

# The Arlington Connection

At the Columbia Pike Farmers Market, Bryan Cook sets out another crate of sweet corn from the Berkeley Springs farm.

## Fresh on The Pike

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

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## NEWS

# Petition Fails

**Thousands of invalid signatures disqualify referendum from appearing on the ballot.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

**A**fter the Arlington County registrar's office was finished counting the 16,000 or so signatures, it turns out that more than 5,000 of them were invalid, according to the county registrar. That means the group known as Committee for a Better Arlington fell short of the 10 percent threshold to get on the ballot in November. Of the 14,350 verified signatures required, the petition drive was only able to submit 10,815 certified names. For the coalition of firefighters and Republicans pushing the effort, it was a fatal blow to an effort that was launched last year.

"I have to take full responsibility because we weren't well organized," said firefighters union president Mike Staples, who served as president of the Committee for a Better Arlington. "If I knew then what I know now, things would be a lot different."

Essentially, the referendum if approved would have changed the form of government from a county-manager form of government to a County Board form of government. That would have meant that board members would represent districts as opposed to the current form of at-large countywide representation. It would have also reassigned many duties of the appointed county manager to elected board members, which supporters hoped would have provided more accountability to voters about salary decisions.

"The bottom line is that we'll never know what the will of the people is because the opponents of this have been successful in making sure it won't be considered by voters," said Staples. "Notice has been served by the Democratic Party that they don't want anyone challenging their power structure."

**THE NINE-MONTH** effort rested on a few simple words: "Shall Arlington County adopt the County Board form of government?" That's the language that would have been on the ballot if the petition drive had been successful. Opponents of the referendum

SEE PETITION, PAGE 4

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## Protecting Seniors

Raising awareness on crimes against senior citizens.

BY EMILY CANAL  
THE CONNECTION

**K**aren Bune spoke at the Langston-Brown Senior Center in July to bring vigilance to the ongoing issue of violence against senior citizens.

"I don't think there is an increase in trends," said Bune, who worked in the criminal justice field for 31 years. "But I think these are things that are getting more awareness than in the past."



**Karen Bune**

Bune said she has worked in victim services since 1994 and has specialized in senior abuse for the past 10 years. She said cases can go unreported and presents the illusion that it occurs less than other crimes.

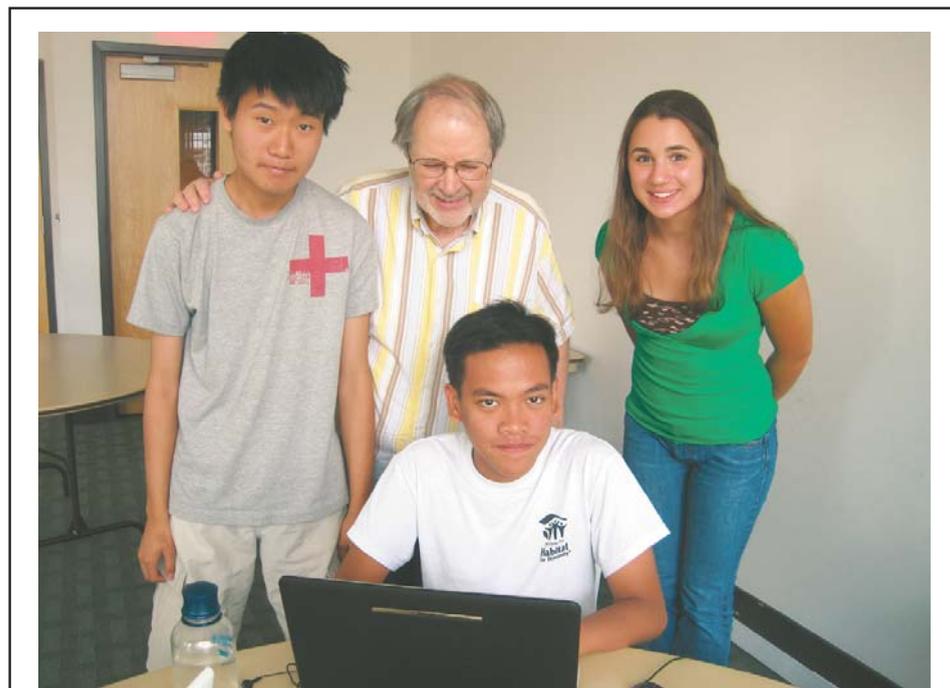
"I think our senior population is overlooked and they have given a lot to society," Bune said. "I think that when [people] get older and reach their golden years, they are not always golden."

Anne Peret, programming supervisor for Arlington's Office of Senior Adult Programs, said she didn't know if there was a growing trend in abuse, but has seen more interest with an increase in reported cases.

"I don't study those figures," Peret said. "At least we are talking about it and people might be raising their consciousness about what to look for."

Bune said the most common crimes against seniors are abuse, neglect, scams or

SEE VIGILANCE, PAGE 15



Working on global challenges, sitting, Rafadi Hakim, and, standing from left, Chai Young Lee, Jerry Barney and Aurelia Khorsand.

## Our Task, Our Future

Envisioning the kind of world they want to inherit.

BY DELIA SAVA  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen she was a junior in high school, Aurelia Khorsand was invited to the home of Arlington residents Gerald and Carol Barney to present the "Youth Earth Plan" from a fledgling nonprofit and enlist the support of former Prime Minister of Iceland Steingrimur Hermannsson. Asked whether she was nervous, Khorsand, now 19 and a student at the University of Virginia, said, "Oh, yes. Incredibly nervous. It was my first experience of me

alone making a presentation to someone so important."

Khorsand has been involved with Our Task, the nonprofit founded by Barney since its inception. The mission of the organization is to educate and empower young people to find creative solutions to global issues and to envision the world they want to inherit. Our Task hosted a free conference at the Arlington Central Library on July 31: "Inter-Generational Dialogues: Our Earth, our Future."

Barney is no stranger to addressing global problems and working with world leaders. The 72-year-old has a PhD in fusion energy physics from the University of Wisconsin and has had an illustrious career. "I've worked for think tanks, the executive office of Presidents Nixon and Carter and I worked for the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, then I came

SEE "OUR TASK", PAGE 5

## Instruction Versus Administration

Economy of scale gives Fairfax financial edge over Alexandria and Arlington.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

**A**lexandria and Arlington spend less for instruction per capita than every other school division in Northern Virginia. And the two jurisdictions spend more on administration per capita than most other localities in the region.

These are the findings of a recent report issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts in Virginia, numbers collected from various jurisdictions during their annual budget process. School officials and elected leaders in Alexandria and Arlington admit they might not have the economy of scale of Fairfax County, a division with about 170,000 students. But with 20,000 students in Arlington and 12,000 students in Alexandria, they say the trade-off is a more personalized environment.

"Personalization is expensive," said Alexandria School Board member Charles Wilson, a former chairman of the Washington Area Boards of Education. "It may not be as efficient as having huge schools, but that's not what our communities want."

Alexandria has the highest cost-per-pupil spending in Northern Virginia, followed closely by Arlington. But Alexandria and Arlington also have smaller class sizes in their elementary schools. That creates a sharp distinction between how education works in larger jurisdictions such as Fairfax County and Loudoun County compared to

SEE COMPARING, PAGE 4

## Garden Variety Plot Against Hunger

Arlington Food Assistance Center's initiative works with local gardens to provide sustenance.

BY ALEXANDER SLIPPEN  
THE CONNECTION

**C**apitalizing on generosity and desires to help others within the area, the Arlington Food Assistance Center has helped establish the importance of

gardening as a means of lending a helping hand to local residents in need.

"I think as the economy is changing, people are actually going back and wanting to plant," the assistance center's volunteer coordinator Puwen Lee said.

Backed by blooming crops of both volunteers and freshly grown produce, the Arlington Food Assistance Center's Plot Against Hunger initiative is now entering its fourth year of providing assistance to local families in need through the use of community gardening. A non-profit organization run by only 10 employees but over 400 volunteers, the Arlington Food Assistance Center has been serving the area for 22 years.

SEE GARDEN VARIETY, PAGE 5



From left, Dick Bauder, Puwen Lee and Michael Bowser get their hands dirty.

FILE PHOTO BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION

# Comparing Money Spent in Classrooms Vs. Administration

FROM PAGE 3

how things work in Alexandria and Arlington.

"Am I satisfied? No. I always think we can do better," said Arlington School Board Chairwoman Libby Garvey. "But I will say that I think we deliver a very good value for the dollar."

The relationship between money spent on

instruction versus administration is a frequent topic of conversation in the education world. When candidates for School Board stand for election, they frequently hear from concerned that too much money is being spent on administration and not enough is being spent in the classroom. And parents always want to make sure every available dollar is spent to help children

learn.

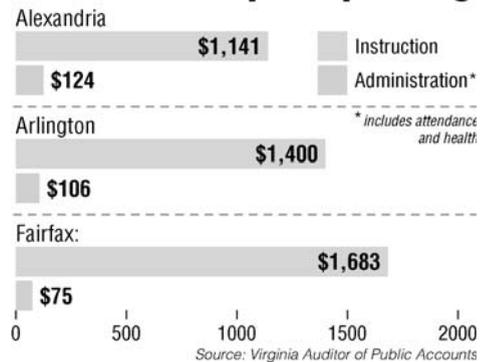
"There's a general perception that more money in the classroom is more critical than money for administration," said John Vigstadt, a member of the Arlington Council of PTAs. "I think we need to take periodic look at what these administrators do to make sure all these positions are justified."

Data collected each year by certified public accountants by jurisdictions across Virginia are compiled by the Auditor of Public Accounts in Virginia in a report known as the Comparative Report of Local Government Revenues and Expenditures. The report documents per capita spending on everything from welfare and social services to firefighters and education. According to Auditor Walter Kucharski, the categories are closely aligned with how schools report spending to the Virginia Department of Education.

"Is there some judgement from the various jurisdictions about what's included in the categories work from time to time? Yes," said Kucharski. "But it's consistent from year to year."

**ACCORDING TO GUIDELINES** for how the data is reported, "instruction" is defined as "activities dealing with the interaction between teachers and students. Every other jurisdiction in Northern Virginia spends

## School Per Capita Spending



more in this category, including Prince William County (\$1,542), Fairfax City (\$1,195) and Loudoun County (\$1,967). "Administration" is defined as "activities concerned with establishing and administering policy for administration, attendance and health." Alexandria and Arlington spend more per capita than every other jurisdiction in Northern Virginia except Falls Church, which spends \$298 per capita in this category.

"There are some positions you just can't eliminate because you are a small jurisdiction," said Marianne Hetzer, a member of the Alexandria PTA Council. "Considering the size, it makes sense that we have some more administrative costs."

# Petition for Referendum Fails

FROM PAGE 2

organized a group they called Coalition for Arlington Good Government, and staged an aggressive campaign to persuade people against signing the petition to get the referendum on the ballot.

Three days before Arlington Registrar Linda Lindberg determined the petition failed to meet the threshold, the coalition issued a press release accusing the Coalition for a Better Arlington of engaging in "deceptive, questionable and possibly illegal activity." Essentially, the coalition charged that petition circulators lied about witnessing the signatures and that a notary made material errors. After Lindberg threw out thousands of signatures, the coalition declared success.

"We applaud Arlington County Voter Registrar Linda Lindberg and her staff for con-

ducting a thorough, fair and transparent review of the signatures," said co-chairwoman Judy Connally in a written statement.

Staples acknowledges that the petition drive was fatally flawed, but not because of the issue. Instead, he said, the Colorado-based firm the committee hired to help gather signatures. Staples said that the vast majority of the problems that led to signatures being invalidated were the result of how the professional signature gatherers went about their business.

"At this point, we are exploring what our remedies are," said Staples, who declined to speculate on the potential for a future petition drive. "As for our opponents, they were successful in preventing the voice of the people from being heard — at least for now."

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# 'Our Task' Focuses on Global Issues

FROM PAGE 3

to Washington and did a study called Global 2000 for Carter." Before founding Our Task, Barney spent 20 years at the Millennium Institute, an organization he founded and headed, creating computer simulation models for national sustainable development planning for different countries.

"I was a volunteer way back in the beginning when it was just an idea," said Khorsand adding, "It's youth-friendly, I am never questioned because I'm a young person. All of my ideas and suggestions are taken seriously." She noted that the students do the majority of the work: "publications and outlook summaries are all done by the students." Khorsand, who acts as the intern coordinator, said most of the students who participate are 18 to 25 years of age; although Barney said that he's even had an exceptional 9-year-old also take part.

Rafadi Hakim, 19, was involved with the work of producing the "Youth Earth Plan" last summer from his home in Jakarta but is in Arlington for eight weeks this summer during his break from Carleton College. "I've been in-



**Rafadi Hakim, Our Task intern and sophomore at Carlton College, adds an Indonesian perspective to the intergenerational discussion last weekend.**

involved since 2007 but this is my most productive time with Our Task." Rafadi heard about the organization in Jakarta from someone who had met Barney at a conference in some other part of the world. His role at the upcoming conference, which is based on the World Café model, will be to facilitate the discussions.

"This is an organization that takes a holistic look at problems in the world and tries to come up with realistic actions or plans," said 18-year-old Chai Young Lee. The James Madison University student said he discovered the opportunity for an internship online and

was impressed with the program. "It's important that with all these problems, humans take a look at issues in a way that's inter-related — I'd never thought about how they are all inter-connected ... an isolated approach to a single problem is not the way to go."

**BARNEY SAID** he's pleased that the number of participants keeps growing, with 100 or more students at any given time. In addition to Barney and his wife who both work pro-bono, there are six part-time staff members. Since it's founding, Barney has raised about \$200,000. The Conrad Hilton Foundation, Changing Horizons Fund and the Rockefeller Family Fund are three major funding sources, according to Barney. The organization is also looking for "under-utilized" adults who want to work with and mentor young people.

For Barney who has three grown children, two daughters-in-law and two grandchildren, working with young people gives him tremendous joy. He beamed as he explained, "I get to see the future — these kids are the future. I get to see things that I'll never get to live to see."

# Garden Variety Plot Against Hunger

FROM PAGE 3

AFAC's Plot Against Hunger project was developed in 2007 as a means of obtaining fresh produce for Arlington families by way of local gardens. Part of a larger nationwide movement known as Plant a Row for the Hungry, this initiative capitalizes on the benefits surplus gardening can bring to the community at large.

AFAC has asked local gardeners to plant an extra row in their gardens in order to grow fresh fruits and vegetables, which are then donated to the assistance center.

AFAC has free seeds available for planting that are provided to the gardeners participating in the project. Most of the gardens participating in this project are public gardens and faith-based organizations within

## To Help

*If interested in volunteering for the Plot Against Hunger initiative or to make a donation, contact Puwen Lee at 703-845-8486 or send an email to [puwen.lee@afac.org](mailto:puwen.lee@afac.org) for more information.*

Arlington.

The generosity of the added fresh produce being available in local food pantries such as AFAC comes at a time when more people than ever are seeking assistance in feeding their families.

According to Lee, AFAC's Plant a Row coordinator, an average of 1,200 clients per week have sought aid from the center in recent weeks, an increase of about 10 percent from last year and 36 percent from 2008.

SEE PLOTTING, PAGE 7

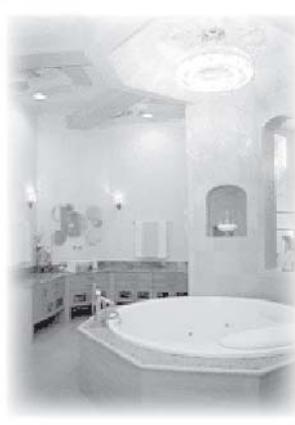


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### PARK AUTHORITY SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT

#### Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application Acquisition of Lily Ruckstuhl Property

The Fairfax County Park Authority is accepting public comment on the acquisition of parkland in the Providence District. The Park Authority is in negotiations with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust to acquire seven acres of residential land located on Idylwood Road in the Falls Church area of Fairfax County, identified on the Real Property Identification Map as Tax Map Nos. 40-3 ((1)) 59, 61A, 64 and 65. The Park Authority has applied for a federal grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to provide a portion of the acquisition cost. As part of the grant application, the Park Authority is required to solicit public input on the use of federal funds to support this acquisition.

After the conveyance, the new park will go through the Park Authority's regular master planning process to determine its possible uses and potential site amenities. There will be public meetings throughout this planning process to facilitate public involvement in the selection of recreational facilities for the new park. The Master Plan for the new park parcels will also have to undergo a public facility review by the Fairfax County Planning Commission in accordance with Virginia Code Section 15.2-2232 to determine its conformance with the Comprehensive Plan.

Public input on the proposed acquisition and grant application should be forwarded to the Fairfax County Park Authority. Public comment on the acquisition of this parcel will be accepted from July 31, 2010 through August 30, 2010. Please direct written comments to David R. Bowden, director, Planning & Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax, Virginia 22035. You may also e-mail your comments to: [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov).

For more information about the acquisition or the LWCF grant application, please visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/ruckstuhl.htm> or you may contact Mike Lambert at 703-324-8520 or [Michael.Lambert@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Michael.Lambert@fairfaxcounty.gov). For more information about the LWCF, please visit [http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational\\_planning/vof.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/vof.shtml).



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# OPINION

## Five Percent Off

Back-to-school sales tax holiday a reminder of other back-to-school rituals; buy some extra supplies for needy students.

While some of us are not sure how it got to be August, never mind time to start thinking about going back to school, the first day of school is more than a month away, Tuesday after Labor Day, Sept. 7. (Barcroft Elementary School, on a modified school year calendar, begins Aug. 4.)

Virginia families can take advantage of what amounts to a three-day coupon for five percent off many back-to-school items. Sales tax is suspended for the coming weekend, Friday through Sunday, Aug. 6, 7 and 8 (restrictions apply).

During this three-day period, purchases of qualifying school supplies selling for \$20 or less per item, and purchases of qualifying clothing and footwear selling for \$100 or less per item will be exempt from sales tax.

### EDITORIAL

The tax holiday should encourage more families to spend their back-to-school dollars in local stores rather than online. This is an excellent time to support local businesses, many suffering from the recession as well as competition from online businesses that offer tax-free shopping all the time. Local businesses that don't get their money from the federal government need local shopping support now more than ever.

But probably the most important thing parents can do to ensure a successful school year is to make contact with your child's teachers, make sure they know who you are, how to contact you and that you care. Use the online tools to track your child's progress (but don't go crazy monitoring every blip).

One of the best ways to kick off this regular contact with your child's school is to attend

### AUGUST SALES TAX HOLIDAY:

#### SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING

When: First full weekend of August (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) each year. The 2010 holiday will take place on Aug. 6-8.

What's Exempt: During this three-day period, purchases of qualifying school supplies selling for \$20 or less per item, and purchases of qualifying clothing and footwear selling for \$100 or less per item will be exempt from sales tax. Retailers may also choose to absorb the tax on other items during the holiday period, but they are responsible for paying the tax on those items to the Department of Taxation.

www.tax.virginia.gov, click on "Sales Tax Holidays"

back to school night. Most back to school events for parents are already scheduled; mark your calendar.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### OUT & ABOUT



Alex Lake and Thomas Garver weigh fresh produce at the Creek Side Produce stand.



Lily Castano offers samples of her freshly made salsa's at the Salsa las Gloria's table.



Creek Side Produce brought in baskets of their first ripened eating apples of the 2010 season.



Fernando Alvarez relaxes for a moment as another wave of customers select produce at the Penn Farm stall.

## Fresh on the Pike

At Pike Park (in front of the Rite-Aid) on the corner of S. Walter Reed Drive and Columbia Pike, the summer market is open from May through November from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This season's vendor's include: Bonaparte Breads, Savage, Md.; Creek Side Produce, Berkley Springs, W.Va.; Everona Dairy, Rapidan, Va.; Graces Pastries, Herndon, Va.; Hondo Coffee Company, Stafford, Va. and Honduras; Interlaken Soak Company, Arlington (selected Sundays); J-Wenn Dairy, Harrisonville, Pa.; Penn Farm/Norma's Produce, Montross,

Va.; Salsa las Gloria's, The Plains, Va.; Smith Meadows Fresh Organic Meats & Eggs, -Berryville, Va.; TeaCo, Arlington; Toigo Orchards, Shippensburg, Pa.; Twin Springs Fruit Farm, Orrtana, Pa.; Union Street Soapworks, Ft. Meade, Md.; Virginia Pure Beeswax, Front Royal, Va. and Westmoreland Produce, Montross, Va.

### LETTER

## Animals Still Need Adopting

To the Editor:

Thank you for your mention of the Animal Welfare League of Arlington in your July 28 issue. Evidently, the article's author took statistics from our fiscal 2009 annual report. The article mentioned percentage of animals adopted, but did not mention other positive outcomes for animals. We also reunite lost pets with their owners and transfer animals to other animal rescue organizations. Including those numbers, the positive outcomes in 2009 for dogs were 80 percent, for cats 69 percent, and for small companion animals 74 percent. We hope your readers will help the 15 dogs, 79 cats, and 30 small companion animals currently in our shelter by considering adopting a new best friend.

Also, the Animal Welfare League of Arlington is proud to be the first animal shelter in Virginia to work with Pets2Vets (featured in the same issue) to place pets with veterans and first responders.

### Susan Sherman

Interim Executive Director  
Animal Welfare League  
of Arlington

Send letters to:  
Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-778-9410.  
By e-mail:  
arlington@connectionnewspapers.com

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# Plotting Against Hunger

FROM PAGE 5

"We're not sure it's getting better yet," Lee said, referring to the current economic recession plaguing many families in the area. "When you're all the way down at the bottom, it's hard to get back up."

As a result, the Plot Against Hunger initiative has taken on an added urgency in recent times that has also helped foster a sense of giving back to the community among its participants.

"It's a community building thing when everyone builds together," Lee said. "It's much more direct than going to the store and buying canned goods."

In 2009, more than 175,000 pounds of fresh produce were donated to AFAC, representing a diverse scope of participants in the project.

Local schools have also been contributors to Plot Against Hunger. Students have been able to participate charitably, and these Plant a Row gardens are also continued during the summer months by parents and teachers. George Laumann, an art teacher at Campbell Elementary School, is on

a committee that has brought the Plot Against Hunger initiative to the school. Campbell has always had 3x6-foot garden spaces in their classrooms, and Laumann worked with teachers to discuss if students could contribute to Plot Against Hunger in these small gardens. This year alone, Campbell students have been able to grow and donate 120 pounds of lettuce to AFAC.

"Everyone [at the school] loves the project. We've found that with the students, everyone responds differently, but what we're trying to instill over time is that, as a community and as individuals, we can support people in need," Laumann said.

As long as local families remain in need, AFAC will continue to encourage the Plot Against Hunger project within the community. Because of its mutually beneficial function for the gardeners and AFAC's clients, Lee believes the initiative has had only positive effects.

"[The plot] has raised awareness of nutrition, and makes everyone aware that everyone has the right to fresh produce," she said.

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# Arlington REAL ESTATE

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## On the Market



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**For more information contact Walt Babic,  
Coldwell Banker, 703-524-2100.**

**This house is offered at \$749,900**

### Location, Value, Convenience

Completely redone and rebuilt home in N. Arlington's Berkshire Oakwood area. Walk to East Falls Church Metro, all three schools, shopping, and restaurants. Five bedrooms plus five fully redone bathrooms, and a chef's gourmet kitchen with at least one of everything! The upper-level has three bedrooms and two baths, a family room, and laundry room. Flowing and open main floor plan has living room, a separate dining room, and area for family/ breakfast area. Two bedrooms and two baths, to include the second master suite, complete the main level. Fully finished walkout lower level. So much more!! 6419 N. 28th St., Arlington, VA 22207

**For more information contact**

**Jim Toronto, McEneaney Associates, Inc.,  
703-447-7481,**

**www.JimToronto.com.**

**This house is priced at \$1,035,000.**



### Contemporary and Traditional Elegance

This home blends contemporary with traditional to deliver stunning open spaces and elegant finishes like Brazilian cherry floors throughout, refined crown trim, two-story foyer with marble inlaid floor, huge family room/gourmet kitchen combo, 10-ft ceilings, and palatial master suite with sitting room, exquisite spa bath and bathroom walk-in closet. Seven full size bedrooms. Over 7,000sf of dramatic living space. 5210 N. 5th St., Arlington, VA 22203

**For more information contact**

**Ron Cathell, Keller Williams Realty, 703-975-2500.**

**This house is priced at \$1,395,000**



## Profiles in Real Estate – Tim Landis

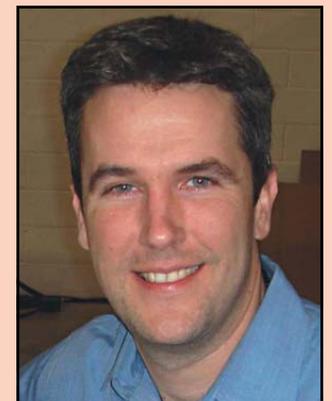
Tim Landis is a native Arlingtonian, having moved to the County in 1974. He left the area briefly to attend Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, VA, but just couldn't stay away after graduation. He now lives in Falls Church City, and works out of the Arlington office of Coldwell Banker. Nobody is more familiar with the changes that have occurred in the last 35 years, during which time Arlington has transformed from sleepy suburb to one of the most desirable locations in the entire state of Virginia. Tim fondly remembers elementary school birthday parties at the Putt-Putt golf course formerly located at the intersection of Glebe Road and Wilson Boulevard.

Tim has been helping clients buy and sell in the local area for the past 9 years. In fact, being a "local" is the reason that Tim transitioned into real estate from being a press secretary on Capitol Hill. Since he grew up here in Northern Virginia, he feels like he has a

definite advantage, because he has been familiar with these neighborhoods all of his life.

"I pride myself on the fact that a number of my clients have told me that they don't feel pressure when working with me. The buying process is stressful enough – you certainly don't want to contend with an agent who is trying to convince you to buy so that they can move on to the next client. My business is entirely through referral. I want you to be happy in your experience with me, so that you will consider passing my name along to your friends and family."

When not out showing property, Tim enjoys collecting vintage historical and sports memorabilia. He also bowls on an incredibly average team, the Gutter Cleaners, at the Falls Church Bowl America.



**Timothy Landis**  
Coldwell Banker Residential  
Brokerage, Arlington  
703-340-3267  
tlandis@cbmove.com

# HOME SALES

JUNE 2010  
\$675,600 ~ \$473,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
2561 KENMORE CT S	3	3	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$675,600	Ath/Row Hse	0.03	...	SHIRLINGTON CREST
3912 7TH ST S	3	3	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$675,000	Detached	0.20	...	ALCOVA HEIGHTS
3527 KENSINGTON ST N	3	3	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$675,000	Detached	0.26	...	CRESCENT HILLS
4911 25TH RD N	4	3	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$665,000	Detached	0.19	...	COUNTRY CLUB
2510 9TH ST N	2	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$660,000	Detached	0.12	...	CLARENDON
1128 18TH ST S	3	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$660,000	Detached	0.12	...	ADDISON HEIGHTS
3930 VACATION LN	3	3	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$660,000	Detached	0.10	...	LEE HEIGHTS
1881 NASH ST N #407	1	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$655,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	TURNBERRY TOWER
1909 QUEBEC ST N	2	1	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$651,550	Detached	0.30	...	CHERRYDALE
705 ABINGDON ST	4	3	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$650,000	Townhouse	0.11	...	BRANDON VILLAGE
440 PARK DR	3	2	2	...	ARLINGTON	\$649,000	Townhouse	0.05	...	CATHCART SPRINGS
1511 ROLFE ST N #C304	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$645,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	...	...	RHODES HILL SQUARE
5112 8TH RD N	3	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$640,000	Detached	0.29	...	SUMMIT & VEITCH
888 QUINCY ST #1611	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$638,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	LIBERTY CENTER, THE RESIDENCES
5646 6TH ST N	5	4	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$637,000	Detached	0.14	...	BONAIR
719 GLEBE RD S	2	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$630,000	Detached	0.31	...	ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
728 WAYNE ST S	3	1	2	...	ARLINGTON	\$630,000	Detached	0.22	...	ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
1600 CLARENDON BLVD #W411	0	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$630,000	Penthouse	...	...	WOOSTER AND MERCER LOFTS
6118 11TH RD N	2	1	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$620,000	Detached	0.14	...	MADISON MANOR
6114 11TH RD N	2	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$615,000	Detached	0.15	...	MADISON MANOR
7039 WILLIAMSBURG BLVD	5	3	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$615,000	Detached	0.25	...	BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD
1021 GARFIELD ST N #727	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$610,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	CLARENDON
6721 19TH RD N	4	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$610,000	Detached	0.17	...	FALLS CHURCH PARK
6039 26TH N	4	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$610,000	Detached	0.17	...	BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD
2000 BRANDYWINE ST N	4	3	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$605,000	Townhouse	0.06	...	BECKET GLEN
1116 KENTUCKY ST N	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$600,000	Detached	0.20	...	WESTOVER
3131 9TH RD #24	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$599,900	Garden 1-4 Floors	...	...	LATTERNERS CLARENDON
2401 GREENBRIER CT	3	3	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$599,000	Townhouse	0.02	...	GREENBRIER COURT
923 18TH ST S	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$590,000	Detached	0.15	...	ADDISON HEIGHTS
2712 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$585,000	Detached	0.21	...	OAKCREST
4809 7TH ST N	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$585,000	Detached	0.16	...	BRANDON VILLAGE
1240 TAYLOR ST	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$580,000	Detached	0.12	...	BALLSTON
1220 FILLMORE ST N #909	2	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$580,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	STATION SQUARE
1881 NASH ST N #305	1	1	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$580,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	TURNBERRY TOWER
5436 CARLIN SPRINGS RD	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$578,000	Detached	0.16	...	ARLINGTON FOREST
4713 7TH ST S	4	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$575,927	Detached	0.31	...	BARCROFT
1309 TAYLOR ST N	4	1	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$575,000	Detached	0.10	...	BALLSTON
851 GLEBE RD N #1911	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$569,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	CONTINENTAL
774 VERMONT ST N #1	3	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$560,000	Townhouse	...	...	BALLSTON MEWS II
16 EDISON ST	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$554,900	Detached	0.21	...	ARLINGTON FOREST
227 GREENBRIER ST N	3	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$550,500	Detached	0.15	...	ARLINGTON FOREST
1508 POLLARD ST S	3	3	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$550,000	Detached	0.20	...	DOUGLAS PARK NEW ARL
3382 BUCHANAN ST	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$550,000	Detached	0.16	...	COUNTRY CLUB MANORS
1528 SCOTT ST N #TH-8	2	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$550,000	Townhouse	...	...	ODYSSEY
1103 STUART ST N #1	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$549,000	Townhouse	...	...	OLD BALLSTON SQ
1276 WAYNE ST N #1020	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$547,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	WILLIAMSBURG
5318 5TH ST N	3	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$540,000	Detached	0.16	...	BONAIR
5832 11TH ST N	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$540,000	Detached	0.13	...	WESTOVER
4318 16TH ST N	2	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$540,000	Detached	0.13	...	WAVERLY HILLS
5861 1ST ST N	4	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$539,900	Detached	0.14	...	SPY HILL BLVD MANOR
5708 19TH ST N	2	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$539,000	Detached	0.11	...	PARKHURST
901 MONROE ST N #516	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$537,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	VIRGINIA SQUARE
5821 5TH ST S	4	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$535,000	Detached	0.14	...	GLEN CARLIN
5208 11TH ST S	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$526,000	Detached	0.37	...	VIRGINIA HEIGHTS ETC
4717 ARLINGTON BLVD	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$525,000	Detached	0.13	...	ARLINGTON FOREST
836B 31ST ST S	3	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$520,000	Detached	0.14	...	OAKCREST
3830 9TH ST N #501W	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$520,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	LEXINGTON SQUARE
2557 SOUTH KENMORE CT	2	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$517,990	Townhouse	0.02	...	SHIRLINGTON CREST
5912 3RD ST S	4	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$510,000	Detached	0.15	...	GLEN CARLIN
4601 2ND ST N	3	1	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$508,000	Detached	0.14	...	ARLINGTON FOREST
2710 12TH ST S	5	3	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$505,350	Detached	0.12	...	ARL VILAGE/ARL HILLS
4656 2ND ST S	3	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$505,000	Detached	0.15	...	BARCROFT
1300 CRYSTAL DR #807S	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$500,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	CRYSTAL GATEWAY
2535 GREENBRIER ST	3	1	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$500,000	Detached	0.17	...	GARDEN CITY
2604 SYCAMORE ST N	3	1	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$499,000	Detached	0.14	...	BERKSHIRE OAKWOOD
1412 12TH ST N #1412B	2	2	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$499,000	Other	...	...	RADNOR HEIGHTS
2327 9TH ST S	3	3	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$489,000	Townhouse	0.04	...	ADAMS COURT
3048 GLEBE RD	3	3	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$489,000	Townhouse	...	...	ARLINGTON RIDGE TERR
3125 STAFFORD ST S	3	3	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$483,000	Townhouse	...	...	FAIRLINGTON GRN
1321 ADAMS CT N #102	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$480,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	...	...	COURTHOUSE HILL
1515 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD S #203	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$475,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	...	...	PENTAGON RIDGE
1211 EADS ST S #1410	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$475,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	BELLA VISTA
635 NELSON ST N	2	1	1	...	ARLINGTON	\$475,000	Duplex	0.06	...	KENMORE
900 TAYLOR ST N #1704/06	2	2	0	...	ARLINGTON	\$473,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	...	...	THE JEFFERSON RETIREMENT CONDOS

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2128 N 21st Road	\$1,150,000	Sun 1-4	Matt Shepard	Keller Williams	703-867-5442
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1101 Ohio St. N.	\$699,999	Sun 1-4	Gayle Fleming	Keller Williams	703-625-1358
2231 Greenbrier St. N.	\$1,149,000	Sat/Sun 1-4	Florann Audia	Long and Foster	703-402-9127
5215 22nd St. N.	\$1,149,000	Sat/Sun 1-4	Florann Audia	Long and Foster	703-402-9127
2223 Greenbrier St. N.	\$1,295,000	Sat/Sun 1-4	Florann Audia	Long and Foster	703-402-9127
2203 Greenbrier St. N.	\$1,549,000	Sat/Sun 1-4	Florann Audia	Long and Foster	703-402-9127

### 22206

2663-C S. Walter Reed Drive	\$270,000	Sun 1-4	Leanne Spencer	Weichert	202-494-7596
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### 22207

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2369 N. Nelson St.	\$1,449,000	Sun 1-4	Dave Lloyd	Weichert	703-593-3204
5501 36th St. N.	\$1,529,000	Sun 1-4	Huong Pham	Westgate Realty Group	703-217-3149

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1717 22nd Ct., N.	\$1,140,000	Sun 1-4	Heather Bennett	RE/MAX	703-508-5442
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For an Open House Listing Form, call Deb Funk at 703-778-9444 or e-mail [debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)  
All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.

East Falls Church

## Free Movies at Ballston Common 12

Children, come to Regal Cinema at Ballston Common Mall every Tuesday and Wednesday at 10 a.m. for free movies. Doors open at 9:15 a.m. Presented by Regal Entertainment Group.

- ❖ Aug. 3-4 — “Rugrats The Movie” (G) and “Planet 51” (PG)
- ❖ Aug. 10-11 — “Doogal” (G) and “Aliens in the Attic” (PG)
- ❖ Aug. 17-18 — “Tales of Despereaux” (G) and “Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel” (PG)
- ❖ Aug. 24-25 — “Space Chimps” (G) and “Hotel for Dogs” (PG)

## 2010 Rosslyn Outdoor Film Fest

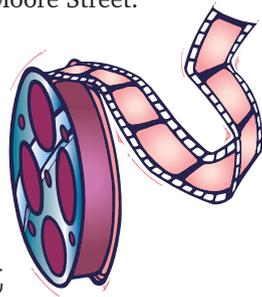
The 2010 Rosslyn Outdoor Film Festival rewinds to relive the 1990s this spring and summer with 19 movies that celebrate the decade. The “I Love the 90s”.

The festival returns to Gateway Park at 1300 Lee Highway at the foot of Key Bridge every Friday night at dusk through Sept. 3.

The event is free and open to the public. The screening is two blocks from the Rosslyn Metro and parking is available across the street from Gateway Park at the Atlantic Parking Garage for \$3 at 1901 and 1911 N. Ft. Myer Drive after 6 p.m. Enter the garage on N. Moore Street.

### SCHEDULE:

- Aug. 6 — “Romeo + Juliet” (1996)
- Aug. 13 — “Airheads” (1994)
- Aug. 20 — “The Wedding Singer” (1998)
- Aug. 27 — “The Birdcage” (1996)
- Sept. 3 — “Billy Madison” (1995)



## Ballston Arts & Crafts Market

Shopping for cool and unique handmade gifts has never been easier or more fun. Just stroll along tree-lined Welburn Square (901 N Taylor St.) on Saturday, Aug. 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and you'll find a wonderland of handcrafted items by the area's most talented artists.

Held on the second Saturday of every month from May through October, local artists and crafters unite to offer one-of-a-kind pieces to community art lovers.

And, not only will you find market favorites and newcomers alike, you will also discover a new guest this month: St. Coletta Shops! St. Coletta Shops will on hand to offer a variety of crafts by artisans with intellectual disabilities.

Held on the Second Saturday of every month from May through October, local artists and crafters unite to offer one-of-a-kind pieces to community art lovers. Check out organic bath & body products by Herban Lifestyle, quirky little plushes by Grumpy Haters, bookbinding at its best by Moonlight Bindery, handspun bags & accessories by Bette's Bags and unique Polaroid jewelry & artwork by Jerseymaids.

The market also offers:

- Free admission
- Free live music by Snakehead Run (12-2 p.m.)
- Free demos by select artists

Located between North Stuart and North 9th Streets, across from the Ballston Metro, the Ballston Arts & Crafts Market is Arlington's only 100 percent handmade market. Take the kids, the family and your out-of-town guests to the Square. And, grab some lunch while you're there.

The 2010 Market dates are: Aug. 14, Sept. 11 & Oct. 9.

## Free Live Music in Rosslyn

❖ **LUNCHTIME CONCERTS,** The Rosslyn BID adds outdoor lunchtime concerts on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. along N. Lynn Street in the heart of Rosslyn.

❖ On Tuesdays in August, concerts will be held at Crandal Mackey Park at the corner of 19th Street North and Lynn Street. Area workers and residents can enjoy nice weather and music ranging from blues and pop to rock and jazz.

❖ On Wednesdays from 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. through Sept. 1, an eclectic array of bands will perform in the colorful new 'CentralSpace to CentralPlace' urban plaza at the corner of Wilson Boulevard and North Lynn Street.

❖ On Thursdays, the Farmers Market Lunchtime concerts will continue at Wilson Blvd and North Oak Street from 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. through Oct. 21. In the event of rain, outdoor lunchtime concerts will be cancelled.

### CRANDAL MACKEY TUESDAY CONCERTS:

- ❖ Aug. 3 — Mystic Warriors
- ❖ Aug. 10 — Marshall-Artz
- ❖ Aug. 17 — Maggie Sansone Trio
- ❖ Aug. 24 — Yvonne Johnson Trio
- ❖ Aug. 31 — Eric Scott

### CENTRALSPACE TO CENTRALPLACE WEDNESDAY CONCERTS:

- ❖ Aug. 4 — Beladona
- ❖ Aug. 11 — Gridloc Band
- ❖ Aug. 18 — Meritxell Project
- ❖ Aug. 25 — The Claudette Monet Band

## Lunchtime Music at CentralPlace

**Already a favorite lunchtime spot,** the Rosslyn BID is adding lunchtime music to CentralPlace, the temporary public plaza located on the corner of N. Moore Street and Wilson Boulevard. Bands will perform on Wednesdays through Sept. 1 from 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Enjoy the summer season outdoors in this bright, fun, and colorful space!

## Rosslyn Farmers Market Expands With More Concerts

The Rosslyn Business Improvement District's Farmers Market returns on Thursdays now through Oct. 21, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Wilson Boulevard and North Oak Street in Arlington.

The market will give residents, visitors, and office workers the chance to buy fresh and local from regional vendors who have become Rosslyn favorites. Bread, farm-fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, exotic teas, gourmet baked goods, specialty coffee, and Italian marinades and sauces will be available during the market.

## Live Music at Rosslyn Lunchtime Concerts

Adjacent to the market, shoppers can enjoy a variety of live music during Rosslyn Lunchtime Concerts held from 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. This year the music expands with four extra concerts to last through the end of the market season. The lineup includes R&B, Pop, Folk, Jazz musicians and more.

### 2010 Lunchtime Concerts Schedule

- ❖ Aug. 5 — The Lovejoy Group, *Jazz & Latin Rhythms*
- ❖ Aug. 12 — Robert Jospe & Inner Rhythm, *World Beat Jazz*
- ❖ Aug. 19 — Whop Frazier, *R&B Funk*
- ❖ Aug. 26 — The Nighthawks, *Blues Legends*
- ❖ Sept. 2 — The Stacy Brooks Band, *Blues*
- ❖ Sept. 9 — David Bach Consort, *Jazz Instrumentals*
- ❖ Sept. 16 — Rick Franklin and Friends, *Piedmont Blues*
- ❖ Sept. 23 — The Janine Wilson Band, *Roots Rock*
- ❖ Sept. 30 — Aloha Boys, *Hawaiian Music and Song*
- ❖ Oct. 7 — Sherri Barbee, *R&B*
- ❖ Oct. 14 — Jazz Men, *Smooth Jazz Quartet*
- ❖ Oct. 21 — Jah Works, *Roots Reggae*

For more information about Rosslyn BID programs, visit.

## Tuesday Night Group Rides

**DATES:** Now through Sept. 14, every Tuesday night (unless cancelled for unexpected reasons)

**TIME:** 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Mosaic Park behind Conte's of Arlington. Park is located at 544 N. Pollard Street, Arlington.

**WHO:** Everyone! There is an A, B, and C group - and ride leaders for each group. Regardless of your ability, experience or bike. You must wear a helmet and you must obey the “rules of the road”.

Parking is limited at Conte's of Arlington. Please park in one of the local neighborhoods and ride over the park (if further away). Do NOT park in the Gold's Gym parking lot - you will be towed at your own expense.

Send your information to Debbie Funk at [DebFunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:DebFunk@connectionnewspapers.com) or to Steve Hibbard at [arlington@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arlington@connectionnewspapers.com).

Ballston-MU

Virginia Sq-GMU

Clarendon

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Rosslyn

# 'Serenading Louie' at Gunston's Theatre 2

## American Century revives a Lanford Wilson play.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY  
THE CONNECTION

Arlington and greater Washington are fortunate to have The American Century Theater, a company that makes it their business to give theater audiences the opportunity to see full productions of plays that theater lovers always wished they'd seen. Right now, it is Lanford Wilson's "Serenading Louie" that they are bringing back to life. Few serious theatergoers have seen this play because it is produced so infrequently.

Wilson is much better known for his more frequently produced plays such as the slightly quirky portrait of losers in a dilapidated hotel in Baltimore that is missing one letter from its florescent sign, "The Hot 1 Baltimore," or his touching, Pulitzer Prize-winning play for a cast of two, "Talley's Folly," which Dominion Stage gave such a lovely production of a few years ago.

The obscure reference of the title yields a clue as to the kind of drama this play offers. The "Louie" being "Serenaded" here is the one in the Yale drinking song about the "poor little lambs who have lost our way (Baa! Baa! Baa!)."

In the play, it is two marriages which have gone astray in suburbia,

circa 1970. As with most Wilson plays, it is a conversational drama and it is in its language that Wilson demonstrates his strongest skills. Some will find the language beautiful and touching. Those are the ones who listen to dialogue with an ear for the turn of phrase, imagery and momentum. Others will find it frustrating. They are the ones who want the author to get on with it ... "just let me learn what I need to follow the events of the plot." Which one are you? That is what will determine if you like the show or not.

During the first act you find yourself concentrating on who these four people are, what their backgrounds are and what has gone wrong with their marriages. It is clear from the first moment that the first of the two marriages is in trouble, and it certainly doesn't take long for the state of the second one to become obvious.

As Wilson specified, the shift from one home to the other doesn't involve changing the sets. Instead, it is clearly "Carl and Mary's home" or "Gabby and Alex's home" just by virtue of who is at home in it. It takes a few scene shifts to catch on to this concept, but it has the dual benefit of allowing nearly instantaneous transitions between scenes and emphasizing the playwright's view of the quality of life in suburbia. (Hint: he's not too wild about it.)

Deborah Wheatley designed a thoroughly satisfying set to serve as the two homes. It could have benefited from more sound absorbing material under its platform surrounding the sunken living room,



PHOTO BY DENNIS DELORIA

Hans Dettmar as Carl with Vanessa Bradchulis as Mary.

for the echoey sound of the footsteps when the cast walks to the doors simply draws attention to the fact that they are on a stage. Andrew Griffin's lighting also draws a bit too much attention to the fact that the home is in a theater by being so dim that you wonder why the characters don't turn on some lights in their homes.

Wilson's male characters are the better developed and, therefore, the more interesting ones in the play. The failures of the marriages are really being examined through their eyes, with more attention to their expectations, desires and needs than those of their wives. We learn more about the men's worlds than we do about the wives'.

It isn't altogether surprising, then, that the performances of Theodore M. Snead, as an attorney with political ambitions that make at least the appearance of marital solidar-

ity important, and Hans Dettmar, as a husband who can't quite figure out what to do with the knowledge of his wife's infidelity, are the most memorable. Snead is particularly good at getting the most impact not only out of Wilson's words, but out of the silences between them. Dettmar erupts to great effect, but it takes him a while to build up his head of steam.

Their women (the characters do exist in the play simply as the men's women) are given some great lines when it serves the structure of the scenes. Vanessa Bradchulis adds layers of meaning to the halting half statements Wilson penned for the unfaithful wife, and Robin Covington is at her best when her character is confounded by her emotionally claustrophobic husband's reaction to her clinging.

Director Steven Scott Mazzola's touch in the first act is sure, pacing

the scenes to build one on the other as the emotions heat up. He can't quite keep the momentum going after intermission, however. In part, this is a failure of the play itself. Wilson becomes too talky after intermission and his final plot development presents a challenge that the production doesn't quite meet, in part because the sounds of off-stage events are too soft and muffled to register with the dramatic impact Wilson obviously intended.

This may not be a perfect production, but it is not a perfect play either. Instead, this is a good production of a good play, and this is probably the only chance you will have to see it for quite a while. The American Century Theater comes through again with a theatrical opportunity to be valued.

◆◆◆

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 & When

The American Century Theater's production of "Serenading Louie" plays through Aug. 21 at the Gunston Arts Center's Theatre Two, 2700 South Lang Street, Arlington. Performances are Thursday - Saturday at 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$26 - \$32. Call 703-998-4555 or log on to [www.americancentury.org](http://www.americancentury.org).

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 4

**Summer Concert.** 8 p.m. Free. The U.S. Airforce Band Airmen of Note performs. At the U.S. Air Force Memorial, 1 Air Force Memorial Drive, Arlington. Call 202-767-5658 or visit [www.usafbnd.af.mil](http://www.usafbnd.af.mil).

**Planning for Future Life Events.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$20 (for the accompanying textbook). Part of Money Talk: A Financial Course for Women. At Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington. To register, contact [jabel@vt.edu](mailto:jabel@vt.edu); 703-228-6417.

### FRIDAY/AUG. 6

**Summer Concert Series.** 8 p.m. Free. The U.S. Air Force Concert Band with a vocal soloist. At the U.S. Air Force Memorial, 1 Air Force Memorial Drive, Arlington. Call 202-767-5658 or visit [www.usafbnd.af.mil](http://www.usafbnd.af.mil).

**Calling Crickets Campfire at Gulf Branch.** 7-8:15 p.m. Entertaining activities, which may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and of course, treats like s'mores. Call 703-228-6535 for more information. \$5 per person; \$20 max per family (children must be accompanied by a registered adult).

### SUNDAY/AUG. 8

**All Things Trees.** 3 p.m. Free neighborhood walk and talk on all things trees. Experts will show examples of tree care in the neighborhood and answer questions. Meet at Wakefield High School parking area, Dinwiddie Street, South, Arlington. No RSVP necessary. Contact [TreeStewards\\_ArlAlex@verizon.net](mailto:TreeStewards_ArlAlex@verizon.net).

### TUESDAY/AUG. 10

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

**Flumpa and Friends LIVE!** 1:30 pm. Free. Music, science, fitness and fun are blended in a unique show perfect for the whole family, starring Wendy Whitten 'The Singing Scientist' and Flumpa the famous tree frog. At Arlington County Library, Shirlington Branch, 4200 Campbell Avenue, Arlington. Call 703-228-6545.

### AUG. 10 - SEPT. 26

**"Chess."** Tickets are \$55 to \$81. Washington's First Major Production of the 1984 Rock Musical by the Composers of "Mamma Mia!"

Broadway's Jill Paice ("Curtains," "The 39 Steps"), Euan Morton (Boy George in "Taboo," "Sondheim on Sondheim"), and Jeremy Kushnier ("Footloose," "Rent") star in the rock musical "Chess," to be directed by Signature's Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer. At the Signature Theater in Arlington.

### AUG. 13, 15, 17

**Arlington Children's Chorus.** Makes its concert debut at Wolf Trap with the National Symphony and the Wolf Trap Opera Company in "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Visit <http://arlingtonchildrenschorus.org> or email [arlingtonchildrenschorus@yahoo.com](mailto:arlingtonchildrenschorus@yahoo.com).

### SATURDAY/AUG. 14

**Family Hershey Park Trip.** 8 a.m.-8 p.m. \$50 per person covers transportation and tickets. Have a great family fun time at Hershey Park. (Middle and High School Students may attend without a parent.) Trip leaves from and returns to Lubber Run Community Center. For more information call 703-228-4711 or e-mail [mmcmullen@arlingtonva.us](mailto:mmcmullen@arlingtonva.us). Register at [www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us), click on class

registration. Register for program #970000B

**Bat Fest Arlington.** 6:30-9:30 p.m. Enjoy a thoroughly batty evening at Gulf Branch Nature Center and add to your knowledge of local nightlife at this bat conservation and appreciation program. See live bats, go on a walk to see bats flying and to hear their echolocation calls, and learn about foods that are pollinated by bats. Children under 13 must register with an accompanying adult. Call 703-228-3403. Registration required for age three and up. \$10 per adult, \$7 per child under age 12. Register at [www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us), click

on class registration. Register for program #643550-01.

### AUG. 14-15

**Traditional Thai Medical Symposium.** 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event will explore the full range of traditional Thai medical practices to include such topics as Thai herbal medicine preparation, ruesri dat ton, healing meditation, chanting and rituals, anatomy and Thai massage, as well as related topics such as history and Buddhism. At 1211 N. Glebe Road, Arlington. Call 703-522-8424 or visit [www.thai-institute.com](http://www.thai-institute.com).

## Classic Screwball Comedies

Tuesdays in August at 6:30 p.m. Free. At the Shirlington Branch Library, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Call 703-228-6545.

- ◆ Aug. 10: "His Girl Friday" with Carey Grant & Rosalind Russell
- ◆ Aug. 17: "The Philadelphia Story" with Katherine Hepburn & James Stewart
- ◆ Aug. 24: "The Lady Eve" with Henry Fonda & Barbara Stanwyck
- ◆ Aug. 31: "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" with Carole Lombard & Robert Montgomery

# Rec Sports Provide Competition, Fitness, Friendship

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**A**nne Nichols stands near the first-base dugout after a rec softball game at Quincy Field in Arlington and laughs while answering questions with teammates. The 21-year-old Reston native said she enjoys spending time with her friends on the team. But when it comes to stepping on the field, Nichols, who has no softball experience, says she plays catcher to avoid being part of the action.

"It just seemed like a fun opportunity," said Nichols, a student at Wake Forest, "even though I'm really miserable and I've never played before."

Nichols' boyfriend's sister, Katie Flynn, has plenty of softball experience and is the team captain. The 27-year-old Reston native played at South Lakes High School and Seton Hall University. While Nichols is a newcomer along for some fun, Flynn and the rest of the team have a different approach.

"As a team, we're outrageously competitive to a point where it's embarrassing and awkward for everybody," Flynn said. "We run up the score, which is improper. [There is] anger when somebody botches a play, even when we're up by a considerable amount."

**THERE ARE SEVERAL** reasons behind people participating in recreational sports. In the case of the Arlington Adult & Social League, 28-year-old Jack Fan said the league provides a place to meet new people. Fan, the AASL's sports and program coordinator, said, with the Washington D.C. metro area being such a transient location, rec sports provide a place to get connected with those who share common interests.

"We cater to a lot of different types of people," he said. "The primary demographic that we try to cater to are the young professionals who are looking for a place where their friends can always meet up. The second type of people this league is for is newcomers."

The AASL offers softball, volleyball, dodgeball, flag football, bowling, basketball, kickball inner tube water polo, cornhole and broomball. Fan said softball is the league's most popular sport, with 80 teams competing. Kickball and volleyball also see a high turnout.

Fan said the league offers competitive and social divisions, with some sports — including softball, kickball, dodgeball and bowling — often acting as precursors to another kind of fun.

"Sports is just kind of an excuse to come and hang out at a bar," Fan said.

While Nichols and Flynn are on a softball team because they know the same people, Fan said some of the best friendships are made from teams composed of strangers. Fan, a Dallas native and Washington, D.C. resident, said he met his future roommates after being placed on a random kickball team.

"I always tell people to come check it out," he said. "If you have nothing else better to do, let us know, especially if it's early in the season. We can help you out."

## Still Going Strong

Sweat has saturated Jack Lohrer's gray cotton T-shirt and is threatening to take over his blue cotton shorts. The 46-year-old Alexandria resident looks the part of a man who is at the tail end of a hard day's work. But with the second half winding down in his recreational summer league basketball game at George Washington Middle School, it would require more than a little fatigue and a whole lot of moisture to get Lohrer to stop hustling.

With his team — the Troglodytes — trailing, Lohrer does the little things. On offense, he finds open spots on the floor and positions himself for a quality shot. On defense, he tries to take charges — a tactic not commonly seen outside of highly competitive leagues. Early in the game, Lohrer fell to the ground after absorbing contact from an opponent and was rewarded by the official with an offensive foul call. But when Lohrer tried the move again, he instead was whistled for a block. The Troglodytes, much the same, came up short against the GT Ballers.

"It's really fun," the Long Island native said of playing rec basketball. "You don't get any dumber. You just get smarter and smarter and smarter. You learn something new every time you play."

Lohrer played Division III basketball at Amherst College in Massachusetts. While hustling is accepted in basketball, Lohrer said taking charges is frowned upon by today's youth. But with no

Troglodyte younger than 40, those are the types of plays that help the team compete.

"Hustling is one thing, taking charges is really kind of disfavored," Lohrer said. "When I grew up playing, it was a very heady thing to do, an appreciated thing. Now it's almost like taking a dive in soccer. It's a generational thing. This generation, it's almost controversial. 'The refs are old, too, so they remember back in the day. They gave me one [charge] and they didn't give me the other.'"

**ANOTHER ELEMENT** of Lohrer's "old school" mentality is to defend the oppos-



**Sports and Program Coordinator Jack Fan said softball is the most popular sport offered by the Arlington Athletic & Social League.**

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

## Staying in Shape — With A Bonus

Mary Alexandre tries to make it to the gym a minimum of three times per week. Fitness is important to the 42-year-old married mother of two.

But on a recent Friday night in Springfield, Alexandre opted for another workout venue. Despite air so hot one struggled to stay dry while stationary, the Alexandria native booted soccer balls through the stuffiness inside the Fairfax Sportsplex to the tune of three goals. During her school days, Alexandre played soccer for Groveton High and took part in intramural soccer at Old Dominion. These days, Alexandre plays indoor soccer at the Sportsplex, which not only helps keep her in shape, but also adds an athletic element she craves.

"I love a little competition — competition is good," Alexandre said. "The challenge is great."

Alexandre plays for the team "Lazy Fox" in a lower-division 6-on-6 co-ed league. The Sportsplex also offers 5-on-5 leagues, men's leagues, women's leagues and youth travel teams. On a muggy

Friday night, Alexandre finished with a hat trick in a losing effort, scoring a pair of left-footed goals while adding a third on a right-footed flick. Despite the loss, the team was in good spirits after the contest, hanging around and drinking beer. While the desire to win is present, there isn't a post-loss tension that can come with an uber-competitive bunch.

"It's a great way to stay in shape and still have some competitive fun," said Joe Alexandre, Mary's husband and teammate. "Even between the men, during rec soccer, you just don't go as far physically. You're a little more careful on your tackles and your steals and your pushing with everyone. It's more of a light-hearted soccer."

Joe Alexandre, 42, said he feels no awkwardness in terms of competing against women. Mary Alexandre, on the other hand, sees competing against men as a challenge.

"When you add guys into the mix, it adds another element," she said. "It changes the game only because you can play aggressive [with] body contact [against] another woman, but when you've got a guy on you that's another 50 [to] 70 pounds [heavier] than you, it makes it a little more challenging."

# EMPLOYMENT

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By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

That's my standard answer to the most frequently asked question I hear: "How are you feeling, Ken?"

The problem is not with the question or the questioner, it's with the "questionee," yours truly. I never know if the question pertains to me in general or to me with cancer, in particular. Am I being asked about life or about death? Admittedly, I can't be objective and keep an open mind. Almost instinctively I think the question is being asked in the context of me having cancer. But sometimes, it's not (as I've found out). Sometimes, as they say, "a cigar is just a cigar." And so, to keep from making that very presumptuous mistake – and thinking the world revolves around me and my cancer – I simplify my answer and wait for a follow-up question, to be sure.

I don't need to talk about my cancer (apparently I need to write about it, though). I don't need – or want, quite frankly – to be Kenny with cancer and/or play the cancer card and receive pity/special treatment. I want (need) to be treated as normally as possible. However, given the fact that I am myself consumed (mentally, not physically; thank God!) by it, it is nearly impossible. Though I have tried, on occasion, not thinking about it for one minute; (it's akin to holding your breath – it doesn't work long term; heck, it doesn't exactly work short term, either), it's extremely difficult for me to not think others are, at the very least, aware of my condition and as a result, their questions must have something to do with the big picture (cancer), not the every day picture.

Therefore, after having given a few ill-advised and unanticipated answers to this standard question, I have decided to be simple-Simon rather than cancer-Kenny. Oh sure, I'll give somebody chapter and verse, if that's what they're really asking and interested in hearing, but until I know the depth of their inquiry, I won't bore anybody with the low lights of my diagnosis, prognosis, current treatment protocol and miscellaneous side-effect deficits. I want to be sure I'm answering the question that they're actually asking.

Now writing about it is something different entirely. I'm not writing these "cancer columns" (as I call them) because somebody asked me a question or because I'm trying to educate the general public (with some unique information that only I have had the good fortune to benefit from which I'm now able to share; I wish) about cancer as some time-honored – and unselfish – respectable, journalistic pursuit. Hardly. I'm writing these columns because I need to, probably for self-preservation, I imagine, but definitely as a means hopefully-not-to-my-end. And it's in these columns where I can indulge my fantasies of thinking how much my life (or my "journey," as one reader characterized it) might matter, maybe even benefit others.

In reality though, my life matters most to me, and that's why it is so difficult to take a question at face value. Given the severity and terminal nature of my original diagnosis/prognosis, how can anyone ask how I'm doing and not realize the gravity of the situation? But they don't necessarily. Why should they? They're just asking a simple question. And from now on, I'm going to give them a simple answer.

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

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Vigilance for Senior Citizens

FROM PAGE 3

robberies. She said the perpetrators could be strangers, family members, spouses or caregivers.

"Not all children are good to their parents and some can take over finances and defraud them of money," Bune said. "They can also neglect them with proper health care and food."

Bune said one of the most critical forms of victimization occurs in nursing homes.

"I am not saying they all are bad," Bune said. "People that have loved ones there have to keep an eye on them."

Bune gave an example of senior abuse she witnessed when visiting her father in a nursing home. She said she saw a woman with a bruised face and recognized the wound as a mark of abuse.

"She said that she was hit, but the attendant told her she fell," Bune said, recalling her conversation with the victim. "To this day I bet any amount of money that she didn't fall and that she was hit in the eye."

Jeanne Kelly, founder and executive director of Encore Creativity for Older Adults, said she thinks retirement communities are great because seniors are not alone and are less likely to be preyed upon.

"I am not an advocate for aging in place," said Kelly, 60, who completed research on aging and creativity. "I think retirement communities are fabulous and make life much better than sitting alone at home."

Bune also said the same vigilance should be taken for caregivers visiting the homes of seniors. She stressed the importance of checking on loved ones while the caregiver is present to ensure appropriate behavior is upheld.

"People have good intentions and are not aware of things they should look for," Bune said.

**IN ADDITION** to physical abuse, Bune said seniors are often victims of scams or defrauding. People will ask for donations for fake charities or offer to do yard work. When the victim writes a check or hands over cash, the perpetrator will not return as promised the next day.

"They know these people are lonely and

sit and have coffee and cupcakes with them," Bune said. "They engage them and win them over."

Bune said seniors should always ask for a license or some kind of credential before giving away money. She also added that seniors should be very wary of inviting strangers into their home.

"Home invasions are not as frequent, but it can happen," Bune said. "More commonly are scams and frauds."

Bune said that the turnout to the event was low, but the people that attended expressed interest and took notes.

"Some looked to be in their 60s and 70s and all showed that they were mentally aware," Bune said. "It seemed they wanted to get awareness about protecting themselves."

Peret said she thought the lack of attendance might have been because of the heat that day.

"People requested that type of program," said Peret, 55, who found Bune on George Mason University's speaker bureau. "We wanted to have a program about the kinds of scams they should be aware of."

Kelly said she hasn't seen a trend in senior violence but is conscious that it occurs.

"There are always going to be people who prey on seniors figuring that we don't have enough sense to ask questions," Kelly said. "I think that with any age population you have to be careful."

In addition to working in criminal justice, Bune works at the Prince George's County's State Attorney's office; teaches victimology at George Mason University; is a consultant for the Office of Victims of Crime for the U.S. Department of Justice; and is a freelance writer for two law enforcement magazines.

"I get to help a lot of people and deal with reality every day," Bune said. "My reward is when I make a positive impact in someone's life."

Bune said she pursued an interest in senior abuse because it was an area that was overlooked.

"I wanted to bring more attention to it through speaking and with community outreach," Bune said.

**"They know these people are lonely and sit and have coffee and cupcakes with them. They engage them and win them over."**

— Karen Bune

'FLOURISHING AFTER 55'

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington's Office of Senior Adult Programs, Aug. 16-20.

**Arlington senior centers:** Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Culpeper Garden, 4435 S. Pershing Dr.; Langston-Brown, 2121 N. Culpeper 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.

**Northern Virginia Senior Olympics** registration deadline, Sept. 1. For information, call 703-228-4721 or check the website at www.nvso.us. Over 25 events; Sept. 18-29; opening day in Arlington. \$10 registration fee.

Reservations open Monday, Aug. 16 for **seniors' trip** to San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 2-6. For

more information, call Arlington Senior Adult Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

**Swimming lessons** for seniors coming in the fall. Call Office of Senior Adult Programs to sign up, 703-228-4745.

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**Seniors-only weight room** hours, Monday, Aug. 16, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Langston-Brown. Cost \$60/15 sessions. Certified fitness professionals onsite. For more information, call 703-228-4745.

**Seniors' trip** to the Montgomery County Fair, Gaithersburg, Md., Tuesday, Aug. 17. Cost 13. Call Arlington Senior Adult travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

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# Wardian Sets Indoor Marathon World Record

Runner looks to the Olympics.

BY ISABEL AMEND  
THE CONNECTION

**M**ichael Wardian only started running after college, but that does not stop him from becoming one of the best long distance athletes Arlington has seen.

On July 1, the 36-year-old ran a marathon in 2 hours, 27 minutes, and 21 seconds to set the indoor world record at Thomas Jefferson Community Center's 200-meter track. Wardian passed his mother every 41 seconds, who distributed water and food to the eight competitors, while his wife and two sons played in the stands. "It was really nice, in fact I wasn't bored at all, and I felt supported by my family nearby," he said upon running 221 laps around youths playing basketball and locals working out.

His feat at TJ only tops a growing list of accomplishments. Wardian is winner of the 2007 JFK 50 miler, the 2008 U.S. National 100-km, three U.S. 50-km championships, and three National Marathons. He is a former world record holder of the stroller running marathon (2 hours 42 minutes with son Pierce) and treadmill marathon (2 hours 23 minutes at Pacers Fairfax).

Steve Nearman, the owner of Endurance Enterprises and a race founder, thinks "Michael is a race director's dream. He shows up when he says he will and gives you everything he has, does it with modesty and with great success and consistency. He's hugely popular with the other runners because he's taken the time to build relationships and encourage fellow runners



Michael Wardian celebrates with son Pierce, 3 and a half years old.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS REEF

from the front of the pack to the back."

**IN 1996** Wardian enlisted himself in the Marine Corps Marathon to stay in shape after playing Division 1 lacrosse at Michigan State University.

"I always sensed I was good at running from placing first or second in three-milers I'd do with my lacrosse team. I never felt tired after those, and my buddies would always joke around and convince me to join cross country."

Wardian's natural abilities yielded a Boston marathon qualifying time. Very soon he found himself enamored with the sport. "Running gives me a chance to test myself and really push myself to the limits" he said. "Everything started from my first Boston marathon. I soon was beating guys in speed sessions who had been running for a much longer time."

While Wardian can easily clock a 4 minute 20 second mile, which is "extremely impressive" in the words of Pacers general manager Chris Farley, he gains more appeal for his work in marathons and ultra-marathons. "The marathon is probably my favorite race because it's relatively fast and not too long." In fact, he claims to feel void of the pain that is intrinsic to most endurance runners. His vegetarian lifestyle and 6 foot tall 145-pound frame may contribute to this phenomenon.

**THE ARLINGTON COMMUNITY** has embraced the maverick's achievements. "I feel so supported by my Pacers running team, my family, and just people in the neighborhood who recognize me." Wardian frequents the local trails, which he considers a "runner's paradise." He takes refuge in the Custis, Capital Crescent, Bluemont, and Four-Mile Run paths, as well as Washington-Lee High School's track to "get some leg speed in."

Farley, running companion and coach of the Pacers team, is "constantly in awe of what Michael can do, both physically and

mentally." On Wardian's unique athletic character, Farley said "the average runner will run two marathons each year. They'll hibernate for six months then run a race full throttle, whereas Michael is in constant need of competition and adrenaline. Mentally, he needs the stimulation of races. He does such incredible things that he leaves national caliber runners in awe. Michael is intimidated by nothing, and it's in his nature to never take no for an answer. He is durable, resilient and is so far out from the average runner mileage wise, intensity wise, and race wise."

George Banker, the author of "Marine Corps Marathon: A Running Tradition" said, "Michael Wardian has the ability to know his strong points when he steps up on a start line. He leaves everything on the race course and gives each race his best. Part of his make up is to try to achieve a balance between family, work, and training. Wardian is special in a way that he helps to support the community races in the area."

**ONE DAY**, Wardian walked into a shop in Springfield and overheard a man claim that "running three marathons in one month is impossible." He soon proved him wrong by

## SPORTS BRIEF

### Summer Pool Hours

The summer schedule for Arlington Aquatics Centers (Yorktown, Washington-Lee and Wakefield) is in effect.

The Yorktown pool is open from noon-6 p.m. Sundays, 5:30-8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 5:30-8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on Fridays and 9 a.m.-7 p.m. on Saturdays. Sept. 7 holiday hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Washington-Lee pool is open from noon-6

completing 26.2 miles in Chicago, New York, and Washington D.C. within four weeks. Then, as if this wasn't enough, he won the JFK 50 miler two weeks later.

Wardian's nonstop routine personifies his abnormal running style and turns lots of heads. In April he embarked on the Marathon des Sables, a 151-mile adventure through the Sahara Desert in Morocco. "I have a high threshold for pain, and this definitely helped with carrying limited food rations, water, and a first aid kit across the desert. A woman sleeping in my tent was bitten by a scorpion and was evacuated to a hospital. I knew it was dangerous, but things like these test my limits." Wardian crossed the finish line in third place, becoming the first American in the history of the race to do so. The first place winner Mohamed Ahansel battled the sand dunes with Wardian during the last stage of the race, and in his mind is "one of the fiercest competitors I've ever faced. I really look forward to seeing him again."

With barely any rest days, ice bathes, or stretching sessions, Wardian considers himself "so lucky to be injury free." However, he always makes sure to do a 10-minute cool down. "So far, so good" he said.

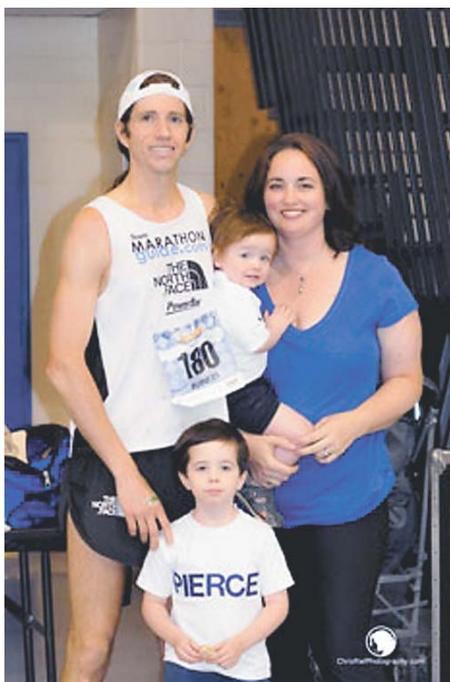
**"I feel so supported by my Pacers running team, my family, and just people in the neighborhood who recognize me."**

— Michael Wardian

As for the future, Wardian wants to qualify for the marathon at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. He participated in the 2004 and 2008 Olympic trials, but competed with the likes of Ryan Hall and Dathan Ritzenhein, who both were prestigious high school runners.

"One of my goals is to break 2:19, which is Olympic qualifying time. Right now my PR [personal record] is 2:21, so this should be in reach," he said. Farley thinks "the Olympics is an aggressive goal and it's very hard to accomplish, but Michael has the competitiveness to do it."

Meanwhile, the Arlington native will "run local races and play with [his] children." He also works at an international shipbroker in Georgetown. Speaking of trails, he says "there is a man in Arlington who's in his 80's, and he's always outside hammering the ground with his water bottle and equipment. I don't think I'll ever stop running. I want to be like him. If I can, I want to run until I'm 90."



**Michael Wardian still logs two runs each day despite working at an international shipbroker, being married, and raising two sons.**