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The Arlington Connection

Janice Marie Chance holds a photo of her son, Marine Capt. Jesse Melton III, at the T.A.P.S Honor Guard Gala March 6 at the National Building Museum. The Arlington-based organization marked 25 years of service to the families of America's fallen military, including the family of Melton, a Maryland resident who was killed in the line of duty Sept. 9, 2008, in Afghanistan.

Families of the Fallen

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connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

NEWS

Paving Way to Rename Jefferson Davis Highway

BY ALEXANDRA ZERNIK
CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

The portion of Jefferson Davis Highway that runs through Arlington County could be renamed as early as this summer thanks to the discovery of a loophole in state law and a legal opinion from the Virginia attorney general.

Attorney General Mark Herring said the name change does not need approval from the General Assembly. Instead, the Commonwealth Transportation Board has authority to rename the section of Jefferson Davis Highway if Arlington County makes such a request, the opinion said.

Herring's opinion was requested by Del. Mark Levine, D-Alexandria. Levine opposes having a road named after Davis, the president of the Confederate States of America.

"In Arlington County, one of the most diverse and progressive localities in the nation, we are saddled with a primary highway that honors a racist traitor and slave owner who led the fight to take up arms against our nation in order to preserve the brutal system of slavery," Levine said in a newsletter to constituents.

"In that brutal Civil War, more Americans died than in all of our other wars combined. We still live with the terrible legacy of that ruthless and once-legal system of terror that represents America's greatest shame."

Before Herring issued his opinion, the general understanding was that local governments

lacked authority to change names that the General Assembly had placed on certain roads.

Several years ago, the attorney general's office issued an advisory opinion saying city governments had the power to rename state highways but county governments didn't.

On Jan. 1, the section of Jefferson Davis Highway through the city of Alexandria was renamed Richmond Highway to match the name the road has always carried in Fairfax County. To change the highway's name in Arlington County, Levine took things into his own hands. He found a loophole in a footnote to transportation legislation that the General Assembly passed in 2012.

That legislation deleted a line in state law prohibiting the Commonwealth Transportation Board from changing the names of "highways, bridges or interchanges as have been or hereafter be named by the General Assembly."

According to the opinion Herring released Thursday, March 21, lawmakers' actions in 2012 showed "clear legislative intent to empower the CTB to rename transportation facilities that were originally named by the General Assembly."

"Accordingly, it is my opinion that the Commonwealth Transportation Board may change the name of those portions of Jefferson Davis Highway located in Arlington County, provided that its Board of Supervisors adopts a resolution requesting the renaming," the opinion said.

The designation of Jefferson Davis Highway

began almost a century ago. In 1922, the United Daughters of the Confederacy asked that a Southern transcontinental highway be named to honor Davis, who was a senator from the state of Mississippi before becoming the first and only president of the Confederacy.

The Virginia General Assembly's response was to name Highway 1 as the Jefferson Davis Highway, stretching from Washington, D.C., to the North Carolina line. Today, Jefferson Davis Highway also can go by other names, such as U.S. Route 1 and Route 18.

Some people want to keep the name as Jefferson Davis Highway. More than 600 people signed an online petition saying renaming the road would be "a slap in the face to U.S. soldiers as a whole and should not be permitted to happen." However, more than 4,300 signed a petition supporting the name change.

Levine said Arlington County supervisors could ask for the name change this month — and then the request would go to the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

"If all goes well, Arlington street signs could be changed as early as this summer," he said.

Levine said times have changed since the United Daughters of the Confederacy sought to honor Davis and preserve his legacy.

"It's 2019. It is not 1865, nor 1922, nor even 1953," Levine said. "We live in a post-Charlottesville time. And the vast majority of Northern Virginia no longer wants to honor the Confederacy or the racist legacy of Jefferson Davis."

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Families of the Fallen

T.A.P.S. marks 25 years of support for survivors.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE CONNECTION

It was a night of celebration and of tears as Arlington-based Tragedy Assistance for Survivors marked 25 years of providing support and resources for grieving military families at the T.A.P.S. Honor Guard Gala March 6 at the National Building Museum.

“At T.A.P.S., we find hope,” said President and Founder Bonnie Carroll, the surviving spouse of Brigadier Gen. Tom Carroll. “We create community, we have a new family. We know our heroes are forever remembered and they are honored — and we know that love lives on.”

More than 800 surviving military family members and supporters were joined by congressional representatives, Pentagon officials and leaders from the business community in honoring the nation’s fallen military heroes.

“We know our heroes are forever remembered and they are honored.”

— T.A.P.S. founder and president
Bonnie Carroll

“If all I had to do tonight was say thank you, it wouldn’t be enough,” said Air Force Gen. Paul J. Selva, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. “It is comforting to know that when we go out to do what we do, there will be T.A.P.S. to care for those left behind.”

Retired Marine Corps Capt. Kevin Penn was honored as the T.A.P.S. 2019 Military Mentor of the Year. Penn is among the thousands of active duty service members and recent veterans who volunteer as mentors for surviving military children at T.A.P.S. Good Grief Camps.



T.A.P.S. President and Founder Bonnie Carroll, recipient of the 2015 Presidential Medal of Freedom and surviving spouse of Brigadier General Tom Carroll, speaks at the T.A.P.S. Honor Guard Gala March 6 marking the organization’s 25 years of service to the grieving families of fallen veterans.

“As a military mentor at T.A.P.S., we receive far more from our service than we can ever give,” Penn said upon receiving his award. “To the T.A.P.S. families here and across the globe, thank you for letting us celebrate the lives of your loved ones and share in your journeys.”

Sen. Dan Sullivan of Alaska presented the T.A.P.S. 2019 Senator Ted Stevens Leadership Award to Angel Pansini, surviving sister of Marine Corps Sgt. Nicholas A. Pansini, in recognition of her leadership on behalf of other military survivors.

“It’s unlikely that I would be the woman that I am today without the help of T.A.P.S.,” said Pansini, who was just 12 years old when her brother committed suicide as a result of suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. “I have a tempered understanding of what it means to give to someone during their worst time. T.A.P.S. has given me the irreplaceable: life after tragedy.”

Other attendees included Michael Neidorff, Centene chairman and CEO; Gen. Martin Dempsey, USA (Ret), 18th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Darryl Walker, USAA Survivor Relations

team manager.

The Legacy Sponsor of this year’s Gala was the Centene Charitable Foundation/Health Net Federal Services. The Title Sponsor was USAA and Presenting Sponsors included BAE Systems, DynCorp International, Express Scripts, Lockheed Martin, Oshkosh Defense, Pratt & Whitney, Prudential and Telos Corporation.

Funds raised from the Gala will be used to provide support services to families who have suffered the loss of a loved one who served in the military. Programs include grief counseling, access to community-based care, casework assistance, a 24/7 helpline and special programming for suicide loss survivors. All services are provided at no cost to families.

“Our mission has stood the test of time — a steadfast commitment to providing grieving military families with compassionate support and critical resources,” Carroll said. “Military survivors gain strength in the knowledge they, and their loved ones, will never be forgotten.”

For more information visit www.taps.org or call the T.A.P.S. helpline at 1-800-959-TAPS (8277).



Angel Pansini accepts the 2019 Senator Ted Stevens Leadership Award in recognition of her leadership on behalf of other military survivors. Pansini is the surviving sister of Marine Corps Sgt. Nicholas A. Pansini, who suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and committed suicide on July 22, 2010 at the age of 23.



Retired Marine Capt. Kevin Penn is congratulated on receiving the Military Mentor of the Year award by children of fallen veterans at the T.A.P.S. Honor Guard Gala March 6 at the National Building Museum. The Arlington-based organization marked 25 years of service to the families of America’s fallen military.

Offering a Book-Filled Sense of Community

BY CATHERINE FRONDORF
THE CONNECTION

NoVa Teen Book Festival to connect readers and authors.

When the word “festival” comes to mind, one usually thinks of amusement rides, carnival games, face painting, and merry-go-rounds, but seldom does one think of books.

Arlington-based One More Page Books bookstore is hosting its 6th annual NoVa Teen Book Festival on Saturday, March 30 at Marshall High School in Falls Church, from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. This festival’s mission is to connect readers to books and authors

and create a sense of community while inspiring creativity.

Owner of One More Page Books, Eileen McGervey, opened the bookstore in 2011 and hired Danielle Ellison, founder of NoVa Teen Book Festival, to coordinate Young Adult events.

“I went to a meeting with the teen librarian at Arlington Central Library, Nico Pero, to brainstorm ideas for teen events,” Ellison said. “At the end of our conversation, I asked

her, ‘What would you do if you could do anything?’ She replied, ‘Something to put this area on the map for authors because our teens are hungry for literature and they will show up.’ Well, I have a crazy idea ... what if we start a book festival?” And that is where NoVa Teen Book Festival was born.”

McGervey writes on her LinkedIn page: “I escaped from corporate marketing to a place where I’m surrounded by my favorite things — books, wine, chocolate, and

people who enjoy them.” Some of those people include former President Barack Obama and his daughter Malia, who visited the bookstore in 2012 for Small Business Saturday. The bookstore has two or three book events every week at the store, hosts five book clubs, and frequently collaborates with the Arlington Central Library.

Thanks to local authors, librarians, educators, individuals and businesses who vol-

SEE FESTIVAL, PAGE 11

OPINION

Call To Action ... To Save the Arts

EMILIO FERNANDEZ
PRESIDENT, ARLINGTON PHILHARMONIC

Earlier this year, County Manager Mark Schwartz submitted his recommended 2020 budget to the County Board. If implemented it will prove to be devastating to the Arlington arts community. Should the County Board opt for the lower 1 percent increase in real estate taxes, then the County Manager is further recommending a \$70,000 (1/3 of the total grant budget) cut to the already very low arts grant budget. This will likely make Arlington's arts grant budget the lowest in the region. This directly contrasts with our neighbors (Fairfax, Herndon, Falls Church and Alexandria) who are actually investing in the arts by building new black box theaters, arts districts, arts centers.

COMMENTARY

The manager's proposed budget will essentially eliminate the Space and Services Grant program that enables the Arlington Philharmonic to bring classical music to you. The additional proposed cut to the grants fund will decrease the already dismal financial grant program which is essential to the ongoing mission and innovative efforts of the Arlington Philharmonic. The only way we can stop them at this point is to have Arlingtonians weigh in with the County Board by the hundreds, if not thousands. Everything you need to know can be found on our website (<https://embracing-arlington-arts.org/fight-proposed-draconian-cuts-to-arts-in-arlington-get-involved-voice-your-concerns/>).

However, the County Board has not approved this budget so we can still make a difference. But it is going to take all of us — arts patrons, supporters, our neighbors and everyone in between to fight these draconian cuts. Here is how you can help!

Email countyboard@arlingtonva.us, call (703-228-3130) the County Board to tell them these draconian proposed cuts will devastate the arts organizations in Arlington.

Some of the points you can make:

- ❖ We recognize that Arlington County has to exercise fiscal responsibility, but an unfair portion of the cuts falls on the performing arts.

- ❖ This is more than budget cuts and job layoffs. This is about the survival of irreplaceable institutions in our community. Once these resources are eliminated, there is no going back.

- ❖ According to a report from the Americans for the Arts entitled "The Creative Industries: Business & Employment," Arlington County arts entities employs 6,124 people in 658 arts-related businesses. This represents 5.1 percent of the total number of businesses located in Arlington County. According to another economic study, over \$18 million of economic activity in Arlington is derived from audience expenditures associated with arts events, including eating at restaurants, parking, ticket sales and other purchases made during their night out. These monies coming into the County go away when arts organizations fold or move to more "arts friendly" counties.

- ❖ Space and Services for performing arts was one of the most unique grant programs in the nation and was the only area in which Arlington rose above neighboring counties to help

the arts.

- ❖ To say that arts organizations can go elsewhere to build a set and/or to hire a contractor is disingenuous. There is no other venue, and budgets are already extremely tight for these arts organizations, and will be made even worse if their grants are cut by 1/3.

- ❖ Include your personal story. Detail how the arts in Arlington helped you personally, your family, your friends, etc. Anecdotes are the best advocacy tools.

- ❖ Speak at the County Board FY20 Budget Work Session on April 2 at 7 p.m. (Note: You must sign up in advance: <https://countyboard.arlingtonva.us/speaking-budget-tax-rate-public-hearings/?fbclid=IwAR3zNXX72EmL25HqShVGUuBgyRvXORkzE-11bhuRmXr-pp5HLL4FNJ38>.) When you sign up, be creative in the title of your remarks. The County Board has been known at times to not let people speak if they all say they want to speak in support of the arts. Instead say things like "How Dance Helped Me" or "Painting Alleviates Stress" or "Theater Helped My Child Thrive in School," etc.

These proposed cuts are being made because there is not a lot of vocal support for the arts. We need to raise the volume enormously to prove there is vast appreciation for the arts in Arlington, and we vote!

And please encourage your friends, colleagues, neighbors and family to do the same. Let us not become the "soulless suburb" once asserted by a senator!

Questions? Email me at president@arlingtonphilharmonic.org or janetk@embracing-arlington-arts.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

FRIDAY/MARCH 29

Brain Health as You Age. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Lee Senior Center, 5722 Lee Highway, Arlington. Learn more about age-related changes in memory and learning and practices to keep the brain sharp. Register online at www.insightmcc.org, or contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 703-204-4664 or lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 30

Arlington Kids' Stuff Sale. 8 a.m.-noon at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 4000 North Lorcom Lane. Sale features gently used items from 100 consignors including clothes, toys, books, videos, games, puzzles and more for kids for birth to teen. Due to stairs and tight spaces, strollers are not allowed at the sale.

Cash or check only. Visit standrewsarlington.org for more.
Northern Virginia Housing Expo. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Washington-Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford St. Dozens of exhibits and workshops will provide all the information needed to rent an apartment or purchase a first home. Free. Visit www.novahousingexpo.org for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 31

"Helping Your Children Achieve Authentic Success." 10 a.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4250 N. Glebe Road. St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Arlington is hosting Dr. Heather Tedesco, psychologist, to talk about the issue of child self-esteem and motivation. Free and open to all (space allowing). Visit www.saint-peters.org for more.



PHOTOS BY JEFF BERGER

Alex Robbins of U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's office presented a Congressional Record to Northern Virginia Conservation Trust in honor of its 25th anniversary.

Del. Alfonso Lopez, a three-term member of the Virginia House of Delegates representing the people of the 49th District, gave attendees a land conservation update from Richmond.

Celebrating 25 Years

More than 200 individuals attended Northern Virginia Conservation Trust's (NVCT) event at the Key Bridge Marriott in Arlington to celebrate "25 Years of Saving Nearby Nature" in Northern Virginia. Guests included elected officials, local landowners, conservation leaders, event sponsors and other key stakeholders.

Christian Dorsey, chairman of the Arlington County Board, kicked off the speaking portion of the luncheon by giving a presentation about the impact of Amazon's arrival in the region. That presentation led into a panel and Q&A with Andrew VanHorn of JBG SMITH, Matt de Ferranti of the Arlington County Board, and Dorsey. The panelists shared their expertise and views on the balance that must be found between open space and land conservation and the new development and infrastructure necessary to attract businesses.

See www.nvct.org.

The
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News

Offender Aid Restoration will host its 11th annual Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast on Tuesday, April 9.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Breakfast To Benefit OAR

Strengthening community through second chances.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

Offender Aid Restoration (OAR) of Arlington, Falls Church and Alexandria is holding its 11th annual Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast on Tuesday, April 9 from 7:45-9 a.m. The event will feature the journeys of reentry into the com-

munity by several formerly incarcerated clients. Local and state officials will join community, business and faith-based supporters to highlight these efforts.

OAR assisted 2,014 participants in their program in 2018 including 635 men and women who received reentry assistance, both pre-and post-release and 1,432 men, women, boys and girls who were enrolled in the Community Service program which is an alternative form of sentencing.

In addition, this was the third year of a

SEE OAR, PAGE 10



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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: Over, Under, Forward, Back. Through March 30, gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. AAC presents Over, Under, Forward, Back, an exhibition featuring ten contemporary artists working in fibers, textiles, and related materials whose work embodies and reflects on labor, time, and history. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org.

Rinse, Recycle, Repeat by Jenny Wu. Through March 30, at Marymount University's Barry Gallery, 2807 North Glebe Road, Arlington. A solo exhibition of Jenny Wu's sculptural work, installation, video and participatory projects. Born in China, Wu integrates an immigrant's perspective to current events into her work and lets curiosity lead the way in her studio. Visit www.marymount.edu/barrygallery.

"Retrospective." Through March 30, at Gallery Clarendon, 2800 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington. Featuring works by Marina Troy. Marina's paintings are inner expressions of childhood beaches and bare mountains. Marina's work is executed in acrylic, with her own technique of paint applied in wide strokes with expired credit cards, edited with various brushes. Visit www.galleryclarendon.org.

"Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity." Through April 7, at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Three women — an art restorer, her nurse and their military captor — are trapped in a ravaged museum during a catastrophic hundred years war. Tasked with restoring a damaged Rembrandt painting, the women find common shreds of humanity as they try to save a small symbol of beauty in their broken world. Featuring Holly Twyford (A Little Night Music, Sex with Strangers) and Felicia Curry (The Scottsboro Boys). Visit www.sigtheatre.org.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 27

Gardening Talks. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., in the Bluemont Room. Fruit for your Garden – Trees, Bushes & Brambles. Learn the best varieties and care of small fruit, brambles and trees for the garden and growing techniques. Visit afac.org/plot-against-hunger/pah-events/.

SATURDAY/MARCH 30

NoVaTEEN Book Festival. 9:30 a.m. at Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. The NoVaTEEN Book Festival is back with a day full of panels, games, and signings with over 30 bestselling and emerging Young Adult authors. Learn more on the official festival website. The event is free and open to the public; tickets and a full schedule are available at novateenbookfestival.com.

Sketch Walk Arlington. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Clarendon Central Park, 3140 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Come to create and hone powers of observation while exploring Arlington during this open sketch session in Clarendon. Experts from Sketching the District will start the walk with an introduction to sketching followed by an exploration of Clarendon led by WalkArlington that includes multiple sketching stops. See www.walkarlington.com/event/sketch-walk-arlington/.



Participants are picking up Easter eggs during Arlandria's 2018 Eggstravaganza.

2019 Arlandria Eggstravaganza

This year's event features entertainment by the Rainbow Rock Band, Uncle Devin, Kalin Jones, and more. The day also features plenty of food, activities, and games for the whole family. The event also includes multiple egg hunts specifically for tots, elementary aged children, and teens/adults. A petting zoo, health services area, and a pupusa making contest are new additions to this year's activities. These activities will join the other favorites like the putt-putt forest, carnival game area, and community resource tent. Saturday, April 13, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Four Mile Conservatory Center, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. Free, family-friendly. Visit www.arlandriaeggstravaganza.com.

Living History. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith, 2411 N. 24th St. The Union Army reenactors from the 3rd United States Regulars and 54th Massachusetts have come to Arlington and set up camp at Fort C.F. Smith Park. Join in a day of living history that will include drilling, activities, specialized fort tours and more. Come learn about Civil War life in Arlington County and beyond at this free event. Free. Visit parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/fort-cf-smith-park.

Walking Tour: Over, Under, Forward, Back. 1-3 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. AAC presents Over, Under, Forward, Back, an exhibition featuring ten contemporary artists working in fibers, textiles, and related materials whose work embodies and reflects on labor, time, and history. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org.

Crosshairs Garage Races. 4-9 p.m. At 201 12th St. South, G4 Level, Crystal City, Arlington. Crosshairs Garage Races challenges amateur and elite cyclists to compete weekly for points and prizes. Race categories are available for all riding levels including Beginners, Intermediates, and the Petty Cup Race for elites (including a women's only field). During the fifth week of the series, a more festive scene dominates with specialty races including Feds versus Contractors, the Cargo/Tandem/Bikeshare Show-Down, and the ever popular Fixed-Gear Finale. Unusual rides, tricked out bicycles, and crazy costumes are common and encouraged for this final Saturday in March. Visit www.crystallcity.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 30-31

Capital Art Fair. Show hours are Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in at Key Bridge, 1900 Fort Myer Drive, Rosslyn. The 39th Annual Capital Art Fair hosts 21

exhibitors, each of whom is a leading dealer in fine prints, drawings, photos or other works on paper. These exhibitors come from all over the United States, offering for sale selections from their inventories works of Old Master, Modern and Contemporary artists, ranging from the earliest days of printmaking in the 15th Century, through until the present day. Prices range from less than \$100 to thousands of dollars. Register at capitalartprintfair.com/tickets to receive free tickets.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 3

Gardening Talks. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., in the Bluemont Room. Planning & Planting Your Herb Garden. Herbs are the spice of life. Basic techniques on planning and planting an herb garden. Visit afac.org/plot-against-hunger/pah-events/.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 4-7

Little Shop of Horrors. Thursday-Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at Bishop O'Connell High School, 6600 Little Falls Road. Purchase tickets at www.bishopoconnell.org/the-arts/oconnell-players.

APRIL 5-20

Photos with the Easter Bunny. At Fashion Centre at Pentagon City 1100 S. Hayes St. Visitors can hop down the bunny trail near Nordstrom on the First Level to meet and take egg-citing photos with the Easter Bunny; skip the line, make an appointment at simonbunny.com. Families can also visit Caring Bunny for a sensory-friendly experience on April 7, 9-11 a.m. Visit simon.com/fashioncentreatpentagoncity.

SATURDAY/APRIL 6

Ball-Sellers Season Opening. 1-4

p.m. at Ball-Sellers House, 5620 3rd St., South. Celebrate history with colonial and revolutionary era music as the oldest house in Arlington opens for its 2019 season. Reenactor musicians from the Monumental City Ancient Fife and Drum Corps will perform at 1 p.m. and share musical favorites that the 18th century residents would have enjoyed. Free docent-led house tours and colonial era snacks. Free. Visit arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org or call 703-892-4202.

Ballet Performance: Cinderella. 2 and 7:30 p.m. at NOVA Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Audiences of all ages will be dazzled by this full-length production of this classical fairy tale Cinderella. Performers from Classical Ballet Theatre will tell the story of a young girl who discovers her prince with a little help from her fairy godmother. \$15. Visit www.cbntva.org/cinderella or call 703-573-0182.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 6-7

Artist Studios Opening. Saturday, 6-9 p.m.; Sunday, 2-5 p.m. at Columbia Pike Artist Studios, 932 S. Walter Reed Drive. The Columbia Pike Artist Studios and Cooperative will offer an open studio of 26 artists working across media: painting, drawing, printmaking, photography and sculpture. A group exhibit will be opening in the gallery. Free, open to the public. There is metered parking (free on Sundays) and free parking in the overflow lot behind the McDonalds. Visit www.columbiapikeartiststudios.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 8

History Presentation. 2:30-4:30 p.m. at the Arlington County Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Jean S. Moore will take the audience on a journey through the life and times of Mary Queen of Scots explaining how

fate, intrigue and ill conceived personal decisions influenced her life. Moore is a local lawyer and artist and member of Encore Learning. The public is invited. For more information call Encore Learning at 703-228-2144.

TUESDAY/APRIL 9

Author Event: Lisa Scottoline. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St., Suite 101. Lisa Scottoline is the New York Times bestselling author and Edgar Award-winning author of 32 novels. Her new novel, "Someone Knows," explores the guilt that ripples from a 20-year-old tragedy that took one teenager's life and forever changed many others. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 10

Gardening Talks. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., in the Bluemont Room. Balcony and Container Gardening Basics. No room? No problem. Grow herbs, native plants, flowers and edibles on a patio, balcony, front stoop, or back deck. Visit afac.org/plot-against-hunger/pah-events/.

THURSDAY/APRIL 11

Young Entrepreneurs Academy Pitch. 6-8 p.m. at Marymount University, Ballston Center, 1000 North Glebe Road. Arlington Public Schools Career Center students involved in the Arlington Chamber of Commerce's Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) have worked diligently crafting their business ideas, and now is their chance to transform these ideas into reality. Students will pitch their business plans before a panel of investors and a public audience for the opportunity to receive startup capital. Visit web.arlingtonchamber.org/events/YEA-Investor-Panel-2758/details to register.

Fundraiser: Mother2Mother. Doors, 6:30 p.m.; show starts 7:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Mother2Mother, in partnership with Safe Shores—The DC Children's Advocacy Center, presents the debut of "Songs of Hope: Voices Raised to End Child Abuse" cabaret show. Twice a year, the nonprofit Mother2Mother (M2M) supports a Washington, D.C. 501(c)(3) organization that advocates for at-risk women and children. 100 percent of proceeds will benefit Safe Shores – The DC Children's Advocacy Center. The event is for ages 21+. Full drink and dinner menu available. General admission: \$20. Visit www.m2m.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13

2019 Arlandria Eggstravaganza. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Four Mile Conservatory Center, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. This year's event features entertainment by the Rainbow Rock Band, Uncle Devin, Kalin Jones, and more with plenty of food, activities, and games for the whole family. The event also includes multiple egg hunts specifically for tots, elementary aged children, and teens/adults. A petting zoo, health services area, and a pupusa making contest are new additions. Free, family-friendly. Visit www.arlandriaeggstravaganza.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 13-14

Arlington Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 3003 Washington Blvd. Washington Boulevard will transform into an art-lover's during

ENTERTAINMENT

the 7th Annual Arlington Festival of the Arts. One hundred and fifty national and international artists are set to display their work. Ample parking is available and pets on leashes are welcome. Visit www.artfestival.com.

APRIL 13-JUNE 2

Art Exhibit: The Binding Ties.

Gallery hours in the Wyatt Resident Artists Gallery at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. In The Binding Ties, Roxana Alger Geffen presents sculptures created in part with objects and materials drawn from her family, ordinary things found in her own attic or her grandmother's junk drawer. An opening reception will take place Saturday, April 13, 6-9 p.m. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org.

Art Exhibit: Onwards and Upwards.

Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Organized by instructor Faylinda Kodis, Onwards and Upwards presents work by H-B Woodlawn seniors who have made a commitment to the visual arts, concentrating on creating a portfolio throughout their time as high school students. As they prepare for graduation and their school moves from its longtime location on Vacation Lane to a new building in Rosslyn, these five students reflect on the experience of moving on and consider the history, ideology, and accomplishments that shape both the school and their time as students. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org.

APRIL 13-JUNE 7

Spring SOLOS. Gallery hours in the Main Galleries at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Artists

Brian Barr, Emily Campbell, Noel Kassewitz, Greg Stewart, Greta Bergstresser, Jack Warner, and Ying Zhu will install solo-style exhibitions in AAC's seven main gallery spaces. The artists tackle timely environmental issues, draw on their own experiences of childhood, and create installations that shift viewers' perceptions of time, space, and history in work that encompasses sculpture, photography, installation, drawing, and painting. An opening reception will take place Saturday, April 13, 6-9 p.m. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org.

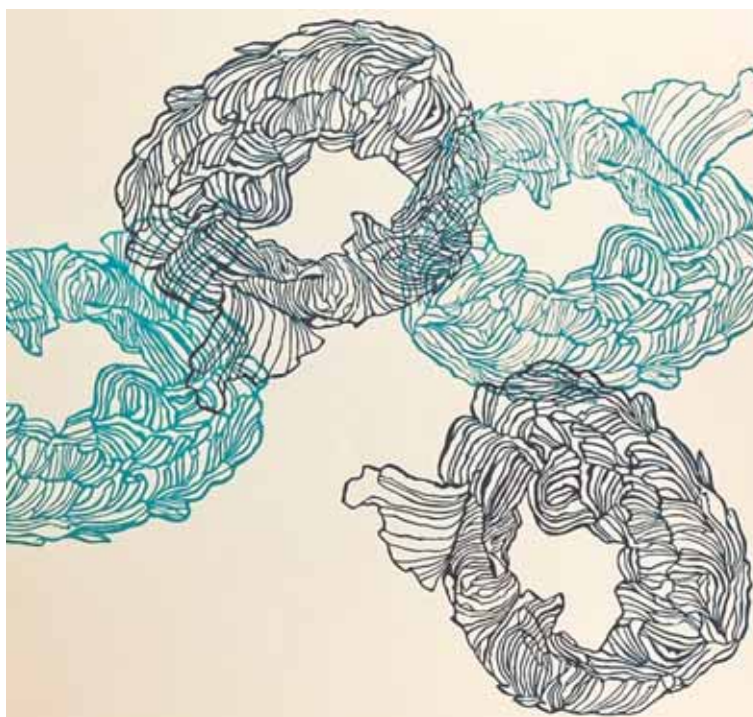
TUESDAY/APRIL 16

Embrace Your Voice: A Night of Poetry.

6:30-8:30 p.m. Join Doorways, Friends of Guest House, and the Alexandria Sexual Assault Center for our annual Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (#SAAPM) poetry share. This event is free, but space is limited, so tickets are required. Specially trained advocates will be available for anyone who may be triggered and would like help with grounding. If you're interested in speaking or reading your work, please contact Ashley Blowe at ashley.blowe@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-3118 by March 30. Reserve tickets at www.doorwaysva.org/events/event/embrace2019/.

Movie Screening: Grand Hotel.

7 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Attend a free screening of the classic film that inspired the musical Grand Hotel. Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, John Barrymore, Lionel Barrymore, and more star in this beautiful, exciting movie from the Golden Age of Hollywood. Free, no reservations



Artist Studios Opening

The Columbia Pike Artist Studios and Cooperative will offer an open studio of 26 artists working across media: painting, drawing, printmaking, photography and sculpture. A group exhibit will be opening in the gallery. There is metered parking (free on Sundays) and free parking in the overflow lot behind the McDonalds. Saturday, April 6, 6-9 p.m.; Sunday, April 7, 2-5 p.m. at Columbia Pike Artist Studios, 932 S. Walter Reed Drive. Free, open to the public. Visit www.columbiapikeartiststudios.org.

Ink on Paper, hand-pulled serigraph print by Janis Sweeney.

required. Call 703-228-6545.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 17

EarthFest. 10 a.m.-noon at Arlington Mill Community & Senior Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. Learn about compost, recycling, energy efficiency and more. Play recycling games, learn how to compost and create upcycled art. Stations will include representatives from AIRE, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Environmental Services, Arlington

Art Truck, Remove Invasive Plants, Creative Arts, Fitness, and more. This free activity takes place over spring break – all ages are invited. Visit parks.arlingtonva.us/events/earthfest/.

Gardening Talks. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., in the Bluemont Room. Vegetable Gardening in the Shade. Learn which vegetables appreciate shade during summer's hot months. Visit afac.org/plot-against-hunger/pah-events/.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 24

Gardening Talks. 7 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., in the garden (tennis court side). Vertical Garden Structures & Protection Techniques. Make better use of limited space and use cages, trellises, and fencing to train vegetables – tomatoes, cucumbers, pole beans, peas – to grow upwards rather than sprawl.



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ENTERTAINMENT



Rachel Schmidt, “Distort Displace,” 2018, Lawn Installation

Closing Soon: Distort Displace

Distort Displace reflects Rachel Schmidt’s ongoing exploration of future landscapes, climate change, and artificial habitats, as well as her interest in the response to the drastic changes human activity has brought about in the natural environment. Every year, massive ice shelves break apart and reform at the poles, a dramatic and violent, naturally occurring process that is accelerating and shifting due to climate change. Distort Displace introduces the cracking forms of an ice shelf onto the grounds of AAC, prompting viewers to ponder the dissolution and instability of the very ground beneath their feet. Through March 30 at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

CALENDAR

Learn about structures to protect your veggie tables from squirrels and other critters. Visit afac.org/plot-against-hunger/pah-events/.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

EcoAction Arlington Earth Day Cleanup. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Bon Air Park Shelter, 850 N. Lexington St., Arlington. Join the community in celebration of Earth Day as we bike, walk, and plog (picking up trash while jogging) to remove litter from our parks, trails and streams. This

event is free. For registration or more information, visit www.ecoactionarlington.org.
ACF Annual Gala. 6-11 p.m. At The Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City, 1250 S. Hayes St., Arlington. Join the Arlington Community Foundation’s “Building Bridges for Arlington’s Future” Annual Spring Gala. Celebrate the community connections that make Arlington a special place. Enjoy a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, and live entertainment. \$300. Visit www.arlcf.org.

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News

5K: Challenge Racism

Nonprofit “dedicated to empowering people to disrupt racism wherever they find it.”

BY EDEN BROWN
THE CONNECTION

Challenging Racism in Arlington is sponsoring a 5K run/walk to recognize past heroes who challenged racism in Arlington. The race takes place Saturday, May 4, at Bluemont Park, 601 N Manchester St., at 9 a.m. This is the first race the non-profit has sponsored; it will raise funds for the programs Challenging Racism delivers locally.

Challenging Racism has been holding conversations for members of the community since 2004. The program was initially funded by Arlington County Public Schools to help close the achievement gap; it has evolved from holding one year-long workshop for parents at an Arlington school, to running several “Challenging Racism: Learning How” workshops in the same year. The Arlington based non-profit is “dedicated to empowering people to disrupt racism wherever they find it.” It is able to help disrupt racism through a series of facilitated conversations built on facts, stories, reflection, and relationships. Coupled with learning the essential skills of listening and holding difficult conversations, more gets said, and heard, in the workshops.

The theme of the initial race is “honoring those heroes of Arlington’s history who have challenged racism and who serve as an inspiration.” The heroes are: Charles Drew, 1941: known as the father of blood banks, he was also Howard University’s head of surgery; Dorothy Hamm, 1956: she was a Black plaintiff in a NAACP desegregation suit against APS; Barbara Marx, 1956: she was a White plaintiff in a NAACP suit against APS; Thomas R. Monroe, 1971:



DRAWING BY BETSY GRAVES REYNEAU

Charles Drew is one of the heroes who will be honored on Saturday, May 5, in the 5K race/walk to help fund “Challenging Racism.” He broke barriers in the early 1900s, becoming a doctor and founding the concept of a blood bank, saving thousands of lives during WWII.


workshops has been consistent.

Challenging Racism is looking for people who want to sponsor the race or run virtually, as well as to support the race in other ways: asking a business or individual to sponsor the race, volunteering, donating directly to Challenging Racism, sharing the race on social media or talking to friends about it, sharing a flyer, forming a group to run, or standing at the finish line to cheer on runners and walkers. There is also an option to run the race “virtually” by donating but not running or walking.

For more information see: www.ChallengingRacism.org/5K and to learn more about the organization itself, see www.ChallengingRacism.org.


he was the first Black member of the Arlington Bar Association; and Evelyn Syphax, 1980: she was the first Black Arlington School Board Chair.

According to a survey in 2018, those who have taken the workshop “Challenging Racism: Learning How” have learned to open up more about racism in the Arlington community: 90 percent of those surveyed talked more frequently about racism and privilege with friends, 87.5 percent thought more about institutional racism, 85 percent talked more frequently with adults in their families about racism and privilege, 52.5 percent interrupted conversations where comments were made showing prejudice, and 80 percent talked more about racism and privilege with their children. Demand for the



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Legals

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PHMC-AVA, LLC trading as Rebellion on the Pike, 2900 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204-4337. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Mixed Beverages On Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Brian Westlye, Owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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-Werner Heisenberg

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My 1222, LLC trading as Pentagon City Wine Merchant, 1330 S Fair St Arlington, VA 22202-3640. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer off Premise/Keg Permit license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Young H. Kim/Managing Member. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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News



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Kristi Spicer as Gretel chases Jennifer Matthews as Hansel.

Introducing Opera to Youngsters

BY MICHAEL DOAN
OPERA NOVA

"Shall I eat it?" Hansel asks as he points to the gingerbread house. "Yes!" shout most of the pre-kindergarten students watching Opera Nova's Hansel and Gretel.

"No!" shout the others. A few yell, "There's a witch."

Despite their age, most of the children brought by buses from local schools to Thomas Jefferson Middle School knew what was going to happen. Spoiler alert: They all applauded when the children tossed the witch into the oven.

"We explained the story to the children and saw a movie in advance," said Kim Kerby, a teacher at Abington Elementary School. This is the fourth year Kerby has brought her students to the annual five-day Opera NOVA opera production. "We want children to experience different types of story telling," she said.

It may seem odd for 4-year-olds to sit through an opera, but it lasted only an hour, and there was lots of action. "I liked it when they pushed the witch in the oven," said one child. They laughed when Gretel chased Hansel with a broom. "I really liked Gretel," said one child. All of them seemed to like the gingerbread house, ooh-ing and ah-ing as the curtain opened to the set.

A few times unscheduled arias by crying children could be heard in the audience. And some seemed called to give standing ovations at awkward times. But for the most part, they were well behaved and spellbound by Engelbert Humperdinck's opera of two children who get lost in the woods and meet up with a witch. One little girl was standing and imitating the dancing. One little boy wanted to go right on stage and get in the action.

Christine Brown Munz played the witch, Kristi Spicer played Gretel, and Jennifer Matthews played Hansel. Joseph Baker played the father and Cara Gonzales the mother. The children seemed to enjoy seeing two children dressed as bees in the story.

Opera NOVA has been performing operas for children and other underserved audiences for over over 20 years, including such notables as "The Magic Flute," "The Barber of Seville" and "La Cenerentola (Cinderella)." The school performance of "Hansel and Gretel" were held March 19-22 and one for adults and children not in these classes was held March 23.

Artistic Director Jose Sacin, who conducted the orchestra, introduced the children to the musical instruments at the beginning. Most of the kids thought the clarinet was a whistle, but Sacin corrected them on that. Director Alex Albuquerque took questions from the children afterward, including whether the actors were a family. "Well, we come from separate families, but we are a family yes," he said.

Breakfast To Benefit OAR

FROM PAGE 5

new Intensive Reentry Program, which focuses on individuals still in incarceration to provide classes in essential life skills as well as case management and employment coaching. It targets individuals inside local detention facilities and the closest prison who are releasing individuals to Arlington, Alexan-

dria and Falls Church and who are at medium to high risk of incarceration based on a national assessment tool. Individuals in this program have a recidivism rate of 14 percent compared to 54 percent for a comparable population nationally.

This free breakfast will be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott at 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Festival

FROM PAGE 3

unteer and work with One More Page Books are the unsung heroes of the festival, who bring it all together, says Ellison.

Leila Nebeker is the official book buyer and event organizer for One More Page Books, says that the festival is special for many reasons and has something to offer every person — nearly 1,000 of them: “Some people come to the festival wanting to know how you start writing and how you become an author and how you get published while others want to hear from authors about a character and their development throughout a book, the fantasy world and their source of inspiration for those characters.”

The festival will host authors from around the United States, many of whom are local from the Washington D.C., area. The day-long event will consist of multiple panel discussions that are categorized into major themes that emerge throughout the books. These themes can be deducted by their title names, which Nebeker said, “were originally named after song titles because they were appropriate.”

“Girls Run the World” by Beyonce is the title for the discussion topic of heroic female characters. The other panels are focused on the craft of writing, themes, and character development, where both the audience and the authors have the opportunity to converse with one another and discuss the influence of the books on their lives.

Other session highlights include “Stand Up & Stand Out” — a discussion of characters who stand out in the crowd and stand up for what they believe in; “Lean on Me” — a discussion about friendships that sometimes turn into something more; “Revolution” — political unrest and power struggles; and a “Journey to the Past” — books that take readers back in time and across the globe.

Nebeker, who will be hosting “Lean on Me,” said that “the characters in these books confront a lot of different obstacles that are similar to what teens are dealing with. When they read experiences that are portrayed in books that embody similar feelings to their own, those characters can help those teens get through similar experiences — feelings of isolation, helplessness, loneliness, and fear.”

The panel discussions offer a platform where relevant topics can be discussed openly that otherwise might be a source of discomfort, making books a channel for teens to express themselves.

In addition to the discussions, there will be games and writing workshops (tickets required), author book signings, and a variety of sponsors.

“NoVa Teen is literally the best thing I’ve accomplished in my life, and I hope that everyone who comes, especially teens, leave feeling a little bit of that joy, love and passion that so many people pour into it,” Ellison said.

For more information, visit <https://onemorepagebooks.indiecommerce.com> and <http://novateenbookfestival.com>.

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Weight For It ... Wait ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I don't like interacting with artificial intelligence. Nor do I like interacting with artificially-intelligent emailers.

And I especially don't like when there's an attempt by these "a.i.s" to modify my behavior by suggesting a pre-programmed, presumptive course of action — or inaction on my part, based on some survey I may have completed or some list that I've recently been added to — without my consent, or most likely due to a purchase or service I likewise recently paid for.

To that end, which does not justify their means, today I received an email that goes above and beyond the "a.i.s" purview. And how this particular email came my way is "curious," as Spock from the original "Star Trek" might say.

On March 1, moments before my last infusion, I stepped on a scale which registered my "overweight," which along with taking my blood pressure, pulse and oxygen levels are part of the usual and customary vitals I provide each and every time I go for treatment. Other than my "overweight," my vitals are completely normal.

Treatment start-date to date, 10-plus years now, my "overweight" has never been a problem (truth be told, I'm hardly obese, just pleasantly plump), just a factor in determining how much medicine is dripped by my IV.

The oncologist and medical staff has seemed more concerned with a patient losing weight — which I rarely have. Although during the early days of six-plus hours of heavy-duty chemotherapy, I did lose weight and it was a concern and can portend a serious complication.

Fortunately for me, whatever weight I did lose did not portend anything other than I wasn't eating. Eventually, that lost weight — and more — was definitely found.

A few days later, I received an email from my health care provider; not my doctor, not a nurse and not personalized by any medical professional, but rather sent from some artificially-intelligent thing offering me information on varying diets and their respective benefits. At first I laughed at its location — in my inbox, and then I began to question its legitimacy and then I got mad at its presumptive intent.

Was this a coincidence? Was this merely a continuing outreach to the HMO's patients like its colon-rectal screening program, sent to patients of a certain age, seems to be? Or was it something more insidious like "Hal" nearly became in the movie "2001: A Space Odyssey"?

The nerve. The bypassing of protocols. The attempt to circumvent the human element. Is this what medicine has become?

Not calls or personalized messages from your doctor/medical staff but instead an electronic missive emailed with the cold, insensitive precision of Pentium chips?

Putting aside the obvious fact that I do need to lose weight, even though as my brother Richard says so often when he sees me: "The weight looks good on you," I am not doing so because a computer told me to.

In fact, I may not do so at all just to spite that computer, and by association, the system that exists/was put in place (presumably by some human) that believes that communicating with its members electronically is the wave of the future rather than the bane of my present. I cannot, I will not be a pawn in this game of clones where the same messages get sent to millions of semi unsuspecting patients by uncertified non-professionals as a matter of some coarse level of routine.

If you want me to change my behavior, or at least consider changing my behavior, you have to try a little harder than by sending pre-programmed message to patients who meet/exceed a certain threshold.

And how did my personal information actually get known anyway? Is there a system in place that automatically reviews patient's private histories by cross-referencing who had appointments and what the new details were? Was the scale and blood pressure machine in on it? If so, is my medical care becoming more automated and less individualized?

I realize I'm just a number but I didn't think they'd take it literally.

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

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