The Arlington Connection

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Abby, a Lucky Dog Animal Rescue volunteer, sits with Molly the Collie on Saturday, July 26, at Loyal Companion pet store.

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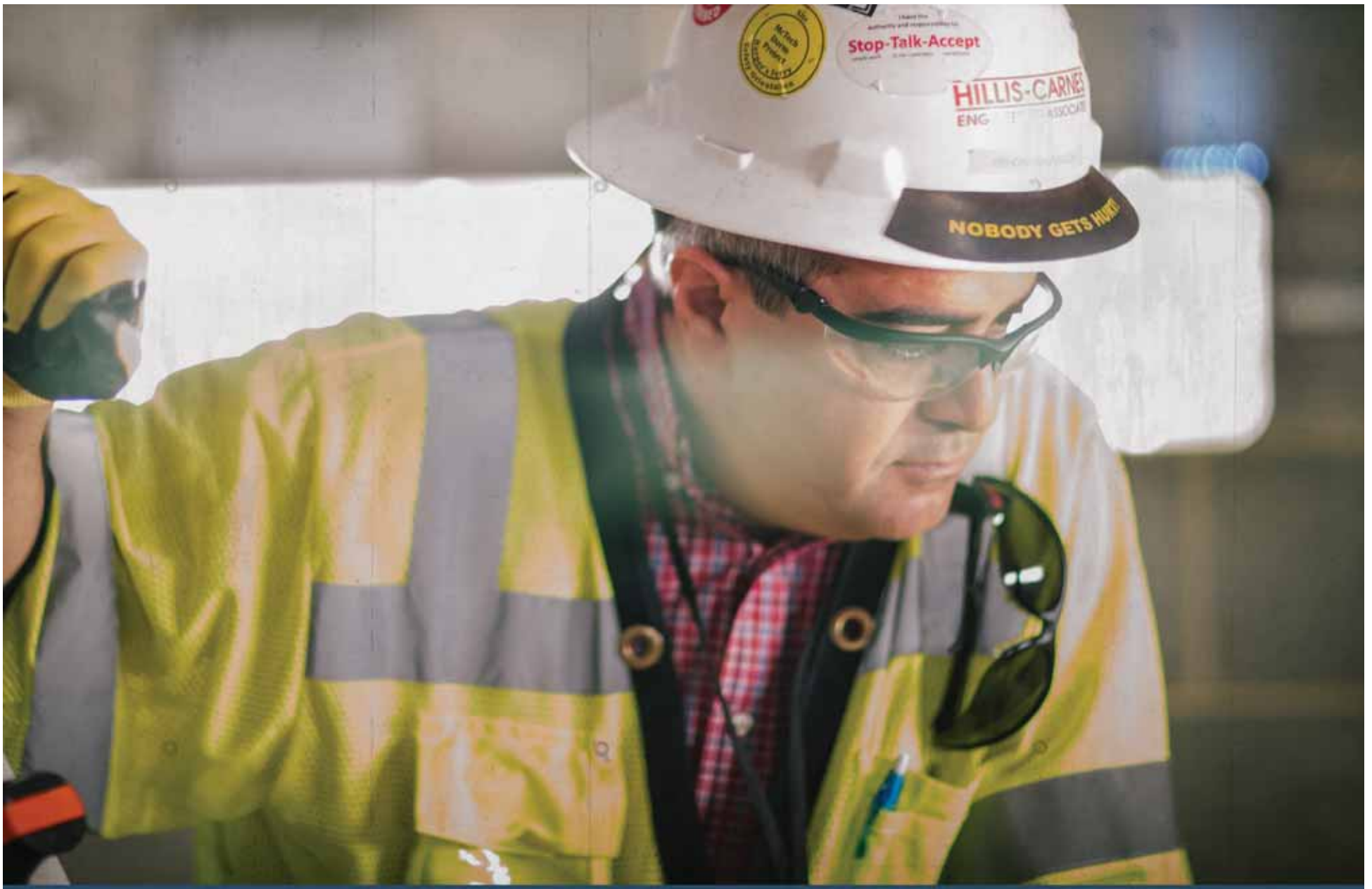

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Arlington Connection Editor Steven Mauren
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75 years for Arlington Parks and Recreation

File Photos by Shirley Ruhe/The Connection

Happy 75th Birthday Arlington Parks and Recreation

Splash, dance, cook, hike, bat, parlez-vous, bicep curl or ollie.

Young or old, splashing or swinging, strumming, playing bridge, roasting marshmallows, bird walk, road trip — Arlington Parks and Recreation offers an array of activities in its 148 parks and 13 community centers — always something to do, rain or shine.

Special celebrations could have you churning butter, tapping your foot to bluegrass music, hunting Easter eggs, netting frogs in a vernal pond or eating turkey at the annual community Thanksgiving dinners.

This year Arlington Department of Parks and Recreation is celebrating its 75th anniversary. In 1933 the formal public recreation programs were introduced to Arlington County with a $500 appropriation from the County Board for the development of county parks and playgrounds.

The first staffing for summer playground programs followed in 1935, and the first therapeutic playground for children with special needs was opened in 1960.

It wasn't until 9 years later in 1944 that the Department of Parks and Playgrounds (PRCR) was established.

It took another 7 years until the first recreation center was established when they bought Henderson House at 4811 Third Street N. Today the county has 13 community centers.

The first Silver Age Club was established in 1954 as the first public recreation senior adult program in Virginia with 44 members. Today there are five senior centers. The 33-page July-August senior 55-plus catalogue offers programs, activities and trips that range from duplicate bridge, basketball, foreign languages, healthy cooking demonstrations, arts and crafts and mountain music as well as contra and ballroom dancing.

The first community center opened at Lubber Run in 1956 with Gulf Branch opening in 1966 and Thomas Jefferson Community Center and Long Branch Nature Center in 1972 and Long Bridge Park in 2011. It has run full circle as Lubber Run closed in 2018 to make way for a new state of the art facility.

A grant in 1967 allowed for the construction of the first off-street bike trail in the Four Mile Run Stream Valley, and in 1973 the I-66 bike trail opened from Rosslyn to Spout Run Parkway.

An important development took place in 1962 when the Department desegregated, allowing participation by all the community in the parks and recreation centers, and in 1969 Arlington began the annual tribute to Martin Luther King.

Along the way PRCR established the first community garden with 70 plots, began outdoor concerts, started day camps for children, held the first county fair in 1977 and established the first farmer's market in 1979. Today there are 17 community gardens, and 14 farmer's markets dot the county.

In 2005 they received one of the few national accreditations by the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies.

In 2012 the current Department of Parks and Recreation was born. As they move forward, the county has approved the updated Public Spaces master plan on April 25, 2019 with the new Long Bridge Fitness and Aquatics Center approved and expected to be open in 2021.

— Shirley Ruhe

Two-year-old Emily Akisher in the safety of her mother's arms, slowly offers her hand to a willing puppy.

Ella and Vivian Schellhas make friends with Adeline. While they would like to be shopping for a dog, it seems they have to win over dad ... but they are working on it.

Photos by Shirley Ruhe/The Connection

Lucky Dogs Indeed

Lucky Dog Animal Rescue saved 602 puppies last year.

By Shirley Ruhe
The Connection

Ten dogs of several varieties sit, wag their tails or excitedly race around the sidewalk as they inspect potential adopters at the Lucky Dog Animal Rescue event on Saturday, July 26 at Loyal Companion pet store. This is one of many regular weekend events held around the area by Lucky Dog to help rescue hundreds of cats and dogs and help find them a safe and loving environment.

Volunteers stand at a table to answer questions and assist with filling out the adoption questionnaire. The event has just begun but they already have a couple of applications by interested families.

The staff will have a brief conversation to find out about the family's needs and preferences, daily schedule and previous experience with pets. Some families may have allergies or already have animals with specific personalities or young children inexperienced with pets. They have a full screening to see if it the adoption fits both the family and the animal.

For renters they check with the landlord to assure that dogs are permitted and if there are size or breed restrictions. And finally they visit the home to see where the dog will live and answer any questions. Generally this process takes less than a week.

Ella and Vivian Schellhas are patting Adeline, a year old retriever mix. Their mother, Caroline, pauses and says, "Well, we're looking at dogs," but Ella volunteers, "Dad's the problem."

But Caroline says, "We're working on him. We have a three-year-old Nova-Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever at home, but if it was up to me, we'd have several more dogs."

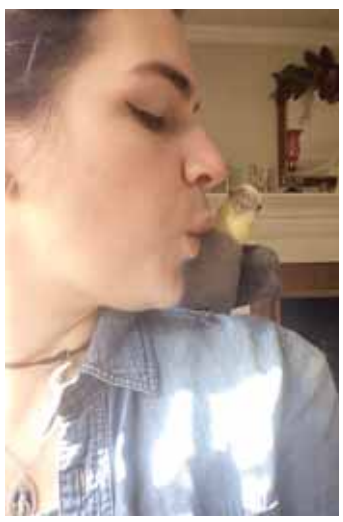
Three year old Jonah Yerkhimovich takes his turn with Adeline, but his mom says, "Not yet. They are still too young for a dog."

Meanwhile a passer-by headed to lunch comments, "Oh, so many cute ones today." A volunteer says, "they always head for the fluffy Collies."

Colleen Bernhard, senior program manager for operations, says Lucky Dog works with partners. The majority of dogs come from South Carolina although they also come from North Carolina, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and rural Virginia. Lucky Dog has no permanent facility but instead they rely on foster homes and boarding partners to care for the animals until they find an adoptive family.

Since Lucky Dog is a volunteer-powered non-profit organization, they rely on a network of volunteers to help at events, donate supplies, visit foster homes, give a dog a ride to the vet or perform administrative tasks. They are dedicated to "rescuing homeless, neglected, and abandoned animals from situations where they have no home and no future." For more information: info@luckydoganimalrescue.org.

Lucky Dog volunteers stand ready to answer questions and help potential adoptive families fill out questionnaires.



Lilli Matthews with Marcus

'My Tiny Loud Puppy with Wings'

By Mackenzie Williams
The Connection

Christy Pennington of Arlington shares her strong relationship with Marcus, her pet bird: "I've heard many people say to me that just because a bird is not a cat or dog, it does not have a strong personality. Living my life with Marcus for the last 15 years has proven all of those people wrong.

"Marcus, my gray cockatiel, is my tiny loud puppy with wings. Every day when I come home from a 12-hour shift at the hospital, Marcus comes flying out of his cage and jumps directly on my head. He sings me a sweet song that he has created from hearing the repetitive sounds of me making kissy noises at him.

"Marcus has a deep affinity for people (and eating spinach), always loves to make new friends, and is an avid fan of getting his head scratched. He loves taking trips outdoors in his cage to soak up the sunlight, just as much as he loves to cuddle up on the couch with his family.

"Marcus also has a deep understanding of emotions,and knows when you need a friend. Countless times have I been laying in my bed, just needing to take some time to myself, and I would find Marcus resting comfortably on my pillow, sitting right next to my head.

"In this picture you can see a classic aviary sign of the true love that birds are capable of. Well Marcus usually has his wings flap at his sides at rest, in this picture he is portraying what is called heart wings. Heart wings is when a cockatiel will slightly elevate his wings above his body, making the wings appear in the shape of a heart when seen from behind. It is a true sign that a bird is not only comfortable with you but is happy to be in your presence.

"I am always grateful to have Marcus in my life, knowing that he is well past his average lifespan for a bird of his species. Every day we spent together I know is an extra gift. I am always grateful to him and will always love him."

Operation FirePaws Returns Aug. 1

The fourth year of Operation FirePaws, the Arlington County Fire Department's (ACFD) month-long charity drive for adoptable pets at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA), kicks off next week. Community members can drop off needed pet supplies to designated donation bins at Arlington fire stations. Donations will be accepted from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day from Aug. 1 to Aug. 31. ACFD will present the donations to AWLA in early September. Check AWLA's list of needed donations. The AWLA will not accept milk bones, boxed hard/ homemade treats, or used beds. Since it started in 2015, Operation FirePaws volunteers delivered more than 1,600 pounds of donated goods to the AWLA.

Photos Contributed

Dog Parks

The eight Arlington County Dog Parks are open from sunrise until one half hour after sunset, unless otherwise designated.

An asterisk (*) following the name of a dog park indicates that the dog park is not fenced in or is only partially fenced in.

Benjamin Banneker Park
1680 N Sycamore Street
Lights on until 8 p.m.
Sponsor: Banneker Dogs

Fort Barnard
At the corner of South Pollard Street and South Walter Reed Drive
Lights on until 9 p.m.
Sponsor: Douglas Dogs

Fort Ethan Allen Park
3829 North Stafford Street
Lights on until 7 p.m.
Sponsor: Madison Dogs

Glencarlyn Park *
301 South Harrison Street; Closed at sunset

Utah Park
3191 South Utah Street; Closed at sunset
Sponsor: Fair Dogs

Towers Park
801 South Scott Street
Lights on until 10 p.m.
Sponsor: Towers Park CCA

Shirlington Dog Park
2710 S. Oakland Street
Closed at sunset
Sponsor: Shirlington Dogs II

James Hunter Park
1230 N. Hartford Street
CCA area closes at 9 p.m.

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Photos Contributed

Jose Sacin directs singers in an encore.

Mariela Palencia, age 14, sings at the Opera NOVA summer camp dress rehearsal.

Summer Camp for Aspiring Singers

By Mike Doan
Opera NOVA

Mariela Palencia, who is 14, has a modest goal: "I want to be the youngest singer ever to perform at the Metropolitan Opera."

She has some time: The youngest star singer, Patricia Munsel, was 17 in 1943.

"I fell in love with opera when I was 6 and saw Don Giovanni," she said. Palencia is going to attend the Duke Ellington School for the Arts in the fall and would love to get into the Juilliard School of Music.

Palencia is one of the young people aged 13 through 20 who took part in a week-long Opera NOVA Summer Institute for young singers July 22-28, co-sponsored by Opera NOVA and the Woman's Club of Arlington, with a grant from the Mars Foundation.

For a week, while it was baking outside, they were being taught acting, diction, auditioning, ear training/theory, music history, voice lessons and movement.

Most of the participants aspire to singing careers. "I want to sing in musicals," said Aarti Sabharwal,, 14, whose grandparents sang Indian music and who sings some of it herself. She'd love to appear at the Kennedy Center someday and sing at the Met, too. She has already sung in a number of Washington National Opera Children's Chorus performances.

Isabelle Schweiter, 13, would like to sing on Broadway, inspired by Ben Platt in "Dear Evan Hansen." She sings the national anthem at various school events in Stafford, Va.

These young people heard talks about how to audition, how to sing and how to move on stage and then were coached individually by opera singers Jose Sacin, Cara Gonzales, Eduardo Castro and Alex Alburqueque and coached on movement by Danny Chung, and accompanied on piano by Zsolt Balogh

At a dress rehearsal, each performer sang an opera number, often in Italian, or a piece from a Broadway show. If the singer got off track, sometimes a coach would voice the correct notes and words to help. Several were told to be sure to bow afterward.

After their dress rehearsal in advance of a performance July 28, they were given coaching notes by Chung and others. "It's OK to touch the piano while you sing," he said. Other comments: "Put your head up to signal when you want the pianist to start." "With your e-vowels especially, your jaw needs to be relaxed." "Keep your body aligned: Don't hunch over if your character is forceful," "Make sure your face is portraying the person you are trying to be."

Even during breaks, the building was filled with singing as the enthusiastic vocalists pursued their dream. Other singers in the camp were Ricardo Avalos, Katherine Kailey, Dawn Henderson and Lydia Sutton.

At the concert on Sunday, the room exploded into cheers, applause and tears. Parents, grandparents, siblings and friends who came to hear the singers gave high-fives and hugs to the kids who had worked so hard all week.

'Flourishing After 55'

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs for Aug. 11-17.

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

Senior travel: Eastern Market and District Wharf, D.C., Sunday, Aug. 11, $6; Virginia Museum of Art. Richmond, Wednesday, Aug. 14, $29; Gunston Hall tour, Lorton, Thursday, Aug. 15, $17; Marine Chamber Orchestra at NOVA, Alexandria, Saturday, Aug. 17, $5. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

NEW PROGRAMS

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics, registration open, check website, www.nvso.us or call 703-228-4721.

Photography enthusiasts meet Sundays at local landmarks, improve skills, newcomers welcome. Details, 703-228-7369.

Fishermen's group share fishing stories and more, Monday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

Diabetes support group, Monday, Aug. 12, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Details, 703-228-6300.

Proactive planning for a move, panel presentation with experts, Tuesday, Aug. 13, 1 p.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

Assessing a skilled nursing center, Tuesday, Aug. 13, 11:30 a.m., Lee. Register, 703-228-0555.

Middle Eastern dance class, Tuesdays, 12:15 p.m., Lee; Thursdays, 4 p.m., Langston-Brown. Register, 703-228-0555 (Lee), 703-228-6300 (L-B).

Writers group, Tuesday, Aug. 13, 11:30 a.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Walkthrough on the Spotify app and other music streaming services, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m., Arlington Mill. Register, 703-228-7369.

Estate planning 101, how to eliminate unnecessary costs, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 10:30 a.m., Lee. Register, 703-228-0555.

Comedy Club features classic radio and TV shows, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 11:30 a.m., Aurora Hills. Details, 703-228-5722.

Arlington Walking Club for seniors will walk in Green Springs Park, Alex., Wednesday, Aug. 14, 9:30 a.m., $4. Register, 703-228-4771.

Do's and Don't's of cancer prevention, Friday, Aug. 16, 11 a.m., Arlington Mill. Register, 703-228-7369.

Open Latin Dance, Friday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m. – noon, Arlington Mill. Details, 703-228-7369.

Free blood pressure checks, Thursday, Aug. 15, 9:30-11 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

Healthy summer desserts, recipes, samples, Friday, Aug. 16, 1:30 p.m., Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

Lee Walkers will walk in Riverbend Park, Great Falls, Friday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m., $4. Register, 703-228-0555.

The Arlington Connection

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2017 Virginia Press Association Award Winning Newspaper

Taylor to Receive Foundation Award

Dr. Alfred Taylor will receive the Arlington Community Foundation's 2019 William T. Newman, Jr. Spirit of Community Award. The awards will be presented at the 2019 Spirit of Community Luncheon on Tuesday, Oct. 15 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel. Each year this event brings together more than 300 of Arlington's civic, business and government leaders. This year's event will include honorary co-chairs Kristian and Chuck Todd.

"As an educator and an elder statesman in the Green Valley Community, Dr. Taylor and his family have been making a positive impact in Arlington for generations," said Avril Ussery Sisk, board chair of the Arlington Community Foundation. "We are pleased to be able to recognize and honor Dr. Taylor with this year's Spirit of Community award."

Taylor was raised in the Green Valley community of Arlington County, one of Virginia's oldest African American Communities. Despite the obstacles growing up in an era of Jim Crow and discrimination, Taylor earned a Master of Arts Degree and a Doctor of Education from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He retired from the University of the District of Columbia after 31 years of service.

Taylor is the former president of the Arlington Branch of the NAACP, former president of the Nauck (now Green Valley) Civic Association and still serves as the board chair of the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Facility Commission, which houses juveniles from Arlington, Alexandria and Falls Church. He remains active in his church — Macedonia Baptist — where he serves as the chairman of the Deacon's Ministry.

Early bird tickets are available for $75 through Sept. 20 at www.arlcf.org. Individual tickets will be $90 each after Sept. 20. Additional ticket levels and sponsorship information is also available on the website. The Spirit of Community Award, named in honor of the Foundation's Founder and President Emeritus, the Hon. William T. Newman, Jr., was established to recognize individuals and/or organizations who have demonstrated a tireless and unselfish commitment to improving the quality of life in Arlington.

Taylor will join the roster of past honorees including John Andelin and Ginger Geoffrey, Anna Barber, Jean Berg, Elizabeth Campbell, Preston Caruthers, Judy A. Connally, Hon. L. Karen Darner, Jennie T. Davis, Rich Doud, Ralph Johnson, Johnathan C. Kinney, John T. McCracken, John Milliken, Mary Ann Moran, H. Paul Mount, Joan Cooper, Mary Ann Nirschl, Charles L. Overby, Lola C. Reinsch, Eric Schaeffer, Walter Tejada, Meg Tuccillo, Hon. George D. Varoutsos, Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez and the Woman's Club of Ashton Heights.

The Arlington Community Foundation was established in 1991 to serve as a permanent community endowment built by the gifts and charitable legacies of individuals, families and businesses for the betterment of Arlington County.

ARLINGTON COUNTY
75th Anniversary
1944-2019
PARKS & RECREATION

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Synetic Theater Presents 'Treasure Island'

Athletic and modern adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's story.

By Steve Hibbard
The Connection

Synetic Theater is presenting "Treasure Island" from now through Aug. 18. This classic coming-of-age tale follows Jane Hawkins, an orphan who longs for adventure as she is swept up on a wild hunt for buried treasure with a ruthless band of buccaneers. Along the way, Jane's bravery, morality, and sense of self are put to the test as she learns about her past and the path she wants to follow.

Synetic's athletic artists will bring their signature brand of theatricality to sword fights and high-seas battles with pirates in a modern adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's tale of "buccaneers and buried gold."

Director Tori Tolentino said that "Treasure Island" was her favorite story as a child. "I was inspired to retell this classic tale in a more accessible manner. I hope to create a theatrical experience where families can step away from their daily routines and get lost in this swashbuckling adventure," she said.

She added: "This show has been an awesome adventure and I couldn't have asked for a better team. This show has a moving set, to help transport us from location to location. Coordinating and choreographing those movements on the stage was a fantastic 'all hands-on deck' challenge."

As far as audience takeaways, she added: "You don't have to accept the circumstances you are born or dropped into. Life is not a matter of holding good cards but a matter of playing poor cards well."

Anne Flowers plays the role of Jane Hawkins, a curious and misunderstood character. "She yearns for adventure but feels overlooked by many people in her life. She doesn't have a lot of friends her age but confides in the older people in her life that take the time to listen to her. She is scrappy and grows a lot on this big treasure hunt adventure. Jane is trying to find her place in the world tucked between intellectuals and pirates," she said.

She said that most of the challenges were fun ones. "I enjoyed working with and learning how to climb around on our big jungle gym of a set. I have a fight scene that takes place on the ship, so we had to make sure we could keep as much of the original choreography we learned in our rehearsal space and then adapt it to the actual 3D structure," she said.

She added: "Another challenge for me is to stay true to the innocence of playing a younger character. Young children/adults react to situations differently than jaded adults do, so I try to keep that in mind during every scene I'm in. It's been refreshing to live through the eyes of a young character; I can leave a lot of my 'adult' problems at the door."

Photos by Brittany Dilberto

Synetic Theater will present "Treasure Island" from now through Aug. 18.

As far as audience takeaways, she said: "I hope that audiences feel like they went on a grand adventure. I also want young (and old!) audience members to be inspired to stand up for themselves and seek their own life adventures. My wish is for audiences to see and experience how much fun and love has gone into this show."

Darius Johnson plays the role of Abraham Gray, a humble member of Captain Silver's crew. "Gray is all about the comradery of his crew. He is always first at the docks in the morning. Gray looks forward to the early routines and sailing the rough seas. Although full of swashbuckling energy he allows himself to think before he acts. He's a scrappy one, always willing to learn from his closest mate Tommie (played by Irene Hamilton). He is not aboard for the glory of treasure but to celebrate and see his fellow mates prosper," he said.

He added: "I was challenged with finding the specific physicality of Abraham Gray; he is not your average pirate. He is very spontaneous, but still grounded in his own body. It was not enough to roll, jump, or flip, but rather figure out how Gray does all of these particular movements. When I began stripping away my habitual physical traits and replacing them with his, I could then understand the way he walked, what part of his body he led with, and ultimately how he physically displayed his emotional status. The product of facing this challenge is a three-dimensional character who proudly moves to the beat of his own drum."

He said he hopes audiences realize that this story is for everyone. "No matter if you are listening to it as a little 5-year-old girl or a 60-year-old ex-pirate from the Caribbean — this story has the power to inspire, and I hope that audiences have eye-opening experiences when witnessing this high-sea adventure. Jane Hawkins' journey illustrates that no matter who you are, you are capable of capturing that beautiful gleam of glory that you seek, that dream you see so far can be in your grasp if you fight for what you truly believe in. Just don't trust any one-legged pirate cooks," he said.

The cast includes Anne Flowers as Jane Hawkins, Chris Daileader as Long John Silver, Da'Von Moody as Dr. Livesey, Karina Hilleard as Trelawney, Billie Krishawn as Smollet, Scott Whalen as Ben Gunn, Lee Liebeskind as Billy Bones, Irene Hamilton as Black Dog, Raven Wilkes as Pew, Connor Donahue as Flint with Darius Johnson and Anna Lynch in the Ensemble.

The creative team includes choreography by Dallas Tolentino, scenic design by Phil Charlwood, music by Konstantine Lortkipanidze and sound design by Thomas Sowers. Stage manager for the production is Marley Giggey and the production manager is Phill Giggey.

Synetic Theater is presenting "Treasure Island" from now through Aug. 18. Tickets are $35 and up; and $15-$25 for students and ages 25 and under. Tickets are available online or at 866-811-4111. Industry Night is Monday, Aug. 12. The venue is located at 1800 S. Bell St. Arlington. Visit https://synetictheater.org.

Entertainment

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

ONGOING

Summer Cabarets. Through Aug. 4, at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. See seven acts over three weeks: musicals, Motown and more. Sung by artists including Broadway performers and local stars – Maria Rizzo: Vamping; Joe Coleman: No Boundaries; Awa Sal Secka & Christian Douglas: Two's Company; The Christie Dashiell Quarter: Earth, Wind & Fire; Erin Driscoll: My Favorite Things; Melissa Errico: Sondheim Sublime; and Wesley Taylor: Finally, a Show about ME. $38 or subscribe to all seven shows for $175. Visit www.sigtheatre.org for more.

Treasure Island. Through Aug. 18, at Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St. An all-new adaptation of Treasure Island follows Jane Hawkins, an orphan who longs for adventure, as she is swept up on a wild hunt for buried treasure with a ruthless band of buccaneers. Tickets start at $35. Visit synetictheater.org.

Art Exhibit: Escape Velocity. Through Aug. 19, gallery hours at The Fred Schnider Gallery of Art, 888 N Quincy St., Suite 102. "Escape Velocity" showcases abstract paintings on canvas by Singapore-born artist Chee-Keong Kung. Kung is influenced by his formal education in art and architecture as well as his upbringing in multi-ethnic Singapore. Free, open to the public. Visit www.fredschnidergalleryofart.com for more.

Summer Movie Nights. Through Aug. 24, Fridays at Arlington Mill Community Center and Saturdays at Penrose Square. The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) is proud to announce the theme for its popular Summer Movie Nights for 2019, "Heroes and Sheroes: Movies with a Mission." From hidden math heroes to fantasy flying figures, enjoy a summer of 22 films that feature comic book heroes and icons of social justice. All films are rated G, PG, or PG-13. Visit www.Columbia-Pike.org for schedule.

Glow Yoga at the Fountain. Sundays, through Aug. 25, 7-8 p.m. at Crystal City Water Park, 1601 Crystal Drive. Join Mind Your Body Oasis at the Crystal City Water Park for fun and free yoga sessions. Reset for the week ahead with a relaxing hour-long workout under the glow of the fountain lights. Free. Call 703-412-9430 or visit www.crystalcity.org/do/yoga-at-the-fountain for more.

Rosslyn Putt-Putt + Candy BAR. Through Aug. 31, Fridays, 5-9 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 1401 Wilson Blvd. Arlington's newest pop-up, Rosslyn Putt-Putt + Candy BAR, will feature mini golf and a retro snack stand. Play nine holes of mini golf ($3) featuring constructions of favorite neighborhood landmarks. The adjoining Candy BAR will be serving up beer, wine, candy and popsicles. There will also be carnival games and old-school video games indoors. Visit www.rosslynva.org/putt for more.

Registration Open: NVSO. The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration. Paper registrations, available at most local recreation and senior centers, must be postmarked by Aug. 24. Online registrations must be completed by Aug. 31 at www.nvso.us.

Summer Exhibitions. Through Sept. 7 at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

❖ **Transitional Objects.** Working in sculpture, installation, and video, these artists experiment with unconventional materials, take inspiration from or produce functional objects, and create sculptures that elucidate both the allure and the difficulty of material forms.Transitional Objects artists: Kyle Bauer, Calder Brannock, Dexter Ciprian, Emily Culver, Liz Ensz, Kyle Hittmeier, Trish Tillman, and Holly Trout.

❖ **Jen Noone: Sort of, Kind of, Almost.** Noone repeatedly coats the surfaces of acrylic boxes, picture frames, and shelving units, before scraping away layers of the dried latex. Each new layer of paint represents an attempt to improve upon the previous layers. While the pursuit of perfection may inevitably result in failure, Noone's work suggests that the quest for the ideal form, even if it repeatedly misses the mark, has a beauty and charm all its own.

❖ **Jason Horowitz: Ashton Heights Re/Seen.** Photographer Jason Horowitz uses the Photo Sphere/Street View app and his smartphone's camera to create immersive abstract views. For Ashton Heights Re/Seen, Horowitz presents a selection of images from the Re/Seen series all made a short distance from Arlington Arts Center.

Outdoor Zumba. Wednesdays, through Sept. 25, 12:30 p.m. in the Courtyard at 2121 Crystal Drive. The Crystal City BID, Sport and Health fitness club and JBG SMITH invite you to join them for free midday Zumba in the courtyard of 2121 Crystal Drive on Wednesdays. Zumba fuses Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program for all to enjoy. Free. Call 703-412-9430 or visit www.crystalcity.org/do/outdoor-zumba-2018 for more.

Fridays at the Fountain. Fridays, through Oct. 25, 5-9 p.m. at The Stand at the Crystal City Water Park, 1601 Crystal Drive. Fridays at the Fountain is a seasonal pop-up beer garden set within the Crystal City Water Park, featuring food, drink and a rotating lineup of live music from local bands and musicians. Free to attend; selection of food available for purchase. Call 703-412-9430 or visit www.crystalcity.org/do/fridays-at-the-fountain for more.

Arlington Mill Farmer's Market. Saturdays, through Nov. 23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. The market features produce, meats, and dairy products from our region's top local vendors. Support local farmers and entrepreneurs. Come for opening day and meet special guests, the Arlington Art Truck, South Arlington Moms Club, Long Branch Nature Center, and more. Visit columbiapike.org/fm-arlington-mill.

THURSDAY/AUG. 1

Dark Star Park 35th Anniversary. 9 a.m. at Dark Star Park, 1655 Fort Myer Drive. Every Aug. 1 at 9:32 a.m., Nancy Holt's Dark Star Park (1984), in Arlington's Rosslyn neighborhood, aligns with the sun. Shadows cast by the spheres and poles of this landmark outdoor

Photo courtesy of StayArlington.com

The crowd observes the Shadow Alignment at Dark Star Park Day 2018, at precisely 9:32 a.m. This year's 35th Anniversary celebration for 2019 will include the live performance of a world premiere site-specific composition by the new music duo, Janel and Anthony.

Dark Star Park 35th Anniversary

Every Aug. 1 at 9:32 a.m., Nancy Holt's Dark Star Park (1984), in Arlington's Rosslyn neighborhood, aligns with the sun. Shadows cast by the spheres and poles of this landmark outdoor sculpture align with their permanent forms on the ground, marking the moment of Rosslyn's founding. This year, the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and Holt/Smithson Foundation join with Arlington Public Art in celebration. The community is invited to watch as the sculpture aligns with the sun and celebrate with light refreshments. Thursday, Aug. 1, 9 a.m. at Dark Star Park, 1655 Fort Myer Drive. Free and open to the public. Visit publicart.arlingtonva.us.

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

North Glebe Road over Pimmit Run Bridge Rehabilitation
Arlington County
Public Information Meeting

Tuesday, August 13, 2019
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Presentation starts at 7 p.m.

Williamsburg Middle School
3600 North Harrison Street
Arlington, VA 22207

Find out about plans to rehabilitate the North Glebe Road (Route 120) bridge over Pimmit Run to improve safety for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians and extend the overall life of the bridge. The bridge was built in 1973.

The planned improvements include repairing and resurfacing the bridge deck, repairing bridge abutments, beams, bearings and piers, replacing the pedestrian barrier and handrail, and guardrail and drainage upgrades.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. A presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at the VDOT project website **(www.virginiadot.org/projects)**, at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-2304 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, or submit them by **August 23, 2019** to Mr. Shahrad Behboodi, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "North Glebe Road over Pimmit Run Bridge Rehabilitation" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775.

State Project: 0120-000-870, P101; 0120-000-867
UPCs: 114105, 111691
Federal: STP-BR09 (297)

sculpture align with their permanent forms on the ground, marking the moment of Rosslyn's founding. This year, the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden and Holt/Smithson Foundation join with Arlington Public Art in celebration. The community is invited to watch as the sculpture aligns with the sun and celebrate with light refreshments. Free and open to the public. Visit publicart.arlingtonva.us.

Rock at the Row: Keeton Band. 7-9 p.m. on the plaza at Pentagon Row. Featuring music from popular cover and military bands. Refreshments and cocktails will be available for purchase from featured merchants. Visit pentagonrow.com/events for more.

AUG. 1-AUG. 31

Operation FirePaws. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. at Arlington County Fire Stations. The fourth year of Operation FirePaws, the Arlington County Fire Department's (ACFD) month-long charity drive for the adoptable pets at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA), kicks off next week. Community members can drop off needed pet supplies to designated donation bins at Arlington fire stations. Check AWLA's list of needed donations (arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2019/07/AWLA-In-Kind-Donation-Wish-List.pdf). The AWLA will not accept milk bones, boxed hard/homemade treats, or used beds.

FRIDAY/AUG. 2

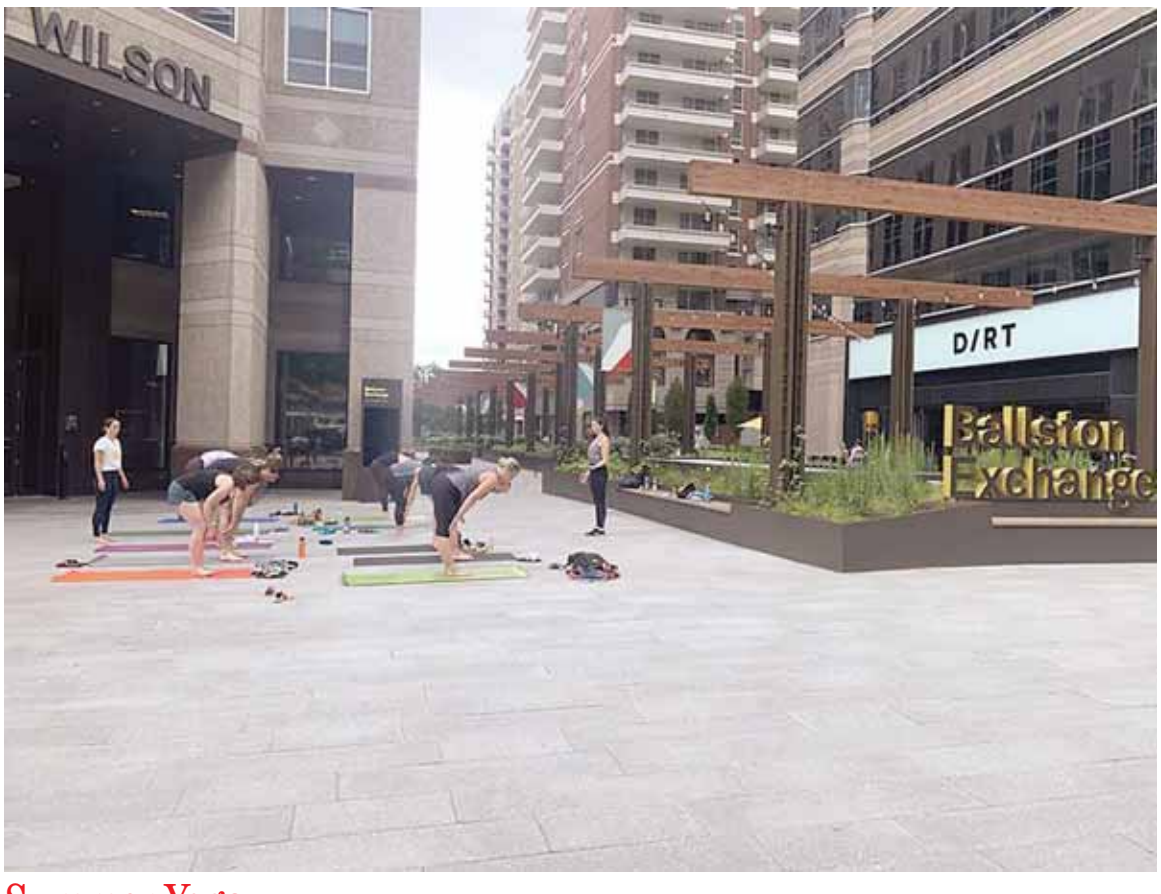
First Friday Wine Tasting. 6:30 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. First Friday Wine Tasting has a twist this month – it kicks off a silent auction which runs from through Aug. 18 at 5 p.m. In light of the recent significant real estate property tax increase from Arlington County, One More Page will be hosting a silent auction featuring special items, experiences, and services donated by authors, local businesses, and more. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com/silent-auction-2019.

Big Bullfrogs Campfire. 7-8 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. Families. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. The whole family is invited to meet at the Gulf Branch fire ring for lots of old-fashioned fun. This engaging program will be filled with entertaining activities that may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and of course, S'mores. $5. Call 703-228-3403. Register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642859-E.

Photo by Gail Bingham

Mouse in the House

Jane Franklin Dance performs Mouse in House, adapted from the book by Elizabeth Spires. This show is about a mouse who forms a friendship with reclusive 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson. The mouse's life changes forever when a gust of wind blows one of Emily's poems her way. Moved by Emily's evocative words that capture her own feelings, the mouse becomes determined to be a poet herself. Tuesday, Aug. 6, 4 p.m. at Shirlington Branch Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. and 7 p.m. at Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Free. Visit www.janefranklin.com/arlington-libraries or call 703-933-1111.



Summer Yoga

Celebrate summer at Ballston Exchange with free yoga provided by CorePower Yoga on select summer Fridays. After yoga, grab a free pastry and $5 off anything at the clean eating restaurant DIRT. Fridays, Aug. 9 and 30; 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Ballston Exchange, 4121 and 4201 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.ballstonexchange.com for more.

Live Music: Company Danzante. 8 p.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, N. Columbus Street & 2nd Street N. Company Danzante is a contemporary repertory dance company based in Arlington. Concerts take place Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. and Sundays, 11 a.m., through Sept. 15. Free. Call 703-228-1850 or visit www.arlingtonarts.org.

Friday Night Movies: Mulan (G). Begins just after sunset at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. Limited seating provided, bring your own chair. Visit www.columbia-pike.org/movie-nights for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 3

Fort C.F. Smith Park Walking Tour. 9-10 a.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Families, ages 7 and up. 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. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Free. For information, call 703-228-4775. Register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642759-C.

Civil War Discoveries: Skirmish Drills. 11 a.m.-noon at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Ages 7-11. Skirmishers played a special role in Civil War armies. Learn their functions and practice their drills. $5. For information, call 703-228-4775. Register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642729-C.

Summer Blooms in the Garden. 11 a.m.-noon at Glencarlyn Library Community Garden, 300 South Kensington St. Take a tour of the Glencarlyn Library Community Garden with an Extension Master Gardener to view the plants in bloom and discuss the care that they need. A wonderful way to learn about plants to fill in bloom gaps in a garden and that can provide pollinator sustenance and beauty during the "dog days" of mid-summer. Free. Questions? Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Civil War Discoveries: Build a Fort. 1-2 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Ages 7-11. Investigate how and why forts were built in Arlington during the Civil War. Then work as a team to design forts to defend the city. $5. For information, call 703-228-4775. Register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642729-D.

Netherlands Carillon Recital Series. 6-8 p.m. at Arlington Ridge Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway. Enjoy sweeping views of Washington, D.C., while guest artists play patriotic music, jazz, and pop on the carillon's 50 bells. Meet on the lawn at the foot of the carillon. Free and open to everyone. Visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/netherlandscarillon.htm for more.

Live Music: Irene Jalenti. 8 p.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, N. Columbus Street & 2nd Street N. Italian-born, Baltimore-based jazz vocalist Irene Jalenti brings a jazz take on the legendary rock anthems of The Beatles. Concerts take place Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. and Sundays, 11 a.m., through Sept. 15. Free. Call 703-228-1850 or visit www.arlingtonarts.org.

Saturday Night Movies: Norma Rae (PG). Begins just after sunset at Penrose Square, 2501 9th Road S. Limited seating provided, bring a chair. Visit www.columbia-pike.org/movie-nights for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 4

Family Performance: Mr. Gabe and the Circle Time All Stars. 11 a.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, N. Columbus Street & 2nd Street N.Mr. Gabe is a former stay-at-home dad turned children's entertainer. He and his band, the Circle Time All-Stars, have been delighting young audiences throughout the area for over five years. Concerts take place Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. and Sundays, 11 a.m., through Sept. 15. Free. Call 703-228-1850 or visit www.arlingtonarts.org.

Creek Trek. 1:30-3 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Ages 8-12. Participants will get wet climbing rocks and splashing into the water as they trek along in Long Branch Creek. Look for crystals, fossils, minnows, aquatic insects and maybe even find water snakes. Must wear closed-toe shoes in the water. Free. Call 703-228-6535 or register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642929-E.

Arlington Musicians Unite. 5-9 p.m. at Whitlows on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. On the morning of Monday, July 8, torrential rains caused major flash flooding in Arlington. Many businesses in the Westover neighborhood were affected by the flash flooding and experienced extensive damage. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the GoFundMe campaign dedicated to benefit affected businesses. Visit www.gofundme.com "Westover Merchants Damaged by Flood 7/8" for more. Purchase advance tickets at www.giftrocker.com/secure/Order/?h=49f3b046.

AUG. 4-SEPT. 6

Art Exhibit: "La Cittæ Italiana."

Entertainment

Gallery hours at Gallery Clarendon, 2800 Clarendon Blvd. Suite R-800. Visit the Overlook Gallery and travel with artist Matthew Miller along the canals of Venice, through the gardens of Florence, and so many cities and villages in between. After a moment in Amalfi, stroll through the main gallery, where there will be new work hanging by Gallery Clarendon member artists. Meet the Artists at an opening reception Friday, Aug. 9, 5-7 p.m. Free and open to the public. Visit www.galleryclarendon.org.

TUESDAY/AUG. 6

Mouse in the House. 4 p.m. at Shirlington Branch Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. and 7 p.m. at Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs Mouse in House, adapted from the book by Elizabeth Spires. This show is about a mouse who forms a friendship with reclusive 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson. Free. Visit www.janefranklin.com/arlington-libraries or call 703-933-1111.

National Night Out. 6-9 p.m. Arlington County neighborhoods are encouraged to join communities nationwide in celebrating National Night Out, an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Spend the evening outside with neighbors, police officers, firefighters and other County personnel. Events such as cookouts, block parties and ice cream socials will occur simultaneously throughout Arlington County and nationwide. Register a neighborhood event by Tuesday, July 23 at police.arlingtonva.us/national-night-out-event-registration.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 7

Walk with a Ranger. 10 a.m. at Arlington Ridge Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway. Meet at the Marine Corps War Memorial and join a National Park Service Ranger for a 3-mile hike around the edge of the Arlington National Cemetery to Memorial Avenue, down to the Mount Vernon Trail, up to Theodore Roosevelt Island and around to Rosslyn and back to the starting point. The hike will take approximately 2.5 hours. Bring walking shoes, sunscreen and drinking water. Visit www.nps.gov/gwmp for more.

Decades of Summer Concerts: Driven to Clarity. 6:30-8:30 p.m. in front of the Signature Theatre at the Village of Shirlington. Rock out with favorite local bands performing a mix of ’70s, ’80s, ’90s and original tunes. Enjoy $5 wine tastings courtesy of Cheesetique, take out a meal from a favorite Shirlington restaurant, and soak in the setting sun to live music. Visit villageatshirlington.com/events for more.

THURSDAY/AUG. 8

Complete Dogness. 1:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. and 4 p.m. at Aurora Hills Branch Library, 735 18th St. S. Jane Franklin Dance presents Complete Dogness, a family friendly dance performance about a little doggy with bad habits. The performance incorporates spoken word, movement, music, and interactive participatory activities for young children. Free. Visit www.janefranklin.com/arlington-libraries or call 703-933-1111.

Deep Dive: Homes Made of Stone. 8-9 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. Adults. Take a Deep Dive into natural history that scratches more than just the surface. Go on a safari inside houses and buildings to discover hidden roommates. From pest species to the predators that eat them, we are never alone in our homes. $5. Call 703-228-3403 or register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642849-C.

FRIDAY/AUG. 9

Summer Yoga. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Ballston Exchange, 4121 and 4201 Wilson Blvd. Celebrate summer at Ballston Exchange with free yoga provided by CorePower Yoga on select summer Fridays. After yoga, grab a free pastry and $5 off anything at the clean eating restaurant DIRT. Visit

Entertainment

www.ballstonexchange.com for more.

Live Music: Carly Harvey. 8 p.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, N. Columbus Street & 2nd Street N. Vocalist Carly Harvey combines Blues, Jazz, Soul, & Americana roots styles to create a unique sound that calls to mind Etta James, Bonnie Raitt, Nina Simone, with a little Ella Fitzgerald thrown in for good measure. Concerts take place Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. and Sundays, 11 a.m., through Sept. 15. Free. Call 703-228-1850 or visit www.arlingtonarts.org.

Friday Night Movies: Brave (PG). Begins just after sunset at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. Limited seating provided, bring your own chair. Visit www.columbia-pike.org/movie-nights for more.

Application Deadline: Master Naturalists. The Virginia Master Naturalist program trains volunteers to provide education, citizen science, and outreach to help conserve and steward natural resources and public lands. Master Naturalist volunteers gain certification through state-approved natural history courses. Recognized experts in a wide range of disciplines such as ecology, botany, herpetology, ornithology, forest and aquatic ecosystems, and more provide fun and interactive training. Volunteers must commit to at least 40 hours of service and eight hours of continuing education annually to become certified. Training session is Mondays, Sept. 9-Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center. Visit www.armn.org.

SATURDAY/AUG. 10

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

Ask a Master Gardener. 11 a.m.-noon at Organic Vegetable Garden at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 Marcey Road. Have questions regarding growing vegetables in Northern Virginia? Come to the Organic Vegetable Garden in Potomac Overlook Regional Park to talk all things vegetable with an Extension Master Gardener. Free. Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Down in the Pond. 2-3 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Ages 6 to 10. What lives at the bottom of a pond? Water boatmen, backswimmers and water scorpions are just a few of the critters participants might encounter as they go dip-netting in Long Branch's ponds. $5. Call 703-228-6535 or register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642929-F.

Cool Creek Critters. 3-4:30 p.m. Meet at Barcroft parking lot, 4200 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Ages 5 to 10. Dress to get wet and spend time exploring waterfalls, trying to catch water striders, and taking a closer look at some creek critters. Must wear closed-toe shoes in water. For information, call 703-228-3403. Free. Register at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642829-C.

Author Event: Zoraida Córdova. 3 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. YA author Zoraida Córdova who will be interviewed by Bria LaVorgna, Managing Editor of Tosche Station about Zoraida's new Star Wars novel Galaxy's Edge: A Crash Of Fate. The epic adventure takes place over the course of a single day on Batuu, where an aspiring smuggler and the boy next door find themselves on the run as they fall for each other. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for more.

Netherlands Carillon Recital Series. 6-8 p.m. at Arlington Ridge Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway. Enjoy sweeping views of Washington, D.C., while guest artists play patriotic music, jazz, and pop on the carillon's 50 bells. Meet on the lawn at the foot of the carillon. Free and open to everyone. Visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/netherlandscarillon.htm for more.

Cool Crayfish Campfire. 7-8 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. Families. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. The whole family is invited to meet at the Gulf Branch fire ring for lots of old-fashioned fun. This engaging program will be filled with entertaining activities that may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and of course, S'mores. $5. Call 703-228-3403. Register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642859-F.

Live Music: Veronneau. 8 p.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, N. Columbus Street & 2nd Street N. A blend of bossa nova, jazz, samba, swing and acoustic music performed in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. Concerts take place Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. and Sundays, 11 a.m., through Sept. 15. Free. Call 703-228-1850 or visit www.arlingtonarts.org.

Saturday Night Movies: A League of Their Own (PG). Begins just after sunset at Penrose Square, 2501 9th Road S. Limited seating provided, bring your own chair. Visit www.columbia-pike.org/movie-nights for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 11

Family Performance: Encore Stage and Studio - Rocket Woman. 11 a.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, N. Columbus Street & 2nd Street N. Youth theatre ensemble presents a journey for the whole family: including one imaginary friend, cardboard boxes, and a brave Rocket Woman. Concerts take place Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. and Sundays, 11 a.m., through Sept. 15.Free. Call 703-228-1850 or visit www.arlingtonarts.org.

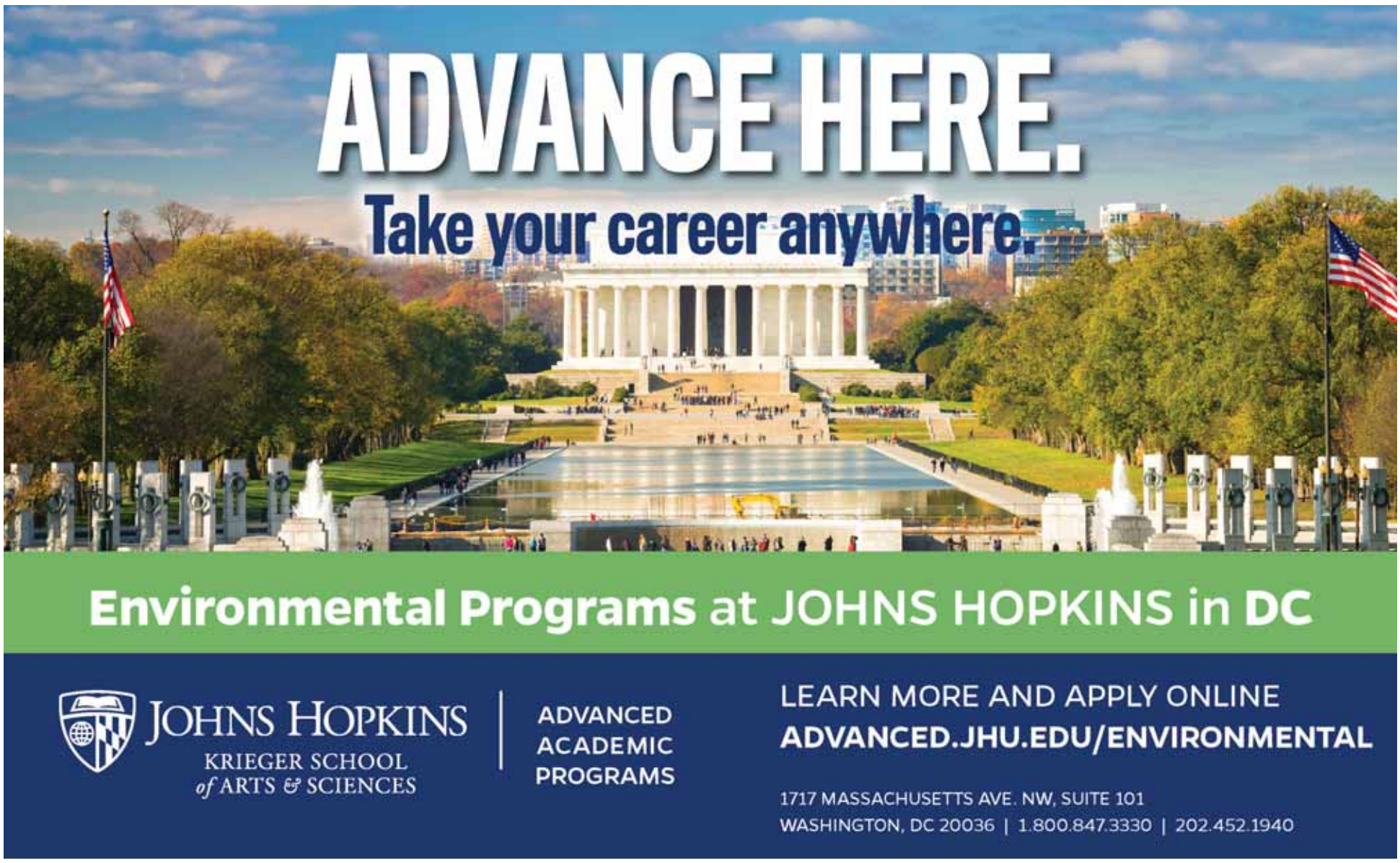
YA Author Panel. 2 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Celebrate the launch of Katy Upperman's latest Young Adult novel, How The Light Gets In, in which seventeen-year-old Callie Ryan copes with grief and ghosts when she returns to her aunt's run-down coastal Victorian after her sister's death. Katy will be joined by YA author and editor Jessica Spotswood and Danielle Stinson on a panel moderated by YA author Christina June. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Notable Nature. 3-4 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families ages 5 and up. Construct a nature journal, hone writing and drawing skills and talk about the season while hiking. Call 703-228-6535. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Free. Register online at registration.arlingtonva.us, use code #642959-J.

Chee-Keong Kung's High Noon Overdrive I (Dispersion No 29), 2019 Ink & acrylic on canvas.

Art Exhibit: Escape Velocity

"Escape Velocity" showcases abstract paintings on canvas by Singapore-born artist Chee-Keong Kung. Kung is influenced by his formal education in art and architecture as well as his upbringing in multi-ethnic Singapore. Exhibit runs through Aug. 19, gallery hours at The Fred Schnider Gallery of Art, 888 N Quincy St., Suite 102. Free, open to the public. Visit www.fredschnidergalleryofart.com for more.



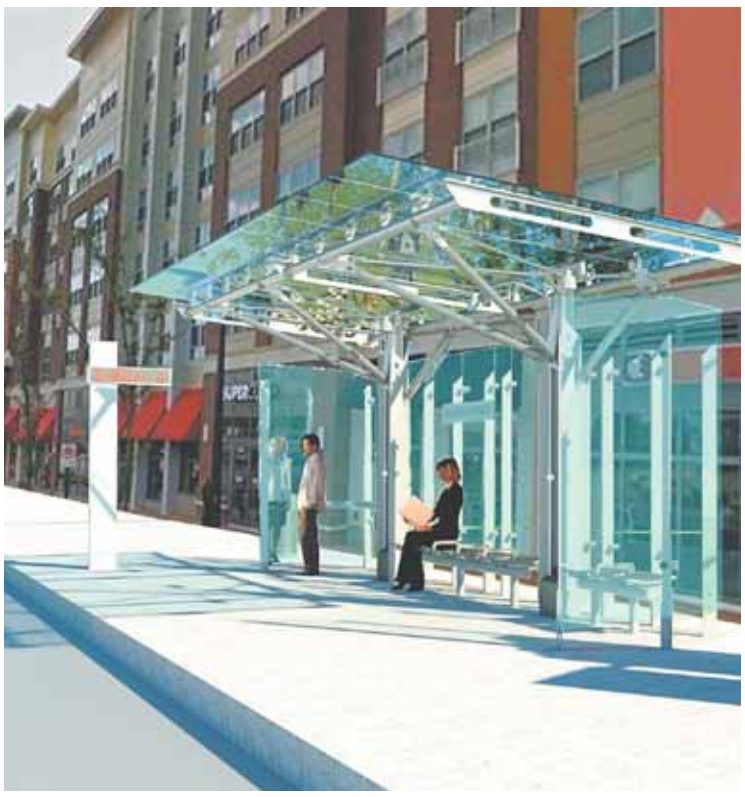


Image Contributed

Contract Approved

The County Board on July 16 approved a $1.6 million contract with Sagres Construction Corporation to build the first four of 23 transit stations planned for Columbia Pike. Construction is expected to begin this fall and be completed by fall 2020. The first four stations will be at South Glebe Road westbound, South Oakland Street westbound, South Buchanan Street westbound, and South Four Mile Run Drive eastbound.

Bulletin Board

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

CAMPS

Summer Camp. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Arlington County Cultural Affairs Building, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance Summer Camp for ages 5-12 builds physical skill and creativity through movement, theatre, and visual art. The five-day camps includes dance technique and creative movement, visual art projects, outdoor trips to a nearby park, performance practice and a concluding performance at the end of the week. Sessions through Aug. 23. $250 (scholarships available). Call 703-933-1111 or visit www.janefranklin.com/camps.

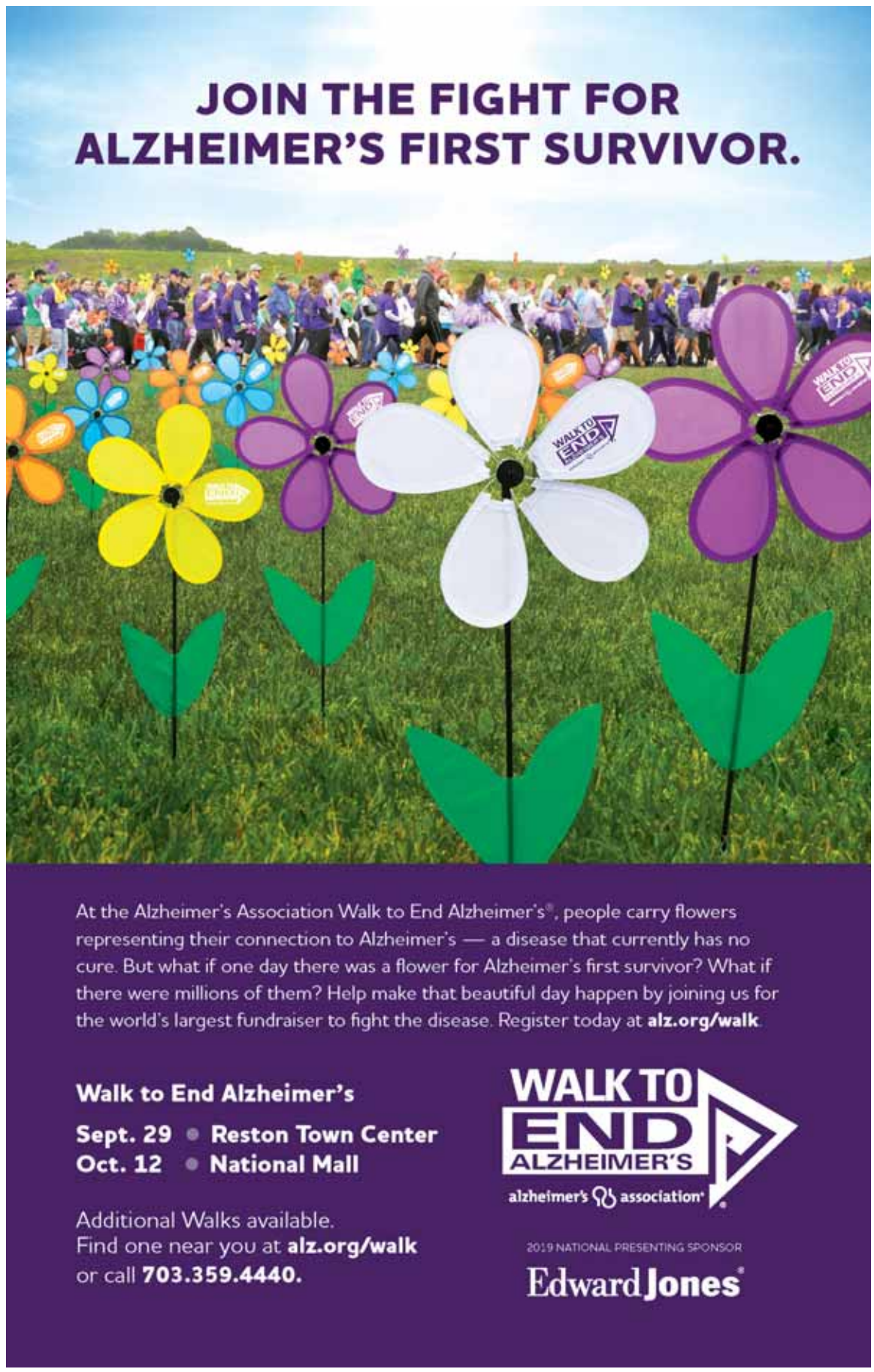
MARINE CORPS MARATHON ENTRY

American Cancer Society. Guaranteed entry into the Marine Corps Marathon & 10K with the American Cancer Society DetermiNation team. Group runs and fundraising activities. Register by Sept. 10. E-mail easterndetermination@cancer.org or call 765-586-2222.

ONGOING

Road Closure. Through the summer, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. One southbound lane on George Mason Drive will close as the Lubber Run Community Center and Park construction team begins sewer line and storm water tie-in work for the new facility. Contact Michael Manos at 703-228-4437.

See Bulletin, Page 15



Chelsie Ross with Urban Alliance Virginia Executive Director Chrissy McCurdy.

Heide Velazquez with Urban Alliance staffer Richa Bhattarai.

Nuha Chowdhury with Urban Alliance staffer Alasia Washington.

Photos Contributed

Sharing Internship Experiences

Earlier this month, 60 recent high school graduates from Alexandria, Arlington, Falls Church, and Fairfax County shared what they've learned and how they've grown as participants in Urban Alliance's High School Internship Program (HSIP) for underserved youth.

HSIP, Urban Alliance's flagship program, is an early work experience for economically-disadvantaged high school seniors that includes a 9-month, paid, professional internship; weeks of pre-work professional development training; weekly job and life skills workshops; post-high school planning; mentoring from two caring adults; and ongoing post-high school college and career support. The program culminated in a Public Speaking Challenge, where interns sharpened their public speaking skills through presentations about their internships in front of panels of community leaders.

Chelsie Ross, a 2019 graduate of H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program, was awarded the 2019 Intern of the Year scholarship for her exceptional performance throughout the year. In nominating Chelsie for the award, the team Chelsie interned with at Evolent Health said: "From taking on the complex projects our team has put on her plate throughout her time at Evolent to working through the tough decisions and effort that comes with finding a way to fund her future in college, Chelsie has never backed down to the many challenges and obstacles placed in front of her. She has blown us away with her determination, eagerness, and poise since day one. If we were able to hire her on full-time, we would do so in a heartbeat after having witnessed her contributions and incredible effort. But alas we must let her continue her journey on to college where we know she will do nothing less than strive towards her best and turn her passion for making a difference into impact."

Ross plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall where she hopes to pursue an interest in environmental science.

In addition, five students were awarded Core Values Awards celebrating their exemplary work during the year:

❖ Ronald Padilla-Hernandez (Justice High School '19) interned at Northern Virginia Community College's Technology Innovation in Teaching and Learning department.

❖ Heide Velazquez (Washington-Liberty High School '19) interned at Arlington Free Clinic.

❖ Joel Mehbratu (T.C. Williams High School) interned at Washington Speakers Bureau.

❖ Juan Albores (T.C. Williams High School) interned at Alexandria Renew Enterprises.

❖ Nuha Chowdhury (Washington-Liberty High School) interned at Virginia Tech.

Founded in Washington, D.C. in 1996, Urban Alliance expanded to Baltimore, Chicago, Northern Virginia (in 2013), and, most recently, Detroit. The goal is to expand students' idea of what is possible for the future and prepare them for lives of economic self-sufficiency. To date, Urban Alliance has placed over 5,000 students in paid internships, and served another 20,000 through job skills training.

Iams Named AED Interim Director

Alex Iams has been appointed interim director of Arlington Economic Development. Iams currently serves as assistant director of the department. He succeeds Victor Hoskins, who has served as director since January 2015.

"As a key member of Arlington's economic development team, Alex brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this critical role," Arlington County Manager Mark Schwartz said. "Alex has a deep understanding of and strong relationships with Arlington's business and civic communities, which will help ensure continued economic success in Arlington's future."

Iams' work in Arlington has helped Arlington County find national success in economic development, working on the teams that recruited Amazon, Nestle USA, and Lidl.

He will begin in his new role as Hoskins leaves to head up the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority effective Aug. 5.

"Victor leaves Arlington with a legacy of significantly lowering the commercial vacancy rate and diversifying the economy," Schwartz said. "It is an exciting time for Arlington and our region. We know that Victor will continue to be a force for good in our regional collaboration efforts."

Iams has spent the last 16 years working in economic development experience, including the past 12 with Arlington County. He has been the assistant director at Arlington Economic Development (AED) since 2014.

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Bulletin Board

From Page 13

FRIDAY/AUG. 2

Monthly Memory Café. 1-3 p.m. at 7910 Andrus Road, Suite 6, Alexandria. The Memory Café, a social gathering for individuals living with memory loss and their families, will be held on the first Friday of every month. Registration is free and registrations are recommended for first-come, first-served spots; call 571-210-5551 or email bdesai@seniorhelpers.com. Visit www.dementiacareconnections.com/memory-cafe or www.seniorhelpers.com/arlington-alexandria-va for more.

FRIDAY-MONDAY/AUG. 2-5

Road Closure: Route 50. Eastbound and westbound Route 50 (Arlington Boulevard) at the Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) interchange and eastbound Wilson Boulevard (Route 613) between the eastbound Route 50 service road and the westbound Route 50 service road will be closed from 10 p.m. Friday, Aug.2 to 5 a.m. Monday, Aug. 5 to demolish the Wilson Boulevard bridge deck over Route 50 and install the new bridge deck. Drivers can expect major delays and are advised to use alternate routes. After the weekend closure, drivers can expect single-lane closures on Route 50 and the eastbound Wilson Boulevard bridge until late fall. The project is scheduled for completion this winter. Visit www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/wilson_over_50.asp for more.

MONDAY/AUG. 5

Open Door Mondays. 7-9 p.m. at Langston-Brown Community Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St. Drop in to chat informally, one-on-one, with an Arlington County Board Member on any topic. No reservation is needed. Visit countyboard.arlingtonva.us/open-door-mondays.

FRIDAY/AUG. 9

Public Good Forum Symposium. 1-4:30 p.m. at University of Virginia Darden School of Business, 1100 Wilson Blvd. The University of Virginia's Biocomplexity Institute, Data Science Institute and Darden School of Business, in partnership with the Northern Virginia Technology Council, announce the Data Science for the Public Good (DSPG) Forum, which seeks to show how data science can support evidence-based policymaking and innovation. The symposium includes two keynotes (Ron Jarmin, just past Census Director, and Phil Bourne, Director of the University of Virginia's Data Science Institute and Acting Dean of the School of Data Science), followed by a poster session and refreshments. Register at biocomplexity.virginia.edu/events/data-science-public-good-forum.

MONDAY/AUG. 12

Open Door Mondays. 7-9 p.m. at Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie St. Drop in to chat informally, one-on-one, with an Arlington County Board Member on any topic. No reservation is needed. Visit countyboard.arlingtonva.us/open-door-mondays.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/AUG. 14-17

Volunteer Judges Needed for Competitive Exhibits. The 2019 Arlington County Fair, one of the area's largest free summer events, is seeking volunteers to register and judge entries for the annual community Competitive Exhibit contest, which features age-based judging in seven food, arts and plant categories. Entries will be publicly displayed throughout the fair, which takes place Aug. 14-18, 2019 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center. Visit arlingtoncountyfair.us/entertainment/exhibits or email compexhibits@arlingtoncountyfair.us.

FRIDAY/AUG. 16

Advance Directives. 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road. What is an Advance Directive? Who needs one? Where to start? Get the answers to these and other questions at this seminar, hosted by Capital Caring and The Coalition to Improve Advanced Care. Free. RSVP for an event reminder at 703-228-6327 or arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/5262549.

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-Thomas Fuller

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-Werner Heisenberg

Money For What, Exactly?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Presumably, most of you readers are aware that many supermarkets have a rack located somewhere near the rear of the store that is stocked with off-price merchandise: discontinued items, items with damaged packaging, out of season products, etc.

Over the years, I have been a regular checker of this rack looking for such bargains. I have purchased breakfast cereal, soup, cookies, candy, and miscellaneous other non-perishables. I've even purchased two bags of Kingsford charcoal.

In addition, I've seen household products, health and beauty, school supplies; and everything else you can imagine, running the gamut from "A" to "Z," for sale. Recently however, on this rack I saw a product I'm not sure I even thought was available to the general public, and if it was, would not have thought buying it from the discontinued merchandise rack at the supermarket would not have been the way to go. But what do I know? As has been proven many times: not much.

The item? A DNA Paternity Test Kit. I guess, I thought, if this test was necessary, it would involve a physician or at least be administered by a health care professional and/or involve witnesses/legal representation (at least a notary). Going to the supermarket or even the drug store? And then testing yourself without necessarily knowing the precautions and proper procedures appropriate for the task at hand?

There seems as if there's a bit more at stake here than an at-home pregnancy test, a test with which many of us are familiar. But DNA testing at home?

What is this, the Maury Povich Show?

Having not traveled down this particular road myself, perhaps I'm unaware of the realities. All I know is what I've seen on television or read about in the papers.

I guess I just assumed (generally a bad thing), that the steps one takes to verify/confirm/resolve paternity-type issues were a bit more involved than a visit to the supermarket.

Apparently, this subject is just another where I know very little about, like tools and how to use them, automobile repair, home maintenance, lawn and garden, cooking, and on and on and on. But enough about me.

What about those wanting answers to extraordinarily important questions: Who's the father? And is that my child? Looks can be deceiving so a professional, or so I thought, incorrectly, is brought in to oversee the process.

Nope. No professional need apply. Just go to your local "chemist," as they say in England. No need to visit "the surgery," as they also say over there.

Just find a box with the right letters on it and go back to your home/work and swab, stick, pin-prick or whatever and the results will be known soon enough if you or someone else is whomever they claim to be or not to be. That is the question which begs an answer, Shakespeare notwithstanding.

It seems only fair that one's birthright should be gotten wrong. And not that home-testing can't be trusted. Just the opposite. Nevertheless, some things, like circumcisions, though they can be performed at home (see "Shaky the mohel" from a long ago Seinfeld episode).

I would have thought, a DNA Paternity test, given the need/want of a resolution/clarification which could possibly impact multiple individuals/families over generations, be similarly performed in the most careful of conditions. This kind of test has no margin for error – or humor.

"Bought the kit in the discount rack at my local supermarket." Is that the answer you want to give when all eyes are on you? And saying how much you saved over regular price is unlikely to endear you to any and all of the interested parties on hand.

After all, money really isn't the issue.

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

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