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News

Patient Care Standout

Virginia Hospital Center receives national award.

By Karen L. Bune The Connection

irginia Hospital Center in Arlington has every reason to be proud as a peacock. It was the only hospital in the Washington Metropolitan region, and one out of 332 in the nation, to receive the Healthgrades 2012 Outstanding Patient Experience Award.

According to Dr. Archelle Georgio, a physician consultant for Healthgrades, the scores for the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) — a 27-item national standardized and publicly reported survey that measures patients' perceptions of their hospital experience — are considered in evaluating the candidates for this award. Hospitals had to have at least 100 survey responses submitted to be eligible for this award. "VHC was competing against all hospitals in the country. They should be extremely proud of it," Georgio said.

In the healthcare arena, the important focal point is on the patient experience. "It really starts at the beginning — hiring the right people. The hiring process is a very thorough evaluation of the potential employee," said Dr. Jeffrey DiLisi, vice president and chief medical officer. Only those people who do well in all parts of the process are hired. The hospital has a set of "anchors" that are 12 models/ expectations of behavior that were developed by staff. In efforts to match the employees to the organization, their selection is also weighed against the anchors.

"What is unique is the process



Healthgrades 2012 Outstanding Patient Experience Award

we go through to find the right people. It's the feel as soon as you walk in," said Adrian Stanton, vice president and chief marketing officer. Part of the interview process includes a peer interview in which a potential candidate may meet with a manager on the floor to determine if there is a good fit. "The hiring process is a very thorough evaluation of the potential employees. Only people who do well in all parts of the process are hired. The peer interview process — that's huge. If they don't pass the peer interview, it's done," Stanton said.

Included in the hospital's vision statement and vital to the sentiment of the Outstanding Patient Experience Award are the stated goals of providing the highest quality clinical care, achieving the highest levels of patient satisfaction, and serving the healthcare needs of the community. "It's important in getting everyone on the same page. We take patient satisfaction scores very seriously. We see them as the voice of the patient. These are the perceptions of the quality of care given. If there are weaknesses in an area, we try to address them right away," DeLisi said.

See Patient Care, Page 4

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News

Guests and local artists enjoy drinks food and conversation during the Art Underground opening in the Crystal City Shops.



Artist Marina di Carlo greets arriving guests as she exhibits her paintings in the red studios at the opening of the Gallery Art Underground, Crystal City.



Sisters Hazel and Robin Joseph paint during a free event by ArtJamz.

Launching of Art Underground

n open house was held Saturday, March 16, at the Crystal City Shops, 2100 Crystal Drive, to celebrate the launch of Art Underground with studio and gallery tours.

> Photos by **LaShawn Avery-Simon** The Connection



Cynthia Negron paints on a large community canvas provided by ArtJamz.

New Sphere of Influence

County leaders want Artisphere to sink or swim on its own.

By Michael Lee Pope The Connection

he future of Artisphere will be either a masterpiece or a dud — opening up the Rosslyn space to an uncertain future.

The art center is located in a building that was originally constructed to house the Newseum, which eventually moved to Pennsylvania Avenue. Artisphere opened in 2010 with funding from the Rosslyn Business Improvement District and the county government. Expectations were sky high.

"We had some really overly optimistic projections," said Annalisa Meyer, marketing director for Artisphere. "The initial business plan that said we were going to be sold out from day one, which doesn't happen for any art center organization."

That business plan was spiked, and another one was drawn up. Now county leaders are rexaminging their commitment to the operation.

"At some point in the very near future, it was felt that it could be self-sustaining and that the county could remove all financial support," said Karen Vasquez, director of Cultural Affairs for Arlington County. "But that's just not the case. Arts and cultural facilities across the country exist with the ssupport at the local, state or federal levels."

COUNTY TAXPAYERS have kicked in about \$2 million a year to help launch the art center. But now county leaders are moving forward with a new plan to remove about half of the regular funding and replace it with one-time money — a move toward withdrawing public money and letting the operation finance itself.

"As we are mid-way through our second full year of operations, I am assessing its performance and programming model,"



The Artisphere is located in a building that was originally constructed as the Newseum, which later moved to Pennsylvania Avenue.

wrote Arlington County Manager Barbara Donnellan in her budget proposal. "The combination of one-time and ongoing funds will allow us to pursue a variety of options as we consider the future of the Artisphere."

The center has four performance venues, three galleries and a 4,000-square-foot ballroom that is rented out for events. Programming includes visual art, threater, music, film, dance, conferences and private events. On a recent afternoon, Angela Kasey waited to tour the facility so she could book it for the Northern Virginia Urban League. As she waited for the building to open its doors, she said she was worried about what would happen if Arlington County Board members pulled funding for the Artisphere next year.

"I would encourage them to continue the funding," said Kasey, who lives in Fairfax County. "I understand there are many other things they need to pay for, but I do believe that pulling the funding would pull the plug on Artisphere."

LAST MONTH, Donnellan proposed an operating budget that sets aside \$900,000 SEE New Sphere. Page 4

Four Local Students Become Published Playwrights

Young Playwrights' Theater instills confidence in Arlington students.

By Courtney M. McSwain
The Connection

rlington students Cassidy Boomsma, Sam Burris and Julie Kashmanian got to add "published playwright" to their list of accomplishments when "Write to Dream," a collection of plays, was published by the Young Playwright's Theater in October of last year. YPT, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization, teaches students in and around the D.C. Metro the art of playwriting as a way to inspire their creativity, improve critical thinking skills and build confidence.

Founded in 1995, YPT provides free playwriting workshops to students in partnership with schools and community-based organizations. Through its in-school playwriting program, YPT delivers a writing curriculum as an integrated part of students' regular coursework. Students receive instruction from established writers that falls outside the box of their typical English classes. Rather than focusing on grammar and sentence structure, students get to let their inner artist soar and concentrate on expressing themselves with no creative limits. Students also get to see their work performed by professional actors. In most

cases, actors perform excerpts of students' plays during the workshop. However, a select group of students get to see their plays come to life during special performances like YPT's New Play Festival held each April at the GALA Hispanic Theater in Northwest Washington.

Boomsma, who is now a junior attending Washington Lee High School, is one such student who saw her play performed on stage. "When I saw it, I thought it was really cool," said Boomsma who wrote her play "Love, Math and Martians Don't Mix" when YPT came to her eighth-grade theater course. A tale of unrequited love and school

bullying, Boomsma wrote her play with the intention to make people laugh. "I was so afraid that no one was going to laugh and that it was going to be really uncomfortable to watch," she said. To her relief, her attempt to deliver a lighthearted comedy was accomplished. "The first time the audience actually laughed, I was so relieved," Boomsma said.

Boomsma's play was one of 30 chosen to be published in "Write to Dream," which compiles work written during the organization's 17 years in operation and addresses topics ranging from gentrification

SEE YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS', PAGE 6

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News

New Sphere of Influence

"I understand

there are many

other things they

I do believe that

on Artisphere."

need to pay for, but

pulling the funding

would pull the plug

— Angela Kasey

From Page 3

in regular funding and \$900,000 in one-time funding. That means that the museum may have to raise more of its own money after next year. County leaders say the long-

term plans for the art center have always included a withdrawal of public money, and that the current budget squeeze sets the stage for the operation being able to maintain itself.

"We went through a period where we were trying to get the operation off the ground," said

Richard Stephenson, budget director. "All along, the plan was that it would eventually spin off into a 501(c)(3). Whether it does in the future or not, I have no idea."

Today, visitors to the center can see a balloon attached to a pencil that draws on a piece of paper. The piece demonstrates how circumstances can shape art.

On the sidewalk outside the facility, fans of the Artisphere say they are worried that a lack of county money would mean the end of their beloved institution.

"It's not your typical mundane canvas," said Keisha Robinson, who lives in Tysons Corner. "Some of it is very urban and modern and

musically influence."

WHAT WILL **HAPPEN** next year is yet to be determined. If revenues pick up, county leaders will have the kind of money they had when they launched the operation. But if the sequester ties up finances, County Board members may

be looking for places to reduce funds. That means the future funding for the Artisphere is a work of art that's yet to be completed.

"That's to be determined," said Stephenson.

"We are trying to determine what the best fit of programs and operations, then the County Board needs to make a decision on how they want to move forward with the operation."

Patient Care Standout

From Page 2

"People come with their personalities and expectations. No one truly looks forward to being in the hospital. We meet patients where they are. We develop individual plans of care around that. We can't bring our expectations to them," said Darlene Vrotsos, chief nursing officer. Vrotsos emphasized it is important to have the right attitude, education and awareness, and the right tools in place. The key elements that embrace having the right people in place include anticipating patients' needs, effective communication, and constantly rounding on patients.

One of the systems in place is a "Quality Hotline" where patients, family members, or staff can pick up a telephone, dial a special number, and the operator will put in their concern or request. A text message subsequently goes out on the pager system to the executive team and the rest of the hospital. The appropriate person is then deployed by the leadership team to address the issue or fix the problem. "We actually built in the attitude, the customer service

approach, and the systems support," Vrotsos said.

"We stay very open and transparent. We try to be very inclusive at every level. Every single employee has an impact on a patient or a patient's experience with us. We stress the vital importance of volunteers and all staff and engage staff around the right goals. This hospital has asked a lot to meet that experience. We work very hard to get it right. I believe the majority of our staff takes that to heart," Stanton said.

Charley Conrad, a former patient at VHC, echoes the sentiment of the Outstanding Patient Experience Award. "The level of care was phenomenal. I was treated royally. It was very, very positive," Conrad said. He praised the customer service and applauded the high level of respect he received from all staff — from patient care to patient validation. "The nurses kept me constantly informed. It was incredible," Conrad said.

Karen L. Bune is a freelance writer. She serves as an adjunct professor at Marymount University and is a nationally recognized public speaker.

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PEOPLE



Susan Wolf carves a gourd while waiting for a visitor at Annual Spring Fling Art and Crafts. Wolf said that it takes her 2-3 days to hand carve one gourd.

PHOTOS BY ROSHAN GHIMIRE/THE CONNECTION

Jewelry designer and Swanson PTA president Julie Jernigan at her Jules' Jewels

Swanson's Spring Fling Art and Crafts Show

wanson Middle School PTA organized its first Annual Spring Fling Art and Crafts Show in Swanson main gym on Saturday, March 16. About 15 artists participated and presented varieties of the art — from paintings to jewelry, chocolate to hand-carved gourd art. The PTA hopes to raise seed money for a technology fund for the school through this public event.



Lucila Castro, a resident of Crystal City, hand paints natural silk scarves.



Self- taught paper cutter David Jenkins with his favorite art piece "Mammal Alphabet." He lives in Dominion Hills neighborhood of Arlington.







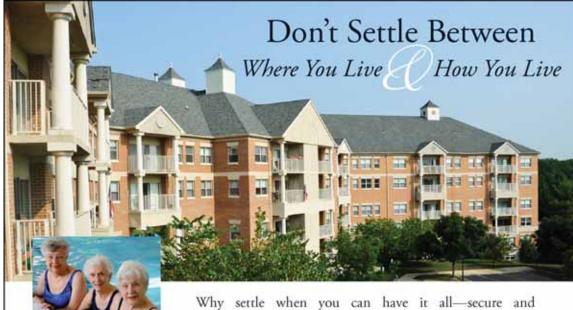
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News

Young Playwrights' Theater Instills Confidence

From Page 2

to bullying.

Washington Lee High School freshman Burris, who also wrote his play while in his eighth-grade theater class, chose to write "The Stranger" about the reality of mental illness among veterans. The issue hits close to home for Burris, whose family has a long history of public service. With family members who have worked for the CIA, Navy, Army and a grandmother who, at age 82, still works for the State Department, Burris takes to heart what he sees as the lack of care for public servants after their tour of duty.

"When you see these people after they've worked so hard to protect everything we have, you see them out on the streets, that really kind of makes me mad," Burris said. In writing his play, Burris was aware that he wanted to make a statement. "I tried to say that no matter how different someone seems after they've come back from their service, or how scarred they may seem to be, they're still a person. We still have to treat them with a lot of respect and we have to realize what they've done for us," Burris said.

Gaining confidence and believing in their writing abilities are two of the tangible benefits that Boomsma and Burris say they took away from their experience in YPT.

Speaking about her son Sam, Melissa Burris sees a distinct growth in his ability to chart his own path in spite of what his peers may think. "It [YPT] gave him the confidence to be comfortable in himself. Before, he was trying to fit in and do things that he thought everybody should do," Melissa Burris said. "He's confident in his choices in what he's interested in and what he wants to pursue even if those are different than a lot of his friends."

Helping students develop such confidence through the creative process is a primary goal for YPT. According to its own assessment, developed with the help of education evaluator Dr. Barry Oreck, 87 percent of students completing the in-school playwriting program in the fall semester of 2011 were exemplary or proficient in their ability to convey unique view points and innovative thinking in their

The assessment used the Common Core State Standards established by Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors Association in its measurements.

In improving critical thinking and confidence, YPT helps some students, like

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Support Cleaner Air

To the Editor:

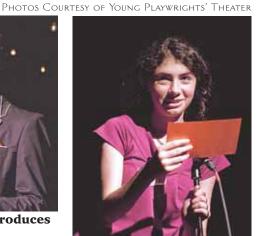
What can we do to clean our air? Arlington has unhealthy levels of soot and smog, and The good news is, our communities are working for solutions.

I recently attended a forum in Clarendon cohosted by the American Lung Association in Virginia and Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light. The event let members of the faith and health communities talk about



"Love, Math and Martians Don't Mix."

Sam Burris introduces his play, "The Stranger," on stage on the second night of the New Play Festival.



Julie Kashmanian introduces her play, "Polished."

Burris, find their passion in theater. Burris currently participates in his school's theater program and hopes to work as a professional actor some day. Yet, not all YPT alumni see themselves pursuing theater as a professional

Boomsma, who participates on her school's swimming and crew teams, wants to use her love of travel and helping people to pursue a career in international relations. To YPT, the ultimate professional goal of students isn't important.

"At YPT, we are not just developing the next generation of great playwrights. We are developing the next generation of great thinkers," said Brigitte Pribnow Moore, YPT executive director, in an email response. "YPT programming empowers students with the confidence, creativity and critical thinking skills they need to be successful in school and beyond — whether they grow up to be artists, business leaders or neuroscientists," she said.

Though many students completing YPT do not want to become professional actors or playwrights, Julie Kashmanian, a student at H.B. Woodlawn Secondary Program, does. Since she was in the 5th grade, Kashmanian has known that she wanted to work in theater professionally. Having participated in plays throughout middle school and attending local productions with her dad, YPT gave Kashmanian a broader look at how the theater works. Kashmanian wrote her play 'Polished," the story of two sisters getting locked in close quarters, for YPT in the eighth grade. She continues to write and says she

the local ways we can reduce air pollution,

from educating our congregations to lobbying

At my church, Our Lady Queen of Peace in

Arlington, we asked Interfaith Power and Light

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we improve our energy efficiency. Several

measures were taken following their

recommendations, and we are on our way to

having a capital campaign to accommodate

other changes. We are insisting on recycling

our leaders in government.

brings her background in performance to the writing process. "I really enjoy developing the voices for each character and imagining how it's going to be performed," Kashmanian said. "I'm thinking about how the actors are going to say everything and how it's going to look on stage." Helping students take their writing seriously is something that Kashmanian's mother, Margaret Egan, appreciates about YPT. "YPT is really a special organization because of the way they treat the young writers with such tremendous respect and consideration," Egan said. Further, Egan appreciates the leadership role that Kashmanian has been able to take on. Kashmanian now serves as a member of YPT's student advisory council and has helped to screen plays for the next round of New Play Festival winners.

Regardless of their interests for the future, Boomsma, Burris and Kashmanian agree that having a creative outlet for their own expression has been helpful. "Having a creative outlet is really important. It's kind of hard to, in everyday life or in school assignments, put your emotions out on paper," said Boomsma. "A lot of people who write are able to express their feelings in a story. I think that's really helpful

Plays written by Arlington students Boomsma, Burris, Kashmanian and Maria Pavón Sanchéz can be found in "Write to Dream: A Collection of Plays by the Students of Young Playwrights' Theater." More details about purchasing the book are available at the Young Playwrights' Theater website www.youngplaywrightstheater.org.

we're already experiencing consequences of climate change. This harms not only our natural environment, but also human health.

> and using more "green" and organic products. We also learned at the forum about new EPA proposals to reduce the impact of global warming by cutting carbon pollution from power

plants, and to prevent thousands of asthma attacks and hundreds of premature deaths every year by cleaning up our cars.

After the event, I visited Senator Warner's Northern Virginia office to talk about why, as a person of faith, I wanted him to support clean air protections. We had a very pleasant visit.

All faiths call on their followers to care for humanity and creation. If you want to help protect our most vulnerable neighbors, visit www.fightingforair.org to advocate for clean air protections, and www.gwipl.org to learn more about Interfaith Power and Light.

Emma Graveb



The Sound of Music

Enhancing child's music education.

By Marilyn Campbell THE CONNECTION

rom the powerful sounds of a high school band to the soothing melodies sung in a kindergarten music classroom, local music educators are using the month of March to raise awareness of the benefits of learning music.

In fact, the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) designates March as Music In Our Schools Month, and local music educators echo the significance of the annual celebration.

"The reason Music in our Schools Month is so important is because it heightens awareness É that school music programs help provide important and healthy musical alternatives to the sometimes disturbing messages that love to attend musical perfor-

"Research

parental

suggests that

child's music

only pique a

music."

- Brian C. Wuttke, Ph.D.,

director of music

education at GMU

children inadvertently hear in the É music they may encounter popular culture," said Brian C. Wuttke, Ph.D., director of music education George Mason University Fairfax.

Even if formal music lessons are not an option, local musicians and music educators say that parents can encourage and inspire their children's musicality with simple activities at home. "Research suggests that parental involvement in a child's music activities can not only pique a child's interest in

music, but it can positively impact motivation and achievement in music," Wuttke said.

So how can parents support a child's musical talent or interest? "I think playing music with your kids would be the number one way to enhance their musicality," said Elizabeth Lasko of the National Association for Music Education. "Of course, a parent may not play an instrument, but there is always singing."

Lasko encourages parents to allow children to experiment with instruments. "As kids, we used to sing with our grandmother's player piano," she said. "Singing with recorded music is another option. Learning songs from different eras and genres can open up new worlds to kids." According to Lasko, inexpensive percussion instruments like shakers or tambourines can help children develop rhythm while having fun.

Shannon Melideo, Ph.D., chair of the Education Department at Marymount University in Arlington, says exposure to music should be a priority. "[It] is critically important," she said. "Sure, you want them to listen to 'your music' as a parent, but listen to as much diverse music as possible and talk about it informally."

Lasko agrees and encourages parents to look for local performances that are designed for young audiences. "Lots of children

> geared toward their own age, especially if there is fun interaction between the performers and the audience," she said. "Many communities offer inexpensive performances. Some [are offered] at schools. Seeing kids their own age or slightly older perform music can be very inspiring for children."

Parents don't even have to leave home to find musical inspiration. "For young children, simple, everyday household items can be used to

can decorate and compose a song

encourage their children to participate in school music programs. forts," he said. "Ask the student to sing or play a song on an instruschool for family members."

Finally, technology offers convenient options. "There are many iPad applications, for instance, that are musical in nature and help kids learn about different instruments and how to record music," said Lasko.

mances that are involvement in a activities can not child's interest in music, but it can positively impact motivation and achievement in

make a functional

musical instrument that the child on," said Wuttke.

He added that parents should "Praise the student for their efment they are working on in

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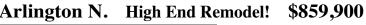
40th Anniversary

HOME SALES

In February 2013, 163 Arlington homes sold between \$3,600,000-\$88,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$3,600,000-\$925,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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Enjoy this open and airy Mid-Century Modern floor plan offering extremely flexible living space with an amazing reconfigured granite/stainless island kitchen/dining great room opening onto deck, 4 bedrooms, 3 totally remodeled baths, gleaming hardwoods, a spacious master retreat (formerly 2 bedrooms) with luxe bath, and a recently finished lower level complete with Lshaped rec room, au pair suite and

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"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington's Office of Senior Adult Programs for April

Arlington senior centers: Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Culpepper Garden, 4435 N. Pershing Dr.; Langston-Brown, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Arlington Mill at Fairlington, 3308 S. Stafford St.; also Madison Community Center, 3829 N. Stafford St.; TJ Comm. Center, 3501 S. 2nd St.

Senior trips: U.S. Botanic Garden Gardens, D.C., Monday, April 1, \$9; Allenberry Playhouse, Boiling Springs, Pa., "The Andrews Brothers," Wednesday, April 3, \$67; National Symphony Orchestra open rehearsal, Thursday, April 4, \$8; Nina's Dandy cruise, Friday,

SEE FLOURINHING, PAGE 9



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RR Ties \$19.99

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When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

22201

2433 13th Ct N	\$937,500	Sat/Sun 1-4	Tina HuntMcEnearney 703-582-4201
129 N Fillmore St	\$869,900	Sun 1-4	Ron Cathell Keller Williams 703-975-2500
1050 Taylor St N #1-6	10\$524,950	Sun 1-4	Monica SimsRE/MAX703-642-3380
2016 N Adams St #31	2\$240.000	Sun 2-4	Meg Ross Keller Williams 703-447-0970

22202

. Sun 1-4......Gigi Otar.....RE/MAX..702-522-1940 3650 Glebe Rd S #641.....\$487,000.....

.RE/MAX ..703-979-3016

2211 Greenbrier St......\$1,299,000... Florann Audia ... Long & Foster .. 703-790-1990 5115 N 14th St\$779.900 Sun 1-4...Liz Schell ... Long & Foster .. 703-284-9383

..Donna Sehler......McEnearney..703-966-7864

22207

. Sun 1-4.. Dave Lloyd & Assoc. 2378 N Danville St. .\$859,900 .Weichert .. 703-593-3204 4202 23rd Street N..... .\$749,000. .Sun 1-4..Julia Avent...... ..RE/MAX..703-850-6606 4909 16th Rd N.... . Sun 1-4... Sharon Chamberlin......McEnearney .. 703-244-2588 .\$649,862.

For an Open House Listing Form, call Deb Funk at 703-778-9444 or e-mail debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.



PEOPLE

Eleanor Bune: Staying Lively at 95

n March 14, Eleanor Bune, an Arlington resident of 57 years, celebrated her 95th birthday and she still has what it takes. She enjoys engaging in interesting and relevant conversations about current events. "I have an interest and a curiosity about all that is going on in the world," Bune said.

She still catches the eyes of male admirers and just recently the manager of a store told her that if he wasn't

married, he would ask her out on a date.
Her only child, Karen L. Bune, recollects another time when she and her mother were sitting in a restaurant booth and a young male, 37, kept looking at her mother. He got up, walked over to the table, and told Eleanor that if the restaurant had a dance



floor, he would ask her to dance. "It's usually the mother that has to chaperone the daughter, so I thought, but with my mother, it appears that I have to be the chaperone," Karen Bune said.

Fleanor Bune, who was born

Eleanor Bune, who was born in Waterbury, Conn. was married for 60 years when her husband, Harry, died in 2001. When asked what enabled her to have a longstanding happy

and successful marriage, she replied, "My husband and I shared the same values. He had an easy going disposition and a great sense of humor. He had me laughing a lot," she said.

How does she feel about having reached the age of 95? "I've reached the mountain top, and I'm not ready to go over the cliff," she replied.

"Flourishing After 55"

From Page 8

April 5, \$64. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

History of Faberge eggs, Monday, April 1, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Seated exercise classes, Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 9 a.m., Madison Community Center \$60/15 sessions, \$4 drop in. Details, 703-228-4878.

Strength training classes, Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 9 a.m., Thomas Jefferson, \$60/15 sessions, \$4 drop in. Details, 703-228-4745.

Square dance group meets Mondays, 10 a.m., Culpepper Garden. Novices welcome. Free. Register. 703-228-4403.

Russian culture and language, Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Details, 703=228-6300.

Piano lessons, half hour sessions, \$20, Tuesdays, 12 p.m. – 3 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Call for appt., 703-228-4403.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to arlington@ connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is noon Thursday. Photos are welcome.

ONGOING

Food Truck Thursdays. In the surface parking lot at the corner of Crystal Drive and 18th Street.

Line Dancing Class. Fridays, 10-11 a.m. Line dancing with Barbara Allen. Covers the basic steps, then combines them to music for a gentle aerobic workout. More experienced line dancers are welcome as they can assist newer dancers. At Aurora Hills Senior Center. Call 703-228-5722

Family Skate Opening Night. Saturdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., through

March 30. Thomas Jefferson Center, 3501 2nd St. Fees: \$2 entry, \$3 skate rental, \$2 re-entry for students attending both family and teen skate. Cash only. Save time in line by bringing skates. Visit www.arlingtonva.us.

Exhibit. Gallery B will showcase some of Arlington resident Richard Levine's paintings and photographs in its gallery, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Through March 30. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org or 301 215-6660

Photo Exhibit. See "Paris by Day, Paris by Night: Photos by Kevin Kasmai" at Cherrydale Library, 2190 Military Road through April 2. Free. 703-228-

Exhibit. See "Real and Imagined" through April 6 at Northern Virginia ART Center, 2100 Crystal Drive. Features painter George Bowles' photo realistic work to Bud Hensgen's abstract work. Visit www.novaartcenter.org or 571-483-0652.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 20

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. Joanne Fluke will talk about "Red Velvet Cupcake Murder" at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland

St. Free. Cupckakes will be served and their will be a gift basket raffled

www.onemorepagebooks.com for

Drop in Story Time. 4 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children in grades K-5 can enjoy readers' theater, games, and more revolving around fairies. fables and funny folk tales. Free. 703-

Kids Club. 4 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Elementary school kids can enjoy activities and more. Free. 703-228-5946.

Gardening Program. 5 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. Learn how to reduce waste and add compounds back to the soil by composting. Free. RSVP to 703-228-5260.

Prose Out Loud. 6:30 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Listen to and watch excerpts from "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott. This program is designed for people with physical and intellectual disabilities, but all are welcome. Free. 703-228-6545.

Graduate Gemologists. 4 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 8-12 can learn about jade. Must have completed the regular Gemstone Club. \$10 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #632823-G.

Habitat, Water Quality and Your **Yard.** 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Learn how to create a bird and butterfly friendly landscape. Free.

THURSDAY/MARCH 21

"Buddhist Boot Camp." 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. This book by Timber Hawkeye will help train the mind. Free.

Paws to Read. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs. Free. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-575.

MARCH 22 THROUGH APRIL 13

'Voodoo Macbeth.' Adapted by Orson Welles, using the imagery and traditions of Voodoo. Presented by The American Century Theater, at Theatre II, Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St. Visit www.AmericanCentury.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 23

Dance Sampler. 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Melton Rehearsal Hall, 641 D. St., Washington, D.C. See a showcase by Jane Franklin Dance. Visit

www.janefranklin.com for tickets.

Writer and Comedian. 3 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Demetri Martin will share "Point Your Face at This: Drawings." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for more.

Peeper Prowl. 7 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children age 5 and up can search for tiny tree frogs and other amphibians. \$5/person due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632953-C.

SUNDAY/MARCH 24

Life in a Pond. 3 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 5-8 can search ponds for animals and other items. Dress to get dirty. \$5 due at registration, 703-228-3403. Program #632823-M.

Owl Prowl. 7-8 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children age 3 and up can learn about the animals and then search for them. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632953-K.



POINT YOUR FACE AT THIS

sion is free. Demetri Martin discusses and signs 'Point Your Face at This: Drawings," to be released March 19, 2013. More information about Martin can be found at www.demetrimartin.com.

One More Page

Books Hosts

Demetri Martin

One More Page is located at 2200 North Westmoreland St. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

MONDAY/MARCH 25

Talk. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. "Radical Chapters: Pacifist Bookseller Roy Kepler and the Paperback Revolution" by Michael Doyle will be discussed. Free.

MARCH 25 THROUGH MARCH 29

Penelope's Pesky Pen Spring **Break Camp.** 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, with option for extended day in the morning from 8-9 a.m. or in the evening from 3-6 p.m. For children. \$300; plus \$75 for extended morning or \$100 for extended evening. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-

First Child in the Woods Spring **Break Camp.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 6-10 can enjoy hands-on animal encounters, crafts and more. \$200 due at registration. Register by March 14. 703-228-3403. Program #632823-J.

TUESDAY/MARCH 26

Program. 10:30 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 3-5 can learn participate in a group and learn about nature. 703-228-6535.
Program #632913-J.

Civil War Discovery. 1-2 p.m. at Fort

C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Children ages 7-11 can learn how to use a replica wood rifle, march as a unit and more. \$5/due at registration. 703-243-4342. Program #632723-A.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 27

Program. 10:30 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 3-5 can learn participate in a group and learn about nature. 703-228-6535. Program #632913-K.

Program. 13:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 3-5 can learn participate in a group and learn about nature. 703-228-6535. Program #632913-L.

Comedy. 7:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. See Duncan Trussell perform. \$20. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com for more.

Cookbook Discussion. 7 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Free. Laila El-Haddad and Maggie Schmitt share "The Gaza Kitchen: A Palestinian Culinary Journey," a cookbook based on extensive interviews with home cooks in the

Gaza Strip. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for

Civil War Discovery. 1-2 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Children ages 6-9 can learn how and why fortifications were built and then use Lincoln logs to design and build forts. \$5/due at registration. 703-243-4342. Program #632723-B.

THURSDAY/MARCH 28

Program. 10:30 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 3-5 can learn participate in a group and learn about nature. 703-228-6535

Program #632913-M. **Civil War Discovery.** 1-2 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Children ages 7-12 can learn about a soldier's life in the army. Set up camp, learn about the items soldiers carried and taste hardtack. \$5/due at registration. 703-243-4342. Program

The Quack Came Back. 3-4:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families can walk and see the waterfowl. Free.

Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Adults can discuss "The Forest Unseen" by David Haskell. Free. 703-

THROUGH MARCH

Gallery Exhibit. See "What Those Who Teach Can Do" featuring the artistic work of local high school educators at the Art Institute of Washington, 1820 N. Fort Myer Drive. Visit www.artinstitutes.edu for

SUNDAY/MARCH 31

MONDAY/APRIL 1

Rehearsals Begin. 7-9 p.m. at Arlington Presbyterian Church, 3507 Columbia Pike. All ages and musical abilities can perform with the NoVa Lights Chorale, Visit www.novalightschorale.jigsy.com or e-mail novalightschorale@gmail.com.

APRIL 2-28

Theater Performance. See "The Last

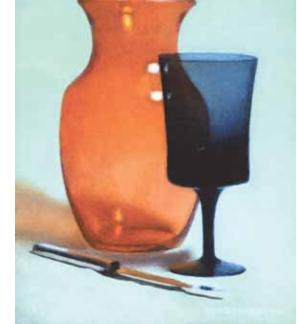
703-228-6535. Program #632953-L.

Book Club. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Gulf 228-3403.

Easter Egg Hunt. 11 a.m. at Bethel United Church of Christ, 4347 Arlington Blvd. Register at pastorkristencurlee@gmail.com or . 703-528-0937.

Five Years" at Max Theatre at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Performances are Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday,

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com





White Spot by Bud Hensgen.

Knife, Vase and Goblet by George Bowles.

Real and Imagined

Northern Virginia ART Center, an Arlington Artists Alliance Gallery, presents "Real and Imagined." Works in this exhibit rom painter George Bowles tradition of "realism," or they may create works entirely from their imagination. Some artists work with "real" materials... such as potters using leaves impressed into their damp clay. Even for artists who work in a realistic mode, imagination is key. Each individual work of art is processed through the imagination of the artist, whose stamp is forever on it.

Located in the Crystal City Shops, 2100 Crystal Drive, Arlington, this visual arts venue is sponsored by the Arlington Artists Alliance (AAA), in partnership with the Crystal City Business Improvement District (BID) and Vornado/Charles E. Smith to showcase the work of established and emerging regional artists. Free and open to the public, Monday-Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Metro accessible. Parking is available in metered spots on nearby streets and in public garages which are free all day Saturdays and after 4 p.m. on weekdays. Visit www.novaartcenter.org or call 571-483-0652.

Entertainment



Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 7 p.m.; and matinee performances Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.
Tickets start at \$40. Visit signature-theatre.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 3

Author Event. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Tyler Cowen will discuss his book "An Economist Gets Lunch: New Rules for Everyday Foodies." Free. A food truck will be on site at 6 p.m.

FRIDAY/APRIL 5

Opening Reception. 6-8 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith, 2411 N. 24th St. Meet the artists and vote for favorite artwork. Free.Visit

www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org for more.

APRIL 6-12

ArtFest Week. Enjoy workshops, exhibits, treasure hunts and more for the whole family. Some workshop require fees, and all workshops require registration. Visit www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org for a full list of workshops and to register.

SUNDAY/APRIL 7

Reception. 6 p.m. at Cassatt's Kiwi Cafe, 4536 Lee Highway. Meet the artists of "Walk the Line" and view the exhibit. Free. Refreshments provided.

TUESDAY/APRIL 9

Author Event. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Dinaw Mengestu will discuss "The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears." Part of Arlington Reads 2013. Free. 703-228-6321.

Benefit Breakfast. Learn about Encore Stage & Studio's 46 years of serving and inspiring children at Washington Golf and Country Club. RSVP by Tuesday, April 2 to info@encorestage.org or 703-548-1154.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 10

Application Deadline. Musicians up to age 21 can apply for the 2013-2014 orchestra season. Visit www.aypo.org or 703-642-8051 for requirements, fees and mailing address.

THURSDAY/APRIL 11

Luncheon and Silent Auction. 11 a.m. at Washington Golf and Country Club, 3017 N. Glebe Road. The Commonwealth Circle of Northern Virginia presents a lecture by Dr. Anne Speckhard. Proceeds of the event will benefit scholarships for local high school students who plan

on a career with a focus on service. \$75 with a cash bar. 703-536-5153.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13

Dance. 4 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children can watch a 30-minute performance inspired by Frank Dormer's "The Obstinate Pen." Tickets \$10-\$15. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Theater Production. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Ernst Theater, NOVA, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike. The Classical Ballet Theatre presents "Cinderella." \$25/adult and senior;\$20/student and child; \$18/military, Boy Scout and Girl Scout. Visit www.cbtnva.org for tickets.

SUNDAY/APRIL 14

Free Concert. 3 p.m. at Washington-Lee Auditorium, 1301 N. Stafford St. The Arlington Philharmonic performs with soloist Edvinas Minkstimas. Visit www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 17

Classes for Young Dancers. 2-6 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children ages 5-8 can enjoy the "Big Meow" half day camp. \$100/day. Register at www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

THURSDAY/APRIL 18

Outdoor Table Arrangements. 11

a.m. at Little Falls Presbyterian Church, 6025 Little Falls Road. Betty Ann Galway will demonstrate how to create the arrangements. Free, with \$5 optional lunch. RSVP by Aprill 11 to rockspringgardenclub@gmail.com or visit

www.rockspringgardenclub.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Dance. 4 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children will enjoy "The Big Meow," a family-friendly performance about an orange cat who wants to belong to the band of neighborhood cats, but is ostracized for his loud meow. Tickets \$10-\$15. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Dance. 7 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Performers of all ages showcase a mixed repertory and new dances. \$20. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

SUNDAY/APRIL 21

Theater Performance. 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at Classical Ballet Theatre Performance Studio, 320 Victory Drive, Herndon. \$10/person. See a

Paris in Photos

"Paris by Day, Paris by Night: Photos by Kevin Kasmai" at Cherrydale Branch Library, 2190 Military Road; through April 2. Mon and Thu: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tue and Wed: 1-9 p.m.; Fri and Sat: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Call 703-228-6330.

child-friendly performance of "Cinderella." Visit www.cbtnva.org for tickets

TUESDAY/APRIL 23

One-Act Opera. 10 a.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School Theater, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Seniors can see an opera designed for young schoolchildren: "Monkey See Monkey Do." \$4. For reservations or to purchase tickets call 703-536-7557.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 24

Opera Class. 10 a.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School Theater, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. "Monkey See Monkey Do" is a one-act bilingual opera. Visit www.operaguildnova.org or 703-536-7557 for tickets.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26

Opera Class. 10 a.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School Theater, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. "Monkey See Monkey Do" is a one-act bilingual opera. Visit www.operaguildnova.org or 703-536-7557 for tickets.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

One Night's Celebration Gala.

Arlington Community Foundation will hold its annual gala at Ritz-Carlton in Pentagon City at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Arlington charities. \$300/person includes dining, dancing and more. Tickets can be purchased online at www.arlcf.org or 703-243-4785.

Performance. 3 p.m. see "Monkey See Monkey Do," a one-act bilingual opera. \$4. Visit www.operaguildnova.org or 703-536-7557 for tickets.

SUNDAY/APRIL 29

Author Event. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Junot Diaz will discuss "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao." Part of Arlington Reads 2013. Free. 703-228-6321.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

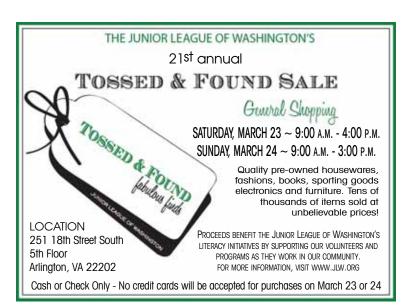
Gala. New Hope Housing will have its gala "Rock the House" at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Building. Enjoy a reception, cocktail hour, dinner, silent and live auctions and more. Tickets can be purchased at www.newhopehousing.org or e-mail lpadberg@newhopehousing.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 18

Argentine Festival. 4 p.m. a Thomas Jefferson Theater, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Enjoy crafts, performers directly from Argentina and food for purchase. \$20 in advance at www.tickeri.com or \$30 at the door. See details on



TIX/INFO: AmericanCentury.org PHONE: 703-998-4555 Gunston Theatre Two, 2700 S Lang St Arlington VA 22206







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Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

ONGOING

Juxtaposed: An Interactive Photo

Contest. Through Sunday, May 19. Participants can send in a photograph that blends objects that convey wit, symbolism and/or deeper meaning. Contest runs in conjunction with "The Next Wave: Industrial Design Innovation in the 21st Century" exhibit. Upload photos to www.flickr.com/photos/apartmentzero1. Free. Through Sunday, May 19. Visit www.artisphere.com for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, May 19. See "The Next Wave: Industrial Design Innovation in the 21st Century" at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Features innovation in product design from the last 13 years. Visit www.artisphere.com or call 703-875-1100.

REGISTER NOW

Summer Art Classes run June 24-Aug. 23 at Arlington Arts Center. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org for a list of classes.

THURSDAY/MARCH 21

Comedy Show. 8 p.m. Hypnosis with Sonny Nardone. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

FRIDAY/MARCH 22

Comedy Show. 8 p.m. Comedy Sportz TNG. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

SATURDAY/MARCH 23

The Art of the African-American

Spiritual. 7:30 p.m. at Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, 1611 N. Kent St. The National Chamber Ensemble will perform. \$28/adult; \$15/student. Visit tickets.artisphere.com or 888-841-2787 for tickets.

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear Westmain, with Courtisans. Visit them at http://www.reverbnation.com/westmain and https://soundcloud.com/courtesans. \$10. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340

Comedy Show. 3 p.m. Comedy Sportz 4 Kidz. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 7:30 p.m. Comedy Sportz. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Cosmic Collisions. 5:30 p.m. at Arlington Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St. Heidi Hammel will give a talk about the recent Russian meteor collision. \$3/child, Friends members, and seniors; \$5/adult. Visit

www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org for more

SUNDAY/MARCH 24

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear We Were Pirates

and Pompeii Graffiti. \$5. Galaxy Hut is located at 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-8646.

MONDAY/MARCH 25

Live Music. Hear America Hearts and Schwervon. \$5. Galaxy Hut is located at 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-

THROUGH SUNDAY/MARCH 24

Exhibit. "Infestation" by Carolina Mayorga is a multimedia project that will slowly invade Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., in the same way that vermin do. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

Art Exhibit. Arlington Arts Center will showcase the finalists for "Interwoven: Art. Craft. Design" at AAC, 3550 Wilson Blvd. See a range of media, including video, murals, photography and more. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org. Art Exhibit. See Allison Bianco's "Gram's

Art Exhibit. See Allison Bianco's "Gram Beach House" and art by a variety of other artists at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

Art Exhibit. Megan Mueller displays "space+craft" in the Wyatt Gallery at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call

703-248-6800. **Art Exhibit.** David Carlson debuts "Work in Progress" a multimedia work that

in Progress," a multimedia work that combines abstract painting and video at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call

703-248-6800.

MONDAY/MARCH 25

Live Music. 8 p.m. Hear Maple, with The Love Load and Sister Ex. \$10. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

MARCH 25-29

Spring Break Escape. Children can

Farmers Markets...

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enjoy week-long art classes at Arlington Arts Center. Register at www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 26

Live Music. 8:30 p.m. Hear Hey
Marseilles, with Young Buffalo. Visit
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www.youngbuffaloband.com/. \$12.
IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832
Wilson Blvd. Visit
www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703522-8340.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 27

Film Screening/Discussion. 7 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Watch "An Ordinary Hero: The True Story of Joan Mulholland." Free. 703-228-6321.

THURSDAY/MARCH 28

Live Music. 8 p.m. Hear The Linemen. \$12. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

FRIDAY/MARCH 29

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear Bells and Hunters, with Skip House and Turtle Recall. Visit them at http://www.reverbnation.com/

bellsandhunters, http:// www.skiphouserocks.com/ and http:// www.turtlerecallmusic.com/. \$12. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Comedy Show. 8 p.m. Comedy Sportz TNG. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

SATURDAY/MARCH 30

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear Nataly Dawn, with Lauren O'Connell. \$15. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Comedy Show. 3 p.m. Comedy Sportz 4 Kidz. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 7:30 p.m. Comedy Sportz. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

SUNDAY/MARCH 31

Live Music. 8 p.m. Hear Rachel Brooke, with The Highballers. \$12. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

SUNDAY/APRIL 7

"From One Place." 4 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Jane Franklin Dance performs new work. \$20/advance; \$25/ door. Visit www.artisphere.com for tickets.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13

Countdown to Yuri's Night. 8 p.m.-2 a.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Features an exhibit of interchangeable robot paintings, performances, music and more. \$25/advance; \$30/door. Visit www.c2yn.com for more.

"Penelope's Pesky Pen." 4 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Jane Franklin Dance performs new work. \$10/advance; \$15/door. Visit www.artisphere.com for tickets.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Panel. 5-6:30 p.m. at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Enjoy a conversation on "Oh Say Can't You See: What Happened to American Design." A reception follows. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.



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Teen and adult class registration will be coming soon.

Arlington Arts Center is located at 3550 Wilson Blvd. Call 703-248-6800 or visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org. Arlington Arts Center is a private, nonprofit contemporary visual arts center dedicated to presenting and supporting new work of regional artists from the Mid-Atlantic states.

12 ARLINGTON CONNECTION MARCH 20-26, 2013

Rosslyn

Sports

O'Connell Softball Opens Season with Shutout Victory

Pitcher Finucane throws no-hitter against Bishop Ireton.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

"When you have Tori, you

get a perfect game or a no-

hitter every other game you

go out there, almost. She's

- Bishop O'Connell softball coach

just that good."

embers of the Bishop Ireton softball team took turns stepping to the plate on a windy Thursday afternoon in Arlington. Some Cardinal hitters wore jackets to protect against the cold March air. Some managed to put the ball in play. But one thing was true for every member of the Bishop Ireton batting order: no one produced a hit.

Bishop O'Connell pitcher Tori Finucane mowed down the Cardinals on March 14, hurling a six-inning no-hitter during an 11-0 season-opening victory for the Knights. The University of Missouri-bound senior

struck out 14 and walked two. One Ireton batter reached on an error. Only one Cardinal advanced to second base and none reached third.

Finucane was so dominant, Ireton cheered from its bench when a Cardinal batter man-

aged to make contact whether the ball went fair or foul.

While Finucane's performance was impressive, there was no postgame celebration for the right-hander. The accomplishment was nothing new for Finucane, who threw seven no-hitters during her junior season, including during the Knights' state semifinal and championship games.

Finucane finished the 2012 campaign with a 27-1 record and a 0.09 ERA. She sur-



Bishop O'Connell senior catcher Jillian Ferraro did not strike out last season.

rendered 41 hits in 161 innings while walking 22, hitting three batters and striking out a school-record 322. She concluded the year with a 99-inning scoreless streak en route to being named Virginia Gatorade Player

of the Year and helping the Knights win Washington Catholic Athletic Conference and state championships.

"A no-hitter to her? She gets them, like, all the time," said O'Connell head coach Tommy

Orndorff, who enters his 28th season with the Knights. "... When you have Tori, you get a perfect game or a no-hitter every other game you go out there, almost. She's just that good. She's pretty amazing. Her numbers are pretty incredible."

Finucane's dominance mirrors that of the O'Connell softball program as a whole. The Knights have won nine consecutive WCAC tournament titles and 17 state championships in 19 years of competing in the Vir-

ginia Independent Schools state tournament. This year, the Knights, who are ranked No. 3 nationally by MaxPreps.com, have the pieces in place for another strong season as they return their top two players in Finucane and University of North Carolina-bound catcher Jillian Ferraro, both of whom were named 2012 firstteam All-Americans by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

Ferraro batted .542 in 27 games last season, finishing with eight home runs and 55 RBIs.

"She loves to play," Orndorff said. "Her strength would be her love of the game and just her passion to play. She's a talent. She's a student of the game and she only wants to get better. If she has a fault, it's probably that she over-analyzes her hitting sometimes if she gets in a rut. She really thinks about it, she works on her swing, she works on her game daily [and she became] the player she is because she really likes to play and she's had a tremendous work ethic to get where she's at."

Along with strong power numbers, Ferraro went her entire junior season without striking out.

Does the streak of not striking out ever cross her mind?

"Every day," Ferraro said. "I'm OK with it, though. I'm OK to strike out this year. I'm OK with it. I've accepted it. It's going to happen. ... If I strike out, I strike out. As long as I help my team and I produce, if that means striking out a couple times this season, that's fine — as long as I know what I'm doing wrong."

Junior third baseman Hayley Metcalf, senior center fielder Mary Burk, sophomore right fielder Erin Sweeney, sophomore shortstop Olivia Barksdale and junior sec-

Bishop O'Connell pitcher Tori Finucane struck out

Bishop O'Connell pitcher Tori Finucane struck out 14 and tossed a no-hitter against Bishop Ireton in her first start of the 2013 season on March 14.

- Sports Briefs ————

Yorktown Girls' Lax Starts 2-1

After coming back to beat West Potomac in its season opener on March 11, the Yorktown girls' lacrosse team lost to Centreville 16-12 on March 13 and defeated Mount Vernon 14-4 in its National District opener on March 15.

Against Centreville, Meaghan Galvin led Yorktown with four goals. Jennie Basile finished with three goals and Tori Haling had two. Galvin and Haling each had three assists and Emily Spack had two.

Against Mount Vernon, Spack led the way with three goals. Kate Grattan and Kristen Somers each had two. Somers had a team-high four assists, and Basile

and Galvin each had three.

Tommy Orndorff

Yorktown hosted South Lakes on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Patriots will host McLean at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 21.

Yorktown Boys' Lax Beats MVHS

After dropping its opener to Centreville, 10-9, on March 13, the Yorktown boys' lacrosse team beat Mount Vernon 17-4 on March 15. The Patriots traveled to face South Lakes on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. Yorktown will travel to face McLean at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 21.

ond baseman Amanda Ehlers are also standouts for O'Connell.

Against Bishop Ireton, Finucane gave the Knights an early 2-0 lead with a two-run single in the bottom of the first. Burke hit a three-run home run in the bottom of the second and Ehlers added a two-run homer in the fourth.

Despite all O'Connell has accomplished, Ferraro and Finucane said the Knights remain motivated to succeed — due in part to a fear of failure.

"We have the mindset of we have a fear of losing or a fear of failure because we've had success in the past," Finucane said. "We've also experienced how it feels to lose and it's not a good feeling. It just makes us want to work that much harder so we don't have to feel it again."

On Friday, O'Connell improved to 2-0 with a 2-0 victory over St. Mary's Ryken. The Knights are scheduled to play their first road game of the year at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20 at Good Counsel before returning home at 4 p.m. the following day against St. John's.

O'Connell is likely to carry a target on its back while looking to continue the program's dominance.

"To be honest, that kind of fuels us," Ferraro said. "... It's fun. It's competition."

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VDOT CHANGE IN LIMITED ACCESS CONTROL ROUTE 244/27 INTERCHANGE NORTHWEST QUADRANT CLOVERLEAF ARLINGTON COUNTY

The Route 244/ Route 27 Interchange is a limited access facili ty whereby its use is for through traffic and its access is re-stricted. Washington Headquarters Services (WHS) has re-quested that the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Transportation (VDOT) transfer to the Department of Defense a parcel of land located within infield of that part of the cloverleaf in the northwest quadrant (approximately 1.7271 acres) of the Route 244/Route 27 interchange.

The purpose of this request is to improve safety security and traffic flow in and around the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial (Pentagon Memorial) and South Parking. The Pentagon Memorial is located in the southwest corner of the Pentagon Res ervation and is visited by hundreds of thousands of members of the public each year. The requested land located within the cloverleaf would provide additional support for the Pentagon Memorial and would be accessed only by pedestrians, with restricted vehicular traffic permitted during off-peak hours. This request will require changes in the limited access control for the northwest quadrant of the Route 244/Route 27 inter-

Written public comments regarding this proposed change in limited access control must be submitted by March 29, 2013 to the Northern Virginia District Administrator, Virginia Depart-ment of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

The Commonwealth Transportation Board will consider the proposed limited access change at a future meeting.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT at 800-367-7623 or TDD/TTY 711.

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Just Wondering

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Having never attended medical school (and not really having had the grades or commitment to do so), and having only completed 10th-grade Biology and freshman-year Astronomy, and rarely even driven by a medical school growing up, my understanding and/or instincts regarding how a medical professional plans and/or prepares for his day is as foreign to me as sugar-free chocolate (if I'm going down, I'm going down swinging; in truth however, considering the anti-cancer, alkaline diet I'm following, I do need to swing a little less frequently).

Nevertheless, having had multiple appointments with doctors/health care professionals over these last four cancer-centric years, I've often wondered how much preparation occurs before each appointment. There's a schedule certainly, but does the doctor review it daily/weekly - in advance, to determine the course of his possible action/discussion with the patient? And if so, does he review/study/research said patient's medical chart/history to better prepare for these discussions or does he sort of "wing it," professionally speaking, and instead wait to hear what the patient has to say? Moreover, if there's been lab work, diagnostic scans, etc. completed previous to the appointment, does the doctor receive indications – electronic or otherwise, before the appointment, with enough time to evaluate the results/read the reports or does he see it for the first time sometime during the day of the appointment? And while this curiosity exists in my head, is the doctor likewise preoccupied (even a little bit) with my ongoing health situation beyond the 30 minutes or so we spend together every few months or his time too precious, respectfully speaking? I realize he's busy, but do I rank in his file? And if so, what does he know and when did he know it?

Not that I've ever felt unknown or disrespected when visiting either my primary care doctor or my oncologist, but I have felt a little distance when I've seen specialists: pulmonary, thoracic, nephrology, surgery, to whom I've been referred, who previous to seeing me face-to-face had never met and/or spoken to me. Now I never took it personally; I took it professionally, as in: I suppose this is the process. However, how do they know a patient they don't know, let alone advise with proper consent?

Over time though, my thinking has evolved. Now I'm thinking/wondering if they are even supposed to prepare for me - and not by reading my file for the first time when I'm sitting on an examining table directly across from them or through study the night before, but at all? Perhaps my situation - as serious as it is to me, is not as serious to the doctor? And by that I mean, he's not ruled by his emotions - he's not terminal, that I know of, anyway. It's just another day at the office - so to speak. I understand that he likely has many patient histories on his mind/in his head and focusing/preparing too much for one somehow has adverse consequences for the others. Maybe the treatment protocols, as complicated as they are to me, are fairly mundane to the doctor and don't require that much homework, so discussing my chart as he reads it for that first time is no big/complicated deal and standard operating procedure?

I've actually experienced this sensation a couple of times with my oncologist. When I was a more frequent visitor to the Infusion Center every three weeks, occasionally I would see him tending to other patients; he didn't seem to know I was going to be infused that day (in fairness, the infusion appointment does not directly involve the oncologist), even exhibiting surprise at my presence. Still, I would more often than not ask him a question about my specific health situation. However, if I didn't have a non-infusion appointment scheduled that day, he wasn't comfortable answering my questions. He would say: he wasn't prepared to answer the question. Apparently, he couldn't pull my information out of thin air. I came to understand and accept that if it wasn't my day to be examined, it wasn't a good day to ask him health-related questions about yours truly.

Still, I wonder, as much from lack of knowledge as anything: are my expectations unreasonable? I know, in my head anyway, as concerns my cancer treatment, it's all about me. But what about in my oncologist's head? Am I on his radar or am I out of sight, out of mind? And if so, is there any harm in that, or is it just me wondering too much about too much (the bane of this cancer patient's existence)?

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



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