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PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

Speed Dating for Candidates, Voters

PAGE 3

Quana Alexander, 5, gets a chance to drive the truck while his mother Titan looks on at the Rock n Recycle event on Saturday, Sept. 14.

Rock n Recycle

PAGE 4



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Which Candidate Will You Choose?

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

Fifteen minutes has passed and Pam Berg, president of the Arlington League of Women Voters, calls for a switch of voters to a new table in the Candidating Event held at Walter Reed Community Center on Sunday, Oct. 6. Berg explains they have seven tables set up to accommodate seven of eight candidates for the vacancies on the County Board and the School Board.

Juan Carlos Fierro, who is the Republican candidate for Arlington County Board, was unable to attend. The other three candidates for the one open spot on the County Board who were present included Madison F. Granger from the Forward party, Audrey R. Clement, Independent, and Julius D. "J.D." Spain Sr., Democrat. Voting for County Board will be by ranked choice style. The Arlington County Board is made up of five members who serve staggered four-year terms.

Candidates for the two open spots on the School Board include James Vell Rives IV, Kathleen A. Clark, Paul C. Weiss, and Zuraya Tapia-Hadley, all listed as Independents since the School Board candidates are not allowed to run under a party identification. The School Board is made up of five members who serve four-year overlapping terms.

Berg explains the candidating concept is like speed dating except with voters who move from table to table every 15 minutes so they can communicate directly with the candidates. Anna Weber, a member of the Arlington County League of Women Voters board says engagement is so important in local elections. This allows voters access to talk directly with the candidates and ask the questions that concern them.

Berg says they started the candidating event in 2020 right before Covid and then continued it virtually during the pandemic. Weber remembers 2020 had four elections in Arlington so it was a huge year. "Colorado came up this candidating idea, and we stole it from them."

Berg says the voters really like these candidating events, and most of the candidates like the idea of interacting with voters in this intimate format but one or two of them prefer the traditional panels. Berg explains the candidates feel it can become a little cumbersome remembering what you've told the other groups.

Spain sits at a table with four voters evenly divided on the issue of missing



Pam Berg, President of the Arlington League of Women Voters (LWV) calls out exchange of tables every 15 minutes at the Candidating Event on Sunday, Oct. 6.

middle housing. Spain is taking extensive notes, and three rounds into the event he has heard from voters concerned with the Board's lack of communication and not listening to voters, how to keep seniors in Arlington with rising costs and the lack of available housing options in Arlington.

Clark, a candidate for School Board, is talking to voters concerned with the needs of children with learning disabilities. She talks about the huge growth period with the boom of kids and the difficulty of meeting the needs of children with disabilities with the current resources and the teacher shortage. She suggests one part of the solution is allocation of more funding to administrative positions.

At Tapia-Hadley's table the discussion is also about the needs of children with disabilities. Tapia-Hadley says she thinks it is better for all kids, including the ones without learning disabilities, to keep them all in the same classroom. She adds that she believes in budgeting "from the bottom up, not just what you can cut."

A similar candidating event is being held in the City of Alexandria at Beatley Library on Sunday afternoon at the same time. For more information about the upcoming events of the League of Women Voters contact lwvarlingtonva@gmail.com.



About 25 voters are participating in the League of Women Voters Candidating Event at Walter Reed Community Center.



Julius D "J.D." Spain, Sr., a candidate for Arlington County Board, has a lively discussion about missing middle housing proposals at the LWV Candidating Event on Sunday.



Zuraya Tapia-Hadley, a candidate for Arlington County School Board, fields questions about children with learning disabilities at the Candidating Event.

ACPD Engages Community



Coffee with a Cop sign advertises the regular community event.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

The Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) Community Engagement Division has already been busy the first week of October engaging the community through two Coffee With A Cop events on Oct. 2 as well as an Essentials Drive on Oct. 4.

Chief Andy Penn says the conversations at Compass Coffee Wednesday afternoon ranged from parking to traffic and crime statistics. The coffee shop was crowded with customers balancing their honey turmeric lattes and police officers chatting about everything from sports to schools to neighborhood bike thefts.

Penn said, “We have a new crime portal that I’d like to bring to people’s attention. I want everybody to know what is happening.” He explains the numbers report crimes by timeframe, trends, civic association and type. “People feel safe in Arlington. But if you look at trends, there has been a large shift in shoplifting and people stealing cars.” He says if he had one thing to tell people it would be to lock their cars and the doors of their homes.

Jim Perry, who has lived in Arlington since 1944, says he thinks there are fewer police than there used to be. Penn agrees that he is understaffed. “I think I am the first chief to ever make service cuts to the community. But when you call 911, we come. I think our present system is working well.” He has had to focus on prioritizing crime over other areas like parking enforcement or traffic stops to make maximum use of his staff.

Penn says he holds these Coffee



ACPD Chief Andy Penn discusses community policing with long-time resident Jim Perry.



Coffee with a Cop is an event to promote community engagement in Arlington.



Sign flashes to attract passersby to the ACPD Essentials Drive on Courthouse Road on Oct. 4.

with a Cop conversations at different locations throughout Arlington to find out what the community feels the ACPD can do better.

Friday afternoon, Oct. 4, outside the police station on Courthouse Road the ACPD held a fall Essentials Drive with several tall cardboard boxes lined up to fill with clothes and hygiene products to hand out to vulnerable individuals before the winter season begins.

ACPD had requested backpacks

and clothing items such as socks, stocking caps, gloves and T-shirts as well as hygiene supplies such as toothpaste, combs, soap and shampoo. The idea was to stuff the backpacks with the essentials and hand them out fully loaded. Detective Malone who was working with Arlington DHS officials on distribution of the supplies said, “Last year was different. I gave boxes and boxes last year but this year people just aren’t donating as much. I won’t have as much to give



Arlingtonians chat with ACPD officers about a number of issues at the Coffee with a Cop event Oct. 2.



ACPD officers man essentials collection site outside the police station on Courthouse Road Oct. 4. The department is in search of more backpacks to pack with supplies to hand out to people experiencing homelessness.

out.” And she says they aren’t getting many backpacks so will have to just give out bags of supplies.

Colonel J. Burgess says some people stop by and find out what is going on and head to a store nearby and come back with hygiene products to donate. “A little earlier a woman who is staying around the corner in the Homeless Services Center dropped off a couple of things because she wanted to contribute to the community.”

The ACPD Community Engage-

ment Division also holds a number of other community events throughout the year including “Fill the Cruiser with Holiday Toys” and “Fill the Cruiser with Food Supplies” which are donated to Arlington Family Assistance Center (AFAC). This summer they held a basketball tournament with Arlington youth in a local park. It’s all part of an effort to increase understanding and build trust between the community and police department.

SENIOR LIVING

"Flourishing After 55" # 911403-04.

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.

Total body fitness, vigorous full body workout to improve muscle strength, balance and flexibility, Mondays, 10 a.m. and Fridays, 10:15 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Cost \$60/15 session punch pass or \$4 drop-in pass. Purchase at Lubber Run front desk.

Full fitness exercise class, complete program combining warm-up, stretching and strength work, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Cost \$60/15 session punch pass or \$4 drop-in pass. Purchase at Lubber Run front desk.

Strength training class, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Class works all major muscle groups. Cost \$60/15 session punch pass or \$4 drop-in pass. Purchase at Lubber Run front desk.

Eight week walking challenge, walk on your own or join weekly evening walks on Wednesdays beginning Sept. 25 through Nov. 13, 5:30 p.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Led by Mary Dallao, Walk Arlington and others. Registration # 911106-19

55+ Travel group will experience a heritage railroad ride through the Allegheny Mountains plus tour historic town of Frostburg, Monday, Oct. 14. Cost \$186, Arlington resident; \$214, non-resident. Lunch included. Registration # 902410-07.

Paris 1874: The Origin of French Impressionism, first session in a three part series to illuminate this historic exhibition at The National Gallery of Art, Monday, Oct. 7, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills 55+ Center, registration # 911302-08 or virtual, registration # 911302-09. Presented by art historian Joan Hart.

Local butterflies and their host plants, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 5 p.m., Walter Reed 55+ Center. Presented by Arlington Regional Naturalist Margaret Chatham. Registration # 911300-42.

Genealogy 101, learn how to use primary research sources to explore family roots, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 11:30 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Led by experienced genealogist Eileen Bogdanoff. Registration # 911402-03.

Crypto currency scams, how victims are targeted, what to do to stay safe and more, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 1:30 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Also learn about a dangerous type of scam called "Pig Butchering" currently being followed by the FBI. Presented by Sangeetha Puligella, Arlington County Dept. of Technology Services. Registration

Acoustic Café performers Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m., Walter Reed 55+ Center will showcase Swingology and Michelle Swan. Enjoy the vibe of a 1960s coffee house. Registration # 911301-02.

Piano lounge and sing-along with Valerie Welsh highlighting October's theme: Singing in the Rain, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 4 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 911304-16.

"Beautiful, The Carole King Musical" at

the Riverside Center in Fredericksburg, VA is on the agenda for the 55+ Travel group, Wednesday, Oct. 16. Cost \$105, Arlington resident; \$121, non-resident. Meal included. Registration # 902410-09.

Budgeting for the holidays, presented by Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Financial Education Volunteers, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 10 a.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center. Registration # 911400-06.

Understanding probate with Elder Law Attorney Ed Zetlin, Wednesday,

Oct. 16, 11 a.m., virtual. Registration # 911400-07.

Preparing to sell your home, what to expect, review the selling process, discuss valuable tips, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills 55+ Center. Registration # 911404-06.

Opera appreciation group will discuss and hear musical selections from "I Puritani" by Italian opera composer Vincenzo Bellini, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 1:30 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Professional commentary by George Cecchetti. Registration # 911300-02.

Secret lives of famous fakers, biographies of well-known forgers and how they were caught, Thursday, Oct. 17, 9a.m., virtual. Presented by Community Arts Programmer Jennifer Droblyen. Registration # 911302-14.

A fun and not so spooky seasonal cooking demonstration celebrating Halloween by Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Food Volunteers, Thursday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Registration # 911501-04.

SEE FLOURISHING, PAGE 10



Arlington Boulevard Safety Improvements Arlington County

Design Public Hearing

**Wednesday, October 30, 2024
6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Presentation begins at 7 p.m.**

Alice West Fleet Elementary School
115 South Old Glebe Road
Arlington, VA 22204

Find out about planned improvements along nearly a mile of Arlington Boulevard (Route 50) between Glebe Road (Route 120) and Fillmore Street (Route 6622). The improvements include constructing a raised median along Arlington Boulevard; adding eastbound and westbound dedicated left-turn lanes at Irving Street; upgrading the traffic signal at Irving Street; extending the eastbound and westbound left-turn lanes at Fillmore Street; upgrading the traffic signal at Fillmore Street; extending the eastbound service road to connect existing driveways between South Old Glebe Road and North Jackson Street; extending the westbound service road to connect existing driveways between North Irving Street and North Jackson Street; and reconstructing portions of the shared-use paths on both sides of Arlington Boulevard. This project may involve changes and/or breaks in limited access control.

Pursuant with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR 771, a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE) is being prepared under agreement with the Federal Highway Administration. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be included with the PCE.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. A presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information on the project webpage (<https://www.vdot.virginia.gov/ArlingtonBlvd>), at the meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please call ahead at 703-259-2768 or TTY/TDD 711 to make an appointment with appropriate personnel.

Give your comments during the meeting, or by **November 12, 2024** via the comment form on the project webpage, by mail to Mr. Khalil Minhas, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 or by email to meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Arlington Boulevard Safety Improvements" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

State Project: 0050-000-923, C501, P101, R201 UPC: 119086
Federal: NHPP-5B01 (265)



North Old Glebe Road over North Glebe Road Bridge Replacement Arlington County

Design Public Hearing

**Monday, October 28, 2024
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Presentation begins at 7 p.m.**

Discovery Elementary School
5241 North 36th Street
Arlington, VA 22207

Find out about plans to replace the North Old Glebe Road bridge over North Glebe Road (Route 120). The bridge was built in 1964. The new bridge will feature a wider sidewalk on the eastern side and a new sidewalk on the western side.

Pursuant with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR 771, a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE) was prepared under agreement with the Federal Highway Administration. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is included with the PCE.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. A presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information on the project webpage (<https://www.vdot.virginia.gov/OldGlebe>), at the meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please call ahead at 703-259-2429 or TTY/TDD 711 to make an appointment with appropriate personnel.

Give your comments during the meeting, or by **November 7, 2024** via the comment form on the project webpage, by mail to Ms. Dipali Patel, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 or by email to meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "North Old Glebe Road over North Glebe Road Bridge Replacement" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

State Project: 6743-000-914, B610, P101, R201
UPC: 119204
Federal: NHPP-5B01 (257)

Arlington's Rock n Recycle Event Hits Record Attendance

Kids and adults benefit from learning more about recycling.

BY EDEN BROWN
ARLINGTON CONNECTION

The Arlington Trades Center was abuzz Friday afternoon as Department of Environmental Services personnel rushed to prepare for the Rock n Recycle event taking place on Saturday, Sept. 14. Floyd Washington explained to one resident who had come to pick up some of the cured compost that is usually there that everything had been moved to accommodate the expected crowd — maybe more than the 800 attendees they had last year.

It was hard to know who was more excited about the Rock n Recycle event, Washington, or the kids who would arrive the next morning. He and his boss, Shani Kruljac, laughed together when Washington described his job as “sanitation truck driver.” Kruljac said Washington was more like “Environmental Services Transportation Coordinator” and, as it turned out, he was much more: greeter, public relations expert, cheerleader, and traffic director. Washing-



Quana Alexander, 5, gets a chance to drive the truck while his mother Titan looks on. There was a lot of horn honking in the trucks.



Floyd Washington, Sanitation Transportation Coordinator and Shani Kruljac, Operations Manager and Environmental Planner were working hard on Friday to prepare for the Rock n Recycle event held on Saturday.



Lamont Jackson, left, and Bunnary Prom, right, were handing out glass recycling bins to encourage people not to put bottles and jars in the trash or blue bins. Jackson has worked at Arlington recycling for 14 years and Prom for 7.



Jehan, 5, enjoys the earth moving equipment set up for children at the Rock N Recycle program.



Sienna, six, and Xavier, two and a half, enjoyed the refreshments at the event but also learned a lot about recycling.

NEWS



Paige, and Imogen, with their mother Emily Poly, were learning about recycling. They did not know food waste goes in the green bin until this event.

ton's booming voice and big smile made children and adults alike feel excited about the event.

And in the end, the final attendance tally

for Rock n Recycle was 1,020 visitors. It was the best attended Rock n Recycle in the past three years, according to Andrew Miller at Arlington Recycles.



Clare, from Westover, was interested in the compostable food scraps program. She loves the program because she feels food isn't wasted when she throws it out in the green bin.



This chart, explained Jackson and Prom, reflects the amount of glass recycled since the program started. They noted the high numbers surrounding the Pandemic in 2019-2021.

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Rafiq Zaheer, MD
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The GW Memorial Parkway Needs Attention

BY SEN. SCOTT SUROVELL



As someone who has lived in our area for 54 years, I view the George Washington Memorial Parkway (the “Parkway”) as one of our community’s crown jewels. After the U.S. Army relocated 15,000 new employees to Fort Belvoir in 2005, nonresident commuter traffic increased on the Parkway and so has the speed of cars. The road has become much more dangerous, especially at intersections, resulting in dozens of injuries and even some deaths.

Between 2018 and 2021, Congressman Don Beyer, Delegate Paul Krizek, Supervisor Dan Storck and I worked to develop a community consensus on solutions. Congressman Beyer secured funding for road marking improvements and the National Park Service (NPS) conducted a lengthy safety study to identify solutions. NPS found excessive speeding to be a major problem.

I gathered and submitted over 500 community comments offering solutions. In 2021, NPS implemented a “road diet” to slow vehicles’ speed, cause vehicles to bunch and create gaps for safer intersection left turns. In addition, NPS made further modifications to the Belle Haven Road and Belleview Boulevard intersections after receiving community feedback via Congressman Beyer’s Office.

Accidents have declined with implementation of the traffic diet and increased traffic volumes

on Fort Hunt Road and Sherwood Hall Lane have not materialized according to VDOT data. However, in the last week, there have been three accidents at the Parkway and Belle Haven Road. We clearly need to do more.

A Historic Road

The Parkway is not just a highway like most others. Congress authorized its construction to preserve and enhance the Potomac River valley, to keep the river’s banks in public ownership and to pay tribute to the first U.S. President George Washington by creating a grand gateway to his home, Mount Vernon. It opened in 1932 as a 40-mile, slow-speed road with various units that combine the natural, historic and recreational sites with over 7,000 acres of parkland.

Changes to the road are subject to the National Historic Preservation Act because the Parkway is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Features like stop lights are inconsistent with Congressional intent and the Parkway’s historic character. Some have suggested building a Belle Haven Road roundabout, for example. That is projected to cost \$7 million and is likely cost prohibitive. NPS must comply with the historic preservation law and inconsistent changes could subject the NPS to litigation.

Addressing Speeding

In addition to the accidents, I have received

complaints about excessive speeds and late night-drag racing. The U.S. Park Police have been missing in action, many locals contend, and our requests for more enforcement have been largely ignored. Therefore, Delegate Krizek and I asked the Virginia State Police to conduct enforcement operations, but because the Parkway is federal property, its traffic rules are set in the Code of Federal Regulations and can mostly only be enforced by the U.S. Park Police.

Congressman Beyer has asked the NPS to install speed cameras, but federal law does not allow the revenues from enforcement to be recaptured by the NPS to fund the program. Congressman Beyer introduced legislation, but it has been blocked by members of the Congressional Freedom Caucus, claiming privacy concerns.

Therefore, I am drafting legislation for the state legislature to authorize the Virginia State Police and Fairfax County Police to conduct traffic enforcement on the Parkway. In addition, I am researching the legality of authorizing either the state or Fairfax County to enter into an agreement with the NPS to install and operate speed cameras on the Parkway.

We will continue to engage the community to help find solutions to improve safety on the Parkway, reduce collisions and maintain its historic character.

If you have additional questions or ideas, please email me at senatorsurovell@senate.virginia.gov. It is an honor to serve as your state senator.

Urgent Concerns Ongoing Purge of Voter Rolls

Letter from U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly to Gov. Glenn Youngkin about voting roll purges is shared with readers of the Connection:

Dear Governor Youngkin and Attorney General Miyares,

I write to express my urgent concerns regarding implementation of Executive Order 35 and the Commonwealth’s potential violation of federal law. Specifically, I am alarmed by the ongoing purges of Virginia’s voter rolls within 90 days of an upcoming election, a practice that would violate the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993, which restricts states from conducting systematic voter roll purges within this timeframe.

The NVRA restricts states from systematically removing voters from voter rolls within 90 days of a federal election to prevent widespread disenfranchisement and ensure the integrity of the voting process. This restriction is designed to protect voters from being wrongly purged close to an election, which could disrupt their ability to cast ballots.

This 90-day restriction helps

minimize errors in purges. Voter roll purges can sometimes be based on inaccurate data, leading to the wrongful removal of eligible voters. The 90-day restriction provides a buffer to prevent last-minute mistakes that could deny people their right to vote, especially when the time to correct errors is limited.

The 90-day restriction also prevents disenfranchisement. If voters are removed from rolls too close to an election, they may not have enough time to correct the situation (such as re-registering or proving their eligibility). This buffer ensures eligible voters are not disenfranchised due to administrative errors or insufficient time to respond.

The 90-day restriction ensures election integrity. The law seeks to maintain stability and confidence in the voter registration system during a critical period leading up to elections. By limiting voter roll changes within this time frame, it prevents politically motivated purges that could unfairly target certain groups of voters or influence the outcome of an election.

The 90-day restriction also pro-

protects voters. The NVRA includes provisions to make voter registration easier, especially for groups that are often underrepresented, such as minorities and low-income voters. The 90-day rule helps prevent sudden, large-scale removals that might disproportionately affect these communities.

Given the potential for errors in systematic voter purges, the rapid pace of the ongoing purges required by Executive Order 35, and

the proximity to Election Day, the Commonwealth must cease any voter purging activities that violate federal law.

I look forward to your immediate and personal attention to this matter to protect the integrity of our elections and ensure the Commonwealth is complying with federal law.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly
Fairfax

Submit a Letter to the Editor

To submit a letter to the editor, email editors@connectionnewspapers.com or via the following form <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>

Ideally, letters will be original, about local issues and less than 300 words. Please submit letters by noon Friday before publication week, although letters received on Mondays can be considered. Letters must include your first and last name, home address and a phone number. Letters are routinely edited for libel, length, grammar, good taste and accuracy.

Your name and town will be published with your letter, other personal information will not be shared. If you are a student, your school name, age and grade will also be published.

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ENTERTAINMENT



The Annual 5Dollar5K and Fun Run takes place on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2024 at Bluemont Park in Arlington.



Synetic Theater presents "Hamlet" now through Oct. 13, 2024 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre in Arlington.

CENTERS FOR OPPORTUNITY ARLINGTON

The Centers for Opportunity Arlington is a safe, stigma-free place to spend time for those recovering from homelessness, substance use, and mental illness. It has a donation closet that needs adult clothing and shoes. Some participants at the Center are looking for jobs and need the proper attire. Located at 3219 Columbia Pike, Suite 101, Arlington. Contact Greg, Program Coordinator at 703-567-1346.

VOLUNTEER FOR ARLINGTON'S COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM!

Arlington Neighborhood Village (ANV), in partnership with Arlington County and Marymount University, has started the Community Ambassador Program (CAP). CAP is a volunteer fueled system that identifies "Ambassadors" connected with civic associations, faith communities, senior centers, apartment buildings, etc. These individuals will be trained to be a reliable source of information about the many opportunities available to older adults in Arlington.

Ambassadors will spread the word about programs and support services, opportunities for social and civic engagement, and educational and enrichment activities for older adults in their own neighborhoods. They are actively recruiting ambassadors to act as a bridge between their community and the Arlington safety net, providing information and soliciting feedback to improve offerings that help older adults remain safe, independent, engaged, and connected to their community.

Contact cap@anvarlington.org if this is something you are interested in or want to learn more. Let's work together to create a supported and connected community for all ages! Receive Support Services

Are you a senior in Arlington? Do you need support services but don't know where to look? Are you looking for fun and enriching activities in Arlington? Email or call 703-509-8057 and they will connect you with an Ambassador!

www.connectionnewspapers.com

THURSDAYS THRU NOV. 21

Ballston Farmers Market, Thursdays from 3-7 p.m. At Welburn Square, near Ballston Metro, Arlington. More than 20 vendors in Ballston – both fan-favorites and newcomers. This year also sees the return of the Mega Markets – sponsored this season by VIDA Fitness. Mega Markets feature the addition of live music from local musicians and a Beer and Wine Garden.

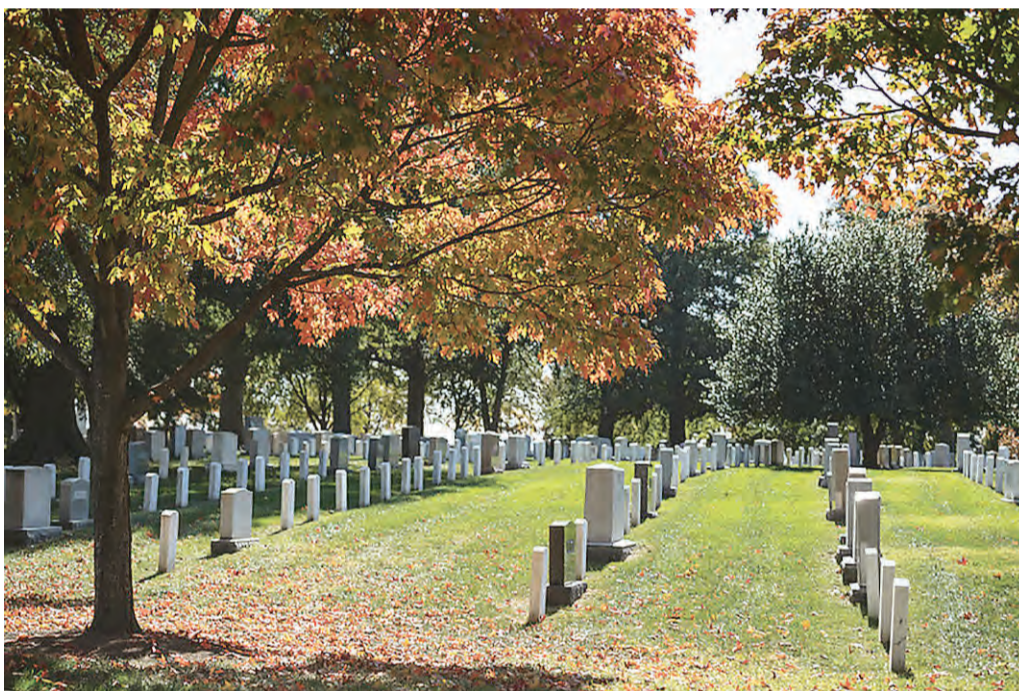
NOW THRU OCT. 13

Synetic Theater: Hamlet...the rest is silence. At Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre | Arlington Heights.

The one that started it all. Synetic Theater's haunting and wordless adaptation of Shakespeare's iconic masterpiece, first performed in 2002, returns for a limited engagement, laying bare the tormented soul at the heart of one of literature's greatest achievements. Synetic burst onto the theater scene with this movement-based, Helen Hayes Award-winning spectacle, reimagining the tragic tale of a prince's journey through vengeance and loss. Vato Tsikurishvili steps into the role of Hamlet as the great story unfolds once more, promising a visceral and unforgettable theatrical experience.

SEPT. 28 TO JAN. 26, 2025

Assembly 2024: Horizon Scanning Exhibit. At the Museum of Contemporary Art, Arlington. With Art After Hours, the opening celebration is Saturday, Oct. 5 from 4 p.m.-8 p.m. The exhibition is organized by MoCA Arlington Curator of Exhibitions Blair Murphy and guest curator Jared Packard. Launched in 2019, Assembly highlights current material



Fall Horticulture Tours take place at Arlington National Cemetery.

and conceptual trends among contemporary artists. Since 2022, the exhibition has had a national focus, showcasing work by some of the country's rising stars and giving them a platform on the doorstep of the nation's capital. Assembly 2024: Horizon Scanning opens on the eve of the presidential election, four miles from the center of Washington, DC. In this time of multiple, overlapping, and seemingly perpetual crises, and with that proximity in mind, the exhibition brings together artists whose work can help us grapple with our tumultuous present by offering strategies to navigate and reimagine the future.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 9

Governing in the 21st Century: Are Local Governments in Sync with their Constituents? A Conversation with Libby Garvey and Justin Wilson. Begins at 7 pm. At George Mason University's Arlington Campus, Mason Square, 3351 Fairfax Drive, Arlington. Hosted by Advance Arlington, Agenda Alexandria and George Mason Uni-

versity's Schar School and Office of Community and Local Government Relations.

FALL HORTICULTURE TOURS AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Friday, Oct. 11, 9-11 a.m. – Memorial Arboretum Shrub and Perennial Tour

Friday, Oct. 18, 9-11 a.m. – Memorial Arboretum Fall Color Tour

Friday, Oct. 25, 9-11 a.m. – Plant Health Care Tour

Friday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. – Memorial Arboretum Shrub and Perennial Tour

Visit <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Media/News/Post/13751/Fall-Horticulture-Tours> to learn more about each session.

FRIDAY/OCT. 11

Free Classical Music – FMMC. The Friday Morning Music Club invites everyone to classical music concerts the first and second Fridays of the month at Saint George's Church, 915 N. Oakland St., one block from Virginia Square Metro

Station, Arlington. On October 11, the program includes Mozart's piano Sonata No. 4 in E-flat major; Sonata No. 1 in D minor by Saint-Saens; and selected songs for soprano by Linnane. The one-hour concerts start at noon. Free, no ticket required. Visit the website <http://fmnc.org>.

FRIDAY/OCT. 11

Composting. 10-11:30 a.m. Online. So, you want to grow bigger blooms, nutrient packed, disease-free vegetables, that require less watering? Start composting! Listen in to Extension Master Gardener Nina DeRosa as she discusses easy ways to use organic waste, including kitchen scraps, yard waste, and ash from backyard fires to make black gold for your soil that will then feed your plants.

Free. RSVP at <https://mgmv.org/rsvp-for-public-education-classes/> to receive a link to participate.

FRIDAY/OCT. 11

Lesson Zero Performs. 9:30-12:30 p.m. At The Celtic House, 2500 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Admission is free and street parking is available. For more information see www.youtube.com/lessonzero and www.reverbnation.com/lessonzero.

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

Comedy Karaoke Trivia Funtime Show. 7:30 p.m. At Highline RxR, 2010 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Bring a team or fly solo and win prizes by dropping knowledge in a trivia competition, then duking it out in a karaoke battle! Hosted by Christian Hunt, this amazing experience features comedy from the DC area's finest comics. The headliner for October's show is the hilarious Umar Khan!

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11

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Thai Value LLC trading as Thai Value Oriental Market, 5888 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Fairfax County, Virginia 22041-2309. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Convenience Grocery Store, Wine, Beer, Consumed Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Rungarun Tipaucha 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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Billiards Bites & Beverages LLC trading as Billiards Bites & Beverages LLC, 3200 WILSON BLVD, ARLINGTON, Arlington County, Virginia 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer Application - Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumed On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Sayed Kamal Ahmadzoy, owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

AT&T proposes to modify their existing facility (new tip heights 7.5 & 75') on the building at 2807 N. Glebe Rd, Arlington, VA (20240458). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

Legals

ABC LICENSE

ARLINGTON SOCIAL LLC, trading as RECESS, 2424 Wilson Blvd., Suite C, Arlington, VA, 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer, Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumed On and Off Premises. Gary Ouellette, Owner NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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**"FLOURISHING
AFTER 55"**

FROM PAGE 5

National Black Poetry Day program, learn about its history and why Black history resonates in Arlington, Thursday, Oct 17, 7 p.m., Walter Reed 55+ Center. Registration # 911400-17.

Hawks in Arlington and other birds of prey and how they survive in an urban habitat, Thursday, Oct. 17, 5 p.m., Langston-Brown. Presented by Bobby Farley, park naturalist from Long Branch Nature Center. Weather permitting group will enjoy a nature walk. Registration # 911400-43.

Retirement is more than numbers, explore preparedness, new identity, expectations, health issues and more, Thursday, Oct. 17, 6 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Sallie Wiley, experienced trainer and career counselor. Registration # 911404-07.

Explore mixed media art with Community Arts Programmer Jennifer Droblyen, Friday, Oct. 18, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills 55+ Center. Interactive session, no prior experience required; materials provided. Registration # 911303-06.

Trunk or Treat event at Lubber Run Community Center, Saturday, Oct. 19, 2 - 5 p.m. Members of the community decorate their vehicle trunk and hand out candy. Open to kids, parents, grandparents. Apply for a space by contacting Sidney Reid at sreid@arlingtonva.us.

55+ Travel group will be off to the Eastern Market, D.C., Saturday, Oct. 19. Cost \$11, Arlington resident; \$13, non-resident. Registration # 902410-09.

The origins of French Impressionism, presented by art educator Joan Hart will focus on Edgar Degas and Mary Cassatt, Monday, Oct. 21, 1 p.m., virtual, registration # 911302-12.

Step-by-step painting demonstration with community arts programmers, Monday, Oct. 21, 10:30 a.m., virtual. Registration # 911303-12.

55+ Travel to visit Maryland Live Casino and the Arundel Mill Outlets adjacent to the Casino, Tuesday, Oct. 22. Cost \$13, Arlington resident; \$15, non-resident. Registration # 902410-10.

Movie matinee, "Selena:" (1997) (PG), Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 911804-02.

It takes a village, Wendy Zenker, executive director of Arlington Neighborhood Village will describe the village concept and ways to get involved, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 11:30 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center, registration # 911400-01 or virtual, registration # 911400-02.

Haiku, learn the basics of this form of Japanese poetry with award-winning haiku poet and publisher, Rick Black, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 12 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 911400-02.

SEE FLOURISHING, PAGE 11
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Hundreds of Seniors Competed in Senior Olympics

Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded to hundreds of seniors competing in five and 10-year age groups in the 2024 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics.

"We had a very successful Senior Olympics with participants from all of our eight sponsoring jurisdictions," said NVSO Chair Riley Geary. "We began with track events on Saturday, Sept. 14 and ended with cycling on Sunday, Sept. 29," said Geary. "There were over 70 events in between held at 28 different venues each with an experienced

event director and most with volunteers," said Geary. "Our volunteers are the backbone of the events. We could never successfully execute this big of an event without them," concluded Geary.

NVSO spokesperson Judy Massabny revealed that this was Geary's final year as chair and that he and his wife were retiring to Hawaii. Massabny said a wrap up report will be released as soon as the results from all of the events are completed.

2024 Gold Patrons are AARP Virginia, Adobe, Alexandria, Belmont Bay and Wood-

bine Rehabilitation and Healthcare Centers, Anthem HealthKeepers, Elance Luxury Living, ElderTree Care Management Services, Goodwin Home Health, Greenspring by Erickson Senior Living, Humana, Johns Hopkins Health Plans, Retirement Unlimited, Sentara Health Plans, The Jefferson, The Virginian and the Woodlands Retirement Community.

The NVSO sponsoring agencies are the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun and Prince William.

Having My Cake and Eating It, Too



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

You regular readers might remember a two-part column I published a year or so ago concerning a specific dessert: "Entenmann's Marshmallow Devil's Food Iced Cake" that I love but am rarely able to find it in any of my local supermarkets (and/or per the Entenmann's site, which enables you to locate a selected item within a designated number of miles: "10, 25, 50," et. cetera). This difficulty has forced me to make arrangements elsewhere. (The two columns detailed my purchase in Phoenixville, Pa. of said item while visiting friends.)

Fast forward to a few weeks ago. I'm shopping at my local Safeway looking for some sale items. However, regardless of my main point in shopping there, I always swing by the Entenmann's display to see what's new and if by some miracle, anything interesting has appeared. Rarely, per this column, has anything interesting appeared. But, as a lifelong member of Red Sox Nation, I know about hope springing eternal or for you non-members: even a blind squirrel finds an acorn once in a while.

As I approached the Entenmann's display, I could see what looked like, my "Marshmallow Devil's Food Iced Cake". At first reaction, I couldn't believe my eyes. Why now, all of a sudden, is this cake on the shelf? To be certain, I picked it up, confirmed its identity, checked its sell-buy date and examined the box as thoroughly as I've examined anything. I couldn't find any reason not to buy/believe what I was seeing so I grabbed two boxes and soon was out of the store giddy with enthusiasm. Once home, I placed both boxes in the freezer and waited to surprise my wife, Dina. (Not that she's the cake fiend that I am, but I figured she'd be happy for me, knowing my eating requirements as well as she does).

Since my arrival home sort of coincided with dinner, I decided to get through the main course as quickly as possible and then dessert to my heart's content. However, knowing Dina as I do, the idea of skipping dinner to go right to dessert wouldn't have flown. It would have barely walked, so I ate my dinner with as much fake gusto I could muster. As soon as it was prudent/safe (if you know what I mean?), I asked Dina if she was ready for dessert. She replied in the affirmative - like she was doing me a favor. Doing me a favor? This cake is royalty in the dessert world. It deserves respect and appreciation. A cake of this substance and taste doesn't exactly grow on trees. Heck, it rarely appears in stores - that I ever know about anyway. And yet, here it is. And there it goes. Cake number one was gone in a day, cake number two soon followed.

Something unexpected has happened at this Safeway. When I return, naturally I likewise return to the Entenmann's display looking for my cake. And more often than not, the cake is placed in its familiar spot. And as often as you can guess, I am indulging my sweet teeth and buying the cake. I've purchased more than a few of these cakes over the past four weeks, making up for lost time you might say, and have thoroughly enjoyed myself. Even Dina has admitted that this cake is pretty good (stop the presses).

I think that I've now purchased enough of these cakes that, (and I've never worked in a store with inventory, so I don't know how things get re-ordered, but I'm starting to wonder), I think my purchases are registering. I say this because every time I return to the store now, there sits my cake in the Entenmann's display, as if it's just another dessert item. Does the reordering algorithm include feedback from the store manager/department heads. Do they just reorder products that have been purchased previously? Or is it handled by the regional people? Conversely, if the item isn't bought, will it stop being reordered?

I don't know what to do. I'm afraid, if I believe any of the last paragraph, that if I stop buying the cake, it will stop being ordered and will disappear from the Entenmann's display. I still love the cake but I'm feeling some pressure. I think I may have become my own worst enemy. I never thought I'd feel or say this, but I might need a break. But then what?

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

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 9

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

Teen Night. 7-10 p.m. At Lubber Run Community Center, Arlington. The ultimate after-hours teen event continues this month at Lubber Run Community Center! Join them for nights of non-stop fun packed with music, games, and activities. Whether you're into video game tournaments, dancing to the hottest beats, or just hanging out with friends, there's something for everyone!

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

Annual 5Dollar5K and Fun Run. 8:30 a.m. At Bluemont Park, 329 N Manchester St., Arlington. Registration is now open for the Annual 5Dollar5K. The event is organized by Comunidad, local nonprofit organization that equips and engages locally-rooted community leaders in the Seven Corners community in Falls Church. Comunidad offers reading and mentorship opportunities for children, as well as community food distribution and leadership training for community members. The non-timed 5K and 1k fun run provide an opportunity for runners of all ages to join. Registration is \$5 for runners aged 13 and up. Children aged 12 and under are invited to participate in the free 1K that starts prior to the 5K. There will be light refreshments and lawn games to follow the run, along with Comunidad swag giveaways. Registration and details are at <https://www.comunidadva.org/5dollar5k>

MONDAY/OCT. 14

Jane Franklin Dance Presents: Ruff the Runway - A Tail-Wagging Fashion Fundraiser! 4 p.m. At Snouts & Stouts Indoor Dog Park and Bar, 2709 S. Oakland Street, Arlington. Get ready to unleash the fun! Jane Franklin Dance is thrilled to announce Ruff the Runway, a paw-some event that will have tails wagging and fashionistas howling with delight. Strut your mutt down the runway and compete for fantastic prizes, including gift certificates to Seamore's Sustainable Seafood, doggie toys and treats,

bottles of bubbly, and more! Whether your pooch is polished, pampered, or just plain adorable, this is their time to shine! No mutt to strut? No worries! You'll also get to see repertory excerpts performed by JFD company members to usher in the new 2024-25 Season! All are encouraged to attend.

FRIDAY/OCT. 18

Putting Your Garden to Bed. 10-11:30 a.m. Online. It may be autumn, but it's not time to abandon the garden! This class offers easy tips for onsite composting, providing winter habitat and food for wildlife, and end-of-season care of tools and equipment. Did you know that fall is the ideal time to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials? They'll help you identify opportunities to learn from this year's successes and failures (we all have them) to lay the groundwork for next year. Speakers are Extension Master Gardeners (EMGs) Joan McIntyre, who leads the VCE-MGNV Neighborhood Champions program that offers gardening expertise to neighborhoods, and Molly Newling, who excels at teaching the fine points of pruning. Free. RSVP at <https://mgnv.org/rsvp-for-public-education-classes/> to receive a link to participate.

MONDAY/OCT. 21

"Empowering Voices: A Student-Led Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Professional Development Workshop," with Monica Lozano Caldera, MA, DEI Coordinator, Arlington Career Center, Arlington Public Schools and Marlene Reyes, Senior, Arlington Tech/Arlington Career Center, DEI Student Leader and Recipient of The Princeton Prize in Race Relations 2024. From 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Lubber Run Community Center, 300 N. Park Drive, Arlington. Presented by Arlington AAUW.

THURSDAY/OCT. 24

Crime Fiction Authors. 6 p.m. At Busboys & Poets, 4251 Campbell Ave., in Shirlington,

Arlington. Busboys & Poets in Shirlington welcomes three local, crime fiction authors — Edgar Award winner I.S. Berry, 2024 debut K.T. Nguyen, and John Wasowicz, author of the Old Town Loves Mystery series — for a discussion of espionage, suspense, and mystery. The program will be moderated by WETA Classical's Nicole Lacroix.

SATURDAY/OCT. 26

Routes of Resilience Walk: From Enslavement to Freedom Along The Pike. Join The Black Heritage Museum of Arlington, The Arlington Historical Society, and WalkArlington at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 26, for a walk in the footsteps of 19th century free and enslaved Black people who lived along Columbia Pike. Learn about their lives, their struggles, and their great resilience, courage, and strength in the face of adversity. The 1.5-mile route also offers a preview of several sites that will be dedicated with bronze markers later this fall, as part of Arlington's Memorializing the Enslaved project. The Walk is free with RSVP. For details and to register, visit www.walkarlington.com/events.

SATURDAY/OCT. 26

Spaghetti Dinner. Seatings at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. At Lyon Village Community House, Arlington. This annual tradition brings members of the community together for a fun evening of food, friends, and fundraising. Proceeds from the event go towards the upkeep and maintenance of the LVCH, which required costly repairs to its iconic cupola earlier this year.

SATURDAY/OCT. 26

Lesson Zero Performs. 8-11 p.m. At The Mussel Bar, 800 Glebe Rd., Arlington. Admission is free and parking is available. For more information see www.youtube.com/lessonzero and www.reverbnation.com/lessonzero.

"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

FROM PAGE 10

911300-10.

Name that Tune, songs from the 50s and 60s, live on the piano with Ken Schellenberg, Wednesday, Oct. 23,

11 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Registration # 911304-18.

HIV/AIDS in 2024, hear about substantive progress, scientific advancements and current challenges,

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m., Arlington Mill 55+

Center. Presented by Taj Morgan. Registration # 911400-48.

Local history group will discuss Arlington's rich past, Wednesday, Oct. 23, 1:30 p.m. Lubber Run 55+

Center. Registration # 911402-08.

Acoustic afternoon, live music performed by Arlington musicians Phil Rosen and Ed Girovasi, Wednesday,

Oct. 23, 2 p.m., Langston-Brown 55+ Center. Registration # 911301-05.

Panama is fourth in a series about the history culture and travel destinations of Central and North American

Spanish speaking countries, Thursday, Oct. 24, 1 p.m., virtual. Presented by Ashley Gomez, Lubber Run 55+ Center Director. Registration # 911400-32.

Around the world to Scotland, videos of stunning landscapes, castles, cities and more, Thursday, Oct. 24,

11:30 a.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center, registration # 911400-36 or virtual, registration # 911400-37.

Arlington National Cemetery's Southern Expansion Project

Arlington National Cemetery is the nation's most hallowed ground. Consisting of 639 acres, it is the final resting place for over 400,000 service members and their eligible dependents. Currently, ANC stands at a crossroads in its history. ANC will run out of space without changes to eligibility by 2041 (19 years from now) and, with the Southern Expansion Project, by 2060 (38 years). In order to significantly extend ANC's capacity, changes to eligibility criteria and/or expansion of the cemetery's geographic footprint are required.

Plans to expand the cemetery began in 1998, when the ANC Master Plan first identified the former Navy Annex site (now known as the Southern Expansion site) as suitable interment space, due to its location and existing Department of Defense (DoD) ownership. During the ensuing decades — and following extensive public engagement and feedback — efforts to expand the cemetery developed into two combined projects: the Federal Highways Administration Defense Access Roads Project and Southern Expansion.

The Defense Access Roads Project began construction in September 2021 and is scheduled to be complete in June 2025. The Project will realign Columbia Pike, modify the S. Joyce Street intersection and the Columbia Pike/Washington Boulevard (Route 27) interchange, and replace Southgate Road with a new segment of S. Nash Street. These roadway realignments will benefit the public and surrounding community by upgrading safety and capacity of roadways within the area, as well as increasing multimodal (pedestrian and bicycle paths) transportation capacity.

The Southern Expansion construction project began with a groundbreaking ceremony for Phase I on September 14, 2021. The 50-acre Southern Expansion area is bound by Washington Boulevard (Route 27), I-395, the Virginia Department of Transportation Maintenance Complex, the Foxcroft Heights neighborhood and Arlington National Cemetery. Construction of Phase II and Phase III of the Southern Expansion project is anticipated to occur over the next five years, through winter 2027, and will add more than 80,000 new interment opportunities. Additionally, the project will significantly enhance the experience of visitors to ANC, while preserving the iconic look and feel of this national shrine. Benefits to visitors include a new entrance on Columbia Pike; employee parking and controlled public parking for cemetery and Air Force Memorial visitors; and seamless access to the Air Force Memorial. Finally, Southern Expansion will facilitate cemetery operations



Senior leaders from ANC/OAC, the Army, FHWA, USACE, the Air Force District of Washington and contracting firm Kokosing during the DAR and Southern Expansion groundbreaking ceremony.



ANC Superintendent Charles "Ray" Alexander reviews design plans for Southern Expansion. (June 23, 2020)

by replacing an office building and a warehouse, and adding green-roof maintenance bays for cemetery vehicles.

The Arlington National Cemetery Southern Expansion project will enable the Army to continue the honored tradition of laying to rest our veterans well into the future.

CHRONOLOGY

❖ **1998:** The 1998 ANC Master Plan first identified the former Navy Annex site (now known as the Southern Expansion site) as suitable interment space, due to its location

and existing Department of Defense ownership. This area contains land which can be made contiguous with the cemetery by realigning roadways.

❖ **2016:** Public information meetings began. These periodic meetings with stakeholders and local community members continued through 2020. ANC also conducted meetings with veterans' service organizations and military service organizations.

❖ **2017:** In July 2017, ANC initiated a survey inviting the public and stakeholders to join a national dialogue on the issue,

providing a forum to share ideas, opinions and concerns. This generated feedback from approximately 28,000 respondents, who included veterans and service members from all branches of service, as well as military families and the general public. The opportunity for public comment closed in November 2017.

❖ **2018:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District, on behalf of ANC, posted to the Federal Register a draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) for the Southern Expansion and DAR Projects. The public was invited to review and comment from Aug. 16, 2018 through Sept. 22, 2018.

❖ **2021:** DAR project construction began in September. Groundbreaking on Southern Expansion occurred on Sept 14.

❖ **2023:** In April, the Defense Access Roads project turned over the South Parcel and the construction contract was awarded for the new Operations Complex. Work began on the new Operations Complex in September. Design for Phase III Cemetery Expansion was completed in October.

❖ **2024-2028:** Contractor acquisition for Phase III (Cemetery Expansion) is anticipated to begin in Spring 2024, with construction completion anticipated in 2028. The Defense Access Roads project is anticipated to be complete in the fall of 2025. The new Operations Complex is scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2026.

❖ **2024-2028:** Contractor acquisition for Phase III (Cemetery Expansion) is anticipated to begin in Spring 2024, with construction completion anticipated in 2028. The Defense Access Roads project is anticipated to be complete in the fall of 2025. The new Operations Complex is scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2026.

Questions? Please contact usarmy.anc.southernexpansion@army.mil

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