

The Arlington Connection

Jung Choe is proud of her garden, which she grows from seed, some donated by customers, some bought at Home Depot.

Village of Shirlington

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Constant Gardener

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE 2023-2024

PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 13 19, 2023

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWCOMERS GUIDE 2023

Fall E-CARE Recycling Event

DATE: Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023

TIME: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (rain or shine)

LOCATION: Wakefield High School, 1325 S. Dinwiddie St.

MORE INFORMATION: arlingtonva.us/E-CARE or call 703-228-5000

Paint Products (25-can limit)

Garden Chemicals

Batteries

Fire Extinguishers

Household Cleaners

Flammable Solvents

Automotive Fluids

And more!

The Arlington Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) is a biannual environmentally friendly drop-off event where residents can safely dispose of old electronics and household hazardous materials (HHM), including:

NOTE: Metal items and bicycle donations will not be collected at Fall E-CARE 2023. To donate bicycles contact local Bikes for the World volunteer Keith Oberg at keith@bikesfortheworld.org or 571-212-4139.

BULLETIN BOARD

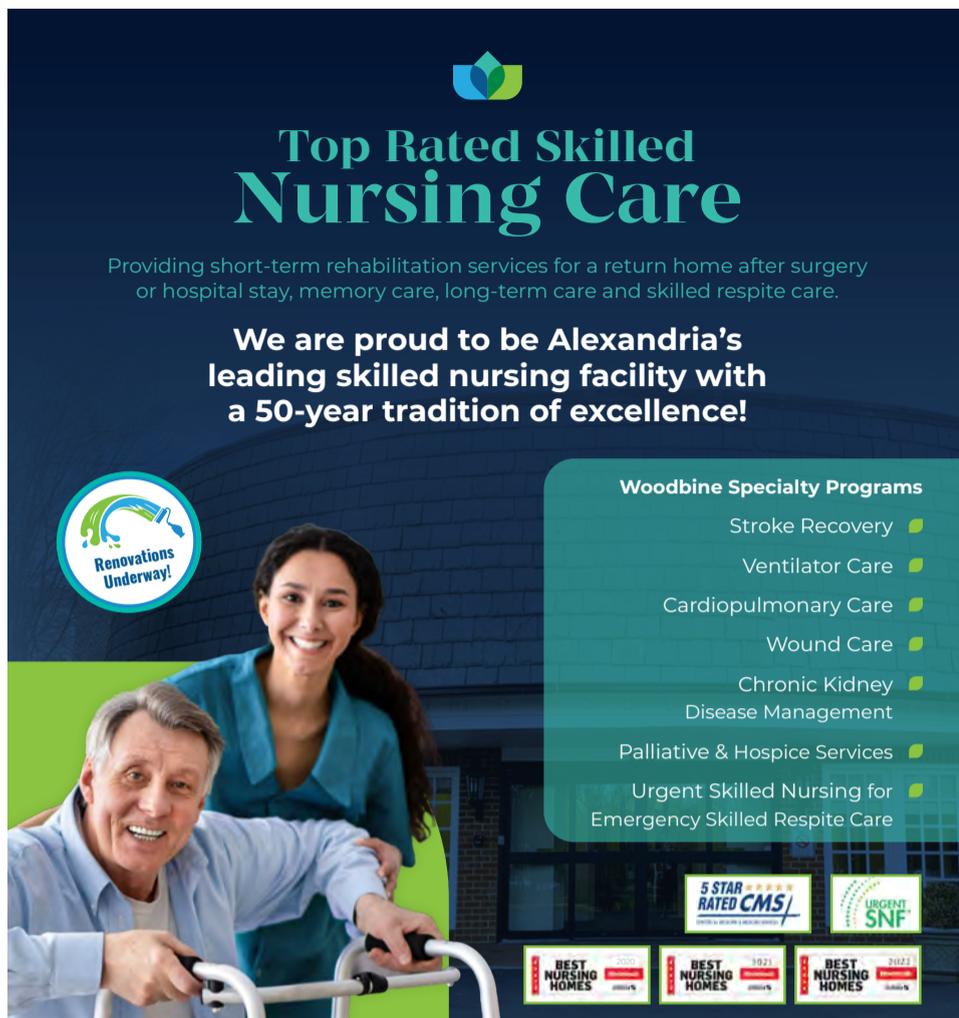
Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event.

TRAFFIC ALERT: GREEN VALLEY COMMUNITY DAY

The Green Valley Community Day will be held from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 16, 2023. The Arlington County Police Department will conduct the following road closures from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. to accommodate the event:
24th Street S. from Shirlington Road to S.

Kenmore Street
S. Kenmore Street from 24th Street S. to Shirlington Road
Traffic around the event is expected to be impacted. The public should expect to see an increased police presence in the area and remain alert for pedestrian traffic.
Street parking near the events may be restricted. Motorists should be on the lookout for temporary "No Parking" signs. Illegally parked vehicles may be ticketed or towed. If your vehicle is towed from a public street, call the Emergency Communications Center at 703-558-2222.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE 2023

Showcasing the Village of Shirlington

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

Sip and stroll down Campbell Street in the Village of Shirlington with your favorite spirit in a paper cup. Nine restaurants are participating in the initiative which allows a customer to stop in and purchase an alcoholic beverage and take a leisurely walk past the shops.

Dog friendly water bowls are placed strategically outside restaurants to make your favorite pet happy, too. The village of Shirlington is located just off Interstate 95 close to Four Mile Run. Shirlington Village offers great food, fun festivals and shops, having been voted the tops in a local competition for shopping district.

The location began in 1944 as Shirlington Shopping Center and was the first suburban shopping district in the D.C. metro area. The name is a combination of Shirley Highway and Arlington.

Campbell Street, the main drag, is bookended by Carlyle at 4000 Campbell Avenue, an American

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Taco Bamba is the newest restaurant on the block, opened just three weeks ago. So far the most popular has been the pork al pao pao taco and the torta cubana with carnitas, ham, cheddar and chihuahua cheese.



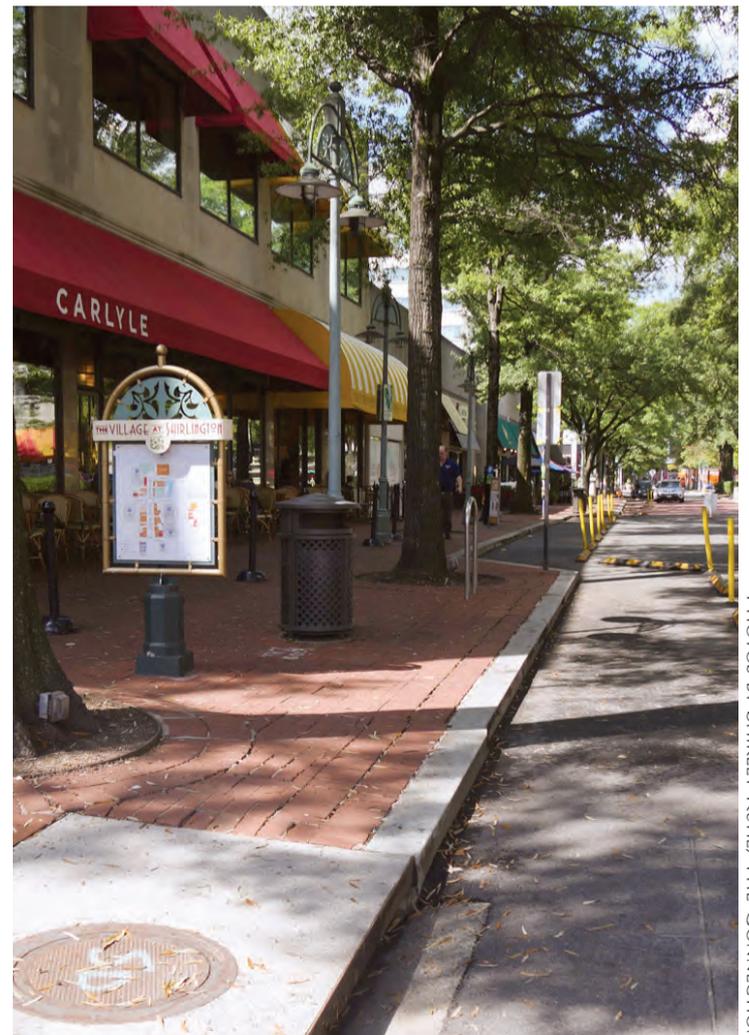
Michele and Danny and their rescue dog Charlie try out the recently opened “Eugenia” Greek restaurant opting to try Gigantes white beans, Dolmades and calamari small plates to share.



Chiko, the casual Chinese-Korean restaurant, expanded into Shirlington with its offerings of pork and kimchi potstickers, wok-blistered green beans and cumin lamb stir fry.



Best Buns Bakery Manager Steven Kryvoruka shows off the sticky bun and cinnamon roll, two customer favorites at this popular neighborhood bakery and restaurant.



Shirlington Village offers great food, fun festivals and a variety of “reader’s pick” shops.

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION



Jung Choe is proud of her garden, which she grows from seed, some donated by customers, some bought at Home Depot.



The mystery squash. Help us identify this!



Long cucumbers of an asian variety.

Can You Guess The Name of This Squash?

Arlington Lee Cleaners' vegetable patch has a mystery vegetable.

PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

BY EDEN BROWN
THE CONNECTION

It's an unlikely place for a vegetable garden: the six-foot-by-two-foot patch of ground outside Arlington Lee Cleaners. You can't miss it if you drive by the Safeway at Harrison Shopping Center, because it's almost like holiday decorations: large squash and cucumbers over

a foot long dangling from vines attached to string. Tomatoes, pumpkins, flowers, and sunflowers. Jung Choe isn't even quite sure what some of the vegetables are named. She plants the garden every year and gives the tomatoes or long cucumbers to customers who show an interest. Her husband helped her string up some support for the vines.

Jung's Arlington Lee Cleaners is in the

Harrison Shopping plaza area next to Chill Zone. Jung was well known during the pandemic for being one of the first to sew masks for people to protect themselves, and also to make up for the huge drop in dry cleaning customers. Her cleaners was recognized this year as one of the "Neighborhood Faves" by Nextdoor. Stop in to admire her garden and ask her about great Korean food in the area.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Jung's impressive sunflowers are attracting pollinators.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Jung's festive display of tomatoes.



Jung's bulletin board reflects her community: she won the Nextdoor Neighborhood Favorites recognition this year.



Cleome or Spider Flower growing in Jung's garden.

The large flower clusters, interesting seed pods, and striking palm-like leaves on tall plants are great for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds. A wonderful, fragrant, cut flower in shades of white, pink, rose, and violet. Plants often reseed to come back year after year.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWCOMERS GUIDE 2023

Arlington's National Coffee With a Cop Day Events

For National Coffee with a Cop Day on Wednesday, Oct. 4, the Arlington County Police Department's Community Engagement Division is inviting the public to two events to celebrate community-police relations. These morning and afternoon events are open to all and are an informal opportunity to ask questions, voice concerns, get to know neighbors, interact with the Community Engagement Division and meet officers from different sections of the department.

The Arlington County Police

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 2

OCTOBER IS URBAN AGRICULTURE MONTH

Urban Agriculture Month shines a spotlight on the significant role urban agriculture plays in our local food system. They'll be kicking off the month with a celebratory event on Sunday, Oct. 1 from 1-3 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Arlington, with speakers, demonstration sessions, free seeds and seedlings, and a reading of a proclamation naming October Urban Agriculture Month in Arlington County. Visit the website: <https://arlington-urbanag.org/2023-urban-agriculture-month/>

DONATIONS NEEDED

Pet Food Bank. AWLA has established a Pet Food Bank to serve qualifying residents of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. In consideration of the effect financial obstacles have on a pet owner's ability to afford pet care, the AWLA Pet Food Bank program's goal is to keep family pets out of shelters. If you are an Arlington County or City of Falls Church resident and are in need of assistance in feeding your pet, follow this link and fill out a pre-registration form. Visit goo.gl/forms/s2FuFdaYWdZm4t-Pw2.

Donations Needed. Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 2700 South 19th St., is seeking to replenish its food pantry. Particularly needed are rice (large bags appreciated, the pantry will rebag), dry beans, canned vegetables, soup, small jars of peanut butter, small jars of jelly, pasta and pasta sauce. Donations are collected during Mass each Sunday. Visit www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org for more.

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.aauw.org.

Create a Wildlife Sanctuary. The Audu-

bon at Home Wildlife Sanctuary certification program assists homeowners in restoring their home's natural habitat by providing information on sustainable gardening practices. These practices include using native plants, removing invasive species, reducing use of pesticides and fertilizers, and creating space for native flora and fauna. Visit audubonva.org/audubon-at-home-1/ for more.

Naloxone (Narcan) can save the life of someone who is overdosing, if given in time. Anyone who assists a person in need is protected from liability by the Good Samaritan Law. Naloxone (Narcan) is available without a prescription for a fee at all pharmacies. Obtain it for free by attending a REVIVE! training. Contact Emily Siqveland at 703-228-0913 or esiqveland@arlingtonva.us or visit health.arlingtonva.us/opioid-awareness/ for available training sessions.

The Chris Atwood Foundation also offers training to the public. Visit www.chrisatwoodfoundation.org/naloxone for details.

Monthly Memory Café. 1-3 p.m. at 7910 Andrus Road, Suite 6, Alexandria. The Memory Café, a social gathering for individuals living with memory loss and their families, virtually. Registration is free and highly recommended to reserve spots, which are open on a first come first served basis. To reserve a spot, please call 571-210-5551 or email bdesai@seniorhelpers.com. Visit www.dementiacareconnections.com/memory-cafe or www.seniorhelpers.com/arlington-alexandria-va for more.

Arlington County, in partnership with the Human Rights Commission's Equality Task Force, has launched a web page with resources for the LGBTQ community. The new webpage compiles LGBTQ resources on a variety of topics, including homelessness and housing, domestic violence and sexual assault, and health. There are also topics specifically for teens and youth — such as scholarship opportunities and school clubs — as well as ones targeted at seniors and older adults, such as SAGE. Visit arlingtonva.us/lgbtq-resources.

Aging Matters. 2-3 p.m. Tuesdays on WERA 96.7 LP FM on Arlington's community radio station. Each

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Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

Jurisdiction	Fed Struct Id	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
PATRICK	13372	899	HUGHES BROWN RD/RTE 899	WHITE MUD CREEK	8/22/2023
WYTHE	19743	671	CRIGGER RD	CRIGGER CREEK	8/10/2023
PATRICK	13337	675	FRIENDS MISSION/RTE 675	ARARAT RIVER	8/10/2023
BEDFORD	2918	804	TEASS TERRACE/RTE 804	NININGER CREEK	8/9/2023
PATRICK	13336	672	JOHNSON CR RD/RTE 672	JOHNSON CREEK	8/9/2023
PATRICK	13276	626	ABRAM PENN HWY/RTE 626	N. MAYO RIVER	8/1/2023

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth, but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit <https://www.virginiadot.org> and navigate to Info Center/Trucking Resources. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730.

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PHOTOS BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Plastic bags don't go in the blue bin.



The sea lions at the National Zoo attract the attention of a young visitor. The sign next to the exhibit points out the damage plastics do to sea life.

10 Things You Can Do To Sustain Arlington

BY EDEN BROWN
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

<https://www.viriniagrassroots.org/advocacy-wg-Clean-Clean-Energy.php>

information please contact 703-228-7718 or email LIB-Makers@arlingtonva.us.

from incineration to composting. The county gives residents a green bin so they can discard organic material from the yard like weeds AND put in (compostable) bags of household kitchen waste like apple cores, banana peels, vegetable peels, and COOKED food that otherwise goes in the garbage can. This is an amazing program very few localities offer for free. Use the handy guide, "If it GROWS, it GOES" to know what can go in the green bin. One of the benefits is a supply of compost made available to residents at the Earth Products Yard, where you can also pick up wood and leaf mulch. You can even compost dirty pizza boxes in the green bin (not in the blue bin.) See: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Recycling-and-Trash/Residential/Organics-Waste/Food-Scraps-Collection>

Are you new to Arlington? There is much you can do to help to maintain the quality of life for which Arlington is known and join the "save the planet" trend taking off in NOVA. It is a great way to meet people as these groups love new volunteers. What can you do?

SUPPORT the local groups who engage on the environment: One popular annual event is coming up on Sept. 23 at Barcroft Park, 4200 South Four Mile Run, Arlington, 22206. Eco-Action Arlington will remove trash and debris from Barcroft Park and Four Mile Run. They will also do a trash tally in conjunction with the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup that is locally managed by Clean Virginia Waterways. Everyone is welcome. This is a great event for families and groups of up to 10 To register, see: <https://www.ecoactionarlington.org/get-involved/events/>

THE TREE in Arlington is a subject of great debate. It is declining. The Tree Stewards of Arlington and Alexandria is another group providing an opportunity to improve tree canopy in our community, particularly in areas where trees have been less of a priority. www.treestewards.org

FEELING political? The Virginia Grassroots Coalition Climate and Clean Energy Working Group are advocates for legislation in Richmond that protects the environment, and protecting the legislation passed previously that is now in danger of being reversed. See:

RECYCLE: Arlington has an ambitious plan to incorporate zero waste principles consistent with the county's adopted target of at least 90% waste diversion from landfill or incineration by 2038. To get there, residents need to follow guidance on reducing, recycling, and reusing. The recycling program in the county is excellent. But it's not the same as, for instance, Austin's recycling program, where you put recyclables in a plastic bag. In Arlington NO PLASTIC BAGS are allowed in the blue bin. They break the machines that sort plastics. NO GLASS BOTTLES are allowed in the blue bin. Those can go to a purple bin located off Washington Boulevard and another off Langston Boulevard (see website below.) Arlington's Central Library is also offering to help people fix broken items instead of throwing them away. For complete recycling and reusing information, see: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Recycling-and-Trash/Residential/Curb-Side-Recycling-Trash>

REUSE and RENEW: Arlington's Central Library has a new program to help people fix broken items instead of throwing them away. Called "Fix Nearly Anything" it will take place Thursday, Sept. 14 from 6-8 p.m. at The Shop, Arlington Central Library. If you have small items around your house that are broken, or need repair but you don't want or can't hire a handyman to do it, Library staff and volunteers will help you figure out how to fix them. Drop by anytime between 6-8 p.m. during Open Shop hours. For more

REFUSE: Try five simple tips for cutting down on plastic: Use refillable water containers or boxed water instead of plastic water bottles, which take 450 years to break down and add to the microplastics in your body. Use your own shopping bag and avoid the five cents per bag that Arlington charges when you take home groceries in a plastic bag. Avoid plastic straws. Use paper or compostable sandwich bags. Mom's Organic Market on Langston Boulevard carries these. Laundry sheets and shampoo (and soap) bars are available in most grocery stores now, and cut down on plastic jugs and plastic bottles of "body wash." For more helpful hints on how to get rid of plastic in your everyday life, see: www.plasticides.org

Arlington has an active program to promote a walkable and bikeable county. See <https://www.walkarlington.com/> and <https://www.bikearlington.com/>

PLANT NATIVE plants and ground covers instead of grass. Avoid chemicals, pesticides, and herbicides on lawns and around the yard. Roundup and other weed killers are unhealthy for people and pets. Using natural native ground covers that need less watering and mowing also helps avoid the "perfect lawn" trap. Use mosquito dunks instead of hiring a service: dunks are bee-friendly.

COMPOST: Arlington County's award-winning residential food scrap collection bolsters sustainability by diverting biodegradable waste

Arlington has a problem with stormwater management and residents can help water become absorbed better by planting trees and avoiding asphalt and cement driveways. Use rain barrels, rain gardens, and permeable surfaces for driveways and walkways. Plant canopy trees, not Crepe Myrtles. Arlington facilitates the planting of native trees on private property through two programs: the Tree Distribution program and the Tree Canopy Fund. The Annual Fall Free Tree Distribution allows residents one free tree per residential property. The Tree Canopy Fund provides for planting trees to restore and increase Arlington's tree cover, giving grants to community groups to plant and maintain trees on private property. See: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Sustainability-and-Environment/Trees/Plant-Trees/Tree-Planting-Programs>

About Connection Newspapers in 2023

IN THE MIDST of the crisis which never ends, we at the Connection still hear the call to serve our communities, with a bit of wonder that we are able to continue. We still seek to fulfill our mission by continuing to publish, even with reduced resources. It's still our mission to provide information about where to get help and how to help; to tell the stories of those who are helping, of those who are hungry. It's still our mission to tell the stories of those working for social and racial justice, and battling income inequality.

It is our mission, set out in the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution, to press local government every day for transparency, although this continues to become more difficult. Your local paper can be your window into the workings of schools, police, transportation, zoning, stormwater management, services, and a nearly infinite number of other functions. These are the things that impact our lives at home and work.

The public has a right to expect transparency from such local institutions. The founders clearly anticipated the ongoing need for the press to help in this role.

It is still our mission to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives. It is still our mission to cover the normal news of the local communities.

We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We also publish items about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, anniversaries and other business events and milestones are welcome.

If you are planning an event open to the public that you would

like to have listed in our calendars, we appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

Your community Connection newspaper is published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC. Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of, perhaps the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning in 1784.

We are blessed with remarkable, award-winning staff, contributing writers and photographers who are dedicated to our mission. Most have been writing for the Connection/Gazette for years, some for more than a decade (or two, or three). Each brings areas of interest and expertise. Check the bylines.

Don't miss Bonnie Hobbs, Mercia Hobson, Jeanne Theismann, Janet Barnett, Michael Pope, Mike Salmon, Susan Laume, Glenda Booth, Eden Brown, Shirley Ruhe, Hope Nelson, Marilyn Campbell and others.

Local newspapers, including the

Find What You Need

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- ❖ Digital editions of the week's papers are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs
- ❖ Past issues of the Connection back to 2008 are available at <http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/>
- ❖ Advertising information, Special Section details here www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising
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- ❖ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com
- ❖ Events to list in the calendar, email to calendars@connectionnewspapers.com or online www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/

Connection Newspapers, are facing an existential threat from the combination of nationwide downturn in newspaper advertising that has been worsening over several years, compounded by the economic crisis.

Revenue has not nearly rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, and we are going to need more help to

keep going. We will renew calls for contributions and subscriptions. If you value local news and you have a budget for advertising and promotion, please endeavor to spend some of it with local newspapers including ours.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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Chef Yigit Features Turkish Recipes from Home at Istanbul Grill



Turgut Yigit, owner of Istanbul Grill on Wilson Boulevard, with meze platter, a customer favorite.



Hot appetizer calamari at Istanbul Grill.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

Turgut Yigit sits at a small table drinking a glass cup of Turkish black tea, which has been prepared in the large copper pot cezve. Yigit is from Antioch, Turkey and is the chef and owner of Istanbul Grill on Wilson Boulevard. He offers a small cup of Turkish coffee, finely ground with the unfiltered beans leaving a sludge in the bottom of the cup. "It's an acquired taste."

Yigit has been in America 23 years and just opened the neighborhood restaurant in 2018. He says his family had a restaurant in Turkey and he started as a dishwasher in America in 2000. "I didn't know how America worked."

He said during Covid he was open but there wasn't much business. "People were scared. But the neighbors stopped by here and offered me money to keep going. They were happy with the restaurant and the good food. They didn't want it to go away."

Yigit says the mixed meze platter is one of the most popular choices

of his customers. "People love it; all of the flavors are different."

The colors are different, too. A platter arrives with the pink kirmizi with thick yogurt and beets, the red kisir with bulgur, tomato paste and parsley, the hummus and babaganoush smoked eggplant dish, and his favorite ezme is the spicy mixed vegetables with olive oil walnuts and mint.

"I like spicy. In my home we are always eating spicy like breakfast with eggs, tomatoes, hot peppers, cucumbers and feta." He says in the restaurant they always make everything fresh.

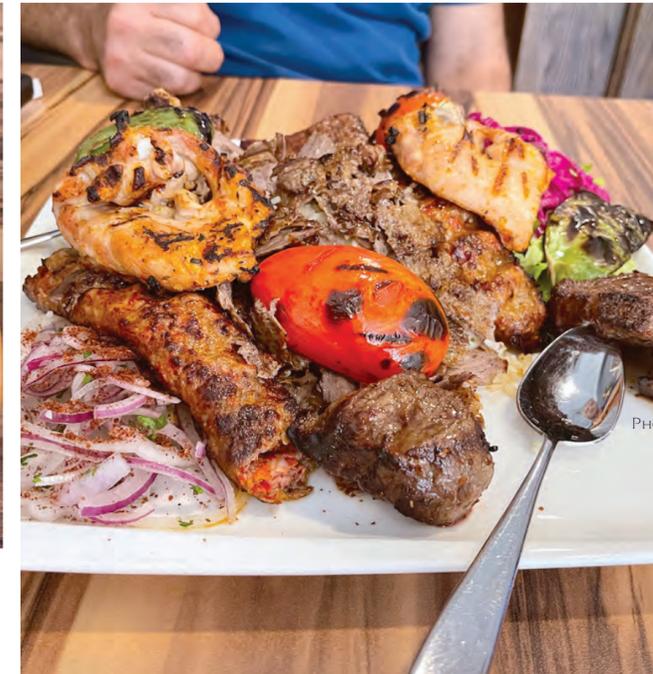
A platter of borek passes by, another customer favorite. The flaky filo rolls are wrapped around feta cheese with parsley or spinach. The family in the corner has ordered the signature dish to share—the mixed grill with the beef filet, fish, chicken thigh, broiled tomato and red cabbage salad served over white rice or bulgur.

Stop in with your family and enjoy the mural of Istanbul on the wall while you take time to select from the many lamb dishes, kebabs, hot and cold meze platters and have a chat.



Cheese borek and the mixed grill.

PHOTOS BY
SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION



Stop in and relax with a cup of hot, black tea made with traditional cezve.

Just a Sampling of Places to Eat

And there's plenty more.



Chill Zone, voted neighborhood favorite, is located on Harrison Street. It has become a popular destination for a chilled Vietnamese coffee, bubble tea or frosty mango smoothie. The traditional banh mi sandwich with cucumbers, jalapeño peppers, pickled papaya and carrots can be supplemented with chicken, pork or beef. Or you could choose a rice vermicelli bowl or Viet tacos. As the onset of cool fall weather approaches, customers will target pho, the large bowl of broth with some combination of brisket, meatballs or eye round steak floating with rice vermicelli and accompanied by bean sprouts, hoisin sauce and fresh herbs. Enjoy your caramel cinnamon latte at a small table or join a communal table sitting on the floor in true Vietnamese style.



Lebanese Taverna has several restaurants in the local area including the Westover area, Pentagon City and this market on Old Dominion Boulevard. This deli case offers a large assortment of Lebanese choices including stuffed grape leaves, labneh, hummus, tzatziki, fatayer. The server is busy slicing a large hunk of meat on a skewer to make grab and go beef or chicken shawarmas. In addition, the shelves are stocked with pistachio and walnut baklava, stuffed date desserts and imported candies and breads. The refrigerated section offers feta cheeses, olives, drinks and salads. This location offers cooking classes for the 27th year featuring popular Lebanese dishes.



SEE JUST A SAMPLING, PAGE 10



Paula Swenor, a waitress at Peter Chang for five years off and on, says her favorite dish there is the bang bang shrimp, extra crispy. She says a lot of people head to Peter Chang for spicy dishes like the popular fish in chili roll or the twice cooked pork belly with black beans and cabbage. But the menu includes a wide variety of favorites.

PHOTOS BY
SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION



Six-year-old Billy Hart is trying out his skill with chopsticks on a Friday afternoon while his 4-1/2 year-old brother Charlie pokes a hole in the large scallion pancake and watches it deflate. The Hart brothers say they get the same thing every time which includes the steamed dumplings at Peter Chang's on N. Harrison Street. "Then we try one new thing," their mother adds. This time it is golden mountain chicken.



Bostan is tucked into a small shopping center in its modest space on Langston Boulevard where it has been open for two years. This Uyghur restaurant has become so popular that the chef doesn't have the time to make the popular wontons right now. Pictured here is the laghman signature dish made with hand pulled noodles which the waitress says are a favorite with older people because "everyone eats it at home." The chef makes five different kinds of Uyghur noodles for various dishes, each with its own texture and shape. The eggplant salad is a favorite of customers although it is one of few vegetable offerings on this heavily meat-centric menu.



Just a Sampling of Places to Eat

FROM PAGE 9



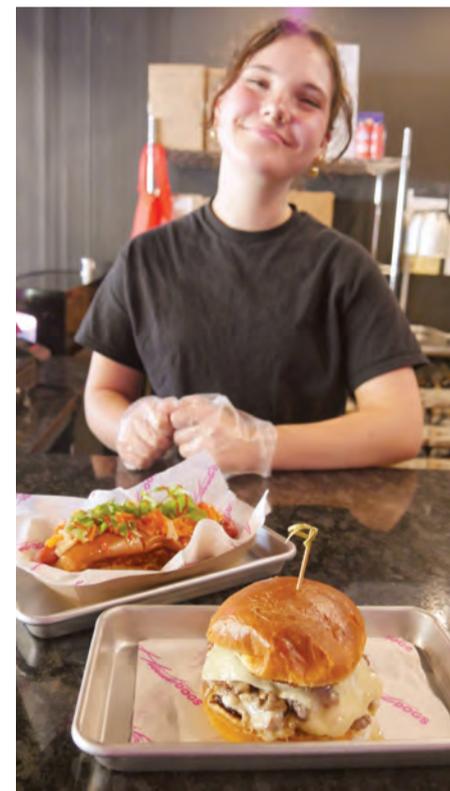
The customer favorite is the simple Margherita pizza but the manager prefers the ham and mushroom and the waiter likes the sausage and onion. Pictured is a prosciutto and arugula pizza with fresh buffalo mozzarella cheese. The menu also includes white pizzas, salads and appetizers such as zucchini fries and arancini with sausage.

Pupatella on Wilson Boulevard offers the real thing— Neapolitan pizza made and certified by the Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana (AVPN). This designation assures the pizza is made according to the 200-year-old Neapolitan technique using 900 degree wood-fired ovens with dough made of only three ingredients and sauce made with only a thin layer of uncooked San Marzano tomatoes grown in Italy. The oven bricks at Pupatella were built using volcanic ash from Mount Vesuvius for heat retention and arrived from Naples by ship.



If you are looking for good old fashioned American food, you can try Haute Dog which just opened in February at N. Sycamore Street. You can have the traditional Coney Island dog with meat sauce, onion and mustard and an order of fries; the Three Piece Suit with chili, melted cheese and onion or venture out with a NY Reuben

dog with grilled sauerkraut. Pamela Swanson, one of the owners of this family owned business says, the customer favorite is the Banh Mi dog with jalapeños, cucumber, pickled carrots and daikon radish. Her own favorite burger is the French onion burger with caramelized onions, Gruyere cheese, garlic sautéed mushrooms and their famous warm house onion relish. Swanson says they have had a Haute Dog in Alexandria on Montgomery Street for 11 years “but I’m a native Arlingtonian and we wanted to open something here that wasn’t in the Clarendon late night district. This has worked well.” She adds they also have locations at Nats park Section 105 and 234 and a food truck.



Server Brita Hodges has just bought out two customer favorites—the Banh Mi dog (also her favorite) and the caramelized onion burger.

PHOTOS BY
SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

NEWCOMERS AND COMMUNITY GUIDE 2023

FILE PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE



Cherrydale and Lubber Run are two of the Field to Table-sponsored Arlington Farmers markets. The markets include everything from fresh produce to hand made beef or chicken empanadas, French pastries, specialty bread and newly ground coffee.

Buy it Fresh and Locally At 8 Farmers Markets

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

Wherever you live in Arlington there is a farmer's market nearby. Eight markets are open on different days with varying schedules.

Some vendors have tables at several locations and others are specific to a particular market. Offerings range from fruits and vegetables, wild mushrooms, breads and muffins, specialty cheeses and coffee from fresh roasted beans.

Some markets reflect the ethnicity of Arlington residents with Guatemalan beef empanadas, Bolivian chicken and rice dishes, Madeleines, Taiwanese dumplings and Turkish grape leaves.

Four of the markets including Cherrydale, Lubber Run, Fairlington and Westover are sponsored by Field to Table which is an Arlington-based non-profit dedicated to building community through encouraging people to renew their relationship with the land by purchasing from local farmers and food preparers.

Field to Table is focusing on Hunger Month in September by encouraging donations of non-perishable foods, cash for food purchases and direct donations to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) which provides supplemental groceries to needy Arlington residents every week. In addition AFAC receives after market gleaning of leftover fresh produce donated from farmers.

The upcoming Field to Table events include:

- ❖ Sept. 16 Lubber Run Food Drive which will partner with the Animal Welfare League to accept donations of dog and cat food as well as the non-perishable donations.
- ❖ Oct. 21 Cherrydale and Nov. 12 Westover Thanksgiving Drive

The upcoming Field to Table events include:

❖ Sept. 16 Lubber Run Food Drive which will partner with the Animal Welfare League to accept donations of dog and cat food as well as the non-perishable donations.

❖ Oct. 21 Cherrydale and Nov. 12 Westover Thanksgiving Drive

Arlington Farmers Markets
Courthouse
Saturday 8 am-noon
1400 N Courthouse Rd.

Ballston Farmers Market
Thursday 3-7 pm
9-1 N. Taylor Street

Cherrydale Farmers Market
Saturday 8 am-noon
4100 Vacation Lane

Columbia Pike Farmers Market
Sunday 9 am-noon
Pike Park

Fairlington Farmers Market
Sunday 9 am-1 pm
Fairlington Community Center

Lubber Run Farmers market
Saturday 8 am-noon
4401 N. Henderson

Rosslyn Farmers Market
Wednesday 3-7 pm
1800 N Lynn

Westover Farmers Market
Sunday 8 am-noon
1644 N. McKinley

Something Country

Rockin' country that gets you dancin'

Sept 22nd at the Electric Palm Restaurant 12745 Sea Ray Ln
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Quinn Mason: Toast of the Town

Johannes Brahms: Violin Concerto

Pyotr Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4

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ENTERTAINMENT

MONTH OF OCTOBER

“The Pluviophile” Exhibit. At Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive, Crystal City, Arlington. Artist Barry Barnett Keith’s art exhibit in honor of his older sister’s recent passing. Keith is a graduate of Alexandria City School (T.C. Williams) and a native Alexandrian with a good following in the area. He is an educator and mentor (21 years teaching art and design) in Prince George’s County Schools. A reception will be held Oct. 6 from 5-7 p.m.

CHECK OUT THE PLANT CLINICS!

The Arlington Central Library Plant Clinic at 1015 N Quincy St, Arlington operates on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 7:45 pm. The Alexandria Old Town Farmer’s Market Plant Clinic at 301 King St, Alexandria operates on Saturdays from 7:00 - 9:30 am. The Arlington Farmers’ Market at N 14th and N Courthouse Roads operates on Saturdays from 8:00 - 11:00 am. The Del Ray Farmers’ Market Plant Clinic at Oxford & Mt. Vernon Avenues, Alexandria operates on Saturdays from 8:30 - 11:00 am. The Fairlington Farmers’ Market Plant Clinic at 3308 S Stafford St, Arlington, operates on Sundays from 9:00 - 11:00 am.

WEDNESDAYS/SEPT. 13, 20, 27

Central Library Wednesday Talks. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Arlington Central Library, 1015 N Quincy St, Arlington. Join Friends of Urban Agriculture, Arlington/Alexandria VCE Master Gardeners and other expert speakers as they provide information on a variety of garden topics each month. Topics in September include: Garden Herbs for Teas on 9/6, Fruits for you Taste Buds and Landscape on 9/13, Microgreens for Your Indoor Garden on 9/20, Garlic - Plant It Now on 9/27 Free. No registration required. For more information call 703-228-5940.

STARTING SATURDAY/ SEPT. 9

AVAST@3700. Select works by Arlington artists will go on view Saturday, Sept. 9 at Gallery 3700, an Arlington County-owned visual art space. AVAST@3700 will display artworks by artists who are participating in the Arlington Visual Art Studio Tour, which will take place Sept. 23-24. AVAST@3700 includes painting, photography, prints, mixed media, and a small sample of wall-hung sculpture. The exhibit will run through Dec. 7.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 13

Fruits for Your Tastebuds and Landscape. 6:30 p.m. Meets at Arlington Central Library, First Floor, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington. Well-chosen fruits give years of delicious enjoyment.

Learn what fruits grow well in our area, their care, and how to prune and winterize.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 15

The Cutting Garden. 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., ONLINE. Do you love having fresh flowers in your home or giving them as gifts? Do you have a sunny spot in your garden or outside your home? If so, then perhaps you’d like to start a cutting garden – your own private source of flowers for bouquets and arrangements. Join Extension Master Gardener Nicole McGrew to learn about creating your own cutting gar-

den to grow fresh flowers across seasons. Free. RSVP at <http://mgnv.org/rsvp-for-public-education-classes/> to receive a link to participate.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 17

PepperFest at the Organic Vegetable Garden. 1-4 p.m. At the Organic Vegetable Garden in Potomac Overlook Park, 1284 Marcey Rd, Arlington. Come sample the many kinds of peppers we grow and tour the garden! Extension Master Gardeners will answer questions about growing peppers, tomatoes, and other beloved summer crops as

well as how to get a Fall harvest. We’ll also cover topics such as composting, soil preparation, seed selection, and protecting crops from insects and animals. Free.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 20

Microgreens for Your Indoor Garden. 6:30 p.m. Meets at Arlington Central Library, First Floor, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington. Don’t let wintry chills stop you from enjoying fresh greens. Learn what and how to grow nutritious microgreens all

friends to view a number of available options and discover resources to help you with your choices. Free. RSVP at <http://mgnv.org/rsvp-for-public-education-classes/> to receive a link to participate.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

6th Annual Studio Tour and Exhibit. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 916 21st Street, S, Arlington. Arlington Visual Art Studio Tour (AVAST) will feature 50 artists at 25 studios throughout the county. The event kicks off with an opening reception for AVAST@3700, where a framed reproduction of Tree of Life will debut alongside works by 24 other tour artists. They will also do grilling in the afternoon/evening and have this be a general open house and hangout. The AVAST@3700 Launch Party will be held Friday, September 22, 5 - 7 p.m. at Gallery 3700 | 3700 Four Mile Run Dr., Arlington. The exhibit runs September 8 - December 8, 2023. The Studio Tour runs Saturday, Sept. 23, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, Sept. 24, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at studios throughout Arlington.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 30

Paws on the Pike. 1-5 p.m. Penrose Square, 2501 9th Road South, Arlington. Featuring free pet portraits, dog cake, goodies and pet vendors. Meet with your local veterinarians, trainers, pet-sitters, boarders, dog walkers, groomers, and more! Discover the best pet-friendly activities and services in your community. Whether you’re looking to adopt a new furry friend or just stock up on homemade treats, there’s something for every pet parent at our event. Be sure to sign up for free pet portraits to capture the special moments with your furry friend. You won’t want to miss the Blessing of the Animals at 1:00 p.m. and the Arlington Animal Hospital’s 85th Birthday Celebration at 3:00 p.m. There will also be a DJ on site, free goodies, and other exciting activities to enjoy throughout the day.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Arlington Civitans Open Air Flea Market. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. At 4001 15th Street North, Arlington. The Civitan Open Air Flea Market, one of Northern Virginia’s largest and oldest public flea markets, is located in the I-66 garage in North Arlington adjacent to Washington-Lee high school and the Arlington Planetarium at 15th and North Quincy Streets, in Arlington. Here you’ll find over 150 vendors selling a variety of goods ranging from books, clothes, furniture, garden tools, household goods, jewelry, shoes, toys, records, and so much more. One man’s junk is another man’s treasure so you are guaranteed to find something to tickle your fancy and save you money at the same time.



The Pluviophile Exhibit of artist Barry Barnett Keith’s artwork will be shown at Gallery Underground in Crystal City during the month of October.

den to grow fresh flowers across seasons. Free. RSVP at <http://mgnv.org/rsvp-for-public-education-classes/> to receive a link to participate.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 16

Opera NOVA will hold a community concert to honor five prominent Arlington individuals, Dr. Alfred O. Taylor Jr., Lola Reinsch, Sidney Dewberry, Preston Caruthers and Bill Bostwick, as well as the many people who serve Arlington through their work as firefighters, police, electrical workers, hospital volunteers, civic association and federation volunteers. Walker

MONDAY/SEPT. 18

AI/Chat GBT 101. 7-8:30 p.m. at Lubber Run Community Center, 300 N. Park Drive, Arlington. Presented by Arlington AAUW. Speaker Jennifer Swann, Director of Information Security at Bloomberg Industry Group. Open to the public.

MONDAY/SEPT. 18

AFAC’S 9th Annual Golf Tourna-

winter long. It’s easy!

FRIDAY/SEPT. 22

The Residential Greenhouse – Gardener’s Tool, Garden Room, or Both? 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., Online. Do you dream of having your own greenhouse? What kind of greenhouse? Do you simply want to protect your tropical plants in winter, or raise tomatoes in January, or start all your bedding annuals and vegetables from seed? Maybe it is your fantasy to build a Victorian-style conservatory full of exotic plants? Join Extension Master Gardener Beth Buffington, and some of her greenhouse-loving

September Is National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month, an annual opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

The Ready Campaign's 2023 National Preparedness Month theme is Take Control in 1, 2, 3. The campaign focuses on preparing older adults for disasters, specifically those from communities disproportionately impacted by emergencies.

Visit the County's Preparedness Month webpage to explore preparedness resources for the home, workplace, and community, including:

- ❖ Volunteer and training opportunities to help the County prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies
- ❖ Low and no-cost preparedness tips
- ❖ Involving youth in emergency preparedness
- ❖ Making an emergency plan and building an emergency kit
- ❖ Making your home and business more flood resilient
- ❖ Planning for multifamily buildings
- ❖ Subscribing for free emergency alerts with Arlington Alert

Disasters don't plan ahead, but people can. Visit ReadyArlington.com to learn more.

Preparing For Emergencies for Your Pets

When an emergency happens, your pet's safety should be a top priority. Whether you're dealing with a natural disaster or personal emergency, creating a "Go Bag" for your pets is an essential part of family emergency planning. The Animal Welfare League of Arlington offers guidelines.

Here's what you'll need:

Food and Water: Pack at least a three-day supply of your pet's favorite food and water.

Medications and Medical Records: Ensure you have a sufficient quantity of any necessary medications and copies of your pet's medical records, including vaccination history and any allergies or medical conditions.

Identification: Include a current photo of your pet and copies of their identification tags, microchip information, and a recent description of their appearance and behavior. Make sure your pet's microchip is registered with Petwatch Found Animals. This will ensure that, even if your pet loses its collar or tags, shelters and veterinary hospitals can scan the chip and reunite them with you.

First Aid Kit: Assemble a basic first aid kit for your pet, including bandages, antiseptic wipes, tweezers, and any specific items recommended by your veterinarian.

Leash, Collar, and Harness: Have a secure leash, collar with an ID tag, and a harness.

Crate or Carrier: If your pet is crate-trained or requires a carrier, have one ready that's appropriate for their size.

Comfort Items: Pack familiar toys, blankets, and bedding to provide comfort and reduce stress during emergencies.

Sanitation Supplies: Include waste bags, litter, and a litter box for cats.

Contact Information: Write down emergency contact numbers, including your veterinarian's office and a trusted friend or family member who can care for your pet if you're unable to.

Emergency Plan: Create a clear plan of action, including evacuation routes and pet-friendly shelters in your area.

The last, but most important, step is to update your Go Bag regularly, especially if your pet's needs or medications change.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

week host Cheryl Beversdorf interviews individuals with expertise about a broad array of aging related topics affecting the lives of older adults and their loved ones. Visit www.facebook.com/aging-matterswera to listen to programs. MICHAEL W. SMITH Returns to The Birchmere, May 19, 2022, 7:30pm, Alexandria, VA.

Volunteer Bike Repair Night. First Tuesday of the month, 6-9 p.m. at Phoenix Bikes, Barcroft Park, 4200 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Volunteers gather to refurbish bikes, sort parts or help with essential tasks. No experience necessary.

Public Financial Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline. Arlington County launched a new public hotline that offers a confidential and secure way to report suspected incidents of financial fraud, waste and abuse. Anyone can submit a complaint to the hotline at 1-866-565-9206 or at arlingtonva.ethicaladvocate.com. The hotline website is available in English and Spanish. Phone calls can be taken in many languages.

Created by the Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy (AIRE) in partnership with the Arlington Public Library, the nation's First Energy

Lending Library made its debut on Earth Day. Meant to resolve energy issues in the Arlington community, efficiency tools such thermal imaging cameras, energy meters and books play a vital role in achieving a "greener" home. Open Sun-Sat 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 1015 N. Quincy St. Visit library.arlingtonva.us/locations/central-library or call 703-228-5990.

Arlington Rotary Club Lunches. Thursdays, 12 - 1:30 p.m. now on Zoom. Organization brings together political and business leaders for humanitarian services. Listen to guest speakers on various topics of interest. Visit <https://arlingtonrotaryclub.org/>

Job Seeking Help. 5-9 p.m. at Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Receive job-related help from the staff and volunteers with applications. Free, but requires registration. Visit www.arlingtonva.libcal.com.

Arlington PFLAG Community Group. 7:30-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month, PFLAG promotes the equality and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people and their families. Meets at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Boule-

vard. Contact arl.pflag@gmail.com for more or go to www.pflagdc.org Soil Testing. Virginia Cooperative Extension is offering soil testing services to analyze soil and determine what is needed to condition soil for plantings. The routine soil test is all one normally needs for a fertility evaluation. Pick up soil sampling box at the Virginia Cooperative Extension Arlington office, 3308 S. Stafford St., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Send filled soil sample box with form and fee to the Virginia Tech Lab for analysis. Fees vary, visit www.soiltest.vt.edu/Files.

Alzheimer's Association Support Group has meetings currently conducted online. They are open to people with Alzheimer's, their caregivers, family members and friends. Free. Call the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 703-359-4440 or 800-272-3900 before attending a group for the first time to verify meeting information, obtain directions or other information about the group. A complete list of all groups in the National Capital Area region can be found at https://www.alz.org/nca/helping_you/support_groups.

Obituary

Obituary



Alan Victor Christenson passed away peacefully on Friday, August 18th in Santa Cruz, California, his home for nearly 25 years. After an incredible life of public service, friendship and adventure he succumbed to a long battle with cancer. He was 87.

Alan was born in Florence, Massachusetts to Carl Victor and Beatrice (Carrier) Christenson on July 21, 1936. Alan was the eldest of six siblings, which perhaps contributed to his great ability to care for and support the important people in his life. Alan was active in Boy Scouts earning the rank of Eagle Scout and graduated from Northampton High School, Class of 1954. Alan

studied engineering for three years at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst where he was elected President of the Senate his junior year. Shortly thereafter, he joined the Army, relocating to Washington D.C. where he served in the military from 1957 to 1962. Alan earned a Bachelor of Arts in Government and a Master of Public Administration from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. in 1964 and 1971 respectively.

In 1962, Alan began working for Arlington County, Virginia as a Recreation Supervisor responsible for coordinating activities of several theater groups for the County. He was later hired by Arlington as a Senior Personnel Analyst, then became Assistant Director of Personnel in 1968, and eventually served as the County's Director of Personnel from 1973 to 1997. Alan met his wife, Alice Emlyn Foster, in Arlington and they were married in 1986. They relocated to California in 1997 where they remained happily married until Alice's passing from cancer in 2002. Alan was a loving and supportive stepfather to Daniel Clement Moss, Alice's only child from a previous marriage.

In California, Alan worked as a consultant and interim Human Resources Director with the City of Santa Clara over a period of a decade. He served on the Board of Directors of Janus of Santa Cruz, a leading nonprofit organization in addiction services, and was also on the Board of Directors for Rising Worldwide, a nonprofit organization seeking economic empowerment for marginalized women around the globe.

Alan loved to travel, his favorite spot being St. Maarten in the Caribbean, where Alan loved to scuba dive and spend time with his wife Alice and stepson Daniel. Alan also adventured to Morocco, Turkey, Greece, Italy, and Austria among other countries, hang-gliding and parasailing were some of his favorite travel activities. Alan loved to read biographies and mystery novels, collect art, enjoy a good detective show and listen to classical music.

A widely respected professional, Alan was a member of the International Personnel Management Association's (IPMA) Executive Council from 1971 to 1981, eventually serving as president. Alan presided over and hosted the Seventh and Eighth International Symposia on Public Personnel Administration in Salzburg, Austria, an accomplishment he loved to regale and discuss in reminiscence.

Alan was predeceased by his parents, his sister Lynda (Willard) Tarutis and his brother Jon Christenson.

Alan is survived by his siblings, Carole Flynn (Mike), Lee Christenson (Betty) and Lori Christenson (Sue), and his stepson Daniel. In addition, he leaves many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral services will be private. A celebration of life will be held at a later date, to be determined by the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Janus of Santa Cruz (janussc.org), Haley Whiston (hwhiston@janussc.org) and Risingworldwide.org/rising-donation.

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Legals

ABC LICENSE
FOR FIVE ROSSLYN LLC trading as FOR FIVE COFFEE, 1735 N. Lynn Street, Suite 30, Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia, 22209-2013. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a RETAIL - MIXED BEVERAGE RESTAURANT license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Stefanos Vouvoudakis, Managing Member. Date notice posted at establishment: August 29, 2023. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/9201eddb3/kzs6CTyBkWscHAzV7Od3A?u=http://www.abc.virginia.gov/> or (800) 552-3200.

ABC LICENSE
Asian Scout LLC trading as Izakaya 68, 3227 Washington Blvd, STE D, Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia 22201 + 4415. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer Application - Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumed On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Kam Wong, Member. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals

CALENDAR

			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		

Let us know about an upcoming event
connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

ABC LICENSE
iFood Ballston LLC trading as Immigrant Food, 4245 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Arlington County, VA 22209 + 1637. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant with Caterer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Peter Schechter, Member authorizing advertisement. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

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"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.

Registration for 2023 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics, is open, online only at www.nvso.us. Registration fee \$20 for unlimited events. For more information, email, nvso1982@gmail.com.

Records and root beer floats, Thursday, Sept. 14, 6 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Feel free to bring favorite vinyl records. Registration # 911801-01.

Movie and munchies at Walter Reed 55+ Center's matinee showing of "Armageddon Time" (2022) (R), Thursday, Sept. 14, 2 p.m. Registration # 911804-12.

September is Fall Prevention Month and a Safety Expo, open to the public, will take place Friday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Sponsored by Office of 55+ Programs, Virginia Hospital Center and the Northern Virginia Falls Prevention Alliance. An opportunity to visit with experts in the field of preventing falls. Registration # 911804-05.

Open Latin dance with popular Latin music, Friday, Sept. 15, 10:30 a.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Enjoy salsa, bachata, rumba, cha-cha-cha and merengue. No partner needed, no instruction. Drop-in.

Movie matinee at Aurora Hills 55+ Center, "Downton Abbey: A New Era" (2022) (PG), Friday, Sept. 15, 12:30 p.m. Registration # 911804-05.

Senior Center Month photo contest, capture a best moment at a 55+ center and submit by emailing to 55Plus@arlingtonva.us. Deadline Sept. 30. Winning photo will receive a prize and be published in Winter 55+ Guide.

Short story reading and discussion of "The Ransom of Red Chief" by O. Henry, Monday, Sept. 18, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills 55+ Center. Facilitated by 55+ volunteer Bill Turner. Link of story sent to registered participants prior to program. Registration # 911402-17 or virtual, registration # 91140218.

The Fall Season of Acoustic Café's at Walter Reed 55+ Center kicks off Tuesday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m. with bluegrass player Brandon Lindley, Two Cities Trio, Alexandria and Arlington string prodigies and the Okays, Del Ray's edgy and harmonious Americana trio. Show is open to all ages. Registration # 911301-02.

Genealogy 101, monthly meeting with experienced genealogist Eileen Bogdanoff, Tuesday, Sept. 19, 11:30 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 911402-01.

Rock music legends: and songs from 1963 to 1973, presented by musicians Carl Gold and

Rob Sprouse, Tuesday, Sept. 19, 1:30 p.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center, registration # 911400-31 or virtual, registration # 911400-32.

New books at Arlington libraries, Tuesday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Hear about new fiction and non-fiction books from Westover Library staff. Registration # 911400-08.

Acoustic Afternoon with local musicians Phil Rosen and Ed Girovasi featuring classic, pop, folk and blues favorites, Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2 p.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Light refreshments. Registration # 911301-07.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with tasty salsa recipes demonstrated by Virginia Cooperative Extension volunteers, Wednesday, Sept. 20, 10:30 a.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Registration # 911501-02.

Opera appreciation group to hear musical selections from "Vanessa" by Samuel Barber, Wednesday, Sept. 20, 1:30 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Professional commentary by George Cecchetti. Registration # 911300-02.

Play Loteria in English and Spanish to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month, Thursday, Sept. 21, 6 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Loteria is similar to Bingo but played with images instead of numbers. Registration # 911600-05.

Movie matinee, "Chevalier (2022) (PG-13), Thursday, Sept. 21, 1 p.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Discussion of favorite scenes to follow. Registration # 911804-09.

Proactive strategies and tips to reduce the risk of falling and what to do if you do fall, Thursday, Sept. 21, 1 p.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Presented by Marymount University Northern Virginia Falls Prevention Alliance. Registration # 911502-02.

Budgeting for the holidays, presentation by Master Financial Educators from Virginia Cooperative Extension, Thursday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Registration # 911400-14.

Learn about the natural beauty of Costa Rica from Mariana Rosales Aymerich, minister counselor of the Embassy of Costa Rica, Thursday, Sept. 21, 11:30 a.m., virtual. Registration # 911400-15.

Plants and cuttings swap, Friday, Sept. 22, 11 a.m., Walter Red 55+ Center. Bring cuttings and whole plants to trade with others and learn about new-to-you plants. All plants must be pest-free and healthy. Registration # 911401-02.

Learn the basics of how to create a presentation using PowerPoint and Google Slides, Friday, Sept. 22, 11 a.m., virtual. Presented by Jennifer Weber, Walter Reed 55+ Center Director. Registration # 911403-03.

Welcome back Bingo at Aurora Hills 55+ Center, Friday, Sept. 22, 1 p.m. Open to all 55+ residents. Win prizes, light refreshments. Registration # 911600-06.

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We Need Your Help Again
We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

Alexandria Gazette Packet
Publishing Since 1784

And affiliated newspapers
THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online
Mount Vernon Gazette
POTOMAC ALMANAC CENTRE VIEW

Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all your Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County, Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

Please, help save these historical papers. All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper-local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now omicron clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

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Debit This!



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I don't know if what I'm about to write comes under the heading of a rant, a pet peeve (drivers backing into parking spaces is my "numero" uno irrational preoccupation), or a logical and reasonable request/solution for an ever-increasing, almost mandatory facet of our respective lives: using a credit card reader when paying in-person with a credit/debit card. I have been in businesses where cash is not accepted (covid notwithstanding).

Apparently, cash is no longer king. More and more as we pay our way around our face-to-face transactions, cash is further down the line in the payment pecking order. Cash might as well be Green Stamps or the "red-headed stepchild," given how little respect and appreciation payees receive for the receipt of paper money rather than plastic.

As for accessing cash from an ATM; though they are not 100% identical, they seem familiar enough from one to the next. All I ask, other than for a cure for cancer (let's be realistic as to what really matters), is some uncharacteristic but much needed government intervention into the private sector to facilitate the shopping/buying experience in person and "uniformalize" the debit-card readers. I would imagine helping/encouraging consumers to consume in the easiest and most efficient manner would certainly be good for the GDP in addition to all our buying/paying experiences. It seems logical, prudent even, that installing some kind system-wide organization/design of the debit keys would benefit an aging population in specific, and society in general where everything everywhere requires a piece of plastic to finalize a purchase.

A few examples: computer keyboards, telephones, cash registers, radio dials, bingo cards, among so many other devices. All meant to simplify our lives.

And yet the similarities/dare I say adherence to some sort of governmental mandate has not stifled the private sector from being able to think about their businesses independently enough to thrive in a highly competitive Western World. Moreover, given that capitalism wants to incentivize its citizens to not only think about growing rich but to act as well on those instincts, it seems sensible to assist the process in any way possible - short of command and control, which enables said business to attract a profitable market share and additionally, rewards the customer for their patronage.

Wouldn't an enjoyable, relatively hassle-free consumer experience enhance a business's profile? If the last thing a consumer does - after they've selected their merchandise/product and taken it to the register to pay, is to have a quick and simple payment system/process to finalize their purchase/selection; wouldn't that encourage, almost instinctively, for the consumer to revisit the establishment that made their transaction so easy?

And given that part of a business's success is measured by repeat business/how sales compare to the previous year, retaining that clientele by providing a pleasant buying experience from start to finish, would seem a reasonable path to pursue/provide. Certainly, I know very little about business to what I know as compared to my years as an independent salesman - selling insurance and newspaper advertising, but I've been a consumer my whole life, and after bad experiences, you rarely return to where you had that bad experience. And since there are so many choices, both in person and online, it would behoove a business to be as attractive as it can be to prospective buyers. Not that consumers are always right, but as customers, they warrant respect and accommodation. Paying customers and especially repeat customers don't grow on trees. As the business, you must grow on them.

Why don't we all work together in a sort of private-public-type partnership?

One where, as Spock from Star Trek: the original has said many times; "The good of the many outweigh the good of the few." Streamlining a system that is pretty much our daily consuming bread that would enable the masses ("Hoi Polloi," as The Three Stooges titled one of their many two-reel comedy shorts, referred to them/us) to have fewer hurdles to completing their consuming transactions would benefit everybody. And capitalism thrives when more are merrier.

If businesses/government ever want to make a deposit on the future, they should make an investment in the present. Help all us consumers to consume more and feel stupid less. Make debit machines exactly alike in look, feel and touch, please? Thank you from the bottom of my wallet.

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

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Showcasing the Village of Shirlington

FROM PAGE 3

mid-price range restaurant that has been a favorite for many years as other spots down the street have often turned over to recognize a new popular cuisine.

Right next door to Carlyle and sharing outdoor space until lunch is Best Buns, a neighborhood favorite for sticky buns, bacon-cheddar scones, homemade breads, breakfast and lunch sandwiches and specialty cupcakes after 11 am.

Down the block you walk past One Two Kangaroo, every inch filled with standard favorites as well as unusual children's toys and costumes. Then take your choice between Chiko's Korean-Chinese, Guapa's Mexican, the new Greek Eugenia or Cheesetique featuring a variety of interesting cheeses.

If you happen to be on the other side of the street you can walk by the Astro Beer and Chicken Donut space in anticipation as it is set to open soon. Down the street there is more with Mason's Lobster Roll,

Copperwood, Thai Chicken, Moby Dick and the brand new Taco Bamba just opened three weeks ago and replacing a different taco restaurant.

Shirlington is also the home of a vibrant Arts and Industry District that has been part of the Four Mile Run Redevelopment Plan.

Bordering the Arts and Industry District is Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) which is an independent community-based non-profit food pantry that provides weekly access to nutritious supplemental groceries to over 2,700 families. As costs go up and the impact of Covid lingers, the challenges for these families grows and the number served keeps inching up.

Just across the street is Jennie Dean Park in the Green Valley neighborhood, named in 1944 after a formerly enslaved woman. Through a comprehensive planning process it was reimagined, expanded and reopened. The new park was dedicated in May 2022.

Today it includes a large modern expanded playground, picnic shelters, diamond fields and athletic courts and a history walk with a timeline of significant dates and events that happened at Jennie Dean Park.

At the end of the block Shirlington Dog Park stretches along the river. It is an off leash dog park

with multiple water stations and a paved walkway. A block away Oxford Street is the Muddy Mutt self-serve dog washing service and Dogtopia offering doggie day care, boarding and spa.

Upcoming events include an annual Celtic Festival with live bands, pipers and dancers on Sept. 30; a four-legged friend party at Dog-

ma on Oct. 29, open mic nights on Mondays at Busboys and Poets which also offers 9th Hour poetry slam once a month for performing poets to showcase their work and Trivia Night on Tuesdays at Samuel Beckett.

And if none of these are appealing, there is always the AMC movie theatre a couple of blocks away.



In addition to providing weekly supplemental food assistance, Arlington Food Assistance Center located on Nelson Street provides turkeys to the families each year at Thanksgiving.



Shirlington is home to a vibrant arts and industrial district.



Shirlington Dog Park is a large off leash park that runs along a river with plenty of water stops and a paved walkway.



Guapa's is already hopping on a Monday at 11:30 am. The hostess says the customer favorites seem to be the fajitas and the taco salad.