

Child-Friendly Holy Days

COMMUNITY, PAGE 19



Zachary gets help from his dad, Alexandria Police Sergeant Mitch Grossman with a finishing coat of polyurethane on his shofar, the ram's horn that is blown on Jewish holy days.

inside

Up With Plastic People
This revolutionary Czech rock band was instrumental in the overturn of Communism in the late 80s.

NEWS

E

Freddie Mac's
Charity Giving

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Superintendent
Search Begins

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OBITUARY

Orville Burrell Dies

Orville Burrell, 69, died on Sept. 10 due to circulation complications. He spent the last 26 years in Arlington.

Orville, often referred to as "Mr. Boombastic" was a diverse, unique, and assertive individual that loved the beach and Caribbean music. Orville was well

known for his outspoken nature on sexuality issues and was a constant advocate for gay rights and despite losing two legs finished seven marathons.

He leaves behind a five sons, Steve, Colin, Chad, Andrew, and Landon, all residents of Arlington.

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NEWSPAPERS

Freddie Mac Troubles Affect Charities

Dozens of Northern Virginia non-profits rely on funds from Freddie Mac.

BY DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

Earlier this month, the U.S. Treasury took over Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two mortgage lending giants that had been financially imperiled by the subprime lending crisis. Government control of these two institutions immediately sent shockwaves throughout the country's financial system and foreshadowed several weeks of meltdowns on Wall Street.

But the fallout from the collapse of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac isn't just a Wall Street problem. The collapse of these two companies poses a serious threat to many local organizations in Northern Virginia.

Freddie Mac's philanthropic arm, the Freddie Mac Foundation, was the largest corporate funder of non-profit organizations in the Washington D.C. region. Last year, the foundation gave approximately \$25 million to local non-profits.

Now, many of those organizations

"We're nervous. Whenever there's an economic downturn a lot of non-profits suffer."

— Elizabeth Page,
Falls Church-McLean Children's Center

that had received large parts of their operating budgets from Freddie Mac in previous years are facing uncertainty.

"At this point, I don't know," Diane Charles responded when asked if her group, Stop Child Abuse Now, or SCAN, would continue to receive funding from Freddie Mac. "I don't think anybody does."

Shawn Flaherty, a Freddie Mac Foundation spokesperson, said that all of the foundation's charitable donations are currently under review by the organization's director, James Lockhart. No decisions have been made yet about whether funding will be cut, she said, and there was no timeline for when these decisions will be made. "We really don't know at this point," she said. "It's under review and we haven't made a decision yet."

A NON-PROFIT child abuse prevention group based out of Alexan-

dria, SCAN has had a relationship with the Freddie Mac Foundation for more than a decade, Charles, the group's executive director, said. In that time, they have contributed between \$25,000 and \$50,000 to SCAN per year, funding that represents approximately five percent of their annual budget.

Charles said that if Freddie Mac cut off its funding to SCAN, it would be very difficult for her organization to find the funding elsewhere. "We'll be really disappointed," she said. "That's an important piece of what [Freddie Mac has] done in the community ... Relatively, it's a very small amount but that kind of funding allows us to leverage lots of other funding and volunteers. To us, it's critical."

ELIZABETH PAGE is the director of the Falls Church-McLean Children's Center, a group that provides childcare to low-income families. For the last decade, the Freddie Mac Foundation has given Page's group \$25,000 a year, one-eighth of their annual operating budget.

"We're nervous," Page said. "Not just with Freddie Mac but with the whole environment these days. Whenever there's an economic downturn a lot of non-profits suffer."

The Falls Church-McLean Children's Center received its funding from Freddie Mac in July, Page said, so they are covered for this fiscal year. "I'm hoping by April when we reapply [for funding] things will be clearer," she said. But Page said that if the funding from Freddie Mac doesn't come through, they would most likely have to layoff one of their teaching assistants.

LOUDOUN County-based INMED Partnerships for Children is another local non-profit organization that relies heavily on funding from Freddie Mac. Thirty five percent of their annual budget – \$175,000 per year for a trio human services programs – comes from the Freddie Mac Foundation.

Linda Pfeiffer, INMED's President and CEO, said that her organization has been in close contact with Freddie Mac representatives since their recent financial changes and that "there is no indication" that their funding is in jeopardy. In fact, Pfeiffer said, just a few weeks ago INMED was invited by Freddie Mac to officially reapply for a \$100,000 grant.

"The people at the Foundation are completely forthcoming," she said. "As far as



Freddie Mac headquarters in McLean, Va.

PHOTO BY DAVID SCHULTZ/THE CONNECTION

they know things are moving ahead as normal."

But Pfeiffer said that the loss of funding from Freddie Mac would force INMED to "cut down on our services dramatically" because the loss of the Freddie Mac funds could trigger a chain reaction among their other funders.

"It's something that's always been crucial for leveraging other funding," she said. "All funders like to see that their funds are being matched by other funding. Freddie Mac has always been wonderful to provide the upfront money that we can use to get state money and county money."

THE FALLOUT from the collapse of Freddie Mac is affecting Northern Virginia non-profits both large and small.

BU-GATA is an Arlington-based group that acts as an advocate for the tenants of the Buckingham Village neighborhood. Since 1998, it has run a youth program for Buckingham teens that was funded with a \$40,000 annual contribution from Freddie Mac.

If the Freddie Mac funds were cut off, BU-GATA would have to fire the program's full-time coordinator and would be forced to use part-time volunteers, Lois Athey, the group's executive director, said.

Northern Virginia Family Service is on the opposite end of the funding spectrum. They have an annual budget of more than \$20 million, only \$400,000 of which comes from Freddie Mac. Like BU-GATA, Northern Virginia Family Service would have to make layoffs if their Freddie Mac funding was cut off, the organization's President and CEO Mary Agee said.

But if the Freddie Mac Foundation ceases to exist, a lack of funding wouldn't be the

Non-Profits

The non-profit organizations featured in this story are always in need of donations and volunteers. The following is information on how you can help out these groups:

SCAN of Northern Virginia
1705 Fern Street, Second Floor
Alexandria, VA 22302
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info@scanva.org

Falls Church-McLean Children's Center
7230 Idylwood Road
Falls Church, VA 22043
703-534-4907
fcmlcc@aol.org

INMED Partnerships for Children
20110 Ashbrook Place, Suite 260
Ashburn, VA 20147
703-729-4951
contact@inmed.org

BU-GATA
927 South Walter Reed Drive, Suite 28
Arlington, VA 22204
703-302-5140

Northern Virginia Family Service
10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100
Oakton, VA 22124
703-385-3267
info@nvfs.org

only thing that local non-profits would lose out on.

"[Freddie Mac goes] above and beyond just the financial giving," Agee said. "Their staff is involved in working in the community to help build the systems that will improve people's lives. They are in the community rolling up their sleeves side by side with all of us to resolve community issues. We need that. We need their perspectives. It sets them apart from a lot of other foundations."

Warner, Gilmore Debate in Fairfax

Senate candidates criticize each other's gubernatorial records.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Former governors Jim Gilmore (R) and Mark Warner (D) portrayed their contest for the U.S. Senate as a choice between honesty and effectiveness at a Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce debate Sept. 18.

The two candidates are vying to replace 30-year incumbent Sen. John Warner (R), who announced his retirement in late 2007. John Warner and Mark Warner are not related. Voters will choose a new senator in the general election Nov. 4.

MARK WARNER emphasized his record of "getting results" as governor during the debate at the Capital One complex in McLean.

He stressed the importance of a bipartisan approach and said he had received the support of several Republicans — like former delegate and state house budget committee chair Vince Callahan (R-35) — in his bid for the U.S. Senate.

"The same old partisan politics won't get it done."

— Gov. Mark Warner, Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate

"The same old partisan politics won't get it done," said Warner. When the Democrat entered Commonwealth's highest executive office in 2002, Warner said he "inherited the largest budget shortfall in Virginia's history" from Gilmore, who had immediately proceeded Warner as governor.

In order to get the Commonwealth back on the right financial track, Warner said he to "reach across the aisle" to Republicans, who were in

control of the state legislature. During Warner's time in office, Virginia was named the "best managed state in the country," he said.

When deciding, voters should ask themselves, "Who left the state in a better spot at the end of their term?" said Warner.

GILMORE denied Warner's characterization of the Virginia's financial health at the end of Gilmore's term. He said he had not left the state with a budget deficit, though he never offered a detailed explanation of why Warner was wrong during the debate.

Instead, Gilmore stressed that he had "kept his word" as an elected official. The Republican promised to cut taxes as governor and ended up lowering them by \$1.5 billion across the state. Warner, by contrast, ended up raising taxes on Virginia residents, even though the Democrat had said he would not do so, according to Gilmore.

"It isn't just a matter of getting things done. It is what you get done," said the Republican.

Gilmore also poked fun at Warner's overtures to bipartisan governance several times during the debate.

"Bipartisanship, Mark, is no substitute for honesty," he said during his opening remarks.

DURING THE DEBATE, Gilmore looked to tie Warner to Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama, especially on the issue of taxes. If Warner and Obama were elected, a tax increase would come barreling toward Virginians "like a freight train," said Gilmore.

"I gave tax relief and I gave my word," as governor, said Gilmore, who reduced the

car tax while he was the head of Virginia.

Warner countered that Obama has only proposed raising taxes on the wealthiest Americans and said Warner would not support tax increases on small businesses.

Without putting an end to President George W. Bush's tax cuts for wealthy Americans, the federal deficit of \$500 trillion would rise and result in an "indirect tax increase" on the middle class because the dollar would worth less, said Warner.

Obama has defined "wealthy Americans" as those households making over \$250,000 per year, filing jointly.

But Warner said he would want the income bar for tax increases raised to a higher figure. "\$250,000 may be a bit low. There are lots of dual-earning households in Northern Virginia who earn that much," said Warner.

BOTH CANDIDATES, themselves, are worth well over \$250,000.

Warner helped co-found the cellular telephone company Nextel. Gilmore has worked or been on the board of major airlines and pharmaceutical companies. He

currently heads USA Secure, a not-for-profit homeland security think tank.

During the debate, Richmond Times-Dispatch columnist Jeff Schapiro identified Gilmore and Warner as millionaires and asked how the financial crisis — particularly the Wall Street "melt-down" — had affected the candidates personally.

Warner described himself as a "fiscal conservative" with a conservative financial portfolio and said he was "down about 10 to 15 percent."

Gilmore said he did not know how the current downturn in the market had affected him because he "hadn't looked at or studied" his portfolio.

"Bipartisanship, Mark, is no substitute for honesty."

— Gov. Jim Gilmore, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate



Former Virginia Governors Mark Warner and Jim Gilmore participate in a debate sponsored by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce at the Capital One Complex in McLean on Sept. 18. The former governors are running against each other for the U.S. Senate.

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Favola Surges Ahead In Fundraising

Small donors giving less than \$100 provided most of the funds.

County Board Member Barbara Favola (D), a longtime incumbent seeking reelection this year, has amassed a huge lead in fundraising over her opponent, according to campaign finance documents released last week.

Favola, who was first elected to the County Board in 1997, has raised \$112,289

this election cycle. Favola raised \$5,091 in July and August. Much of those funds have come from small donors who have given less than \$100.

Her opponent, Green Party nominee John Reeder, has raised \$4,342 this election cycle. Part of those funds came from a \$1,000 loan he gave his campaign. "I'm putting my money where my mouth is," Reeder said. "I'm willing to spend money for a good purpose."

Reeder said that he has mainly focused on soliciting donations from his personal contacts and from those who attend his

church, Our Lady Queen Of Peace in the Nauck Neighborhood.

From the beginning of 2008 through Aug. 31, the date through which the campaign finance documents track donations, Favola has raised \$11,230 from 177 small donations of \$100 or less. "I think it's really important to show the depth and the width of a candidate's support," Favola said. "I guess we have a lot of support because a lot of people are raising checks."

The rest has come from larger donors and in-kind donations. Former County Board Member Paul Ferguson (D) has contributed

\$300 to Favola's campaign and current Commissioner of Revenue Ingrid Morroy (D) contributed \$175.

Reeder, a former economist with the federal government, has raised \$1,595 from 29 small donors. "It's going pretty good," he said. "We don't have the fundraising apparatus that the Democrats have but I think we'll raise more money than [former Green Party candidate] Josh [Ruebner] in his last campaign." (Reeder has already surpassed Ruebner's total of \$3,666 from his 2007 County Board race.)

SEE FUNDRAISING, PAGE 7

SCHOOLS

Search For New Superintendent Begins

Robert Smith to leave in 2009.

BY DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

At a meeting at Wakefield High School last week, people were congratulating Arlington Superintendent Robert Smith on his years of service to Arlington Public Schools.

Smith, who has been the chief executive of Arlington's school system since 1997, announced earlier this month that he would be retiring at the end of this school year to move into higher education. "I'm finally growing up!" he quipped about his future plans.

But as Smith was receiving plaudits for his tenure in Arlington, the School Board had already set in place a plan for choosing his suc-

cessor. Over the next seven months, the Board will conduct a nationwide search for the next leader of Arlington Public Schools

EVEN THOUGH it's been less than a month since Smith announced he would be stepping down, School Board Members Libby Garvey and Sally Baird have already taken the reins of the superintendent search process.

Their first step will be to hire a private search firm to assist the Board in finding candidates, Garvey said. According to Garvey, the Board will be putting out a request for proposals to search firms in a matter of weeks. "That has to be out for a certain amount of time," Garvey said. "Then they give us proposals and we pick the firm."

Garvey said she hopes that the firm can be hired and in place before November when the School Board is scheduled to take up controversial elementary school boundary issues.

After the firm is hired, a committee made up of parents, Schools staffers and community representatives will be set up that will be responsible for interviewing superintendent candidates and will report back to the School Board with its recommendations, Schools spokesperson Frank Bellavia said.

The School Board hopes to have hired a

candidate by early spring to give the new superintendent enough time to transition into the job before Smith departs in June after graduation.

Both Baird and Garvey said that candidates from across the country would be considered. But they also said that hiring from within Arlington Public Schools is not out of the question. "The candidate could also be found internally," Baird said. "We are absolutely open to that."

One of the internal candidates who may apply to be the next superintendent is Mark Johnston, the current Assistant Superintendent for Instruction. Johnston is a former science teacher in Prince William and Fairfax Counties who has been an assistant superintendent in Arlington since 2004. When asked if he would like to be Smith's successor, Johnston seemed open to the idea.

"That's something I'll have to think about," he said. "I certainly enjoy working for the system. I think it's an excellent system. It would be a very appealing superintendency to have."

BAIRD AND GARVEY both said that they had not yet begun to think about specific superintendent candidates yet. "Our priority now is on identifying the search firm," Baird said.

But Baird also said that she does not want to choose someone who will drastically change the way Arlington Public Schools operates. "I don't think anybody's looking to shake anything up," she said. "Dr. Smith in the last 12 years has moved the system from being a very good system to being such a great system ... We want to keep that."

Garvey said that, since Smith announced he'd be stepping down, she's received some emails requesting that the School Board select someone along the lines of reform-minded Washington D.C. Schools Chancellor Michelle Rhee. But said she doesn't think that's what Arlington needs in a new superintendent.

"We want someone who is going to

"You don't need a Michelle Rhee ... Nothing against her, but this is an excellent system."
— Marjorie Shapiro, Wakefield parent

SEE SEARCH, PAGE 16

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Churches-Nazarene

Arlington First Church of the Nazarene... 703-525-2516

Church-Brethren

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Churches-Baptist-Free Will

Bloss Memorial Free Will Baptist Church...703-527-7040

Churches-Presbyterian

Arlington Presbyterian Church...703-920-5660
Church of Covenant ... 703-524-4115
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Westminster Presbyterian ... 703-549-4766

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703-892-2565

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Calvary United Methodist...703-892-5185
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Trinity United Methodist...703-356-3312
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OPINION

Are You Prepared to Vote on Nov. 4?

By OLGA HERNANDEZ
PRESIDENT, LWV OF VIRGINIA

The question is not about whom you'll vote for in the Presidential election, but are you ready to do so. This year in Virginia the interest in the general election is great, almost 300,000 new voters are on the rolls and the sheer numbers can overwhelm the process.

In Fairfax County you'll have the choice to vote a paper ballot that can be scanned or vote using the computerized Direct Recording Equipment that have been used for several years. Did you know that a parks bond issue is also on the ballot? We also have a U.S. Senate race to fill an open seat and Congressional races.

Go to the League of Women Voters Web site www.vote411.org for more nonpartisan information on what is on your ballot.

FIRST ORDER of business is to make sure you are registered to vote. Check your status at www.vote411.org. If you are registered but have a change of information such as a name, address, you have until Oct. 6 to update your records. You may have submitted your info at DMV or a voter registration drive but you should check that the paperwork went through the system.

The Office of Election tells us that about 10 percent of registration forms are incomplete and thus rejected. They do send a letter to advise of the rejection but it's up to the voter to follow-up. You should receive a registration card but as the date gets closer that card may not arrive in time to correct errors. Don't wait, do it now.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cemetery Expansion Threatens Historical Sites

The recent article by David Schultz on disappearing burial spaces in Arlington Cemetery and on who may be buried in the cemetery ("Running Out Of Room," Aug. 20) was certainly timely, informative and well written. It was sadly deficient in one significant respect, however.

The writer fails to mention the very contentious and at times bitter confrontation between local historical preservationists, including war veterans, and the Cemetery's Superintendent who in devious and quiet methods tried to obtain the pristine, virgin woodlands identified as Cemetery Section 29 next to Fort Myer in a deep ravine behind the Custis-Lee Mansion for additional burial grounds.

The Superintendent had friendly contacts on Capitol Hill quietly slip into the annual defense authorization act a provision transferring to the Army, which runs the cemetery, a provision transferring the

woodlands (managed by the National Park Service) along with some other crucial land in Fort Myer to the Army so that it could be used to expand the Cemetery. Ironically, the land in question had been transferred from the Army to the Park Service some decades earlier when Cemetery officials had started cutting huge, centuries-old trees to clear the land. Preservationists from the [Arlington Historical] Society intervened and got the woodlands transferred to the Park Service. The small cleared areas are extant and can be seen near the intersection of Sherman Drive and Ord and Weitzel Drives.

Members of the Arlington Historical Society again in the 1990s vigorously protested transferring the land to the Army for graves and for two Congressional sessions succeeded in having the insertion removed from the bill. On the third time around a meeting of all con-

cerned was held at the cemetery with Northern Virginia Representative Jim Moran (D) and staff members from [Republican] Virginia Senator [John] Warner's office in attendance.

After intense and at times heated discussion, it was decided by the group that half of the 24 acres of woodlands closest to the mansion would be retained by the Park Service and the rest transferred as desired by the Superintendent. Historical Society members unhappily swallowed hard but did not overtly object, feeling that half a loaf was better than no loaf at all. The provision in the bill also authorized the transfer of land outside the Cemetery in Arlington County at the Navy Annex on Columbia Pike to the Army for Cemetery Expansion.

Society members had vigorously objected to the transfer of the woodlands on the grounds that the estate should be retained un-

away because they showed up in the wrong place at 6:55 p.m. and they have no time to get to the correct precinct.

Fourth, bring a picture ID. Even though you can legally sign an affirmation of identity, in some circumstances that is not possible. Know your rights and don't be intimidated, but bringing your ID will expedite the process and move the lines.

Fifth, bring your patience. Election officers are there to help you, please don't abuse them. They will work for 15 plus hours on Election Day to make democracy work with less than minimum wage compensation. They get set compensation no matter the hours or workload. Be courteous, be prepared and we can all get this done.

IF EVERYONE is prepared the day should flow smoothly. Thousands of people have worked hard for a number of years to make it all look simple but it's a very complex system and voters can help by being prepared and knowing their rights. Provisional ballots are available if problems can't be resolved on Election Day but some of those don't get counted for various reasons. It's best to do it right the first time. Bring a friend and or family member to vote with you.

An excellent study of the election process and laws in Virginia can be found on the Fairfax League website at <http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/Sept08VoterFinal%28rev%29.pdf>

Voter 101 and Beyond

The League of Women Voters provides non-partisan election information for the public. We are a volunteer membership organization concerned with good government policy.

The League Voters Guide will appear in this newspaper a couple of weeks before the election, it will also be posted on the League Web site.

We are offering Voter 101 classes for new and not so new voters in October at the following dates and times:

Oct. 5, Voter 101 Class: Fairfax Regional Library, 2 p.m.
Oct. 8, Voter 101 Class: Chantilly Reg. Library, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 12, Voter 101 Class: Sherwood Reg. Library 2 p.m.
Oct. 15, Voter 101 Class: Reston Reg. Library, 7:30 p.m.

The Fairfax County registrar's phone number is 703-222-0776. Arlington registrar is 703-228-3456. Fairfax City registrar is 703-385-7890. Loudoun registrar is 703-777-0380. Alexandria registrar is 703-838-4050.

SECOND, consider voting absentee if you qualify for any of the reasons allowed. All absentee ballots are counted the evening of Election Day. Absentee in person voting opened Sept. 19 at the Fairfax Government center. The lines on Nov.

4 are going to be long. Weather in November can range from freezing to rain to beautiful. Polls open at 6 a.m. and close at 7 p.m., no exceptions. (If you are in line before the polls close, you will still be able to vote.)

Third, make sure you know where your polling place is. Sounds simple but people show up to the wrong precinct all the time. It is heart-breaking for election officers to turn someone

Register, Verify

IN ARLINGTON:

General Registrar
2100 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 320
Arlington VA 22201
703-228-3456
League of Women Voters, Arlington:
<http://lwv-arlingtonva.org/>

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Arlington, Va.

Favola Ahead In Fundraising

FROM PAGE 4

Favola's largest contributor is Lucy Denny, a long-time Arlington activist who has contributed \$750 to Favola's reelection campaign thus far. Favola has also received \$200 from Nina Janopaul, the executive director of non-profit homebuilding organization the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing, or APAH.

Fundraising information about the race for two seats on the Arlington School Board was also released last week. Incumbent School Board Member Libby

Garvey raised \$27,936 in July and August, despite having all but guaranteed her reelection by winning the endorsement of the Arlington Democratic Party in May's School Board Caucus.

Garvey's running mate, former school administrator Emma Violand-Sanchez also won the endorsement of local Democrats in the May caucus. In July and August, she raised \$620 to go along with the more than \$39,000 she raised prior to July. Both candidates are running unopposed.

-DAVID SCHULTZ



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CRIME

The following reports come from the Arlington police department. For the most up-to-date crime reports, visit www.Co.Arlington.Va.Us/police and click on daily crime report.

MALICIOUS WOUNDING-ARREST, 600 block of N. Glebe Road. On Sept. 13 at 2:30 p.m., a man and woman had a disagreement in a parking garage. A group of people walking through the garage witnessed the fight. When the witnesses attempted to assist the female, the man pulled out a knife and threatened them with it. When the female victim stepped between the two parties, the suspect cut her superficially with the knife. The witnesses then detained the suspect until police arrived. Benjamin Elliott, 29, of Washington D.C., was charged with malicious wounding and attempted malicious wounding. He was held no bond.

MALICIOUS WOUNDING, 1300 block of N Danville St. On Sept. 11 at 11:30 a.m., a woman and her elderly mother got into an argument. When the mother's caretaker intervened, the daughter cut the caretaker with a pair of scissors. The caretaker was not seriously injured, and the suspect was taken in for a mental evaluation.

MALICIOUS WOUNDING, 1500 block of N. Quinn St. At 11 p.m. on Sept. 14, a subject approached a woman from behind while she was walking. He stabbed her in the left arm with an unknown object and fled the scene. The suspect is described as a white Hispanic male, 18-22 years old, medium build, about 180 pounds. He was last seen wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt, and long pants.

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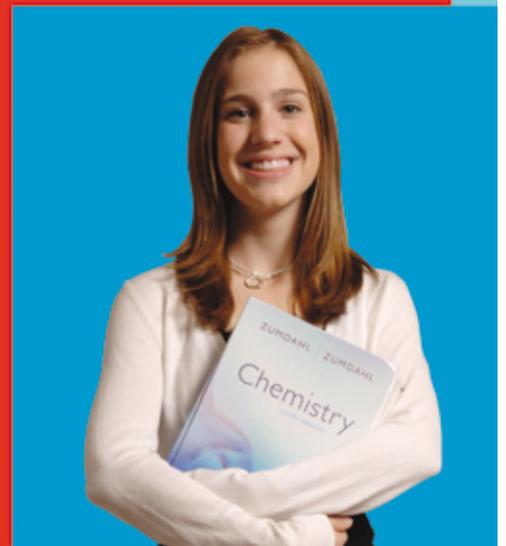
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Up With Plastic People

This revolutionary Czech rock band was instrumental in the overthrow of Communism in the late 80s.

By DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

The Plastic People of the Universe, named after a Frank Zappa song, were formed in the former Czechoslovakia in 1968 during the Soviet Union's brutal crackdown on the Prague Spring pro-democracy movement. Heavily influenced by such groups as the Velvet Underground, Pink Floyd and The Doors, the group played a psychedelic, jazz-influenced version of rock and roll that was all the rage at the time.

Only a few years after forming, the hard-line Communist government of Czechoslovakia banned The Plastic People of the Universe from performing professionally unless they changed

t h e i r confrontationally strange style. The band refused to give in and went underground for the next two decades.

In 1976, nearly 30 people were arrested at a Plastic People of the Universe concert including saxophonist Vratislav Brabenec and manager Ivan Jirous, both of

whom were sentenced to jail. In response to these arrests, a group of Czech artists and intellectuals led by playwright Vaclav Havel founded the Charter 77 movement, which later

grew into an international human rights organization.

Brabenec and Jirous were eventually released, but the Plastic People of the Universe disbanded in 1988. Brabenec had fled to Canada six years earlier after being repeatedly interrogated and beaten by the Czech secret police.

In the late 1980s, with Communism collapsing across Eastern Europe, Havel led what came to be called the Velvet Revolution. For several weeks, the Charter 77 movement led daily rallies in Prague's Wenceslas Square until, on Dec. 29, 1989, the Communist regime fell and Havel was named Czechoslovakia's first democratic President.

Since then, the Plastic People of the Universe have reunited and are now touring the United States. Brabenec spoke about why his group reunited and what the American rock bands of the 1960s meant to him.

What prompted your band to reunite? Why did you guys get back together?

The reunion of the band was in 1997. We played in the Prague Castle on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Charter 77. We were invited by our friend and the Czech President Vaclav Havel.

What was that like when you started playing shows again?

We rediscovered that it could be fun again. It was something that was very fun for us to continue what we lost in the 80s when I left Czechoslovakia. They continued but without playing concerts.

Playing shows now, does that have the same feeling as back then in

When & Where

The Plastic People of the Universe will be playing IOTA Club and Café in Clarendon on Oct. 2 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets to the show cost \$15. For more information, visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com.

the 60s and 70s?

A little bit. But I can say that some things are better than they were. Musically, a lot of things are

better than in the old times.

Have you ever played in the Washington, D.C. [area] before?

We were there two times. It was in 1999 and we were there also last year in September.

Do you remember the first time you heard the Velvet Underground? What did you think?

It was in the late 60s, '67 I think. I remember feeling about it the way I felt about all American pop culture. It wasn't just the music, it was the paintings of the group as well and the poetry. For me, that was most important.

Was it difficult to find these albums because they were banned in your country?

It was sometimes difficult. Some people would smuggle them in from the West. It was possible to go abroad [then].

Why was rock music so important to the revolutions in Czechoslovakia – the Velvet Revolution [in 1989] and the Prague Spring [in the late 60s]?

Well, I have to admit, at the time of the Prague Spring I was terrified. I didn't think they'd be able to create something like a "Socialism with a human face." It's sounds to me very funny still. Socialism with a human face is absolute nonsense. They are beasts. They don't have any human face.

I guess [the music] was a refreshing moment. Of course, don't forget about the poetry and everything together. For me, especially in the 60s, it was a very, very important moment in my life for my intellectual development and my philosophy.

You mentioned that you are friends with Vaclav Havel, the former president of your country. How did

you meet him?

I met him the first time after I signed the Charter 77. He supported us whenever possible.

Back then, did you think it was possible that he could become the president of Czechoslovakia?

No, no, no. I didn't dream like that. But it happened. Of course, he was very important in the whole Charter 77 movement. He united the small circle of artists and intellectuals with the other side, which was the Slovak underground. Thanks to Havel, the groups that were separated pulled back together.

How do you feel about the new play by Tom Stoppard, "Rock And Roll" [which is based on the Czech revolutions of the 1960s and the 1980s]?

When it played at the Prague National Theater, before the performance started, we had 20 minutes of our music. I like it. It's surprisingly still running and most of the time it's sold out. It can fill a big theater. It's a good play. I was concerned that it would be emotional because [it depicts] the events of Prague Spring. But it is set after the Prague Spring and I can say that there is some kind of humor in his play.



PHOTO COURTESY PERFECT LINES

The Plastic People of the Universe. (Vratislav Brabenec is second from right.)

"We rediscovered that it could be fun again."

— Vratislav Brabenec, Plastic People of the Universe



A recent photo of The Plastic People of the Universe.



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CALENDAR

Know of something missing from our community entertainment calendar? Send it to *The Arlington Connection*, e-mail it to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is 2 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with any questions. Photos are welcome.

ART LISTING:

See "Art at the Library" at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., through **Sept. 30**. Art by Noah Williams, George Van Dyke and Sherrill Anne Gross. Free. 703-228-5996.

See sculptures by Elissa Savos through **Sept. 29** at Lee Arts Center, 5722 Lee Highway. Free. www.arlingtonarts.org/leearts.htm for more.

The Arlington Artists Alliance "Fall Colors Art Show" will be at the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane from **Oct. 1 through Dec. 1**. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartistsalliance.com for more.

Paintings and drawings of **Teresa Oaxaca** will be on display at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theater, 1611 N. Kent St. through **Sept. 30**. Oaxaca, a 2005 graduate of H-B Woodlawn in Arlington, is a classically-trained realist painter who studied in Italy and Norway under living masters utilizing the atelier method of the Renaissance.

See "Picturing Politics" through **Sept. 27** at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Features work by Rick Reinhard and more. Free. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org or 703-248-6800.

See an exhibition of fine art books from **Oct. 2 through Oct. 29** at Lee Arts Center, 5722 Lee Highway. Free. Visit www.arlingtonarts.org/leearts.htm or 703-228-0560.

See "Uncommon Beauty" at the Ellipse Arts Center, 4350 Fairfax Drive. See photo and video based works that explore feminine beauty. Free. Visit www.arlingtonarts.org or 703-228-7710.

See the **Fall Solos 2008 from Oct. 7 through Nov. 29** at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Art by Katie Creyts, Lily Cox-Richard and more. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or 703-248-6800.

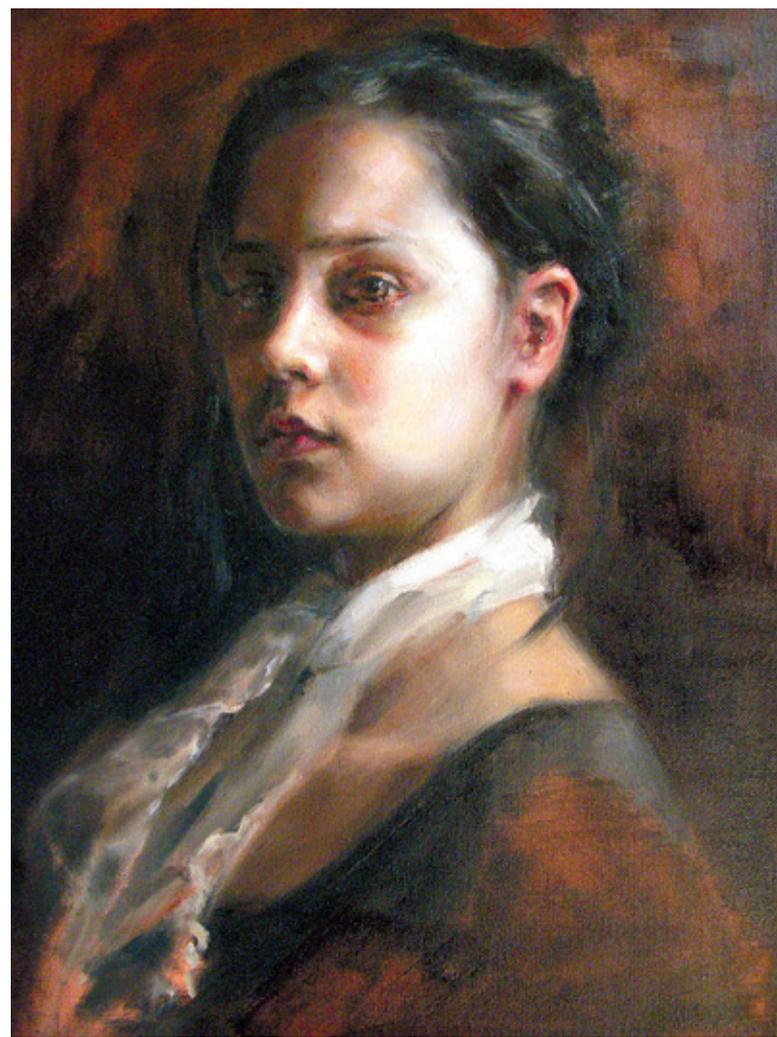
OTHER ITEMS

The **Columbia Pike Community Chorus** is welcoming new and returning singers for their Dec. 14 presentation of "Messiah." All are welcome; no auditions are required. Rehearsals are Mondays from 7-9 p.m. starting Oct. 6 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 2217 Columbia Pike. For more information, contact Barbara Stefan at 703-920-7077 or musicmin@tecarl.org.

ONGOING:

There will be a **Crystal Market** and accompanying music series which begins 11:30 a.m. at 2200 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Crystal Market, sponsored by the Crystal City BID (CCBID), will run 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 25.

The **Arlington Farmers' Market** takes place on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon year round. Located at the intersection of N. Courthouse Road and N. 14th Street. Visit www.arlingtonfarmersmarket.com for more on the market and vendors.



Artwork by Teresa Oaxaca are on display at Rosslyn Spectrum. She was a 2005 graduate of H-B Woodlawn.

The **Columbia Pike Farmers Market** is located in Pike Park, corner of S. Walter Reed Drive and Columbia Pike. Open Sundays through November from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free.

Free. 703-248-6800.

SATURDAY/ SEPT. 27

Potomac River Cleanup will be taking place from 10 a.m. to noon. If you want to participate meet at N. Glebe Road and Chain Bridge under the GW Parkway. For more information visit www.arlingtonenvironment.com

Arlington Kids Stuff Sale. 8 a.m.-noon at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Lane. Browse through clothes, toys, books and more. Visit kidsstuffsale.com for more. Free.

Dance Performance. Arlington based Jane Franklin Dance will perform "Elected" at 8 p.m. at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, 641 D. St., N.W., Washington, D.C. \$20-\$30/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111 for tickets.

Birds, Blooms and Bugs at Soldier's Delight. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at Lubber Run Center, 300 N. Park Drive. Everyone ages 16 and up can tour trails while searching for plants, animals and more. Registration required, 703-228-6535. \$20/person.

Virginia Grows on You. 8 a.m. at Courthouse Market. Features hands-on activities and more. Free. 703-228-6400.

Teen Fishing Trip. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., teens age 11-15 can fish or hunt for fossils at Purse State Park. Meet at Lubber Run Center, 300 N. Park Drive. \$15/person. Registration required, 703-228-6535.

Hispanic Heritage Story Time. 10 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. All ages can enjoy stories with Hispanic themes. Free. 703-228-5946.

Nature Close-Up. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 10-14 can learn how to take photographs of animals, plants and more. \$1/person. Registration required, 703-228-6535.

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Author Event. 3 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Kate Braestrup will discuss her memoir "Here If You Need Me." Free. 703-228-6321.

Butterfly Safari. 3:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children ages 5 and up can catch and release butterflies for observation. \$2/person. Registration required, 703-228-6535.

Spider Campfire. 5:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families can enjoy campfire activities, treats, guests and more. \$3/person. Registration required, 703-228-6535.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

Vegetable Demonstration. 2-4 p.m. at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 Marcey Road. Taste samples, learn techniques and more. Free. 703-228-6400.

Dash for Dad. 8 a.m. at AMC Hoffman Center, 206 Swamp Fox Road. Run a 10k to support ZERO's mission to end prostate cancer. Visit www.dashfordad.org to register.

Dance Performance. Arlington based Jane Franklin Dance will perform "Elected" at 8 p.m. at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, 641 D. St., N.W., Washington, D.C. \$20-\$30/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111 for tickets.

Lecture. 3 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Photographer Mario Quiroz will discuss his exhibition. On display through Oct. 31. Free. 703-228-0322 for more information.

Hispanic Heritage Story Time. Teatro de la Luna presents "Hansel and Gretel" at 3:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Free. 703-228-7713.

MONDAY/ SEPT. 29

ACE Volunteer Overview will be taking place at Arlington Central Library located at 1015 N. Quincy Street from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.. The Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment will be presenting information about getting involved in different activities including leading service projects, board committee, newsletter writing, reusable bag campaign, and green outreach. For more information visit www.arlingtonenvironment.org.

Drop-in Story Time. 4 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. All ages can listen to stories. Free. 703-228-0322.

Music Production Class. 4 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 S. 2nd St. Teens can learn about the process of making music. Free. 703-228-7783.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 1

Book Launching. 6 p.m. at Barnes and Noble Clarendon, 2800 Clarendon Blvd. Michael Sullivan will debut his novel "The Crown Conspiracy." Free. 703-248-8244.

Adult Bird Walk. 8:30-11 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Search for migratory birds. Free. 703-228-6535.

Arlington Farmer. 3 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Children ages 7-11 can learn how crops were harvested and equipment used. \$5/child. Registration required, 703-243-4342.

It Came from the Sky! 3:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Children ages 6-10 can learn about meteors. Free. Registration required, 703-228-6535.

Wild Ones: Antlers and Horns. 3:30

p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. Children ages 6-10 can learn about the headgear these animals wore. \$3/person. Registration required, 703-228-3403.

Stars of Fall. 7 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Families with children ages 7 and up can star gaze on a clear night. \$2/person. Registration required, 703-228-3403.

THURSDAY/OCT. 2

Music Production Class. 4 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 S. 2nd St. Teens can learn about the process of making music. Free. 703-228-7783.

Opening Reception. 5:30-9 p.m. at the Ellipse Arts Center, 4350 Fairfax Drive. See photo and video based works that explore feminine beauty. Free. Visit www.arlingtonarts.org or 703-228-7710.

Reader's Theater. 4 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children will put on "The Elephant's Child." Free. 703-228-7680.

Banned Book Movie Screening. 6:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Watch "The Witches." Free. Open to middle and high school students. 703-228-5946 for more information.

FRIDAY/OCT. 3

Hispanic Heritage Story Time. 10 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Listen to Hispanic-themed books, songs and fingerplays. Free. 703-228-5946.

All Aboard! Miniature Trains. 1 p.m. at Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St. Fred Gatchell will talk about miniature railroading as a hobby. Free. Registration required, 703-228-5722.

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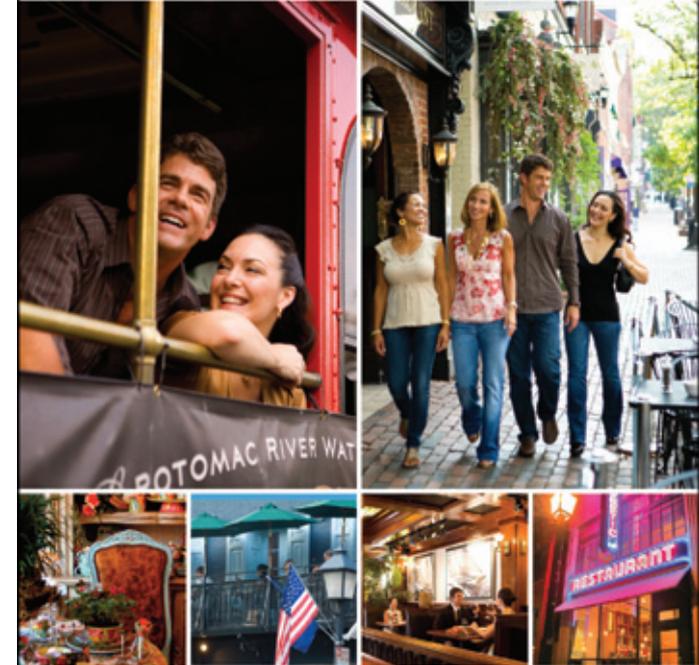
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THEATER

American Century Unearths Interesting Play

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE CONNECTION

The new show of The American Century Theater certainly demonstrates one thing beyond a shadow of a doubt ... Ira Levin sure did know how to tell a great tale.

This shouldn't come as too much of a surprise. He was, after all, the author of such engrossing yarns as "Rosemary's Baby," "The Stepford Wives" and "A Kiss Before Dying." But few have heard of the play he wrote which had a very brief run on Broadway in 1967 which is now getting a revival playing at Theatre II in the Gunston Arts Center.

"Dr. Cook's Garden" is simply a whale of a tale. The doctor in the title has been Greenfield, Vermont's only doctor for decades, and as the play begins, is being visited by a

young man who has been his protégé and is just about to enter the practice of medicine himself. Will he choose to emulate his mentor and join him in the small town of his youth or head for the big city to practice?

In Ira Levin's mind, this isn't the story, it is the set up for the story. He's not interested in the mentor/protégé relationship for its own sake, although he creates interesting if predictable characters for both parts. The old doctor is reminiscent of the nice seniors played by Robert Young or Dick Van Dyke on old television re-runs and the younger one might just as well have been played by Richard Chamberlain in his "Doctor Kildare" days.

Levin's play is really a mystery story with horror attributes which plays out as the young doctor discovers some troubling aspects of the older doctor's practice. He presents the story in a three act structure all occurring in the old doctor's office over one

Friday afternoon in 1966.

The first act lays out the background of the situation, introducing the characters and explaining their relationship. The second

introduces the troubling reality of the doctor's practice and its impact on the small town he serves. Levin takes the story into the realm of horror thriller in the third act.

If this sounds like the theatrical equivalent of a good beach book, that is because

it is exactly that. Of course, with a good escapist novel you really only need to devote half of your attention to the story while you remain aware of the sun on your skin, the wind in your hair and the cold drink to make your vacation day a pleasure. At Gunston's Theatre II you can't get a tan and you can't smell the suntan lotion but you can still follow the plot with ease and enjoy the obvious skills of the author.

Director Ellen Dempsey makes it easy by avoiding any distractions in the play. The actors all deliver their lines with clarity and the pace never gets too frantic. The final confrontation suffers a bit from this sense of restraint but, overall, it makes the evening an absorbing one.

David Schmidt and JB Bissex make their debuts with this theater as the two medical men at the center of the story. They give energetic, enthusiastic performances. Robert Lavery adds a small town Vermont feel



David Schmidt as Dr. Cook and JB Bissex as his young protege.

to the proceedings as the gardener who tends the garden visible through Trena Weiss-Null's set. Kathryn Cocroft and Carol McCaffrey keep the production from being an all-male event, but neither of their roles are really central to the story.

It is that story, and its steady revelation of ever deeper oddities and disturbing clues, that is the purpose of the play and the production stays on track to provide the pleasure a thriller promises.

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SENIOR LIVING

THURSDAY/SEPT. 25

Travel Talk. Expert travelers and photographers Sandy and Gail Cohen will present a travelogue on non-urban Australia and the Great Barrier Reef, 10:15 a.m., Walter Reed Senior Center, 2909 S. 16th St., Arlington. No fee; newcomers welcome. For more information, 703-228-0955.

Animal. Arlington County park naturalist Rachel Tolman will discuss Animals of the Antarctica, 11 a.m., Culpepper Garden Senior Center, 4435 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington. No fee; newcomers welcome. Early registration required by calling, 703-228-4403.

Games. Introductory Sudoku mental exercise class 1 p.m., Lee Senior Center, 5722 Lee Highway, Arlington. Two hour class helps improve brain function and cognitive abilities. No fee. Call to register, 703-228-0555.

Dancing. Intermediate line dancing classes for adults (55+), 11 a.m., Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 S. 2nd St., Arlington. Cost is \$3.50 per class; drop-in. For information, call 703-228-4745.

Travel Video. Travel video of Wildest Antarctica, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden Senior Center, 4435 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington. No fee; newcomers welcome. Call for details, 703-228-4403.

Health Talk. Representatives from Capital Hospice are presenting informative discussions about dementia plus an overview of hospice and palliative care, 11 a.m., Lee Senior Center, 5722 Lee Highway, Arlington. No fee; newcomers welcome. Call to register, 703-228-0955 (1-B), 703-228-0555 (Lee).

Tour and Lunch. The Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, D.C., is on the

agenda for seniors (55+). Tour plus box lunch. Cost is \$16. Call Arlington Senior Adult travel, 703-228-4749. Registration required.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 26

Trip. The Johns Hopkins University Evergreen Museum and Library, Baltimore, Md., is on the agenda for Arlington seniors (55+). Cost is \$35, includes Afternoon Tea. Call Arlington Senior Adult Travel, 703-228-4749. Registration required.

History of Africa. Local historian Les Albers will present a multi-media seminar on the land, sea and air campaigns in Africa from 1935-1945, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills Senior Center, 735 S. 18th St., Arlington. No fee. Call to register, 703-228-5722.

Walkers. The Lee Walkers, Lee Senior Center, 5722 Lee Highway, will walk in Gulf Branch Nature Center, 10 a.m. Cost is \$2; newcomers welcome. Call to register, 703-228-0555.

Art Class. Nilo Santiago, artist, designer and illustrator, will teach the basics of drawing to adults (55+), 10 a.m., Aurora Hills Senior Center, 735 S. 18th St., Arlington. No fee; newcomers welcome. Call to register, 703-228-5722.

Music Group. The music appreciation group at Culpepper Garden Senior Center, 4435 N. Pershing Drive, will meet 1 p.m., to discuss 19th century Austrian composer, Anton Bruckner. No fee; newcomers welcome. Call for details, 703-228-4403.

Fast Walkers. Aurora Hills Senior Center's fast paced walking group, The Fast Forwards, will meet 9 a.m., 735 S. 18th St., Arlington. No fee; newcomers welcome. Call for details, 703-228-5722.

Computer class. Cyberseniors/Cyberteens is a computer training

program with teens assisting adults (55+) with computer training. Learn more, 10 a.m. – noon, Lee Senior Center, 5722 Lee Highway, Arlington. Five different courses offered; cost is \$20 for each course textbook. For more information, call 703-228-6425.

MONDAY/SEPT. 29

Lecture. Claire Christian, Antarctica and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC), will discuss Antarctic environmental issues, 11 a.m., Culpepper Garden Senior Center, 4435 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington. Free. Early registration, 703-228-4403.

Culture Talk. Share experiences with native South Americans, including traditional dances, 10:30 a.m., Langston-Brown Senior Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St., Arlington. No fee; newcomers welcome. Call to register, 703-228-5321.

Language. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for adults 55+, taught by linguist Dr. Merton Bland, and Thursday, Oct. 2, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown Senior Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St., Arlington. Free. Call for more information, 703-228-5321.

Games. Scrabble games for adults 55+, 10 a.m., Aurora Hills Senior Center, 735 S. 18th St., and Friday, Oct. 3, 10:15 a.m., Walter Reed Senior Center, 2909 S. 16th St., Arlington. Free. Call for details, 703-228-5722 (AH), 703-228-0955 (WR).

Strength Training. Senior strength training classes for adults 55+, to improve muscular strength, preserve and more. Also on Wednesday, Oct. 1, Friday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m., Thomas Jefferson Community Center. Drop-in; \$56 for 16 sessions. Details, 703-228-4745.

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2420 Lincoln St	\$769,000	Sun 1-4pm	Susan Joy	Long & Foster	703-284-9215
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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

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Spending as much time as I do with my widowed mother, naturally I fall into her routine. After all, the visits are not about me, they're about her: arrive when expected — and on time, eat home when she wants, eat out when she prefers, telephone as per usual and watch programs on television she can tolerate. Most often we watch LMN, the Lifetime Movie Network, a channel available through her digital cable service from Comcast.

To say that many of the movies are bad would be an affront to all movies characterized as bad. To say the movies are time consuming would be totally accurate, however. And so my mother, house bound, sort of, but definitely still ambulatory, unable to hear but complete and competent in most every other way, especially where her faculties are concerned, patiently but predictably sits and watches channel 119 (LMN in Montgomery County), remote in hand, switching regularly, hoping to find programming to help pass the time. And when I visit, so too do I sit and watch television and together we marvel at the consistency of the quality of these movies (and I use that term loosely and of course, subjectively. For all I know, the movies shown are award-winning and focus-group approved).

And with respect to the content of these movies, there does seem to be a frequent theme. In general, I would call it heartbreak: rape, incest, infidelity, divorce, death, disease, disability, murder, kidnapping, miscellaneous abuse, etc; among many other similar heart-wrenching, life-changing and dysfunctional-type circumstances and addictions.

And given this kind of content, I find it particularly unseemly that one of the more frequent advertisers on this channel are dating services; flush with the bravado and self-satisfaction that comes with the elation and realization that one's life can be rekindled with new love, if only you'd complete the profile and pay your fee (although the fact that there's a cost associated with this service seems hardly worth mentioning, at least on the commercial).

The product placement seems odd, however. This channel regularly shows movies about how people's lives are torn apart by infidelity, divorce, physical and mental abuse, sexual addictions, etc., (a fair amount of it anyway, from my watching experience, which is rather substantial), yet during the commercial breaks, advertisements will appear directed at people looking for a date (many of whom, presumably, may be victims of the same terrible circumstances as the characters in the very movies they're watching) and/or if things work, perhaps even a mate. I can't decide if this movie-watching behavior is cathartic — and helpful — or if it's some kind of self-immolation.

It all feels manipulative, somehow, almost like entrapment. Drawing viewers in who might be able to relate and then offering solutions to the very problem/problems they're experiencing (generally presented by the end of the movie, although, having seen many ends of many of these movies, I have to tell you, the ends don't justify the beginnings). Unfortunately, these are serious problems and their solutions just aren't that simple. It requires more than two hours (the typical length of these movies) and a remote control.

Certainly I'm aware that knowing your market/audience is crucial to advertising but banking your company's/product's success on the failure — and difficulties — of others people's lives seems a bit crude. Not unusual for this channel, or these advertisers, but still inappropriate. I suppose we could change the channel, but what fun would that be?

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

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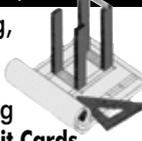
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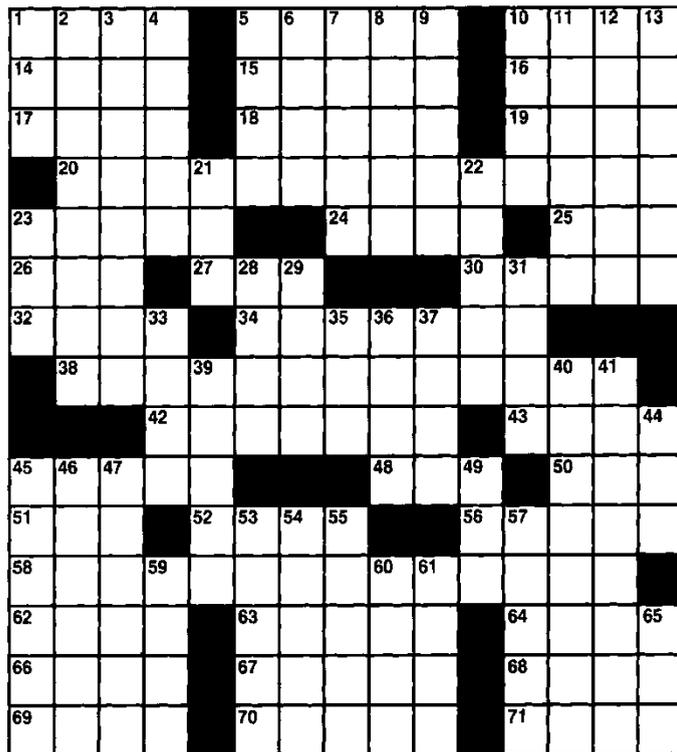
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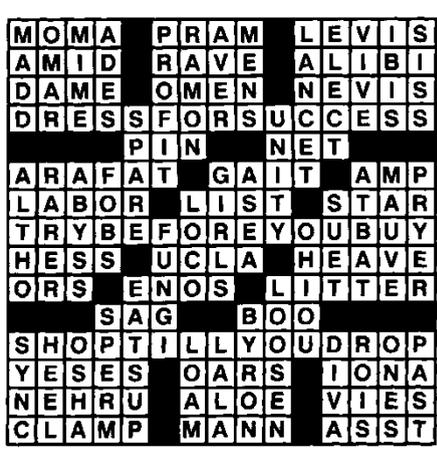


Puzzle by Randy Sowell

- ACROSS**
- 1 Armed forces females
 - 5 Like a whip?
 - 10 Play parts
 - 14 Fiery gem
 - 15 Synagogue scroll
 - 16 Combustible pile
 - 17 — Sabe
 - 18 Actress Verdugo
 - 19 Israeli statesman
 - 20 Gizmos for couch potatoes
 - 23 Ace, e.g.
 - 24 "You Are My Destiny" singer, 1958
 - 25 Classic car
 - 26 The "A" in NATO: Abbr.
 - 27 Poem of praise
 - 30 Feline hybrid
 - 32 Constitutional Amendment that abolished slavery
 - 34 Just barely places
 - 38 1949 Bing Crosby hit
 - 42 Puget Sound city
 - 43 Quotation notation
 - 45 "Grand" piece of furniture
 - 48 Dancer Charisse
 - 50 "The — Divorcee"
 - 51 Mag. staffers
 - 52 Infamous Rudolf
 - 56 Hardly award-winning writing
 - 58 Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, e.g.
 - 62 Together, musically
 - 63 Jetés, e.g.
 - 64 Family problem
 - 66 Stew bean
 - 67 "L.A. Law" lawyer
 - 68 Mother of twins, in myth
 - 69 Watch part
 - 70 Bury
 - 71 Once, once
 - 5 Undo a dele
 - 6 Lawn pest
 - 7 Betel palm
 - 8 Didn't stop
 - 9 Do an Oscar winner's job
 - 10 Mimic
 - 11 Six Million Dollar Man, e.g.
 - 12 Town in County Kerry
 - 13 Electric eye, e.g.
 - 21 Oklahoma Indian
 - 22 Shire who had a "Rocky" career
 - 23 Bellum's opposite
 - 28 Moist in the morning
 - 29 Dutch cheese
 - 31 Cuzco-centered empire
 - 33 It smooths things over
 - 35 Cheat
 - 36 DeMille-type film
 - 37 Do in, as a dragon
 - 39 Warm welcome
 - 40 Casey Jones, e.g.
 - 41 Tiny bubbles
 - 44 Old-time humorist Bill
 - 45 45-Across features
 - 46 "Yippee!"
 - 47 Take for granted
 - 49 Sot's problem
 - 53 Zhou —
 - 54 Back of a boat
 - 55 Meager
 - 57 Ransack and rob
 - 59 "Go, —!"
 - 60 60's role for Ron Howard
 - 61 Person with a PC
 - 65 Lat. case

- DOWN**
- 1 Stir-fry pan
 - 2 Preprandial potable
 - 3 Evergreen with roselike flowers
 - 4 Kind of replay

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



SCHOOL Search Begins

FROM PAGE 5
build on the progress we've made so far," she said. "The system is great. You don't want to stop it. You want someone who's going to keep the forward motion."
Garvey also said that she would like to hire someone who, like Smith did, could stay in the position for a decade or more. "That's part of the reason the school system works," she said. "If you keep upsetting the apple cart every few years, of course you won't get anywhere. Look at poor D.C."

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS faces a number of pressing issues that the new superintendent will grapple with.
Elementary schools in North Arlington are becoming increasingly crowded but many Arlington parents have been resistant to the changing of school boundaries. A lingering gap between the achievement levels of white and minority students is another issue that shows no signs of being eliminated.
But perhaps the most difficult issue the new superintendent will have to deal with is the maintenance of Arlington's school facilities in an increasingly bleak budgetary climate.
The school system is currently in the process of rebuilding some of its largest schools, such as Yorktown and Wakefield High Schools, and several others buildings, such as Thomas Jefferson Middle School and the Career Center, are on the horizon to be rebuilt.

But as the economy continues to worsen and the County nears the limits on its ability to issue bonds, the pace of construction of new school buildings will almost certainly have to slow. The new superintendent will have to manage community expectations about what buildings should be prioritized and which should not.
Randolph Elementary School parent Rebecca Krafft said that managing these expectations will be crucial for a new superintendent. Krafft was involved in a recent School Board campaign and she said the campaign was fraught with bitterness, especially from South Arlington parents who believe that the School Board has been slow moving on the rebuilding of Wakefield.
Krafft wants the new superintendent to be "somebody that will mend fences. As somebody from South Arlington, I am very sorry that the Wakefield contingent is still in attack mode."

As a Wakefield parent herself, Marjorie Shapiro is concerned about the progress of the rebuilding of her child's school. But she said that hiring a new superintendent who will radically change things would be a mistake.
"You don't need a Michelle Rhee," Shapiro said. "Nothing against her, but this is an excellent system ... We don't need someone who's going to come in and change things. We need someone who will improve it and deal with the issues that we do have."

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A Dazzling Debut

Fuller's late touchdown propels Washington-Lee to best start in five years.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE CONNECTION

With the score tied at 14 and just 20 seconds remaining in Washington-Lee's football game against McLean last Friday night, Generals coach drew up two plays for quarterback Charlie Fuller, who was playing his first career game under center.

One play called for a quarterback draw, the other, a run featuring tailback Keith Johnson. But Shapiro decided the quarterback draw was too risky, and decided to run Johnson up the middle. That is, until his new signal caller showed the moxie and confidence unbecoming of someone who just three hours earlier had never even thrown a pass outside of pick up games with friends.

"I told the coach, I was like 'Spread the defense out because they are gonna guard every receiver and it's going to leave it open for me down the middle,' Fuller said of his game-winning 10-yard touchdown run that gave Washington-Lee a 21-14 victory over McLean. "So I saw the middle, saw a lot of green, and took it in."



Washington-Lee senior quarterback Charlie Fuller on a run in the first half of the Generals 21-14 win over McLean last Friday night. It was Fuller's first game behind center.

The win evened Washington-Lee's record at 2-2, the team's best start since 2003.

Up until Friday's game against the Highlanders, Fuller had played almost exclusively at running back on offense this season, but Shapiro decided early last week to unleash his most athletic player from behind center to kick start the Generals.

The move paid off in a big way as Fuller

displayed his usual fleetness on the ground, carrying the ball 24 times for 144 yards and two touchdowns, while also showing off better than advertised accuracy from the pocket. Fuller completed eight of his 16 passes for 112 yards and a touchdown. The scoring throw, a 30-yard strike to Will Horsely, was particularly impressive and gave the Generals a 14-7 lead in the third

He can throw it. He is a great athlete and very versatile."

—Washington-Lee coach Josh Shapiro

quarter.

"I think a lot of people were like well, we'll crowd the box," Shapiro said afterwards. "Well, go ahead because he can throw it. He is a great athlete and very versatile. On a high school level, to compare him to someone, he reminds a lot of an elusive Donovan McNabb. He's fun to watch. He makes plays."

Fuller also chipped in on defense, intercepting a pass as a safety on McLean's first possession of the game. But he admitted the pick on defense did nothing to sway the pregame jitters he had about throwing too many interceptions of his own.

"I was nervous," Fuller said. "Not all week, just tonight coming into the game. ... The team needed me so I did what the team needed."

Taking the place of Fuller at running back was senior Keith Johnson, who finished the game with 61 yards rushing. Leading McLean was junior Riley Beiro, who rushed for 137 yards and had an 85-yard punt return for a touchdown.

But nobody could outshine Fuller on this night. All season, Shapiro had a package involving his star player at quarterback, and had yet to use it in the regular season. But with his team reeling after two straight losses, the coach tried something new.

One victory later, it looks like the experiment will become a fixture in weeks to come.

"We don't have any plans for anyone else (at quarterback)," Shapiro said. "That's his spot. Teams are going to have to game plan because he's tough, he's versatile."

Bush Serves And Spikes The Competition

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE CONNECTION

To any volleyball fan, it's easy to tell junior Elyse Bush, Yorktown volleyball's star player, apart from others during a given match. But the true indicator of just how talented Bush is on the court comes when a casual observer checks out the action.

Because even for the untrained eye, it's easy to see Bush is heads and shoulders above most of the northern region when it comes to volleyball.

"You'll notice very quickly who she is," Yorktown coach Brittanie Stowell said. "It's definitive and even everyone we play regionally, everyone says, 'Oh gosh, she looks so good. She's playing awesome, she's playing consistent.'"

Bush has been on the Yorktown varsity volleyball team since she was a freshman, and according to Stowell, has been the best player on the team every year she has played. Last season, Bush was named second team all-Northern Region, the only player from the National District to garner such an honor.

Now as a junior, her play over the years has given her another distinction: as a star with a giant target on her back.

Last week when the Patriots faced off against Oakton in a non-district match, Bush was ill to the point that she couldn't play. When the Oakton coach found out, she lamented to Stowell.

"The coach told me they spent all of practice working on when (Elyse) was attacking the ball and what (they) were going to do on defense and how we were going to keep the ball away from her," Stowell said. "She's been here so long, getting recognized in the region and stuff, so everyone knows. The other teams we play, they are aware of her. It definitely shows."

Bush began playing volleyball in the seventh grade, when her mother started the Arlington Volleyball Club. Now, Bush plays for one of the area's top club teams based out of American University, where she trains year-round. And just this year, Bush added a jump serve to her game, which already featured a unique ability to both spike and dig balls. Through eight games this season, Bush has 119 kills,

63 digs, and 31 aces.

"A jump serve made me more of an all-around player," she says.

That's a scary thought for the rest of the northern region. Bush is the key cog in Yorktown's run for a third National District title in four years, a task that looks closer to reality after the Patriots dominated the Stuart Raiders in three straight sets by scores of 25-18, 25-18, and 25-15 Monday night.

"The whole night we were in control and we haven't seen that yet this year," Stowell said. "But maybe it's just falling together ... You could see we were starting to get there."

It helps having a selfless superstar like Bush, who was named captain. Despite having nobody close in terms of talent on the roster, Bush has never held it over the team, her teammates said. Instead, her play quietly helps cover up any mistakes others may make.

"At first, I was really intimidated that I was going to mess up," said junior Libby Kane, who added that Bush eased those fears right away. "What I realized is that she'll hit it even if I give her a bad set."



Yorktown junior Elyse Bush jump serves during the Patriots match against Stuart Monday night.

Blowing Their Horns

A local Jewish organization gets young children excited about Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

By DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur are not the most kid-friendly of the Jewish holidays. The two holidays, which take place this year on Sept. 29 and 30 and Oct. 8, respectively, are known as the High Holy Days and are considered two of the most solemn and reflective days in the Jewish religion. They are typically observed with daylong prayer sessions that require

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— Rabbi Mordechai Newman, Chabad Lubavitch of Arlington-Alexandria

focus and introspection, two tasks not particularly well suited for a fidgety five year old.

“It’s not known as such a kid-friendly holiday,” Rabbi Mordechai Newman of the Arlington-Alexandria Chabad Lubavitch Center admitted.

But Newman has found a way to make these two somber celebrations appealing to young children. This weekend, he gathered a group of pre-adolescents and their parents to his Alexandria office to show the children

how to make a shofar, the hollowed out ram’s horn that is blown on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

“It’s important to instill in them the importance of the holiday and also to get them excited about the holiday,” Newman said. “When they know the background and know how it’s done they get excited about it. It’s not just that they come to [synagogue] and they hear the Torah portion. They know how it’s made, the meaning behind the shofar.”

FOR CENTURIES, Jews have been using the shofar to celebrate Rosh Hashana, the holiday marking the Jewish New Year, and Yom Kippur, a day of atonement for one’s sins.

The shofar is typically made out of a hollowed-out ram’s horn but any other kosher animal with a curved, hollow horn can be used. (Bovine animals are forbidden, however, because they are associated with the golden calf from Mount Sinai, Newman said.)

The musical instruments made from these horns are used to make sharp, piercing bleats that usher in the new year and call the attention of Jews everywhere to the need for atonement. The shofar also symbolizes a crying out to God to ask for forgiveness, Newman told the dozen or so children who attended the shofar-making workshop.

“The sound of the shofar for the Jews is really a primal sound,” said Chabad member Joshua Pickell of Alexandria. “[It] really cuts through to my soul.”

Making a shofar can take hours, Newman said. After removing the horn from the animal, it must soak in hot water and chlorine to soften the cartilage, which is then removed. The horn must then be cut, drilled, sanded and finished before it can become a real shofar.

Newman took care of the soaking, cutting and drilling ahead of time as potentially dangerous power tools were involved

in these tasks. But the sanding and the finishing were left to the children, who took great joy in working on their very own shofars which they got to take home with them at the end of the class.

“IT GIVES HIM a chance to experience it first hand,” Lilly Grossman of Springfield said of her five-year-old son Zachary. “It means a lot to him to, instead of just watching, see how things work.”

Many of the parents who brought their children to the shofar-making workshop said that they appreciated how the Rabbi made the event simultaneously fun and educational. “It helps the kids understand,” Mindy Bronipolsky of Clifton said. “It makes it more alive and real.”

Bronipolsky’s four and a half-year-old daughter, Maya, will bring her new shofar with her to the upcoming High Holy Days services, Bronipolsky said, and this will allow her to engage in the two Jewish holidays that can be somewhat intimidating for young children.

Newman leads the High Holy Day services for the Arlington-Alexandria chapter of Chabad and he said that getting children involved is one of his top priorities. “We sometimes ask the kids who have shofars to come and blow the shofars,” he said. “When the kids are excited the parents are excited too.”

At the workshop, one parent told Newman that her son was so excited to make his own shofar that he had been watching shofar-blowing videos on YouTube for weeks. “Good!” Newman said. “Now he’ll have his own.”



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

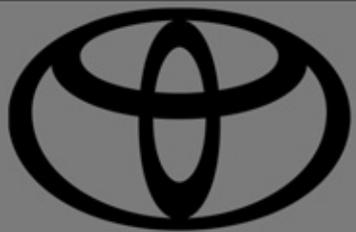
Rabbi Newman details the history and the making of the Shofar.



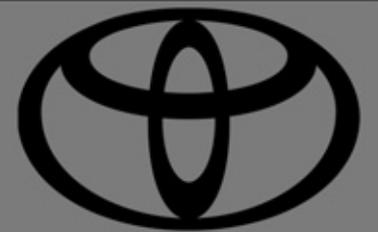
Stuart Licht helps Rabbi Newman with the trimming of a horn.



Reeva Licht take a deep breathe and blows her Shofar for the first time.



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