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The Arlington Connection

Help Fill The Cruiser

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

PAGES 6-7

At last year's Fill the Cruiser Holiday Toy Drive, Alex Pollack pushes the red button to show off the beep on his donated airplane before he hands it over to Corporal Beth Lennon. The final Fill the Cruiser event is Thursday, Nov. 29, 6-8 p.m. at the Lee Harrison Shopping Center, 2425 N. Harrison St. The Arlington County Police Department is asking community members to donate new, unwrapped toys to bring holiday cheer to children ages newborn - 17. Those wishing to donate toys can also drop off donations at Police Headquarters, located at 1425 N. Courthouse Road, until Friday, Dec. 14.

Turkey Trot: A Tradition Of Thanks, Giving, and Fun

NEWS, PAGE 3

Thanksgiving with an International Flair

NEWSSM, PAGE 8

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FILE PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 6 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

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Dr. Suzanne Herten Wittig

Wittig Joins Concierge Medical Practice

Suzanne Herten Wittig, M.D., of Arlington, has joined MD2, a concierge medical practice in McLean.

Board certified in internal medicine, Wittig received her undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and went on to earn her medical degree from Georgetown University's School of Medicine, graduating with multiple honors and merits. While in medical school, she was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society, and was awarded the William Argy, MD Award in Internal Medicine for Academic Excellence. Wittig completed her residency and chief residency in Internal Medicine at Georgetown University.

Prior to joining MD2, Wittig was a partner and internist at Pulmonary and Medical Associates, where she also served as the chief of their Internal Medicine Division. In addition, she served on several committees at Privia Health and Virginia Hospital Center. In 2005, Wittig was one of the few physicians chosen for Virginia Hospital Center's Executive Health Program, where she cared for patients for over a decade.

Wittig lives in Arlington with her two daughters.

For more information, visit www.md2.com.

Trustee

James W. Thomas Jr., of Arlington, a partner at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP, was recognized for completing a five-year term on Mercer University's Board of Trustees during its annual Homecoming meeting on Nov. 2.




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Turkey Trot: A Tradition of Thanks, Giving, and Fun

“Ruth Bader Ginsburg” shows up to judge Turkey Trot contest.

BY EDEN BROWN
THE CONNECTION

It was time for the 13th annual Arlington Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day and to get participants in the mood, Mark Riley and Pastor Brian Webster of Christ Church decided to try something new: the first annual “Thomas the Turkey and Friends” Costume Club Party and Contest.

On Nov. 16, from 5-7 p.m., adults and children, charity beneficiary representatives, and Thomas the Turkey, came in costume to promote the Trot and encourage even more runners to walk or run the trot in costume. Mark Riley, the charity race coordinator, dressed as “The Big Turkey” and emceed the contest.

“TJ the DJ” Schultz set the mood with music, as County Board Chair Katie Cristol, who dressed as Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; Denny Edelbrock, dressed as the Bunny Hop bunny; and Allie Sartorie of Virginia Premier dressed as a walking Thanksgiving Dinner Table, judged the contest.

Denny Edelbrock coordinated Clarendon United Methodist Church’s inaugural “Arlington Bunny Hop 5K Charity Fun Run/Walk” this past spring. Virginia Premier and Radley Acura were the lead sponsors of the Arlington Turkey Trot this year. All the children in costume received a Turkey Trot medal for their participation and prizes were awarded to the top three costume winners. Arlington Independent Media filmed in-

terviews with beneficiary representatives who spoke about what Arlington Turkey Trot funds mean to those they help each day in Arlington. The six beneficiaries of this year’s race are Arlington Food Assistance Center, A-SPAN, Arlington Thrive, OAR, Bridges to Independence, and Young Life.

The race continues to draw increasing numbers of Arlington residents who want to donate, have fun, and make room for that extra serving of turkey. Last year, 4,000 registered, and 3,470 finished. This year, over 4,000 registered, and 3,200 crossed the finish line. It was unseasonably cold on Thanksgiving, and about 800 runners did not show up at all, but in registering, they showed the Arlington commitment to helping their neighbors. For a complete list of sponsors, see: <http://www.arlingtonvatrurkeytrot.org/index.html>.



The judges — including “Ruth Bader Ginsburg” — and winners of the costume contest gathered on the stage after the winners were announced.

PHOTOS BY SHANDRA NISWANDER



Two Arlington runners completed the race in turkey hats.



Mark Riley, who champions the race throughout Arlington, dressed up as “Tom the Turkey” for the party.



Pastor Brian Webster of Christ Church, who came up with the idea of the race to raise funds for the underserved, addresses the costume party.

County To Honor Human Rights Champions

Four recognized for outstanding accomplishment in promoting cultural diversity and equal rights.

The winners of Arlington County’s annual James B. Hunter Human Rights Award, recognizing sustained commitment and outstanding accomplishment in promoting cultural diversity and equal rights for all residents, will be honored at a ceremony and reception on Thursday, Dec. 13 from 7-9 p.m., in the County Board Room at the Bozman Government Center.

The award, first given in 1999, is named for former County Board member James B. Hunter, who was dedicated to helping underserved groups access government services designed to protect their rights.

This year’s winners include two individuals and two community groups:

❖ Marty Swaim, a social studies teacher at Arlington Public Schools from 1984 to 2001, is being recognized for co-founding

“Challenging Racism: Learning How.” Swaim developed the curriculum for the yearlong workshop series, which uses reading, stories, activities and conversations to encourage a basic understanding of racism, white privilege, the roots of racism and its more recent modern manifestations in our society. The program began as an APS initiative to inform faculty and staff about race and equity. It has grown to provide infor-

mation to school and work groups, community organizations, and others whose members can benefit from a deeper and broader understanding of racism and its effect on our society.

❖ Jay Fissette served on the Arlington County Board from 1997 to 2017 and was the first openly gay elected official in Arlington and in Virginia. Throughout his 20-year tenure on the County Board, he worked to advance human rights, and championed many other issues, among them environmental

SEE CHAMPIONS. PAGE 11

OPINION

Call for Submissions to Children's Edition 2018

Get creative and send art, poetry and more.

During the last week of each year, this newspaper devotes its pages to the creativity of local students and children. The annual Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette, Children's Almanac and Children's Centre View) is a tradition of well over a decade.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, art classes, individuals and homeschoolers. We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on flash drive. Writing should be submitted in text format. Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Some suggestions:

- ❖ Drawings or paintings or photographs of

your family, friends, pets or some favorite activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format. Photos of sculpture or larger art projects are also welcome.

- ❖ Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents, family or friends any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be? What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming year? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good friend?

- ❖ Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, politics, etc.

- ❖ Poetry or other creative writing.
- ❖ News stories from school newspapers.
- ❖ Photos and text about activities or events.

To be published, we must have the full first and last name of the student artist/writer.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school

location. Home schoolers' contributions are welcomed.

To send flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the flash drive to: Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette, Children's Almanac and Children's Centre View), 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please send all submissions by Monday, Dec. 3, 2018. The Children's Edition will publish the last week of 2018.

You can see last year's editions by visiting www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scroll down to Children's Edition.

Email submissions for the Children's Edition to the following editors:

For Burke, Clifton, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Great Falls, Herndon, Lorton, McLean, Reston, or Springfield, email to Kemal Kurspahic at kemal@connectionnewspapers.com.

For Arlington, Potomac, CentreView, Chantilly, Alexandria and Mount Vernon, email to Steven Mauren, smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

EDITORIAL

BULLETIN BOARD

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

HOLIDAY DONATIONS

Pet Food Bank. AWLA is establishing a Pet Food Bank to serve qualifying residents of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. In consideration of the effect financial obstacles have on a pet owner's ability to afford pet care, the AWLA Pet Food Bank program's goal is to keep family pets out of shelters. If you are an Arlington County or City of Falls Church resident and are in need of assistance in feeding your pet, follow this link and fill out a pre-registration form. Visit goo.gl/forms/s2FuFdaYWdZm4tPw2

Toy Drive. Through Friday, Dec. 14 at local Weichert, Realtors offices. Members of the community are invited to drop off new, unwrapped toys at the company's sales offices. The toys will be delivered throughout the holidays in conjunction with local charities that assist financially and physically disadvantaged children. To find a local office, go to www.weichert.com/offices/.

Secret Santa. Through Dec. 21, donate gift cards to the Department of

Human Services' Secret Santa Program and help some of Arlington's most vulnerable residents. Visit publicassistance.arlingtonva.us/secret-santa for more.

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. OAR does this in an effort to bridge the gap between those involved in the criminal justice system and their children. 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 www.oaronline.org/archives/6591.

Food Drive. Through Jan. 6, all 10 County Fire Stations are collecting food for the Arlington County Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Learn what's most in need and drop off details at fire.arlingtonva.us/2018/11/acfd-collecting-food-for-afac/.

"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Dec. 10-15.

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: CEB Tower observation deck, Arl., Monday, Dec. 10, \$21; Bull Run Festival of Lights, Centreville, Friday, Dec. 14, \$6; National Theatre, matinee performance of "Beautiful-Carole King Musical," Saturday, Dec. 15, \$119. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

NEW PROGRAMS:
Armchair tour of Scandinavian art, Phillips Gallery, Monday, Dec. 10,

10 p.m., \$6, Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

Music for brass quintet discussion, Monday, Dec. 10, 1 p.m., Langston-Brown. Details, 703-228-6300.

Storytime volunteers needed, to read to preschoolers, Monday, Dec. 10, 1 p.m. Details, 703-228-5722.

Fishermen to exchange stories, Monday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

Podcast introduction, Monday, Dec. 10, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Details, 703-228-4771.

Senior ice skating, MedStar Capitals Iceplex, Ballston Mall, level 8, Mondays, 8:10-9:20, Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 a.m. Details, 703-228-4771.

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



COLUMBIA PIKE BANNER DESIGNS BY WINKING FISH.

Columbia Pike Banner Program

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) announced the installation of 70 place-making banners on Columbia Pike — a project intended to visually unify the four-mile stretch of Columbia Pike from the Sheraton Pentagon City on the east end to the Western Boundary Marker at Jefferson Street. Phase I of the project includes 70 banners installed on light poles from the Sheraton to the Arlington Mill Community Center. Upon completion of the Columbia Pike Multi-Modal Project, Phase II banners will be installed in the blocks between S. Dinwiddie and S. Jefferson Streets, as well as including the streetscape around Orr Partners' new "Centro Arlington" development at the Pike and George Mason Drive. Funded by grants from Arlington County, The Washington Forrest Foundation, and the Virginia Main Street Affiliate Program, the Pike Banner project was a year in the making, created as a place-making initiative at the directive of the Arlington County Board in April 2017. For more information visit www.Columbia-Pike.org.

The Arlington Connection

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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AGLA To Present Equality Awards

Each year the Arlington-Alexandria Gay & Lesbian Alliance (AGLA) presents Equality Awards to individuals in recognition of their record of working to improve LGBTQ equality. This year the AGLA Board voted unanimously to honor TJ Flavell and Alexandria Commission on HIV/Aids with the 2018 AGLA Equality Awards.

TJ Flavell has a long history of serving as a leader in the local LGBTQ community. In addition to having served as AGLA's president for two terms (in 2012 and 2016), Flavell currently serves on the Human Rights Campaign's Greater Washington, DC Steering Committee and leads Go Gay DC - Metro DC's LGBTQ Community Hub. Flavell previously served as president of PEN - Metro DC's LGBT Chamber of Commerce and president of the Alexandria Gay & Lesbian Community Association.

For the nearly 30 years, Flavell's career has focused on transforming education through the use of technology. In addition to working for Achieve, Inc., a nonprofit focused on college and career readiness, he served as manager of the National School Boards Association's Technology Leadership Network, a consortium of tech-savvy school districts. He also worked for the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the Academy for Educational Development's

LearnLink project, and Public Broadcasting Service.

Flavell is a past a Presidential Fellow and Phi Beta Kappa graduate (bachelor's in history) of Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn., and is a native of Grand Marais, Minn. on the north shore of Lake Superior. He was selected for the Washington Semester in American Government at American University, and studied at The George Washington University and Marymount University. He began his career interning at the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, a U.S. senator's office, and at the Minnesota Association of Commerce and Industry. He also worked for KTCA/Twin Cities Public Television.

The Alexandria Commission on HIV/Aids advises Alexandria City Council in the formulation and implementation of public policy on the treatment of HIV/AIDS and prevention of the spread of the disease, promotes citizen participation in the formulation of such policy, provides the council and the public with current information regarding HIV/AIDS. The commission regularly promotes educational programs on awareness, treatment and prevention. The commission meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Approximately three to

SEE AGLA, PAGE 11



Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE OF BUDGET AND WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING

December 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2018, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2019, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$4,150 to \$4,260¹.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$13,420 to \$15,285.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,260 to \$1,300¹.
4. An increase in the Base Commodity Charge from \$2.94 to \$3.07 per 1,000 gallons of water.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge for meters larger than a standard 5/8" residential meter¹.
6. An increase in the Turn Off / Turn On Charge from \$45 to \$48.
7. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge.
8. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$36 to \$38.

¹Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

Fairfax Water is also proposing a \$183.2 million budget for calendar year 2019¹. Revenues are expected to be \$183.2 million in 2019. Water sales are expected to provide \$158.3 million. Approximately \$24.9 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	-\$1,000s -	
	2018	2019
Personal Services and Employee Benefits	\$ 55,934	\$ 57,584
Power and Utilities	10,755	11,102
Chemicals	6,958	7,532
Purchased Water	7,810	7,155
Supplies and Materials	5,261	5,444
Insurance	955	1,075
Fuel	700	728
Postage	603	612
Contractual Services	12,481	12,974
Professional Services	1,001	1,065
Other	2,428	2,505
Sub-Total	104,886	107,776
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(10,248)	(10,380)
Total	\$ 94,638	\$ 97,396

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$42,988,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$31,337,000

¹ Fairfax Water's Board will continue to monitor economic factors and review revenues and expenditures at mid-year to determine if additional action is needed.

A copy of the proposed changes to the rates can be viewed on our website at www.fairfaxwater.org/rates. A copy of the proposed budget can be found at www.fairfaxwater.org. Those wishing to speak or receive a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 12, 2018, to be included in the record of the public hearing.

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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday.

ONGOING

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.

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.

Red Cross Fundraiser. Through Saturday, Dec. 15 at Crafthouse, 901 N. Glebe Road, Arlington. All three Crafthouse locations in Northern Virginia are donating 10 percent of all bottled beer purchases to the American Red Cross - California Wildfires Fund to assist those affected by the wildfires in California. Call 571-483-0421 or visit www.crafthouseusa.com.

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 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.

Arlington's Holiday Kitchens. Through January 2019, 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 grandmas 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.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 28

Coffee and Conversation. 10-11 a.m. at The Springs Apartments,



Gift Mania

Students (ages 4-6 and 7-10) will create a hand-made gift for a loved one to be kept secret until a big reveal during the holidays. Parents, gifts will be wrapped, so no peeking. Saturday, Dec. 15, 12:30-3 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. \$50. For details, visit arlingtonartscenter.org.

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.

Author Mia Garcia. 7 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St., Arlington. She shares from her new novel, *The Resolutions*. From the author of *Even If the Sky Falls* comes another inspirational and heart-tugging contemporary novel about four friends who make New Year's resolutions for one another - and the whirlwind of a year that follows. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 29

Nauck Community Summit. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Drew Model School and Community Center, 3500 S. 23rd St., Arlington. Nauck Community Summit on making Nauck a My Brother's Keeper Community. Call 703-486-0058 or email ncaarlington@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 30-SUNDAY/DEC. 2

"Jingle ARRGH the Way!" At Gunston Arts Center - Theatre One, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. 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. For ages 4 and older. Tickets \$15/adults, \$12/children, students, military, and seniors. Tickets at www.ensemblestage.org or 703-548-1154.

SATURDAY/DEC. 1

Santa Bowl Flag Football

Tournament. 8 a.m. at Long Bridge Park in Arlington. Start or join a team to compete on and off the field. Prizes are awarded to the top placing tournament winners and to the team that collects the most donations for Bridges to Independence. The Santa Bowl is a 7v7 Co-Ed tournament at Long Bridge Park in Arlington. \$49 per player or \$450 per team (minimum 12 players). Register at dcfray.com/events/santa-bowl-2018.

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.

Families Unplugged: Puppet

Playtime. 10 a.m.-12 noon. At Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 16th St., S., Arlington. The experts at Goodlife Theater will present their puppet show 'The Rainbow Show', a zany variety show featuring hand and rod puppets in an assortment of hilarious sketches. After the show each child will get to create their own puppet to take home. \$8 per person. Children must register with an adult. This program is suitable for all ages, but recommended for ages 3 and older. Register online using activity code 730019-I. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us.

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 mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Lee Highway Winter Festival of

Lights. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Lee Arts Center, Harrison & Lee Plaza, Langston Brown Community Center, and Cherrydale Volunteer Fire House. Festival will feature food, holiday card making, music, magic, puppies, photos with Santa & fire fighters, Halls Hill heritage, information on the Lee Highway Planning Study, and a festive Holiday Market filled with Arlington artisans. Free admission. Visit leehighwayalliance.com/Festival.

SUNDAY/DEC. 2

Westover Winter Farmers Market.

9 a.m.-1 p.m. At 1644 N. McKinley Road, Arlington. The Westover Farmers Market will launch its winter market the first Sunday in December. Most of the summer market vendors will participate in the winter market. The Westover Farmers Market is organized and managed by Field to Table, Inc., a Virginia nonprofit organization operating four summer markets in Arlington County. Visit westoverfarmersmarket.org.

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. Register online at www.active.com/washington-dc/running/distance-running-races/tree-of-life-5k-run-walk-2018.

Holiday Homes Tour and Very Merry Market.

3-7 p.m. Tour Lyon Village homes representing a range of styles and special features. The Tour begins at the Lyon Village Community House where participants will receive their Holiday Homes Tour brochure and required booties. Also at the Community House, the Very Merry Market, featuring customizable wreaths from Merryfield Garden Center, products from The Olive Oil Bloom, locally made jewelry and textile gifts, and door prizes from area merchants such as Lilly Pulitzer, KinderHaus Toys,

Sephora, Blue Mercury and numerous local restaurants. Tour tickets are \$20 in advance at lyonvillagewomensclub.com or \$25 at the Community House the day of the tour.

Virginia Wildlife Symbols: Flying

Animals. 3:30-4:30 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Join us for a talk and walk to learn about flying animals including Virginia's State Bird the Northern Cardinal, as well as the State Bat, the Big-Eared Bat. Ages 7 and older. \$5 per person. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Register online using activity code 622959. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us. Call 703-228-6535.

MONDAY/DEC. 3

Meet the Speaker. 3-4:30 p.m. At Arlington County Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Arlington. Dr. Chip Beck, Soldier, Sailor, Artist and Spy, will give a lecture sharing some of his experiences in his career of more than 45 years working on international affairs and direct involvement in many crises around the world. Beck is a retired Navy Commander and frogman, former CIA and State Department consultant and NCIS Agent as well as U.S. Army combat artist and editorial cartoonist. Call Encore Learning at 703-228-2144.

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. This production is a part of Syntetic's Family Theater series and is recommended for ages 5 and up. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.syntetictheater.org or via phone at 866-811-4111.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 5

Northern Virginia Bird Club Walk. 8:30 - 11 a.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, Arlington. Join members of the Northern Virginia Bird Club for one or all of these informal walks through Long Branch and Glencarlynn Park in search of resident and migratory birds. Experienced and beginning birders welcomed. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them. Call 703-228-6535.

Arlington Neighborhood Village Talk. 10 a.m. At Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 South 16th St., Arlington. Rob Farr, Cable Executive Producer for Arlington TV, will talk about his work for the County and show film clips he's collected of motion pictures filmed on location in Arlington from the silent era to the present. Call 703-509-8057.

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY/DEC. 5-7

Holiday Tree Market. 3-7 p.m. at Gold's Gym Ballston, back parking lot, 3910 Wilson Blvd. In partnership with Gold's Gym Ballston and the Optimist Club of Arlington, we're bringing a little cheer to the neighborhood with a pop-up holiday tree market with trees of all sizes, including smaller, condo-sized Spruce and Pines. Assistance will also

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

be available to cut and load the trees. Proceeds from tree sales will benefit the Arlington chapter of the Optimist Club. Visit www.ballstonbid.com/event-view?id=86526.

FRIDAY/DEC. 7

Family Fun Night for Individuals with Disabilities. 6:30-8 p.m. At Langston-Brown Community Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St., Arlington. Families of children with disabilities ages 4-17 can drop by. No pre-registration is required. Families will be immersed into a monthly theme featuring various therapeutic activity stations including gross motor, sensory, art, large games, a quiet room and more. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us.

Family Night @ The Mill: Party at the North Pole. 7-9 p.m. At Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St., Arlington. Travel to the North Pole. 'Minute to Win It'-style games, create scratch art snowflakes, make a penguin buddy, enjoy an indoor snowball fight and more. Family Nights are free, drop-in events for all ages. Youth participants must be accompanied by an adult. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 7-9

"Jingle ARRGH the Way!" At Gunston Arts Center - Theatre One, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. 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. For ages 4 and older. Tickets \$15/adults, \$12/children, students, military, and seniors. Tickets at www.ensemblestage.org or 703-548-1154.

SATURDAY/DEC. 8

R.I.P. - Remove Invasive Plants. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. At Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road, Arlington. Want to restore habitat and increase species diversity right here in Arlington? Work parties are held every month. They are making a real difference, with the return of ferns and wildflowers, and the animals that depend on them, in areas once covered in destructive invasive plants. No registration required. Call 703-228-3403.

Gifts That Give Hope. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. At Arlington Science Focus School, 1501 N. Lincoln St., Arlington. An alternative gift fair, where adults and kids can make donations on behalf of family and friends to one or more 17 area non-profits that serve our community, and communities around the globe. Visit giftsthatgivehope.org/arlington.

Holiday Wreath Workshop. 1-4 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Make a holiday wreath. Use all-natural items to create crafts to spruce up a home or to give as a gift. Music, refreshments, basic instruction and enough materials for each participant to make at least two seasonal decorations. Participants should bring hand pruners or wire cutters and any extra materials or special decorations to add. \$30. Ages 12+. Register online using activity code 622949-A. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us. Call 703-228-6535.

Wakefield High School Fun Day. 3-6 p.m. At 1325 S. Dinwiddie St., Arlington. Featuring Wakefield Holiday Shop with handmade and fair trade gifts, ornaments, 10,000 Villages and Spirit Wear. Pasta Dinner for \$7 will be held from 5-6:30 p.m. as a fundraiser for the crew team. The Wakefield Theater production, "Peter & the Starcatcher" will begin at 7 p.m.

The Arlington Chorale. 7:30-9 p.m. At Westover Baptist Church, 1125 Patrick Henry Drive, Arlington. Join The Arlington Chorale for "Winter Wonderland," a festive concert featuring a selection of traditional holiday favorites and contemporary works. Free. Call 703-933-2500 or visit the website arlingtonchorale.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 8-9

"Lissajous." Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m. at Dance Place, 3225 8th St NE, Washington, D.C. Bowen McCauley Dance Company of Arlington has been commissioned by Drexel University to create a new "dance engineered" piece that explores the intersection of dance and engineering mechanics as a new viable medium for choreography. The resulting commissioned piece choreographed by Lucy Bowen McCauley, "Lissajous" is scheduled to premiere at Dance

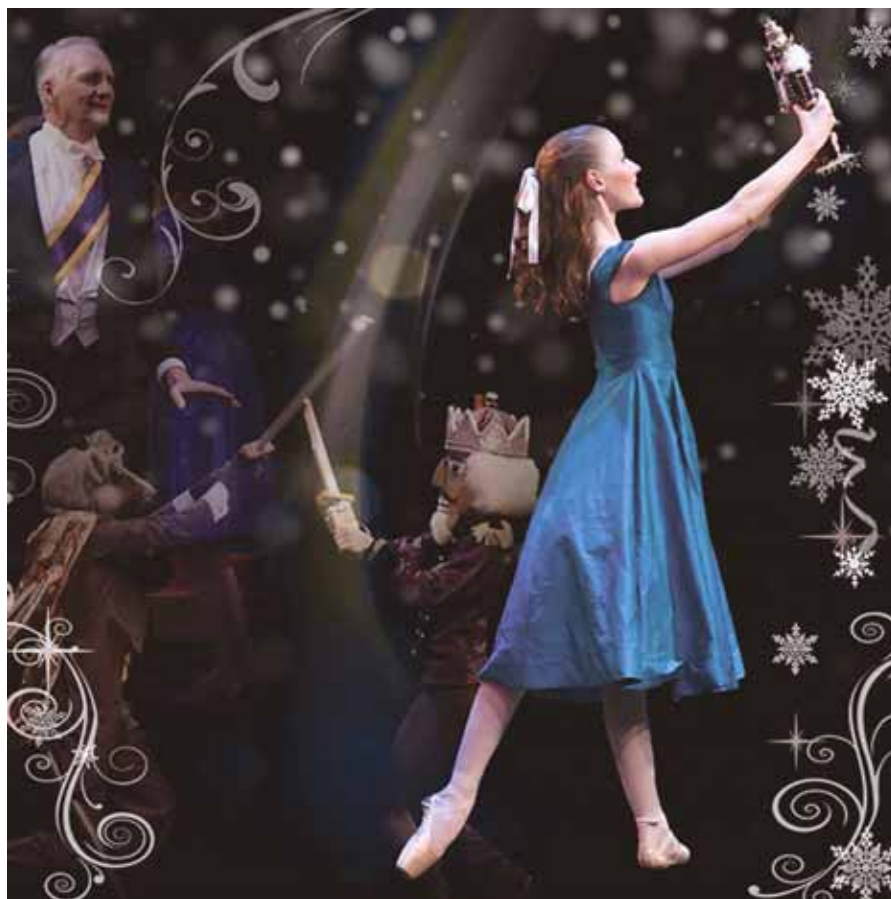


IMAGE BY RUTH JUDSON / ELIZABETH LUCREZIO

BalletNova presents The Nutcracker

BalletNova's Nutcracker has become a holiday tradition. BalletNova presents a brand-new production of the holiday classic with new costumes, new characters and new choreography. The Sugar Plum Fairy is being danced by Willa Frantz, of Fairfax. Thursday-Friday, Nov. 29-30, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 1, 1 and 5 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 2, 3 and 7 p.m. at George Mason High School Theatre, 7124 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. \$18-42. Call 703-778-3008 or visit www.BalletNova.org.

Place. \$15-\$25. Visit www.danceplace.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 9

Notable Nature. 3:30-4:30 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Families ages 5 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Lessons in nature journaling and sketching. Construct a nature journal, hone writing and drawing skills and talk about the season while hiking. Register online. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us. Call 703-228-6535.

MONDAY/DEC. 10

New Play Readings. 7 p.m. At Signature Theater, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington at Ali's Bar in the Mead Lobby. Free. The reading of the play, "The Reapers on Woodbrook Avenue" by Mardee Bennett. Signature is dedicated to developing the next generation of theatrical talent through its SigWorks program, and the five plays chosen for this year's SigWorks: Monday Night New Play Readings at Ali's Bar represent a wide range of human experiences. Visit www.sigtheatre.org.

TUESDAY/DEC. 11

Westmoreland County Birding Trip. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Meet vans at the Barcroft Sports & Fitness Center parking lot, 4200 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington. Adults. Travel to Westmoreland State Park and George Washington's Birthplace National Monument to view waterfowl, bald eagles and winter songbirds. Participants should dress for the weather and bring binoculars, a bag lunch, a drink and snacks for the day. Cost \$50. Call 703-228-3403.

Winter Sleeping Storytime. 10:30-11 a.m. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Families ages 2 and up. Register children only, but caretakers must attend. Hear stories about this magical season and take a walk to look for signs of winter. Call 703-228-6535.

TUESDAYS/DEC. 11 & 18

Lightbox Workshop (ages 18+). 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd.

Papercutting is an ancient art, practiced throughout the world, but its popularity has just begun to grow in the United States. In this two-session workshop, learn the basics of knife cutting from artist Melanie Kehoss. Students will then apply that skill to creating a small table-top light box. \$80. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 12

Arlington Neighborhood Village Talk. 10 a.m. At Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 South 16th St., Arlington. Cindi Shore, from ShoreFit in-home personal training specializing in working with seniors and rehab clients, will give us some fitness tips. Call 703-509-8057.

Friends of Urban Agriculture. 6:30-8:30 p.m. At Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Arlington. "Celebrate Arlington Urban Ag - Look how far we've come." Learn about the accomplishments of the past five years since the County's Urban Ag Task Force Report was issued and honor outstanding achievements in urban ag in the community.

Winter Concert. 7:30 p.m. At Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington (Black Box Theatre). Presented by Arlington Community Chorus; directed by Melodie Henderson and accompanied by Laura Lindsay, the group will perform a wintery mix of songs, including "Winter Wonderland" and "Sleigh Ride." There also will be an audience sing-along of some holiday favorites. Admission is free, and the program is suitable for the entire family. Visit www.apsva.us/adulted or call 703-228-7200.

WEDNESDAY-TUESDAY/DEC. 12-18

Lions Citrus Fundraiser. At the Overlee Pool (Bath House - Lower Level), 6030 Lee Highway, Arlington, (lower entrance off John Marshall Drive). Fresh Citrus, Pecans, and Maple Syrup for sale: Wednesday, 4:30-8 p.m.; Thursday, 7 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 703-528-1130.

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Arlington Lodge #58 volunteered their time and their pies to the AHC Thanksgiving events. The Lodge has been serving the Arlington community for 125 years.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The Marymount University's Women's Lacrosse team spread cheer and their good food around the community centers on Nov. 16 at the AHC Thanksgiving dinners.

Thanksgiving with an International Flair

Housing residents from around the world share American tradition.

Turkey with peppers and onions with rice anyone? Arlington Housing Corporation (AHC) held two large Thanksgiving dinners on Friday, Nov. 16 and Monday, Nov. 19 for hundreds of residents of the affordable housing communities in Arlington. The dinners were held at six different locations.

The community came together as Marymount's Lacrosse team donated time and energy to creating meals, Arlington Lodge #58 donated a dozen cakes and pies for a dessert raffle, and AFAC donated pies and canned goods. The 30 turkeys were purchased and cooked by AHC staff and volunteers.

Each dinner was different depending on the inspiration of the cooks. You might have turkey with collard greens and spicy mac and cheese with a side of pork BBQ or the more traditional mashed potatoes, green beans, stuffing and corn.



Arlington Housing Corporation (AHC) affordable housing residents enjoy Thanksgiving dinner cooked and served by local volunteers.

"Thanksgiving is a time to celebrate family, togetherness and community," said Susan Davidson, AHC's resident services director. "It's a wonderful opportunity for our residents and volunteers to come together and share different backgrounds and traditions."

AHC is a non-profit founded in 1975, AHC Inc.'s mission is to produce and preserve high quality affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families in the mid-Atlantic region and to build strong futures for our residents through onsite educational programs.

— SHIRLEY RUHE

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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

NEWS



Reed site elementary school rendering

Board Approves New School Site

The County Board approved on Nov. 17 a new elementary school for up to 732 students at the Reed site, 1644 N. McKinley Road, in the Westover neighborhood.

The board voted unanimously to approve a use permit amendment for Arlington Public Schools to renovate and expand the existing Reed School/Westover Library to create a neighborhood elementary school. The project is part of APS's ongoing effort to meet continued growth in student enrollment.

The School Board has approved a budget not to exceed \$55 million for the new school, funded by voter-approved bonds. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2019, and the new school is scheduled to open in time for the 2021-22 school year.

The approved plan included modifications of the Zoning Ordinance requirements for height, setbacks and parking. The new school will include two-and-four story heights, for a total of 112,919 square feet of floor space.

The addition will include school administrative offices, classrooms, a gymnasium, kitchen, cafeteria, teacher support areas and other building support spaces. The renovated areas will include new music/art rooms, a library, classrooms, teacher support areas and other building support spaces.

Building design features include:

- ❖ A universally accessible civic entrance plaza in front of the main school entrance
- ❖ A multi-purpose gymnasium that will replace the small existing gym

- ❖ Extensive renovations of the two-story portion of the existing building

- ❖ Preservation of 159 trees

- ❖ Reconfiguration and consolidation of the existing playground and two full-sized basketball courts into a play area on the northeast side of the school. The new play area will have one full-sized basketball court, a smaller court with one basketball hoop, an updated playground area and a tree-shaded lawn area.

- ❖ Retention of the existing treed area in the northwest section of the open space, its playground and play area as it is.

- ❖ Retention of the existing athletic fields as they are.

- ❖ Expansion of existing parking lots on McKinley Road/18th Street N. and N. Madison Street/18th Street N., for a total of 124 on-site parking spaces.

- ❖ Addition of on-site parent pick-up and drop-off lane within the McKinley Road/18th Street N. parking lot.

- ❖ Upgrade of landscape and stormwater management facilities for the playground and fields.

The original Walter Reed Elementary School was built in 1938. It closed in 1984 and in July 2007, the County Board approved a use permit to build an addition to the former school and a new branch of the public library. The existing building housed The Children's School and Integration Station program until June 2018, and has served as the interim home for the Stratford Program since July 2018.

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Grand Opening

The Caps mascot Slapshot joined Fitness Director Ram Sharif, Senior Vice President Brian Smith, General Manager Brittany Wike, and Arlington Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Kate Bates on Nov 13 for the grand opening of the newly rebranded Ballston Onelife Fitness (formerly Sport&Health). US Fitness invested \$2 million to renovate the space, located in the new Ballston Quarter (formerly known as the Ballston Common Mall). The renovation includes: cardio equipment; treadmills, ellipticals, stairclimbers, bikes, rowers; strength equipment including free weights, circuit and functional training equipment; and large functional turf training spaces (both indoor and outdoor).



Champions

FROM PAGE 3

sustainability. Before he joined the board in 1997, Fissette served as the director of the Whitman-Walker Clinic of Northern Virginia and was involved in the Arlington Gay and Lesbian Alliance, which successfully advocated for the inclusion of sexual orientation protections in the county's human rights ordinance.

❖ The Arlington Chapter of Awesome Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) holds monthly networking events for women who are small business owners in Arlington to share their experiences with one another. The group now has 150 members, ranging from artists and graphic designers to boutique and restaurant owners. In addition to supporting an underrepresented group in business ownership, Awesome Women Entrepreneurs is helping to increase the vibrancy of the local economy by supporting creative new commercial enterprise. The Arlington chapter was founded in 2014 by Karen Bate, who lives and works in Arlington.

❖ Arm & Arm is an Arlington-based community group providing a variety of services to veterans and the incarcerated to aid in their reentry to society. Among the offered services are relapse-prevention workshops, grief and trauma support groups, resume-building and job-readiness, and more. These tools aim to help participants make rational evaluations of themselves, their situations, and their circumstances, and then make healthy and proactive decisions as they navigate their way back into society.

Equality Awards

FROM PAGE 5

five hours per month are required of commission members.

The commission continues to build relationships within the community from non-profit organizations like Safe Space NOVA and Moms Demand Action, to the Arlington-Alexandria Gay and Lesbian Association, Inova Juniper/Gay Men's Health Collaborative, the Alexandria Commission on Women, the George Washington University School of Public Health, members of the faith community, and others to encourage a full and honest discussion of the challenges that still remain; notably, those that discourage individuals from being tested, from connecting to care and from remaining connected to care. Additionally, ACOHA established an ad hoc community to study and conduct analysis of what data exist to identify any trends across the city.

The 2018 AGLA Equality Awards will be presented during AGLA's annual meeting/holiday party on Saturday, Dec. 8, 6-9 p.m., at Alexandria Hilton Garden Inn, 1620 Prince St., Alexandria.

For more information about the AGLA Equality Awards, visit, AGLA.org or contact AGLA President Bruce Hightower at president@agla.org.

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Mow, Mow, Mow Your Grass ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... Not gently by the stream, and not by yours truly, either. Yet another task that seems beyond this homeowner's ability.

Which is fine by me because the older I get, it seems the less capable I become, and the less inclined I am to risk life and limb in the pursuit of that which that doesn't make me happy. Throw in a lung cancer diagnosis and the last thing my re-wired (figuratively speaking) brain will allow me to do is anything which doesn't put a smile on my face and a bounce in my step. And avoiding yard work ranks up there with most household tasks that a typical able-bodied homeowner takes pride in doing him or herself.

It's not so much that I take pride in avoiding it, it's just that I know my limitations, unlike Hal Holbrook in "Magnum Force."

Sharp objects, mechanical objects and/or electrical/spinning/rotating objects, objects with multiple doohickies (or a reasonable facsimile thereof), objects which require assembly/reading instructions are all challenging for me. Moreover, none of it fascinates me in the least.

What fascinates me more is the level of interest and passion with which so many of my brethren are engaged in the process; from start to finish.

I just don't get it. Nor have I ever gotten it, and neither do I expect to get it in the future.

Perhaps this total lack of interest comes from the experience of being a life-long renter. Never during my pre-college daze was my family ever responsible for yard work, home repairs (inside or out), or had much of a need for tools, other than the most rudimentary: hammer, screwdriver, pliers, etc.

No power tools. Nothing electrical that required a plug/proximity to an outlet. No plumbing, and of course, nothing like a chainsaw.

My parents were children of the Depression and all they had time for was school, play and some work; yes, even as children. And living in tenement/multi-level housing hardly lent itself to anything but doing what was necessary to survive.

But as my parents so often said: everyone else they knew was experiencing similar hardships so they didn't really realize what they were missing. Tools? Repairs? Amenities? Conveniences? Hardly. Toilet paper was a Sears catalogue cut into squares and hung on a nail in the bathroom down the hall - outside of their apartment.

They didn't have money or time for any of it. What money they earned was for food, rent, utilities and clothes; the most basic of basics.

It is through these experiences that my parents passed on their instincts and priorities to the their two Baby Boomer-era sons. There was ample love, affection and importance of family but not so much time and/or energy for interior and exterior home repairs, yard work, tools and what to do with them/how to use them as well as a variety of other homeowner-type tasks.

As a family of renters, it was never our responsibility. I suppose that was a match made in Depression-era heaven because very little in our family's past prepared us for this new future.

When my father returned from his service in World War II (working in Washington, D.C., actually), he had, unlike Liam Neeson, no unique set of skills. He had to find some vocation/avocation that would provide for his family - which he did, as a salesman.

After living in Dorchester, Mass. for their entire lives (since their parents immigrated to America in the early 20th century), in 1958, my parents moved the family to Newton Centre, Mass. - for the schools. We spent the next 15 years as renters and other than taking out the trash and the rubbish, I did very little to hone my homeowner-type skills.

I wouldn't say I've been stigmatized by this experience, but I learned very little that became useful in the maintenance and upkeep of the 275-year-old home, my wife Dina and I have occupied for the past 25+ years. Other than knowing how to ask for help that is.

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

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