

Living Green

NEWS, PAGE 3

Robert Nutter looks at a bike on display at the "Green Living Expo" hosted by Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment on Saturday, March 20.

Getting Involved To Battle Lupus

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A Bridge Runs Through It

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Washington-Lee Offense Seen as Strength in 2010

SPORTS, PAGE 18

Student Playwright Wins Arena Stage Award

A+, PAGE 12

CALENDAR, PAGE 15 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 18 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 13

PHOTO BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION



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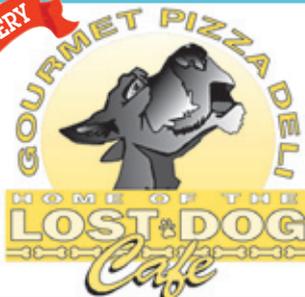
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Creating Hope

Getting involved to battle lupus.

BY DELIA SAVA
THE CONNECTION

“Here I was 21 years old and I had to take a nap every single day or I couldn’t function,” said Krista Blackburn. In 2007 while she was a student at Christopher Newport University, Blackburn was diagnosed with lupus, an autoimmune disorder. Blackburn says it took about a year of battling extreme fatigue before she was correctly diagnosed.

According to Penny Fletcher, president and CEO of the greater Washington chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America, “Ninety percent of those living with lupus are women and it is usually diagnosed between the ages of 18 and

SEE HELPING, PAGE 5

Details

“Kickin’ it for Krista” Team’s Happy Hour, Thursday, March 25 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., The Front Page, 4201 Wilson Blvd.

Registration for the walk, www.dclupuswalk.org

DC Walk for Lupus Now, Saturday, April 17, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW.

Lupus is a chronic inflammatory disease that can affect various parts of the body, especially the skin, joints, blood, and kidneys.

To learn more about lupus, visit www.lupusgw.org



PHOTOS BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION

Living Green

Jennifer Abel, left, extension agent with the Virginia Cooperative Extension, and Judy Brosch, with the community outreach program of Arlington County Department of Human Services, demonstrate cooking with local foods. Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment held a “Green Living Expo” at the National Rural Electric Cooperative to showcase products, services and experts that promote a green living lifestyle on Saturday, March 20.



Nicholas Blank, one of the students at the Career Center who worked on the “Little Green House,” an exhibit built by Arlington Career center students to promote environmentally-friendly construction, curbside on Wilson Boulevard.



Cynthia Olsen, left, with daughters Alexandra and Katarina (in green t-shirt) attend the Expo.

A Bridge Runs Through It

Design teams to present conceptual proposals for Four Mile Run.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Open to Public

Traditionally, the boundary between Arlington County and Alexandria City has been a dividing line — a cold and impersonal flood-control channel that’s served to separate the neighboring jurisdictions. But a series of long-planned connections could change all that, transforming the boundary into a place that brings the two communities together.

After years of planning documents and federal grant applications, the first step in that process is finally approaching. This weekend, three design teams will publicly present their conceptual designs to the public and a selection jury at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Design competitions are nothing new, but planners say this event will offer a rare public glimpse at three firms pitching their ideas to jurors — an event that’s expected to culminate with the selection of one of the competing designs.

The one-of-a-kind event will be like a reality show of sorts for architecture, with two contestants facing elimination and the other emerging victorious.

“Part of the allure is the sur-

The three finalists are scheduled to begin their presentations at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 27 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive in Alexandria. Each team will present their work and a conceptual design to the public and take questions. At 7 p.m., jurors will announce the top-ranked team.

prise,” said Henry Hollander, coordinator of university outreach for the Alexandria campus of Virginia Tech. “It’s unusual because the jury is usually sequestered and the presentations don’t happen in public. So we’re kind of charting new ground here.”

Three finalists were selected from among 41 teams that submitted entries in a contest funded by a federal grant administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation. The bridge will connect a trail near South Eads Street in Arlington to the trail near Commonwealth Avenue in Alexandria. Arlington and Alexandria both adopted a master plan for Four Mile Run back in 2006.

“The bridge complements the stream restoration by providing a strong design element in the form of an urban amenity,” said Neal Sigmon of Arlington, co-chair of the Four Mile Run Joint Task Force, in a written statement.

In September 2009, the Alexandria Planning Commission approved design guidelines governing the aesthetic and physical components of the stream corridor. Design teams that will be presenting their submissions this weekend were asked to produce design concepts that take “inspiration from surrounding natural and industrial elements ... a modern, sustainable, and sculptural piece, spanning clear across the run with minimal impact to the streambed.”

“It must be a structure that can function as the keystone in creating a sense of place, uniting two communities that now live separately on each side into a whole with the restored stream as its special and celebrated center,” said Judy Guse-Noritake, chair of Alexandria’s Park and Recreation Commission and co-chair of the Four Mile Run Joint Task Force in a written statement.

Two-for-One Theatrical Event This Weekend

The Arlington Inclusive Theatre Company and the Arlington Inclusive Actors Showcase are presenting “Those Were the Days” and “Hasbeenalooza: The Benefit Concert.”

Actors with disabilities are given the opportunity to showcase their talents by participating in ArtStream, whose mission is to “inspire and help heal through various artforms such as theatre, puppetry, visual arts, multimedia, music, and dance.”

Artstream supports the Arlington Inclusive Theatre Company and the Arlington Inclusive Actors Showcase, who will be teaming up this week and next to bring a two-for-one theatrical event to Gunston Theater One. A double

Details

Gunston Theater One
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Performance Times:
March 25-27 and April 1-3
Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m.
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bill of family friendly entertainment is in store with their presentations of “Those Were the Days” and “Hasbeenalooza: The Benefit Concert.” For more information contact ArtStream at www.artstream.org

— MECHELLE SCHLOSS



PHOTO BY JOSE DIAZ

Hasbeenalooza’s character “Annie Venom, played by Tracey Ormes.

PEOPLE



PHOTO BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION

Supporting Immigration Reform

From left, Lee Leyva, Omar Barahona, Mayra Garcia, Belinda Martinez and Rigoberto Martinez return to Clarendon via the metro after participating in the march for immigration reform at the National Mall on March 21.

PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY/THE CONNECTION

March Mania

Matt Vankoski and Alan Fuller participate in the Arlington Community March Mania Basketball Tournament inside Thomas Jefferson Community Center on Sunday, March 7.



PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY/THE CONNECTION

In Rehearsal

Lauren Williams, Bligh Voth, Priscilla Cueller and Bayla Whitten rehearse Tuesday, March 9 for Signature Theatre's cabaret series.



PHOTO BY MECHELLE SCHLOSS/THE CONNECTION

It's Spring

Ashlawn Elementary student Maddie Dort enjoys the 70 degree weather on Friday afternoon, March 19, at the Jefferson Community Center.

PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY/THE CONNECTION

Gathering for Oscar

Local film critics Joe Barber and Bill Henry host the Dc Film Society's 18th Annual Oscar Party. During commercial breaks, the hosts led open discussions about the Oscars and asked trivia questions.



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Helping Battle Lupus

FROM PAGE 3

44.” It’s not known what causes lupus and there is no cure. The Foundation estimates that 75,000 people in the greater D.C. area have the disease.

In addition to the physical exhaustion, Blackburn says she would get small canker sores (oral ulcers) on her gums; her mother who is a retired dental hygienist could not figure out what was going on in her mouth. “Finally I wrote everything down and went to my primary care doctor and she looked at me and said, ‘this points to an auto-immune disorder,’” Blackburn said.

A rheumatologist confirmed that she had lupus. “My mom was with me and we were very overwhelmed ... why would a healthy looking college student have this auto-immune disorder?”

Blackburn says she knew nothing about lupus but, while doing research online, she found the Lupus Foundation. She quickly became involved with the annual Walk.

Fletcher said, “Krista has been a very special part of our Walks the past three years. Her dedication to



PHOTO BY DELIA SAWYER/THE CONNECTION

Krista Blackburn

creating awareness of lupus and raising money to provide services for others with lupus and to fund research for a cure is inspiring.”

After graduating in December of 2008 with a B.S. in business administration, Blackburn came back to live in Arlington “next to the house where I was born and raised.” Her brother lives down the street with his girlfriend and her

SEE HELPING, PAGE 8



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OPINION

Connection Wins Awards

The Connection Newspapers won more than 30 Virginia Press Association news awards — announced at the annual news conference held in Roanoke on Saturday, March 20.

Honors included multiple awards for business and financial writing, education writing, investigative reporting, election coverage, breaking news, public safety writing, editorial writing, photography, design, sports, special sections.

Political and education reporter Julia O'Donoghue won first place for her education writing, in particular three stories which appeared in the Connection's new special section,

A-plus. O'Donoghue also won multiple awards for business and financial writing and investigative reporting.

Reporter Michael Lee Pope won 11 awards in all, including first place for his breaking news coverage of the arrest of Alexandria's police chief for DUI. Pope also won awards for investigative reporting, election coverage, business and financial writing, education writing, government writing, feature writing and in-depth obituaries.

Photographer Louise Krafft won nine awards, including pictorial photo, picture story/essay, news photo and for her contributions to two special sections, HomeLifeStyle and A-Plus

Education, Learning, Fun.

Reporter Mike DiCicco won four awards, including first place for his coverage of a burglary spree that targeted local South Asians' gold jewelry. DiCicco also won for feature writing and education writing.

Mary Kimm won second place for editorial writing for a group of five editorials about education in Northern Virginia.

The Connection's design team including also won awards, two for special sections HomeLifeStyle and A-Plus Education, Learning, Fun.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet also won second place in general makeup, a measure of overall excellence.

EDITORIAL

Winners

Here is a partial listing of stories, photos, special sections and more that won awards in the Virginia Press Association news contests.

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue, first place, Education writing. Springfield Connection

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Breaking news writing Police Chief Busted for DUI. Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Feature series or continuing story, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Personal service writing. Three obituaries, an officer, a gentleman and a savior. Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, first place, Business and financial writing. Arlington Connection

Louise Krafft, first place, Pictorial photo, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Louise Krafft first place Pictorial photo, Arlington Connection

Robbie Hammer, first place, General news photo, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

Mike DiCicco, first place, General news writing, Burglary Spree Targets South Asians' Gold Jewelry Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Louise Krafft, Jean Card, Michael Lee Pope, second place, General makeup. Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, second place, Education writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope second place General news writing, Election 2009. Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope second place Feature series or continuing story, Quackgate, Mount Vernon Gazette

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue second place In-depth or investigative reporting, Mount Vernon Gazette

Mary Kimm second place Editorial writing, Five editorials about education.

Laurence Foong, Louise Krafft, Mary Kimm, Julia O'Donoghue, second place, Specialty pages or sections, A-Plus, Education, Learning, Fun. McLean Connection

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue, second place, Business and financial writing. McLean Connection

Mike DiCicco, second place, Feature writing portfolio, Great Falls Connection.

Ken Moore, Bonnie Hobbs second place Public safety writing. Stories of embezzlement, murder, rampage, and more. Fairfax Connection.

Jason Mackey, second place, Sports writing portfolio, Centre View.

Louise Krafft, second place, Pictorial photo, Arlington Connection

Michael Lee Pope, second place, Government writing, Arlington Connection

Michael Lee Pope, third place, Government writing, Perks Pitfalls and Plastic, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Michael Lee Pope, third place, In-depth or investigative reporting, City Misses Potential Threat, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Louise Krafft, third place, Picture story or essay, Halloween, Alexandria Gazette Packet

Louise Krafft, third place, General news photo, Mount Vernon Estate celebrates 4th of July

Gerald Fill, third place, Public safety writing. Mount Vernon Gazette

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue third place, Business and financial writing. Laurel Hill/Fairfax Station Connection

Louise Krafft, third place, Picture story or essay, HomeLifeStyle, Garden tour of Domaine St Charles, Great Falls Connection.

Louise Krafft, Laurence Foong, Mary Kimm, Julia O'Donoghue, Donna Manz, Mike DiCicco, third place, Specialty pages or sections, HomeLifeStyle. Great Falls Connection

Mike DiCicco, third place, Education writing. Great Falls Connection

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Magistrate's Thankless Role

To the Editor:

As both a member in good standing of the Virginia bar and as a magistrate, I was saddened to read your newspaper's recent piece,

"Whither the Magistrates?"

If the Arlington Connection wishes to accurately summarize the history of the magistrate system, as it attempted to do at the end of the article, it should note that Virginia magistrates fulfill a unique role that is not always

found in other states: when a citizen is arrested at any hour of the day or night, on any of the 365 days of the year, a neutral judicial officer — a Virginia magistrate — will always be available to approve or deny the arrest and to admit the person to bail, if appropriate. Notably, some states in the Union do not necessarily take constitutional protections quite this seriously. To be arrested in some states means that you may be detained through a night, a weekend, or even a holiday weekend, all without any sort of hearing or judicial review. No one determines whether your arrest was founded on probable cause until the next day the court meets. No one is even able to think of admitting you to bail until normal working hours. In Virginia, the 4th and 8th amendments remain more than pretty words, even at 3 a.m. on Christmas Eve. Our offices never close.

And this brings me to my deepest concern about your piece: you quote a Commonwealth Attorney, a member of the executive — not the judicial — branch, and you also quote a practicing defense

attorney. Though magistrates are available 24/7, there is not a whisper from one of us in your article. A member of the executive branch — by the very nature of his profession — does not serve the same role as a member of the judicial branch. And a defender and paid advocate, such as Mr. Jim Lay, must — by the very nature and rules of his profession — zealously represent his clients.

Magistrates, however, do not enjoy the luxury of taking sides: we must always maintain a position of neutrality, as we fulfill the sometimes thankless role of being a check on the powers of the executive branch. Our job is one to be proud of, not one to be denigrated by two individuals who have likely not had to do a complex legal analysis at 4 a.m. while an intoxicated individual is screaming at them. Hopefully, the Arlington Connection will choose to exercise some of the same fairness and impartiality that magistrates must demonstrate every

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY DENNIS D. McDONALD

Combination Parade

The Mardi Gras/St. Patrick's Day Parade marched through Clarendon on Wednesday, March 17.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

time we come onto a shift. Unfortunately, this latest article fell woefully short of that goal.

The Honorable Jeanette A. Jones
Magistrate, Fairfax County

Role of Magistrates

To the Editor:

As a magistrate in Fairfax County and a professional with a legal education, I am writing to address my disappointment over the article "Whither the Magistrates" (March 10).

First, in most cases involving a *capias*, a judge will not make a recommendation as to what bond if any should be set by a magistrate. This gives the magistrate discretion in setting the bond. I believe most magistrates do follow the recommendations made by judges and for Mr. Trodden to make a blanket statement implying that Fairfax magistrates lower bonds set by Arlington judges is factually inaccurate. I can emphatically state that I am not one of the rogue magistrates that Mr. Trodden refers to in the article. If a judge recommends a bond I will follow the recommendation. Mr. Trodden should gather the facts first and determine what specific magistrates do this before making such implications.

Second, magistrates are dedicated public servants who work rotating shift schedules, holidays and weekends without step or cost of living increases all in the name of public service. Most magistrates perform exceptionally well despite the fact of dealing with an irate defendant at 3 a.m. on a Saturday morning, applying legal principles and safeguarding a criminal defendants constitutional rights. I wonder if those who criticize would be able to perform so well under the same circumstances?

Third, the magistrate reorganization transferred authority over the magistrate system from Circuit Court judges to the Supreme Court of Virginia. So, those who have stated that Circuit Court judges are the bosses of magistrates should look at the reorganization again to refresh their memory as to the correct supervising authority over the magistrate system.

In closing, I want to state again that magistrates perform their duties exceptionally well under less than ideal circumstances that most would find unacceptable. Hopefully, some misconceptions have been rectified and magistrates will not be viewed in such a negative light in the future.

Richard W. Nagel
Fairfax

Check The Facts

To the Editor:

As a magistrate in Fairfax County, I was stunned by the article "Whither the Magistrates" (March 10). There were three inaccurate or incomplete statements in need of rectification. First, if Commonwealth Attorney Trodden will look at the left bottom corner of any *capias* issued by a judge in Virginia, there is a space for the judge's recommendation for bail. Most of the time, the space is left blank. Most magistrates do defer to the recommendation unless there is a unique and rare circumstance to do otherwise. The magistrate then submits a DC-327 to explain a contrary decision. Due process requires a bail hearing, not a rubber stamp. And as Mr. Trodden knows well, even judges disagree with each other on bonds. So why did he take such a cheap shot at Fairfax County?

Second, while judges are clearly our superiors, the magistrates get a perspective that even judges and prosecutors do not get. By the time they see a defendant, he is clean, sober, and much calmer. By the time they see the police officer, she has a calm, relaxed, and deliberate testimony without a combative prisoner. Courtrooms are very busy but only magistrates work in such conditions on rotating shifts, weekends, or holidays (without shift differential). We do not have go-betweens to screen calls and unscheduled visits from the public on a 24/7 basis. We have to be their own clerks as well.

Third, Del. Dave Albo and Sen. Janet Howell (both of Fairfax) who supported the magistrate reorganization never visited the Fairfax County Office of the Magistrate, one of the busiest offices in the state. Don't you think the generals would want to visit the troops on the front lines before making the big decisions? Del. Albo is also aware that the reorganization made the Supreme Court of Virginia the boss of the magistrates, not the Circuit Court.

Most magistrates (and court clerks) do a superlative job for low pay under conditions that judges would find unacceptable if there was a night court. Before criticizing us, could reporters, editors, and politicians please check all the facts? It could save them time and the taxpayers money. It is also a matter of integrity.

Paul E. Gagnon
Magistrate 488
Northern Virginia

19th Judicial District-Region 5



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5 Tax Tips That Could Save You Thousands

AMY MCANARNEY



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE TAX INSTITUTE AT H&R BLOCK

Each year many taxpayers miss out on thousands of their own hard-earned dollars, simply because they are unaware of the many tax deductions and credits they are legally eligible to receive. Here are some of the recent tax law changes you need to be aware of, courtesy of Amy McAnarney, Executive Director of The Tax Institute at H&R Block.

Capital Assets: Thinking of selling an appreciated capital asset such as stock or a vacation home? You may even want to consider giving the asset to a child or grandchild who is in a lower tax bracket. He or she may be able to sell the property and have all or most of the gain taxed at 0%. However, be careful of "kiddie tax" rules which may tax some of your child's income at your rates.

New Vehicles: Did you know that you can deduct the sales tax paid on up

to \$49,500 of the purchase price of a new vehicle bought in 2009? This is helpful particularly if you do not itemize and instead take the standard deduction on your tax return. In that case, remember you can add the sales tax to the standard deduction. In order to deduct the sales tax paid on the purchase of a new vehicle, the auto must have been purchased between Feb. 17, 2009 and Dec. 31, 2009.

Business Vehicles: If you own a small business that bought an SUV or other vehicle that weighs over 6,000 pounds in 2009, and it's used

for business, you may be able to deduct up to \$25,000 of the cost this year, plus take a 50% depreciation deduction on the remaining cost of the vehicle. For example, if your new SUV cost \$75,000, you may be able to take a tax deduction of \$52,000 on your 2009 business return.

New Homebuyers: If you bought a home in 2009 or plan to in 2010, you may get some tax relief. First-time homebuyers can get a tax credit of up to \$8,000, and repeat homebuyers may be eligible for a credit

of \$6,500. Existing homeowners must have lived in their current home for five of the last eight years to be eligible in 2010 for the \$6,500 homebuyer credit.

Virginia Residents: Finally, in Virginia, there's a deduction for 20% of the sales tax paid on certain energy efficient equipment or appliances, up to \$500 per year for those who are married filing jointly. Visit an experienced Tax Professional to ensure that you are getting all of the credits and deductions you deserve.

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- Lee Harrison Shopping Ctr., 2491 N. Harrison St., Arlington, VA 22207
- 4350 N. Fairfax Dr., Ste. 100, Arlington, VA 22203



Jamestown Celebrates Spring

With mom keeping a close eye, Ellie Calvo (above) enjoys her pony ride at the Jamestown Elementary Spring Fair on Saturday, March 20.



Jack Kline, 3rd grade student at Jamestown Elementary, gets ready to drop the hammer at the Spring Fair.

PHOTOS BY MECHELLE SCHLOSS/THE CONNECTION

Helping in Battle against Lupus

FROM PAGE 7

parents plan to live nearby when they return from Florida where they spend the winter. Her father owns Blackburn Construction — he has built and still owns numerous properties in North Arlington.

Blackburn works full-time as a sales assistant for Met Life Home Loans. Her immediate supervisor is her uncle and she says it's helpful to have a boss who understands her physical challenges. "The thing that really bothers me is my exhaustion ... some days I really want to go to the gym but I'm too tired. It is very frustrating 'cause you want to stay in shape but if you don't have the energy, there's no way you're going to make it."

It's also been important for Blackburn to help others with the disease. "Every now and then I get an e-mail or a phone call. Fletcher said, "Many people find that lupus is a lonely disease, because they don't know others with lupus. The Walk provides an opportunity for them to take charge of their lives on one day and come together in a celebratory event that engages thousands of supporters."

Fletcher says that during the Walk many carry butterflies as a symbol of hope: "Hope for a cure, hope for better diagnostic tools, and hope for new drugs for the disease."

Fletcher notes there has not been a new drug approved by the FDA for lupus in 51 years. "We need more attention for this disease and we need greater awareness."

As she has done in the past, Blackburn is gathering friends and family to help her with her efforts. On Thursday, March 25 she is hosting a happy hour fund-raising event at The Front Page restaurant in Ballston. "Yes, raising money is huge but raising awareness is even more important for me. Seeing people come together to support me ... the love they have given me is just amazing."

FLOURISHING AFTER 55

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington's Office of Senior Adult Programs, April 5-9.

Arlington senior centers: Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Culpepper Garden, 4435 S. Pershing Dr.; Langston-Brown, 2121 N. Culpepper St.; Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Madison, 3829 N. Stafford St.; also TJ Comm. Center, 3501 S. 2nd St., Fairlington Comm. Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Arlington Commissioner of Revenue Ingrid Morroy to discuss functions of tax office, Monday, April 5, 12 p.m., Aurora Hills, 703-228-5722. Free.

"The Czar's Faberge Eggs," video presentation, Monday, April 5, 11 a.m., Culpepper Garden, 703-228-4403. Free.

Painting classes, new and experienced, begin Monday, April 5, 10 a.m., Lee Senior Center. \$36/6 two-hour

classes. Register, 703-228-0555.

Strength training classes using weights, Mondays (upper body), Wednesdays (torso), Fridays (lower body), 9 a.m. TJ Community Center. \$56/16 sessions or \$3.50 per drop in. Details, 703-228-4745.

Weekly half-hour **piano lessons** offered at Culpepper Garden. Call Tuesday, April 6, 10 a.m., to sign up, 703-228-4403. \$15 per lesson.

Beginners **full fitness exercise** classes, Tuesday, April 6, Thursday, April 8. 10 a.m., Lee Senior center. \$3.50 per class. Details, 703-228-0555.

Pickleball clinics for advanced players begin Tuesday, April 6, 8:45 a.m., Walter Reed. \$24/4 clinics. Register, 703-228-0955.

Learn about **volunteer services** in Arlington, Wednesday, April 7, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Details, 703-228-5321. Free.

Three workshops offered in **watercolor and acrylic painting** beginning Wednesday, April 7, 10:30 a.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Evening baseball game, Washington National versus Philadelphia Phillies, Thursday, April 8. Cost \$56. Call Arl. Senior Adult Travel, 703-228-4748, Registration required.

What's the fuss about **twitter** discussion and demonstration, Thursday, April 8, 10:15 a.m., Walter Reed. Free. Details, 703-228-0955.

Pickleball Fundamentals I and II, Thursday, April 8, 9 a.m. and 10 a.m., Walter Reed Senior Center. \$24/4 clinics. Call early to register, 703-228-4771.

Golf conditioning clinics begin Friday, April 9, 11:45 a.m., Thomas Jefferson Community Center. \$32/4 clinics (\$40 without 55+ Pass). Register early by calling, 703-228-4771.

Fast-paced walking group, Fast Forwards, will meet Friday, April 9, 9 a.m., Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722. Free.

Call Office of Senior Adult Programs for free copy of **"55+ Guide,"** and application for 55+ Pass, 703-228-4721.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 7

At a Glance: Virginia Cooperative Extension. 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. 2010 Sustainable Urban Agriculture Lecture Series: #2. Intensive Organic Gardening and Shiitake Mushroom Production. At Potomac Overlook Regional Park 2845 N. Marcey Road, Arlington.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 21

Teens and the Law: What's Legal, Illegal and What to Expect? 7 p.m. Hosted by Arlington Public Schools. At H-B Woodlawn School.

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Assemblies of God
Arlington Assembly of God...703-524-1667
Calvary Gospel Church...703-525-6636

Baptist
Bon Air Baptist Church...703-525-8079
McLean Baptist Church...703-356-8080

Buddhism
The Vajrayogini Buddhist Center
202-331-2122

Churches-Catholic
St. Agnes Catholic Church...703-525-1166
Cathedral of St. Thomas More...703-525-1300
Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek Catholic Church...703-734-9566
Our Lady of Lourdes...703-684-9261
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church...703-979-5580
St. Ann Catholic Church...703-528-6276
St. Charles Catholic Church...703-527-5500

Church of Christ
Arlington Church of Christ...703-528-0535

Church of God-Anderson, Indiana
Church of God...703-671-6726

Churches-Episcopal
St. Andrew Episcopal Church...703-522-1600
St. George Episcopal Church...703-525-8286
St. Johns Episcopal Church...703-671-6834
St. Mary Episcopal Church...703-527-6800

Churches-Episcopal
St. Michael S Episcopal Church
703-241-2474
St. Paul Episcopal Church...703-820-2625
St. Peter's Episcopal Church...703-536-6606
St. Thomas Episcopal Church...703-442-0330
Trinity Episcopal Church...703-920-7077

Churches Lutheran(ELCA)
Advent Lutheran Church...703-521-7010
Faith Lutheran Church...703-525-9283
German Lutheran Church...703-276-8952
Lutheran Church of The Redeemer
703-356-3346
Resurrection Lutheran Church
703-532-5991

Churches Lutheran(Missouri, Synod)
Our Savior Lutheran Church...703-892-4846

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

Church-Brethren
Church of The Brethren...703-524-4100

Churches-Baptist
Arlington Baptist Church...703-979-7344
Cherrydale Baptist Church...703-525-8210
First Baptist of Ballston...703-525-7824
Mt. Zion Baptist Church...703-979-7411

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

Churches-Christian Science
McLean-First Church of Christ, Scientist...
703-356-1391

Churches-Presbyterian
Arlington Presbyterian Church...703-920-5660

Church of Covenant ...703-524-4115
Clarendon Presbyterian Church
703-527-9513

Little Falls Presbyterian Church
703-538-5230

Trinity Presbyterian Church...703-536-5600
Westminster Presbyterian ... 703-549-4766

Churches-Unitarian Universalist
Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
703-892-2565

Churches-United Methodist
Trinity United Methodist Church
of McLean...703-356-3312

Charles Wesley United Methodist
...703-356-6336

Calvary United Methodist...703-892-5185
Cherrydale United Methodist...703-527-2621
Chesterbrook United Methodist
...703-356-7100

Clarendon United Methodist...703-527-8574
Community United Methodist...703-527-1085
Mt. Olive United Methodist...703-527-3934
Walker Chapel United Methodist
...703-538-5200

Churches- United Church of Christ
Bethel United Church of Christ
...703-528-0937

Rock Spring Congregational
United Church of Christ...703-538-4886

Metaphysical
Arlington Metaphysical Chapel
703-276-8738

Presbyterian Church in America Churches
Christ Church of Arlington
703-527-0420

Synagogues - Conservative
Congregation Etz Hayim...703-979-4466

Synagogues - Orthodox
Fort Myer Minyan...703-863-4520
Chabad Lavavitch of Alexandria-Arlington
...703-370-2774

Synagogue - Reconstructionist
Kol Ami, the North Virginia
Reconstructionist Community
...571-271-8387

Saint Ann Catholic Church

SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM
1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy
5312 North 10th Street
Arlington Virginia 22205
Parish Office: (703) 528-6276

DAILY EUCHARIST:

Weekdays
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Saturday, 8:30 AM

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PARISH WEBSITE:
www.rc.net/arlington/stann

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LETTERS

Avoid Closing Planetarium

To the Editor:

I am greatly disappointed to hear that the Arlington School Board is considering closing the David M. Brown Planetarium. I'm not disappointed because it's named for my brother, one of the astronauts who died in the space shuttle Columbia accident, but because generations of future students will not have the opportunity to be inspired in an excellent science education facility.

Most scientists and engineers get their first exposure to science in middle or high school. Many astronauts, including my brother, cite high school as the time when they were first interested in the sciences. Several of NASA's astronauts come from Northern Virginia and were educated in our schools.

My family has been proud residents of Virginia for multiple generations. My grandfather lived in Arlington, my father was student body president of Washington Lee High School, David and I attended Yorktown High School, and my children go to Robinson High School. Arlington County is one of

the richest counties in the United States. Shouldn't we give our children the best educational opportunities?

You may not be aware of this but my brother's space shuttle mission included a student-designed astronomy experiment. The StarNav experiment was basically a planetarium in reverse. Instead of projecting stars on a dome StarNav used a camera to take photos of the night sky. The experiment's computer looked at the star patterns to determine which direction the shuttle was pointed, just as a student in a planetarium can look at the constellations projected inside a planetarium dome to determine his or her orientation.

Something as simple as a student in a planetarium understanding why a particular star appears on the horizon at a certain time on a particular day each year can lead to an understanding of mathematics, physics, chemistry, and even biology.

David Brown was a proud Virginian and educated in Virginia from elementary school through medical school. He graduated from McKinley Elementary, Woodlawn School for gifted children, Yorktown High School, William and Mary College, and East-

ern Virginia Medical School. While his career in the Navy and NASA took him to distant locations he always considered Virginia his home.

In our current economy it's certainly understandable that the Arlington School Board has to cut back on non-essential activities. I can certainly understand that the planetarium's proposed half a million dollar upgrade is a lot to ask for. But if the board can't fund the upgrades, why not at least keep the planetarium running without the upgrades rather than the draconian measure of closing it. My brother Dave said, "You can make the argument that we shouldn't do anything advanced like a space program until every last social problem is solved. But, I just can't imagine living in a world like that."

Please reconsider your decision to close the planetarium. In the long run I'm sure that decision would serve the county and our next generation of Virginians well.

Douglas R. Brown

Dorothy R. Brown

Fairfax Station

Brother of David M. Brown,
mother of David M. Brown



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**NOTICE TO ARLINGTON REPUBLICANS
CALL FOR CANVASS TO NOMINATE CANDIDATE**

CANDIDATES: Any registered voter in Arlington County may file for the Republican nomination for County Board in 2010. A candidate must submit a letter of intent and \$500 filing fee to ACRC (see address below) no later than 5 pm on Fri., Apr. 9, 2010. Postmarks do NOT count.

CANVASS: A canvass election to select the Republican nominee will be held on Sat., May 15, 2010, from 10 am to 2 pm, at ACRC (time and location subject to change) The canvass will be open to any Republican voter in Arlington, with no fees or pre-filing. For details, see www.ArlingtonGOP.org

Paid for and authorized by:
ARLINGTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE
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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



Four Levels of Luxury in Highgate

Enjoy the crisp elegance and subtle pampering this special residence offers. Master suite with sitting room, a private balcony on the top level, decadent kitchen with cherry cabinets complemented with stainless steel appliances and black decor. Stroll to Courthouse, Georgetown, Metro, and more. One of the best addresses in North Arlington! 1538 N. Colonial Terrace, Arlington, 22209.

For more information contact Diane Lee, 703-812-7844, McEneaney Associates, Inc., www.DianeRLee.com. Priced at \$989,900.



Just Reduced!

Brick colonial in Over Lee Knolls in Arlington. One-car garage. Three bedroom, three and a half bathrooms with possible fourth bedroom/office in lower level. Walk-out lower level. Table-space kitchen with sliding glass door to back patio. Separate living room and dining room. Living room with gas fireplace and wood-burning fireplace in recreation room on lower level. Close to East Falls Church metro. Great location! 6142 Lee Hwy., Arlington, 22205.

For more information contact Sam & Kathy Scoggin, 703-898-3903. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage 703-524-2100. Priced at \$600,000



Bellevue Forest - Completely Renovated

Completely renovated N. Arlington single family home in sought after Bellevue Forest. Light-filled kitchen and breakfast room with cathedral ceiling opens to brick patio, hot tub, and fenced in yard. This home features refinished red oak hardwood floors throughout, recessed lights, tile sunroom, fully finished walk-out basement that includes a bedroom, bathroom, laundry room, living area, recreation room, and gas fireplace. Other features include professional landscaping and large living and dining rooms. Golf Branch Nature Center, Donaldson Run Pool, and Overlook Park are right at your finger tips. Taylor, Williamsburg, & Yorktown schools. 3147 N. Pollard Street, Arlington 22207.

For more information contact Jennifer Lee, Buck Realtors, 571-212-2614, Jennifer@BuckRealtors.com, www.BuckRealtors.com Priced at \$905,000.



Another New Listing in Aurora Hills

A great family home with four real bedrooms and three bathrooms conveniently located in Aurora Hills. Constructed in 1960 the room sizes are generous and there is over 2500 square feet of living space. This home is sited on a 10,000 sf lot that has been professionally tiered and landscaped with stone walls, natural areas, and a flagstone patio creating a wonderful area for play, pets and entertaining. The kitchen has been completely updated with new cabinets, counters and appliances. Hardwood floors gleam throughout the home. There is also space for a first floor professional office and a one car attached garage. This property is a commuter's dream. 1506 20th Street, S., Arlington, 22202 Open Sunday 1-4 pm.

For more information contact Leanne Spencer, Weichert, Realtors, 202-494-7596, spencerlg@aol.com, www.leannespencer.com. Priced at \$749,000.



Profile in Real Estate - Laura Woodbury

Laura Woodbury a true Arlingtonian, knew first hand the benefits of raising her children in Arlington. Laura, her mother, husband, and children all graduated from Washington-Lee High School. She and her husband have called Arlington home for almost five decades.

"Arlington has a wonderfully diverse population, great schools, parks, and housing that suits individual needs. What is even better is Arlington is just outside our Nation's Capital. There is something for everyone in Arlington," says Laura.

Laura observed her husband, Parris Woodbury, a class A Virginia contractor purchase, renovate, and sell homes. In 1995 she joined Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage and decided to try her hand at real estate. "Laura is a dedicated, hardworking and compassionate agent who puts her clients' needs above her own," says Lorraine Arora the Branch Vice President of Coldwell Banker in Arlington. "She uses her staging and

marketing skills to help sellers get the most for their home." Another advantage that Laura's clients get is Parris' knowledge. To give buyers a comfort level to proceed with making an offer on older homes, often times Parris will go through the perspective home, and share his insights. A value added service for Laura's buyers.

Laura works with all segments of the residential real estate population, first time buyers all the way through to downsizing seniors. If you ask Laura what keeps her excited, she quickly responds "giving people the information they need to make informed decisions about their real estate needs and closing the deal!"

Laura is a believer in continuing education in this ever changing market. She holds the Designations of e-Pro, ABR (Accredited Buyer Representative), SRES (Senior Real Estate Specialist), and ASP Realtor (Realtor stager).

When Laura isn't helping buyers and sellers she enjoys racquetball, working on her yard, and spending time with her grown children. She is an enthusiastic supporter of W-L Crew. With interest rates still low, and the tax rebate coming to a close for buyers and sellers (April 30 to be under contract, settled by June 30), Laura is busy assisting past and referred clients, however always has time for new ones.



Laura T. Woodbury, 703-967-8181, lwoodbury@cbmove.com

HOME SALES

FEBRUARY 2010
\$1,410,000 ~ \$777,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision
2800 ROOSEVELT ST N	5	5	1	ARLINGTON	..	\$1,410,000	Detached	0.16	BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD
407 FILLMORE ST N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	..	\$1,400,000	Detached	0.14	LYON PARK
733 DANVILLE ST N	5	3	0	ARLINGTON	..	\$1,115,000	Detached	0.14	CLARENDON
2711 UPSHUR ST N	5	3	1	ARLINGTON	..	\$1,075,000	Detached	0.40	BROYHILL FOREST/HILLS
835 22ND ST S	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$975,000	Detached	0.12	ADDISON HEIGHTS
1401 OAK ST N #G-1	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$950,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		THE WESLIE
405 EDGEWOOD ST N	4	3	0	ARLINGTON	....	\$899,000	Detached	0.15	CLARENDON
900 STAFFORD ST N #2620	4	3	0	ARLINGTON	....	\$875,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		ALTA VISTA
3828 TAZEWELL ST N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$873,500	Townhouse	0.09	THE GLEBE
4930 29TH ST N	5	3	0	ARLINGTON	....	\$870,000	Detached	0.23	SHIRLEY WOODS
1809 OAKLAND ST	3	2	2	ARLINGTON	....	\$850,000	Detached	0.14	CHERRYDALE
4260 VACATION LN	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$850,000	Detached	0.22	LEE HEIGHTS
6581 WASHINGTON BLVD	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	....	\$830,000	Townhouse	0.04	MADISON MEWS
4313 23RD RD N	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$807,500	Detached	0.22	LEE HEIGHTS
802 DANIEL ST N	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$777,000	Detached	0.15	CLARENDON

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For more information on MRIS, visit www.mris.com.

To search for a home online, visit www.HomesDatabase.com.

REAL ESTATE NOTES

Carol Temple, sales associate with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Arlington, has earned membership in the Coldwell Banker International President's Elite, representing the Top 1 percent of 105,000 Coldwell Banker sales associates internationally.

Temple has been a Realtor since 1973. She is the No. 1 sales associate in Virginia at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Greater Washington, D.C., and the No. 1 sales associate in the Coldwell Banker Arlington office. She is a life-member of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR) Million Dollar Club and a life-member of the NVAR Top Producers Club. She is also a Certified Residential Specialist, Certified Negotiation Specialist, and

Certified Relocation Specialist.

Bean, Kinney & Korman of Arlington announced that John G. Kelly has joined the law firm as Of Counsel. Kelly represents lenders as well as developers with respect to their real estate investments nationwide, including transactions involving construction and development of office buildings, shopping centers, hotels, and other investment-grade properties. He has extensive experience negotiating and drafting loan documents, including loan modifications and other workouts, purchase and sale agreements and all aspects of the review of due diligence. He also represents landlords and tenants in complex office, retail and government leases.

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www.davelloyd.net



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Nick Kuhn, McEneaney Associates, 703-717-6338

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com & click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

22201

27 N Fenwick St.\$839,900.....Sun 1-4.....Ron Cathell.....Keller Williams McLean703-975-2500

1504 Hancock St., N.....\$1,850,000.....Sun 2-4.....Ruth Boyer O'Dea.....American Realty Group.....703-338-2277

1050 Taylor Street North #511...\$350,000.....Sun 1-4.....Kevin Love.....Re/Max Allegiance.....703-807-1986

1045 N Utah Street.....\$649,000.....Sun 1-4.....Julia Avent.....RE/MAX Allegiance.....703-525-4993

22202

1506 S. 20th Street.....\$749,000.....Sun 1-4.....Leanne Spencer.....Weichert Realtors.....202-494-7596

1300 Arlington Ridge Rd., S. #105...\$229,500.....Sun 1-4.....Jennifer MacKenzie.....Long and Foster.....703-447-4361

2823 S. Fort Scott Dr.....\$1,025,000.....Sun 1-4.....Nick Kuhn.....McEneaney Associates.....703-717-6338

2615 S. Lynn Street.....\$789,000.....Sun 1-4.....Leanne Spencer.....Weichert Realtors.....202-494-7596

3600 Glebe Rd. S #715.....\$344,900.....Sun 1-4.....Jackie Schillig.....Weichert Realtors.....703-200-4919

22203

4141 Henderson Road, #218.....\$439,900.....Sun 1-4.....Matt Shepard.....Keller Williams.....703-867-5442

4400 N. 7th Street.....\$629,900.....Sun 1-4.....Dave Lloyd.....Weichert Realtors.....703-593-3204

22204

2910 19th St., S.....\$875,000.....Sun 1-4.....Kay Lee.....Weichert Realtors.....703-362-9913

22205

1321 N McKinley Rd.....\$625,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ron Cathell.....Keller Williams.....703-975-2500

2031 N Harrison Street.....\$949,900.....Sun 1-4.....Matt Shepard.....Keller Williams.....703-867-5442

1513 N. Longfellow St.....\$659,000.....Sat 1-4.....Sharon Chamberlin.....McEneaney Associates.....703-244-2588

1513 N. Longfellow St.....\$659,000.....Sun 1-4.....Linda Keens.....McEneaney Associates.....703-606-6130

5208 N. 29th St.....\$499,000.....Sun 1-4.....Sharon Chamberlin.....McEneaney Associates.....703-244-2588

22207

2201 N Pollard St.....\$925,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ron Cathell.....Keller Williams.....703-975-2500

4389 Old Dominion Dr.....\$1,599,000.....Sun 1-4.....Dane Work.....Remax.....703-869-4567

22209

1564 21st Ct., N.....\$799,000.....Sun 1-4.....Theresa Howard.....Long and Foster.....703-284-9322

For an Open House Listing Form,
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All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.

Student Playwright Wins

By Senitra McCombs
The Connection

Yorktown High School senior Sam Nottingham discussed winning the Arena Stage Student Playwright Project and what inspired his play "Baggy Jeans" as well as the life of a teenager.

What was your play about?

Sam Nottingham: My play is about a young teenager named Andre who is fighting against his parents to be an individual. They want him to be a certain way and he doesn't. And he expresses that through rap.

How did you come up with the theme or concept for it?

SN: I came up with the concept by just how a lot of parents of our generation sometimes view rappers as dumb and not

sophisticated. I wanted to show that rappers can be as poetic as anyone else ... like Shakespeare.

How did you come up with the title "Baggy Jeans"? What does it symbolize?

I feel like it's something that parents always make fun of and ... a little summary of the play. The way he looks and how he speaks is what they make fun of and the "baggy jeans" image.

Have you always wanted to be a playwright?

SN: First play, I usually write poems, and I wanted to find a way to use that in my play.

How did you hear about the contest?

SN: There's an elective class that I take



Nottingham

at my high school that's called Literary Magazine and we write different pieces either poetry or fiction. In this case a play. We edited them over class. My teacher told me or told the class to submit plays to this contest and so we did. That's how it happened.

How did you feel when you first found out you won the award?

SN: I saw that Arena caller Id that Arena Stage was calling and I was very excited. I was proud of my play but I didn't know if the idea would be strong enough. I really didn't expect to win.

Do you plan to enter more playwrighting contests? Or write more plays?

SN: Maybe, I'm thinking about it.

What is the most difficult part of writing

a play?

SN: For me, finding the inspiration or the special idea that you really do want to show. I like having an idea and then showing it any way I want to. The hardest thing is to come up with that idea.

What do you like or enjoy the most about writing plays?

SN: Well, I think for this play I like being able to understand how differently it will look on stage than on paper and being able to incorporate that into my writing. I actually had my first rehearsal today and I got to see it. They'll be showing it at Arena Stage in D.C.

Do you have a favorite play?

SN: I haven't seen that many plays but my favorite play I've seen so far is "In the Heights." It was a musical I saw in New York.

'Going Green'

Bishop O'Connell High School announced the launching of its "Going Green" campaign. Under the leadership of alumnus Tom Stevens (class of 1968) and in conjunction with the advancement office at Bishop O'Connell, the school has formed a network of Realtors, builders and lenders to spearhead a campaign focused on upgrading the school's 50-year old infrastructure with the goal of:

- reducing overall energy consumption
- reducing energy costs
- improving the learning environment for students and teachers
- increasing school community awareness of environmental stewardship.

A steering committee of the Realtors, Builders and Lenders for O'Connell group has worked for more than 12 months, engaging numerous consultants and specialist in the fields of building renovations, green improvements and high-efficiency core systems, and has

produced a list of candidate projects totally \$1.1 million that meet the goals set out for this program.

Stevens announced last week the first five components of the "Going Green" campaign:

- Light fixture replacement and retrofit (\$96,000) – replacing approximately 1200 fluorescent fixtures with new high efficiency lamps.
- Water conservation and replacement (\$82,000) – replacing plumbing fixtures in bathrooms and locker rooms.
- Solar panels (\$220,000) – installing roof-top photovoltaic panels to generate electricity. This project will begin as a single unit student demonstration.
- Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (\$152,000) – embarking on a system-wide evaluation of all HVAC functionality.
- Window replacements (\$550,000) – providing added insulation by replacing single-pane windows with new insulated and coated glass.



Photo by Jim Coates

Yorktown High Wins Regional One-Act Play Fest

The Yorktown High School theatre department placed first in the Northern Region One-Act Play Festival Saturday, Feb. 20, qualifying its production of Alan Haehnel's "Nora's Lost," for the state finals. Yorktown students who received additional honors at the regional festival include Claire Withycombe, Caroline Harman, Emily Johnson and Sarah Gold, named finalists in the Best Actress category; and Philip Baraoidan, a finalist for Best Actor. Washington-Lee High School also competed at the event with its production of Bertolt Brecht's "Fear and Misery of the Third Reich." W-L student Anne Donnelly was named as a Best Actress finalist.

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CALENDAR



SATURDAY/MARCH 27

Gayaneh & Swan Lake. 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Ballet students from the Cuppett Performing Arts Center will perform in the Center's Spring ballet with professional Ballet Master Bryan Skates. Tickets are \$12/advance, \$15/door, \$10/seniors and children. At the Kenmore Middle School Theater, Carlin Springs Road in Arlington. Visit CuppettPAC.com or call 703-938-9019.

Know of something missing from our community entertainment calendar? Send it to *The Arlington Connection*, e-mail it to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is 2 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with any questions.

7:30 p.m. Free. Presented by Randy Phoebus. At the Washington Area Butterfly Club meeting. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 South Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Call 703-228-6535 or 703-354-9668.

Author Event: "The Life and Times of Sugar Ray Robinson." By the Washington Post's Wil Haygood. 7 p.m. Acclaimed biographer and Washington Post writer Wil Haygood discusses "Sweet Thunder: The Life and Times of Sugar Ray Robinson." The biography tells the captivating story of the African-American champion who brought grace and style to the boxing ring in the 1940s and '50s. At the Arlington Central Library Auditorium, 1015 N. Quincey Street, Arlington.

MARCH 25, 26, 27

ArtStream OnStage. \$10. Presents performances by adults with disabilities: "Those Were the Days," and "Hasbeenalooza: The Benefit Concert." Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. At Gunston Theatre One in Arlington, 2700 South Lang Street, Arlington.

MARCH 25-27

Northwest Arlington Lions Charities Fund-Raising. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fresh Florida Citrus, pure Vermont Maple Syrup, and Pecans for sale at the Overlee Pool lower parking lot, 6030 Lee Highway. Call 703-243-7938.

FRIDAY/MARCH 26

Reading Dante Between the Lines. 6 p.m. Guest lecturer Dr. Jo Ann H. Moran Cruz, dean of the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences at Loyola University, New Orleans. In the Reinsch Library Auditorium at Marymount University, 2807 North Glebe Road, Arlington.

Poetry Reading. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Poet Sandra Beasley to give reading at Marymount University. At the Lee Reception Room of the Reinsch Library, 2807 North Glebe Road, Arlington. Call 703-526-6847.

MARCH 26-27

Live Stand-Up Comedy with Finesse Mitchell. Friday at 9:45 p.m.; Saturday at 9:45 p.m. \$22 admission. At the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Visit www.ArlingtonDrafthouse.com.

MARCH 26, 27, 28

"Into the Woods." Performances are Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 28 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10/students, \$5/seniors. At Bishop O'Connell High school, 6600 Little Falls Road, Arlington. Visit www.bishopoconnell.org/theatre.

SATURDAY/MARCH 27

Author Event: "Self Defense for Radicals." 6 p.m. Free. By New York City author Mickey Z. At Barnes & Noble, 2800 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington. SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

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21 Announcements

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-Werner Heisenberg

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MONDAYS

Meditation and Buddhism. 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost \$12. General Program - What is the key to a good relationship? This month we will explore the Buddhist psychology of love and how this can be applied practically in our daily lives. Topics include: The Bigger Picture; Living with Gratitude; Connecting with Others; The Practice of Loving Kindness. Each General Program class includes a teaching, guided meditations, and time for Q&A. Everyone is welcome. Each class is self-contained. You can drop in at any point. At Vajrayogini Buddhist Center - Arlington Branch - The Griffin Center 3800 Fairfax Dr., Suite 5. Visit www.meditation-dc.org or call 202-986-2257 or info@meditation-dc.org.

MARCH 27 THROUGH MAY 16
"The Fool at the Circus." Saturdays and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. For ages 4 and up. Run time: 1 hour. Tickets are \$12/advance, \$15/door, \$10 for parties of 10 or more. Call 800-494-8497 or www.classika.org. At the Synetic Family Theater, 4041 Campbell Avenue, Arlington.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 24

LinkUp & Live Charity Event. 6:30 p.m. Proceeds will help support CrisisLink's care for people in crisis, contemplating suicide or dealing with other mental health problems. At the Clarendon Ballroom in Arlington. Visit www.LinkUpandLive.org.

Relational Aggression and Bully Prevention. 7-9 p.m. At the Education Center, 1426 North Quincey Street, Board Room, 1st Floor. Register online at www.apsva.us/adulted or by calling 703-228-7200.

Film: "The Drummer"/"Zhan. gu" [2007]. 6:30 p.m. The World Cinema Spotlight series presents "The Drummer" [2007]. Not Rated, 118 minutes. Directed by Kenneth Bi and featuring Jaycee Chan and Tony Leung Ka Fai. "The Drummer" is the first feature film from Hong Kong and Taiwan selected for competition at the Sundance Film Festival, where it won The Hollywood Reporter's Critics' Pick. It's the story of a young man on the run from organized crime that hides out among a drum circle group. At the Shirlington Branch Library

THURSDAY/MARCH 25
Willow Fund-raiser for Haitian Relief. 5:30-9:30 p.m. An evening of wine, food and fellowship to raise funds for Haiti. Proceeds will be donated to Doctors Without Borders' relief efforts in Haiti. At Willow Restaurant. Entrance fee \$50, checks written to Doctors Without Borders USA, Willow Restaurant, 4301 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington. Call 703-465-8800.

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THEATER

Arena's Charming 'Piazza'

Musical charm In Crystal City.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE CONNECTION

Every once in a while, a truly lovely new musical finds its way onto local stages. When that happens, it is cause for rejoicing. It's happening now with "The Light in the Piazza," which Molly Smith has directed as something of a chamber musical at Arena Stage's temporary facility in Crystal City.

It gives us lush melodies, expressive lyrics in two languages as befits a story of lovers united in spite of cultural difference (she's American, he's Italian) and the lilt of five musicians on a perch hovering above a simple but effective set. It is delivered by a cast with both the musical chops and the acting skills to deliver the show's multiple pleasures. All together this is a delightful package that runs at least until April 11.

The show has a history of charming audiences. It began as a limited engagement at the Lincoln Center in New York but demand for tickets caused extension after extension until, after over a year, the Center really had to close it so they could put on other shows in their theater. Before they did, however, it garnered six Tony Awards including best score for a musical.

And what a score it is! In an age that seems dominated by juke box musicals using the catalogues of pop and rock stars and musicals attempting (sometimes successfully) to use rock, salsa, rap or hip hop in theatrical settings, it is refreshing indeed to find a score that harkens back to a time when melody and melodic lines were the bread and butter of musical shows.

The melodies of "The Light in the Piazza" range from soaring to scintillating. Its composer is Adam Guettel who, in "Floyd Collins" a few years back, demonstrated both a melodic inventiveness and a flare for capturing the sound of a time and place. With "The Light in the Piazza" the time is the early 1950s and the place is Florence, Italy, just beginning to burst back to life after the devastation of World War II. Guettel found the blend of sounds that linked the place to its historical roots as a cultural capital over the centuries and the excitement of the post war boom in pop developments.

That Guettel would be gifted melodically may not be much of a



PHOTO BY SCOTT SUCHMAN

Margaret Anne Florence as Clara Johnson and Nicholas Rodriguez as Fabrizio Naccarelli in the Arena Stage production of "The Light in the Piazza."

surprise. After all, his grandfather was Richard Rodgers of Rodgers and Hammerstein and also of Rodgers and Hart. His mother is that other Broadway veteran Rodgers, Mary — who composed the score for "Once Upon a Mattress"). Surprise or not, his felicity with melody is matched by an intelligent approach to structuring a score. His way with a tune may be inherited, but there is also ample evidence of the kind of craft in creating a full score that comes only from diligent study and practice.

Here, Guettel has the benefit of a well crafted script for a compelling story, which gives him plenty of opportunity for standout musical moments. That script, by Craig Lucas, is an adaptation of the novel by Elizabeth Spencer about a somewhat developmentally delayed American girl touring Italy with her mother and a young Italian boy who falls for her at first sight.

Margaret Anne Florence (yes, that is her last name!) is "Clara," the young lady in question, and her performance is marked by the flashes of immaturity that reveal her character with both subtlety and charm. Her young man is Nicholas Rodriguez, who is remarkable for his ability to sing melodic lines that are operatic in their intensity without making it sound pretentious. Instead it sounds like the flood of emotion filling his heart simply can't be contained. As he sings — mostly in Italian, occasionally in a broken English that is enchanting and even at times wordless in an entrancing flight of fancy — he carries the entire production to lovely heights.

Hollis Resnik is quite good as the girl's mother who has devoted her

life to protecting her innocent daughter only to find that she's got to let her make her own transition from child to adult at some point — and that he she might grow a bit herself in the process. It is a very meaty part that requires not only a wide range of acting skills but also a wide vocal range for revealing solos ("Dividing Day" and "The Beauty Is" are both highly demanding.)

Molly Smith's staging facilitates the clean, clear storytelling techniques that marked Lucas' score. Anne Patterson's set design seems a bit simplistic and plain when you enter the theater when there's no curtain drawn over the stage. It is transformed, however, with Adam Larsen's projections, which turn its surfaces into specific locales in Florence and Rome and contribute to the sense of disorientation for a key scene when Clara's mental capacities are first brought into question.

What might seem a light romantic tale becomes something richer at that point and the entire production — which might look like just a light romantic musical at first glance — is revealed as something both sumptuous and sensuous.

Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway and writes about theater for a number of national magazines. He can be reached at Brad@PotomacStages.com.

Where and When

"The Light in the Piazza" runs through April 11 at Arena Stage in Crystal City, 1800 South Bell Street. Performances are Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday at 8 p.m. with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. and special weekday matinees at noon on March 30 and April 7. Tickets range from \$25 to \$74. Call 202-488-3300 or log on to www.arenastage.org.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 15

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The Honeymoon Trip. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Barbershop Harmony performed by the Arlingtones Barbershop Chorus and Quartets helping a newly married couple decide where to go on their honeymoon. "FULL TILT" Quartet is featured. At Thomas Jefferson Theatre, S. 2nd St., and Old Glebe Road. Cost is \$15 and \$12 at the door, \$12 and \$10 in advance. Call 703-521-9331 or www.thearlingtones.com.

Gayaneh & Swan Lake. 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Ballet students from the Cuppett Performing Arts Center will perform in the Center's Spring ballet with professional Ballet Master Bryan Skates. Tickets are \$12/advance, \$15/door, \$10/seniors and children. At the Kenmore Middle School Theater, Carlin Springs Road in Arlington. Visit CuppettPAC.com or call 703-938-9019.

SUNDAY/MARCH 28

Snow Crab Legs and Shrimp Feast Fund-raiser. 1-4 p.m. Sponsored by the Merrifield Lions Club. There will be a Deejay. Advanced tickets are \$38/adults, \$40/door, \$15/children, and groups of 8 or more are \$36/person. At the Dunn Loring Fire Department, 2128 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. Call 703-255-2468 or email kdalton@landon-ip.com.

TUESDAY/MARCH 30

Swing Dancing. 9-11 p.m. Music by The Cutaways. Admission is \$10. At the Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd., Arlington.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 31

N.C. State Alumni Event. 6 p.m. Part of the Wolfpack Club's "Pack the House" Coaches Caravan Stops in



PHOTO BY KEN WYNER

Joe Uehlein of the U-Liners.

SATURDAY/APRIL 3

Merle Haggard Tribute. 9 p.m. \$15. Roots Rock Band, The U-Liners perform. At the IOTA Club and Café, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com. Call 703-522-8340.

Arlington. Head Football Coach Tom O'Brien is coming to town. Tickets are \$15/adults, \$10/children. At Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 North Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call Brenda Flory at 301-380-5326 or 301-896-0556 or email wolfpackclubdc@yahoo.com.

Foster Care Orientation. 6 to 7 p.m. The UMFS (United Methodist Family Services) Northern Virginia Regional

Center will offer an orientation for prospective foster parents. At 6335 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Contact UMFS at 703-941-9008.

Art & Poetry Share. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. At the Shirlington Library in Arlington.

SATURDAY/APRIL 3

Country Western Dance. Line dancing at 7:30 p.m.; couples specialty dance at 8 p.m. Open dancing from 8:30-11 p.m. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5; PSDC members \$10. At Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Visit www.nvcwda.org or call the hot line 703-860-4941.

TUESDAY/APRIL 6

Swing Dancing. 9-11 p.m. Cost is \$10. With the Daryl Davis band. At the Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd., Arlington.

APRIL 6 THROUGH MAY 11

Become a Foster Parent. 6-9 p.m. Participants take part in an orientation session before enrolling in the program. At UMFS Northern Virginia Regional Center, 6335 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Call 703-941-9008, ext. 308.

FRIDAY/APRIL 9

Food, Festival and Fun. 6:30-9 p.m. Free. Silent auction with 230 items. At Kenmore Middle School, 200 South Carlin Springs Road at Arlington Blvd. (Route 50), Arlington. Call Carolyn Carlson at 703-499-3816 or www.apsva.us/kenmore.

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W-L Figures To Contend for District Title

Generals look to bounce back from shutout loss to Oakton.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Washington-Lee baseball team opened its season with a strong offensive performance, beating Marshall 8-5 on Friday. Benjamin Coffman and Tim Edwards hit home runs for the Generals.

Saturday's game against Oakton? Not so much.

Washington-Lee followed its eight-run opener with a dud against the Cougars, falling 12-0 in five innings at Oakton.

"We either watched way too much college basketball last night or something," W-L head coach Doug Grove said with a laugh, "but we didn't do anything today. But it's [only] one out of 20 games."

All jokes aside, the Generals, who re-

Head coach Doug Grove enters his 16th season with the Washington-Lee baseball program.



ceived votes in the Northern Region pre-season coaches poll, expect to be a strong-hitting club. Grove mentioned the junior Coffman and seniors Tim Edwards, Tom Edwards, Jeremy Seipp and Christian McGillen as offensive standouts.

Seipp and senior Karl Lendenmann each had a double for the Generals' only hits against Oakton pitcher Ty Prime. Grove pointed to Prime's ability to locate pitches and the right-hander's velocity being lower than what Washington-Lee had faced the previous day as reasons why the Generals struggled.

"We hit real well [against Marshall while facing] a real good pitcher, I thought," Grove said. "He threw a little hard. I think [against Oakton], to this pitcher's credit, he just threw the ball across the plate. It looked

like a little cutter on the outside and we just rolled over everything. The third baseman made seven plays and that was the story of our offense, in my opinion. [Prime] didn't walk anybody and had pretty good location. Our guys were overanxious — we hit a couple home runs last night — I think they were trying to get out in front. "... For us, today notwithstanding, I think we're going to be pretty good offensively. This was the right type of guy to face us today."

From a pitching standpoint, No. 1 starter Tom Edwards returns, but the left-hander is recovering from a shoulder injury. Grove said Edwards has thrown three bullpen sessions and the team hopes to get him back on the mound during spring break.

While Edwards recovers, junior right-hander Austin Evans steps into the No. 1 starter role. Coffman, who pitched against Oakton, is the team's No. 2 starter.

"Our pitching and defense is what we need to really tighten up if we're going to be any good," Grove said. "But we do have a fairly experienced team."

Washington-Lee hosts Wakefield at 6 p.m. Thursday.



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL
THE CONNECTION

Junior Benjamin Coffman is Washington-Lee's No. 2 starter entering the 2010 season.

Barrazotto, Patriots Flatten Competition

Yorktown girls lacrosse opens season with wins over West Potomac, McLean.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

With West Potomac in the early stages of a comeback, Yorktown midfielder Hope Barrazotto was equal parts frustrated and determined to regain control for the Patriots — emotions one Wolverine would recognize from the turf at Greenbrier Stadium.

Barrazotto, last season's National District Player of the Year, barreled over a West Potomac defender before scoring her fourth and final goal of the evening and Yorktown

won its season opener 10-6 on March 16. After the play, a fan shouted, "Hope is a woman among girls!"

"I got the draw control and that was [after] they scored a couple times so I was a little angry," Barrazotto said. "I just kind of ran down the field and I guess the girl wasn't moving her feet — just tried to plant and defend me. I didn't see her run into me.

"She was just there and then she was on the ground."

Olivia Shipley scored a team-high five goals for Yorktown. Michelle Casteel added one.

"I think we did really well," Barrazotto said. "I think we improved a lot from the scrimmages. ... We need to work on groundballs and other basics but, again, it's only the first game. We have time. ... We've been out here for a month and to finally do all the stuff in practice and have it pay off in games, it feels good."

"You just have to take it and use it to your advantage, really," she said. "They know you're good, so you just use that fact to intimidate [opponents] a little bit."

Yorktown is led by second-year head coach Julie Fetter. This year's team captains are seniors Sammi Dowdell (outfield), Kimmi Oldham (catcher/outfield), Katie Roberts (outfield) and Kelsey Patterson (pitcher/outfield).

"We expect to do good in the district and hopefully move on past the second round of regionals," Roberts said. "W-L and Mount Vernon will probably be our biggest com-

petition this year." The game was Anne Bodnar's first as head coach of the Yorktown varsity program. She spent five seasons with the JV before taking over as leader of the four-time-defending National District champion Patriots.

"I wasn't sure how it was going to work out," said Bodnar, who admitted to being nervous before the game. "We haven't had a whole lot of full-field playing time. ... Hopefully this will boost our confidence a little bit and we'll be able to keep going on a roll. ... I know I have a lot of talent and I know it was just a matter of pulling it all together and working out everybody's nerves."

Yorktown beat McLean the following night, 10-2. The Patriots led 9-1 at halftime. Barrazotto led Yorktown with four goals. Casteel finished with two goals, and Shipley, Molly Adair, Hannah Madison and Erinn Spack each scored one.

Yorktown travels to face Chantilly at 7:15 p.m. today.

petition this year."

Yorktown was scheduled to face Falls Church on Tuesday. Results were not available before the Connection's deadline. The Patriots host Edison at 6 p.m. Thursday.

Yorktown Baseball Starts 0-2

The Yorktown baseball team lost to Chantilly 6-1 in eight innings on March 17 and Loudoun Valley 15-5 in six innings on Thursday.

5Qs

Five questions with Yorktown senior midfielder Hope Barrazotto

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

A: I've been to Italy [for a] family trip [in the] eighth grade. It's the only time I've ever been out of the [United] States.

Q: What is the most fun you can have while playing lacrosse?

A: Scoring on a breakaway: getting past all the defenders and being ahead of everyone and just having that really hard, pretty shot that goes in the top of the goal, right past the goalie.

Q: What are your plans for after high school?

A: I'm hoping to go to James Madison [University] and definitely do the club field hockey and lacrosse teams there.

Q: Who is your favorite music artist?

A: The Fray.

Q: What do you like to do when you're not doing something sports related?

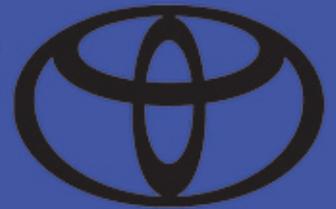
A: I just like to hang out with friends and listen to music.

— JON ROETMAN



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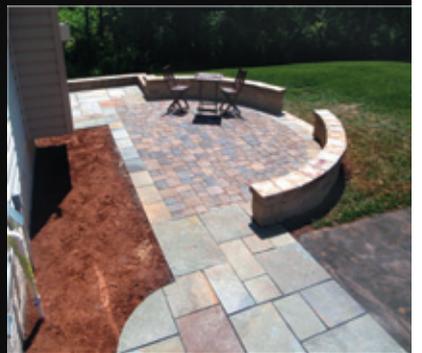
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