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Combining Art Of Photography With Business

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Yorktown's Jack of All Trades

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Rachel Goldberg helps her son Avner take his first steps out onto the ice at the Pentagon Row ice skating rink.

inside
Orange Line
CONNECTION

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT /THE CONNECTION



After the menorah was lit and the prayers recited, the congregation joined together in classic Chanukah songs.

Chanukah on Ice

Chabad Lubavitch hosted a pre-Chanukah celebration on Thursday, Dec. 15, at the Pentagon Row ice skating rink. Families skated to contemporary Jewish music and classic Chanukah songs and enjoyed tradition food prepared especially for the occasion. At 7 p.m. Rabbi Mordechai Newman

and led Arlington County Police Commander Andy Penn and motor squad officers Eric Einbinder and Adam Stone onto the ice to light the first candles of the menorah. The officers were honored for their daily service to the community. For more information, see www.ChabadAA.org.

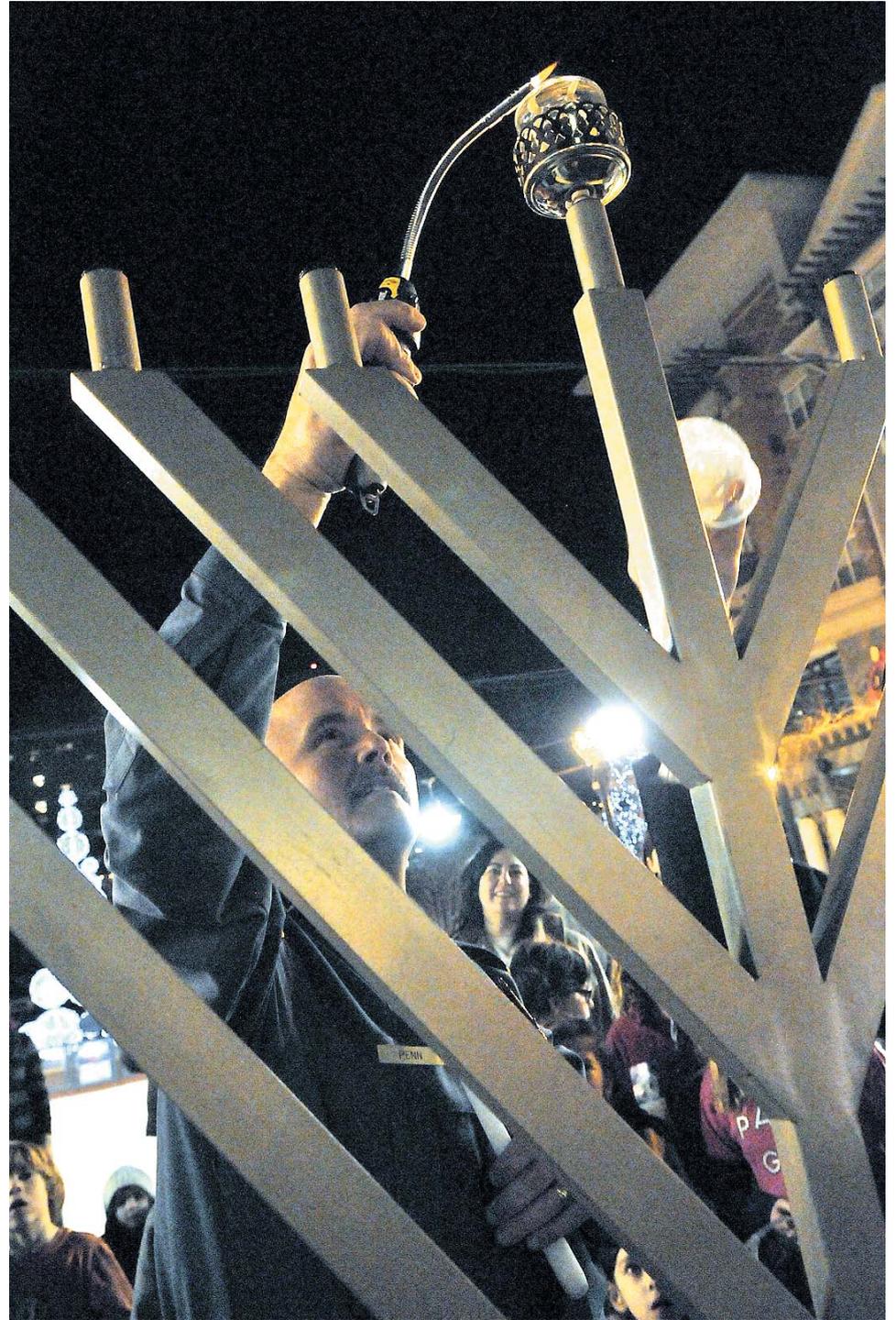
PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION



Youngsters skate around the rink at Pentagon Row.



Rabbi Mordechai Newman begins the prayers at the menorah lighting.



Arlington County Police Commander Andy Penn lights the shamas candle at the pre-Chanukah celebration.



Rabbi Mordechai Newman greets Arlington County Police Commander Andy Penn and motor squad officers Eric Einbinder and Adam Stone and Marcia Burgos-Stone at the annual Chanukah celebration at Pentagon Row.

At the Pentagon



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/THE CONNECTION

The Wreaths Across America organization donated a formal wreath display to the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial Fund during a wreath-laying ceremony on Dec. 10. Above, visitors admire the wreaths hanging on the northside fence above the 911 memorial.

Families take photographs during the 3rd annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Pentagon memorial.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL MCMORROW/THE CONNECTION

LIVE! From Calloway United Methodist Church

From left: Michael Jones, Andrew Carpenter and Michael Oliver (three kings); Cayla Harrison (angel); Bernard Carpenter and Vanessa Jones (Joseph and Mary), and Zane Killgo (shepherd). One of several animals roams in the foreground. "Since its founding 145 years ago, our church never had a 'live' Nativity Scene," said Pastor Sonja F. Oliver. "We hope it will become an annual event. The scene expresses our love for God, the community and people everywhere." Calloway United Methodist Church is located at 5000 Lee Highway, Arlington.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Sunshine and Taxes

General Assembly to consider exposing the secret world of tax incentives.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Every year, a host of special interests descend on Richmond to lobby for tax credits. Recent years have seen a proliferation of tax credits, creating incentives for everything from creating green jobs to producing biodiesel. This year will be no different, as legislators will face pressure to support an ever-increasing list. For the individuals and businesses that receive the tax preference, it's money in the bank. For the state, it's an economic hit during difficult times. Perhaps the most surprising thing about the phenomenon is what you don't know about it.

It's all done in secret. Virginia law shields the names of businesses and individuals who receive the tax credits, building a wall of silence around an ever-increasing list of beneficiaries of taxpayer largess. What's more, a recent report from the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shows that many tax incentives don't achieve the goal they were intended to create. Two income tax credits have been adopted to slow the decline of Virginia's coal employment and production, yet it's only served to reduce tax bills of un-

named corporate interests. Those names could become public this year. Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) will be introducing legislation in the upcoming General Assembly session that would make all recipients of tax credits worth more than \$1,000 a matter of public record. "A lot of times the people or the entities that are benefiting from these things are very wealthy," said Surovell. "And I think a lot of taxpayers would object if we were writing a \$4 million check to Steven Spielberg."

Yes, that Steven Spielberg. One of the recently credits was created specifically to lure Spielberg to

Virginia as the location for his new movie about Abraham Lincoln. It worked, and the feature film is now being filmed in Richmond. But the casting call came at a price to taxpayers. In 2010, the General Assembly created a \$2.5 million Virginia Motion Picture Tax Credit program. Republican Governor Bob McDonnell kicked in \$1 million from the Governor's Motion Picture Opportunity Fund as well as \$1.1 million in-kind contributions, including use of the governor's office. That puts Virginia taxpayers on the hook for about \$4.6 million to support a film produced by one of the wealthiest men in Hollywood.

"Film production means job creation," said McDonnell in a written statement. "Here in Virginia, we are committed to

"A tax credit is basically the exact same effect as writing a check to somebody. It's a dollar for dollar credit against somebody's taxes. So I think it's important for us to see where that money is going so that taxpayers can see exactly who is benefiting from these things."

— Del. Scott Surovell (D-44)

partnering with the film industry to bring more productions to the commonwealth in order to create more good jobs for our citizens."

THE ONLY REASON taxpayers know how much money was spent specifically to lure Spielberg is that the tax incentive in question was designed specifically for him. Other recipients of tax credits lurk in the shadows, with the state code acting as a shield to hide their iden-

SEE INCENTIVES, PAGE 4

Police Investigate Bank Robbery

The Arlington County Police Department's Robbery Unit is seeking the public's help to identify a man who robbed an Arlington bank at approximately 3:20 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15.

The suspect entered the Bank of America in the 3400 block of Columbia Pike and implied that he had a weapon and demanded money. After receiving cash, the suspect fled on foot.

The suspect is described as a white Hispanic male in his early 20's, 5'7" to 5'8" with a medium build. At the time of the robbery he wore a black hooded jacket and dark pants.

Anyone who has information about this robbery or the identity of the suspect is asked to call the Arlington County Police Department Tip Line at 703-228-



Suspect in Dec. 15 bank robbery.

4242, or Detective John Donaggio at 703-228-4167. Donaggio can also be reached by email at jdonag@arlingtonva.us.

Hynes To Be Board Chairwoman

The Arlington County Board announced its intent to elect Mary Hughes Hynes its chair for 2012. An Arlington County resident for more than 30 years, Hynes was first elected to the Arlington County Board in November 2007 and was re-elected November 2011. Previously, Hynes served on the Arlington School Board from 1995 to 2006, chairing it on three occasions.

The County Board also named J. Walter Tejada vice-chair for 2012. Tejada was first elected to the County Board in 2003, and was re-elected in 2007 and 2011. He served as chairman of the Board in 2008 and vice-chair in 2007. The Board made the announcement during its last legislative session of 2011. Earlier in the day, Hynes and Tejada were sworn in as Arlington County Board Members, following their re-elections in November.



Mary Hughes Hynes

On Monday, Jan. 2, 2012, the Arlington County Board will hold its traditional New Year's Day organizational meeting, during which Chair-elect Hynes and Board Members will outline their priorities for the year. The public is invited to join this meeting — the only local government that "gets to work" on the New Year's holiday.

Leone To Lead Ballston BID

Tina Leone has joined the Ballston Business Improvement District as its executive director.

She will be responsible for representing the commercial property owners within the boundary of the BID as well as for providing a range of services, events and activities, supplemental to those already provided by Arlington County, for the benefit of the District.

A certified public accountant,

Leone brings over 17 years experience in non-profit and financial management. She is the former president/CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce.

Prior to joining the Chamber, she was the president/CEO of The Lorton Arts Foundation.

Leone has a master's degree from George Washington University and a bachelor of science degree in accounting from the University of Scranton.

Trying To Unveil Tax Incentives

FROM PAGE 3

Nobody knows who is benefiting from the green jobs tax credit, for example, or the land preservation tax credit. Although the Virginia Department of Taxation keeps careful records about which corporations and individuals are receiving the tax preferences, Virginia code section 58.1-3 forbids state officials from allowing the public or the press to follow the money.

"We can give general information about how many credits have been issued for a given category," said Joel Davison, public relations manager for the department. "But we can't give you specific information about individuals."

That means that billions of dollars are given out each year to special interests in untraceable amounts, with recipients hiding behind the veil of the Virginia tax code. In 2008 alone, taxpayers forked over \$12.5 billion in tax incentives to special interests — almost as much money as the \$14.3 billion in revenue collected under those taxes. And nobody is minding the store. No process currently exists to evaluate the effectiveness of tax preferences. As a result, the General Assembly is not provided with information needed to take appropriate action in order to improve, revise or eliminate the tax credits once they are created. Moreover, it's all done outside of public view.

"People should know who's receiving these tax credits," said Del. Charniele Herring, adding that she'll be voting in favor of Surovell's legislation. "Disclosure is an important part of open government."

VIRGINIA OFFERS almost 200 tax preferences in the form of exemptions, subtractions, deductions or credits. And the list grows each year. Frustrated by the lack of oversight in this process, Del. David Englin (D-45) introduced legislation back in 2010 that would have created a tax expenditure report detailing how many credits are being issued, how much money is involved and whether or not they are achieving their intended goals. Englin said he hit a wall of resistance, and that the bill only passed after being "watered down" to the extent it did little to shed more sunshine on this dark corner of the commonwealth's finances.

"There are a lot of corporate interests who do not want sunshine on the tax credits they receive," said Englin, adding that he'll support Surovell's legislation. "The problem Scott is going to run into is this

notion of tax privacy, so it's going to be very difficult to pass something like this."

In the meantime, Englin is drafting what he calls a "transparency and accountability amendment." Any time a tax expenditure is being considered, Englin plans to suggest this amendment to the measure. He says it would create a sunset after five years and require the Department of Taxation to report on how many times the tax preference was used and how much money was spent. It would also include a statement of the original purpose of the tax preference so lawmakers could come to their own conclusions as to whether or not it accomplished what it was supposed to accomplish.

"We are hemorrhaging money," said Englin. "And these tax expenditures need more scrutiny."

EACH YEAR, legislators in Richmond are besieged by special interests who want to create new tax credits and further add to the decreased liability of corporate interests. Many are successful. During the 2011 session, for example, the Northern Virginia Technology Council was successful in carving out two new tax credits. One is for telecommuters, allowing employers to take a tax credit if their employees work from home rather than clog the commonwealth's failing roads. The other offers an incentive for research and development, especially if it happens on a campus setting.

"Targeted tax credits, when used smartly, are a vehicle for job creation and economic development," said Bobbie Kilberg is president of the Northern Virginia Technology Council. "That benefits the entire state and the entire commonwealth."

But they're not always used smartly. The JLARC study revealed that tax preferences intended to provide financial assistance are disproportionately used by higher income taxpayers. For example, an exemption for food is intended to help lower income individuals purchase food. But for every \$1 in tax reductions provided to households earning less than \$20,000, more than \$8 goes to households with incomes of \$70,000 or more.

"A tax credit is basically the exact same effect as writing a check to somebody. It's a dollar for dollar credit against somebody's taxes," said Surovell. "So I think it's important for us to see where that money is going so that taxpayers can see exactly who is benefiting from these things."

Punctuation Champion Named

Kathleen Summers of Arlington is one of 10 winners of the 2011 National Punctuation Day paragraph contest. Her winning paragraph was among 220 entries received from contestants from around the world. Additionally, hundreds of entries were received from students at 38 U.S. schools and the American School of the Hague, in the Netherlands.

The rules for contestants competing for a box of punctuation gifts were: Write one paragraph, maximum of three sentences, using these 13 punctuation marks: apostrophe, brackets, colon, comma, dash, ellipsis, exclamation point, hyphen, parentheses, period, question mark, quotation mark, and semicolon. A punctuation mark could be used more than once.

Summers' winning paragraph was:

The semiliterate — and unintentionally hilarious—sound bites of the 2012 presidential candidates (such as this recent gem by Texas Gov. Rick Perry, quoted in the Milford [Mass.] Daily News: "If Washington continues to thumb their nose at the American people ... who knows what may come out of that?") make me wonder if we should return to the back-to-basics teaching methods of the 1950s. I know what you're thinking: "Okay, genius, did all those grammar drills, diagrams, and rote memorizations turn you into a gifted writer?" Alas, no; but as prosaic as my sentences may be, at least they're sentences!



Kathleen Summers

OPINION

Broader Effort to End Homelessness

BY CAROLINE JONES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DOORWAYS FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES

With the year coming to a close, I pause to look back on all the great strides that our community took to end homelessness this year. At Doorway for Women and Families, we saw people end the cycle of homelessness and domestic violence every day. In October, Arlington showed its true power by bringing together non-profits, county agencies and 150 volunteers for the 100 Homes for 100 Arlingtonians Campaign. Caring people walked our streets in the middle of the night to identify the most medically vulnerable people living on our streets. But, unfortunately, we cannot look back for long because homelessness continues to affect a number of our neighbors. As we come into the new year, I continue to believe that everyone deserves a safe and affordable home. But, to achieve this we must engage in a broader effort to end homelessness.

Just last week, two new families moved into the Doorways' Freddie Mac Foundation Family Home. For one, the idea of being a family became a reality when the father earned sole custody of his six-month old daughter. They had repeatedly found themselves homeless and, after exhausting their network of family and friends, resorted to knocking on doors night after night hoping to find a safe place to sleep. Wanting nothing but security for his little girl, the father is so grateful to be in our shelter where he can build the basic life skills needed to maintain a home long-term. For the other family, finding stable housing will determine whether they can stay together as a family. The mother and father have struggled to provide for their four children with only one income. I can tell you that even when affordable housing units come available in Arlington they are often too small to support a family of six.

Sadly, more and more families are struggling to provide their children with an affordable place to call home. You won't see families on Arlington street corners; they are well hidden in overcrowded and precarious housing all across the county.

Recognizing the sharp rise in family homelessness



COMMENTARY

in recent years and the well-known negative effects homelessness has on children, our Governor recently called for a 15 percent, statewide reduction in family homelessness by 2013. This is the most significant proclamation in the State's history toward addressing family homelessness. The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, the Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, and the Freddie Mac Foundation have formed a public-private partnership to help communities across the state reach this goal. It is an ambitious goal, but a vital one to bring focus and additional resources toward ending homelessness for the children and families of our community.

The 100 Homes Campaign demonstrated what is possible when a caring community comes together to support others. Doorways was proud to partner with other agencies in reaching people living on our streets. To help homeless families with children in our area, we must go beyond the street to identify and help the countless Arlington families living in dangerously unsafe and unstable environments. Families who struggle to obtain housing or sustain it, those with very low incomes, and those with limited skills to be self-sufficient long term. These families need more than temporary shelter, or short-term assistance. With the Governor's initiative, we hope to provide targeted assistance tailored to meeting these challenges — with the goal of long-term stabilization for vulnerable families.

I am excited by these possibilities. It will take effort from all of us to bring them to our community. Every day through my work at Doorways for Women and Families, I am inspired knowing that we can end the cycle of homelessness for children and families. A broader effort to end homelessness will help us build a community where no family has to choose between finding affordable housing and staying together and every father is able to provide his daughter with a place to call home.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 11

NARFE Meeting. 12:30 p.m. Guest speaker Mary Haynes, incoming chair of the County Board. At the general meeting of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Arlington Chapter. At Culpepper Garden Senior

Center, 4435 N. Pershing Dr., Arlington.

ONGOING

The **Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth & Families** is seeking applications from individuals interested in becoming community

representatives on the Partnership Board. (<http://www.search-institute.org/>). See www.arlingtonpartnershipforyouth.org/. Interest individuals should contact Barbara Gomez (bgblank@verizon.net) or Kim Durand (Kdurand@arlingtonva.us).

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Share Your New Year's Resolutions

What were top events, accomplishments of 2011 in your opinion?

This is the last regular edition of the Connection for 2011. Between Christmas and New Year's, we'll deliver the Children's Connection, an annual tradition, with pages filled with the artwork and writing of local students.

Meanwhile, we are preparing for the first issue of 2012, sharing views of what were the most important happenings of 2011 and what to look for in 2012. We'll also share a variety of New Year's resolutions. We invite our readers to help in this endeavor.

For some, local elections were likely the top event of 2011. For advocates of families of the fallen, like the Tragedy Assistance Program (TAPS), the end of 2011 brings the end of the Iraq war and the complex emotional and practical issues that come with that. For non-profits and charitable organizations, 2011 brought greatly increasing numbers of people in need. For your family, the top events of 2011 might have included the birth of a child or a graduation or the completion of a marathon.

Share your joys and milestones with us, not only from the year that's past, but also your expectations of 2012.

Answer one or all of these questions:

1) What were the (one, two or three) most

significant happenings of 2011 for you in your community? Why?

2) What do you think our readers should know to watch for in the coming year (up to three issues)? Or what do you think the top (one, two or three) happenings of 2012 will be locally? Why?

3) What is your New Year's Resolution? (Feel free to share more than one)

Please include your home address with your responses, we'll only print your town name. And we'd also love to have a photo of you, your family and/or events or places in your community that you reflect upon in your answer.

Please send photos and answers via email to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

EDITORIALS

Free, Safe Ride Home from Holiday Celebrations

Once again, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will provide a safety net for those who might celebrate the holiday season with alcohol and unexpectedly need a safe ride home.

WRAP's 2011 Holiday SoberRide program will operate each night from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. The program began Friday, Dec. 16, and will

continue until Jan. 1, 2012.

To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294 (TAXI). You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service. All requests for SoberRide service must be called to and dispatched from 1-800-200-8294. Callers will be responsible for any amount over \$30.

WRAP's SoberRide has helped to ensure lo-

cal residents have a safe way home on high-risk holidays, keeping likely impaired drivers off the roads. Since 1993, WRAP has provided nearly 53,000 safe rides home. SoberRide operates during the December/January holiday season, St. Patrick's Day, Independence Day and Halloween.

For details, see <http://wrap.org/soberride>

'Tis the Season To Be Green

BY NAT WILLIAMS
MARYLAND/D.C. DIRECTOR FOR THE NATURE
CONSERVANCY

Which is better for the environment — a live or artificial Christmas tree? That's just one of the perennial holiday questions we hear at The Nature Conservancy.

For the record, our experts say your best choice is a fresh-cut tree from a local farm. Not only will you support rural traditions and open space, but also avoid the carbon emissions and recycling quandary that result from the manufacture and eventual disposal of vinyl trees.

Real trees also provide gifts all year — not just a place to put them around the holidays. They clean the air and water and help store carbon. And don't worry; a tree farmer typically re-plants up to three seedlings for each tree cut, keeping the cycle going and supporting the local economy.

Dozens of local farms in Maryland and Northern Virginia offer opportunities to choose your own tree. It's a great family outing, and you'll enjoy the memory of your experience, along with the enticing smell of a fresh-cut tree, throughout the holiday season.

Beyond the tree, your family faces a host of other holiday-season challenges to green living. Can holiday meals be healthy and sustainable, as well as festive? What about gifts that won't fade with the latest fad, or require reams of wrapping paper? And can we usher in 2012 with changes for the better?

I'd like to offer a few suggestions that can

make your holiday season greener and merrier.

Green Your Traditions

Visit your local farmers market and make in-season foods the star of your holiday dinner table. You'll connect with nature while you reunite with family and friends.

Power off the electronics and get outdoors with family and friends. Go for a hike along the Potomac at Great Falls Park, or scramble up Bear Island's Billy Goat Trail, which we manage in partnership with the National Park Service.

Green Your Giving

The average American spends \$700 on holiday gifts, and between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, the U.S. generates more than 5 million extra tons of trash destined for landfills.

You can set an example of responsible giving by choosing local, hand-made presents, or creating your own. A card, photo album, or music mix that you make especially for that special someone will remain meaningful long after many gadgets are broken and discarded.

You can also give an experience. Treat your favorite foodie to a cooking class, for example. Or provide a getaway to one of Maryland or Virginia's beautiful state parks: Take your outdoors person camping at Sky Meadows, say, or reserve a cozy cottage on the Chesapeake Bay at Point Lookout.

You can also skip the wrappings and trappings altogether and give the gift of nature. The Conservancy and other like-minded orga-

nizations offer gift memberships and ways to support specific conservation projects in honor of your nature-loving friend or family member.

Green Your Resolutions

To improve ourselves and our planet, what New Year's resolutions can we actually keep this year? Here in Maryland/D.C., the Conservancy encourages a healthy planet and a healthy you by inviting runners to join Team Nature.

Team Nature offers a support system for local runners who, in turn, are supporting restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. We share tips on how to be a green runner, and you'll look great sporting our distinctive green shirts at D.C.-area races.

Exploring our region's natural areas on your own is another wonderful way to exercise mind and body. For inspiration, check out our online series Passport to Nature at www.nature.org/marylanddc. We hope to see you outside in 2012.

Write Us

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.

By e-mail: arlington@connectionnewspapers.com

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ORANGE LINE CONNECTION

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TUESDAY/DEC. 20

Contra Sonic with DJ Improper and Sargo DeJesus. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8. Contra dancing with a club twist! Contra dancing is American folk dance with roots in square dancing, but when you add free glow sticks, a DJ and laser display you get Contra Sonic. Dancers of any experience are welcome. At the Ballroom at the Artisphere.

Arlington Jaycees Host Santa's Visit

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

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. At Ballston Common Mall, Lower Level, 4238 Wilson Blvd., Arlington.

Dates: Dec. 14 - 24
Hours: 3 - 9 p.m. Weekdays; 1 - 9 p.m. Saturdays; 12 - 6 p.m. Sundays. Visit www.VArlingtonJaycees.org

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.

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.

SALSA TUESDAYS

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.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 31

Chronicles of a Professional Eulogist. Free. By Sarah Jane Lapp. At the Bijou Theater at the Artisphere. Sarah Jane Lapp's short, *Chronicles of A Professional Eulogist* uses hand-drawn animation (India ink, gouache and wax) to explore the role of those who minister to the soul and manage the inflections of individual and communal sentimentality within the process of creating and sustaining social memory.

DEC. 14 TO JAN. 16

Floating Utopia: Mobile Art Gallery Designs. Free. See drawings from and a team of seven German architecture students under the direction of Andreas Queneau for a Step Van Truck designed as a mobile art gallery. Interact with this exhibit by designing your own customized version of this truck. The exhibit also includes utopian plans for a mobile greenhouse and diagrams showing various uses of recycled lunar devices for community engagement. At the Works-in-Progress Gallery at the Artisphere.

TUESDAY/DEC. 20

Jason Mendelson of Metrosongs and Adrian Krygowski. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8. Folk-rock singer-songwriter Adrian Krygowski performs and talks about his creative process with alternative rock/pop musician Jason Mendelson. At the Dome Theater at Artisphere.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 21

"Rubber Tramps" Film. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$6. "Rubber Tramps" takes a glimpse into the lives of a few brave people who have discarded today's standards of society to live life as they see fit — artists, poets, activists, dead-heads, society drop-outs and other



DEC. 1 TO 31

QR Designs. Free. "QR codes" are small square barcodes that are very powerful. With a free "QR scanner app" you can scan these codes with your smartphones' camera to unlock mobile content. This show is about the activation of print. At the Ballroom Elevator Landing at Artisphere in Arlington.

non-conformists who make their converted school buses, vans and cars their homes. At the Dome Theater at Artisphere.

JAN. 7 TO JAN. 22

Rock Band Beauty Pill. A multimedia installation. Visitors will have the opportunity to listen to Beauty Pill's new album — recorded in full view and presented at the Artisphere. Free public opening reception on Saturday, Jan. 7 from 7 to 10 p.m. At the Artisphere in Arlington.

FRIDAY/JAN. 13

Food Meets Art. 7 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$150. Chef and artist Carole Greenwood joins forces with Artisphere to connect people, food and art in an unexpected way and place. Recipes inspired by Alice B. Toklas: *An Orange Arrow Pop-Up Dinner*. The evening will include not only the food and her cooking style, but Toklas' very specific instructions for presentation and consumption. At the Artisphere's Terrace Gallery in Arlington.

Clarendon Farmers' Market

Year-round Clarendon Farmer's Market has locally produced breads and pastries, organic vegetables, flowers, soap, sorbet and more. Held Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to noon at Courthouse Parking Lot, 3195 North Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Also year-round on Wednesdays from 3-7 p.m. at Clarendon Metro. Visit www.Clarendon.org. Call 703-812-8881.

Arlington Farmers Market at Courthouse

The Arlington Farmers' Market is located adjacent to the Arlington County Courthouse Parking Lot, at the intersection of N. Courthouse Rd. and N. 14th St. in Arlington. This is a 'producer only' market with more than 30 producers. The market is opened Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon, year round. No dogs are allowed in the market.

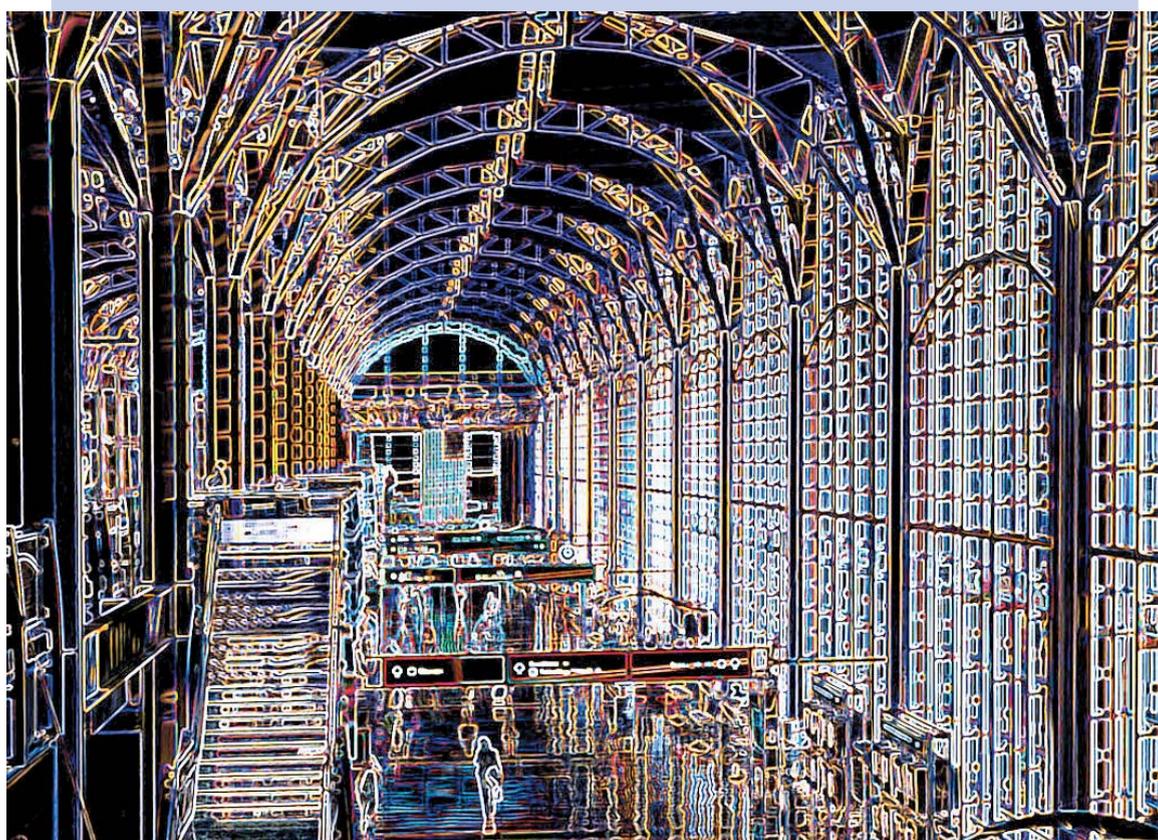
Arlington Urban Village at Court House

The Antiques and Collectibles Market at Court House is an open air market that has been going on since December 2002. Free parking at 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Featuring furniture, art, China, silver, jewelry, books, photographs, vintage clothing, linens, lamps, chandeliers, antique tools and other treasures. Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Located on North 15th Street, next to the Courthouse Parking Lot. Sundays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located at Courthouse Parking Lot.



NOW THROUGH JAN. 28

Handcrafted Harmonica Cases with Robert Hoffman. Robert "Hoff" Hoffman has co-designed over 350 harmonica cases with artists who work in a wide variety of mediums. At the Artisphere in Arlington.



NOW THROUGH APRIL 3

The Wired Photography of Ron Cogswell. Cherrydale Branch Library, 2190 Military Road, Arlington (703-228-6330); through April 3, 2012. Hours: Mon: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tues.: Closed; Wed.: 1 p.m.-9 p.m.; Thurs.: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Opening reception at the library on Thurs., Jan. 5, 7-8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY MORNINGS

Line Dancing Class. 10 to 11 a.m. Line dancing with Barbara Allen. Covers the basic steps, then combines them to music for a gentle, social, aerobic workout. More experienced line dancers are welcome as they can assist the newer dancers. At Aurora Hills Senior Center. Call 703-228-5722.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 28

"The Rough-Faced Girl." Performances are Wednesdays to Sundays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. with some weekend 11 a.m. performances. Tickets are \$12/advance; \$15/door. At Signature Theater, 4041 Campbell Ave., Arlington.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 31

"The Gift of Art." Small works by many members of the Arlington Artists Alliance. A Meet-the-Artists reception is Saturday, Dec. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. At the Arlington Arts Gallery, 5179 Lee Highway, Arlington. Call 703-532-4350.

THROUGH DEC. 24

"Holiday Follies." Part of Signature Theatre's Cabaret Series. Features Signature favorites Florrie Bagel, Priscilla Cuellar, Jake Odmark, Alan Wiggins, Weslie Woodley, and Steven Walker, as well as special guest performers appearing for each show. Single tickets for \$35. Call Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or the Signature Box Office at 703-820-9771. At Signature's ARK Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Visit www.signature-theatre.org.

TUESDAY/DEC. 20

Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Cost is \$10. With Blue Sky 5. At the Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd., Arlington.

Snowy Day Cabaret. 7:30 p.m. Snowy Day Cabaret is a review of Holiday hits and musical theater classics with a cast of children ages 7-14. At The Jefferson (Sunrise), 900 N. Taylor St., Arlington.

THURSDAY/DEC. 22

Talk on Chincoteague Island. 1 p.m. Cindy Oehm will give a presentation on "Chincoteague Island: Past, Present and Future." At Clarendon United Methodist Church, 606 N. Irving, Arlington. Call 703-527-8574.

FRIDAY/DEC. 23

Winter Stars. 7 to 8 p.m. Orion faces off against the bull, a group of sisters search for the one who went missing, the twins look on... Join as we go outside to find them overhead! Meet at Fort CF Smith, 2411 N 24th St, Arlington. Call 703-228-3403. \$3 fee payable upon registration.

SUNDAY/DEC. 25

Volunteer. Participate in the 25th Annual Washington DC Jewish Community Center's Day of Service. Join 1,000 volunteers who will help out at over 50 non-profits throughout D.C., 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. There is a nominal registration fee of \$20, which helps cover the cost of the event and other community service projects throughout the year.

FRIDAY/DEC. 30

New Year's Eve Party for Middle Schoolers. 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tickets are \$10/pre-sale; \$20/door. Roller skating, Battle of the DJ's Dance, laser tag, billiards, soccer, volleyball, and ping pong. At Thomas Jefferson Center, 3501 2nd St. South, Arlington. Contact Edson Bravo at 703-228-7783.

Recital of Winterreise. 6:30 p.m. Donations appreciated. Presented by the Opera Guild of Northern Virginia. At Historic Walker Chapel Church, 4102 North Glebe Road, Arlington.

SATURDAY/DEC. 31

New Year's Eve Bash. \$82 and \$87.

Attend a performance of "Hairspray" at 8 p.m. then count down to the new year with the entire cast. Call Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or 703-820-9771. The New Year's Eve Party, which includes two drinks, hors d'oeuvres, a champagne toast, and dancing to our DJ's tunes, are \$100 for the general public and \$75 for Signature season ticket holders. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Visit www.signature-theatre.org.

JAN. 3 TO 7, 2012

Tracy Lynn Olivera. Part of Signature Theatre's Cabaret Series. Single tickets for \$35. Call Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or the Signature Box Office at 703-820-9771. At Signature's ARK Theatre. Visit www.signature-theatre.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 5

Jason & The Scorchers. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Performing at IOTA, 832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Visit www.jasonandthescorchers.com

SATURDAY/JAN. 7

Ava Oaxaca Performs. 6 p.m. Ava Oaxaca of Arlington will perform at the Kennedy Center in a concert presented by the Asian American Music Society. Oaxaca, who is in 10th grade at H-B Woodlawn, will perform the "Fuzzy Bird" Sonata for alto saxophone by Takashi Yoshimatsu. Oaxaca took first place in the Senior Woodwinds Division in the Young Artists competition in October. At the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage.

JAN. 14 AND 15

1K Wine Walk/1K Beer Walk. 2 to 7 p.m. Walkers can sample 30 different wines as they make their way through a fun, indoor course at the Crystal City Shops. Presented by the Crystal City Business Improvement District. Tickets are \$40/Wine; \$35/beer; call 703-412-9430. At Crystal City Shops, 2200 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Contact Jordan Stinnett at 202-207-3662 or jstinnett@scottcircle.com.

THEATER



NOW THROUGH JAN. 29

"Hairspray." Weeknights and matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. Directed by Eric Schaeffer, starring national radio host Robert Aubry Davis. Tickets start at \$63. Call 703-573-SEAT or visit www.signature-theatre.org. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington.

Know of something missing from our Local Theater listings? Send it to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com or gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is 2 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 28

"The Rough-Faced Girl." Performances are Wednesdays to Sundays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. with some weekend 11 a.m. performances. Tickets are \$12/advance; \$15/door. At Signature Theater, 4041 Campbell Ave., Arlington.

JAN. 13 TO FEB. 11

Jules Feiffer's "Little Murders." Show times are Thursday through Saturday 8 p.m.; Saturday/Sunday matinee at 2:30 P.M. Post-show talk-back on Jan. 19. At Gunston Theatre II, 2700 South Lang St., Arlington. Order tickets online at americancentury.org or 703-998-4555.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 29

"Romeo and Juliet." Tickets are \$45 to \$55. Part of "Speak No More" — The Silent Shakespeare Festival. Wednesdays 7:30 p.m., Thursdays – Saturdays 8 p.m., Sundays 2 p.m. with some Sunday evenings 7:30 p.m. At Synetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St., Arlington. Call 800-494-8487 or www.synetictheater.org.

SATURDAY/DEC. 31

New Year's Eve Bash. Hosted by Signature Theatre, the event includes a performance of "Hairspray" at 8 p.m. and then a count down to the new year with the entire cast. Tickets can be purchased by calling Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or by calling the Signature Box Office at 703-820-9771. Performance prices are \$82 and \$87 (excludes handling fees). The New Year's Eve party, which includes two drinks, hors d'oeuvres, a champagne toast, and dancing to our DJ's tunes, are \$100 for the general public and \$75 for Signature season ticket holders. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington.

Calling on Local Bands

Bowen McCauley Dance (BMD) is an Arlington-based non-profit organization with a mission to introduce people of all ages to the joy of dance. BMD's founder, Lucy Bowen McCauley, is calling upon local bands to submit their music for consideration to be included in the 2012 performance schedule. One chosen musical group will later perform its song live with Bowen McCauley Dance (BMD) during the spring 2012 performance of "Lucy's Local Playlist" performance on May 11-12, 2012, at Synetic Theater in Arlington. To enter the Lucy's Local Playlist Contest, musicians should submit the name of their song, a brief biography, and contact information.

Songs may be entered in any of the following musical categories: Rock, Country, Jazz, Pop, World, R&B, Hip Hop, Alternative, Punk, Metal, Techno, Post-Rock and Alt-Country. The submission deadline is Dec. 20, 2011. Submission information can be found at: www.bmdc.org/how-to-submit.

Red Top Cabs Are Drop-Off Sites

Red Top Cab is making it as easy as possible to support the local Toys for Tots holiday season campaign. This month every Red Top Cab is an authorized Toys for Tots collection site. Red Top customers can bring their donation of a new, unwrapped toy with them when they ride in a Red Top Cab. Red Top has made arrangements to deliver the toys to the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation to distribute to needy children in our community.

Also participating in this unique program to support Toys for Tots are Arlington Yellow Cab, Fairfax Yellow Cab and Red Top Cab of Fairfax.

PEOPLE

Bill Lord was promoted to vice president and general manager of WJLA-TV and NewsChannel 8, with responsibilities over the day-to-day operations of both the ABC affiliate and the 24-hour cable news operation in the Washington region. The move elevates Lord from Station Manager to having control over the editorial, sales, marketing, technical and operational structure at the flagship of WJLA-TV and NewsChannel 8.



Bill Lord

Daniel Manzoni, a 20-year resident of Arlington, was honored with the Presidential Volunteer and Call to Service Award for his 8,000 volunteer service hours in his lifetime. The award was presented Oct. 13 by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Pearlle Reed on behalf of President Obama at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the District.

John Horejsi of Arlington is a featured "Catholic Hero" in the November issue of "Catholic Digest." The article, "Meet 12 Catholic Heroes," is also available on CatholicDigest.com. John is a founding member of Social Action Linking Together (SALT), a group that works to keep social justice issues front and center at the Virginia General Assembly. John is being recognized for his work with the group.

Read the article at: <http://www.catholicdigest.com/catholicheroes.html>

Sheriff Beth Arthur of Arlington was named second vice president in the Virginia Sheriffs' Association for 2010-11. She will serve a one-year term leading the 7,700 member organization. The Annual Conference of the Virginia Sheriffs' Association was held in Newport, Va., and was attended by over 350 sheriffs, deputy sheriffs and special guests from across Virginia. The Virginia Sheriffs' Association acts as the primary voice for Virginia sheriffs in the General Assembly and presently enjoys membership of over 7,700 Virginia sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.

Kimberly Johnson of Arlington is running in the 10th annual B.A.A. Half Marathon in Boston. The race is presented by Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund on Sunday, Oct. 10. Johnson is among more than 500 Dana-Farber runners who are each committed to raising at least \$500 for cancer care

and research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The 2010 team goal is \$450,000. To support Johnson's run in the BAA Half Marathon, go to www.RunDanaFarber.org/BAAHalf.

Heather Hurley, an instructional technology coordinator at Arlington Traditional School in Arlington Public Schools, along with 75 other educators from across the country, spent five days at Bentley University in Waltham, Mass., participating in the Discovery Educator Network Leadership Council Symposium July 11-16. The event was hosted by Discovery Education, a division of Discovery Communications, whose networks include Discovery Channel and Animal Planet.

Robert Wade, 28, of Arlington, placed first in the 5th Annual Nation's Triathlon To Benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, posting a time of 1:57:13 last weekend. This USAT-sanctioned Olympic distance triathlon included a 1.5k swim in the Potomac River, 40k bike course through downtown D.C., and a 10k run along Washington, D.C.'s monumental corridor finishing on the scenic banks of the Potomac River.

The **Sally Ride Science Academy** selected five elementary educators from Arlington to learn new, innovative strategies to raise students' interest in science and science careers. Teachers from Arlington attending the academy include: **Carrie Lombardi**, Jamestown Elementary; **Laura Hansen**, Jamestown Elementary; **Evelyn Fernandez**, Key Elementary; **Rosa Berrocal**, Key Elementary, and **Caitlin Fine**, Key Elementary.

Restoring Lives Community Development Corporation honored leaders of tomorrow at its Eighth Annual Scholarship Brunch, on Aug. 7. Students from counties across Northern Virginia exhibiting exceptional academic achievement, community involvement and leadership were awarded scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,000. The keynote speaker was Dr. Terry Johnson, DDS. The following students were honored: **Danice Alston**, Washington-Lee High; **Andrea Blanco**, Washington-Lee High; **Dominique Hunter**, Wakefield High, and **Victoria Troifimova**, Washington-Lee High.

MILITARY NOTES

Air Force Airman 1st Class Lindsey B. Lawrence graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. She is the daughter of Terri Newman-Hyde of Pebbles Road, Colonial Beach, Va., and Dewayne Lawrence of S. Eads St., Arlington. Lawrence graduated in 2008 from King George High School, Va.

Navy Seaman Apprentice Sandross L. Alim, a 2004 graduate of Wakefield High School, Arlington, was recently promoted to his current rank upon graduation from recruit training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Navy Seaman Apprentice Tyrone E. Forman, II, son of Tyrone E. Forman, of Arlington, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Forman is a 2006 graduate of Yorktown High School of Arlington.

Air Force Airman 1st Class Blake J. Murnane graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Kevin Murnane of Lorcom Lane, Arlington. Murnane graduated in 2005 from Westfield High School, Chantilly.

Air Force Airman 1st Class Christopher R. Bowlds graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Ted Bowlds of N. Randolph St., Arlington. Bowlds graduated in 2005 from Washington-Lee High School, Arlington, and received a bachelor's degree in 2010 from Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Navy Lincoln A. Nesbit, son of Hollis B. and Leroy P. Nesbit of Arlington, recently reported for duty with Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 120, Naval Air Station, Norfolk. Nesbit is a 2005 graduate of Yorktown High School of Arlington, and joined the Navy in May 2009.

Navy Seaman Kevin R. Tremblay, brother of Veronica E. Tremblay of Arlington, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Tremblay completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness. Tremblay is a 2007 graduate of West Stanly High School of Oakboro, N.C.



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Youth Combines Art of Photography with Business

Ryan Uckert attends Washington-Lee.

BY ISABEL AMEND
THE CONNECTION

Most high school photographers boast a colorful online collection of pictures on Flickr, or post their creative endeavors on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter.

Ryan Uckert is different. The junior at Washington Lee High School has accomplished all the above, but he's also created his own website to publicize his business taking pictures at birthday parties.

Uckert hands out business cards and places flyers in his neighborhood of Lyon Village. He acquired his first camera in 2007, a Cannon Powershot, but has since upgraded to a Canon Rebel XL. He then purchased Apple's Aperture program, which "helps edit the little things" though the young photographer "does not like editing photos very much as it takes away from the art of photography."

Uckert asserts that he "has been lucky enough to go to some fantastic places" during his lifetime, though the Yosemite/Sequoia area in California was his favorite. Uckert is especially fond of "the ability to slow down water and make it look silky and calm." His favorite photos using this technique were taken at Yosemite National Park, where he also turned the "sharp shapes of the rock into a blissful and serene environment." Uckert notes that "the red rocks also happen to be that color because of the sun."

While he takes pride in his nature shots, he finds a useful profession in birthday parties. His self-pro-



A water drop captured in free fall.



Silky water and vivid red rocks at Sequoia National Park.

PHOTOS BY RYAN UCKERT

fessed "mini business" started at his neighbor's house a year ago when he was hired to snap shots of toddlers. Then word of his expertise spread exponentially. So far Uckert has shot four parties, one portrait session, and Washington Lee High School's band. Due to a busy summer schedule he's had to postpone potential clients until the fall.

WHEN IT COMES to inspiration, Uckert looks up to Scott Kelby and James Patterson. Uckert has read all three of Kelby's books, yet still has not taken his tutorial classes. As for Patterson, Uckert says the renowned photographer "still takes the time to answer questions and help fellow photographers by explaining his ideas and his steps to getting the shots he takes."

However impassioned he is about photography, Uckert acknowledges that this creative pursuit "doesn't usually lead to a comfortable, financially stable life in the future." On the other hand, "Things can always change though."

Even if Uckert enters another occupational field, he aspires to keep photography as a "part-time job" or "just have it as a great hobby." He might sell photos and invest in a portraiture studio.

Uckert is constantly on the lookout for more places to capture and innovative ways to do so, but he always keeps one principle in mind: "Photography is not about the type of gear you have, or how much time you have to go places. It's about taking an ordinary place, or object, and photographing it and making it your own. Don't just take a picture of something you've seen thousands of times before. Imagine something in a way only you can think of, that's how photographers are made, with creativity and uniqueness."

Visit ryanuckertphotography.com or flickr.com/photos/ryanuckertphotography/

SCHOOL NOTES

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards announced that 12 Arlington County teachers have earned National Board Certification. The APS teachers are:

- ❖ **Evan Glasier** – Yorktown High School: World Languages;
- ❖ **Richard Hamilton** – Taylor Elementary School: Library Media/Early Childhood;
- ❖ **Paige Hamrick** – Yorktown High School: Social Studies/History;
- ❖ **Susan Lauffer** – Washington-Lee High School: Math;
- ❖ **Elizabeth Lebedeker** – Barcroft Elementary School: Reading-Language Arts;
- ❖ **Sophie Luxmoore** – Gunston Middle School: English Language Arts;

- ❖ **Karen Mauser** – Washington-Lee High School: Math;
- ❖ **Andrew Prantner** – Yorktown High School: Social Studies/History;
- ❖ **Tara Ronzetti** – Drew Model School: Reading-Language Arts;
- ❖ **Laura Tokarczyk** – Jamestown Elementary School: World Languages;
- ❖ **Anne Verville** – Washington-Lee High School: Math;
- ❖ **Alexandra Wappel** – Jamestown Elementary School: Generalist/Early Childhood;

The **McKinley Elementary School** honors choir, the Treble Clef Singers, performed at Vice President Joe Biden's residence on Sunday, Dec. 11. The McKinley choir was one of two groups to perform at the holiday recep-

tion in honor military personnel and their families. Guests at the reception were greeted with music by the fourth- and fifth-grade choir group and by the Navy Strings. The McKinley students performed two 30-minute sets at the event, including: "Charlie Brown Christmas," "Sing We Now of Christmas," "Al quebrar la pi-ata" (By breaking the Pi-ata), and "Al Schlosha," (The World is Sustained by Peace, Love and Justice) among others.

Logan Elizabeth Knowles of Arlington was named to the Miami University dean's list.

- ❖ **Lauren Hamme of Arlington** graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering.
- ❖ **Sarah Kozyn of Arlington**

graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and Life Sciences.

❖ **Joshua Kusnitz of Arlington** graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering.

❖ **Alice Rowland of Arlington** graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering.

Matthew Smith from Arlington received a Bachelor of Arts degree at the 160th Commencement exercises held at Saint Francis University in Loretto, PA, on Sunday, May 8, 2011.

Seth Kutner, the son of Mark Kutner and Gail Kutner of Arlington, graduated from Ithaca College's School of Business. The degree was awarded in May 2011.

Sarah Smith-Benjamin, a member of the class of 2011 from Arlington, has been named to the spring 2011 Dean's List at Loyola University Maryland.

The Arlington Career Center's Animal Science Program under the direction of **Cynthia Schall and Scott Lockhart** received the 2011 Governor's CTE Exemplary Standards Award. With this award came \$5,000 from the Dominion Foundation to support continued program improvement.

Greenbrier Learning Center,
SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 13

PEOPLE



Dr. Daniel Stabile (left) receives award from Gian Lorenzo Cornado, chief of staff for the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Italy.

Italian Minister Honors Stabile

Dr. Daniel Stabile, a guidance counselor at Bishop O'Connell High School, received the Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity and the title of Commendatore (Commander) in the name of Italian President Giorgio Napolitano at a special ceremony at the Italian Embassy in Washington, D.C., on the evening of Dec. 9.

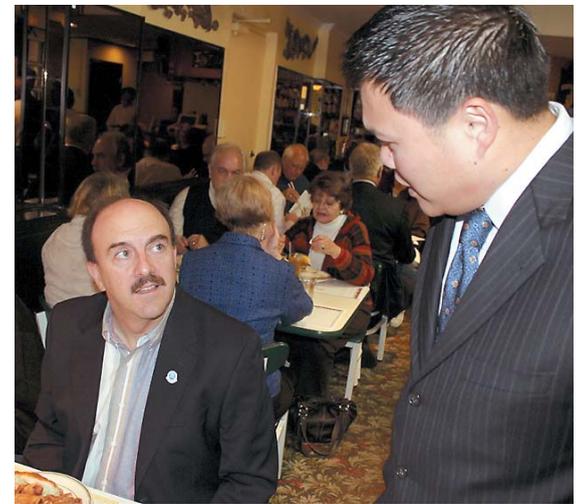
Knighthood is the highest honor

the Italian government can bestow on a foreigner. Stabile was recognized for his leadership in American education, having served Department of Defense Overseas Dependents Schools, the Catholic Dioceses of Cleveland, Ohio, Washington, D.C., and Arlington, Va. He currently serves as the president of the National Council for the Promotion of Italian Language in American Schools.



Nam Viet Hosts Victory Lunch

The Nam Viet restaurant in Clarendon hosted nearly 100 victorious Arlington County Democrats last month, continuing a "Victory Luncheon" tradition that began more than two decades ago. All proceeds from the lunch will go to the Virginia Hospital Center Foundation and its newly-established Chris Walsh Cancer Survivorship Fund. At left, State Senator-Elect Barbara Favola addresses the crowd. At right, John Nguyen, son of the restaurant's founder, the late Nguyen Van Thoi, who started the luncheon, speaks with County Board Chair Chris Zimmerman.



"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington's Office of Senior Adult Programs for Jan. 3-7. **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. Culpeper St.; Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Arlington Mill at Fairlington, 3308 S. Stafford St.; also Madison Community Center, 3829 N. Stafford St.; TJ Comm. Center, 3501 S. 2nd St. **Centers will be closed** Monday, Jan. 2, 2012 **Senior trip:** Thursday, Jan. 5,

Lunch at Mrs. K's Toll House, Silver Spring, \$42; Friday, Jan. 6, Free and Sackler Galleries, D.C., \$12. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required. **Piano lessons,** Tuesday, Jan. 3, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m., \$15 per half hour, Culpepper Garden. Call for appt., 703-228-4403. **Winter tennis,** Tuesday, Jan. 3 through Friday, Jan. 6, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., Bluemont and Quincy Courts, free. Details, 703-228-4745. **Pickleball,** beginners, Tuesday, Jan. 3- Friday, Jan. 6, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.,

Walter Reed. Free with 55+ Pass. Register, 703-228-0955. **Register for Arlington County 55+ Pass,** \$20 annual fee, Tuesday, Jan. 3 - Friday, Jan. 6, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., 703-228-4744. **Cell phone and computer orientation** workshop, Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1:30 p.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722. **Strength training** with weights, Wednesday, Jan. 4, Friday, Jan. 6, 9 a.m., TJ. \$60/15 sessions or \$4 per drop in. Details, 703-228-4745.

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St. Charles Catholic Church...703-527-5500</p> <p>Vatican II Catholic Community
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St Peter's Episcopal Church...703-536-6606
St Thomas Episcopal Church...703-442-0330
Trinity Episcopal Church...703-920-7077</p> <p>Churches Lutheran(ELCA)
Advent Lutheran Church...703-521-7010
Faith Lutheran Church...703-525-9283
German Lutheran Church...703-276-8952
Lutheran Church of The Redeemer
...703-356-3346</p> | <p>Resurrection Lutheran Church...703-532-5991</p> <p>Churches Lutheran(Missouri, Synod)
Our Savior Lutheran Church...703-892-4846</p> <p>Churches-Nazarene
Arlington First Church of the Nazarene
...703-525-2516</p> <p>Church-Brethren
Church of The Brethren...703-524-4100</p> <p>Churches-Baptist
Arlington Baptist Church...703-979-7344
Cherrydale Baptist Church...703-525-8210
First Baptist of Ballston...703-525-7824
Mt. Zion Baptist Church...703-979-7411</p> <p>Churches -Baptist-Free Will
Bloss Memorial Free Will
Baptist Church...703-527-7040</p> <p>Churches -Christian Science
McLean-First Church of Christ, Scientist
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First Church of Christ,
Scientist, Arlington...
703-534-0020</p> <p>Churches -Presbyterian
Arlington Presbyterian
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Westminster Presbyterian ...
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Universalist
Unitarian Universalist Church
of Arlington 703-892-2565</p> | <p>Churches-United Methodist
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Trinity United Methodist Church
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Arlington Metaphysical Chapel ...703-276-8738</p> <p>Presbyterian Church
in America Churches
Christ Church of Arlington...703-527-0420</p> <p>Synagogues - Conservative
Congregation Etz Hayim...703-979-4466</p> <p>Synagogues - Orthodox
Fort Myer Mivyan...703-863-4520
Chabad Luvavitch of Alexandria-Arlington
...703-370-2774</p> <p>Synagogue - Reconstructionist
Kol Ami, the North Virginia
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Yorktown's Jack of All Trades

Senior Earley records double-double in win over Stuart.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Standing on the Patriots' baseline late in the fourth quarter, Yorktown's Jack Earley inbounded the ball to himself by bouncing it off the back of a Stuart defender on Dec. 16. Earley then complemented the move by passing ahead to sophomore teammate MJ Stewart, who scored in transition as the Patriots cruised to a 57-37 home victory against the Raiders.

Earley is the Yorktown boys basketball team's jack of all trades. The 6-foot-4 senior can play guard or forward and has been a key contributor at the varsity level since his sophomore season. Primarily a scorer the last two years, Earley is now asked to rebound and handle the ball as well as find ways to put up points. Against Stuart, Earley scored 19 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to go with his nifty assist — an idea which he credited to a 2002 movie starring then-teenaged actor Bow Wow.

"I threw it off his back, caught it and then threw it to MJ," Earley said. "I saw him turn and I thought about it for a couple seconds. I've seen it in the movie 'Like Mike.' I decided to try it."

Earley is Yorktown's lone senior starter and the only remaining contributor from the Patriots' 2010 Northern Region final four team. Along with Earley, Yorktown starts junior center Nick Yore, the only other returning Patriot who received significant playing time last season, and a trio of sophomores — point guard Jeremiah Leano, guard Zak Esherick and Stewart.

With many athletes inexperienced at the varsity level, the Patriots need Earley's leadership skills to accompany his statistical contributions.

"I really have to get them in line and get



Yorktown senior Jack Earley contributes in many facets of the game.



Yorktown head coach Rich Avila talks to the Patriots during a Dec. 16 home game against Stuart.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
THE CONNECTION

them up to speed as fast as possible," Earley said. "My sophomore year we had Mike Veith; I was the scorer. I would get it, I would score. Now it's everything. It's bringing up the ball when I have to; rebounding the whole game; making as few turnovers as possible — which is something I still need to work on — [and] playing a complete game."

Earley didn't wait long to make an im-

pact against the Raiders. He scored seven points in the opening quarter, including a four-point play, as Yorktown jumped out to a 19-8 lead. Later, he showed his ability to score when attacking the rim and finished the evening 10 of 15 from the free-throw line.

Yorktown head coach Rich Avila said the Patriots' offensive execution isn't as crisp as in previous seasons, something he attrib-

"My sophomore year we had Mike Veith; I was the scorer. I would get it, I would score. Now it's everything."

— Yorktown senior Jack Earley

uted to a lack of experience, but he can live with Earley making plays and finding ways to score points.

"He's also got the ability to take the ball off the dribble," Avila said. "That sometimes messes up our flow out there which kind of bugs me a little bit, but at the same time you've got to let them create a little bit out there because sometimes he might have a mismatch."

Earley was the only Patriot to score in double figures against Stuart. Esherick and Stewart each finished with eight points, junior center Thomas Molnar scored seven points and Yore added six.

The victory improved Yorktown's record to 3-3, including 1-1 in the National District. The Patriots have practiced as a full team for less than a month due to the success of the school's football program, which reached the Northern Region championship game in late November. Yore, Stewart and sophomore Will Roebuck played football for Yorktown. Stewart, a standout running back, is in his first year at the school after transferring from Bishop O'Connell.

Limited time together on the court and starting three sophomores has tested the Patriots.

"It's been challenging at the beginning," Yore said, "but we're starting to get the hang of it now."

Avila said this is the youngest team he's had at Yorktown, but he's enjoying its versatility.

"I'm kind of having a good time with the young guys, watching them develop," Avila said. "And at the same time, seeing how many combinations I can have out there."

The Patriots will play in the Joe Cascio Holiday Tournament at Falls Church Dec. 27-29. Yorktown is scheduled to play in its new gym after the holiday break. The Patriots will host Mount Vernon on Jan. 9.

SPORTS BRIEF

Yorktown Swim And Dive Has Winning Weekend

The Yorktown swim and dive team had two meets this weekend and emerged with victories on both nights. On Friday, Dec. 16, the Patriots swam against Stuart at the Yorktown pool. The boys beat Stuart with a score of 98-88 and the girls won with a score of 143-43. On Saturday, Dec. 17, the teams traveled to Fairfax for a meet against Hayfield Farms. The boys team beat Hayfield with a score of 198-114 and the girls team won with a score of 245-68. Both teams are now 4-0

for the season. After the holiday break, the Patriots return to the pool on Friday, Jan. 6, with a meet against Wakefield High School.

The boys won their meet against Stuart with five first-place wins in the 12 events and many top-three finishes. Will Tarkenton was a double winner with victories in the 100 fly and 100 back. Hunter Simmons won the diving event and Max Fish was the winner in the 100 breast. The 200 medley relay also contributed to the win with a first-place finish: Jason Henley, Fish, Tarkenton and Dave Emson.

The girls swam to a win against Stuart with wins in every event. Kirby Nassetta was a double winner, finishing first in the 100 fly and diving events. Kaitlin Luncher (200

free), Abigail Young (200 IM), Sydney Stocks (50 free), Mason Nassetta (100 free), Stephanie Romano (500 free), Grace Greenwood (100 back) and Lauren Allard (100 breast) also won individual events. The girls also won all the relay events: 200 medley relay (Young, Allard, Amanda Didawick, Mason Nassetta); 200 free relay (Ellie Belilos, Izzy Pasternak, Amanda Didawick, Mason Nassetta), and the 400 free relay (Belilos, Didawick, Romano, Young).

On Saturday night, the boys team posted wins in nine out of 12 events in the meet against Hayfield. Double winners were Fish (200 IM, 100 breast) and Tarkenton (500 free, 100 back). Simmons won the diving event and Emson won the 100 fly. The boys also won the 200 medley relay (Tarkenton,

Fish, Emson and Timothy Aldinger) and the 400 free relay (Tarkenton, Owen Wagner, Sean Coleman and Jason Henley).

The girls secured their win against Hayfield with first-place finishes in every event. Double winners were Stephanie Romano (200 IM, 500 free) and Abby Young (50 free, 100 back). Other first place finishers were Pasternak (200 free), Elena Bavolack (diving), Belilos (100 fly), Allard (100 free) and Rachel Robertson (100 breast). The girls also won the relay events: 200 medley relay (Pasternak, Belilos, Amanda Didawick, Young); 200 free relay (Belilos, Didawick, Pasternak, Romano), and the 400 free relay (Belilos, Romano, Young, Allard).

SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 10

an Arlington nonprofit that provides after school tutoring and enrichment programs for local at-risk and low-income youth, has been named a finalist in the prestigious National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award — the nation's highest honor for after-school and out-of-school arts and humanities programs that serve young people.

Jose Flores-Valverde, of Wakefield High School, received a full-tuition Posse Scholarship to attend Bucknell University.

Celena Madalansacay, of Wakefield High School, received a full-tuition Posse Scholarship to attend Pepperdine University.

Courtney Riley, of Washington-Lee High School, received a full-tuition Posse Scholarship to attend the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Jessica Barahona, of Yorktown High School, received a full-tuition Posse Scholarship to attend the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Charlott Kress, of Yorktown High School, received a full-tuition Posse Scholarship to attend Bucknell University.

Henry Mejia-Villena, of Yorktown High School, received a full-tuition Posse Scholarship to attend Bucknell University.

Adrienne C. Mitchell of Arlington graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in equine-facilitated therapeutics and equestrian studies

from Wilson College during commencement exercises held May 22. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Mitchell.

Andrew Conn, a politics major from Arlington, was among those named to the State University of New York at Potsdam President's List for the Spring 2011 semester.

Ronald Tolson of Arlington graduated from Cheshire Academy during this year's 217th Commencement Exercise held on Saturday, June 11. He is the son of Eloise Susan Woods.

Edward Sanford Ryan of Arlington was among the 481 graduates awarded diplomas at Denison University's 170th commencement held May 15. Edward Sanford Ryan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in economics and a minor in history. He was a dean's list student.

Rider University's Westminster Choir College has announced the names of undergraduate students who have been placed on the Dean's List for the Spring 2011 semester.

❖ **Steven Sloan of Arlington**, a Theory/Composition major

❖ **Molly Patricia of Arlington**, a Music Education major

The following students were named to the Dean's List at Park University at Fort Myer's campus for the Spring 2011 semester: Michael Anderson, Allison Burgess, Marea Heck, Andrew Ketelsen, John Keys, Clifford McCoy, Richard Morris, Scott Shockey and James Wojtyszyn.

Marie-Claire H. Walters, a resi-

dent of Arlington, has been named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List for the Spring 2011 semester.

Lauren Gradowski, Class of 2012 at Skidmore College, earned highest honors for the spring semester. She is the daughter of Leonard Gradowski of Arlington, Rebecca Mann of Bridgeville, Del.

Larissa Gibbs of Arlington graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology cum laude at Tufts University on May 22.

Caroline C. Griffith of Arlington graduated from Colby College on May 22. She is the daughter of Spencer Griffith and Madelyn Ross of Arlington. Griffith majored in French studies and visual and cultural studies (independent) and graduated with the following honors: Dean's List, Distinction in visual and cultural studies (independent), Honors in Visual/Cult Stds (Ind). She is a graduate of Washington-Lee High School.

Sri Lanka native Theja Lowe, a full-time international student, was named valedictorian during Strayer University's June 25 commencement. She attended the University's Arlington Campus.

Sam Matzner of Arlington will attend Interlochen Arts Camp as an Emerson Scholar.

Lauren Brooks of Arlington, a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University's College at Florham, located in Madison, N.J., has been named to the Honor's List for Spring 2011.



Concert Against Hate A group of students from Bishop O'Connell High School, accompanied by guidance counselor, Dr. Daniel Stabile, Unity Council moderator, Monica Stabile, and theology teacher Meghan Brown, participated in the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) 2011 In Concert Against Hate at The Kennedy Center on Nov. 14. The concert was performed by the National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Emil de Cou and featured a special choral number sung by students from local high schools.

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21 Announcements

Fairfax Water

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CONNECTION RULE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION/REDEVELOPMENT

On December 6, 2011, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) held a public hearing regarding an ordinance to establish exclusive water service areas and maximum allowable rates, fees, and charges within Fairfax County for water service. At the same meeting, the BOS enacted the ordinance as Section 65-6-13 of the Code of Fairfax County. Section (a) of the ordinance provides that effective 12:01 a.m. December 7, 2011, Fairfax Water will be the provider of retail public water service within Fairfax County, Virginia, for any new construction or redevelopment of any dwelling unit and any residential or non-residential structure, unless Fairfax Water determines it cannot make water service available due to a utility-related reason.

The ordinance requires that any determination by Fairfax Water that it cannot make service available be made in accordance with policies, rules, or regulations established by Fairfax Water for the purpose of establishing when a utility-related reason exists that prevents it from supplying water. The ordinance further requires that the policies, rules, or regulations be adopted by Fairfax Water after notice and a public hearing.

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2012, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed CONNECTION RULE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION/ REDEVELOPMENT. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

A copy of the proposed rule can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed rule should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
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All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

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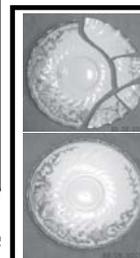
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NOTICE

Edward E. Gahres, MD is closing his medical practice at 5021 Seminary Rd, Ste 109, Alexandria, VA, on December 31, 2011. Patients interested in requesting copies of their medical records should call (703) 931-7515 between 10 am and 4 pm, Mon., Tues. and Thurs.

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Living Proof



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Or just plain dumb luck (which I don't take personally), or inherited genes (for which I am fortunate) that have so far fended off the cancer due to their DNA profile – or whatever, or the cumulative effect of the diet and lifestyle choices I've made, or the ingenuity of the design of the chemotherapy initially and then the anti-angiogenesis maintenance treatment I've been infused with – going on nearly three years, or everything together or some other things I've done separately, or a higher power simply blessing me for reasons I couldn't begin to understand. Why ever, how ever, I am grateful life goes on; thank God!

Woe is not me so I have never wondered why it has been me so seriously and unexpectedly afflicted. Certainly I've been curious and at the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist, questions were asked but answers were not really provided. My oncologist was more interested in treating the disease going forward rather than determining a cause for this effect reviewing backwards. It was of no interest to him, so by association – or influence, it likewise became less so to me. And so was born – and has evolved, my attitude toward being diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer at age 54 and one half. It's my problem, but I can't really worry about it – sort of, somehow.

On the one hand, whatever will be will be and attempting to control the uncontrollable (cells in my body) will likely mentally-anguish even a patient patient like me. On the other, giving up and/or giving in to this terminal disease doesn't make much sense either. I didn't (don't) want to be a victim of my own circumstance. Nor do I want to be an answer to anybody's prayers, except my own. Everybody has their own problems. Cancer has become mine and it's a problem I have assimilated into my life. I wouldn't say I've embraced it but I have accepted it and moved on, you might say.

Writing these columns and sharing with all of you has likely contributed as well to that acceptance as much as anything has. Not taking my diagnosis/prognosis lying down (in fact, I was sitting at the time), might have started the proactive peace with which I presently exist – and formerly as well, ever since that first this-is-what-you-have/this-is-what-we-should-do-about-it meeting occurred with my oncologist. He set the forward-thinking tone at that meeting and I have, to the best of my ability – despite some valleys along the way, remained vigilant, trying to appreciate the present while constantly thinking about the future. A future once filled with hope, but now one filled with anxiety and uncertainty.

Managing that anxiety has been, and continues to be, my greatest challenge, a challenge I never anticipated given that my parents' ages when they died were 87 and 86 and their health history had not included any cancer. And though it doesn't appear as if I've inherited their long-living genes, I have most definitely inherited their senses of humor and positive attitude. Maybe that's why I've outlived my prognosis. I think I thought: why not me? And then joked about it. (I remember asking my oncologist if it were OK for me to buy in bulk, among other similar kinds of queries.)

At the end of the day, the whole thing has probably been out of my hands. But accepting that wouldn't have been any fun.

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

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