, and historian Allison Finkelstein.



# Honoring Veterans

## Ceremony commemorates end of WWI.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE CONNECTION

**N**oting the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War I, Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie recalled the sacrifices made in “the war to end all wars” as he honored all veterans during the National Veterans Day Observance Nov. 11 at Arlington National Cemetery.

“On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, men who have lived and fought in trenches that scarred the face of Europe emerged after four years of fighting and for the first time, smelled the warm air of peace,” Wilkie said. “for all who have served at all the lonely outposts, and the military at home and in distant lands, who left families and loved ones and who overcame challenges that many of us would find unimaginable, this day is for them.”

Although the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919, officially ended World War I, hostilities between the major powers ended on Nov. 11, 1918, when an armistice went into effect. Armistice Day was celebrated in the United States every year thereafter until President Dwight D. Eisenhower changed it to Veterans Day in 1954 to encompass the veterans of all American wars.

“All told, more than 41 million American men and women have served in times of war and almost 700,000 have given the last full measure,” Wilkie said. “And if you ask any of them why they did it, they would tell you, it was the right thing to do.”

In attendance at the ceremony were Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA).

Veterans Day activities at Arlington National Cemetery commenced precisely at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, with a wreathlaying at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The ceremony continued inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans’ organizations and remarks from Wilkie and other dignitaries.

“This day reminds all Americans that they sleep soundly at night because of the sacrifices of millions of ordinary men and women,” said Wilkie, who quoted Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in



**Robert L. Wilkie, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, delivers remarks at the National Veterans Day Observance at the Memorial Amphitheater Nov. 11 at Arlington National Cemetery.**



**Attendees observe the procession of Veterans Service Organizations as it makes its way through the Memorial Amphitheater Nov. 11 during the National Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery.**

PHOTOS BY MARK MOGLE/THE CONNECTION



**Members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as the Old Guard, participate in the Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 11 at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.**



**A member of the U.S. Military Veterans motorcycle club salutes during the National Anthem at the Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 11 at Arlington National Cemetery.**

thanking the nation’s veterans. “Your country can never compensate you for what you have given to your country.”

**House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, center, flanked by Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and Department of Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta, places her hand over her heart during the playing of the National Anthem.**





# Arlington: Zero Homeless Veterans

Now on  
to the rest.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
THE CONNECTION

**“W**e really had no answer to veterans’ homelessness back when I came to A-SPAN in 2008. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) was dysfunctional, and there wasn’t much supportive housing.” So Kathy Sibert, executive director and CEO of A-SPAN, made it a priority. “It is terrible if we’re not paying attention to servicemen when they are coming home.” Now Arlington is celebrating ending veterans’ homelessness in Arlington.

Sibert remembers that a political appointee from the VA came and spoke at the Department of Human Services (DHS) and said we should be able to end veterans’ homelessness in Arlington. “At that time we had about 25 in our database. I said, ‘Could you set up a meeting?’ We had all of these different silos.” Siebert remembers they went down to the VA, and it was the most depressing meeting. “They gave us four different people to talk to.”

Then she went to a conference the next week and attended a breakout session where all of those four people were there. She told them all, “We want housing choice vouchers.” At the end of the day she grabbed the head of the VA

medical program to reinforce the point. “He called me and said he had five return vouchers that Arlington could have.” Then she added they had to teach local people in DHS who handled vouchers because they were porting them over.”

If you fast forward to today, she says Michelle Obama and Jill Biden were both focused on veterans. “So much of that stuff is top down, and they were able to change a lot of things.”

Housing vouchers were handled in HUD, HHS and VA, but working groups were set up to break down silos. “As things got easier, we developed relationships with the VA to get vouchers. Arlington was the second community in the nation to get to zero homeless veterans.

Sibert estimates they have housed about 45 homeless veterans, but this is only the beginning. “What we do is not all about housing.” To keep the veterans housed and to transition successfully into a healthy lifestyle, it takes continued assistance by the A-SPAN caseworker to help provide job training, assist with physical or mental needs and reestablish relationships with the veterans’ families. “They get anything they need — uniforms, certifications, training, specialty care they might need.” Many veterans are disabled and qualify for 100 percent of affordable rent. Others are able to work, “and they want to work so a small part of their salary goes to pay part of the rent.”



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**From left: Kathy Sibert, executive director and CEO of A-SPAN with board members Meg Tuccillo and Christine Searle at the Happy Hour for Continuing Care for Our Vets.**

On Nov. 7 A-SPAN held a Happy Hour for Continuing Care for our Vets at the Rhodeside Grill to raise funds for this continuing care. The room was packed with enthusiastic supporters receiving door prizes, winning the 50/50 raffle and taking home art created by the clients. Siebert says recently there was a nationwide drive to house 100,000 homeless over a three-year period “The 100,000th person was one of our clients — a veteran so he was featured on Capitol Hill and special ceremonies. “I’m really proud of Arlington. [The county] has really been focused on this as a need. We have broken down a number of silos so we can pretty quickly move the veterans into housing.”

A-SPAN’s goal is to end homelessness in Arlington which they approach through a range of services through the Homeless Services Center that focuses on the

needs of the whole person. They offer a day program with meals, showers plus access to laundry, a nurse practitioner, and case management to apply for benefits, exploration of training or job opportunities.

In addition, A-SPAN has a shelter program with sleeping arrangements for up to 80 people per night plus 25 additional hypothermia beds when needed in the winter and access to the same services as the day program. Annually they have provided over 1,300 free medical visits, 32,000 meals and shelter for over 500 people plus permanent housing to over 100 people since 2007.

According to Arlington’s latest Point in Time Count, 124 single adults remain homeless. “A-SPAN is committed to finding the right housing solution for everyone remaining on the streets or staying in shelter today.”

## Civility ‘Reigned’ on Voting Day

Arlington poll greeters brave election weather.

BY EDEN BROWN  
THE CONNECTION

**T**here was a different feel at polling stations across Northern Virginia last week on Tuesday. There was more enthusiasm, more volunteerism, more engagement in the nuts and bolts of voting, and more Arlingtonians, who drove as far as an hour away to make sure polls were covered, despite cold, rainy weather. As elderly voters got out of their cars in the rain, younger poll greeters went over to offer an umbrella as they walked to the polling station.

Sharon Shutler drove down from Arlington help in Vangie Williams’ district, Jesse Clark of Vienna went out to Dulles to hand out ballots, Michael and Sarah Mishler of Lake Ridge showed up at Occoquan Ebenezer Baptist Church polling station with hot coffee and donut holes. They might have been Republicans, they might have been Democrats. It didn’t

matter. They were in the spirit that pervaded polling stations: civility.

Rebekah Perkins drove up to Occoquan from Gainesville to hand out flyers about the Independent candidate running for school board. She felt strongly about her candidate, Alyson Satterwhite, because she had a special needs child and saw in Satterwhite a candidate who understood her situation.

Ben Hazekamp, who moved to the area from Michigan some years ago, is now chairman of the Young Republicans in Prince William County.

He talked with Arlington poll greeter Sharon Shutler about why he joined the GOP and how he sees the issues from both sides. Hazekamp handed out sample ballots for Perkins after she left to go home to take care of her son. He told Shutler that he believes talking about each other’s views on issues is important: there is no point in being combative when there are so many problems to solve.



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

**From left: Ben Hazekamp, Rebekah Perkins, and Sharon Shutler, of Arlington, handed out sample ballots in the rain at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Arlingtonians travelled out of their county to help polling stations all over Northern Virginia.**

The  
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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arlington@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steven Mauren**  
Editor  
703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jean Card**  
Production Editor  
[jcard@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jcard@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Vernon Miles**  
Reporter  
757-472-3435  
[vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Eden Brown, Shirley Ruhe**  
Contributing Writers  
[arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arlington@connectionnewspapers.com)

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

**Debbie Funk**  
Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Classified & Employment Advertising**  
703-778-9431

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly, Ali Khaligh  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**CIRCULATION**  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)





## NEWS

# An Amazonian Deal

Decision based on investment and incentives.

**A**mazon's selection of Arlington as one of its two new headquarters became official Tuesday, Nov. 13. Along with New York City, Arlington will be part of a \$5 billion investment, expected to create more than 50,000 jobs across the two new headquarters' locations.

The new Washington, D.C. metro headquarters in Arlington will be located in National Landing.

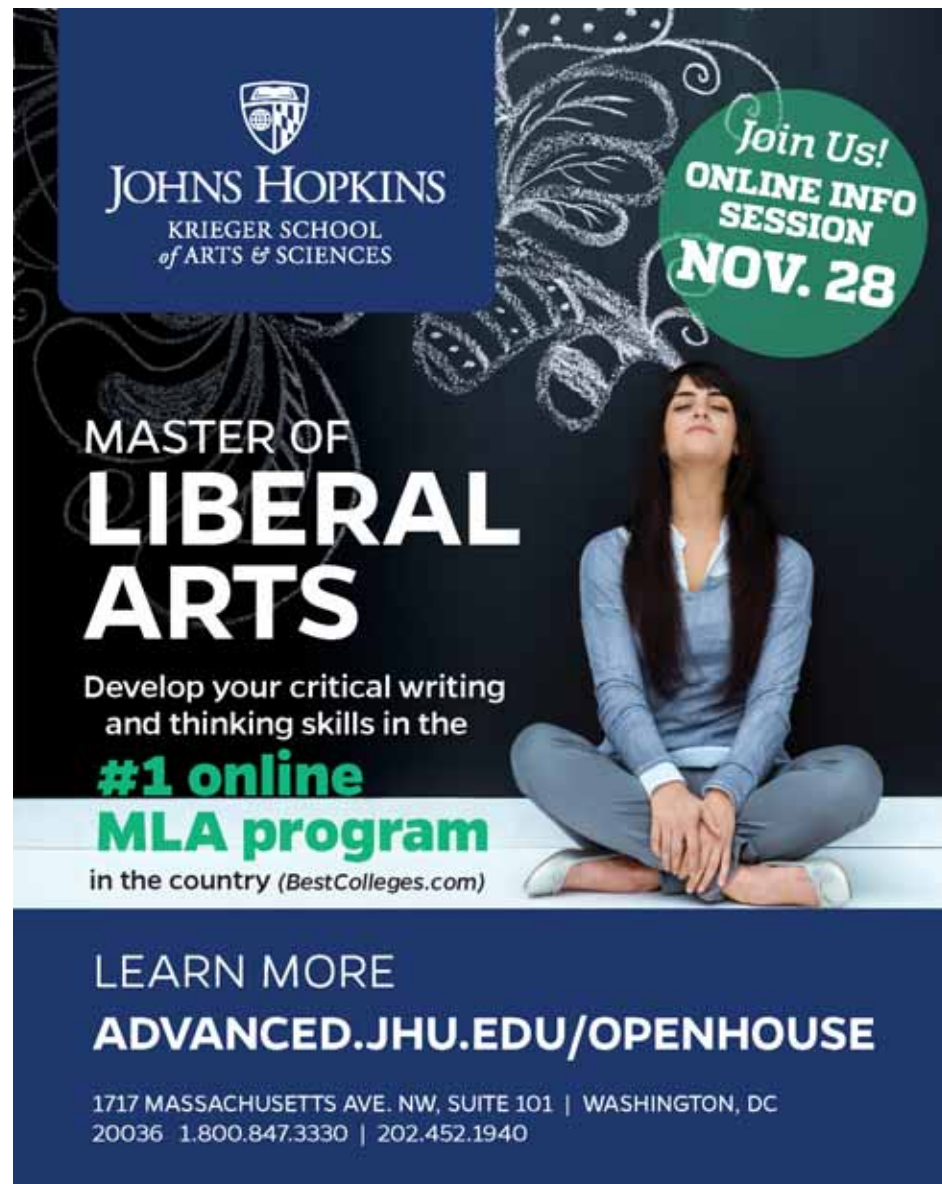
The area is served by three Metro stations, commuter rail access, and Reagan National Airport — all within walking distance. The community has a variety of hotels, restaurants, high-rise apartment buildings, retail, and commercial offices.

As part of Amazon's new headquarters, Virginia and Arlington will benefit from more than 25,000 full-time high-paying jobs; approximately \$2.5 billion in Amazon investment; 4 million square feet of energy-efficient office space with the opportunity to expand to 8 million square feet; and an estimated incremental tax revenue of \$3.2 billion over the next 20 years as a result of Amazon's investment and job creation, according to the company's press release.

Amazon will receive performance-based direct incentives of \$573 million based on

the company creating 25,000 jobs with an average wage of over \$150,000 in Arlington. This includes a workforce cash grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia of up to \$550 million based on \$22,000 for each job created over the next 12 years. Amazon will only receive this incentive if it creates the forecasted high-paying jobs. The company will also receive a cash grant from Arlington of \$23 million over 15 years based on the incremental growth of the existing local Transient Occupancy Tax, a tax on hotel rooms.

The community and Amazon employees will benefit from the Commonwealth investing \$195 million in infrastructure in the neighborhood, including improvements to the Crystal City and the Potomac Yards Metro stations; a pedestrian bridge connecting National Landing and Reagan National Airport; and work to improve safety, accessibility, and the pedestrian experience crossing Route 1 over the next 10 years. Arlington will also dedicate an estimated \$28 million based on 12 percent of future property tax revenues earned from an existing Tax Increment Financing district for on-site infrastructure and open space in National Landing.



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# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

### “Illyria, or What You Will.”

Through Nov. 18 at Gunston Arts Center, Theatre Two, 2700 South Lang St., Arlington. Presented by Avant Bard Theatre. Tickets are \$40. Adapted from Twelfth Night by Jonelle Walker and Mitchell Hébert and directed by Mitchell Hébert. Illyria reimagines Shakespeare's comedy of mixed-signal love as a bohemian cabaret set in a Manhattan dive bar in the early 1980s, where identity, sex, and gender are what you will - and habitués find freedom to be who they truly are. For tickets, visit [www.avantbard.org/tickets](http://www.avantbard.org/tickets) or call 703-418-4808.

**Día de los Muertos: Prints from Self-Help Graphics.** Through Dec. 5 at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. In conjunction with its 15th annual Día de los Muertos celebration, AAC presents a selection of prints on loan from Self-Help Graphics & Art (SHG), a community-driven nonprofit based in Los Angeles that is devoted to fostering the creation and advancement of new work by Chicano/a and Latinx artists. For its annual Día de los Muertos celebration, begun in 1973, SHG commissions a Día de los Muertos-themed print from a new artist each year. Visit [www.arlingtonartscenter.org](http://www.arlingtonartscenter.org).

### Fall SOLOS 2018 Art Exhibit.

Through Dec. 15 at the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Dawn Whitmore: A house is like a mind that holds everything is a 5-channel immersive sound installation that delves into the relationship between the mind and the house as metaphorical dwellings. In a constructed room that reads as a simple domestic residence, the artist's voice, reading from various classical texts, emanates from multiple points in the room, becoming almost unintelligible at times as the recordings are layered on top of one another. Visit [www.arlingtonartscenter.org](http://www.arlingtonartscenter.org).

### Adult Dance Technique.

Through Dec. 22, 9:30-11 a.m., Saturdays, at Arlington Cultural Affairs Bldg., 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington. Improve balance, range of motion, strength, coordination and interact with friendly people. Drop-in for a class or enroll for a series. Join at any time. The class instructors are Jane Franklin Dance company members, all experienced professional educators. Tuition: \$110 for six class card/\$60 for three class card/\$25 single class. Enroll at [www.janefranklin.com/adult-dance](http://www.janefranklin.com/adult-dance) or call 703-933-1111.

### “Billy Elliot The Musical.”

Through Jan. 6 at Signature Theatre, At 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. All 11-year-old Billy wants to do is dance. While the 1984 miners' strike squeezes his family and splits his town, Billy's passion for ballet first divides, then ultimately unites, the community - and changes his life in extraordinary ways. Tickets are \$40-\$102. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org).

### Arlington Historical Museum.

Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4 p.m. Arlington Historical Museum, owned and operated by the Arlington Historical Society, is located at 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road. The two-story brick structure was built in 1891 as the Hume School, named for Frank Hume who gave some of the property for the school. It is the oldest school building in Arlington County. Now a museum, it houses permanent and temporary local



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The cast of Encore Stage & Studio's rehearse “Jingle AARGH the Way!”

## ‘Jingle AARGH the Way!’

Encore presents children's musical about imaginative young boy and his pirate friends.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

A mysterious message left in the crow's nest of their ship brings Captain Braid Beard and his pirate mates back to North Beach to seek out young Jeremy Jacob to help solve a riddle and find the Christmas treasure. Favorite characters, a rollicking story, great songs, and a trip to the North Pole to find “you know who” makes “Jingle AARGH the Way!” a holiday show for the family.

With book, music, and lyrics by Janet Yates Vogt and Mark Friedman, the Encore Stage & Studio of Arlington will present the musical with 26 child actors (ages 9-14) from Nov. 16-18, and Nov. 30-Dec. 9. Based on a story by Melinda Long, author of “How I Became a Pirate,” the show is recommended for ages 4 and older.

“This show is a silly show about a young boy whose imagination runs away from him and he believes he has friends who are pirates who come to visit him,” said Sarah Markovits, a first-time director who is usually a musical director. “And because of this time of year, he's thinking about Christmas and his middle school Christmas play. He brings the pirates to have an adventure with him.”

She added: “It's a slapstick comedy. There's a lot singing and dancing. There's a song about basketball. It's a silly, silly show that's a lot of fun.”

In rehearsals since September, she said the challenge was they didn't have videos or recordings they could research since it's an unfamiliar show. “It's been a challenge to have the kids learn something that's brand new to all of us. They're doing a fantastic job.... I hope the (audiences) will have a great time with us. They're going to learn some new twists on some old Christmas songs.”

Choreographer Mara Stewart wanted to bring a pirate's spirit to the dancing so everything was grounded, whimsical and fun, she said. “It was also a challenge to create interesting pictures with our 26 pirates. I mean, the look on the stage to create textures and levels with the actors so it's interesting for the audience,” she said.

She added: “I always like to give the kids a new experience as far as technical skills. I like to set a goal for each show with something new to learn. In the ‘I'm a Star' song, I was able to bring in technical ballet moves that some of the kids might not have been exposed to.”

Vivien Williams, 13, of Arlington, plays the role of Pierre, a French chef. The Thomas Jefferson Middle School eighth-grader said: “What I love about the story is it's based on when pirates are around. He loves Julia Child and baking and there's a bunch of pop cultural references, which is really great. What I really like is the pirates are born in the 21st century.... If you see the show, they don't know a lot of stuff. They know about Julia Child but they don't know who Santa is.”

Lizzy Burkholder, 13, of Arlington, plays the role of the pirate Max. The Rivendell School seventh-grader said: “One of the main quirks is he has this parrot on the side of his shoulder, and everyone knows it's stuffed but he thinks it's real. I think the main part of my role is that I think I'm better than people but I'm not. No one is really normal in the play, but I'm more normal.”

Kate Oliver, 14, of Falls Church plays the role of Sharktooth, the fiercest pirate of the Seven Seas. The Trinity School at Meadow View ninth-grader said: “He has an eye patch and a sword and he's not afraid of anyone, but people are afraid of him. Sharktooth's main quirk is he's a gruff pirate but he's also a star at heart.”

Bridget Schaller, 10, of Arlington plays the role of Swill, a smarty-pants know-it-all. The St. Thomas More fifth-grader said: “He knows everything except for flying reindeer. He's a very bad driver. He tends to run away with the wheel in his hands. He's also a silly person. He tries to make exceptions for things; for no dancing — he makes up a pirate jig, a really weird dance that's very simple.”

*The Encore Stage & Studio of Arlington will present the show Nov. 16-Dec. 9, Fridays, 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and Sundays, 3 p.m. at Gunston Arts Center – Theatre One, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. \$15 adults; \$12 children, students, military and seniors.*

history exhibits ranging from pre-1607 to Sept. 11, 2001. Visit [arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org).

## TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY/NOV. 13-14

**Dominion Guild Merry Market.** At Knights of Columbus, 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington. Hours are 5:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday; 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday at Knights of Columbus, 5115 Little Falls Road. Annual holiday boutique featuring 25-plus specialty vendors offering something for everyone. Cost \$25/\$15. Visit [www.thedominionguild.org](http://www.thedominionguild.org).

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 14

**Coffee and Conversation.** 10-11 a.m. At The Springs Apartments, Multipurpose Room, 4318 North Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Join Arlington Neighborhood Village's “Coffee and Conversation” series. Bring your own coffee, learn about aging in place, and hear from Dean Naujoks, Potomac Riverkeeper for the Potomac Riverkeeper Network, who will share the Network's activities over the past 3 years. No RSVP needed.

## NOV. 14-15

**Fur, Scales and Slime.** 1-2 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, Arlington. Fluffy mammals, scaly reptiles, slimy amphibians and fish. On Nov. 14, 15 and 28, 1-2 p.m., Nov. 30, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Come learn why different species have a variety of outer coverings and ouch some live animals too. Ages 3-5. \$5 per person. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/events/fur-scales-and-slime-4/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/events/fur-scales-and-slime-4/).

## THURSDAY/NOV. 15

**Chic Floral Arrangements.** 11 a.m. At Little Falls Presbyterian Church's Friendship Hall (lower level), 6025 Little Falls Road, Arlington. Ellen Seagraves of Bethesda's Chic Floral Designs will demonstrate her high style arrangements that have graced the White House and Blair House interiors among other addresses. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by Rock Spring Garden Club. Club meeting begins at 10 a.m. An optional light lunch follows the program at noon. Visit [www.rockspringgardenclub.com](http://www.rockspringgardenclub.com) or email [rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 16

**First Thanksgiving Campfire.** 6-7 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center Amphitheater, Arlington. See and hold Native American artifacts while we discuss how tribes survived off the land and helped the Pilgrims. And of course...there will be s'mores. \$5 per person. Register at [web1.vermontsystems.com/wbwc/vaarlingtonwt.wsc/schedule-a-event-yes&mycode=61258](http://web1.vermontsystems.com/wbwc/vaarlingtonwt.wsc/schedule-a-event-yes&mycode=61258)

## FRIDAY/NOV. 16-JAN. 2019

**Arlington's Holiday Kitchens.** At Arlington Historical Museum, 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington. Nothing says holiday celebration more than food, so the Arlington Historical Museum is raiding the kitchen. In this new holiday exhibit, see all the tools grandma used and those used by her forebears long before electricity. Some artifacts will be like what today's kitchens have while others you may ponder what they would have been used for. Visit [arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org) for more.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## SATURDAY/NOV. 17

**Recycling Event.** 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. At 1425 N. Quincy Street (across from Washington-Lee High School), Arlington. Arlington County will hold its biannual Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE). E-CARE is an event where residents can safely dispose of hazardous household materials, recycle bikes, small metal items and more. For a full list of acceptable items, go to [www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us) and search "E-CARE."

**Bikes for the World.** 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. At 1425 North Quincy St. (across from Washington-Lee High School), Arlington. Arlington's Bikes for the World collects repairable bicycles in the U.S., and donates them to charities around the globe for productive use by those in need of affordable transport for access to work, school, and health care. A \$10-per-bike donation is suggested to defray a share of shipping and handling. Visit [www.bikesfortheworld.org](http://www.bikesfortheworld.org).

**5K & Family Fun Day.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. At Knights of Columbus, 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington. Enjoy favorites like the certified 5K, kids' fun run, moon bounces, face painting, rock wall, community performances and food trucks. Sponsored by the Jennifer Bush-Lawson Foundation. Beneficiaries include the Virginia Hospital Center and Arlington Pediatric Center to fund pre-natal care, especially for low-income women. Visit [jenniferbushlawsonfoundation.org](http://jenniferbushlawsonfoundation.org).

**Families Unplugged: Printed Cards and Calendars.** 10 a.m.-noon. At Arlington Mill Community Center. The experts from the Community Arts team will guide you

and your family through a fun project for each upcoming holiday: a wooden turkey craft perfect for Thanksgiving decor, winter holiday cards, and a 2019 calendar. All ages. \$8 per person. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/events/families-unplugged-printed-cards-and-calendars/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/events/families-unplugged-printed-cards-and-calendars/).

**Feathers, Fins and Fur.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. At Gulf Branch Nature Center, Arlington. Different animals have a variety of body coverings. From smooth, moist skin that helps amphibians breathe to the warmth of feathers and fur, explore all these body coverings. Also see and touch some live animals up close. Ages 6-10. \$5 per person. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/events/feathers-fins-and-fur-2/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/events/feathers-fins-and-fur-2/).

**Watercolor Workshop: Portraits.** 1-4 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. For ages 14-18. In this intensive workshop, students will develop painting skills and build confidence in watercolor technique and portraiture. Students will learn to capture human expressions as they experiment with the fluid and transparent qualities of watercolor. Art historical references will be presented to serve as additional inspiration. All skill levels are welcome, though drawing and/or painting experience is recommended. Visit [www.arlingtonartscenter.org](http://www.arlingtonartscenter.org).

**Secrets of Squirrels.** 2-3:30 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, Arlington. Come learn about these furry rodents who are busy in the fall hiding nuts. How do they find them later? Where do they raise their babies? Why are some gray squirrels black? Learn the answers in a classroom and on a fun nature hike. Ages 5+. Free. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/events/secrets-](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/events/secrets-of-squirrels-5)



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Children race at an earlier Jennifer Bush-Lawson Foundation's 5k event.

## 5K & Family Fun Day

Enjoy favorites like the certified 5K, kids' fun run, moon bounces, face painting, rock wall, community performances and food trucks. Sponsored by the Jennifer Bush-Lawson Foundation. Beneficiaries include the Virginia Hospital Center and Arlington Pediatric Center to fund pre-natal care, especially for low-income women. Saturday, Nov. 17, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. At Knights of Columbus, 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington. Visit [jenniferbushlawsonfoundation.org](http://jenniferbushlawsonfoundation.org).

of-squirrels-5.

**Backstage Tours of "Billy Elliot The Musical."** 5 p.m. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. \$10/person. Step backstage into the exciting world of Billy Elliot and learn how they bring this high-energy musical to life with backstage tours, led by an actor from the show. A cast member will take visitors through the dressing rooms, the green room, and more to talk about the design and production process. Visit [www.sigtheatre.org](http://www.sigtheatre.org).

**Singles Dinner & Movie Night.** 5 p.m. At Samuel Beckett's Irish Gastro

Pub in Shirlington, 4150 Campbell Ave., Shirlington. Followed by movie of your choice at AMC Shirlington 7. Cost of \$35 at door includes dinner, soda, tip and movie ticket. Advance RSVP required for reserved seats at [movies:NewBCarol@verizon.net](mailto: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).

**Oh Deer! Campfire.** 6-7 p.m. At Gulf Branch Nature Center, Arlington. The whole family is invited to join us at the Gulf Branch fire ring for lots of old-fashioned fun. This engaging

program will be filled with entertaining activities that may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and of course, S'mores! Ages 3+. \$5 per person. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/events/oh-deer-campfire/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/events/oh-deer-campfire/).

**Bingo Night.** 7-9 p.m. At St. John's Episcopal Church, 415 S. Lexington St., Arlington. St. John's Episcopal Church and La Iglesia de Cristo Rey are hosting a bingo night. The cost is \$5 for two cards, a raffle ticket and a dessert. Prizes will be awarded, and refreshments will be available. Bring your family and friends to enjoy this

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### DONATION DRIVES

**Food Collection.** Through Friday, Nov. 16, PenFed is collecting boxed and canned foods at all of its DC area branch locations. PenFed, NBC4, Telemundo44 and The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington will collect the boxes and assemble over 4,000 turkey baskets to be distributed to local families, seniors, veterans and others in need. Visit [visitPenFed.org](http://visitPenFed.org). PenFed branch locations collecting donation items include:

- ❖ Fort Myer – 2nd St. & McNair, Building 450, Fort Myer
- ❖ Pentagon City – 701 S. 12th St., Arlington

**Toy Drive.** Each year from October to December, OAR hosts a Toy Drive to collect new, donated toys and gifts for children of parents incarcerated, ages newborn to 18 years, as a part of OAR's Project Christmas Angel in December. Donation boxes set up at businesses and organizations throughout the D.C. metro area. To find the list of all donation sites and for more details about OAR's Annual Toy Drive and how to get involved, visit [oaronline.org/archives/6591](http://oaronline.org/archives/6591).

### THURSDAY/NOV. 15

**Public Input Sought.** 6:30-8 p.m.

at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. Ask questions or share thoughts about the final draft for Arlington's Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP). The plan is a long-term vision for Arlington's public spaces. Those who can't join in person, can share input online at [projects.arlingtonva.us/public-spaces-master-plan-psmp-update/updated-public-spaces-master-plan-final-draft/](http://projects.arlingtonva.us/public-spaces-master-plan-psmp-update/updated-public-spaces-master-plan-final-draft/).

### FRIDAY/NOV. 16

**"Voices of Grief."** 11 a.m.-noon at Virginia Hospital Center, Carlin Springs Campus, 601 S. Carlin Springs Road. Kathy Sparrin, Thanatologist & Executive Producer will lead a discussion about honoring the sacred journey of grief. Sponsored by ACCFamily. Enter the Urgent Care Center entrance, then take an immediate right into the Wellness Room. Free, registration required. Call 703-558-6859 or email [lifeline@virginiahospitalcenter.com](mailto:lifeline@virginiahospitalcenter.com).

### SUNDAY/DEC. 2

**Hunger to Hope.** 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road. Grace Community Church, a church for people who don't go to church, in partnership with Feed My Starving Children, will hold their annual Hunger to Hope meal packing event. Volunteers from the DC metro area can sign up at [trygrace.org/events/hunger-to-hope/414](http://trygrace.org/events/hunger-to-hope/414).

fun event. Contact The Rev. Ann Barker at [rector@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:rector@stjohnsarlingtonva.org) or call 703-671-6834. Visit [www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org](http://www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 17-18

**Pre-Holiday Artful Weekend.** At Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 24th St. N., Arlington. Reception: Friday, Nov. 16, 6-8 p.m.; show hours: Saturday, Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 18, noon-4 p.m. A popular pre-holiday event in Northern Virginia, the art on display is created by 40 top Arlington-based artists. Featured are paintings of many genres, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, artist's cards, unframed works and more. Great for holiday shopping. Visit [www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org](http://www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org).

### SUNDAY/NOV. 18

**R.I.P. – Remove Invasive Plants.** 2-4 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, Arlington. Help restore habitat and increase native species diversity right here in Arlington. Work parties are held every month and are making a difference with the return of ferns, wildflowers and the animals that depend on them to areas once covered in destructive invasive plants. Help make it happen! Free. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/events/r-i-p-remove-invasive-plants-at-long-branch-15](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/events/r-i-p-remove-invasive-plants-at-long-branch-15).

**Washington Balalaika Concert.** 3 p.m. At Kenmore Performing Arts Center, Arlington. Come hear the largest Russian folk orchestra in the United States, with 55 members on stage, with a musical repertoire replicating a typical Russian winter. One of the musical selections, 'Russian Winter,' is a medley of folk

songs about the troika, a traditional Russian sleigh pulled by three horses. 'Woolen Boots,' featuring WBS Concertmaster Andrei Savelyev portrays 'Valenki' the traditional winter Russian footwear made from thick felted wool. Visit [www.balalaika.org](http://www.balalaika.org).

**Notable Nature.** 3:30-4:30 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, Arlington. Lessons in nature journaling and sketching. Construct a nature journal, hone writing and drawing skills and talk about the season while hiking. Ages 5+. Free. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/events/notable-nature-41/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/events/notable-nature-41/).

### TUESDAY/NOV. 20

**Turtle Thanksgiving.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. At Long Branch Nature Center Arlington. Ages 3 to 6. Register child only, but caretakers must attend. Help make lunch for the nature center's turtles. Chop up fresh fruits and veggies for Thanksgiving, then give them worms for dessert. Call 703-228-6535.

### WEDNESDAY/NOV. 21

**Coffee and Conversation.** 10-11 a.m. at The Springs Apartments, Multipurpose Room, 4318 North Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Join Arlington Neighborhood Village's "Coffee and Conversation" series. Bring coffee, learn about aging in place, and hear from Tim Horn, BCH, CI, Founder & Owner, Hypnoconsult, LLC, who will discuss how therapeutic hypnosis can help everyone. No RSVP needed.

### SATURDAY/NOV. 24

**Fun Fall Family Hike.** 2:30-4 p.m. at

Gulf Branch Nature Center, Arlington. Families ages 5 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Hike to a great view of the Potomac while searching for the signs of fall like the last wildflowers, busy squirrels and more. Bring a snack to eat by the river. Call 703-228-3403.

### WEDNESDAY/NOV. 28

**Coffee and Conversation.** 10-11 a.m. at The Springs Apartments, Multipurpose Room, 4318 North Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Join Arlington Neighborhood Village's "Coffee and Conversation" series. Bring coffee, learn about aging in place, and hear from Theresa Twiford, Director of Land Use & Development / Realtor, Advon Real Estate, who will describe the Railroad Cottages in Falls Church City and housing alternatives for older people. No RSVP needed.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 1

**Fort C.F. Smith Park Walking Tour.** 9-10 a.m. At C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St., Arlington. Free. Fort C.F. Smith was one of the last Union forts built to protect Washington during the Civil War. Learn about the park's history, the role of the fort and the soldiers stationed there in the Civil War. Dress for the weather. Terrain will be uneven and possibly muddy. Call 703-228-4775.

**The Edible Oasis: Permaculture Ideas for Small Urban Yards.** 10:30-noon. At Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington (Room 100). Free. Learn to grow vegetables, fruits, nuts, and herbs to produce food now and for many years to come, while reducing your annual labor and capital investments. Our basic permaculture concepts and designs will let you transform your small urban yard, or a tiny slice of it, into your own mini food forest. Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgaralalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgaralalex@gmail.com).

### SUNDAY/DEC. 2

**Tree of Life 5K Run/Walk.** 10 a.m. Meet at Fletcher's Cove, 4940 Canal Road, NW, Washington, D.C. 5K Run starts at 10 a.m.; 5K Walk starts at 10:05 a.m. The run is on the towpath. To benefit Tree of Life or L'Simcha Congregation. Visit [www.safetyandhealthfoundation.org/treeoflife](http://www.safetyandhealthfoundation.org/treeoflife). Register online at [www.active.com/washington-dc/running/distance-running-races/tree-of-life-5k-run-walk-2018](http://www.active.com/washington-dc/running/distance-running-races/tree-of-life-5k-run-walk-2018).

**Virginia Wildlife Symbols: Flying Animals.** 3:30-4:30 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center. Cost \$5. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Join a talk and walk to learn about our flying animals including Virginia's State Bird the Northern Cardinal, as well as the State Bat, the Big-Eared Bat. Call 703-228-6535.

### DEC. 4-JAN. 6

**"My Father's Dragon."** At Syntetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St., Arlington. Dragons are real and imaginations soar in this wordless Family Theater Production directed and choreographed by Company Member Tori Bertocci. Adapted by Company Member Ryan Sellers, "My Father's Dragon" is based on the book of the same name by Ruth Stiles Gannett. The story follows the adventures of Elmer Elevator as he stows away to Wild Island in an attempt to rescue a captive baby dragon. Recommended for ages 5 and up. Tickets are \$20 at [syntetictheater.org](http://syntetictheater.org) or 866-811-4111.



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# Lighting Up the Season

Event teams young patients with designers and artists.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Some of the area's most talented tastemakers are donating their time and creativity to benefit a local hospital. From feathers and yarn to seashells and tree branches, local interior designers and artists are creating holiday trees, mantel and table displays, wreaths, menorahs and artwork for the second annual Light Up the Season fundraising event for Children's National Medical Center on Dec. 16.

Designers were paired with children who are patients at Children's. Throughout the creative process, the artistic creations unfolded as the patient-designer relationships grew. "Our design was inspired by the warmth of the holiday season, the onset of winter, and the magical imagination of 7-year-old Johnny our patient ...," said Jeff Akseizer of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria. "In our interview with him, his mind exploded with all the colors, textures, and characters he loves to see at the holiday season, his favorite being the Grinch."

Akseizer is creating a holiday tree with designer Jamie Brown, also with Akseizer Design Group. "Johnny is a true inspiration," said Brown. "He plays wheelchair basketball and sled hockey. We took much of the spirit from our interview with him and plugged it into our creative minds to come up with something that would surely wow."

The holiday decor will be created to reflect the personality and spirit of each child. "My patient artist, Savannah, inspired my wreath design for this year's event," said designer Mary Biletnikoff. "She is a sweet, 6-year-old girl who loves to draw, make snow angels and snowmen .... she celebrates Christmas and loves Christmas lights," she said. "My wreath is named 'Savannah the Snow Girl' and is a modern day take on the traditional snowman. I chose this theme because girls need to grow up knowing that they are strong, kind, smart and creative just like my patient artist."

"My patient partner loves fun, color and sparkle, so we created a vibrant wreath that reflects her personality," said Wendy Danziger of Danziger Design in Bethesda.

From traditional colors to hues that stretch the imagination, ideas for creating festive designs will abound at year's event, says Biletnikoff. "I hope that visitors will be inspired to incorporate some fun and lightheartedness in their own home," she said. "If you are decorating for the holidays, I want people to consider elements that make them smile and maybe even chuckle. Design is about incorporating what you like, not what you think you should have."

"When decorating for the holidays, let your imagination take over and don't be afraid to combine elements that may at first seem unlikely companions," said Sarah Hayes of Sarah Hayes Design, who created a console table display with her 17-year-old patient. "And, as Caoilinn and I would both agree, the more twinkle lights, the merrier."

"Also, make decorations together with and for your children so they can be a part of the fun," added Biletnikoff.

Offering hints at what awaits those who visit the



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY BILETNIKOFF

**A mixture of dark red and white flowers along with holiday greenery and black and white ribbon are elements that designer Mary Biletnikoff will use to create a wreath for Light Up the Season.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIKA MEYERS  
**Marika Meyer Textiles will be used to create the garland and tree skirt for a holiday tree that Meyer is designing for Light Up the Season.**

sign in Potomac, and Sascha Roth of Urban Country in Bethesda.

All of the holiday trees, mantelpieces, wreaths, menorahs and artwork on display will be available for purchase. Proceeds benefit Children's National. Light Up The Season will be on Sunday, Dec. 16, from 12-4 p.m. at Four Seasons Hotel Washington, D.C. Family activities include holiday cookie decorating, ornament making, musical performances and visits from Santa. Tickets for the event are \$50 per child 16 and under, \$85 per adult for the family and \$250 per family of four (two adults and two children 16 and under).

For more information, including how to purchase tickets and how to be a sponsor, go to [childrensnational.org/lightuptheseason](http://childrensnational.org/lightuptheseason) or email [lightuptheseasondc@gmail.com](mailto:lightuptheseasondc@gmail.com).

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**NEWS**



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

**Arlingtonians who traveled to Virginia Beach for the final weekend of canvassing were members of "We of Action Virginia" and "Virginia Democracy Forward," as well as "Indivisible."**

**Activists See Success from Efforts**

**A**s election eve approached, "We of Action Virginia" and "Virginia Democracy Forward" activists who had spent many hours traveling to other districts to knock on doors, who had spent hours writing postcards, phone banking, and getting voters to register, began to wonder if they were being too optimistic.

In September and October they believed they could flip four seats in Virginia's congressional districts; was that too much to ask? What would success look like? Maybe two seats being flipped would be all they could realistically expect. In the end, three seats —

in the 2nd, the 10th, and the 7th — flipped. Even Leslie Cockburn and Vanessa Williams did relatively well given their "red" districts.

Local activists were also happy with the statistics: comparing 2014 and 2016, Virginia was trending blue. Despite the celebratory atmosphere on Nov. 6 at the Courthouse Social, the group was already thinking about next year's General Assembly elections and the effort to ratify the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment.) To learn more about ways to get involved, see: [www.WofaVA.org](http://www.WofaVA.org) and [www.VADF.org](http://www.VADF.org).

— EDEN BROWN

**Legals**

**Legals**

**Legals**

**Notice of Availability for Public Comment: Draft Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan for the January 2011 Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) Potomac River Substation Oil Spill**

The Natural Resource trustees (the United States Department of the Interior through the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the District of Columbia Department of Energy and the Environment) invite the public to comment on the proposed Settlement Agreement and the Draft Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan (DARP) for the Pepco Potomac River Substation Oil Spill in Alexandria, VA.

In accordance with the Oil Pollution Act and through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration process, the public is invited to submit comments during the 30 day period starting on November 9, 2018 (publication date of notice of the proposed Settlement Agreement and DARP in the Federal Register). The trustees will review and consider comments received during the public comment period (received no later than December 10, 2018) when preparing the final DARP.

Interested parties may submit comments on the Draft Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan in the following two ways.

1. Submit comments electronically at the National Park Service's Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) site: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/PepcoPotomacSpill>
2. Mail or hand deliver comments to: Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters, Attn: Pepco DARP, 700 George Washington Memorial Parkway, McLean, VA 22101.

Interested parties may submit comments on the proposed settlement agreement in the following two ways.

1. Submit comments by email to [pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov](mailto:pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov)
2. Mail comments to: Assistant Attorney General, U.S. DOJ – ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, D.C. 20044-7611

A copy of the proposed Settlement Agreement may also be obtained by mail. Please enclose a check or money order for \$3.00 along with your request to: Consent Decree Library, U.S. DOJ – ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, D.C. 20044-7611.

**ABC LICENSE**

CookologyArlington LLC trading as Cookology Culinary School, 4238 Wilson Blvd Ste 3110, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1836. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises, Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Maria Kopsidas. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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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**



# Armistice

FROM PAGE 2

and on the board of Centennial Commission, added that WWI brought a “new intensity of federal involvement in American lives and can also be seen in the expansion of different federal agencies, such as the creation of the Veterans Bureau, which begged the question, what does the government owe our veterans?” A few veterans sat among the audience, many of whom had grandfathers and grandmothers who lives were impacted by the war. After the war ended, veterans were housed in Arlington County, which nearly doubled in size between 1910 and 1920, growing from 12,000 to 18,000 according to census records.

Arlington County created a special citizens advocacy group called the Commemoration WWI Task Force in March of 2017 to help foster discussion and educate citizens about history. Educational opportunities have come through lectures, panel talks, film series, and events throughout the year, all leading up to Armistice Day.

Their final event culminated on Sunday at the American Legion Memorial in Clarendon. The ceremony included uniformed doughboy color-guard, the Arlingtones, Opera-Nova, and guest speakers from the Centennial Commission who unveiled the first of the interpretive panels to be placed at the memorial. Grant funding for the panels was awarded to the task force from the Centennial Commission as part of its “100 cities 100 Memories,” to commemorate the history of WWI and the wars that followed.

## “FLOURISHING AFTER 55”

“Flourishing After 55” from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Nov. 25- Dec. 1.

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

**Senior trips:** Chanticleer Christmas, Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, Sunday, Nov. 25, \$58; Hagerstown Outlets, Hagerstown, Md., Monday, Nov. 26, \$8; Sweet Simplici-Tea, Sykesville, Md., Wednesday, Nov. 28, \$46; A Day in Old Town Alexandria, Friday, Nov. 30, \$6; DAR Constitution Hall, D.C., U.S. Army Band, American Holiday Festival, Saturday, Dec. 1, \$5. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

### NEW PROGRAMS:

**Job searching in the digital age,** Monday, Nov. 26, 1:30 p.m., Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

**Compiling a list of favorite restaurants,** Monday, Nov. 26 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

**Senior ice skating,** MedStar Capitals Iceplex, Ballston Mall, level 8, Mondays, 8:10-9:20., Wednesdays, 8:30-9 a.m. Details, 703-228-4771.

**Pickleball beginners,** Mondays, 9 a.m., Arlington Mill; 9:45 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-4771.

**Armchair tour of French artist Camille Corot exhibit at National Gallery of Art,** Tuesday, Nov. 27, 10 a.m., \$6, Lee. Register, 703-228-0555.

**Origami classes** begin Tuesday, Nov. 27, 10 a.m. – noon, Arlington Mill. Register, 703-228-7369.

**AARP driver safety class,** Tuesday, Nov. 27, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., Madison Community Center. Cost \$20 (\$15 for AARP members). Register, 703-228-4403.

**Osteoporosis information,** Tuesday, Nov. 27, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

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# Airing of a Grievance



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Now that I'm back to every-three-week-chemotherapy infusions, getting through the “holiday” season becomes very tricky. One week delay due to unacceptable lab results can have a cascade effect on one's ability to spread any cheer.

And given that I'm scheduled to be infused rather aggressively, a direct result of tumor growth indicated on my most recent CT scan, delaying an infusion to accommodate my non-chemotherapy schedule seems like a non starter. After all, we're trying to keep me alive here.

Therefore, considering the unpredictability of my actually-receiving-chemotherapy on the two scheduled infusion dates before Christmas: 11/16/18 and 12/7/18, and the effect of rescheduling one or the other by one or two weeks, depending on lab results, gives pre-holiday chemotherapy infusions a bad name and an even worse connotation.

The patient (in this context, me), is either damned if you do (side effects) and/or damned if you don't (tumor growth, potentially). I need way more than a Festivus miracle.

To invoke Tiny Tim, I need to tiptoe through the tulips, so to speak; to have my chemotherapy infusions allow me to eat/satiate my meals, travel when necessary without having to double-back for chemotherapy (yes, my infusion center is open on Friday, Nov. 23, as well as the day before Christmas and the day after, with their schedule repeating itself for New Year's) and navigate an already challenging five-week turn of events. To be capped off by a Jan. 2 CT scan followed up by a Jan. 11 face-to-face appointment with my oncologist to discuss the results of the January scan.

I can hardly wait. Although I have to, and of course, think about the what-if constantly.

Nearly two months of scheduling twists and turns impacting one's quality of life during the most stressful time of the year: Thanksgiving through New Year's followed by learning one's fate: stay the course or as Yogi Berra said: “Come to the fork in the road and take it.” And if I do take it (Immunotherapy), it won't simply be the road less traveled, it will be the road never traveled – by me. Although many other cancer patients have blazed the trail, the prospect of yours truly blazing the next trail (line) scares me, hopefully not to death.

It might not be so bad – and extremely personal, if my best friend's wife hadn't succumbed to her lung cancer within a year or so after being prescribed one of the drugs that my oncologist and I have discussed if my next scan continues to show tumor growth.

I get so emotional at the mere mention of the drug that I can't even pronounce it through my tears. So my oncologist knows my preference and he's content to respect my wishes especially considering that according to his experiences, the drugs are fairly similar in their effect/success. And since mind definitely matters, keeping me in a positive frame of mind is the goal. But I'm getting way ahead of myself here; it's only November. This discussion won't occur for almost nine weeks, Jan. 11, 2019.

The only problem is, the next nine weeks present challenges unlike any similar period during the year. Throw in a few lab tests, a couple of chemotherapy infusions, a diagnostic scan and a few weeks to wait for all of it to shake out and what you're left with is your life hanging in the balance and death rearing its ugly head.

“Cancer sucks” – especially during the holidays.

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



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