

# The Arlington Connection

Abigail Hall and her dog Doc Thomas celebrate the holidays with Santa inside Ballston Common Mall on Saturday, Dec. 18.



## Doggedly Good For Christmas

Wheels To Africa  
NEWS, PAGE 3

Holiday Joy for Inmate Moms  
NEWS, PAGE 3

Youthful Generals Taking Lumps  
SPORTS, PAGE 14

inside  
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CONNECTION

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# NEWS

## Human Touch

**Inmates appreciate county jail's holiday program.**

BY ORRIN KONHEIM  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n the third floor of a government building, a lively Christmas party is taking place. The event's coordinator, Kristen Cane, stands by the Christmas tree calling the names of each of the eight families in attendance and gives them each a package of presents. Vanessa, a 29-year old mother of four, shares the joy of opening presents with the two children of hers who were able to make it to the party.

"The aim [of the program] is to keep a good connection between parents and children. That's why we have toys. Let the mothers give it to them," said Arlingtonian Nadine Clift who provides the toys on behalf of the Salvation Army.

What's atypical about this scene, however, is that when this two-hour event is over, Vanessa won't be able to interact with her children in an open environment until Mother's Day because she is an inmate. She is participating in a program sponsored by the Arlington County Sheriff's Department that allows incarcerated mothers to briefly celebrate the holiday season with their children.

"The program is a wonderful opportunity for female offenders to spend time with their kids," said Sheriff Beth Arthur. "It's also an opportunity for kids to remain

SEE HOLIDAY JOY, PAGE 4



PHOTOS BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION

### 'Sing a Song'

**The Potomac Harmony Chorus performed a holiday concert and sing-along to benefit Doorways for Women and Families on Sunday, Dec. 19 at the Thomas Jefferson Theater.**



**Janet King, left, with Potomac Harmony Chorus master director Ozzi Mask**



**Lara Lukaszek accepts donations for Doorways.**



**Drew Williams with younger brother, Eric**

## A Shadow Campaign

**Three candidates emerge to fill the expected opening in Virginia's 30th Senate District.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

**A** behind-the-scenes campaign to replace state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30) in the Democratic primary has already started, even though the longtime senator has yet to announce her intention for the upcoming election year. Ticer has already publicly indicated that she is leaning toward not running again, although she plans to make an official announcement during the General Assembly session. That means that potential candidates are trying to build support for themselves under a difficult set of conditions.

They don't want to publicly campaign for themselves in a way that makes it seem like they are trying to push Ticer out the door. On the other hand, they don't want to get caught unprepared when she makes the official announcement. That creates a sort of shadow campaign in which potential candidates try to build support without seeking publicity.

It's in this environment that three Democratic candidates have emerged, quietly seeking to build a team of supporters who will support them in the primary election, which is expected to take place in Septem

SEE THREE READY, PAGE 7

## Wheels To Africa Drive Brings Out Secretary of Education

**Arlington youth started annual bike collecting event in 2005.**

BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER  
THE CONNECTION

**S**ix years ago, Winston Duncan traveled to South Africa with his mother Dixie. He was 10 years old.

"I knew that seeing a lion in its natural habitat would make a lasting impression on Winston," Dixie Duncan said.

What she could not predict was how he would be struck by the distances people had to walk to find

food, water and medical care.

"When I was in Swaziland, I saw an older woman walking with a boy," Winston Duncan recalled. "She was sick and needed medicine but had to get it in a different village. It reminded me of me and my grandma. She had emphysema and it was difficult for her to walk. I wondered how I could help these people get to the other villages easier."

**HE KNEW CARS** weren't a practical solution in the villages. But he did notice that people had bicycles. That's what inspired him to start "Wheels To Africa," a non-profit where children ages 10-18 organize local bike collections and send the donated bikes to communities in Africa.

SEE COLLECTING BIKES, PAGE 4

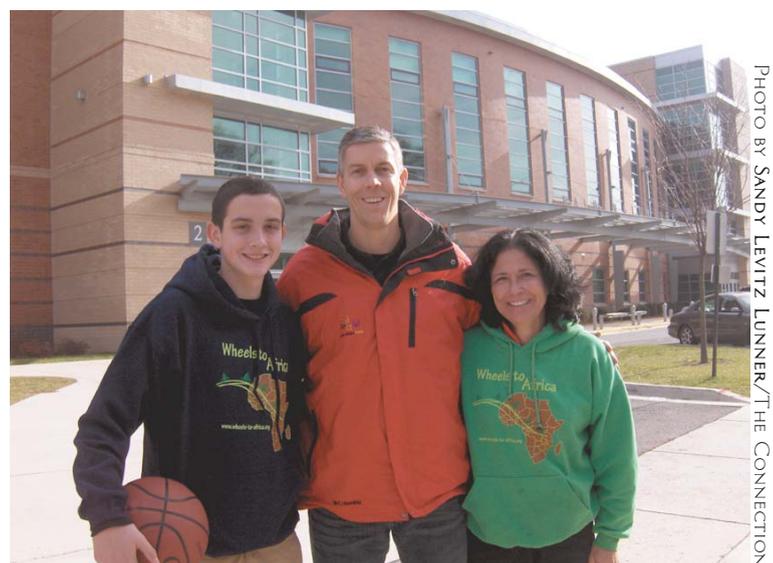


PHOTO BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/THE CONNECTION

**Secretary of Education Arne Duncan with Winston and Dixie Duncan (no relation to the Secretary) at the Wheels To Africa Washington and Lee bike collection site Saturday, Dec. 11.**

# Season of Sharing

## Heritage shapes holiday traditions.

BY DELIA SAVA  
THE CONNECTION

As people in the area got their first taste of winter and as the end of the year draws near, several local residents took a moment to share their favorite memories of holidays past and their plans for this holiday season. Whether steeped in well-established religious observances or simply enjoying a break from work and starting new traditions, people said the “spirit of the season” is a time to reflect and be thankful, to help and give to others and to share their hopes and dreams for the New Year with family and friends.



**Greg Staff**

“The holiday season is all about giving and I usually host a get-together for family, and friends who don’t have any relatives in the area,” said Benjamin Ahvazi. He said he gives small gifts to the children; as they reflect on the past year and look forward to the New Year. “We sit around and talk about events that occurred during the year and find ways to get closer,” Ahvazi said adding, “As time passes we appreciate each other more and more, especially during this tough economic period.”



**Takis Karantonis**

“On the same day a round sweet cake is baked with a little coin inside,” Karantonis said adding, “Slices of the cake will be given to family and friends and the person who receives the slice with the coin is considered to have good luck for the year.”

Greek holiday traditions include celebrating Christmas, New Year’s Day and the Epiphany on Jan. 6, according to Takis Karantonis. “Although you will find a decorated Christmas tree in practically all Greek homes, tradition calls for a decorated ‘karavi’, a small wooden boat,” he said. Christmas cooking traditions vary but the two most common dishes are oven-roasted pork and stuffed turkey.



**Benjamin Ahvazi**



**Maddie Richhart**

Karantonis explained that the Greek Orthodox Santa Claus is St. Basil, whose name day is Jan. 1 and who visits homes during New Year’s Eve and leaves presents under the tree, to be opened on New Year’s Day. “On the same day a round sweet cake is baked with a little coin inside,” Karantonis said adding, “Slices of the cake will be given to family and friends and the person who receives the slice with the coin is considered to have good luck for the year.”

Charlotte Gorman said her favorite aspect of celebrating the holidays with her family is the time spent sharing the special concoctions

of hot cocoa: “My family is really into hot cocoa and on Christmas Eve we drink hot cocoa and tell stories of interesting things that have occurred to us,” she said add-

ing, “We have a hazelnut kind and a mocha and a peppermint bark and they’re really good.”

For Maddie Richhart and her family, the tradition includes watching “It’s a Wonderful Life” and “Die Hard” movies. “We have dinner together on Christmas Eve and I still feel like a kid when I come downstairs and see the tree with all the presents,” she said.

This will be the first year that Annette Taylor will be alone for the holidays. Taylor, who moved to the area a couple of months ago, said she has no specific plans but sees this time of year as an opportunity to express her gratitude. “It’s a time for reflection on the past years and to be happy for the challenges and blessings that I have,” she said adding, “I will have a cup of hot chocolate and a good book and it’ll be some nice, silent me time.”

Family get-togethers revolve around food in Alexandria Hale’s family. Hale said she especially enjoys the food preparation involved in the festivities. “I will be doing a lot of cooking — just a lot of comfort foods, like sweet potato pie, turkey with dressing and lots of spirits,” she said.

Hale’s cousin, Alexander Austin, said he’s looking forward to seeing his daughter, Sa-

PHOTOS BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION  
vannah Jordan, and his nephew, Aaron Kid, open their gifts on Christmas morning. Austin, who plans to celebrate at his mother’s house where the family gathers for dinner, joked that if it snows again, he’ll end up with shoveling duty.

As a child Greg Staff said he celebrated the holidays in Panama, where his parents were born and raised. Staff has fond memories of attending midnight mass and seeing the small town of Santiago decked out in bright lights and colorful decorations. “The big meal of the season was, and continues to be on Christmas Eve when we have tamales, arroz con pollo (chicken with rice), lechon asado (roast pork) and flan (Spanish custard.)”

Staff said his most vivid memory of New Year’s in Panama was burning a scarecrow-like effigy filled with firecrackers that was lit at the stroke of midnight to welcome the New Year. These days, the family’s celebration in Arlington is a mixture of American and Panamanian traditions. “We still stay up till midnight, open our presents, and make those all-important phone calls to our loved ones miles away to hear our voices and share our best wishes for the holidays.”



**Alexander Austin**



**Charlotte Gorman**

## Holiday Joy for Inmate Moms

FROM PAGE 3

connected with the parents. After all, they’re not the ones who made the bad decisions.”

Vanessa talks to her children approximately three times a week and they visit twice a month, but there is ordinarily a wall of glass that separates them.

Another inmate, who wished to be referred to by her middle name of Sandra, says that she and her family are dependent on each other through her incarceration.

“My family support is 100 percent,” said Sandra. “With me doing time, it’s just like them doing time also. They do all the responsibilities now that I’m gone.”

“One of the things I hope it makes [for] is to remind our female inmates that they’re mothers and that they have responsibilities so that when they have leave here, they make better choices and we don’t see them back again,” said Arthur.

The program is part of larger range of programs that are targeted at helping the inmates develop themselves for when they get out of jail. Vanessa has been able to make progress on her GED in the 11 months

since she was first incarcerated for grand theft larceny.

Sandra, who has been here since May and gets out at the end of the month, has taken courses on anger management, stress management and health and healing.

“If someone presents a program that is beneficial to an inmate, that could help them in jail or out of jail, then we’ll use it,” said program manager Kristen Cane. Cane offers approximately 55 programs to the inmates.

There is currently no such program in place for the male inmates to have contact visits due to logistical factors but there are several other programs in place to assist incarcerated fathers maintain a connection to their children.

The county’s prison population is constantly fluctuating but there were 51 female prisoners — approximately 11 percent of the total population — as of last week and Cane estimates that approximately 40 of them are mothers. The event had 14 applicants. According to Cane, various logistical factors in securing travel arrangements with guardians of the children are the greatest impediment.

## Collecting Bikes for Africa

FROM PAGE 3

To get the first collection started, the fifth grade student talked to his school’s PTA, the youngest student ever to address that organization. Next, it was the Arlington School Board. Later during that school year, the first bike collection took place.

“When my mom and I started, we only had one collection at Yorktown High,” he said. “On Saturday we had nine collection sites. It’s just been great.”

Leading up to the Dec. 11 collection, more than 3,000 bicycles had been collected and sent to Africa since 2005. By the end of the drive on Saturday, they had added another 753 with at least 30 more that had to be picked up from people’s homes and busi-

nesses.

“It was a great success,” the younger Duncan said, “especially considering the economy.”

He added that the bikes will most likely be shipped in early spring, so there’s still time to donate bicycles and money to help pay for the shipping to Africa.

**THERE’S JUST ONE MORE THING** the Duncans are still seeking from some secret Santa in Northern Virginia — storage.

“Right now our backyard is our storage lot,”

Winston said. “So we really need some storage space.”

For more information on how to donate, visit the website at [www.wheels-to-africa.org](http://www.wheels-to-africa.org) or e-mail Dixie Duncan at [d\\_duncan@comcast.net](mailto:d_duncan@comcast.net).

**“Right now our backyard is our storage lot. So we really need some storage space.”**

**— Winston Duncan, Wheels To Africa founder**

# Best Wishes For The Holidays



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT

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CENTRE VIEW

## Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

**W**e wish our readers, our clients and everyone who lives, works, studies, plays, shops or pursues their avocations here all the best over this holiday week and beyond into the New Year. Thank you for making the Connection a part of your week, a part of your year.

This is our last news edition of 2010; next week shortly after Christmas, readers will receive the Children's Connection our traditional issue devoted to the writing and artwork of local children and teens.

In the meantime, we are looking for input on New Year's resolutions. Share one or more of the resolutions you will make for 2011, or tell us about a past resolution and how you approached it, for better or worse. Do you have some tips to share for achieving your goals? Send us 50-200 words, and please share a photo as well. We'll print selections in our first issue of the New Year, Jan. 5-12, 2011.

Send your submissions to [smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com).

Another opportunity to be a part of the Connection: The Pet Connection will publish on

Feb. 2, 2011, send us photos of you and your pet by Jan. 20.

### Alternatives to Drinking and Driving

A recent ride-along with a Northern Virginia police officer gave Connection reporter Alex McVeigh a chance to convey some of the methods and mission to get drunk drivers off the road. (See Getting Drunk Drivers Off the Streets, in Dec. 15's Reston Connection, <http://connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=346976&paper=71&cat=104>)

Among other things on the night of the ride-along, the officer encountered an apparently drunk driver who had fallen asleep behind the wheel waiting to make a right turn, his car running, his turn signal blinking and vomit evident down the outside of the driver's side door. It's enough to make you want to stay home.

With the season for holiday parties comes the increased incidence of driving under the influence, with drunk driving arrests up more than

70 percent compared to other times of year. In 2010, Fairfax County Police have investigated more than 660 alcohol related accidents. In 2008 in Fairfax County, there were more than 3,100 arrests for driving under the influence.

In Arlington, 677 arrests. In Alexandria, 515 arrests. In the City of Fairfax, 181 arrests.

**DON'T TAKE THE RISK.** Plan ahead, leave your car at home, take public transportation, arrange for a designated driver, or choose to abstain if a designated driver isn't available.

But if you find yourself in the unfortunate position of drinking without a safe way home on your own this holiday season, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program has provided you with a safety net called SoberRide. Take their number with you when you head out, and be sure any young adults (must be 21 or over) in your family are similarly armed.

WRAP's 2010 Holiday SoberRide program is available now through 6 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294. You must be 21 or older. (Callers are responsible for anything over \$30.)

#### EDITORIALS

## Rubber Stamping Club Sends Cards to Troops

BY SENITRA MCCOMBS  
THE CONNECTION

**C**hristmas is a time of giving and more giving.

This holiday season Arlington's Rubber Stamping Club members sent their Christmas/holiday cards to U.S. soldiers overseas.

Joining with Card for Soldiers, they sent a total of 100 blank custom designed and hand-crafted greeting cards to the men and women serving overseas to send to their family and friends.

While they mostly sent holiday and Christmas cards, they also sent some happy birthday and thinking of you cards.

"We had a visitor one day in the summer and she mentioned about sending cards to the soldiers and she said she'd give us the information. So, since summer is kind of slow, we decided to make cards for our soldiers overseas," said Jackie Moberly, a Rubber Stamping Club member.

However, she never returned. Fortunately, Jackie Moberly read a feature on Cards for Soldiers in Card Maker magazine and contacted them.

Over three months, the Rubber Stamping Club's members met once a month to create Christmas cards.

According to founder/ member Karen Mullen, "The biggest challenges was time management since they only meet once a month and making sure the cards were creative."

Then they sent the cards off to Cards for Soldiers.

"Basically I post a mailing schedule for the year as well as all the card size requirements and restrictions on the blog, the cards must be to me by the mailing deadline so that I can get them all sorted, counted and back out to the soldiers in time for them to be able to send them back home to their loved ones," said Pam Bumbaca the president of Cards for Soldiers.

In 1993, Karen Mullen, who was the director at the Lee Senior Center, started The Rubber Stamping Club. It grew from 10 members to 20 members ranging in age from 50 to 93.

"There are many, many rubber stampers. It's a very popular hobby. There are conventions. You can have something elaborate to a simple one image card," Moberly said.

Mullen states that rubber stamping is an easy hobby because, "You don't need to be

an artist to do it because the impressions in the rubber stamps already have the design on it."

The club collectively meets once a month for three hours to discuss and plan out monthly projects at the Lee Senior Center. However, every Thursday they offer a drop-in where people can work on their own projects, such as making birthday cards.

Moberly also adds that "we always try to accommodate anybody that's new and teaching it to them and then we thrive on anybody with new ideas."

Mullen stated that newcomers don't have to bring their own supplies because they get a lot of donations or they buy supplies from the monthly \$1 member fee.

"We use that money to buy new ink pads or a rubber stamp initially until we hook 'em. We all come in with these rolling suitcases full of supplies. It looks like we're going to be gone for the weekend," Mullen said.

But Moberly advises "not to go into it [rubber stamping] to save money and make cards because you always have to have something else. It's very addictive."

Both Mullen and Moberly are retired.

#### VIEWPOINTS

### What Are Your Favorite Christmas Foods?

**Kristen Ott:** "My favorite Christmas food is the Little Debbie Snack Cakes in the shape of a Christmas tree. I've looked forward to them coming out during the holiday season every year since elementary school and to this day I can't put them down."



**Jenn Thomas:** "Orange cookies for sure. They've got orange zest and they're delicious. We make them every year for the holidays."

**Tina Sandro:** "It just isn't Christmas without Teatime Tassies. They're little pecan tart cookies and I can never resist them, before I know it the whole box is gone!"



**Ashlee Everett:** "My favorite Christmas treats are cashew nougat cookies. I look forward to them all year, every year."

BY MEGHAN MARVILLE

## ARLINGTON CONNECTION

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# If Seat Opens, Three Ready

FROM PAGE 3

ber. So far, the list includes Arlington School Board Chairwoman Libby Garvey, Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka and Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49).

"The most important factor in these kinds of elections is name recognition," said Isaac Wood, communications director for the Virginia Center for Politics. "Money plays an important part as well, because it can get your name in front of voters and increase name recognition."

Garvey has been a member of the Arlington County School Board since 1996. She waged an unsuccessful campaign in the 2005 Democratic primary for the House of Delegates seat vacated by retiring Del. Marian Van Landingham (D-45), although she came in second place to winning candidate David Englin. Her supporters say she would be a senator who could build bridges with the rest of the state.

"A lot of people in Northern Virginia say the rest of the state doesn't understand Northern Virginia," said Phil Hocker, who plans on supporting Garvey if Ticer decides against running. "The thing that's always impressed me about Libby is that she understands that the rest of Virginia feels under-appreciated by Northern Virginia."

Rob Krupicka has been on the Alexandria City Council since 2003. In the 2009 election, he came in second place in a field of 10 candidates — a strong showing that put Krupicka six votes shy of becoming the vice mayor. Yet when he was sworn in to a third term, he surprised many by announcing that he would not seek a fourth term on the City Council.

Krupicka's supporters say his focus on early childhood education and small business would make him the best candidate for the Virginia Senate.

"He would be the youngest member of the Senate if elected, and I think that's what we need — a new progressive voice in Richmond," said Tina Games, who said she would support Krupicka in a potential primary. "And he's not afraid to get out there and knock on doors."

Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49) has been a member of the House of Delegates since 2004. A longtime Democratic party activist, Ebbin managed campaigns for Alexandria City Councilman Paul Smedberg and Alexandria City Councilwoman Lois Walker. Ebbin's experience as a seasoned member of the General Assembly could be a mixed blessing in a potential primary against Garvey and Krupicka.

"Having a background as a House member could be an asset for Senate candidates because people already associate state issues with these candidates," said Wood. "Then again, being associated with Richmond could also be a drag on a candidate in a primary when voters associate local issues with other candidates."

Complicating the potential primary is the redistricting process. Because the Census Bureau is not expected to release its data until February and the U.S. Justice Department must approve the new maps created by the Republican-controlled General Assembly, conventional wisdom is that the primaries will take place in September. Because ballots must be sent overseas, elections officials say it would be impos

SEE SENATE SEAT, PAGE 12

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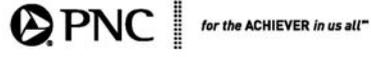
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# ORANGE LINE CONNECTION

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**WEDNESDAY/DEC. 22**

**“Matthew Barney: No Restraint.”** 8 p.m. Tickets are \$6. “Matthew Barney: No Restraint” is a 2006 documentary written and directed by Alison Chernick. It follows world renowned artist Matthew Barney (best known for “The Cremaster Cycle”) and his collaborator, singer-songwriter Bjork, as they embark on a filmmaking journey in Japan. Part of Movie Night at Artisphere. At the Dome at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-875-1100

## Kinder Haus Toys

**FOOD DRIVE** — We are a drop-off point for donations to Arlington Food Assistance Center. Bring your canned goods such as soup and boxed goods such as rice and pasta when next you visit the store.

**APC TOY DRIVE** — The Arlington Pediatric Center (APC) is the family doctor for Arlington children who lack access to quality, consistent medical care. Help Mothers of North Arlington (MONA) put a smile on APC patients’ faces this holiday season. Donate a new, safe unwrapped toy for babies through 12 years. Please ensure no single toy costs more than \$20. Many APC children live in dire poverty. Learn more at <http://www.arlpedcen.org/>.

**STORYTIME** — We are suspending Storytime for the months of November and December due to the large numbers of holiday shoppers. Starting in January 2011, we will resume reading every Monday and Friday from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Ms. Laura will read new and classic stories in a way that captivates.

Kinder Haus is located at 1220 N. Fillmore St., street level on Fillmore St. below Gold’s Gym near the intersection with Clarendon Blvd. Located two blocks east of the Clarendon Metro. Call 703-527-5929 or visit [www.kinderhaus.com](http://www.kinderhaus.com).

**NOW THROUGH JAN. 16**

**Party Crashers.** Comic Culture Invades the Art World. Party Crashers mashes up comic art and contemporary gallery culture, and features artists who pass back and forth between the two worlds. With the artists Rosaire Appel, Victor Kerlow, Rina Ayuyang, Blaise Larmee, Derik Badman, Andrei Molotiu, Gabrielle Bell, Robert Pruitt, Jeffrey Brown, Jim Rugg, Joshua Cotter, Dash Shaw, Warren Craghead III, Deb Sokolow, Anton Kannemeyer, and Olav Westphalen. At the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. call 703-248-6800 or visit [www.findyourartist.org](http://www.findyourartist.org)

**THURSDAYS, NOW THROUGH JAN. 13**

**Carpe Vinum: Wine Tastings at Artisphere.** \$30 per tasting; \$150 for the series. Hone your palate at wine tastings conducted by four top wine educators from Arlington’s wine shops. Demystify the world of wine in a relaxed settings, and expand your wine horizons at Artisphere. At Town Square at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-875-1100.  
❖ Thursday, Jan. 6: Curious Grape;  
❖ Thursday, Jan. 13: Arrowine.

**TUESDAY/DEC. 21**

**Intimate Performances.** 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Words and Music. Admission is \$8. Host Jon Kaplan performs and talks with singer/songwriter Shane Hines and friends. At the Dome @ Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-875-1100.

## Arlington Jaycees Host Santa’s Visit

The Arlington Jaycees will host Photos with Santa at the Ballston Common Mall, now through Friday, Dec. 24. All are welcome to visit with Santa and have their photos taken with him.

During the first two Sundays in December, the Arlington Jaycees will also host Pet Photos with Santa, when pets are welcomed to have their photos taken with Santa. All proceeds will benefit the Arlington Jaycees and local, non-profit charities, including the Animal Welfare League of Arlington.

The Arlington Jaycees are in need of volunteers to help with this event, including students who need volunteer credit. To volunteer, contact Arianna Gleckel at [agleckel@gmail.com](mailto:agleckel@gmail.com).

Where: At Ballston Common Mall, Lower Level (Food Court), 4238 Wilson Blvd., Arlington.

Dates: Dec. 15 – 24

Hours: 3 – 9 p.m. Weekdays; 1 – 9 p.m. Saturdays; 12 – 6 p.m. Sundays. Check for



**SATURDAY/JAN. 15**

**Children’s Theatre Festival.** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sponsored by the Teatro de la Luna. Six hours of theatre and other activities to delight the entire family, including bilingual theatre, storytelling and special performances by “Las Lunitas” — children participating in Teatro de la Luna’s Bilingual Acting Workshop. At the Spectrum Theatre @ Artisphere, 1611 N. Kent St., Arlington. Visit <http://www.teatrodelaLuna.org>.

the latest schedule and updates at [www.VArlingtonJaycees.org](http://www.VArlingtonJaycees.org)

Cost: Free Visit with Santa; \$8 Photo with Frame; \$6 Photo without Frame; \$5 Each Photo Reprint.

**NOW THROUGH JAN. 8**

**Fields and Networks: Alice Whealin.** The solo exhibition by Alice Whealin, Fields and Networks, features a series of ink drawings on acetate that reflect spatially both an expansive universe and small areas of function. These abstract drawings invite references to “fields and networks”. They draw upon diverse sources of imagery including animal and human form, popular molecular and space photography, calligraphy, abstract and expressionist art forms, cartoon and graffiti art, primal imagery, natural and man-made structures. Alice Whealin has her studio at the Reeb Hall Studios in Arlington. Most recently her work was exhibited at the American University’s Katzen Arts Center in Washington, DC, and her ink drawing was selected for Cream: Washington Project for the Arts Gala Exhibition. At the Mezz Gallery at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-875-1100. Visit <http://www.alicewhealin.com>

**SATURDAY NIGHTS AT 11:01**

**11:01 Saturday Nights.** Starts at 11:01 p.m. Late-night dance party. Tickets are \$15/\$12 students. At the Ballroom at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-228-1850.

❖ Jan. 8 — Non Stop Bhangra (San Francisco) Dance lessons, DJ and Dholi Drummers

**DANCE WEDNESDAYS**

**Dance Wednesdays.** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. dance classes; 8:30 to 11 p.m. dancing. Tickets are \$15/\$12 at door. On Wednesdays, dance the night away at Artisphere, to zydeco, cajun, rock, R&B and swing. The new center features a 3,000 square foot dance floor, one of the best in the area. At the Ballroom at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-228-1850.

❖ Dec. 22 — The Nighthawks: Blues/R&B;  
❖ Jan. 12 — JP McDermott & Western Bop: Rockabilly/Honky tonk;  
❖ Jan. 19 — Dancing by the Bayou: Cajun/Zydeco;  
❖ Jan. 26 — BG and the Mojo Hands: Blues/swing;

**TUESDAYS, THROUGH JAN. 25**

**Salsa Tuesdays.** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. dance class; 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. dancing. At the Ballroom @ Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington. Call 703-228-1850. The following events are \$15/\$12 students, all tickets at the door only:  
The following event is \$20/15 (students with a valid ID, at the door only)

❖ Dec. 21 — Orquestra La Romana;  
❖ Jan. 11 — Rumba Club;  
❖ Jan. 18 — Verny Varela;  
❖ Jan. 25 — Bio Ritmo;

**THURSDAY/JAN. 13**

**Young People’s Poetry Marathon in Spanish.** 10 a.m. Presented by Teatro de la Luna. Participants recite original poems or those of their favorite authors in Spanish. At Rosslyn Spectrum @ Artisphere, 1611 N. Kent St., Arlington. Visit <http://www.teatrodelaLuna.org>

**TUESDAY/JAN. 18**

**Intimate Performances.** 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Words and Music. Admission is \$8. Host Jon Kaplan performs and talks with singer/songwriter Alfonzo Velez. At the Dome @ Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-875-1100.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## NOW THROUGH JAN. 16

**The Nutcracker.** Presented by the Synetic Family Theater. Saturdays and Sundays at 11 a.m. Additional performances are: Dec. 18, 24, 26 at 4 p.m.; Dec. 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30 at 11 a.m.; Jan. 1, 2, 8 at 4 p.m. Directed and adapted by Lilia Slavova. Tickets are \$17.50/advance; \$20/door. At Synetic Family Theater at Crystal City, 1800 S. Bell Street, Arlington. Box Office: 800-494-8497 or [www.classika.org](http://www.classika.org).

## NOW THROUGH JAN. 8

**"Holiday Show."** The Arlington Artists Alliance will hold a Holiday Show. This is an opportunity to purchase original paintings, drawings and mixed media works by Arlington artists. Call 703-979-7527 to confirm the exhibit hall is opened. At Arlington United Methodist Church, 716 S. Glebe Road, Arlington.

## TUESDAY/DEC. 21

**Ginx Hudgins' Photo Show.** 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Yorktown High School AP Art student Ginx Hudgins will have a solo Photography show during the month of December. The show consists of 13 of Ginx's recent photos. A "Meet the Artist" reception will be held upstairs at Northside Social Coffee & Wine, 3211 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington. Call 703-532-4450.

**Swing Dancing.** 9 to 11 p.m. Cost is \$10. With the band, The Nighthawks. At the Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd., Arlington.

**"The Apartment"** (1960). At 6:30 p.m. Free. Part of Shirlington screens the films of Billy Wilder. At the Shirlington Branch Library, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Call 703-228-0322.

## NOW THROUGH DEC. 23

**"Holiday Mayhem."** Signature's



## JAN. 11 TO 15

**Julia Nixon.** Signature Theatre Cabaret Series. In the vein of Sarah Vaughan, this performer mixes jazz standards with R&B in an unforgettable act. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Call 703-820-9771 or visit <http://www.signature-theatre.org>

Annual Holiday Cabaret. Four evenings of holiday merrymaking hosted by Evan Casey and James Gardiner. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Call 703-820-9771 or visit <http://www.signature-theatre.org>

## THURSDAY/DEC. 23

**The Raspberry Brothers.** 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$12. NYC Comedians mock the movie, "Home Alone." At the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Visit <http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com>.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 24

**Day of Service.** Participate in the 24th Annual Washington DC Jewish Community Center's Day of Service. Join 1,000 volunteers who will help out at over 50 non-profits throughout DC, Virginia and Maryland. Projects vary from 2-4 hours and encompass a

variety of activities such as throwing holiday parties for children, visiting seniors and serving meals to the homeless. Family and group projects are also available. Visit [www.washingtondcjcc.org/volunteer](http://www.washingtondcjcc.org/volunteer). There is a registration fee of \$20, which helps cover the cost of the event and other community service projects throughout the year.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 31

**1980s New Years Eve Celebration.** 7:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. \$14 admission covers DJ, entertainment and party favors only. All drinks and food must be purchased via tableside waitstaff. At the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Visit <http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com>.

**A Pajama Affair.** Starts at 9 p.m. Patrons can choose to wear their best pajamas, lingerie, sleepwear, or lounge wear. Five hours of non-stop entertainment, dancing, music, performance, drinks, appetizers, raffles and fun. Patrons will be entertained by Angela Haywood & the Soul Expression Band, DJ Asu Rock, and from North Carolina – versatile Hip Hop artist, Sunny Haze. Also cabaret dancers, a contortionist, Latin performers and more surprises. Tickets are \$28. Email: [info@moxyproductions.com](mailto:info@moxyproductions.com). At the Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington. Free parking. Call 703-228-1850.

**Singer Nancy Simone and the Red Bird Jazz Band.** Cash bar at 6 p.m.; dinner at 7 p.m.; music and dancing at 8 p.m. At the Fort Myer Officers' Club. Fort Myer Officers Club is open to any DOD agency civilians

(GS-7 and above or equivalent), including Foreign Military on U.S. orders, and guests. Reservations are \$90 for members or \$100 for non-members and guests. For reservations and information, call 703-696-5147 or 703-524-3037 or visit the Officers Club website: [www.jbmhmmwr.com/index/Myer\\_O\\_Club.html](http://www.jbmhmmwr.com/index/Myer_O_Club.html) and click on the newsletter.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 1

**NHL Winter Classic.** 1 p.m. Capitals vs. Penguins. Free admission. On the Big Screen at the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Visit <http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com>

## FRIDAY/JAN. 6

**Rob Cantrell from Last Comic Standing.** 9:55 p.m. Admission is \$18. At the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Visit <http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com>.

## JAN. 7-15

**"Night at the Wax Museum, The Musical."** The hysterical meets the historical in this musical, comic romp through the wackiest wax museum in history! At the Thomas Jefferson Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington.

## JAN. 11

**"Building Brains and Manipulating Minds: Neuroethics and the**



Nancy Simone

## DEC. 31

**Singer Nancy Simone and the Red Bird Jazz Band.** Cash bar at 6 p.m.; dinner at 7 p.m.; music and dancing at 8 p.m. At the Fort Myer Officers' Club. Fort Myer Officers Club is open to any DOD agency civilians (GS-7 and above or equivalent), including Foreign Military on U.S. orders, and guests. Reservations are \$90 for members or \$100 for non-members and guests. For reservations and information, call 703-696-5147 or 703-524-3037 or visit the Officers Club website: [www.jbmhmmwr.com/index/Myer\\_O\\_Club.html](http://www.jbmhmmwr.com/index/Myer_O_Club.html) and click on the newsletter.

**Future of Neuroscience."** 6:15 p.m. Talk by Prof. James Giordano, Ph.D. At Café Scientifique, The

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

FROM PAGE 9

Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, 901 North Stuart St., Suite 200, Arlington. Call 703-525-0770 or visit [www.potomacinstitute.org](http://www.potomacinstitute.org).

Register at [volunteer@arlingtonenvironment.org](mailto:volunteer@arlingtonenvironment.org) or 703-228-6406.

**JAN. 11 TO 15**

**Julia Nixon.** Signature Theatre Cabaret Series. In the vein of Sarah Vaughan, this performer mixes jazz standards with R&B in an unforgettable act. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Call 703-820-9771 or visit <http://www.signature-theatre.org>

**WEDNESDAY/JAN. 12**

**Information Evening.** 7:30 p.m. Join the faculty at Potomac Crescent Waldorf School for an evening to learn more about Waldorf education and the school. Then follow up with a morning visit to one of the classes to experience a bit of Waldorf Education for yourself.

**THURSDAY/JAN. 13**

**"Dude Fest"** 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$12. The Big Lebowski Movie & Music Night. Doors open at 7 p.m.; Themed music at 7:30 p.m.; Trivia, bowling and best costume awards at 8:40 p.m.; Feature presentation: "The Big Lebowski" at 9 p.m. Hosted by comedian Rob Maher. At the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Visit <http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com>.

**FRIDAY/JAN. 14**

**"Oliver."** 8 p.m. Charles Dickens' classic tale. Tickets are \$25/person. At The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. Contact Chris at 703-849-0077 or Roland at 703-625-3900.

**JAN. 14 AND 15**

**Comedian Robert Francis 'Bobcat' Goldthwait.** Admission is \$23. At the Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Visit <http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com>.

**MONDAY/JAN. 17**

**MLK Day Neighborhood & Stream Cleanup.** 10 a.m. to noon. Help make Martin Luther King Day a Day of Service. Volunteer to clean up a section of Columbia Pike and Four Mile Run stream and keep trash out of Arlington County's largest stream watershed. At Arlington Mill Community Center, 4975 Columbia Pike, Arlington.

**THEATER**

**NOW THROUGH DEC. 26**

**"Walter Cronkite Is Dead."** Written and Directed by Joe Calarco. Tickets are \$50 to \$76 and are available by calling Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or visiting [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org). Show times are Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. At Signature Theater in Arlington.

**NOW THROUGH FEB. 13**

**"Sunset Boulevard."** Show times are Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are now on sale. Tickets range in price from \$59 - \$85 and are available by calling Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or visiting [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org). At Signature Theater in Arlington.

**JAN. 28 TO FEB. 12**

**"The Seagull" by Anton Chekhov.** Presented by the

**WEDNESDAY/JAN. 26**

**Nurture Shock.** New Thinking About Children. 7:30 p.m. Author Ashley Merryman will speak, answer questions and sign books. A \$10 donation requested with half the proceeds to benefit Arlington Food Assistance Center. At Arlington Unitarian Cooperative Preschool, 4444 Arlington Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-892-3878 or visit [www.aucpva.org](http://www.aucpva.org).

**JAN. 29-30**

**A Vivid Sense of Place.** Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. A Vivid Sense of Place is a dynamic dance performance by the Jane Franklin Dance Group that engages the possibilities of wide-open spaces. Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, \$10 children under 10 years. At the Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd, Arlington. Visit [www.janefranklin.com](http://www.janefranklin.com) or phone 703-933-1111.

**FEB. 1-5**

**Crystal Couture.** 6 to 10 p.m. nightly. Free. With a theme of "Exotic and Elegant to Everything Everyday," five nights of fashion, fun and festivities. Runway shows, local DJs, open bar, free snacks, free makeovers from makeup artists and hair stylists - and more! At 1750 Crystal Drive, Crystal City, Arlington. Visit [www.crystalcity.org](http://www.crystalcity.org).

**SATURDAY/FEB. 26**

**Crystal City 1K Wine Walk.** 2 to 6 p.m. Presented by the Crystal City Business Improvement District in partnership with the Washington Wine Academy. 1K Wine Walk promises "racers" the opportunity to taste and learn about between 30-40 wines as they make their way through the shops and interior walkways of Crystal City. At the Crystal City Shops and Interior Walkways, 2200 Crystal Drive, Crystal City, Arlington. Tickets available at [www.washingtonwineacademy.org](http://www.washingtonwineacademy.org). Contact Abbey Watson at [awatson@scottcircle.com](mailto:awatson@scottcircle.com) or at 202-207-3660.

Arlington Players. It is a tragicomedy of life, love and art, in which a famous actress presides over a household rife with competing quests for romance, success and fulfillment. At Thomas Jefferson Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington. Call 703-549-1063 or visit <http://www.thearlingtonplayers.org>



**JAN. 14 TO FEB. 12**

**"Beyond the Horizon (1920)" by Eugene O'Neill.** Produced by the American Century Theatre. Eugene O'Neill's romantic tragedy is considered a turning point in the development of American drama. At Theatre Two at Gunston, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. Call 703-998-4555. Visit <http://www.americancentury.org>.

## PEOPLE

# Just Add Bling

Some suggestions for those holiday events.

BY DELIA SAVA  
THE CONNECTION

Special occasions can sometimes present unique challenges to the age-old question of what-to-wear. Whether putting together a look for a family dinner, a corporate party or that all-important New Year's Eve date, the trends this season provide a variety of options. Local retailers offered up their best strategies for putting together great holiday looks that are stylish and simple.

### STYLING

"A big trend this holiday is sparkle," said Jessica Smith, manager of South Moon Under. A pretty party dress accessorized properly, according to Smith is an easy solution for most women. "It's about updating a classic piece like the little black dress but with a twist," she added.

Sales associate Rachel Browning showed off the "Jack" by B.B. Dakota, a modern version of the lbd (little black dress), which retails for \$74. Black glitter pumps from Nine West, \$78 and an Izumi Ente necklace, \$38 complete the look. By adding a cardigan, the dress can do double duty and provide a more demure look to attend a family dinner with grandma or the company holiday party.

Not everyone looks good in black and a navy lace sheath from French Connection, \$228 is another good option. Sales associate Grace Klebauer chose a pair of gray suede shoes by Wild Diva, \$54 and a Sarah and Donna necklace, \$45 for a look that's smart and sophisticated.

Smith is quick to point out that accessories are key in transforming a look: "The easiest way is to go classic and then add the sparkle to go from day to evening — it's literally about the glitz and glam this year."

Klebauer displayed the winter white and gold, very glamorous Max and Cleo dress, \$157. Accessorized with an Izumi Ente necklace, \$40 and bracelet, \$39.95 and earrings by Marlyn Schiff,

**Sarah and Donna pendant necklace**



## New Café

The Bayou Bakery, offering familiar flavors of the "Big Easy," has opened at 1515 N. Courthouse Road. Owner David Guas and coffee and tea manager Kyle Pool welcome customers on Friday morning Dec. 17.

PHOTO BY  
LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/  
THE CONNECTION



**Lace navy dress by French Connection.**



**Silver and rhinestone vintage ring**

\$29.50. Stay warm with a faux fur jacket by Velvet, \$198. It's a perfect look for a special New Year's soiree.

Shoefly's manager, Nora Gabaldon stressed the importance of having the right shoe and bag to complete a holiday look. "Holiday glitter is what it's all about, from shoes to jewelry," she said. A Madden Girl glitter pump, \$60 and a NYC bullet clutch, \$38 are perfect examples of this trend for evening.

"Adding a great piece of jewelry can really jazz up an outfit," said Amanda DeSanto, manager of Current Boutique. Taking a statement costume vintage necklace, \$38.95 will effortlessly dress up a monochromatic ensemble. De Santo also suggested a rhinestone and silver cocktail ring, \$59.95. "I personally love beautiful vintage jewelry."

**Black bullet clutch**



Gina Destro, assistant manager at Current Boutique likes wearing high heels for evening. "It improves your posture, makes you look taller and more confident," she said. But a word of caution — make sure that the outfit receives a test-run to ensure comfort. Do the shoes pinch after standing for 10 minutes? Does the skirt ride up when sitting? Are the straps secure when moving or do they slide off? Nobody wants to be uncomfortable or have a wardrobe malfunction.

Not everyone looks good in black and a navy lace sheath from French Connection, \$228 is another good option. Sales associate Grace Klebauer chose a pair of gray suede shoes by Wild Diva, \$54 and a Sarah and Donna necklace, \$45 for a look that's smart and sophisticated.

PHOTOS BY DELIA SAVA/THE CONNECTION



**The Fallen Ornaments play Christmas music.**

## Holiday Tradition

American Legion Post 139 held its annual holiday party with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 11. This was the 70th year for the event.



**Hannah Berlin holds Bryan Rivera.**



**Yasmin Siles**



**Dianna Hollingsworth**

## Behind The Bell

Volunteering to be a Salvation Army bellringer.

BY MEGHAN MARVILLE  
THE CONNECTION

In an effort to give back, Samantha Potter decided to volunteer as a Salvation Army bellringer. "Some people accept this as a job, but I was strictly interested in volunteering, no payment," she said. She wasn't alone in this thought, and brought her 7-year-old son Nate to volunteer along with her. "I was trying to teach him the importance of helping others, and that's a lesson he learned well."

"I like to smile and wave and say 'Merry Christmas' to people. And they would give us money so we could help the poor," Nate said.

"We enjoyed it so much we'd absolutely do it again, in fact he's already begging me to do it next year because he loved it so much," Potter said. "Of course there were



**Samantha Potter and Nate**

a few Scrooges out there, rudely commenting that 'it's their problem if they need help' and things like that, a lot of, 'I just donated at the last place,' or people who would shy away if they can't donate, but we'd just smile and wish them all a happy holiday anyway."

The Salvation Army is a Christian-faith based human service organization. Their mission is "To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination."

For more information or to find out how to help, visit [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org).

# REAL ESTATE

The Arlington office of **McNearney Associates** have sold another home over \$2 million, only one light to D.C.

The gated "Green" enclave of Potomac Crest had a settlement on Dec. 10 for the custom home built at 4003 N. Richmond Street in North Arlington. Sales price was \$2,025,000 for three finished levels, top of the line technology and an indoor golf hitting area in the lower exercise room.

Two homes remain for customization. Financing starts at 3 and 7/8 percent. The next open house will be Sunday, Jan. 16 from 1-4 p.m. For more information, call Sharon Chamberlin at 703-533-0537.

## "FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington's Office of Senior Adult Programs for Jan. 3-8, 2011.

**Arlington senior centers:** Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Culpepper Garden, 4435 N. 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., Arlington Mill at Fairlington Comm. Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

**Brunch & Tour** at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, D.C., Sunday, Jan. 2. Cost \$37. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

**Free, one-time workout** session, Langston-Brown or Madison weight rooms. Call Monday, Jan. 3 to sign up, 703-228-4745.

**Square dancing**, Monday, Jan. 3, 10 a.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Details, 703-228-4403.

**Cardio tone exercise program**, Tuesday, Jan. 4, 9:30 a.m., Aurora Hills. Cost \$60/15 sessions. Register, 703-228-5722.

**New monthly book club** begins, Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1 p.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

**Free eight ball pool instruction**, Wednesday, Jan. 5, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

**New crafting group**, Sew-n-Sew begins Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1 p.m., Lee. Free. Details, 703-228-0555.

**Discussion** of Maya Angelou's "Letters to My Daughters," Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1 p.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

**Andy Warhol exhibit** at Baltimore Museum of Art, Thursday, Jan. 6. Cost \$28. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

**Fast-paced walking group** to meet Friday, Jan. 7, 9 a.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722.

**Poetry group** to meet Friday, Jan. 7, 3 p.m., Langston-Brown. Register, 703-228-6300.

**Music appreciation group** to discuss Hungarian composer Franz Liszt, Friday, Jan. 7, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Details, 703-228-4403.

**Thai language and culture discussion**, Saturday, Jan. 8, 10 a.m., Langston-Brown. Register, 703-228-6300.

**"South Pacific"** at The Kennedy Center, matinee, Saturday, Jan. 8. \$98. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

# Senate Seat

FROM PAGE 7

sible to conduct a primary later than September — meaning that if the General Assembly fails to act by the end of April, candidates will be forced to use the old districts in 2011 and then hold another round of elections in 2012.

"We are aware of Virginia's time constraints," said Xochitl Hinojosa, a Department of Justice spokeswoman. "We are working with state and local officials."

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## A Quarter for My Thoughts



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

Wondering whether what I'm feeling physically is symptomatic of my having my stage IV lung cancer – or not, has become the bane of my existence. The presumed inevitability of it wears on me night and day. Though my overall stress level is significantly lower than when I was working full time, commuting two rush-hours a day by car and being "clock-radioed" at 5:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, I'd be lying if I said living with my diagnosis/prognosis is "no problem."

Having said – and admitted that out loud, I am however, reasonably able to get on with the activities of my daily living and pretty much be counted on to finish most of what I start. And what I find myself needing to finish most are my quarterly scans: Bone, CT and Brain MRI, which I have every three months per my participation in a Schering Plough "Randomized Phase 2 Study".

After 15 months in, my results have been, to quote myself (and referring to a previously published column): "Scantastic!" Nevertheless, future results/my health could change in a week – or so I've been reminded, professionally. As such, I've learned to take the so-far good news with the as-yet-not-received bad news. Still, if there's good news to be heard, given the terminal nature of my original prognosis, I want to hear it. More importantly – for me, I need to know how to process it, and where to place it in my compartmentalized/"defense-mechanized" brain – for self-preservation of course, so that I don't upset this delicate Libra balance that I strive to maintain. And it's about this time (eight to 10 weeks out) in my recurring quarterly scan cycle when my subconscious takes over.

I believe this happens because of something my oncologist said about eight months ago. That was when I first received unexpected and amazing news from him – following the previous week's scans. The tumors were not moving or growing. In fact, there seemed to be more scar tissue than tumors, the doctor said. Perplexed at what it all meant, since I came in experiencing what I thought were cancer-related symptoms, my oncologist attempted to put me at ease – and clarify as well when he said: "You've been scanned stem to stern in the last week, anything you feel over the next eight weeks, don't even worry about it. It's not the cancer," (the cancer that we know about, ergo the continuing mental problem). And as reassuring and wonderful as that answer/explanation was, it has however, had an unintended effect: anxiety.

Per my doctor's advice, for the first eight weeks after my scans and every-three-week appointment with my oncologist have been completed, I really don't worry too much (as much, to be honest) about whatever I might be feeling physically/the cancer. It's all good. However, once I'm into the ninth week or so, the worm turns and all presumptions, rationalizations and nothing-to-worry-about concerns concerning my cancer/any miscellaneous symptoms I may be experiencing, are off. At that point on my mental calendar, the cancer window is officially open for business, or so my subconscious thinks. It's the next four weeks until I'm scanned again that my brain is in total control. It reacts, overreacts, wonders, worries, stresses about every little thing I feel, or think I feel. I can't stop it. I can only endure it.

Consequently, those/these next four weeks can't pass quickly enough. And as peculiar as it may sound, I'm not nearly as nervous for those scan results as much as I am eager for them. At least then, I'll know exactly where my cancer is or – more importantly, where it's not. Then I'll be back in control, for another eight weeks, anyway. It may not be an ideal way to live, but it is living and it is feeling, and it sure beats the alternative.

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

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**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify an existing telecommunications installation inside a steeple located on a church at 4110 N. Old Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA. The modification includes removal and replacement of three antennas (one from each sector) with three new antennas in the same locations at a height of 87 feet, and the addition of three antennas at a height of 83 feet within the steeple. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 61107882-MAT c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA, 17403, or via telephone at (781) 273-2500.

**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
AT&T Mobility is proposing to install new wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing building located at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA. The new facility will consist of adding three panel antennas (one per sector) to existing rooftop mounts at 62 feet above ground level. Support equipment will be placed on an existing rooftop equipment pad. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 61107459-SF c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at 781-273-2500.

**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
AT&T intends to file an application for the collocation of new antennas on the building located at 1900 Columbia Pike, Arlington, Virginia. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Court House" will consist of the collocation of antennas on the roof of the building. In addition, conduit will be run from the equipment shelter to the antennas. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carol Blitz, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o [theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com](mailto:theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com)

**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify a wireless telecommunications facility on a building located at 1415 N. Oak St., Arlington, VA. The proposed modification consists of adding three antennas (one per sector) at a height of 73.4 feet on the rooftop. Two antennas will be mounted behind an existing screen wall, and one will be on an existing chimney. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 61108009-MAT c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA, 17403, or via telephone at (781) 273-2500.

**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
AT&T intends to file an application for the collocation of new antennas on the building located at 2001 North Adams Street, Arlington, Virginia. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Fort Strong" will consist of the collocation of new antennas onto existing antenna mounts. In addition, new conduit will be run from the antennas to the existing flex bay. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carol Blitz, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o [theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com](mailto:theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com)

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# Youthful Generals Taking Lumps

W-L, with seven freshmen and sophomores, succumbs to Mount Vernon pressure.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

When the Washington-Lee girls basketball team needed a boost in the second quarter, freshman Tatiana Torres scored six consecutive points. When the Generals were in danger of getting buried before halftime, sophomore Angela Mestre knocked down a pair of free throws and hit a tough left-handed shot to bring the team back. When W-L went on a 9-0 run in the fourth quarter, five of the points were scored by Torres and sophomore Katrina Cook.

**“My coaches keep telling me, ‘We have a young team, we have a young team.’ I guess my expectations are a little high for them.”**

— Washington-Lee head girls basketball coach Angie Kelly



Fourth-year Washington-Lee head coach Angie Kelly said this year's team is her youngest since taking over as leader of the Generals.

When W-L needed to make plays against Mount Vernon on Dec. 17, some of the Generals' youngest athletes stepped up. However, the mistakes made by a team with seven freshmen and sophomores overshadowed the positives.

Facing an aggressive and athletic Mount Vernon team, the Generals turned the ball over 36 times and were outscored 15-5 during a pivotal third quarter en route to a 59-45 loss at Washington-Lee High School. The defeated dropped W-L's record to 2-5, including 0-2 in the National District. The Generals showed promise, but fourth-year head coach Angie Kelly said she expected more out of her team.

“Defensively, we had too many letdowns

[and] offensively, we had too many turnovers,” Kelly said. “You're not going to beat many people with [trouble] in those areas. ... My coaches keep telling me, ‘We have a young team, we have a young team.’ I guess my expectations are a little high for them.”

W-L trailed 30-27 at halftime and was within four points midway through the third quarter, but Mount Vernon pulled away with a 15-2 run stretching from the third period into the fourth. The Majors led by as many as 17 points, when a layup by Samantha Porter gave Mount Vernon, a team with eight freshmen and sophomores, a 51-34 lead midway through the fourth quarter.

W-L struggled with Mount Vernon's full-court press, routinely turning the ball over



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Washington-Lee freshman Tatiana Torres scored 11 points in a loss to Mount Vernon on Dec. 17.

with poor passes or traveling violations. Torres pointed to selfish play as reason for the Generals' struggles.

“We played individually and not as a team,” she said. “We need to grow [in] that” area.

Torres scored a team-high 11 points. The 5-foot-8 freshman gave W-L its final lead midway through the second quarter when her six straight points — a put-back, a transition bucket and a long jumper — gave the Generals a 20-19 advantage. Her basket

SEE YOUNG TEAM, PAGE 15

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Yorktown Boys Beat W-L, Wakefield

The Yorktown boys basketball team snapped a four-game losing streak with National District wins over Washington-Lee (56-53, Dec. 14) and Wakefield (58-47, Dec. 17). The Patriots (2-4 overall, 2-0 district) will host Falls Church on Dec. 21.

### Yorktown Wins Two Meets

The Yorktown swim and dive team had a successful weekend of swims as the boys and girls teams both defeated Wakefield in a meet on Friday, Dec. 17 and Edison in a meet on Saturday. The girls team is now 4-0 for the season and the boys team is 3-1.

The boys swim and dive team started its weekend with a 136-44 win over Wakefield. The boys won their meet against Wakefield with first-place finishes in all the individual events: Matt Essig

(200 free and 500 free); Max Fish (200 IM); Jimmy Linek (50 free); Angus Moloney (diving); David Emson (100 fly); Quinn Romanek (100 free); Jason Henley (100 back); and Evan Kopca (100 breast). The boys relays also contributed to the win with first-place finishes in the 200 medley relay (Linek, Fish, Matt Essig and Chris Clements), 200 free relay (Connor Bock, Peter House, Kopca and Romanek) and the 400 free relay (Essig, Fish, Linek and Clements). Essig achieved a regional cut time in the 500 free event.

The girls swim and dive team was also dominant in the win against Wakefield with a score of 139-39 and wins in all their events. The individual event winners were Abby Young (200 free, 100 back), Rachel Robertson (200 IM), Angela Slevin (50 free), Elena Bavalac (diving), Lydia Carpenter (100 fly), Grace Greenwood (100 free), Stephanie Romano (500 free) and Ann Carpenter (100 breast). The girls also won their relay events: 200 medley relay (Slevin, Molly Merkel, Ann Carpenter, Lydia Carpenter); 200 free relay (Ellie Belilos, Ann Car-

penter, Lydia Carpenter, Romano); and 400 free relay (Belilos, Carla Vazquez-Ramos, Merkel). Two girls won their events with regional cut time swims: Romano (500 free) and Young (100 back).

The boys continued their strong swims on Saturday with a 119-66 win against Edison. The boys won 10 of the 12 events with first-place finishes in the individual events by Fish (200 free, 100 breast), Jason Henley (200 IM), Emson (50 free), Moloney (Diving), Essig (100 free, 100 back) and Will Tarkenton (500 free). The boys also won the relay events: 200 medley (Tarkenton, Fish, Essig, Henley); 200 free (Evan Kopca, Essig, Fish, Chris Dunn); and 400 free (Jason Henley, Henry Love, Tarkenton and Eric Newton).

The girls repeated their dominant performance in the 141-44 win against Edison on Saturday with wins in every event. The individual event winners were Slevin (200 free), Belilos (200 IM, 500 free), Lydia Carpenter (50 free, 100 breast), Elena Bavalac (diving), Amanda Didawick (100 fly), Vazquez-Ramos (100 free), and Izzy

Pasternak (100 back). The Yorktown girls also won all their relay events: 200 medley (Slevin, Lydia Carpenter, Ann Carpenter, Belilos); 200 free relay (Ann Carpenter, Lydia Carpenter, Merkel, Young); and 400 free relay (Angela Slevin, Claire Slevin, Romano, Merkel).

### Yorktown Girls 2-0 In District

The Yorktown girls basketball team started National District play 2-0 with wins over Washington-Lee (54-51, Dec. 14) and Wakefield (58-32, Dec. 17). The Patriots (4-2 overall, 2-0 district) will travel to face Falls Church on Dec. 21.

### W-L Wrestling Beats West Potomac

The Washington-Lee wrestling team defeated West Potomac 38-33 on Dec. 15.

# SPORTS

## Young Team

FROM PAGE 14

with 3:24 remaining in the third quarter brought W-L within four at 36-32.

"I think she's lacking a little confidence right now," Kelly said. "But I expect good things from her toward the middle and end of the season."

Mestre, a 5-foot-7 sophomore in her first varsity season, scored seven points. She said the entire team is battling confidence issues.

"We start getting the energy going and then the second something goes wrong, our confidence collapses," Mestre said. "It's frustrating because, as a team, we're a confident team and we all have so much to offer. I don't know why, but when things start to fall apart, we can't seem to get it back together until the last minutes of the game, which is not enough."

Juniors Brooke Rippey and Brianna Hogan each scored seven points for W-L. Kelly said sophomore Emma Cooper has been one of the team's primary scorers this season. The coach also said sophomore Taylor Leonard and 6-foot freshman Laura Pastre have played well.

W-L will travel to face Hayfield on Dec. 21 before taking a two-week winter break. The Generals will host Stuart on Jan. 7.

Kelly is hoping her youthful team learns from its experiences.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

**Sophomore Angela Mestre is part a Washington-Lee girls basketball team with seven freshmen and sophomores.**

"I hope it doesn't take an entire season," Kelly said when asked about the learning curve for young players. "We've played some pretty good teams, so I'm hoping we're picking up" things along the way.



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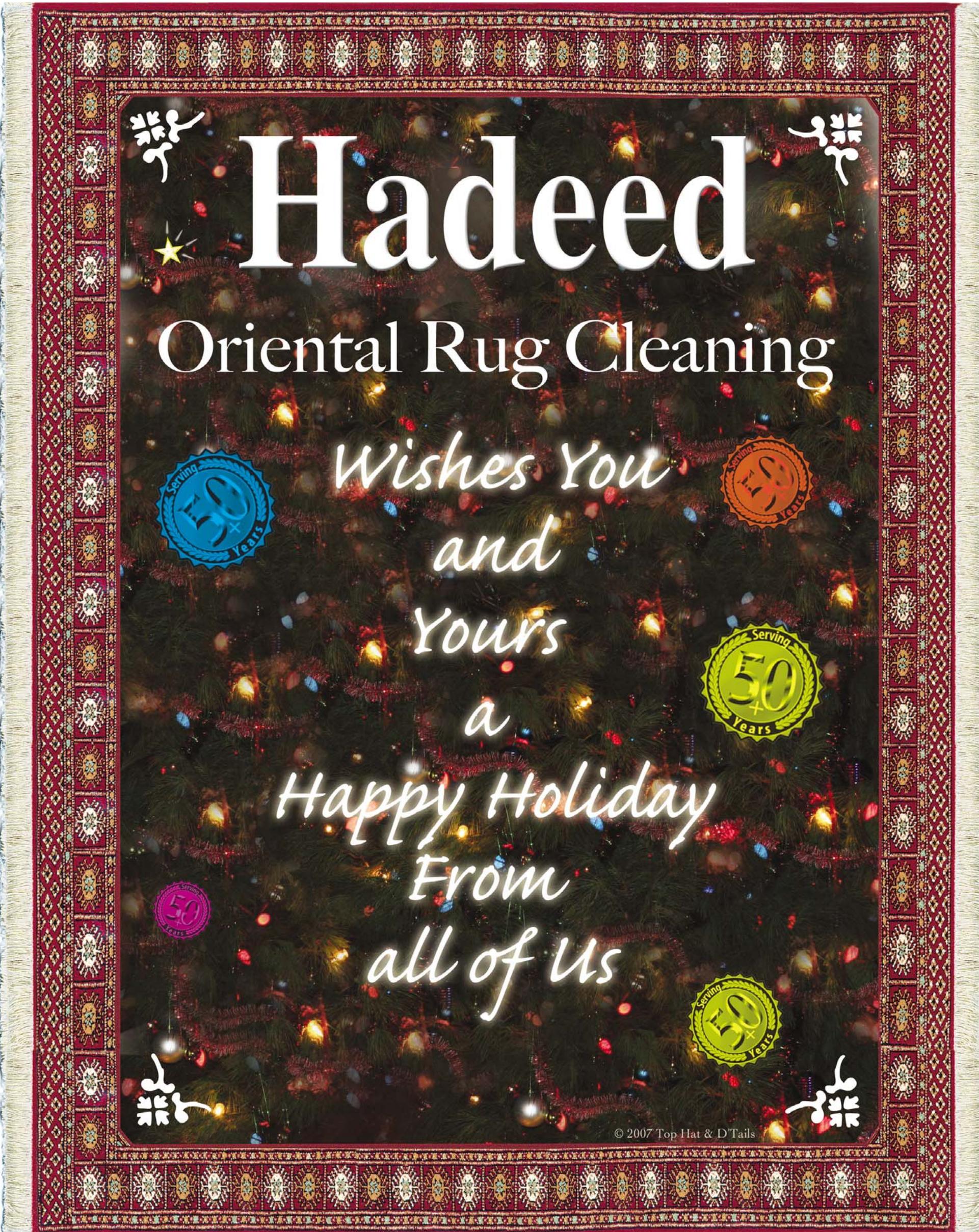
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