

Aligned with The Sun

NEWS, PAGE 6

A youngster cools his legs off in one of the sphere reflecting pools during the 2009 Dark Star Festival in Rosslyn on Saturday.

Carlee To Move On

NEWS, PAGE 3

It's All-in at All Star Meet

SPORTS, PAGE 11

Driven To Help

NEWS, PAGE 3

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CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 11 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 13

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Raising Funds for Orphans Friends of the Orphans, Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Region recently launched a new series of community awareness and fund-raising events named "Dining with Friends" at Arlington's La Tasca Spanish Tapas Bar & Restaurant. Pictured above with members of the board of directors is Managing Partner of La Tasca Restaurant Philia Barton, center; and Christine Hyland, Regional Director/Friends of the Orphans, Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Region pictured far right. Friends of the Orphans board members pictured are (from left) Mary Sue Conway; Mike McCabe; Anne Dryden; Astrid Fitzgerald; Barton; Jillaine Dellis (Arlington resident); Dr. Golnar Johanmir; Bob Adamcik and Hyland. Through participation of restaurant patrons, La Tasca was able to make a donation of \$1,100 to support the 3,500 orphaned, abandoned and disadvantaged children and the nine homes in Latin America and the Caribbean supported by Friends of the Orphans. For information about Friends of the Orphans, Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Region and its network of nine homes and their outreach programs in Latin America and the Caribbean, contact Hyland, at chyland@friendsus.org, call 703-848-2072 or visit www.friendsoftheorphans.org.

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WESTWOOD COLLEGE

Driven To Help

For three years, Red Top Cab driver and Arlington native Jerome Green has given underprivileged students a free ride to school.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

The first car Jerome Green ever owned used to disappear all the time. It didn't need a key to start and sometimes in the morning he would come outside to see it gone from the front of the house, only to be returned later in the day by a friend who had borrowed it, often for use on dates.

Green didn't mind at all, and in fact he wanted it that way.

Growing up poor in Arlington in the 1960s, Green learned about sharing at an early age. Friends and neighbors pooled their resources together as a matter of course and necessity, and when Green's parents helped him buy the used '56 Chevrolet, Green made sure it was "a community car."

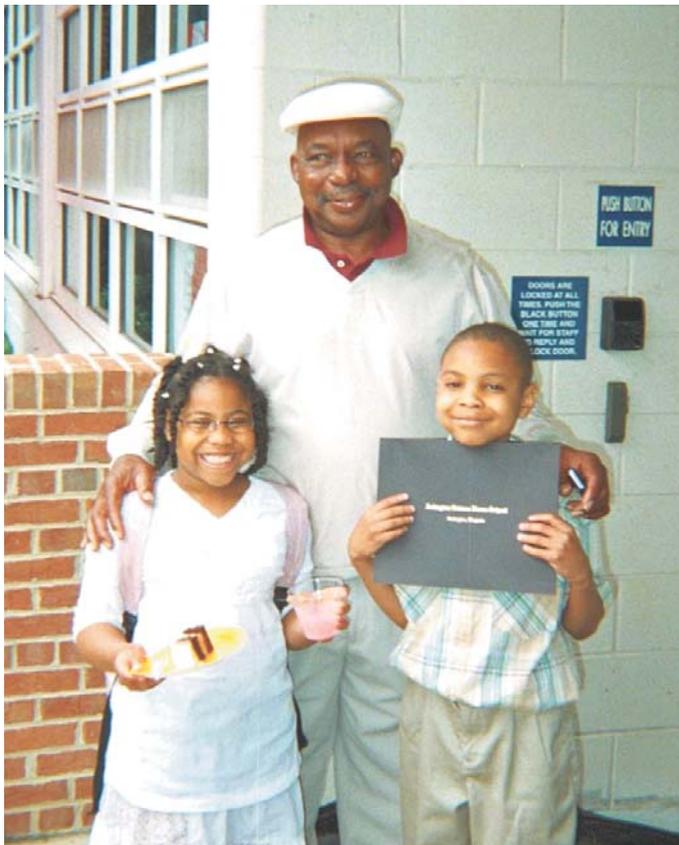
Early on he learned about helping those in need, too. When Arlington Public Schools integrated, Green had more to worry about than just how to interact with his white classmates in his freshman year of high school — the curriculum changed completely and it took the

help of some particularly committed teachers to help Green manage the scholastic adjustment.

Fast forward to 2006, and Green — who had gone on from high school to junior college, a tour in Vietnam and a 20-year career with AT&T — was a cab driver for Red Top Cab of Arlington when he was approached by George

"It's really not a big deal, it's more or less [about] helping the kids."

— Jerome Green



Jerome Green, a driver for Red Top Cab of Arlington, was given an award by the Arlington Science Focus School in June for three years of driving underprivileged students to school free of charge. Here, Green stands with Andrea and Aaron Moye, two of the students he drove this past school year. Lakicia Moye, their mother, said the service made it possible for she and for her husband to get to work on time and for her children to get extra help before school started.

Pakidas, the vice president of operations at Red Top. Pakidas asked Green if he would be willing to carve out some time in his mornings — each morning during the school year — to drive underprivileged students to the Arlington Science Focus School free of charge so that they could get extra help in their classes

SEE FREE RIDES, PAGE 12

County Manager Moving On

Carlee to join city/county association.

BY ANSLEY LABARRE
THE CONNECTION

After 29 years of service to the county, County Manager Ron Carlee will be leaving Oct. 31 to work with the International City/County Management Association.

Carlee began his county career in 1980 with the Department of Management and Finance. For nearly three decades, he has been involved with an array of services including Parks and Recreation and Community Development. Carlee says after such commitment, his departure is very emotional.



Ron Carlee

"I've watched Arlington transition from suburbia to urban in a model of smart growth that can be held to an international standard," said Carlee.

County Board Chairwoman Barbara Favola describes Carlee as beyond capable and visionary for his managerial job — traits she attributes to his above-average tenure with the county.

SEE MOVING ON, PAGE 15

Suppressing Public Documents Generates Fees

Arlington County charges \$24 for a two-paragraph summary of a document they refuse to release.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

In the days after Alexandria Police Chief David Baker was arrested for drunk driving in Arlington, county officials found themselves at the center of one of the hottest stories of the summer. The Arlington County Police Department was in possession of a public record that suddenly became a valuable commodity — the incident report detailing the arresting officer's

Incident #090725-064
7-25-95 @ approximately 9:55 PM
Primary Officer: Lt. L. Harmsen #675

DUI/ motor vehicle accident
4700 blk. Fairfax Dr./ ramp to I-66 west
Assigned Detective: (None)

On the above listed date and time, Arlington County Police were called to an automobile accident on the ramp from Fairfax Dr. to westbound I-66. A Ford Explorer attempted to merge on the ramp and had sideswiped a Ford Escape. Both vehicles were on the right shoulder when officers arrived and there were no visible signs of injury although both parties complained of minor pain. The total damage to both vehicles is estimated at about \$1,800 dollars.

The driver of the Ford Explorer, later identified as Mr. Paul P. Baker, appeared intoxicated and was asked to perform field sobriety tests. As a result of those tests, Mr. Baker was then placed under arrest by Lieutenant L. Harmsen #675 and taken to the Arlington County Detention Center. Mr. Baker submitted to a breath test and the blood alcohol content was measured at .19. Mr. Baker was booked and processed on a charge of DUI.

The Arlington County Police Department charged four media outlets \$24 each for staff time to create a two-paragraph summary of a document they refused to release.

narrative of what happened when she arrived on the scene.

But when a copy of that document was requested under a Freedom of Information Act request, county police officials denied access. Instead, they offered a two-para-

graph summary of the document for a fee of \$24. Seven media organizations made Freedom of Information Act requests for the information, but only four agreed to pay the \$24 fee for access to the document that was created as a result of the decision to

suppress the police report.

"The \$24 charge is for a half-hour of staff time, and we probably spent about one or two hours responding to all the requests," said Lt. Patrick Donahue. "In the interest of fairness, we didn't want to charge the first person to request the document any more than all the other people who asked for it."

But advocates for open government say the actions of the Arlington County Police Department reveal larger problems with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. While some states provide public access to police reports,

SEE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, PAGE 12

"We try to use all the exemptions we can."

— Lt. Patrick Donahue

Adult Learners Find Path to Literacy

More tutors needed to meet demand.

BY ANSLEY LABARRE
THE CONNECTION

In a makeshift classroom, the lesson begins with a review of last week's homework assignment. Students sitting in clusters read aloud from their workbooks as a collective whole: "I want to learn basic English."

The rolling "r's" and over-pronounced "t's" emerge from native accents of students from Northern Africa to the Far East. While the diverse group wades through their lesson, they all have two things very much in common: each is an adult desperately trying to learn the English language.

Student Patricia Johnson moved here last September from Northern Brazil. She signed up for the English language program with the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia after realizing she couldn't function without English skills. As a former managerial and financial consultant, Johnson now hopes for a job as a restaurant hostess.

"... because he never learned to read or write in Spanish means there's no comparison for language learning."

— Bob Stump, tutor, of Arlington

"I am feeling like children," said Johnson, who intends to continue her English education.

Johnson is among the 2,267 adults who seek help from the Literacy Council's non-profit organization. LCNV's executive director Patricia Donnelly explains there are 129,000 adults in the metropolitan area alone who are functionally illiterate: They don't have the skills to sign a check or read a medicine bottle.

"How do they get by in our society?" Donnelly asks.

WHILE STUDENTS enroll in the LCNV programs with the goal of self-betterment through education, several acknowledge they have managed to successfully live in American society without the need to read, write, or even understand English.

Wei Yang Tsai of McLean has been living in the U.S. for almost 20 years, and operating his Ichiban Sushi restaurant for half that time. Tsai didn't feel the need to learn English despite being an independent business owner.



Americorps volunteer and teacher Melanie DePaulis, 26, works with students in her ESOL class — one of the services provided by the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia to improve adult English language education.

Instead, he surrounded himself with individuals who could complete the tasks requiring the language skills he didn't have. Tsai hired a lawyer, a CPA, and relied on his bi-lingual wife to handle the formal accounts at his restaurant.

The Taiwanese native had a defining moment outside the Ichiban environment that convinced him to pursue English language courses. Standing in the supermarket line, a cashier asked Tsai if he preferred paper or plastic. His lack of understanding led to the inadequate response of "no." Tsai left the market carrying all his groceries by hand.

Tsai has now been working with his LCNV tutor, McLean resident Ruth Hansen, for a little over 18 months. Hansen meets Tsai at Ichiban Sushi where they discuss the concepts of "small talk" and practice single sentence writing activities that simultaneously teach the restaurateur about American history.

The tutors are essential to the council's program. The volunteers dedicate two hours each week working with their students, often stopping on the commute home from work to meet at local community centers and practice reading, writing and speaking. The pairs are matched by the council by location, gender and common interest. Donnelly calls the approach very personal due to the sensitive nature of an adult entering English education courses.

HANSEN ATTRIBUTES three major factors allowing immigrants, like her own pupil, to live in the United States without understanding the native language. She says they are often working two or three full-time jobs that don't give them extra time to pursue education. Or, they have found a network of their native cultural community so intimate that learning English is not necessary. Lastly, Hansen says, there is a large intimidation factor for an adult to learn a new language. The intimidation is height-

Get Involved

The Literacy Council of Northern Virginia is holding a "Back to School Night" for potential tutors 6 - 9 p.m., Sept. 23, at the James Lee Community Center in Falls Church.

The council can be contacted at any time for general tutoring information at 703-237-0866. See its Web site at www.lcnv.org.

ish means there's no comparison for language learning." Things like sentence structure, which native English speakers don't question, stop Chavez in his tracks.

"We don't understand the parts of our language we take for granted," said Donnelly, who has dedicated seven years to the LCNV's mission and witnessed the struggle seen in Chavez and all of the council's students.

NOT ALL of these students come from a foreign background. Yolanda Thomas of Reston graduated high school with a reading level equivalent to the fourth grade. Coping with severe dyslexia, the 48-year-old struggles with daily tasks like managing bills and reading street signs or the menu at a restaurant.

"It's like being blind sometimes," said Thomas.

Thomas explains the condition often causes her to not see words that are in her direct line of vision. As a receptionist, Thomas only took jobs with electronic voicemail answering systems so that she never had to write a message.

At work, it is not unusual for Thomas to ask another employee for help with spelling a three-letter word. She enrolled in the LCNV's tutoring program because she was tired of her dyslexia holding her back, scaring her from trying new things.

"I'm not afraid to write e-mails anymore," said Thomas.

Her biggest accomplishment was reading her first book, "Guenevere," cover-to-cover.

Krista Gates ends her Mondays as an investment advisor by tutoring Thomas. The women take turns reading aloud to one another to expand Thomas' word compre-

SEE FINDING PATH, PAGE 15



Juan Corado, 33, works with a partner on English workbook exercises during their ESOL class at the Lincolnia Senior Center in Alexandria. "I'm taking the class to be able to read and write," said Corado. The class is one of several opportunities offered through the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia's program to improve adult English education, often starting with the very basics of language.

Police Seek Witnesses to Accident

The Arlington County Police Department's Criminal Investigation Section is investigating a traffic accident that occurred on July 24. Shortly before 9 p.m. on Friday, a suspect drove eastbound through a red light at the intersection of Columbia Pike and Walter Reed Drive, and struck another vehicle. After the impact, the suspect ran from

the scene of the accident, and was apprehended a block away. The driver of the second car, a 46-year-old male, was transported to a local hospital with critical injuries.

Police have reviewed video of the vehicle collision. Immediately after the accident, a woman with long dark hair, carrying a bag, is seen stepping from behind the vehicles. She walked in between the

two cars and continued walking eastbound on Columbia Pike. Investigators believe she narrowly missed being struck in the accident and could have witnessed the impact. Police urge anyone with additional information regarding this incident to call the Arlington County Police Department Tip Line at 703 228-4242, or Detective Leo Bello at 703-228-4048.

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns, call: 703-917-6431
By fax: 703-917-0991
arlington@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-917-6431
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Steve Hibbard
Associate Editor, 703-917-6407

Mark Giannotto
Sports Editor, 703-917-6409
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Editor & Publisher:
Mary Kimm
703-917-6416
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief:
Steven Mauren

Managing Editors
Michael O'Connell, Kemal Kurspahic

Photography:
Robbie Hammer, Louise Krafft,

Art/Design:
Geovani Flores,
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CIRCULATION: 703-917-6481

CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS, L.L.C.
Peter Labovitz
President/CEO

Mary Kimm
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer
703-917-6416
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon
Executive Vice President
703-917-6404
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-518-4631
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

COMMUNITY

"It is called Dark Star Park because in my imagination these spheres are like stars that have fallen to the ground — they no longer shine

— so I think of the park/artwork in a somewhat celestial way."

— Nancy Holt, Dark Star Park artist



Dark Star Park artist Nancy Holt.

Aligned with the Sun

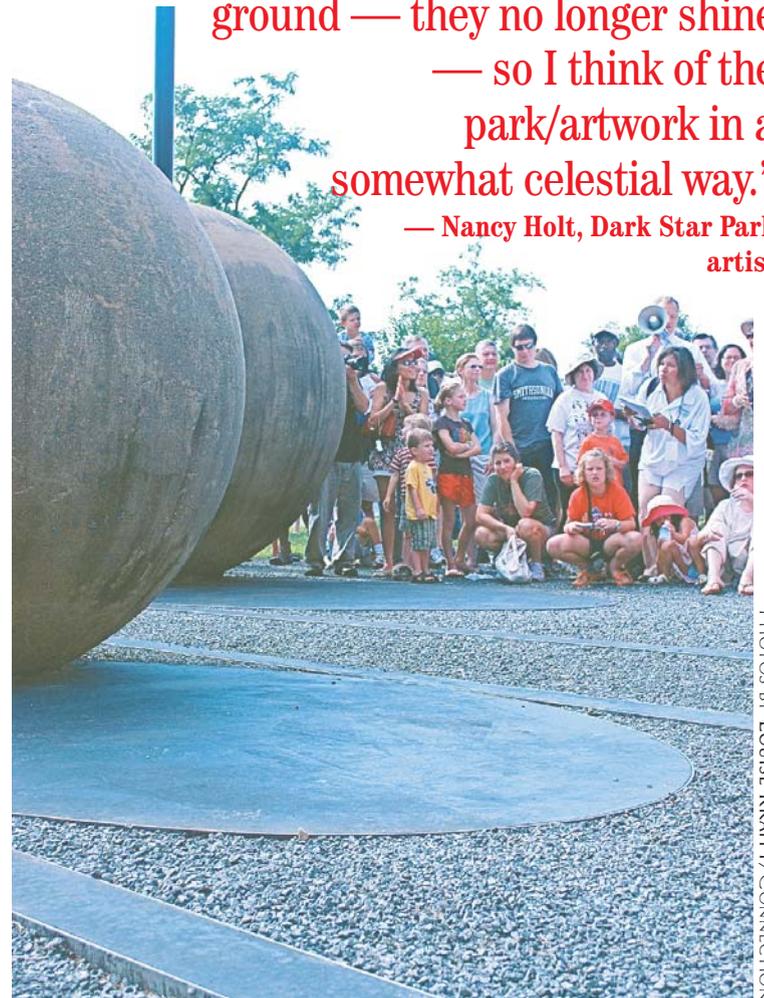
Rosslyn BID and the Arlington County Cultural Affairs together with the Arlington County Public Schools and NASA organized the 2009 Dark Star Festival in Rosslyn held on Saturday, Aug. 1. The festival coincides with the day in 1860 that William Henry Ross became owner of the farm that has now become Rosslyn.



Students from Arlington Traditional School and Barcroft, Barrett, Claremont, Drew, Glebe, Henry and McKinley Elementary Schools created circle art for an exhibit outside the Dome Theatre.



Miles Pulford watches as Edna Hernandez paints a mask onto John Conlon's face in Freedom Park.



At 9:32 on Aug. 1, the shadow lines of the spheres in Dark Star Park are aligned to the actual shadows created by the sun rising over Rosslyn.



Actor's from Synetic Theatre perform a pantomime for the children on the stage at Freedom Park.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

BULLETIN BOARD

Know of something missing from the community calendar? E-mail it to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is 2 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Call Steve Hibbard 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

“Maywood at a Milestone,” a photo exhibit commemorating the Maywood neighborhood’s centennial, has opened at Cherrydale Library, 2190 Military Road (703-228-6330; www.CherrydaleLibrary.org). Includes vintage photographs dating from 1908, plus contemporary pictures by Greg Embree. Closes Dec. 31, 2009.

Volunteer gardeners are needed to plan and help maintain a vegetable garden at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 S. 16th St., Arlington. The garden is an intergenerational project shared by both youth and seniors anxious to learn and participate. Call Jessica Vasquez, area supervisor, Office of Senior Adult Programs, 703-228-0948.

Learn how to be a **volunteer coach** for two computer based programs on brain health and fitness. Arlington’s Office of Senior Adult Programs (OSAP) is currently offering two Posit Science programs. Call Jessica Vasquez, area supervisor at 703-228-0948.

THURSDAY/AUG. 6

Superintendent Chat Session. 7-9

p.m. Schools Superintendent Dr. Pat Murphy will attend a chat session at the home of Jim Kane and Sharon Williams. These gatherings are being held to give Arlingtonians an opportunity to get to know Murphy, talk with him about a range of school-related topics, and to ask questions or provide feedback in small, informal settings. At 5701 N. 15th Road, Arlington. Call 703-228-6005.

FRIDAY/AUG. 7

Peace Corps Information Session. Peace Corps - Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, 1525 Wilson Blvd., Suite 100, Arlington. Call 202-692-1050.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 19

Home Renewable Energy Talk. 7 p.m. Join Kent Baake, president of Continuum Energy Solutions, to learn how to add renewable energy and energy efficiency features to your home. \$5 cost. RSVP to Continuum Energy Solutions at info@ces-va.com or by calling 703-354-0262. At Potomac Overlook Regional Park, end of Marcey Road, off of Military Road, in north Arlington. Call 703-528-5406.

TUESDAY/AUG. 25

On Board! 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Leadership Arlington will host On Board!, a nonprofit board member training. On Board’s mission is to create capacity amongst Northern Virginia nonprofits through education and training. At WETA. Go to www.LeadershipArlington.org/programs/ON-BOARD. Call 703-528-2522.

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Signature Theatre Holds Free Target Open House

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Date: Saturday, August 8 from Noon – 9:30 p.m.

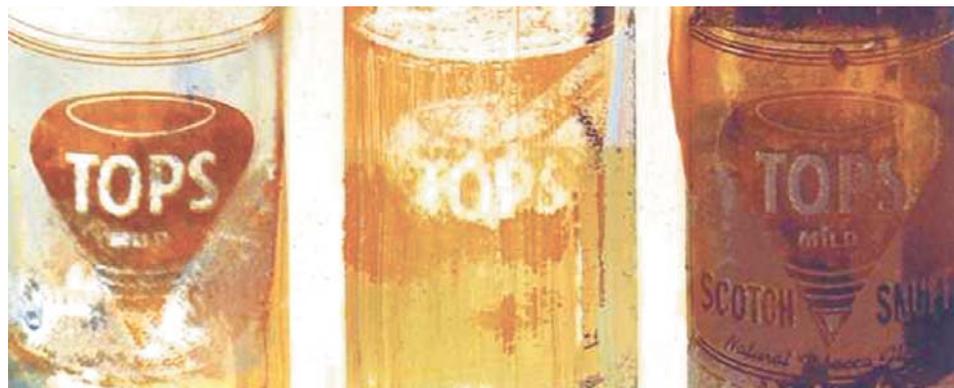
Signature Theatre, the recipient of the 2009 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, celebrates the best in musical theater and drama at its Target Open House on Saturday, Aug. 8 from noon – 9:30 p.m. Free and open to the public, this Signature event is nine hours of performances, and master classes, demonstrations, and exhibits, plus children's offerings, all offered in Signature's two-theater complex. Events begin every 15 minutes. Located in the Shirlington Village area of Arlington. Free parking is available in two adjacent public garages.

Target Open House attendees can go behind the scenes at the theatre, hear musical highlights from the upcoming season (including "Showboat" and "Sweeney Todd"), hear reunion concerts of past Signature shows, learn new dance steps from a Helen Hayes-winning choreographer, pick up performance tips from master artists, attend a Broadway concert, hear live rock music on the Plaza, and more.

Children's activities will include a moon bounce and crafts, including mask and puppet making. Another feature at this year's Target Open House, Signature is offering a pay-what-you-can opportunity for theater-lovers to be photographed with the company's Tony Award statue. Photos will be available for downloading following the event.

Open House headliners will include the Tony nominated chanteuse Emily Skinner (called "a blissfully improbable hybrid of Merman and Dietrich" by The New York Times), singer/songwriter Katie Thompson (remembered as the red-headed standout in LaChiusa's "Giant"), and a highlights concert featuring the original cast of Signature's 2002 hit "Hedwig and the Angry Inch." Target's sponsorship of the Open House allows Signature to offer the local community this free day of events celebrating the company's 20th anniversary season. For more information visit, www.signature-theatre.org.

Signature's 20th anniversary season opens on Aug. 11 with "Dirty Blonde," starring Emily Skinner as Mae West and continues with "Show Boat," "I Am My Own Wife," "Sweeney Todd," the world premiere of "Sycamore Trees," and the world premiere run of "First You Dream" The Kander & Ebb Concert.



Tops Suite, William Christenberry revisits the advertising sign.

AUG. 6-SEPT. 6

Athenaeum Gallery presents Screenprinting Today — A Regional Survey of Contemporary Screen Prints and Related Works, curated by Dennis O'Neil. Opening Reception is Sunday, Aug. 9 at 4 p.m. Free. Show curator, Dennis O'Neil, of the Hand Print Workshop, has put together a collection of screenprints and related work representing his view of the very best work currently being done in our region. O'Neil's exhibit, on display for one month only at the Athenaeum features: Christine Carr, William Christenberry, Georgia Deal, Aaron Fay, Michael Gross, Carolyn Hartmann, Elizabeth Klimek, Alex Kondner, Pepa Leon, Nick Popovici, Chakraphan Rangaratna, Tanja Softic, Renee Stout and Noelle Tan. On Aug. 23 at 3 p.m., Dennis O'Neil and Susan Goldman of Navigation Press will host a gallery talk to discuss the role of collaboration in the printmaking process.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 5

The Airmen of Note. 8 p.m. Free concert at the U.S. Air Force Memorial, One Air Force Memorial Drive, Arlington. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

THURSDAY, AUG. 6

Arlington X-Games. 1:45-5 p.m. At Bluemont Park. Free. Come challenge yourself with various games and challenges. Call Mary McMullen at 703-228-4711.

Book Reading. 7 p.m. Young Author Alexander Alexandrov will read excerpts from his debut novel, All For You, at Barnes & Noble, 2800 Clarendon Blvd., Suite #500.

Concerts at Kenmore Auditorium. 7:30 p.m. The U.S. Army Concert Band and friends present two evenings of Motown, Sinatra, and Shostakovich, with local composer/conductor Mark Camphouse.

FRIDAY, AUG. 7

Summer Concert Series. 8 p.m. The Concert Band and Singing Sergeants of the U.S. Air Force will perform. Free. At the U.S. Air Force Memorial, One Air Force Memorial Drive, Arlington. Call 202-767-5658 or go to www.usafband.af.mil.

"Pretty in Pink" (1986). Free. Part of the I Love the '80s Outdoor Film Festival. At dusk at Gateway Park, Lee Highway near Key Bridge. Rosslyn. Parking available at the Atlantic Parking Garage for \$3 at 1901 and 1911 N. Ft. Myer Drive after 6 p.m. Visit www.arlingtonarts.org.

SATURDAY/AUG. 8

Carnival Cup Family Fun & Games. Features a 7 vs. 7 soccer tourney, a moon bounce, self defense class, dance performances and more. Sponsored by Catholic Charities Hogar Immigrant Services. At Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Contact Lucila Fernandez at 703-534-9805 x 231 or email lfernandez@ccda.net.

Woven Green at The Paladium. 6-8 p.m. Husband-and-wife Jim and Ashley Cash with their band Woven Green, will perform at Bangkok Blues in Falls Church. Their music ranges from energetic and empowering to hypnotic and introspective.

Ballston Arts & Crafts Market. Free admission. 30 local artists and crafters. New guest is Arlington ArtWorks! Live music by Arlington's own, The Constituents from noon to 2 p.m. And Darcy Nair, Celtic singer and instrumentalist. At Welburn Square, North Stuart and North 9th Streets, across from the Ballston Metro Station. Go to <http://ballstonarts-craftsmarket.blogspot.com>.

Movie Under the Stars. 8:30 p.m.-11 p.m. At Thomas Jefferson Middle School. Free. Call Mary McMullen at 703-228-4711.

Barbara Martin and Mac Walter, musicians. 7-9 p.m. At Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 Marcey Road, Arlington. Call 703-528-5406 or go to www.nvrpa.org/parks/potomacoverlook/index.php Donation suggested.

Garden Dedication. 1 p.m. Community and faith leaders will gather for Dr. George Tiller's memorial garden dedication. At the Falls Church Healthcare

Center, 900 S. Washington St., Falls Church.
Arlington ArtWorks. At Ballston Arts & Crafts Market. The program provides disabled individuals an opportunity to expand their artistic talents. Arlington ArtWorks will be featuring the participants' glasswork. The Ballston Arts & Crafts Market is located between N. Stuart St. and N. 9th St, across from the Ballston Metro.

SUNDAY/AUG. 9

Piano Performance. 7 p.m. Bobby Mitchell performs piano at Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church, 1500 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington.

17th Annual Ecuadorian Festival. 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Free. The Festival is Presented by Confraternidad Cultural Ecuatoriana, and celebrates Ecuador's national day with traditional music and dance, food and crafts. Featured is singer Roberto Zumba, the band "Sentimiento Andino" and dance troupe "Hnos Ayllianos". Barcroft Park. Call 571-277-6209.

MONDAY/AUG. 10

"Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer." Free. Part of the Superheroes Summer Film Festival, which start at sundown, rain or shine, at Bell St. Courtyard, along S. Bell Street between 18th and 20th Streets, across from the Crystal City Metro Station and Marriott Hotel. Visit www.crystalcity.org.

AUG. 10-13

Vacation Bible School. 1-3 p.m. For children ages 3-10, including stories, crafts, music, games and snacks. Free. At Advent Lutheran Church, 2222 S. Arlington Ridge Rd., Arlington. Call 703-521-7010. advntlc@hotmail.com; www.advntlc.us

AUG. 10-14

Swimmers age 55 and older can swim at no charge at any of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's five waterparks the week of Aug. 10-14. Proof of age is required and hours at each park may vary.

NVRPA's waterparks include Downpour at Algonkian Regional Park, Great Waves at Cameron Run Regional Park, Atlantis at Bull Run Regional Park, Pirate's Cove at Pohick Bay Regional Park and Upton Hill Regional Park. Visit www.nvrpa.org.

Signature Theatre Opens 20th Anniversary Season with "Dirty Blonde," the Broadway Hit about Mae West, starring Emily Skinner. **"Dirty Blonde"** runs in Signature's ARK Theatre from Aug. 11 through Oct. 4. Show times are Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. There are no Dirty Blonde performances Saturday, Aug. 15 at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, Aug. 18 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$47-\$71, are available by calling Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or visiting www.signature-theatre.org. Call Ticketmaster 703-573-SEAT (7328). Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington.



TARGET OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

11:45 a.m. — Pam Parker, R&B (Plaza Stage)
12 p.m. — Signature Season Highlights Concert, musical theater (MAX Theatre)
12:15 p.m. — Overtures Graduates in Concert, musical theater (ARK Theatre)
12:30 p.m. — Pam Parker, R&B (Plaza Stage)
12:30 p.m. — Conversation with Signature's Production Team
12:45 p.m. — Felicia Curry: Acting with Music Master Class (Shen Rehearsal Room)
1 p.m. — Matt Conner, piano (Mead Lobby)
1:15 p.m. — Julia Nixon in Concert, R&B/musical theater (MAX Theatre)
1:30 p.m. — American Musical Voices Concert, original songs (ARK Theatre)
1:45 p.m. — Dizzy Miss Lizzy, theater rock (Plaza Stage)
2 p.m. — Eric Schaeffer: Performance Master Class (Shen Rehearsal Room)
2 p.m. — "The Signature Documentary" film (Shirlington Public Library)

2:15 p.m. — My Audition Book: The Women I, their favorite songs (Mead Lobby)
2:30 p.m. — TBA (MAX Theatre)
2:45 p.m. — Signature Sings Sondheim, musical theater (ARK Theatre)
3 p.m. — Temika Moore, R&B (Plaza Stage)
3:15 p.m. — Karma Camp: Dancing Broadway Master Class (Shen Rehearsal Room)
3:30 p.m. — My Audition Book: The Men II, their favorite songs (Mead Lobby)
3:30 p.m. — Conversation w/ Signature's Production Team (Zickler Rehearsal Room)
3:45 p.m. — Katie Thompson in Concert, original, R&B, musical theater (MAX Theatre)
4 p.m. — Nynth Ave Drifters, 3 guys with guitars (ARK Theatre)
4 p.m. — "The Signature Documentary" film (Shirlington Public Library)
4:15 p.m. — Kuku, Nigerian singer/songwriter (Plaza Stage)
4:30 p.m. — Michael Baron: Auditioning Master Class (Shen Rehearsal Room)
4:45 p.m. — Peter Lerman, singer/songwriter folk & musical theater (Mead Lobby)
5 p.m. — Hedwig and the Angry Inch Highlights Concert (MAX Theatre)
5:15 p.m. — Signature Season Highlights Concert, musical theater (ARK Theatre)
5:30 p.m. — Blue Hotel, rock (Plaza Stage)
5:45 p.m. — Ask Eric Schaeffer & Maggie Boland, Signature's leadership team (Shen Rehearsal Room)
6 p.m. — My Audition Book: The Women II their favorite songs (Mead Lobby)
6:15 p.m. — Emily Skinner in Concert cabaret musical theater (MAX Theatre)
6:30 p.m. — American Musical Voices Cabaret original songs (ARK Theatre)
6:45 p.m. — Blue Hotel, rock (Plaza Stage)
7:15 p.m. — My Audition Book: The Men II their favorite songs (Mead Lobby)
7:30 p.m. — Nevermore Highlights Concert (MAX Theatre)
7:45 p.m. — Katie Thompson in Concert, original, R&B, musical theater (ARK Theatre)
8:30 p.m. — Broadway on the Plaza – Finale Concert (Plaza Stage)

THEATRE

Some Strange Encounters Of a Reptilian Kind

Edward Albee's Pulitzer Winner "Seascape" At Gunston In Arlington.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE CONNECTION

Edward Albee won the 1975 Pulitzer Prize in Drama (one of three he's pulled down) for a four-person play exploring the evolution of both personal relationships and species. Well, it's not quite a "four-person" play because two of the characters aren't human. They are some sort of lizard-like sea creatures who have emerged from the salty broth to try living on land.

Darwin tells us that once upon a time there must have been many individuals of sea-species that made that adventurous evolutionary leap at one time. But they would not have encountered an English-speaking human couple who are about-to-retire. It is the unique capacity of theater to spin such a story right in front of your eyes and the unique skill of Edward Albee to make all four of the individuals — reptilian and mamalian — interesting and identifiably individual.

The American Century Theater is reviving Albee's unique play, "Seascape" in Theater II of Arlington's Gunston Arts Center. Under director Steven Scott Mazzola, Annie Houston and Craig Miller take on the roles of the human couple who are in the midst of their own life-change as they approach retirement, and Brian Crane and Mundy Spears have donned costumes with huge swinging tails as the other "individuals."

Together, they explore not just the issues Albee raises but the unique flights of language that are a hallmark of any play by the author of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf," "A Delicate Balance" and "The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?"

The humans don't meet the reptiles until late in the first act. The bulk of that act is devoted to the human couple's debate among themselves over what their life to-



MICAH HUTZ/THE CONNECTION

Edward Albee's "Seascape" runs now through Aug. 22 in Arlington.

gether should be like as the husband retires from employment and the wife no longer has her life dominated by child rearing duties. These two may have been enjoying a successful marriage in the past but they are at a key moment in the evolution of their relationship and are deep in argument over their future. He believes that they have "earned some rest" while she is anxious to find fulfillment in an adventurous future, perhaps traveling the world to always be living at a warm beach.

Albee uses these divergent views to raise questions about the purpose of life and the role of partnership in the mating ritual that is marriage. As is so often the case with Albee, however, he doesn't offer answers. Draw your own conclusions and relate them to your own existence.

With the arrival of the lizard-like couple (who, somehow, are quite fluent in English) the focus of the discussions widen to embrace great issues of the meaning of life itself. With specific questions going all the way from the meaning of "love" to the origin of the ritual of shaking hands, the text is full of typically stimulating Albeeisms.

The human pair has more complex complications than do the reptiles, and Houston and Miller do a good job of delineating them, although Houston's character's harping on her disappointments in her mate are a bit hard to take.

Crane and Spears avoid playing the reptilian couple for laughs, although they don't quite appear as

"emotionless" as the dialogue seems to imply they should be. That is not to say, however, that they don't get their fair share of laughs with Albee's wit. Exploring everything from the sex organs of mammals to reptilian reproduction with its thousands of eggs as opposed to the human's conception of three offspring, the discussions are intriguing.

Melanie Clark designed the costumes for the reptiles and Lynn Sharp-Spears the makeup. Together they found a way to have the reptiles not look like humans with green coloring but very acceptable as creatures from a prehistoric (by eons) age.



Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway, and edits Potomac Stages, a Web site covering theater in the region (www.PotomacStages.com). He can be reached at Brad@PotomacStages.com.

Where and When

The American Century Theater's revival of "Seascape" runs through Aug. 22 at Theater II in the Gunston Arts Center, 2700 South Lang Street, Arlington. Performances are Wednesday – Saturday at 8 p.m. and Saturday – Sunday at 2:30 p. m. Tickets are \$25 - \$32. Call 703-998-4555 or log on to www.americancentury.org.

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It's All-in at All Star Meet

Overlee finishes with six medalists at NVSL all star meet.

BY COLIN DAILED
THE CONNECTION

Diop. "I like the competition, I always have."

Spectators and coaches alike cheered wildly as 10-year-old Mattia Diop of McLean stepped up to the edge of the pool. He stared out at lane three through his airtight goggles, anxiously awaiting the start of the 50-meter breaststroke race. This was his event. He had been expected to win it all season. The problem was, this was the Northern Virginia Swim League (NVSL) all-stars meet; everyone he was racing against had been expected to win all season, too.

The buzzer sounded, and the competitors raced for the turn. Diop was no more than a nose ahead at the halfway point, the swimmer in lane four very much in the contest. With barely 10 meters to go, Diop glanced over. Was he still there? Right on his shoulder.

Diop poured it on for the finish. He slapped the wall, and immediately looked up at the time board. First place; he had done it. Diop leapt for joy, pumping his fist in the air.

The race may have been a close one, but tight competition has never scared Diop. He knows what he has to do to reach the wall first.

"I have to push harder," said

COMPETITION is something the NVSL has plenty of. Close to 600 athletes were vying for medals at the all-star meet on Saturday, Aug. 1, and it required a huge effort from both the league and host pool Broyhill Crest to make sure everything ran smoothly.

"We give all our credit to the host pool first and foremost," said meet manager Jack Schaeffer. "They supply the majority of the manpower to put this meet on. They work tirelessly for months getting their pool ready."

The host pool's job is to prepare for the onslaught of swimmers and spectators. It is NVSL's job to select a good host, and make sure they know what goes into putting on such an event.

"You have to go through a process of actually applying to host a meet," said NVSL President Chris Loeser. "[Schaeffer] lets them know what kind of an effort it is and they go back to their board and say 'OK, are we willing to do this?'"

"Broyhill Crest stood up to the task," said Schaeffer.

The host pool ran a smooth meet, helping the swimmers put on a show. The meet had it all; dominant individual performances, close races, and a few



PHOTOS BY COLIN DAILED/THE CONNECTION

Ten-year-old Mattia Diop dives in during his 50-meter breaststroke race at this past weekend's NVSL All-Star meet.

underdog stories.

When 12-year-old Connor Cason of Shouse Village stepped up to lane one for the 50-meter butterfly, he knew all too well about the boy two lanes to his left. Andrew Seliskar of McLean was the NVSL's fastest butterflyer in the 11-12 year-old age group, and he was poised to prove that at the all-star meet.

Undeterred by Seliskar's reputa-

tion, Cason was in front through 25 meters.

"When I did my flip turn I saw I was up front a little bit," said Cason, still grinning with excitement as he recounted the race. "I just took it home from there. I just had to [go] as fast as I could."

Cason kept up the speed from the first length, and let out a "Yes!" as soon as he hit the wall. It was the NVSL David over Goliath moment of the day.

BUT THE DAVIDS of the sports world rarely come out on top. Amanda Kendall, 18, went into the NVSL all-star meet already the owner of the league's 50-meter butterfly record. The Kings Ridge swimmer closed the day having set the bar even higher in the butterfly, and captured the 50-meter freestyle record to boot.

"The freestyle was exciting because I broke a new record," said Kendall, whose last NVSL race was her record-setting butterfly swim. She also broke the 15-18 50-meter freestyle record that was previously held by Great Falls native and Yorktown graduate Katie Radloff "I know this is my last NVSL meet ever so, gotta go all out, you know? Leave everything in the pool, which I feel I've accomplished so I'm happy."

Arlington pools were also well represented at the meet. Domin-

ion Hills had four swimmers race this past weekend, led by KJ Morris-Larkin's 15th place finish in the 8-and-under butterfly. Eric Weiner (16th, 10-and-under IM; 18th, 9-10 butterfly) and Charlotte Lewis (16th, 8-and-under breaststroke). Abby Young qualified for two events at all-stars, but was unable to compete.

After winning NVSL's top division, Overlee also had a strong contingent at the all star meet. The highest finish was a second place medal scored by Michaela Morrison in the girls' 9-10 50 breaststroke. Morrison added a fifth-place finish in the 50 backstroke event. Overlee's other double medalists were Rachel Robertson, who had fourth place finishes in the girls' 13-14 50 back and 50 breast events, while Nicholas Pasternak had a pair of sixth place finishes in the boys' 9-10 50 free and 25 fly. The other Overlee medalists were Jonathan Day (4th in boys' 9-10 50 back), Ryan Baker (5th in boys' 11-12 50 back), and John Thomas Dolan (5th in boys' 8-and-under 25 free). The rest of the Overlee swimmers that swam at the All Star Meet were Timothy Aldinger, Lauren Allard, Katie Bennett, Sean Coleman, Megan Day, Suzanne Dolan, Tyler Gehrs, Kathleen Kinsella, Andrew Loranger, Izzy Pasternak, Kayla Rusby-Wood, and Kaitlin Wolla.



Swimmers practice their flip turns in advance of the NVSL All-Star meet held this past weekend.

Driver Gave Free Rides for Underprivileged Students

FROM PAGE 3

before school started.

Pakidas couldn't have realized that he couldn't have asked anyone better suited or more willing.

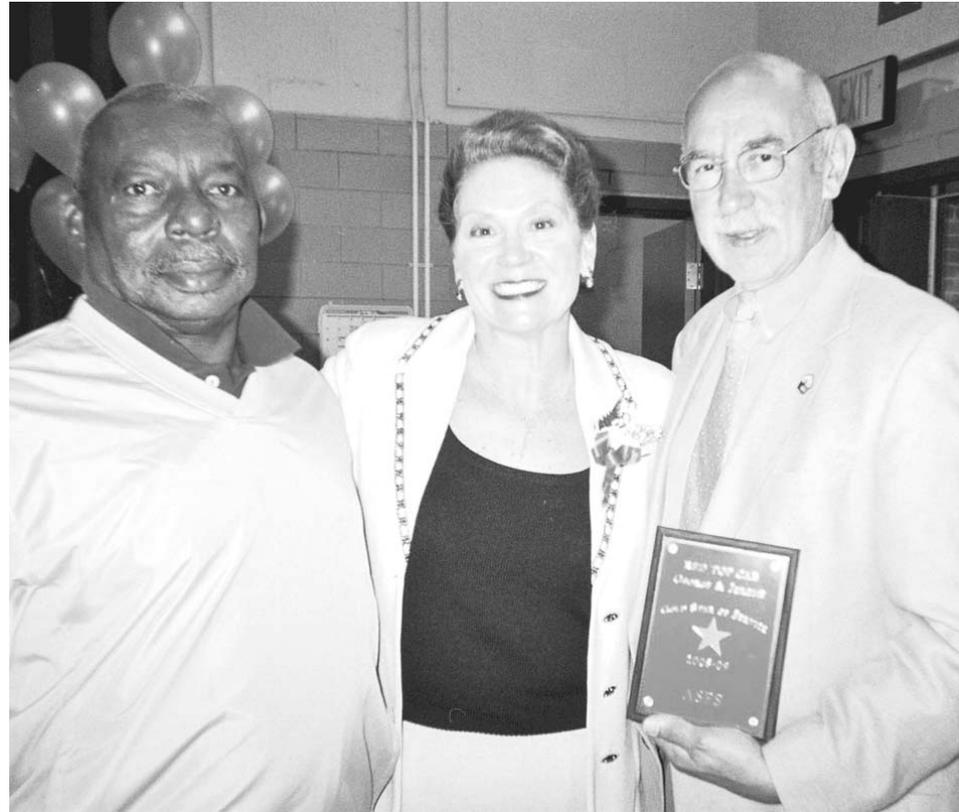
"It's just helping. The way things are today if we don't help each other ... we still in the same boat," said Green. "It's really not a big deal, it's more or less [about] helping the kids."

PARENTS, ADMINISTRATORS and students at Arlington Science Focus School saw it as more than just helping, and earlier this summer they gave Green an award for his service. The award was neither expected nor desired, but Green said it was appreciated.

Green has driven various students to the school over the last three years, picking them up at 7:30 each morning. Some he took for several weeks, others a semester or longer. During the trips he got to know the students and he tried to impart to them some advice on common courtesy and common sense.

"It's rewarding in the end after you've gone through the whole school year," Green said. "You watch them grow, you watch them mature. It makes you feel good because some of the things you talk to them about constantly, they do."

When Arlington Science Focus principal Mary Begley told Lakicia Moye about the program she jumped at the opportunity to



Red Top driver Jerome Green stands with Arlington Science Focus School Principal Mary Begley and Red Top Vice President George Pakidis with the Gold Star Volunteer Award.

take advantage of it. Her two children, 10-year-old Andrea and 11-year-old Aaron, were students at the school and she wanted

them to take part in the extra reading program that took place before school. With two working parents, two children and one

"You watch them grow, you watch them mature. It makes you feel good because some of the things you talk to them about constantly, they do."

— Jerome Green

car, Lakicia Moye said that the help from Green made that possible.

"I guess my job was to make sure the kids got around the corner by 7:30," said Moye. "It was a blessing for us. It truly helped us out."

Moye said that she hasn't talked much to Green — there wasn't a lot of time as her kids got in the cab and she raced off to work — and she hasn't had the chance to thank Green in person yet but she said that she hopes he knows how thankful her family is and how much his help has meant to them and the other families like hers.

Knowing Green, thanks probably isn't necessary.

"You can't keep it unless you give it away," Green said. "If you can share what you've got without it taking you out then, man, why not?"

Suppressing Public Documents Generates Fees

FROM PAGE 3

these documents are routinely suppressed in Virginia. That's why governments such as Arlington can withhold the documents from view and charge for staff time to summarize a document that's being suppressed.

"We try to use all the exemptions we can," said Donahue. "It's mainly to keep the integrity of the prosecution or to protect the privacy of witnesses and victims."

BUT STATES that release public records for public inspection don't seem to have a problem prosecuting crimes. In Florida, for example, police reports are widely available to the public and the press. The state's Sunshine Law creates several narrowly tailored exemptions for specific reasons — protecting the names or rape victims, for example. Public-safety officials in Florida say providing access to these documents has not breached the integrity of prosecutions or hampered their ability to fight crime.

"In Florida, we are open until we are closed," said Alexis Lambert, a Sunshine Law attorney in the Florida attorney general's office in Tallahassee. "I always tell people that the quickest way to handle a conspiracy theory is to hand over the documentation."

Yet by concealing police reports, Virginia's public-records laws invite guesswork and

speculation. One section of the commonwealth's Freedom of Information Act provides broad exemptions for "complaints, memoranda, correspondence, case files or reports, witness statements." That's a broad authority that gives police departments across Virginia an ability to shield much of their actions from public inspection. The catch is that if they chose to deny access to the police report they have to provide a summary of the suppressed document known as a "criminal incident information" that includes "general description" of the criminal activity, "general location" and "general description" of the injuries.

"It's got more generals than the Army," said Maria Everett, executive director of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council. "Even the information that's required for the criminal incident report seems to be a moving target sometimes."

WHILE RELEASING public documents would be virtually free — especially in the age of e-mail — concealing these records is more costly. Someone in the Arlington Police Department has to sit down with the

suppressed police report and summarize it to create the criminal incident report for compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. In the case of Baker's arrest, that staff time was charged to anyone who wanted to see the two-paragraph summary. But several public-records advocates contacted for this article say Arlington's policy of charging multiple media outlets a

\$24 fee for an existing public record is flawed.

"It does seem to be an abuse of the section allowing local governments to recover their costs," said Megan Rhyne, executive director of the Virginia Coalition for Open Government. "It just doesn't seem right."

As to the larger question of why police departments are given such wide latitude to conceal their day-to-day operations, some advocates for open government say its time to end the blackout on police reports. They say that providing access to police reports will give citizens a better idea of how their government operates, and the increased transparency will create more trust between citizens and police. Yet even the strongest supporters for open government say powerful forces are

aligned to keep these documents shielded from public inspection.

"The exemption for police reports is overly broad, and it should be narrowed," said Ginger Stanley, executive director of the Virginia Press Association. "But police and sheriff associations have very powerful lobbyists, and they do not want this to change."

DESPITE THE HURDLES, some members of the General Assembly said they would support an effort to narrow the exemption clause for police reports. Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49) said the county's policy of consistently denying access to police reports raises questions about the usefulness of existing legislation to provide public access to records. Del. David Englin (D-45) went a step further and said he would support efforts to narrow the exemptions to specific situations in a way similar to Florida's Sunshine Law. He even said he might consider introducing such a measure in the upcoming session of the General Assembly.

"I can't think of a good reason not to release police reports," said Englin. "When I was a public-information officer in the military, my philosophy was always to release information rather than forcing people to jump through hoops to submit a FOIA request in the first place."

"The exemption for police reports is overly broad, and it should be narrowed."

— Ginger Stanley, executive director, Virginia Press Association

COMMUNITY

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Discover how to build new connections after retiring with the **Peer Transition Guide Program** sponsored by the Office of Senior Adult Programs. Call or email transitions counselor Rachel Thompson at 703-228-4759 or rthompson@arlingtonva.us on Monday, Aug. 17.

Preventing identity theft, Mon., Aug. 17, 1 p.m., Langston-Brown Senior Center, 2121 N. Culpeper Street. Program presented by Zaida Gonzalez, Arlington Federal Credit Union. Free. Call to register, 703-228-5321.

'FLOURISHING AFTER 55'

Free blood pressure monitoring and glucose testing (requires two hour fasting), Monday, Aug. 17, 10 a.m., Culpeper Garden Senior Center, 4435 N. Pershing Drive. Call to register, 703-228-4403.

One-on-one assistance for seniors to identify helpful resources available through Arlington's Department of Human Services, Wednesday, Aug. 19, 10 a.m., Langston-Brown Senior Center. Free. Call to register, 703-228-5321.

Larissa Rogers, R.N. will meet with seniors to discuss **shingles vaccine and treatment**, Thursday, Aug. 20, 10:15 a.m., Walter Reed Senior Center, 2909 S. 16th Street. Details, 703-228-0955.

Anne Morris, registered occupational therapist will explain and demonstrate **tools to aid seniors** in their homes, Thursday, Aug. 20, 1 p.m., Walter Reed Senior Center, 2909 S. 16th Street. Free. Call to register, 703-228-0955.

How to tell the "**good**" guys from the "**bad**" guys will be explored Friday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m., Aurora Hills Senior Center, 735 S. 18th Street. Guest speaker Lt. Heather Hurlock, Arlington County Police Department. Free. Call to register, 703-228-5722.

Seniors-only hours at weight rooms at Madison Community Center and Langston-Brown Senior Center. Weight machines, cardio exercise equipment, onsite fitness instructor. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., L-B, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 7 a.m. - 11 a.m., Saturday, 7 a.m. - 10 a.m., Madison, 3829 N. Stafford Street. Cost is \$56 for 16-session ticket. For more information, 703-228-4745.

Senior trips planned by Arlington Senior Adult Travel: Sunday, Aug. 16, early morning paddle tour at Pohick Regional Park, Lorton, \$32; Monday, Aug. 17, National Museum of Women in the Arts, McFadden exhibit, \$20; Tuesday, Aug. 18, City of Fredericksburg Paddlewheeler tour on the Rappahannock, lunch, \$58; Saturday, Aug. 22, Bartrams Gardens, Philadelphia, and lunch, \$84. Registration required. Call 703-228-4749.

Arlington's Parks Dept. is a co-sponsor of **North-ern Virginia Senior Olympics**, Sept. 12-23. Registration deadline is Aug. 28. For information, Monday through Friday, 703-228-4721 or check the Web site, www.novaseniorolympics.com.

Help Find Thief

The Arlington County Police Department's Burglary Unit is seeking the public's help to identify a man who entered apartments on Carlin Springs Road and stole cash and personal forms of identification in March and April of this year.

Surveillance video captured images of a subject possibly involved. The suspect is described as an African American male, 5'7" to 6' tall. He was wearing a dark jacket or sweatshirt, blue jeans, and a dark baseball cap with logo. He appears to be in his 30's.

Anyone who recognizes the suspect or has information about these larcenies is asked to call Detective Tammy Celestini at 703-228-4164 or email at: tcelestini@arlingtonva.us

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Time For A Rant



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently I read in The Washington Post Sports section of the death of Sue Burns, 58, part owner of The San Francisco Giants. (As much as I'm trying not to think about death, I do find myself spending a bit more time perusing the Obituary section, although Ms. Burns' mention was found in the sports section.) The description as to the cause of her death was fairly ordinary and typical, I would imagine, unless you're a current and/or former cancer patient and in my case, a writer with a different, perhaps unique, perspective.

It read "Sue Burns ... died of complications of cancer." My initial reaction was sadness: that a woman so young, presumably with so much to live for (a part owner of a professional baseball team) died at age 58. Then Kenny the writer, the one with cancer reacted: Died of complications from cancer! How else do you die from cancer? The way you're supposed to? How is that, exactly? I'd like to know. I sort of have an interest in the answer/outcome. Moreover, so far as my first seven months as a known cancer patient are considered, how does one not have complications from cancer? That's all cancer is, a series of complications. The complications are not separate and apart from the cancer, that is the cancer doing its cancerous thing. To say one died from complications of cancer is akin to asking Mrs. Lincoln how she liked the play, aside from the assassination that is.

Perhaps I'm too close to the reported cause of Ms. Burns' death, however, to be an objective reader. Perhaps I'm too sensitive to the situation: someone dying in their 50s from cancer. But maybe not. Maybe I've just become knowledgeable enough, after my own diagnosis, to notice when a buyer is not being aware or in this case, when a cause of death is being complicated unnecessarily.

As a salesman, one of the most time-honored and respected adages for success is to "k.i.s.s." - keep it simple, stupid. So too might that advice apply to a reported cause of death. Cancer, in and of itself, is a sufficient cause of death; it need not be expounded upon for any kind of effect or newsworthiness. "Cancer" kills, it doesn't require a further explanation.

I realize that the reporting of Ms. Burns' death, located in the sports section within a six-column-inch box with other items of the day rather than in the obituary section (where it also may have appeared, but I never got that far), was likely not intended to be anything more than a simple statement of the semi-facts. Nevertheless, it seemed to minimize cancer as enough of a cause of death.

For those of us fighting this dreaded disease, and for the millions who have preceded us, it's more than enough. Cancer may not be for the weak of heart, and if it was, it wouldn't be a complication, it would be one of cancer's insidious tentacles reaching out to inflict its unique brand of pain. Death comes to us all. Unfortunately, for cancer patients, it may come a bit sooner. And if it does, it ain't from no stinkin' complication; it's from the cancer, the mother of all complications.

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

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- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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NEWS

Finding Path to Literacy

FROM PAGE 4

hension. Gates has noticed significant improvement in her student's self-confidence as they tackle reading exercises and exchange cooking recipes — a task that previously required too much literacy for Thomas to embrace.

"We don't realize how much we use reading and writing," said Gates.

language. Donnelly's description of the LCNV's mission for English education is not just to serve as a Band-Aid, but as a tool for constant growth that can be passed down for generations.

The biggest investment for students and teachers alike is the amount of time needed for adults to learn a new language. But all participants, including Thomas, find the months of study to be

"We don't realize how much we use reading and writing."

— Krista Gates

EACH OF THESE students managed to create a life without the use of the English, but it was the difficulty with small and often unnoticed tasks that Donnelly says hurt her pride and compelled her to learn the

worthwhile in a society that has expectations reaching far beyond basic English skills.

"It has been a journey to do better with what most take for granted," she said.

County Manager Moving On

FROM PAGE 3

"He understood Arlington's values," said Favola. "He understood how to create and implement an agenda that moved Arlington from being a good county to an excellent county."

Carlee notes much of this success is a direct result of his highly competent staff and supportive constituency. He says Arlington taxpayers expect much from their county government but are extremely supportive, and his career was based on the demands of his citizenry and good policies inherited from previous county managers.

During the course of his work for the county, Carlee has been recognized for his leadership following the Sept. 11 attacks on the Pentagon and for maintaining Arlington's economic stability during the recent recession. Arlington Chamber of Commerce President Richard Doud Jr. says Carlee worked efficiently to manage the economy's effect on the county by creating a budget appropriate for the economic conditions.

"It's going to get tougher the next budget year," said Doud. "But that will be someone else's problem. It will be a test for the

new county manager."

Carlee is still involved in a number of Arlington's projects, and he says the ICMA offer is the only one capable of pulling him away from his position as county manager. Carlee's new job as executive-in-residence and director of strategic domestic initiatives for the ICMA will allow him to focus on issues he considered of high importance in Arlington, including the environment and affordable housing, while working with other local governments.

Carlee says he has no qualms with leaving Arlington and his ongoing projects because of his staff and constituents. Despite having almost nine years as county manager, Carlee and other public officials are not worried his move will shake Arlington's stability.

County Board member Christopher Zimmerman says filling the position will be difficult as Carlee's talent for his job is rare.

"His departure is a challenge," said Zimmerman. "He has helped build the organization, but Arlington has a stable government in very good shape to move forward with whoever should succeed him."

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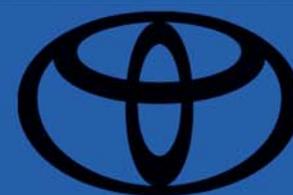
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