

The Arlington Connection

At Heritage Festival

Tatiana Baugh and Ralph Baugh have their faces painted at the 18th Annual Feel the Heritage Festival of African American Culture and History at the Charles Drew Community Center on Saturday, Feb. 20.

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Remembering Gertrude Williams

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Making Up Snow Days

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Veith's 24-0 Run Propels Pats Past W-L

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Fewer Services, More Taxes

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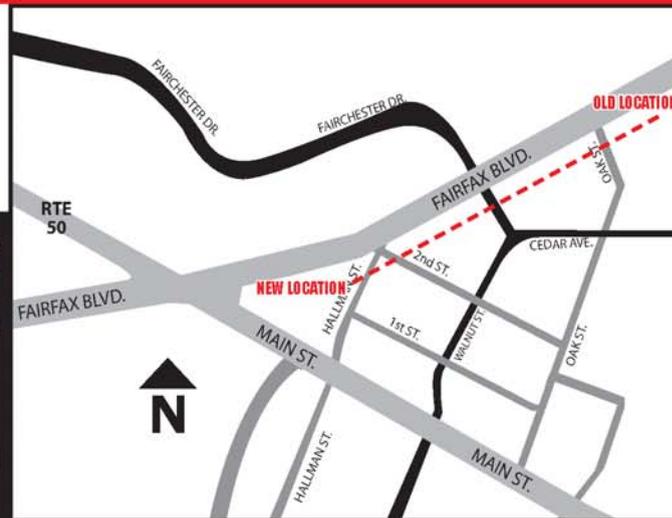
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Back to School

Days lost to “Snowmageddon” will be found in the spring.

BY RYAN MCKINNON
THE CONNECTION

Arlington County School students, who got an unexpected 10 days of vacation during the December and January snowstorms, will make up the missed time during the spring semester. The make-up plan, released by Superintendent Dr. Patrick Murphy on Feb. 17, proposes a solution to squeezing more days and hours into an already full spring calendar.

The plan is to recover the lost days without impacting the end of school year date or spring break by converting teacher conference and preparation days into instructional days. In addition, elementary schools will no longer have early release Wednesdays.

With a school year that extends late into June already, many across the county were worried that the days would be added on at the

SEE FINDING, PAGE 6



The Image Band performs at the 18th Annual Feel the Heritage Festival of African American Culture and History at the Charles Drew Community Center on Saturday, Feb. 20.

The Macedonia Baptist Church Children's Choir performs “Bells of Joy.”



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY/THE CONNECTION

Fewer Services, More Taxes

Acting county manager offers hold-the-line budget proposal.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

County residents could get hit with higher taxes and additional fees next year, even as officials cut back on services.

Acting County Manager Barbara Donnellan presented her proposed budget for fiscal year 2011 last weekend, rolling out a \$941.8 million plan for operating costs in the coming year. Although Donnellan suggested raising the tax rate 6.7 cents to 94.2 cents for every \$100 of assessed value, the County Board voted to advertise a tax rate of 96.5 cents for every \$100 of assessed value. According to Virginia law, the board cannot adopt a higher rate than the one advertised even though it may adopt a lower one.

“This rate provides us with the flexibility we need to address the unknowns presented since our

SEE DONNELLAN, PAGE 5

Family Recalls Gertrude M. Williams, Sentinel of Faith

BY DELIA SAVA
THE CONNECTION

Gertrude M. Williams, who last month celebrated her 100th birthday, died of natural causes at the Golden Living Center/Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home in Annandale on Feb. 11. Williams was a deaconess at the Macedonia Baptist Church in Arlington where she held numerous positions in the 70-plus years she was a member of the congregation. Williams' daughter, Betty A. Royster says her mother loved her church and singing in the choir was one of her passions.

The third in a family of eight children, Williams was born in Fairfax and later moved to Arlington, where she lived for more than 50 years. Royster noted that her mother converted and was baptized in the Baptist Church when she was 11 years old.

“She started working in the church at a very early age and she served in a number of capacities: as a Sunday school superintendent, on the usher board and at

Macedonia, she was quite active,” said Royster.

In 1927 Williams married Howard L. Williams; the couple was married for more than 60 years. Royster says she has vivid memories of their life in the 1950s when Arlington was a rural community and the family raised chickens in their backyard.

When Bob Hope hosted golf tournaments at the Army-Navy Country Club, Royster says her parents, who lived on a corner lot, charged a nominal fee for cars to park in the yard. Royster credits her mother with teaching her important lessons about managing money and “planning for the future.”

In November of 2008 when the Macedonia Baptist Church celebrated its 100th birthday, Williams was recognized for her years of service. A photo of Williams graced the front page of the Arlington Connection and a feature article covering the event at the church was titled, “Sentinel of Faith” and made note of Williams' many years of service to the church.

For her own centennial birthday celebration last month, Williams received congratu-

latory letters from Gov. Tim Kaine and President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. According to Royster, the birthday celebration took place at the Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home: “I noticed how the young nieces and nephews all pulled together for the celebration. She drew the family closer — she was a unifying force in the family,” said Royster. She added, “She was well-loved by everyone who knew her, everyone enjoyed being around her.”

The Rev. Leonard Hamlin, senior pastor at Macedonia Baptist Church, delivered the eulogy at the funeral service held at Macedonia Baptist Church on Feb. 19. Royster says she would like people to remember that her mother “really loved her church and enjoyed singing in the choir.” She added, “It was one of the main things they spoke about at her funeral.”

Survivors include her children: Betty Ann Royster of Alexandria, Charles Lewis Williams of Fairfax and Harold Leonard Williams of Forestville, Md; eight grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and 23 great-great-grandchildren.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

When Macedonia Baptist Church celebrated its 100th anniversary in November 2008, Deaconess Gertrude Williams was honored as a member of the church for over 70 years. Standing next to her was Tonia Heggs.

PEOPLE

'A Helping Hand'

Agency works with immigrant day laborers.

BY DELIA SAVA
THE CONNECTION

Get Involved

To donate or to volunteer, visit www.seecjobs.org.

“We had so many people that gave me and my family a helping hand along the way, that it literally is my time and my turn to provide that helping hand,” said Andres Tobar. For the past six years, Tobar has been the executive director of the Shirlington Employment and Education Center, a nonprofit agency dedicated to working with immigrant day laborers in Arlington.

The son of Mexican migrant farm workers, Tobar was born in South Texas. “The family moved to Fresno, Calif., which is where I grew up,” said Tobar. The longtime Arlington resident — “33 years, but who’s counting?” — says he came to the area as a federal employee with the Department of Education. Tobar holds a B.A. in Spanish and an M.A. in social science from California State University; much of his work during his years with the federal government focused on programs for minority and low-income students.

Then in 1996 at the age of 50, Tobar took an early retirement but he continued to be active in local politics and served on numerous nonprofit boards. Before assuming

the executive director position at S.E.E.C., for five years he was the executive director for the National Association of Hispanic Publications, a nonprofit based in Washington D.C.

According to Tobar, County board member J. Walter Tejada was instrumental in establishing S.E.E.C. to address the problems faced by day laborers and the neighborhood where they were congregating.

“Ten years ago we got together and had a discussion about all those guys on Four Mile Run trying to get a job ... they were all Latinos ... and it seemed we should be the ones trying to find a solution to get them employment.”

S.E.E.C. provides at no-cost to either party a matching service on a first-come, first-served basis. “Our primary mission is to provide a safe environment for people looking for work and employers who come with potential jobs,” said Tobar. The Center consists of two facilities, a main office and a pavilion. Prospective employers can visit either site to find workers. The goal of the bilingual staff is to facilitate the pairing of

worker and employer. In addition to the matching service, the Center provides English as a Second Language classes and vocational training.

“Then as the economy changed, we started to see a desperate need,” Tobar said. In response to the economic hardship of the population he serves, Tobar reached out to the faith community and civic groups with a project called “Give a Meal.” Tobar asks for 50 bag lunches that include a sandwich or two, a fruit or small salad and a drink. “They can call us and we’ll pick it up or they can drop it off and we’ll distribute it to our guys,” he said, adding, “The Arlington community is too well off economically and too caring to allow people to go hungry.”

The organization is looking for financial support as well as volunteers who can teach English classes or provide vocational training. And Tobar is always interested in speaking to groups on the “challenges and opportunities of having a strong immigrant community in Arlington.”

Being of service seems to be a recurrent theme for Tobar who has been very politically active and was a candidate last year in the primary race to represent the 47th district in the House of Delegates. He lost but expresses deep gratitude for those who supported him.



PHOTO BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION

Andres Tobar

Tobar admits he was initially reluctant to accept the position of executive director. But then he thought about the “helping hands” in his own life. “Because of my background and the ability to be literally in two cultures: being in Latino culture listening to their challenges and their needs and going to the non-Latino community and asking for help. I think I’ve been doing a pretty good job. I’m glad that it’s me.”

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Donnellan: Hold-the-line Budget

FROM PAGE 3

budget guidance was provided in the fall, primarily the uncertain state budget cuts and Metro demands that we may face," said County Board Chairman Jay Fiset in a written statement.

Donnellan's proposed \$941.8 million operating budget is a 0.5-percent decrease from the adopted budget for fiscal year 2010, which was \$946.8 million. The proposal would eliminate 87 full-time county employees, most of which are currently vacant. The 19 employees that are currently holding positions that would be vacated will have the option of interviewing for other jobs with the county.

"It is quite likely that no one will be laid off," said Mary Curtius, a spokeswoman for the county. "If any is ultimately laid off, they will not be let go until July 1, and will have a severance package."

COUNTY BUDGET officials were staring into a \$65 million budget gap this year, created by slumping property values and a weakened national economy. Aside from raising taxes on residential and commercial property taxpayers, the county manager suggested raising fees for parking tickets, motor vehicle parking decals, solid waste collection, and county sports leagues.

"These are not the best of times nor the worst of times," Donnellan wrote in her budget message to the County Board. "But they are certainly very interesting — and challenging — times."

SEE FEWER, PAGE 6

Some of the Cutbacks

- ❖ \$1 million savings in a **furlough day**, which will mean all county employees will schedule an unpaid day off work with no pay
- ❖ \$210,751 reduction in **cleaning services**, which will diminish the number of times restroom facilities are cleaned in heavily used county facilities
- ❖ \$200,000 reduction in snow removal, which will eliminate funding for snow hauling from commercial areas when snowfall is in excess of six to eight inches
- ❖ \$128,000 for **library materials**, which will eliminate subscriptions for all newspapers except for the Washington Post, eliminate music CD purchases and eliminate popular paperback purchases
- ❖ \$100,000 reduction in **arts grants**, which will lower the cap on grant funding for two large organizations and provide fewer performances
- ❖ \$78,195 for **rodent control**, which will eliminate one of three positions and eliminate neighborhood surveys in favor of responding to complaints
- ❖ \$45,000 reduction in the **Think Arlington campaign**, which will eliminate advertising on the Metro system for one year
- ❖ \$35,000 reduction in **tenant services**, which will diminish the ability of Buyers and Renters Arlington Voice (BRAVO) to provide intervention, public outreach and advice to tenants
- ❖ \$33,600 reduction for **poll staffing**, which will reduce the number of elections officials from three to two workers for the November 2010 election
- ❖ \$27,180 reduction in **publications** such as "The Citizen," which would eliminate one of six issues mailed to county residents.
- ❖ \$20,000 reduction in **communications**, reducing money available for cable television programming, event coverage and closed captioning
- ❖ \$5,000 reduction for **mowing**, which will decrease trail mowing from 11 times a year to seven times a year



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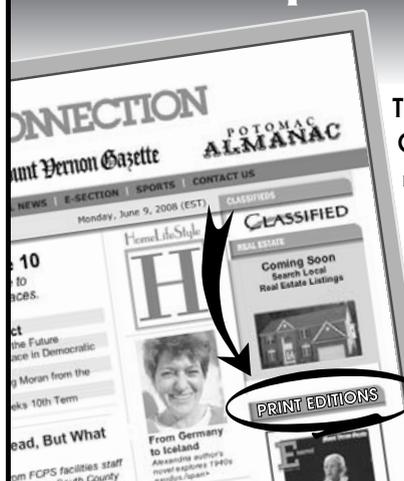
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VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

Mark Center Access Study Citizen Information Meeting

Thursday, March 11, 2010, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Minnie Howard School
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The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will hold a Citizen Information Meeting to share the findings of the Mark Center (BRAC 133) Access Study with the public. VDOT has completed an operational analysis on alternatives for improving transportation access to Mark Center, meeting existing and future traffic demands of the projected 7,000 new employees, relieving anticipated congestion to the I-395/Seminary Road interchange and surrounding road network, and accommodating planned transit.

Stop by anytime between 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the access alternatives that were studied. A presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. VDOT representatives will be available to answer your questions.

Give your written or oral comments at the meeting or submit them by **March 25, 2010** to Ronaldo T. Nicholson, P.E., Regional Transportation Program Director, 6363 Walker Lane, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22310. You may also e-mail your comments to Meeting_Comments@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference "Mark Center (BRAC 133) Access Study" in the subject line.

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State Project: 0095-96A-107, P101
Federal Project: NH-095-2 (487)

Finding Lost Days in Spring

FROM PAGE 3

end. "It was mostly parents who wanted to know when the plan was going to be released," said Frank Bellavia, spokesman for Arlington County Schools.

Administrators were also concerned about the time lost. "It is great for getting back meaningful instruction time. The most difficult thing for us is that the snow came in the middle of our testing period," said Andrea Frye, assistant principal at Patrick Henry Elementary School in south Arlington.

The Commonwealth of Virginia requires all school districts to have 180 days or 990 hours of instruction. Districts that do not meet the requirements will lose state funding, proportional to how many days it has missed. It is possible to request a waiver from the state, but, "That is only if you have exhausted all your means, which would mean school on Saturdays and cutting into summer vacation," according to Bellavia.

In the event of more snow day cancellations, the plan calls for the implementation of Phase Two, which would mean an extension of the school day, or Phase Three, which would begin removing spring break days, Memorial Day, and eventually Saturdays.

In a press release on Feb. 17 Murphy stated that, "In the face of so much disruption and uncertainty as a result of the recent snowstorms, we wanted to develop a

Changes

Dates that were conference or preparation days that are now instructional days:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

March 4, March 5, April 5

All early release Wednesdays for Elementary Schools between March 3 and June 9 are now full days.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

March 5, April 5

HIGH SCHOOLS

April 5

For more specifics go to <http://www.arlington.k12.va.us>

complete plan. Families need to know what steps will be taken to cover the recent closings as well as the steps that might need to be taken in the event that added instructional time is lost later in the year."

Some students who enjoyed the time off are now wishing that they had those teacher planning days in March and April that allowed for a day off mid-semester. "I regret having the snow days," said Atiyah Barrett, a 5th grader at Long Branch Elementary, "I like to sleep in until noon."

The make up days are simply an inevitable necessity of "Snowmageddon," according to Mary Pritchett. The bus driving veteran of 29 years said, "It's the worst snow I've ever driven in. But you just got to go with the flow."

Fewer Services, More Taxes

FROM PAGE 5

Total county spending would decrease 1.9 percent from last year, and the transfer to schools would increase \$6.3 million to \$358.7 million — an increase of 1.8 percent to account for the increased enrollment of 700 students. Although Donnellan's proposal would not close any facilities or eliminate any agencies, it would cut back hours for libraries and park facilities. Community policing would be reduced, and economic development initiatives would be scaled back.

"In many cases, departments are seeing the third year of cuts in programs and the reductions have led to and will cause visible service reductions," Donnellan wrote. "This proposed budget, while not perfect, stays true to the community's values and our vision of Arlington as a diverse, vibrant and inclusive community with a mix of programs and services that continue to be recognized internationally."

Some budget decisions were guided by

the county's green tradition. For example, a \$1 million investment in LED traffic lights is expected to save about \$375,000 a year by reducing the amount of electricity by 15 percent. Other of her budget decisions were more pragmatic in nature, spreading the reductions across the organization. For example, her proposal would charge the school system \$32,000 for using the county's GIS technology to map the attendance zone boundaries.

"Now the work begins, as we scour the budget, engage the community and do what we are required to do — produce a balanced budget in April," said Fiset. "We are committed to find the balance of the service quality that we have come to expect with the burden on taxpayers."

Two public hearings have been scheduled for March 23 and 24. Another public hearing on taxes and fees has been called for March 25. All three hearings will take place at 7 p.m. in the County Board room.

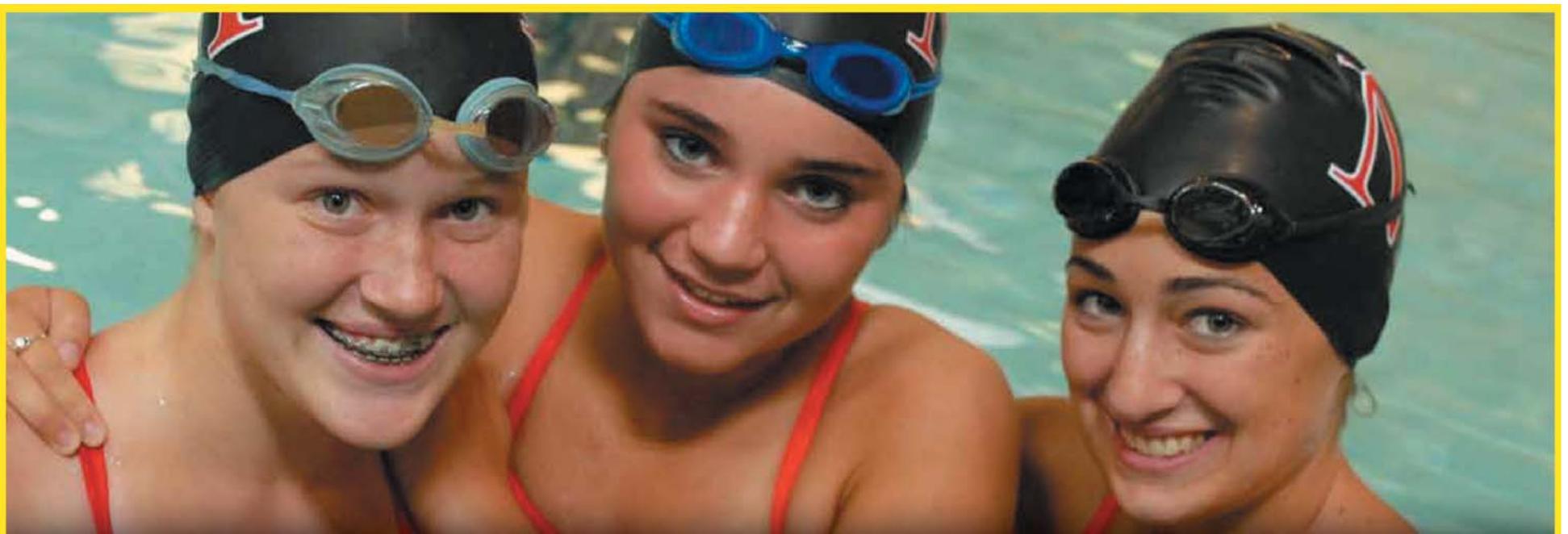
BULLETIN BOARD

FRIDAY/FEB. 26

The Role of Discipline. 7:30-9 p.m. Cost is \$5. Sharifa Oppenheimer, author of *Heaven on Earth: A Handbook for Parents of Young Children*, will give a talk to parents on family culture and the role of discipline. At the Potomac Crescent Waldorf School, 923 South 23rd Street, Arlington. Call 703-486-1309 or visit www.potomaccrescentschool.org

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

Instructional Recruitment Fair. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. APS representatives will be on hand to interview candidates for current vacancies as well as anticipated openings for the 2010-11 school year. At Wakefield High School, 4901 South Chesterfield Road. Visit the Web site at <http://www.apsva.us/> or call 703-228-6189. **Become a Teen Fitness Leader.** 9-11:30 p.m. At Thomas Jefferson Community Center.



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NEWS



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'Ergathon'

Millie Smith, Olivia Aujust, Victoria Kreiger and Cory Oppenheimer take turns "erging" (indoor rowing) in the Yorktown Row for Humanity, an all-day event designed to raise money for Habitat for Humanity and to support the crew team's activities.



Volunteers Katherine Wentz, Amanda Gaylard and Katarina Auer offer information about the Yorktown High rowing team and Habitat for Humanity at Ballston Common Mall on Saturday, Feb. 20.



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Arlington REAL ESTATE

For information about appearing on this page, contact Deb Funk at 703-778-9444 or debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

On the Market



Arlington North - Historic George Crossman House

Rarely-available 1890s farmhouse on a quarter acre lot just a short walk to the East Falls Church Metro. Original wraparound porch, extensive moldings, built-in cupboards, box bay window and pocket doors blend with recent improvements to make this a most inviting home. Main level family room, large kitchen with vintage details, mudroom and breakfast area off kitchen, main level laundry and a secret hideaway off the kitchen. Upstairs there are three bedrooms, a new master bathroom, second bathroom with claw foot tub and pedestal sink. The top floor was recently finished with a bedroom and bathroom, both with original stained glass window panes. The Crossman house is on the National Register of Historic Place, the Virginia Landmark Registry and is an Arlington Country Historic District. It is located in the Tuckahoe, Williamsburg and Yorktown school districts. From Glebe Rd: west on Lee Highway, right on Underwood to 2501 on the right. Please see photos at betsytwigg.LNFRE.com or call Betsy for a showing.

For more information contact Betsy Twigg, Long and Foster, 703-967-4391, BETSY.TWIGG@longandfoster.com. Priced at \$1,190,000.

Classic Bungalow Details Meet Modern Living

Brand new home with four bedrooms and three and a half baths. A Craftsman by Mickey Simpson, Ltd. architects/builders, features 3,400 square feet of living space on three-finished levels with nine-foot ceilings on each level. Front and rear covered porches with mahogany floors. Separate formal dining room. Gourmet kitchen with cherry cabinets, honed black granite counters, and stainless steel appliances (Wolf, SubZero, Bosch) opens to family room with gas fireplace and French doors to rear porch. Master suite. Lower level recreation room opens to patio and yard. Just blocks to the Clarendon Metro, shops and restaurants. Walk-to-Metro urban living!

For more information contact Ruth Boyer O'Dea, Agnes Davis Team, American Realty Group, 703-338-2277, rboyer@mris.com, www.amrgrealty.com. Priced at \$1,299,000.



North Arlington - Minutes To Metro!

Custom built brick & stone Rambler in the lovely Berkshire community. Home features a rare 13' by 24' attached garage and custom designed Trex deck. Hardwood floors grace the main level. A master bedroom with Jack & Jill bath, separate dining room and a sunny Florida room. The expansive lower level offers a Daylight recreation room, family room w/fireplace and ground level walk out. The yard is landscaped along with an irrigation system. This house is at the corner of Lee Highway and Powhatan, just minutes away from the Metro, schools, shopping, restaurants and parks. It is in the Nottingham/ Williamsburg/ Yorktown School District. Open this Sunday from 1-4 pm.

For more information contact Steve Wisemiller, RE/MAX Allegiance 703-568-9625, swisemiller@remax.net, www.soldbysteve.net. Priced at \$689,000



Cul-de-sac

This home, in the extra-convenient Alcovia Heights neighborhood, feels like a farmhouse. On a quiet cul-de-sac and an oversized lot, the perfect setting for this A+ house. Fresh paint, vintage charm, hardwood floors, nearly new appliances, quality updates throughout. There are four upper-level bedrooms and one main-level bedroom. Two fully renovated baths. Large dining room, breakfast room, and updated kitchen. Recent energy-efficient siding and replaced windows. This house shines!

For more information, contact Vici Boguess, 703-447-2829, or Clay Burke, 202-520-4274, McEaney Associates, Inc., www.ViciBoguess.com. Priced at \$689,000.



Profile in Real Estate – Michelle Sagatov

Michelle is a former Arlington County Police Officer turned Real Estate Consultant, who transplanted here from Southern California in 1999. Wife to an accomplished builder, Yuri Sagatov, with Sagatov Associates, Michelle moved into real estate as a way to combine her knowledge of the area with her insights into home construction. She has made the change successfully -- her sales volume since she joined Fall Properties in 2006 is over \$26 million.

Michelle's client base ranges from first time home buyers to new construction. She works as a team with her husband to help homeowners decide if they should renovate or sell. By analyzing their client's goals and budget, Michelle and Yuri help them to understand what their options are and then design a detailed approach for tak-

ing the next step. It is a happy marriage, both in work and play.

By staying on top of the market and keeping current with the economic climate, Michelle provides excellent customer service to her ever-growing sphere. Her large database of trusted professionals in other real estate related industries help her to make each real estate transaction as smooth as possible.

Michelle has achieved the National Association of Realtors Green designation and helps her clients save money by being eco-conscious. "I believe in a healthy home and try to educate my clients about this. I am a mother of two and hope to keep the world a healthy place for them to grow in."



Michelle Sagatov
Fall Properties
703-402-9361
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HOME SALES

JANUARY 2010
\$1,825,000 ~ \$541,250

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| 419 LINCOLN ST | 5 | 4 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$1,509,900 | Detached | 0.36 | | ASHTON HEIGHTS |
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| 6213 30TH ST N | 5 | 5 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$1,310,000 | Detached | 0.18 | | BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD |
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| 2801 BRANDYWINE ST N | 4 | 4 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$1,125,000 | Detached | 0.42 | | SHIRLEY WOODS |
| 2618 WASHINGTON BLVD | 3 | 1 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$1,000,000 | Detached | 0.41 | | CLARENDON |
| 5315 CARLIN SPRINGS RD | 5 | 4 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$935,000 | Detached | 0.20 | | BONAIR |
| 2604 GLEBE RD N | 4 | 4 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$930,000 | Townhouse | 0.06 | | RIXEY VIEW |
| 1160 IVANHOE ST | 5 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$910,000 | Detached | 0.36 | | LACEY FOREST |
| 1223 EVERGREEN ST N | 4 | 3 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$910,000 | Detached | 0.32 | | WAYCROFT |
| 2615 ROOSEVELT ST N | 5 | 5 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$905,000 | Detached | 0.14 | | BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD |
| 4900 13TH ST N | 3 | 2 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$850,000 | Detached | 0.11 | | WAYCROFT |
| 5315 16TH ST N | 4 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$799,900 | Detached | 0.30 | | LARCHMONT |
| 3612 17TH ST N | 3 | 2 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$785,000 | Detached | 0.22 | | CHERRYDALE |
| 905 EMERSON ST N | 4 | 2 | 2 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$780,000 | Detached | 0.16 | | LACEY FOREST |
| 2327 POWHATAN ST N | 4 | 2 | 2 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$757,000 | Detached | 0.32 | | OVER LEE KNOLLS |
| 2507 POTOMAC ST N | 4 | 2 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$735,000 | Detached | 0.20 | | BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD |
| 1195 VERMONT ST N | 4 | 3 | 2 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$720,000 | Townhouse | 0.02 | | BALLSTON AREA TOWNH |
| 4642 15TH ST N | 4 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$700,000 | Detached | 0.18 | | WAYCROFT |
| 2373 DANVILLE ST N | 3 | 2 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$700,000 | Detached | 0.29 | | DOVER BALMORAL RIVERWOOD |
| 4822 16TH ST N | 4 | 2 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$695,000 | Detached | 0.26 | | WAYCROFT |
| 6008 28TH ST N | 4 | 3 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$690,000 | Detached | 0.22 | | BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD |
| 4015 25TH RD N | 4 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$680,000 | Detached | 0.19 | | LEE HEIGHTS |
| 1032 19TH ST S | 3 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$675,000 | Detached | 0.11 | | ADDISON HEIGHTS |
| 4948 34TH RD N | 4 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$675,000 | Detached | 0.17 | | COUNTRY CLUB MANORS |
| 1600 CLARENDON BLVD#W403 | 1 | 1 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$644,500 | Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors | | | WOOSTER & MERCER LOFTS |
| 1903 QUINTANA ST N | 4 | 4 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$640,000 | Detached | 0.24 | | OVER LEE KNOLLS |
| 5200 28TH ST N | 4 | 3 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$635,000 | Detached | 0.17 | | MILBURN TERRACE |
| 900 TAYLOR ST N #2108/2112 | 3 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$630,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | JEFFERSON RETIREMENT CONDOS |
| 2310 14TH ST N #406 | 3 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$620,000 | Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors | | | COURTHOUSE HILL |
| 104 EDISON ST N | 3 | 2 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$610,000 | Detached | 0.16 | | ARLINGTON FOREST |
| 5021 24TH ST N | 4 | 2 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$599,000 | Detached | 0.17 | | COUNTRY CLUB |
| 2214 KENSINGTON ST | 3 | 2 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$590,000 | Detached | 0.15 | | TUCKAHOE VILLAGE |
| 2203 12 TH COURT NORTH#39 | 2 | 2 | 1 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$585,000 | Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors | | | THE VISTA ON COURTHOUSE |
| 4624 16TH ST N | 3 | 2 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$580,000 | Detached | 0.11 | | WAVERLY HILLS |
| 2558 LEXINGTON ST | 2 | 1 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$570,000 | Detached | 0.28 | | BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD |
| 2115 MILITARY RD | 5 | 3 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$569,000 | Detached | 0.15 | | MAYWOOD |
| 726 VERMONT ST N #1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$558,000 | Townhouse | | | BALLSTON MEWS I |
| 309 IRVING ST | 3 | 2 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$550,000 | Detached | 0.15 | | ARLINGTON HEIGHTS |
| 2720 ARLINGTON MILL DR S#414 | 2 | 2 | 0 | ARLINGTON | .. | \$550,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | SHIRLINGTON VILLAGE |
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5416 Washington Blvd \$849,900 Sun 1-4pm... John Church PenFed Realty LLC 703.927.3152
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2314 George Mason Dr \$579,000 Sun 1-4pm... Suzanne Granoski Prudential Carruthers 703.300.2785

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PHOTO BY SCOTT SUCHMAN

Edward Gero and Sherri L. Edelen star in Signature Theatre's 20th anniversary production of Sondheim's "Sweeney Todd."

Demon Barber Draws Blood

Signature's third "Sweeney Todd" is not necessarily a charm.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE CONNECTION

Signature Theatre returns to the show that started it all for them. In 1991, their very first musical, Stephen Sondheim's "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," took the Washington theatre community by storm. That was when they were performing in Arlington County's Gunston Arts Center's 89-seat Theatre Two.

Eight years later, after they graduated to their own slightly larger house, the 138-seat former chrome plating shop on South Four Mile Run Drive, they returned to the piece, again directed by Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer. That fresh look sparked even greater dramatic and musical results.

Now they have moved into the two-theatre complex in Shirlington Village and Schaeffer takes a third look in a third venue at this musical melodrama for adults. Instead of topping those earlier successes, however, this time out there is a surprisingly low energy level and a certain confusion about the production.

Still, "Sweeney Todd" is a musical of prodigious proportions with enough first-class material to make up a passel of great musicals. It has romance, comedy,

Where and When

"Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" plays through April 4 at Signature Theatre in Shirlington. Performances are Tuesday - Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday at 8 p.m. Sunday at 7 p.m. and matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$52 - \$76. Call 703 573-7328 or log on to www.signature-theatre.org.

drama and horror all set to music that alternately soars and romps with lyrics that are at times clever and at times graphic but always literate and inventive. If you have never seen a production of "Sweeney Todd," this is a must-see. If, on the other hand, you've seen either of Signature's earlier efforts or the fabulous other production that Eric Schaeffer has given us — the one that was part of the six-show Sondheim Celebration of which he was artistic director at The Kennedy Center, you may find this one somewhat disappointing because the expectations were so high.

The key seems to be the performance of one of our area's premiere classical actors in the title role. Ed Gero, who holds no fewer than four Helen Hayes Awards for outstanding performance by an

SEE SWEENEY TODD, PAGE 11

Know of something missing from our community entertainment calendar? Send it to TheArlingtonConnection@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is 2 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with any questions. Photos are welcome.

ONGOING

Meditation and Buddhism for all levels. Mondays, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost \$12. Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Arlington Branch, 3800 Fairfax Dr., Suite 5, Arlington (The Griffin Center). Class will explore Buddha's timeless advice for finding true and lasting happiness. Topics include: Can't Get No Satisfaction - The Thirst of Dissatisfaction - A Path to Freedom. Each class includes a teaching, guided meditation and Q&A. Visit www.meditation-dc.org or call 202-986-2257, email info@meditation-dc.org.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 13

Photo Exhibit. "Arlingtonians on Photo Safari," an exhibit of travel and architectural photography by J. Fenimore Elliott and William Murray, is on display at Cherrydale Library, 2190 Military Road, Arlington (703-228-6330; www.CherrydaleLibrary.org), through March 13. Hours: Mon.: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tue.: 1 p.m.-9 p.m.; Wed.: 1 p.m.-9 p.m.; Thu.: 2 p.m.-6 p.m.; Fri.: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sat.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 13

"Chumbale" — Every Love Bird Needs a Nest. By Oscar Viale (Argentina). Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Saturday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25/regular, \$20/students and seniors. At Teatro de la Luna. At the Gunston Arts Center - Theater Two, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. Call 703-548-3092; www.teatrodelaLuna.org.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 7

"Once on this Island." Chalice Theatre in partnership with The Keegan Theatre presents this Caribbean-themed musical with a multi-generational cast that earned eight Tony nominations. Story is based on The Little Mermaid legend. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m., additional matinee performance Saturday March 6 at 3 p.m. At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd., Arlington. \$20 per ticket, \$15 for students and seniors. For tickets, call 703-892-0202 ext. 6.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 24

Film: "Revolution '67" [2007]. 6:30 p.m. Not Rated, 90 minutes. Focuses on the black urban riots of the 1960s. At the Shirlington Branch Library.

APS School Talk Parent Academy Presentation on ADHD. 7-9 p.m. At the Education Center, 1426 North Quincy Street, Board Room, 1st Floor. Register online at www.apsva.us/ adulted or by calling 703-228-7200.

FEB. 24-MARCH 24

Prayer Service and Supper. 6 p.m. Light Supper. 7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer Service. At Resurrection Lutheran Church, 6201 N. Washington Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-532-5991 or visit <http://www.relcarlington.org>.

THURSDAY/FEB. 25

Author Event. "On Hallowed Ground: The Story of Arlington National Cemetery" by Robert M. Poole. 7 p.m.



PHOTO BY SCOTT SUCHMAN

Nicholas Rodriguez as Fabrizio and Margaret Anne Florence as Clara in the upcoming Arena Stage musical "The Light in the Piazza" March 5 - April 11, 2010.

MARCH 5-APRIL 11

"The Light in the Piazza." Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$25 to \$74. Tickets may be purchased online at ArenaStage.org, by phone at 202-488-3300. At Arena Stage in Crystal City, 1800 S. Bell St., Arlington.

At the Arlington Central Library Auditorium.

John Niles Speaks. Artistic Director and Conductor of Northern Virginia Opera Theatre will talk about the Opera season and upcoming Tango, Tango. Follows a worship service at 12 p.m. and hot meal at 12:30 p.m. At Clarendon United Methodist Church, 606 N. Irving, Arlington. Contact Jane Dixon at 703-465-0341.

FRIDAY/FEB. 26

Family Culture and the Role of Discipline. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Donation of \$5. Talk by Sharifa Oppenheimer, author of Heaven on Earth: A Handbook for Parents of Young Children. At the Potomac Crescent Waldorf School, 923 South 23rd Street, Arlington. Contact Potomac Crescent at 703-486-1309 or visit www.potomaccrescentschool.org.

Just World Festival.

2-7 p.m. Sponsored by the Annandale High School Just World Interact Club to encourage global citizenship. Speakers are Congressman Dennis Kucinich and Busboys and Poets owner Andy Shallal. At Annandale High School. Visit www.ahsjustworld.tk.

Diocese of Arlington's Catholic Charities Ball.

7 p.m. At the Ritz Carlton at Tysons Corner. Email ccball2010@yahoo.com or Barbara Caudle at 703-937-3988.

Sinfully Sweet Wine & Chocolate Pairing.

7-8:30 p.m. Artfully Chocolate Kingsbury Confections (ACKC) make a decadent splash at Morton's in Crystal City for an evening of desserts and fine wine, sans the guilt. Cost is \$45/guest. At Morton's Steakhouse, 1750 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Contact Kim Christensen at 703-418-1444 or cm.mar@mortons.com

Celebrity Organ Concert. 8 p.m. Christophe Mantoux, titular Organist of the Church of Saint Séverin in Paris,

France. At Grace Episcopal Church 3601 Russell Road, Alexandria. Admission is Free. Call 703-549-1980 or e-mail music.director@gracealex.org.

FEB. 26 THROUGH MARCH 7

"Hansel and Gretel." When Hansel and Gretel are sent into the woods, they encounter some marvelous creatures. The trouble begins when they happen on a candy-coated cottage and a nasty, though often hilarious, witch. At the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 South Old Glebe Road, Arlington.

FEB. 26, 27, 28 AND MARCH 5, 6, 7

"Hansel and Gretel." Fridays at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. At the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington. Call 703-548-1154 or visit www.encorestage.org

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

Potomac Jazz Project. With Lena Seikaly. At Extra Virgin Lounge in Shirlington Village.

The Mandoleers Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. A concert of love songs, waltzes, war tunes, classics, and more! Oldest U.S. mandolin chamber orchestra (circa 1923), Conductor David A. Ruppert. Charming community orchestra renditions from bygone years. At Clarendon United Methodist Church, 606 N. Irving Street, Arlington. Free will offering.

Family Fishing Workshop. 2-3:30 p.m. Participants will learn about the different aspects of recreational fishing, such as fishing rules, good fishing locations, techniques and different types of equipment and bait. At Gulf Branch Nature Center. Go to www.arlingtonva.us and search "Fishing."

SUNDAY/FEB. 28

Crystal City Marriott Wedding Showcase. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At the Crystal City Marriott, 1999 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington. Contact Richelle Manansala at 703-413-6548 or richelle.manansala@marriott.com

24th Annual Wammies. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$35 Non WAMA Members, \$20 WAMA Members, \$15 Nominees. Performers Include: Afro Bop Alliance, Bela Dona, Tabi Bonney, Marti Brom, Elikeh, Hotspur, Patty Reese Band, Rosslyn Mountain Boys, and The Dede Wyland Band. Seth Kibel & the DC Time Machine will be the pit band. At the State Theatre, Falls Church. Go to: www.wamad.com or call 703-368-3300

Chamber Music Concert. 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Presented by Prelude: The Arlington Youth Orchestral Program. These string musicians will perform a varied program of chamber music, covering a range of musical styles from classical to tango. The players are student musicians in grades 5-10. At the Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, 1611 North Kent St., Arlington. Visit PreludeVA.org or call 703-350-5260.

MONDAY/MARCH 1

Breakthrough for a Cure. 7 p.m. With Dr. Eli Lewis. BGU Researcher and JDRF Career Development Award Recipient. Hors d'oeuvres reception and presentation at the Hilton Arlington, 950 Stafford Street, Arlington.

TUESDAY/MARCH 2

Swing Dancing. 9-11 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the Big Three Trio. At the Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington.

THEATER

Demon Barber Draws Blood

FROM PAGE 10

actor in a play, tackles one of the most challenging but often most rewarding roles in dramatic musical theater. He's the demented, tormented barber who uses his razor to wreak vengeance for the mistreatment he has suffered at the hands of the powers that be in mid-19th century London. Having been deported to hard labor in Australia on trumped up charges by a judge who covets his pretty wife, Todd returns after a ship wreck to find his wife took poison after being raped by the judge who then took their daughter as his ward and now, 15 years later, plans to marry her himself.

Through the entire night Sweeney's eyes seem blank, with a somnambulant emptiness clearly the result of his 15 years of unimaginable pain. It is a psychologically valid approach to the role, but it is a dramatically inert one that drains the production of the intensity inherent in the script and score. It is a musically inappropriate choice as well because, as composed, Sweeney's blood lust is manic — just look at the explosion of "you sir, how about a shave?" or the gleeful mania of the musical line of his statement that "The history of the world my sweet is who gets eaten and who gets to eat." While Gero sings acceptably, his semi catatonia saps the life from the entire production just as Sweeney's razor drains the blood of his victims.

It also deprives Sherri L. Edelen, one of the finer musical actresses to work frequently at Signature, of a vibrant partner to play against. She portrays the proprietress of a bake shop who has eyes for Todd both as a love overing on the edges of Sweeney's world, and Gregory Mahue adds a touch of youthful vigor as the sailor who saved Todd from the sea and falls in love with his daughter. He has a voice that could hold its own among a stronger cast than this. Erin Driscoll sings smoothly as the daughter even as her charms are hidden behind a formless costume. Chris Van Cleve and Chris Sizemore team up rather nicely as the evil judge and his smarmy assistant.

Michael Bunce, on the other hand, walks through the role of a conman pretending to be a talented barber without much distinction at all. Sam Ludwig makes the transition from the conman's assistant to demented survivor of carnage well, although just what the intention was behind shaving portions of his skull escaped me.

New orchestrations of the sumptuous Sondheim score by Zak Sandler are inventive in their use of just four players. As a result, the piece has a surprisingly detailed instrumental sound which would please if it were matched by equally rich vocals. The ensemble singing, however, rarely reaches that level and often sounds thin and wavering.

Sondheim's "Sweeney Todd" has

been recognized as a masterpiece of the American musical theater and has begun to be included in the repertoire of even some of the world's great opera companies. This production provides evidence of that greatness, but it doesn't replace either of Signature's first two in the list of great productions of the pieced. This third Signature production disproves the adage that the third time is a charm.



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Veith's 28 Points, 24-0 Run Propel Pats Past W-L

Yorktown beats Washington-Lee, finishes second at National District tournament.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

A kind gesture by Washington-Lee High School faculty on Thursday left Yorktown guard Mike Veith feeling awkward. The senior sharpshooter spent the rest of the evening showing his "appreciation" against the Generals.

Since Yorktown's final home game was cancelled due to snowstorms, Washington-Lee faculty honored the rival Patriot seniors with a ceremony prior to Thursday's National District tournament quarterfinal contest at W-L. Both team's seniors were recognized, but the situation didn't feel right to Veith.

"[Before] the game started and they were doing the senior night I thought, 'This [is] a joke, we have nobody here,'" he said. "It was kind of embarrassing. It was like crickets when they'd yell our name."

Veith's "appreciation" came in the form of 28 points and nine rebounds as No. 5 Yorktown defeated No. 4 Washington-Lee 58-39.

The win secured a berth in the Northern Region tournament for the Patriots while ending the Generals' season. When the final buzzer sounded and Yorktown fans rushed the floor, Veith's embarrassment turned into a sense of achievement.

"So then when we stole [the win]," he said, "I was kind of like,

'Yeah, it was our senior night.'"

Washington-Lee led 27-25 at halftime and 36-30 midway through the third quarter when Dajon Taylor knocked down a 3-pointer with 4:46 remaining in the period. But that's when momentum ceased for the Generals who would soon suffer an epic scoring drought.

A Ben Earley free throw cut the Yorktown deficit to five with 4:13 to play. After nearly two minutes, a Veith layup pulled the Patriots to within three at 36-33. Moments later, the Washington-Lee bench was whistled for a technical foul and Veith knocked down both ensuing free throws to cut the deficit to one.

Less than a minute later, Yorktown center C.J. Bartholomew chased after a loose ball in front of the Patriots bench. The 6-foot-3 senior lunged after the ball and was able to keep it alive. Veith ended up with the ball in the corner and buried a 3-pointer for a 38-36 lead.

"I just swatted it with my left hand," Bartholomew said. "I was surprised it came back in play. I didn't think I was going to get it."

WITH MOMENTUM on their side, the Patriots continued to score. A three-point play by Bartholomew. A floater by Veith. A layup by Eric Cardillo. Meanwhile, the Generals missed. And missed. And missed some more. When Washington-Lee's Taylor knocked down a 3-pointer with

1:08 remaining in the fourth quarter, it snapped a streak of 24 consecutive Yorktown points and mercifully ended an 11-minute, 38-second scoring drought for the Generals.

"It seemed like we just went for about a five-minute stretch," Yorktown head coach Richard Avila said, "where we just seemed like we were clicking."

Veith scored 22 of his 28 points during the first three quarters, when the game was still undecided. He connected on four 3-pointers — none bigger than the triple after Bartholomew's hustle play which gave the Patriots the lead for good.

"Mike's one of those kind of players where you've got to let him play," Avila said. "Sometimes he tries to force [shots] but I thought his focus tonight was just tremendous. He knew the situation that we needed. He was a senior; he didn't want this to be his last game. ... I think he's one of the best players in our district by far. I think he proved it tonight."

Taylor led Washington-Lee with 15 points.

Jack Earley scored eight points for Yorktown and Cardillo added six. Ben Earley and Nick Zobor each finished with four.

"This is probably the biggest win of my life," senior Ben Earley said.

THE WIN ADVANCED Yorktown to the semifinal round, where the Patriots defeated No. 8 Falls Church 59-41 on Friday. No. 1 Hayfield defeated Falls Church in the opening round, but forfeited due to an ineligible player. Jack Earley scored 20 points for Yorktown.

The Patriots faced No. 2 Mount



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Mike Veith scored 28 points during Thursday's victory over Washington-Lee in the opening round of the National District tournament.

Vernon on Monday for the district championship but lost 68-52. Jack Earley scored 20 points.

The Patriots will host South County tonight.

"I feel like after the first two [National District tournament] games, we'll go off that," Veith said, "and know we're good enough to compete in the region."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Yorktown Girls Advance to Regionals

The Yorktown girls basketball team defeated Wakefield 55-35 on Thursday during the opening round of the National District tournament, securing the Patriots a spot in the regional tournament. Yorktown lost to Mount Vernon 73-65 on Friday in the semifinals of the district tourney.

Yorktown trailed by 17 at halftime against Mount Vernon but battled back within single digits.

"In the second half we came out and we played much better defense — we understood the matchups," Yorktown head coach Dave Garrison said. "[Mount Vernon] is a very athletic team, very strong to the hole,

so you've got to give them something. We gave them the outside shots in the first half and they hit them. We got down a little bit and ... lost faith in our system. In the second half we came out and Lindiwe Rennert did an excellent job of keeping the team together — I'm very proud of her effort."

Against Mount Vernon, Yorktown junior Peyton Lee led all scorers with 24 points. The junior also led the Patriots with 17 points against Wakefield.

"She worked very hard in the offseason, training every day, working on her shot, working on all parts of her game," Garrison said of Lee. "She's going to continue to improve. I think she's grown up a lot. She didn't play much at all sophomore year and kind of got thrown to the wolves as a point guard in our first eight games [this season].

We played some of the top teams in the region that really pressure the guard and she got a trial by fire. She really has stepped up since then."

Lena Negri scored 16 against Mount Vernon and Brooke Huffman added 11.

The Patriots will travel for their regional tournament opener tonight.

Yorktown Girls Take Sixth at Swimming States

The Yorktown girls swim and dive team finished in sixth place on Friday at the state swim and dive competition in Virginia Beach. The Patriots scored 101 points, five

behind fifth-place West Springfield. Robinson finished first with 227.5.

Senior Kaitlin Wolla placed fifth in the 100 butterfly with a time of 1 minute, 4.8 seconds. She was also part of the Patriots' 200 medley relay team (Lydia Carpenter, Abigail Ortmyer, Angela Slevin, Wolla) which finished second with a time of 2:02.77. "I love doing relays," Wolla said. "Swimming is a very individual-based sport. You're on your own most of the time. But in a relay you have to depend on your teammates for everything. ... It's just a completely different feeling than when you're swimming by yourself. It's a lot more fun."

Wolla signed to swim at the University of Delaware next season.

Ortmyer recorded the fifth-fastest time in the 100 breaststroke (1:14.35).

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I've Been Wondering...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Perhaps some of you regular readers have noticed of late, but recently – for the first time in six months or so of commentating – I have strayed occasionally from my cancer-related norm. And I suppose that's a good thing, a sign or an indication that no longer am I consumed, mentally, by the condition in which I find myself so heavily involved. Apparently, I have assimilated having cancer into my routine. Not so much coordinating my weekly labs, my every three-week chemotherapy infusion, every three-week appointment with my oncologist and miscellaneous other scans, procedures and evaluations into my daily/weekly/monthly/quarterly schedule, all of which becomes (or has become for me) second nature, despite their primary – and ongoing – importance; but more so into the activities of my daily living: reading, writing and 'rithmetic, etc.

Life goes on, believe it or not, even after receiving devastating news. And though I might not have imagined normalizing it (the diagnosis) as I have (especially after that first weekend at home after meeting with the oncologist the previous Thursday), but I have, and the evidence has been in my writing, specifically the non-cancer subject matter (that once again matters). Though the material is still as I see fit to write it, I seem to be a bit more fit than I have been and the proof is in the prose.

Don't get me wrong, the column is still about me, as it always has been. But it's less about the struggles of dealing with a cancer diagnosis, subsequent – and continuing – treatment, plus all the related effects not unique to me, as it has been since June. Obviously, I'm still very caught up and consumed by my health situation/status (and will continue to be), but subconsciously my brain has rewired itself a little bit and compartmentalized/segregated some (definitely not all) of the cancer thoughts thereby enabling me to mentally meander once again and literally lose my my mind in some more ordinary and mundane minutiae, the kind of which has characterized my column for the past 12 years.

And as I find myself writing about nonsense once again, I'm feeling empowered, sort of, by its appearance; I'm me again. I'm not Kenny-with-cancer; I'm just, Kenny, who happens to have cancer, who writes about it regularly but not exclusively. And deviating from this most recent 'ab-norm' of late has re-routed me. No longer am I on the cancer train. No longer am I on the road to God-help-me. I'm simply back on the same road as everybody else, back dealing with and managing the same myriad problems as everybody else (with one major exception, of course). But the cancer thing doesn't define me anymore (yeah, right?). Oh sure, it precedes me, it categorizes me, it may even be me, but no more does it control me.

My brain (and my body) has persevered through it all now: the initial testing, the shock of the diagnosis, the chemotherapy which followed, the regular medical activities/appointments/scans which continue and the lifestyle changes, have all been integrated into my/our routine. Onward we go. I feel like I'm myself again and since I've always liked myself, I'm happy to be back (heck, as a cancer patient, I'm happy to be anywhere). I'm not cured of anything, though; I'm just more comfortable (subject to change, of course).

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

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SPORTS

5Qs

Five questions with Yorktown forward Lena Negri



Q: Who is your favorite music artist?

A: I like Drake. I like the way he raps and the fact he can sing and rap.

Q: What location is the farthest from the Washington D.C. metro area you have traveled?

A: Arizona, just for a vacation.

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: Fruit Loops.

Q: Other than your home gym, what is your favorite gym to play in?

A: I like Washington-Lee's new gym. It's nice. I like how their bleachers are on all four sides so more people can get in.

Q: You're almost 6-feet tall. What is it like being one of the tallest girls at your age group?

A: I was 5-7, 5-8 [in middle school]. It's nice being able to stick out in the crowd. The red hair helps with that, too.

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Superior Court of the District of Columbia Civil Division
Order of Publication - Change of Name
In RE:
Application of Lindsay Greer McCullough
Civil Action Number: 0000478-10

Lindsay Greer McCullough, having filed a complaint for judgment changing Lindsay Greer McCullough name to Lindsay Greer and having applied to the Court for an order of publication of the notice required by law in such cases, it is by the Court, this 27 day of January, 2010, ORDERED that all persons concerned show cause, if any there by, on or before the 3 day of March, 2010, why the prayers of said complaint should not be granted: PROVIDED that a copy of this order be published once a week for three consecutive weeks before said day in the Arlington Connection.

"Judge Eilperin"

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