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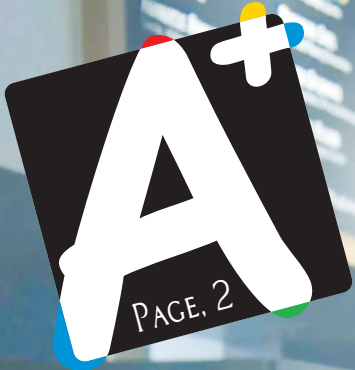
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# The Arlington Connection

## New at Ballston Exchange

NEWS, PAGE 5

### New over Wilson Boulevard

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### Finding Inspiration With Arlington Artist

NEWS, PAGE 3

Customers line up out the door for a free hand-crafted drink of their choice at Philz Coffee on Wilson Boulevard.

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# Black History Month: A Look at African American Art

Promoting and preserving a part of history.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

**D**espite his predilection for visual arts, Allen Carter, an African American boy growing up in pre-civil rights era Arlington, might not have been granted entrance into some the nation's museums due to segregation. Still, he persisted, and years later he became a lauded artist, distinguished teacher and mentor to underprivileged children. And in February — African American History Month — his work is being shown in an exhibit, "Big Al Carter: A Retrospective," at the Fred Schnider Gallery of Art. While his work is part of the permanent collections of both the Smithsonian Institution and the Corcoran Gallery of Art, this is the first exhibit of Carter's work in the Washington, D.C. area since his death in 2008.

"Big Al's family has given us an incredible gift by sharing his art, allowing us to continue to reflect on his life, his art and his message for future generations," said Marty Schnider, president of Fred Schnider Investment Group and founder of Fred Schnider Gallery of Art.

As a painter, printmaker, sculptor and muralist, Carter, also known as "Big Al" drew inspiration from his life experiences,

art history and everyday life. He believed that his life's purpose was to use art to heal. "Art is my emotion. Art is my memories. Art is my life. I create the essence," he once said.

"He paints poor people, he paints people who are fishing or people who are having dinner at the table ... his work is very vast," said Carter's daughter, Cecilia Carter.

Carter's exhibit is particularly noteworthy to some African-American art historians who point to a recent study showing that just 2.4 percent of all acquisitions and gifts and 7.6 percent of all exhibitions at 30 prominent American museums have been of work by African American artists. The recent Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Art Museum Staff Demographic Survey of 181 art museums in North America found that African Americans are greatly underrepresented in mainstream art museums as directors, curators, conservators and educators. Those who study African American art say that solving this dilemma requires a year-round approach.

"We can't just focus on it during Black History Month," said African American art historian Crystal Johnson, Ph.D. "These two statistics go to hand-in-hand and prove what we already know. We need more African American students to explore their ar-



**President of Fred Schnider Investment Group, LLC and Founder of the Fred Schnider Gallery of Art, Marty Schnider with Allen "Big Al" Carter's daughters, Cecilia Carter (left) and Flora O. Stone (right)**

tistic talents and we need more students to take chance on a non-mainstream career and pursue jobs in museum administration. In order to make any changes, we need to have a seat at the table."

One such aspiring decision maker is recent a George Mason University graduate who landed a position as the co-curator of an exhibit at Howard University. "I'd worked with an exhibition, but I've never had the chance to curate before. I was excited and

nervous," said Kourtney Riles of the exhibit called, "An Examination of Feminist(s) Subjectivity in Modern and Contemporary African American Art."

Art plays a vital, but often overlooked role in African American history, not just during Black History Month, but all year long, advises Angela Black, who has taught art history. "Art is a way of preserving our history," she said. "It tells our story and we need more professionally trained artists who can do that."

Carter's exhibit, which features rarely seen artwork from his daughters' private collection, runs through March 3 at the Fred Schnider Gallery of Art, 888 N. Quincy Street, Arlington. Several pieces will be available for sale.

"The exhibit and his work reflect everything that he's been through, what he's seen, and what other people have been through and seen," said Big Al's daughter Flora O. Stone, Carter's daughter.

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## Over Wilson Boulevard

The Ballston Quarter pedestrian bridge was moved into place on Saturday, Feb. 16, spanning Wilson Boulevard. More photos, see [www.davidmossphoto.com](http://www.davidmossphoto.com).

PHOTOS BY DAVID R. MOSS



Workers spent hours cutting steel on the bottom of the bridge, as it hovered over the pier.



Spectators watch the final placement.

# Finding Inspiration through Eyes of an Artist

TERESA CARANDANG  
THE CONNECTION

**A**rlington artist Sandi Parker plays with a range of themes from impressionistic interpretations of seascapes, landscapes and cityscapes to her vibrant acrylic abstracts.

Her paintings have won awards and she has participated in juried shows around Virginia, including the Art League at the Torpedo Factory. Her "Ohio Sunset" showed a sunset fading into dusk with trees silhouetted against it. This perspective won first prize at last year's "Power of Nature" exhibit at Gallery Underground that was juried by the DC artist Lilian Thomas Burwell.

Two of Parker's abstract paintings, "Energie Violette I" and "Energie Violette II" were specially commissioned by the Crystal City Business Improvement District (BID) as part of its Art Walls initiative. Her 10x10 inch paintings were enlarged to 10x10 feet. They are now displayed in Crystal City as part of the Wall Art program.

Parker took art classes in high school and college where she mostly did pen and ink drawings. In 2000, she studied oil painting under Jane McElvany Coonce, a long-time art instructor at the Arlington County Adult Education program and a founding member of the Arlington Artist's Alliance.

Through what she learned from class and inspired by her favorite painters Monet and



Sandi Parker with her artwork

PHOTOS BY TERESA CARANDANG/THE CONNECTION

Manet, Parker painted places she loves from colorful gardens to the calm waters of the sea. A decade later, she embarked on a new phase by taking a class on abstract art from local artist Bud Hensgen. For Parker, her abstracts are "all about color and texture," how she likes to experiment with different textures, using hardware tools and adding "thick layers of paint."

Inspired by her children who played a lot of sports, Parker also created sports-themed paintings, resulting in a solo show inMOTION which featured 20 paintings of Arlington High School athletes where she tried her best to "capture action, drama, and touching interaction between players and coaches." Her painting "Friendly Rivals" of

two swimmers from competing schools are seen shaking hands after a race is on display at Gallery Clarendon until the end of the February.

Parker is also a supporter of the Arlington community. While her children were still studying in Arlington, she received an award for her volunteer work for Arlington schools. Today she is immersed in supporting Arlington's artistic community. Previously a board member of the Arlington Artists Alliance, she is now the managing director



"Friendly Rivals"



PHOTO BY SANDI PARKER  
"Ohio Sunset"

of Gallery Underground and Gallery Clarendon. Aside from staging the monthly exhibits, she also organizes receptions for both galleries. Gallery Underground has a first Friday reception while Gallery Clarendon is on the second Friday of each month. This is part of the Arlington Artists Alliance goal to bring "local art more accessible to the community."

Parker is one of the many artists who has a studio at Crystal City's Gallery Underground.

Her next goal is to paint some cityscapes. She loves street art and finds ideas walking around the streets of Richmond and New York City when she visits her children.

She also has a jewelry line called SandiSea Designs, making jewelry from sea glass and pottery shards from the sea.



# OPINION

## Be Part of the Pet Connection

**T**he Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of February, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Friday, Feb. 22.

We invite you to send stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to

adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a managing pet? Is your business about pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature,

identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

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### EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Return to Green Valley?

To the Editor:

*The following is an open letter to the residents of Nauck.*

Residents of the Nauck community would like to rename our community “Green Valley.” For unknown reasons, the county made a decision to officially change or refer to our community as “Nauck” and drop “Green Valley” many years ago.

### The Present Nauck Community

The Nauck Community — bordered by Army-Navy Country Club, Four Mile Run, South Walter Reed Drive and South 16th Road — features African-American roots that predate the Civil War. Records from the 1840s show that free blacks like Levi and Sarah Ann Jones bought land, built homes and sometimes found neighbors by selling portions of their lots.

A surge of growth came with the start of the 20th century when an influx of former slaves arrived as the federal government shuttered its nearby Freedman’s Village.

Faced with encroaching segregation, Green Valley residents became self-sustaining as entrepreneurs, educators, religious leaders,

health workers and other professionals established an array of resilient neighborhood institutions. Several survive to this day.

### Green Valley’s Origin

In 1719, John Todd and Evan Thomas received a land grant within the area that is now referred to as the Nauck neighborhood. Robert Alexander later acquired the land. In 1778, Alexander sold his property to John Parke Custis, whereupon the land became part of Custis’ Abingdon estate. During the mid-1800s, Gustavus Brown Alexander owned much of the area that became Nauck, which at the time was called Green Valley. It has been stated that it is doubtful that any of the early settlers of Northern Virginia made a more significant and large-scale contribution to the development of Arlington and have received less credit and recognition for it than the Fraziers of the Green Valley Estate. Anthony Frazier built Green Valley Manor in 1821 on what is now the Army-Navy Club. William Frazier, Jr. acquired from the Alexander family several hundred acres of ground straddling lower Long Branch, a tributary of Four Mile Run. The lands were known as Green Valley, perhaps named for James Green, who lived on the land near the present location of the clubhouse at the Army-Navy Country Club.

Green Valley Manor was cited in the floor of a valley about a hundred yards from Long Branch. The estate included what are now the Oakridge Elementary School, the Gunston Middle School, Shirley Park, and Arna Valley (Avalon), as well as land from Pentagon City and the River House almost to the banks of Four Mile Run.

The Frazier properties were extensively occupied and used by the Union Army throughout the Civil War. In 1924 Green Valley Manor was destroyed by fire, originating from causes that have never been conclusively established. This may be a hint to why the Green Valley name was dropped and Nauck established.

African Americans began to purchase property and settle in the Green Valley area during that period. Among the early African American property owners were Levi and Sarah Ann Jones. In 1844 Levi and Sarah Ann purchased 14 acres of land in eastern Arlington along Four Mile Run with a down payment of \$200 and an additional \$235 to be paid over a period of five years. Throughout the decades before and after the Civil War, the Jones family expanded their farm, sold land to fellow African Americans to help create the Green Valley neighbor-

hood and become community leaders. By the time the Civil War commenced, Jones’ farm consisted of seventeen acres, twelve of which had been cleared for cultivation. Jones’ property eventually became the southern extension of the Green Valley community. In the early stages of the community’s development Jones’ home served as a school, a church and a meeting house.

Throughout the decades before and after the Civil War, the Jones family expanded their farm, sold land to fellow African Americans to help create the Green Valley neighborhood, and became community leaders. By 1900 this neighborhood in eastern Arlington County became the largest black community in terms of both geography and population. This large population supported both a church and school within the community. The early strength of Green Valley was due, in large part, to the presence of the Jones family who actively sold land to fellow African Americans. After the war ended in 1865, Thornton and Selina Gray, an African American couple that had earlier been slaves at Arlington House, purchased a small piece of property in the area in 1867.

In the 1970s the community started to become heavily referred to by “official Arlington” as Nauck, rather than what it was commonly known as. It then raises the question why was it still commonly referred to as “Green Valley” when it was recorded in Alexandria County in 1885 as “Nauck?” Was the new Arlington County, started in 1920 bound by recordings of Alexandria County? If they were not bound, why did they continue to refer to it as Green Valley for the first 50 years of its existence (1920-1970)? Was it because John D. Nauck was a former Confederate Army soldier and the Green Valley Manor was extensively occupied and used throughout most of the Civil War by the Union Army?

During 1874-1875, John D. Nauck, a former Confederate Army soldier who had immigrated from Germany, purchased parcels of land in South Arlington (some 30 years after Levi and Sarah Ann Jones) and began subdividing it. Prior to that time the area was known as Green Valley. Some articles state he purchased 69 parcels (acres) and others state he purchased 46 parcels (acres). John Nauck held at least one political office in the area, lived on his property and subdivided and sold the remainder. During the post-war period, the area attracted several African American families residing in Freedman’s Village and other loca-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



PHOTO BY MICHAEL MCMORROW/THE CONNECTION

## Where Is It?

See page 11 for the answer.

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# New at Ballston Exchange

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
THE CONNECTION

Large or small? Light, medium or creamy?" The barista at Philz Coffee on Wilson Boulevard stretches two fingers to show how much milk each represents in a cup of the hand-crafted coffee. Philz opened its first Virginia store on Feb. 7 and handed out free coffee plus tastes of avocado toast and labneh toast on Valentine's Day.

A line of customers stares at the blackboard, listing specialties with names like Silken Splendor, Ether, Canopy of Heaven. The line has been 20 strong starting at the door and extending the length of the counter since 8:30 a.m.

Chris Knight who describes himself as part of the opening team, "well, the one-man opening team," said, "We start with black coffee and then make it to your taste. We are known for our personalized approach." He says the two most popular coffee choices by far have been the Tesora, which is a combination of caramel, nuts and butter, and the iced Mint Mojito, "even in winter. You have a lot of iced drinkers here."

Knight says tasting the coffee drinks is similar to wine. For instance, the Philharmonic is a medium roast "with an earthy undertone and then the cardamom spice we add kicks in at the end." Knight says usu-



**Chris Knight, center, describes himself as the one-man opening team for Philz Coffee around the country.**

ally people start out with the familiar and then start to explore new drinks.

Knight says he travels around the country opening Philz Coffee locations. He has just come from Bethesda where they opened a store last month. "I'm a wanderer. Actually I grew up in the LA and live in San Francisco. I'll spend the summer in Chicago." Knight says it takes about two and a half months to open a store from the lease signing. "The building permits usually take the longest."

He said, "We heard a lot of great things about the Ballston Exchange area. It feels the same here as the DC locations, but different. It's friendlier." Knight said.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

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

## ONGOING

**Exhibition: ARTECH.** Through Feb. 24, at The Barry Gallery, in the Reinsch Library at Marymount University, 2807 North Glebe Road, Arlington. Featuring multi-media works by Susan Eder, Alexis Gomez, and Jonathan Monaghan. The exhibition focuses on the advancements of modern day technology, its influence on the world, and the ways it can be incorporated into the creation of artwork. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission is free.

**“Cyrano.”** Through March 10, at Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St., Arlington. Directed by Vato Tsikurishvili and based on the play by Edmond Rostand. A brilliant poet and soldier, Cyrano de Bergerac apparently has it all – except the confidence to win the heart of his beloved Roxane. Lacking traditional good looks and the ability to truly “fit in,” Cyrano partners with his handsome friend Christian, also in love with Roxane but lacking Cyrano’s way with words. Together, the two make a formidable suitor as Cyrano expresses his true feelings for Roxane in the only way he feels he can – through love letters apparently written by Christian. Synetic Theater will apply their unique physical storytelling and a stylistic twist to this commedia-inspired wordless adaptation of Cyrano. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at [www.synetictheater.org](http://www.synetictheater.org) or via phone at 866-811-4111.

**Convergence: Works by AAC’s Resident Artists.** Through March 10, gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Featuring a diverse selection of works by AAC’s twelve resident artists, this exhibition examines the current trajectories of individual artists, while embodying the creative dialogue that characterizes AAC’s residency program. Visit [arlingtonartscenter.org](http://arlingtonartscenter.org) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 20

**Sustainable Landscaping: Selecting Native Plants.** 7-8:30 p.m. At Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 South Walter Reed Drive, Arlington. There’s a palette of plants that is just right and that will thrive in any site’s conditions. Learn how to select appropriate plants for a site, what is meant by a native plant versus a cultivar, and some best management practices for installation and maintenance of planting bed designs. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgmv.org](http://mgmv.org). Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgaralalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgaralalex@gmail.com).

## THURSDAY/FEB. 21

**Talk on Hillwood Estate’s Garden.** 11 a.m. At Little Falls Presbyterian Church, 6026 Little Falls Road, Lower Level Friendship Hall, Arlington. Sponsored by Rock Spring Garden Club, Hillwood’s Horticulturist and Garden Manager, Drew Asbury, will speak about the Hillwood Estate’s cutting garden and adding cut flowers to a garden’s plantings. Club meeting begins at 10 a.m. Optional lunch available after the program with small donation. Visit [www.rockspringgardenclub.com](http://www.rockspringgardenclub.com) or email [rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com).

**Mystery Writers.** 7 p.m. At One More Page Books, 2200 Westmoreland St., Arlington. David Swinson, in celebration of his detective thriller, Trigger, David will be in conversation



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The cast of Encore’s production of “Robin Hood” in rehearsal.

## Encore Stages ‘Robin Hood’

Classic tale of a bandit who robs from the rich to give to the poor in Merry Old England.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

With a cast of 26 child actors, ages 9-18, Encore Stage & Studio of Arlington is presenting “Robin Hood” from Feb. 22 to March 3, at Gunston Arts Center – Theatre One.

According to Artistic Director Susan Keady: “The show is about Merry Old England during the Dark Ages and Robin Hood is a thief, a bandit who robs from the rich to give to the poor. The kingdom is ruled by King Richard who is away travelling and in his place his brother, Prince John, is doing a terrible job in taxing the citizens and going against all the good will that King Richard has created.”

She continued: “Robin Hood, who is from the Sherwood Forest region, ends up gathering a band of Merry Men, all of whom are thieves, and defending the poor people. On all the state highways, they steal from the caravans and distribute to the poor.”

“I want the audiences to have a sense of the culture and the time in which the play is set — through the fights, stage combat, dancing, the sense of right and wrong, good versus evil and good triumphs over evil, and that history can be really great,” said Keady, who is also the director. She said that 122 youths auditioned for the show.

Xander Tilock, 14, of Falls Church plays the title role of Robin Hood. “Robin Hood is a very adventurous character with lots of charisma and determination to do the right thing and assist the people through difficult times,” said the Justice High School ninth-grader.

“Some challenges were piecing together the stage combat, character acting and interacting with other characters all together, but in the end, our amazing team accomplished this,” he said.

Maggie Donnelly, 13, of Arlington plays the wife to the Sheriff of Nottingham. “I am a goofy woman who likes to have fun and likes to shop in France,”

said the St. Ann’s seventh-grader. “She’s very silly and goofy and I’ve never really played a character like that. Not only is it hard to get the comedic effect on the lines, it’s hard not to break out laughing doing it,” she said.

Sam Regardie, 13, of Washington, D.C., plays Will Scarlet, one of Robin Hood’s Merry Men. “It was really challenging for me to learn stage combat and fighting with other people because I have not done much of that before,” said the Washington-Latin School eighth-grader.

Quinn Sumerlin, 14, of Arlington plays Maid Marian. “She’s a dreamer but she’s had a rough life. She’s having to marry this guy who she does not like. She still finds hope and happiness and still believes in love,” said the H.B. Woodlawn ninth-grader. “I think she’s a very emotional character and a few people she’s close to die and she has some very emotional lines which are hard to take seriously when you’re a ninth-grader. Also, I talk really fast so having to slow down is a challenge,” she said.

Isa Paley, 14, of Arlington plays the role of Salome. “She has been raised in riches and spoiled, but she’s very dim and she’s not entirely aware of the world around her, but she does pick up on little things. She’s funny and doesn’t have the best social cues,” said the Wakefield High ninth-grader.

Oliver Meek, 13, of Arlington plays the role of Little John, another follower of Robin Hood and his Merry Men Band. “He’s a funny guy and has an ironic name because he’s not actually little,” said the Swanson Middle School eighth-grader. He said the challenge was finding his character’s specialty. “Each character has a different shtick and every character’s personality works together and it makes an amazing show.”

*Founded in 1967, Encore Stage & Studio (“Theatre by kids, for kids”) is presenting “Robin Hood” from Feb. 22 to March 3. Show times are Fridays, Feb. 22 and March 1, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Feb. 23 and March 2, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and Sundays, Feb. 24 and March 3, at 3 p.m. The venue is located at Gunston Arts Center – Theatre One, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. Tickets are \$15/adults, \$12/children, students, military, and seniors. Tickets are available at [www.encorestage.org](http://www.encorestage.org) or by calling 703-548-1154.*

with Bill Beverly, author of *Dodgers*, a dark, coming-of-age journey.. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com).

**Live Comedy: Carlos Mencia.** 7:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. In the past couple years, Carlos Mencia has chosen to go back to his comedic roots, performing at a number of comedy stores throughout the country – allowing him to share his newest material with smaller and more intimate audiences. \$30-\$35. Visit [ArlingtonDrafthouse.com](http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com).

## FRIDAY/FEB. 22

**Live Comedy: Carlos Mencia.** 7:30 and 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. In the past couple years, Carlos Mencia has chosen to go back to his comedic roots, performing at a number of comedy stores throughout the country – allowing him to share his newest material with smaller and more intimate audiences. \$30-\$35. Visit [ArlingtonDrafthouse.com](http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com).

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/FEB. 22-23

**Darwin and his Fabulous Orchids.** Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. At David M. Brown Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St., Arlington. Aesthetic, unique, and intriguing, this introduction to the largest and most varied family of plants and to the research carried out by Charles Darwin is an intense, but also entertaining experience. Never look at orchids the same way again. Sponsored by Friends of the Planetarium. Visit [friendsoftheplanetarium.org](http://friendsoftheplanetarium.org).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 22-24

**“Robin Hood.”** Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and Sunday, 3 p.m. at Gunston Arts Center – Theatre One, 2700 S. Lang St. Arlington. Presented by Encore Stage & Studio – Theatre by Kids, for Kids. Robin Hood and his merry men are on a mission to help by taking from the rich and giving back to the poor. Tickets are \$15/adults; \$12/children, students, military and seniors. Visit [www.encorestage.org](http://www.encorestage.org) or call the box office at 703-548-1154.

## FEB. 22-27

**Lions Club Charity Fundraiser.** At Overlee Pool, Bath House - Lower Level, 6030 Lee Highway, Arlington. Fresh citrus, pecans, and maple syrup for sale. Sponsored by the Northwest Arlington Lions Club/Charities. Hours are Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Monday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Tuesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Wednesday, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Call 703-528-1130.

## FEB. 22-MARCH 8

**“She Kills Monsters.”** At Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, 1500 North Glebe Road, Arlington. Show times are Fridays, Feb. 22, March 1 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Feb. 23, March 2 and 9 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, March 10 at 2 p.m. Written by Qui Nguyen, this comic romp captures the power of role-playing fantasy games to catapult us from hum-drum lives into worlds of infinite possibilities. Cost is \$13/adult; \$7/child. Donations will be taken to support the youth summer mission trips. Visit the website: <http://mountolivetumc.com/youthplay/>.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 23

**Black History Month: Stories and Quilting.** 1-2 p.m. At Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive, Arlington. Visit



# CALENDAR

library.arlingtonva.us/locations/columbia-pike-branch-library/ for more.

**Feel the Heritage Festival.** 1-6 p.m. At Charles Drew Community Center, 3500 23rd St., South, Arlington. Wide variety of live entertainment – from Gospel music to African drumming/dancing. Artisan vendors will offer products ranging from bath and beauty to clothing and handcrafted jewelry. Non-profit and community organizations will display information about programs available to Arlington residents. Free dental screenings. 2-6 p.m. Sweet Home Café Chef Jerome Grant to judge Best Soul Food cook-off entries. The festival welcomes local residents each year to learn about the historically African-American neighborhoods while enjoying live entertainment, delicious food and dozens of vendors. Other offerings will include face painting, balloon art and giant games – checkers, chess and Chinese checkers. Visit the website [www.parks.arlingtonva.us/feel-the-heritage-festival](http://www.parks.arlingtonva.us/feel-the-heritage-festival) or call 703-228-3329.

**Author M.K. England.** 3 p.m. At One More Page Books, 2200 Westmoreland St., Arlington. England will discuss her YA sci-fi adventure, *The Disasters*. The Breakfast Club meets Guardians of the Galaxy when hotshot pilot Nax Hall is framed for a terrorist attack on the elite Ellis Station Academy, from which he's just been expelled. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com).

**Black History Month Sing-a-long.** 3-4 p.m. At Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive, Arlington. Visit [library.arlingtonva.us/locations/columbia-pike-branch-library/](http://library.arlingtonva.us/locations/columbia-pike-branch-library/) for more.

**Jane Franklin Dance's Border.** 5:15 p.m. At Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H St., NE, Washington, D.C. Experiences and perspective on bias told through personal stories, movement and visual art. Featuring Emily Crews, Carrie Monger, Kelsey Rohr, Amy Scaringe, Brynna Shank, Rebecca Weiss with Ken Hays and Richard Nyman. \$25. Visit [www.atlasarts.org/events/border/](http://www.atlasarts.org/events/border/) or call 202-399-7993, ext. 2.

**Family Skate Nights.** 6:30-9 p.m. At Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 2nd St., South, Arlington. Time to add roller skating to the calendar of weekend evening fun. Enjoy a live DJ, moon bounce and fun on wheels. The cafe will be open for snacks./ \$2 per person; skate rental is \$3. This is a cash only event.

**The Arlington Chorale.** 7:30-9 pm. At Westover Baptist Church, 1125 Patrick Henry Drive, Arlington. Join The Arlington Chorale for "Light in the Darkness" – a diverse selection of songs to warm the soul and lighten the spirit. Free with donations

## FEEL THE HERITAGE FESTIVAL

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## She Kills Monsters

This is a play by Qui Nguyen. Comic romp captures the power of role-playing fantasy games to catapult us from hum-drum lives into worlds of infinite possibilities. Free. Donations will be taken to support the youth summer mission trips. Show times are Fridays, Feb. 22, March 1 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Feb. 23, March 2 and 9 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, March 10 at 2 p.m. Cost is \$13/adult; \$7/child. At Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, 1500 North Glebe Road, Arlington. Visit [mountolivetumc.com/youthplay](http://mountolivetumc.com/youthplay) for more.

accepted. Visit [arlingtonchorale.org/](http://arlingtonchorale.org/).

**Determined to Rise: Women's Historical Activism for Equal Rights.** 7-8:30 p.m. At Arlington Public Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington. Visit [library.arlingtonva.us/locations/central-library/](http://library.arlingtonva.us/locations/central-library/) for more.

**Live Comedy: Carlos Mencia.** 7 and 9:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. In the past couple years, Carlos Mencia has chosen to go back to his comedic roots, performing at a number of comedy stores throughout the country – allowing him to share his newest material with smaller and more intimate audiences. \$30-\$35. Visit [ArlingtonDrafthouse.com](http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 23-24

**Spoon, Toons & Booze Rocks!** Noon at Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Live out rock n' roll fantasies at Spoons, Toons & Booze Rocks! Favorite Saturday morning and weekday afternoon cartoons on the big screen plus a special menu of episodes featuring rock stars, band breakups, musical numbers, band parodies, battles of the bands, some bodacious shredding from an animated Bill & Ted and maybe something that's truly, truly, truly outrageous. Hosted by SecretFormula's cartoon and cereal experts Michael Austin and Nell Casey. Cost is \$15. Visit [ArlingtonDrafthouse.com](http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com)

### SUNDAY/FEB. 24

**Yoga at Long Branch.** 10-10:45 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Start with a fun short walk, return to the

nature center to practice poses representing the plants and animals found, then end with a short relaxation. No prior experience needed, bring a yoga mat if possible, but not required. Ages 7-10. \$5. Register at [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us) using #622929-C.

**Natural Selection.** 1:30 p.m. At David M. Brown Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St., Arlington. This screening of "Natural Selection" celebrates the landmark publication of "On the Origin of Species" and the anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth. Join Darwin on his voyage with the HMS Beagle to the Galapagos Islands where he was inspired to develop his later theory of transmutation by natural selection. From the comfort of Down House in Kent, Darwin himself will explain the mechanism of natural selection to the audience, and support it by showing many beautiful examples in nature. The thrill of a scientific discovery, the adventure of science and the beauty of nature are central in this show. Sponsored by Friends of the Planetarium. Visit [friendsoftheplanetarium.org](http://friendsoftheplanetarium.org).

**Celestial Navigation.** 2:15 p.m. At David M. Brown Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St., Arlington. How to get from here to there? Darwin's theory of evolution has its roots in his voyage on the HMS Beagle, on which he spent five years as the naturalist. Explore storm glasses and sextants, the 19th century technology that brought Darwin and his specimens safely home. Sponsored by Friends of the Planetarium. Visit [friendsoftheplanetarium.org](http://friendsoftheplanetarium.org).

**Cell. Cell. Cell.** 3 p.m. At David M. Brown Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St., Arlington. This is the story of the trillions of cells that form human bodies, from the beginning as a single cell to the complexity of a whole body. Join Raj and Sooki on a totally ex-CELL-ent immersive journey. Get shrunk down by the Shrink-a-tron, go back in time with the Retroscope and see an exploded view of all the body systems courtesy of the Cell-o-tron. Sponsored by Friends of the Planetarium. Visit [friendsoftheplanetarium.org](http://friendsoftheplanetarium.org).

### MONDAY/FEB. 25

**The Embattled Vote in America.** 3-4:30 p.m. At Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington. Encore Learning will present a lecture on "The Embattled Vote in America: From the Founding to the Present." Allan J. Lichtman will discuss his newest book about past and current battles to secure the right to vote. His book details the founders' failure to provide federal protection for the conduct of elections. This has led to ongoing battles between political parties to structure local election laws to gain political advantage. Call Encore Learning at 703-228-2144.

**Talk on Urban Agriculture.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Westover Branch Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, Arlington. Discussion on Urban Agriculture - "Grow What You Eat: Starting Your Own Vegetable Garden." Learn easy-to-implement practices for selecting a site, and evaluating and improving soil. Find out which plants grow best locally, which are best planted directly via seeds and which are typically transplanted as seedlings. Discover how to attract pollinators and other beneficial insects. Learn to identify and manage pests, weeds and diseases. Get free seeds and a vegetable garden calendar customized for the region. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgmv.org](http://mgmv.org). Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgaralalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgaralalex@gmail.com).

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

**Crescendo Chamber Music Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Wakefield High School, 1325 S. Dinwiddie St., Arlington. Don't miss the young string players of the Crescendo program at its winter chamber music concert.

### THURSDAY/FEB. 28

**Alliance For Housing Solutions.** 5:30-7 p.m. At 3100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 200, Arlington. Come enjoy drinks, networking, and an informal conversation about affordable housing with Arlington County Board Chair, Christian Dorsey. Remarks from Christian at 6 p.m. This free event is open to anyone interested in housing affordability in the community. RSVPs are not required but will help in planning. Email the name(s) of those attending to [ahstaff@allianceforhousingolutions](mailto:ahstaff@allianceforhousingolutions).

### FEB. 27-MARCH 5

**Lions Club Charity Fundraiser.** At Overlee Pool, Bath House - Lower Level, 6030 Lee Highway, Arlington. Fresh citrus, pecans, and maple syrup for sale. Sponsored by the Northwest Arlington Lions Club/Charities. Hours are Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Monday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Tuesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Call 703-528-1130.

### FRIDAY/MARCH 1

**Jurassic Adventure Family Night.** 6-8 p.m. At the Arlington Mill Community and Senior Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St., Arlington. Step back in time to when dinosaurs roamed the earth at Arlington Mill Community & Senior Center. Family Nights @ The Mill are free drop-in programs for families that take place on the first Friday of every month. Enjoy fun dinosaur games, make your own dinosaur mask and test your skills at our dinosaur egg scavenger hunt. Jurassic times call for Jurassic measures. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/arlington-mill-community-center/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/arlington-mill-community-center/).

**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 Langston-Brown Community Center. No pre-registration is required during this drop-in event. 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! \$2 per person. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/langston-brown-community-center-park](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/langston-brown-community-center-park).

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# CALENDAR

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 1-3

**"Robin Hood."** Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and Sunday, 3 p.m. at Gunston Arts Center – Theatre One, 2700 S. Lang St. Arlington. Presented by Encore Stage & Studio – Theatre by Kids, for Kids. Robin Hood and his merry men are on a mission to help by taking from the rich and giving back to the poor. Tickets are \$15/adults; \$12/children, students, military and seniors. Visit [www.encorestage.org](http://www.encorestage.org) or call the box office at 703-548-1154.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 2

### 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.

**Turtle First Aid.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Join rehabilitators and vets in this six-hour class to learn the basics of care for rescued local turtles. Morning session: Turtle Care Intro covers natural history, diet, housing, common illnesses and injuries, and how to help wild turtles. Afternoon session: Turtle First Aid with veterinarians on how to recognize and handle a variety of issues with sick and injured turtles. They'll also do hands-on diagnosing with live turtles. \$35. To register go to [wildliferescueleague.org](http://wildliferescueleague.org). Bring snacks and lunch. Teens ages 15 and up are welcomed, but must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-228-6535.

### Plot Against Hunger Spring

**Garden Kick-Off.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington. Learn how to support Arlington Food Assistance Center with fresh produce from a home garden or community plot. There will be presentations on seed starting, composting, and lasagna and container gardening; exhibit tables on winter gardening and edible landscapes; and demonstrations of fruit tree pruning. Also free vegetable and herb seeds. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org). Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

### Fort Ethan Allen Park Walking

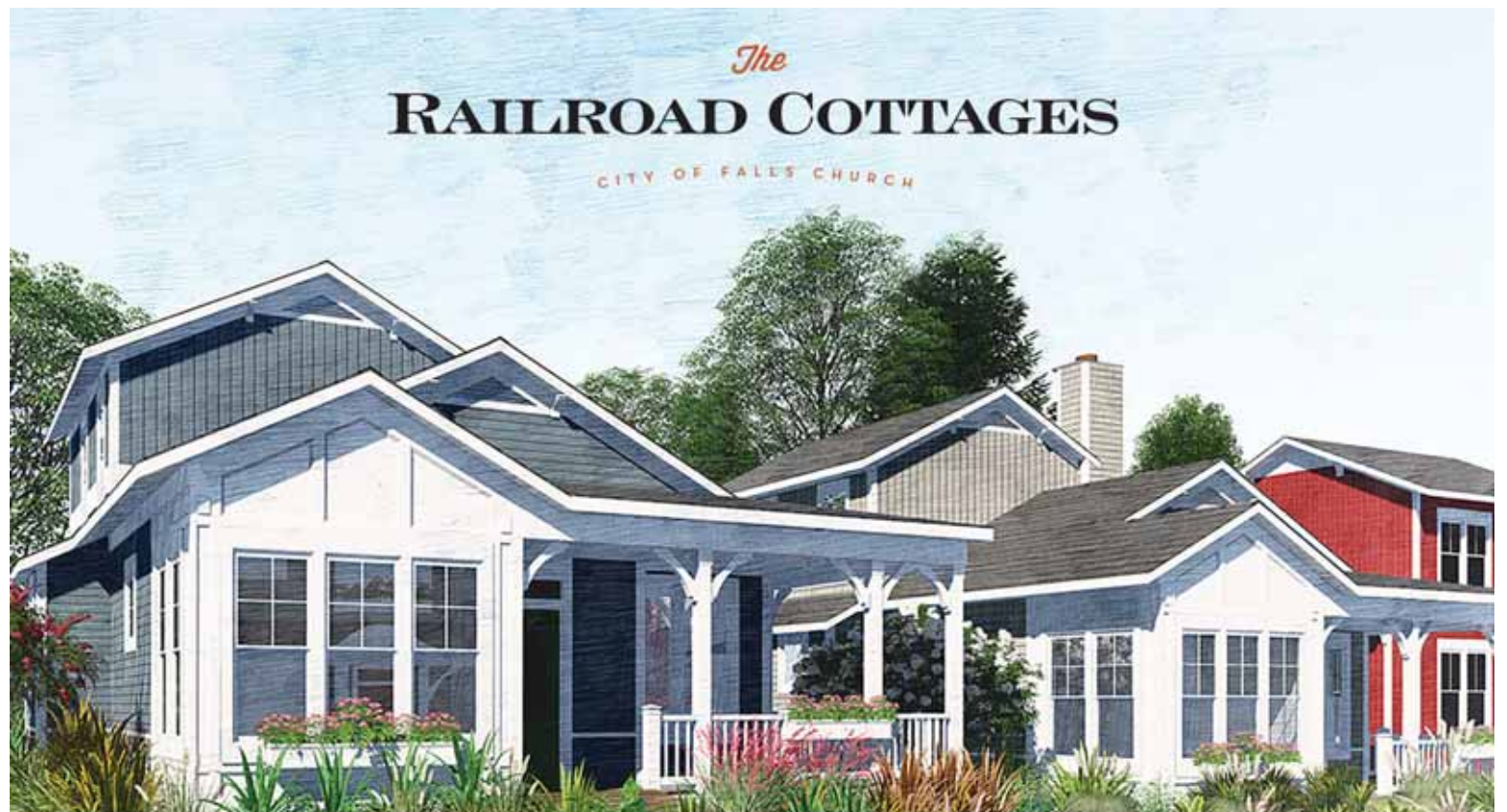
**Tour.** 12-12:45 p.m. At Fort Ethan Park, 3829 N. Stafford St., Arlington. Free. Fort Ethan Allen was built by the Union Army in September 1861 to command the approach to Chain Bridge and has the most extensive remaining features of any Civil War fort in Arlington. Explore the earthworks and discuss how and why the fort was built. Dress for the weather. Terrain will be uneven and possibly muddy. Call 703-228-4775.

**Family Skate Nights.** 6:30-9 p.m. At Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 2nd St., South, Arlington. Time to add roller skating to the calendar of weekend evening fun. Enjoy a live DJ, moon bounce and fun on wheels. The cafe will be open for snacks./ \$2 per person; skate rental is \$3. This is a cash only event.

## TUESDAY/MARCH 5

**Lecture Series: Intelligence.** 11-11:45 a.m. At DEA Museum & Visitor's Center, 700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington. Free. Take a peek into the inner workings of the Drug Enforcement Administration in this 2019 lecture series "Who We Are and What We Do." Panel discussion with four members of the Intelligence staff. Visit [www.deamuseum.org/lecture-series/2019](http://www.deamuseum.org/lecture-series/2019).

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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4

tions. In 1876, William Augustus Rowe, an African American who lived in Freedman's Village and was elected to a number of political positions, was among those who purchased property in the area during that period. Green Valley grew slowly during the late 19th century. Again it raises the question, why their names were not considered?

In 1874, a congregation initially organized in Freedman's Village purchased land in the area on which to relocate a building containing an African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, (the Lomax A.M.E. Zion Church). The church's building housed a public school that was later known as the Kemper School. In 1885, the Alexandria County school board built a one-room school nearby. The board constructed a new two-story brick school in 1893 on South Lincoln Street. The Arlington County school board later replaced that building with a larger facility that now contains the Drew Model Elementary School.

While the Nauck community's origins predate the Civil War and John D. Nauck, African American families like the Jones family formed a seed for the future, the community's growth, particularly the first half — of the 20th century was fed by migration. In particular, Green Valley became a station on a migration that traces to the end of the Civil War and the establishment of Freedman's Village in Arlington following the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

From its earliest days and throughout most — and particularly the first half — of the 20th century, Green Valley and other African American communities were largely excluded from full participation in mainstream American political and social life and commerce. As a result, communities had to “do for themselves.” They made their own institutions, and they did their best to provide services for themselves and their neighbors. They also made their own fun. Community churches facilitated many of these activities.

However, the 1902 Virginia Constitution, which established racial segregation throughout the state and restricted the rights of African Americans, stopped the neighborhood's expansion. African American property owners continued to subdivide their lands to accommodate more people, but Nauck's boundaries largely remained unchanged.

During World War II, the federal government constructed Paul Lawrence Dunbar Homes, an 11 acres segregated barracks-style wartime emergency low-

income housing community for African Americans in Green Valley. The government built this affordable housing project on a parcel of land at Kemper Road and Shirlington Road that Levi Jones and his family had once owned. Meanwhile, construction of The Pentagon and its surrounding roads during the war destroyed several older African American communities. Some of those communities' displaced residents relocated to Green Valley, thus stimulating the neighborhood's development and increasing its African American population. By 1952, few blocks in Green Valley were still vacant. Others were built nearly to capacity. The neighborhood continued to develop during the remainder of the 20th century along the lines established many years earlier. In 2013, the Arlington County Board designated the Green Valley Pharmacy in Nauck as a local historic district. Not only did many of the businesses carry the surname Green Valley, e.g., Green Valley Carryout, Green Valley Blacksox, Green Valley Park, etc., but it was identified as that by most areas of the DMV until its present identification as Nauck. Additionally, the buses and streetcars before them ran from their terminus in Rosslyn to its terminus in Green Valley, only extending to Shirlington after its extension of Seminary Road.

### Rationale for Change

William Frazier, Jr. acquired from the Alexander family several hundred acres of ground straddling lower Long Branch, a tributary of Four Mile Run. The lands were known as Green Valley, perhaps named for James Green, who lived on the land near the present location of the clubhouse at the Army-Navy Country Club. From that time, then a part of Alexandria County, through the establishment of Arlington County until circa 1970 the area was referred to and known as Green Valley. In the 1970s the three areas where most of its African American population was residing, underwent a name change, i.e., Green Valley became Nauck, Halls Hill became High View Park and Johnson Hill became Arlington View without the knowledge of the residents as to why. It was under the name of Green Valley that its pioneers — surviving Jim Crow Laws, black codes, lacking financial backing, becoming economically independent, educating themselves and their children, fighting for freedom' and remembering from whence they came — served as an inspiration to all to celebrate and continue sharing past and present, ordinary Green Valley resident's accomplishments. It is this memory we seek to memorialize of the important work of what those residents of Green Valley achieved and the legacy they leave for future generations.

Taking a page from the following “It's time to talk about the names of our schools and what they mean and why they matter,” Barbara Kanninen, School Board chair, said at an August 2017 meeting, “It is also time to talk about our communities and the values these names reflect and the messages we are sending, not only to our children, but to our future residents.”

Residents of the Nauck Community would like to rename their community “Green Valley/Nauck,” (although we prefer the name Nauck excluded, as it was so named and still referred to before for unknown reasons, the county made a decision to officially change or refer to it as the Nauck community and drop “Green Valley.”

Although the Jones family purchased and starting selling parcels of their land, some 30 years before John D. Nauck, raises the question, “if the name of the area was referred to as Green Valley from its inception in the 1700s to the 1970s,” why was the name “Nauck” selected and not one of the early Af-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL MCMORROW/THE CONNECTION

**Former water tower of Saegmiller Mansion, 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington.**

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

ican American residents who contributed to its growth, i.e., Jones, Gray or Rowe”? We find no record or evidence linking Nauck to efforts to improve the quality of life for its residents. Unlike today’s process utilized by the Arlington Civic Federation in allowing its civic associations to select the name of the area and its association, the Green Valley residents were not afforded that opportunity. Today, we are asking for that opportunity by requesting our community once again become the Green Valley/Nauck community in keeping with its rich history. In today’s time for the community to be named after John D. Nauck, a former Confederate Army soldier and developer who was not known to have made any other contribution to the improvement of the quality of life or values of the residents of Green Valley is not the message we want to send to our children or future residents. Look at many of the local, national and international contributions that were made by the residents under the banner of Green Valley and to let that name slip into nothingness would be a travesty to their memory.

Borrowing further from the schools direction, supporters of the renaming — “Nauck” to include its original name “Green Valley” — argued that it is inappropriate for the diverse community to venerate a person who fought to preserve slavery and whose memory evokes painful reminders of laws that segregated and excluded African Americans from public life.

— Written by Dr. Alfred O. Taylor, Jr.

Please let us know what you think of changing our name back to Green Valley.

**Portia A. Clark**

President, Nauck Civic Association  
www.ncaarlington.org

## Ready for Passage

To the Editor:

In breaking news on Feb 14, Virginia Delegates Ayala and Simon filed new bills that would lead to a vote on whether to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. A majority of the House of Delegates have said they will vote for the Amendment if it is brought to the House floor.

The Equal Rights Amendment will reclaim Virginia’s fame as a birthplace of freedom from undue government interference. The Amendment states: “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.”

A recent scientific poll by the Wason Center for Public Policy of Christopher Newport University found that 81 percent of Virginians want our state to ratify the Amendment. Virginia has the opportunity to be the 38th and final state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. A House vote representing the Virginia poll respondents would be fitting in the state that forged our representative government. On July 30 of this year, Virginia will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the first democratically elected state legislature in our country.

Let’s reclaim the narrative. Our state has evolved. The Equal Rights Amendment is ready for passage.

**Heather Keppler**/Arlington

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## Enough About Cancer



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

At least that was my intention when I sat down to write this column. I was planning on highlighting a couple of my pet peeves: One was about people who back into parking spaces, an all-too common practice (which does not make perfect) that irks me no end and often inconveniences me while idling in my car waiting for the driver to crane his neck and coordinate his mirrors while backing into a head-first space, all while blocking my passage.

The second peeve also involves cars, but this action has potentially far more dangerous consequences: Drivers who, while motoring along, completely ignore my car’s blinkers/indicator lights — WHEN THEY’RE FLASHING.

I was taught that when driving a vehicle and needing to turn/switch lanes, I was to indicate that to other drivers by using my blinkers, look into my mirrors and then move right or left accordingly. Moreover, when I observed those same lights flashing in other vehicles, I was to respect their intentions and give them a wide berth. I was not to speed up and interfere with their indications. Unfortunately, the exact opposite often happens.

Though I am still respectful when drivers flash their blinkers, it often happens that when many of my driving brethren see those lights, they react much the same way as a bull does when he sees red: they SPEED UP, and in their vehicle’s acceleration, they put me and my passengers at risk. If it has happened once — which it has — it has happened a thousand times.

Unfortunately, neither of these car-related “misbehaviors” has been able to block out one of my key cancer anniversaries: Feb. 20, 2009, and as such, I will now be returning to the scene of the semi crime. And though I am not Billy Shears 20 years after the band taught me how to play, I am a lung cancer survivor who 10 years ago on Feb. 20 learned that I had cancer. That was the day when my primary care physician called me at work, about noon-ish on a Thursday to discuss the results of my previous week’s surgical biopsy.

After declining the offer to come to his office, I encouraged him to just tell me — which he did: the growth was malignant. Dumbfounded, I asked for further details, which he politely deferred to an oncologist (a specialty with which I was totally unfamiliar), with whom, while we spoke on the phone, my primary care physician scheduled a Team Lourie appointment for the following Thursday.

This officially ended the diagnostic process which had been going on since I showed up at the Emergency Room on Jan. 1, 2009 complaining of pain in my right side, an inability to take a deep breath and difficulty bending over.

With an inconclusive X-Ray to not corroborate, an otherwise healthy patient with no family history of anything relevant — especially cancer, the doctor was perplexed. Fifty days later I learned I had cancer. And so I remember that day/date, a day which will go down in infamy, so to speak — in my family anyway.

The intervening days, as I have written about recently, were spent investigating the cause of my original symptoms. Eventually all test results led to one conclusion: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV.

Meaning metastatic and inoperable, meaning “terminal.” It was Feb. 20 when I learned my fate. (The following Thursday, Feb. 27, is another anniversary; that’s when we met my oncologist for the first time and learned that my life would never be the same, or last nearly as long.)

But yet here I am, alive and reasonably well, writing about nonsense, mostly, instead of cancer, for this week, anyway. Good therapy for sure, and a nice change of pace.

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



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