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Two New Exhibitions Open in April

April exhibitions at Central and Shirlington Libraries.

"Power in the Public: The Life and Legacy of Elizabeth Campbell," at Shirlington Library

The public is invited to an opening reception and community celebration of the newly opened exhibition, "Power in the Public: The Life and Legacy of Elizabeth Campbell," at Shirlington Library. The exhibition is presented in partnership with WETA.

Friday, April 7, 1-3 p.m., reception with light refreshments and crafts for children. A community scavenger hunt will be announced along with the "unveiling" of the desk of Elizabeth Campbell.

Power in the Public: The Life and Legacy of Elizabeth Campbell

Arlington Volunteers, with Photographer Mac Cosgrove-Davies Central Library

Exhibit of photos by acclaimed photographer Mac Cosgrove-Davies at Central Library. Cosgrove-Davies employed the historic wet plate collodion (tintype) photography technique to create portraits featuring scores of Arling-



Elizabeth Campbell sitting at her desk.

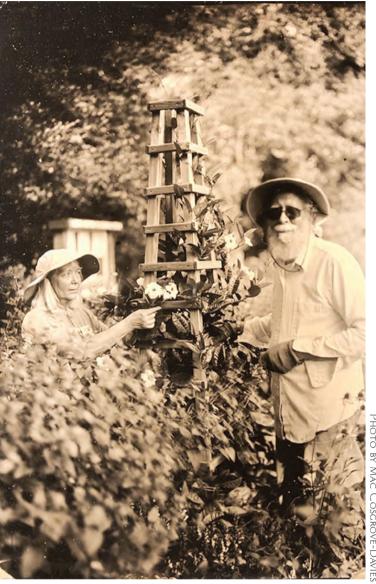
ton volunteers. Representing over 30 local organizations and causes, this exhibition spotlights the experiences of dedicated community volunteers

The exhibition will be on display during open hours at Central Library, April 1-30.

Cosgrove-Davies will lead a free

wet plate photography demonstration on April 8 and a shadowgram sunprinting workshop on April 15.

This exhibition is supported in part by Arlington County through Arlington Cultural Affairs, a division of Arlington Economic Development and the Arlington Commission for the Arts.



Volunteers.

HUD Grants \$3 million To Address Homelessness in Arlington

S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded \$3 million in competitive funding to Arlington's Continuum of Care for Homelessness.

These CoC grants will support county efforts, along with nonprofit providers, to quickly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness and provide support, while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness.

New projects receiving funding include the Doorways for Women and Families Rapid Rehousing project at \$127,398 and the Path-Forward Permanent Supportive Housing project at \$68,116. Seven of the grants renewed ongoing projects and totaled \$2,724,614.

"HUD funding is a vital part of Arlington's efforts to prevent and end homelessness," said Arlington County's Department of Human Services Director Anita Friedman. "This announcement confirms that our strategic planning, policy development, and service delivery are effective and that we are changing lives for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of becoming homeless."

HUD grant funding supports a broad array of interventions designed to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness, particularly those living in places not meant for habitation, located in sheltering programs, or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Because grants are competitive, localities must demonstrate need as well as an ability to address those needs.

The Arlington County Continuum of Care (CoC), a core network of interconnected programs and services, has spent over a decade strengthening its crisis response

system to prevent homelessness at every opportunity and resolve it by swiftly connecting individuals and families to permanent housing. The CoC works in alignment with state and federal resources and partners working to address homelessness at the regional and national levels.

Guided by its mission, principles, best practices, and Action Plan for Ending Homelessness, the CoC is working to prevent and end homelessness in the Arlington community.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

POLICE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS TO 2023 TEEN POLICE ACADEMY

Due to the popularity of last year's inaugural Teen Police Academy, the Community Engagement Division's Youth Outreach Unit (YOU) is pleased to announce the expansion of the Summer Teen Police Academy for Summer 2023. The application has opened for two sessions being held in the months of July and August focused on education, relationship-building and positive youth development.

Program Overview

The Teen Police Academy is for rising 10th – 12th

grade students who want to explore a career in law enforcement. Through classroom presentations, hands-on learning, scenario training, and field trips, the Teen Police Academy will educate participants about a career in law enforcement, while also giving them a better understanding of how the police department operates and its role in the community. Participants can ask questions of presenters and share their insights through-

out the program. Topics covered in the Teen Police Academy curriculum include, but are not limited to, crime scene investigation, traffic stops, K9 demonstrations, and criminal investigations.

Academy Schedule

The following two week-long sessions of the Teen Police Academy will be held from

See Bulletin, Page 5

'Not Your Cat': The Cat Who Almost Got Away

BY ASHLEY SIMPSON Arlington Connection

hiloh Hogan has always been a gregarious cat - so gregarious in fact that he seems to feel at home just about anywhere. And last year, it was his sociable nature that almost cost him his adoring family and loving home.

Arlington residents, the Hogan family - Beth, Ed, and their four children, Lewis, Ava, Edison, and Evan – first adopted Shiloh in 2019 when he was a kitten, along with his littermate, Luna. It was perfect timing: the family's previous cat had passed away years before and Ava had been begging her parents for a cat for quite some time.

"It seemed like the perfect situation," Beth Hogan said. "My friend had told me about these four kittens whose mother had left them stranded in a neighborhood close to where we went to the beach every year. We were originally looking for a girl, but ended up taking both the remaining male and female. The male was Shiloh."

Shiloh and Luna – two very different cats - were supposed to primarily belong to Ava and Edison, respectively. Luna and Edison shared a bond, and Ava had something special with Shiloh. More outgoing than his sister, though, Shiloh also seemed to forge special connections with just about anyone who would give him love and attention.

Beth Hogan also explained that originally, Shiloh and Luna were meant to be indoor cats. And, for about a year, they did remain inside. However, a taste for adventure overcame Shiloh, and he eventually found ways to leave the Hogan's premises and entertain himself outdoors.

"We tried to keep them indoors, and then we tried to keep them in a vestibule outside," she said. "Still, they would always sneak out. So, we got them microchipped. And no matter where they went during the day, they always came home."

Shiloh had many adventures once the Hogans let him enjoy his days outside.

"Once, he actually took on a fox ... and won," Beth Hogan said. "Other times, he'd come home with live animals in his mouth ... presents for us. Once I woke up to him staring at me in the face with a live bird in his mouth. I kept thinking, 'why does he keep bringing me things that he's caught?' A friend had to explain to me that this was Shiloh's way of telling me I was an idiot because I didn't know how to hunt. So, he figured he would bring me live prey so that it would be easier for me to kill.'

Each member of the Hogan family could tell so many funny, endearing stories about Shiloh in the first few years they had him. Whether it was sneaking a leg off the family's Thanksgiving turkey, or casually strolling into neighbors' houses, Shiloh stories always bring chuckles.

And, with his big personality, he's never known a stranger.

Once he even came home with a new collar strapped around his neck – as though another family was trying to claim him.

"I was so annoyed that I posted a picture on NextDoor with a picture of Shiloh in the



Edison Hogan and his dad Ed reunited with Shiloh



Shilo sleeps on his favorite chair.



Shilo relaxes back at home.

collar and explained that he's very friendly and will go up to anyone ... but that he did have a home," Beth Hogan recalled.

The Hogans even had a very close call with Shiloh when he lept into a worker's van one day. Luckily, the driver noticed Shiloh before he got too far away and returned him to the Hogans' neighborhood.

But then one night last April, Shiloh didn't

"I got so worried because, at the end of the day, Shiloh is a homebody," Beth said. "He always comes home. I stayed up all night, waiting for him on the couch and checking in my office, where the cat door is right next to my desk. I spent days walking all over the neighborhood with treats asking people if they'd seen him. It was fox season, so I worried, 'maybe he didn't get so lucky this time."

As her hope for Shiloh's return dwindled, Beth tried to be positive about Shiloh's outlook.

"Even though I really thought he had fallen victim to a fox, in my heart of hearts, I hoped another loving family had taken him in," she said.

Then, on Feb. 8 of this year - ten months after Shiloh's disappearance - the Hogans got an unexpected call from the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA).

A family had brought a cat to the organization's facility to see if he had been microchipped. And, sure enough, the cat in question was Shiloh - saved by his microchip that labeled him as a member of the Hogan family.

"From my understanding, the family who brought Shiloh in knew about AWLA and that the cat might be lost," Chelsea Jones, AWLA Senior Communications Specialist, said. "Although we don't always take in stray cats, we encouraged them to bring him in so we could scan him for a microchip. It turns out he had one!"

The AWLA team then called the Hogans,

who were all both shocked and thrilled that Shiloh had been found and was in the AW-LA's custody waiting for them.

"It was so emotional and we were all so, so, so, happy!" Hogan said. "I burst into happy tears when I got the call from AWLA. He had been missing for ten months - we had totally lost hope that we'd ever get him back again. I have no idea how long he was with that family or how long he was on his own or being fed by other people. But, now that he's back, it's like he never left."

He still gets into spats with Luna, he still sprawls out in the same spots he did before he left, and he still hops from family member to family member when everyone is on the couch to maximize the amount of love he gets every day.

Beth explained that Shiloh was found about seven miles away from the Hogan home, so she surmises that he likely found himself in another vehicle, from which jumped out before he was noticed.

To avoid situations like this again, Shiloh has new tags now. Instead of reading 'Shiloh,' the name on his tag spells out 'Not Your

Beth hopes that this cheeky label will ward off strangers who think he's a friendly stray looking for a new home.

Importance of Microchipping

Beth said she is so grateful that she got her cats microchipped when she did.

"We are so glad we did it," she said. "We know we wouldn't have him now if he hadn't been chipped."

The AWLA echoed the importance of microchipping all pets – as well as keeping the microchips updated with current information.

"Microchipping is incredibly important," Jones said. "It is the easiest, fastest, and most reliable way to reunite lost pets with their people. The only more important thing is registering your chip and keeping the information updated. We routinely see microchips that were implanted but never registered, or chips that have old information - numbers no longer in service, previous owners, etc."

Over the last few years, the AWLA has reunited at least a handful of cats with their owners thanks to Good Samaritans and mi-

Shiloh's return to the Hogans was the AW-LA's first reunion this year, and the non-profit organization was ecstatic to see this happy ending in action.

"We were thrilled to be able to reunite Shiloh with his family," Jones said. "Shiloh's story is a great reminder about the importance of microchips and also that cats don't tend to stray far from home. Cats typically stay within a three to four mile radius of their home - even when they are lost and scared."

It's important for pet owners not to lose hope when their microchipped animals go

Just ask the Hogans, who are soaking up their second chance with Shiloh - and doing everything in their power to ensure that 'Not Your Cat' will never go astray again.

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News

Homicide in Buckingham

he Arlington County Police Department's Homicide/Robbery Unit announced the arrest of a suspect for his involvement in a fatal shooting in the Buckingham neighborhood.

At approximately 11:25 a.m. on March 28, police and fire were dispatched to the 100 block of N. Thomas Street for the report of trouble unknown. Upon arrival, it was determined a maintenance worker entered the apartment and located the unresponsive adult male inside. Arlington County Fire Department medics pronounced the man deceased on scene.

The preliminary investigation indicates the victim suffered upper body trauma. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine cause and manner of death.

During the course of the investigation, detectives developed a possible suspect description based on evidence located at the scene and witness interviews. After obtain-

and Fitness Center (333 Long Bridge Drive).

Interested applicants must be rising 10th - 12th

in Arlington County. There is no cost for

grade students who live in or attend school

students to attend. Every effort will be made to maintain a balanced enrollment reflective

BULLETIN BOARD

Session 1: Monday, July 10 - Friday, July 14 Session 2: Monday, July 31 - Friday, August 4

From Page 3

Applicants

ing arrest warrants, police took the suspect into custody in the 4200 block of Henderson Road on the evening of March 31. James Ray Williams, 40, of Arlington, was charged with Murder, Use of a Firearm in the Commission of a Felony, Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Possession of Controlled Substances with Intent to Distribute and Possession of Schedule I/II Narcotics. The suspect is being held without bond in the Arlington County Detention Facility.

The deceased has been identified as Sean Bowman, 28, of No Fixed Address.

Detectives continue to investigate the events that preceded the homicide. This incident remains an active criminal investigation and anyone with information is asked to contact police at 703-228-4180 or ACP-DTipline@arlingtonva.us. Information may also be provided anonymously through the Arlington County Crime Solvers hotline at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477).

of Arlington's diverse community. Online applications are due no later than Sunday, May

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Long Bridge Aquatics 14, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.

ARLINGTON TO CONDEMN KEY **BRIDGE MARRIOTT PROPERTY**

Arlington County has deemed the former hotel site at 1401 Langston Blvd. as unsafe and unfit for habitation. Due to the risk posed to the community's safety and health, the County is condemning the building.







jhughes@woodbinerehab.com or scan here

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EASTER







Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley, Senior Pastor of Alfred Street Baptist Church since 2008.



Alfred Street Baptist Church Palm Sunday, 2023.

Alfred Street Baptist Church Prepares Easter for 3,600

lfred Street Baptist Church has been an institution in Alexandria since it began as Colored Baptist Society at the time Thomas Jefferson was the third President of the United States. In the mid-1850s they had 83 members. Today Alfred Street Baptist Church has 12,000 members.

This year's Easter Service will be held at Washington Mystic Stadium which will hold 3,600 in order to reach as many members as possible. Joyce Garrett, Director of Music, says this is a major, major MAJOR undertaking. "All of the different stakeholders in the church including music, worship, AV, communications, security and culinary have been meeting weekly by zoom for weeks to coordinate the planning. But we do it, and it goes without a hitch because of so much planning.

But the good news according to Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley is that they have done this before and it is like riding a bike. But still he acknowledges the logistics make it a huge effort. Wesley says he has been working on his sermon since Lent began although ideas start to flow a year in advance. Planning has to begin before Lent because he plans to have a cohesive structure and the last six Sundays are all a lead in to what this Sunday will be and will proclaim. It is all coordinated with music and message.

to work with. "The whole Bible isn't open. thing at the church their mothers did."

By Shirley Ruhe er of truths. "There are so many messages they immediately got a sense GAZETTE PACKET that could come out of the Easter message of home like their church in to impact our daily lives. You could take North Carolina. "It was the the perspective of the person who looks in the darkness of the tomb and is depressed just loved it. The children's and grieving with no hope. But a belief that activities were outstanding things will change.

"I like to say when it looks like God isn't good that means he isn't done."

Garrett says 450 volunteers are involved in the event which involves a number of details. "For instance, we have 130 choir robes to be (camping) as well as been coarranged on a rack with each person's name and transported to the venue." They have tennial celebration as well found a lift for one of the choir members as other large events and a who is in a wheelchair and can't walk up the bleachers. The greeters and ushers will have to know what to do and the deacons will have to decide how to pass out communion.

"Since Covid, we have the bread and juice you in charge of the next in a plastic ziplock." A hundred details.

The culinary team is preparing snacks for 450 volunteers for the dress rehearsal on Saturday that will begin at 8 a.m. and run the church and since he was until 4 pm. Then they will be preparing 450 so young they were worried breakfast sandwiches for Sunday morning for the volunteers who need to be there at to have sinned enough and

Alton and Pat Wallace, members of the church since 1983 and long-time church leaders, will be leaving for the Easter service on a 7:30 a.m. bus for volunteers. They say they will be wearing their black uniforms and manning a section in the arena for com- co farm and my scholarship got everything munion. "Our two daughters and son-in-law started that led to my success." He also He says the big challenge of Easter is that and two grandsons will be at the service. Our helped set up a Military Ministry, rewrite the adult choirs for the Easter service. This was the booklet. Now the church also has a bell you have a specific set of Biblical passages grandsons are in the choir and doing every- church constitution several times and write my biggest challenge — wondering wheth- choir, liturgical dancers, an adult and a a sweet spirit and kind relationships and love of standing water in your home can cause and more.

I like to use it to remind people of the founThe Wallaces say they came to the church
Celebration. "I am a math guy and I thought pandemic." She sent out a request "And sure children's and teen choirs dation of our faith, that Christ died and was as young parents who needed a church for people just took history in college because resurrected." Wesley doesn't believe Easter is their children's sake. Their neighbor invited they couldn't do numbers." a time for creative innovation, but a remind- them to Alfred Street Baptist Church and 6 ARLINGTON CONNECTION APRIL 5-11, 2023

music we were used to; we and they flourished there."

Since then Pat has led successful Girl Scout troops for many years doing things she thought she would never do chair of the year-long Bicenmember of the Foundation Board and a deacon. "You know when you do something they like, they just put

Alton was also ordained a deacon shortly after he joined that he wasn't old enough been forgiven enough to re-

He went on to be President of the Foundation Board and to establish the mission of giving poor but smart kids a scholarship. "That had been me growing up on a tobaca history of the church for the Bicentennial er I would get the choir I needed due to the youth orchestra, five adult choirs as well as and we are open to everyone."

This year the church has invited Benita



Alton and Pat Wallace, long-time parishioners at **Alfred Street Baptist Church**

Jones, a guest soloist from Atlanta, to lead the Praise and Worship which will be the first half of the Easter service. "We will have to practice with her because she hasn't been here. "The choir will be going over the background music."

Garrett says, "We have combined our five enough they did respond."

She said another challenge was planning exactly the right music. "When you do that www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

that the next year." She finally decided on, "Crown Him with Many Crowns." It will be accompanied by their orchestra but she wanted a more varied repertoire so the choir will join in for two verses and then put some emphasis and end with a big bang. She says when she is coming up with her program she just imagines what she would like to hear. "Imagination can take you places."

They will have 40 orchestra players on the stage with the artist and her background players, then room for the dancers when the artist leaves and the choir can sing. Garrett says she knows the service will fill up and unfortunately not everybody will be able to attend so they plan to send out a communication over the website so people won't

come and be turned away.

Garrett has been at the church since 1979 when they were in the old building. "We had 30 devoted singers who never missed a rehearsal. Back in the day gospel was still a novelty, 'a thing' and they opened the score on an Easter cantata and just sang through

preaching to 3,600 people means he probsupport customer service." That'll be no small ably can't see their faces. "But I know my task for 3,600 worshipers on Easter Day. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

make a connection ahead." He says he will hear some Amens or see some gestures in the dynamic response style characteristic of the Black church. This conversational style is what distinguishes Black churches. He says, "Some people don't like this large setting; others love it." He says sadly they will have to turn people away for the Easter service but it is very difficult to find venues for a church that hold 5-7,000.

Wesley says when he arrived in 2008 the church membership was 2,500; now it is over 12,000. He said a lot of these members came during the pandemic, and 15-20 percent of the members are virtual but want to be part of the church. "We have 300 members in both Philadelphia and Richmond, and LA is a big center, too."

Wesley says he thinks there are so many factors behind the growth including the church's focus on mission and philosophy and giving to the local and national community. Wesley says the church gives ten percent of everything they raise to outside the church for needs in the community. "We gave nearly \$4 million last year."

He says with the growth came a number of challenges requiring drastic changes in administration, multiple church services and emphasis on children and youth. "Families come here and they want their children to get the same faith experience." The staff grew from 12 to 98. "We are the largest employer of Black people in Alexandria.'

And, "we want to be sure that the person Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley says that who just shows up has a good experience. We

New Arlington Site for Tax Preparation

The Internal Revenue Service today announced a new Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site at American Legion Post 139 in Arlington, VA. This newly renovated site will provide both virtual and in-person tax preparation to veterans and active-duty military personnel through the end of filing season

"We are excited to be opening a new VITA site in the Arlington area and at this newly renovated American Legion post," said Tracey Walker-Carter, Director, Stakeholder Partnerships, Education and Communication. "We hope to continue this partnership at future posts and other military bases as part of the Filing for Freedom program.'

The IRS VITA program offers free basic tax return preparation to qualified individuals. VITA sites are operated by IRS partners and staffed by volunteer preparers who are trained to meet or exceed

At the Arlington American Legion Post 139 site, the volunteers are a combination of Filing for Freedom partners and other VITA volunteers.

The American Bar Association, along with numerous state CPA associations and bar associations, have joined forces to offer virtual volunteer tax preparation services for veterans and military personnel nationwide through the Filing For Freedom program.

American Legion Post 139, located at 3445 Washington Blvd, encourages Arlington-area veterans to make an appointment first by visiting www. filingforfreedom.org.

The VITA program is primarily for: People who generally make \$60,000 or less; People with disabilities; and Limited English-speaking taxpayers.

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> Published by **Local Media Connection LLC**

1606 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:

Mary Kimm Editor and Publisher

mkimm@connectionnewspapers.con

Shirley Ruhe

Contributing Photographer and Writer slrbc@aol.com

Eden Brown

Contributing Writer

April Is Arlington Preparedness Month

magine: You're warned of an impending storm that could bring the chance of power outages and loss of service, but you find yourself scrambling at the last minute for batteries, bottled water and ideas to keep your family entertained. Disasters don't plan

Arlington Preparedness Month in April is an observance to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. The 2023 theme is "Be Ready, Arlington! Prepare now to protect the life you love."

Follow @ReadyArlington on social media and visit the Arlington Preparedness Month webpage https://www.arlingtonva. us/Government/Programs/Emergency/Preparedness-Month to learn useful tips. Attend in-person community service and educational events with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Community Advancing Resilience and Readiness Together (CARRT) groups, and sign up for ArlingtonAlert to receive free, local emergency up-

Explore the month's weekly themes and share them with your children and family

Week 1 - April 1-8: Be Flood Ready

Spring rains can bring spring floods. Prepare your home for flood risk now, before But he thinks a lot of it is because "we have the height of the rainy season. Just one inch gether, learning when and how to call 9-1-1 \$25,000 of damage.

Week 2 - April 9-15: Get Involved - Vol-

No one knows how to help a community

emergencies better than the people who live there. Volunteer with CERT and CARRT to work alongside the County to build a more prepared, resilient and equitable community.

New volunteer registration for CERT is live. Classes begin April 12. https://www.aringtonva.us/Government/Programs/Emergency/Get-Involved/CERT

Take free, Until Help Arrives training on April 15 to learn how to save lives in emergencies while you're waiting for first re-

Help CARRT promote flood preparedness at several community pop-ups on April 29.

Week 3 - April 16-22: Low-Cost, No-Cost

Disaster preparedness doesn't have to cost money. Low-and-no-cost preparedness can include learning about disaster risks in your area, photographing important documents for safekeeping, talking with your family about emergency plans, signing up for ArlingtonAlert and more.

Week 4 - April 23-30: Teach Youth About Preparedness

Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved in emergency preparedness, such as helping put a family kit and communications plan to-

Learn more about emergency preparedness and volunteer to assist Arlington County with preparedness, response and recovery. https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/ prepare for, respond to and recover from Programs/Emergency/Preparedness-Month

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News

Young Presents Birds as Symbols

Bill Young, local Arlington author known for his lectures and extensive knowledge on birds, is offering a series of three programs on birds as important symbols for as long as human beings have been on Earth. This 3-part course will examine the use of bird symbolism in religion and culture, in corporate and sports logos and in poetry and other literature.

Young says, "One aspect of birds that has often fascinated me is how they have become part of the lives of people throughout history and our modern life. Birds have been important symbols in different cultures and religions around the world.

"For instance," he continues "the ancient Egyptians had huge cults based on ibises and falcons, which were associated with some of their deities. Birds have long inspired writers and artists. Shelley wrote his famous poem about a skylark, and Maya Angelou knew why the caged bird sings. And birds have been used as familiar symbols by corporations and sports teams to convey a particular feeling or attitude. Think of Penguin Books and the Baltimore Orioles baseball



team.

He adds that,"I wrote a lot about the effect birds have on human thought in my book 'The Fascination of Birds."

Young says he first got interested in birds when he was six or seven years old and his neighbor used to take him on birding trips. "My neighbor was a retired chemist who used to work for Breyer's ice cream," and Young remembers his neighbor took him to Tinicum (now the John Heinz NWR), near the Philadelphia Airport, Brigantine (now the Forsythe Wildlife Refuge) on the Jersey Shore and Bombay Hook in Delaware.

Although Young doesn't have any early memories of birds as symbols, he does remember looking through the artwork of Audubon in his neighbor's large illustrated book and being attracted to the long flowing body in Audubon's painting of the wild turkey.

This series will begin on Tuesday, April 25 from 7-8 pm and continue on Thursday, April 27 and Tuesday, May 2 with the same zoom link used for all three sessions. The event is sponsored by Audubon Society of N. Virginia. You can register for the class at: https://www.audubonva.org/asnv-events/birds-as-symbols-230425.

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Entertainment

CHECK OUT THE PLANT CLINICS

The Alexandria Old Town Farmer's Market Plant Clinic at 301 King St, Alexandria opens Saturday, May 6 at 7:00 - 9:30 a.m. The Arlington Farmers' Market at N 14th and N Courthouse Roads opens Saturday, April 22 at 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. The Del Ray Farmers' Market Plant Clinic at Oxford & Mt. Vernon Avenues, Alexandria opens Saturday, May 6 from 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. The Fairlington Farmers' Market Plant Clinic at 3308 S Stafford St, Arlington, opens Sunday, May 7 at 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

NOW THRU APRIL 8

"Singing in the Rain." At Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Presented by the Arlington Players; screenplay by Betty Comden and Adolph Green; songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed. Based on the classic Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 5

Bees & Beekeeping. 6:45 p.m. Meets at Arlington Central Library, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington. Part of Garden Talks 2023.Get the latest buzz on basics about the care of bees, hives, and other basics to produce your own honey.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 12, 19, 26,

Expert Garden Speakers. 6:30 - 7:45 pm, Arlington Central Library, 1015 N Quincy St, Arlington. Arlington Central Library Talks. Join Arlington/Alexandria VCE Master Gardeners and other expert speakers as they provide information on a variety of garden topics each Wednesday. April topics are: 4/5-Bees and Beekeeping; 4/12-Edible Landscaping/Growing in Small Spaces; 4/19-Top 10 Vegetables; 4/26-Container and Balcony Gardening. Programs will continue on Wednesdays through September.

SATURDAY/APRIL 8

Comedy Karaoke Trivia Funtime Show. 7:30 p.m. At Highline RxR, 2010 Crystal Drive, Arlington. The Capital City Showcase, which produces some of the best events in the DC area, returns with its new one-of-a-kind blend of entertainment! Bring a team or fly solo and win prizes by dropping knowledge in a trivia competition, then duking it out in a karaoke battle. Hosted by Christian Hunt, this experience features comedy from the DC area's finest comics. The headliner for April's show is the hilarious musical comedy duo Griefcat!

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 12

Edible Landscaping. 6:45 p.m. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Spring Artful Weekend takes place April 14-16 at Fort C.F. Smith Park in Arlington.

Meets at Arlington Central Library, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington. Part of Garden Talks 2023. Imagine a border of lush lettuce with bright red tomatoes on lattice work. Gain practical tips and inspiration to make vegetables a beautiful part of your landscape, using small spaces to the best advantage.

FRIDAY/APRIL 14

Case Studies in Lawn Replacement. 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., On-Have you been thinking line. about reducing the size of your lawn? Or switching it from grass to something more environmentally friendly? Join Extension Master Gardeners Alyssa Ford Morel and Carolyn Vincent to see examples of similar efforts by several Extension Master Gardeners. They will share how the process went in their own Northern Virginia yards and what lessons were learned. Free. RSVP at https://mgnv.org/rsvp-for-public-education-classes/ to receive a link to participate.

APRIL 14-16

Spring Artful Weekend. At Fort

C.F. Smith Park, 2411 24th St. N, Arlington. Show Hours: Friday, April 14, 2023, 4 p.m.-8 p.m., Opening Reception 6 p.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, April 15, 2023, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, April 16, 2023, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Arlington Artists Alliance is thrilled to return to the historic Hendry House at Fort C.F. Smith Park for "Spring Artful Weekend." Spring Artful Weekend features artwork by 30+ talented Arlington Artists Alliance members and has been an annual show for the Arlington-based arts collective for over 20 years! With a large variety of art genres to choose from paintings, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, glasswork, artist's cards, and more—this show is perfect to kickoff Spring! This event is free and open to the public. Visit http:// www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org

SATURDAY/APRIL 15

WalkArlington's Walking Palooza. WalkArlington is excited to launch its second-annual Walking Palooza, a day of free, guided community walks throughout Arlington. All walks are led by subject

matter experts. Participation is free but space is limited so people are encouraged to sign up today! Visit the website: https://www. walkarlington.com/national-walking-day/

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 19

Growing Top 10 Vegetables. 6:45 p.m. Meets at Arlington Central Library, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington. Part of Garden Talks 2023. Your favorite veggies can be successes for your eating pleasure and sharing with friends and food pantries alike, and give superfood nutrition.

FRIDAY/APRIL 21

Best Bets: Native Plants for Shade. 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., Online. Gardeners often consider it a challenge to plant in the shady parts of their gardens, but home landscapes with trees can bring welcome relief from the increasing summer heat we are experiencing in our region. Join Extension Master Gardener Elaine Mills to learn how to make the most of your shady yard. After discussing degrees of shade, the importance of using layered vegetation, and techniques for building your soil, she will introduce a variety of native plants from trees and shrubs to wildflowers, ferns, and ground covers that will bring beauty through the year while providing important support to local wildlife. Free. RSVP at https://mgnv.org/ rsvp-for-public-education-classes/ to receive a link to participate.

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SUNDAY/APRIL 23

Langston Boulevard Earth Day Celebration. 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Langston Blvd. between Woodrow St. and Woodstock St., Arlington. Meet VCE Master Gardeners who will answer your questions about planting, soil health, water control, and native plants for your outdoor space. The VCE Small Trees, Big Canopies project will be conducting a free native tree giveaway! This is the second year for this popular event, with music, food and free family fun! For more information go to https://www.langstonblvdalliance.com/

SUNDAY/APRIL 23

Del Ray Garden Fest. 12 noon – 4:00 pm, Bean Creative Field, 2207 Mt. Vernon Ave, Alexandria. VCE Master Gardeners will be on hand to provide all the information you need to have a healthy garden this year—how to test your soil, what to plant, and how to improve your vegetable harvest. Fun, food and activities for all! For more information go to https://www.visitdelray.com/

THURSDAY/APRIL 27

AFAC Shining a Light on Hunger. 6:30-9:30 p.m. At Army Navy Country Club, 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington. This is AFAC's largest annual fundraising event held on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at Army Navy Country Club. Please join them at the spring celebration for great food, drink, music, laughter and fun. Your support for this event will help AFAC provide weekly groceries to all families. If you prefer to pay by invoice or check, or have any questions, contact Jolie Smith at Jolie.Smith@ afac.org.

-"Flourishing After 55"

Office of 55+ Programs, Department of Parks and Recreation, 300 N. Park Dr., Arlington, VA 22203, 703-228-4747 55+ Programs are in person at 55+ Centers, unless otherwise noted. A 55+ Pass is required to participate (starting at a \$20 annual fee). To join or register, go to registration.arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-4747.

Fun filled challenges for Trivia buffs, Thursday, April 6, 11 a.m., virtual. Registration # 913600-07.

Social ballroom dance, spacious dance floor, Thursday, April 6, 1:45 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Drop-in.

What is a Podcast? Lubber Run 55+ Center Director Ashley Gomez walk you through how to listen and what topics are available, Thursday, April 6, 6 p.m. Registration # 91340310.

Open discussion on the pursuit of happiness in today's complex and unstable world, Thurs., April 6, 11 a.m., Walter Reed 55+ Center. Presented by Dr. Chuck Toftoy, author and professor emeritus, George Washington University. Registration # 913500-09.

Virtual tour of the Library of Virginia with Community Outreach Specialist Ashley Craig, Thursday, April 6, 2 p.m. Registration # 913400-36.

Just Play'n Country, sing along or enjoy listening, Friday, April 7, 1 p.m., Madison Community Center. Drop-in.

Explore painting with Community Arts Programmer Jim Halloran by learning various techniques using acrylic paints, Friday, April 7, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills 55+ Center. No experience necessary, materials provided.Registration # 913303-01.

Advanced line dancing practice group, quick demonstration then dance along, Monday, April 10, Wednesday, April 12, 10 a.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Drop-in.

See Flourishing, Page 12





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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

AT&T proposes to modify an existing facility (new tip heights 36' & 37') on the building at 399 Old Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA (20230159). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

Legals

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility on an existing building located at 2425 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia 22201. The modifications will consist of the collocation of antennas at varying heights not to exceed 90 ft above ground level on the 90-foot building (107 feet measured to the top of the flagpole). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6123001854- TC EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or at (781) 425-5109.

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Questions?

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News



Abandoned self storage unit content - is it trash or treasure? Final bid \$310.



Only on rare occasions will unit contents be obvious treasure, such these abandoned collector's items, final bid \$460.

Trash or Treasure?

Dealing with abandoned storage goods.

By Susan Laume The Connection

he adage "one man's trash is another man's treasure" has been repeated for centuries. It certainly could be the tagline for a number of popular new online services operating in Virginia and across the country which help self storage companies dispose of abandoned storage unit contents. When people who rent storage units don't pay their bill, after a state regulated process, the contents of the unit go up for bid.

Online self-storage auctions are becoming increasingly popular. Perhaps it's the opportunity to acquire merchandise at a bargain, the mystery of unknown contents, the thrill of betting on good fortune, or the prospect of potentially making a profit through resales, driving auction popularity. Auction services, such as CubeSmart, Lockerfox, and Storage Treasures provide regular on-line bidding auctions. Online auction services tout the opportunity "to bid in online storage auctions on a computer or other mobile device without having to step foot at a live auction." Other moving and storage companies, such as Interstate Moving Relocation Logistics, a long distance moving company which operates a warehouse in Springfield, hold less frequent on-site auction offerings.

If you bid successfully, will you be the new owner of trash or treasure? It seems that's where the mystery and chance come in. Potential online bidders are provided photos of the unit. The photograph may show some individual items or only jumbled cartons and boxes. Content comments provide only vague descriptions, such as "assorted boxes, furniture, household goods," along with the storage unit size or weight. Bidding may start at \$10 online. Successful bidders typically pay a ten percent buyer's fee immediately and have only a limited time to completely clear out and clean the unit. So while online technology provides the ability to participate in auctions in distant locations, bidders are wise to consider the logistics of reaching their bid treasures.

At InterState's recent on-site auction, www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

their first in recent years, three unit contents were on offer. Bidding started at, for the first, \$47,000 for eight containers weighing 11,420 pounds; for the second, \$9,950 for two containers weighing 3,700 pounds; and for the third, \$2,640 for three containers weighing 2,060 pounds. Do the high dollar values indicate a boom of treasure awaiting the successful bidder? The on-site auction conducted in the company's lobby provided no greater ability to know the contents than a reading of items, including books, clothing, furniture, speakers, garage equipment, ironing board, knick-knacks, bookcases, patio chairs, sectional furniture, etc.

The high dollar amounts associated with the units reflect the amount of unpaid rent, not the value of the contents.

There were no bidders at the InterState auction other than InterState itself. Under Virginia's administrative code processes for warehousers, the company's bid allowed it to claim legal ownership of the abandoned goods and dispose of them. InterState's vice president, Kenneth Morrissette Jr., described the handling as "a very administrative process." He indicated the disposal is the final step and comes only after speaking with the owners, in some cases for many years, attempting to work with them on delinquent payments, posting a legal notice of intent in the local newspaper, and holding the auction. The owner could have claimed the objects, once regarded as their treasures, at any time in the process. A similar process provides relief for self storage business owners under Virginia Code §55.1-2900.

Self storage unit renters are considered delinquent after 60 days of unpaid rent. The owners lose their treasurers but typically the business writes the past due rental off as a loss rather than pursue a lengthy court process for recovery of lost payments.

What's next for these contents? It seems the treasures, though once coveted, protected and secured in paid rental space for months or years, could find a new place either in bidders' homes or through resale. Often they are destined to be re-designated as trash with a permanent home in the county's landfill.



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Wading Into **New Territory**



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I have been CT-scanned regularly/quarterly for 14 years. Occasionally, given my relatively "stable" existence, my oncologist has suggested increasing my scan intervals to four or even five months, up from the current three months. We have always resisted, especially Dina (being afraid the delay would allow a tumor to grow unchecked or to even get noticed in the first place). This suggestion by my oncologist was not made lightly. Given how well I've done, diagnosis-to-date, and how slowly the tumors in my lungs are growing, adding a month or two to the interval is not going to appreciatively tip the scales against me, according to my doctor. And lessoning the amount of radiation, albeit comparatively low, that I'm/have been exposed to over these many years, is a side benefit, in addition to making my life less cancer centric (fewer appointments in hospitals). This suggestion is consistent with what my oncologist has regularly said over the years: that my quality of life was paramount. This new variable seems to have given us (Team Lourie) additional insight into the overall health risks possibly affecting someone who's been scanned as often as I have. (One of the side effects of exposure to radiation is, you guessed it: cancer. And since I already have enough cancer, Team Lourie, more so Dina, has consented to this change in scan frequency.) And in real time, now actually, I'll be getting my first scan after this new, longer interval.

To say I'm anticipating trouble is a bit of an overstatement. To say I'm worried about the consequences of waiting (scanning) an extra month or two longer than usual/ normal, to see what's going on inside my lungs - where my papillary thyroid cancer has set up shop (and it's a big shop, apparently), is more accurate. Though the thinking/ strategy for extending the scan interval still seems reasonable, faced now with the reality of it, is leading to some sleepless nights and stressful days. If I had it to decide over, I'd make the same decision. Still, this first go-around is a bit more challenging than I anticipated. It's hardly just another day in paradise, is it (as the Brits so often end their sentences with a question mark)? But as long as I'm still in the game, I'll never complain. And even though I've been scanned upwards of 75 times since my initial diagnosis in Feb. 2009. I don't ever take any results for granted. I take them as they come and try to take them in stride.

Still, after 14 years; introducing a new variable to my equation, this very familiar process seems sort of new again. It's as if I'm being scanned for the first time and trying not to think that my life hangs in the balance. Over time, especially considering the number of years I've been a cancer patient undergoing treatment, you develop a sense of rhythm in your life; you learn to navigate and schedule all the cancer-related activities/requirements/ appointments so that it becomes routine. And in this routine, you're able (at least I was) live a relatively normal life where the cancer is not totally in control (of course the cancer is in control, but you're able to manage it, sort of, so your life isn't completely cancer centric). Unfortunately, increasing the interval between scans is not an indication that I'm in remission. Though it is an indication that I'm less terminal (if there's such a characterization), but as far as being out of the woods? I'm nowhere near the woods. let alone be out of them.

Though there's a new interval, the process by which I, as the patient learn about the results of the scan, has not changed. By an automatic 'process' scan results are emailed to me by the radiologist, perhaps even before my oncologist has even had a chance to review and even comment on them. What the patient receives is right out of the radiologist's pen. All medical jargon. After a few years of reading these documents, I know where to look for answers. There are two obvious lay-person-type sections. One is called "Impressions." The other is called "Findings." It is under these two headings where, sprinkled amongst the medical jargon, you'll find most of what passes as familiar English. I read it and re-read it trying desperately to discover its meaning.` And though I wouldn't want to bet my life on my interpretation of the report, that's exactly what I'm forced to do, since I receive it before my oncologist, and I have spoken about/discussed the results. Granted, it's not perfect, but the release of this information is almost immediate, sometimes even the same day as the actual scan. So ven though I'm now waiting an extra month or two the regular scan than I have been having for years, I am not waiting any longer than usual to receive the report from the radiologist. Thank God! I've spent more than enough time already waiting for results over these last 14 years.

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

You Still Have Time to Plan That Easter Egg Hunt

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

t's time to get ready for the annual Easter egg hunt. Well, actually it's past time to stock up on candy a little at a time and to order the different eggs they have these days from the speciality catalogs—eggs filled with miniature dinosaurs, unicorns, bottles of bubbles and silly putty. But it's never too late. Most grocery stores, drugstores and variety stores have Easter supplies.

And the great thing about an Easter egg hunt is that it can be what you want it to be. You can have it in your yard or even in your house if you don't have a yard. And you don't have to find a venue way ahead of time to book the magician, the bouncy house, zoo, aquarium or art museum for your theme birthday party.

First let me tell you what NOT to do, which we learned the hard way when we held an Easter egg party in a large local park for our children, their friends and families. We had to arrive an hour ahead of time to hide the eggs so that no one would know where they were. It was a hot day. By the time the kids were unleashed for the hunt, the sun had melted the chocolate eggs and the birds and squirrels had pecked through the shiny aluminum foil. Most kids aren't going to exclaim, "Oh ,look mom, I got the mushy chocolate egg."

Now some guidelines for what to do.

- ❖ Let everyone know ahead of time what time the Easter egg hunt will begin and that it will start on time. Since it will be over in 15 minutes, any latecomers will be out of luck. Might keep a few eggs in reserve just in case.
- ❖ You may not hunt until the bell rings. Some enterprising kids will want to scout the yard ahead of time so they can head straight for the eggs.
- ❖ Set out ground rules for where the kids can go. Hint—not in the flower garden. Line the kids

up in a row so that no one gets a head start. There will be a frenzy once the bell goes off to begin the hunt.

- ❖ Have plenty of eggs since some kids are better and faster than others and may find most of the eggs in a hurry. Prepare for about a dozen eggs for each child. So no one goes away disappointed, have a basket of extra eggs at the end in case a child has only found a couple of eggs.
- Since you'll want to have your Easter egg hunt open to all ages up to say a reasonable 11 years old, recognize there will be varying skills with a wide age group. You can have the 2-6 year olds hunt in the backyard and the older kids in the front yard or you can give the younger kids a five-minute head start.
- ❖ It has become popular to hide a golden egg in a place that is a little more difficult to find. Make sure you have a golden egg for both the older and younger kids. Tell them to put that egg in their basket and keep hunting. When the hunt is over, the kid with the golden egg will be entitled to a prize such as a stuffed animal, large bouncy ball, movie tickets.
- * Ask each child to bring an Easter basket but you should have a few extra bags, buckets or baskets for those who forget.
- ❖ It used to be when I grew up that eggs were filled with jelly beans. Now there are gummy bears, malted milk balls, skittles or M&Ms. It is best not to put in hard candy which can be a choking hazard. You may want to seal each egg with an adhesive dot to indicate it has been filled and to keep the egg from popping open.

(9) Hide the eggs in places with varied levels of difficulty, and put them on different levels but NOT that include climbing. You don't want the eggs to be so visible that they are immediately snapped up but you don't want the kids to get discouraged when they can't find your clever hiding places.

❖ There is no correct way to fill an egg. Some people like to put



An Epic Easter Egg Hunt will take place Saturday, April 8, 2023 at Christ Church in Fairfax Station and many other places. But here is some advice on how to plan your own.





Mix it up at your Easter egg hunt with a few eggs in plain sight, the white egg filled with silly putty, the green egg filled with a miniature bottle of bubbles, a variety of colors filled with jelly beans and other candies and the golden egg which earns you a prize.

one kind of candy in an egg and others like to mix up a variety for the egg. These days pre-packaged eggs are available with miniature toys of all sorts but half the fun is getting a group together ahead of time to stuff the eggs. Mix it up with some of each.

After the kids empty their eggs, collect them to use for next year.

❖ You may want to conclude the event with a brunch (bring your own dish to contribute) or a BBQ.

It's time to get going. It always takes longer to stuff the eggs than you think.

"Flourishing After 55"

From Page 9

Android information class, taught by 55+ Center Director Shettima Abdulmalik, Monday, April 10, 12 p.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Bring a phone or tablet and device-specific questions. Registration # 913403-02.

Painting demonstration, step-by-step with a Community Arts Programmer, Monday, April 10, 10:30 a.m., virtual. Picture and supply list sent prior to class. Registration #\$ 913303-13.

Springtime stroll with a naturalist from Benjamin Banneker Park, 1701 N. Van Buren St., Tuesday, April 11, 10:30 a.m. Hike through the woods and along the W&OD and Four Mile Run Trails. Registration # 913106-20.

Reading Buddies, seniors pair up with Lubber Run Creative Preschoolers to read stories, Tuesday, April 11, 10 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Books provided by preschool teacher. Registration # 913301-10.

Singles Social, make new friends, games and trivia, Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 p.m., Walter Reed 55+ Center. Registration # 913801-01.

Understanding credit, what makes up a credit report and how to correct errors, Tuesday, April 11, 11 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center Presented by Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Financial Education Volunteers. Registration # 913400-06.

History roundtable participants to discuss the impact of Pearl Harbor, Wednesday, April 12, 11:15 a.m., virtual. Registration # 913402-11.

The study of words, phrases, expressions and the history of the English language, Wednesday, April 12, 10:30 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 913402-25 or virtual, registration # 913402-26.