

The Arlington Connection

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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

The anglers took positions near the Wilson Blvd Bridge over Four Mile Run where many trout had been seen.

Fishing for Trout In Four Mile Run

Saturday morning, Bluemont Park at Four Mile Run was crawling with anglers. It was the first of a few stockings of the run with trout from a hatchery.

The fish had been let loose farther up the stream and were still a bit shocked as the sun rose. The trout could be seen just below the waters surface but not many seemed to be interested in bait or biting. Roger

Gregory sat above the creek bed while his son Cooper and his friends explored the creek and tried casting. The Gregorys and the Grinders left after a few hours with plans to return later in the day and try again. Between them all, one fish was caught.

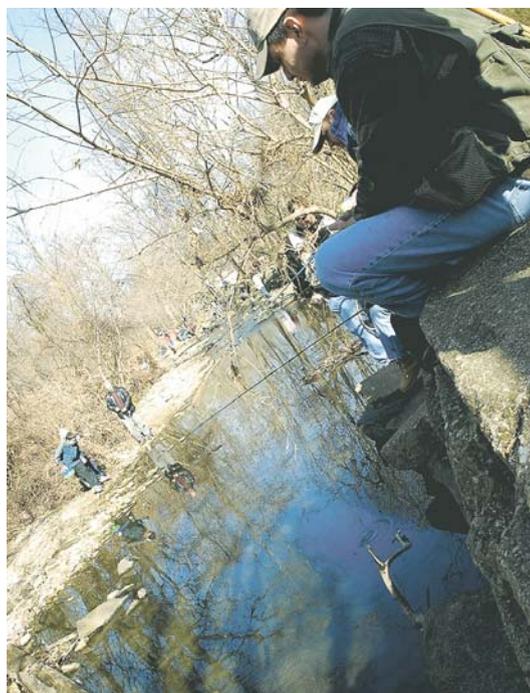
Volunteers from the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited were standing by to supply bait and help with rigging the fishing poles.



Kiki Galvin, vice president of the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited, rigs a small fishing pole for a first-time angler.



Max and Jack Sasaki may have been the best anglers of the morning. Together with their cousin Matthew Scherger they caught a dozen trout.



Roger Gregory sits on the bank waiting for a fish to bite.

Community Center Delayed

Project delay leaves void in neighborhood.

CUTS HIT HOME

This is the third in a series of three articles on how Arlingtonians are being affected by proposed cuts to the county budget.

BY DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

After years of renting apartments, Brandon Nugent and his partner bought a condo this December along Columbia Pike. Nugent said they researched the area heavily to find a place that met their requirements.

One of the things that swayed their decision was a project to build a new Arlington Mill Community Center, which would bring stores, restaurants and other amenities to the western end of the Pike, an area that was slow to benefit from the economic boom of the early 2000s. "It was a factor in our purchase," Nugent said.

So it was a "real let down" when Nugent heard a few weeks ago that the Arlington Mill project was

being suspended indefinitely due to budgetary constraints. "We all know what suspended means," he said. "I feel a bit betrayed."

THE NEW Arlington Mill Community Center was to be a landmark on the rapidly developing Columbia Pike corridor.

It would have featured a 15,000-square-foot public plaza and a 3,000-square-foot gymnasium. It would have also featured retail and office space along with 192 residential units, almost half of which would be designated for low-income renters.

Arlington County engaged in a partnership with the private development firm Clark Ventures to bring this mixed-use project to fruition. But after the collapse of the global credit market last year,

SEE ARLINGTON, PAGE 4

Two Decades of Reading

Local literacy group celebrates 20th anniversary.

BY DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

Twenty years ago, The Reading Connection was founded in the basement of Beth Reese, a local teacher who wanted to expose at-risk youth to the joys of reading.

In the beginning, Reese's mother served as bookkeeper and her mother-in-law made tote bags to give to the organization's donors.

Reese was spurred on by the then-emerging problem of homelessness. "It was shocking," she recalled. "We were amazed that it could happen to anybody. ... We know that children fall through the cracks."

The small, all-volunteer group would read to children at homeless shelters across Northern Virginia, keeping their costs down and their focus narrowed. "It was our goal to fall in love with books,"



PHOTO BY DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

Beth Reese founded the Reading Connection from her basement 20 years ago.

Reese said.

Then, in the early 1990s, The Reading Connection received a grant from Elizabeth Campbell, the late School Board member and founder of WETA-TV. "That was such a validation," Reese said.

Now, Reese's tiny organization

SEE TWO DECADES, PAGE 4

Two Decades Of Reading

FROM PAGE 3

has four paid staffers and hundreds of volunteers. Earlier this month, The Reading Connection celebrated its 20th anniversary. "It will never get old," Reese said of her lifelong love of reading. "It's as fresh as the day you get into it."

THE READING Connection has three programs that serve the Washington D.C. region: its original Read Aloud program, its book club for formerly homeless families and its parent workshops that teach parents how to read aloud to their children.

Courtney Kissell, The Reading Connection's current executive director, said that many homeless children

"It was our goal to fall in love with books."

— Beth Reese

move from school to school and never gain a foothold long enough to develop their reading skills. "The average reading level for at-risk youth is below grade level," she said. "A lot of times we are their only literary support."

Janice Morris is one of The Reading Connection's many volunteers. She joined the group after she adopted her daughter nine years ago.

SEE READING, PAGE 7



PHOTO COURTESY ARLINGTON COUNTY

An artist's rendering of the future Macedonia Apartments.

Apartment Funding Approved

The Arlington County Board approved an additional \$2.9 million loan last week for the construction of the Macedonia Apartments, an affordable housing complex to be built on land owned by Macedonia Baptist Church.

This brings the level of public funding for this project to nearly \$6 million, more than 40 percent of its total cost. "The board's decision to increase funding to make this project happen underscores Arlington's commitment ... to supporting the development of affordable housing, even in these tough economic times," County Board Chairman Barbara Favola (D) said in a statement.

The Macedonia Apartments will have 36 rental units, all of which will have below-market-rate rents. Eight of those apartments were to have been designated for households earning less than half of the Wash-

ington area's median income. But last week, the County Board agreed to allow the developers to reduce that number to six apartments. According to a county statement, this change was needed to maintain the project's financial viability.

The Macedonia Apartments will be located on Shirlington Road in the predominantly African-American Nauck neighborhood. The apartment complex will feature a community organizing center, a small business incubator and underground parking.

At a meeting of the interfaith advocacy group VOICE in February, Favola promised that this project would receive funding this month and that it would be finished by the end of the year. The County Board also allocated a \$40,000 grant to the Macedonia project last week in addition to the \$2.9 million low-interest loan.

— DAVID SCHULTZ

Arlington Mill On Hold

FROM PAGE 3

the firm was unable to secure financing for this \$75 million project.

"This could have been in the budget if it was six months ago," Hunter Moore, a development specialist with Arlington County, said. "It's not there now."

"We needed to be earlier on that," County Manager Ron Carlee said at a recent budget briefing. "That project had very tight prospects to begin with." Carlee also noted that he had been working to complete the Arlington Mill project for several decades, since before he was elevated to the position of manager.

FOR THE COUNTY, the question is now what becomes of the old Arlington Mill building.

It has been closed since the middle of last year as it awaited construction. Now Arlington Mill is vacant and the programs that used to be located there are scattered across the county.

At a recent meeting of residents who live near Arlington Mill, ideas were

SEE ARLINGTON, PAGE 7

Budget Process

The Arlington County Board has the final say over the county's budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. It will be holding three hearings later this month to get input from Arlington citizens on the budget. Those hearings will be held at 7 p.m. on March 25 and 26 in the County Board Meeting Room at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard.

I-66 Widening To Move Forward

BY DAVID SCHULTZ
THE CONNECTION

A controversial project that would add an extra lane to I-66 in Arlington will move forward as scheduled after it regained the approval of a group of local leaders.

The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board voted to reverse its decision from last month to withhold federal funding for the I-66 project, clearing the way for construction to begin on the highway later this year.

The project involves adding an extra lane to I-66 at three places inside the Beltway: from Fairfax Drive to Sycamore Street, from Washington Boulevard to the Dulles Connector and from Lee Highway to Glebe Road.

Arlington officials, led by County Board Member Chris Zimmerman (D), have been adamantly opposed for years to the widening of the highway, which bisects the county as it goes from Washington D.C. out to Front Royal, Va. They believe the widening project will increase noise and pollution in Arlington neighborhoods and that it will only add to congestion on the already-clogged highway.

THE TRANSPORTATION Planning Board, made up of elected officials from across the Washington D.C. area, hears items that pertain to regional transportation issues and has control over how and when federal transportation dollars are spent.

Last month, the board members voted to withhold funding for the I-66 project after a representative from the Vir-

ginia Department of Transportation told them that a study examining all modes of transportation along the I-66 corridor had not been done and was not funded. When the I-66 project was first proposed in 2005, one of the conditions was that VDOT conduct this multi-modal study.

Fairfax County Supervisors Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) and Linda Smyth (D-Providence) received harsh criticism from their constituents for their votes to withhold funding for the project.

Last week, the VDOT representative told the Transportation Planning Board that a short-term multi-modal study was under way but that a long-term version of the study was still unfunded.

Hudgins proposed a compromise that would block the other two sections of the project until VDOT completed its long-term multi-modal study but would reinstate funding for the first section of the project, from Fairfax Drive to Sycamore Street. This section is funded by a \$33 million congressional earmark obtained by U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) and former U.S. Rep. Tom Davis.

"No one wants to waste all this money," Hudgins said. "To preserve funding for a project was what I wanted to do." She also called last month's measure to withhold funding for the project a "miscommunication" on the part of VDOT.

ZIMMERMAN praised Hudgins' compromise, even though it allowed the I-66 widening to move forward. "I think it was a reasonable compromise," he said. "[Hudgins'] interests aren't the same as mine but she's made a commitment



PHOTO BY DAVID SCHULTZ/THE CONNECTION

An extra lane will be added to I-66 here, between Fairfax Drive and Sycamore Street.

to regionalism and planning."

Zimmerman said he was glad the Transportation Planning Board put its foot down by formally requiring VDOT to complete the long-term study. "It was about what does the P stand for in TPB," he said.

Even Allen Muchnick, who leads the anti-I-66 group Arlington Coalition for Sensible Transportation, was pleased with the Planning Board's action. "It's not perfect," he said, "But it's as good as you can get."

Muchnick is hopeful that the multi-modal study will show that the project would be ineffective and environmentally harmful. "It's just going to be a big parking lot," he said.

David Schultz can also be heard on WAMU 88.5 FM.

BULLETIN BOARD

Know of something missing from our community calendar? 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. For more volunteer opportunities, classes, announcements visit www.arlingtonconnection.com and click on Community.

ONGOING ITEMS

Arlington residents who need help repairs on their house, can contact **RPJ Housing**, a local non-profit agency funded by Arlington County. Teams of volunteers do all the work free with skills ranging from novice to professional. These community members repair floors, ceilings, walls, doors and roofs; install grab bars, railings and smoke detectors; address minor plumbing and electrical repairs; build ramps, paint and attend to yard work. Priority is given to seniors, persons with disabilities and families with children. To obtain an application, simply call RPJ Housing at 703-528-5606 ext. 11 or visit <http://rpjhousing.org/programs.html>

The **Army Officers' Wives' Club** of the Greater Washington Area (AOWCGWA) and the AOWCGWA-Fort Myer Thrift Shop have welfare grant applications available. The official grant application must be received no later than April 15. Early submissions are encouraged. For eligibility requirements, information, instructions and to download the official Grant Application Form 2008-2009, visit <http://aowcgwa.org/welfare.htm>

Every Saturday through April 11, there is **Free Tax Preparation**. 10

a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. First-come first-served. Visit www.aarp.org/taxaide for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 26

Meeting. Holistic Moms Network Arlington/Alexandria Chapter Meeting. Moms, dads, partners, caregivers and children are all welcome. 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Free. Visit arlalexva.holisticmoms.org or 703-824-6167.

FRIDAY/MARCH 27

Application Deadline. 5 p.m., Arlington County has received an award of \$36,216 of federal funds through Phase 27 of the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). These funds will supplement existing food and shelter programs in the county. Qualifying agencies interested in applying for these funds must contact Local Board Chair Indra Corea at 703-979-3380, ext. 102 for an application form.

Health Enrichment. UUCA, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Enjoy meditative movements, chant, readings and more. Visit www.kolaminvrc.org for more.

MONDAY/MARCH 30

College Drinking Culture. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Free. Parents can learn about colleges and drinking. Free. 703-536-4509.

FRIDAY/APRIL 3

Peace Corps Information Session. Noon at the office, 1525 Wilson Blvd.

Learn about the Corps and speak to returned volunteers. Free. 202-692-1050.

SATURDAY/APRIL 4

Donate Old Bikes. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Langston-Brown Rec Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St. Troop #149 Eagle Community Service Project. \$10/suggested donation per bike. Visit www.bikesfortheworld.org or 703-525-0931.

SUNDAY/APRIL 5

Help. De-construct, pack, load and unload crates of canned food from the sixth annual **Canstruction**. On March 27, teams of local architecture firms will build imaginative structures entirely out of canned goods. The structures will be displayed for a week at Ballston Common Mall. When the event ends, Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) needs volunteers to take the canned goods from the exhibit to its offices on Sunday, April 5. Volunteers should be age 14 or older and able to lift crates of food. Visit <http://www.afacinfo.org>

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 8

Guided Walk. 7:30 p.m. at Advent Lutheran Church, 2222 S. Arlington Ridge Road. Family friendly walk and meditation. Free. Visit www.adventlc.us or 703-521-7010.

SUNDAY/APRIL 12

Support Group. 3 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St., Fall Church. PFLAG of Metro DC. Free. Visit www.pflagdc.org or 703-615-3834.



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Fairfax County Park Authority Public Comment Meetings

The Fairfax County Park Authority will hold three public comment meetings to solicit input on draft master plan Amendments. These master plan amendments generally incorporate the addition of athletic field lights at these locations. Contact information and meeting times are listed below:

Draft master plan amendment for J.E.B. Stuart Park located at 3312 Peace Valley Lane, in Falls Church, VA. The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2, 2009, at 7 p.m., in the Baileys Elementary School cafeteria, located at 6111 Knollwood Drive, in Falls Church.

The draft master plan amendment proposes to add lights to the softball field and is available for review on the Park Authority website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/jebstuart.htm> or from the Fairfax County Park Authority at the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406 in Fairfax during regular business hours.

Draft master plan amendment for Oak Marr Park located at 2300 Jermantown Road in Oakton, VA. The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Oakton Community Library, room 1 and 2. The library is located at 10304 Lynnhaven Place, in Oakton.

The draft master plan amendment proposes to add lights to the rectangular fields and miniature golf and is available for review at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/oakmarr.htm> or can be reviewed at the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax during regular business hours.

Draft master plan amendment for Stratton Woods Park, located on Fox Mill Road in Reston, VA. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 7 p.m. at Hunter Woods Elementary School in the cafeteria. The school is located at 3200 Jermantown Road, in Oakton.

The draft master plan amendment proposes to add lights to the 90' diamond field and replace the sand volleyball court with a lit outdoor handball/raquetball court and is available for review on the Park Authority website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/stratton.htm> or from the Fairfax County Park Authority at the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406 in Fairfax during regular business hours.

Anyone wishing to speak at any of these meetings is asked to contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662 or via e-mail at parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov. Speakers may also sign up at the meeting.

LIGHTING DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED
Lighting is being considered to expand field capacity in response to the community's needs for increased field use. In order to demonstrate the precision and limited light spill of new lighting systems currently in use, three field lighting demonstrations will be held. The public may attend any of these demonstrations scheduled from 8 until 9:30 p.m. as follows:

April 9 Nottoway Park 9537 Courthouse Road Vienna	April 23 Patriot Park 12111 Braddock Road Fairfax	May 6 Lewinsville Park 1659 Chain Bridge Rd. McLean
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Park Authority staff will be available to answer questions at these informal demonstrations. For more information, contact the Park Authority Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.



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COMMUNITY

Crystal City Replaces Emerald City

Annual event adopts Oz-theme to benefit Arena Stage's youth programs.

BY EMMA GONZALEZ
THE CONNECTION

Sixteen year-old Siera Toney, Ensemble member and mentor from Arena Stage, dedicates her to help other children and peers stand out and do what they love.

"I have been part of the ensemble for two years and now have been a mentor for an additional two years. I love mentoring and I feel like I am making a difference. It's fun and educational," Toney said.

The annual benefit at Arena Stage was held in Crystal City March 16, to raise over one-third of the necessary funds used for the Arena's Community Engagement programs. These programs help educate and support around 20,000 students from various regions with scholarships, awards and opportunities to attend Arena's camps. For scholarships, students apply and are nominated considering their financial status. The cost of camp for training and educational purposes ranges around \$1,000 per student.

The annual event last week started with an "Oz" theme dinner. Green drapes hung on the ceiling, Wizard of Oz characters greeted the crowd, red and white wine was served, deserts and main course meals were offered.

Tables were draped in green, candles were laid on the tables for a low-light feel and servers walked around serving guests. Music played in the background and the characters would interact with the guests creating a humorous atmosphere.

The dinner was followed by a live auction where a number of signature items were offered. Baseball seat tickets and a sterling silver cable necklace were among several items being auctioned.

PAULINE THOMPSON, one of the attendees, praised the event. Thompson, the founder of Tyson's Realty in McLean, participates in the annual benefit program every year to support her community. "I will do



Wizard of Oz characters with event co-chairs Angela Fox and Mitchell N. Schear.

anything to support a program that helps kids open their eyes to theatre and it's educational. I support talent," Thompson said. Thompson described Crystal City as one of the greatest environments there are, "This is a gem of the city that people don't recognize. It's a hidden gem. We have a great cultural environment and it does so much for the community," Thompson said.

When ensemble members were asked why Arena stage was important to them, Toney said, "There's definitely a lot of exposure and I wouldn't have heard about this if it weren't for their commitment in reaching out to students."

Toney hopes to convince other children to get more involved and to stay focused in school. "I would love to see more kids join, it helps with our confidence, we gather

long-life contacts and what could be better than that?" Toney said.

Ensemble members were to be part of the show following the dinner as "yellow bricks."

Arena's performance for the night was the "Arena Stage in Oz" which complemented the dinner's theme. Approximately 445 people attended the performance.

BEFORE THE SHOW, two awards were given to recognize people who dedicate their time and effort to the program: The American Voice Award and The Robert Prosky American Artist Award. The American Voice award was presented to outgoing chairman of the National Endowment of Arts Dana Gioia, an award-winning poet, and the Prosky Award to the late Robert Alexander, founder and 30-year artistic direc-

tor for Arena's living stage.

Molly Smith, artistic director of Arena Stage, thanked guests for their support. "We have so many people here that have been so instrumental to this event. Finally, our young people are brought into theatre and the theatre brings them to become their own persons. What a great way to give. We must give to these students," Smith said.

The performance was filled with comedy acts that involved singing, dancing and political jokes. Ensemble members interacted with the crowd, ending the show midst laughter, whistling and applause.

Roderic David, one of the ensemble members, gave a speech to express his gratitude for Arena Stage. "I don't know about you, but my middle school years were not perfect. This is more than an acting thing, it's a huge deal," David said, "It's something I take pride in. I can't imagine my life without Arena Stage. I've become a better person."

Ensemble members of Arena Stage include, from left, Zoe Taylor, Emma Sophie Moore, Mitchell Mattson, Ashley Foreman (director of education and programming), Morgan Thompson, Roderic David (sitting next to Foreman), Delante Flood and Siera Toney.



ARLINGTON CONNECTION

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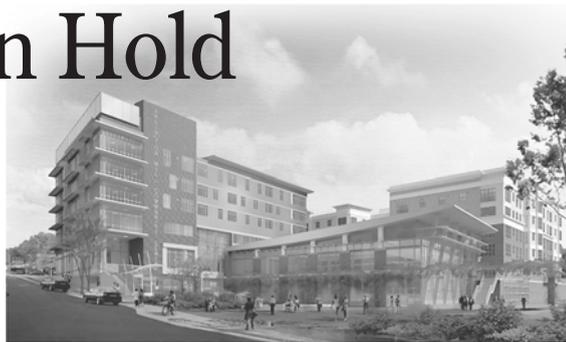
FROM PAGE 4

brainstormed as to what to do with the building while the county waits for financial conditions to improve. Potential uses for the building that were discussed included English classes, vocational training, a farmers market and even a bicycle shop run by local youth.

Moore said the county has "a desire to have [Arlington Mill] opened up in the short term for community uses."

But he also said no funds have been allocated in the county's budget to move any programs back to Arlington Mill. "That kind of throws a monkey wrench into a significant amount of these programs," Moore said.

If the county isn't able to build a new Arlington Mill, Nugent said, then they should at least reopen



This image of the remodeled Arlington Mill won't be realized in the near future due to budget cuts.

the old building. "I hope they find something, just to make it look good," he said.

Otherwise, Nugent is afraid that his new neighborhood, which he thought was up and coming, will turn into a blighted nightmare. "It's the broken windows theory," he said, "If you let things go bad, it shows you don't care."

Reading Connection Marks 20 Years

FROM PAGE 4

"I wanted to set an example for her," she said. "The kids you meet with and get to know are the most wonderful and enthusiastic readers. You see the impact you're having."

THE 20TH anniversary celebration was more like a reunion of every-

one who was ever involved with The Reading Connection.

Dru Kevit, a West Springfield High School math teacher, was the organization's program director in the early '90s. She's a longtime friend of Reese's and describes her as a "real spitfire. ... She's an amazing human being, all heart and all character."

It's this compassion, Reese said, that has allowed The Reading Connection to thrive. "We have great respect for the recipients [because] this could happen to anybody," she said. "They were so grateful that we treated them as parents, not as people in need."

David Schultz can also be heard on WAMU 88.5 FM.

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LITERATURE

Turning a New Page

By AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

It's been decades since Tina Louise left America's most famous island and living rooms, but she has never dropped out of the public eye.

These days, Louise's fans are a little younger, and know her better as an author than the copper-haired vixen from "Gilligan's Island."

"I signed 300 books today at a school in New Jersey," said Louise, with a sigh, from her New York City home. "I've been doing this for 12 years now and I just love it."

Louise is the author of "When I Grow Up," a children's book that compares what animals do with various professions. She will be signing copies of her book at the Lorton Arts Foundation Workhouse on Ox Road on Saturday, April 4, and she hopes the audience is full of young, smiling faces.

Her inspiration for the book, and her involvement in the New York City literacy program, Learning Leaders, came from the low literacy levels that were front-page news when Louise moved to the city in the 1990s. She felt compelled to get involved, but she wasn't sure what she could do or where to start.

"It's a very beautiful experience to be in front of children and work with them."

— Tina Louise

At a United Nations dinner one night, she began talking with a woman who had been involved with N.Y. School Volunteers, a group that worked to improve literacy in city schools. That program morphed into Learning Leaders, a volunteer literacy tutor organization,



Tina Louise

and with that, Louise became an advocate for children, especially in the areas of literacy and physical education.

"The first time I walked into a public school, I felt very happy," she said. "It's a very beautiful experience to be in front of children and work with them."

MANY CHILDREN didn't know what they wanted to be when they grew up and they didn't really know what options they had, Louise explained. That's how she got the idea for the book, by taking children's love of animals and their imaginations and putting the two together to show children they could be anything they dreamed.

Eventually, when she was on tour promoting "When I Grow Up," she started asking children what kind of careers they might want to pursue. She would ask who wanted to be an architect, and count the number of hands that went up.

During last week's visit to New Jersey, she finished her talk by asking the children how many wanted to be president.

"I walked around the gym and had some teachers helping me to count because I wanted to make sure we got every single little hand," Louise said. "There were over 150 hands raised. It was just wonderful."

Speaking of the presidency, Louise said she was able to give a signed copy of her book to the Obama family back when Barack Obama was still a senator. She has a framed letter from the new president thanking her

Actress Tina Louise, an advocate for children's literacy, brings book to Workhouse Arts Center April 4.

for the gift to his young daughters.

During her short stay in Northern Virginia, Louise said she hopes to be able to stop by Capitol Hill to urge legislators to work on restoring physical education for all children during the school day. From talking with students, she's distressed at the lack of physical education classes and the rising rates of obesity among the youngest citizens.

"I'm a workout fanatic," Louise said. "I think that's one of the biggest problems in public schools today. I believe schools should have physical education from first grade up. I also think schools should send information home to parents to let them know what children are being fed and I think kids should have a better idea what they're eating."

Working for literacy and physical health are the "most important things" in Louise's life these days, she said, and she wouldn't trade them for anything.

Louise is currently working on her second children's book, but declined to give away details about the project because she's looking for a publisher. She would say that the book may explore what children and grown ups alike can do about the environment. This would actually be her third book. The first was a memoir, "Sunday," which chronicles what Louise calls an "unusual" childhood. It took a while for her to find a publisher for her first book, which she relates to children by saying sometimes they're going to have difficulty in reaching some of their goals. But if they keep trying, she said, anything is possible.

"Things take time," she said. "The first publisher I talked to wouldn't publish the book, but I worked hard until I found someone who would publish it the way I wanted it done. It paid off."

WHEN LOUISE comes to Lorton, she is hoping to see quite a few children in the audience and is eager to ask them about their dreams for the future.

"I just think they're all so beautiful," she said. "They all look like Renoir paintings to me, just beautiful."

Louise is at least the second high-profile celebrity to visit the Workhouse, the first

Meet Tina Louise

The Lorton Arts Foundation is sponsoring an evening with Tina Louise on Saturday, April 4 at the Workhouse on Ox Road. Louise will be reading from and signing copies of her book, "When I Grow Up." Tickets are available at www.workhousearts.org.

since the establishment's grand opening last fall. Through a long-time friendship with one of the Arts Foundation's staff members, she accepted an invitation to visit and read excerpts from her book.

Sharon Mason, executive director at the Lorton Arts Foundation, said she is thrilled to have Louise, who she called an "icon" in American entertainment, reading at the Workhouse.

"We thought this would enable us to cast a wider net to schools and other literacy programs that have been started by Caren Hearne, our education program specialist," Mason said. "Including local children in this event was a major draw for us."

The Arts Foundation has partnerships with Lorton Station, Gunston and Featherstone elementary schools and Woodbridge High School that have been notified about the event, and Mason is hoping for at least 35 students that evening.

Excitement is starting to build for the reading, Mason said, with TV and radio interviews already lined up. Not bad for the Workhouse, in its sixth month, and a sure sign of things to come, she hopes.

"Given all the years Tina has been in show business, we are certain this should be a wonderful night," she said. "We're excited about the Q&A session. ... She's been a performer on the Broadway stage, dramatic actress and of course the famous Ginger from 'Gilligan's Island.' We're delighted she can share her years with her fans at LAF."

Julie Curtis, marketing and communications specialist at the Arts Foundation, said Louise's visit is just the start of a long line of special visitors and new events.

"We're starting to do more with our Film Institute and we'll have an event with Tippi Hendren coming up in May, so there's a lot going on," Curtis said.

Since its official opening last fall, the Workhouse has already expanded its reach into the community, bringing in visual and performing arts as well as a series of exhibits on the women's suffrage movement and Lorton's past, she said.

"We have a lot to offer, especially with the series of classes we offer to the community," Curtis said. "We just keep building on the ideas that keep flowing from our staff and volunteers."

CALENDAR

E-mail calendar announcements 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.

ONGOING:

With the advent of spring, Arlington's David M. Brown Planetarium, 1426 No. Quincy Street, presents "The Mystery of the Missing Seasons" through Sunday, April 5. Showtimes are Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 1:30 & 3 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for senior citizens and children 12 & younger. 703-228-6070.

The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) has scheduled a series of free **Confident City Cycling Classes** for 2009. The Virginia classes, which are free and open to all, regardless of residency, are designed to provide cyclists with the skills they need incorporate bicycling into their daily routines, on city streets for errands, commuting, and fun. For more information and on-line registration, visit <http://www.waba.org/events/education.php#ccc>

Take pictures with the **Easter Bunny and Despereaux**, the little mouse with the big heart, March 28 and April 11 at Fashion Centre at Pentagon City. Visit www.simon.com for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 26

It's Keen to be Green. 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. Children ages 3-5 can learn about planting a garden. \$5/child. Registration required, 703-228-3403.

Butterflies and Gardening in Japan. 7:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Adults can learn about the Washington Area Butterfly Club. Free. 703-228-6535.

Kickball the Musical. 8 p.m. at Gunston Theatre One. Performed by the ArtStream Arlington Inclusive Theatre Company. 301-941-1008.

Lecture. 6-8 p.m. at The Boeing Conference Center, 1200 Wilson Blvd. "Politico: President Obama's First 60 Days in Office." Free, reservations required, rsvp@rosslynva.org.

Theater Performance. 7 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Watch "Mulan Jr." \$7/adult; \$5/student and children 5 and under are free. 703-228-5900 to purchase tickets.

Gardening Fitness. 7 p.m. at Fairlington Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Learn how to dig, plant and work in garden safely. Free. 703-228-6414.

FRIDAY/MARCH 27

Meet the Artist. 6-9 p.m. David Hagen is exhibiting art at Century 21 Exhibit Space, 1711 Wilson Blvd through April. "Identified & Unidentified" features 39 paintings that range from robots to Elvis to

Campbell Ave. Tickets range between \$49-\$77. Visit www.signature-theatre.org for more.

"The Armadillo Song" is playing at Classika Theater, 4041 Campbell Ave., through March 29. Appropriate for children. \$12/advance; \$15/door. Visit www.classika.org or 1-800-494-8497.

Signature Theatre presents "**See What I Wanna See**" from April 7 through May 31 at Ark Theatre, 4200

Mona Lisa. **Theater Performance.** 7 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Watch "Mulan Jr." \$7/adult; \$5/student and children 5 and under are free. 703-228-5900 to purchase tickets.

It's Keen to be Green. 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. Children ages 3-5 can learn about planting a garden. \$5/child. Registration required, 703-228-3403.

Music Meeting. 1 p.m. at Culpepper Garden Senior Center. Adults 55 and over can listen to classical music. Free. 703-228-4403.

Night Hike. 7:30 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th St. Families with children ages 4 and up can listen for nocturnal animals and more. \$3/person. Registration required, 703-243-4342.

Kickball the Musical. 8 p.m. at Gunston Theatre One. Performed by the ArtStream Arlington Inclusive Theatre Company. 301-941-1008.

SATURDAY/MARCH 28

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Rosslyn Spectrum, 1611 N. Kent St. Helder Moutinho will perform. \$25/person. Visit www.planetarlington.com or 703-228-1850.

Arlington Children Stuff Sale. 8 a.m.-noon at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Lane. Browse clothing, toys and more. Free. Visit www.kidstuffsale.com.

Movie Watch. 3 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Free. Watch "Pysanka: The Ukrainian Easter Egg." 703-228-6545.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Rosslyn Spectrum, 1611 N. Kent St. Helder Moutinho. \$25/person. Visit www.planetarlington.com or 703-573-SEAT.

Story Time. 11 a.m. at Aladdin's Lamp Children's Bookstore, 2499 N. Harrison St., Suite 10. Children ages 2-6 can hear stories about getting dressed including "The Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed" by Mo Willems. Free. 703-241-8281.

Theater Performance. 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Watch "Mulan Jr." \$7/adult; \$5/student and children 5 and under are free. 703-228-5900 to purchase tickets.

Walking Tour. 9 a.m., meet at Fort Scott Park, 2800 S. Fort Scott Drive. Adults and children ages 7 and up can learn about this fort. Free. 703-243-4342.

Civil War Discoveries. 11 a.m. at Fort Eban Allen Park, 3829 N. Stafford St. Children ages 8-12 can learn how to send secret messages. \$5/child. Registration required, 703-243-4342.

Open Forge. Noon at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. All ages can watch the blacksmiths. Free. 703-228-3403.

Peeper Prowl. 6:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children ages 5 and up can search for tiny tree frogs. \$4/person. Registration required, 703-228-6535.

Wiggly Critters Campfire. 7 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. All ages can enjoy campfire activities, treats and more. \$5/person. Registration required, 703-228-3403.

Special Olympics Basketball Tournament. 10 a.m. in the Lee Center's Verizon Sports Arena, 2807 N. Glebe Road. Free. 703-284-1622.

Lecture. 3 p.m. at Clarendon Presbyterian Church, 1305 N. Jackson St. Discuss "Israel, Palestine: How Can the US Promote Peace?" Free. Visit www.pdaVirginia.org for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 29

Music Performance. 6:30 p.m. at Rosslyn Spectrum, 1611 N. Kent St. Hear National Chamber Ensemble perform Schubert and Brahms. \$25/person. Visit www.nationalchamberensemble.org for more.

Clay Print Keepsakes. 2 p.m. at Aladdin's Lamp Children's Bookstore, 2499 N. Harrison St., Suite 10. Parents can make prints of their children's hand and foot for keepsakes. E-mail cutepieskeepsakes@gmail.com or 703-241-8281.

Plant a Pioneer Garden. 2 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. Families with children ages 5 and up can learn about agricultural traditions and more. \$5/family. Registration required, 703-228-3403.

Peeper Prowl. 6:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children ages 5 and up can search for tiny tree frogs. \$4/person. Registration required, 703-228-6535.

MONDAY/MARCH 30

Mondays at the Movies. 6 p.m. at The Dome Theatre, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Free.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 1

Drama. 7 p.m. at Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, 1500 N. Glebe Road. Watch "The Other Twelve Disciples." Free, but freewill offering taken. Visit www.mtolivet-umc.org.

Bird Walk. 9 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Adults can search for birds. Free. 703-228-6535.

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THEATER

Know of something missing from our Local Theater listings? Send it to [The Arlington Connection at arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arlington@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is 2 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with any questions.

See "**Lysistrata**" at Rosslyn Spectrum, 1611 N. Kent St. from

April 11 through April 26. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. For tickets and information, 800-494-8497.

See "**A Long and Winding Road**" from March 27 through April 12 at Arena Stage in Crystal City. Maureen McGovern performs. Tickets start at \$25/person. Visit www.arenastage.org

or 202-488-3300 for more.

See "**Mother Goose**" at Classika Theater, 4041 Campbell Ave., through May 17. Appropriate for children. \$12/advance; \$15/door. Visit www.classika.org or 1-800-494-8497.

Signature Theatre presents "**See What I Wanna See**" from April 7 through May 31 at Ark Theatre, 4200

Campbell Ave. Tickets range between \$49-\$77. Visit www.signature-theatre.org for more.

"**The Armadillo Song**" is playing at Classika Theater, 4041 Campbell Ave., through March 29. Appropriate for children. \$12/advance; \$15/door. Visit www.classika.org or 1-800-494-8497.

"**Crimes of the Heart**" is playing at



Washington-Lee No. 1 single's player, junior Kelsey Clark, waits to hit a serve during last Friday's match against rival Yorktown.



Yorktown's Angela Laing of Beijing, China is one of several talented Patriot tennis players from outside America.



Yorktown sophomore Ellie Berlyn prepares to serve during her No. 6 singles match against Washington-Lee senior Laura Gorsky. Berlyn won the match, 10-8.

PHOTOS BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE CONNECTION

Yorktown's International Appeal on the Courts

Already a district favorite, Patriot girls' tennis gets help from abroad against W-L.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE CONNECTION

It's not that Yorktown girls' tennis coach Natalie Roy isn't excited about her team's chances to reclaim the National District title from Arlington rival Washington-Lee this season. In fact, the opposite is true after the Patriots won all nine matches against the Generals last Friday to give themselves a head start on the 2009 district crown.

But Roy is most intrigued by the influx of

international talent that has seemingly fallen into her lap this season. Already stacked with strong players, Yorktown has seen itself dominate the early portion of this season thanks to additions like freshmen Esu Erdenebat (No. 2 singles) of Mongolia and Angela Laing (No. 4 singles) of China.

Considering the Patriots' No. 3 singles player, senior Lydia Getachew, is of Ethiopian descent and reserve Jessica Guibordeau recently came from La Rochelle, France, it's no wonder the coach is fascinated by the whole situation.

"I think it's just awesome," said Roy after her team made its presence felt within the National District amidst a cold and blustery wind at Quincy Park. "I don't think they even notice it, which is actually even more interesting. They're younger and it's natural. You're from Beijing, big deal. You're from France, you're from Mongolia, who cares? It just shows the change in society."

In total the Patriots have players from five different countries, including Bolivia and Thailand, and numerous others of foreign descent. But that hasn't meant the results have changed much. Yorktown and W-L have split the past three National District titles, with the two teams sharing the crown in 2006. After last Friday the Patriots made it known that likely won't be the case this

"You're from Beijing, big deal. You're from France, you're from Mongolia, who cares? It just shows the change in society."

— Yorktown coach Natalie Roy on the diversity of her team

season.

Led by No. 1 singles player Emily Flichinger, a sophomore from nearby

SEE PATRIOT, PAGE 11

Making Practice Perfect at Iceplex

Washington Capitals practices are free, open to the public, and right here in Arlington.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE CONNECTION

Lifelong Arlington resident Kevin Shea couldn't help but crack a smile Monday morning as his two-year-old daughter Olivia tried to name her favorite Washington Capitals player. With the team's practice under way in the background, Shea suggested well-known players like Alex Ovechkin and Sergei Federov for her to consider.

But it was telling that she excitedly screamed the name of back-up goaltender Simeon Varlamov, a player just called up from the minors last week.

"I'm breeding little hockey fans over

here," Shea joked while holding one-year-old son Bobby.

Like many around the area, Shea has increasingly taken advantage of a unique bargain associated with the opening of the Kettler Capitals Iceplex (KCI) in 2006. Unlike other local professional teams like the Redskins, Wizards, and Nationals that rarely open their doors to the public outside of games, anybody can simply come to Arlington and check out a Capitals practice free of charge.

Located on top of the

Ballston Common Mall, about the only money involved with attending a session is the \$1 parking fee.

"I CAN'T BELIEVE it's open for everyone," said Dean Foster, who along with wife Marilyn recently moved to Arlington from Weber City, Va., near the Tennessee border. The couple decided to take skating lessons at KCI and soon realized they were literally within feet of an NHL team.

"Other pro sports that I've been around, like spring training for baseball, it's kind of closed. Here, through the season, it's open for people to come and see for free, and it's such a great facility. They're

"It's nice that fans can come and watch and see what we do on a daily basis."

— Capitals defenseman Mike Green

SEE CAPITALS, PAGE 11



Washington Capitals goalie Jose Theodore (right) gives a fan his autograph after practice at Arlington's Kettler Capitals Iceplex.

PHOTO BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE CONNECTION

With practices free and open to the public, Capitals fans can get up close and personal with stars like Alex Ovechkin, shown here listening to coaches during a recent practice.

Washington Capitals' Practices Are Free

FROM PAGE 10

the nicest guys, too.”

Although crowds are generally bigger on weekends, those making the trek to KCI will undoubtedly encounter an accommodating player or coach willing to sign autographs or just talk once practice ends. And since many of the Caps players call Arlington their home during the season to be close to where they work, the whole set-up has given everyone a chance to get to know their community a bit better.

“I think it’s good for the hockey around here,” said Capitals forward and Arlington resident Nicklas

“I can’t believe [practices are] open for everyone.”

— Arlington resident
Dean Foster

Backstrom, who originally hails from Sweden. “For us, it’s good too. Somebody is watching us and it’s always good to have somebody there.”

Caps defenseman Mike Green was born in Canada and remembers going to Calgary Flames practices as a kid and wondering when he would skate on the same rink as his idols. He appreciates the allure and the benefits that come from such an open and accessible atmosphere.

“It’s nice that fans can come and watch and see

SEE CAPITALS, PAGE 15

Patriot Girls' Tennis Gets Help from Abroad

FROM PAGE 10

H.B. Woodlawn High School (the school doesn’t have high school athletics) and talented newcomer Erdenebat, the Patriots lost more than five games just once in the first-to-10 games format of singles play.

Getachew was a key member of last year’s team, and along with Flichinger, almost made it to the regional tournament for doubles. Now the team’s No. 3 singles player as well, she marvels at just how much the team has changed over the course of one season. Last year, four of Yorktown’s top-six players were seniors.

“It’s completely different,” she said. “But I think the team is stronger this year just because younger kids like Esu are amazing. We didn’t even know they were coming, it felt like they just appeared. But it’s great having such a diverse group of teammates.”

OVER AT W-L, the loss of longtime coach Loronzo Alexander has effected the most change for the Generals. Alexander lost a lengthy battle with cancer this

past fall, but ended his 18-year coaching career with a National District title last spring.

New coach Sam Hughes knows replacing Alexander won’t be easy, but it’s a challenge he’s embracing as he tries to build as strong a relationship with his players as his predecessor had.

“They’ve been accustomed to a long-term coach here and they’ve had some success, so I feel some responsibility to continue that success and I think the best way to do that is to at least try to build rapport with them so we get to know each other,” said Hughes, who is also a pro at East Potomac Tennis Center in Washington, D.C.

Before losing to Yorktown, W-L defeated Edison last week, 8-1. Hughes was quick to praise No. 6 singles player, senior Laura Gorsky, for her strong play in a losing effort to Yorktown’s Ellie Berlyn.

It’s a new dynamic, new coach and we’ve done pretty good so far,” said Gorsky, the lone senior in the W-L starting lineup. “We lost a bunch of girls from last year, so we’ll see where the program ends up in a year or two.”

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Too Close for Comfort



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Boy, am I glad I woke up this morning, for obvious reasons. For less than obvious reasons, I'm happy I woke up this morning because the dreams I was having (or shall I say, the dreams I am remembering) were just that, dreams and not real. The content of the three I remember were 1) my accountant and I were speaking on the phone (always scary). He was giving me dire medical news (not his specialty), advising that the continuing lack of a "mature" diet, on my part, combined with a non-fitness regimen had finally come home to roost. He didn't call me a chicken for not having wised up sooner and changed my eating habits, he simply said something — that I don't remember — which was eye-opening, almost literally.

The second dream I remember was almost worse, but not exactly. It had to do with work, Connection Newspaper work. Not a specific task or deadline, or anything to do with commuting to and from, rather it just had to do with being at work, Monday through Friday. It was when I woke up and realized that I didn't have to actually go to work BECAUSE IT WAS SUNDAY that I knew I had dreamt a nightmare instead.

The third piece of a dream that I recall had to do with my nearly 14-year old, golden retriever Bailey. In my dream/dream state, I heard a dog barking somewhere in the distance, as if he was lost, wailing a forlorn-type howl as if he knew he would never be found (at least that's what it felt like in my dream). In reality, Bailey had requested (and I use that term loosely) that he be let out earlier than usual, 5:22 a.m. instead of 6:30 a.m., approximately; early enough that after letting him out (unattended as usual; he has the run of the neighborhood so he doesn't require supervision), I went back upstairs to bed rather than sit and wait (sometimes up to an hour) for his random return. A return/routine he has followed without fail for his entire life so it was nothing I was worried about and absolutely nothing out of the ordinary. I figured that when he was good and ready to come back in the house, he would bark his intentions, as he has done hundreds of times before.

And so he did. That lost dog barking in my dream/nightmare was actually Bailey barking at the front door wanting to be let back in. So when I woke up thinking that it was a work day and a work day that began with some sobering medical news, along with the feeling that my dog (my son, if you will) was lost and barking his farewell (sort of) turned out instead to be something completely different and much less serious. It was not a work day, my accountant was not calling me (with or without medical news) and Bailey was not lost; he was simply standing outside the front door, snow-covered (under cover though on our porch) barking his normal sounds asking to be let back in.

Certainly I felt relief when I woke up and realized that all I was "nightmaring" was merely a dream and not real at all. Still, it felt real so much so that I thought a column commenting on it was appropriate and possibly even therapeutic.

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

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101 Computers

26 Antiques

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as
3533 Valeview Drive, Oakton, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Michael Cole and Susan Benikas, dated July 24, 2002, and recorded August 5, 2002, in Deed Book 13181 at page 1017 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Monday, March 30, 2009 At 11:00 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 36, Section 4-C, Valewood Manor Subdivision, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 5534 at page 1575, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 3533 Valeview Drive, Oakton, Virginia 22124.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$5,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 3.25 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

This sale is being made subject to a superior trust.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also

shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
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Ralph Soderquist

Ralph Soderquist, 81, of Murfreesboro, Tn., died Wednesday, March 11, at Community Care of Rutherford County after a long battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Barbara, daughter Holly Lynn Johnson and her husband, Mark, and grandchildren Sam, Ava, and Peter Johnson, all of Murfreesboro. Mr. Soderquist is also survived by step-son Glenn Feagans, of McLean, Va., daughter Debra Peebles and her son, Matt, of Oceanside, Ca., and daughter Lisa Nicassio and her daughters, Lauren and Amy, of Huntington Beach, Ca. Mr. Soderquist was preceded in death by son Kenneth David Soderquist, of Bagdad, Az.

A native of Pittsburg, Pa., Mr. Soderquist was a decorated U.S. combat veteran who served honorably in both occupied Japan as a member of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Honor Guard Company and in the Korean War as a forward observer in the U.S. Army 5th Infantry Division. Upon discharge from the service, he relocated to McLean, Va., where he managed historic Pike-staff Restaurant before becoming a product specialist for Noland Company, a mechanical wholesale distributor, from which he retired in 1994.

Mr. Soderquist was a longtime member of Christian Fellowship Church in Ashburn, Va. Upon moving to Tennessee in 2006, he became a member of Fellowship United Methodist Church (FUMC) and was active in his beloved "Young at Heart" Sunday school class. Mr. Soderquist was also a devoted fan of his grandchildren's sports activities and closely followed politics and current events.

Mr. Soderquist's family wishes to express their eternal gratitude to members of the Young at Heart class and Caris Healthcare, in particular, employees Diane Douglas and Tammy O'Donnell.

A memorial service for Mr. Soderquist will be held at FUMC on Friday, March 27, at 11:30 a.m., with visitation beginning at 9:30 a.m. At 2 p.m., Mr. Soderquist will be buried with military honors at Nashville National Cemetery in Madison. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Mr. Soderquist's memory to the Wounded Warrior Project, a non-profit organization that benefits severely wounded combat veterans, at www.woundedwarriorproject.org. Jennings and Ayers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. 820 S. Church st., Murfreesboro, TN 37130 615-893-2422 www.jenningsandayers.com.

PHOTOS BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE CONNECTION



Washington Capitals coach Bruce Boudreau talks with his team during a recent practice.

Practices Are Open to Public

FROM PAGE II

what we do on a daily basis," said Green, who also lives in Arlington during the season. "Anytime anyone's looking at you, you don't want it to look like you aren't working hard. So I think it does make you bring a little more energy to practice as well."

ADAM GREEN, a Springfield resident of no relation, plays in a men's hockey league in Fairfax and has been a fan of the game for years. Now that his son Miles is nearly two-years-old, Green has made a habit of coming out to practice about once a week.

When the pair walks through the door, he finds it refreshing that Miles will simply start shouting "Hockey, hockey."

"It's pretty hilarious," said Green. "He really likes the action and honestly, I think his favorite part is just running up-and-down the stairs. ... For me, it's a great opportunity to see these players a foot away from you interacting outside the game environment."

Shea likes taking his kids to KCI every Monday and Friday mornings whenever the team is in town because it's a perfect outlet of energy. With lots of running room in the bleachers that line one side of the rink and plenty of action on the ice, Shea has started bringing friends and their families along with him.

"It's kind of a good way to get out of the house when the weather is cold and there's not much to do outdoors," said Shea. "With unemployment being as high as it is, you'd



After finishing up with practice, Capitals forward Tomas Fleischmann takes time out to sign autographs for some of the fans that line the rink during the team's free public practices.

figure this place would be packed."

The Capitals begin their final homestand of the regular season this Friday and it continues through next Sunday. Most practice sessions are either at 10:30 or 11:00 a.m., but the team's practice schedule is updated daily at www.washingtoncapitals.com.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Yorktown Baseball Wins Twice

The Yorktown baseball team was victorious in both its games last week, including a pivotal win over Marshall in walkoff fashion. In the 4-3 victory over the Statesmen last Wednesday, Yorktown's Chris Kyser led off the bottom of the seventh with a walk and advanced to second on Tom Brady's sacrifice bunt. Wade Holmes then ran for Kyser and scored the winning run on Jordan LaBella's two-out single to right. The hit was only Yorktown's third of the night and the only one that figured into the scoring.

The last time Yorktown won a game via a walk-off hit was back in 2007 in the National District semifinals. Senior Kyle Toulouse pitched into the seventh inning, allowing just two earned runs.

The Patriots followed up that dramatic win with a 10-0 pounding of Fairfax, led by pitcher Dean Johnson's three-hit shutout performance.

Yorktown faces Arlington rival Washington-Lee at Quincy Park on Wednesday, after the Connection's deadline.

The two rivals also meet in softball Wednesday at W-L. In addition, Yorktown and W-L met in boys' and girls' lacrosse Tuesday night, which is also after the Connection's deadline.

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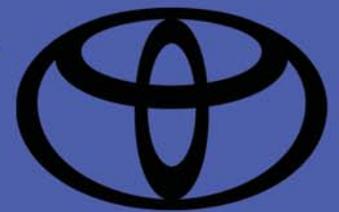
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