

On March 24 Nadia Conyers and her daughter Arrington read their new children's book to residents who live at APAH's Gilliam Place.



Sister City in Ukraine

Stealing the Mail?

ATTENTION POSTMESTER: TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL. SS-1E-5 HOME JOHN NI GETSELDER

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Quilting for Goodness, Page 6

WRESTLING WITH ALCOHOL

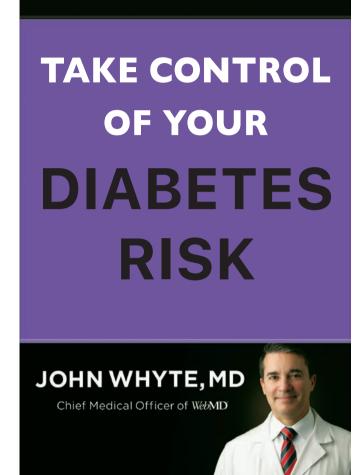
CALENDAR, PAGE 8

BROWN/THE CONNECTION

BY EDEN

Dr. Whyte's New Book

Released March 8, 2022



From the Chief Medical Officer at WebMD, the world's largest provider of trusted health information, learn how to reduce your diabetes risk and change your mindset from I hope I don't get diabetes to I can prevent diabetes.

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News

Bring Back the Pony Express

Thefts common in Northern Virginia postal boxes.

Shirley Ruhe
Arlington Connection

wo blue postal boxes located outside the post office on George Mason Drive are taped closed. A tattered sign blows in the wind announcing the locks on the boxes will be replaced, and mail should be delivered inside. There have been reports that mail has been stolen from these boxes, and they have been a problem for a long time.

In response to our inquiry, the USPS Office of the Inspector General responded with the results of a 2020 audit report that found the Postal Service's management controls over arrow keys were ineffective. The report found the units didn't adequately report lost, stolen or broken keys or maintain inventories while allowing unlimited replacement arrow keys to be ordered. "Ineffective controls over arrow keys increases the risk that these items will be lost or stolen and not detected." As a result the report recommended the creation and maintenance of a nationwide arrow key inventory as well as guidance on maximum key quantity and evaluation of technology

One woman reports on NextDoor that she had a check to their lawn service for over \$1,000 stolen from the box at George Mason in early March and cashed for \$5,000. She reported that the United States Postal Service (USPS) postal in-

spector told her there had been organized groups targeting outdoor boxes in Northern Virginia.

The postal inspector told her the thieves steal the keys to the mailboxes and hit them during off hours. The postal inspector also said they had changed the locks and put in cameras to observe. The would-be mail thieves returned a few times but were thwarted by the new locks and eventually gave up.

Opinions of postal patrons ranges from those who complain about the inconvenience of now having to find limited parking at the George Mason site and walk inside (sometimes in the rain) to those who don't trust anything but handing their mail directly to the postal employee behind the desk. Cars that haven't gotten the word about the unusable outdoor postal boxes still line up at the curb to drop in mail and drive off shaking their heads.

Some customers have indicated that buying stamps and envelopes is ok but that they do not use any outside boxes at George Mason anymore. Others have completely switched their business to a nearby post office in McLean, Westover or Clarendon and others have sworn off all post offices, opting for FedEx instead. One woman reports she sent St. Patrick's Day cards with cash to two relatives and only one made it with the other stolen from the post office box. It almost started a family rift.

The postal employees say they have been given no information on when to expect the replacement locks for the boxes. Mail thefts are not the jurisdiction of the Arlington County Police Department and should be reported to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at uspis. gov.

The two large blue mailboxes located by the curb outside of the N. George Mason postal station have been taped shut awaiting new locks to prevent recent mail theft.

> Photo by Shirley Ruhe The Connection



News

Arlington's Sister City Teams up with Northside Social

An emotional crowd raised funds for Ukraine.

By Eden Brown The Connection

f you've ever lived in a European country, you know the magic of a Sunday afternoon in the early Spring. The flowers are coming out, a band is playing, people get up to dance or sing together at tables, children dash about, grandmothers get up to chase them, laughing, and those serving up beer and snacks smile, because what's better than this? It's particularly poignant in former East Bloc villages where a song is more than a song: it's a statement. When

people sing about a wildflower at the foothills of the Carpathian mountains, it's much more than that.

In Arlington, on Sunday, it was that and a happy-sad communion of neighbors supporting people thousands of miles away, in the only way they can right now. The laughter, the looks exchanged, the words to the songs handed down generations, the tears shed: it was as if Arlington, for a few hours, was that village in Ukraine. Even the weather was a bit on the Ukrainian side.

It all started when Fedorchak, Stephen

owner of the Northside Social Cafe, asked two Ukrainian women who worked in the cafe what he could do to help. They were feeling the pain of the war in their home country, their absence from family, and didn't know what to do. They told him they just wanted to help



Annabel Hoyt, 6, is dressed in Ukrainian traditional garb to support the country she lived in for a few years before returning to Arlington. Her family lived in Ukraine as U.S. foreign service officers and they feel a strong tie to the country they called home, even as visitors.



Two attendees dancing to the folk tunes.

in some way and the best way seemed to be to raise money. Fedorchak paired with Arlington Sister CIty Association, for whom the Ukrainian city of Ivano Frankivsk is a sister city, and the Sunday afternoon fundraiser took shape. Arlington's SIster City Association

"No, I am not Ukrainian. I am Slovakian. We know what it is to be invaded. We remember 1968. We know the pain. We feel solidarity with the Ukrainian people. That's why I am here to support Ukraine."

—Katarina Skladony, Arlington Sister City Committee



From left, Sophia Taylor and Katarina Skladony manned the Arlington Sister City desk at the event to help bring awareness to the plight of Ukrainians. Sophia Taylor is president of the Ivano Frankivsk Committee.



Mario Carranza and Sasha Fedorchak, baristas of the Northside Social Cafe, wearing yellow and blue as they worked the counter to support the non-stop orders on Sunday.



The band was a local two person violin and recorder/flute duo called Gerdan, that sounded bigger than it was because of all the people who joined in to belt out old Ukrainian folk tunes. Or maybe it was the fact that one man could play two flutes at a time.

promotes Arlington's internation- their Ukrainian folk tunes. "But," no food." al profile and creates long lasting relationships with five sister cities, and one of them is Ukrainian.

The two young women, Yuliia Mashkina and Khrystyna Nichveda, joined the musicians for a few songs and relished the sound of

they said, "We feel somewhat guilty: our families are still in Ukraine but they have power, and enough food and water. But many of our friends in Eastern Ukraine had lost their homes, and loved ones, and had no power, no water,



Yuliia Mashkina and Khrystyna Nichveda work at Northside Social. "Once this happened, the owner could see how hard it was for us, and asked us, what could he do to help? So we agreed this would be a way to raise money for the people in Ukraine.'

To donate to the Ukraine relief fund that was the beneficiary of the fundraiser, see: https://donate.wck. org or https://www.icrc.org/en

For more about Arlington's sister city association, see:

www.arlingtonsistercity.org

Privacy Advocates Urge Veto

Opponents of facial recognition technology call on governor to reject social-media dragnet.

The Connection

olice departments across Virginia may soon have the ability to use billions of images scraped from social-media sites like Facebook and Instagram to track down suspects, a development that is concerning to critics who say the technology is invasive and a violation of privacy. The governor is now considering the bill, and critics are urging him to veto it or amend it to require a warrant.

"There's nothing in the bill that allows any type of surveillance or monitoring," said Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36), who introduced the bill. "The technology can only be used if you have a picture of somebody that you want to feed into the algorithm to identify them or identify other people affiliated with them for purposes of investigating a crime.'

At the center of the controversy is a company known as Clearview AI, which is backed by Facebook investor Peter Thiel and gives law-enforcement officials access to billions of images posted on social media. It offers free trials to public employees as a way to land subscribers, and more than 30 agencies in Virginia have used the technology or tested it. Supporters say it's a way for cash-strapped agencies to fight crime with less money and manpower. Critics say it's a violation of the Fourth Amendment, which forbids unreasonable search and seizure.

"Our laws have not kept up with technology as it has evolved, and what we see is a clear violation of not only our privacy laws but the Fourth Amendment," said Del. Sam Rasoul (D-11). "That's why you'll find concerns on both sides of the aisle that say we need to be smart about this."

THE BIPARTISAN VOTE in the General Assembly was far from the normal partisan divide that happens on most controversial issues. The vote in the House was 54 to 42. Republican Speaker Todd Gilbert voted against the bill, and former Democratic Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn voted in favor. Alexandria's delegation was split, with Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) voting in favor and Del. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (D-45) voting against it. The vote in the Senate was more lopsided, 27 in favor and 13 opposed. But the opposition included some prominent Republicans, 4 ARLINGTON CONNECTION MARCH 30 - APRIL 5, 2022

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE includingformer president pro tempore Steve Newman (R-23). Some of the leading voices against the bill were from the Legislative Black Caucus, although members of the caucus were on both sides of the issue.

> "There are neighborhoods where police cars drive by certain spots four, five, six, seven times a day," said Del. Cia Price (D-95). "And little kids in neighborhoods like the one I grew up in and that I represent know this feeling, and other areas don't have that."

> Advocates for the technology say concerns are overblown. Surovell says police lineups have a 40 percent error rate to identify people, so he says facial recognition technology is much more accurate than current methods police use to identify people. As to the idea that police should be required to get a warrant, Surovell says that proposal is unworkable. Before lawmakers took action to prohibit the use of third-party vendors last year, Fairfax County used this technology so often that Surovell says requiring a warrant would be counterproductive.

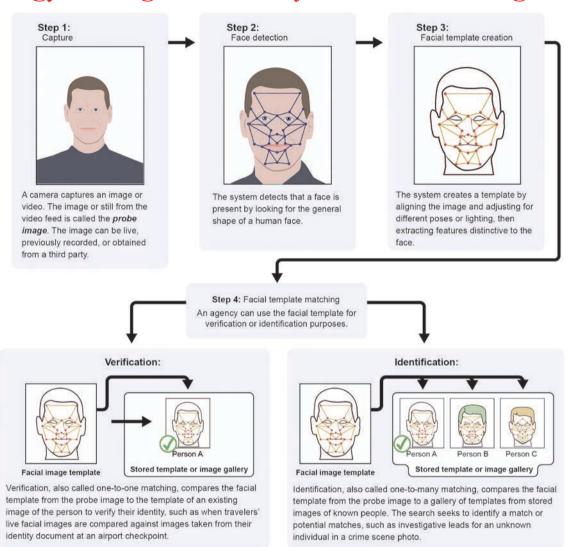
> "Fairfax did this more than 12,000 times," said Surovell. "The courts can't even handle 12,000 requests for this. That would be a completely unworkable system. We don't require a warrant to do a police lineup to identify some-

> THE HISTORY OF Law-enforcement use of facial recognition technology has been checkered. The Virginia State Police initially denied using the technology, then admitted that four state troopers had been using the company's facial recognition tools for five months before supervisors found out and shut them down. Police departments in Hampton and Newport News initially denied using the technology, then later admitted that they had. The Alexandria Police Department acknowledges it used the technology in the past, before lawmakers prohibited law-enforcement agencies from using third-party vendors.

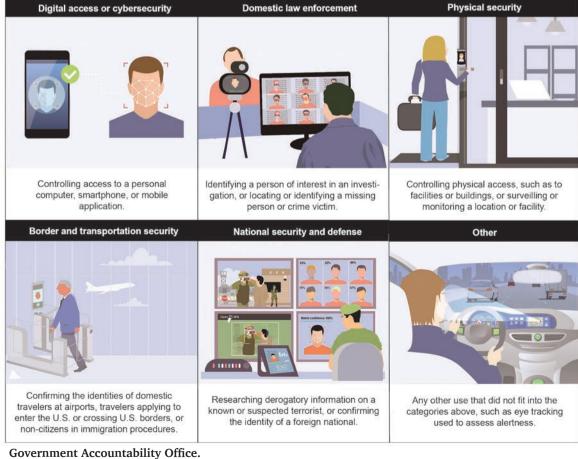
> "It was only used as a tool to assist officers in finding possible suspects," said Marcel Bassett, public-information officer for the Alexandria Police Department in an email. "But the match would not be enough to convict or even subpoena anyone."

> Concerns about law-enforcement agencies using the technolo-SEE PRIVACY, PAGE 5





Government Accountability Office.



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"Flourishing After 55"

Office of 55+ Programs Department of Parks and Recreation 300 N. Park Dr., Arlington, VA 22203 703-228-4747

Date: 3-23-22 Contact: Judy Massabny, jmassa@arlingtonva.us

55+ Programs are virtual, indoors at 55+ Centers and outdoors. A 55+ Pass is required to participate (starting at a \$20 annual fee). To join or register, go to registration. arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-

Langston-Brown 55+ Center is collecting men's and women's white socks plus plastic bags to make mats for sleeping outdoors. The Center, located at 2121 N. Culpeper St., is collaborating with PathForward volunteers who will distribute the

donations to homeless shelters through April. For more information, 703-228-6300.

Step-by-step painting demonstration with a community arts programmer, Monday, April 4, 10:30 a.m. Picture and supply list sent prior to class. Registration # 913303-10.

Wake and make early morning activity with community arts programmer Jennifer Droblyen, Monday, April 4, 9 a.m. Registration # 913303-

Read library books on the Libby app, borrow free ebooks or digital audiobooks from a public library, Monday, April 4, 1 p.m. Presented by Alexandra Schulz, Arlington Public Library staff. Registration #

It takes a village, Tuesday, April 5, 11:30 a.m., registration # 913400-26, Arlington Mill 55+ Center or virtual, registration # 913400-27. Presented by Wendy Zenker, exec. dir., Arlington Neighborhood Village.

55+ Book Club members to discuss "Sisters in Law" by Linda Hirshman, Tuesday, April 5, 1:30 p.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Drop

Table tennis games, all levels of skill welcome, Tuesday, April 5, 10 a.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Drop in. Also Wednesday, April 6, 9 a.m., Madison Community Center. Drop

55+ trip to view the "Sargent, Whis-

tler and Venetian Glass" exhibit at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, D.C., Wednesday, April 6, \$8. Registration # 902204-01. Leave from Madison Community Center, 10:40 a.m., Barcroft Sports & Fitness, 11 a.m.

Diabetes nutrition, hear the latest science and recommendations for better blood sugar control and weight management, Wednesday, April 6, 11 a.m. Presented by registered dietician, Virginia Hospital Center. Registration # 913500-07.

Preparing for a doctor's appointment, Wednesday, April 6, 12:30 p.m., Aurora Hills 55+ Center. Presented by a representative from Virginia Hospital Center's Senior Health Department. Registration # SEE FLOURISHING, PAGE 8

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Privacy Advocates Urge Veto

gy with little or no oversight have been building for years, culminating in a new law that went into effect last year. That was legislation filed after the Norfolk Police Department used Clearview's database without the knowledge of the mayor and most city council members, prompting former Del. Lashrecse Aird (D-63) to introduce a bill requiring law-enforcement agencies to have "exclusive control" over every aspect of the program. Because most agencies rely on Clearview AI, she called the bill a "de facto ban."

"Citizens should have control of and awareness of whether or not their law enforcement officers are using this type of technology," said Aird after her bill passed the General Assembly last year. "The immediate baseline-level concern is that these databases have misidentified people on a large scale,

particularly anyone with significant pigmentation, so Black and brown people."

Her concern about false identification is warranted, according to the National Institute for Standards and Technology. In 2019, the agency found a high rate of false positives among women especially Black women — and African Americans in general. Former Gov. Ralph Northam ended

up signing Aird's bill, although he added an amendment exempting the Virginia State Police. Northam also carved out an exemption for airports, where local law enforcement agencies often overlap with federal and state agencies.

"They have a requirement for their law enforcement entities to work with federal entities," said Aird at the time. "So we wanted to make sure this does not conflict

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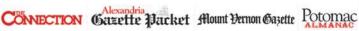
l	3/2/2022	Wellbeing
l	3/9/2022	HomeLifeStyle
l	3/16/2022	A+ Camps & Schools
l	3/23/2022	Senior Living
l	3/30/2022	Spring Family Fun

APRIL

	4/6/2022	Wellbeing
	4/13/2022	HomeLifeStyle
		A+ Camps & Schools
	4/27/2022	Senior Living

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Local Quilters Use Craft To Bring Cheer

McLean Quilters
Unlimited gifts quilts
to Mary Marshall
Assisted Living and
other organizations.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

atsi feels loved when she looks at hers while Diana's keeps her warm and comfortable at night. The vibrant colors of Don's brighten his room. These reactions are from seniors — residents of Mary Marshall Assisted Living in Arlington — to quilts gifted to them on Valentine's Day. The quilts were handmade by the charitable artisans of McLean Quilters Unlimited.

"The quilts ... truly touched my heart ern Vir and the hearts of the residents," said Divina Alston, Mary Marshall Executive Director. "To think of the SENIOR LIVING

craftsmanship and hours it took to complete each quilt makes them

extra special. Knowing the love and care that was put into them, brought out a lot of smiles. The residents were thrilled to go in their private rooms to place their quilts on their beds or chairs to brighten their living space."



Members of McLean Quilters Unlimited display quilts that members donated to Mary Marshall Assisted Living



In addition to Mary Marshall Assisted Living, members of Mc-Lean Quilters Unlimited have gifted their work to organizations such the Assistance League of Northern, Virginia.

McLean Quilter Unlimited, one of the 11 chapters of Quilters Unlimited of Northern Virginia (QU), donated a total of 60 handmade quilts to the residents of Mary

Marshall. This is just one of the philanthropic projects that members undertake each year. They've given quilts to organizations such

as the Fairfax Ronald McDonald House, US Army for Afghan Refugees, Fair Oaks Hospital's Teddy Bear Project, Fairfax County Animal Shelter and Assistance League of Northern, Virginia.

"We seek out worthy causes through

word of mouth in the community. They're often associated with other activities our members support, like support for refugees through a church or synagogue," said Alcy Frelick, president of McLean Quilters Unlimited. Mary Marshall House came to our attention through one of our members."

In addition to offering support to nonprofit organizations, their mission is to preserve the tradition, culture and history of quilting.

The McLean guild has 80 members and is open to anyone regardless of their experience or skill level. QU's chapters have a total of more than 1,000 members.

"As members, we gain friendship, encouragement, appreciation for our work, creative inspiration and quilting techniques," said Frelick.

The group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Arlington. Meetings are open to visitors. The work of the McLean Guild, as well as that of others in Northern Virginia, will be on display through an online exhibit that starts during the first weekend of June. For more information, visit: www.quiltersunlimited.org.

Alcohol Awareness Month

By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

pile of crushed metal, shattered glass was the result of Bo Bissett's decision to get behind the wheel of a car while drunk. He crashed his car into a telephone pole in an accident that nearly cost him his life. Two years later, he got drunk at a keg party.

WELLBEING He left the celebration traveling by skateboard,

rolled into oncoming traffic and was hit by a car. He almost lost his right leg. Still, Bissett's heavy drinking continued.

"A few years later, I pushed everyone around me away and left the country," said Bissett. "I traveled and drank myself stupid for another 10 years. That's when my body started breaking

"Drinking alcohol is more socially accepted than other substances and is much more accessible than other substances, which can make it more difficult, in some ways, to quit."

— Allana Taylor, LCSW, Director of Student Counseling Services at Marymount University

down and I realized I wouldn't just die in my sleep, that the end would be longer and more painful than I imagined. That's when I realized I had to stop punishing myself."

Bissett and others who've struggled with alcoholism are using the month of April to share stories about alcoholism played and their roads to recovery. Designated as National Alcohol Awareness Month, survivors and mental health professionals who work in

use the month of April to raise awareness, erase stigma and to inspire those who are struggling to get help and maintain sobriety. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) estimates that 90 percent of alcoholics will have at least one relapse during their first four years of sobriety.

substance abuse and addiction

"What people do not realize is that Alcohol Use Disorder is a brain disease," said Arlington psychotherapist, David Burch. "Our brains can become addicted, crave it and have withdrawals from it."

Because alcohol is a legal sub-



Bo Bissett used alcohol to cope with painful childhood experiences. After two horrific accidents, he sought treatment to work through difficult issues. That was one of the first steps on his road to recovery.

stance, knowing and accepting that one has crossed a line into alcoholism can be challenging, said Allana Taylor, LCSW, director of Student Counseling Services at Marymount University. She recommends the CAGE assessment, a short questionnaire that can indi-

cate problem drinking.

The CAGE questionnaire is an acronym for four questions: Have you ever tried to Cut down your drinking?

Have people Annoyed you about your drinking?

Have you ever felt Guilty about your drinking?

Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or to get rid of a hangover (Eye opener)?"

"Alcoholics continue drinking despite the problems that it causes in their lives," Taylor said. They find themselves drinking more than they anticipated, have had unsuccessful attempts to stop drinking, and over time require increasing amounts of alcohol in order to achieve their desired effects."

Misconceptions and stigma around alcoholism can cause shame unlike other accepted medical conditions. "A lot of people think that it's just an

See Alcohol, Page 8

Find Your Way to Alcohol Treatment

https://alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov/ Alcoholics Anonymous https://www.aa.org/

Culpepper Garden Celebrates First Responders



Zach Cafritz, Chief of Staff to U.S. Congressman Don Beyer (VA-8) praised Arlington's first responders at the March 25 Culpepper Garden dedication of a new first responder bench.

From Left: Police Chief Charles "Andy" Penn joined Department of Public Safety Communications and Emergency Management Public Affairs Manager Hannah Winant, Assistant Arlington County Fire Department Chief Joe Reshetar and Sheriff Beth Arthur in cutting the ribbon for the new bench dedication.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE Arlington Connection

versized scissors sliced through a bright red ribbon to dedicate a new First Responders Bench at Culpepper Garden March 25 as a tribute to Arlington County first responders. State Senator Barbara Favola mentioned in her remarks that the timing was appropriate since the emergency responders had already been at Culpepper Garden three times that morning before the ceremony. She said it's all about dignity and making people feel special. "Our first responders exemplify that."

Police Chief Andy Penn joined County Sheriff Beth Arthur, Asst. Arlington County Fire Chief Joe Reshetar and Department of Public Safety Communications and Emergency Management Public Affairs Manager Hannah Winant, in cutting the ribbon for the new bench dedication. In addition, other officials were in attendance including Arlington County Board Chair Katie Cristol and other Arlington County Board members as well as County Manager Mark Schwartz, a number of members of the Culpepper Board of Directors and community leaders.

Zach Cafritz, representing U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (VA-8) quoted the Congressman's comments in Thursday's Congressional Record "recognizing the first responders for their heroism during the COVID-19 pandemic and every day for their bravery and selflessness. Arlington County's first responders have been on the frontlines, making more than 300 trips in 2021 to Culpepper Garden, consistently risking their own well-being to protect and serve our community members."

Marta Hill Gray, Executive Director of Culpepper Garden, recounted the history of the recent renovation of Culpepper Garden when construction hit right in the middle of the pandemic. Now the project has been successfully completed with an upgrade and



to the festivities at the Culpepper Garden daffodil celebration and recognition of Arlington's first responders.

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE THE CONNECTION

transformation of the original in-

dependent living wing. She cred-

its the widespread support of the community as well as the County

for the success of this effort. Favola

mentioned that Culpepper was the

first senior low-income housing in

the nation to receive Federal fund-

ing and also the County Board had

to approve it. "It still gets acclama-

The Friday Spring Opening

event began a weekend of daffo-

dil-centered activities including

a Saturday Daffodil Walk for the

public with tours of the 33,000

daffodils that had been persuaded

to bloom for the event, as well as

tours, refreshments and music.



legacy of botanist Charles Culpepper who originally owned the land where Culpepper Garden is housed today and who was renowned for his diverse daffodil collection. Culpepper Garden set out to preserve this legacy with a six-phase garden restoration plan that was launched in the spring of 2021.

The garden transformation began with the planting of 28,000 daffodils that were featured in the Inaugural Spring Garden walk. Throughout the fall of 2022, volunteers planted an additional the U.S. to provide assisted living. 5,000 bulbs along the Gibboney Walk as well as the Assisted Living Garden and front walkway. Two new pavilions plus several new

phase of the project.

The next step is Woodland Walk to connect the trails and complete the walking loop. Future plans include a koi pond, additional pavilions, picnic tables, and bird feeders with naming opportunities for the garden additions. The renovation is expected to be completed in 3-5 years.

Culpepper Garden is an affordable senior community for people age 62 and older and the first low-income senior community in It was established in the mid 70's and now includes two renovated independent living facilities with 267 apartments and an assisted benches were included in this first living facility with 73 apartments.



Community attendees and officials stroll down the daffodil path at Culpepper Garden on Friday, March 25.

Culpepper Garden built on the

Entertainment

MARCH 26-APRIL 10

TAP/LTA Night of One Acts. At Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington. The Arlington Players has partnered with the Little Theatre of Alexandria to bring a premier of three one-act plays to the Northern Virginia theater scene. These three shows were selected from more than 100 global entries to LTA's annual one act competition, and tackle a variety of current issues in unique and thoughtful ways.

Guinea Pig Apocalypse follows the story of two parents dealing with a bizarre incident with their son's class guinea pig, which leads into an apocalyptic disaster.

"The show is on the absurd side," commented Juli Tarabek Blacker, director of the show. "But the message buried in all of the madcap is a good one, and one that is becoming more and more needed as the years go on."

Wild Horses brings three campers to the stage who struggle to survive the elements and each other at the height of the Black Lives Matter movement.

"The show hits on an important topic

to me: making outdoor recreation feel accessible to all," said director Farrell Tapscott. "My hope is the play will spark conversation over this topic, because awareness and conversation are the spark of progress!"

Across a Crowded Room follows two individuals meeting for the first time at a party at a suburban home as they peer into their future "together".

Performances are set for Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees begin at 3 p.m. Visit http://thearlingtonplayers.org/ seasons/71st-season/night-of-oneacts/

APRIL 1-16

Hop to It! The Bunny Returns to Fashion Centre Pentagon City for Easter.

Things to know before you go: Reservations are encouraged. Make Bunny reservations at https://bunnyphoto.splashthat.com.

Families may choose to sit with Bunny or maintain social distance.

The Bunny's helpers will wear masks throughout the duration of each visit.

The Bunny Photo Experience hours are Monday – Saturday from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. and noon – 6 p.m. on Sunday. On Saturday, April 16, hours are 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Fashion Centre Pentagon City will also host events with the Bunny this season including:

Caring Bunny, for children with special needs – Sunday, April 3 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

FRIDAY/APRIL 1

Tips, Tricks, and Tools: Advice from Extension Master Gardeners. 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Online. Ever wonder what Extension Master Gardeners (EMGs) know that you don't? In this talk, you'll learn some of what EMGs have learned either through training or hard experience. Expect a mix of affirmation of tried and true techniques, myth busting, and ideas worth exploring. EMG Alyssa Ford Morel has gathered helpful tidbits from her colleagues with the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia and compiled them in this light-hearted celebration of getting things done in the garden. Free. RSVP at https://mgnv.org/events/ to receive a link to participate.

SATURDAY/APRIL 2

Arlington Garage Sale. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Washington-Liberty Parking Garage, 4035 North 15th Street, Arlington. The Civitan Club of Arlington will be hosting the largest flea market in Arlington County. Spaces will be available for \$20.00 apiece starting at 8 p.m. at the garage. Free for shoppers,

\$20.00 apiece starting at 8 p.m. at the garage. Free for shoppers, \$20.00/space for vendors. Vendor spaces will be available on levels B through F of the garage starting at 8 p.m. on April 1. Level A will be reserved for Shoppers. Visit the website: http://www.arlington-fleamarket.com

SATURDAY/APRIL 2

Colonial Games at the Ball-Sellers
House. 1-4 p.m. At Ball-Sellers
House, 5620 3rd St., South, Arlington. The Ball-Sellers House opens its season on Saturday, April 2 with a Colonial Games Festival. Children of every age can play some of the games that the five daughters who lived here from 1742-1766 played. Join us for Ninepins, Jacks, Corn Cob Darts, Graces, pancake races and more. They'll have colonial era sweet treats and beverages. Visit the website:

arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 6

Audiobook Book Club. 7-8 p.m. Via Zoom. Join in a discussion of the audiobook "A Fatal Grace", authored by Louise Penny, narrated by Ralph Cosham. Free, Registration Required: https://arlingtonva. libcal.com/event/8918745

SATURDAY/APRIL 9

Enchanted Rhapsody. 4-7:30 p.m. At 6th Street South and South Ball Street intersection. Don't miss a starlit night listening to a live set of Taylor Swift versus Queen songs performed by the Edgewood String Quartet to welcome in the bliss of springtime and the beauty of the cherry blossoms. Grab your best friend and rock the night away celebrating friendship, warmer days to come and a season of new beginnings. Specialty drinks and food will be available for purchase from RAKO and other local eateries. Registration is required to experience this night of Enchanted Rhapsody and to break free from the winter blues, embracing an evening of being fearlessly you.

Alcohol Awareness Month

FROM PAGE 6

easy decision to put down the bottle," said Burch. "Society and our communities need more education on that in order to help ease the stigma."

Alcohol is hard to avoid; attaining sobriety is difficult in part because alcohol is legal, easily attainable and ubiquitous, says Taylor. "Drinking alcohol is more socially accepted than other substances and is much more accessible than other substances, which can make it more difficult, in some ways, to quit," she said.

The ability to hide his alcohol consumption helped fuel 36-year-old Francisco's alcoholism. "I was

a functioning alcoholic," said Francisco, who lives in Potomac, and has been sober for four-and-a-half years. "I could work all day, but Thursday through Monday the party was raging. I would usually wake up the next morning wondering where I'd been, who I'd been with and how I got there.

He began drinking when he was 15 and it wasn't until his life began to unravel that he decided to put down the bottle. "The biggest consequences I faced were all legal troubles," he said. "Since the age of 19 I have had some sort of legal problem. I was either in jail or on probation. I've spent two years of my adult life free of legal problems."

Using alcohol to mask pain from past experiences is not uncommon among alcoholics. This was the case with Francisco. "I was a gay child and that made me stick out like a sore thumb," he said. "I didn't know how to handle my lack of attraction for women. I saw myself as defective and lacking. Alcohol gave me the ability to for-

get all that. With alcohol I didn't have to worry about being too effeminate. I drank every night to have the courage to break out of my shell." He credits his sobriety to Alcoholics Anonymous. https://www.aa.org/

Seeking treatment to understand and work through difficult issues from his past instead of numbing himself with alcohol was one of the first steps on Bissett's road to recovery. "I got rid of the underlying emotions that kept me from living a [better] life and thinking I was unworthy of something better," said Bissett. "Triggers ... are emotional responses that we've embodied. Once those emotions are gone, you get to choose how you react, whether to drink or not."

Among the consequences that can help motivate alcoholics to stop drinking are strained relationships with family and friends, health risks, job loss, legal issues and a desire to return to one's faith. Such was the case for Terrie, a 55-year-old mother of three. "I spent years in and out of jails. I had an incredibly powerful and moving experience in prison," said Terrie, who has been sober for three months. "I prayed for the desire for drugs and alcohol to leave me. I felt this weird, eerie and beautiful presence in my body. It filled the hole that I had been trying to fill since I was a little girl being abused. I started sobbing and I knew that when I left prison I would never drink again."

Methods of attaining and maintaining sobriety vary from person to person, said Taylor.

"Addictions can be challenging to overcome and a number of factors, such as level of severity and access to help contribute to how difficult it is to achieve sobriety," she said. The basics: "Avoid settings, people, and circumstances that trigger the desire to drink. Use therapeutic or psychiatric support to develop a toolbox of coping skills for stress and intense emotions."

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) developed a website with an alcohol treatment navigator to simplify the process of finding treatment. This tool helps users search for professionally led, evidence-based alcohol treatment. It can be found at: Find Your Way to Alcohol Treatment | Navigator | NIAAA (nih. gov) Find Your Way to Alcohol Treatment | Navigator | NIAAA (nih.gov)

If done carefully, an intervention by the family and friends can be effective, Taylor said. "It must be based around expressing your concern about the person's wellbeing," she said. "Avoid using labels like alcoholic or alcoholism. There is a negative connotation associated with those terms that may cause someone to become defensive and not willing to listen."

Instead, express concerns objectively, continued Taylor. "Describe actions or observable behaviors as well as providing support," she said. "For example, "I am really worried because you have been missing a lot of work lately. I care about you and want to help," she said.

Bisset offers a caveat. "Friends and family can say and do many things, but it's not until the person abusing alcohol realizes they need to change that they can make lasting change," he said.

"Flourishing After 55"

FROM PAGE 5

913500-08.

Local history group to discuss Arlington's stone quarries along the Potomac, Wednesday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.Registration # 913402-14.

Opera appreciation group to hear music selections from "Die Zauberflote" (Magic Flute) by Wolfgang Mozart, Wednesday April 6, 1:30 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Professional commentary by George Cecchetti. Registration # 913300-04.

55+ "Tour de Friends" Bike Club will bike around the cherry blossoms, East Potomac Park, D.C., Wednesday, April 6, 11 a.m. Registration # 913206-05.

Travel trivia features far reaches of the globe, opportunity to connect with new friends, Thursday, April 7, 11 a.m. Registration # 913601-03.

Trivia night with teams competing in a six round, pen and paper challenge, Thursday, April 7, 6 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 913601-05.

Antiquarian books never grow old. Explore what makes a book rare or valuable from Hélène Golay, owner of L.N. Golay Books, Thursday, April 7, 1:30 p.m. Registration # 913400-06.

Hike a path close to the April 8, 1826 Clay-Randolph duel, on Friday, April 8, 10 a.m., near Chain Bridge. Registration # 913106-16.

Intermediate drawing and painting class, beyond the basics, with community arts programmer Jennifer Droblyen, begins Friday, April 8, 1 p.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Four two hour sessions, \$30. Registration # 913303-04.

Movie entertainment at Lubber Run 55+ Center, Friday, April 8, 1 p.m., "The Courier" (2021). Registration # 913804-01.

Coffee House Live! Music by DEMZ2, pop tunes from the 60s and 70s, Saturday, April 9, 7 p.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Packaged refreshments. Registration # 913301-04.

Diabetes discussion group topics include daily management, social and emotional support and available community resources, Monday, April 11, 3 p.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Drop-in.

Planting with expert gardener Peter Jones, Monday, April 11, 11:30 a.m. April's topic, bringing Bonsai out of winter storage. Registration # 913401-02.

Secrets of famous artists' techniques revealed by community

See Flourishing, Page 9

The Story Behind the Story

New children's book recounts renaming of Lee Highway.

By Shirley Ruhe Arlington Connection

"We wanted young

people to be able to

the book. We wanted

see themselves in

to show people of

color in books and

the importance of

representation."

n a mild sunny fall morning Arrington woke up her mom and dad stirring hastily through the house with excitement." Nadia and her daughter Arrington take turns reading their new children's book,

"From Lee Highway to Langston Boulevard," at a book signing event March 24. The event was held at Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing's (APAH) Gilliam Place with a free book given to the 25 children in attendance.

The story continues when Arrington asks her parents what they are planning to do that day, and learns they are going to a naming celebration for a street. Arrington

wonders why the street name is changing, and her mother explains it had been named for a person who didn't treat people fairly. Arrington declares it "cool" when she learns the new street name will be the same as Langston Community Center in the neighborhood where her grandmother lives and

her mom grew up.

Nadia said the idea for the book came about because her mother was on the Renaming Committee and instrumental in the street renaming effort. "Some of our neighbors came to the renaming ceremony, and my mom wanted to give the children a book about John Langston and who he was. Nadia said she researched and couldn't find anything like that "so we decided to write our own book."

Nadia said it only took about three hours for them to write the book. "It is just 26 pages long and geared to K-2, and we already knew what we wanted to say."

But she added it took longer to find a

publisher and an illustrator who could portray them the way they saw themselves. John Langston was one of the most prominent African Americans in the US before and during the Civil War and the first Black member of Congress from Virginia.

"We wanted young people to be able to see themselves in the book. We wanted to show people of color in books and the importance of represen-

tation."

— Nadia Conyers, author

Nadia and Arrington had just returned on Saturday afternoon from another book signing, this one at the Unitarian Church on George Mason Drive where they read the book aloud to preschool children. Arrington was still excited and trying to wind down.



On March 24 Nadia Conyers and her daughter Arrington read their new children's book to residents who live at APAH's Gilliam Place.

Her mother had told her "You're a part of history; this is a big deal."

Coming up are more events at the Photo Gallery, Central Library and an Earth Day

event hosted by the Langston Boulevard Alliance. A second APAH book signing event is scheduled for March 31 from 5-6 pm at their The Springs location on N. Thomas Street.



Shirlington Education and Employment Center (SEEC) workers receive a gift from the faith community at the SEEC office on March 24. Andres Tobar, Director of the Arlington County SEEC program (right) says 23 workers received a choice of work boots, handy for construction work, or sneakers, good for the yard work that many of them perform in the spring. The SEEC program was established in 2000 to connect temporary day laborers with employers. The new SEEC office is located at the Arlington Mill Community Center at 909 S. Dinwiddie Street where you can pick up a worker or contact 703-933-1101 or atobar@seecjobs.org to make arrangements.

- SHIRLEY RUHE

"Flourishing After 55"

From Page 8

arts programmer, Jennifer Droblyen, Monday, April 11, 10:30 a.m. Registration # 913302-05.

Tour the Arlington Trades Center, discover the inner workings of County functions, Monday, April 11, masks required. Cost \$6. Registration #902204-02. Leave from Madison Community Center, 10:25 a.m.; Gunston Middle School, 10:45 a.m.

Rock music legends, Monkees vs Beatles, Tuesday, April 12, 1:30 p.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Hear and discuss music from both. Registration # 913400-28 or virtual registration # 913400-29.

Rummikub challenge, winner of games gets to compete with Langston-Brown 55+ Center director Elizabeth Poole, Tuesday, April 12, 9:30 a.m. Registration # 913601-06.

Tour Planet Word Museum, D.C., housed in the historic Franklin School, many interactive exhibits celebrating the written and spoken word, Wednesday, April 13, masks required. Registration # 902204-03. Leave from Madison Community Center, 1:10 p.m.; Gunston Middle School, 1:30 p.m. Spring tree nature walk, two miles around Virginia Highlands Park with park naturalist Maddie Koenig, Wednesday, April 13, 10:30 a.m. Registration # 913106-17.

Genealogy discussion group to meet with local advanced genealogist Susan J. Court, Wednesday, April 13, 3 p.m. Share discoveries and techniques. Registration # 913402-11.

History roundtable to discuss the history of world national borders, Wednesday, April 13, 11:15 a.m. Registration # 913402-17.

The study of words, phrases, expressions and the history of the English language, Wednesday, April 13, 10:30 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 913402-24 or virtual, registration # 913402-25.

Vegan recipes, demonstrated by representative from Virginia Cooperative Extension, Wednesday, April 13, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Registration # 913501-03.

Virtual movie discussion of "The Irishman" (2019), Thursday, April 14, 3 p.m. Registration # 913402-04.



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BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 31

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce will hold its Tenth Annual Legislative Breakfast on Thursday, March 31 from 8-9:30 a.m. via Zoom. This event, sponsored by Nestlé, brings business, government, and community leaders together for a moderated discussion about recent legislative topics and the outlook for the Commonwealth. The Legislative Breakfast offers the opportunity to hear about the recent General Assembly session from the legislators who represent Arlington in Richmond. Arlington's members of the Virginia Senate and House of Delegates will discuss the legislation that they patroned, the issues that the General Assembly took up, and their perspectives on the future of Arlington and the business community. This event features a question and answer portion, questions must be submitted by March 24. Registration closes on Thursday, March 24 at 5 p.m. The cost of registration is \$35 for Chamber members and \$50 for prospective members. Sign up here: https:// web.arlingtonchamber.org/events/ Legislative-Breakfast-3696/details

FRIDAY/APRIL 1

Tips, Tricks, and Tools: Advice from Extension Master Gardeners. 10 -11:30 a.m. Online. Ever wonder what Extension Master Gardeners (EMGs) know that you don't? In this talk, you'll learn some of what EMGs have learned either through training or hard experience. Expect a mix of affirmation of tried and true techniques, myth busting, and ideas worth exploring. EMG Alyssa Ford Morel has gathered helpful tidbits from her colleagues with the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia and compiled them in this light-hearted celebration of getting things done in the garden. Free. RSVP at https://mgnv.org/events/ to receive a link to participate.

FRIDAY/APRIL 8

Spotted Lanternfly: Identification and Control. 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Online. The invasive Spotted Lanternfly is likely to become an unwanted resident in Arlington or Alexandria this year. This pest is making its way south from Pennsylvania, east from Winchester, Virginia, and west from Maryland. Join Kirsten Conrad, Extension Agent for Arlington and City of Alexandria, to learn how to recognize this insect, what to do if you see one, how to report it, and how to manage the damage that it may cause to your landscape and fruit crops. Free. RSVP at https://mgnv.org/events/ to receive link to participate.

ONGOING

Online Salary Negotiation Workshop. AAUW (American Association of University Women) Work Smart is free online for anyone looking to learn how to negotiate a salary increase or promotion. Why is negotiation so important? AAUW's research on the gender pay gap shows that, one year out of college, women are already paid significantly less than men. Visit salary.

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Legals

Legals

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR THE PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR THE PROPOSED AREA DEVELOPMENT PLAN AT JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall (JBM-HH) hereby gives Notice of the Availability (NOA) for the Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the potential environmental and cultural effects associated with the implementation of an approved Area Development Plan (ADP) for installation-wide improvements. JBM-HH's ADP includes the construction and addition of new buildings, building complexes, building expansions and additions, utility upgrades, road improvements, and an increase in the overall workforce.

The ADP updates two previous ADPs into a consolidated JBM-HH ADP. This ADP will support the Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) by providing a cohesive comprehensive plan of connected system networks. These networks include transportation networks, streetscapes, the built environment, shared open space, utilities, and other systems. The proposed improvements are required for JBM-HH to retain its historic character while modernizing its infrastructure to establish a safe, secure, sustainable, and compact community that is both responsive to the mission and adaptive to the evolving needs of the Military District of Washington (MDW) and the National Capital Region (NCR). The installation-wide improvements would also preserve the historic legacy of iconic buildings and landscapes while embracing modernization, improving pedestrian circulation, and integrating with the surrounding community in a safe and secure environment. In 2017, ADPs were prepared for the individual campuses of Fort Myer-Henderson Hall (M-HH) and Fort McNair (McNair). In 2021, the individual ADPs were updated and consolidated into a single ADP for both campuses. This PEA has been prepared to identify, evaluate, and consider the environmental consequences of the implementation of the consolidated ADP in accordance with NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)

JBM-HH is located in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area and composed of Fort Myer, Henderson Hall, and Fort McNair. JBM-HH was created from the administrative reorganization of the Fort Myer Military Community (Fort Myer and Fort McNair) and the Marine Corps installation at Henderson Hall as part of the Congressionally mandated DoD Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act of 2005. Fort Myer and Henderson Hall are contiguous and located in Arlington, Virginia, adjacent to Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). Fort McNair is located in southwest Washington, D.C., on the peninsula of Greenleaf Point (in the neighborhood known as Buzzard Point), at the confluence of the Washington Channel of the Potomac River and the Anacostia River. JBM-HH encompasses approximately 380 acres (152 hectares) including Fort Myer at 243 acres (97 hectares), Henderson Hall at 29 acres (12 hectares), and Fort McNair at 107 acres (43 hectares). Installation management responsibilities for all three sites is the responsibility of U.S. Army Garrison JBM-HH headquartered in Building 59 on Fort Myer, and integration of functions and services between all three sites has occurred to provide more efficient support of the on-installation and regional populations.

The PEA has been prepared in accordance with the regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the NEPA, (Public Law 91-190, 42 USC 4321-4347 January 1, 1970), amendments, and the Army's Implementing Regulations (32 CFR Part 651, Environmental Analysis of Army Actions). The PEA is available to view in printed form at the Arlington Central Public Library, the D.C. Southwest Neighborhood Library, and the JBM-HH Environmental Division-Directorate of Public Works Building 321, located at 111 Stewart Road or to view/download electronically at the

https://home.army.mil/jbmhh/index.php/teamJBMHH/about/Base/environ-mental-management-division website.

Comments or questions on the PEA and Draft FNSI may be directed in writing to: Ms. Kelly Whitton, Environmental Management Division, Directorate of Public Works, 111 Stewart Road, Building 321, Fort Myer, VA 22211-1199 or by email to: JBMHH_NEPA@usace.army.mil, Subject: Draft PEA. Comments must be received no later than 30 days after publication of this NOA.



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Why Me? Why Now?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I am not "woeing." I am wondering. Why am I getting messages from my primary care physician concerning the need for my having an "advanced directive?" For those of you who don't know what an 'advanced directive' is, the short answer is: it's a set of instructions you want a significant person/people to have in hand when push comes to shove; and as a formerly (perhaps still) "terminal" cancer patient, I could get shoved at any time. The question remains: When I no longer can speak for myself, literally, do I want a document in place which speaks for me? If I don't have such a document in place, my peaceful transition might be anything but.

Some of you may be more familiar with a less formal but nonetheless effective expression of your intent called a "D.N.R.," "do not resuscitate." An order to whomever: doctors, lawyers, family, friends, emergency medical personnel who might be summoned to your house/ place of business, et cetera. It means no life-saving measures shall be performed on the patient. Let the patient succumb to his or her condition/affliction. An "advanced directive" ratches up this wish to an entirely new level. It clarifies for all interested parties exactly what the patient wants to happen to him when he's incapable of making his wishes known. No guessing. No disagreements. No equivocation whatsoever. Clarity and direction – from the dying patient.

Not that I think my doctor is prescient in some way or is reading my medical tea leaves per se, still; as prudent as having an "advanced directive" or a "D.N.R. or a Power of Attorney in place is, it does give one, especially this one, pause. Not that my doctor knows anything particularly time-sensitive/time-relevant about my condition, but he does know an awful lot more than I do about all things medical. And he also knows how it all fits together in ways that I certainly don't. What I know could fit on the diaphragm of a stethoscope. Moreover, he understands context and timing and the evolution of my health issues as they progress. I have no doubt that he'll know when I'm heading south before I do.

As I consider this underlying reality, what indication might I receive – from him, that my cancer has taken a turn for the worse? Oh, I don't know. What about multiple emails encouraging me to gather and complete documents that will assist Team Lourie when my final bell has wrong. "For whom the bell tolls?" It tolls for thee, as in me. If it looks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it must be a duck. If I'm being advised – by my doctor no less, to get my things in order, which is pretty much what an "advanced directive" is, then perhaps I shouldn't duck my responsibilities and go ahead and advance my directives?

On the contrary, if this email about a directive was not directed at me specifically, but rather a courtesy advisory to an entire patient population of a certain age, then I can live with that. My question is though: for how long?

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



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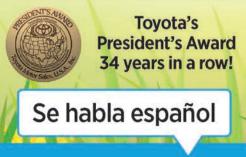
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