

# Beauty and A Beast of Endurance

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Robin Weiner (Belle)  
and Joseph Aquelina  
(Gaston) rehearse a  
scene from "Disney's  
Beauty and the Beast."

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# NEWS

## Law Enforcement Challenge Awards Presented

Local police and special law enforcement agencies awarded for best traffic safety programs in the state.

By MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

Impaired driving, occupant protection and speed awareness impact the safety of Virginia roadways. The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) Law Enforcement Challenge is a traffic safety recognition program that recognizes agencies that excel in keeping their roadways safe. Last week, VACP announced multiple Northern Virginia police agencies recipients of the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge awards for the best traffic safety programs in the state in 2018. The Virginia law enforcement community consists of 125 city and county sheriff's offices, 242 police departments and seven state police divisions within 48 areas of the state according to the 2018 Virginia Highway Safety Plan, Annual Report Fiscal Year 2018 by the Virginia Department of Motor Ve-



Captain Darrin Cassedy, Diamond Anderson and Lieutenant Albert Kim of the Arlington County Police Department receive 1st Place in the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge for municipalities with 301-600 Officers on behalf of their agency; (far left) 2018-19 VACP President Chief Doug Goodman, Ashland Police and (far right) Virginia Deputy Secretary of Public Safety & Homeland Security Ryant Washington.

hicles.

According to the report, while a data comparison of Jan. 1 – Nov. 30: 2015 vs. 2018 revealed a 7 percent increase in Virginia fatalities, 689 to 737, there was a 12 per-

cent decrease in serious injuries, 7430 to 6569, and an 8 percent decrease in unrestrained passenger vehicle occupant fatalities, 277 to 254 respectively.

VACP named the first, second and third

place state winners during an awards luncheon that took place during its 94th Annual Training Conference on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at the Hilton Norfolk. VACP also presented special awards for outstanding enforcement and education efforts in the areas of occupant protection, impaired driving, speed awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, distracted driving, technology, bicycle/pedestrian safety, and motorcycle safety, as well as the Commonwealth Award for the Best Overall Traffic Safety Program in Virginia 2018, regardless of agency size or type and special awards.

**LOCAL NORTHERN VIRGINIA WINNERS** of the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge were

**Municipal Police:**

❖ Herndon Police Department- First Place, Category 2: 26-60 Officers

❖ Arlington County Police Department- First Place, Category 5: 301-600 Officers

❖ Alexandria Police Department- Second Place, Category 5: 301-600 Officers

❖ Fairfax County Police Department- Second Place, Category 6: 601 or More Officers

**Special Law Enforcement:**

❖ Metro Washington Airports Authority Police Department (MWAA)-First Place

SEE LAW ENFORCEMENT, PAGE 10

## TAPS Founder Bonnie Carroll Honored

Leo K. Thorsness Leadership Award recognizes Carroll's dedication and service to individuals grieving the death of a military loved one.

America's Warrior Partnership has named retired Air Force Reserve Maj. Bonnie Carroll as the recipient of the fifth annual Leo K. Thorsness Leadership Award. Named after Medal of Honor recipient Col. Leo K. Thorsness, the award recognizes outstanding leadership and exceptional service to military veterans, their families and caregivers.

Bonnie Carroll is the founder of Arlington-based Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS).

"Leo channeled his experience as a prisoner of war in Vietnam into the inspirational leadership that stood as a guiding principle of our team's mission to empower veterans," said Jim Lorraine, President and CEO of America's Warrior Partnership. "Similarly, Bonnie's own personal experience facing a traumatic loss was the crucible through which she forged her own leadership in serving bereaved military families. She has clearly earned her place among those who embody Leo's spirit."

Carroll is a retired Air Force Reserve major, an appointee in the Reagan and Bush White Houses and a 2015 Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient. She founded the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), the leading national organi-



Bonnie Carroll, founder TAPS, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, with a participant in one of TAPS Good Grief camps.

zation providing critical support services to the families of America's fallen military heroes, in 1994 following the death of her husband, Brigadier General Tom Carroll, in an Army aviation accident.

For more than 25 years, TAPS has provided ongoing emotional support, resources, comfort and care for more than 85,000 surviving military family members, giving survivors a national network of trained peers, camps and retreats for all ages, including children and families. The organization also offers casework services including financial assistance, connections to community-based care and a 24/7 survivor helpline all available at no cost, for all who are grieving, forever.

"It is a tremendous honor to be named the fifth recipient of the Leo K. Thorsness Leadership Award and to join a distinguished group of recipients who have committed themselves wholeheartedly to our veterans, their families and caregivers," Carroll said. "Col. Thorsness exemplified service and leadership both in and out of uniform, and his distinguishing qualities of humility and bravery resonate deeply with all those who have loved and lost a fallen military hero."

SEE TAPS FOUNDER, PAGE 10



# Arlington Players Present 'Beauty and the Beast'

Story revolves around Belle and the Beast, a prince under the spell of an enchantress.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Arlington Players will present the musical, "Disney's Beauty and the Beast," from Sept. 14-29, 2019. The story revolves around Belle, a girl from a provincial town, and the Beast, a young prince under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self.

Director Emily "EJ" Jonas said audiences gravitate toward this famous tale in different ways. "For me, I was pulled into loving this story as a young woman because of Belle. She became a role model with her curiosity, her intelligence, and her bravery. I was eager to tell this story in a new light," she said.

She continued: "By showing the gears of storytelling through the eyes of children, we see the story come alive. I wanted to produce this play with Belle's journey at the forefront. Like my connection as a child, I believe 'Beauty and The Beast' is a love story like no other. And, for this production we see that unfold through #herStory."

She said her main goal as director was to showcase how every part of the story is a different gear to the overall tale. "Each element works in its own way to tell of characters, their adventures, choices, and stories. The cogs, gears, and moving set pieces represent our working minds as we follow the journey of these amazing characters," she said.

Sterling Beard is playing the main role of the Beast – the master of the castle who's used to his orders being followed without question by a staff of servants who care for him even though they fear him. "But his biggest challenge for love is learning that he's worthy of it no matter how badly he has



Robin Weiner (Belle) and Sterling Beard (Beast) rehearse a scene from "Disney's Beauty and the Beast."



Robin Weiner (Belle) with (from left to right): Jeffrey Hollands, Andrew Sese, and Aiden Toth who are rehearsing a scene from "Disney's Beauty and the Beast."

messed things up. He's his own biggest obstacle," he said.

He added: "The Beast carries a lot of the emotional weight of the show; it's a role that has funny moments, but they're outweighed by the tenderness he develops with Belle. And the physicality is on another level entirely; it's not the marathon that our dance corps deals with every night, but trying to be subtle while remaining a large presence on stage has been a real challenge."

"My natural instinct is to go big or go home; and why wouldn't you go big with Beast? He roars, he growls, he stomps, he argues. But he has to open up. Our director,

EJ, has been doing a great job pulling me back and getting me to play things more subtly. Altogether, it's the most challenging role I've taken on in a good, long while — maybe ever," he said.

Robin Weiner is playing the role of Belle, a brilliant young woman who is misunderstood and unappreciated by the members of her small, provincial town.

"While she often gets written off by others as nothing more than a pretty face, it is her spirit that encompasses the fullness of her beauty. She has a curious nature, a passion for reading, and a desire to make the most of what life has to offer. She is selfless, for the way she gives up her freedom to protect her father, she is assertive, in the way that she stands up to the Beast's mistreatment, and above all else, she is strong," she said.

As far as challenges, she said: "Belle is onstage for the majority

of the show, so playing her certainly has been a test on my endurance and my memory. From blocking, to music, to choreography, to stage combat, it is a lot to keep track of all at once, but what has gotten me through it has been the guidance of the production team and the support of my cast. Also practice. Lots and lots of practice."

Rachael Fine is playing the role of Lefou, who is Gaston's "dim-witted hanger-on." She said: "I like to think Lefou has a bit more depth and, although clearly the Gretchen Weiners apprentice to Gaston's Regina George, has a heart, a conscience, and loyal devotion to Gaston. Plus, Lefou adds some pretty fun comedic elements."

She added: "I love that Disney has given the opportunity to make Lefou a 'pants' role! That being said, it has made it difficult to determine Lefou's motivations without making each line delivery and motivation overtly girly. It has been fun playing around in Lefou's head to figure out the 'why?' behind each line, song, movement, etc. Our director EJ guided me in creating an interesting backstory to explain how Lefou came to be Gaston's apprentice — it's been a very fun process to bring layers to a typically one-dimensional character."

Anna Marquardt is playing the role of Mrs. Potts, the teapot. "I'm not quite as old as Dame Angela Lansbury was when she played the role, so I think I bring a different — I won't say 'youthful' but maybe

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
arlington@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card  
Production Editor  
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

Shirley Ruhe  
Contributing Photographer and Writer  
arlington@connectionnewspapers.com

Eden Brown  
Contributing Writer  
arlington@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:  
For advertising information  
sales@connectionnewspapers.com  
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk  
Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment  
Advertising  
703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher  
Mary Kimm  
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com  
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Art/Design:  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh  
Production Manager:  
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION  
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



## Performances

"Disney's Beauty and the Beast," weekends, Sept. 14-29 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204. Friday and Saturday evening performances begin at 8 p.m.; Sunday

matinees begin at 3 p.m. Special performance Sept. 21 at 2 p.m. The Sept. 21 performance at 8 p.m. will be ASL interpreted. \$15 for children/students and \$22 for seniors/military to \$25 for adults. [www.thearlingtonplayers.org](http://www.thearlingtonplayers.org).



# BULLETIN BOARD

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

## THROUGH OCT. 1

**AC Works.** The month-long employment and financial literacy series will focus on how experienced workers can adapt to transitions in both work and life. Includes free workshops, author talks and a job fair. Visit [library.arlingtonva.us/ac-works](http://library.arlingtonva.us/ac-works) for more.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 13

**Job Search in the Digital Age.** 2 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, in the Barbara M. Donnellan Auditorium, 1015 North Quincy St. Finding a job in the digital age can be complicated. Whether making a career change by choice or necessity, this job search and resume workshop for adults 55 and older sponsored by Arlington Public Library and AARP can help. Free. Register at [arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/5519262](http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/5519262).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

**Crafting Your Next Chapter.** 1-4 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center & Park, 3308 S. Stafford St. Join this half-day workshop on life planning for retirement years. Meg Newhouse, Ph.D., a nationally known pioneer in second-half life crafting, and author of *Legacies of the Heart: Living a Life That Matters*, will teach participants how to control their narrative and create a legacy. Free. Register by Thurs., Sept. 12 using activity code #920099-01 at [parks.arlingtonva.us](http://parks.arlingtonva.us).

**Community Conversation.** 2-4 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. On June 18, 2019, the Arlington County Board unanimously adopted *Enriching Lives: Arlington Arts and Culture Strategy*, which highlights a vision for the arts in Arlington County, a set of guiding values, and five goals. The Arlington Arts Commission wants to engage Arlington's

arts and culture community in a conversation on priorities. Light refreshments will be served. Visit [commissions.arlingtonva.us/commission-arts/](http://commissions.arlingtonva.us/commission-arts/) for more.

**Disaster Relief Trials.** Beginning and ending at Gateway Park in Rosslyn. Arlington County's Department of Public Safety Communications & Emergency Management will host a second year of the Disaster Relief Trials (DRT). The competition simulates a large-scale disaster, blocking roadways and challenging participants to use bikes to transport emergency supplies, critical messages and (simulated) medicine throughout the County while traversing obstacles, such as barriers and water crossings. New to this year's event is a Finish Festival at Gateway Park, held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Participants, observers, family members and community members can enjoy free swag, food trucks, lawn games and a "Kiddie DRT" course, while learning about emergency preparedness, bicycle maintenance and fitness activities. Register at [DRTArlington.com](http://DRTArlington.com).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 15

**League of Women Voters of Arlington Meet and Greet.** 6-8 p.m. at Central Library in the Bluemont Room, 1015 North Quincy St. All are invited to a casual "meet & greet" gathering to mingle with League members, hear about plans for the months ahead, and explore volunteer opportunities. Light refreshments will be provided. Register to attend at: [www.eventbrite.com/e/league-of-women-voters-of-arlington-meet-greet-tickets-69652653963](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/league-of-women-voters-of-arlington-meet-greet-tickets-69652653963).

**Application Deadline for Volunteers.** Energy Masters, a program that promotes a more energy efficient and sustainable community, is accepting community and student (age 16 or older) volunteer applications for the next training program, which begins in October. After training, volunteers deliver community education and outreach programs in affordable housing communities in Northern Virginia. There is a program fee. Visit [www.ecoactionarlington.org/community-programs/energy-masters](http://www.ecoactionarlington.org/community-programs/energy-masters).

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 7



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By combining a first level floorplan reconfiguration with a partial second floor “pop-up,” Glickman Design Build generated almost 800 square feet of new living space for a three generation family of five. The top level, now private quarters for the twin boys, includes two bedrooms, a 71 square foot work station alcove, and a loft devoted to video games and entertainment.



## McLean ‘Pop-up’ Accommodates Growing Family

**Solution combines first level floorplan reconfiguration with attic conversion.**



**BEFORE:** Situated at the top of a hill on a one third-acre lot, the Coyle’s 1,400 square foot circa 1960’s Colonial..

BY JOHN BYRD  
THE CONNECTION

Brian and Jee Coyle, two professionals in their early forties, had occupied their two-level 1,400-square-foot Colonial in McLean for over a decade. The busy household included Jee’s mother, Penvadee (65), and twin sons— Ty and Miles (10), who were fast-approaching the stage when more independence and privacy is an emergent priority.

Living arrangements called for Brian and Jee sharing the ground-level master suite on the southwest rear corner of the house while the twins bunked in a single first floor bedroom, sharing a hall bath with a tub.

Penvadee’s suite was situated on the lower level where Brian also retained a small office. The close-knit family daily shared meals and lots of quality-time pursuits. But needed changes were anticipated.

Looking ahead, the Coyles recognized they would soon want more usable square footage. Thoughts of finding a larger house nearby didn’t last long since the family considered the circa 1960s brick-facing original something of a classic, and particularly appreciated the good local schools. Still, a remodeling solution that would allow each generation to have a level to themselves made practical sense.

By making over the existing

house, the boys might pick up a bedroom each, plus a shared bath and spaces for study and entertainment. Brian would gain a larger and more private office.

Yet the quest for more additional square footage also seemed something of a “reach” since the existing floorplan was cramped, situated on a one third acre lot on a hill and offered few visible expansion options. Still, there were opportunities.

“An open attic with about six feet of headroom was accessible from a staircase in the dining room,” Brian said. “We could picture this as a potential new top level, but weren’t sure of the cost issues, which members of the family would live there or any of the design details.”

Taking the inquiry to the next step, Jee began investigating ideas on “Houzz,” a popular consumer web site. They noticed Glickman Design Build emerged in relation to a nearby makeover that proved to offer spot-on relevance to the Coyle’s goals.

“We had no idea how a new top level should be configured,” Brian said. “But Glickman’s advanced computer imaging technology (CADD systems) made it easy for us to not only model alternate floorplan configurations, but also to narrow-down our many finishwork choices.”

The Coyles found that the feasibility study phase allowed them to examine technical issues while absorbing design fees into the building process. “We even considered relocating the master bedroom to the top floor, or bumping out the front. This freedom to explore every consideration was liberating.”

In the end, the attic was converted into a 776-square-foot suite designed primarily for the twins. Each son has a private bedroom. There’s a 78-square-foot bath; a work station and a spacious devoted to video games and entertainment. Their former first floor bedroom has been converted into Brian’s office. The now open first level plan is an improvement on all fronts. “The whole first floor circulates much better” said Brian. “There’s more natural light throughout the primary living area, and it’s a much interactive floorplan. Great for the entire family.”



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# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

## MONDAY/SEPT. 16

**Public Meeting.** 5:30-7 p.m. in the lobby at the Bozeman Government Center, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. The private redevelopment of the "Crystal Houses" block allows for new publicly-accessible but privately-owned space for the community to enjoy. As part of the Site Plan Review, Parks and Recreation is coordinating community engagement for the developer for the second public space, the corner park, to transform the corner of 22nd Street/Fern Park (approximately .5 acres) into a new public space. An updated draft concept will be available on Sept. 23. The final design will be presented to the County Board in October. Visit [projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/crystal-houses-public-space/](http://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/crystal-houses-public-space/) for updates.

**Narcan Training Sessions.** 6-7 p.m. at Phoenix House, 46 S. Glebe Road, 3rd Floor, Arlington. Naloxone (Narcan) can save the life of someone who is overdosing, if given in time. Anyone who assists a person in need is protected from liability by the Good Samaritan Law. Naloxone (Narcan) is available without a prescription for a fee at all pharmacies. Obtain it for free by attending a REVIVE! training. Contact Emily Siqveland at 703-228-0913 or [esiqveland@arlingtonva.us](mailto:esiqveland@arlingtonva.us) or visit [health.arlingtonva.us/opioid-awareness](http://health.arlingtonva.us/opioid-awareness) for available training sessions. Registration is not required but it is recommended. Visit [www.chrisatwoodfoundation.org/naloxone](http://www.chrisatwoodfoundation.org/naloxone) to register.

**Open Door Mondays.** 7-9 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy 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](http://countyboard.arlingtonva.us/open-door-mondays).

## MONDAY/SEPT. 17

**Placement Exams for ESL Classes.** 9 a.m. or 6 p.m. at Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Blvd. #106, Arlington. English as a Second Language for Adults, Arlington Public Schools' REEP Program is giving placement exams for the Oct. 1-Dec. 21 session. Classes to be held at Syphax Education Center. Afternoon and evening classes available. Tuition is \$285 or \$200 for people who live or work in Arlington; \$470 or \$350 for people who do not. Exams are free. call 703-228-4200 or visit [www.apsva.us/leep](http://www.apsva.us/leep).

**How to Support Aging Neighbors and Loved Ones.** 7-8 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road. Join experts from Arlington County Aging and Disability Services and Arlington Neighborhood Village as they discuss services available for Arlington County residents 60 years and above, people with disabilities, caregivers, and potential interventions if someone is resistant to accepting services. Attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis. Free. RSVP for an event reminder. Call 703-228-6327 or visit [arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/5460724](http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/5460724).

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

### Art Installation: Linny Giffin.

Through mid-September at Central Place Plaza, 1800 N. Lynn St. Linny Giffin has been working on Central Place Plaza on her latest masterpiece: an installation of 800 silk leaves that will hang from the glass pergola. Giffin made eight different types of leaves in orange, yellow and blue to be used for this project. She spent two weeks painting them, and then affixed wire to each one to facilitate hanging. Visit [www.rosslynva.org/feature/one-place-at-a-time-for-more](http://www.rosslynva.org/feature/one-place-at-a-time-for-more).

**Senior Olympics.** 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 public is invited, free of charge, to all NVSO events. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration for participants. Visit [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us).

**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](http://www.crystalcity.org/do/outdoor-zumba-2018-for-more).

### Solo Painting Exhibition:

**Draftsman 2019.** Through Sept. 30, gallery hours at Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive, Suite 2120-A. Draftsman 2019 is the solo painting exhibition for the month of September of Arlington Artists Alliance member and T.C. Williams graduate Barry Barnett Keith. Free. Visit [galleryunderground.org](http://galleryunderground.org) or call 571-483-0652.

### Art Exhibit: Frictional Harmony.

Through Oct. 12, Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at The Barry Gallery, in the Reinsch Library at Marymount, 2807 North Glebe Road. Marymount University's Barry Gallery presents "Frictional Harmony," a solo exhibition of Stephanie Lane's paintings, drawings, and mixed media work. Admission is free. Visit [www.marymount.edu/barrygallery](http://www.marymount.edu/barrygallery) or email [bgallery@marymount.edu](mailto:bgallery@marymount.edu).

### Art Exhibit : Neuro Blooms.

Through Oct. 19, gallery hours at Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Neuro Blooms is a project by Leslie Holt that includes mixed media art and community events intended to spark curiosity and conversations about the causes and stigmatizing myths of mental illness. Images are based on brain PET scans of people experiencing different mental health conditions. Visit [www.uucava.org](http://www.uucava.org) or call 703-892-2565. Visit [www.uucava.org](http://www.uucava.org) or call 703-892-2565.

**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](http://www.crystalcity.org/do/fridays-at-the-fountain-for-more).

**Art Exhibit: Lumistory.** Through

Oct. 26, Wednesday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m. at Fred Schnider Gallery of Art, 888 N Quincy St. #102. Melanie Kehoss' cut paper light boxes explore the origins of cultural phenomena, from cuisine, to mourning, to social media. This solo show will include the public debut of five works, an installation about the history of sugar, and more. Free. Visit [www.fredschnidergalleryofart.com](http://www.fredschnidergalleryofart.com) or call 703-841-9404.

### 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 [columbia-pike.org/fm-arlington-mill](http://columbia-pike.org/fm-arlington-mill).

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 12

### Local History Preserved: NOVA Parks.

7-9 p.m. at Reinsch Library Auditorium, Marymount University, 2807 N Glebe Road. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) system owns some of the most important historic sites in the region. NOVA Parks Chairman Mike Nardolilli will discuss the creation of NOVA Parks 60 years ago and the history that can be found in the three parks in Arlington. Free. Visit [arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/events/the-local-history-nova-parks-preserve/](http://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/events/the-local-history-nova-parks-preserve/) or call 703-942-9247.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 13

**Great Big Romance Read.** 6:30 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Across the country, romance enthusiasts will be reading *The Lady's Guide To Celestial Mechanics* by Olivia Waite. Join the One More Page Romance Team for a wine tasting and book discussion. Purchase the book to read in advance and join in. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com) for more.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 13-15

### Disney's Beauty and the Beast.

Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. The Arlington Players' present Disney's Beauty and the Beast. This nine-time Tony-nominated musical tells the tale of Belle, a girl from a provincial town, and the Beast, a young prince under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. Can the two learn to love each other in time? \$15-\$25. Visit [www.thearlingtonplayers.org](http://www.thearlingtonplayers.org).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

**Wakefield Tag Day.** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in Arlington. Wakefield's neighbors can expect a knock on their door from a pair of WHS music students, representing the band, choir and orchestra. Donations can connect the musical resources of our DC/NoVA area with the vocal and instrumental talent of our students. All donations received will be divided evenly between the band, choir, and orchestra programs at Wakefield High School. Visit [wakefieldband.org/tag-day](http://wakefieldband.org/tag-day) to donate.

**NVSO Opening Ceremonies.** 9-9:30 a.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 South 2nd St., Arlington. Join the fun and cheer for athletes at the opening ceremonies of Northern Virginia



## Northern Virginia Senior Olympics

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. The games will be hosted at more than 25 venues, many of which are located in and around Fairfax and Arlington counties and the City of Alexandria. There will be no on-site registration for competitors. Spectators are welcome at all events and admission is free. Opening ceremonies will take place Saturday, Sept. 14, 9-9:30 a.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 South 2nd St., Arlington. For event details, go to [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us), call 703-228-4721 or email [nvso1982@gmail.com](mailto:nvso1982@gmail.com).

Senior Olympics, featuring the carrying of the NVSO Olympic torch, Color Guard presentation and recognition of County officials and patrons. The public is invited, free of charge, to all NVSO events. For more information about events throughout Northern Virginia during the competition, Sept. 14-28, call 703-228-4721, go to [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us) or email [nvso1982@gmail.com](mailto:nvso1982@gmail.com).

**Ribbon Cutting Celebration.** 11 a.m. at Gunston park, 1401 28th St. South. Celebrate the reopening of Gunston Diamond Field. Funded in part by a generous donation from the Arlington Sports Foundation and the Diamond Field Fund, the project involved converting the natural turf field into a synthetic turf field. Other enhancements include lighting, fencing, site furnishings and landscaping. Food trucks will be on site selling delicious tacos and ice cream. There will also be youth baseball games before and after the ceremony. Visit [arlingtonva.us](http://arlingtonva.us) and

search "Gunston Diamond Field." **MONA Social.** 11 a.m. in The Plaza at Ballston Quarter. Mothers of North Arlington (MONA), a local network of families with over 2,000 members, is partnering with the newly redeveloped Ballston Quarter to host monthly events. MONA socials are free and open to the public on the second Saturday of each month. Socials offer an opportunity for families with young kids to get together for an hour, while the kids are entertained by popular, local entertainers. Visit [www.BallstonQuarter.com/Events](http://www.BallstonQuarter.com/Events). **Organic Vegetable Garden Pepper Fest.** 1-4 p.m. at Organic Vegetable Garden at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 Marcey Road. Sample the many kinds of peppers grown and tour the garden. Extension Master Gardeners will answer questions about growing peppers and other beloved summer crops. They will also cover topics such as composting, soil preparation,

seed selection, protecting crops from insects and animals, and ideas for the Fall garden. Free. Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com). To reserve a spot, visit [mgnv.org/public-education-events/vce-horticulture-programs-registration/](http://mgnv.org/public-education-events/vce-horticulture-programs-registration/).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 15

**Glencarlyn Library Community Garden AutumnFest.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Glencarlyn Library Community Garden, 300 South Kensington St. Educational presentations include 11 a.m. with "Grow Your Own Herbal Teas," 11 a.m.; "Succulents for Small Spaces," noon; and "Container Gardening Made Simple," 1 p.m. AutumnFest also offers native and other plants perfect for fall planting; autumnal décor; the opportunity to consult with Extension Master Gardeners, Tree Stewards and Audubon at Home Ambassadors; a chance to visit the Colonial Ball-Sellers House; vendors selling hand-made pots, hand-crafted jewelry, reusable recycled bags and herbal treats with recipes to try at home. Free. Questions? Contact Extension Master Gardeners at telephone 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

**Author Event: Eggerz, Stephens and Rollins.** 3 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Join local writers Solveig Eggerz, Alice Stephens, and Leslie M. Rollins as they discuss their books, their writing, and their strong, fascinating, complex female characters. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com) for more.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 17

**Community Event: Housing.** 5-7 p.m. at 3100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 200. The Alliance for Housing Solutions invites the community to join them for drinks, networking, and a conversation with fourth-generation Arlingtonian and author Wilma Jones. Jones's book, "My Halls Hill Family: More than a Neighborhood." This free event is open to anyone who is curious about housing affordability and the history of Arlington. RSVPs are not required but will help planning for food and drinks. RSVP to [ahstaff@allianceforhousingolutions.org](mailto:ahstaff@allianceforhousingolutions.org).

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 18

**Movie Screening: The Economics of Happiness.** 6:30 p.m. (doors); 7:30-9:30 (film and discussion). With globalization increasing and corporations expanding their hold on power, what can people do to show they want a decrease in globalization and re-regulation on trade and finance? Join EcoAction Arlington at a movie screening that shows demonstrates how. \$5-\$10. Visit [www.ecoactionarlington.org](http://www.ecoactionarlington.org).

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 19

**Floral Design.** 11 a.m.-noon at Little Falls Presbyterian Church, 6025 Little Falls Road. Rock Spring Garden Club will host Arlene Steward, Life Judge and award winning floral designer, to create floral designs. Arlene will demonstrate techniques for constructing types of floral arrangements. Free. Visit [www.rockspringgardenclub.com](http://www.rockspringgardenclub.com) for more.

**Author Event: Frank Miniter.** 6-8 p.m. at The Ritz-Carlton – The Ambassador Room, Pentagon City, 1250 S. Hayes St. Frank Miniter: author of *The Ultimate Man's Survival Guide to the Workplace*, a colorful guide to surviving the modern office. The author series is complimentary to the public and gives attendees the opportunity to

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 8

meet and purchase the authors book, along with a cash bar. RSVP at [tinyurl.com/y5n8hb6v](http://tinyurl.com/y5n8hb6v).

**YA Author Panel.** 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. One More Page will host a Young Adult author panel featuring Laura E. Weymouth, Lauren Spieller, and Anna Bright. The Beholder, a debut novel by One More Page's own Bright, is a Summer 2019 Kids Indie Next List pick. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com) for more.

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 20-22**

**Disney's Beauty and the Beast.**

Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m. (ASL interpreted); Sunday, 3 p.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. The Arlington Players' present Disney's Beauty and the Beast. This nine-time Tony-nominated musical tells the tale of Belle, a girl from a provincial town, and the Beast, a young prince under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. Can the two learn to love each other in time? \$15-\$25. Visit [www.thearlingtonplayers.org](http://www.thearlingtonplayers.org).

**SATURDAY/SEPT. 21**

**The Edible Oasis: Permaculture**

**Ideas for Small Urban Yards.** 10 a.m.-noon at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Learn to grow vegetables, fruits, nuts, and herbs to produce food now and for many years to come – while reducing annual labor and investment. Basic permaculture concepts and designs will transform a small urban yard –

or a tiny slice of it – into a mini-food forest. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org). Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email [mgaralalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgaralalex@gmail.com).

**Encore Fall Open House.** 10 a.m.-noon at Encore Stage & Studio, 4000 Lorcom Lane. Encore Stage & Studio invites families in the community to its Fall Education Open House.

Students will experience 30-minute class samplers of Encore's various theatre classes. Parents and students will have the opportunity to meet teaching artists and Encore staff, as well as register for Early and Late Fall classes. Free. Families must register online to reserve space for the open house classes at [www.encorestage.org](http://www.encorestage.org) or by calling 703-548-1154.

**International Coastal Cleanup.** 10 a.m.-noon at Barcroft Park, 4200 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Join EcoAction Arlington at their annual fall cleanup as they pick up trash from area waterways and collect important data about litter. Free. Visit [ecoactionarlington.org](http://ecoactionarlington.org) or call 703-228-6427 for more. Register at [www.ecoactionarlington.org/registration-international-coastal-cleanup/](http://www.ecoactionarlington.org/registration-international-coastal-cleanup/).

**Author Event: Amy Stewart.** 3 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St. Join One More Page in welcoming New York Times bestselling author Amy Stewart in celebration of the latest book in the acclaimed Kopp Sisters series, Kopp Sisters On The March. Once again, Amy Stewart has brought a little-known moment in history to light with her fearless and funny Kopp sisters novels. Stewart is also author of six nonfiction books, including The Drunken Botanist and Wicked Plants. Visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com) for more.

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## JOIN THE FIGHT FOR ALZHEIMER'S FIRST SURVIVOR.



At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, people carry flowers representing their connection to Alzheimer's — a disease that currently has no cure. But what if one day there was a flower for Alzheimer's first survivor? What if there were millions of them? Help make that beautiful day happen by joining us for the world's largest fundraiser to fight the disease. Register today at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk).

**Walk to End Alzheimer's**

**Sept. 29 • Reston Town Center**

**Oct. 12 • National Mall**

Additional Walks available.  
Find one near you at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)  
or call 703.359.4440.



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#### Legals

**ABC LICENSE**  
East West Coffee Wine, LLC trading as East West, 3101 Wilson Blvd Ste 100, Arlington, VA 22201-4447. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mehmet Coskun, 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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.  
**-Werner Heisenberg**

#### Employment

**SENIOR AUDIT MANAGER**  
Conduct audit planning & coordinate issuing of mult audits from start to finish; resp for preparation (research), planning, organization (control materials, sample size) & monitoring (shut-down call, results analysis, report preparation) of Lidl's internal audits; process & analyze audit results to determine whether Lidl's procedures are being correctly interpreted & respected at stores, dist centers & Lidl US HQs & issue reports to mngrs to promote proper implementation. 30% domestic travel reqd. Resume to: Lidl US, LLC Attn: Henar Marron, HR Director-Talent, 3500 S Clark St. Arlington, VA 22202 Job #KN086513.

#### Employment

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#### Legals

**ABC LICENSE**  
Mai Ibrahim Mashini trading as The American Dream Cafe Inc., 1201 S. Eads St. Suite 300, Arlington County, Arlington, Virginia 22202. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Art Studio license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mai Ibrahim Mashini/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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

#### Employment

**SENIOR MANAGER, SUPPLY CHAIN**  
Oversee order mgmt w/ vendors of fresh, frozen & ambient goods to ensure just-in-time delivery to our regional dist centers & guarantee maximum freshness to customers; set goals, key deliverables & delegate tasks to employees, exercise managerial auth in evaluating work perf of subordinate employees; ensure smooth, effective & efficient cooperation w/ Lidl's divisional supply chain teams; promote goal oriented, tech & personal dvlpmnt of employees. Resume to: Lidl US Operations, LLC Attn: Henar Marron, HR Director-Talent, 3500 S Clark St. Arlington, VA 22202 Job #AJ102656.

## News

# Law Enforcement Challenge Awards

FROM PAGE 3

VACP also recognized MWAA with the Distracted Driving Award and recognized Herndon Police Department with the two additional awards, the Commonwealth Award for the Best Overall Traffic Safety Program in Virginia and the Impaired Driving Award. Although representatives from most of the recognized agencies attended the awards luncheon, representatives of Fairfax County Police Department did not.

**AWARDS** were based on entries prepared by the participating agencies, which highlighted their traffic safety education and enforcement activities in occupant protection, impaired driving and speed over the past calendar year, according to VACP Judges gave points to the agencies in six areas — problem identification, policies, planning, training of officers, public information and education, enforcement, and an evaluation of the outcomes of the agency's efforts.

The Herndon Police Department issued the statement: "We were both incredibly honored and surprised this year to receive three awards in the Virginia Chiefs of Police Law Enforcement Challenge

for traffic safety enforcement and education. We were notified in advance that we were awarded first place in our agency size category, but we had no idea HPD would receive the Commonwealth Award for the most outstanding traffic division statewide, regardless of size and also be recognized for our efforts in combating impaired driving. We could not be more proud of the efforts put forth by our officers who work very hard each day to keep our roadways and our citizens safe. Traffic and pedestrian safety will continue to be a focus for HPD as development and roadway improvements increase both in the Town of Herndon and around it."

The Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards program is supported by a grant from the Virginia Highway Safety Office.

The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police & Foundation is a statewide organization of federal, state and local police chiefs and law enforcement executives dedicated to improving the professionalism of police agencies in Virginia.

The Association was founded in 1926 and has more than 600 members.

# TAPS Founder Bonnie Carroll Honored

FROM PAGE 3

Previous recipients of the award include former U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole; former U.S. President George W. Bush; Home Depot co-founder and philanthropist Bernie Marcus; and Fox News anchor Jon Scott. Carroll received this year's award at the Sixth Annual Warrior Community Integration Symposium in Atlanta earlier in September.

More information about the Leo K. Thorsness Leadership Award and the Warrior Community Integration Symposium is available at [AmericasWarriorPartnership.org/2019-Symposium](http://AmericasWarriorPartnership.org/2019-Symposium).

For more information on Tragedy Assistance Programs for Survivors, go to [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org) or call the toll-free TAPS resource and information helpline at 1.800.959.TAPS (8277).

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

#### MONDAY/SEPT. 23

**Open Door Mondays.** 7-9 p.m. at Aurora Hills Branch Library, 735 South 18th 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](http://countyboard.arlingtonva.us/open-door-mondays).

#### MONDAY/SEPT. 24

**Placement Exams for ESL Classes.** 9 a.m. or 6 p.m. at Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Blvd. #106, Arlington. English as a Second Language for Adults, Arlington Public Schools' REEP Program is giving placement exams for the Oct. 1-Dec. 21 session. Classes to be held at Syphax Education Center. Afternoon and evening classes available. Tuition is \$285 or \$200 for people who live or work in Arlington; \$470 or \$350 for people who do not. Exams are free. call 703-228-4200 or visit [www.apsva.us/reep](http://www.apsva.us/reep).

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 26

**All About Hearing Aids.** 11 a.m.-noon at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road. Are you or a loved one considering the purchase of hearing aids? Join Bonnie O'Leary from the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (NVRC) at Westover Library to learn about hearing aids from the consumer/wearer's perspective. Free. Call 703-228-6327 or visit [arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/5467115](http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/5467115).

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

**Arlington Kids' Stuff Sale.** 8 a.m.-

noon at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 4000 North Lorcom Lane. The sale features gently used items from 100 consignors including clothes, toys, books, videos, games, puzzles and more for kids for birth to teen. There's plenty for parents as well: maternity clothes, baby gear, strollers, bottles, safety items and more. Due to stairs and tight spaces, strollers are not allowed at the sale. Cash or check only. Visit [www.facebook.com/Kids-Stuff-Sale-366296948630/](http://www.facebook.com/Kids-Stuff-Sale-366296948630/) for more.

#### MONDAY/OCT. 7

**Community Conversation.** 7-9 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. On June 18, 2019, the Arlington County Board unanimously adopted Enriching Lives: Arlington Arts and Culture Strategy, which highlights a vision for the arts in Arlington County, a set of guiding values, and five goals. The Arlington Arts Commission wants to engage Arlington's arts and culture community in a conversation on priorities. Light refreshments will be served. Visit [commissions.arlingtonva.us/commission-arts/](http://commissions.arlingtonva.us/commission-arts/) for more.

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 26

**Free Native Tree Pickup.** 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at Tucker Field - Barcroft Park Parking Lot, 4200 S. Four Mile Run Drive. The Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation is providing 400 young native trees to Arlington residents as part of the mission to expand and enhance Arlington's urban tree canopy. Tree Stewards who work to protect, preserve and enhance the urban tree canopy will be on site to help select a tree, answer questions and share tips

about caring for the tree. Free. One tree per household. Visit [environment.arlingtonva.us/register-for-your-free-tree/](http://environment.arlingtonva.us/register-for-your-free-tree/) to register.

#### TUESDAY/OCT. 29

**Free Native Tree Pickup.** 5-7 p.m. at Reed-Westover Parking Lot, 1644 N. McKinley Road. The Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation is providing 400 young native trees to Arlington residents as part of the mission to expand and enhance Arlington's urban tree canopy. Tree Stewards who work to protect, preserve and enhance the urban tree canopy will be on site to help select a tree, answer questions and share tips about caring for the tree. Free. One tree per household. Visit [environment.arlingtonva.us/register-for-your-free-tree/](http://environment.arlingtonva.us/register-for-your-free-tree/) to register.

#### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

**Narcan Training Sessions.** 6-7 p.m. at Phoenix House, 46 S. Glebe Road, 3rd Floor, Arlington. Naloxone (Narcan) can save the life of someone who is overdosing, if given in time. Anyone who assists a person in need is protected from liability by the Good Samaritan Law. Naloxone (Narcan) is available without a prescription for a fee at all pharmacies. Obtain it for free by attending a REVIVE! training. Contact Emily Siqueland at 703-228-0913 or [esiqueland@arlingtonva.us](mailto:esiqueland@arlingtonva.us) or visit [health.arlingtonva.us/opioid-awareness](http://health.arlingtonva.us/opioid-awareness) for available training sessions. Registration is not required but it is recommended. Visit [www.chrisatwoodfoundation.org/naloxone](http://www.chrisatwoodfoundation.org/naloxone) to register.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 11

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## News

# Beauty and The Beast

FROM PAGE 3

‘youth-adjacent’ — energy to it, while still being a mother to not only Chip, but basically everyone else in the castle, including Belle,” she said.

She added: “All the roles in this show are iconic, but this was ‘ANGELA FREAKING LANSBURY’ in the original animated film, so like ... full icon status, right there. I have seen the film a lot of times, so I wanted to make sure to make the character was distinct, while still being true to the story.”

Performances of “Disney’s Beauty and the Beast” are set for weekends, Sept. 14-29 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204. Friday and Saturday evening performances begin at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees begin at 3 p.m. Special performance September 21 at 2 p.m. The Sept. 21 performance at 8 p.m. will be ASL interpreted. Prices range from \$15 for children/students and \$22 for seniors/military to \$25 for adults. For more information, visit [www.thearlingtonplayers.org](http://www.thearlingtonplayers.org).

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 10

### DONATIONS

The **Arlington Food Assistance Center** seeks local gardeners and farmers willing to grow and donate fresh produce to the AFAC food pantry for local families in need as part of the Plot Against Hunger program. Each week, approximately 2,400 client families visit AFAC to pick up supplemental groceries and fresh fruits and vegetables are in high demand. AFAC will provide free vegetable seeds to those who pledge to donate produce from community or personal gardens. Visit <https://afac.org/plot-against-hunger> or contact [puwen.lee@afac.org](mailto:puwen.lee@afac.org) or 703-845-8486. Seeds are available now at AFAC, 2708 S. Nelson St., during regular business hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Produce can also be donated at AFAC at the hours listed above or at:

- ❖ Arlington Courthouse Farmer’s Market, Saturdays 8 a.m.-noon (look for the AFAC cooler near the Master Gardener information table).
- ❖ Rock Springs UCC Church, 5010 Little Falls Road, Sundays 9 a.m.-noon only. (Look for the donation bin on the Rock Spring Drive side of the church).

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

### GET MORE WITH SNAP

**Arlington and Alexandria Farmers’ Markets** accept SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) cards for purchases. SNAP/EBT customers can purchase farm fresh produce at local area farmers’ markets and get matching bonus tokens to add to their purchases. Virginia Cooperative will be on-site at several local farmers’ markets of Alexandria and Arlington to provide more information on SNAP and offer food tastings, prizes and more at the Arlington Farmers’ Market, N. 14th and Courthouse Road (second Saturday of the month) and Columbia Pike Farmers’ Market, 2820 Columbia Pike (third Sunday of the month).

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## Time and Again



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not to be morbid in the least – or self-indulgent in the most (last week’s column, “Something or Nothing” notwithstanding), but recently I’ve had cause to hear about the future and be more concerned about the present.

I have a homeowner problem that like all such problems, is way beyond my limited skills: a crack in the concrete slab which “porches” our house, apparently caused by a very large and old tree growing way too close to this slab.

This is not a water-leaking-into-the-house problem. This is a structural-type problem identified by a home appraiser whom I’ve paid for – but not bought, to process a mortgage refinance.

Given the two-week time-frame during which I was expecting to schedule this assessment – considering the time-sensitivity of these applications, I was flabbergasted to learn that my expectations were totally unreasonable. Two weeks! I might as well have been asking for two months, which is what I ended up getting.

After hearing the nearly identical appointment-unavailability story multiple times, and getting increasingly frustrated and impatient at the unlikely timely resolution of my problem – in my lifetime (no joke), I finally heard from a company that was able to schedule an appointment which they did so with an apparent straight face (as much as I could glean over the phone): “I can have someone to your house on Oct. 25.” I snickered.

“October 25! That’s two months,” I said. (“I could be dead by then,” I said to myself.) To the woman I said, “No. I need someone sooner, in the next week or so. Good-bye.” (I made this call on Aug. 21.)

When I hung up the phone I started laughing at what I didn’t say and why I hadn’t said it. Being that I have stage IV lung cancer, I am not exactly on firm footing.

I didn’t say to the woman that I could be dead by then because those words were, figuratively speaking, a bit too close to my literal reality. It was a case of fiction being a bit too close to fact and my mouth actually being able to cash that check.

In addition to providing fodder for this column, my calls to miscellaneous home improvement/concrete/foundation repair companies left me not high, still dry, but totally unrequited. I needed help. I put myself out there and received practically nothing in return. It is a lesson I’ll take to the grave.

I don’t want to sound unreasonable because I still think I’m of sound mind (not so much sound body), but being diagnosed with cancer does, at least in my experience, move up your timeline, so to speak. There’s a certain amount of patience and accommodation that is totally ripped from your subconscious.

When your life is in jeopardy, dealing with the daily double: life and death, becomes extraordinarily difficult, regardless of whether your answers are in the form of questions. The uncertainty of it all is very off-putting. Sometimes, you don’t know whether you’re coming or going.

Trying to live a “normal” life under these kinds of constraints – and restraints – can make Jack a very dull boy. And very often this dullness manifests itself in one’s inflexibility.

When your life is at stake, it’s nearly impossible to act as if it isn’t. Your brain seemingly gets rewired and re-purposed. As much as you attempt to retain your old and familiar self, this newer cancer-affected version slowly takes over.

You’re not exactly in “The Twilight Zone,” but “imagine if you will” at age 54 and a half, expecting to live into your mid-80s as both your parents did, instead being told that you have “13 months to two years” to live?

Though I’ve taken it mostly in stride and lived way beyond my oncologist’s expectations, to say one’s stride is not changed by the experience is to give naivete a whole new meaning. (Not to mention the fact that the neuropathy in both my feet makes walking extremely difficult.) Nevertheless, life goes on.

As such, as much as I want to plan for the future, sometimes, it’s the present for which I need to plan.

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



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